



Honouliuli Internment Camp

Fact sheet

February 18, 2015

Monsanto and the Site:

In 2007, when Monsanto Company purchased approximately 2,300 acres of agricultural-zoned land in Kunia, it was with the knowledge that the remnants of the Honouliuli WWII Internment Camp site was located in a gulch on the land parcel. At that time, Monsanto pledged to work with interested community groups to help preserve the historic site. Working collaboratively with several organizations including the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawai'i and the University of Hawai'i West O'ahu, Monsanto offered to donate the site of the confinement camp to the United States of America, to be managed by the National Park Service (NPS) and preserved in perpetuity.

The Property:

The total area of the Honouliuli Internment Camp site is located on approximately 140 acres in Honouliuli Gulch, and Monsanto owned an additional seven acres at the top of the gulch on the west side that provides an overlook into the gulch as well as views of Pearl Harbor.

Monsanto has donated two parcels, 116 acres in the gulch and an additional seven-acre parcel at the top of the gulch on the west side. In addition, Monsanto is currently processing a subdivision of 22 acres below and adjacent to the 116 acres with the intent of offering that land as a donation to NPS after it becomes a legal parcel.

Community Collaborations:

Partnership with Japanese Cultural Center of Hawai'i (JCCH)

Recognizing the significance of the Honouliuli Internment Camp site to our community and the nation, Monsanto has worked very closely with the JCCH over the past years and is committed to continuing its partnership. Monsanto has actively supported JCCH's projects related to the preservation of Honouliuli and teaching the story of the internment. We have co-sponsored many community events, including pilgrimages and the annual Day of Remembrance commemorations on the site. In the past three years, Monsanto partnered with JCCH to conduct 44 school tours to the historic site.

Partnership with University of Hawai'i, West O'ahu (UHWO)

In cooperation with the University of Hawai'i West O'ahu and the National Park Service, Monsanto has provided access and support for archeological surveys of the area starting in 2008, with additional field work and written reports in 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012.

Monsanto hosted an Archaeology Field School in 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2014 – providing access to the site, classroom and conference room space, and equipment for archaeology students.

The company has also been supporting UHWO's research and educational efforts related to Honouliuli Internment Camp. This includes archival and oral history research, academic presentations and publications, related courses and curriculum, and community outreach.

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Honouliuli Advisory Committee

Monsanto supported Hawaii State Bill 2678 which provided \$100k matching funds for Honouliuli preservation efforts and created an advisory committee, which reported back to the legislative body. The Advisory Committee engaged multiple entities that have personal, cultural and historical interests in the preservation of the site. Monsanto held a seat on the Advisory Committee and actively participated in the 2013 visioning session for the public and stakeholders to provide input on the preservation of the site and a potential educational center.

Working together with National Park Service (NPS) to preserve the site

Monsanto and NPS both signed a letter of intent on November 30, 2011, for the possible acquisition of the Honouliuli camp site land by the United States of America for the purpose of including it in the National Park System.

Monsanto also supported the National Parks Service's efforts to submit an application for the Camp site to be added to the National Registry of Historical Places. The application was approved and Honouliuli Internment Camp was added to the Registry On February 12, 2012.

Fulfilling Monsanto's Pledge:

Monsanto committed the resources needed to fulfill the many legal requirements to transfer and donate the land of the former Honouliuli Internment Camp site. This included subdividing the property, amending various easements and agreements, surveying work and conducting environmental assessments. Monsanto voluntarily completed these tasks at its own expense, spending more than \$80,000 on consultants, in an effort to expedite this proposed transaction. Monsanto's goal was to fulfill its pledge to preserve the historic site by having the land ready for transfer, if and when the NPS had authority to receive it.

An independent appraisal of the property to be donated valued the land at \$461,700.

Resource:

Honouliuli Gulch and Associated Sites Draft Special Resource Study and Environmental Assessment

<http://parkplanning.nps.gov/document.cfm?documentID=59050>

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