

## Section 1 Introduction

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### 1.1 Project Background

At the request of Wilson Okamoto Corporation, Cultural Surveys Hawai‘i, Inc. (CSH) has prepared this archaeological inventory survey report (AISR) for Kaua‘i Community College (KCC) Rezone Campus Project, Ha‘ikū, Niumalu, and Nawiliwili Ahupua‘a, Līhu‘e District, Kaua‘i, TMKs: [4] 3-4-007:001, 002, 003, and 006. The project area is owned by the State of Hawai‘i and is located on the north side of Kaumuali‘i Highway and Puhi Town. The project area is depicted on a portion of the 1996 Lihue U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle (Figure 1), a tax map plat (Figure 2), and a 2013 aerial photograph (Figure 3).

The project consists of redesignating an approximately 148.50 acre portion of the 199-acre KCC campus from its current classification as Agricultural District to Urban District. A Special Permit was granted by the State Land Use Commission in 1973 for construction of the current approximately 99-acre college campus situated within TMK: [4] 3-4-007:003. Most of the additional approximately 100 acres (within TMKs: [4] 3-4-007:001, 002, and 006) is undeveloped, except for two Hawaiian language immersion schools, Pūnana Leo o Kaua‘i Pre-School and Kawaikini New Century Public Charter School. Pūnana Leo o Kaua‘i Pre-School occupies school facilities built before the KCC campus. Kawaikini New Century Public Charter School occupies existing buildings and was granted a Special Permit, Use Permit, and Class IV Zoning Permit in 2009 to construct additional buildings.

The purpose of the rezoning is for a proposed future project that consists of the construction of new buildings, additions to buildings, and new parking as shown on Figure 4.

### 1.2 Historic Preservation Regulatory Context and Document Purpose

This AIS investigation fulfills the requirements of HAR §13-13-276 and was conducted to identify, document, and make significance assessments of any historic properties. This document is intended to support the proposed project’s historic preservation review under Hawai‘i Revised Statutes (HRS) §6E-8 and HAR §13-13-275, as well as the project’s environmental review under HRS §343. It is also intended to support any project-related historic preservation consultation with stakeholders such as state and county agencies and interested Native Hawaiian Organizations (NHOs) and community groups.

In 1973, Archaeological Research Center Hawai‘i conducted an archaeological reconnaissance of a portion of the New Kaua‘i Community College (Palama 1973) and “recommended that no further work is warranted” for the historic features identified and no state site numbers were assigned.

CSH conducted an archaeological and cultural impact evaluation (Hammatt and Shideler 2004) for the KCC One-Stop Center in a small portion of the project area in the developed KCC campus. SHPD concurred that no cultural material was observed or expected and no further work was recommended (LOG NO.: 2004.0039, DOC. NO.:0401NM05; see Appendix A).

In 2010, CSH conducted an archaeological literature review and field inspection (LRFI) for use as a planning document (Groza and Hammatt 2010). A total of ten historic surface features, including two previously identified historic features, were found during the field inspection. An

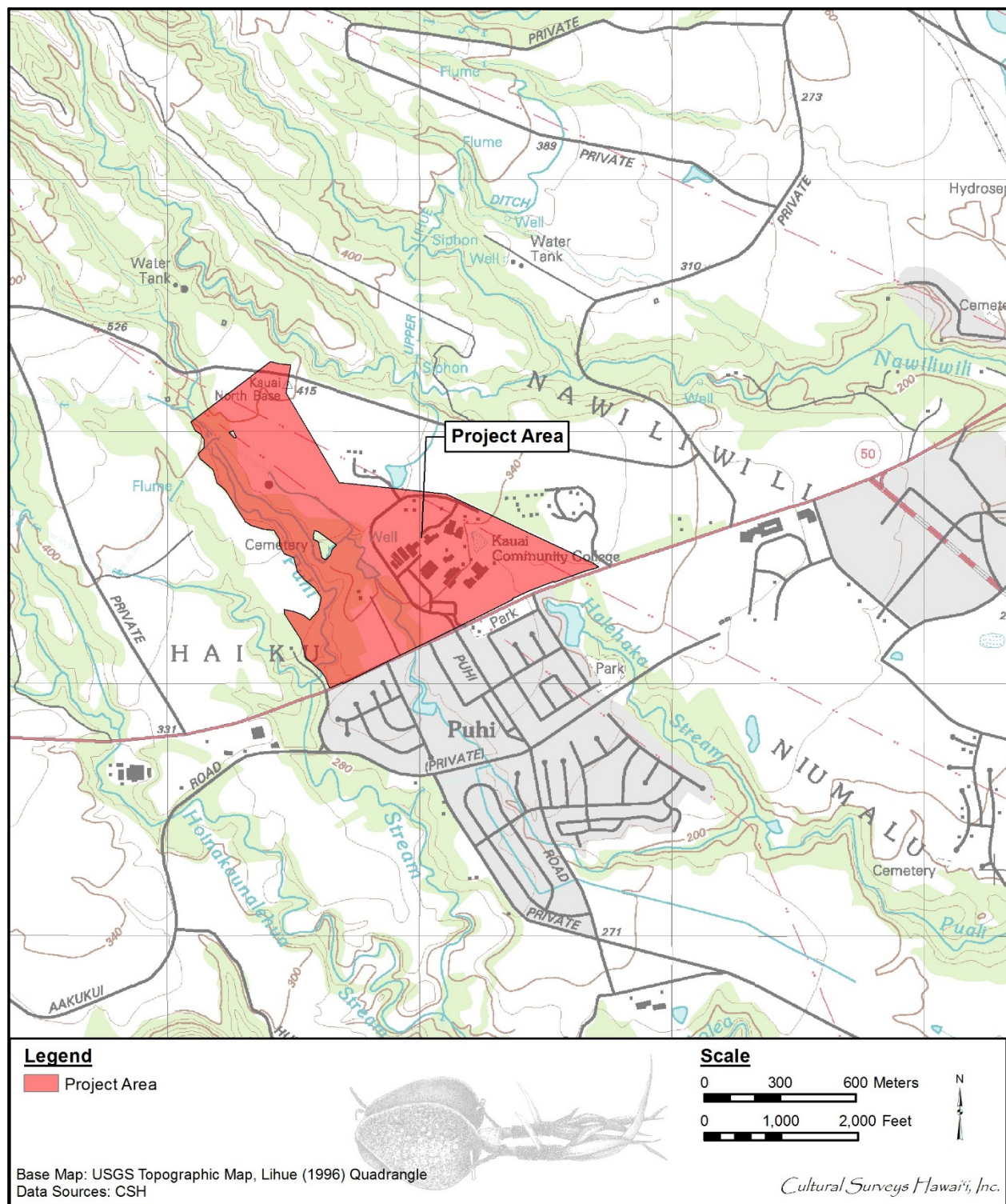


Figure 1. Portion of the 1996 Lihue USGS 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle showing the location of the project area

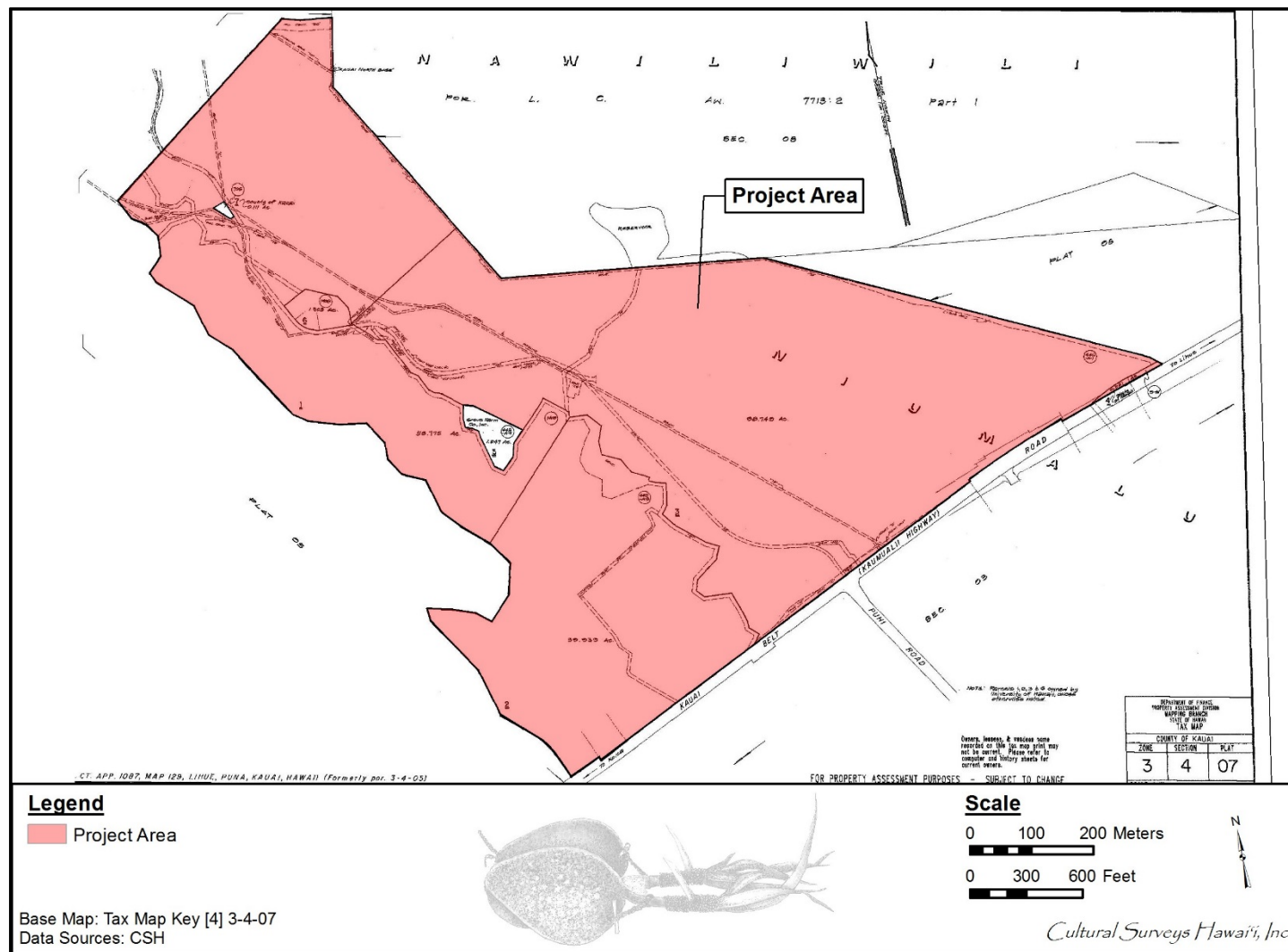


Figure 2. Tax Map Key (TMK) [4] 3-4-07 showing the project area (Hawai'i TMK Service 2015)



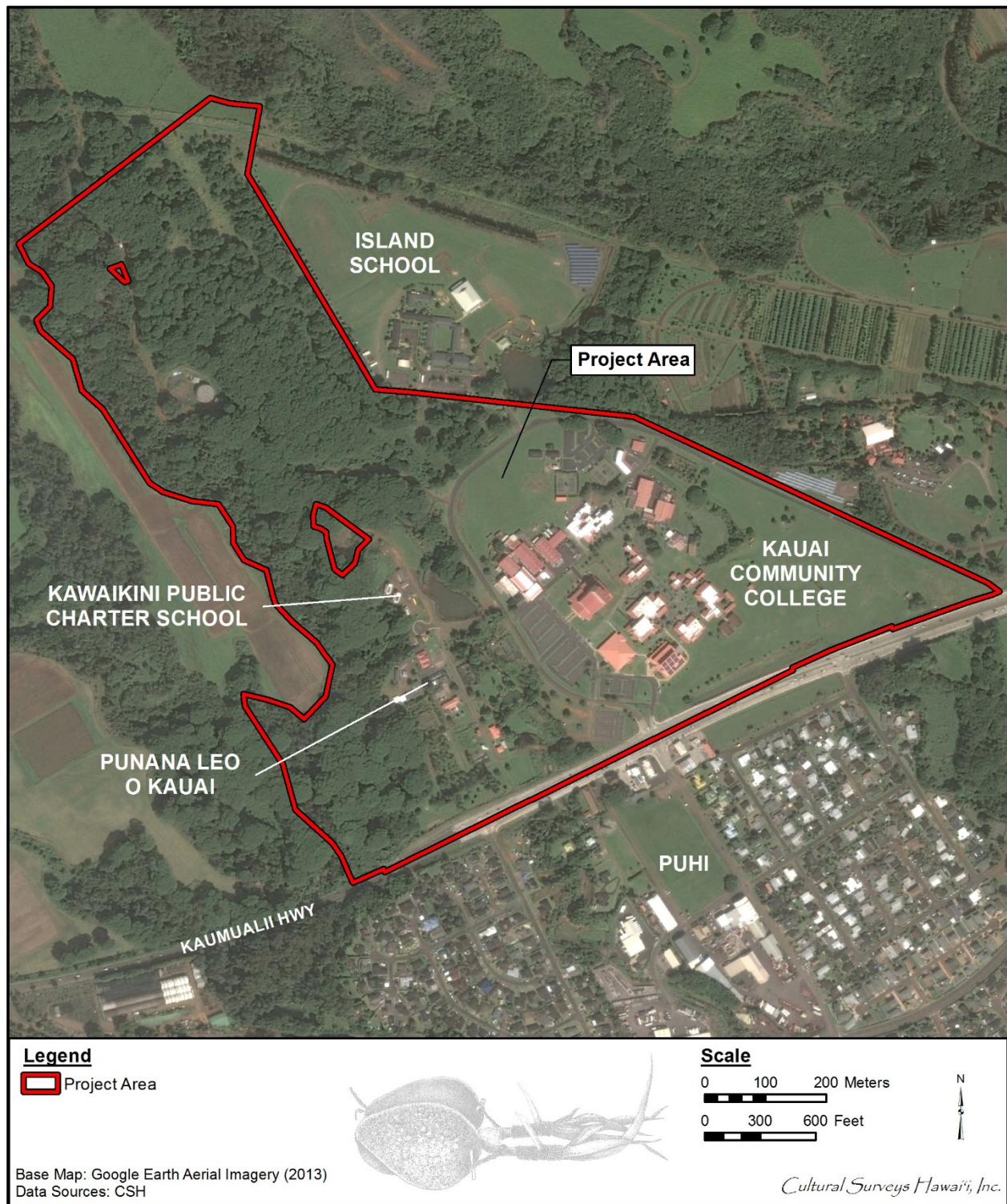


Figure 3. Aerial photograph of the project area (Google Earth 2013)



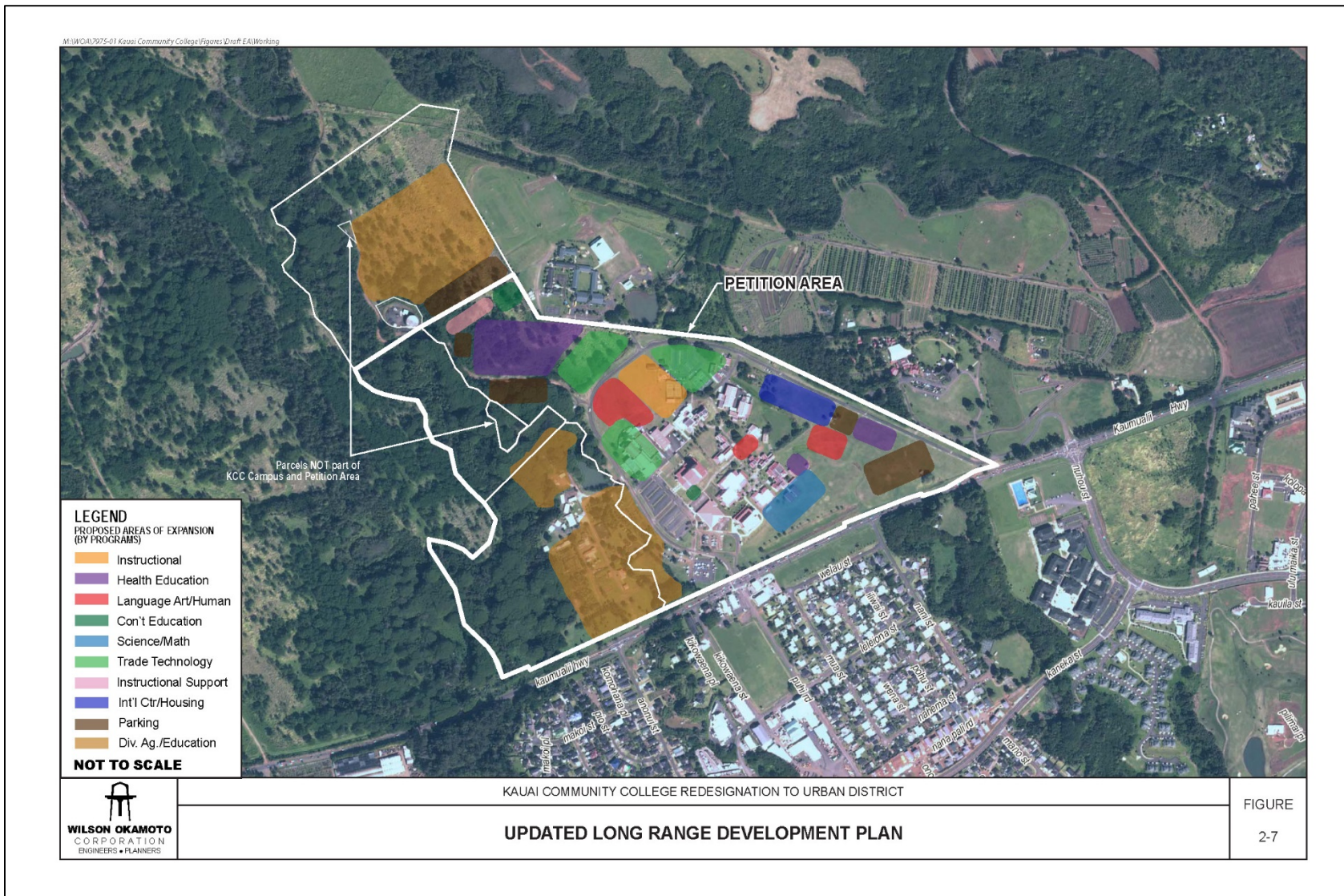


Figure 4. KCC Long Range Development Plan (courtesy of client)

AISR for the KCC Rezone Project, Ha'ikū, Niumalu, and Nāwiliwili, Līhu'e, Kaua'i

TMKs: [4] 3-4-007:001, 002, 003, and 006

“old ‘auwai” was documented that conforms to a portion of Grove Farm’s “Mauka Ditch,” previously found by Palama (1973). The Puhi Camp Cemetery, SIHP # 50-30-11-B006, was documented as outside of but surrounded by the project area. SHPD concurred with the recommendations for completion of a full archaeological inventory survey of the project area in a letter dated 4 June 2012 (LOG NO.: 2011.1458, DOC NO.: 0512TS09; see Appendix A).

The archaeological LRFI and other previous studies does not fulfill the requirements of an archaeological inventory survey investigation (per Hawai'i Administrative Rules [HAR] §13-276), which serves as a document to facilitate the proposed project's planning and supports historic preservation review compliance by assessing if there are any archaeological concerns within the study area and to develop data on the general nature, density and distribution of archaeological resources.

### 1.3 Scope of Work

The SHPD review letter dated 4 June 2012 (LOG NO.: 2011.1458, DOC NO.: 0512TS09; see Appendix A) concurs with recommendations for the completion of a full archaeological inventory survey (AIS) of the project area, including subsurface testing and additional documentation. SHPD also concurred with the proposed avoidance and implementation of protection measures for the Puhi Camp Cemetery, which consists of a formal preservation plan with consultation with former Puhi Camp residents to ensure appropriate preservation of the cemetery.

### 1.4 Environmental Setting

#### 1.4.1 Natural Environment

The project area is located approximately 3.2 km (2 miles) west of Līhu'e, *mauka* (inland) of Kaumuali'i Highway in Niumalu Ahupua'a, Līhu'e District, on the southeastern quadrant of the island of Kaua'i. The parcel is fairly far inland, about 4.8 km (3 miles) from the southeastern coast. The project area is exposed to the prevailing northeast trade winds, and receives up to 254 cm (100 inches) of rainfall annually (Giambelluca et al. 1986). The project area lies on moderately sloping lands that range from approximately 300 to 400 ft above mean annual sea level. Puhi Stream is in the west portion of the project area and a tributary of the stream runs within the central portion of the project area. A tributary of Nāwiliwili Stream is just east of the project area.

According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Soil Survey Geographic (SSURGO) database (2001) and soil survey data gathered by Foote et al. (1972), the project area's soils consist of Puhi silty clay loams (PnB, PnC, PnD) (Figure 5). Two exceptions are the western portion of the project area within the vicinity of Puhi Stream, which is predominately rough broken land (rRR), and at the southwest area of the project area is Marsh (MZ).

Puhi soils are described as follows:

. . . well-drained soils on uplands on the island of Kauai. These soils developed in material derived from basic igneous rock. They are nearly level to steep. Elevations range from 175 to 500 feet. The annual rainfall amounts to 60 to 80 inches. The mean annual soil temperature is 73°. [Foote et al. 1972:115]

Rough Broken Land are described as follows:



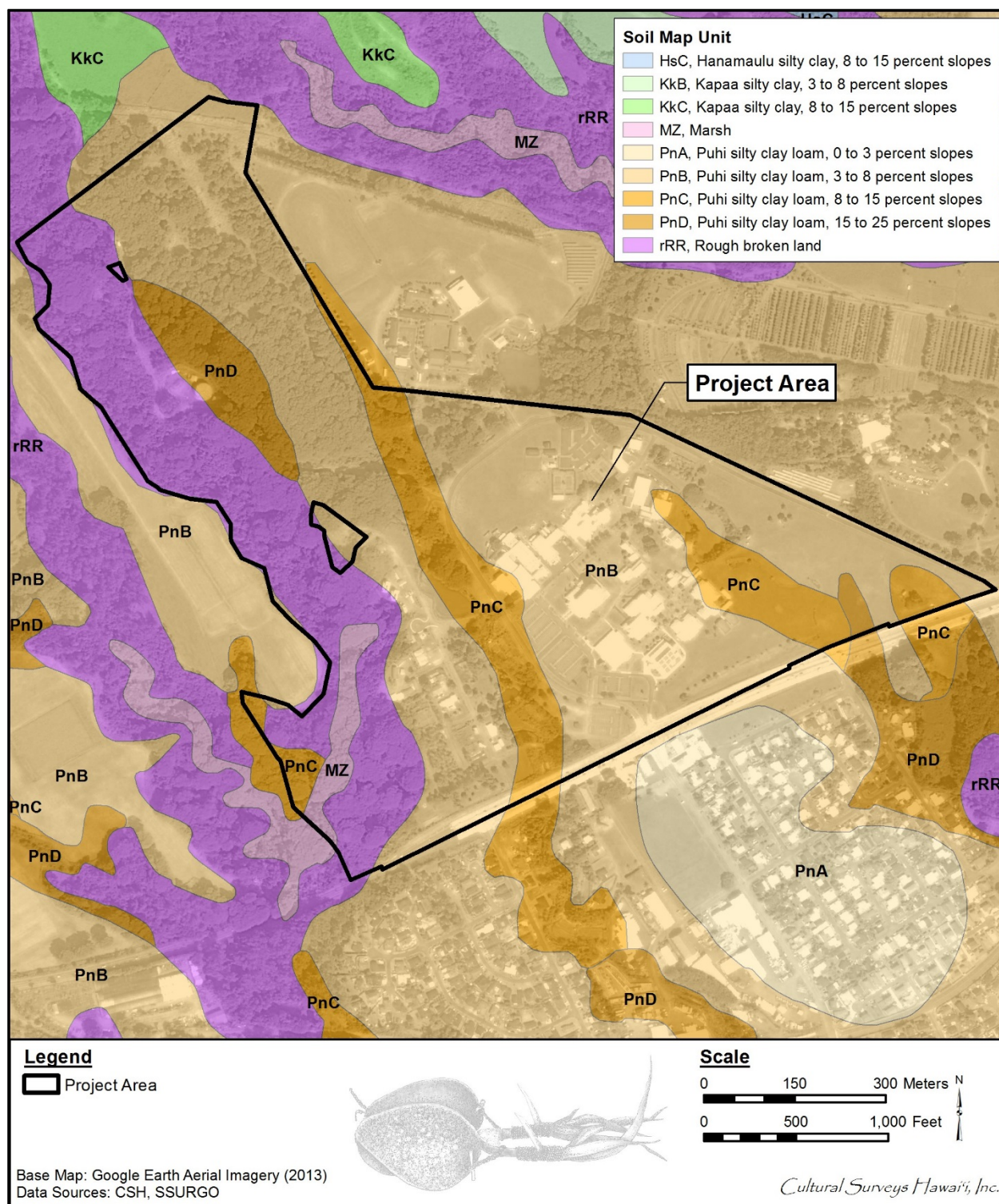


Figure 5. Overlay of *Soil Survey of the State of Hawaii* (Foote et al. 1972), indicating soil types within and surrounding the project area (U.S. Department of Agriculture Soils Survey Geographic Database [SSURGO] 2001)

. . . very steep land broken by numerous intermittent drainage channels. In most places it is not, stony. It occurs in gulches and on mountainsides on all the Islands except Oahu. The slope is 40 to 70 percent. Elevations range from nearly sea level to about 8,000 feet. The local relief is generally between 25 and 500 feet. Runoff is rapid, and geologic erosion is active. The annual rainfall amounts to 25 to more than 200 inches. [Foote et al. 1972:119]

Marsh is described as follows:

. . . wet, periodically flooded areas covered dominantly with grasses and bulrushes or other herbaceous plants. It occurs as small, low-lying areas along the coastal plains. Water stands on the surface, but marsh vegetation thrives. The water is fresh or brackish, depending on proximity to the ocean. [Foote et al. 1972:95]

#### **1.4.2 Built Environment**

Development within the project area consists of school and administrative buildings for KCC, Pūnana Leo o Kaua'i Pre-School, Kawaikini New Century Public Charter School, and associated parking and roadways (see Figure 3). The town of Puhi lies immediately to the south across Kaumuali'i Highway (see Figure 1).