



IBETEL A KLEBELAU

Quarterly Newsletter

April - June 2022: Vol. 38, Issue 3

FY'20 Site Rehabilitation and Conservation Project



The Ngchesar state youth on the scene conducting on clearing overgrowth trees, vines, and bushes around the site as part of the FY '20 Site Rehabilitation and Conservation Project that was made possible through a grant from the US National Park Service, Department of Interior and contributions from Ngchesar State Government. This year two selected sites called Boes er a Mekemad in Roischesar and Ked er a Kaliol in Ngchebakl located in Ngchesar are both World War II Historic Remains registered in the Palau Register of Historic Places.

The main purpose of this project is to educate and motivate the public, especially the affected villagers to realize the importance of the site and its potential economic benefits. Through the project, the concerned executives, traditional leaders and individuals could be remind once again that these precious resources are theirs and should be maintained for many reasons: for present and future generations to learn and enjoy; for continuous education; for heritage tourism; and for economic development.

Governor Duane Hideo and the community of Ngchesar State felt fortunate to have one of their precious sites rehabilitated and have access for visitors. They believe that this is one way for others to learn about their state's history and thanked the Bureau of Cultural and Historical Preservation under the Ministry of Human Resources, Culture, Tourism and Development for their on-going efforts in helping small communities little by little with their financial assis-

tance. The rehabilitation and conservation project will be expected to be completed by July of this year.

Palau Historic Research Library is Now Available Online

The Palau Historic Research Library is now available online. There are over 250 collection of resources accessible online such as e-books, research articles, and reports provided to the public for research purposes and educational use. Since the start of digitizing our materials, the Bureau of Cultural and Historical Preservation is able to provide access to the general public by giving readers access to a up-to-date information, find resources instantly, access 24/7 and many other benefits. The online library is managed and maintained under the Bureau of Cultural and Historical Preservation.

To visit the Palau Historic Research Library, go to www.ministryofhrctd.pw/palau-historic-research-library/ or scan the QR code at the side.



Palau Delegation Attends 2nd Pacific Preservation Summit in Guam



On May 24 to 26, 2022, the Guam Preservation Trust with support from the U.S Department of Interior Office of Insular Affairs, along with various partners, concluded its 2nd Pacific Preservation Summit, with this year's theme "Technology Empowering Cultural Heritage." The Palau Delegation that was able to join this year's summit was Minister Ngiraibelas Tmetuchel, Director Kiblas Soaladaob, and Palau Registrar McMichael Mutok Jr. This summit was held at the Guam Museum as they brought together heritage preservation professionals, advocates, and communities to collaborate and learn from each other on how to protect the heritage of our past with the advances in technology.

The first day event featured many presenters from different private sector organizations, agencies, and non-profit/ non-government organizations that shared their knowledge regarding preserving cultural heritage using technology. Director Kiblas Soaladaob and McMichael Mutok Jr. were able to deliver a presentation called "Preserving Palau Cultural Heritage and Providing Online Access to the Local Com-

munity." The session was describing how the Bureau of Cultural and Historical Preservation is updating and uploading content into their website with publications, permit processes, and other content that is accessible to the public. This also includes sharing online information to the public about Palau's significant cultural and historical sites' inclusion in the Palau Register of Historic Places. The presentation closed by mentioning some of progress that the Bureau has made on QR codes with historical site information and registration.

On the second day of the Summit, there was a field trip to the Valley of the Latte located in Talofof, on the south of Guam. The trip was to show how community-based tourism was applied with a cultural preservation experience. This included different types of technology such as canoe building, farming, and basket weaving and archaeological information on the Latte Stones that are prominent in ancient Chamorro histories.

On the third and final day, the Palau delegation visited a canoe house located in the Paseo de Susana where seafarers from the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) demonstrated canoe building, making flower wreaths (mwaramwar) and also gave hands on lessons on seafaring traditions in which the attendants were able to get

on the canoe and experience sailing. Mr. H. Larry Raigetel, a co-founder of Waa'gey, a non-profit organization in Yap State, was the keynote speaker for the final day of the Summit and advocated for the continuity of traditional knowledge and cultural heritage. Mr. Raigetel is a assistant professor at the University of Guam, teaching traditional seafaring.

The 2nd Guam Preservation Summit was an opportunity for the Palau delegation to renew its ties with Historical Preservation colleagues and Cultural Heritage advocates. Since the COVID-19 Pandemic, the Summit has not convened since 2018 and it was a chance to re-establish, reconnect, strengthens existing ties and creating new ones.

For more information of the 2nd Pacific Preservation Summit in Guam, please visit their website, www.pacificpreservation.org/2022 or scan the QR Code below.



Palau Society of Historians First Regular Session



The Palau Society of Historians held their first regular session which commenced on June 20th and concluded on the 24th of this year 2022. The historians are compiling their 20th booklet on traditional and customary practices series on "Omengat".

This session is the first of the two sessions planned for this year. The Society of Historians

(Historians) are comprised of sixteen members representing each of the sixteen states selected by their respective Governors and certified by the President of the Republic of Palau.

The Bureau of Cultural and Historical Preservation works with the Society of Historians in producing booklets that focus on Palau's rich intangible cultural heritage.

Through funding by the U.S. National Parks Service - Historical Preservation Fund, the Historians and the bureau's Ethnography division conducted sessions to dialogue and discuss Palau's cultural practices. If you have any questions regarding this program, you can contact our office at 767-1126 for more information.

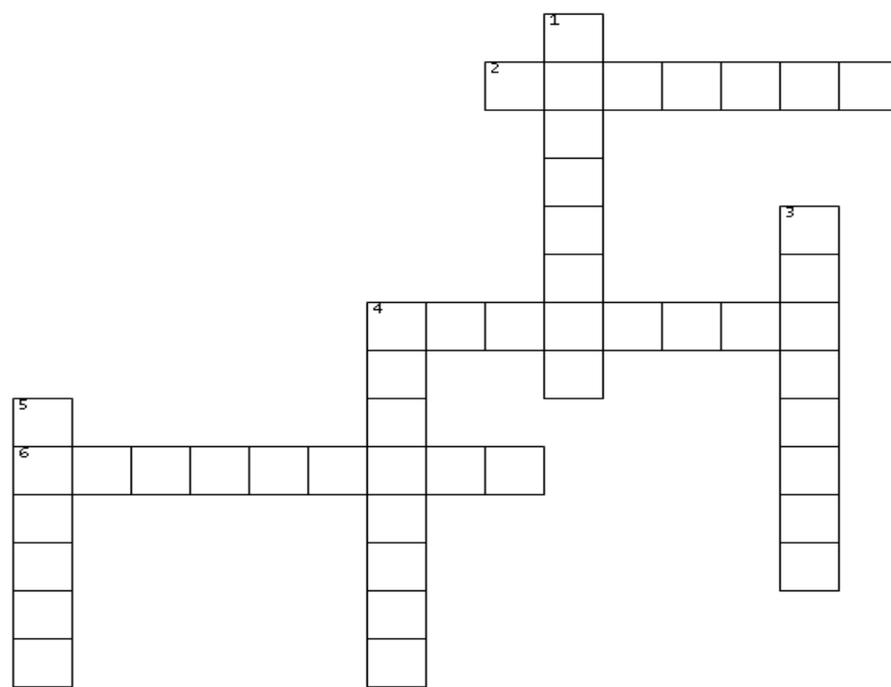
Registered Site Corner

Olsechall er a Ruchell, also known as *Olsechall er a Rubak*. It is located on a ridge that occupies the high and rugged part of *Ngebeanged* region. The site has two intact stone platforms that have been curved and filled with the same materials as on the site. According to an informant, there were several monoliths standing on the corners of the stone platforms. However, during the survey, none was noted. According to oral tradition the site was where the traditional council (*klobak*) of Palau began or formed.



Photo of *Olsechall er a Ruchell*

Belkul a Tekoi



ACROSS

- 2. Olab a ngerachel me a dereder, chad el ochell er a bliil
- 4. Derechual el ngara ekei el kot el euang el saus er a klobak er a beluu
- 6. Chelellakl e budech

DOWN

- 1. Mur me a lechub eng klou el blengur el kirel a chad
- 3. Blechebechel
- 4. Kakull e kaiuerenges e kadengemes
- 5. Omelanges mad me a klengariou el reng me a omelengemes

- 1. Omeluu
- 2. Kaudiais
- 3. Nglingil
- 4. Kebekuul
- 5. Modeuades
- 6. Merengel
- 7. Metelil

Historical Clearance Permitted in this Quarter

During the period of April to June 2022, the Bureau reviewed and concurred a total of sixty-nine (69) Historical Clearance. Out of the 69, sixty-one (61) were regular permits, six (6) were extensions. Their was no minor permit, and one (1) section 106 permit, and one (1) permit with MOA. These development projects included constructions of new access roads, improvement of existing access roads, building new residences, commercial projects, clearing projects, renovation of existing buildings, home extensions, earthmoving project, dredging projects, grading and leveling projects.

As mandated by law, the Bureau must review and determine the effects of any public and/or private development projects to insure historical and cultural resources are protected and preserved. Before any development project begins, a Historic Clearance Permit must be obtained from the Bureau of Cultural and Historical Preservation.

REGULATION FOR HISTORICAL/CULTURAL PROPERTIES

It is illegal to take, remove, alter or damage any historical or cultural properties, including artifacts, sunken WW II vessels and parts thereof, WW II relics, historic landmarks, and cultural properties. Detailed information on Public Laws regarding historical and cultural properties can be obtained from PNC Title 19 Chapter 1 and its subsidiaries. To ensure compliance with these laws you may contact the Bureau of Cultural and Historical Preservation/Historic Preservation Office at (680) 767-1126/2452 or send an email to histpres@palaunet.com / bac_reg@palaunet.com / bac_arch@palaunet.com

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ACKNOWLEDMENT OF SUPPORT: This publication is published with support from the ROP Government and the U.S. National Park Service, Department of the Interior and the Palau Historic Preservation Office (Bureau of Cultural and Historical Preservation).

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