

CODE OF CONDUCT

Given the importance of this site to Palauans in terms of their history and culture and the concerns that exist in regards to its future, those visiting the site should not engage in any type of behavior or activity that disturbs the integrity of this site or diminishes the respect that should be accorded to it. Therefore, because of the importance and sensibility surrounding this and all historical registered sites, the Palau Historic Preservation Office would like to emphasize the following guidelines:

- 1.) Remember to take everything you brought to the site with you when you leave.
- 2.) Do not remove anything from the site. Although you may not think something is not significant to the site, all pieces make up the whole.
- 3.) Remember that many sites include culturally sensitive areas and therefore behavior should always be respectful.

19 PNC Chapt. 1 § 181: It shall be unlawful for any person to take, appropriate, excavate, injure, destroy, or alter any registered historical sites or cultural properties deemed eligible for inclusion on the Palau Register of Historic Places. Any person violating any provision of this Act shall be punished pursuant to all applicable laws.

1997 – Ngeruchumelbai Bill No. A-2-27-97 was passed by the 2nd Olbiil Er a Ngerchumelbai (Airai State Legislature) & approved by former Governor Charles I. Obichang as ASPL No. A-2-27-97, setting out policies for the preservation & protection of sites and objects of historical, archaeological or cultural significance.

2007- Former Governor Vicky Kanai Began implementing ASPL No. A-2-27—97 by establishing the Office of Department of Historic and Cultural Preservation.

Please contact the state prior to travel and obtain visitation permission:

Airai State Office at (680) 587-3511 / 2878

For travel information and road conditions contact:

Palau Visitors Authority:(680) 488-2793/1930

DISCLAIMER STATEMENT

This publication was put together by the Bureau of Cultural and Historical Preservation/ Palau Historic Preservation Office in partnership with the National Park Service, Department of the Interior, United States of America. However, the contents and information contained herein do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the Department of the Interior.

NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

The Palau Bureau of Cultural & Historical Preservation also known as Palau Historic Preservation Office receives US. Federal financial assistance for recordation of Oral Histories and Traditions, identification and protection of cultural and traditional historic sites and properties. The US Department of the Interior strictly prohibits unlawful discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, or handicap. Any person who believes he or she has been discriminated against in any program, activity or facility operated by a recipient of Federal Assistance should write to: Director, Equal Opportunity Program, US Department of the Interior, National Park Service, P.O Box 37127, Washington D.C. 20013-7127.

For additional information on this or any other Registered site, please contact:



Email: bac_reg@palaunet.com Bureau of Cultural & Historical Preservation/Palau Historic Preservation Office (Obis er a lbetel a Cherechar) Ministry of Community & Cultural Affairs National Government of Palau P.O Box 100 Koror, Republic of Palau 96940 Phone:(680) 767-1126/2452 Fax: (680) 767-1030 or bac_arch@palaunet.com



AIRAI STATE

SITE No.: B:IR-2:1 F11& F12

REGISTERED: MAY 31, 2007

RESTORED NOVEMBER 2018



Site Name: Btelulachang Er A Kemurrull Me A Taoch Er A Ngiteuai

Site No.: B:IR-2:1 F11& F12

Site Type: Stone Path, Platform

Site Location: Ngerusar Village, Airai

In recognition of its significance, this site has been listed on the Palau Register of Historic Places on May 31, 2007. Through preservation, study, and interpretation, the site can serve to educate future generations concerning the historical and cultural heritage of the Palauan people.

This historic site is situated in the southernmost part of a traditional village of *Ngerusar*. Perhaps the most spectacular stone pathway is *Btelulachang er a Kemurrull* characterize the shape of a stingray tail (Kemur means tail / Rrull mean stingray). The *Taoch er a Ngiteuai* contains two structure foundations that was once existed: *Diangel* (Boathouse) and the *Bai* Stone Platform. It was home to the famous *Ngaraklasekl* men's club of *Ngerusar*. The *Bai* stretches from the east to the west that touches the water's edge on both sides. The mangrove channel once existed according to Kramer research from 1908-1910 has a narrow loop that when you first pass the *Bai* in *Ngiteuai* on the western side, you will soon encounter the same *Bai* on the eastern side. The local people use this to their advantage to collect *okesodel* (small gift offering) twice from any outsider entering *Ngerusar* and exiting *Ngeruluobel*.

Long ago, the people of *Melekeong* entered the western side of *Ngiteuai* only to encounter the *Ngaraklasekl* men sitting at the edge of the stone platform collecting *okesodel*. The *Bai* entrance is built at the edge of the channel on both sides for easy access to collect *okesodel* from the people of *Melekeong* while on their canoe. After the *okesodel* has made, the people of *Melekeong* went around the narrow loop of *Chelebacheb er a Retech* and encounter the same *Bai* on the eastern side collecting *okesodel*. An older man from the people of *Melekeong* offered his valuable Palauan Money as *okesodel* to the *Ngaraklasekl* as his last resort before exiting *Ngeruluobel*.

A *Btelulachang er a Kemurrull Me a Taoch er a Ngiteuai* a siliseb er a omsengelel a klalo er a Ibetel a Cherechar (Palau Register of Historic Places) er se er a May 31, 2007. Tia el olsechall a ta er a mekreos el ibetel a cherechar er a Belau, el kmal klou a ultutelel el olsechall el mo er a rechad me a beluu er a Airai.

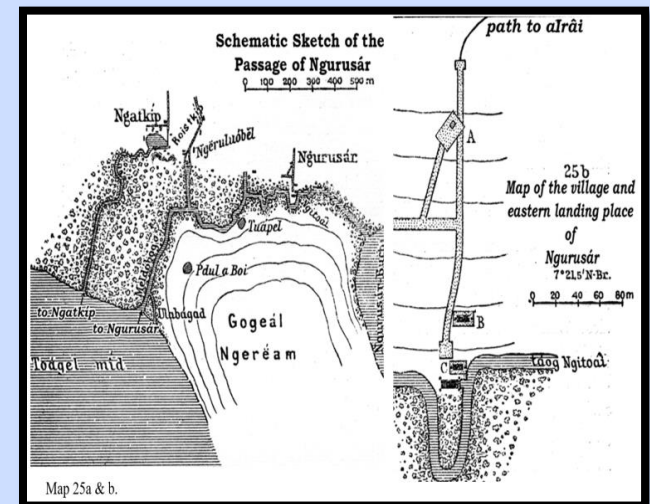
Tia el olsechall a kerodel el *Btelulachang er a Kemurrull* el ngar er a *Taoch er a Ngiteuai*. A cheldeklel tia el *btelulachang* a ko er a teletelel a kemril a rrull me a uchul e te mlengeklil el kmo "kemurrull." Ng mla er ngii a bai me a diangel, el mle birir me a dingelir a re *Ngaraklasekl* (cheldebechel er ar sechal er a *Ngerusar*), el dilechor er tia el *btelulachang er a Kemurrull*. Se el mle bai er ar cheldebechel el dilechor er tia el kerodel a ldu ng ta er a mle klou el bai, el mla er ngii a tungelel er a mo bedul a ongos er tia el *taoch me a ta er a tungelel a mla er a mo bedul a ngebard er tia el taoch*. A llecheklel tia el *Taoch er a Ngiteuai* a ko er a deleuul a teletelel, me a mlai el me oak tia el *taoch al siseb er a Ongelungel el me er a Ngerusar e ng me soiseb er a siseball er a mo bedul a ongos, e omekall el me kmoll er a tungelel tia el bai e kuk mo meliuekl el mo soiseb er a chelsel a keburs el me tmoech er a bita el tuangel, er a uchei er a bo lolemolem er a taoch el mo tuobed er a Ngeruluobel*. Me a re *Ngaraklasekl a ldu ng mle eru el lolai a okesodel er a mlai el me oak tia el taoch*. E le al siseb a mlai er a mo bedul a ongos e te me kmoll er a tungelel tia el bai me te okerd a okesodel e kuk omekall el mo soiseb er a chelsel a keburs e meliuekl el me tmoech er a bita el tuangel er a mo bedul a ngebard, me te lmuut el okerd a okesodel er a uchei er a lora el mo tuobed er a tebedall er a *Ngeruluobel*.

A ngar er a mong e ng mle ta el le mei a rechad er a *Melekeong* el mlo soiseb er a *Taoch er a Ngiteuai*. Me a le mei e te mle uterotel er a cheldukl e a re *Ngaraklasekl a ngar er ngii el melai a okesodel*. Me te ngmai a okesodel el mesterir e tir a mo melemolem er a *taoch el mo ieuekl er a bkul a chelebacheb er a Retech el me er a bita el telia er tia el bai el ngar er ngii a ta er a ngeiul a okesodel*. Me a ta el rubak er a *Melekeong* el mla er tia el omerael a milketii a udoud er a Belau el okesodel. Ng ngiluu ngii el udoud el mesterir a re *Ngaraklasekl el okesodel er a omerollir el mo tuobed er a taoch er a Ngeruluobel*.

SITE MAP



Schematic Sketch of the Passage of Ngerusar By Kramer, Circa 1908-1910



Source: 1997 Olsudong, Rita. Calvin T. Emesiochel, and Charlene Mersai. [Draft] Inventory of Cultural Sites and Oral History in Melekeok and Airai States. Division of Cultural Affairs. Republic of Palau.

Ables, Birgit. Richard Knecht. and Charlene Mersai. Ethnographic and Oral History Survey of Airai State. Republic of Palau. (Ngerusar Village).