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Ailing Archaeologist Loses Job with Historical Park

By Helen Altom
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The State Parks Division has dropped the contract of Jean Martin, archaeologist who had charge of the State's Lapakahi historical park development on the Big Island.

Miss Martin, an archaeologist in the parks division, was assigned as coordinator of the Lapakahi project and began directing field operations in October 1973.

Queried about reports of Miss Martin's contract

termination, Christopher Cobb, director of the State Department of Land and Natural Resources, said, "I left it to Joe Souza. We discussed it. It was his responsibility."

SOUZA, State parks administrator, said, "It was a decision Jimmy and Seiso came up with." He was referring to James Yamashiro, State parks superintendent, and Seiso Kamimura, State parks chief on the Big Island.

He said Miss Martin "hasn't been as active as she would want to be because of a back ailment."

He said the division is looking for a new project coordinator and archaeologist. "We are looking for someone with ability of archaeology and who can be on the job to work with people."

Kamimura was given responsibility for the project in North Kohala

several months ago so Miss Martin could work fulltime on the master plan and archaeology.

The Bishop Museum had been handling the master plan and archaeology on a contract with the parks division but pulled out in a dispute with the division.

THE LAPAKAHI development, marked by numerous troubles since its inception, is linked with the Kohala Task Force mission of creating jobs for workers being laid off by the shutdown of Kohala Sugar Co.

There were complaints that the workers weren't working much of the time. The project fell behind schedule and the State had to ask the U.S. Economic and Development Administration for a six-month extension to use up a \$400,000 grant.

The first phase of the project was dedicated in ceremonies Aug. 30 and parks officials said then

they felt most of the problems had been solved.

"We're now going into the final work; we need not only a good mind but a good back," Souza said, regarding the job of coordinator.

MISS MARTIN'S contract ended Sept. 4, along with a number of others, and wasn't picked up. The parks division asked for an extension of the positions for another year.

Miss Martin was assistant to T. Stell Newman, former State archaeologist, and participated in a Statewide inventory of historic sites.

She also participated with Paul Rosendahl in a detailed study of Lapakahi conducted by the University of Hawaii in 1968-69.

Rosendahl was the Bishop Museum's archaeologist on the Lapakahi park project. He wrote several critical reports on the progress, one which the State refused to accept.