

CULTURAL INTERVIEWS

APPENDIX

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**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT,
CENTRAL MAUI LANDFILL FACILITIES PROJECT
Interview Summary**

Interview with: Henry Nakamura

Interview Date: May 9, 2016

Interviewed By: Colleen Suyama, Senior Associate
Munekiyo Hiraga

Mr. Henry Nakamura was born on December 30, 1928 at the Pu'unēnē Hospital that was once located between Hansen Road and Pūlehu Road in Hospital Camp. Hospital Camp was near the intersection of Hansen Road and Hāna Highway and was occupied by Japanese families who worked for Hawaiian Commercial & Sugar Company (HC&S). His parents were Taisuke and Yoshiko (maiden name Shimada) Nakamura. His father was born in Ha'iku, Maui and worked for HC&S, while his mother was born in McGerrow Camp, Pu'unēnē, Maui. Mr. Nakamura has a sister Lillian Sodetani and a brother, Paul Nakamura. Mr. Nakamura is married to the former Jeanette Midori Ito and has a daughter.

Mr. Nakamura worked for HC&S from 1949 until he retired in 1993. He started as a grass cutter and was promoted into several jobs with HC&S. When Mr. Nakamura retired, he was working with the HC&S Budget Office. One of the positions that Mr. Nakamura held during his employment was as a water meter reader. Mr. Nakamura's responsibilities included reading the meters, cleaning the meters and replacing the paper used to record the amount of water passing through the meter. The water was supplied by the plantation and part of his job was to read the residential water meters of the plantation workers' homes in the various camps.

Mr. Nakamura remembers Pūlehu Camp was located along Pūlehu Road near the junction of Pūlehu Road and Omaopio Road. Pūlehu Camp was a mixed nationality camp mostly of Filipinos, as well as Japanese and Portuguese who worked in the nearby sugar cane fields. Mr. Nakamura remembers Pūlehu Camp had a manju shop run by the Shishido family and a Filipino store. The Camp remained in existence until the 1980's. Also, the cane haul road above the Central Maui Landfill connected the Pai'a Mill to the Pu'unēnē Mill.

The Ameron Hawaii quarry adjacent to the Central Maui Landfill started as a cement processing plant by Honolulu Concrete & Dredging Co. (HC&D) who made the concrete flumes for HC&S. Access to the site is from Quarry Road off of Haleakalā Highway.

Mr. Nakamura is familiar with the area around the Central Maui Landfill from his experience living in McGerrow Camp and working for HC&S. Mr. Nakamura noted the A&B Sugar Museum as a good source of information on the area, especially the former camp sites and former residents. Mr. Nakamura did not voice any concerns with regards

to the proposed Central Maui Landfill facilities project, nor was he aware of any cultural activities or sites within or in the immediate vicinity of the project area.

**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT,
CENTRAL MAUI LANDFILL FACILITIES PROJECT
Interview Summary**

Interview with: Lydia Agaran Coloma
Interview Date: June 27, 2016
Interviewed By: Colleen Suyama, Senior Associate
Munekiyo Hiraga

Mrs. Lydia Agaran Coloma was born in the Phillipines in Ilocos Norte province. She has lived on Maui for 54 years. She married Manuel C. Coloma, one of the sakadas who came to work in the sugar cane fields in 1946. Mr. Coloma worked in the fields for Hawaiian Commercial and Sugar Company (HC&S) in their irrigation department. They had two (2) children, Gilbert Keith-Agaran and Velma Coloma. Her son is an attorney and State of Hawai'i Senator.

In addition to being a house wife, Mrs. Coloma worked at the Maui Land & Pineapple Company cannery. She also was a night dishwasher working until 11:00 p.m. at the former Maunaolu College, worked on Saturday and Sundays at the Kula Flower Farm owned by Mr. and Mrs. Fukuyama, and worked part time at the airport for the Hawaii Protective Association Ltd.

Mrs. Coloma belongs to several Filipino organizations. She belongs to the United Sons and Daughters Ilocos Region Maui, United Vintarianian of Hawaii, ILWU Local 142 Pensioner Club, Wailuku Filipino Senior Club, Kahului Filipino Senior Club, Kaisahan Club of Hawaii, and Santo Nineo of Hawaii.

Mrs. Coloma lived in Orpheum Camp near the former Paia Mill, which was surrounded by sugar cane fields. Orpheum Camp was mainly home to married Filipino men and their families. The plantation homes were small and did not have any bathrooms in the house. Her family used an outhouse, which was typical of homes in Orpheum Camp. Today there are no remnants of the former camp.

In 1965 the family moved to the Kobayashi Subdivision in Paia Town near the former Kobayashi service station. She remembers Paia Town contained several stores along Baldwin Avenue where the plantation families in the area would shop, such as the former Paia Mercantile Store.

Later on December 27, 1972, the family moved to Kahului. Mrs. Coloma currently lives on Lehua Street in Kahului near Maui High School.

Mrs. Coloma remembers her husband would be picked up each day with other workers and trucked to the various fields to work on the irrigation ditches. Later he was assigned to fields in Paia and given a truck to get to the fields. Along the reservoirs and ditches

workers would grow vegetables to feed their families, such as round and long squashes, eggplant, pumpkin, and bittermelon.

Although Mrs. Coloma rarely got sick or needed medical attention, she remembers the Puunene Hospital and plantation doctors. She remembers Doctors Underwood and Wong who both worked at Puunene Hospital. Although her son was born at Maui Memorial Medical Center (formerly known as Maui Memorial Hospital) she remembers when she was pregnant she would visit her doctor at Puunene Hospital.

Mrs. Coloma remembers life in the plantation camps and is unaware of any cultural sites or customary practices in the area. She has no strong feelings for the area.