2.3.6 Palapala Sila Nui, 1855-1867: Royal Patent Grant Lands on Lāna‘i

At the same time the Māhele 'Āina was being undertaken, it was realized that many native tenants were not receiving lands claimed, or in the case of environmentally stressed areas, they were not able to claim adequate land areas to support their families. As a result, the kōng signed into law an act giving applicants the right to apply for larger tracts of land from the inventory of government lands set aside for the support of government operations. All Royal Patent Grants issued on Lāna‘i are listed in table 6.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grant No.</th>
<th>Grantee</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Acreage</th>
<th>Book</th>
<th>Year</th>
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<tr>
<td>1928</td>
<td>Kūkū</td>
<td>Pawīli</td>
<td>34.93</td>
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<td>1929</td>
<td>Kekua</td>
<td>Pawīli</td>
<td>18.57</td>
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<td>1930</td>
<td>Nalimakaau</td>
<td>Pawīli</td>
<td>31.96</td>
<td>10</td>
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<td>Pawīli</td>
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<td>2214</td>
<td>Lonopasevila</td>
<td>Pawīli</td>
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<td>12</td>
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<td>2903</td>
<td>Puupai</td>
<td>Pawīli and Kealia</td>
<td>52.00</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>1863</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2971</td>
<td>Kapahoa</td>
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<td>33.00</td>
<td>14</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>3029</td>
<td>Nahimu and Kelihue</td>
<td>Kalulu</td>
<td>236.68</td>
<td>14</td>
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<td>Wm. Beder</td>
<td>Kaunolu</td>
<td>120.00</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>1867</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 5: Registered Map 2237. F. E. Harvey, Surveyor, December 1903. Note the Land Commission Awards in Kaunolu and Kanahele Ahupua‘a.
2.3.7 Boundary Commission Surveys and Testimonies

Following the Māhele ʻĀina, there was a growing movement to fence off land areas and control access to resources which native tenants had traditionally been allowed to use. By the 1860s, foreign land owners and business interests petitioned the Crown to have the boundaries of their respective lands—which were the foundation of plantation and ranching interests—settled. In 1862, the king appointed a Commission of Boundaries, a.k.a. the Boundary Commission, whose task was to collect traditional knowledge of place, pertaining to land boundaries and customary practices, and determine the most equitable boundaries of each ahupe'a that had been awarded to ali'i, konohiki, and foreigners during the Māhele. The commission proceedings were conducted under the courts and as formal actions under the law. As the commissioners on the various islands undertook their work, the kingdom hired or contracted surveyors to begin the surveys, and in 1874, the Commissioners of Boundaries were authorized to certify the boundaries for lands brought before them.25

Primary records in this collection from Lāna'i were recorded from 1876 to 1891. The records include testimonies of elder kama'aina who were either recipients of kuleana in the Māhele, holders of Royal Patent Land Grants on the island, or who were the direct descendants of the original fee-simple title holders, as recorded by the surveyors/commissioners. The resulting documentation covers descriptions of the land, extending from ocean fisheries to the mountain peaks, and also describes traditional practices; land use; changes in the landscape witnessed over the informants' lifetime; and various cultural features across the land.

The native witnesses usually spoke in Hawaiian, and in some instances, their testimony was translated into English and transcribed as the proceedings occurred. Other testimonies from Lāna'i have remained in Hawaiian, untranslated, until development of a manuscript for the Lāna'i Culture & Heritage Center.26 Translations of the Hawaiian-language texts below were prepared by Kepā Maly. The descriptions and certificates of boundaries for the ahupe'au'a of Lāna'i are from the notes of W. D. Alexander, who worked for the Boundary Commission. The notes, dated 1875-76, give boundary information collected from kama'aina. The following are excerpts from Alexander's notes.

At Halepala'a March 28th, '76.
Ho'a, an old Kamaalina states that the boundary between Kaohai and Paawili begins at the inlet of the sea a little south of the Church, & thence follows the bottom of the kahawai to the top of the mountain.
Kaumalapau & Kalama are both isles of Kamoku. Three lands run across from sea to sea, viz., Palawai, Kahulu, & Kaunolu…
April 3rd. 76. Monday.
Keliibue widow of Nahunina, was born on Kahulu, & testifies that the boundary between Kahulu and Kamoku comes down from a hill known as Puunene

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26Ibid., p. 27.

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down the North bank of the Kapano valley to the Govt. road, passing near Kawasolahide's house, keeping straight on across a side ravine coming in from the north, called Keakahi, to the top of the north wall of the Palawai crater at a place called Pulehuaua, near Keliihulanu'a house.
Kaahu & Kaunolu

The boundary between Kaahu & Kaunolu begins at a small hill north of the heiau of Māiele near the shore, & passes a little south of the sheep pen at Pūu Ulualu, at some rocks in the path.

The boundary between Kaunolu & Kealua Kapu, begins at the sea at a Kapu rock south of the great heiau, & follows up the centre of the Kaunolu gulch.
Names of villages on the shore of Kealua Kapu were Kapalaaoa, Mamāki, Kuahulu nui & Kuahulu iki.27

Kealua Kapu & Kaunolu

… between Kaunolu & Kealua Kapu.

The branches of the deep ravine above mentioned are Waiakeakaua iki, Waiakeakaua iki & Waiakeakaua towards the S.E. The boundary between Kaunolu & Kealua Kapu comes down a more northerly branch which meets the deep ravine above mentioned some distance to the west. It then follows down the main Kaunolu gulch which is formed by its junction x that of a third ravine from the N.E., and at the foot of the terrace where it enters the crater is called the Kauehehe gulch. A large rock is shown just below the Govt. road, where Makalena set his compass. From this rock Pohakula, the line runs straight across the crater to a point a little N. of a white house, belonging to Ohuha. Thence to head of the gulch which reaches the sea near the heiau.28

Below is a letter from M. D. Monsarrat, a surveyor, to W. D. Alexander dated 1877. There is some description of Monsarrat's process, as well as the areas of Lāna'i which he has already surveyed. He mentioned he has surveyed Kaunolu.

Palawai, Lanal

Since writing my last letter I have found an old Kamaalina by the name of Pali who has been absent for some time. He gives his age at ninety nine and is pretty helpless as I had to lift him off and on his horse. I could not get him to come for less than two dollars a day but I think that he is worth it as he seems to be very honest. He puts Kamoku boundary the same as Keliibue and not wrongly as Papahua did.

I have surveyed Kaunolu boundary on this side of the mountain, also both sides of Palawai from the top of the mountain to the South wall of Palawai
crater from there to the sea. I will leave until I return from the other side of the mountain, where I intend starting early Monday morning. Don’t you think that I had better survey the boundary between the government land of Kamoa and Kaohai which is very short and will survey with Paawili on the upper side of the island to Palawai form a survey of Kaohai. I have started to carry a set of triangles around from Pau Mamo to Haealapaoa and find that it can be done with little effort and few triangles. When I was in Lahaina Mr. Gibson spoke of having me stop here and complete the survey of the island as he is very anxious for a map.

It is beginning to get very dry here and water scarce. Potatoes are also very scarce and expensive. Pai at are a dollar a piece in Lahaina now having jumped from seventy five cents since I came over…

As soon as I finish Kaunolu I will send you the notes of survey as the minister of Interior is very anxious to get them. Mr. Gibson is going to start his men shearing at Palawai in a few day[s]. Hoping to hear from you soon. I remain yours.26

The following Boundary Commission document gives testimonies of the surveyor Monsarrat, as well as the koma’aina Pali on the boundaries of lands on Lī‘i. Pali states that Kaunolū is a government land and Kalulu is a Crown land.

Hooponopono Palena Aina a ke Komisina

Ma ka la 17 o Sepetemaba, A.D. 1877, ua noho ka Aha a ke Komisina e hooho ho ke no i maluna‘e. O M.D. Monsarrat (Hope Ana Aina Aupuni) ka mea i hikī mai ma ka aoa o ka mea no. A no ka mea ho‘o nana no A Ana la mau aina a pahu. A ua hoomana pu ia mai no ho‘o oia i. Jno. O. Dominis e lavelawe

Decision of Boundaries by the Commission

On the 17th day of September, A.D. 1877, the Commission convened to hear the above applications. M.D. Monsarrat (Assistant Governor Surveyor) was present on behalf of the applicant. Also as the one who Surveyed all of the lands. Jno. O. Dominis was authorized to bring the matter forward to the Commission by those adjoining the Crown Lands on Lānai.

Sworn and stated: I surveyed all these lands; I went along all the boundaries of these lands with natives. They were all in agreement, My surveys are correct and true. Rev. N. Pali was my primary guide, he pointed out things, others have since passed away.

Because Pali did not arrive this day, the Commission moved Await his arrival before reconvening.

On the 30th day of September, A.D. 1877, Pali arrived, and The Commission reconvened. Pali Sworn and stated: I am Pali. I am a native of Lānai, my parents pointed them (the boundaries) out to me. And as a result of my having been Land overseer under Kau Keaulani, the boundaries are known to me. I was the Konohikī of “Kalulu” and “Kamoku.” Kamao, Kealia, Pawili, and Kaunolu are Government lands. I know them well.2

The following is from the Boundary Commission. It certifies the boundaries determined through the survey of Monsarrat.

Olelo Hooholo
Ke hooho nei au. O na palena o na aina a pahu ma Lānai i ana e M.D. Monsarrat, oia ho‘o “Palawai” no W.M. Gibson, “Kaohai” no ka Mea Kekile R. Keelikolani, “Kalulu” a me “Kamoku,” he mau aina Lei Alii a me “Kamau,” “Kealia,” “Pawili” & “Kaunolu” he mau aina Aupuni, e like me na ana pahu i huikea malo ke nei, ua pono a ua poliomio.

Kakaula ma Lahaina i kea la 30 o Sept. 1877.

Decision
I hereby move. The boundaries of all the lands on Lānai, surveyed by M.D. Monsarrat, they being, “Palawai” of W.M. Gibson, “Kaohai” of Her Highness, R. Keelikolani, “Kalulu” and “Kamoku” Crown Lands, and “Kamau,” “Kealia” (Aupuni), “Pawili” & “Kaunolu,” being Government lands, as uniformly surveyed and given within, are right and correct.

Signed at Lahaina, this 30th day of Sept. 1877.

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1 Palawai Abuquna, Island of Lānai, Boundary Commission Volume No. 1, p. 108-110, No. 34, Kena Kisia o Maui, Lahaina, September 17, 1877.
2 Trans. K. Māly.

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2 Jno. D. Monsarrat (Surveyor) to W. D. Alexander (Surveyor General), June 2, 1877, Hawaii State Archives, DAGS 6 Box 1 - Survey.
Komisina P. A. Apana Elua, ko H. P. A.  
Commissioner L.B., 2 Second District, of  
the H.L  
1 Boundary Commission Volume No. 1, Palawai Abupua’a, Island of Lanai, p. 113.  
2 Commissioner of Land Boundaries.  
3 Trans. K. Maly.  
These are the metes and bounds of Kanonoloh Abupua’a from the survey of Monsarrat for  
the Boundary Commission:

Commencing at a pile of stones over a cross cut in a large stone (the same  
being the point of Commencement of Kalulu Survey) at the edge of precipice a  
few feet from the sea. The boundary runs:

1. N 87° 20' E true 2551 feet along Kalulu to a pile of stones on side Hill.  
Thence:
2. N 76° 00' E true 3206 feet along Kalulu to a rock marked with a cross.  
3. N 54° 17' E true 6694.5 feet along Kalulu passing between Maakula’s  
house & his sheep pen to a point 14 feet East of a rock with a cross cut  
in it.
4. N 56° 15' E true 7944.6 feet along Kalulu to a pile of stones on South  
edge of Palawai Crater.  
5. N 53° 14' E true 13359 feet along Kalulu across crater passing West of  
school house to a point on terrace marked with Mamane post.  
6. N 44° 00' E true 3935 feet along Kalulu across terrace and to a red wood  
post on the top of a hill called Pus Ali.  
7. N 52° 7' E true 9290 feet along Kalulu across Maunalei and Kalulu valleys  
to a red wood post on East edge of latter gulch. Thence:
8. N 20° 1' E true 9729.5 feet along Kalulu down the East edge of Kalulu  
valley to a rock on edge of valley marked with a cross.  
9. N 36° 4' E true 5878.5 feet along Kalulu to a red wood post on sea shore.  
Thence:
10. S 44° 7' W true 5581 feet along shore.  
11. S 48° 1' W true 1510 feet along shore to a red wood post. Thence:
12. S 37° 9' W true 10408 feet along Palawai up ridge to a red wood post on  
the top of a red hill.  
13. S 48° 15' W true 6025 feet along Palawai up ridge and across a small  
gulch and up another ridge to a red wood post. Thence:
14. S 30° 33' W true 1564 feet along Palawai up a path that follows up ridge  
to a red wood post. Thence:
15. S 1° 30' W true 4425 feet along Palawai across the large valley of Palawai  
to highest point of the Island. Thence:
16. N 38° 35' W true 3565 feet along Paawili & Kealia Aupuni.  
17. N 72° 00' W true 1025 feet along Kealalakau. Thence:
18. S 32° 10' W true 1660 feet along Kealalakau down ridge to a point marked  
by two Triangular pits and bottle at the edge of a gulch.

19. Thence down the bottom of this gulch and up the main gulch to a point  
on South bank marked by two Tri. pits and buried bottle; which point  
bears S 61° 45' W true 3462 feet from last point. 
20. Thence down the bottom of the main gulch to a point on East bank  
marked by two Tri. pits & bottle which bears from last point S 36° 21' W  
true 930 feet.  
21. Thence down the bottom of the gulch to a point on East bank marked  
by two Tri. pits and bottle which bears from last mentioned point S 18° 7'  
E true 538 feet.  
22. Thence still down the bottom of the gulch (which where it enters the  
crater is called the Kaule) to a large rock at mouth on lower side of  
the road marked with a cross, and called “Pohakuloa,” which rock bears S 46°  
20' W true 2450 feet from last mentioned point.
23. S 44° 8' W true 13375 feet along Kealalakau across the crater to a point  
marked by two Tri. pits a little S.E. of a white house belonging to Obua.  
24. S 62° 24' W true 5899 feet along Kealalakau to a point marked by two Tri.  
pits and a post near an old house site.  
25. S 42° 27' W true 1698 feet along Kealalakau to a point marked by two Tri.  
pits.
26. S 48° 30' W true 1275 feet along Kealalakau to a point marked by two Tri.  
pits.
27. S 32° 55' W true 3125 feet along Kealalakau to rock marked with a cross.  
28. S 18° 11' W true 1637 feet along Kealalakau to rock marked thus — in  
a clump of rocks.
29. S 25° 00' W true 2280 feet along Kealalakau to rock marked with a cross  
at the Commencement of a small gulch.  
30. Thence down the bottom of said gulch and large gulch (that reaches the  
sea near the Heiau) to a point marked by a cross on the S.E. side of the  
gulch at a bend in it which point bears from last point S 27° 23' W true  
3663 feet.
31. Thence down the bottom of the gulch passing to the N.W. of a well in the  
gulch (which well belongs to Kealalakau) to a large rock marked with a  
cross and from thence to the sea at a point on the shore at the middle of  
the harbor; which point bears from the rock on the side of the gulch at  
the bend S 33° 57' W true 1343 feet.
32. Thence following the sea shore to point of Commencement. The traverse  
along the shore being as follows:
1. N 56° 7' W true 150 feet.  
2. N 27° 54' W true 4387 feet.
3. N 39° 14' W true 4234 feet.  

Page 112.
4. N 31° 35' W true 1640 feet.
5. N 18° 23' W true 3142 feet to point of Commencement.

Surveyed by M.D. Monsarrat, Assistant
Hawaiian Government Survey.
Lanai, June 1877.
Hanaia a hooholok e s'u ma Lahaina i ka ia 29 & 17 o Sept. A.D. 1877.
Komiina F. A. o Maui, 2nd Jud. Circuit

The following are the metes and bounds of the Crown Land of Kalulu, as surveyed by
M. D. Monsarrat in 1877.

Commencing at a pile of stones over a cross cut in a stone (the same being
the point of commencement of Kaunolu Survey) at the edge of precipice a few
feet from sea. The boundary runs:

1. N 87° 20' E true 2557 feet along Kaunolu to a pile of stones on side hill.
   Thence
2. N 76° 00' E true 3206 feet along Kaunolu to a rock marked with a cross.
   Thence
3. N 54° 17' E true 6694.5 feet along Kaunolu passing between Maakula's
   house and his sheep pen to a point 14 feet East of a rock with a cross cut
   on it.
4. N 56° 15' E 7944.6 feet along Kaunolu to pile of stones on South edge of
   Palawai Crater. Thence
5. N 53° 14' E true 13359 feet along Kaunolu across Crater passing West of
   school house to a point on terrace marked by a Mamane post. Thence
6. N 44° 00' E true 3935 feet along Kaunolu across terrace to a red wood
   post on the top of a hill called Puu Alli.
7. N 52° 7' E true 9290 feet along Kaunolu across Maunalei and Kuhlu
   valleys to a red wood post on East edge of crater. Thence
8. N 20° 1' E true 9729.5 feet along Kaunolu down the East ridge of Kalulu
   valley to a rock on edge of valley marked with a cross.
9. N 36° 4' E true 5878.5 feet along Kaunolu to a red wood post on seashore.
   Thence
10. N 46° 2' W true 6285 feet along seashore to a red wood post a little N. E.
    of a small creek (said post being at N. E. corner of Maunalei). Thence
11. S 28° 27' W true 10676 feet along Maunalei up slope to a pile of stones
    on a hill called "Wawaiku." Thence
12. S 6° 25' W true 9370 feet along Maunalei up gulch of Waikapua to a red
    wood post on summit of a hill called "Walane." Thence

13. N 74° 1' W true 5235 feet along Maunalei along Northern edge of Papala-
    hoomoe gulch to its junction with Maunalei valley and across said valley
    to a red wood post on the summit of a hill called "Paaukai" on West
    edge of valley. Thence
14. S 0° 41' W 3555 feet along Mahana and Paomai to a red wood post on ridge
    that comes down from the central mountain range (said post being on
    North edge of valley that contains the water hole of Kaliholea). Thence
15. S 45° 49' W true 1067.9 feet along Kamoku across valley passing to the
    S. E. of above mentioned water hole to a point on ridge marked
    with Triangular pits and ditch thus said point a little East of Puupane.
16. Thence along Kamoku down the N.W. edge of the Kapano valley to the
    Government road, passing near Kawaonahale's house keeping straight
    on across a side ravine coming in from the North (called Keaaku) to a
    red wood post at the top of the North wall of the Palawai Crater at a
    place called "Pulehualoa," near Kealiihanana's house, which red wood
    post bears S 44° 53' W true 8052 feet from last mentioned point on ridge.
   Thence
17. S 65° 44' W true 4039.3 feet along Kamoku along North edge of crater to
    a point a little North of a cactus clump; marked by two triangular pits.
   Thence
18. S 46° 19' W true 10141.4 feet along Kamoku down road to a cross cut in
    a stone amongst a lot of stones at the former site of an old Heiau called
    "Ii o Lono." Thence
19. S 72° 48' W true 2080 feet along Kamoku to head of gulch. Thence
20. S 84° 40' W true 2594 feet along Kamoku to a cross cut in a stone on
    South edge of gulch.
21. S 88° 46' W true 5225.9 along Kamoku down South edge of gulch to a
    stone marked with cross; on edge of gulch a little above a branch that
    runs into the main gulch from the South.
22. S 86° 27' W true 3254 feet along Kamoku down South edge of gulch to a
    pile of stones (on edge of same) over a cross cut in a large stone to the
    South of Kaumalapau Harbor (the same pile of stones being the point of
    commencement of Kamoku survey).
23. Thence along seashore to Commencement. Traverse along the shore
    being as follows:
    1. S 27° 00' W true 1,212 feet.
    2. S 22° 57' E true 5915 feet to Commencement.

Area 5945.19 Acres.
Exclusive of Awards.
Surveyed by M.D. Monsarrat, Assistant
Hawaiian Government Survey
Lanai, June 1877.

31 Translated: Exceeded and moved by me at Lahaina on the 28th & 17th day of Sept. A.D. 1877. Commit-
On March 23, 1866, Walter M. Gibson applied to the Minister of the Interior, F. W. Hutchinson, for a lease on the government lands on Lāna‘i, including lands in Kānolū and Kahula. With his application, Gibson submitted a sketch map, included here as figure 6.

In compliance with your request I have the honor to lay before the Department, a statement respecting Government lands on Lāna‘i.

There are six ahupu‘as of land belonging to Government on the island, named: Kamao, Paawili, Kālea, Kahulu, Kaunolu, and Kamoku; comprising about 24,000 acres, with a population of 80 persons. About one eighth of this surface is good arable “dry” land; perhaps one half is more or less adapted for grazing; and the remaining three eighths, the portion bordering on the beach, an utter barren waste.

I made application to the Department in October 1862 to lease all of these lands. My application was favorably entertained by the Department, but owing to want of proper surveys, a lease was not made out at the time, as I was informed by letter, written by authority of His Majesty, then Minister. A copy of this letter, dated Feb. 20th, 1863 is enclosed.

Feeling myself fortified by a guarantee from the Department, I proceeded to make improvements; to enclose lands with stone wall, to make roads, construct dwelling for laborers, and cultivate on the Government lands, until my operations were interrupted by a lease of Kamoku, the most important of these lands, by the Department, to another party. I had expended much labor on Kamoku, which was thus rendered fruitless.

However, I would still propose to the Government to lease the five lands, Kamao, Paawili, Kālea, Kahulu, and Kaunolu. They are now mere commons, upon which roam many thousand head of sheep and goats that do not yield one cent of revenue to the Government…

Accompanying this, a rough draft map of Lāna‘i.

Six months later, on September 18, 1866, Gibson applied again to the Minister of the Interior.

I beg to be informed if the Government lands in this island have been rented or leased. A certain number of natives whom I opposed in their destruction of the little shrubbery of the island, in order to make charcoal, assert that the land is in their possession, and have attempted to subject me to a great deal of annoyance.

I cannot believe in the truth of their assertion that such a lease has been made, in view of the pledge given to me by your predecessor in office, His Majesty. I am not at all anxious to lease all the Government lands on Lāna‘i. The bulk of these lands, comprised in the districts named Kaunolu, Kahulu and

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Crown Land of Kahulu, Lāna‘i.

Hawaii State Archives, Interior Department Lands.
Kamoku, can be better utilized by the native residents at present, and I should waive any pretensions I may have in respect to them; but the smaller lands of Kamao, Pawaill, and Kealia, which comprise about one fourth of the Govt.
lands, I desire to lease, as they do join my own lands.

Your Excellency will observe in the rough draft map I left at the Interior Office, that the lands of Pawaill and Kealia are enclosed between my lands of Palawai and Kealia Kapu. Kamao is a barren corner, lying between my lands Palawai, and the leased land Kaohai. There are not more than half a dozen families residing on these small lands, and little or no stock upon them, and they may be properly detached from the bulk of the Govt. lands on the Western half of the island, where the chief part of the population resides.

I trust that some equitable adjustment of these lands will shortly be made, and I beg to be notified respecting any contemplated disposal of them by lease or otherwise ...

P.S. It is proper to mention that I have made improvements on Kamao, Pawaill, and Kealia, and it would be an act of gross injustice were I to be dispossessed of the advantages to be derived from them, without being allowed a proper opportunity to enter into competition for leasing the lands upon which the improvements are situated, especially in view of the solemn pledge given by me by the Interior Department.24

The following correspondences detail the matter of leasing government lands on Lana'i to Gibson. The first is from Chas. T. Gulick, Interior Department clerk, to F. Nahalelua, the governor of Maui and regards the receipt of Gibson's application. The attached sketch mentioned is included as figure 7.

Usa loaia mai le Keaena nei, he palapala noia na Walter Murray Gibson (Kipekona) e makemake ana e hoohimalma i ke kahi mau Aina Aupuni mau Lanai. Eia lo i lokou inoa Tinou: Kamao, Pawaill, Kealia Aupuni, Kaunolu ahe Kalu. I ke wa ia L. Kamehameha ke Kalainana, us ae mai no oia iata no ia hoohimaulu ia ua mau aina nei, a mahope iho o kona pa ana a me ka hana ana i ke kau wahi pono maluna o ka aina, aka, i kona noho alii ana, o hoonele ia, ua o Kipekona. Usa waiho pu mai no hoii o Kipekona ia i ka palapala a Stephen Spencer, ke kukaulelo a ke Kuhina Kalaiaina e hoolia aku ana ia Kipekona i ka ae ana o ke 'ili, oiai kona wa e noho ana ma ka Ohele. E mana

There was received at this Office, an application from Walter Murray Gibson (Kipekona), desiring to lease some of the Government Lands on Lana'i. Here are their names: Kamao, Pawaill, Kealia Aupuni, Kaunolu and Kalu. At the time that L. Kamehameha was the Minister of the Interior, he agreed to lease the lands to him, should he build the walls at appropriate places on the land. But when he became King, Gibson was deprived of the right. Gibson has sent the application to Stephen Spencer, secretary of the Minister of Interior, who confirms that the King agreed to it when he was in the office. Will you please look into this and tell me what you think

Iho oe ililo o keia hana e hoike koke mai i kou manao e pili ana no kana no. Ke hoolii ia aku nei he kidi, e hooomanaopoana i ka waihia o na aina. Aole no he kidi poleole loa aka ma ke aho nau no nae.1

2. Trans. E. Moly.

Governor Naholelua replies to Gulick with the following, dated May 28, 1873, which essentially asks that the lease request by Gibson be denied so as not to deprive the natives of access to the lands. Naholelua plainly expresses that Gibson is an untrustworthy individual. Gibson had claimed no more than a half-dozen families resided on the lands; however, Naholelua says that “quite a number of natives” live on the lands, who would thus be dispossessed should Gibson acquire the lease.

Usa loaia mai ia'i 'au kau palapala o ka la 26 o nei malama e pili ana i ka Palapala noia o W. Gibson “e hoohimalma kekahi mau aina ma Lanai’ eia ko lakou mau inoa, Kamao, Pawaill, Kealia, Kaunolu, ahe Kalu.

A ke olelo nei i ke wa ia L. Kamehameha ke Kalainana, us ae mai oia ia aina ka Hoohimalma ia ua mau aina nei, ua poleole kela mau olelo, maenzi su a hoakaka ai ina kumu i nele a i o Gibson i ua mau aina nei i ka wa i noho Moi iho nei o Kamehameha V.

Usa lohe ka mo'i ina hana a W. Gibson, ma ia hope mai. Eia ka mua, Puhie ae ia o Gibson i ke abia pa loa akou ma mau o ka aina k a ia e ka abia. A olelo iho ia o Gibson i kanaka o Lanai he mea waiola oia ka Hanai holoholona, o ka mahia oia o mea waiola o k a aia k a he mea hoohikaka no hoii i e ke kano o kaka o he me a no hoii i e a ni ai k a hanau ana a na keiki. Ia lohe ania o kanaka ia mau olelo lawe aku iakou ina hipa e kua me Gibson he mahina hoohikahai a o ae paha nui loa na Hipa a Gibson, aka, aole i mahia u wahi nei i pau i ke abia, ua lohe Moi i keia hana Gibson.

Eia kekahai ua olelo o Gibson i na Hoahana o ka Hoomana Melemona e lawe mai i ko Kaai, ko Oahu, Molokai, Maui, Hawaii i no Dala no ke kaui ana i ka aina ma Lanai about this request. There is attached, a sketch that shows the location of the lands. It is not an accurate sketch but gives a general rendering.2

I received the letter of the 26th day of this month, relative to the application of W. Gibson, "to lease some lands on Lana'i," these being their names, Kamao, Pawaill, Kealia, Kaunolu and Kalu.

And that during the time that L. Kamehameha had the Interior, he had consented that he was to get the lease of said lands. That statement is true. Here I will explain the reasons why Gibson was refused said lands during the time that Kamehameha V was King.

The King had heard after that what Gibson had done. This is the first: Gibson set fire to the grass on the land and was all burned up by the fire, then Gibson said to the natives of Lanai, that there was no benefit from raising animals, that farming is what will enrich the land, and will make the body of the person strong, and would be the means of having a lot of children born. When the natives heard these words, they took their sheep to sell to Gibson, and in one month and a little over, Gibson had plenty of sheep, but the place which had been burnt was not cultivated, the King heard these doings of Gibson.

Here is another, Gibson told the members of the Mormon Religion on Kaauai, Oahu, Molokai, Maui, and Hawaii, to secure money to buy land on Lanai, that is Palawai. Gis-
ia Palawai, no ka Ekaesia ka oelelo ana a Gibson no lakou ua aina nei, a ha i hana nane, o ka Palapala Kuai o ua aina nei o Palawai, o ka inoa wale no o Gibson kai kakaunia ma ka Palapala Kuai ame kona Hoolina. Nele iho ia ka Ekaesia Molemona, ma kei mau hana akamai a Gibson i haule malana o ka Lahui Hawaii.

Ua kome ka manaao kanahua iloko o ka Moi no ka haule ana iho o keia mau pilikia mauna o kekahi o kona mau makaainana, oia ke kumu i nele al o Gibson i ka aina ole.

Eia kekahi hana akamai a Gibson i hana mai o ka poe o Lanai. Kuai iho nei o Gibson i ka aina ia Kaa a ilo i ia kukuluku aku nei i ka Pa i ua aina nei o Kaa. Lavu aku nei ka Hipa ana i Kaa mai Palawai aku pau po aku nei me ka hipa a Kanaka, a komo iloko o ka Pa o Kaa a noho ualaia. Eha paha pule, lawe hou mai Kaa mai a huki i Palahai, hui hou me ka Hipa a kanaka a komo hou iloko o kela pa, ike aku nei kanaia i ka lakou aia iloko o ka Pa me ko lakou Hooliona, kilo aku nei e holohol mai, oeleo milikai mai ia no o Gibson, pela iho. Pilikia wau i keia manava e holo ana wau i Lahaina a huki keia i Lahaina nei, a hala kekahi mau i holo aku la keia i Honolulu a hala kekahi mau la malala a hoa malia kia aku la ki mea hipa a hokuualua malia na makua ale no ka mea i hoaonlonia a o na keiki paa aku iloko ka Pa, aka aia no i Lanai ka poe i ike ia Gibson i ka hana penci.

Nolalia he hai wale aku no keia i ko‘u manai, aole kupono keia Hoa Hoolimalima ke aia mai nei keia oelelo a ka mea iaia ka mana o keia hana oia ho o koe Kuhina Kalaiaina “E.O. Hall.” A he mai no ka poe kanaka o Lanai e noho ana mauna o keia mau aina, aka he mahalo au ia Gibson i ka hana akamai.¹

¹ Hawaii State Archives, Interior Department Lands.
² Trans. K. Moly.

son said it was to belong to the Religion and to be their land, but when the deed of said land of Palawai was made out, only Gibson’s name was written on the deed, and to his heirs. The Mormon Religion had nothing. Because of these smart doings of Gibson, and which fell upon the Hawaiian Nation, doubt was entered into the King’s mind of this distress having fallen on some of his subjects, that is the reason why Gib-

son was without any land.

Here is another smart doing of Gibson which was reported by the people of Lanai. Gibson bought the land of Kaa, and it became his, a pen was built on said land of Kaa, then he took his sheep to Kaa from Palawai, the native sheep went too, and entered the pen at Kaa and remained there about two weeks. Then they were taken again from Kaa to Palawai, they mixed again with the natives’ sheep and again entered that pen. The natives saw that theirs were inside the pen, having their marks. They went after them to bring them back. Gibson said very nicely to them, wait a while, I am busy now, I am going to Lahaina. And when he got to Lahaina, and some days passed, then he went to Honolulu. And after some days were passed there, he came back. The owner of the sheep went to get his, and only the parent sheep which had the mark was released, and the ewes were kept in the pen. But, they are still on Lanai who saw Gibson doing this.

Therefore, I am only letting you know what I think, that the lease to this fellow is unsatisfactory. If this report, however, is acceptable to the one in authority over such matters, that is, the Minister of the Interior, “E.O. Hall.” And there are quite a number of natives living on these lands. But I do admire Gibson for being so smart.
Governor Nahaeolelua writes again to Gulick on June 5, 1873.

Us loa mai iat'u kau palapala o ka la 2, o June nei, ua ike au i na mea i haila mai. He nui i o ko poe o noho ana ma kekahai o keia mau aina o Kalu, ame Kaunolu, a ma Pawili kekahai maau mea, a o Kamoa ame Keala, aole maapoppo loa ia iatu, no ka mea ua ano hukau ko lakou noho ana.

A ma ka ninau hoi no ko lakou mau kuleana a noho hoolimalima paha, he kuleana no kakahu poe o lakou, aha he kuleana illi ni no.

Nalalai, ua hoolimalima no kakou i ua maau aina nei me ke Aupuni mamuli no nai o ko ka Kauahe a ke Kuhina Kalaleiana ia'a e like no me keia manawa. A no ka'u mau wahi holoohonana o wau no kekahai i uku la Hoolimalima ana.

Boko oia hoolimalima ana, ua hookah pono no kanaka na makahaki Eha, a i ka lima o ka makahaki, au koe nai $265. i kaa ole mai, a o ka nui o na Dala i kaa mai $1,735.00. Oia iho ia la loa ame ke koena.

Ina no e lilo o Kalu, ame Kaunolu ia Gibekona a kahal no ia i lehulehu ai ona kanaka, aole he nui loa o na kanaka ma Lanai, oia wale no ka'u mea hai aku. 1

1 Hawai'i State Archives, Interior Department Lands.

Governor Nahaeolelua writes the following to the Minister of the Interior, E. O. Hall on June 13, 1873.

Us loa mai iat'u kau palapala, ua ike au ina oloko i haila mai. E pono na e helu aku au ia oe ina aina o Lanai a pau: Pawili, Kamao, aha Keala, Kaunolu, Kalu, Kamoku & Paomai, pau na aina aupiteri a lilo aku ia ia Gibesona, Eono aina, a koe iho ia Ekoolu aina.

Aka, ua pono iho ia no ia e like me ka mea i holo ia oukou, a o ka uku Kupono i received your letter, and noted what is said therein. I have better give you a list of all the lands on Lanai: Pawili, Kamao, four Keala, Kaunolu, Kalu, Kamoku & Paomai. These are all the Government lands, and Gibson has acquired six lands, and three lands remain.

But it is all right according to what have been decided by you people. And the proper rent for these six lands, according to my belief, is Two Hundred Dollars per annum, and for the remaining lands for the first lease Two Hundred. That is what I think. 2

Your letter of the 13th of June, has been received. This is the opinion of the King and the Ministers, regarding lands of Lanai. The lands of Kaunolu and Kauhul, the residents shall occupy those lands, and that you collect the rent of same, as had been the custom for the past years.

The lands of Kealia, Pawili 2 and Kamao, shall be leased to Gibson at $100.00 a year. How about that? The land of Kamoku is occupied by a Chinaman, so I hear. How many years was it leased for, and how much a year?

That land of Mahana is a Government land. Who is occupying it at the present time? It was thought that C. Kamaina had it. It is not so. As to Paomai, I have already inquired of you in regard to this land. Would you kindly reply. 3

Then, in 1899, after the death of Gibson, Gibson's estate trustee Cecil Brown wrote to J. F. Brown, the Commissioner of Public Lands, to extend the lease of government lands of Lānai.

Cecil Brown Administrator and Trustee of the Estate of W.M. Gibson, deceased, with the Will annexed. Hereby makes tender the surrender to the Hawaiian Land Commission, leases held by the Estate of W.M. Gibson of Government lands as follows to wit on condition hereafter stated.
1. Lease No. 168 of the lands of Pavilli, Kamao and Kalaila Aupuni Rental $150.00 per Annun. Expires June 23rd, 1908.
2. Lease No. 220 Lands of Mahana, Rental $100.00 per Annun. Expires November 1st, 1907.
3. Lease No. 279 Land of Kaunalu, Rental $250.00 per Annun. Expires February 9th, 1907.

It is hereby proposed to surrender the said leases provided a new lease will be granted for the whole area of lands in said four leases be granted to the Administrator of said Estate of W.M. Gibson at an annual rental of Twenty Five Hundred ($2500.00) Dollars for a term of lease of Twenty One years from date hereof.

To be granted without Competition.

J. F. Brown writes to Sanford B. Dole, proposing that grazing and sugarcane cultivation might be possible on the lands leased to the W. M. Gibson Estate in the following letter, dated March 9, 1899.

Enclosed please find copy of an application on behalf of W.M. Gibson Estate for surrender and for releasing of certain Public Lands held by Gibson Estate on the Island of Lanai. The total area concerned in this application is about 29,341 acres.

The larger part of this is grazing and mountain land but a portion on a rough estimate not less than 2000 acres might be adapted to cane growing if supplied with water. This area of 2000 acres, say below 600 feet level, would be found on the lands of Mahana, Kaunalu and Kahului named above, these being on N.E. side where plantation site is proposed. The lands of Pavilli, Kamao and Kealial may or may not be included in proposed plantation site.

The document below conveys lands (fee-simple and leasehold), livestock, and personal property on the island of Lānaʻi from the Gibson Estate to Charles Gay, as ordered by court decision.

Whereas, in proceedings duly taken in the Circuit Court of the First Judicial Circuit of said Territory at Chambers in Equity, by and between Gustave Kunst, designs of S.M. Damon, J.H. Fisher, and H.E. Waity, copartners under the firm name of Bishop & Company, Plaintiffs and H.N. Palm and Elise S. U. Neumann, sole devisee and Executive under the last Will and testament of Paul Neumann, deceased, and Henry Holmes, Trustee of Elise S.V. Neumann, and S.M. Damon, S.E. Damon and H.E. Waity, copartners doing business under the firm name and style of Bishop & Company defendants to enforce the Decree of Foreclosure and Sale theretofore made and filed in the suit of S.M. Damon et al vs. Cecil Brown, Administrator with the Will annexed of Walter Murray Gibson and Trustees of the Estate of said Walter Murray Gibson, deceased, under said Will et al., it was ordered adjudged and decreed by an order made on the 24th day of June A.D. 1902 by the Honorable George D. Gear, Second Judge of the said Circuit Court that the said Decree of Foreclosure and Sale be enforced by a sale of all and singular the real and personal property and assets of the estate of the said Walter Murray Gibson, deceased, hereinafter set forth, and that the same be sold at public auction in said Honolulu at the front door of the Court House (Alliolani Hale), by and under the direction of the said Albert Barnes, who was by said Decree appointed a Commissioner to sell the said property and was duly authorized to give public notice of, make arrangements for and conduct the sale as set forth in said order.

And whereas, the said Commissioner, pursuant to the said order and direction, after giving public notice of the time and place of sale as in said order required did, on the sixteenth day of August A.D. 1902, at the front door of the Court House (Alliolani Hale) in said Honolulu expose to sale at public auction all and singular the said premises and property with the appurtenances at which sale the said premises and property hereinafter described were sold to the said Charles Gay for the sum of One Hundred and Eight Thousand Dollars ($108,000.00) that being the highest sum bid for the same, and Whereas the proceedings of said Commissioner in the premises were duly reported to the said court, and the sale approved and confirmed on the 25th day of August A.D. 1902, as by the records of said court more fully appears, and the said Commissioner was thereupon by an order of said court then made, directed to execute to said Charles Gay a conveyance of said premises and property, pursuant to the sale so made as aforesaid …

And the said Albert Barnes, Commissioner, as aforesaid, doth hereby convey with the said Charles Gay and his heirs and assigns that notice of the time and place of said sale was given according to the order of said court, and that the said premises and property were sold accordingly at public auction as above set forth.

Schedule "A"

Fee Simple.

First. All that tract or parcel of land situate on the Island of Lanai, containing Five Thousand Eight Hundred and Ninety-Seven and 1-10 (5897 1-10) acres,
and known as the Ahupua'a of Palawai, and comprised in Royal Patent No.
1093...

Fourteenth. All that land described in Royal Patent 4767, L.C.A, 10041,
conveyed by John S. Gibson to W.M. Gibson by deed dated July 17, 1876 of
record in liber 47 fol. 49...

Leases

First. All leases of land on the Island of Lanai held by said Walter Murray
Gibson on August 31st, 1887, so far as he had the right to assign the same
without incurring any forfeiture...

Personal Property

First. All those flacks of sheep on the 20th day of June A.D. 1902 or
thereabouts of mixed ages and sexes, on said day depasturing, running or
being upon the Island of Lanai and also all that herd of cattle and all
horses on said 20th day of June, 1902, also depasturing and running upon
the said Island of Lanai on said day, all formerly belonging to the Estate of
Walter M. Gibson, deceased, together with all the natural increase of the said
flacks and herds, and also all the wool, then upon the said sheep and which
has since that time been produced and shorn from said sheep, and their said
increase save and except such sheep, cattle and wool as have been sold with
the consent of the said plaintiff.

Second. All wool presses, wagons, carts, harnesses, tools implements,
chattels and effects belonging to said Walter Murray Gibson on said August
31st, 1887, situated on the Island of Lanai, at said time and now in and upon
said lands or any of them.

The flacks of sheep and their increase are now estimated at about 18,000
head.

The herd of cattle with their increase are now estimated at about 240 head.

The herd of horses with their increase are now estimated at about 210 head.

In witness whereof the said Albert Barnes has hereunto set his hand and
seal the day and year first above written...

2.4 Ranching Operations on Lāna‘i, 1854–1951

Goats, sheep, cattle, the European boar, and horses were introduced to the islands between
1778 and 1810. During those early years, Kamehameha I and his chiefs placed kupa over
the newly introduced animals to ensure that their populations would grow. In the fifty-
year period from 1780 to the 1830s, populations of these non-native animals—like the
hipa (sheep) and pu`u`u bipi or pipi (wild steer or cattle), and keo (goats)—grew to become
a great nuisance to the Hawaiian population, and had devastating effects on the Hawaiian
environment.

Records indicate that the first of these introduced ungulates were brought to Lāna‘i around the 1830s, where a few native tenants, living under landed chiefs, managed the

populations. In 1848, a new system of land management was instituted in the Hawaiian
Kingdom, and individuals of means were granted large tracts of land. When fee-simple
title to land was granted to native Hawaiians and foreign residents who had sworn oaths
of allegiance to the king, formal efforts at controlling the hipu, pipi, keo, and other grazers
were initiated.

Ranching was a part of Lāna‘i’s history for close to 100 years, in the period from ca. 1854
until closure of the ranch in 1951. Initially, Mormon elders brought livestock to Lāna‘i
as a part of their effort to establish a mission in the uplands at Pālāwai. In 1862, Walter
Murray Gibson took over the Mormon settlement, and focused the livestock efforts on
herds of sheep and goats, of which nearly 100,000 roamed the island, almost uncontrolled
by the 1890s. As a result, Lāna‘i suffered from rapid deforestation and a drying up of the
island’s water resources. This impacted every other aspect of life on Lāna‘i and was one of
the contributing factors to the continual decline in the native population of the island.

From 1910 to 1951, Lāna‘i ranch operations focused on cattle and a steady decline
in the population of other livestock. The steady transition to cattle grazing led to the
eradication of tens of thousands of goats, sheep, and pigs—many driven over the cliffs
of Ka`apahu in Ka‘u—in an effort to reduce impacts on the steadily decreasing pasture.

In 1914, the Maui News reported on a visit by rancher-investor J. T. McCrosson to Lāna‘i
under the heading “Big Improvements on Lāna‘i.” McCrosson makes specific reference to
the leeward pastures on the island, extending from the 150 ft. to 1,000 ft. elevation.

I spent a week on Lāna‘i inspecting the ranch. The lee side of the island
is greener that it has been for years. The finest Pili grass pastures in the
Territory extend in a broad belt the whole length of the island, from 150 feet
above sea level to about 1000 feet elevation. The belt varies from a quarter to
two miles wide. Up in the shallow crater that occupies the center of Lāna‘i a
good many hundred acres have been plowed and planted in Rhodes grass
and Paspalum. It formerly took twenty acres of the wild pasture land to support
a bullock. The Paspalum pastures now fatten fifty head of stock on every
hundred acres.37

In 1929, L.A. Henke published A Survey of Livestock in Hawaii,38 which included the
following description of the Lāna‘i Ranch operations. Henke notes that a water line system
and extensive fences were made on the island. Describing the basic ranching operations
on Lāna‘i, Henke reported

The Island of Lāna‘i, while primarily given over to the growing of pineapples
since 1924, still has an area of 55,000 acres of fairly well grassed but rocky
and rather arid country extending in a belt around the 55 miles of coast line
of Lāna‘i, that are utilized as ranch lands and carry about 2,000 Herefords and
180 horses. This belt is from two to four miles wide and extends from the sea
to about 1,000 feet in elevation.

38University of Hawaii Research Bulletin No. 5, Honolulu, Hawai‘i.

Bureaus of Conveyances, Liber 242, p. 91–95.
2.5 Hawaiian Pineapple Company

James Dole, owner of the Hawaiian Pineapple Company, purchased the island of Lāna‘i on December 5, 1922. The purchase price of the island was $1.1 million. Nearly 52 million was spent on improvements to the island, for the development of macadamized roads and the town of Lāna‘i City. In 1928, Dole hosted a tour of the plantation and developing city. The 150-person tour of politicians, businessmen, and friends were impressed with the progress that had been made in the short time on Lāna‘i [29].

Lāna‘i had been often overlooked because the appearance of the island from offshore was dry and desolate, but Dole saw that inland are some arable lands. There were 20,000 acres of land suited to pineapple on the island of Lāna‘i—Hawaiian Pineapple Company considered it as the last of the desirable acreage left in Hawai‘i. The soil and conditions were desirable, but many improvements had to be made. Many miles of cactus had to be dragged out and removed from the landscape. The Hawaiian Pineapple Company built a harbor at Kaamalapau with a breakwater made of a solid rock cliff that they had busted and transferred. Roads from the fields to the harbor were paved. One of Hawaiian Pineapple Company’s old photos shows neat rows of pineapple, with Lāna‘i City in the background. Lāna‘i City was developed for the workers that were brought over [18:17–23].

Miki Camp, ca. 1924–1938 Hawaiian Pineapple Company built several outlying camps from the main Lāna‘i City. One of these camps was Miki Camp, so called because of its proximity to the storied place called Po‘o Miki. The camp was situated southeast of the present Maui Electric Company (MECO) power plant on Miki Road.

Several oral history interviews have been conducted with elder kama‘aina of the plantation era who resided at Miki Camp during their youth. Mrs. Susan Misami Miyamoto penned some of her recollections of the camp, and Mr. Tamo Mitsunaga and friends drafted a map of the camp as they recalled it from their youth. Mrs. Miyamoto’s recollections and Mr. Mitsunaga’s map follow below (fig. 8).

Camps of Lāna‘i

There were several camps when I was growing up on Lāna‘i. Three of my siblings were born on Lāna‘i, the first in Namba Camp in 1926, next in Crusher Camp in 1929, and the last in Lāna‘i City in 1932. Namba Camp was situated at the foot of the hill to the right as you leave the city to go to Mauke. The camp was named after Mr. Namba who was in charge of construction workers. Workers were mostly Japanese with a few Koreans who spoke fluent Japanese.

Workers lived rent free in simple cottages, the only furniture being a simple dining table with long benches at each side. The single men lived in one long building with no furniture. Each man had a designated area in the room marked by a single length of mat with a large trunk or basket at the foot of the mat holding his worldly goods. There were nails pounded at the head of the mat to hang their clothes.

The total area of the island is about 140 square miles and it ranges in height from sea level to about 5,376 feet elevation, with an average annual rainfall on a great part of the uplands of about 34 inches. In 1922 before the upper lands were given over to the more profitable pineapples an area of some 2,000 acres had been planted to Pigeon peas (Cajanus indicus) and Papasum dilatatum. On the lower, rather rocky, present ranch lands the algaroba tree (Prosopsis juliflora) is valuable because of its bean crop, and Ko‘a hoole (Leucana glauca) and Australian salt bush (Atriplex semibaccata) are considered desirable forage crops. It is planned to further improve the lower pastures by additional planting of the above crops and by light stocking and resting present pastures.

In the future the ranch will not do much more than raise beef and saddle horses for the pineapple plantation needs. The ranch, though a part of the Hawaiian Pineapple Company’s property, still operates as the Lanai Company, Ltd.

The Hawaiians formerly herded goats, probably for their skins on the uplands of Lāna‘i, and some agricultural work was done by Walter Murray Gibson, who arrived in 1861, in connection with the Mormon Church. Gibson acquired considerable land and when he died in 1888 his daughter, Tualulua Lucy Hay- selden, became the owner. Gibson and the Hayseldens developed a sheep ranch on the island, much of which was then owned by the Government and by W.G. Irwin.

Irwin later acquired the Government lands and the Hayseldens about 1902 sold out to Charles Gay and nearly the whole island of 89,600 acres was combined under the ownership of Charles Gay, which passed to Irwin in 1910 and from him to John D. McCrosson and associates in the same year, when the Lanai Company, Ltd., was formed. Their interests were sold in 1917 to H.A. and F.F. Baldwin, who in turn sold the property to the Hawaiian Pineapple Co., Ltd., in December 1922, who are the present owners.

Mr. Gay continued with the sheep ranch started by Gibson and Hayselden, probably carrying as high as 50,000 at times, but when the Lanai Company, Ltd., was started in 1910 they changed to cattle and put in extensive provisions for water and fences, and a count in April 1911, gave 20,588 sheep and 799 head of cattle. At the end of 1920 there were only 860 sheep and early in 1923 a count showed that the number of cattle had increased to 5,536 and besides 4,462 had been sold during the previous five years. Reduction of the herd to make room for pineapples was started on a large scale in 1924, and from the end of 1922 to October 1928, 6,764 head of cattle were sold.

Mr. Moorhead was manager for the Hayseldens, Mr. Gay managed his own property for a time, Lt. Barnard was manager for the Lanai Company in 1910, and G.C. Munro, the present manager, took charge in 1911. [18:51–52]

The ranch ended operations in 1951 when the Hawaiian Pineapple Company decided to focus all its efforts on the pineapple plantation.
Company trucks picked up the men each morning to go to their work site, and returned at pau hana. School children were picked up by a van which first picked up children from Kaumalapau Camp. We dubbed this van the “Black Maria”. The van was driven by Mr. Okamoto, Roy Okamoto’s grandfather. It was all purpose used as a hearse or ambulance and for other transportation as needed.

The company had many cattle on the island: There were wire fencing strung along Kaumalapau Highway at the top of the hill, and we children ran amongst the cattle to return home from the pathway at the top of the hill.

It was Prohibition Era and my grandma who lived with us, brewed “sake” a Japanese drink made from special rice, brewed in large crocks. Somehow word would get out to the camp that the inspector was coming, and the crocks would be hidden in the thick panini (cactus) bushes until it was safe to bring them home. These crocks would sometimes be stolen from their hiding places.

There were no cars in the camp. An employee of Okamoto Store would come every week or so to take orders for whatever we needed and delivery was made on his next visit. Goods were charged to employee’s bango number (employment number) and payment made to the store on payday.

The Medicine Man, as we called him, would come from one of the pharmaceutical houses in Honolulu to fill a large bag for each family filled with medicine for all kinds of illnesses. On his next visit he would note whatever was used since his last visit and collect money for the used drugs. The bag would then be refilled for his next visit. This practice went on for a long time even after the company built a hospital in 1924.

There were outhouses for our use. We had no toilet paper, Sears Roebuck Catalogs were most coveted for use, newspapers were also put to use. There was a bath house tended by one of the women. She would fill the tubs with water. Fire wood was used to heat the water. This bathhouse was a good social gathering place. We would sit around on the bench built inside the tub and talk story.

Crusher Camp came into being in the late 1920’s when men who worked with stones were moved to this camp which had a large stone crusher. Stones were plentiful when fields were cleared for pineapple fields. The camp was situated in what is now the end of the airplane runway. It was under the care of Mr. Murayama, and it was men from this camp who worked on the stone wall along Kaumalapau Harbor. It will attest to the good workmanship of these men as it is still standing, having weathered many storms.

Miki Camp was the last, and most well-known of these camps. It was a large camp built on the hill behind what is now the Electric Plant. There were two stables cared for by Matahei Oyama and Shiro Mitsunaga. They were used to house the mules used for plowing the pineapple fields. The Mitsunaga family was the last to leave this camp. Mrs. Hisako Mitsunaga remembers coming to Miki Camp as a bride from Maui. She says their family was the last to leave Miki Camp in 1938. All of the houses were moved to the city.

By this time Filipino workers were starting to come in, and there were Japanese and Filipino workers in camp, and even one Mexican.

Life in the camps was simple. A favorite sport for the boys was climbing the water tanks and lining the rim of these tanks with what was called “tori Mochi”, a gummy substance. The birds would get stuck and were gathered for food.

There was also Kaumalapau Camp. There are a few families still living there. There were mostly Japanese and Hawaiian dock workers, and also independent fishermen. By 1935, most of the families had moved to the city.

Life in the camps was simple and fun, and remembered by most with fond nostalgia.39

2.6 Archaeological Background

A few archaeological studies have been conducted in the general vicinity of the Miki Basin 200 Acre Industrial Development project area (see fig. 1, p. 4). The earliest survey by Emory [11] records the baseline data for the area. Emory’s survey is reviewed in section 2.6.1. Subsequent studies focused on retracing Emory’s work in order to inventory the sites that he originally recorded. These studies are discussed in section 2.6.2. The last phase of archaeological research has been in support of recent land developments and is discussed in section 2.6.3.

2.6.1 Emory Survey

The earliest archaeological investigation on Lāna‘i’s Island was conducted by Emory [11] in the 1920s. This investigation was the first archaeological and ethnographic study of Lāna‘i’s Island. In this work, Emory broadly summarizes Hawaiian cultural traditions of Lāna‘i and includes discussions on the traditional oral histories, place names, material culture, and archaeology. The work is geographically organized around an inclusive gazetteer that is keyed to numbers on an accompanying map. Since Emory’s work was focused on ethnography as well as archaeology, these numbers refer to places of cultural interest in a general sense and may or may not be considered archaeological sites in their conventional sense—as locations that display evidence of past human behavior. Nevertheless, archaeological sites were included in Emory’s survey of Lāna‘i Island, but, like many of his contemporaries, his focus was on larger archaeological sites, most notably the village of Kaunolō located on the southwestern shore of Lāna‘i.

State Inventory of Historic Places archaeological site numbers were later assigned for Emory’s sites. The concordance of State Inventory of Historic Places site numbers to their descriptions by Emory is annotated in the margins of Emory’s typescript on file in the State Historic Preservation Division.40 Emory mentioned petroglyphs located in Miki Basin; however, they were not published and were never assigned archaeological site numbers.

39Notes by Susan Mizane Miyamoto.
40Report number 5-00098, on file at the State Historic Preservation Division, Kapolei, HI [11].
2.6.2 Late Twentieth-Century Investigations

There was a general dearth of archaeological work conducted on Lāna‘i between the 1920s and the 1970s. The next period of archaeological investigations at Lāna‘i was due to the statewide inventory of archaeological sites that occurred in the mid-1970s. This study was focused toward the relocation of previously identified sites, and the consolidation of that information into the new State Inventory of Historic Places system. It was during this effort that Emory’s sites were designated their State Inventory of Historic Places numbers.

In general, the statewide inventory left the identification of new archaeological sites as a task to be completed for future surveys. Due to this, no new archaeological sites were recorded in the vicinity of the Māki Basin 200 Acre Industrial Development.

Following his work on the statewide inventory of historic places, Robert Hommon produced a paper that outlined his general impression of the archaeology of Lāna‘i Island. He noted that Lāna‘i Island contained the greatest degree of relatively untouched archaeology in the Hawaiian archipelago. He states,

> Through a happy set of circumstances, the archaeology of Lāna‘i is almost entirely intact. Despite the fact that nearly 20% of the area of the island is under cultivation for pineapple, less than 2% of the archaeological features recorded by Emory in the early 1920’s have been destroyed in the process.

He then argued, given the completeness of the archaeological record, that an island-wide research design should be developed in order to direct future investigations. This recommendation also appears to respond to a development plan that was proposed by Castle and Cooke that would have substantially altered the interior and northeast shore of the island. It appears that this broad-scale development of Lāna‘i has not occurred, and no comprehensive island-wide research design is known to have been written.

2.6.3 Cultural Resources Management Studies

In 1985, Ablo [1] recorded Site 50-40-98-01531 during investigations associated with a proposed sanitary landfill located west of Lāna‘i Airport (see fig. 1, a, p. 4). The site is located in Kaumālapa‘u Gulch and comprises two eroding fire-pit features recorded as Sites 1 and 3, both of which contained charcoal and organic material. Data recovery excavations were recommended for both fire-pit features.

In 1987, Site 50-40-98-01531 was relocated by Kam [22] during a field inspection to determine the mitigation requirements of the previously identified cultural resources within the sanitary landfill project area (see fig. 1, a, p. 4). During the inspection, a *midden* scatter and rock alignment were recorded. However, no site numbers were assigned at that time. The two components of Site 50-40-98-01531 were relocated during the project, and it was determined that one of the fire-pit features, Site 1, had been impacted during grading for a nearby road. The other feature, Site 3, was relocated outside of the landfill project area. It was recommended that the area be re-examined by a qualified
archaeologist and the identified cultural resources be mitigated prior to construction activities. Later that same year, Walker and Hassun [31] conducted a pedestrian survey and data recovery excavations for the identified cultural resources. During the project, 11 test units were excavated and surface collection of the previously identified midden scatter was conducted. A total of eight archaeological sites were investigated during the project (see fig. 1, a, p. 4).

Site 50–40–98–01531 This site was relocated during the project and two ash concentrations were observed. A single test unit was excavated at each ash concentration to search for possible subsurface remains. A total of five basalt flakes, a radiocarbon sample, and a small amount of shell midden were recovered during excavations. The radiocarbon sample was submitted but proved insufficient for dating. The site was interpreted as a temporary habitation area.

Site 50–40–98–01532 This site comprised the previously identified midden scatter and two ash concentrations, likely fire-pit features. Five test units were excavated in and adjacent to the midden scatter and a single shell scraper was collected from its surface. Two of the test units yielded subsurface deposits. The first, TU-1, contained the remnants of a fire-pit feature, seven basalt flakes, and two shell scrapers. A radiocarbon sample was collected from the fire-pit feature for analysis. TU-5 was excavated close to TU-1 and yielded three basalt flakes. A radiocarbon sample was also collected from the surface of one of the ash concentrations. Both radiocarbon samples collected yielded calibrated date ranges between AD 1460 and 1552. The site was interpreted as being used for temporary habitation.

Site 50–40–98–01533 This site comprised two single-course rock alignments. No artifacts were observed on the surface and no artifacts were collected from either of the two test units excavated. The alignments were interpreted as terraces used for dryland agriculture.

Site 50–40–98–01534 This site comprised two basalt cobble rock mounds. The mounds were sorted but had no facing of any kind. No test units were excavated and no artifacts were collected from the area. However, historic artifacts were present on and around the two features. The rock piles were interpreted as being prehistoric agricultural clearing mounds, but due to the presence of historic artifacts, that determination cannot be proven with any certainty.

Site 50–40–98–01535 This site was described as a 4 m long curved wall constructed of sub-angular basalt cobbles stacked 50 cm high. No test units were excavated and no artifacts were collected from the area. It was interpreted as being used as a temporary shelter or a modern hunter’s blind.

Site 50–40–98–01536 This site comprised a soil and rock terrace and a rock alignment. No artifacts were collected from the surface of the site and a single test unit was excavated within the terrace. A radiocarbon sample was collected from the test unit for analysis and yielded a calibrated date range between AD 1450 and 1554. The site was interpreted as being used for rain-fed agriculture.

Site 50–40–98–01537 This site was described as a rectangular rock mound constructed of sub-angular boulders piled one to two courses high. A test unit was excavated to bisect the mound and determine its function. No artifacts were observed in and around the mound and no artifacts were collected from the test unit. The mound was interpreted as being a trail marker associated with the Kaumalapu Trail located south of the site.

Site 50–40–98–01538 This site is a complex composed of four rock alignments and a rock mound. No artifacts were observed or collected from the site and no test units were excavated. Due to its location near Site 50–40–98–01533 and the lack of portable remains, it was interpreted as being a prehistoric rain-fed agricultural complex.

Based on the radiocarbon date ranges, the sanitary landfill project area and associated sites located at the head of Kaumalapu’s Gulch were interpreted as having been occupied in the mid- to late eighteenth century with re-occupations continuing into the late eighteenth century. Although the area was likely used for temporary habitation and dryland agriculture, the initial occupation of the area and subsequent re-occupations cannot be determined by calibrated date ranges. The wide date ranges, which span five centuries, lack the precision required to be informative. Following data recovery excavations, the sites were deemed insignificant and no further work was recommended. In 1989, an on-site assessment of the Lāna‘i Airport was conducted by Sinoto [28] (see fig. 1, b, p. 4). This included a literature review of the area and a pedestrian survey of the airport expansion area. Two surface scatters of lithic materials were observed during the assessment. Due to this, an archaeological inventory survey of the airport expansion area was recommended.

Borthwick et al. [3] conducted the archaeological inventory survey for the proposed expansion to Lāna‘i Airport in 1990 (see fig. 1, b, p. 4). The airport is located east of the Māki Basin 200 Acre Industrial Development. A total of seven surface scatters of stone artifacts were found. Limited test excavations consisting of eight backhoe trenches determined that there were no subsurface deposits in the area. The stratigraphy in the trenches showed that the area had been under commercial cultivation for many years. The survey determined that agricultural activities would have destroyed any deposits present, diminishing the need for further work. Only on-call monitoring was recommended.

In 2009, a cultural impact assessment and field inspection was conducted prior to improvements to Lāna‘i Airport [5, 24] (see fig. 1, b, p. 4). Again, no surface or subsurface cultural materials or historic properties were identified due to the previous disturbances mentioned in the 1990 survey. An archaeological assessment for proposed runway improvements to Lāna‘i Airport was completed in March of 2013 by Lee-Greg and Hammatt [25] (see fig. 1, b, p. 4). Twenty-four backhoe trenches were excavated. The results of the investigation are consistent with the findings from the 1990 survey. No historic properties and no intact subsurface features were documented during the project.

In August of 2013, an archaeological inventory survey for the Central Services Warehouse and Māki Basin pipeline replacement was conducted [6]. The Central Services Warehouse is located within the current project area along Māki Road and adjacent to the existing Maui Electric Company power plant and its associated facilities (see fig. 1, c, p. 4). The
pipeline runs northeast from the warehouse. A pedestrian survey of the warehouse area was conducted, and a total of eight backhoe trenches were excavated in the undeveloped portion of the parcel. A large portion of the area showed signs of surface disturbance and no artifacts or cultural deposits were present on the surface or in any of the backhoe trenches excavated.

In March of 2014, an archaeological assessment was conducted for the Lāna‘i contractor’s housing [7]. The parcel is located on 14 acres of land north of the current project area and adjacent to Mōkū Road (see fig. 1, d, p. 4). During the project, a pedestrian survey of the parcel was conducted and 12 backhoe trenches were excavated. No cultural materials or deposits of any kind were documented due to use of the area for pineapple cultivation over a long period of time.

3 Methods

The principal investigator for the archaeological inventory survey was Thomas S. Dye, PhD. The survey was conducted between May 5 and May 9, 2014 by T. S. Dye & Colleagues BA-level archaeological technician Nathan D’Wot with the assistance of Kaulana and Gaelyn Kaho‘ohalahala, Katrina Gillespie, Ben Ostrander, Kamakani Palolo, Kalei Ropa, and Zeth Kipi from the Culture and Historic Preservation department of Puleama Lāna‘i. During the project, a 200 acre parcel of land was surveyed.

A 100 percent pedestrian survey was conducted over the entire project area except for the portion that had been previously surveyed. The survey included a visual inspection of the project location for artifacts, cultural deposits, fire-pit features, lithic scatters, and surface architecture. The survey consisted of numerous transects spaced at 10 m intervals.

Subsurface testing of the project area included the excavation of 31 backhoe trenches. Backhoe trenches were excavated to a depth of approximately 145 cm below ground surface, measured 3 to 4 m in length, and were 1 m wide. Backhoe trenching was conducted with a backhoe and operator provided by Puleama Lāna‘i.

Digital photographs were taken throughout the survey to record the progress of the work and provide a record of the exposed stratigraphy and photographs of each backhoe trench profile and its location on the landscape were taken. A photo log was kept in the field notebook indicating the subject of the photograph, the direction the camera was pointing, and other information as appropriate.

The location of each trench excavation was recorded with a differentially corrected Global Positioning System (GPS) device. Stratigraphic information was recorded in a field notebook and a stratigraphic profile was recorded for each backhoe trench. Stratigraphic information was recorded with the method described by Harris [17]. Sediment deposits were assigned a unit of stratification number, referred to here as a context. Stratigraphic profiles were recorded and illustrated in the field notebook. Profile illustrations were drawn to a scale of 1:10. The profile information adequately defined the stratigraphic relationships of each context.

A depositional phase model was developed to explain the origin of the observed material. Phasing is an analytic method of correlating deposits with similar character and stratigraphic position [17:105]. The same stratigraphic contexts were observed at each test trench. A general depositional pattern was observed in the field; this pattern is brought out by assigning each context with similar content and stratigraphic position to one of the phases described below:

Phase 1 Naturally deposited terrestrial sediments.

Phase 2 Cultural deposits.

Phase 3 Flow zone/secondarily deposited soils.

Sediment samples were collected and recorded in a bag list kept in the field notebook. All identified stratigraphic contexts are listed in appendix A. All samples collected during the project are listed in appendix B. All artifacts collected are listed and described in appendix C.

In the laboratory, the context descriptions and bag list were entered into the T. S. Dye & Colleagues, Archaeologists database. Sediments were described for texture using the method described by Thien [30], and for color with reference to a Munsell® soil color chart [16]. Profile illustrations were scanned and drafted using vector graphics software. All artifacts collected during the project were scanned and digitally recorded using a flatbed scanner.

Prior to the survey, a review of all available historical literature and previous archaeological studies was conducted. In addition, long-time Lāna‘i residents—Kepā Māly, the Vice President of Culture and Historic Preservation for Puleama Lāna‘i; Kaulana Kaho‘ohalahala; and the staff of the Puleama Lāna‘i Culture and Historic Preservation department—were consulted for their knowledge and insight on the project areas.

All artifacts and samples collected during the project were analyzed at laboratory facilities provided by the Culture and Historic Preservation department of Puleama Lāna‘i. All project documentation and notes will be permanently stored at the T. S. Dye & Colleagues, Archaeologists laboratory. All sediment samples collected were discarded in the areas from which they came and all artifacts collected during the project will be permanently stored at facilities provided by Puleama Lāna‘i.

4 Field Results

A 100 percent pedestrian survey was conducted for the Mōkū Basin 200 Acre Industrial Development. Visibility within the parcel was poor due to tall grasses and dense vegetation. Soil was only visible between and under low-lying plants, in and along deer trails that cross the area, and within two drainage cuts that run north to south across the northern portion of the parcel. Black plastic fragments and tubing, indicative of pineapple cultivation, were observed over the entire parcel. No Land Court Awards or previously recorded archaeological sites were present within the parcel.

During the pedestrian survey, two isolated finds of secondarily deposited adze rejects, a secondarily deposited historic artifact scatter, a secondarily deposited lithic scatter,
and an exposed fire-pit and lithic scatter, Site 50-40-98-1980, were documented (fig. 9). The two isolated finds are secondarily deposited adze rejects that were present on the ground surface of the project area, Context 0. They have been broken during the adze manufacturing process. No other cultural materials were observed or collected around the finds.

![Map of historic properties](image)

**Figure 9:** Location of historic properties, Sites 50-40-98-1980 and 50-40-98-1981; artifact scatters, Contexts 19 and 20; and isolated finds 1 and 2, within the Milki Basin 200 Acre Industrial Development area.

The secondarily deposited lithic scatter, Context 19, was located in and along an eroded drainage in the northern portion of the project area (fig. 9). The scatter was approximately 20 m in diameter and comprised 20 or more pieces of flaked basalt. A waterworn cobble *mauport* and a fragment of an adze reject were collected from the scatter (fig. 10). The scatter is located on a slope and appears to have been secondarily deposited as a result of water erosion along the drainage cut (fig. 11).

The historic artifact scatter, Context 20, is located along the western boundary of the parcel and was approximately 30 m in diameter (fig. 9). Four pieces of semi-porcelain ceramic, two pieces of white earthenware ceramic, and a piece of clear bottle glass were collected from the scatter (fig. 12). An aqua blue "brandy" style bottle lip was also observed within the scatter but was not found during surface collection. The base fragment of a semi-porcelain cup with a partial maker's mark was the only artifact from the scatter that had diagnostic characteristics (fig. 12, a). The partial maker's mark read "... MARK/MADE IN JAPAN" around a rising sun logo. In August of 1921, the United States Customs Bureau required all Japanese ceramics to be marked with "JAPAN" or "Made in Japan" as "Nippon" was used on imported Japanese ceramic up until that time. Imports of Japanese ceramics ceased in 1941 due to World War II and did not resume until the end of the war in 1945. The hand painting on a piece that is part of the same
vessel (fig. 12, b) also suggests that it was produced prior to World War II. Taking this into consideration, it is likely that the piece was produced between 1921 and 1941. Since there are no known historic habitation sites in the area in which the scatter was found, it is likely to be associated with Muki Camp, a camp established for the workers of the plantation in the early 1920s which would have been occupied until at least 1947. It is located along Muki Road south of the project parcel and would have been the closest known habitation area to be occupied during the 1921-1941 time period.

![Figure 12: Ceramics collected from the Context 20 artifact scatter.](image)

Site 50-40-98-1980 is located in the northernmost portion of the project area in a highly eroded area along the fence line boundary with the Lüna Airfield within and adjacent to the same drainage cut where the Context 19 lithic scatter was recorded (fig. 9). The site comprises two separate components, a lithic scatter and an eroded and exposed fire-pit.

The first component, the Context 18 lithic scatter, is located on the crest of a slope and extends south along a drainage cut. The scatter was approximately 30 x 120 m and contained 30 or more pieces of flaked basalt. All of the artifacts that were observed and collected from the scatter came from within or adjacent to the existing drainage areas that lacked vegetation. A cowry shell fragment and several pieces of branch coral were observed within the scatter. Three adze rejects, a hammerstone, a waterworn pebble manoport (possibly a sling stone), and a piece of branch coral were collected from the scatter (fig. 13). No artifacts were observed or collected in the vegetated areas around the drainage. This suggests that the artifacts have either moved downslope from a higher location as a result of water erosion or that the site has eroded and deflated over time. In either case, the artifacts would have been secondarily deposited from their original position.

![Figure 13: Artifacts collected from the Context 18 lithic scatter, part of Site 50-40-98-1980.](image)