

Interview 1 with Anthony Kalei Oliveira (expanded notes) 1/28/98  
with revisions from Interview 2 on 3/3/99  
(both interviews by Charles Langlas, done at house in Pahala)

## 1. life history

1939 b. at Pahala hospital, stayed w. grandparents at Kapapala ranch as child

(His parents were living at Pahala at that time. They later moved to Kapapala ranch until Parker ranch took over, about 1975. They had to leave then, moved to a house at Na`alehu. Moved back to the ranch when Parker left.)

1945-47 first 2 years of school at Kapapala school (had 8 grades, plenty of kids from the Wood Valley camps); then the school was closed and he went to Pahala school till H.S. graduation

1958 graduated H.S. and went to work at Parker ranch for 2 years (at Waiki`i and Humu`ula, Willy Kaniho, Sr. his station manager, Hartwell Carter still in charge of the ranch)

1959-61 came back to work at Kapapala ranch, 1962 quit and went to Honolulu for 1 year

1963 came back to work for "Hawaiian Ranch" (the Brewer ranching operation that included Kapapala and lower Keaiwa, etc. between the park and Punalu`u); worked 14 years for the ranch; when Parker Ranch took over, he shifted to the plantation (Ka`u Sugar Co., owned by Brewer)--same company, so he could keep his seniority there--instead of going to work for Parker

## 2. changes in Pahala community

1940s big plantation layoff, many left, few came back

1945 still two Wood Valley camps + Keaiwa camp & Meyer Camp--kids all went to Kapapala school

1957 or 58 to 1960 Brewer closed the camps, moved houses to lots in Pahala and sold them to workers; he bought old camp house (where I first met him), for good price  
camp areas were mostly plowed up to plant cane (except for one "narrow" area)

## 3. looking at old USGS maps (15 minute series--Kilauea, Pahala)--talking about trails, fishing, goat-drives

He first went down to Papalehau fishing when 12-13 years old [c. 1951] with the oldtimers; only a horse trail then, not four-wheel drive road

### a. trails

only knows of three trails across the crack, (1) a four-wheel drive road down from Roger James place down to Kapai Kipuka,

(2) a trail farther makai running from goat fence and corral on west side of crack east toward Kapai Kipuka

(3) a trail running east-west makai of Pu`u `Ula`ula and mauka of "Black Hill" (probably Pu`u Kolekole)

(also a coast trail from Punalu`u, past Kamehame to Waiwelawela which runs below the crack)

1) To go fishing they commonly came down by horse from Roger James' place on the trail to Kapai Kipuka and on to Papalehau. (Later they trailered the horses in as far as Kapai Kipuka). Halfway from Kapai to Waiwelawela (trail over pahoehoe), they turned east on a trail through `a`a and then came down to Papalehau (on the lower half of the trail shown on the map). Only near the coast is this trail on pahoehoe.

Doesn't think the upper part of the route shown on the map had a trail--it's all through `a`a and would be too hard to travel.

Kapai Kipuka is big--covered with grass and scattered ohia trees, lots of goats fed there.

2) Partway down the trail to Papalehau, a trail took off east (toward the spot marked Naliikakani on the map), but he never went there, never heard that name, is curious about the trail & area.

3) They also went east on trail from Kapai, right below goat fence. [This is presumably the trail marked "Kalapana trail" on the map and the fence was presumably along the Ka`ala`ala/Kapapala boundary which used to be the boundary of the park.] They went east on trail and then down to Opihinehe. (A trail not shown on the map leads down to Opihinehe.) Also went farther east on trail to Kakiiwai.

His brother folks used to go farther on the trail to Halape too, but he never went there. Halape is a good place because there's water there for horses.

Notes that the place marked Puu Moo on the map, he knows as Pu`u Moa.

#### b. fishing

They used to go down before parties, mainly to pick `opihi. Would go down Saturday morning, fish to kill time and drink wine on Saturday afternoon, salt or pūlehu the fish so it doesn't spoil. Sunday morning they would pick `opihi and come back.

The old Hawqaiians used to take wine. Remembers one time riding down, the wine bottle came loose and fell down on the rock and broke. The Hawaiians said it was "bad luck" and turned back--but really only because no more wine to drink down there.

Places he went include Papalehau, Waiwelawela, `Opihinehe, Kakiiwai. They also used to fish along the coast from Waiwelawela to Kamehame (west of the park boundary).

Papalehau

The coast from small island just west to Papalehau is good for `opihi, shore slants down with lots of boulders. Lots of crab too. There is only one good place to fish there, a flat rock above the water at bottom of a cliff is good for pole-fishing. They used to pūlehu "hummy" (humuhumu) and smash it for palu, get all kinds of fishes. There's some limu koho there, but more down Kamehame.

#### Waiwelawela

Good for `opihi too. They would go there from Papalehau to pound `opihi--had to walk through the `a`a flow to there because no trail for the horses.

Has a big cave at the coast where they used to camp if there was rain. When they were in there to get out of the rain, the goats would come in too.

#### `Opihinehe

Good area to pick `opihi, big crab--but the water can be bad there, have to be careful. Cannot fish there, although you maybe could hangbait for ulua.

#### Kakiiwai

They got there by going down the pali farther west [at area marked Kaaha on the map] and then going east along the coast to Kakiiwai. Went for `opihi and crab.

In response to my questions: They didn't thrownet there, but there were some small poho where you probably could thrownet. He doesn't know of any limu koho there, didn't see any blacksand beach, hasn't heard the names Ka`aha, Kalu`e or Ka`aone, never saw turtle in the park area.

#### c. goat-drives

He knows about the drives on Kapapala side, but never went on one because too young.

Knows they used to drive along the fences--along the Ka`ala`ala/Kapapala line to a corral at Kapai Kipuka, along another fence across the crack to a corral on the west side of the crack (see pencilled circles on the map), up along another fence which went makai from that corral on the west side of the crack. Goats were driven into the corrals and then trucked out on the 4 wheel drive road to Roger James place. The road leads to the corral at Kapai; a branch leads down on the west side of the crack to the corral there.

#### d. caves

He saw caves along the trail coming down, but doesn't know about them or what their names are. Only knows about using the cave at Waiwelawela.

#### 4. change in coast and fishing resources

Since the 1975 subsidence (that caused the tidal wave at Halape), he's gone down on horse a couple times, last time about 1983 or 84, for `opihi. That time he found that fishermen had already come in and picked all the `opihi. They come from Hilo,

from South Point to pick commercially, so no more big `opihi like before when it only got harvested for parties by the folks who came down by horse.

The 1975 subsidence affected the coast, but not too much. At Papalehau, he noticed the boulders were tumbled, but the flat rock is still there (it's a big solid piece). The coast sunk some.

5. other fishermen who know the area

Of the older fishermen who went into park area, he can only think of George Vierra (Portuguese, in his late 60s, comes from Kapapala). The rest all make already.

He doesn't know who comes by boat to fish there now.

6. upper area of park--Connecting Strip and Keauhou

When he worked at Hawaiian Ranch (Brewer), Keauhou was being run by them along with Kapapala so he worked at Keauhou too. Used to have to chase cattle in the Connecting Strip when they got thru the fences into Kipuka Ki and Kipuka Puulu.

He knows the areas Kipuka Keki Kaniho and Kipuka Kekake in Keauhou. That's where they have waterholes for the cattle. When they dry up, they have to haul in water for the cattle.

After Parker took over Kapapala ranch, Keauhou went to Kenny Dillingham, who still has it.

7. At present, the gate to go down the trail from Roger James place to the coast is locked. It's supposed to be open, that's our (Native Hawaiians') right of way. Fujiyama (who runs Volcano House) is in charge now.

## Re 3a. trails

1) the 4w drive road down from Roger James place to Kapai Kipuka: he thought the trail on the old 1920s USGS map looked wrong; said that OHA went to court to get Native Hawaiian access to the coast over the old trail from Roger James to Waiwelawela; the gate they're supposed to use is farther south from Roger James and has no road there

2) the trail from goat corral west of crack across it toward Kapai Kipuka: he doesn't know the trail as beginning from the highway (as shown on the 1920s USGS map)--said they used to start from the old ranch corral next to the highway (where there is now a house and horse pasture above the macnut orchard, farther south of the old trail crossing), but "you make your own trail"

3) the trail makai of Pu'u `Ula`ula and mauka of Pu'u Kolekole began at P\_hala (it's now destroyed in the area of the macnut orchard), curved and came down to the coast trail just west of the park boundary; they took the trail from Pahala to the coast & then the coast trail over to Waiwelawela

4) there is a trail from Kamehame along the coast to the park boundary, but he hasn't ridden it the whole way;

## Re 3b. fishing

1) has only fished from Kamehame as far as Pueo (a lone kiawe tree there) & hasn't done that for a long time; from Pueo east it's all high pali--not good fishing

2) has a friend Clyde Luis from Pahala who goes down that way today--takes jeep down the 4w drive road from Pahala to Pu'u Pili (need permission from Ka`u Agribusiness), then drives east along coast, perhaps as far as Kauhuula on map; goes to pound `opihi, do pole fishing

3) fresh water at two places in area--east corner of beach at Kamehame, west corner of bay marked Waioala Spring on USGS map

## Waiwelawela &amp; P\_palehau

1) he calls the whole area Waiwelawela, doesn't know the name K` `; doesn't know of any warm pond there (or any brackish water)

2) there is a cave at Waiwelawela, on the east side next to the lava flow which borders it on the east, where they sheltered; there are also a couple of shelter caves at P\_palehau, one of them big; they usually used a small one which sleeps 2-3 men; maybe the caves are gone since the 1975 earthquake

## 8. of the new area the park hopes to acquire

1) immediately said there's a lot of petroglyphs in there, also has burial caves (cowboys went into the area by the trail from Pahala to hunt goat, accidentally stumbled into burial caves)

2) knows the road bulldozed down just west of the park boundary, it begins at macnut orchard

his friend Clyde Luis used to take it down to slid-bait ulua, until they blocked it off w. rocks

3) knows there are some lower places in the high pali west of

the park which are good for pole-fishing (menpachi, etc.)

4) there are two crosses down there, erected for `opihi pickers who died there

a) for Kailiawa, died when Anthony was young

b) Filipino boy, died when Anthony in high-school