

Interview 3 with Gilbert Hauanio

9/7/99

CL:Ok, I got it going. So, Gilbert, umm, in this second interview you were talking about these salt ponds that are west of Kaki`iwai that are on the Kau side of Kaki`iwai.

GH:That's right.

CL:And, umm. I was kind of wondering what else, what else was there near those salt ponds? That was on the pali you said.

GH:Yeah, yes. Not a very flat, ahh, flat area and on the cliffs its pretty low not real high in that area. And that's just where, area where the wind pounds so much.

CL:Yeah.

GH:And then flies up and then starts out at a salt pond lidat.

CL: Was it just one pond or was there plenty?

GH:There was the one biggest that we have our salt out there and, ahh, there was small patches here and there.

CL:Yeah, but one.

GH:The one I'm talking about is the biggest one we ever found out there.

CL:Yeah, yeah. And then, before you get to that pond was there a low spot? Or not?

GH:No, ahh, there were all just cliff. Like I say it wasn't that high type of cliff.

CL:Yeah, yeah.

GH:But its cliff all the way.

CL:Okay. Let me get this map out. Can't find the. Yeah--- So this is the old, the old, umm, Kaki`iwai. Yeah, and Pu`u Kapukapu up here.

GH:Right, right.

CL:And then it kinda comes in and then it comes out again. And then way down here is `Opihinehe.

GH:Right, right.

CL:So, the salt ponds. Was there any. Do you remember, do you know if any water hole in this area? Did you ever know?

GH:No, I never noticed any that's a, because from this area `we don't hardly any sleep out that way, uh?`

CL: Yeah.

GH:We just come to a certain [area], like picking up salt.

CL:Yeah.

GH:And go back to.

CL:Yeah.

GH:Kaki`iwai, yeah.

CL:Ok, yeah. Was there any, umm. Do you remember seeing any. I'm trying to figure out what the coastline was like in this area before the '75 earthquake. So that's why I'm asking you these questions and I'm wondering if there was any place where it was low.

GH:I guess, it did, probably, went down a little because we cruise with the boat pretty far down this side and noticed this area from this bay back towards Kaki`iwai area it did sink.

CL:Yeah.

GH: Yeah.

CL:Yeah.

GH:And, ahh, I'm not sure myself whether that salt pond is still there yet or not. Cause, I haven't been down there ever since, yeah. That's thirty-five [years].

CL:Yeah, yeah.

GH:Earthquake.

CL:Ohh, ok. Only, only went by, cruise by on the boat.

GH:Yeah, yeah.

CL:Yeah.

GH:And it kind of look like it did went down.

CL:Yeah.

GH:From this bay area all the way back towards Halapē. Yeah.

CL:Yeah. Do you think there was, before the, the quake was there any place where you could have thrown net?

GH:No. Not as umm, not ma Ka`ū o Kaki`iwai.

CL:Ok.

GH:Yeah, its all. Starting to cliff already, eh. And then, ahh, before the quake it was much higher too so there is no area down there for net throwing.

CL:Ok. What about at Opihinehe. Was that low enough to kind of throw, throw net?

GH:Ahh, would. I don't think so. Gee, what we did when we went down to this area. We anchored outside and then somebody swam up to it and then get a lead rope from the boat to the land and just hang on the rope and go up to the shore.

CL: Yeah.

GH:And, was kind of a cliff but not as high, eh.

CL:Yeah, yeah.

GH:So.

CL:That before the quake.

GH:That was before the quake that we used to come down here and make `opihis.

CL:Yeah. You never came down there on foot or on horseback?

GH:Uhmp-um.

CL:Didn't go down that far.

GH:No, that's too far down.

CL:Okay, okay.

GH:No, never did go that far.

CL:Okay, okay.

GH:Except up to the salt hole.

CL:Yeah.

GH: Ahh, huh. See, we used to come with Nathaniel, Kanaela.

CL:Yeah.

GH:Come down with him and go, ahh, opihi fishing mostly and then same time we pick up salt and take it back with us.

CL:Yeah, yeah.

GH:Yeah.

CL:You know the place where the shed is today? Down in here, have you seen that? Or not?

GH:The one in Kaki`iwai?

CL:No, well. Well, no. Ahh, the new shed they've got down here. They call Ka'aha shed. Maybe you don't. Haven't seen it.

GH:No, I don't think so. Something new to me.

CL:Yeah.

GH:Somebody when put that up recently?

CL:Yeah, they put it up real close to the pali.

GH:Ohhh, I see.

CL:Yeah. I don't know what year they put it up. But, must have been after your time.

GH:Umm-hm, umm-hm. I guess so.

CL:Okay. And then, umm. The other question was about, umm, Pāpalehau. Umm, you were telling me that you went in there, umm, I think by boat.

GH:Yeah, yeah.

CL:And that was before the quake?

GH:Yeah. That's before the quake.

CL:Yeah, yeah. And you told me about this, ahh, breakwater you called it.

GH:Well, it looks like man-made wall, you know.

CL:Yeah.

GH:Just like how they build the break water.

CL:With umm, wall going around the pond, a salt water pond, like

that, or?

GH:No, its just right up the face of the wall.

CL:Ohh, okay. There is no water inside.

GH: There is no water just, ahh.

CL:Just like a plateau.

GH:The ocean just bang up, you know.

CL:Yeah.

GH:Its really funny to me how the wall shapes that way. Seems like human beings must have set it up, you know, and make it look like a break wall.

CL:Cause, umm, I heard from these guys from Kapapala Ranch.

GH:Yeah.

CL:They used to go down there. That there's, ahh, they called it flat rock. On the, at the, down, down near the level of the ocean where they used to fish from. And it sounds like probably its the same place to me.

GH:It could be because, why they named that place Papalehau, there is a small island which shaped like a cap.

CL:Yeah.

GH:That's why they probably named it P\_palehau, see. And its right out there and in front where the wall is at.

CL:Ohh, ok.

GH:Yeah.

CL:If you look out from the wall you see the cap right there?

GH:Yeah, Yeah. Just outside of it you can see it. Yeah. Yeah that wall is really surprising to me. I wonder if the menehunes or what, you know, would move rock boulders that big and set them up.

CL:They're real big, yeah.

GH:Yeah, big.

CL:Yeah, but its, but its sort of flat that you can stand on it.

GH:Ohh, yeah.

CL: Yeah.

GH:Umm, huh. Look really perfect break wall like that, but even get that nice faces, you know.

CL:Yeah.

GH:Seems to me like human beings must have set it all up and. Cause I don't believe that mother nature can do that, you know, while the ocean pounding and banging it together and.

CL:Yeah, sounds likely it to me. I think.

GH:Yeah, it might, yeah.

CL:Could you, ahh, could it have, could you have used it to land on with canoe? If you had a canoe ladder?

GH:Ahh, maybe. They might, you know, the crew might have, ahh, built a ramp.

CL:Umm, huh.

GH:Like how they do back in Kapa`ahu area. Right off of the cliff they pull out a ramp out and let it hit the ocean and use that, you know, something like that to go in and out. But as far as those, this search go I'm not to sure about it because never been down that side too often.

CL:Yeah, yeah.

GH: Yeah.

CL: Right. Did you ever go down to Waiwelawela.

GH:No, P\_palehau was the last area that we ever went to for opihi picking.

CL:Yeah.

GH:Well we could pass them sometimes up here get too rough we cruise all the way down to Punaluu.

CL:Ohh, yeah.

GH:And then get inside the Punahou Bay, you know, and Punaluu Bay rather and call home and have somebody bring the trailer down and pick us up in Ka`ū because its too rough going back home from Halape.

CL:Ohh, I guess that, yeah.

GH:Yeah.

CL:Okay. Umm. Then I got some new questions. Umm. We were going to one time talk about you going hunting in the forest but we never. But, we never did. So, umm, could you tell me about, umm, your experience hunting in the park?

GH:Well, like I was saying when we get, ahh, our days off like that from work, I was working for the national park at that time, yeah, and we usually go up to the headquarters, see the chief rangers and borrow, ahh, rifles, ahh, couple of odds like that. We pick the area where we want to go on and just let them know that where we'll be. Just so that they don't make any mistakes and send someone else on that area, yeah.

CL:And, umm, where would you mostly go. Close to the.

GH:Umm, its usually they let us go mostly down towards, ahh, Hilinapali area.

CL:Ohh, okay.

GH:Yeah. You could either work back towards Puna way from. Its the top ridge anyway we, we working on. We don't go too far down.

CL:Yeah.

GH:Only go this. Go hunting for home use like that.

CL:Yeah.

GH:Yeah.

CL:Yeah.

GH:Then ma Ka`ū side of the Hilinapali there is another, pretty good areas to hunt too.

CL:See if I can find me a map. This stuff is spread.

GH:From ma Ka`u side you get a nice big kīpuka.

CL:Ohh, yeah, right.

GH:Yeah.

CL:Yeah.

GH: Sometimes the goats are hanging out in that area see so we sneak up on em and hunt em.

CL: There's--what's the name of that kīpuka? I forget the name. But, I know there's.

GH: I don't know their name on it if kīpuka but. But that's what we do. Yeah.

CL: But I know that there, there is one, ahh, there is more than one actually. There is more than one actually.

GH: Yeah. Get plenty kīpukas in there, you know. So that what we usually use to go around go, we check that kind a areas because that where the goats like to graze inside that area.

CL: Of course.

GH: Yeah.

CL: Ohh, okay. So that's mainly where you went then.

GH: Yeah.

CL: kīpuka.

GH: Umm, huh. Ohh, in that area. And ma Hilo side, too.

CL: Okay, then.

GH: Going down that first ridge, yeah. Sometimes you can see them at a distance but we sneak up to em and shoot em down, take home what we can.

CL: So, was the road was here then? This Hilinapali road or not?

GH: The new road.

CL: That's new, ahh. There was a trail maybe before.

GH: This the one, eh, coming down?

CL: Yeah.

GH: Yeah, that road was always there.

CL: Okay.

GH: Ahh, huh.

CL:So, I know the kīpukas are down here. And then when you went on the Hilo side.

GH:Yeah, its just ahh.

CL:Over, on top of the pali.

GH:Yeah, up on the pali but its just like a ravine like, eh?

CL:Yeah.

GH:We usually watch that area because the goats come around in there, too, so.

CL:Ohh, okay, okay.

GH:Yeah. If its them, we go for it. If you don't see them, no sense, yeah, walking that far.

CL:Yeah, yeah. So that was during, umm, the time you were working for the park.

GH:Yeah, umm, huh.

CL:And then afterwards did you hunt in the park, too.

GH:You mean after I left the park?

CL:Yeah.

GH:No, I don't think so. Only time. No, when I left the park I never hunt anymore up there. During the years that I worked with the national park, yeah, we were doing like goat drive hunting, you know.

CL:Yeah, right.

GH:Going with, with, ahh, MacKenzie and Jack Hamili. And they had contracts, eh.

CL:Ohh, yeah.

GH:So, those are the kind time when I, I go along with them.

CL:Did you every go hunting for pig?

GH:Ohh, yeah that's right. I used to do that, too. Yeah, me, my brother John and, ahh, Antone, ahh, Medeiros.

CL:Ohh.

GH:They all worked for the park at those days.

CL:Yeah, okay.

GH:Pig hunting up at, ahh, Bird Park area mauka where the, the first kīpuka they call it. Kīpuka Ki.

CL:Yeah.

GH:Yeah. Up in that area. Down, ahh, Fern Jungle way.

CL:Where?

GH:Fern Jungle. Ahh, by the, below Lava Tube. All in the back trail [now the Crater Rim Trail].

CL:Ohh, okay. Thurston.

GH:Yeah. It leads all the way down to, ahh, ohh that junction where you come out to go Aīnahou.

CL:Ohh, yeah.

GH:Yeah. That's the trail we usually hunt all that area.

CL:This was all while you were working for the park, yeah.

GH:Yeah, yeah. I was still with the park at that time.

CL:Yeah.

GH:But after I left the park I never went back there already. Of course I, couple of time I go up through there and, you know, can drive down, yeah, and go down the volcano road and go fishing. Yeah.

CL:You mean after you, after you stop working?

GH:Yeah, yeah. We were living in Kalapana then. You got to drive around, had to go out around.

CL:Yeah, yeah.

GH:Ahh, the other side to go fishing. Yeah, used to do that, too. But for hunting that's about it.

CL:Yeah.

GH:I never much, ahh, after I left the park. Never did go hunting.

CL:Okay. And when you went out with Kanaela folks you never. Did you ever hunt goats in those, on those trips?

GH:I don't hunt them, Kanaela the one that do all the hunting.

CL:Oh, he did.

GH:That guy is fast. When we out there on the fishing trip, man, if he sees that goat there and his animal sees it, that's it. Boy, he's going to let the pack animal go and he's going to go for it. And he catch em.

CL:Yeah.

GH:He don't shoot it. He don't carry gun, eh. Just chase the goat down, grab and throw and rope em. Ohh, that is mean. I cannot keep up with that man. Ohh, that's too fast. All I do is just grab the pack animal and cruise on slowly, and let him do the work. He catch the goats.

CL:Ohh.

GH:You see those mules run over those a'a, boy, hoh, amazing man.

CL:Yeah.

GH:They're sure footed and they can handle.

CL:Yeah.

GH:That's real rough, ahh. We go goat drive that area, same thing I not going force myself and kill myself go chasing goats from the cliff like that. Nah, forget it. Better be darn good cowboys.

CL:So during your days after, after you stopped working for the park, Gilbert, you were working for Glover, did you ever, do pig hunting outside the park? Or was it something you didn't do?

GH:You mean after. Yeah, like I said earlier. Since I left the park I never did, did hunt again any more.

CL:Ohh, okay.

GH:So. Mostly go fishing.

CL:Yeah.

GH:So mostly want to do it.

CL:And then, umm, I got a, a little different question. Umm. Did

you ever know of anybody to take, ahh, ho'okupu or presents to Pele at Halema'uma'u? Go in there?

GH:I've seen people do that but that's only during the Merry Monarch time, eh.

CL:Oh, okay. Yeah, not other times.

GH:Not at the other times. Merry Monarch time I see them take the kind ho'okupu up there. Yeah.

CL:You never heard stories of, umm, people going up to Kilauea from Kalapana --- or like that.

GH:Not that I know of.

CL:And, umm, the other question I have was, do you, umm, have you ever collected. I don't know whether you. Yeah, you use some Hawaiian lā'au. You use some, some kinds of Hawaiian lā'au for, umm, medicines.

GH:Ohh, yeah we do.

CL:Are there, umm, any that you collect in the park? Or you used to collect in the park?

GH:No, I never even pick up any up from up there but mainly from outside, down here, like ko'oko'olau tea, some noni. We still do that till, till now.

CL:Yeah.

GH:Collect them out here, noni like that. Umm-hm.

CL:When you were growing up did people use noni? Do you remember?

GH:Ummm. You know I not too sure but, this noni thing just came out recently.

CL:Yeah.

GH:And my, my folks were all gone. They never mentioned anything that, ahh, noni was, ahh, good medicine, herbs, you know for your health but we just heard about it and went ahead and tried it, too. Of course the ko'oko'olau tea was common. Fairly common.

CL:Yeah.

GH:Everybody know about it, so. That's good medicine. Even the noni, we were taking, you know, ohh, seems to help.

GH:What the tea doesn't clean, the noni helps to clean you up more.

CL:Yeah. You noticed that you feel better?

GH:Ohh, yeah. A lot.

CL:Yeah.

GH:Yeah. And till now my wife she still, ahh, takes noni tea.

CL:Umm-hm.

GH:You know that green leaves?

CL:Ohh, the leaves.

GH:Yeah. She use the leaves to make tea out of it.

CL:Umm, huh.

GH:And its working on her, I guess. She look more healthy than me.

CL:So, umm, you use the fruit too, or only the leaf?

GH:The fruit is what we got. She had some in the bucket right now, you know.

CL:Yeah.

GH:We just letting it sit there till it ferments and then she'll go, ahh, strain it out and then take the juice to put, we either take about a small cup of juice.

CL:Yeah, yeah.

GH:Per day.

CL:Yeah.

GH:And it helps. Yeah. Kill all the bugs in your system.

CL:Okay, I think that's all I've got.

GH:Umm, huh. Umm, huh. Ohh, you can get something else. More. You like to come visit again.

CL:Ohh, yes.

GH:Yeah. Can always come talk about it later.

CL:Yeah, okay.

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