

Interview with Yutaka Kimura 6/18/96 at his house in Waimea
Tape 1, side A

CL: So I read a little bit about you in that book, yeah, the book that Mr. Nakano did. And so some things I heard, some things I read there. You were born 1905, is that correct?

YK: Yes. Actually I don't ever talk all. You want my birthday? Yeah in my Hawaiian born certificate it's March 22, 1905. Yeah that's when I was born.

CL: And that was at Pu`uwa`awa`a?

YK: Pu`uwa`awa`a Ranch.

CL: Do you remember anything of that ranch?

YK: You mean those days? Well those days I think I better not say what I don't know but the thing is I left there, my father left there 1904. My father was a contract immigrant from Japan for three years at the Kohala. And the plantation manager was Johnny Hind, which his brother was Robert Hind. Robert Hind was the owner of Pu`uwa`awa`a Ranch, younger brother. So when my father served the three year, Johnny Hind didn't like him to leave the plantation to go anywhere else but work for him at Kohala Plantation for private, his work. But then the brother wants one good man for Pu`uwa`awa`a, his ranch, buggy driver and those days no more automobile you see, Chevron buggy. So that's where he landed in Pu`uwa`awa`a and I was born there in October, I mean March 22. When I was four year old my older brother was just about to be six year and there was no school but. Nakano's book has maybe the school was, Pu`uanahulu school. No school there that time, no nothing. So my father has to come to where get the school to send his, so we moved to Waimea. That's where we got in Waimea. And Waimea was really a village yet, not many people and

CL: Let me get this map out once. We can talk about that road. This is an old map and you may have seen this map, I'm not sure. This is the, it was done about 1928 so it shows the road up from the older Kona Road, the mauka road up to Waimea. But I think you told me that you remember this being built yeah.

YK: Yeah. That's, Waimea was, there wasn't a real road yet. We came from Pu`uwa`awa`a on a buggy. Was all pasture, well, there's a trail, wagon trail, but no more the city road which was called the Kona Road.

CL: Yeah. That old wagon trail, do you remember where it went though?

YK: The entrance is where? Somewhere in that, this is Kona Road eh? And from Waimea, where is the Saddle Road, now today the Saddle Road.

CL: Oh today the Saddle Road. Maybe we need to look at that instead. I got a different, this old map you know doesn't show Saddle Road because never had. Be better. This doesn't show all. This only shows Waiki'i. I guess the north part I don't have. Maybe we have to use this one. You came more mauka huh, like this [the horse trail shown on 1928 map] or not?

YK: No, no. Nonohae hill.

CL: You always came this way [on the present saddle road]? One of the things I don't know...

YK: Oh I think this is the main road I think yeah? And it comes to the Saddle Road, goes Waiki'i. Waiki'i station that what they using. This is a army, Pohakuloa Road, Pohakuloa. Army used this.

CL: Oh, okay. That's new then yeah. But you folks used to come this way. [Probably CL is wrong in saying this.]

YK: What this place is anyway?

CL: Right here? It says Paulama.

YK: Hotel, no then that must be the no, no high, this road, this is the Saddle Road. This is from Waimea, not the Kona Road.

CL: This is the Kona Road here and this is the Saddle Road here.

YK: But where? They used the Waiki'i Road for Saddle Road up to Puke'eke'e. [Note: that road is not on the 1928 map.] But then that's a Army road goes somewheres up this side of Nonohae as you go up.

CL: Oh yeah, I think Waiki'i is about here.

YK: Waiki'i, but in the beginning, even now they pass Waiki'i Road to Saddle Road. But this Nonohae is a puu eh? Yeah it pass Nonohae here. So, somewhere's around here there's a trees, several trees, gum trees growing, stonewall, that's where the prisoners was staying.

CL: Yeah I saw that.
So when you first came up from Pu`uwa`awa`a up to Waimea, you came through Waiki'i?

YK: Nope, down the lower side, probably this road but no road then. Was Wagon trails

CL: Oh okay. Did you know whether you went through Keamoku?

YK: Keamoku is on the way coming from Pu`uwa`awa`a to

CL: Yeah, that old sheep station. Did you go through there too you think?

YK: Well I was in charge of the, later on I was in charge of Keamoku sheep station was there, but there's no sheep. They moved to, did I talk to you on the phone I think.

CL: You said a little, let's see what was said about Keamoku. Yeah, you said that before...

YK: They had, I don't know what they call that, they used to say Puu Loa, Puu Loa but Keamoku had a sheep station. In fact it's to me, I been on Humuula sheep station. I was in charge, when I was young I took lot of responsible job from Parker Ranch. On Keamoku, I mean on Humuula. They call em Kalai`eha. But Keamoku had a larger shearing stable. They make larger bail. But the trouble is that the wool was not in demand. Had too much grass seed in it. So they moved up to Parker Ranch, got the Humuula land lease. The got that so they had raise sheep there so they move everything up there. Up there is all good feed, I mean don't have those grass, just Kentucky Blue all good for sheep eh. So they move up there.

CL: Do you remember that time when they moved the sheep up from

YK: No that was when I was, probably I was not born. Because I think in the late 1800 or the early 1900 they moved. And the way how I heard about it, the Keamoku, they had men, one man live way up Puke'eke'e and one man live way down Pu`u Hinei. When the sheeps come down this man always get a dog. No fence you see. They move em up. If they go over, below Puke'eke'e, then another Chinese man there, holding that sheep stays always, that's the way they used to take care. And I know, when later years I was in charge of after the war, World War II, I was in charge of Keamoku. It's no place for sheep there. It's all weeds and all kind of rocks and all. I understand that they moved that. They right, I think they was right to move.

CL: Well let me see if we can locate those two places where you said those men were. You said one was at Puke'eke'e?

YK: You see there's a pasture there. Puke'eke'e is a large pasture from now you go Saddle Road you can see that Puke'eke'e hill eh. Puke'eke'e hill right down, way down below Puke'eke'e hill is more like Puke'eke'e headquarters was there. There was a small little shack where one Chinese man named by Akuna used to stay there. And he was in charge to watch the sheep not don't go up, to hold em down.

CL: Don't go up above P`uu Ke'eke'e

YK: Yeah. And then lower side down Puhinei.

CL: What was that, Puhinei?

YK: Puhinei yeah. She wants Puhinei hill down

CL: Below Keamoku?

YK: Way below, below the Kona Road.

CL: Oh okay, yeah here I think it is. Yeah that's it.

YK: Around here (?)

CL: Did you hear his name.

YK: His name was, a Hawaiian man, he's, those days the people used to say he's a kahuna. Ioane I think was his name, Ioane, yeah.

CL: So if they got down that side then he pushed em up. So only dogs they used to herd them.

YK: Yeah.

CL: Yeah I read that Parker got that about 1904, got that. Carter bought it for Parker Ranch about 1904 I think.

YK: 1904, somewheres, anyway not too far before I caught on. Because 1904 I was born eh. I heard all about that those days. And I see the shearing building, they been using. But they didn't use too long I think. I don't know, maybe the both side had sheep station. That I don't know. Kalai`eha had sheep station but Parker Ranch had that they beat that... You see when I understand when I was a boy going school Sam Parker Jr., not the one they call em Kamuela, that's Colonel Parker, he owned half of the ranch. But his son was Junior, he's entitled to be some kind of owner of the ranch but then A.W. Carter became what you call guardians. That was 1898 or something. So Carter was been giving the place to the son and daughters to they get the place and they forget about the inheritance from Sam Colonel Parker. So they agreed then. That's why Samuel Parker Junior got Humuula. Then he had his own men working for him and the shearing was going on. And that's 1904, maybe you said they had the Keamokus. But I don't know how I was just born then. I don't think I know, I never see no sheep shearing there. But when I, that's forty years later, when I took over the place. The building was there yet, the shearing building, dipping a

CL: They had a dipping trough? Yeah, just like Humuula.

YK: Yeah like Humuula. Oh you saw Humuula?

CL: I saw yes. I went up there, we went up there, my student and I went up there with Johnny Lindsey and looked at it.

YK: Yeah Humuula too you know was, I been there 1919 I worked on the shearing time, but I never shear. They been try to break me into shear but that's a little too much for me those days.

CL: What did you do up there?

YK: In the first 1919 I was with daily work, the shearers go shear the sheep and my job is to gather that wool, spread em on the table. And I keep that shearer's platform clean so the wool don't get mix up with the, all tangle up with, that was my job. But then I went up there again 1924, '25, '26, three years I was in charge of the wool and count the contractors how many sheep they shear. So I was kinda had the responsible job at Humuula.

CL: Yeah. You know when you first went up there, in 1919, who was in charge of Humuula then?

YK: The foreman of Humuula was, what his name, they used to call him Haineki [Heinecke?] but he get haole name. Martinson, Ernest Martinson I think. But they call him Haineki. He was very popular with the Haineki.

CL: He had a high neck?

YK: Haineki, yeah neki.

CL: You don't know why they called him that.

YK: I don't know why.

CL: Did you ever hear of this guy George Allen?

YK: George Allen? Familiar name though George Allen. He's a old timer?

CL: Yeah, right.

YK: He had a brother? George Allen. He didn't have a property up here at the Pu`ukapu somewheres?

CL: He might have had.

YK: Two brothers I think. George Allen and I think that's Allen. You don't know around what year he was here?

CL: I was told by Henry Auwae that that was his grandfather and that he had something to do with Humuula early on. And then later moved to Kawaihae. He had some property up in Kawaihae.

YK: Nah, different guy.

CL: This guy would have been old in 1919 you know. He would have been old already, yeah.

YK: I know one old haole man by Dennis. I don't know what his full name is, he's called Dennis. He's the only haole man up Humuula that, during... 1919 he was there though. But I don't know who his full name. He's a old timer at Humuula.

CL: Martinson was not haole?

YK: Well that Martinson is look like haole but he was raised up in Hawaii so he talk Hawaiian. He has, he look kind of haole though but Martinson...

CL: Maybe part Hawaiian.

YK: Or Campbell. Haineki is what I always know. But I'm not very sure if he's Martinson or Campbell you know. No cannot be Campbell. Martinson, he's come from Ka'u. Yeah I think Martinson.

CL: Yeah I heard there was some Martinson's from Ka'u.

YK: Yeah he's some relative to that.

CL: Yeah and then married Kaniho yeah.

YK: Kaniho took charge of Humuula later on, Willie Kaniho. Yeah the one even the shearin was going Kaniho was running. And in fact they close up the shearin in Humuula in 1960 he was still in charge of Humuula yet.

CL: Oh yeah? So they kept on with the sheep there but they didn't shear them any more.

YK: Yeah. You know what the different, well Parker Ranch gave that sheep station, that Hawaiian Home lease up on that section Humuula, Laumaia, and Puu 'o'o, all that Hawaiian Home land they leased to Parker Ranch. But then it Carter, A.W. Carter gave to Sam Parker Jr. so if I give you that land then you can do what ever you like but you get nothing to do with Parker's. So he okayed that, so he took over that and then that was not Parker's own ranch. That was leased from Hawaiian Homes. And the lease expired and the bid come out from all over. People like take the new lease. That's when Carter was afraid so Carter bid over some other people bid. Highest bidder get it. So Parker Ranch got em back again. That twenty-one year lease you know. So he was wise

that man. That's when Sam Parker was, came back and Carter, after the land was taken Carter bought all the sheeps and the cattle to Sam Parker and hire Sam Parker on the ranch, Parker Ranch.

CL: Hired him?

YK: Instead of he just say nothing. So he was hired. Carter made him as a postmaster I don't know how many years. Then he was a tax man in Waimea. That's when I got my driver's license, somewheres in 1920. I bought one car, T model 1923 I think.

CL: Let me come back to this mountain road, the one, you told me it was built about 1920, '21. The one the prisoners built.

YK: The prisoners made the road is not the, from Waimea from Waimea right to, I don't know how far they went in Keamoku.

CL: How far did you see it go? Just to Keamoku?

YK: You see then were, I not very sure if they did that asphalt on the road. But they made the rock and they roll with a heavy steam roller and press it down and they put gravel. And they probably they did oil, I don't, not to Kona, part way only. Maybe rigst there Keamoku, right below Keamoku sheep station. Then later on that road was paved nicely. Probably is not County, it's State, but it's not all the way. It's from, what you call. Waikoloa, that road going down Waikaloa, about a mile before that, from there I don't know how far, that's the contract was open for the man named by Black, E.E. Black. He made that nice straight stretch road. And I know there's the bridge also was made from one Japanese contractor, Morita. He made those big bridge there crossing the, two bridge I think. One a little ways of Kona side of the Waikoloa Road, the big piece there. Another two big, Popo`o Gulch, eh?, that bridge.

CL: Yeah. Do you know when that was about?

YK: Gee that was when I was in the dairy. Could be in, before the 30's, before 1930's. Could be around 1925 or somewhere's around the 20's.

CL: Yeah, well that's good. That helps me. So I, did you see this prison up here?

YK: Prison? The camp.

CL: Yeah the camp.

YK: Yeah. I know this prisoner camp there was, I knew that one man that used to be the guard there. He's one of the Parker's family. He's on the Purdy side. John Parker. His father is, I

think is not direct Parker but his mother's side, Mary Parker's son or Mary Parker's grandson or what. He was guard over there.

CL: Uh huh. And his name was John

YK: We used to call him John Waipa but he like we call him put the Parker in because you know he like to be.

CL: John Parker Waipa.

YK: That's right. And he later, he work for Parker Ranch. After the prison was pau. I don't know how long the prisoners stayed there. Quite long though. They made that road though from Waimea to out Keamoku side.

CL: Did they call that Keamoku Prison?

YK: No, no. I don't know what they called that prison camp. That's no more on the record?

CL: I haven't found it. In fact I never found any record of it, only what people told me.

YK: there Ought to have eh?

CL: There ought to be, yeah. (end of side A)

Tape 1 side B

YK: Cause prisoners was there and we all was talking about prisoners, prisoners but... one day at the dairy 19, between 1920 to '25 we used to milk cow in the barn, not in the regular dairy barn but used to be barn where we used to raise Hereford cattle. We put stanchion and we milk some, we bought, Parker Ranch bought cattle, Holsteins, from way over Massachusetts eh, long time in school and I was a young fellow yet, only fourteen, fifteen years old. But I was taking care those cattle there. One prisoner came walking down from above and I didn't know who. He came down and sit down where I was milking the cow. He never tell me that he was a runaway prisoner. But we all know that there's several of them, five of them I think run away from prison camp, went cross over Mauna Kea from this, Mana side so before I took my pail of milk I dump in the vat, I went telephone to the police station, I see one man look like a prisoner. So come up right away. hHe started off. And I kept him talking stories and gave him lunch and use the kitchen and he never mention he was a prisoner but he said he want to go down Kukuihaele. And he tell me where is Kukuihaele? I tell him, oh you have to walk quite a ways yet. Then by then the police came and

CL: Did you learn his name?

YK: No, I never ask, no.

CL: That dairy, was that the Paliho'oukapapa?

YK: No that's the old dairy. That's from way back. Probably before Parker Ranch or I don't know the real. I know a man named by Anderson they told me he was running the dairy. Then Parker Ranch bought that place I think later on. And we had some Japanese was running for, they make butter and then became, you know Parker Ranch had lotta orphan calves. You know bound to have not many but so they bring the orphan calves, when they move the pasture the mother miss, they lose the calves. They bring those orphan calves without mother and they have to feed milk. Instead of feed from the bucket they let them suck from the cow. So they have the cow in the dairy in the stanchion, the own calf suck one side and the orphan calf suck one side. Some, lot of milk kind, there's two orphan calves yeah. That's how the dairy, whatever left over milk they milk and then they make butter, separator. I work there about nine months. I know that job, before we start that new dairy down here.

CL: Okay. And the new dairy is that

YK: We call Pu`u Kikoni.

CL: Yeah, so that's where the prisoner came then. I don't think that's on here but I can find that.

YK: And what do you want to know about the sheep station, why they gave up the shearing or what? Something like that?

CL: Oh all kind of stuff I want to know.

YK: Somebody came and asked me later on, because there's a schoolchildren came from Pahoa or Waieka. The childrens been question to one fellow on the Parker Ranch, when that Humuula sheep station was closed, why they close. This fellow don't know because he's a new guy. They came, they asked me about it so I told, what I know is that that went close only 1960 so people should know why.

CL: '60 is when they stopped shearing?

YK: Yeah.

CL: But they still had sheep up there for a while longer.

YK: That was not raising. They was sold, sold, get rid of.

CL: Gradually?

YK: Yeah. Not too long they got all get rid of em. You know you have to shear that type of sheep. The wool gets too, it's not healthy for the sheep. So I know I went up get some for Martin but the wool is so darn

CL: I was thinking this guy, you know I talked to this guy Peter L'Orange, you remember him?

YK: Yes.

CL: I thought he said he was up there kinda long. 1965 he left there. And he thought that maybe the sheep were entirely gone a couple of years after that. Does that sound right?

YK: Yeah. See '66. I left the ranch '67 but I think the sheep station, '62 the sheep station was closed. Because they cannot get a shearer and they said another thing is wild dogs and wild pigs. They losing lot of sheep by the wild dogs. They don't eat, they just kill and run away. Of course they take some maybe but the pigs are bad too. Pregnant ewes, when the ewe drop or half drop the coming out, the pigs just grab it and you know. Lot of that trouble they had. And they do that during the night. And even the people go watchman they cannot watch the sheep during the night. It was really, it's a towards end was it's very hard for the foreman up there to take care. They had men watching all night but not, you know they had about 40,000 sheep you know. It's hard for them but it's a real sheep country.

CL: What about earlier on, was there trouble with the wild pigs earlier too? Or not.

YK: Somehow the pigs have, they didn't bother those early days. But then they was starving already.

CL: The pigs?

YK: To me I think ssthe wild pigs had increase and they haven't got no food. The pastures, they don't live on grass only. See Waiki'i had corn fields. They used to raise about 4,000 acres you know. Oh they had lot of pigs that can live on those corn. And they go for miles for that corn. But way up Humuula, not much pigs those days. Gradually no more feed they'll move up Humuula side, the forest side where they have that banana poka, but they used to root that fern. But gradually not enough food they starting go for those things. And once they get the idea they go for em.

CL: Yeah I'm sure, once they get that habit.

YK: Of course the main purpose was had to get shearers. You know you shear a sheep is on the contract. You gotta pay, probably they pay the highest was I think 20¢ per head I think. My time

was, 1923, was about 15¢ a head. But nobody wants to shear that. That was suggested. "What you think?" they told me. I'm not in charge of Humuula but I was just on this side. Of course I was in charge of the whole cattle ranch so I can do what I like but my idea, my real idea, was upgrade the cattle. So I don't want the cattle be inbred and come smaller so I was upgrade, I cull was my job. But then nobody know that I was doing that but I had a order to do that see. So they didn't give the real official title but then I had all in charge of it. The suggest to me what you think about. I tell em, Humuula is a sheep country, not cattle country. If got cattle only luckily you can get, use those pasture for three months.

CL: Yeah, too dry?

YK: Dry, cold eh. Frost on Humuula. On Keanakolu side it's all right but. we can raise few cattle that side but the sheep I think. And I tell the sheep you don't lose money. I know those days we used to pay only \$25,000 a year, the lease. The bid we got em \$25,000.

CL: What time are you talking about?

YK: Oh 1923. So I don't know when came to 1960 how much Parker Ranch went bid that place but the wool alone can pay for the lease I tell. Then you can sell muttons. We used to sell, I remember was about 13,000 sheep we ship one year. Only wethers you know. You know what is wethers? Ram, you castrate. And we used to have some ewes too, after shear. We used to make pretty good money in Humuula but trouble is anyway that's the pigs and dogs and then hard to get shearing, probably management doesn't like to do it, you know Parker Ranch came get rid of lot of things. Raise horses. Thoroughbred horses was going strong, then quit that. Of course corn and mules we used to raise. They mechanize they get tractors and all kind, well, they don't need mules. So we gotta quit anyway. Hogs, we used to sell lot of hogs cause we was planting corn. We used to sell a lot of corn. But people don't buy corn now. They all get engine, n? So we quit the kinda things like that. So come easier, easier, less labor and less work for the laborers. But then I don't know, ranch job we used to have some things like sheep, interesting. And you can make money with that, hogs and dogs come and destroy. I don't know, you cannot be putting poison all the time. You cannot, we had men out there with a gun all day, few mens, but not only one pasture, lot of pastures eh. But all those things was no worry about if we don't have sheep.

CL: Well I know too this Peter L"orange, he was pretty disappointed about them phasing off the sheep. He thought should have kept on some way.

YK: And they had, you know the sheep, the wild sheeps, they call feral sheep.

CL: Up higher on the mountain.

YK: Yeah, oh they were good eating sheep though, mutton. You can't beat that. But that's gone. People, I don't know how people get, it's not game, it's too tame for game. So they want get the moufflon. Import moufflon and cross em. The meat is no good.

CL: So the moufflon are recent, I didn't know that.

YK: Yeah moufflon they're cross with this and folks who eat they cannot tell the difference. That moufflon, half moufflon is all right. When they more on moufflon, come three quarter moufflon, the meat is just like, worse than a goat.

CL: When did they bring those in, those moufflons?

YK: I really don't know. When I was cowboy foreman, you know I drove sheep from way up National Park, the fence was all down, lot of sheep come in Parker Ranch. And you know way up high land up Kemole, the grass there is very good when got rain. And that's Kentucky Blue grass up there and cattle do well in here. The wild sheep come down, cross the fence and stay down there and eat the grass by thousands. Yeah, the fence is all down. Some place the gulch, the water wash down, some places the thunder, lightning and all that and we had men once in awhile check the fence but the wild cattle don't go up outside too much. But the wild sheep come down and eat all the grass up the high land. And here we had cowboys go up and drive the, and you know for drive the wild sheep from up to down, to down here to Waimea, you can, you hear that, luckily you, if you start up with hundred sheep or two hundred sheep you only going get down there luckily if you can get twenty.

CL: That was the thirties was it?

YK: Yeah.

CL: Cause I think Johnny Spencer was in on that.

YK: And when I became foreman, I made my mind the sheeps' home is up there. So if you gonna drive, I was working up Makahalau, had another fellow with me, every weekends we go up and drive sheep. And we drive twenty or thirty, we bring em back cause we have to fight them to bring em back down. And we get about four hundred we report down here and then we send Honolulu. I get the idea instead of driving them down, drive them up to the boundary fence is someplace was down. I had several cowboys go up, divide the boys up, and we took one whole day to, most of the hill the

wire drop down all what you gotta do pull that thing up. I got em all down and then the next day we went up and we drove em up to hit the fence. And then in the corner of the fence two paddock we made a corral, holding pen and a small little corral for we can catch them. I got 4,000 sheep.

CL: And then what you did with them?

YK: What we did, I told the manager, I no like to have the sheep be all destroyed and throw away the meat. I'd rather have you give people. If you don't want to, just want destroy, might as well give the people. Say how you going to give? I tell, let the plantations, Kohala Plantations, Hamakua Plantation if they can, want the sheep. Let them have a truck come up. Mostly we had the plantation from Kohala and Hamakua. We had Waimea farmers for the Parker Ranch give em. We had weapon carrier four wheel drive. And whatever left over we had em killed and skinned, the hind legs all went to the zoo. So we got them, got rid of em but I was thinking how, why we didn't destroy all the sheep up that mountain. But no matter what I think this much hunters, I don't think you can have enough sheep to supply the hunters now. Impossible. There's too many hunters.

CL: Yeah. Let me ask you about this area in here they call Ainahou. You know this area below Kala`i`eha.

YK: Kalaieha? Below?

CL: Yeah below the wall and below the Saddle Road actually too. You know this area down in here?

YK: That's, you mean below is towards Kalaieha or below Mauna Loa side?

CL: Mauna Loa side.

YK: That side is nothing eh? They not using that.

CL: Yeah they not using.

YK: And there's no pasture there, all lava.

CL: Well I heard there was some grass in here. You know where the, it's a nene sanctuary now and hunting area.

YK: In Mauna Loa? Or in Pohakuloa?

CL: Not Pohakuloa but right Mauna Loa side of the sheep station. Maybe you didn't hear this name.

YK: No. They keep nene there?

CL: Supposedly.

YK: Gee I don't know.

CL: I heard that one time Parker used this too. They had sheep up here and they kept cattle down here.

YK: Toward Mauna Loa?

CL: Yeah. Did you ever see this trail that Puu 'o'o used to drive their cattle down toward Volcano?

YK: To Volcano? Volcano is on the other side Mauna Loa eh.

CL: Yeah.

YK: Oh I know Parker Ranch used to have cattle from Naalehu side bring over to Humuula.

CL: Yeah, that's right, that same trail I think.

YK: Oh Ainahou.

CL: And then there's an area right there, beside that trail. That's the area I'm talking about.

YK: Is that, no name to that?

CL: Well they call it Ainahou. There's another Ainahou too yeah. That's the hard thing about it but you don't recall anything, running anything down, down that side?

YK: No, Parker Ranch never raised no cattle there I think.

CL: Okay. And what about this area where Pohakuloa Training Area is now? Did you ever, did Parker do anything in there, Parker Ranch?

YK: The training area not far in but, we used to have, up to 1925 Parker Ranch has horses up there, mules. The young mules and the young work horses that born from the mare, when they come to yearling they turn em up there. Good for the hoof.

CL: Toughen them up.

YK: Yeah so they always had the horses up there from up to Pohakuloa. Pohakuloa, Pu`u Mau, right down to Puu Ke`eke`e. We'd take our working horse too. We had a string of working horse, each man get about sixteen to twenty horses but we have always about eight horses each cowboy, turn out for vacation. They stay up there for two

CL: Oh, the horses they ride.

YK: Yeah. And the others stay home and they shift around every two months. That's when we go up there. But the thing was I don't know why they used to do that, only through the hoof. But they had, the pasture had pretty good feed you know those days, certain time of the year. But the mules went out of business and all the horses. The thoroughbred horses never been out there because too rough the country. All work horse go up there and every two months we run up there. We don't go through the Saddle Road. We go close by Ahumoa, on top of Ahumoa, Puu La'au, below Puu La'au we'd go up from Waimea, cut short go the other side, go by the Army camp.

CL: I don't think I have Puu La'au over here. I've seen it but it's up toward Waimea side yeah, Puu La'au?

YK: Yeah, you know where Ahumoa eh? On top of Ahumoa we cut down to Puu Mau. Some go to, three or four go to Pohakuloa. Not very many horses or animal go up there. But we send men up, they drive down and then some drive down from Puu La'au down toward Puu Ke`eke`e and some go straight to Puu Ke`eke`e hill and they can go on the hill see if they can see any horses. They all drive down to Keamoku, Puu Ke`eke`e, the end of Keamoku to Puu Ke`eke`e. There's a corral there, big corral.

CL: Oh by Puu Keke, the corral.

YK: Yeah. Even now that Puu Ke`eke`e pasture has lot of cattle.

CL: So I guess Parker must have had the lease of this area then.

YK: Yeah, umhum.

CL: And then after about 1925 it was pau?

YK: I think that's... 1925 I think still they had the lease. I think after the war, World War II, before the World War II, I think Army took over eh, all those places.

CL: Yeah I believe that's right. That's good because nobody else, I guess they're not old enough, nobody else was real sure about Parker using this Pohakuloa area. One person said, oh maybe they had horses there but he wasn't sure.

YK: Yeah. They had the horses. Well the mules was good demand, plantation. And when they started get trucks and all those things mules had no chance.

CL: So Parker raised mules for the plantations then.

YK: Yeah. Plantation used to buy all the mules Parker Ranch raise. And then they used to buy corn too for feeding the mules. And of course the corn was demand. Like Honolulu is send so many

tons of corn every month for the hog raisers. And even Waimea had some Japanese raising corn. Kohala had some Koreans raising corn. Corn was a good business but then. Even now I think. Of course not as much as what they used to but they can make money out of corn I think if they have places. One good thing, later, before they quit those kind of things, I was in favor of the Koreans plant corn to improve pasture. You have to upgrade pasture to raise cattle but why you can plow and disc em and then you plant corn. After you harvest you don't have to harvest if poor crop well you can leave it. You just turn cattle in or then you rest the pasture where the grass come out with you know corn and plow the land good grass come up. You sow seed too you know. So if for improving pasture I think it's good to disc pastures and plant corn. And you don't have to sell corn but you can sell if you (end of side B)

Tape 2 side A

YK: That's a fact. Good for people to know. Yeah that's what I feel. And now I found out there's nobody that knows about olden days.

CL: That's right. You know this thing about, I never thought about, I knew they raised corn at Waiki'i but I never thought about it being connected with the mules. I didn't you know...

YK: And then you, before, the mule too, we had some mules pulling wagons. See we had everything transport by wagon.

CL: And you had, I think Johnny Lindsey was saying you had work horses too that what they call Morgans or something.

YK: Yeah. Morgans were working horses. We had lot of Percherons wagon horses, heavy horses. And little later we used to use part breeds, cross breed with the Percherons and Morgans to have roping the _____. You had lot of cows the horn which we have to cut because shipping cattle the horn hook each other, get bruise, lotta bruise. Bruise cut down the price. If you find one bruise on the cow's rib, the whole carcass is down the price. They cut down 15¢ a pound. When they get 500 pound carcass 15¢ you know. So we have hard, heavy horse we call that for cowboy working horses. The Morgans. And the trouble of shoeing horse--we start, figure on horse with good hoof. There's certain breed has good hoof. So we, providing they're good, intelligent or what I don't know. To me I was, that's a wrong idea. But those days people they don't like to shoe. But then all the trouble, you get horses with good hoof, they are more or less top horses, strong and very high tempered horses. They not very good working horse to me. You know, you like horse to be gentle and easy to work, kinda intelligent. Then you enjoy the working with that horse and the horse will serve you more than the bad horse that always like buck or run away. And you have men on top of that, kind of high

tempered men, they whip the horse and all that. The horse get all nervous. They cannot perform good job. You know all those things counts you know. Even cattle it's the same thing. Cattle get, you take like Brahmas now, they using Brahmas now for cross. They find good thing about Brahmas because they can stand poor feed. But they're a more tough animals. The beef is not good. But the people getting all lazy, they like get easy way operation cattle. See all those things is different than our time. Now is different now. All lazy. You can see all, I don't have to say these things because going be on the [tape].

CL: Oh let me ask you something else. I want to come back to the old road before this road that the prisoners built. When they built that road, was there a road in the same place, a wagon road? Or was it in a different place?

YK: You see this, the old road, some part of it they're not using now you know. Then they had a cut short road. But you took the road in the lava there from Keamoku to Pu`unahulu there's a, I think that's the only road they're using. There's one road above, from Waiki'i cut down through Puu Ke'eke'e and this one road cross above Keamoku and goes above Pu`uanahulu but that's horse trail.

CL: Yeah. It goes over to Puu Wa'awa'a?

YK: Yeah, yeah.

CL: Yeah that's what I heard about.

YK: Yeah that's a horse, not a wagon road.

CL: Not a wagon road?

YK: Not automobile road.

CL: Somebody said that used to be the old mail road.

YK: I think they used to carry on a horse eh.

CL: Maybe on horse.

YK: Yeah all on horse, pack saddle. They need couple mules or even horse, they have different kind saddle with the tie made so whatever food stuff or something they go through there.

CL: Um hum. Did you ever hear a name for that road?

YK: Gee I never.

CL: I think Bill Paris said he knew it as Kealanuiku`i.

YK: Oh get name to that road, must be. Must have a name.

CL: And then one other man said that he, so this was above Keamoku sheep station that it came.

YK: Yeah.

CL: Cause one guy said also that there was a wagon road from Waiki'i down to Keamoku that supplied it, he thought. I think that was Ah Sam, Henry Ah Sam.

YK: Henry Ah Sam, young Henry. Yeah. He used to stay Keamoku for many years. But Waiki'i was not there, Waiki'i now you know. Waiki'i was... early in 1900 Waiki'i was up... We call it old Waiki'i, way above that would be, there's a gulch.

CL: Maybe we can look at this cause this shows, this is the, I'm not sure, there's a gulch here, big gulch. And I think yeah,

YK: Tell me where the Waiki'i now.

CL: There's some buildings here and then there's some buildings here. We looked at these. We looked at the old corn crib and wagon shed.

YK: Uh huh. And then there's a bridge over here eh? On the Saddle Road where...

CL: Probably yeah. Would be at this gulch I suppose yeah.

YK: There's another gulch somewheres way up over here, crossing the road and I think right now that dip, that gulch used to be Waiki'i before. No more this map.

CL: Maybe it's farther up. Let's see. No that's this gulch. Too bad I didn't bring my other map. This one won't show. You know where the old telephone place is. So the gulch you're talking about is more toward the Waimea side from there still?

YK: No toward up Puu Ke'eke'e side.

CL: Oh well there's, maybe at these two gulches. There's one, I know this is the gulch that's real close.

YK: This the gulch right in Waiki'i station eh?

CL: Yeah.

YK: Where they have sometime big rain, big water go down here. And they have a polo field now I think.

CL: Yeah that's right, down at the bottom.

YK: The original Waiki'i was further up you know.

CL: Toward Waimea [sic: toward Pohakuloa].

YK: You know there's a pu`u somewheres around here they call Nalopakanui.

CL: Oh yeah, I saw that.

YK: No more on this map or what.

CL: I don't think so. Here's Nalopakanui.

YK: Nalopakanui is towards more Mauna Kea.

CL: Yeah it's more toward Kilohana and Puu Ke'eke'e side.

YK: Oh Puu Ke'eke'e side. Well this is the Saddle Road though.

CL: Cause you know the gulch, well it's funny, the Waiki'i gulch is way over here. That's what I never could figure out cause the, this is the gulch they call Waiki'i yeah. But the village is down here.

YK: This is road going around the island?

CL: This is the Saddle Road. And Puu Ke'eke'e is here and you know the name of this gulch, Auwaiakeakua?

YK: That's the one right in Waiki'i town? Yeah, uh huh.

CL: Ah, so that's why they call it Waiki'i gulch.

YK: But Nalopakanui is just a hill way down.

CL: Okay, now we got em. So what was there before?

YK: There was an old, Waiki'i station was here. But no, they didn't have no Waiki'i those days, the corn crib, they had no more corn down there. Way olden days the cowboys used to catch wild cattle up here. And this Waiki'i Village was over here. Where's Ahumoa?

CL: Ahumoa is right here.

YK: Around here get this wild cattle.

CL: Okay, that makes a lot of sense.

YK: Now the map good.

CL: Yeah we had it turned around. So there's no buildings or foundations left there is there?

YK: No, no more. They used to have few posts standing up. No more now I think. And this Waiki'i used to have on, even the pasture now it's still called old Waiki'i you know. Below the road.

CL: The paddock. Yeah. So the station, was it above the road or below the road?

YK: Below the road.

CL: Oh that's great. Nobody told me that before. That's great.

YK: This Nalopakani, that's the hill here. Just from the road an see that's one gulch here. The gulch no bridge you know just dip.

CL: Whenabouts do you think that was? That was before you were born?

YK: Before my time. Say, oh let's see, 19, you see Waiki'i had started later in a, Waiki'i of course they had already in early 1900's they had this Waiki'i was.

CL: The new one. Yeah. Yeah because they brought the Russians there.

YK: When the Russians came, when I was there was Russians was there. When I, 1918 the Russians was there. I was thirteen years old when I picked corn up there, contract. They was there already. So in I think 18 something, 1890 something I think.

CL: Yeah and I bet ya, you think at this old Waiki'i is there a spring there?

YK: Old Waiki'i? Spring? Water Spring? Old Waiki'i. I kinda heard about that spring but, hardly any water come out this. Somebody was saying, but I don't know though. Only on the other side, Kaluamakani had one water spring, all dripping, coming out. And then further down Waimakapo, they went try dig that place get more water there. They had a contract dig but no water. Only

CL: Where was the first place? Kaluamakani?

YK: Kaluamakani. On this side of mountain, Hamakua side. That this is now no, Waiki'i side.

CL: Oh, okay. Yeah. The only reason I wonder is cause you know that book by Pukui, Hawaiian Place Names, in that book it says Waiki'i is named for a spring.

YK: Must be, wai is water. Kui, kui is lei. Waiki`i, ki`i means take eh, take water. Funny eh. Can't get water and yet the name does say. Must have some place there then.

CL: Yeah that's what I thought.

YK: But so far no place there is wet you know.

CL: What about that gulch? Did water ever run very much in that gulch?

YK: Which gulch?

CL: That one by old Waiki'i.

YK: You mean that Waiki'i station one. Whenever we get the cloudburst on Humuula side, the water would go rush down that place, the road you cannot pass there. Even the road, sometime the water over the bridge. And then goes down Popo'o, go down Puako. But then very seldom the rain, used to be about once a year though but nowadays its' very seldom it's water. And way above that gulch, I know one year I remember I got stalled up there. We had lightning struck the fourteen steers, died on the hill eh. And I heard about this hill with rocks. They call em Lightning hill. You heard about that?

CL: I only saw the name. I think I saw the name.

YK: And actually the lightning really hit sometimes. When we go up stall that day I was out in Puu Anuanu, me and young Henry, the lightning started. We cannot go near the fence. When we came to one gate we were gonna cross the gate the spark come out of the fence line and you no can hardly breath. Cause it's choke. Was terrible. And all the way the water was at Waiki'i gulch was running. We cannot, my car was at Keamoku. Coming down from Waiki'i we cannot cross the gulch. We gotta go down to the Government road, go over that bridge and go up Keamoku.

CL: Oh you took the jeep road up to Keamoku. You went down to the Government Road and then

YK: Yeah, we had our car up Keamoku and this gulch is this side of Keamoku. That couple gulches get together running one, go down Popo`o Gulch right down to Puako.

CL: Right. I know what other thing I can do. Show you this diagram about it [Waiki`i village] and you can tell me what's wrong with it.

YK: Well now they have a, had one garage here now they have a office for the new fellas so I don't know. Used to be a garage.

CL: Is that stables still there or is it gone?

YK: Stable was right here. Was long building, wagons, pig pen, wagons. And had one stable over here. That's the one below there.

CL: Okay, but it's not there any more eh?

YK: No. No, below the road is not. And the school house, this is the yard over here. No more stables here.

CL: Probably we got confused. And then do you remember the houses?

YK: Oh this the houses that Russians used to stay.

CL: Yeah but I wasn't, Sonny wasn't real sure about how they laid. The only house he remembered for sure was over by the gulch was one of Hulihania.

YK: Oh, had this Hulihania, this another house, this another one.

CL: Along the gulch?

YK: Yeah. This the one where I used to stay.

CL: You used to stay. Was that a bunk house?

YK: Bunk house. And there's one more. Tony Philips house over there.

CL: Tony Philips.

YK: Um hum.

CL: Do you remember who was in this one? In this second house here. Do you remember who was in the second house between Hulihania and the bunk house?

YK: I don't know what they call that, Kaliko eh.

CL: Okay. I think I've heard that name too.

YK: School house. What this little house is out of, there's a yard here and then there was another cottage here. Two families stay one, double house over here. That way.

CL: Not this side. Okay.

YK: And this is all wrong this way. That go this way.

CL: This side? Straight? In a line? Like this? Maybe you should draw it.

YK: I think this one here and down here had one long building here.

[290-380 portion untranscribed--more drawing the map and talking cottages of Cordero, Ogawa, big boss house, camp w. shepherd house, house for fencemen, house of Yagi, Mori, 4 or 5 Russians (Elarionoff, Niskromi, Wolroff)

YK: Niskromi's a Russian name. German Niskromi. Wolroff. I think Wolroff was the last one I remember. They had bread ovens made.

CL: How many ovens?

YK: I think three. Waimea had one. Waimena had two couples, Russians. Work for Parker Ranch.

CL: So this would be about, when were you there?

YK: 1920.

CL: The most important thing for me to find out if there are any is if there are any Hawaiian sites anywhere in the area that the road might go. Old Heiau, burials, sleeping caves, anything like that that you might have heard of that the road might, that the present Saddle Road goes past or that the new roads that they're planning might go through.

YK: I never hear about heiau and that, all these things. Burial, no burial on this road. So far no more burial. But mostly every Hawaiian, Hawaiian they used to, see when a Hawaiian bought their lot or like homesteads, Pu`ukapu, first series, all Hawaiians got that land. I don't know what year though. Just before 1900 I think. 1800 I think. Their burial was all on their own land. And then the second serial opened where we call Mudlane now which different nationality had a chance to buy. I know George Allen bought one. Was Alec or George, two brother got two piece of land.

Side B

CL: The other thing I was gonna ask you. Because you're older than the other people I've talked to, you know where the best place, you know this area between Keamoku and Puu Ke'eke'e, and then over toward on the Puuanahulu side of it. Puuanahulu side of it was Hinds I think, was running cattle there yeah.

YK: Yes right. Between Pu`uwa`awa`a and Parker Ranch they were, there's quite a distance of lava land. I don't know, there's no boundary there that is belong Pu`uwa`awa`a or Parker Ranch.

CL: There was this big flow I know they called it Keamoku Flow right.

YK: Yeah. And on this side of that big flow they call em Kalawamauna. Parker Ranch used to use that. I really don't know if that was belong to Pu`uwa`awa`a or Pu`uwa`awa`a subleased to Parker Ranch or not.

CL: I think Pu`uwa`awa`a had the lease. It's State land yeah. Did you, when you were really young, did you ever hear of or know of any body living up in this area?

YK: What area was that?

CL: This, I guess Kalawamauna area.

YK: Gee I, there's no houses there. Only that, now we talking about, I know coming out from Puu Ke'eke'e down to Pu`uanahulu I saw one mule with a pack saddle skeleton in the lava tube way in Kalawamauna. I was up there one day trying to get all the number of cows. We want to drive all the cows out from there. We went way up in, and there's a lava tube, there's lot of grass there so I came across a lava tube, I looked down had a horse, I guess it's a mule with a pack saddle. The pack saddle was over there too. It's Only skeleton yeah. So people must being traveling around there. So must have some road there or I don't know how the mule got in there though.

CL: I heard there's a trail up into it and Billy Paris said he used to, that he took that trail.

YK: Bill Paris. Oh the Kona one. He married one of Hind's girl eh.

CL: Well I think he's a grandson of Hind. His mother was a Hind. And you never heard of anybody living up mauka of Keamoku?

YK: No. This ah where below Pu`u Ke`eke`e there was a sisal tree growing there and some old lumbers was left back but that's where this Chinese man was watching for sheep.

CL: Henry Auwae said when he was really young he used to travel around over toward Puu Wa`awa`a with his grandmother. And he knew of these Portuguese ranchers somewhere in this area. John Gomes he said was one and Manuel Freitas and Miranda family. Did you ever hear of any of those folks?

YK: Miranda family is the one work Kuka`iau Ranch I think, two brothers are working there. I don't know the old folks. They old parents I don't know where the, Miranda and who the other one, Gomes? Gomes from Kona I think. He has a quite a big ranch there. And who the other one was?

CL: Manuel Freitas.

YK: Freitas. Manuel Freitas, they're Ahualoa guys. Freitas used to, they used to have cattle too. I don't know where they had their ranch.

CL: Well I guess I've run out of things to ask.

YK: Yeah I don't know, I'm not that old but still though I'm I think the oldest living around here I think.

CL: I think so.

YK: Some people is older than me but they came from someplace eh.

CL: Is there anything else that you can think of that you think is important?

YK: What do you actually want to find out or

CL: Well I want to be able to talk about who lived and used all this area, you know where the Saddle Road goes through. I want to be able to talk about the sheep station and about the Waiki'i settlement and I want to be able to talk about the Keamoku sheep station because I know that people were there. My job is really to talk about the history of the areas and particularly who was living there and what they were doing and particularly if there are any Hawaiian sites or historic sites to talk about those. Because the road has to be, when they improve the road they have to be careful they don't disturb serve them without knowing. So that's why I was trying to get you to draw the map of Waiki'i and like that. You know there was, was there a poultry operation at Waiki'i too?

YK: Yeah poultry they had lot of chickens and they incubate and they used to raise lot of chickens, lot of pigs and lot of turkeys.

CL: And the turkeys, were they in a barn or they were loose?

YK: In the beginning they had em around there, they feed corn and keep em around but then gradually they started get wild. And they just left and nobody cared to catch the turkey. But then almost in December, before, November is their, they have couple men work nights go out moonlight nights to find turkeys on the

trees. Catah the turkey on the tree, put all in a bag and bring back. They had a place where they feed them and then during the Thanksgiving and Christmas they ship em over to Honolulu.

CL: But the chickens, they had a barn for them or what?

YK: Yeah they had chicken pen and they had incubator. They had one man always working with the chickens.

CL: So whereabouts on this map is that?

YK: You see the boss house? Boss house somewhere get a orchard, by the orchard they get the chicken fence.

CL: So maybe back on this side?

YK: They used to use the chickens, they sell the chickens in the Parker Ranch but usually every year we have luau they kill so many chickens and serve it at luau and the pigs for kalua all come from Waiki'i. During the war, World War I, they had a corn, ground them in fine corn meal. And you have to buy corn meal. You cannot buy only with flour. If you buy ten pounds with flour you gotta buy ten pound corn meal.

CL: Oh just to save the flour.

YK: Yeah. And then Waiki'i used to plant pumpkins, big huge pumpkins. You have to chop em with the ax. They used to eat pumpkin bread and corn bread, corn meal cooked with milk and we put cream in it, during that war time. Food was kinda short.

CL: Well I think I should stop now and let you have your lunch.
[recorder turned off]

CL: When did they start with truck?

YK: Truck you see, you know at very beginning, they used to have truck with solid tire and chain, it's not like now. Up in the dust no good. Waiki'i to Keamoku is the car go in the, dirt is just like ashes over there. Not ideal to get that kind of equipment for.

CL: So they had trucks but they weren't useful.

YK: They used to haul some down here, around here haul on the chain truck.

CL: So let me just ask you before we quit, you got these two bunk houses on here. And I think this one is closer to the road is the one you say you stayed in. Am I right?

YK: Yeah, the close to the road had the bunk house and the kitchen on the side. That's where I used to stay in there.

CL: And that would have been the guys who picked the corn.

YK: Yeah. My father's gang.

CL: And this one down here was for the fencing you said, this other bunk house.

YK: This one here for all the single people, three in one wagon so they all single guys. They stay in this house. No kitchen there. I don't know where they used to eat their food though or their... Oh yeah, they come to this kitchen I think.

CL: But they were different, it was a different gang eh.

YK: Different gang, yeah.

CL: What did that gang do? This one in this other bunk house down here.

YK: Oh that's from all different stations. They have on this side Makahalau,

CL: No, no. In this bunk house here. Not the bunk house you stayed in but the other bunk house. That group of people. What did they do.

YK: Go pick corn. Contract, under contract.

CL: Both bunk houses?

YK: Yeah.

CL: Okay. And I really think I should stop and get out of your way so you can have your lunch. (end of interview)

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