

Yutaka Kimura--Int. 2 7/8/96

(Note: incomplete transcript--microphone not recording properly; material in brackets [] is approximate--either the speech was not recorded, or cannot be transcribed accurately from the tape)

YK: The [Waimea-Kona] road was paved right to the boundary. There was a cattle guard there. Between Puuanahulu, Pu`uwa`awa`a and this side. And a piece of land there, they call it Kalawamauna, over the boundary, inside. And I think, I don't know, but I think Parker Ranch was allowed to use from Robert Hind, went lease em, something like that. They call em Kalawamauna. There's a lava flow over there on the boundary... the lava flow, one came just about level with Keamoku station, then inside is shear paddock right down below [in Keamoku area]. But then between that new lava flow and the old lava flow there's quite a good pasture there, so I guess it was leased from Hind's I guess. So we used to use about 150 cows, cull cows.

CL: That was during your time there?

HK: Oh yes, during war time, previous to the war time. Cause when I took charge of Keamoku I used to use that paddock for cull cows. Put cows in that paddock.

CL: What kind of cows?

YK: Cull cows. We cull out so many cows every year, that we don't want. If we finish them on the wet side, the fat get yellow. So that side is dry, and the feed is different from the wet side, the fat gets white, instead yellow fat.

CL: Does it taste different?

YK: Oh yes. Depend on the breed I think. Guernseys have, no matter where you take em they get yellow fat. But they good eating. And on this Hereford breed, or Angus, the white fat is preferred by the customeers. They like, the customers like white fat. The grain-fed is mostly all white fat.

47 [army road-- used during WW2 by army instead of Saddle Road to drive tanks up to saddle:

--ran below and about parallel to the Waikii road (Saddle Road) from Kawaihae to Pu`u Pa/army firing range to below old prisoner camp to makai side of Nohonahae hill to mauka side of Pu`u Papapa to makai of Pu`u Nalopakanui & hits present SR before Pu`u Ke`eke`e

--stopped using it after WW2, really only a track & not a road]

155 YK: Go up on the upside of Pu`u Papapa hill, then across all those pastures there. And every pasture they had some kinda gate, so the cattle don't get out. They go cut through the pastures.

CL: So there was still cattle there.

YK: And one more pu`u, on the lower side of Nalopakanui, go straight up to, almost close to Pu`u Ke`eke`e hill there's another cattle guard there. Then they go up right to Pohakuloa.

CL: You talking about just before WW2, right?

YK: When the war was going on that road was very useful. To me, they were training the marines, soldiers up Pohakuloa, just before the war began. But I know that they was practicing already. So that was, now I can recall, that road was used before the war.

CL: So were they firing the tanks up there? Up in Pohakuloa area?

YK: I think they was. And then they was using down here too, you know, by Pu`u Pa. They was firing, as a shooting range down here. Practice.

CL: Do you know what was up at Pohakuloa?

YK: Mostly tents. They had some quonset hut, like that, big quonset hut. Used to take water from Waiiau I think. In fact, I think, they had [water coming down the Pohakuloa gulch]

200 driving sheep from Humuula

CL: You're the first one that told me about that army road.

YK: That not really road, that tank road. They don't... I don't know, later on that Waiki`i road was paved and all. After the war the army used, they get trucks coming. Training, they still was training. The road was paved.

220 prisoner came to Pu`u Kikoni

CL: You talked about the prisoner coming to the dairy. Which dairy was it?

YK: Pu`u Kikoni, not Paliho`oukapapa. And the new dairy was not complete yet. They start build the dairy, but you know didn't have contractors, had local Parker Ranch carpenters. They had a plan from De Laval [dairy equipment supply firm] on the mainland.

[had a cement foundation]

It was real modern dairy. So it took em five years to finish. But we had a temporary barn, that's where the prisoner came. We got the dairy cattle from Massachussetts.

CL: What about the other four prisoners, did you see them?

YK: No. This guy told us something about, five of them run away. After police came, he started to talk to them, I hear him. Some other four they went above, out to Kukaiau or somewhere. This fellow like go down Kukuihaele, he had a friend down there.

YK: I think the prisoners make that road, from Waimea, the prison road. Can see all the curves. Now they make em straight, eh? But when we came from Pu`u Wa`awa`a, that was pasture. So they had lotta trails, wagon trails. We don't know which one. But they made, afterward they make that road, that's prisoners' road. But even Waimea village road not good as that was. Prisoners made rocks you know, big rocks all on the foundation. And roll with steam roller. Waimea road was always dirt road. Rainy days the water run on the road, dirty water run. Used to make kids walk in there barefoot and all, sit down in the water and all kinds. But then, the Waimea road was not by prisoners.

(275) They finish the road up to Kalawamauna. I don't know, when I really start to know the road the state took over that road, widen em up.

[widened road made by Contractor Black]

300 [bringing horses above Ahumoa to PTA area--wasn't a trail, they just went from gate to gate through the pastures]

(ab. 350) YK: No, no trail. Just through the pasture from gate to gate. Find the gate and go.

(ab. 400) CL: So you drove the horses over there, and did you pick up the ones that were there and bring them back?

YK: The ones had enough rest, take em back. Get string, see, half of the string go up vacation, and half stay back work, and then shift around.

CL: But there was no trail that you could see?

YK: I don't think that even Parker Ranch had. I don't think they had. Gate to gate we went, we know where the gate. Drive right to the gate.

You know cattle, we used to ship cattle, from Waimea there's a road going to Kawaihae, an old cattle road. Hard to describe because there's no hill. The last shipments we used to ship, we had down, by dragging the cattle in the ocean. Pier they call it. They made a wharf go right out in the ocean. And then the steamer touches the wharf, and then got chute on em. But rough weathers cannot. The boat shift too much. So we used to [swim them out in] the water too. But we used to drive, easier--the law was not strictly that you cannot use the government road, the paved road. So we used to use the paved road, easier to drive

nighttime. You know, go out on another trail, dark nights, you get a hard time, you know. It's not easy job to drive the cattle out there. During the war was worse yet. The army's camped out there, then they had trenches yeah? Nighttime they come out, and they tell you halt. Cattle get scared. Oh, we got cattle was scattered all over the place. Come back tell the manager its' no sense, we cannot ship cattle. Of course, it's kind of dangerous to ship, because we don't know if submarine outside here, yeah? But we take a chance sometimes.

The cattle scattered all around. I tell you, we sure didn't like that idea of they come out at night. So we tell the manager, tell them to stay in the cabin. And we let them know when we coming. So then okay, they don't make no noise. But they know we coming already. Cattle noise, yeah? But new ones come, we get trouble again.

Side B

corrections to Int. 1 transcript:

p. 4 Nahulu instead of Ioane: [known as kahuna, but toward the end people didn't respect him because he used to be]

YK: talkin to himself all the time. But they say he used to be a kahuna. Same thing with this fellow Ioane. Ioane was up Pu`u `O`o. I guess you heard about him. Worked for Shipman. This fella Nahulu, I think he's in Kawaihae, and they hired him up there to watch sheep.

p. 5 Campbell instead of Martinsen:

YK: And the other fella, the foreman of Humu`ula, the name I told you was Martinsen, but no. Ernest Campbell. Haineki they gave him the nickname.

And I give you the name of George Allen, but I know George Allen but he's not up there...

George Allen, I think he bought land on this second series of homestead. Hartman is another haole. They were old already, they were not real old man but older than me.

[untranscribed: someone called him about another name]

YK: He bought the land Mana road. Homesteads. But then I knew him after when he start build his house, that's when I know him. But if he work [Parker] I never see him work.

(585) Maybe before that he work Parker Ranch.

[untranscribed: others who worked short time for Parker ranch-- Johnson, Fred Sproat--father of Bill Sproat; looking at old Waimea-Kona road used some cinder from hill (Pu`u Iwaiwa) for road]

(660) CL: You know when you were in charge at Keamoku, and also the cattle at Waikii...

YK: Waiki`i was under my jurisdiction, the cattle. They had Alec Bell used to take care of Waikii, corn and things like that, take care the fence. But the cattle, arranging the cattle--I was in charge of Keamoku, Waikii. Finally they made me take charge of the whole ranch, after the war, up to 1960.

CL: When you were in charge of the Keamoku where did you stay? at the Keamoku station?

YK: No, I stayed right down here. I had a house up, they build one house for me. I was doing lot of responsible job, make house for me then, but the title, I didn't get the title. There were no title, because Carter's time they don't want title. They put me at cowboy foreman, at the beginning was. Just before the war broke, they put me as assistant cowboy [foreman].

(840) Waiki`i village c. 1920
[looking at map--draw schoolyard fence, garage was bigger
--Hara's house: had two rooms for two single men, fencemen]

CL: So these are the folks living there when you first went up to pick corn?

YK: Yeah.

CL: Did you pick corn more than one year up there?

YK: I picked corn one year. [then went to work at the dairy and didn't go up to Waiki`i more until in charge at Keamoku 1945]

CL: I'd like to ask you about that time then, all these operations at Waiki'i. Was there just two fencemen?

YK: No there was more. There was plenty fencemen. And this bunkhouse [the makai one]. That bunkhouse had two sides, four rooms on this side, four rooms on this side. And porch on both sides. Yeah, that's right.

CL: And was there fencemen in there?

YK: Yeah, fenceman and you know, just all kind of job there. Lotta job. When they plant corn and weed all them and take care. Then when they mechanize they had less workers. The Russians left, they never stay too long. I don't know if they stayed 19 up to 25 stayed. Only one stayed, one of the sons, Larionoff was one.

CL: So those Russians, were they involved in the corn planting?

YK: Yeah, when corn harvesting time they under contract for the corn, but before that they would cultivate and all that work. And all was horses those days.

CL: Was there cowboys at Waiki'i?

YK: No. There's one cowboy, always lived there and he go out and catch wild pig. And working man get. I don't know what day of the week, they go to that place where they have that pork. And well that's his job. His job is when the cowboys come up Waiki`i he goes with the main cowboys. See cowboys, they had sixteen cowboys, steady cowboys handle the cattle. (tape ends)

Tape 2

CL: What was the name of that cowboy?

YK: George Davis. I think he's some relative of the old Davis family, Hawaiian.

CL: That Isaac Davis family?

YK: Yeah.

CL: So he lived in one of these houses?

YK: Yeah he lived in of these--he used to live this house [marked Kaliko] I think. Kaliko, he used to live this house, but he gave up the job. You say you know this fellow Kaliko, but I don't think this is the one.

CL: I heard of a Kaliko at Humu`ula. Johnny Lindsay said when he went up there for shearing there was a Kaliko there.

YK: That Kaliko is--his father worked for Sam Parker. This Kaliko is, his son Kaliko is raised at Mana by the Parker family. My days he was a cowboy. He was my main man for driving cattle nighttime, he took the cattle from all the pastures from there, Mana, go up Pa`auhau. He was the leader. He knows the trail. No matter how foggy, he take the cattle right to the gate. But this one was different. He's a swamper on the wagon.

CL: What on the wagon?

YK: Eight-horse wagon, they have swamper. Swamper means that the driver is a driver, eh? Swamper is a helper, hitching up the horses.

CL: So Kaliko and George Davis lived together?

YK: No, Kaliko didn't stay too long. All these houses all been

changing.

CL: So then, was there somebody took care of the pigs?

YK: They have one regular pig man, fellow named by Yagi. His job was. Later on they changed, had another man.

CL: So what did the pig man do?

YK: Feeds the pigs. Feed pigs, but every day I think they had pigs there ____
They had to feed pigs there because they had small pasture.

70 [pigs kept in enclosure with hogwire around; corn fields fenced with hogwire]

YK: I know they shipped about 10,000 a year.

[They had a concrete pool] where they can dip in the water and all that. They like that.

85 [best weight to sell pig was 50 pound; didn't drive the pigs, shipped by truck to Kawaihae, loaded by hoisting up boat and all; pig-raising ended about 1950]

100 [were silos in two places at Waiki`i]

CL: What was it that Hara did?

YK: Hara is a fenceman. He has his wife there. He's a oldtimer on the ranch. His father used to work for Johnson. (Kukaiiau ranch?)

CL: You know this chicken house--

125 [every station raised chickens--dairy, Makahalau, Waiki`i; didn't really sell; eggs sometimes sold; had luau every year at New Year--cooked chickens from every station, pigs from Waikii (kalua'd 9,10 pgs); eggs sold at Parker store, along with butter & milk from dairy, rice, flour, sugar]

CL: So was there somebody in charge of the chickens?

YK: [On Kiso, Korean man]

CL: What were the jobs of these people [on diagram]

YK: Ogawa is fella that was takin care of all the tractor there. Two brothers Ogawa. Cordero is pick corn. The whole family go out pick corn. Go under contract, pick corn. Besides grow corn is Tony Phillips.

CL: Along with the Russians.

YK: The Russians.

(180) Tony Phillips is a tractor driver. This fellow Huluhia was on the horse wagon, he drive eight-horse wagon. He was one of the best eight-horse drivers in Hawaii.

CL: That was for the wool?

YK: Other things too, used to haul corn from Waiki`i down to Waimea, sometime they direct, don't stop Waimea and drop it into Kawaihae [to ship to Honolulu]. Over there [Waimea] had only three (drivers) though, three drivers, had one-eye driver. He's another good driver. Tricky man, if he doesn't like the swamper he turn the car & he jumps. He jump off of the car you know. [sentence undecipherable] He get mad he turn over the wagon. Eight-horse wagon driver not easy. (CL: Because so many horses.) Narrow wagon too, it can tip, go over easily.

CL: So already in the 1920's you had tractors?

YK: Yeah. 1920 they had. At the very begininning they the steam tractor with the steel wheel with the spike on. Run by steam. But that never last long and [when the gas came out], right away the gas tractors [took over].

CL: So they used the tractor for what?

YK: For plow, they plow and disk. They plow the land--once they plow this land up here is come soft. So once they plow once [they don't need to plow again, disking is enough]. So it's not that hard. But they had about, maybe 12 tractors.

CL: I guess some of the other work they did with horses.

YK: For cultivating, it's, you know, one-man cultivator. They had 21 cultivator going every day.

(235) Once had one young Hawaiian, he was killed by horse. One day he was coming home. They ride the horse bare-back, the cultivating horse, without stirrups. They go on the same horse with the harness on. After work he came back to the gate riding the horse. And then he bent down to open the gate, the horse [moved], his leg went in between the chain, there's a chain that goes [back to the cultivator], you know drag the chain from the two side of the plow. His leg went between there and he fell down. So the leg's stuck in the chain, the horse been draggin him couple miles, up and down draggin. Terrible. He was killed.

CL: What was his name?

YK: His name was David Puna. He married Cordero's sister-in-law. Lotta guys work up there. Was a big place.

265 CL: So the mules that were raised for the plantation, where was that done?

YK: To get mules you have to get donkey, or jackass. So they buy donkey, and then they breed that donkey stud to the Percherons, wagon horses to have the mule. And they larger than the donkeys. Donkey mules they small. They were big. They not bad. Donkey mules is stubborn.

CL: So where did they raise em?

YK: Oh they have a pasture for em [in Waimea]. And the young ones, wean em, handle em. They lead, and all that. Touch all the leg and lead around. Then you turn em out at one year. When they come to three years old, they bring em down and they handle again. Usually they don't sell em too young. Before they sell em, put em on wagon, pull the wagons.

YK: [The trainer] he get his swamper and he goes out one mule, one Percheron, wagon horse, tame horse. Put em on the side. Train em to do that.

They had men to do that all the time, nothing but train-- they train wagon horse, train mule. They have a breaking pen, always training horses.

All horses was used to haul, no trucks was used.

(330) CL: How long did that corn end at Waiki`i?

YK: That ends. Well, they was raising corn [up to about 1950]. [By then they were raising] mostly every other year. And they were planting hay, in the paddock. That was my job [to have the corn planted and disked in to improve pasture].

{It ended about 1950} cause we didn't have too much rain you know. Less rain, the corn won't grow.

CL: And I guess after that there [were fewer people up there].

[finally the school was moved because fewer children
He was no longer in charge of Keamoku when old homes taken out]

YK: I was always in charge Keamoku, but all what I did was cattle. So the next man was in charge of Keamoku, break down all those houses. Waikii was under Alec Bell. He retired 1950. [after he retired no one really took care]
He [Alec Bell] took care the fencemen and the corn.

(400) Humu`ula personnel when he first went up:

Besides Haineiki, Dennis (old haole man) at Kala`i`eha (caring for sheep), Yama--prob. took care of fences and moved sheep bet. pastures

Willie Kaniho worked there (after Haineiki)

had cattle too & men who took care of cattle at Laumai`a--1 man
at Keanakolu--2 men
at Hopouwai--1 man

they watched cattle, fixed fence, checked water

(490) CL: Do you remember this guy Ishizu? that was drowned up there?

YK: Ishizu. Oh, he was in charge of Humu`ula. That was after Haineiki was in. I can hardly remember. Ishizu was... his younger brother was up in Waiki`i.

Side B

[He went to] Laumaia check rain guage. And on the way back the water came down. I think probably he think he can cross it [the stream]. But my father went up, lotta people went rush up. Gee, that was quite a thing.

[doesn't remember John Akau (mentioned by Johnny Lindsey) being foreman before Willie Kaniho; does remember Ah Fong as foreman; also Portuguese man they called Pamos, big guy, some time after Willie Kaniho]

YK: I know one time Carter want me to be the foreman up there. He took me up there, but those two made up, Willie and Pamos.

CL: You didn wanta go up there?

HK: I don like go up there. But if they don't click, them two gotta get out. I not familiar up there, those pastures. It's too cold up there. (interview ends)

Yutaka Kimura--Interview 2 on 7/8/96

- p.1 Waimea-Kona road paved to Puuanahulu boundary
Parker ranch used Kalawamauna
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- p.3 Waimea-Kona road--wagon trails through pasture when they came to Waimea (1909), prisoners made road w. rocks to Kalawamauna driving horse to Ka`ohe--no trail
- p. 3-4 driving cattle to Kawaihae
- p.4 corrections to int. 2--Nahulu instead of Ioane, Campbell instead of Martinsen called Haineki
George Allen didn't work for Parker ranch in his days
Johnson, Fred Sproat worked for ranch short time
- p.5 Alec Bell in charge of Waikii operations (corn, fence) v. he was in charge of cattle Waikii/Keamoku (1945-60)
he stayed Waimea then
Waikii--changes to map, makai bunkhouse for fencemen
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- p.6 George Davis hunted pig
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- p.7 Yagi the pig man, pigs went out about 1950
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Cordero, Tony Phillips, Russians picked corn
- p.8 Tony Phillips tractor driver,
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- p.9 raising mules in Waimea for plantation
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- p.9-10 men and operations at Humuula
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