

Interview #4 with Kaipo Roberts (with his wife Maisie Roberts)
by Charles Langlas 1/23/98

Tape 1 side A

MR: ...during the time that they were setting off those nuclear blasts down there, he was down there during that time. And he's had cancer--half of his stomach has been removed, he's had prostate cancer, he's had colon cancer.

CL: My goodness.

MR: So, he's had everything. Whether it was due to that time down there, the government would never admit it. Because they had to get off the island whenever they blasted. They were...

CL: They set off atomic bombs on Johnston too?

KR: No not Johnston, Eniwetok.

CL: But from Johnston you went to Eniwetok?

KR: No I was stationed at, first went overseas I went Johnston. That's the first island I went to. At that time they was just building the seaplane runway. That was under contract with Hawaiian Dredging. We went in '52, '54 I went down with Holmes and Arber (?) that was a contract. Then I went Eniwetok.

CL: Yes, I think that was the same deal that Edmund Kaawaloa was doing?

KR: Right, yeah. Yeah, we went down there together. Willie Kaawaloa was there also. (Kahaku) Kealoha.

CL: So then you were stationed at Johnston and then you went over to Eniwetok?

KR: No, Johnston that was the earlier part after I got through with CCC Camp I went down Johnston Island to work. They were under Hawaiian Dredging at that time.

MR: That was before the war started now dear. Cause the war started in what, '42?

CL: Yeah right after December in '41 yeah.

MR: Yeah. And he was down there and was supposed to go back when the war started. And then he stayed and worked with the engineers.

CL: Yeah, I know I've talked to you before Kaipo and I had a student talk to you. Do you remember Charlene? Yeah.

KR: Where is she at? I don't see her around.

CL: I don't see her either. I think she's in Honolulu. I haven't seen her myself for maybe four or five years now.

KR: I see her husband.

CL: Yeah. I think they split up. So I know a little bit about, I heard you talking about working for triple C and I think I heard you say, must of been after you were At Eniwetok that the two of you used to go down to pick opihi at Kahue in there.

KR: Kahue, Kealakomo, ` _pua

MR: Halapē, all through that area, Kakiwai.

CL: Oh you went as far as Kakiwai?

KR: We went as far as Papalehau. Waiwelawela, then Papalehau.

MR: Kaipo's been all through that area because he used to work the trails when he worked for the park. And so he used to clean the trail from Hilinapali. He'd go down and then come up and he did that for so long. That's why he had bad arthritis. He really suffered from that.

CL: When did you start working for the Park, Kaipo?

KR: I first worked for the Park was in, at that time it was just temporary employment. Whenever funds came in, when funds were available they would hire us maybe three, four months then funds run out we get laid off. It was about in the late '40's. Because in the '50's I went down overseas.

CL: And then I think you came back here in the later '50's? Is that right?

MR: We were in Honolulu.

KR: When I was down Johnston Island I came back on leave and I, the Department of Agriculture

MR: We had moved over then. We lived at Kalapana and so I told him in order to raise our children, I mean where they would have more opportunity for education-wise. So I said, I'm going to move the kids, we're going to go to Honolulu. Go over and get a house and when he comes back it'd be easier. So our mother, his mother stayed here and I went over and found a place. When he came back he liked it. So we moved over. We lived at Likini Street.

KR: Aliamanu, Aliamanu district.

MR: Where the plane comes in you see the water shed up there. And our home was just right down from that. There was nobody behind us cause Redhill was there. We had a real nice view of Diamond Head and it was really nice. Before Salt Lake was built up. So we moved there so our kids went to Radford. And so when he was overseas, I wanted him to

come home and he came home for awhile and worked for the cement company. What was that cement company you worked for?

KR: That was for Hawaiian Dredging concrete work.

MR: Making those big (?) for the University. You know they would have the (?) and they were building the University. I think oh those big concrete slabs.

KR: Tresses.

MR: They had to, he worked on that. It was a hard job.

KR: And I was, I worked there for awhile and then I went back overseas. And in the meantime I talked to somebody in Honolulu, was forestry. Then when I went back to Johnston Island they called me and said they had an opening over there if I wanted to work with the Forestry Service. So I asked for a release because my, I had fulfill my contract so they released me and I came back, I worked for the Department of Agriculture, US Forest Service.

CL: In Honolulu.

KR: Honolulu.

CL: About what year would we be talking about?

KR: About '50, '52. Somewheres around there. And then I worked in Honolulu for several years and somebody told, one of my friends told me there's an opening up there in Volcano. That's a park... what was that position? Forestry Aide. So I applied for it and they accepted me so I got transferred back. From Honolulu I got transferred back Hilo here. And been here ever since.

CL: Oh, okay. So you never went back to Honolulu to live there.

KR: No.

MR: I think that he would like to know before this, when you used to work on the trails at Panau. Before he went overseas he used to, he worked for the Park. In what capacity did you work when we lived in Kalapana, that you used to go out and work on the trail at P_nau?

KR: I forget the title now, I can't remember. I was trying to think about it and I couldn't remember it. Some kind of an aide.

MR: You worked in maintaining the trails for the Park. Trail maintenance?

KR: Anyway, it was some kind of aide.

CL: That was the temporary, short term work?

KR: That was a permanent position.

CL: That was permanent. Okay.

MR: Tell him about the trails, about that area, how it was, where did you go to? Royal Gardens, did you go through there? It wasn't Royal Gardens at the time.

KR: Well I worked the trail from Makaopuhi down to Kalapana. Down to Kapa`ahu rather.

MR: You had to maintain the trail. What was the purpose of maintaining the trail?

KR: That was a walking trail. It was a regular hiking trail. People used to walk from Volcano down to Kalapana.

CL: That's the one that went past the Pe'a Place?

KR: Pe'a Place, right. Past Pe'a's place, hermit's cabin, hermit's shack. And that's where I stayed when I worked up at Pānau.

CL: The hermit's shack?

KR: Yeah.

CL: How come they call it that?

KR: Well they had this Korean guy. He worked for Stone. And he lived up there by himself. His name was Akoni. But then he wasn't there when I was up there. Before that he had gotten sick so he went back. He died not too long after that.

MR: The family's property extended from where?

KR: Our family? Our family estate ran from Poupou, from the sea all the way up to Poupou uka. That's above Royal Gardens.

MR: We still have, at one time or other had 33 point some acres within Royal Gardens. So when Inaba bought that property out, somehow or other when they divided, subdivided, we wound up with only 27 point some acres. Whatever happened to the rest I don't know.

CL: You know I think I've tried to figure that out before. It seems like the acreage seems different at times, different papers I looked at. So when from like 33½ to 20...

MR: Right, 27 I think and point something. That's what we're paying on now. We still pay on that property. I have the records inside to it.

KR: That's so many years back, I'm kinda gettin absent-minded now.

CL: Of course. That happens all of us.

So what about, if I could take you back to the time before you joined the triple C. Did you ever come into the Park area for fishing in those days?

KR: Before I worked for the Park I worked for the triple C, I worked 2½ or 3 years I worked for the CCC Camp.

CL: But before that, did you ever come into the Park, down to `uua in there.

KR: Yeah, with my mother. We used to go down to `uua. We used to pick `opihi down there. We used to go fishing down there. But that wasn't too often. But then I was familiar with the place then.

CL: And just you and your mother would come or did you come with other folks?

KR: Mostly my mother and I, because no job at the time. And we used to go pick `opihi and sell `opihi. Poke the `opihi and sell it. It's \$15, \$20 a gallon.

MR: This here is the genealogy. You can look at that. I'm three-fourths Hawaiian and I'm Norwegian. But my parents moved to Salt Lake to go to the Temple because there was no Temple here. We're Mormons. They went to Utah.

CL: Your parents came from this island?

MR: My dad from Maui, my mother was from Molokai. She was full blooded Hawaiian but my dad was half. So I came back here. So I'm more Hawaiian than Hawaiian. But that's why I wanted to get the genealogy of the family, for the land purposes at Kalapana. We had a lot of problems.

KR: We had couple hundred of acres of land down there that's undivided. And now with the lava flow over it, it's really in bad condition right now.

MR: We still pay taxes on it but like I said, this is the 27th.

CL: So is it just that upper parcel that you folks still own?

MR: No, we own

KR: Central part and the lower part. In fact the State condemned the hundred and thirty acres yeah?

MR: 200. We had 300 and something out of Poupou, where the National Park is, and they condemned 200. They gave us back 144 acres which we have.

KR: Condemnation from the State. At that time the Federal Government couldn't do any condemnation.

MR: The Territory condemned it and then they turned it over to the National Park.

KR: The Waha`ula area, all of that, yeah.

CL: That area, what did you folks call that? Did you just call that Poupou kai?

KR: Poupou kai, Poupou uka.

CL: Yeah. Was there any small names along the coast that you used.

KR: There's Ka`ili`ili, Kamoamoā. Our place where our home was was K_. From K_ went out to Poupou.

MR: Before that time, where the Stone's place was. You know, where the water tank was.

KR: Lae`apuki, Kamoamoā, Lae`apuki, then went down to Ka`ena, Kealakomo, Kahue, `Āpua, Keahou, Halapē.

CL: Let me ask you about some smaller names. You know the name `Aikua?

KR: `Aikua, yeah.

CL: And what about Kamoamoā. Did you ever hear the name Lehua?

KR: Lehua? No.

CL: What about Lelekawa?

KR: That's something new to me.

CL: Supposed to be a sea arch where people jumped into the ocean. Well, I don't know if they always did but Dwight was telling me that sometimes kids jumping in there. Right near the old village.

KR: The Kapa`ahu area?

CL: No, by Kamoamoā.

MR: Dwight Hamilton, he saw them jumping in the ocean there?

KR: I don't know. Maybe did but. Cause the coast, it's a pretty rugged coast over there. I don't remember. Not unless he means down at Kamoamoā. There's sort of an arch like but it's not high, it's shallow, it's a lower arch.

CL: I think that's probably...

KR: That's the one he was talking about. Yeah, they can jump in there-- when it's calm though. When it's rough you cannot do it. But

I've never seen anybody jumping there. He say he did, well he must have seen em.

CL: Well maybe he just was saying the name. Maybe because the name means to jump in. Maybe that was it.

KR: Well, there's a lot of visitors around here too and people don't have to be families in the area. Outsiders can be doing the same things themselves.

CL: So do you remember anybody doing moi fishing at Kamoamoa?

KR: Oh yeah. My uncle Kaipo. He was an old time Hawaiian fisherman. He's the type if he's getting ready to go fishing and you ask him where he's going and he turns around and goes home. He cusses you, he goes home. He doesn't want anybody to ask him where he's going or what he going to do. Old Hawaiian custom.

MR: Because he'd never catch the fish. But it happened, and so that's why he would never. If anybody ever asked him where he was going oh boy he swear at them in Hawaiian. Lapu wale. He was a character.

CL: Do you know the places where he went?

KR: Yeah. From in front of out home, little bit up on the upside was poho moi, we had about one, two, we had about three poho mois over there.

CL: For throw net?

KR: No, mostly pole because it's cliff. Mostly bamboo. But that, before you get to Kamoamoa there was one place where you can throw net. There was a lapa over there, a lapa, a flat area.

CL: Same as papa?

KR: Yeah papa, the samething. But there was a couple places where you can throw net but the ocean had to be real calm because you know how big the waves are over there. So they gotta be at the right time when the waves is not too high and the tide is low, go down to it's lowest tide and you can go throw net. But not all the time. But for poling yes, you can go poling because it's high. Yeah, old man Kaipo, uncle Kaipo, he used to go moi catching all the time. All the time he'd come back with moi.

MR: Uncle Oulu didn't fish there?

KR: No. Uncle Oulu didn't fish too much. He went hunting most the time. Uncle Kaipo did the fishing.

CL: So that papa you were talking about, before Kamoamoa, did it have a name?

KR: (Sighs) I don't know. I haven't heard. Maybe there is a name, maybe I didn't pay any attention to it. Beciase there's, in the area where they do something, where's it's plentiful, they give a certain name to the place, yeah. But I don't remember all the names.

CL: But it's on the other side of Ka`ili`ili and `Aikua? On the far side?

KR: Ka`ili`ili, that's right below Waha`ula. There was couple of places over there that you could throw nets but I don't know whether there's any other name for that place there. Did somebody give you a name for that?

CL: The only other name that I know is `Aikua.

KR: Okay, `Aikua is on the pali.

CL: So before that.

KR: Before that was Ka`ili`ili.

CL: So this place is for, this poho moi you were talking about, are more towards Ka`ili`ili?

KR: Yeah and going to Kamoamo, know where the... you pass Waha`ula on the road and the road comes close to the ocean then goes, kinda go back. You know where, back and it goes back into Kamoamo? Well that area where the road is close to the beach, that's a poho moi, around that area there. I remember that. And I remember where we live at Ki, there was a poho moi over there also but that was pali. But the family used to go down there with poles, catch moi. Because in fact the family that was there, the main fish that they wanted most the time is moi. That's the important fish. When you can catch moi you're a good fisherman.

MR: Why is that, the meat was sweet? Was good meat?

KR: Moi was good eating.

MR: The bone, they didn't have too many small bones in it.

KR: Well, not too much. But the meat was sweet and...

MR: Was white fish?

KR: White fish, yeah. Good tasting fish. `Ono, very `ono.

CL: Yeah, everybody talks about moi.

KR: Yeah, it's a good tasting fish.

MR: Not everyone could catch it. I remember them saying, once the fish drops from the line, the fish are gone. No more. If you're

bringing it up and it drops back in the water, you can't catch any more.

KR: Yeah. They all take off. Otherwise, if you can catch em, bring em up fast without disturbing too much of the water, you can catch a lot. But if you drop one, the whole flock takes off. And that's true you know. Yeah. I've seen it happen.

CL: Let's see. I'm going to try to get this map out. If it wasn't covered with lava we could go down and look at it. Kī is here. So there's poho moi there, that you poled for, and then let's see, Ka`ili`ili must be around in here.

KR: This is where they build a subdivision in there. Kupapa`u Point here. Waha`ula here. This is Poupou. We call it Poupou kai. There's where our property lies, from here all the way up here.

CL: So from Ki, where would you say the next poho moi is that you know about?

KR: Well there's one right in the back here.

CL: Oh okay, on the east side [of the canoe landing].

KR: And right inside here by what's his name, the one we were talking about, he seen the divers. What's his name. (Dwight) Dwight has a property down here. Yeah, right down the beach here.

CL: Oh, in that subdivision.

KR: And there's a poho in there too.

CL: That's for poling I guess, yeah?

KR: Yeah. And by Queen's Bath about here somewhere, there's a pond in here.

CL: Wai`a`ea?

KR: Wai`a`ea, right. And before you get to Wai`a`ea, about here, there's a poho moi over there, there was a poho moi over there. Kupupa`u Point, about here somewhere [there's another poho moi--west of Kupupa`u]

Side B

KR: All the way down along the coast, where there's really a lot of moi down in Keahou. Oh that place is loaded with moi.

CL: You know, I think Sam Kaawaloa, one time I was at `Āpua with him and he said there was a poho moi there that he used to use. I think for throw net.

KR: Yeah but at Keauhou lots of mois, lots of pohos over there because it goes in and the water is shallow but not really that shallow. And it's white water all the time. And that's where they like to stay in the white water. And I've seen a lot of moi down there, plenty. I've see at least five or six poho within that Keauhou area.

CL: Within the bay area. You're talking about before it sunk, yeah?. Because I think it sunk in '75, '74?

KR: About that time, yeah. How's those coconut trees now at Halapē? Are they all dead now?

CL: I saw some, I saw some still alive. Oh you mean the ones out in the water. The ones in the water I think are gone. I don't even see the trunks.

KR: I haven't been down there for years so I don't know what the...

MR: He planted all those trees.

CL: The old ones. Yeah. No I think they're gone because I've read about the trunks in the water. But when I was down there, maybe two years ago, I didn't see, I didn't notice.

KR: Yeah, when I worked CCC Camp we planted those coconut trees there.

MR: It was nice down there at that time, beautiful. For eight years we picked `opihi. That's how we made our living. We'd go every new moon and full moon. Twice a month.

KR: We spent most of our time down in Kahue. We had a little camp down in Kahue, before you get the goat corral?

CL: Yeah, I heard about that. There was a like a sort of a hut.

MR: It's just a wall then we put the camp...

KR: Stone wall. And we brought some galvanized roofing down there, some wood and made a little shed. About 12 X 15 maybe. Something like that.

MR: We were the only ones that went, us and Pe`a. Pe`a used to go. And he used to hate to see us down there because he knew there was no `opihi.

CL: No place for him. Or no `opihi. Yeah.

MR: We had picked it all. He was quite a character. But it was a good life. Hard life.

KR: We'e go down, on our way down we'd see goat, shoot one, take em down the beach, clean em all up, salt em up, next day dry em out on the pāhoehoe. By the time we ready to go home the meat is all dried.

MR: We'd get salt. Where'd we get the salt at?

KR: We used to get down at `Āpua. There was salt bed down there.

CL: Yeah. I think I saw those.

KR: We used to pick salt over there.

MR: Bring bags of salt back, fine salt, beautiful salt.

CL: I looked but the time I was there there was no more salt. It was wet.

KR: It has to be a good dry weather and no big waves. Because the waves come in they bring in fresh water and it dissolves the salt. Actually what happens, the water is only about this thick, in the little pools there. And when the sun evaporates it, then that's where the salt is.

MR: You have to pick it just the right time. We knew just the time that the salt was there, we'd always get the salt.

KR: Sometime we'd take about 20, 30 pounds of salt. All depends on the condition of the weather. Yeah we had lot of salt down there. We didn't have to worry about salt.

CL: So did you folks leave anything in that house down there?

KR: Yeah, we used to leave our blanket rolls and things like that.

MR: Somebody else went down there would use it.

KR: The family would use it. They would leave some food down there. They'd use it and they'd tell us then next time we go down there we'd take, replace it. Sometimes some people go down there and take the food and they don't tell you and you go down there and you don't have it.

MR: The only ones that went down was Sam Konday. Konday used to go down.

CL: Who's Konday?

KR: Willie Kaawaloa's father.

MR: And Pe`a. But we were always there.

KR: We used to go down twice a month.

MR: Sometimes his mother would go down by herself.

KR: You know my mother, she used to go down there by herself. She'd go with a mule, she'd pick her `opihi, she'd stay about three days, four days, she'd get about three or four gallons. She'd come home. And

you know one time what she did, she was down in Kahue, she was picking `opihi and the mule ran away. And the mule came home. And she walked all the way from Kahue back to Kī, got the mule, went back, pick up her `opihi and came back again. You know, my mother, she could shoe horses. She pack her own on the pack saddle, load the animals up, tie em down so it won't fall. But she was quite a lady. And she'd go down by herself. She'd stay down there three or four days.

MR: Kaipō, he only has a quarter Hawaiian. Cause his mother, she was half. And of course the family, she had a hard time cause the family in those days, they didn't accept haoles.

KR: Oh we had a good life down there. What surprised me most was my wife. She's not familiar with that kind of living but she adapted to it very easy. But she enjoyed, she loved it down there. That's what made it so pleasant.

CL: Well, it's really nice down there. So when did you stop with the `opihi business?

MR: No you worked for the state and you were cleaning the Opihikao, Pohoiki Park. And then after that you went down under.

KR: Yeah, that's right. I got a job with the state, janitor, take care of Pohoiki Park. Oh that was rough job.

CL: About 1960 or somewhere in there?

KR: About '49. Yeah because '50 or '52 when I went down 'wetok.

MR: You went to 'wetok first.

KR: Somewhere's around there. I'm not too sure.

CL: So the `opihi business was in the '40's?

KR: Yeah.

MR: We came back in '42. We picked opihi up until '50.

KR: Cause I remember in '50 was when I went down to Eniwetok. That was so long ago I kinda forgot the dates now.

CL: Okay. Yeah, I don't blame you. It's hard. And you did so many things it's hard to keep em all straight.

MR: It was a hard life but we made it pleasant. We had a nice home. We built our own home. You can make it what you want. Either you can make it miserable or you can make it real nice. And so like I said, he used to work at the stevedore, and he used to bring damaged lumber home. So that's what we built our house with. If you look at our house, if you went outside it didn't look too good but when you went in the house I had it all fixed up because I sewed and everything. And my mother-in-law taught me how to weave. So I wove mats for the floor,

which you don't see today. And so our children had a good upbringing. That's from my training from my dad. My dad was a Norwegian-Hawaiian, he was very industrious. He always taught us. I guess it just rubbed off on us. Do things, carpenter work, whatever I could do. I wasn't one to sit around and do nothing.

CL: When you folks went down to pound `opihi, did you have your kids already?

MR: Oh yes. My mother-in-law took care. She took care of all them.

CL: Okay, so you'd go down there and you'd leave the kids with her.

KR: Yeah. My mama would take care. Mom lived with us all the time.

CL: Let me bring you back to these poho moi a little bit Kaipō cause I'm, most of the people today don't know it in earlier times. They only know it recent. Where did we stop? After you get to the Waha`ula side, did you know of any poho moi in there?

KR: At this point, Kupupa`u Point there was a poho moi over there. And.... Kamoamoā.

CL: Here's Kamoamoā. That's, you know that cave, Oloua? Some kind of fisherman's cave. I don't know exactly where that is. That was a kind of a guess.

KR: Komoamoā. I know after the [flow], well this is something new now. After the sand all got down to Kamoamoā, there used to be lot of moi over there then.

CL: Oh after the flow started.

KR: Yeah, after the flow started, there a lot of moi came in. But I don't know what happened after that. But the old poho moi is, I don't know where they all are but what I know is about five or six of em.

MR: When you were a ranger down there, what did you do then?

KR: Patrol the area.

CL: You were talking about this place where the road came close to the shore I think.

KR: Yeah there was a poho moi around here somewheres. This is where the papa.

CL: That's where the papa is.

KR: That's where it is.

CL: Where you can throw net.

KR: Umhum. But you can't throw it any old time though. You gotta go when the tide is low and the water is not too calm too. Cause they come in with the swell. You know when the wave breaks then they come in, eat little bit then the water goes out. They go out with the water. So you have to time your throw just at the right time.

MR: Where did mama used to catch the `ōhua, the little fishes.

KR: Oh that was up here. At Kī.

MR: No somewhere else in the Park she used to go out there at Kamoamoā side. Didn't we go down there at Kamoamoā. You remember we used to go and camp out there. Was it before we get to Kamoamoā? And then she used to catch `ōhua, the little manini, you know.

KR: `Ohua. That comes in seasons, the `ōhua. You know what the ohua is, eh? Those small little manini like. They come in seasons. There's some pohos outside here, I don't know exactly where it is. That was in Lae`apuki, where the windmill was, around there somewheres.

CL: Oh, okay, that's where there was some old house sites.

KR: Right. There's a house down there with some coconut trees around the area and some...

CL: The one that, Stone's house.

KR: Right. Where the windmill was you know. Just in the front of that somewhere there's an inlet like where when certain time the water comes in real smooth. When the `ōhua, see they come in schools and she goes with a big scoop net, catches em up, put em in the bag. She gets a whole bunch of em, she salts em up then she dries em out in the sun.

CL: That's the first time I heard about `ōhua being caught.

MR: Yeah that was a real, I used to admire my mother-in-law. I mean she just knew where the fish. She knew. So she taught her son. But she was good. Like I said, she knew just the time to go down and get them and then they would eat them right there.

KR: But mama used to dry it. Dry it and keep it in a container. And you know it's salted. She eats it, she takes some put em on the table there, she eats with the poi.

MR: But then she would eat them raw right from the ocean there. And I used to watch her.

KR: Small, small maninis, `ōhua they call it.

CL: So she just used a scoop net. She didn't have, sometimes

MR: She made her own net.

KR: Scoop nets and she'd...

CL: With the two handles.

KR: Yeah.

MR: She'd make her own, she'd go form a wire and sew her bag on there. Like I said, she did it herself. And then she just knew what to do.

CL: So it must have been real shallow.

KR: Yeah. They'd come in with small swells. They'd come in groups. You scoop up while you can.

MR: She knew just what side to go, so the fish wouldn't see her. I think that there's a way to go that the fish don't know that you're there. She knew how to do it. And then when they'd come, she'd watch the wave and when they come in she just scoop them right up.

CL: You have to do that early in the morning too I think.

KR: Yeah.

CL: Cause I heard they turn darker if you wait.

MR: Well they're not there.

CL: Oh they're not there.

MR: They're not there. Like I said she, it was an art.

KR: Mama was very out going. She knows all the herbs and things like that.

MR: Everybody called her Irish.

KR: Her father was Irish. Riley.

MR: And so Emma Kauhi she's half Irish too, so she and the cousin they're more outcasts you know. Haoles were not too cool in those days. I remember her with that `ōhua.

CL: So then I guess, Lae`apuki was, was that like the shallowest place along the shore here in this area? Cause it was mostly cliff eh?

KR: Yeah.

CL: What about at Kamoamoā? Could you get, was there a fairly a place where you could get down to the ocean and it was kinda shallow?

KR: Yeah. There was a, right where the, you know the stone wall by the beach? The stone wall down by the beach at Kamoamoā.

CL: I probably don't cause I was there but I didn't look carefully enough.

KR: Well right in front there's some shallow areas there. They got these small fishes comes in. But there's not to many places where you can throw a net. But sometimes people go and throw. All depends on the ocean too. The ocean is halfway decent where the swells are not one after another, you can throw net.

CL: At Kamoamo.

KR: Yeah.

MR: Where did Auntie Anna go to pick opihi, Ka`ili`ili? Auntie Anna. She would pick `opihī. I know she'd come from you know where the house is they'd go down by the iron gate where it is now and come back to Kī. That area there.

KR: Yeah she goes down to Ka`ili`ili come up the way up to the house, where our house was and then she'd go home.

MR: And that's where the big rocks were, I mean it was low. There was no cliff. She used to pick `opihī along that side there. Auntie Anna, that's Quihano. The mother.

CL: Oh yeah. Becky Pau's mother.

KR: She used to go pick `opihī all the time.

MR: Every morning she would go and

CL: For home use.

KR: Yeah, home use.

MR: There's mangos, I remember she'd always have a big bucket of mangos and she would be feeding the children the mangos. And she'd go out get `opihī, come home, feed them poi. I mean that was their staple. I mean of course coffee.

KR: Those days times were tough. You know times were tough those days too. But they managed. They never gone on welfare.

MR: They had their taro patch down here.

CL: Opihikao?

MR: Yeah. Didn't Tomas have a taro patch at Opihikao side? Tomas. Taro.

KR: Oh yeah. He planted taro. He had a taro patch down at, lets see now. You been down Opihikao area. You know where before you get to the store. There was a store by the railroad track.

CL: Well I didn't see the store I think.

KR: Where the railroad track crosses the road. They used to be a store right there. Right on that corner there. A little further up there was cane.

CL: Yeah, I remember where the cane was.

KR: Yeah, okay. Well when they stopped planting cane down there then the land was available and they used to lease the land out and Tomas leased about an acre I think. They used to plant taro. He had good taro over there.

MR: That's when auntie ___ had taro too eh. They all had taro within that area.

KR: Right. My uncle, David Konanui, he had taro patch up there too.

MR: Cause they had to have that in order to supplement their food. They had their fish and they had the `opihi and so the only thing that they bought was crackers, the saloon pilot. That and if they had any coffee then... we were, my dad was raised on pokiwai, was hot water and milk. They called it pokiwai. Pokiwai is water and sugar and milk. And this is what the old Hawaiians used to eat because they didn't have money to go to the store to buy things so they just lived very frugally from the ocean to the taro and if they could afford it, crackers. Or they'd make a kind of dumpling in hot water. They make the flour and put it, there's a name for it.

CL: Palaoa `ulika? Palaoa mokumoku?

MR: Palaoa something, like a dumpling.

CL: Yeah, I heard about it.

MR: And then they had goats. They milk the goats, put that in. And this was their food. It's so interesting to know the culture of the Hawaiians, how they lived, how they survived.

KR: The thing is down Kalapana used to get a lot of wild pigs over there too and goats. You see a lot of goats. They used to make goat drives before from up in the back of Waha`ula, Kealakomo, not Kealakomo, Lae`apuki. You know that pali over there, going up to P_nau. They used to drive from up there right down to Kupapa`u Point there. There used to be, Waiaka Pond, right around here there used to be a fence. They used to drive em through that fence there.

CL: You had like a gate in the fence.

KR: Yeah they drive it in.

CL: And was there like a corral?

KR: It's a goat corral they call it. They drive it, but that wasn't in the early days, it was in the later part. But there used to be so

many goats over there and they used to be a lot of wild donkeys too, and I see them chasing donkeys, driving goats all that.

CL: Is this when you were a kid yet?

KR: Yeah, I was still a kid yet.

CL: So who was it who, was there a guy who led those goat drives?

KR: Dan Kamelamela.

CL: Okay.

MR: Later on McKenzie.

KR: In the later years Gordon McKenzie. Was living at the Volcano area. Then he was doing all the driving, goat driving.

MR: They had to exterminate the goats because they were eating

CL: I had heard that, probably it was before Dan Kamelamela, about Peter Pe'a. Yeah leading goat drives. But that was probably a little bit earlier. That's Helen Lee Hong's father yeah.

KR: Oh, okay, yeah. Was his name Peter?

CL: Yeah, they must have another name.

KR: Or Kalama.

CL: Kalama was Gabriel.

KR: I didn't know his father's name was Peter. Well he used to drive. Yeah he was an original goat herder from up P_nau he used to drive it all the way down before. Yeah. But then after that Dan Kamalamela started goat drive. I remember Dan's drive but Peter before my time.

CL: So the time you remember when Dan Kamelamela was doing these drives, everybody helped I suppose yeah?

KR: Oh yeah. Oh yeah. Dan would bring his pots, cracker can, they go out. You know when they go on a drive they spend the night out so they can start the drive early in the morning. And they'd cook their food in a cracker can. And they had poi, just cowboy style of feeding and that's what they did.

MR: How many people drove with it?

KR: Oh about ten, fifteen, sometimes twenty. All depends. (MR: All from Kalapana?) Yeah, mostly Kalapana people.

MR: There was a lot of people down there at Kalapana at that time?

KR: Yeah, they come from Mokuhulu.

MR: Do you remember their names?

KR: Waipa, Edmund Kaawaloa and his family.

CL: Kaipo.

KR: Umhum. Also he'd get, even Gordon Mckenzie went down there to help him on the goat drive.

MR: But that was recent time. Was that way back?

KR: Yeah that was way back. Cause Dan used to drive a long time ago.

MR: But then McKenzie was younger than at that time yeah.

KR: Yeah. I think that's what started Gordon driving after that.

CL: I don't know his name. Is he from...

MR: Where was McKenzie from?

KR: Gordon Mckenzie is from Volcano I think. His father was the mailman. He used to pick up the mail and deliver it. You worked for him, Mckenzie.

MR: That was the one when we had when we were picking hau

Tape 2 side A

KR: You talking about Gordon's father?

MR: Yeah

KR: No.

MR: He was a Scotsman was he?

KR: Yeah, you remember him because you worked for him.

MR: He lived up there in the Park. Tell him some of the trails that you remember. Do you remember any of the trails that you, when you worked for the Park, when you were in like in Bird Park and all those areas there. Is there any trails in there or any areas that you remember when you used to work, walk up to Red Hill? When you had to go to the observatory up there, how did you travel. Did you walk or did you ride.

KR: On long treks we'd go on horseback.

MR: Tell me, what is it that you did?

KR: Well mostly the trail in the National Park we used to maintain it. We have regular trail crew, about four guys, four of us. We cut all the brush so make the trail wider so be passable....

MR: What were some of the names of the road, that you were on on the trail? Do you remember the names of the trail?

CL: There's one that I wondered about particularly. You know I've got this, did you ever meet Medeiros?

KR: Jesse?

CL: No, not Jesse. A.B. Medieros. And he must have done this in '42 he did this map. But maybe that was, maybe you didn't meet him.

KR: I don't know. All I know is Jesse Medeiros.

CL: Maybe that might be a son, I don't know. But he was one of the first guys who laid out trails and was looking at them in the Park. And he drew this map, which is pretty hard to figure out but one of the things that I wondered about is this one called Hermit's Trail. Did you have anything you called Hermit's Trail?

KR: Yeah. That's up at Pānau.

CL: Yeah. And is it because of that Korean guy?

KR: Yeah. Akoni. His house they called it Hermit's shack. That's above Pe'a's place.

CL: Yeah. Except it's funny because this is still Kahue here, Pānau must be over here. The trail must come some ways down.

KR: The trail goes up Pānau, it's on...

MR: When you went into Royal Garden, was it the first road that we went up that you were saying that you used to go up through there?

KR: No, we used to go up there when we had planted taro up there.

MR: Yeah but when you were working on the trails, the time that you worked ? up there.

KR: No. You know the old King's Highway they called it, was King's Trail from Kalapana all the way up from Makaopuhi. Okay. I used to maintain that trail from Kapa`ahu all the way up to Makaopuhi.

CL: That was an old trail right. That'd been there forever I suppose.

KR: Yeah. That's the old Hawaiian trail there.

MR: Why they called it King's Trail?

KR: I don't know why they called it King's Trail but

MR: Did the kings ever walk on that trail ?

KR: You know that trail, during the war the military used to drive up there.

CL: You drove along the trail? I have another, probably it's on here [1966 YSGS Kalapana Quad]. I think this is the one you mean. It starts from, well actually it starts from Kapa`ahu yeah? (KR: Right) They've got it coming along here, coming into Panau and then I guess I have to get the other map [1963 USGS Makaopuhi Quad]. And then here it comes up to Makaopuhi.

KR: Okay, that's the one. This now P_nau Nui. Okay. So it doesn't tie in on that.... This is Holei pali, okay tie in over there [King's Highway or Kalapana-Makaopuhi Trail]. That trail came from over here. This is makai trail now, the mauka trail here.

CL: This is the mauka trail here. The makai trail's down here.

KR: So there is Holei pali up here, then there's a trail that comes along there's a switchback, goes back and forth over here, tie in with this other trail up here. Right around here Holei pali. That's where we used to keep animals. We turn our animals loose down there. They go all the way down to Ka`ena, they drink water then they go up in the hill there and feed.

CL: Along they just take the trail down and up then.

KR: You know about that.

CL: No I didn't, no.

KR: Most of the people at Kalapana, they had horses and a mule, they turn em loose. They go down, there's a lot of feed over there, a lot of grass.

CL: Up on Holei pali.

KR: Holei pali, yeah. Then they'd come down here and drink water. Kaena, yeah. That's where they'd drink water.

CL: Oh yeah there's a waterhole down there yeah.

KR: There's waterhole there. Then they'd go back up here and spend--- about every two, three days. Then they go back down and drink water. And whenever we wanted our animals, we'd go up there and chase em down to Kahue, we drive em to the goat corral there.

CL: Oh, the goat corral at Kahue.

KR: Right. That's where we'd catch the animals there. And they got to a point that whenever we'd go up there to catch the animals, they'd just form a line and just go right down to the corral there.

CL: So you'd leave the animals there when you were working at Kahue pounding opihi or something?

KR: No, we'd leave em down there for months at a time.

CL: Oh, so you didn't have to feed em.

KR: Yeah, cause over there was all--I guess you remember over there before the lava covered up was all grassy area in the back there and that's all good feeding area that. We used to just turn our animals loose over there.

CL: Oh yeah, nobody ever told me about that before.

KR: On yeah. Quite a few animals over there. About fifteen, twenty animals for the people of Kalapana. They just turn the animals loose and they'd go up there and feed. Once in awhile go down to brackish waterhole and drink water and go back over there.

MR: What was Dan's son's name?

KR: Otto.

MR: No, the one that went down to get you when I was in the hospital.

KR: Oh, Kanaela.

MR: Kanaela, he used to go down a lot. Kanaela used to go down a lot to get his animals.

KR: He was the one that used to catch goats and sell it to the Filipinos all the time. You heard about that? Yeah, that's Kanaela.

CL: So that trail, that was an old Hawaiian trail too I guess, that switchback trail yeah?

KR: Yeah. It comes out to Holei, Na'ulu, Isn't it Na'ulu up there.

CL: Well Na'ulu is about here I think, isn't it. Cause it's over Kealakomo side.

KR: Right, Kealakomo side. What part of this trail here.

CL: This is the road but they were just constructing it when they made this dots. I guess the map's kinda old.

KR: Here where the animals used to feed.

CL: But the trail that you're talking about must have been farther east, more over toward Pu`uloa, not over by Na'ulu.

KR: Let's see now, where's Pānau? This is Pānau Nui. Okay, Pānau Nui, the trail from Kalapana, come all the way up here, come up to Makaopuhi right? Okay. Pu`uloa, that's where all the petroglyphs are.

This is where the, this is Ka`ena Point, this is where they come drink water. This is where they go all over up here. This is under constuction, this is the old map.

CL: Well maybe they did come down over.... Maybe the trail you're talking about is over here in Kealakomo.

KR: Yeah, about Kealakomo the trail was. This is Kealakomo? Okay. Right. And this is the, that's the road yeah.

CL: Cause I know there was a trail that came up through the middle of Kealakomo. Is that the one you're talking about?

KR: Yeah, that's the one because at Kealakomo the trail meets. Had this lower trail here and this upper trail here and they met at Kealakomo.

MR: We always took the upper trail when we went down to `Apua? We very seldom went on the ocean side.

KR: Yeah but they tied in together at Kealakomo shed, the one from Apua, not Apua but Ka`ena. At Kealakomo that's where both trails met.
MR: Cause Pe`a would usually go down on the ocean side and when we'd meet up there, he'd see us or we'd see him.

CL: Yeah, I've heard about that before and they don't show that on this map. I don't know why. I've heard people talking about that.

MR: What I'm trying to tell you though, when you used to up to Red Hill, I'd take you up to Bird Park and drop you off and you used to walk up to the summit. What was that road that you used to do? What was the name of those trails?

KR: Maunaloa Trail.

CL: That's the one still there?

KR: Yeah. It's still there. But you know there's a back entrance through the crater up at Maunaloa. You know from on the Saddle Road, where the weather station is? You now where the road that goes up to Maunakea. Come back on the main road, go back to Hilo about another mile.

CL: By Puuhuluhulu there.

KR: Puuhuluhulu. There's a road that goes and you go up and you can see where the station up there.

CL: Yeah, I took that road for a ways one time.

KR: Okay. From the weather station you can go up to the summit of Maunaloa. And I've driven up there a couple of time.

CL: Yeah I tried to get from there to Stainback one time. I don't know if you can do it or not but I didn't find it. I got lost.

KR: In fact one time I got stuck in the snow up there.

MR: All of those things, those trails that you went up, you travel all of that area up there. This is why Jim was saying he want to pick you brain because you know trails over there that nobody has gone on.

CL: Well the thing that I'd like to be able to figure out is which trails are old Hawaiian trails and which ones are new ones that the Park constructed.

KR: Well these are new trails. The old trails is the one that's from Bird Park all the way up. You know the end of, what do you call that area? Yeah above Bird Park where the road ends. Maunaloa Road yeah, Maunaloa Trail.

CL: Yeah, there's another....

KR: Yeah, there's another name, I can't think of it.

CL: Not Kīpuka kī.

KR: No. Kīpuka kī is way down.

CL: Well there's some names up there but I don't remember

KR: There's a shelf up there, then the trail starts from there going up.

MR: Did you walk that trail?

KR: I didn't. I rode on that trail. When I first went up the trail when I was with CCC Camp, we strung that telephone line. I worked on that.

CL: Weren't they building that trail too?

KR: No, the trail was there.

CL: Oh, the military had built it before I think.

KR: I don't know who built that trail but the trail was there and we put the posts up for the telephone line.

MR: Was this before the war or after the war.

KR: Oh before the war. When I was in the CC Camp at that time.

CL: So when you were in the CCC, were they doing goat drives. Were they involved in goat drives?

KR: Oh yeah. Yeah.

CL: So that was another stage of goat drives.

KR: That's when the original goat drives started I think, from there. That was before, I think those were the first goat drives with CCC boys.

CL: So did you go on them?

KR: Yeah.

CL: How far over did they start?

KR: Well from, they drop us off at, let's see now.

CL: I can help you with this. This [map of HVNP] doesn't go all the way to Kalapana but it's got

KR: It's mostly the Volcano area.

CL: Yeah, that's right. Starts with Hilina Pali over here

KR: Is that Hilina Pali?

CL: Yeah.

KR: Okay. And this is Apua. We used to drive it as far as Ka Pu`u `ula`ula, that's Red Hill up there.

CL: Oh, that's way over here yeah. You're talking about the west side of the Park? There's one over here, it's not shown, farther down I think.

KR: Kipuka, Keana Bihopa, I don't know about that place. Kipuka `ahiu.

MR: Where'd they drop you off at dad?

KR: At, you know Hilina Pali? You keep on going, there's a shed about three miles down the trail there. (CL: Pepeiao?) Pepeiao yeah. Down the Pepeiao area we started the drive. And we'd drive em all the way down to Keauhou fence. So that time the fence was down at Keauhou was all.

CL: That should be along the, I suppose it went all the way up to Shipman's ranch there.

KR: No, it went, there was a corral on top of Red Hill, above Hilinapali, the pali up there. What was that? Puu `Ula`ula.

CL: I don't remember a ulaula there. Not Puu kapukapu?

KR: I'm not too sure now about that.

CL: You talking about far out or down?

KR: This is Ainahou Ranch here. And where's that puu? Now this is the trail that goes down to

CL: Yeah this is the Hilinapali, well it's a road now I guess. Was even a road then probably yeah.

KR: Yeah, water and shelter. This is Devil's Throat. Oh that's Hilina Pali right? Okay. Hilina Pali. Where's Ainahou Ranch from here?

CL: Here's the ranch house.

KR: Apua, Keauhou. Where's the Hilina pali trail?

CL: That's here. It's going down like here.

KR: Okay. Water and shelter, this is...

CL: That's probably Kīpuka Nēnē I think there yeah. Doesn't have a name, doesn't show it but I think it's probably in there.

KR: Okay. Further down here is cone crater. They stay in that area, we used to drive the goats until came down to the Keauhou fence. Is this the Keauhou fence?

CL: Yeah I think it would be.

KR: There was a corral up here. That's where we drive it to.

CL: And then, after they were in the corral, what happened?

KR: Well we used to kill the goats. Until the Dan Kamelamela came in and he bought the goats. And he would sell it. He'd rope em off and tie em up and bring em to the Filipino camps and sell the goats. Then Gordon MacKenzie did the same thing too. But there was thousands and thousands of the goats over there. Lot of goats.

CL: So besides the CCC, was the Ainaho Ranch cowboys helping the drive too.

KR: No. Ainahou Ranch, Shipman closed it up long time ago. For a while he was raising orchids over there. But at that time, actually the place was closed. But then we used to drive from Ainahou Ranch, go beyond that down the pali. Then we'd park the car and walk down to the Halap_ from there. It's a short walk, only about four miles, four or five miles. Was a short way to get down to Halape.

CL: So, talking about your CCC time, you did that one drive up to, up to the corral around Kīpuka Nēnē I guess. But did you drive on this side of the Park too, on the other side of Ainahou?

KR: No. Dan Kamelamela did that. He used to drive em all the way down to Waha`ula side.

CL: In the same years you were doing the CCC drives?

KR: A little bit later years. Because when the National Park, when we drive, we used to kill all the goats. But when Dan or Gordon went on the drive, they used to sell the goats.

MR: Did they have a contract with the Park?

KR: I don't know whether they had a contract or just an agreement that but the important thing was to get rid of the goats.

MR: Who was superintendent at the time, Oberhansley?

KR: Oberhansley.

MR: They would be past his time because you were, he was not there during CCC time eh?

KR: During the CCC Camp time that was all kill the goats.

CL: I think Wingate was

KR: Wingate was. Yeah.

MR: That's when you were young, that's when ma and them used to go up there with Piilani and Victor and all of them. Cause Wingate and Piilani and all, they all good friends because Shipman, Val(?) was married to O.T. Shipman eh? Piilani's mother.

KR: Oh tutu Shipman, yeah.

MR: She was married to O.T. Shipman.

CL: Oh, the brother of

KR: W. H. Shipman.

MR: That's where Kaipō got his name, all of us.

KR: I was named after O.T. Shipman, Oliver T. Shipman.

MR: His mother and Gramma Shipman, they were all good friends.

CL: So this wife of O.T. Shipman

MR: She was Hawaiian, full blooded Hawaiian.

CL: She was related to Kalapana folks?

KR: I don't know. I don't think so. I never seen her down Kalapana side.

MR: Kaipō's mom, his mother. I don't know how they became friends. Well mom used to be in politics because she lived in Kurtistown. She had a home in Kurtistown so that's why she knew Shipman. Piilani

Victor, the Victor family and her mother was married to O.T. Shipman. So that's the connection there.

CL: I always wondered, you know, Wingate, I always wondered why he was so strong for the Kalapana Hawaiians. Was he married to a

MR: He married a Hawaiian.

KR: Well his first wife was a Caucasian, was haole girl. They had two boys yeah? Then they separated. He was fooling around with local girls. Then he got married to one. Who did he get married to now?

MR: I remember the wedding. This was in 1950 now, during that time.

CL: 1950 was when he got married.

MR: Well little bit before that because the volcano erupted down at Ka'u. And so we had been up there with Wingate and all. And he got married just around that time because he got married in town at the, where was that place that, had a big wedding.

KR: I can't remember where he got married but

MR: It was in a town somewhere. I don't know whether it was the Elk's Club or some hotel.

CL: Was it a Kalapana girl that he married to?

MR: No.

KR: Tam Sing, Tam Sing girl, Chinese/Hawaiian girl.

MR: Like I said, he was quite a gay blade. But his mother, they were all in the same circle.

KR: They were all good friends.

CL: I've seen some of the things he wrote and it was obvious that he had friends among the Kalapana folks.

KR: Well his favorite friends was the Hauanio's.

CL: With John Hauanio.

KR: John Hauanio. His father. His father used to work up there too.

CL: Oh. Pa'i?

KR: Pa'i, yeah. He used to work up, he was a caretaker up there.

CL: Oh yeah, actually I do know that because Ben said he lived up there.

MR: They had a house up there. So that's times when we were up there. Many parties.

Tape 2 Side B

KR: I forgot so many things too.

MR: He had such a good experience with the Park. All of the trails, he knew. When we went up there he would tell us all the distances and this and that and this trail is this. You know if only I would have had the insight to write everything that he told us it would be something for posterity. Pass it down to the children. Now he's kind of forgotten a lot of the things but he knows it but he just, you lose, just can't get the name.

CL: Kaipō, you know the goat drives on the east side of the Park, I don't know if somebody told me or I read it, I think I read it, about at one time people drove goats to Apua Point and then they would raise a fence up to hold them at the point. Did you ever hear about that?

KR: Apua Point?

CL: Yeah.

MR: They had that wall there you know dear. What was that big wall that they had?

KR: Big stone wall, stone wall to drive the goats in there.

CL: At Apua?

KR: No not Apua, Kealakomo, I mean Kahue.

CL: Kahue, yes.

MR: Apua Point there was a big fence. Cause I saw that. I mean I was there and I saw that big wall. As we used to go past Apua Point and they had this big stone wall around there.

KR: That's Kahue.

MR: There's one at Kahue and there was one at Apua. There was something at Apua because at Kahue when Bud went down with the people from the museum you know.

KR: Bishop Museum.

MR: Yeah, when they were there, when they flew down, they took a helicopter down. Our son

CL: Oh Emory folks.

MR: Yeah Emory. He used to stay with us at Kalapana. And then our son, I don't know where you were at the time, you were over at ? I think when Bud went down with them. They went to Kahulu. They stayed at Kahue. I remember Apua had something too. Remember, because that

was a one big point there at Apua. There was a wall there. You never did say just what it was. But Kahue, I know Kahue had that big wall but Apua had something too.

KR: That big wall at Kahue, that was built by Pe'a's father, the old Hawaiians built that. That's for their goat drives. Cause they used to hold goat drives long time ago.

CL: Probably the original Pe'a, Kahale Pe'a.

KR: Have you been down that side?

CL: Yeah, I saw that place.

KR: You seen that fence.

CL: It's really high.

KR: It's high. It's about eight feet high?

CL: Yeah. But I bet you had to have a pretty high wall for goats. They can jump, they can climb.

KR: Actually that's when the goat drives started, when they had that wall, built that wall there.

MR: But didn't they have homes over there? Didn't they have any homes down that area?

KR: Not that I know of.

MR: The homes were all up on top? (Kr: Pānau, yeah.) Then they just went down to fish?

KR: fish and hunt.

MR: Then they plant their taro up on top.

CL: So was there a corral that was used for those goat drives at Lae`apuki too? Maybe you didn't go on any of those drives on that side.

KR: No. Not that I know of Lae`apuki. But I know but they had a corral on, by Waha`ula, past Waha`ula. There was one over there. That's why, you know in the coconut grove, all that wire. That was the original goat corral there.

CL: On you folks land or.... (KR: Before that [west side of Waha`ula].) No, no, before that. That was just a wire one. That would hold the goats?

KR: On yeah. Hog wire.

CL: Oh yeah. They couldn't climb that I guess, could they.

KR: Oh no, the other wires, they go right through it. They use hog wire.

MR: When you chased goats up the mountain, Holei, did you go to Holei when we were going down to Kahue?

KR: Yeah. Holei, above Ka'ena.

MR: But before we go to Kahue, you would go and chase the goats. And then by the time we were on our way down and I would meet you down at the other point. You would come up the mountain and come down.

KR: Oh yeah. When we'd go down to the beach to pick opihi, on our way down we'd generally catch a goat, shoot a goat, take em down, clean em up and dry em. While we down there we dry the meat on the pāhoehoe. Cause down there a lot of sun. By the time we get ready to come home the meat is dry.

MR: What area did you go up and catch the goat? What was that area in there.

KR: Kealakomo. Mauka. Used to be a lot of goats up there. All that whole area used to be goats.

CL: Yeah, so the goats would come over how far east. They came into Kealakomo certainly. Did they come into Panau?

KR: Yeah, they had some up Panau. Wasn't too much up Panau area but they was some though. I remember that.

MR: As we'd come back from Kahue, and we come back and when we went to Halape and then we'd come back and because we'd come on this other side going back to Kahue, you used to chase goats up in that area. What area was that?

KR: Above Kahue?

MR: No. When we leave Halape we would go pick opihi at Halape and then we'd come back and hike back to Kahue. While we were coming back on the trail, you would go up the mountain. Sometimes you would see a goat and then you would go up and then I would meet you at Kahue. You'd go around and come down.

KR: Oh either I'd go out and shoot the darn thing or I'd

MR: What area was that? Do you know what area?

KR: Keaouhou. Because there was a fenceline over there.

CL: What kind of fence was that. Was that hog fence?

KR: Hog fence, all hog fence. There used to be lot of goat out there.

CL: So, let me ask you another question Kaipō. You know this name Wilipe`a? Did you ever hear that name for a place? No?

KR: I know of Kalama.

CL: No, no, not a person, a place.

KR: Oh, a place. Willie Pe'a. No. Have you heard a place Willie Pe'a?

MR: They called their place where they had, where was Pe'a's place?

CL: Well it's not there, it's on the coast. It's on these maps.

MR: We had one at the mountainside didn't he live in there?

CL: Oh he had a place there but the name is here on the map. It's around Lae`apuki side, around in there. But there's some argument about where it is.

KR: Ka lae is Lae`apuki, was before you get down to Lae`apuki. Was between Kamamoia and Lae`apuki right?

CL: Well actually Kamoamoia is over here and this is Lae`apuki, the house foundations and where the Stone's house was. I don't know why they called this, I don't know why. This is the village site here. So why they put Kalae`apuki up here...

KR: Willie Pe'a, is this where the coconut grove is?

CL: Well I don't know.

KR: Because when you past Kalae`apuki, you going down, there's a coconut grove over there. You remember? Yeah, John Hauanio planted that coconut grove there. And maybe covered up there or not but around this area but I don't know whether it's Willie Pe'a or what. That's as close as I can come to thinking about Willie Pe'a.

CL: Okay. Somebody else told me that wasn't where it is. That's why I'm Okay. I had something else to ask you. I forgot what it was.

KR: Lae`apuki, way up here. They got ? this is Lae`apuki see.

CL: There's some old house sites up in the mauka side of Kamoamoia. Did you ever see those, couple of little villages.

MR: We went up one place. You remember?

CL: They don't show them on this but I think they're

MR: You remember we went up. Where were we at when we went up the mountain and we saw all those house sites, where was that at? Was it in line with Kahue when we went up? Cause I know wasn't Lae`apuki, it was beyond that. And we went up and we saw all these house sites, we went up the mountain. Do you remember when we rode up there one day?

KR: We were on horseback?

MR: Yeah, yeah. We went up there and you pointed out these house sites. I don't know whether that was where Pe'a's place was or whether it was a different. But there were several and you were telling me that these different house sites were there but I don't know whether it was Pe'a's place or whether it was

KR: You know something, you know Jim Martin don't you? Better ask him because he's got em all sketched down where all the house sites were and things like that. He was telling me about some house sites I didn't know about. And he's a good guy to talk to.

CL: Yeah, I will. I talked to him about different stuff but I didn't talk to him about that.

KR: Yeah, you ask him because he's done a lot of research on all the old house sites and things like that.

CL: The reason I was asking was because Dwight said that he'd gone to a couple of little villages in here with Oulu Kononui one time. They came from Royal Gardens, the top of Royal Gardens and came in. And Olu said that that was Kalihi, he called that.

KR: Uncle Oulu?

CL: Yeah.

KR: He must know. Must be that because I'm not going to

CL: No, I just wondered if you knew anything about it. That was all.

MR: I'm still asking you what site that you and I went to when we saw all those things because that was the first time that I had ever seen those.

CL: Was it on the top of Holei pali?

KR: You say we went on horseback.

MR: Yes. We went up, I think we had gone up to look for goats at one time, that's one time I went with you. We were at Kahue and we went up to the mountain and we saw all these house sites. There was different houses. I think there was two or three of them there. And so you were pointing them out to me but I don't know just in what, I know we were out there cause we had to go back to our campsite. But you pointed those things, you know and it didn't mean very much to me at the time. I don't know whether it was Pe's's place that we had gone to because did Pe'a....

KR: Pe'a's place was within the forest. Must be some old Hawaiian homesites.

MR: Well that's what I'm saying, if you remember where it was, what area that we were in when we saw those house sites.

KR: You know, above Panau at Holei pali, going up there, going you know where the switchback is? There's some old home sites down there.

MR: Maybe it was Holei that we were at.

KR: Yeah, could be. I'm just thinking about that now. You can see where they had a water catchment. They had like a cistern and that's all on pāhoehoe. And they have like a flumelike, where the water comes this way, comes into this catchment and goes fills it up in there.

CL: How big the tank?

KR: The water catchment I would say, it narrows down to about three feet to the top is about fifteen, twenty feet wide. It's sloping this way here.

CL: Oh. Of rock or?

KR: Pahoehoe.

CL: Oh, okay.

KR: And you can see where they collected the water and some stone, I didn't know what it was but it was manmade but I really don't know it was. I think that was down at above Nā'ulu. You know on the road, the switchback, goes up before you get to the big switchback? That's Nā'ulu area. It's around there someplace.

CL: Below the pali or above the pali?

KR: Halfway up the pali. And it's pretty close to the road I think.

MR: No it wasn't too close to the road. No because it was up you could see way down. It was up on the mountain side you know, because you were pointing. It's the first time I had seen it.

KR: There's so many things I've forgotten.

CL: Well I think there's lots of sites on the top of the pali as you go along.

KR: Talk to Jim about those housesites. He's got a lot of them photographed and everything else. He's got em on record. When you get a chance go see Jim, talk to him because he's a nice guy to talk to.

CL: Yeah, he is. That's right.

MR: Tell me something. When they had the earthquake, a lot of the Kalapana people who were living up

CL: Oh you're talking about the 1868 earthquake?

MR: Yeah. See this is where they were living, up there before they moved to Kalapana side.

KR: Mostly the Pe'a family, the Waipa family.

MR: That was all, that's where they lived in that area there. So that's probably what we saw. I mean some of those house sites that they had but

KR: But this is out in the open though. There's no trees no nothing in the area.

MR: No, it's on the side of the mountain. I mean we went up the hill and then when the earthquake hit, I know there was a big wall somewhere. And then when the earthquake hit everybody had to run to get away from the area. That's when they moved toward Kalapana. That's what I understand.

KR: Oh you know one thing that you can ask Jim too, about the, they found a cave with petroglyphs on the wall, up at the, Naulu.

CL: Yeah. Dwight was along on that I think.

KR: You know about that. But I haven't seen that.

CL: I wanted to ask you a little bit about the coast of Kealakomo area. Was it all cliff? Cause you know today kids, I mean I guess that Maunaulu flow came in and changed it. So I'm curious about what it was like before that flow.

KR: Kealakomo? Okay, between Kealakomo and Kahue there was one low spot. From Kaena to Kealakomo was all pali. From [there] to Kahue has a low spot there where the.... The way it used to break on the outside and the water was coming, there'd be a puddle, a pond over there. That was a low spot down there then.

CL: Could you do any fishing there?

KR: Yeah. You can go poling over there and down to Kahue was, between Kealakoma and Kahue there was the one low spot I was telling you about and from. When you get in front of Kahue in front of the goat corral, there's another low spot where all the pebbles are.

CL: Yeah, that one I saw. I think it's still there.

KR: Okay. And from Kahue on to `Apua is all pali.

CL: Okay, yeah. One of the things I've not been able to figure. I can't understand why at the coast, cause there was all those house foundations, yeah, and I can't understand why they were there if you couldn't fish there.

KR: I don't know. I don't know why but well they can go down Ka`ena and fish which is about a mile away and they could go to Kahue and

fish, which is about half a mile away but all pole fishing though and no place for throwing net except

MR: Didn't you throw net in Apua? We used to get

KR: Oh Apua, yeah. Apua's a good place to throw net because it is all flat down there.

MR: You used to pick limu kohu there. Beautiful.

CL: All along or one place.

KR: Just certain areas. The lower areas.

CL: Right at the bay, in there.

KR: Umhum. Nice long limu kohu down there.

MR: Once you picked, then it'd be rough.

KR: That's a Hawaiian belief that you pick the limu kohu, the ocean will be rough.

MR: So mama never picked limu until we were ready to go.

KR: That's why when we go down to pick up opihi, we don't touch the limu until we were ready to go home we pick our limu. But the limukohu was good limu.

CL: I don't think there's any there now.

KR: It's all covered over there now?

CL: It must be covered, yeah.

KR: I haven't been down there for a long time so I really don't know what the area is.

MR: We'll never see the area again.

KR: Unless Gene come pick us up in the helicopter and take us down there.

CL: You don't want to ride horse?

KR: There's no more horse trail

CL: Yeah there is. Yeah you can take the horse. We took the horse.

KR: Oh you did? Where is, Kealakomo is up by the lava flow there.

CL: Well no. I think it comes, I didn't see it but they told me it's, it comes close to Lae`apuki I think.

KR: Okay, Lae`apuki, yeah. So that means from Lae`apuki down to Kealakomo and `Āpua is no flow down there. Oh. That's why Tony them go down there all the time. All the time I thought the lava been down cover that area there. Cause you know that Kahue has a water hole down there.

CL: I've been told it does. I didn't see it.

KR: Yeah, nice waterhole. It's in a cave. It goes down and then go up. Yeah it's in a cave there. And it's all sand. At high tide the water comes up, when low tide it goes down, no water. Only when high tide ? the water is good water, not too much salt.

MR: He can drink the brackish water, I couldn't. I always had to drink water. He drank the brackish water.

CL: Is that cave close to the house where you stayed?

KR: Yeah, about hundred feet away.

MR: Where was the other well where the horses drank? That was on the trail going where? Going to Apua.

KR: Yeah, on the Apua side.

MR: That was right off the trail huh?

KR: Off the trail. High tide the water is brackish.

CL: At Apua. I think I saw that one. Has a coconut growing out of it now, close by. It's also in the ground down the hill.

KR: Get a coconut tree growing under there?

CL: Yeah.

KR: We used to keep em clean all the time before. And the shed is still there?

CL: Yeah. There's a wall. Maybe just a wall. Two sides or one side. Maybe two sides wall.

KR: Three side wall and the front side was open. Had the wooden floor and wooden wall.

CL: No more. Yeah, I don't know whether it's the same shed. Cause I saw pictures of that shed but it looks a little different so it might be a different one. Did you ever know of any water at Kealakomo?

KR: No. First time I heard of that. Why? Did somebody tell you there's water down there?

CL: One early report said there was brackish water in the cliff at Kealakomo, whatever that means.

KR: I don't know. Kealakomo get all pali. And further back at Keana, there's a lot of water down there, brackish water.

MR: Where was a hanau rock? What area?

KR: At our place. At our home.

MR: No, no but there was out there between, I know when we were picking opihi and there was a rock. You told me, this is a hanau rock because every now and then it would drop, the rocks would drop rocks. Where was it, at Kealakomo or was it near Apua between Kealakomo and Apua?

KR: Ummm. Can't remember that. I remember about the hanau rock but I don't know where it was. You see this rock, big rock that gave birth to little rocks? Yeah, we had one right in the back of our house at Ki. And big flat rocks standing up and going down and at the bottom, in the ground you see little rocks about this big. They come out from that mother rock. That was something.

MR: This one out there when we, between Kealakomo and Apua, the this big rock and it had a little shelf, every now and then it would drop a rock down.

KR: That's a hanau rock they call em. I don't know any story about it at all but I've seen it.

[bit omitted about no flow between Kealakomo and Lae`apuki]

KR: You know that Kahue has a water hole down there, yeah?

CL: I've been told it does, I didn't see it.

KR: Yeah, I seen, nice water hole. It's in a cave. It goes down in it, it's in a cave there. And it's all sand. At high tide the water comes up. When low tide it goes down. No water. Only when high tide you can have. The water's good, not too much salt.

MR: He can drink the brackish water. I couldn't. I always had to take water. He drank the brackish water.

CL: Is that cave close to the house where you stayed?

KR: Yeah. Close to, about a hundred feet away.

MR: Where was the other well where the horses drank?

KR: `Apua side. Off the trail. At Apua.

CL: I think I saw that one. It has a coconut growing in it now. Also in the ground right?

KR: There's a coconut tree growing underneath there? We used to keep em clean all the time before. And the shed is still there?

CL: There's a wall.

KR: Three side wall, and the front side was open.

CL: Maybe that's right.

KR: Had a wooden floor and wooden wall.

CL: No more.

Did you ever know of any water at Kealakomo?

KR: No. I didn't. First time I heard of that. Why, did somebody tell you there's water down there?

CL: One early report said there's brackish water in the cliff, at Kealakomo, whatever that means.

KR: I don't know. Cause Kealakomo's all pali. Further back, at Ka`ena there's a lotta water down there. Brackish water.

MR: Where was the hanau rock? What area?

KR: At our place. At our home.

MR: No, no. But there was out there, between, I know where we were picking 'opihi, and there was a rock you had told me, this is a hanau rock. Because every now and then it would drop, the rock would drop rocks. Where was it--at Kealakomo, or was it near `Apua, between Kealakomo and `Apua.

KR: Umm. Can't remember that. Yeah I remember about the hanau rock, but I don't know where it was. You seen this big rock that give birth to the little rocks?

CL: I haven't seen it.

KR: We had one right in the back of our house at K_. Big flat rock, standin up and goin down. And at the bottom on the ground you see little rocks about this big, they come out from that mother rock. That was something.

MR: This one out there between Kealakomo and `Apua, this big rock and it had a little shelf, every now and then it would drop a rock down.

KR: Yeah, that's a hanau rock they call. I don't know any story about it at all, but I've seen it out there.

[tape ends]

after tape ended:

CL asked about Kekahuna drawing the ko`a Kū`ula at Kī (beside the old Roberts house). Kaipo said he never heard there was one there, but he

thinks Kekahuna and Kelsey would have been able to tell from the stone ruins. (He thought highly of them.)

Kaipo spoke of the old canoe ramp at Kī--it was really tricky, took about 10 people to hāpai wa`a, otherwise they used a block and tackle to haul to canoe up. When the canoe came in the paddlers jumped out into the space between the wa`a and the `ama. The ramp was about 6 feet wide.

He spoke of letting down the net, and then bringing it back into the canoe--the frame that held the net open at the top was made of four sticks that came apart so you could pull the net into the canoe.

Also a place to catch ulua at Kī.

Contents--Kaipo Roberts Interview 4

Tape 1

- pp. 1-3 work history:
 Eniwetok and Johnston Islands, early 40s (after CCC)
 HVNP and pounding `opihi, late 40s
 S. Pacific and Honolulu, early 50s
 forestry at Volcano, later 50s
- p. 4 hermit's shack at the Pe`a place--a Korean named Akoni
 pounding `opihi at `Apua as a child with his mother
- pp. 4-5 family property at Poupou
- pp. 5-6 place names
- pp. 6-9 moi fishing spots, catching moi, a desired fish
- pp. 9-12 Kaipo & Maisie's years pounding `opihi (1942-50), also
 Gabriel Pe`a, Kaipo's mother pounded; hard life those years
- p. 12 moi fishing again
- p. 13 catching `ohua w. scoopnet at Lae`apuki
- pp. 14-16 shoreline at Kamoamo
 Annie Quihano pounding `opihi, Tomas Quihano's taro patch at
 `Opihikao
- pp. 16-10 goats, corral near Kapa`ahu for drive--Dan Kamelamela and
 Gordon Mackenzie in charge

Tape 2

- pp. 21-23 Kealakomo mauka-makai trail/keeping horses on Hōlei pali
- pp. 24-25 Mauna Loa trail
- pp. 25-27 goat drives for CCC
- p. 28 Wingate, and Maria Roberts, Piilani Victor, Pa`i Hauanio
- pp. 33-34 water catchment and cistern at Nā`ulu
- pp. 35-26 coastline and water at Ka`ena--Kealakomo--`Āpua