

INTERVIEW # 2 JANUARY 17, 1988  
AT THE HOME OF FEDELIA SWEEZEY  
KALAPANA, HAWAII

E= Ehukai  
F= Fedelia

[After recapping the previous interview, we talk about the things they raised]

*Starts at 255 on side A*

- E: So in our last session you mentioned the fact that you raised vegetables of all kinds. Did you raise some live animals?
- F: Oh, yeah, we raised chickens. They used to run loose.
- E: Did you eat a lot of chicken?
- F: That was not an everyday dish, that. Just once in awhile.
- E: But that was from your farm?
- F: Yeah, we had eggs, like that.
- E: Did you have a fence or did the chickens just run loose?
- F: Yeah, just run loose....all over the place.
- E: Your father, you said he worked for the County....
- F: Before I was born, I guess.
- E: When you were here, he was always here?
- F: I remember he used to work. Before then, he used to go on the horse because no car that time.
- E: Did he have to go far away to work and maybe stay overnight or he came home every night?
- F: Oh, no, he always home, he never go away from here to work. He went for the day and he comes home.
- E: The reason why I asked is I know some people maybe went away to work for the week and then came home the weekend.
- F: Oh, he went all the way up to Pahoia sometimes and come home. had the old road that time.
- E: Was his job to maintain the road?
- F: Yeah.
- E: Were there other people that worked along with him?
- F: Had some but they all dead now.
- .....
- E: Do you remember if there were any serious natural disasters that occurred back then?
- F: No, nothing. Had, but nothing spectacular. Only the 1975 but I was up the Mainland. My door could'nt open. Had the earthquake. It affected the beaches. Today some places you

- F: cannot go where you used to go..... And then we had a tidal wave in ..... one house went by Black Sand Beach. It knocked down the fence...the stone wall... it covered the road.
- E: What is this area called?
- F: Kalapana... Kapa'au further up... that side is called Kaimu. Kimura came...you know Larry Kimura.. he wanted to know the places, so I took him to the beach. Our beach is laid down like this and here is a name...there is a name.....etc.
- E: It's basically one area but each place has a name?
- F: Yeah, each little section. Just can be like this you know (motioning small area) but it has a name.
- E: When did Larry come?
- F: About 2 years ago. He came with Maka'ai...he always calls him his uncle. His from Kona...he was very good friends with my mother. I showed them where to go. You can go up to the cliff and below there is a big rock with some kind of name, too.
- E: Did you ever go to Hakuma Cave?
- F: Yeah.Only once. I don't want to go again. The entrance is narrow and if you go further in it is wider. It is pitchdark in there. Hakuma Cave is in the back of the Catholic Church. It is on top and Canoe Landing is below. It is high tide, now so they swim. It is all rock now, I don't think the canoes can go, now.
- E: You said that the Army people used to go by your place to go to the Outpost.
- F: You know the outposts all had numbers. I think mine was #67.
- E: Were you given anything in return for letting the Army people on your property or because it was war time you just let them go.....How many outposts did they have in Kalapana?
- F: I think there was one here... one down by Kupapa'u...and one Opihikao.
- E: What did they have out there? When you say an outpost did they have some sort of structure?
- F: Yeah, a little structure. Maybe two of them stand guard out there...and they change every week or so.
- E: The whole island was covered with outposts?
- F: At different sections, maybe, so far I only know here. Probably the whole island.
- E: You said that is how you met your husband.
- F: Yeah. He used to by here to go to the outpost to check the boys.....He was the seargent.
- E: How was your courtship? Did he ask your parents if he could marry you?

- F: He asked my father. I wish I had a picture of him... I had but...my daughter get one...
- E: You said you were'nt married very long...that your husband died in the Korean War. You think he would have lived here had he lived on?
- F: Maybe....All depends on the jobs...
- E: Was he a lot older than you?
- F: Oh yeah.
- E: You said you were the first local girl probably to marry a service man. Can you think of anyone else who may have married a service person? In Kalapana...maybe around the same time or little bit after...
- F: Oh, there's one more...this Chinese girl....the one from AH Mu store. We used to hang out over there maybe Sundays...
- E: What was school like for you?
- F: I went to school, spoke English there but had to speak Hawaiian to my father at home.
- E: Was it easy for you to go back and forth from English to Hawaiian?
- F: You know those days, they did not speak good English...pidgin ...so it was easy... when my friends came to the home we not going speak Hawaiian...we speak pidgin.
- E; Did your father understand English?
- F: He understand the simple kind.....Back in those days we used to use that vine that grew... we took all the leaves off and used it like a rope to jump rope.
- E: What other kind of games did you have?
- F: You know you get on the back? You get on another person's back and another person is on someone's back...I forget what the name of the game...
- E: Did you ever hear of this game called 'alawea', sort of like bean bag?
- F: Yeah,, we used to play hop scotch, too.
- E: At school, did you have the same teacher for 4 years and then change the next 4 years?
- F: No, I had Mrs. Ho'opi'i...Anna Ho'opi'i..then I had the Browns ...I did not have Mrs. Goo Sum...she was a very good friend of my mother.....You know the Brown family? I had Mrs. Brown. You heard of Mrs. Ewaliko? And then...Matthews? I think Matthews was our last teacher before we went to Pahoa.
- E: At what grade did you go to Pahoa?
- F: I think it was seventh.
- E: How long had Kalapana School after you left here? When did it close?

- F: Maybe in late 60's...It came to about 4 or 5 teachers.
- E: Your children went to Kalapana School?
- F: Yes, most of them...In those days no had Kindergarten..only one daughter went Kindaergarten...Wait...my father died in 1962... I don't know if the school closed before that...or..
- E: Your father lived here until he was sick then...he was put in the hospital...He was a small man, yeah? [I am looking at a picture of F's father]
- F: Yeah, my kids get all the pictures...small man...but strong.
- E: Did all your children see your father?
- F: All but the last child... We used to go up the mountain to get mountain apple.We used to go with my dad's sister...
- E: Who was your Dad's sister?
- F: She married my mother's uncle.
- E: Your Dad's sister married your mother's Uncle?
- .....
- F: Like I told you certain seasons have ohua (baby manini)...
- E: How did you catch the ohua... with nets?
- F: Yeh...home made nets..
- E; Did you participate in getting the ohua?
- F: Yes..my father used to tell me to stand this certain spot.. We used to take this coconut leaves so the ohua won't run away. They cannot escape when you lay these coconut leaves.
- E: Where was the ohua? In open ocean or small ponds?
- F: In little kind ponds...sometimes you go when real low tide you don't have to catch them with the net because they all lying down. When there's little water you see them all in this little ponds...Before there's a time when they come in. My father knows...He knows when it is time to go get the ohua.
- E: Do you know how he knew?
- F: Well, sometimes in the evening, you know has this little shower..they say the ohua come in already...tomorrow morning we go. Another thing you can tell when the ohua in..the Hawaiian call that "pai"..you look by the mountain apple... you know they have flowers...when the flowers drop off... you see the little seeds...the little seeds are a sign that the ohua are in....Sometimes you find that on the beach... Hawaiians call that "hupēkoholā"...you know that blue thing that comes on the sand sometime....like bubbles..usually in April, I think.
- E: I don't even know if get any more.
- F: Yeah especially the white ones...Yeah the white ones..maybe few days in the pond and then they come black. The white ones taste better...

- E: When did you folks have running water?
- F: I think in the 70's.. They have electricity but I didn't take electricity.
- E: Did you used to cook on a wooden stove or over the fire?
- F: Oh, you know over the fire...you know they get 2 iron bars. *Tel Waken?*  
You put the lead then you put the pot.
- E: I bet you had to do a lot of scrubbing.
- F: Sometimes but most times we don't...no sense scrub...my mother used to go with the ashes...once in awhile she would scrub the pot with the ashes...
- E: And it would come off?
- F: Little bit...
- E: How did you cook taro?
- F: In a tub.. one pakini...we put bags on top and and sticks on the bottom with the taro separated by size in the pan...
- E: Did you pound the poi those days?
- F: After the taro cooked then we peel it with the big opihi (shell) we took off the skin of the taro...we never used knife..then you pound...my father had a good hand to pound...but me...kinda soft...my poi did not come out as good as my father's. It depends on the hand. The poi can come sour too..I don't pound too much...I used to give my portion to him then he make 'em good.
- E: The poi used to be pupu'u?
- F: Not my father's...maybe mine would be...but his...no...my father don't like pupu'u kine poi...
- E: You still have a poi board?
- F: I took it off...the termites got to it.
- E: What about the poi pounder?
- F: We have it...I took it all up there...cannot trust here...you know nowadays...I had my own little stone..
- E: Did your mother do any poi pounding?
- F: Yeh. Sometimes my father go work so she has to do all that. That's why I told you before I did not like to mix the flour in the hot water...We used to get ulu up the mountain...
- E: Did you folks used to mix the ulu with the poi?
- F: No...some people used to like ...but my father was strictly a taro poi eater..if taro...taro...ulu,...ulu ...but no mixing.
- .....
- E: Did you ever see your parents' parents?
- F: My real ones? I saw my real father but my mother died when I was ababy.

[At this point am shown a picture of real family]

E: Is this your real sister? Is she still living?

F: Yes it's my real sister...she died when I was a baby. She died when I was 2...

E: Your mother was part or pure Chinese?

F: Pure...You can tell by hat kind slant eyes.

E: Do you know what your father's last name was?

F: I think...Wong.

E: Are you part Hawaiian?

F: When I tell people I am pure Chinese...nobody believe...I used to see my father...I never did see my mother.

E: How did you happen to see your father?

F: When I was little...sometimes I used to see him in town.

E: Were you the only one that was adopted out?

F: Had 2 more girls...my mother died....

E: And you were the **youngest**?

F: No, I am the oldest. then had 2 more...she died...the last one.

E: You said that theparents that raised you found out about you....

F: Through relatives...

E: You always knew from baby time that you were adopted?

F: Oh, yeah...my mother always tell me. I was raised by the Hawaiians...you feel Hawaiian...you don't feel Chinese or whatever...

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at 2:00 m  
Side B → [Ended talking about my family and where I came from because  
Aunty wanted to know a little bit about Keanae]