Interview with Monty Richards 11/15/93

Contents

- p. 1 knows nothing about pu`u being culturally significant
- p. 1-2 b. 1929, came to Kahuā summers, moved to ranch 1956
- p. 2-4 family acquistion of Kahuā ranch (along w. Von Holts), run by partnership of 2 families
- --recently ranch split--Kahua ranch (Richards) and Ponoholo ranch (Von Holt); Kawaihae 1 leased from DHHL and now subleased to Jack Ramos [but tax map shows only a little land under Ponoholo]
- --lower part of Kahuā sold to Kohala Ranch subdivision c. 1970 (cattle on some of it belong to Kahuā and Ponoholo ranchs)
- p. 5-7 recent shifts in ranching, problems selling beef
 --grainfeeding began 10-15 years back due to mainland taste
 --ended 3 yrs. back/ now shippping calves to mainland for
 feeding (= 3rd world status)
- p. 8-10 Hawn. community nearby:
 - a) at Hoepa--Mauna Horeba chruch and houses of families of Iokepa, Awaa, Nauwahia, Hui (first two worked at Kahu \bar{a})
 - b) thinks Nauwahia ranched Kawaihae before 1921
 - c) names of Hawaiians at Kahuā ranch/ mostly lived at camp
- p. 10 his reln. w. Hawaiians

CL: I'd like to start by asking you about the puu. We talked over the phone a couple of days back and I'd like to ask first if you have anything to add that you know about Pu'u Lapalapa and the surrounding puu, Pu'u Pala, Pu'u Mala, and Pu'u Ahia. What you told me was that you'd been grazing them for about 50 years and that you don't know of any special cultural significance to them.

MR: That's correct. That's correct, there have been no one in the time that I've been here has ever asked permission to go on the top of any of the hills, Pu'u Honu, Pu'u Iki, Pu'u Lapalapa, Pu'u Mala or Pu'u Ahia. And I came back to the ranch, living on the ranch, in February of 1956. Have we found people up in those areas? The answer is "Yes." We've found people poaching, pigs that is. There have been some hikers that have been lost and I guess a few marijuana planters or pickers or both. But that's been the extent of people that we have seen who have not been ranch people or there with permission. I further reiterate, we have never granted permission to any individual of group to go on any of that land for cultural or religious celebrations.

CL: Do you know of anybody going through that area to gather Hawaiian plants or anything like that?

MR: The only gathering that has taken place to my knowledge is maile, around graduation and May Day. We reserve the maile on Kahu_'s one land strictly for the employees and owners only, but nobody else has been up there to my knowledge, with my knowledge and with my permission to gather any plants.

CL: Let me ask you also whether you know of any significance of Hawaiian activity on Lahikiola.

MR: I know of none. That's Parker Ranch ownership though so there's no reason I would necessarily know of everything that goes on. I have never heard that there is any significant--either sites or reasons for people to be up there.

CL: What I'd like to ask you first is some of your own history so that I have an idea of when you've been in Kohala and maybe you could start when you were born and whether you left and then came back, which you indicated you might have done.

MR: OK, I was born in Kohala September the 12th, 1929. And the first place I lived was Kahuā Ranch and moved, my parents moved to Honolulu when I was about two years of age. So I was raised in Honolulu. I used to come back here for summer vacations and at other times. And I started working for Kahuā, our ranch in Honolulu in December 15th of 1953. I worked in the Honolulu office, slaughter house, Oahu Ranch, did office work, booking work, and moved up here in February, the first part of February 1956. I've lived here ever since.

CL: So when you spent summers here, would it have been the whole summer?

MR: No, it'd be two or three weeks, that sort. And then you had an interruption with World War II where I certainly wasn't here from about 1942 through, I guess 1944. And I'm sure, I think I came up here in 1945 or so and then off and on.

CL: Do you know how your family came to buy Kahua?

MR: Ya. Very interesting story. Are you interested in it? an uncle of mine Atherton Richards decided that after spending a weekend on Molokai Ranch that having a ranch would be kind of a unique experience so let it be known to Hawaiian trust that if a ranch came up in the islands that he'd be interested in taking a look at it, so Kahuā came up. It was owned by Mr. Frank Woods and Mr. Frank Woods, well let me back up a moment. The lands of Kahu_ which the ahupua`a's of Kahua one, Kahua nui and Kahua lii and Waikā were owned by the Austin estate out of Boston. And the lease on them came up and, I've forgotten, 1928, in that area, 27,28, and Mr. Woods wasn't sure that he was going to in fact have the opportunity to release the lands because other people, he had heard that others were going to bid against him. While he was leasing from the Austins, he bought 50 acres which is where the But they did not connect to the government headquarters now sit. So to kind of cover his bets, so to speak, Makua, on the island of Oahu came up, that's Makua valley now that has got a lot of ordinance in it and there's a problem with. Anyway it was a ranch before and it had been leased by LL McCandless. heard of the McCandless estate and all, this is LL. So he outbid LL McCandless for Makua. LL McCandless figured, well allright, if you want to play that game, I'll play it too and he leased all the land of Kahu_ from the Austins. So here these guys kind of sat there, LL McCandless with a lot of land anyway, sore as hell, Frank Woods hadn't realized he had stepped into a buzz saw until it was too late, because he had no right of ingress or egress to his 50 acres of land, which is currently where you are sitting now So he had to do something and he was stuck. sir. And that's where I quess Frank Woods let Hawaiian trust know that he had to He had no alternative. And so at that time my uncle, sell Kahua. I guess my father and Mr. Ronald Von Holt were involved and with my grandparents and all they figured, well lets see if they can put something together. So they went to LL McCandless, or Atherton Richards and Von Holt did, and he, LL said, "Well look, so you young fellows want to get into ranching. Tell you what I'll do, if you will get back my lease for Makua, I will exchange my lease for Kahua for that at Makua. But at Makua I want nothing to have been changed in the house that's there. It's my house, I built it and I don't want anything missing. It's got to be as I walked out of it." So they agreed. So it came time for the change and they had done the paper work. Frank Woods had been paid, the cattle had been counted and all. LL McCandless walked through the house to insure that he was getting exactly what he was supposed to get, and lo and behold in the basement or in the downstairs, a toilet was missing. So he said, "Young fellows, I told you I wanted it the same way it was when I walked out and you There is a toilet missing and I expect a toilet said you would. to be there that fits the same footprint that currently is in the concrete." So the scoured Honolulu and they found the toilet, had it installed and so I tell you the purchase of Kahu_ Ranch by Von Holt and Richards hung on the ability to find a toilet to cover a concrete footprint. I don't know if this is the exact detail that you wanted, but now you got it. And then so as time went on, in 1932 I believe, the owners of Kahu_ Ranch limited were able to buy the fee from the Austin estate, and so they bought the fee for all three of those ahupua`as. At the same time, or in the early 30's, they leased the land from the Hawaiian Homes Commission, which is the land of Kawaihae 1, upon which those puus reside. And I'm not sure when we got the first lease but it was in the earlier middle 30's, it can

be looked up. It's public record.

CL: It's all one lease then.

MR: Kawaihae 1, that's correct. It goes all the way to the beach. At one time it included Kawaihae but as time has gone on Hawaiian Homes has taken back some and we sublease it to Jack Ramos right now. We hold the master lease for all of Kawaihae 1 except what the Hawaiian Homes Commission has taken back and then we sublease to Jack Ramos.

CL: He's a rancher?

MR: Yes he is. Does that give you some of the historical perspective?

CL: Ya. You know I've seen the name of Von Holt before. And I'm not sure, was he even living here?

MR: Yes, yes. He was doing...you mean young Pono Von Holt? OK, his father died in 1953, at the time I went to work for the ranch. And it was owned by the two families. And through a IRS reorganization, the ranches were split so that each are an economic unit, so that each family more of less has control of their own destiny, so to speak.

CL: So the two families were a partnership.

MR: That's correct. There was no acrimony in the split, by the way. This was not an adversarial operation.

CL: When I look at the tax maps and I see Kahua Ranch on there, is it now split between the two, what's on there?

MR: No, there's a Ponoholo Ranch also. It's Ponoholo Ranch and

Kahu_ Ranch.

CL: I think Von Holt goes back a long ways in this area doesn't he?

MR: No, he came up at this time. The Von Holts are long in the islands, I myself am fifth generation in the islands. I'm one of the Cook family. You know from Honolulu and the Von Holts were the same I think, they were in Honolulu. They're about the same degree of length of lineage, put it that way, within the State.

CL: That's maybe when they bought Kahua Ranch together, that was the first move to this island.

MR: That's correct;

CL: Did you ever hear anything about how Austins came by the Kahu_ahupua`a?

MR: I think he was a whaling captain and he bought those three pieces. I think I've seen an abstract on the land. They were not all, I'm not sure who he bought them from by us, but I assume from the, it goes back to some royalty. All the land goes back to the Mahele. As to where he was in the chain of title I'm sorry, I really don't know. But that's a matter of public record. It's all, by the way if that's what you really want to look at, these three lands were land courted then in the early 1930's also. So we have land court title to this land. It used to mean it was as good as gold and I don't know, I find the gold is tarnishing a little. But it's still the best title you can get I guess.

CL: I noticed the lower half of the two Kahuās is not part of Kahuā Ranch. Did you originally own that and then sell it off later?

MR: You mean Kohala Ranch? Kohala Ranch was sold by Kahuā Ranch. We have land below the road, ya that's Kahuā Ranch.

CL: Down toward the beach side

MR: That's Kohala Ranch. That was sold by Kahua Ranch about 20 or 30 years ago, it's got to be 25 years ago.

CL: And some of that turned into a subdivision.

MR: It is a subdivision. Kohala Ranch is not an operating ranch. The cattle on it are Kahua Ranch's cattle and Ponoholo Ranch's. It wasn't sold as somebody for cattle ranching. No no, it was sold as a subdivision.

CL: What about further up, where Puu Hue? Ranch used to be?

MR: It's still there. That's part of Parker Ranch.

CL: That's called Kohala Ranch too?

MR: No. Puu Hue.

CL: Would you, this is a big topic and I don't know how easily you can respond to it. I'm just curious about how ranching, if you look back on what you know of ranching before World War 11, and maybe the early years after World War 11, how different it seems from today.

I think different people do MR: Oh it's changed markedly. different things. To me agriculture is the industry, cattle are a commodity within the industry. Sugar is a commodity within the And I think that's been one of the weaknesses in Hawaiian agriculture in that we've looked upon our commodities as industries and therefore have not worked together. Therefore, one this place here, we have cattle, sheep, alternate energy, we raise carnations, we raise hydroponic lettuce. Again in attempt to kind of be Roman riders, so to speak, ride a lot of horses at the same time, hopefully going in the same direction. And that's the thing that's tough. But even that, you've seen the marketing of local beef come apart, you see all the weaned calves are being shipped to Canada, United States or Mexico. The State seems to think They look upon it as an export crop, which is very that's OK. foolish because, in my judgment, at least I assume they look at it that way, I don't mean to put words in anybody's mouth, because there's no value added. You are in third world status. the exportation of sugar was a third world operation. In other words, you never, and maybe economically it wouldn't have made any sense, I don't know, but to my knowledge nobody really looked at closing Crockett, moving it down here and saying, hey, everything comes out of here is little box and cubes and you know, made in Hawaii and all. Maybe it wouldn't have worked, I don't know, but I'm just saying that we're doing, we are exporting raw materials, visa vis the ply wood peeler logs out in the Northwest, they shipped them all to Japan, I'm talking 15 years ago, then they wondered why there was no ply wood industry in the Northwest United States while the ply wood's coming from Japan, they're paying too much money. Well, I give you three guesses folks, get back in history, just go back about three chapters and you'll see what happened. The same thing is happening here. At most we used to produce, well I changes, one is marketing. shouldn't say at most, but let me say within relatively recent years we used to produce only about 35% of the beef that was consummed within the State, so we were a beef deficit State. so now you export? You know, going back to the sugar statement, we couldn't eat all the sugar, I mean otherwise have no teeth, but in the cattle, we still have to import, two thirds, I mean two times of what we produce. So now we export it and to my best knowledge I believe we haven't given up eating beef. I mean McDonalds still doing land office job. So these are some of the things. I mean trying to step back, looking at a broad brush, I

see the real thunder clouds of problems.

CL: Did you ever, you never grain fed beef?

See now that's part of the problem because the MR: Yes we did. people wanted US Choice grade, and that's fine. And with the coming of more and more people from the continental United States who have acclimated themselves to elsewhere, the restaurants and tender beef, these are the things that happen. And it's expensive to do here and it made good economic sense, short term, short term, to export, to take the cattle to the feed. But you have a situation, in that era, and that wasn't very long ago, you didn't have the best agricultural lands available for other crops. Now you do. The question is, and I don't know whether it's in the realm of economics, should we be raising livestock feed on the lands of Oahu for instance. You can't build all the houses on all those thousands of acres in a twinkling of You've got Oahu's sugar going out, you've got Waialua, an eye. which I think is going to follow, you've got on this island, you've got Hamakua out, you've got Hilo coast out, you've got Kau which I'm afraid is soon to follow. What are we going to do with Nothing is ever 100% too late but the whole all this land? marketing structure is gone, the slaughter houses are closed. Somebody's going to have to put in a ton of money to bring all that stuff back to go compete. And, from the livestock end, what we've done is we have given up more and more, I don't like the word control necessarily, but operational authority of our own Case in point, the price of cattle is trending downward I'm using the word trending downward, I'm not saying we're in a steep, deep, deep decline, nationally, cause we're in the national game now folks, our cattle are up there. But yet you read in the paper where Matson is going up by three and a half percent in terms of freight. You never see freight going down. So sooner or later man, it's like when you put two trains on the same track, coming at each other, depending on how long the track in, you sit there and eat a nice lunch, but then you'd better get off the track just before they hit. And I don't know how far down the track they are but folks there's going to be a boom when the cattle people, when the cost of getting your animal to mainland, and this includes trucking and all the rest, is not going to return enough to you here, net, net, net to stay in business.

CL: You said that you were feeding, grain feeding. What years would that have been?

MR: That closed up about three years ago.

CL: When would it have started?

MR: Probably ten or fifteen years before that.

CL: Before that you were just selling range land.

MR: Grassland. That's right. But you see what changed a lot, you have to look at, is technology, refrigeration, the ability to bring, you know initially right after the war you had frozen stuff coming down, then the next thing was chilled. Your boats had to be faster, you had to be able to handle the product better. We went through those things, we learned it. So all of a sudden fresh products, and it's not just meat, it's all kinds of things.

CL: So stuff was coming from the mainland and you had to compete with that.

So now you're competing against that and being MR: That's right. a pocket market whereby if somebody bought, or made a bad buy on rounds, you could keep 'em up in, let's say this is Northern California, well we can ship those puppies to Southern California, depress the price like hell and then they're going to come back and fight us because they're going to do this, well we can ship to the Hawaiian Islands, all they can do is send us pineapples, So where you going to send it? I mean you can probably cover your cost to get to Hawaii because you really don't have In other words, you can get more than the that much competition. freight differential back and get top price. And that's true with all kinds of products, it's not just the beef. And I think you're going to find, many people are really happy about irradiation, many people are not happy about irradiation, well I don't know whether it's right or wrong, I don't know if you're eating radioactive, I don't know that, the point is it's coming. going to be able to do it for all kinds of products and it's supposed to, it'll arrive on the Hawaiian plate just as fresh as it does on the California plate. Let me tell you, what that's going to do, it hits refrigeration, there's certain things you're gonna probably always going to have to refrigerate, so it isn't gonna kill refrigeration, but what it's gonna do is shelf life, how's it's gonna to do, what's it's gonna do to local products Suppose the Mexicans irradiated pineapples and shipped them up, your fresh pines, what's that gonna do? Things are happening so fast, you can't rest on your laurels. To me, if God had meant laurels to be your backside he would have called your chomes laurels. But that's not the way it works as far as I understand it.

CL: Do you think you employ as many people on the ranch today as you would have, well let's say you put the two ranches together?

MR: No, the answer's no. What are we doing different here. Irrespective of the crop difference, we do artificial insemination with cattle here for quite a few, to get our genetic pool, takes technical knowledge. We are in intensive grazing now, electric fences which are cutting the places up considerably. Cattle are moved every day in different areas so they always go on fresh grass. Cattle are quieter now. We don't use as many horses, we use Japanese quarter horses which are motorcycles and people are

moving faster. What you hear going on in the background, almost all the people here carry radios so you're in constant communication with them. So if a person needs help, he doesn't have to come down here and you gotta look and find somebody and then the two guys go up. A pipe is broken, a person needs a part, can we get someone from the shop to come and get the part and go up. Again efficiency, you utilize the tools that are available to try to be more efficient. Efficiency is one thing, cost efficiency is something else. And that's where you weigh the cost. One of the most efficient tools we could have here is a helicopter, but it is not cost effective.

CL: Could you give me some rough idea of numbers, of maybe how many people you think worked on the ranch before the war and then how many now.

MR: At one time the most we ever had was about 45 or something, quite a few.

CL: That'd be before World War 2?

MR: Ya around in there, about that time. World War 2 you lost some people to the military, but a lot of folks were classified as, I guess essential industry. Cowboys were not, not too many were drafted. Because they were kept here because of the meat for the military. But as we move in to more and more other kinds of agriculture, as we move in to what we really, a cattle ranch is really a grass farm. People don't like to talk about it but your crop is grass. It's the harvesting machine that you sell. But you're really selling grass through the media of the harvesting machine.

CL: If you just look at the ranching operation, how many do you think are employed in that today?

MR: Right here? Maybe half a dozen. I mean we all do part of it but it isn't full time. Again it's efficiency but again it's land utilization and as we pick up more and more and look at different crops for the given area, we will probably increase employment. But the increased, the additional employee, has got to carry a lot larger load than they would have maybe 30 40 years ago.

CL: In terms of time or what they're taking care of?

MR: What they're taking care of. In other words, the capital value of what they're looking at, let me use that term, the capital value.

CL: If I ask you about who was working here, the Hawaiian community before World War 2, would that be something you feel you remember enough about?

MR: I probably know a lot of the names, I don't know if I can

remember all of them but around World War 2 time. You're reaching back 50 years.

CL: Well let's say around World War 11. How many of, if you had maybe 45 people working on the ranch, how many of those people would have been Hawaiian.

MR: Most of them.

CL: Were they permanant most of them?

MR: Oh ya. Up here our people [were pretty much permanent. Sometimes you'd get]

(begin side two) a situation where there's a separation for various reasons. But for the most part they were usually here.

CL: And was it a situation where parents and some of their children would stay and work. Were they living on the ranch?

MR: Most of them, many of them ya.

CL: I suspect that there might have been one settlement down on Kawaihae, at Kawaihae Uka. I've heard something about that.

MR: Ya, that would have been, I think I remember a couple of houses, there was a church down there. Mauna Horeba, h,o,r,e,b,a, but there's no "r" in th Hawaiian language so it's actually hoepa, h,o,e,p,a, is the name of the paddock but I guess they put a "b" in it when it came. Mauna Horeba Church.

CL: So how many houses do you think were there?

MR: Gee I don't know. There's Iokepa, Awaa, Nauwahia, got a place I don't remember if I ever saw that house. I think the Hui's had a house but I'm not sure...I guess it's Hui. Hui has one but I think Iokepa is there and I'm not sure.

CL: Did all those folks work on the ranch?

MR: You mean from there? No, I don't remember that. Actually we had Iokepa here, we've had the Awaas, the Awaas had one, they've worked here, they've worked at Parker Ranch, they've worked here, Nauwahia was way back. I think he may have ranched on that Hawaiian Homes land prior to 1921. I think that's when the Hawaiian Homes Act came into thing. But I think that was State land or Territorial land in those days. And probably administered by the Territory. Then there's, those are the names I can remember.

CL: Was there any other Hawaiian settlement close by?

MR: Not that I know of. That one and then Kahua here but Kahua was strictly, right behind here was where the men lived. The

homes were moved up there after World War 11. I mean it was a camp right behind here. Actually right behind the building, right out there.

CL: Now they've been moved.

MR: Well the houses are back up.

CL: I've heard that the church, Mauna Horeba Church is up here too.

MR: Ya, moved up here. Here and another small one in Kohala and they were joined together. They were falling down and this kept them alive, kept them useful.

CL: The other one came from Kohala. Could you tell me the names of some of the families that lived on the ranch and worked here?

MR: Hoopai, Kainoa, Lincoln, just like Abe. They were mostly Hawaiian, they were at least half Hawaiian. Pohaku, Rafael, Awala,

CL: That was Sam?

MR: Ya. Kaiamakini, John Kaiamakini, Charles Akina, Clem Kealiikuli, Mac Kahopii, Alex Akau, John Iokepa, Campbell Hui worked here at one time. Some of the summer kids, Kanehailua, there was Mitchell Kanehailua, but they didn't work very long People Keali`ikulis like the were two and three generations. Then there was John Kahaikapuna. There was Dick Alekoki. His real name was John Torres. There was Frank Chang. I buried a lot of these folks you know. That's the part that really hurts. Willie Hook, Bill Kawai,

CL: Do you remember anybody named Kealoha?

MR: I know there's Paul Kealoha from Kukaiau Ranch, `Umiko`a.

CL: I have a student named Kealoha.

MR: Maybe. I think we're almost finished.

CL: Should be. Are there any oldtimers from those days that you know of that are around?

MR: Most of those names that I gave you have gone on.

CL: Is there anybody you can think of that might have worked on the ranch?

MR: Silon Yamamoto over at the shop, he worked a little and then he...but not much longer than I have. I think he started in 1950 but then he, there was a hiatus in there. But he lives in Kohala.

He might be able to help you. S,i,l,o,n Yamamoto. But I don't know how many more names he would know.

CL: And he has a shop in...

MR: Here on the ranch, he works here.

CL: What kind of relations did you have with the Hawaiians who worked here, mostly business or did you...

MR: Oh I think have, from a personal standpoint? That's difficult to put a finger on. I think that you'd have to say it was business, I think you'd have to say that it was, well someone once remarked, Monty that you're the last of the patrons, you know the Because it's not just people, I mean we're Spanish approach. interested and concerned with people as people. Did you socialize a lot with them? The answer is no. When they would have a party you would be invited, but I have felt all along, and this is nothing to do with racial or anything, but if you work with people and you have the responsibility over them, familiarity breeds And you find a lot tighter organization of you're contempt. friendly, you help them, you do everything, but there's a certain The military has it and there's a reason for it and I'm afraid that I subscribe to it. So as best friends and do everything together, the answer is no. If they have a problem we're here to discuss it, we try to help it out, we do everything We're all equals. Some people have more responsible in that way. jobs that others do, that's the only difference. But somewhere along the line when you have to, when you have to say, OK this is what I want done, this is the way, you can't have it oh hey, come on we go drink a beer and figure out, it won't work. It won't work.

CL: When you stop being a student you start being a teacher.

MR: Absolutely. That's right.

CL: Do you feel that you, did you ever go to any of the Hawaiian churches?

MR: Ya Kawaihao. My grandfather used to go. But we have a church here. If there's services, go. Wakes are here, funerals, marriages, I'm there. You bet. My kids were all baptized in that church. Oh yeh, that's no problem. We have Christmas party it's for all the ranch employees. They all come down, we have gifts for all of them, the whole nine yards. Hey, that's what it's all about.

CL: Ya. I'm just trying to understand it a little bit because...

MR: OK hunting on the ranch for pigs, reserved for the employees and their guest period. Joe Blow wants to come ? goodbye, sorry can't see him. Joe Blow wants to with Sam Brown who works for the

ranch, fine, go.

CL: Is this church still functioning.

MR: No it's only as needed.

CL: So maybe just for funerals?

MR: Marriages. But there's no pastor that comes every week. It's fully set up. Got a pump organ, it's got hymnals, it's got everything, it's ready to go, it's flush toilet. Hey listen, we're up town, we got the whole nine yards.

CL: On the Puu Hue side, I know that you've told me that Parker is running it.

MR: They own it.

CL: You mentioned something about the Mock Sing family having interest in the land

MR: They worked here too. Akiu Mock Sing worked here also. He's since dead, he's since gone excuse me.

CL: So they have an interest in the whole ranch?

MR: Oh no, just in a little piece. They have some land in Kohala.

CL: I noticed that parcel where Lahikiola is.

MR: That's got Von Holt, Dorothy Von Holt owns a piece in there. Well who are you doing this for? Is this for the FAA or what? OK. You got a tough go when the Federal government trys to come in and the Hawaiian folks are saying this that and the other, I don't know what the Federal government is going to do. They spent a ton of money already.

CL: So there's a couple of grants there looks like where Lahikiola comes out.

MR: Well I'll show you. The one you're talking about is Lahikiola is here, the hill. Now Mock Sings do have a small piece in there below the road. It's probably this piece here that they have an interest in, Parker. Ponoholo has a lease (talking about stuff on the map)

CL: So, was there any Hawaiian settlements up in that direction?

MR: I don't know. At the time they were making the ditches, they were digging the Kahua ditch, they had a settlement up there, that was mostly Japanese, the ones who were digging the ditches. But Hawaiians, let's face it... Kehena, you've heard the name Kehena? you know what that means in Hawaiian? It's known as hell.

If you look it up in the book it's hell. And rain, wind, rain, rain, it's not pleasant country, the Hawaiians in a grass skirt, in a grass house with a grass raincoat, this isn't the greatest place. There's nothing up here for them. Wingless geese, yeah they could go after that but that's a long time ago.

CL: But there probably was people living at the Puu Hue Ranch.

MR: Probably Puu Hue or Puakea which is down further. think this place was really settled up here. Until people had a reason to be here. I don't know, they harvested wood I guess up here whether it was iliahi or not I don't know, who knows. But one time this was all forested. Did the cattle knock em all down, no, I don't know, but the cattle sure kept em down. That's the thing that I have a lot of fun with many of the people who think cattle are so terrible and all the rest of the stuff. Well I say Hey, fine, if you don't like them why don't go do something about Why don't you take it out on the person who brought em in. Kamehameha took em, so go and lay it on his statue if that's what But don't go blame us, go blame the guy that you want to do. accepted them. He could have stuck a spear in them a long time ago and the whole thing would have been over. Oh yeh, I have a lot of fun. You know it's the same way. You know hogs, you know pigs in the forest, it's the same story. Hawaiians brought em. Oh isn't it terrible all the Hawaiian birds. Fine, all the Who killed em? You know the flightless geese and extinct ones. all that, wasn't the white man. Hey things evolve. environmentalist i think. I like to keep things nice. But folks, some of us got to live here.

CL: On the other side of Kawaihae, that Hawaiian homes land that you leased, is it all Parker?

MR: You got the Kawaihae 2 which is Queen Emma. I think it's Queen's Hospital, Parker leases it.

CL: Do you know the Anna Ranch? Was that a Lindsey?

MR: Anna Perry Fiske. If you go back to the old tax map it was Lincoln, Lorenzo Lincoln, I think was one of the early names on the grant. She inherited it. She was a Lindsey.

CL: Cause I heard somebody talking about the Lindsey place.

MR: Anna I don't think, not good shape now. There's somebody who at one time could have given you a lot of information. You might check with the Main Street people in Waimea. Maybe they've got some people who are kamaaina for the area, can probably help you. OK. I'm fresh out of spit. I hope that helps you.