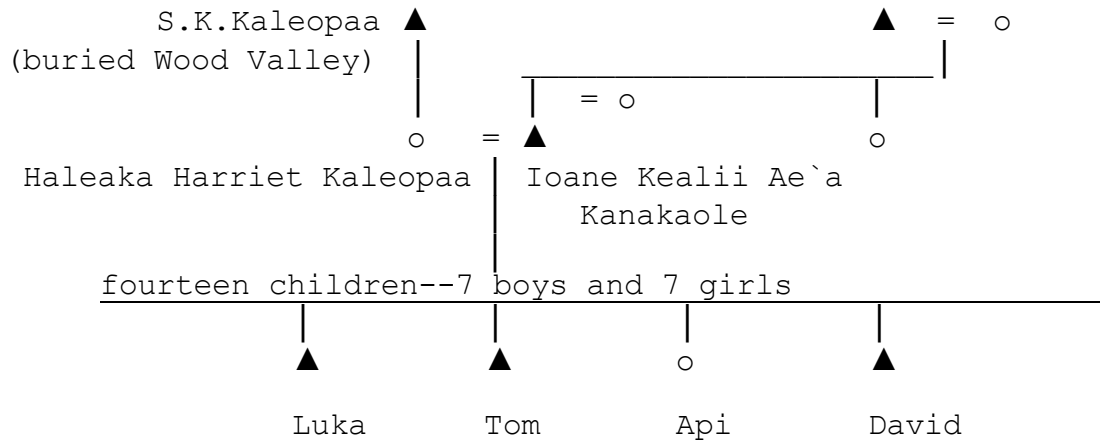


Interview with Api Oliveira 12/27/96

Material before recording started:



--F Ioane's father, mother, sister all killed in 1868 mudflow (buried) when father only 9 years old. They were gathering pulu and had a premonition of trouble. of trouble; told father Ioane to ride to Hilea and tell [his uncle] they were coming tomorrow, so he escaped the flow.

--Father had an earlier wife, a kauā. She killed all nine of her babies. Went crazy, wrapped up blankets and tried to nurse them. Api thinks she really loved her father and killed the babies so she wouldn't defile his offspring w. kauā blood.

--Family had twenty acres (at Wood Valley), now reduced to 4 acres. [was part of grant to Lupenui, according Leianuenue]

--Father's name Keali`i `Ae`a, means wandering ali`i. And it suits him, because he had an itchy foot. F Ioane worked for Shipman early on, before Monsarrat came in at Kapapala ranch; he moved around, met her mother in Puna when mother was 16; her mother's father was not very happy with Ioane as a husband for mother; mother came to Kapapala to get married at one of the houses there and got her father to do the ceremony (was a kahu); when he got to "I pronounce you man and wife," his father fell through the [rotten] floor; father said, "See, I told you he never liked me."

--Her mother's father a minister, took care of nine girls who ran away from home. Her mother lived w. him and went to school at Kalapana.

--Api's older brothers and sisters were all educated--the sisters went to Kohala seminary, two became nurses and a couple became schoolteachers, a couple just got married; two brothers went to Hilo Boarding School. But she and two youngest brothers only went

to school at Wood Valley (Kap_pala school--6 grades), then to Pahala School through 8th grade. They used to ride 2 miles, brothers on two horses and she on donkey.

--Family life: Her mother leased out the family land in Puna. Brothers raised pineapple, vegetables and taro over in Wood Valley, brought taro over here to pound poi, gave food to the people over here at ranch who didn't have. They were hungry because they only made \$20 a month.

Later Api said though that the cowboys got free meat, free poi (through Mr. Horita of Waipio) from the ranch, could get free milk from the dairy at 4 A.M. About 20 cowboys.

Her mother made pulu mattresses, rice-bag pillows. she washed laundry in the stream.

--Api was born 1916, married to Manuel Cordero Oliveira. He was born at Waiki`i & related to Cordero family there. They had 5 children, Manuel Keli`i (died), Norman Kaohai (died), Anthony Kalei (lives at Pahala), Majorie Kalakala (Lei's mother).

--started telling story of Mrs. Sumner, wife of manager, who told all the "sinful coloreds" to come up to the house for a religious service at 7 A.M. (She wanted all the Hawaiians to bring \$5 each to church. Her mom gave to them because they didn't have any money.) Just at that time a big flood came through the ranch and took her house, but spared the workers' houses.

Tape 1 side A

AO: And then she yells, and we were in Pahala then and then she screamed over the phone. And we could see the flood, from our house in Pahala we could see all over the ranch area was water, all washed out, all the water was going down that side. So I called up and then oh I called Mrs. Sumner and she, "Oh Manuel, you know, God is mean to me. My house is old. Please help me," she tell. "I tried to get these people to come up and to come to his church and to adore him and you know what he did? He sent that flood and it went right to our house. Give me a hand. Please Manuel come and help me." That was really something. And so and the people started to laugh you know. All them, they were all dressed up and they say, "You dress nicely." And poor things, half of them didn't have any clothes. So we had to come up and all in her driveway there was ten foot, the gulch had gone right through, just deep. So Manuel took almost a whole month to fill up. And even now, every once in a while, you see a hole going right down through as you walk up to the boss's house. It took the garage, it took the office, threw it on the fish pond and all her furniture was thrown out in the yard and everything.

CL: Who was the first manager that you remember?

AO: Monsarrat.

CL: Monsarrat was the first.

AO: Yeah.

CL: And then can you just tell me who they were?

AO: Monsarrat and then Sumner, Mr. and Mrs. Radford Sumner. And then after Sumner was Johnson, Wilhelm Johnson, we'll have Johnson in there and Sumner. And then after, but Mr. Johnson was the best. He did a lot of work on it and then Shutttauers.

CL: Shutttauers?

AO: Yeah, they're in Kona now. I don't know, Mr. and Mrs. Shutttauer. And after the Shutttauers were Hunters. That was the best boss because she used to drink a lot. Api you want to go to Kawaihae? Oh that's the whole ranch there. "You want to go to Kawaihae?" And I said, "Yeah, sure." And I said, "But you have to ask Manuel." So then Manuel said, "You better not drink, understand?" Then, she goes to Kawaihae, I better not, you have the thing on?

CL: I have the thing on. But you know, I can always take something out, so don't worry.

AO: We go to Kawaihae, she invites all this manager from Honakaa, Kona, all those places, to come down there, about four ladies. And then they drink. And after they drink they go to on the swimming thing. [bit omitted by request] But she was fun that Mrs. Hunter. And then after Mrs. Hunter was Liggett, Liggett. And then after Liggett was Serrao's. Is that six?

CL: More than six, seven.

LR: Serrao was the seventh.

CL: Then the one now. Is that Serrao.

AO: Then Parker Ranch took over for two years. But they were so afraid. They said the houses were haunted. And did you know they would not come down or go into the bathroom. And when we went up to clean the big house there were all that dirty dark prints on everything that they used, they threw it underneath the bed. They were dirty, that Waimea men. The cowboys were here for two years and they gave up and they went back. But they sure didn't take care of the houses. We used to have, our homes were all red and white and they painted it green. That's what Waimea has.

CL: Oh cause that's Parker's.

AO: Yeah, Parker Ranch. Oh yeah, we used to have red. And they [Parker Ranch men] used to say there was an old man that used to

come around and everything [walk around the porch--an `uhane, maybe Mr. Monsarratt].

LR: And your house next door was?

AO: Yeah, and up at the big house, I say yeah that was Mr. Monsarrat because you folks [Parker Ranch men] were dirty.

CL: They saw him or what?

AO: Yeah they saw him walking through. And then and they used to be so frightened.

JW: This house over here?

LR: That was the house we used to live in next door.

AO: I used to live there but now the manager's daughter lives there. I got demoted.

CL: So somebody else was originally in this house.

AO: Yeah. There were cowboys. One, two, three, four, five...seven, eight [houses.]

LR: seven?

AO: We had about twenty cowboys working regular every day and then

LR: Some of them were like duplexes, yeah Gramma.

AO: Yeah.

CL: For bachelors.

AO: Yeah bachelors and then you have mechanics and ? Then when the big drive came we almost had about hundred cowboys from all over. And Emma Stone used to come.

CL: I know her.

AO: She used to come with all the cousins and then we'd work up at the house, at the big house. What's the name, all those cousins down there. The Kaawaloas and the...

CL: O, Kaawaloas came?

AO: Kaawaloas used to live up here. Edmund.

CL: Oh is that right?

AO: Yeah the father.

CL: The one still alive?

AO: Yeah. Didn't he pass away.

CL: No. His wife did.

AO: Oh. What was his name?

CL: Agnes. But Edmund is still alive.

AO: Edmund, yeah, I know him. And Willy.

CL: And Willy.

LR: What was Samuel, the one work at the park?

CL: Sam [Kaawaloa]. He passed away.

LR: When she saw his face [Sam Kahookaulana] he was working she said, "Oh you look like somebody" she told him. Yeah? And he said that the grandfather or the father's name.

AO: The father used to work up here.

CL: The father of Sam?

AO: Sam. Well I don't know whether the grandfather or the father used to work, come up all the time. Sam. That's Emma Stone's cousin.

CL: Yeah, that's Sam [Kaawaloa]. Yeah, the one she's close to was Sam.

AO: Well they used to come up for every big drive, June, July.

LR: What about the kind, Hauanio, the one came up?

AO: Well the Pestanos, she's the sister married to a Pestano, John Pestano used to be the manager, I mean the supervisor. And then those Hauanio girls would come up. My brother went with one and my other brother went with the other.

CL: You know Elaine Hauanio?

AO: Is that...

CL: Her father was, used to work, used to come up here.

LR: Which is the one that they used to come?

AO: Hattie and Mary.

CL: Oh, Hauanio?

AO: And during the war, '42, we had girls during the war. Big drive, they used to come up and help. And then Mrs. Sumner had all this soldiers, in '42, to come up and dance and we had, and she hired all these girls to come up and help serve. And she had a bunch of these haole girls from Hilo come and entertain the soldiers. So everytime I send the girls out to take their tray of food, they never came back. And then I send the other girls, "You tell em to come back." Never come back. They all all eight went out and all went [and never came back]. When I went out to look they were dancing. And Mrs. Sumner say, "I don't need this. You have those coloreds go home." That's right. And she only gave 50¢, the cheap skate. 50¢ and sent all the girls out. "Why, why we have to go?" I said, "Because you had no business dancing with the soldiers." But the soldiers wanted to dance with them. And they never came back. They were dancing and all the haole girls were only standing.

LR: And the local girls was dancing.

AO: And the local girls were all dancing.

LR: Teddy Sumner was the son? Well he went marry his wife is hapa, Hawaiian haole right?

AO: Oh that's Margie.

LR: She never like Hawaiians, but that Teddy went marry somebody in Hawaii.

[bit omitted by request]

CL: So can you tell me your parents' names again?

AO: Alright. The kind is Haleaka [Kaaumoana] Harriet Kaleopa'a. And my dad's name is Ioane Keali'i `Ae`a Kanaka`ole. She used to, he told me he spelled Ae'a, was A-e-a. But wouldn't that be "wandering?"

LR: Yeah, wanderer.

AO: Yeah, he was a wanderer.

LR: Do you want some tea or coffee?

CL: Tea would be nice. Cold is fine.

AO: Then we used to have, we had 75 thousand acres, used to go from Punalu'u they had that [Kananelu] right down by Punalu'u we had where they used to do branding down there and Moa`ula side and all up to where the Volcano [is]. And as you pass the 34 mile post there's a road that goes in and that's going to the ranch [Ohaikea]. And they do branding and all, that's how they hired.

Every big drive they have the cowboys come over and help round up cattle and brand [every year]. It used to be so beautiful. The cattle used to come up there from way down Pahala coming up to here [the ranch house]. We used to have a corral over here [by the stable]. Yeah and the ladies used to all go down there [and sit on the stone wall]. And they'd throw these mountain oysters in the fire. They come out and they give it to you [they throw it on the stone wall] and you eat it.

LR: Gramma tell me everything [like that was] chicken. [But wasn't.]

CL: So what happened down at Punalu'u?

AO: No, right by Punalu'u this side is, you know that's where they were gonna try and build that what, the rocket space port. That used to be the ranch, branding place, we used to have a big corral.

CL: Oh not up here, down there.

AO: No, we had it all over. We had it down there, right in Pahala and right down below here and over there and up in the mountains. We had all those places. See that's why the cowboys had to work and drive in June and July.

CL: What do you call that place down by Punalu'u where they were at.

AO: Kananelu.

CL: Kananelu.

AO: See you go Kananelu, that's way down by Punalu'u where they were going to start that thing [the spaceport] but like I said, in 1868, you know when they had this big mud flow and everything, Kilauea was erupting then and she came over the thing and went flowing down to as far as, over down there. Has a big, they call it the big crack eh. I have a picture of, who was that man? My father took him down and they stayed down with Professor Jagger. They went down and they stayed two weeks there. He was trying to test the big crack. They went down and they stayed down there. [AO had a picture of the two of them cooking their food over the steam there.]

LR: Thurston. Wasn't that guy Thurston? I know Jagger took Thurston around too yeah.

AO: No but this was my, [your] grampa took down there while it was erupting.

LR: All on that crack area.

AO: That big flow. They call it the big crack.

CL: Well it was after the flow or during?

AO: It was after the flow he wanted to see the [big crack], it was still steaming and they used to cook their food over the steam, over the steam from the volcano. That's right below. The thing now is all covered with brush. As you turn in to go to Hilo, right down below there the big crack. We used to walk down there.

LR: Is this by Pu`u `ula`ula?

AO: Yeah. Right down, it goes right down to Kananelu. And that's where they were going to build that thing [spaceport]. And then we have one in Pahala, another corral for the branding.

CL: In Pahala.

AO: In Pahala down at the [rubbish dump area], right below Pahala. And that's where everybody used to go get the gourds. They bring all plenty but it seems that when Waimea came, they destroyed the whole thing. They took all the gourd. No more plants or nothing.

CL: They just grew wild?

AO: They just grew wild along the place there. The men used to take care. That's why we if when we needed something for dancing or anything, we used to go down there and get it.

CL: Oh, so people kind of, they grew wild and people took care of them.

AO: In the ranch property. And they when Waimea came in they just they destroyed almost everything, even the fence. They were so afraid to get down and open the gates that the cattle went right through the fence. You should see the, it's such a pity. All the fence are all down. The cattle went right through it. Then they never wanted to build the 100,000 gallon tank over in Maunaiwa because they said every time they went up there somebody would call, "what are you doing up here?" So they get scared.

JW: Do you know anything about that place Pu`u `ula`ula? I know there's some...

AO: Yeah but you know what, we weren't allowed to listen when the older people were talking. We have to go. The children were not allowed to come around. Even when they had parties in the hall, we had a hall up there, and then in the morning sometimes you know that Liliukalani, Kalakaua and Kapiolani used to come out. They were related to Mrs. Monsarrat. And they used to come out and they used to go in the hall and all the cowboys used to go there with

their wives. And we weren't allowed to go down. And if you wanted to hear them saying some jokes then we'd hide underneath the house.

CL: So you remember when the Kapapala part, below got taken over put into the park.

AO: When they took, when the park took over? It was in, not very long ago yeah?

CL: Yeah, not too long ago.

AO: Yeah. They still have it now. [The state leases to Mr. Cran.] Mr. Cran trying to have the lease for thirty years but they want to charge him with the water. And we have our own water head up here. And then it covers all this 75,000 acres. But they want to charge so I don't know. Mr. Cran said if they charge then he cannot stay here anymore. He can't afford.

CL: But that's the State right, the water commission. But you know the National Park

AO: Yeah, they already taken over yeah?

CL: Yeah they got from the State. But you remember when they took that for the National Park.

AO: In 46?

CL: Cause before then, before they took it, it was part of the ranch.

AO: Yeah. All part.

LR: I know because Grampa stopped going that side checking water and everything yeah. Cause before he would go both sides check. Seems like the water line ran from the mountain down, check the water line. Then he didn't go on the left side of the highway till you reach down by Pahala side. Then from Pahala side down then he would check the water line on that side.

AO: Seem like in the 50's yeah? Right after Sumner, around there.

CL: So you were ranching on that side until the 50's?

AO: Yeah, all the time

CL: What about, I need to look at my map a little bit. Do you think if I, maybe I'll roll a little bit of this out and see if it makes sense to you. You might have seen this map before. This is a map that's been around for a long time. So all of this is Kapapala here yeah. (looking at the map) So this part where Kue'e is, that

was added in the 50's I think right. But what about this part here?

AO: What's the name of it?

CL: Well it goes down to let's see what's in there. Na pu`u o na elemakule. You know that place? And I think Opihinehe, you know that place? It doesn't show it on this but yeah Opihinehe should be about here. And over by Pu'u Kapukapu.

AO: They used to go down there but not anymore.
(more looking at the map)

CL: But what I wonder is do you remember a time when the ranch used to ranch down from here too over toward Keauhou?

AO: I must have been small.

CL: Yeah, maybe cause I think was about 1928 that the Park took that so you would have only been 12.

AO: Mr. Sumner was then, manager.

LR: What about Grampa, he never, your dad, he never used to talk about that side, you know Hilinapali side, Keauhou side?

AO: No.

CL: Must be very rough I think and maybe not much grass.

LR: Dry maybe that's why it's so barren. Cause I know like Ohaieka and that area, they used to use that area a lot because there was grass on the slope.

CL: That's up here.

AO: Yeah, they're still using it. That's about the best.

LR: Cause it was really green, lots of grass over there. Other maps used to have Ohaieka, some of the other maps that I've seen.

AO: Mauna Iu and...

CL: They're on the mauka side of the highway?

LR: Yeah. See the same thing. It was always on the side already I remember. Uncle Kelii used to stay down there.

AO: If you go by the 34 mile post and there's a road going in. You can go right down to Ohaieka, to the gate.

CL: But down by Kue'e. They used to ranch down there?

AO: I'm sure they used to do all the points. They used to have cattle all over the place.

LR: That's a pretty rugged terrain tho', used to be more mauka

CL: Did you ever go down there yourself?

AO: No. I didn't care about riding.

CL: Your brothers went down there?

AO: Yeah. They all went there.

LR: Think Uncle David would remember? He remembers all the names though.

CL: They went down chasing cattle?

LR: Yeah. Cause he was telling me Apua and all that names up there.

CL: Did they go down to fish down there?

AO: They went often yeah. They used to go down right straight down.

LR: Anthony might know. Uncle Anthony is the one I told you still alive, fisherman. They would go straight down from the ranch.

AO: And they used to go in and there's a big cave where they clean their, they don't throw the opihi shells away. See you have to take care of it. I don't know why, but anyway, when the cowboys got their opihi, huge, and then goes in the cave and they clean it and pile their opihi shell and they go on and come home.

CL: They pile the opihi shells in the cave?

AO: Shells in the cave.

CL: Do you know the name?

AO: No I don't. Down by that - straight down.

CL: Straight down. Where straight down?

LR: Yeah, they would go straight down and then they'd go down by...

CL: Not Ka`e`e. [talking about the map] So must be around Kue'e and there. (more talking about picture album, not transcribed)

CL: I think when you get into this one, Ke-a-iwa.

AO: Keaiwa.

CL: That's private land is it?

AO: Yeah, Keaiwa is Hawaiian Agriculture, that's cane land.

CL: Oh, the cane company owned it. So the place you're talking about must be more Puna side, yeah?

AO: Umhm.

Tape 1 side B

JW: [Why did you folks go to Kalapana?] for vacation?

AO: I used to go visit the Kamelamelas.

JW: And how did you guys get down there? Just use the road that go?

AO: There used to be a Ford car that we hire. He used to come up and get us and go and sometime we if we wanted to go to Hilo we go on, there used to be a, the boss used to travel on the horses and buggy and then he used to take my mom. He used to go with her into Glenwood and then take the train.

JW: So just go from here to Glenwood then with the horse and buggy and then the train down?

AO: See when you coming in you see how narrow the roads.

CL: Which Kamelamela you went to visit?

AO: Dan, the police.

JW: Would you go down the chain of craters ? Those chain of craters road?

LR: Puna side, down Puna side.

JW: Puna side. You used to go down a trail with horse?

AO: No. With horse and buggy. I never used to ride horse. I used to go on a buggy.

JW: You could get down to Puna with a horse and buggy?

AO: Even in Hilo, we start from early in the morning, we get to Hilo two o'clock, two, three o'clock. Then we used to stop at every family that lives along there.

JW: Oh you meet along the way.

LR: She used to know, when she used to come Hilo when I first used to bring her a lot on the main Kilauea [Road], on the main road all the old houses, the families she used to know. So and so used to live there, so and so used to live there. And I don't know who lives there now but.

CL: Yeah cause there was somebody lived by Glenwood, right?

AO: Yeah.

CL: That Mrs. [Hall], the one that moved the rocks at Kalapana. I'm sure you know her. You know who I mean. She was married to the supervisor I think.

JW: Did you guys use the Kalapana trail to go down to Puna?

AO: No we used to go, there used to be a road, narrow road.

CL: Road went through Kilauea right? And then to Glenwood. You said you took the train. Did you take the buggy sometimes all the ways?

AO: Sometimes we went on the buggy and sometimes it's on the Ford, you know the Ford. But the Ford, well I didn't like it because the man and the lady, the Hawaiian lady and the man used to drink a lot. They fight, they kick. Then the man would kick the lady's drink and spill and when it goes in the bushes, the car would turn. Then you say your prayers just to get there. Then the priest when we went down this road, Father Hyman, going fast and I said, "Father, you have to go slow." "I know what I'm doing." So going fast and I said "Hail Mary." "What are you praying for?" And then [all of a sudden] he turned and he went right in the bushes. I said that's why. Oh you crazy Hawaiian. Oh boy that Father.

JW: Who used to bring up that lauhala, the mats that you was talking about?

AO: Who used to weave in Kalapana?

CL: Peas, Peas used to weave. They all used to weave.

AO: There's another one. [Waipa]

CL: Kalapana?

AO: Yeah Kalapana. He used to have whole lot of [lauhalas], a whole place where there was lauhalas.

It was Mrs. ___ up here that used to do, it wasn't so good.

LR: Oh that's the one used to live the top house?

AO: Yeah they used to use, make that kind...

LR: Magic. Send fire balls.

CL: Akualele?

AO: Yeah. Funny yeah. When they lock their window, shut the window and don't come out for a whole week. And then if they shut it on a Monday well the next Monday you know you can expect that coming down. And the ladies used to watch the thing would come down. And then some of the ladies would scream and it all fall down. But some don't so they come and then they come up by your window and they (knocking noise) before they attack.
[AO commented later that it never happend to her, though.]

CL: They do what?

LR: Attack. Terrible.

AO: But if you yell before it hits you if you yell loud or swear or something like that, it falls apart. Then they go back and they eat the...person that [CL: the sender] yeah. They used to have lotta deep sores.

CL: One lady told me that her father used to piss on it.

AO: Oh yeah.

LR: You was talking about when Uncle and her that time and you said had the line, yeah? Couldn't cross the line.

AO: Oh yeah when my brother David, he said that the dog was chasing him and yelling and yelling and yelling. He was trying to climb the wall. And then when I went to, we were living down here now, when I went to tell my mom I said, "Mom", but she was passed out. I don't know what happened to her but she couldn't wake up. So I said "Oh boy I'd better go and see" so I went up and I asked Jack, the one Hawaiian from Puna that he used to, Jack Poha and he went to get a ti leaf and he couldn't pass that house that was doing it, that _____. And so he told David, "Tommy, bring your brother down." So Tommy going down but he was still yelling "Oh the dogs are biting me." But there were no dogs. I say, "There's no more dog." And then so the man said, "Just shut up." So he took the ti leaf and he told David, "I cannot pass here." He cannot pass the house. So he went to get ti leaf and he said "David, hang on to this ti leaf and come." And he hung on to the ti leaf and he came with us. We brought him down here, start yelling and then we went to get some of the salt water. I got so excited I went to get a bowl, and just salt. And then he was taking salt. He said, "Oh that thing never kill me but you gonna kill me." So that was funny.

JW: Then your mom got up?

AO: Yeah, then she got up.

CL: Cause it affected her too yeah?

AO: Yeah. And she said, "what happened?" And I told her and she said, "Oh I'm so happy that Jack had helped."

LR: Cause usually she's the one that does the prayers.

AO: Yeah she does it.

LR: For everybody, right?

AO: And she was also the midwife for all because the manager wouldn't send anyone, give the car to go to the hospital when they had their babies. There was one 16 pound baby. His name was Abraham. And the leg was huge.

[Bit omitted by request]

AO: Big huge, believe it or not she had a baby and then she was going have her baby and my mother went down to help but she said she couldn't do it because she was too big. So she asked my dad to help. So my dad went down to help her. And I don't know what he did. Anyway the baby came out and he said, "You know what, don't ever ask me to come, I'd rather go and get three calves for three cows. I don't know what she did but he did but had the baby out. Abraham almost like two months old. Huge.

CL: I never heard of a baby that big.

AO: Yeah you wouldn't believe it boy.

[Portion omitted by request]

AO: But that was really funny. That wasn't so funny you know.. She was so huge. I don't know what she did but she finally brought it out. And then she told my mother, never to ask him again.

LR: Which house you was living in when was all born? Up the road right?

AO: Up the road yeah, where Uncle David.

LR: Where Uncle David is now.

[portion omitted by request]

CL: So did you folks ever go gather salt at the...

AO: Yeah, down at the beach. And then we also get that red to make it with. (CL: alae) Yeah alae. That's the only kind we use to salt our meat.

CL: So who went to gather the salt?

AO: My dad, my mom when they went down to the beach.

CL: Did you ever go with them?

AO: No. I stayed on the beach for swim that's all.

CL: Was there a particular place that they went?

AO: Yeah there was a place where the, on the other side of, down you know where the condos [are], by the restaurant. Over that side. Past the heiau, past the grave. All that, There used to be a family that buried there. The king ?

CL: On that far side.

AO: They go where it's clean and sometime they go over this side, right down here [below the ranch].

LR: Straight down from the ranch.

CL: You don't have a name for where they went down, straight down?

AO: No.
They bring it home and they only can take what they can use.

CL: So if one person went, did they come back and share it out.

AO: Yeah if they wanted to, if they asked. If they need it they can, we share it. That's just like summer, when we went down to the beach on the truck, on the cattle truck, and then some would go fishing and share it when they came and then some would go get the salt. All share it. That's nice.

JW: Were the caves around this area used a lot? The caves around here.

AO: Around here. Yeah. There were two cave dwellers, who's that minister, the first...

CL: Ellis?

AO: The first, Judd and...

LR: Ellis? Ellis came long time ago.

AO: Ellis, not Ellis, I think it was [Thurston], either the grandson or something came with Judd.

And they went, Mr. Serrao took us behind the, you know now it's a huge gulch. We also had the hula dancer that Pele changed.

JW: Oh I remember trying to find that cave too.

AO: Yeah now it's all a big, where she changed is the hula dancer because she refused to dance with a old lady, and because Pele was old.

CL: Male hula dancer. A man?

AO: No, it's a girl. She used to go around all the island and she was from Tahiti. And she beat everybody [at hula] and, Lukia the name is. She beat all the best hula dancers all the island. So one of the ladies from Hilo told her, "you go to Ka'u you find that you never can beat this lady." So she came and it's such a nice [place], we used to go there and sit on the [benches], there used to be a rock, you know the lava rock, all made like benches, all like this. Believe it or not it's all made of lava rock, the benches were like this and the people used to sit over there too. And told her to, that [the other dancer] was coming and she had [to chance] and in another cave that was a dressing room, it's right down here. And so she got ready and she came and when she came Pele appeared through the rock, just appeared and she said all right. But she was old lady, she didn't... She could change [into a young girl] but she was old, maybe she knew. So she said "All right you can dance now. So that Lukia said, "Who me? You know that I can beat you." She said "You're ugly, you're old and you can hardly dance." And then, so Pele told her, "Why don't you try me?" She said, "No I'm not gonna dance, I'm not going make a fool out of myself because I know I'm going to beat you." So Pele said, "Well you gonna feel sorry." So she dove right in the rock and there's a stream of lava that followed her right out of the cave and down there was a big one right down. And the people came and they said, "You should have danced with her." Lukia [realized that she was Pele and she] called, "Please come back." But she didn't so she went in the cave and the people waited and when they went to see she was changed into a stone, in the cave. And she had all her gourds and everything all changed into stone. And her hula skirt and everything was there. But somebody from England took her head, cut the, took the stone head and took it back to England. And the gourds and everything were changed to stone, all these things. We used to go down there and clean it and we'd tell the story to everybody for 10¢.

CL: When you were a girl?

AO: Yeah when we used to go to school. Yeah, 10¢.

CL: How far is that cave from here?

AO: Right out there but it's a big gulch now. It's all washed out and you can't even cross to see the caves. Maybe because we charged them too much.

LR: Cause they never clean the gulch that's why. Even the other cave you used to take us to go by the highway. People used to live in that cave yeah? All the petroglyphs there.

AO: Yeah, Mr. Cran said, there were petroglyphs down. Mr. Cran said don't go because had wild cattle.

CL: Right close to the highway?

AO: Yeah.

LR: You know the other entrance? So you still could park over there. Cause I think it's State land.

JW: Isn't that like on the maps and stuff? A lot of people go in there.

LR: There's a couple, yeah, there's a couple places over there [on the map].

AO: And then there's a potato patch. There's one cave there.

CL: Potato patch.

AO: By potato patch.

[AO adds that it was "behind" the ranch. There were cave dwellers there. Serrao took Thurston and Judd to see that cave.]

LR: Where is that? I don't remember that.

AO: Where we used to go camp. At the end of the ravine there's a, at the end of the thing that's where.

LR: But I'm not too sure it's open now.

CL: How come you call potato patch?

AO: Oh because they used to plant potatoes over there. See that's why we get all mixed up. They plant potatoes and if they say they don't want to tell the name, they don't know the name, they say potato patch.

LR: They change the name.

CL: They didn't have a Hawaiian name before?

AO: They have.

LR: Ainapo that area they have a name. It's the flat, if you go up it's flat. Uncle Anthony might be able to show us where it is but when it was grass it was hard to find cause it's a small opening not real big. When you go into it there's petroglyphs. But now...

AO: There's another cave. That carving that you said you had to do if only in half because it was long. That was all the ladies, went with Aunty Pua [her halau]. And Kelii used to say, "Oh those crazy girls." They used to take their T-shirts off and [make rubbings with their shirts].

LR: Oh for do the rubbing. Oh that's the one up Ainapo. Uncle Kelii used to have to go outside.

AO: Nice rubbings. [portion omitted by request]

AO: The ma'i, they was taking all the men's ma'i, was all along there.

LR: Wasn't me. I never make. [portion omitted by request]

AO: All those other girls had it all down. All had the soldiers there. I think Kamehameha had was fighting with his the soldier down at...

Yeah and then they had to, they run away up the mountain and they stayed in that cave hiding.

CL: What, the cave where the petroglyphs are you mean?

AO: Way up there.

CL: That's where Kamehameha's soldiers hid?

AO: Yeah. Kamehameha, I don't know whether his soldiers or whether it's another, the enemies or what. Anyway they all ran up there to hide cause they were fighting and they were dead and then so they hid in there and that's when [they made the carvings].

Where it's all like this, all marked all along.

LR: I remember.

AO: And the stones were all carved, the stones, all blocked up with their, you know.

[portion omitted by request]

JW: You were saying earlier that you used to take care of this other cave. The one that you used to charge.

AO: Yeah. We use to all the time go down there.

LR: She used to take us.

AO: Sweep it and everything.

CL: So that cave has a name? The one with Lukia?

AO: The Lukia cave was right down here [by the housing]. But the other one is [by the highway].

[Portion omitted by request.]

AO: That's why my father don't like us to go to any caves. When we used to go, "get out you kids."

CL: Cause he thought you'd go in that one.

AO: Or you find something else [bones. Or you could get hurt.]

LR: They never like, they didn't let you guys go?

AO: Only this Lukia, well we used to go down charge the, sometimes tourists would come, you like see? Yeah? How much? Oh we charge 10¢. They used to have that two gates down there, was real nice.

LR: They used to make us take kukui nut, ti and Hawaiian salt if we go walking any place.

AO: Spooky around here. Used to be, you know the old cowboy Hawaiians were the worse ones. They each do each other. You know they get jealous, then they yell and joke and they call my mom to come down and fix them. And she'd come 2:00 in the morning, sometime.

CL: What, they'd fight with each other?

AO: No, they'd get attacked by this spirit and whatever.

CL: By the akualele. They send them at each other.

AO: Yeah, they just. But me I say my prayers see.

CL: So you safe. Did anybody from here go to Halema'uma'u to take things, to take presents or anything?

AO: Yeah. My mom used to, wait oh yeah. I was introduced, my father took me and he bought, now days they have small packages yeah. Before you had to have a whole pig, yeah. And the whole bottle all brand new liquor and all that and we took maile leis. My father would go get it put it all in a big package and he took me down and he introduced me to Pele. He said, "This is my

daughter." And he chanted and danced and he threw, you should see when it comes up it's so beautiful when they throw the

CL: Yeah it comes up.

AO: Yeah, it's just, oh and then they `a and get lit up and everything. So nice. But now days they have small. Is that all you going bring? Yeah. Well you supposed to give a whole pig. And they say no not anymore. [Some folks] take just a small package of pig and they kalua it and give. Whiskey, and maile lei. He'd go up the mountain get the maile and then he'd chant and throw and chant and throw and this is my daughter.

CL: So he danced too?

AO: [No.] He chanted and you know, how do you say that?

CL: Oh, he moved his hands. (end of side B)

Tape 2 side A

[I asked if she ever went later. Api said only with her husband when the volcano erupted.]...everybody in the car.

CL: Oh, when it erupts. But you didn't take anything then?

AO: No not with Portuguese, eh?

CL: Oh he wouldn't do that.

AO: Oh you dirty kanakas. I could eat that [food] you know. So I bet if we threw it in Pele would spit it out again.

CL: So that was the only time you went up there, to take something that time?

AO: Yeah, with my dad. And then I used to go all the time when it was erupted but.

CL: But not to take any present.

AO: No because Pualani and them took. Their small packages [for ceremonies].

LR: But your dad used to go yeah.

AO: Yeah, he used to go all the time.

CL: How old were you when he took you to introduce you?

AO: Twelve years old. So he said anytime you want to take any rocks or anything just tell her that, but you don't ill treat it, from that place.

CL: Do you think your family ever took the bones up to Halema'umau to give them to Pele?

AO: No not that I, unless my mom did from Puna. Because my father probably, well he had all the bones out here. Pele took all the, his father and mother. But he used to say that was better than

LR: Burial.

CL: What was better?

AO: That she came and took them. And you know what my mother said. "Yeah because they didn't believe in God and they were all living with each other. They were going with all kinds of devils? " They weren't good people. And then so my father said, "Why don't you keep still. You don't know what you talking." They used to argue all the time.

JW: Your mom would say that?

AO: Yeah. Because she was Christian. She goes to church and prays. They don't pray to God, [she] say.

CL: But your father was Christian too yeah?

AO: No, he was baptized Catholic but he wasn't.

LR: Was his father then?

AO: He doesn't practice. He was a jack [Catholic--he never went to church].

LR: So whose father that was the minister, the Kahu? Was his father?

AO: Grandmothers. [My mother's father.]

LR: Oh Haleaka's father.

CL: The Kaleopaa right?

LR: What was the kind, Mary Pukui? You said you met her before.

AO: Yeah. That was Grampa's, they called her, she called them Auntie and Uncle. Mrs. Pukui used to call her. They used to come over for the, what do you make the tapa?

CL: Wauke.

AO: Wauke. Well they used to have a whole [row of it], Monserrat used to make a lot of tapa before [his womenfolk]. And then they

had wauke right behind the gulch there, all along.

LR: I read about that in a book, Kapapala area.

AO: And then she [Mrs. Pukui] used to come over and get the wauke and take some plant home to Honolulu.

LR: Just recently one of the books, not Ellis but another book was right about traveling though the area and they saw people and wauke trees.

AO: Yeah, right behind the garage. There used to be all over there. And she'd come over and go gather it and then spend the night over there.

CL: No more wauke now?

AO: No. It's all gone. Goats ate it all and. It's sad now, they don't care though.

CL: I guess in those days there was, Hawaiians probably still taking care of them yeah.

AO: Yeah, they used to take care of them. And they respected.

CL: Must have been old that wauke.

AO: Yeah was nice. All that trees were just oh.

LR: Hard to find now.

CL: There's hardly any.

LR: Cause I saw this one lady in the book recently that she started to grow ?

AO: There's one that, what's the old lady that used to, that Mackinzie. There's another lady related to..

Well she's from Honolulu from the

CL: Edith Mackinzie?

AO: Yeah, she used to come up and go ?

LR: She used to have so many people ?

AO: And then they used to make tapa out behind the big house.

LR: Did I tell you that Aunty Minnie on Grampa's side, she went to the Mainland when my Grampa passed away. She had some of my great grandfather's on ? side stuff right. The poi pounders, all the kind stuff. Well they lived in the Mainland all that time since ? was small ? And all their family was from Diamond Head

side. They said people used to stay over there yeah. They had men over there ? and so they had the poi pounders and I didn't know they had ? too. She went back to find all the poi pounders was broke because the kids raised in the Mainland, they didn't know what was right. Broke em all.

AO: We used to have ours, when we were small. I used to use my brothers poi pounder for the doorstep. And the cowboys that stayed here stole it. And even my mother had a whole set of dishes from the missionaries and had from England and they were the thick, the platters and all that and did you know when my father died they were supposed to help, go down they're supposed to be cooking. But they were stealing all the dishes. Then when her son got married and they gave the dishes, she took her dishes. I wanted to come. I told her, "eh you better give back the things" but my mother said oh don't fight, that's just material things so don't say. They want to keep it, let em keep it. It's their sin. Say yeah but I like the dishes. But then when the son got married and then the people say, "Oh she had beautiful dishes. It's from England and we saw it." And then I say, "Yeah, that's my mother's dishes."

LR: ? she just showed me she found when she went back it was supposed to be four tapa beaters and then ?

AO: They had tapa beaters up here and yeah she had, no up here the Monserrat one and Charlotte had to give it. She took it, all this Hawaiians they used to steal everything.
[bit omitted]

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