

AMALU, SAMMY

Interview December 1978

COMMENT: 37 pp. Among those present: Bea Krauss (principal questioner), Peg Robb, Klara Chun, Evelyn Trapido, Louise Vicars.

Most value here for the history lies in genealogical data and leads for further research. Some funny tidbits. E.G. The Kalakauas just barely qualified as "chiefly." The Castles were nutty. Other familial gossip. But not really much particularly addressed to Manoa. And inimitably Sammy thruout. Note steady refusal to talk about heiau's or anything related to religion. *ESB*

- 4 Boki nephew of Kaahumanu
- 8 Kaleimanuia: many of her chants about Manoa
- 10 reference to lowly Kalalauas
- 11 Shingle family genealogy sketched in
- 12 a lot of taro in Manoa
- 12-13 Harris/Woolsey genealogy
- 14 Woolseys ali~~is~~
- 16 Kekaipoila lived in Manoa, aunt of Kaahumanu; it was her land.
- 17, 20 on the Castles
- 21 resists legend that runners took Manoa water to Palace
- 23 HOUSES: Cooper, then Frazer (Charles) Jackson College, 7th Adventist.
- 32 the Cookes
- 33 knowing and saying a chant
- 34 HOUSES Afong summer place in Manoa

BK We would like to know what you know about the Alii of ...

S Why are you so interested about Manoa?

BK Oh, I should explain. We are a group which are studying the history of Manoa and we are going to write a book on the history of Manoa. Because we are all occupants of Manoa and we think it's the most beautiful valley on this island. And historically you know it's very, very important because for one thing the alii always went up to the valley during the summer when it... to escape the heat of the plains as they say. You know Kaahuumanu had a home up there.

S She died up there.

BK Ya, they brought her there because they thought the lovely air up there would revive her. Do you remember the exact spot where her home was?

S No, but you know the Spalding woman, what's her name?

BK Spalding?

PR Phyllis?

BK Not Phyllis.

S Bowen, Alice Bowen. She took me up there one time.

Bk To the exact spot?

S Yes, yes, right where the home was.

Bk Well, let's contact...

LV She lived on ^aUlakaa one time.
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S She was forever finding these places, you know. I recall years ago I said the only way to stop the Vietnam war was to discover two heiaus and send Alice over. All you do is discover two heiaus and send Alice over there.

BK And she would stop it.

S And she would stop it.

BK Well, you know so much about the gene^aology. Do any of these Alii fit into your gene^aology?

S What do you mean, do they fit into my gene^aology?

BK Or,...Does Kaahumanu run in your line?

S I descend from her sister.

BK You descend from her sister.

S Kalakua

BK Does Boki come in at all?

S No, those lands of course, the Manoa lands, well I mean this is compar^aitively modern.

BK Well, that's al^yright, we want both modern and ancient.

S The Manoa lands because the lands of Kameiiaamoku, who was one of the tabu twins in the coat of arms and one of the four great advisors of Kamehameha. Those lands went from him to his eldest son Puapili the one who married Kaakepualani after the death of Kamehameha the Great, then married Kalapua and then they went to his daughter Liliha, that's how Punahou school got their lands.

LV Boki's Liliha? Liliha?

S Boki's Liliha. Liliha was the daughter of Hoapili.

BK Rather than Boki himself.

KC No he did, didn't he, against her will though

S It was against her will, but it was really Kaahumany^u who instigated it.

PR What do you mean she instigated it? Who^d told Boki to do it? or suggested it?

S Well, Boki at that time was really very powerful and Kaahumany^u was really backing the missionaries a great deal. So they needed this land to support Punahou.

BK Oh, and in that way, because she wanted to favor the missionaries, that she suggested this.

S Yes, and Boki gave them.

BK Now Boki had a lot of interest in this valley to grow the first sugar cane.

S Well, he was you know, the man in those days.

BK It was his valley in a way.

LV But he was chieftain of Oahu.

BK Well, of course he was governor of Oahu. That's true, this is later

I was thinking earlier he had influenced a lot of the agriculture.

S In fact he had almost as much influence, if not more, than Queen Kaahumanu herself. Boki once nearly overthrew Queen Kaahumanu.

BK Really?

S Ya, had a kill

But then Boki was actually a nephew of Queen Kaahumanu. They were very strong, because Boki's brother Kalanimoku was really the prime minister of King Kamehameha the Great and very powerful. And their sister had married the son of Kamehameha. They were close, that part of the Maui family.

ET But Boki didn't get along as well with the missionaries as Kaahumanu. Wasn't he at odds with them very often?

S Well, you know, he did his own thing and he wasn't listening to parts of the Christian doctrine. I mean, all the people in those times was (!!!) funny, for instance, Kamehameha II. They told Christians can't have more than one wife, so they forced him to give up all his wives and he did, except his sister. Which to me is amusing.

BK Well yes, because from the Christian point of view.

S And they came to Kamehameha III and he wanted to marry his sister and he was terribly upset. In fact he went through long period of mourning when his sister died.

BK Well, that was quite usual in early monarchy days, wasn't it, to marry a sister.

S I remember in the twenties the old League of Nations sent down people to measure our heads. I thought at that time it was the league were the only one who did it for so long. My grandmother had about 40 generations of brother and sister marrying each other. So they came down and measured us. And...

PR You were all smarter than they were.

S funny things apparently, really some odd ones, I remember that's when they aksed my grnadmother where the Hawaiians came from and she said: "Well, we were always here you know you were the ones who came.

BK Now, how did the Shingles get that piéce of property in upper Manoa?

S Oh, they bought it. That's part of the Ena estate.

BK That's still part of the Ena estate. That whole upper land was Ena. And then of course Miss Ena when she died she left a big tract of land to the Pacific, to the Catholic Church.

S I don't know. Maybe it's right at the beginning of the driveway to the Shingles.

B Yes

S And we had the old woman. Did you ever know them?

BK Oh yes.

S God, what a horror!

Bk She moved up into that house before she died.

S Everytime we gave a party and the cars were parked along that thing she would come running out with her broom hitting the cars. It was so weird.

BK I knew she had a lot of dogs there that would come rushing out if you went past there.

PR Is that old house still standing?

S I don't know. I drove up there one day and looked at the old Shingle place and you could still see roof on it but its all water reserve now.

BK And she left her part of the land to the Catholic church and that's where Paradise Park is leasing it from her, that area,

S Do you recall her brother Tom?

BK I only knew her.

S Tom married Kapiolani Kawananakoa. That was her brother. Much of the Ena property was down in Waikiki. I don't know how they ever got that land up there.

BK Yes, where the Ena Road is.

S John Ena Road

Bk That was her father-named after her father isn't it?

LV Why is that pronounced "EEEna" when "E" is "a" in Hawaiian?

BK it's been corrupted, I guess.

S I have no idea.

KC Ena, aren't their descendants Chinese and their name was Ing?

S Oh no, no, no

KC Isn't there some Chinese blood in there?

S Probably I think there is a lot of Chinese you know those Chinese sneaked around at night. I don't think it's Ing though.

CW The Enas did marry some chinese family but I don't know who it is.

BK No but you see this is what Louie makes it a point that E-N-A should be pronounce "Ah-na" and yet everybody says "Eena" Should certainly be "AA-na".

KC It just started out Americanized and continued.

BK Like people say, how do they pronounce Isenberg? They say Isenberg, it just makes me shiver.

S There are two different families you know, one they call themselves Ee-s-e-n-berg here and there are I-s-e-n-bergs on the mainland.

PR But don't they spell differently, don't they spell it E-I...?

S They spell it the same way. There once was a man on the California Board of Corrections by the name of Isenberg. I thought well there is my cousin and I am sure to get out of jail and

I said, "you are mispronouncing it" and he said, "I am not related to the Isenbergs in Honolulu. Those Isenbergs changed their name to Ingram you know, most of them during the war.

Bk Alright, Clara, why don't you ask some questions now.

KC What do you know about Kamehameha III. Who is supposed to have had a home on the Waiola Tea Room grounds?

S No idea, he probably had
Can very modern you know. Originally Manoa was the favorite place of a queen called Kaleimanuia. This was the mother of Kahuhihewa the great Oahu King.

Bk And it belonged to her originally.

S Everything ^{on} the whole island belonged to her. She was ^{the regnant} a regular queen.
and...

KC You mentioned her in your ^t article in last Sunday's paper, right?

S No I think I said Kahuhihewa.

KC That's it.

S Kahuhihewa himself lived in Ewa and Kailua. But Kaleimanuia was very famed. Many of her chants ~~that~~ are concerned with Manoa and Kalihi Valley.

BK Where would one pick up those chants?

S I suppose at the Museum, I mean at the Archives.

BK Maybe we could get those from Ruby Johnson. She is going through all the old newspapers and evidently in the old days the Hawaiian editors would call for people to send them chants and genealogies and this is only a recording now.

S Sometimes, if you look around for the death of some of the great alii of those days and then for a period almost a month following you would see what they call dirges Kanikaus spriritures in the papers.

Bk There must have been alot for Kaahumanu then.

S Oh no, there were no papers then. They were just getting started then.

Bk But later they might have come in.

S You'll find them in the Kuako Aloha Aina

LV Aren't there quite a few chants in Malo's Book?

S I think many of those chants were added by the Bishop Museum when they edited it. They put in the cha~~ints~~nts.

BK Oh, oh that they had picked up

S And do they explain something. I don't think Malo did any of those, because all he did was ~~antiquities~~antiquities.

KC Going back to more recent times, I hate to jumparound but Queen Liliuokalani apparently lived in Manoa or had a home there. Do you know anything about that?

S Liliuokalani had a home there? Where?

KC I am trying to find out. I have it somewhere in my notes.

LV What about the retainer or this woman.

K Oh, I found an unsigned bill of sale at the Archives by Queen Liliuokalani. And in this bill of sale she willed a wooden house or cottage to her