

NĀ HOALOHA O LĀNA'I (THE FRIENDS OF LĀNA'I)



'Iliahi— the Rare Native Sandalwood Blossoms of the Lāna'i Dry Forest.

LĀNA'I CULTURE & HERITAGE CENTER

NĀ HOALOHA O LĀNA'I

Aloha mai – Welcome to the first volume of *Nā Hoaloha o Lāna'i* (The Friends of Lāna'i), a newsletter developed to inform the "hoaloha" (friends and supporters) of the Lāna'i Culture & Heritage Center, about activities, opportunities, historical resources, and areas of need in programs of a newly formed community museum and resource center.

You are invited to join *Nā Hoaloha o Lāna'i*, and your membership will provide you with special program opportunities and access to unique resources on Lāna'i. As *Nā Hoaloha* grows, we will keep you informed about membership benefits. And we are planning a formal kick-off event in March 2008.

The Lāna'i Culture & Heritage Center (LCHC)—is a Section 501 (c)(3) charitable, non-profit corporation (private operating foundation), dedicated to the perpetuation and appreciation of Lāna'i's rich cultural heritage and natural history.

The LCHC has its roots in programs initiated by residents, community organizations and Castle & Cooke Resorts, LLC, in the mid 1980s.

Today, we are actively working to fulfill the vision and ensure that everyone who lives on, or who visits Lāna'i has the opportunity to experience the unique heritage of Lāna'i.

Mission & Programs—The Lāna'i Culture & Heritage Center seeks to inspire people to be informed, thoughtful and active stewards of their heritage by preserving, interpreting and celebrating Lāna'i's Hawaiian heritage, natural history, diverse cultures, and ranching and plantation era histories.

As a part of the programs of the LCHC, we will preserve and display artifacts of traditional cultural value to the Hawaiian people and island of Lāna'i. The collections will also focus on items and history

representative of Lāna'i's ranching and plantation eras—including the islands' diverse populations.

LCHC programs will also offer assistance in interpreting and caring for the unique natural landscape of Lāna'i.

Join us and help us perpetuate knowledge of, appreciation for, and programs to ensure preservation of Lāna'i's unique heritage and legacy.



Visitors at the Newly Opened Lāna'i Culture & Heritage Center (Room 126 in the Old Dole Administration Building).

YOUR ASSISTANCE IS NEEDED

We are presently in need of support in several program areas, these include, but are not limited to securing funds in order to:

- 1) Purchase archival materials to promote long-term care of the documentary and historical artifacts being collected by the LCHC. (\$10,000.00 is needed for supplies and equipment.)
- 2) Publish a historical resource guide on the traditions and historical narratives of Lāna'i. This reference booklet will provide readers with factual information on all facets of Lāna'i's history, and is envisioned as one of several pieces that will be developed in this program. (\$10,000.00 is needed for set up and printing.)
- 3) Organize and offer programs to build organizational capacity among LCHC board members and other Lāna'i conservation organizations, to ensure that long-term programs will be attained and sustainable. (\$5,000.00 is needed for program implementation.)

To become a member of the Lāna'i Culture & Heritage Center's *Nā Hoaloha o Lāna'i*, contact Kepā Maly at kepa@LanaiCHC.org or at (808) 565-7177. Your membership offers you special opportunities to experience the history and landscape of Lāna'i, and also supports work that will benefit present and future generations, while honoring our island heritage.

Please visit our website at www.LanaiCHC.org for more information and updates.

NĀ HOALOHA O LĀNA'I GIVING LEVELS

- ___ \$ 5 Student Hoaloha.
- ___ \$ 20 Kama'āina Hoaloha.
- ___ \$ 25 Visiting Hoaloha.
- ___ \$ 100+ Supporting Hoaloha.
- ___ \$ 1,000+ Sustaining Hoaloha.
- ___ \$ 5,000+ Sponsoring Hoaloha.
- ___ \$10,000+ Benefactor Hoaloha.
- ___ Other _____.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Donation Amount: \$ _____

Please make checks payable to the:

Lāna'i Culture & Heritage Center.

Mahalo a nui!

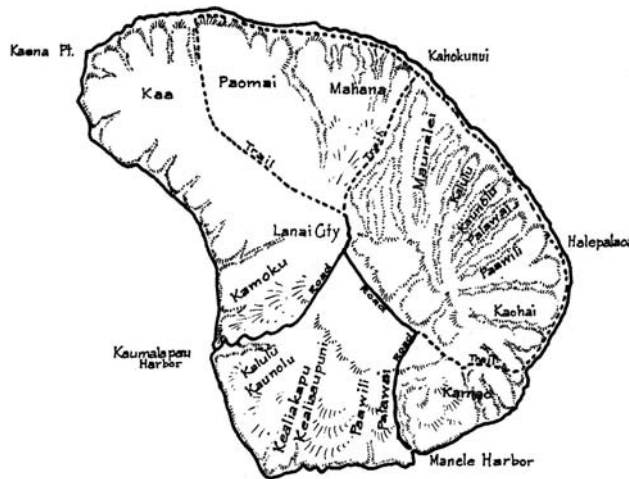
Historical Notes From Our Files: A Visit to Lānaʻi in 1853

In the Hawaiian newspaper, *The Polynesian*, we find an early description of Lānaʻi as it once existed. One can imagine how different the landscape of Lānaʻi was, 154 years ago, and how difficult it was to reach our islands' shores:

"The island of Lanai is said, in the geographics, to be 17 miles long, and 8 or 9 wide, which is probably not far from the truth¹. There is a narrow belt of flat land on the shore made by the wash from the mountains and sand from the sea mixed, and varying from a few rods to half a mile in width extending round the east side of the island, and perhaps all around, except the precipitous parts of the south end. This is a valuable part of the island, being very rich, and well-repaying cultivation with rich crops of melons, sweet potatoes, squashes, &c. There is also a good anchorage here for small vessels. It is not however well watered, as is the case with most of the island, there being only one permanent stream on the island, viz. that of the great valley of Maunalei, which opens to the N.E., directly facing Kaluaaha on Molokai.

The land rises with an ascent more or less steep from this belt all around the island, and is at first dry and rocky, with an abundance of thatching *pili*.

A mile or two up it becomes smoother, and patches of brushes appear, and vegetation generally is more luxuriant. Higher up small trees grow, and on the very top of the island, timber is found for good-sized native houses. In general however, the trees bear a relation in size



The Island of Lānaʻi (Territorial Survey Map, 1929).

to the island, and it is not uncommon to see groves of *mamane* with trunks no thicker than your finger, and only 3 or 4 feet high.

On the east side the land rises uninterruptedly to the top of the mountain which is high enough and damp enough to be agreeably cool. But on the west side the ascent is interrupted for the whole length of the island by a remarkable plain 2 or 3 miles wide, about 1/2 of the way up, having its west side slightly elevated, and having no visible outlet in any direction to the sea.

All this plain appears to be very rich, being covered with rank grass, weeds and bushes, and would make first rate cane land, though nearly destitute of water. The south end of this plain is warm, being under the lee of the high land to the East,

and sheltered from the trade winds, but the north part is somewhat bleak and cold. Sweet potatoes are raised in all parts of this plain. Towards the east side of this plain the land rises abruptly some 200 or 300 feet and again spreads off in a table land much cut by ravines till it reaches the mountains a mile or so distant. Thence the mountains rise abruptly in ridges covered with small wood, with small streams in the gulches part of the year. Few of these streams appear ever to emerge from the table land, except during floods, when they run out into the plain and seem to sink into the earth. There is cultivation also high up on the eastern slope of the island and houses also.

The whole island as may be seen in sailing around it, is cut up with ravines much as the other islands are, with the exception of the plain above mentioned. The great ravine of Maunalei would take high rank on any of the islands. Water *karo* is raised in it, than which none is sweeter." [*The Polynesian*, August 6, 1853:58]

"Sweet potatoes are raised in all parts of this plain... [at Pālāwai] ...There is cultivation also high up on the eastern slope of the island and houses also..."

¹ Lānaʻi is 13 1/4 miles long, by 13 miles wide.

Visit the Lānaʻi Culture & Heritage Center

The Lānaʻi Culture & Heritage Center is open Monday to Friday, from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm (in Room 126 of the old Dole Administration Building, on Lānaʻi Ave.). A donation of \$3.00 per person is requested—though members of *Nā Hoaloha* will receive free admission.

Our goal is to provide long-time island families, youth, new residents, visitors, businesses and all interested parties with a sense of place and attachment to the unique cultural and natural histories of Lānaʻi. By doing this work together, we

will foster an environment that will cherish and appreciate the heritage of Lānaʻi.

We seek to pass this legacy on to future generations by inspiring people to be informed, and to be thoughtful and active stewards of Lānaʻi's heritage. Our motto is—

***E Hoʻohanohano ʻana i ka wā
ma mua, a e Hoʻolako ʻana i
ka mua aku!***

**"Honoring the Past,
and Enriching the Future!"**

Nā Hoaloha o Lānaʻi will provide assistance in developing programs like those described in this newsletter. There are many more preservation and educational programs being planned. And we say—*Mahalo nui* to you for your support and interest in the rich heritage of Lānaʻi.

Aloha, a hui hou!

Kepā Maly, Executive Director