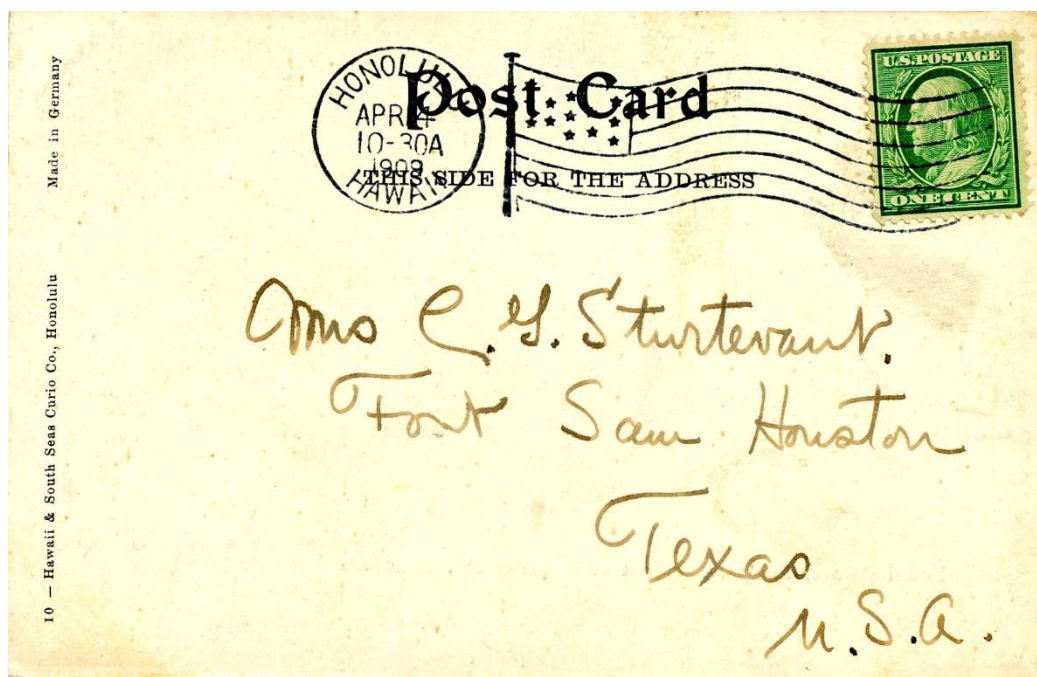
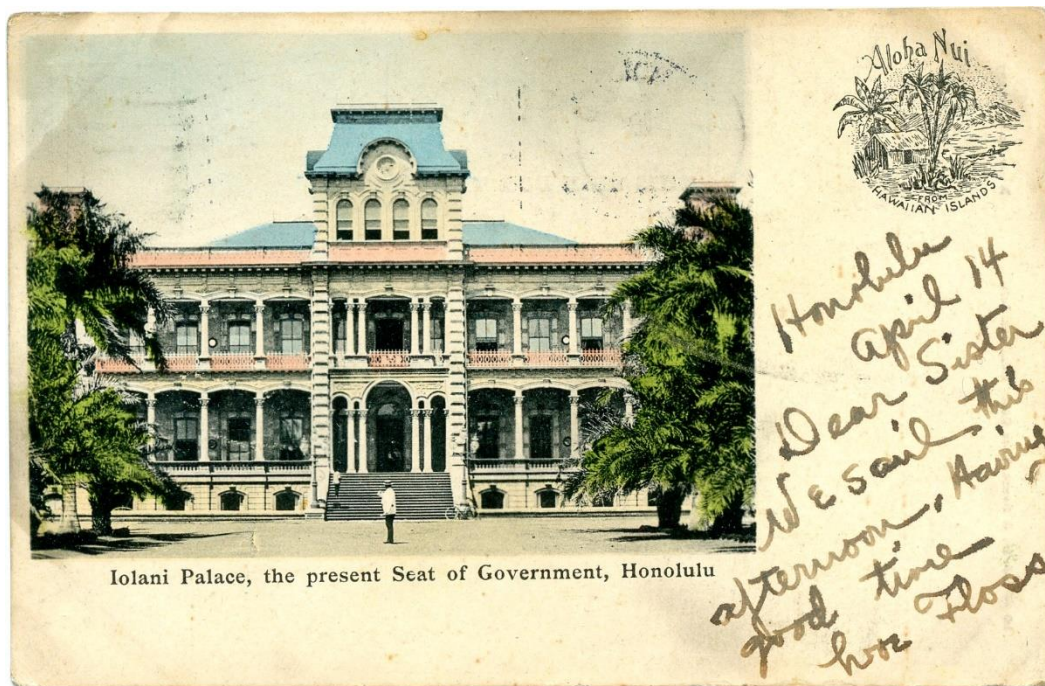


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The Quarterly Journal of the Hawaiian Philatelic Society

Number 88

July 2019

Editor's Notes

By Greg Chang, Editor

Aloha! Welcome to the 2019 Mid-year issue of the PO'OLEKA O HAWAII. This issue contains several nice articles submitted by several members and is the biggest of the 33 issues of the PO'OLEKA I have put together.

If you missed Norbert Wild's presentation at last year's WESTPEX 2019 meet and greet, he presents his findings on his research on pre-territorial Hawaiian picture post cards. This article focuses on the 'Aloha Nui' Series of post cards.

Speaking of WESTPEX 2019, I hope you have gotten a chance to attend this year's meet and greet. I will have more on this in the next issue of the PO'OLEKA.

The second submitted article is from Jonathan Humble on hand stamped covers from the Wing Wo Chan & Company of Honolulu.

Finally, J Lee details the Hawaiian Rainforest Stamps that were issued in 2009 as part of the Nature in America series.

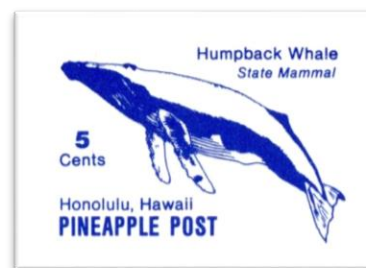
I've included a couple of reprinted articles. The first is on Canton Island by John Walker that was published in 1941. I was able to provide illustrations to help out with his article.

The second one is by Ginny Munn Howard on Deltiology, post card collecting. Her article inspired me to look into old postcards to show how Hawaii was around the early 20th century.

As always, I am in need of articles or items of interest to publish. It definitely would be nice to have items contributed by our society's members.

Aloha!

Greg Chang
Editor



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How Canton Island Got Its Name

By John G. Walker, Reprinted from Weekly Philatelic Gossip, April 12, 1941

In 1937, Canton Island was the name of a dot of land on the map of the Pacific - and the only signs of life there were screaming sea birds flying above the booming surf. Today (April 1941), Canton Island is an important station on the Pan-American Airways flying-boat route from the U.S.A. to New Zealand, and is under the joint control of Great Britain and the United States.

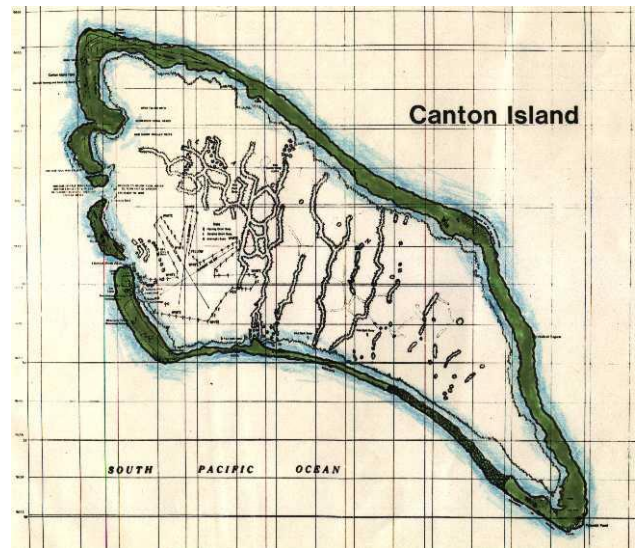


US Scott C20

The small island is a coral formation and rises from 10 to 20 feet above the sea. It is really only a ring of land varying in width from 50 to 600 yards, enclosing a pear-shaped lagoon nine miles long and three miles wide. This lagoon is up to 11 fathoms deep. For the most part the island is covered in spots with prostrate herbs or grass. There are a few clumps of *toumefortia* or tree heliotrope, a few stunted kou thickets, a noni tree or two, and a few very sad looking coconut palms. The present population consists of over 50 P.A.A. staff and five Britishers (Mr. F. I. Fleming, British Colonial Office official, Mrs. Fleming, their Gilbert Islands servant and his wife and child.). The colony is laid out in streets over which now travel cars, trucks and tractors, and it boasts a 24-room ultra-modern hotel, complete with electric kitchens and an ice-making plant, for Clipper passengers. Mr. and Mrs. Fleming live beside P.A.A.'s \$500,000

establishment in a home-made bungalow of packing cases!

Canton Island lies just south of the Equator and 32 miles west-northwestward of Enderbury Island, is the northern and principle island of the Phoenix group, north of Samoa and midway between the Hawaiian Islands and New Zealand. Its earliest recorded history indicates that Captain Andrew Johnson Wing, of the whaler *Canton*, running before a tropical storm, piled up on the barrier reef on March 4, 1854.



Canton Island Map

Captain Wing was apparently not the first waling captain to see the atoll - a U.S. Navel report dated 1828 refers to an island which was known to New Bedford whalers as *Mary Island*, and there is no doubt that it was the was designated as *Canton*. In fact, when the writer was at Hull Island in the Phoenix group in 1903, the island (*Canton*) was continually referred to as *May Island* and was designated as such on the British Admiralty charts. A vague reference in a report which he had never seen was worth noting to Captain Wing, with his ship grinding her keel to bits on a coral reef.

A call for a volunteer to go ashore with a line was answered by the Mate, William B. Carroll, who succeeded in the dangerous job and got every man of the crew of 32 ashore. Four boats, 30 feet long with a six foot beam, loaded with water and provisions were also saved. As there was no water on the island and nothing to eat, they rationed their supplies and watched the far-flung horizon for 24 days.

By March 30th the men were in desperate straits: water and provisions were low and there seemed no prospect of rescue; so the crew of the Canton decided to rescue itself.

Captain Wing set his course for the Kingsmill Group (Gilberts) some 800 miles westward. He thought help could be relied upon there as whalers frequented that group regularly. But day followed upon day without a landfall, until at length Captain Wing was forced to the conclusion that the currents had carried him past the group. After continuing northwestward for 45 days, the ship's company was rewarded by a glimpse of land.



Aerial View of Canton Island

Approaching, they found themselves at Tinian in the Mariana Islands, and Captain Wing was soon

conducted into the presence of the Spanish Governor. When the Governor heard the Captain's story, he flatly refused to believe it; he said the crew might take water and coconuts if they liked - in any event, they must move on.

So the ship's company set out again in the boats. At least, the call at Tinian gave them a "boost." They knew exactly where they were and the captain navigated directly to Guam, arriving there on May 19, with all four boats and all hands safe. No log of the journey was kept, but Captain Wing reached Hong Kong on August 22nd, from where he sent a report to the owners, giving the location of the Island upon which the Canton was wrecked.

The crew made the journey from Canton to Guam in their open boats in 49 days, covering 2,900 nautical miles. By comparison, 1789, Captain William Bligh, with those members of the crew of H.M.S. Bounty who declined to participate in the mutiny, went from Tofua, in the Tongan Group, 3,618 nautical miles to Timor in an open boat 23 feet long in 42 days. Captain Bligh went farther and faster on the open ocean, but Captain Wing and the Canton put another island on the charts.

Other names variously applied later included Mary Balcott's Island, Swallow Island, Balcott Island, and Bulcot Island, but the name Canton was used by Captain Richard W. Meade of the U.S.S. Narragansett in his report of 1872-73, describing a visit to the island, and the name became the official one.

Guano collectors went to work on nearby Enderbury Island in 1858, but it was not until the 1980's that John J. Arundel & Co., of London started similar work on Canton.

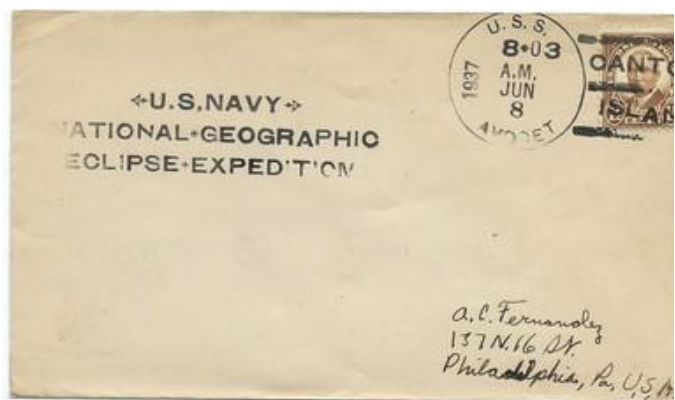
In 1884, the guano vessel Howard E Troup anchored close to the shore, fell victim to a sudden change in the wind, which drove her into the reef. A hollow metal mast, a steam winch and some heavy timbers still remain as mementos of this wreck. After some years the guano workers

abandoned the island and left behind their rude huts, which fell to pieces in the wind and weather, leaving only pieces of corrugated roofing to mark the camp site.

Now the ubiquitous Captain Allen entered the picture. For his company, the Samoan Shipping & Trading Co., Ltd., Captain Allen seemingly took a lease on every uninhabited South Sea island he could discover on the charts. In 1915, he visited Canton, erected a beacon, and planted hundreds of coconut trees. When he returned in 1919 all but five or six trees had died, so the experiment was abandoned. A wistful clump of coconut trees still remains on the island.

Canton was neglected until 1936 when, following claims by the U.S.A. to the various small Pacific Islands, the New Zealand sloop Leith called there and a British flag was planted, together with a proclamation signed by Captain L.C.P. Tudway, declaring British sovereignty.

The next year a New Zealand scientific party decided on Canton Island as a base from which to observe a solar eclipse on June 8th. On arrival they found an American expedition already in possession there, having arrived on the U.S. naval tender *Avocet* to study the eclipse also. During their stay the Americans erected a concrete plinth into which an American flag was built. This and other incidents caused much discussion as to which nation actually owned the island, the point being eventually referred to Washington and London.



USS Avocet Expedition Cover

In August 1938, the Leith again visited Canton and left two radio operators and equipment. Three months later a party of Americans, including young Hawaiian natives, arrived to occupy the island.

Shortly afterward, it was officially announced that an agreement had been reached between the U.S. and Britain under which both nations would be entitled to use the island as an ocean air base, with the question of actual sovereignty postponed until later.

It was in May 1939 that Pan-American Airways' supply ship North Haven, out of San Francisco, dropped anchor off the barrier reef of Canton Island and put ashore a construction crew of 43, together with a launch, tractor, building materials, food, gasoline and an endless list of supplies necessary for establishing a going community and a clipper air base.

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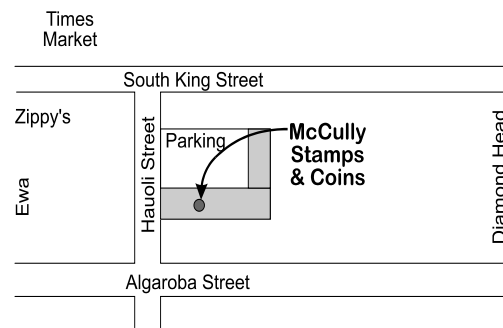
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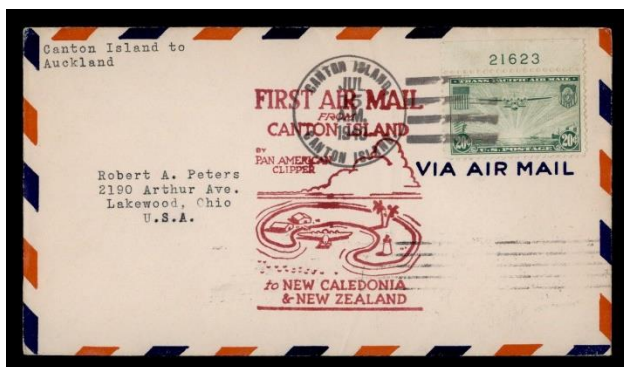
A radio and meteorological station was erected, with a permanent direction-finder tower, barracks for the P.P.A. ground staff, buildings to house the power plants and refrigerator units, evaporators to obtain fresh water, and airport offices, shops, etc. Explosives were used to destroy 500 dangerous coral heads studding the lagoon so as to provide a smooth, safe runway for the giant clippers.

In August 1939, work had progressed so well that the base was equipped to receive the first Clipper, and the "California Clipper" set out for the first survey flight over this route.

A second flight over the route was completed to New Zealand and return to San Francisco in 11 days, in November 1939. This was to familiarize both flight and ground crews with facilities and procedures, and the construction crew returned to the U.S. by this means.

Boeing planes made further test flights. However, U.S. officialdom and the war in Europe caused many delays in starting the actual service.

On July 12, 1940, the "American Clipper" took off from San Francisco and inaugurated a regular fortnightly service to New Zealand via Los Angeles, Honolulu, Canton Island and Noumea, New Caledonia.



Clipper Cover: Canton Island to Auckland



Clipper Cover: Auckland to Canton Island

Thus, Canton Island, from an insignificant beginning, took its place with other important islands of the Pacific.

Much has taken place since 1941 when this article was written. But much of the island is still the same. Wikipedia refers the island as Kanton Island. -ed.



**Clipper Cachet: Canton Island to Suva, Fiji
November 8, 1941**

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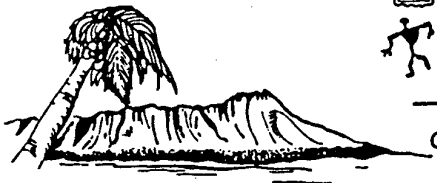
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Picture Postcard Usages in Pre-Territorial Hawaii – Part 1

By Norbert Wild

One of many interesting sub-areas of Hawaiian philately is the collection of picture postcards that depict scenes from early island life and times. This article is an attempt to begin the categorization of the earliest of these cards that were used during the few years prior to the beginning of Hawaii's U.S. territorial postal administration period (June 14, 1900). The focus will be on those cards that are known used during this brief period, roughly from 1897 to 1900. Note that this study will not include those Hawaiian postal cards (as issued for regular postal use, Scott UX1-UX9) that have had photographic images printed on them.



Figure 1. Typical 'Aloha nui' card from the first series. Caption reads 'Hula Hula Dancers.' and the image is in a vertical orientation. This is an early usage, posted Dec. 15, 1897 in Honolulu with 2c brown (Scott 75) to Bremen, Germany with message in German.

There is very little information known about the origins of these privately produced picture postcards, but the earliest examples appear to have been printed in Germany. These are the so-called 'Aloha nui' series of cards that were first seen in late 1897. **Figure 1** shows a typical card with a staged photograph of 'Hula Hula Dancers.' All of the photographic images used for the 'Aloha nui' series were of high quality and printed using a toning process that gives a slightly greenish tint to the image and

lettering. And, almost all of the scenes are un-framed, with a washed-out blurriness to the corners and sides of the image. The card stock (88mm x 136mm) is an off-white to ivory color.

The earliest known usage date for these cards is currently Nov. 26, 1897. An example is shown in **Figure 2**. There are 16 different scenes known in the first printing of these cards, with some oriented vertically and others horizontally. An alphabetical listing of



Figure 2. Example of an 'Aloha nui' card (9A, Native luan. (sic)) showing the earliest known usage date (Nov. 26, 1897) for the first series. The three extraneous stamps on the image side (Scott 74, 75, 76) were likely placed there as souvenirs for the recipient.

Designation	Image Caption	Orientation
1A	Banana and Cocoanuttree Grove.	Vertical
2A	Bird's eye view: Palace and Honolulu.	Vertical
3A	Bishop-Museum, Honolulu.	Vertical
4A	Diamond-Head. (outrigger in water)	Vertical
5A	Grove at waikiki. (sic)	Vertical
6A	Hawaiian Belle.	Horizontal
7A	Hawaiian Grass Hut.	Horizontal
8A	Hula Hula Dancers.	Vertical
9A	Native luan. (sic)	Vertical
10A	Natives bathing.	Horizontal
11A	Nuuanu avenue Honolulu.	Vertical
12A	Palace Honolulu.	Vertical
13A	Palm avenue Honolulu.	Vertical
14A	Punohenni Falls Hanalei.	Horizontal
15A	Royal Hawaiian-Hotel.	Vertical
16A	Wharfs Honolulu.	Vertical

Table 1. Summary of the 16 cards in the initial 'A' set of 'Aloha nui' picture postcards.

the card captions used in the first set is given here in **Table 1**.

The address side of the first printing is shown in **Figure 3**. The words 'POST

CARD' distinguish this set from the second 'Aloha nui' set which had the words changed to 'POSTAL CARD'. As nearly all of these early cards, including the 'Aloha nui' series, do not have a

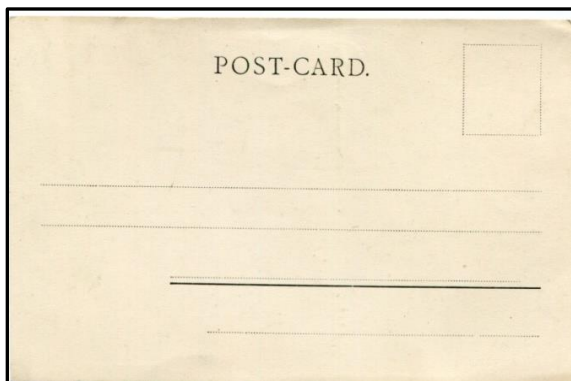


Figure 3. Address side of the 'Aloha nui' first set 'A' cards.

number associated with the caption (as did many of the later territorial printings from the Island Curio Store, and others), the numbering of each card in the set is based on its alphabetical position in the list. Thus, the card shown in **Figure 1** has been designated as 8A, with the 'A' referring to the first set.

The second set of Aloha nui cards (set 'B') consists of a new batch of 25 different images (all new except for the Hawaiian Grasshut image used on card 7A, which was also used on card 8B). The current earliest known

usage date of a card from this second set is Oct. 23, 1898. An alphabetical listing of the cards in the second set is given here in **Table 2**.

The address side of these cards, with the new wording 'POSTAL CARD', is shown in **Figure 4**. This side was redrawn with a slightly smaller box for the stamp placement (17mm x 19.5mm versus the old 19mm x 21.5mm), as well as with slightly more vertical spacing between the horizontal lines for writing in the

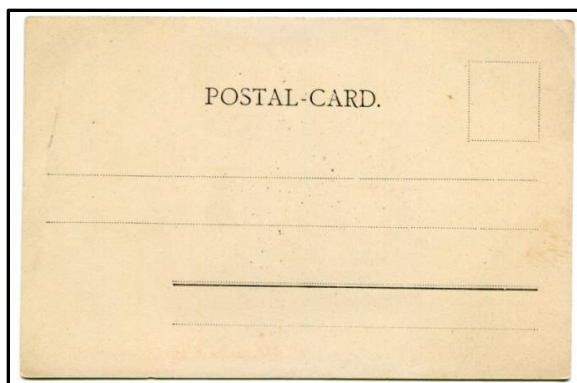


Figure 4. Address side of the 'Aloha nui' second set 'B' cards.

address (total of 37mm vs. 35mm between the top and bottom lines).

A large fraction of the 'Aloha nui' cards appear to have been bought by tourists who wrote home about their visit to the Islands, or by residents who wanted to send a quick Christmas greetings or Happy New Year note to friends and relatives on the US mainland and Europe. The majority of these are postmarked in Honolulu (island of Oahu), with a small fraction (about 10%) originating on the Big Island with Hilo or Volcano House postmarks.



Figure 5. An 'Aloha nui' card (7B, Grasshouse & Luau) mailed to New York City with evidence of either a shortage of 2c stamps or some confusion as to the correct rate.

Designation	Image Caption	Orientation
1B	Active Crater of Halemaumau 1893.	Vertical
2B	Beach at Hilo, Hawaii.	Vertical
3B	Cocoanut Island, Hilo, Hawaii.	Horizontal
4B	Date Palm Avenue, Honolulu.	Vertical
5B	Diamond Head. (outrigger on shore)	Vertical
6B	Government Building and Statue of Kameameha I.	Vertical
7B	Grasshouse and Luau.	Vertical
8B	Hawaiian Grasshut. (same image as 7A)	Horizontal
9B	Honolulu Harbor. (spearfisherman)	Vertical
10B	Honolulu Harbor. (ships at wharf)	Vertical
11B	Hula-Girls.	Vertical
12B	Kailua, Hawaii, where Missionaries first landed.	Vertical
13B	Native Flowergirls.	Vertical
14B	Native Grasshut.	Vertical
15B	Native making Poi.	Vertical
16B	Palace and Birdseye view of Honolulu.	Vertical
17B	Pineapple Plantation, Pearl City.	Vertical
18B	Queen Emma's Birthplace, Hawaii.	Vertical
19B	Rainbow Falls, Hilo, Hawaii.	Vertical
20B	Roasting pig underground.	Vertical
21B	Royal Group.	Horizontal
22B	Royal Luau.	Vertical
23B	Taropatch, Lauhala and Cocoanutgrove.	Vertical
24B	Volcano House, Hawaii.	Vertical
25B	Wailuku, Maui.	Vertical

Table 2. Summary of the 25 cards in the second set of 'Aloha nui' picture postcards.

Outer island usages are fairly scarce, with the majority of these being from the Big Island, but some usages from Maui and Kauai are noted. Interisland usages, from one island to another, are very rare, with currently only 3 known examples.

The postal rate for a picture postcard was the same as for the government issued postal card stationery, i.e., 1¢ for domestic (local and interisland) mail, and 2¢ foreign. The typical usage seen on the 'Aloha nui' cards is a 2¢ brown (Scott 75)

or 2¢ rose (Scott 81). As evidenced by the card shown in **Figure 5**, and others, some confusion existed during this early usage period as to whether these cards needed 5¢ for foreign destinations.

The 'Aloha nui' period of usage coincided with the Spanish-American war, when soldiers from the US were being transported to the Philippines and had to layover in Hawaii briefly for refueling. It is well known that soldiers were given writing paper, envelopes, and stamps at

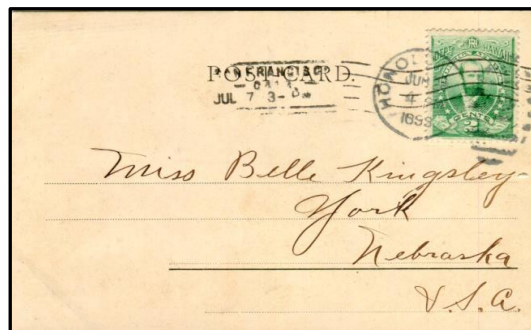
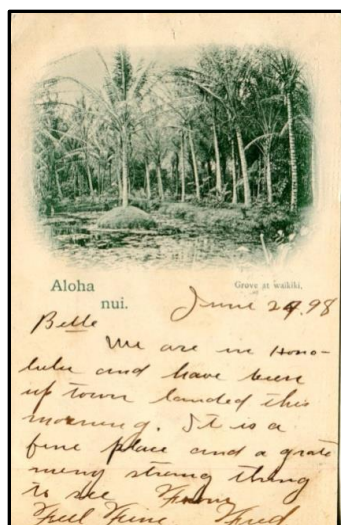


Figure 6. 'Aloha nui' card (5A, Grove at waikiki.) posted June 28, 1897 with a 2¢ Hawaii Official stamp (Scott O1) to Nebraska. The sender was a member of the 1st Nebraska Volunteer Infantry who arrived in Honolulu on June 24 in transit to the Philippines during the Spanish-American War.

various locations in Honolulu to allow them to write letters home (see Fred Gregory's website 'Post Office in Paradise' at hawaiianstamps.com for a good discussion and presentation of this aspect of Hawaiian postal history). **Figure 6** shows an 'Aloha nui' card (5A, Grove at waikiki.) used by a soldier from the 1st Nebraska Volunteer Infantry writing to an acquaintance back home. It is franked with one of the 2¢ Official stamps made available to soldiers. This is the only known usage of a Hawaiian Official stamp on an 'Aloha nui' card (or any other picture postcard type).

It is estimated that there are no more than 400-500 'Aloha nui' cards still in existence that were postally used prior to June 14, 1900. Many of these may still be tucked away in private collections, particularly abroad, such as in Germany, where many of them were originally sent. Hawaiian collectors can find these cards occasionally through stamp and postcard dealers, and sometimes on eBay and other

internet sites. Auction houses are another potential source, with the trend being lately to illustrate both the front and back sides. The starting price range is typically from \$250-300, with premiums (sometimes quite high!) placed on condition, town cancel, destination, and auxiliary markings.

If you are fortunate enough to own any 'Aloha nui' cards properly used during this period (or not), please check your image caption with the Table listings to ensure it is on the list. If it is not on the list, please send a scan of the card (front and back) to the Po'oleka editor so that the list can be updated and kept current. Note that there are two cards in the second set (8B and 9B) that have the same caption (Honolulu Harbor.) but with different images. For reference, **Figures 7 – 12** show images of each card in the 'A' set that have not been illustrated above. **Figures 13-20** shows images of each card in the 'B' set.

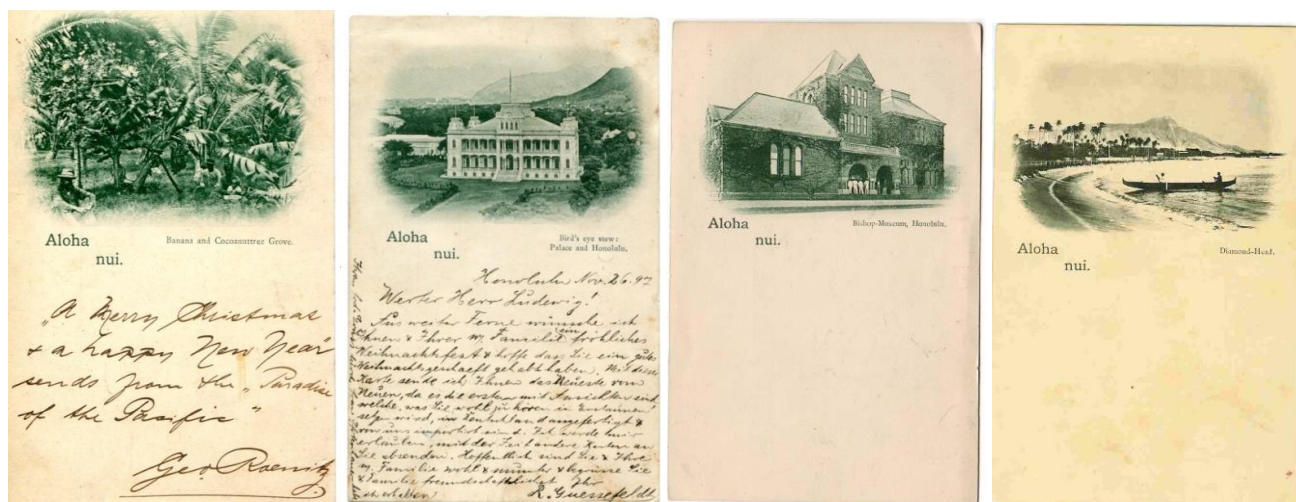


Figure 7. 'Aloha nui' cards 1A-4A (from the first series).



Figure 8. 'Aloha nui' cards 6A and 7A (see Fig. 5 for the 5A image).

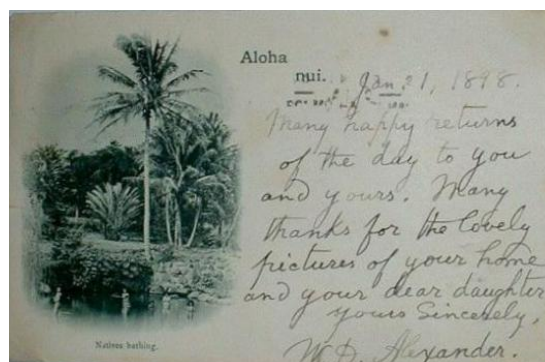


Figure 9. 'Aloha nui' card 10A (see Figs. 1 and 2 for images of 8A and 9A, respectively).

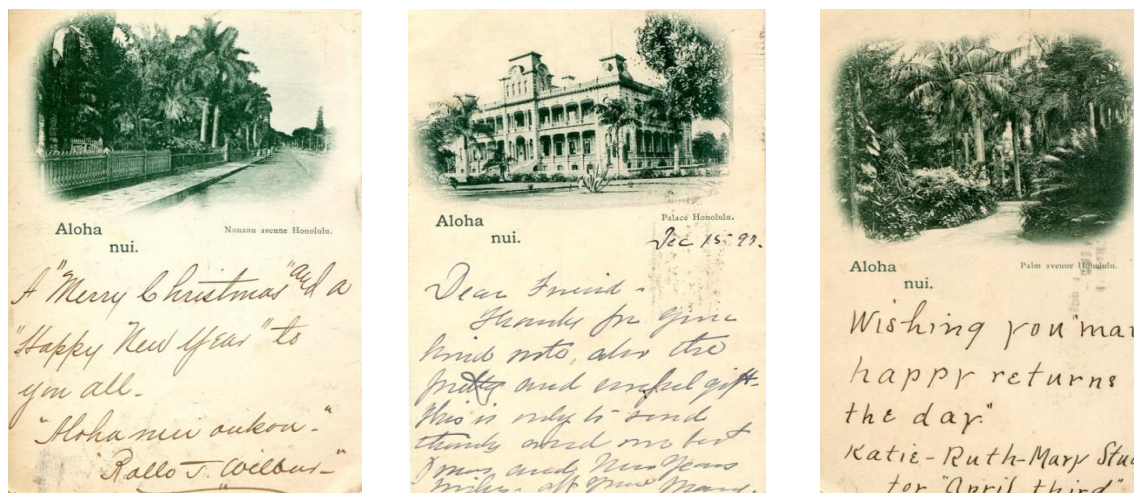


Figure 10. 'Aloha nui' cards 11A-13A (note: card 13A has been trimmed slightly on the right side).

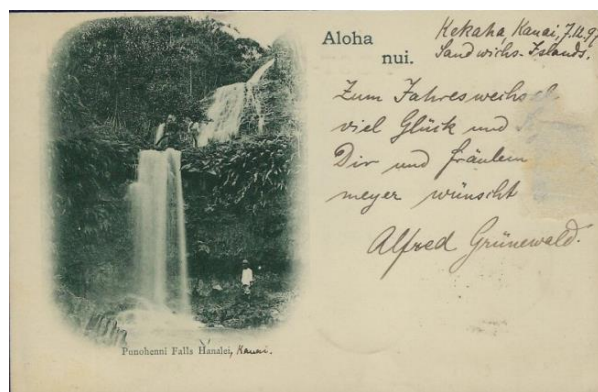


Figure 11. 'Aloha nui' card 14A.

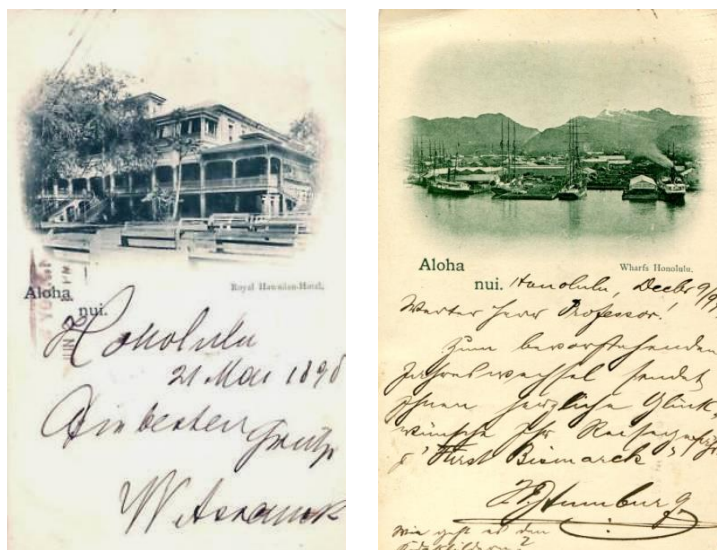


Figure 12. 'Aloha nui' cards 15A and 16A.



Figure 13. Images for 'Aloha nui' cards 1B, 2B, 4B, and 5B.

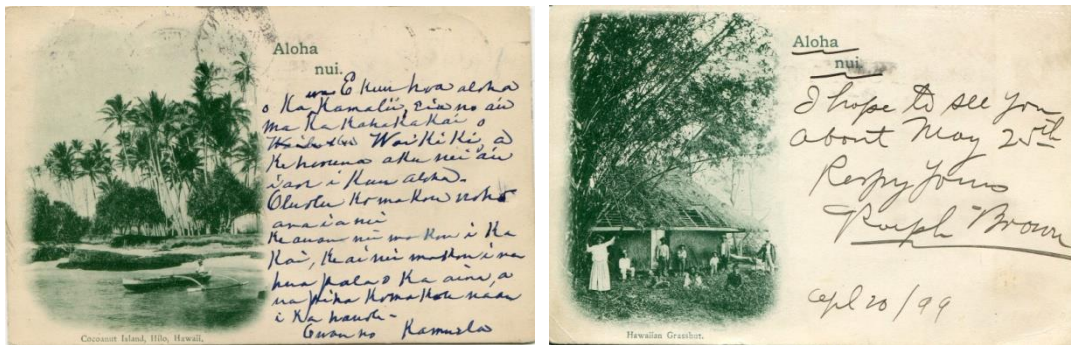


Figure 14. Images for 'Aloha nui' cards 3B and 8B.



Figure 15. Images for 'Aloha nui' cards 6B, 7B, 9B, and 10B.

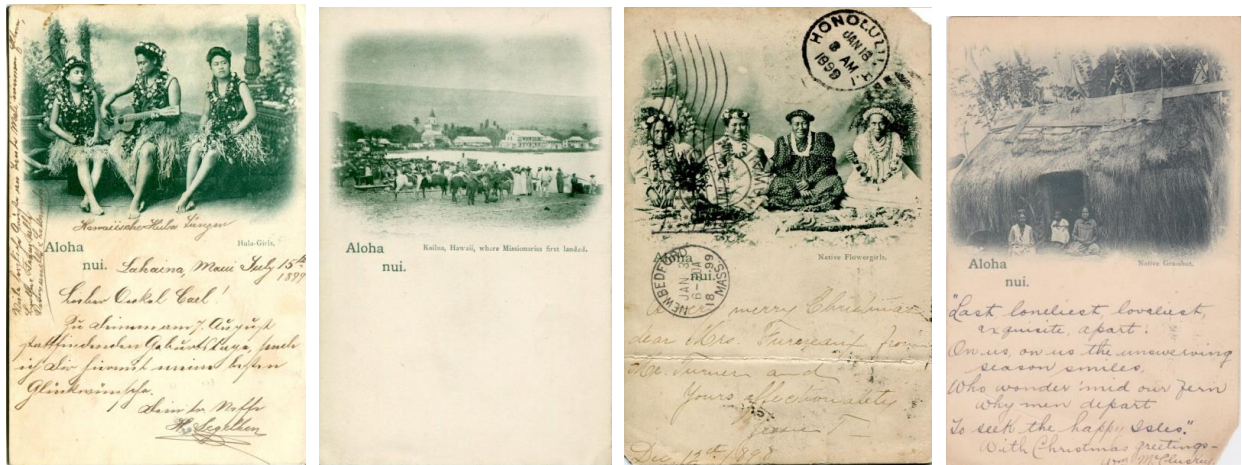


Figure 16. Images for 'Aloha nui' cards 11B-14B.

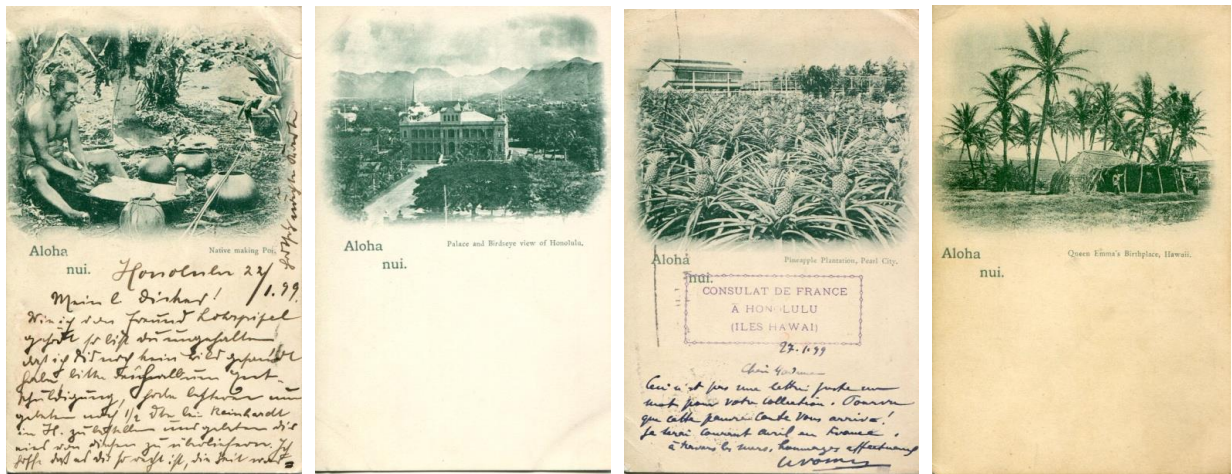


Figure 17. Images for 'Aloha nui' cards 15B-18B.



Figure 18. Images for 'Aloha nui' cards 19B, 20B, 22B, and 23B.

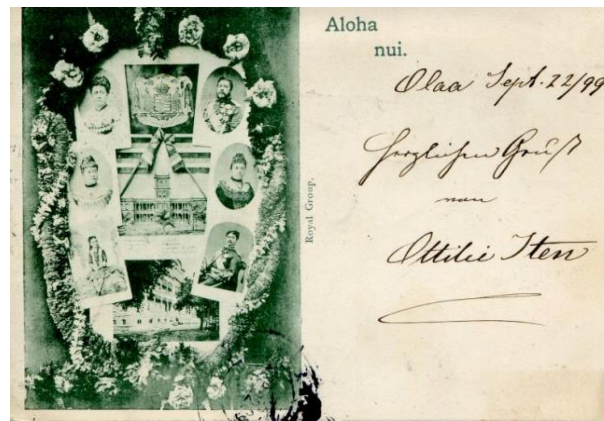


Figure 19. Image for 'Aloha nui' card 21B.

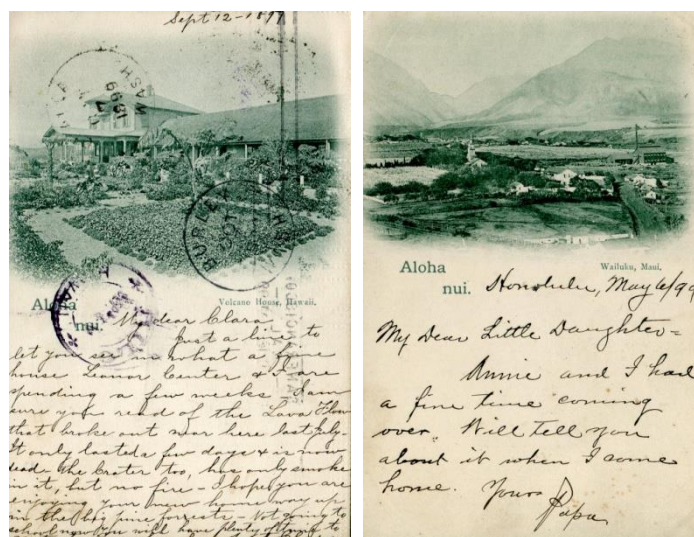


Figure 20. Images for 'Aloha nui' cards 24B and 25B.

Future articles will examine several more picture postcard series used during this period. These include the 'Boys in Blue' series produced by Wall, Nichols & Co., the 'Red letter font' series (with and without fancy framing), the so-called 'Plain type' cards, and the initial series of 'Greetings' cards as produced by The Albertype Co. of New York. Happy hunting!

Deltiology, Anyone?

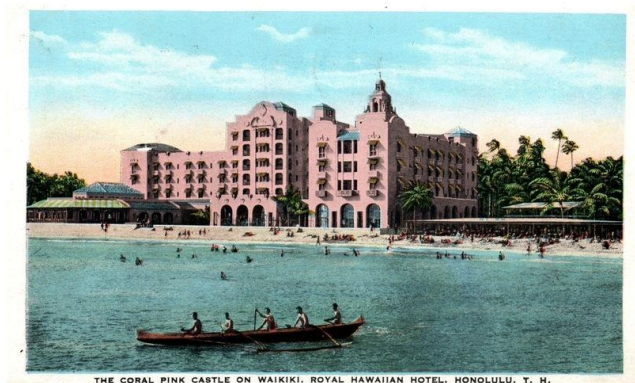
By Ginny Munn Howard

Reprinted from PO'OLEKA O Hawaii, Issue #7, April 1977

All you philatelists and numismatists who collect stamps and coins of old Hawaii should *right now* become deltiologists. It's rather an unfamiliar word and comes from the Greek DELTION, meaning "card". More specifically, a deltiologist is one who collects picture post cards.

The dictionary describes "nostalgia" as a homesickness and in its severe form produces derangement of mental and physical functions!

One can be transported to the old days with a view card showing the original Royal Hawaiian Hotel located downtown at Hotel and Richards Streets, the site now occupied by the Armed Services Y.M.C.A. It was a magnificent hotel for those early days and was three stories high with wide, curving balconies on every floor. It was replaced in the late 1920's by the present PINK PALACE on Kalakaua Avenue, where the floors in the lobby were covered with gorgeous oriental rugs, and exotic live parrots on stands were perched along the way to the Monarch Room. One with beautiful plumage, was taught to say, "Hello Tourist".

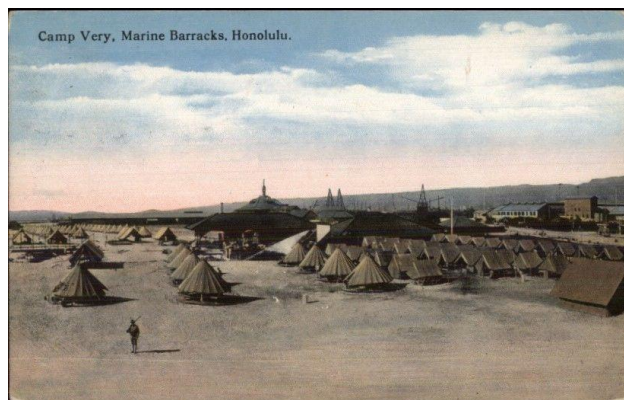


Royal Hawaiian Hotel (1931)

During WWII, the hotel was designated as a Rest and Recreation spot for Armed Forces personnel

and closed to the public. Service men had a glorious time carving *KILROY WAS HERE* on the window sills, the door jambs, and even the ceilings. Matson Navigation Company, who owned the hotel at that time, spent a tremendous amount of money to erase Kilroy so that today's tourists are unaware that he was ever there.

An intriguing card with a flag cancel of 1910 has to do with Camp Vary. Just where was that? It shows a group of tents on the beach with Barber's Point in the offing and nothing in between except sand and sea. Through the aid of the Hawaiian section of the main library, I located an article by John Henley that appeared in "Paradise of the Pacific", December 1936, pages 54-57, which stated that Camp Vary was established February 1, 1904, at Ft. Armstrong, Honolulu, where 49 marines were housed in a coal shed for the next several years. It was not until 1912 that Congress appropriated \$135,000 toward improvement of the barracks. At this time there were 7 officers and 164 men stationed there.



Camp Vary Circa 1910

Another card shows the Royal Hawaiian Band dressed in white suits and jaunty white caps, all wearing leis. In the foreground are two lady songbirds in long white dresses, cinched at the

waist and standing between them is the band-master, Mr. Henry Berger, famous for having set to music HAWAII PONO!, Hawaii's National Anthem, composed by King Kalakaua. The reverse carries a flag cancel with the date August 25, 1910. The message reads: "I thought I would send you the last card of Berger and his band. He is to be retired after 27 years of service."



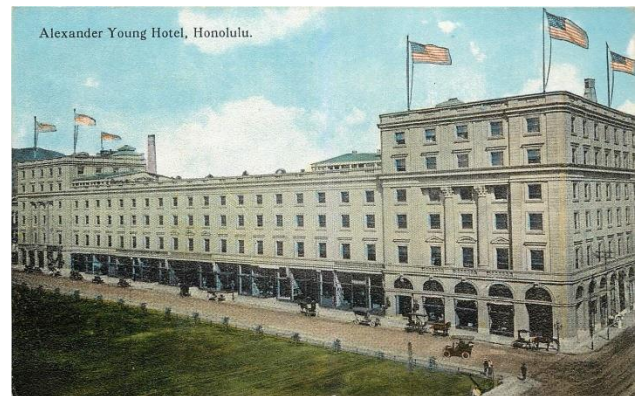
Royal Hawaiian Band Circa 1910



Alexander Young Hotel Circa 1905

The Alexander Young Hotel was built in 1903 covering half a city block. It faced Bishop Street and extended from South Hotel to South King Streets. There are several cards of this edifice. They all show the Stars and Stripes waving from the roof, but the delightful thing about them is that across the street from the entrance on Bishop Street is a vacant lot with green grass where small trees had been planted with protective fences surrounding them. A later card shows that the trees have grown, and instead of only horse-

drawn carriages along Bishop Street, there is now a newfangled automobile.



Alexander Young Hotel Circa 1910

In the late 1920 's, the Young Hotel's Roof Garden was the IN place to go for "the dansants" in the late afternoon. Giggie Royce and his band furnished the music. (He later was featured at the Royal Hawaiian Hotel in Waikiki.) The Young's desk clerk told me a few years' ago that visitors frequently dropped in to ask if the tea dances were still being held. But, the Young's rooms have now been converted to offices. I understand that Robert Yan Dyke, an HPS member, has an oil painting of a house that formerly occupied the hotel's site.

Matson Navigation Company distributed many cards showing its fleet of steamships, such as the S.S. MALOLO, its flagship as of 1934, entering Honolulu Harbor just four days out of San Francisco, headed for dock age at famous Aloha Tower, seen just ahead of the ship. Earlier cards (1915) feature the S.S. MATSONIA. Another Matson card postmarked 1931 describes the Pali: "From Honolulu, a perfect motor road takes you to historic Nuuanu Pali for what world travelers say is earth's most marvelous view".

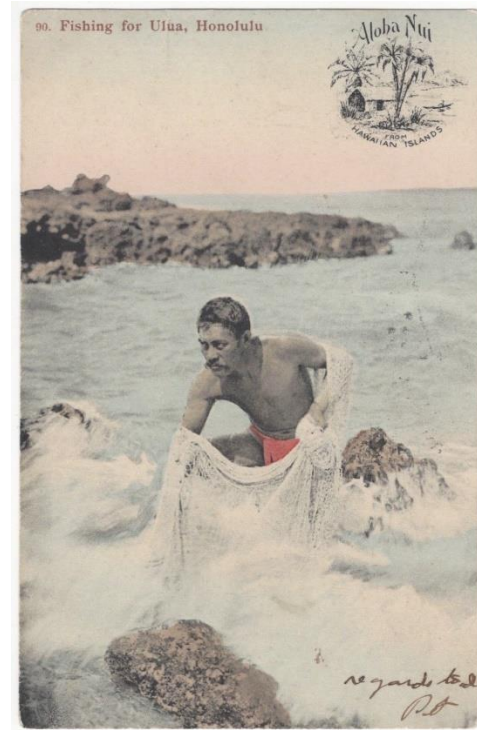


S.S. Matsonia Circa 1920

The earliest post card publishers were the following, not necessarily in chronological order:

1. Hawaii and South Seas Curio Company, Honolulu.
2. E. C. Kropp Co. of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, who printed cards for Matson.
3. Island Curio Co., Jas. Steiner, Honolulu, some of whose cards were printed in Germany as were some of those sold by -
4. Wall Nichols & Co., Honolulu.
5. Ray Helbig's Hawaiian Services, Honolulu.

Later, other post card publishers appeared on the scene. As of 1976, Island Curio Co. was still listed in the telephone book at 126 South Hotel Street. The firm no longer publishes post cards, but the young lady who answered the phone said, "My Tutu remembers the old days". Casual scenes like River Street; Nuuanu Avenue with street car tracks; lei makers on boat day; poi pounders at a luau; surfing and canoe riding at Waikiki with the men in funny looking bathing suits and a girl holding onto her hat; various sugar plantations; laborers cutting cane; fishing in Hilo Bay; Kamehameha Museum now known as Bishop Museum - all were subjects of early cards. Later, Hibiscus shrubs, Night Blooming Cereus, Bird of Paradise and such trees as Poinciana, Banyan, Coconut, Plumeria, Papaya, Monkeypod became popular.

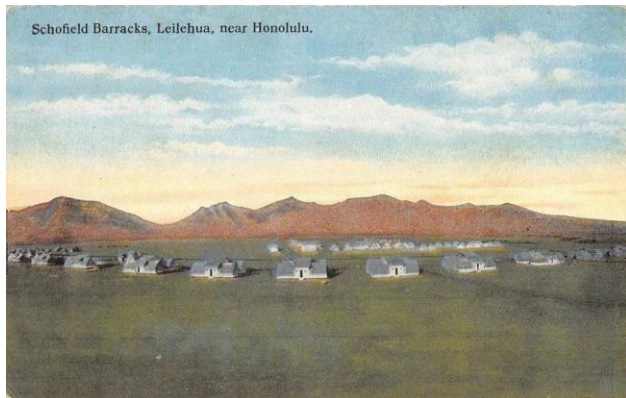


Native Fisherman with Net (1907)

One photo card in my possession, not postally used (alas) shows a view of the Kilauea Volcano House 1861 a thatched roof cottage with windows and a chimney. The letter "s" in the word "House" is reversed. Five very important looking men, in what appear to be heavy business suits, are posed in front of the hotel. There are much later cards of the Volcano House portraying its development through the years by the Lycurgus family, its owners.

Among the 125 cards I've garnered to date, I have another photo card of a monoplane. It contains the message: "Schofield Barracks, July 12, 1911. Dear Miss V. I am dropping you this card hoping it finds you in better spirits than it leaves me. The photo is of Masson's monoplane that attempted a flight here last month. I hope you will find it interesting. Respectfully, Wilmer Rowen, Troop A, 5th U.S. Cavalry, Schofield Bks. H.T." Aviation was introduced to the islands December 1910 by Bud Mars at Honolulu. Schofield Barracks was the largest U.S. Army Post anywhere until WWII. It was constructed in

1909 to house cavalry and to provide fortifications to defend the island from this central inland point.



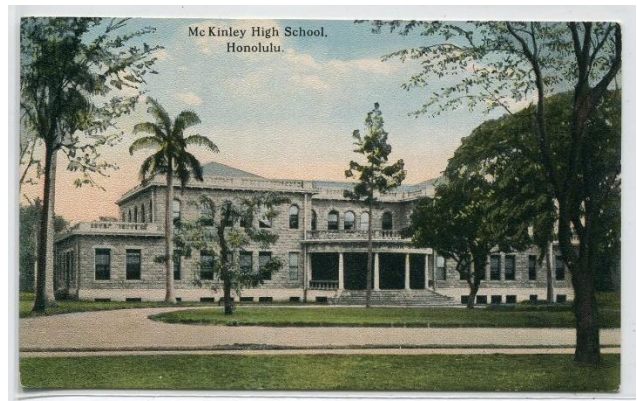
Schofield Barracks Circa 1910

A famous honeymoon spot in the early 1900's is shown on a card of The Haleiwa Hotel near Schofield. It was erected beside the Anahulu Stream and marked the end of the Oahu Railway Line. During WWII it became an Officers' Club it an unlucky place for its owners, because it was built upon the ruins of Kamani Temple.



Haleiwa Hotel (1920)

One card is erroneously titled, "McKinley High School, Honolulu". It can be none other than the former Lincoln School across from Thomas Square. Honolulu High School is a handsome card! It is the picture of Princess Ruth Keelikolani's residence at 1302 Enuna Street three stories high with a mansard roof and a tower. The site is now occupied by Central Intermediate School.



McKinley High School (1910)

A number of views are devoted to Kilauea Volcano on the Big Island. One, postmarked August 20, 1915 with a "Volcano, Hawaii" cancel along with a 1¢ Balboa stamp is addressed to RFD 11, Wooster, Ohio, with the message: "Dear Aunt Maggie. As I sit here at 10 P.M. at the Volcano House I can see in the distance for seven miles fire like 1/2 dozen barns burning. All this is the volcano, about twice as great as this card shows. It's hard to believe there is such a thing".



Kilauea Volcano

I've never heard of a Post Card Club in Hawaii, but I do think that while our HPS members search for Hawaiian stamps and coins, they should also be on the look-out for view cards that tell Hawaii's history before the ugly HIGH RISES took over.

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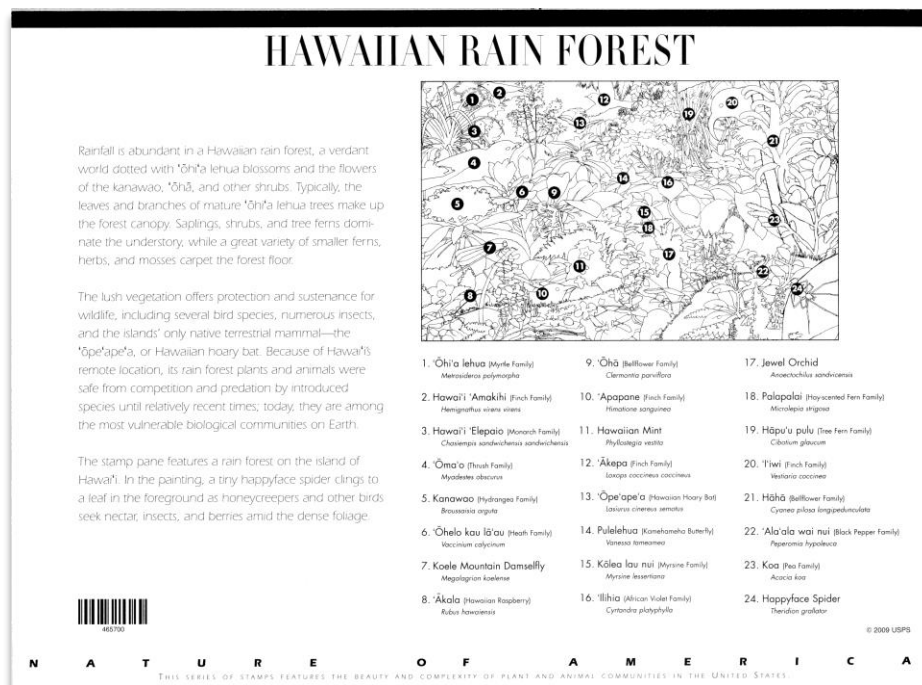
HPS life member, NSDA & APS Dealer Member



Hawaiian Rainforest

By J Lee

As part of the Nature of America series, in 2009, the U.S. Postal Service issued a sheet of ten stamps depicting flora and fauna found in a Hawaiian Rain Forest. The sheet was issued on September 1, 2010 and is the 12th and final set of the Nature in America series (Scott 4474 a-j).



The sheet is based on a painted scene by artist John D. Dawson. He also painted each of the previous ones in the Nature of America series. Similar to the previous nature sheets, the ten stamps are intermixed into the overall scene. The back of the sheet identifies and locates 24 plant and animal species one may find in the rain forest.

Located in the north-central Pacific Ocean, the Hawaiian Islands are more than 2,000 miles from any continental landmass, a fact that has allowed many unique species to develop and thrive here. According to some estimates, over 90 percent of Hawaii's 20,000 native terrestrial species are found nowhere else on Earth.



The stamp above depicts two birds, the **Hawai'i amakihi** (*Hemignathus virens virens*) and the **Hawai'i elepaio** (*Chasiempis sandwichensis sandwichensis*). Also shown is the **'ōhi'a lehua** (*Metrosideros polymorpha*), is a species of flowering evergreen tree in the myrtle family.



The **Happyface Spider** (*Theridion grallator*) sits on a leaf. Also depicted is the **Ala'ala wai nui** (*Peperomia hypoleuca*), a member of the black pepper family.



Hawai'i 'akepa bird (*Loxops coccineus coccineus*) and the **OPE'APE'A** or the Hawaiian hoary bat (*Lasiurus cinerus*) are seen flying in this stamp.



Prominently shown is the **'i'iwi**, or **scarlet honeycreeper** (*Vestiaria coccinea*). In the foreground is the **Haha** (*Cyanea pilosa longipedunculata*) a member of the bellflower family.



The **Keole mountain damselfly** (*Megalagrion koelense*) rests on a stem. Below it is the **'Ākala** or **Hawaiian raspberry** (*Rubus Hawaiensis*).



Shown on the next stamp is the **Jewel orchid** (*Anoetochilus sandivcensis*). It is found in the Haleakala National Park.



Another member of the bellflower is shown, the 'Ōhā (*Clermontia parviflora*).



The 'ōma'ō (*Myadestes obscurus*) found only on the island of Hawaii is seen eating a berry from the **Ohelo kau la'au** (*Vaccinium calycinum*). To the right of the Ohelo, are flowers from the **kanawao** (*Broussaisia arguta*), a species of perennial flowering plant in the Hydrangea family.

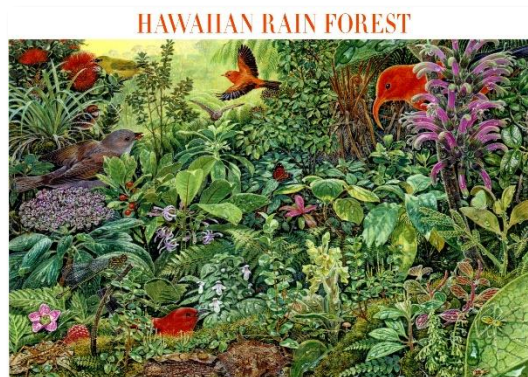


The red bird seen above is the 'Apapane (*Himatione sanguinea*), another species of the Hawaiian honeycreeper family. To its right is the Hawaiian Mint (*Phyllostegia vestita*).

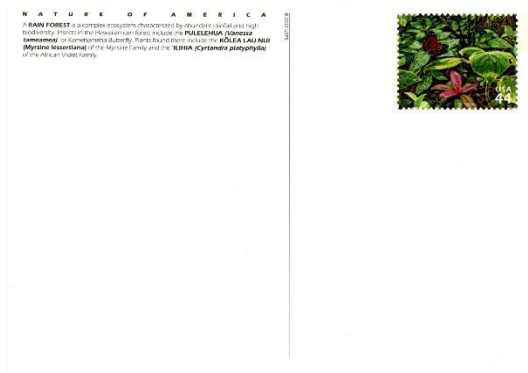


Finally, the **Pulelehua** or **Kamehameha Butterfly** (*Vanessa tameamea*) is one of the two species of butterflies native to Hawaii. It is shown resting on a leaf of the 'Ilihia (*Cyrtandra platyphylia*). Also shown is the **kōlea lau nui** (*Myrsine lessertiana*), a species of colicwood.

In addition to the sheet, a set of 10 pre-stamped post cards were issued (Scott UX 611 to UX612)



Front side of Post Cards



Back side of Post Card, UX612 shown

A Brief History of Wing Wo Chan & Co.

By Jonathan Humble
Life-APS, Life-HPS, Life-PSS, USSS

This article will report on the Asian merchant establishment known as “Wing Wo Chan & Co.” This merchant was located on Nuuanu Street (Now Nuuanu Avenue) in Honolulu, HI. He was a general products merchant who dealt in “...Chinese goods and groceries....” [4]. We know from his advertisements in local newspapers over the years that he also dealt in wicker rockers, Chinese mattings, fine porcelain and china dinner sets, silk goods, handkerchiefs, shawls, decorative pots, carver ivory and carved boxes. **Figure 1** illustrates one of the early newspaper advertisements from 1882 and one of the latest found in 1904.

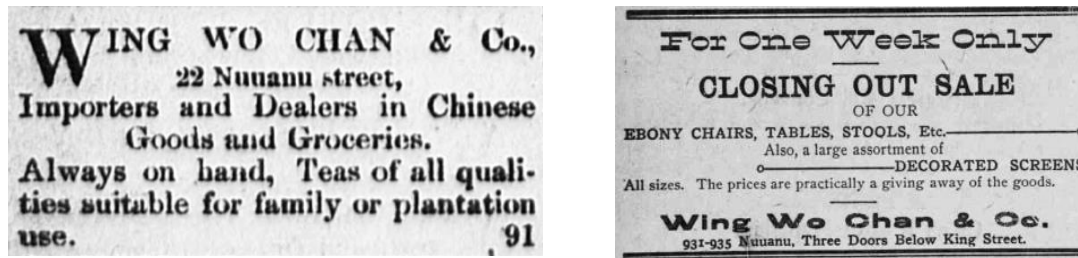


Figure 1: 1882 advertisement (Left)[4], and 1904 advertisement (Right) [6]

Based on available history, much of Wing Wo Chan’s advertising occurred either by word of mouth in the Chinese district of Honolulu or through newspaper advertising. However, like many other merchants in Honolulu he also took advantage of the use of return label handstamps when sending mail. These types of handstamps are generally characterized as private auxiliary marks [5], or as most of the general public today would identify them as return label handstamps. Like today’s pre-printed mail from similar enterprises, the return label serves three basic services; 1) as advertisement; 2) to restrict its use for the enterprise only; and 3) a return address, however even at that time return addresses were not always the standard. For philatelists, these handstamps, like the advertising or illustrated covers of by-gone eras, have become popular collectables.

The Wing Wo Chan & Co. handstamps are not found in great quantities in the philatelic market. Unlike the more desired handstamps, such as: Castle & Cooke, The Hawaiian Stamp Company, or H. Hackfield & Company, this author has only encountered three (3) examples for sale for over the last 30 years of bourses and philatelic sales. This handstamp comes in two colors; purple and red ink color versions that are found in various locations on the front face of envelopes. The lettering style most closely resembles today’s “Gill Sans Condition Light” [8] which is a narrow sans-serif lettering that has a vertical emphasis.

The hand stamp dimensions, as close as can be measured, are:

- Top line: 41 mm (1-5/8 inches) long, with lettering 1.5 mm (1/16 inch) high
- Bottom line: 58 mm (2-5/16 inches) long, with lettering 2 mm (1/8 + inch) high
- Height both lines, out-to-out: 6 + mm (7/16 inch)
- Separation distance between lines of text: 2 mm (3/16 + inch)

The known envelopes were mailed to addresses within the islands of Hawaii during these dates:

- August 1894 (Purple ink version)
- October 1897 (Red ink version)
- January 1898 (Red ink version)

Below we see that **Figure 2** illustrates the purple ink variety, and **Figure 3** illustrates the red ink variety. Notice how small the handstamp is in relation to the common 6-1/4 envelope.

As can be seen in **Figures 2** and **3**, the handstamp appears to have suffered degradation over time (e.g. From 1894 to 1898) most likely due to either the manufacture of the handstamp, through excessive use, or excessive use in combination with little or no maintenance. Notice that the 1894 handstamp (**Figure 2**) is relatively clear, whereas the 1897 handstamp (**Figure 3**) is blotchy.



Figure 2: Full envelope. This is an example of the purple handstamp variety dated from August 1, 1894. The cancel is a Davey 231.71 over a Scott Hawaii #57 stamp (Queen Liliuokalani with a red provisional overprint). [8]

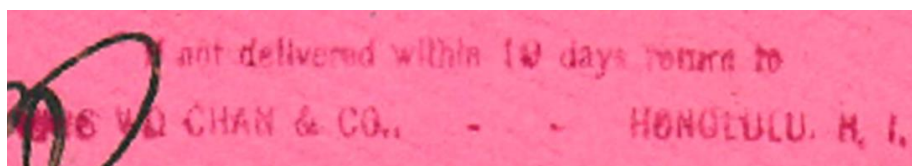
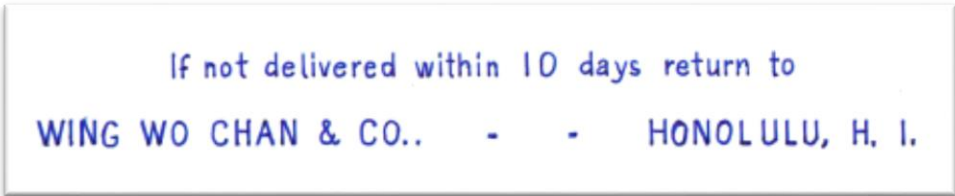


Figure 3: Scanned enlargement of the red ink variety of handstamp.

Figure 4 is the author's recreation illustrating the total text to the reader. A curious feature of the stamp is the double period at the end of "Co" on each variety. Also notice the wide blank area where there are two dashes between "Co." and the "H" of Honolulu. This is a long narrow style handstamp versus the atypical type of handstamp that is normally compact which we see listed in Post Office in Paradise [7].



If not delivered within 10 days return to
WING WO CHAN & CO.. - - HONOLULU, H. I.

Figure 4: Redrawn by hand version for clarity. Not to scale.

While the history of this merchant is not complete, we do know this merchant survived and rebounded from the 1866 fire of Chinatown [2], and the 1900 fire of select areas of Honolulu that were part of the attempt to mitigate the bubonic plague [3]. We also know during these times in Honolulu's history that Nuuanu street appeared to represent an invisible boundary between the Caucasian businesses and the Asian businesses. Based on an 1891 fire insurance map [1], historical references [2], and multiple newspaper advertisements of various merchants, it is found that North and Northwest of Mr. Chan's store were multiple Asian merchants and service providers. This was a strategic location for as new Asians arrived at the Honolulu docks they were only blocks away from fellow countrymen. Just a block away from Wing Wo Chan was another neighbor AHI [7] "manufacturer [and] upholsterer and dealer in furniture, bedding etc...." [5] located at 89 Nuuanu Street. While to the East and South we find such familiar neighbors within blocks of his establishment, and which philatelists should recognize from the Post Office In Paradise [7] private commercial marks listing, that included:

- Benson & Smith Drug Store (Fort Street)
- Brewer & Co. (Queen street)
- Castle & Cooke (Corner of Bethal and King Streets)
- Grinbaum's (Corner of Queen and Kaahumanu Streets)
- Hawaiian News (Merchant Street)
- Holister and Co. (Fort Street, in 1891)
- Honolulu Iron Works (Across the street from Wing Wo Chan's),
- Honolulu Post Office (Merchant and Bethal Streets)
- F.A. Schaefer & Co. (Corner of Merchant and Kaahumanu Streets)

In the end as time passes, and with modernization, comes change. As a result, today we can find only a few of those historic buildings that represent the early development of Honolulu still standing. Today a newer Wing Wo Tai building, which was built in 1916 near the building site of the original Wing Wo Tai and Wing Wo Chan buildings, is but one of only a few historic buildings that contained Asian merchants on Nuuanu street. The neighborhood with its remaining historic buildings is now part of the Chinatown Historic District in Honolulu.

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[4] Daily Bulletin, Published by J. W. Robertson & Co., Honolulu, Hawaii, Friday, May 5, 1882, No. 81, Page 2. (Source: Library of Congress, Washington, DC)

[5] Evening Bulletin, December 4, 1895, Vol. 1, No. 169, B. L. Finney, Manager. (Source: Library of Congress, Washington, DC)

[6] Pacific Commercial Advertiser, January 4, 1904, Vol. XXXIX, No. 6679 (Source: University of Hawaii at Manoa, Hamilton Library, Honolulu, HI, eVols open access digital institution)

[7] “Post Office In Paradise”, <http://www.hawaiianstamps.com>

[8] Schuyler Rumsey Philatelic Auctions, “Schuyler J. Rumsey Philatelic Auctions Sale 71 - SESCO General Public Auction”, Schuyler Rumsey Philatelic Auctions, 47 Kearny Street, San Francisco, CA 94108, September 23-25, 2016, Lot No. 2190.

[9] “Microsoft Windows – Word Program”, Microsoft, One Microsoft Way, Redmond, WA, 2010.



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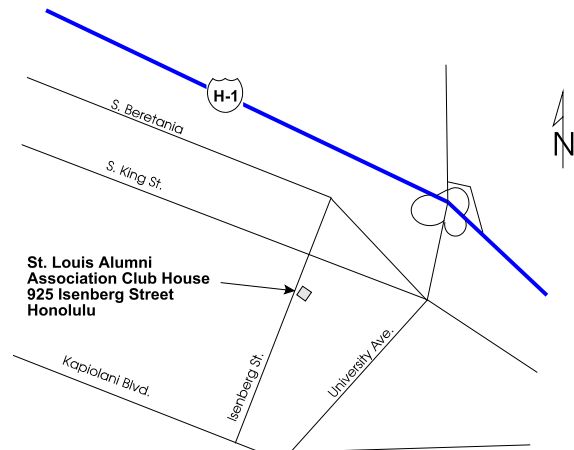
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The Hawaiian Philatelic Society meets from 7 PM to 9:30 PM on the second Monday of each month at the St. Louis Alumni Association Club House in central Honolulu. Each meeting includes a short business session, a program or slide presentation and an auction of about 100 lots. We invite you to attend, meet your fellow members, enjoy the program, and talk stamps. The public is welcome at all our meetings and we encourage you to become a member.



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Cover Illustration: 1909 Iolani Palace Post Card (Hawaii & South Sea Curio Company)

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