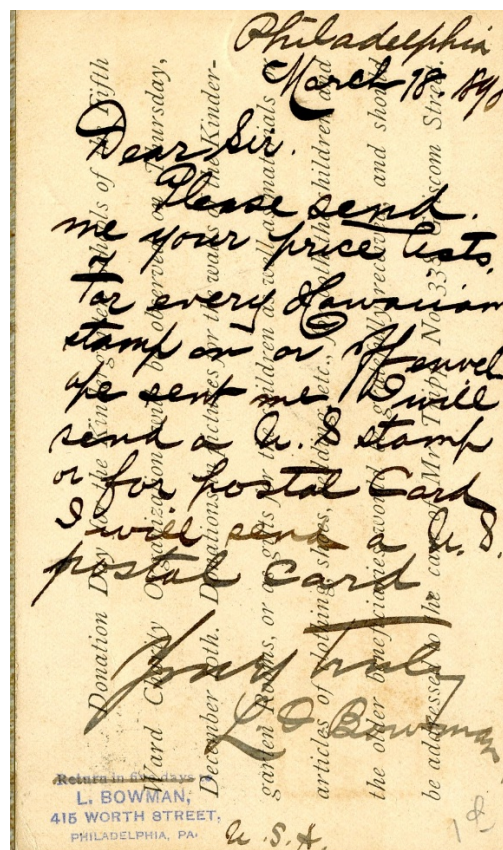


# PO'OLEKA O HAWAII



The Semi Annual Journal of the Hawaiian Philatelic Society

Number 90

July 2020

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# PO'OLEKA O HAWAII

The Quarterly Journal of the Hawaiian Philatelic Society

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Number 90

July 2020

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## Editor's Notes

By Greg Chang, Editor

Aloha and welcome to the July 2020 edition of the *Po'oleka O Hawaii*.

So much has changed since the beginning of the year. It has been over three months since we have been in lock down mode due to the COVID-19 situation - travel has been limited, stamp expos have been canceled; however, there is an increase of virtual activities.

To start off with this edition, is the timely article by Howard Kadohiro on fumigated letters from Hawaii. He describes Hawaiian letters that were fumigated during the Cholera and Bubonic Plague Epidemics.

Norbert Wild continues his series of picture postcards usages in pre-territorial Hawaii. He presents a comprehensive listing of postcards issued prior to June 14, 1900 when Hawaii became a territory of the United States.

Charles Chapman brings us back to the early 1960's with postcards from Waikiki. Five postcards are featured, one from each year beginning from 1960 to 1964. Would be interesting to get current photos to compare to the images on the postcards.

Finally, Ben Gale provides us with his report on the Kalaupapa Stamp Project. It was quite an adventure. The only ways to get to Kalaupapa is by mule or airplane. They took the latter to get there as the mule trail has been washed away.

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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## Hawaii Fumigated Cover

By Howard Kadohiro ([chuutohampa@yahoo.com](mailto:chuutohampa@yahoo.com))

Reprinted from *Post Boy* (April 2020), the publication for the Nevada Stamp Study Society

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**C**oronavirus pandemic!!

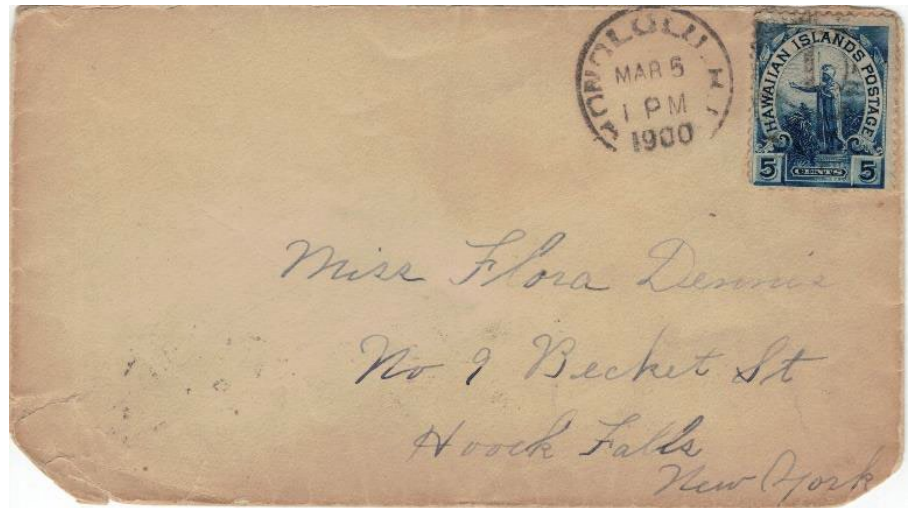
My daughter has my wife and me under “house arrest.” We are forbidden to leave the house and she checks on us daily. Wash your hands, use hand sanitizers, and wipe down all surfaces with disinfectant wipes. Wear gloves when getting our mail and disinfect them before opening. We live in extreme times.

Disinfect mail before opening? Reminded me of a fumigated Hawaiian cover I bought over 20 years ago. There were ten times from 1853 to 1900 that epidemics in Hawaii, Asia, and San Francisco resulted in mail being fumigated before delivery in Hawaii or shipping to foreign destination.

Almost all fumigated covers are from the 1895 Cholera Epidemic and 1899-1900 Bubonic Plague Epidemic. Fumigated covers have the telltale signs of two or more clipped corners and postmarked during the quarantined dates.

Honolulu was quarantined from August 20 to October 23, 1895 during the Cholera Epidemic of 1895. “Mail was fumigated before it could be put aboard a ship bound for another port.”

Quarantine dates for the 1899-1900 Bubonic Plague Epidemic were December 12, 1899 to April 30, 1900. The cover shown is from this period. It was posted in Honolulu on March 5,



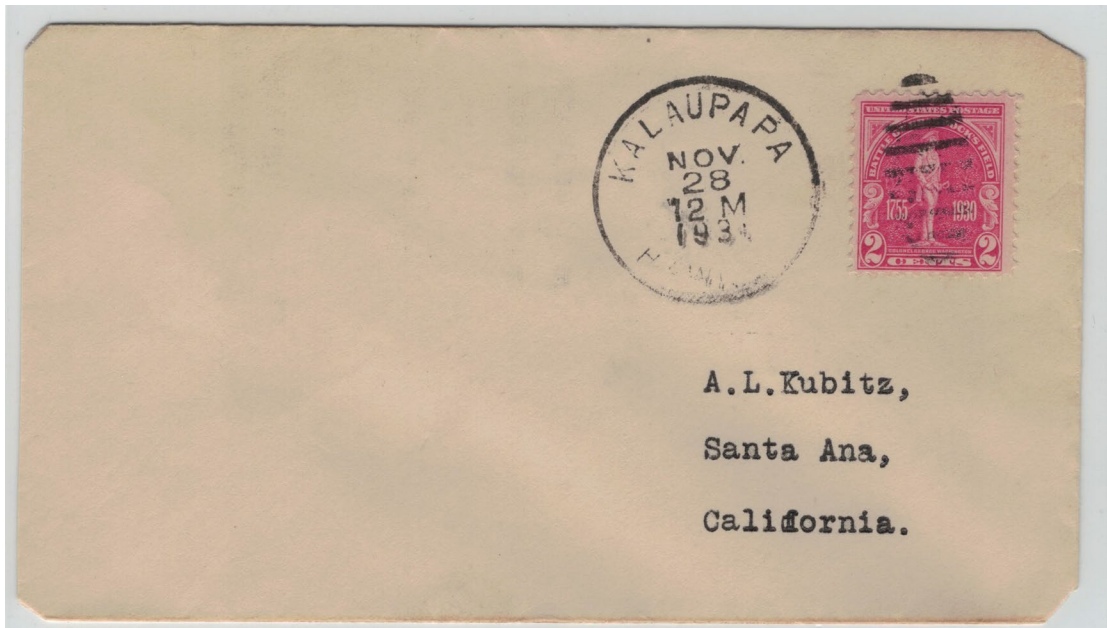
***Address side of cover postmarked Honolulu, HI, March 5, 1900 to New York. Reverse side of cover with transit postmark March 13, 1900 and receiving postmark in Hoosick Falls, NY on March 19, 1900. Notice the clipped corners.***

1900 addressed to Hoosick Falls, N. Y. and has two bottom corners clipped.

**Reference:** Post Office In Paradise, [www.hawaiianstamps.com](http://www.hawaiianstamps.com), Fumigated Mail and Other Epidemic Mail Covers.

We can use your help...





I've recently acquired a fumigated cover from Kalaupapa and would like to have any information you may have on it or other covers from Kalaupapa such as when the post office was opened or dates when the mail was fumigated from this facility. Information can be sent to: [chuutohampa@yahoo.com](mailto:chuutohampa@yahoo.com)

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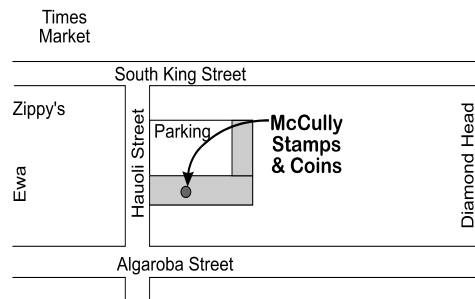
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## Picture Postcard Usages in Pre-Territorial Hawaii – Part 2

By Norbert Wild

**T**his is the second installment in a series of articles on the use of picture postcards during the few years prior to the beginning of Hawaii's U.S. territorial postal administration period (June 14, 1900). These 'pioneer' picture postcards typically depict scenes from early island life and times. The previous article (HPS Number 88, July 2019) began the categorization of the earliest of these cards, the so-called 'Aloha nui' (AN) series. The focus of this second article will be on a fairly similar set of cards are often referred to as the 'Red Letter Font' series. Indeed, the layout and printing of this second set appears to have been done by the same publisher as the 'Aloha nui' series, with many of the images being the same as used in the 'Aloha nui' series. This second series of cards will be referred to as the 'Red Letter Font' (RLF) series in this article.

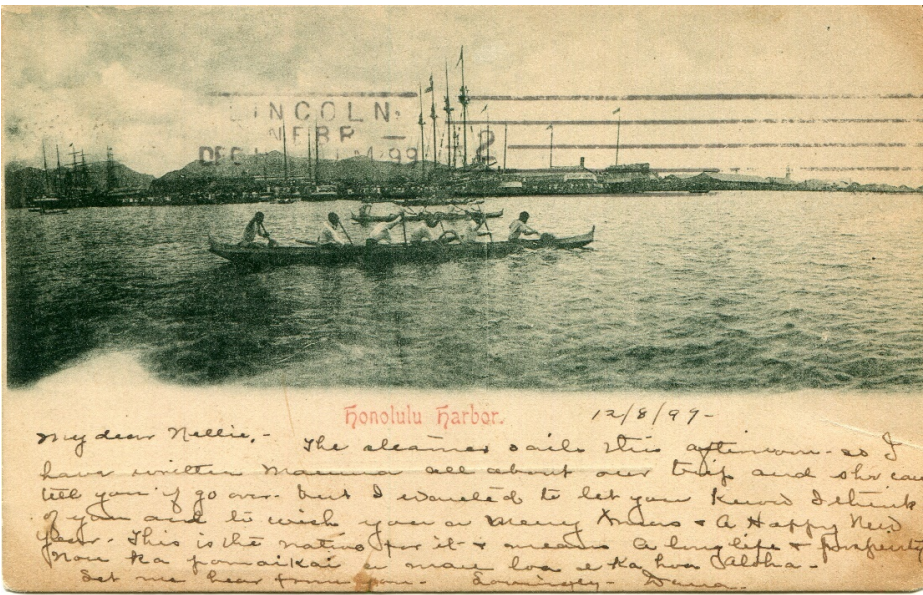
A typical RLF card with an image entitled 'Date-Palm Avenue, Ainahau.' is shown in **Figure 1**. Note the distinctive red lettering used in the caption which gives this card series its name. Aina'hau was the 10-acre estate deeded to Princess Ka'iulani by her godmother, Princess Ruth Ke'elikolani, and is featured in two of the nine cards in the RLF 'A' set. As with the 'Aloha nui' series, the photographic images used for the RLF series were of high quality and printed using a similar toning process that gives a slight greenish tint (although less green than in the 'Aloha nui' series cards) to the black and white image. The first two printings of the RLF series ('A' and 'B' sets) are un-framed, with a washed-out blurriness to the rounded corners and sides of the image, in the same manner as with the 'Aloha nui' series. The card stock (88mm x 136mm) is an off-white to ivory color.

The earliest documented usage date for the RLF cards is currently Dec. 8, 1899, roughly two years after the first 'Aloha nui' cards were seen. An example of such a usage is shown in **Figure 2**. All three of the RLF sets ('A', 'B', and 'C') appear to have been released at the same time, in early December, 1899. There are 9 different scenes documented in the 'A' set of the RLF cards, with five oriented vertically and the other four horizontally. An alphabetical listing of



*Figure 1. Typical RLF card (RLF-2A) from the 'A' set of the RLF series. The caption reads 'Date-Palm Avenue, Aina'hau.' and the image is in a vertical orientation.*

the card captions used in the ‘A’ set of the RLF series is given here in **Table 1**.



**Figure 2.** Example of an 'RLF' card (Honolulu Harbor, RLF-7A) posted on the earliest documented usage (EDU) date (Dec. 8, 1899) from the RLF set ‘A’.

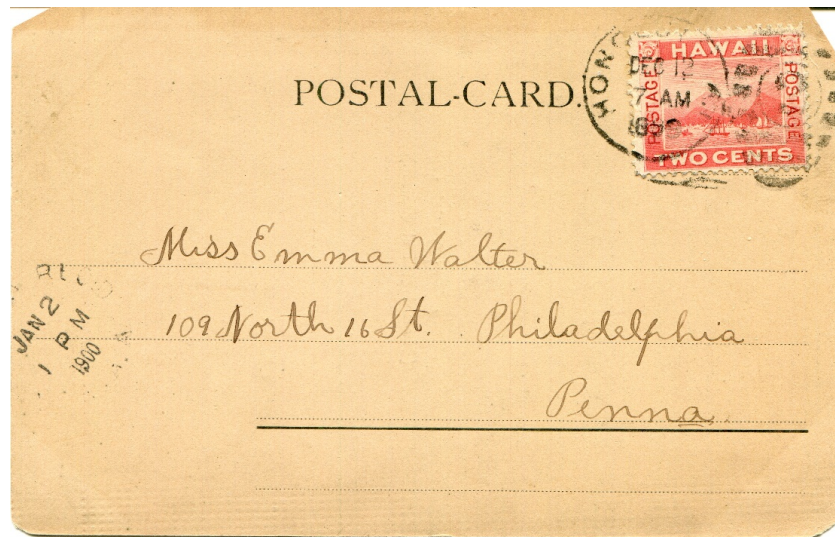
RLF Designation	Image Caption	Orientation
RLF-1A	Crater of Kilauea.	Horizontal
RLF-2A	Date-Palm Avenue, Aieahau.	Vertical
RLF-3A	Diamond Head.	Vertical
RLF-4A	Diamond Head and Waikiki Beach. (one canoe)	Horizontal
RLF-5A	Fan Palms, Aieahau	Vertical
RLF-6A	Honolulu Harbor. (canoe with clubhouse at right)	Horizontal
RLF-7A	Honolulu Harbor. (canoe with harbor in background)	Horizontal
RLF-8A	Native making Poi.	Vertical
RLF-9A	View from Tantalus. (Diamond head at distance.)	Vertical

**Table 1.** Summary of the 9 cards in the 'A' set of 'Red Letter Font' picture postcards.

The address side used for the RLF ‘A’ set is shown in **Figure 3**. The words 'POSTAL CARD' are in a font which is very similar to the ‘Aloha nui’ series. As virtually all of these early cards, including the 'Aloha nui' series, do not have a number associated with the caption (as did many of the later territorial printings from the Island Curio Store, and others), the cataloguing 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 RLF-2A, with the 'A' referring to the first RLF set.

The second set of RLF cards (set 'B') consists of a much larger sequence of 19 different images. All of the images are new except for the ‘Crater of Kilauea’ image used on card RLF-6B, which was also used on





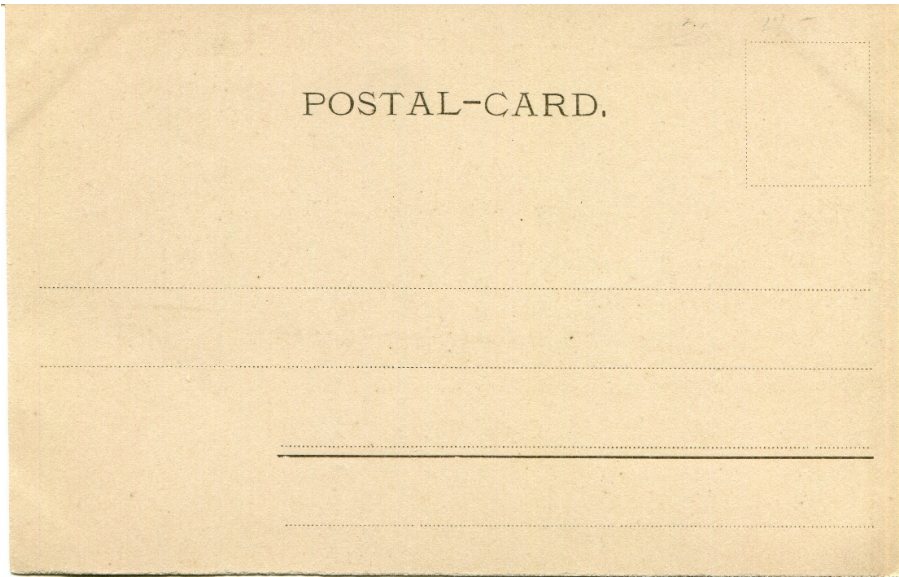
**Figure 3.** Address side of the 'Red Letter Font' first set 'A' cards.

card RLF-1A. An alphabetical listing of the cards in the second 'B' set is given here in **Table 2**. The only apparent difference between the 'A' and 'B' sets is in the lettering of 'POSTAL-CARD' on the back side. Note the nearly circular shape of the loop in the letter P of Set 'A' compared to the elongated oval shape seen in the Set 'B' cards (**Figure 4**). There are also more pronounced serifs in the top of the two A's and the bottom of the C in Set 'B' when compared to Set 'A'. A close-up comparison of the two RLF fonts, as well as the font used in the Aloha nui series, is shown in **Figure 5**. The current earliest documented

Designation	Image Caption	Orientation
RLF-1B	Banana Patch, Waikiki Road.	Vertical
RLF-2B	Banyan Tree, Waikiki.	Vertical
RLF-3B	Cane Cutting at Ewa Plantation.	Horizontal
RLF-4B	City of Hilo.	Horizontal
RLF-5B	Cocoanut Island.	Horizontal
RLF-6B	Crater of Kilauea.	Horizontal
RLF-7B	Diamond Head and Waikiki Beach. (2 canoes)	Vertical
RLF-8B	Fort Street, Honolulu.	Vertical
RLF-9B	High School, Honolulu.	Vertical
RLF-10B	Hilo Hotel.	Horizontal
RLF-11B	Honolulu Harbor. ( <i>ships at anchor</i> )	Horizontal
RLF-12B	Kilauea Volcano House.	Horizontal
RLF-13B	Native Settlement.	Horizontal
RLF-14B	Pali Road.	Vertical
RLF-15B	Rainbow Falls.	Horizontal
RLF-16B	Royal Palms.	Vertical
RLF-17B	Scenery at Onomea Gulch.	Horizontal
RLF-18B	Taro Patch.	Vertical
RLF-19B	View from Punchbowl.	Vertical

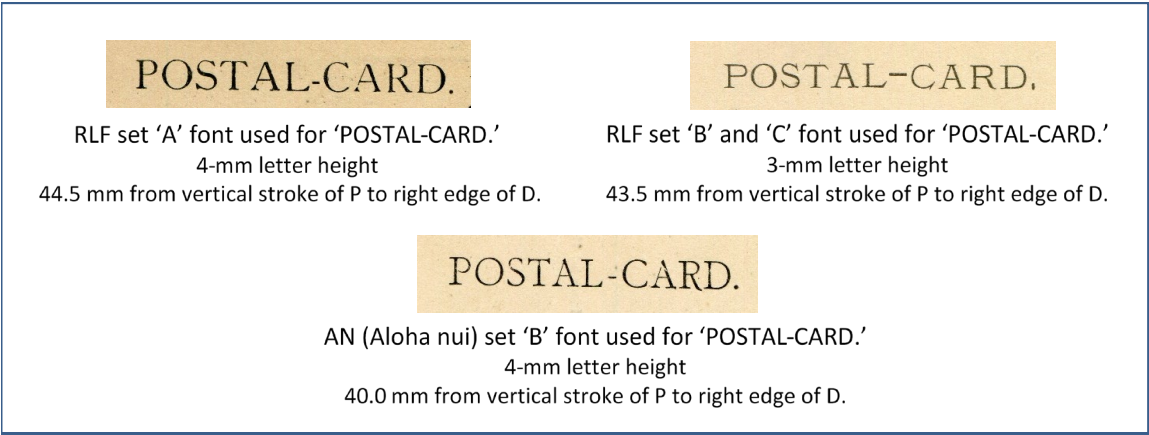
**Table 2.** Summary of the 19 cards in the second 'B' set of 'Red Letter Font' picture postcards.

usage date of a card from this second set is Dec. 9, 1899 (used from Kekaha, Kauai, see **Figure 6**).



**Figure 4.** Address side of the 'Red Letter Font' second set 'B' cards.

As with the 'Aloha nui' cards, most of the RLF cards appear to have been bought by tourists writing home about their visit to the Islands, or by residents wanting to send a quick Christmas greetings or Happy New Year note to family or friends in the US and Europe. Indeed, the initial appearance of these cards in early December of 1899 seems to have been timed to satisfy those desiring to send out Yuletide greetings. 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. Outer island usages are relatively scarce, with the majority of these being sent from the Big Island, but some usages from Maui and Kauai are noted.



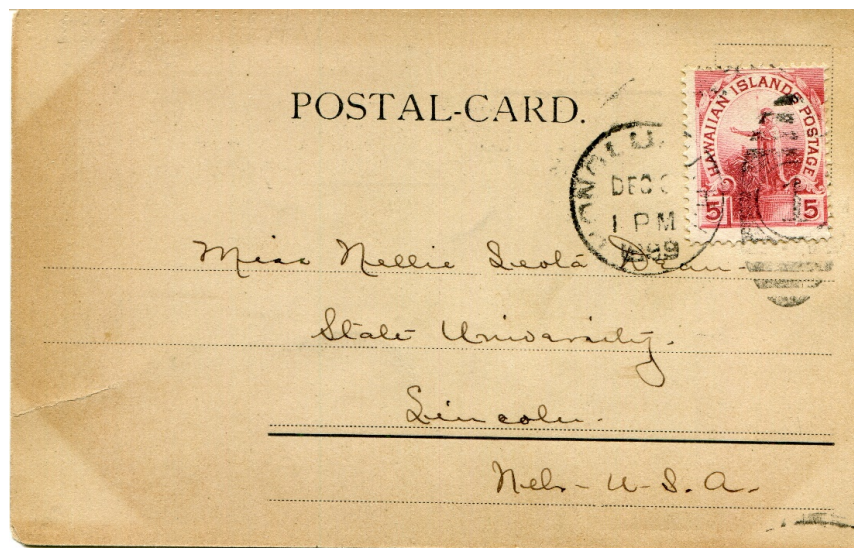
**Figure 5.** Comparison of the lettering of 'POSTAL-CARD' for the various Red Letter Font (RLF) cards (sets 'A', 'B', and 'C') and the set 'B' cards of the Aloha nui (AN) series.



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 'Red Letter Font' cards is a 2¢ rose (Scott 81), or pairs of the 1¢ issue (Scott 74 or 80). As evidenced by the card shown in **Figure 7**, some confusion still existed during this early usage period as to whether these cards needed 5¢ for foreign destinations.



**Figure 6.** The backside of the EDU card for RLF set 'B' (RLF-9B, 'High School, Honolulu.') mailed from Kekaha, Kauai (DEC 9, 1899) to Hamburg, Germany with Honolulu duplex transit marking and Hamburg receiver cds (1 JAN, 1900).



**Figure 7.** The backside of the EDU card shown in Fig. 2 (RLF-7A, 'Honolulu Harbor.') mailed to Lincoln, Nebraska with evidence of either a shortage of 2¢ stamps or some confusion as to the correct rate.

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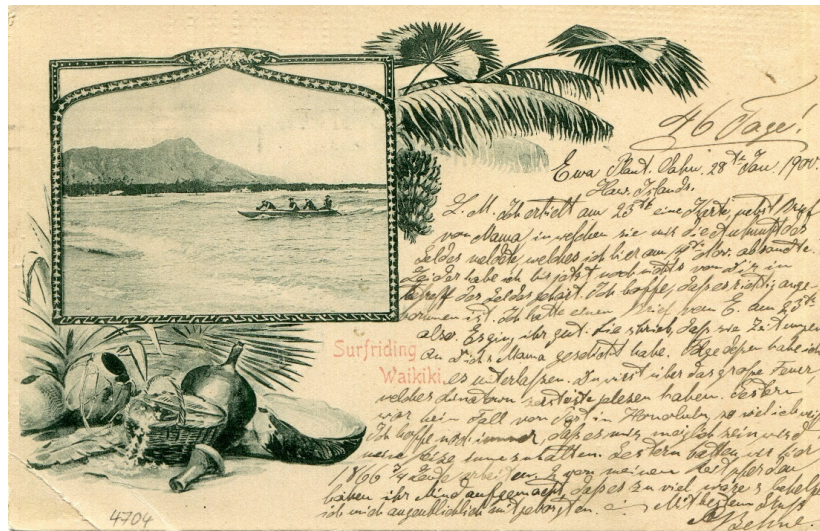
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**Figure 8.** An example (RLF-18C, ‘Surfriding Waikiki’) of the ornately framed image seen in the RLF cards from the third ‘C’ set of the Red Letter Font card series. The frame on this card (palm fronds, bananas and calabashes) is designated as F1. Two other frame types (F2, and F3) were also used for this set ‘C’.

A third set of RLF cards (Set ‘C’) was produced with ornate frames around each image. An example from this set is shown in **Figure 8**. Three different types of framing were utilized, with a total of 18 different images known to exist. **Table 3** lists the figure captions and frame type for each card in the ‘C’ set. Note

Designation	Image Caption	Orientation	Frame Type
RLF-1C	Cocoanut Island, Hilo.	Horizontal	1
RLF-2C	Diamond Head and Waikiki Beach.	Horizontal	1
RLF-3C	Government Building and Kamehameha Statue.	Horizontal	2
RLF-4C	Hawaiian Belle.	Horizontal	2
RLF-5C	Hawaiian Hotel.	Horizontal	3
RLF-6C	Hula Dancers.	Horizontal	3
RLF-7C	Hula Girls.	Horizontal	3
RLF-8C	Kilauea Volcano House.	Horizontal	1
RLF-9C	Native Flowergirls on Nuuanu Street.	Horizontal	1
RLF-10C	Native Grasshut.	Vertical	2
RLF-11C	Native Grasshut.	Horizontal	3
RLF-12C	Native Woman.	Horizontal	2
RLF-13C	Palace, Honolulu.	Horizontal	1
RLF-14C	Preparing a Luau.	Vertical	2
RLF-15C	Punahou College, Honolulu.	Horizontal	3
RLF-16C	Scene on Waiakea River.	Horizontal	3
RLF-17C	Seabeach Waikiki.	Horizontal	1
RLF-18C	Surfriding Waikiki.	Horizontal	1

**Table 3.** Summary of the 18 documented cards in the third ‘C’ set (framed) of ‘Red Letter Font’ picture postcards.

there are seven different images using Frame 1, five different images using Frame 2, and six different images using Frame 3. Examples of cards using Frame 2 (intertwining lei and rectangular frame) and Frame 3 (palm fronds and ornate trapezoidal frame) are shown in Figures 9 and 10 respectively. The earliest documented usage for a card from the 'C' set is from a card datelined Dec. 8, 1899 and mailed at sea (PAQUOBOT straightline handstamp) with the Hawaiian stamp cancelled with a San Francisco double oval, as shown in **Figure 11a** and **11b**.

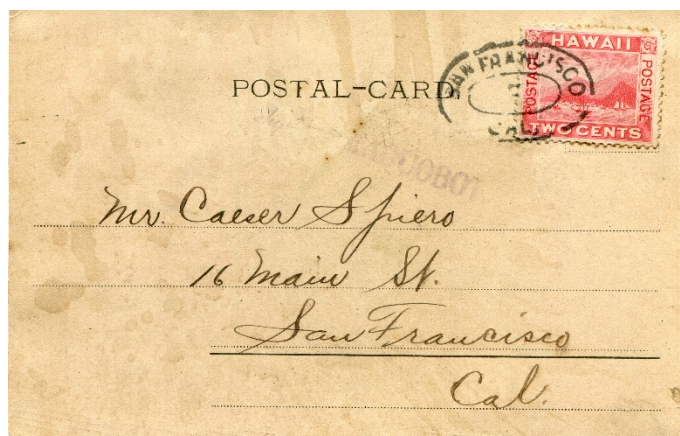


**Figure 9. Example (RLF-4C, 'Hawaiian Belle.') of an RLF card from set 'C' using Frame 2 (intertwining lei and square frame).**



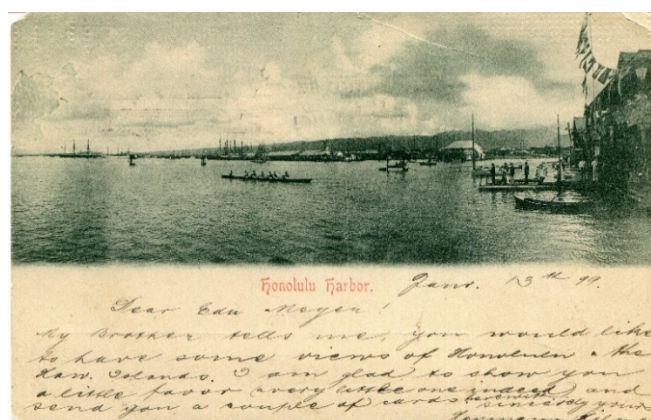
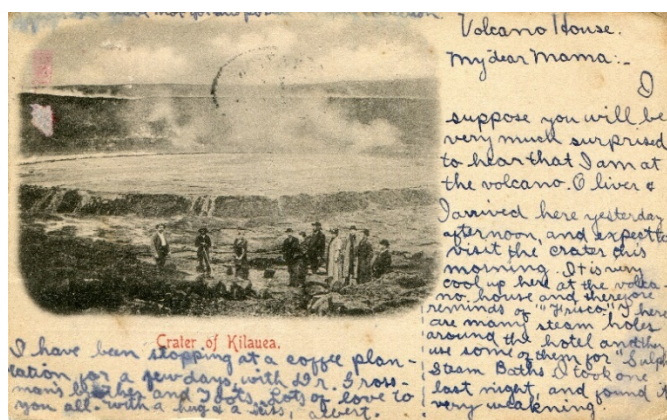
**Figure 10. Example (RLF-6C, 'Hula Dancers.') of an RLF card from set 'C' using Frame 3 (palm fronds and trapezoidal frame).**





**Figure 11a. Card RLF-7C ('Hula Girls.') with 12/8/99 dateline. Figure 11b. Reverse of card showing San Francisco black double-oval cancel and purple 'PAQUOBOT' straightline handstamp.**

Due to the relatively late issue of the RLF cards (early Dec. 1899), compared to the Aloha nui cards (late Nov. 1897), there are significantly more of the RLF cards seen used with US stamps during the territorial period (after June 13, 1900) than those used prior to June 14, 1900 with Hawaiian stamps. As with the 'Aloha nui' cards, if you are fortunate enough to own any 'Red Letter Font' cards properly used during the pre-territorial 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 the list can be updated and kept current. And if anyone knows of a usage date prior to December, 8, 1899 for these RLF cards, that is also of interest. For reference, **Figures 12– 15** show images of each card in the 'RLF-A' set that have not been illustrated above. **Figures 16-23** show images of each card in the 'RLF-B' set, and **Figures 24-30** show the images for each card in the RLF-C set (framed).



**Figure 12. 'Red Letter Font' cards RLF-1A ('Crater of Kilauea.') and RLF-6A ('Honolulu Harbor.').**



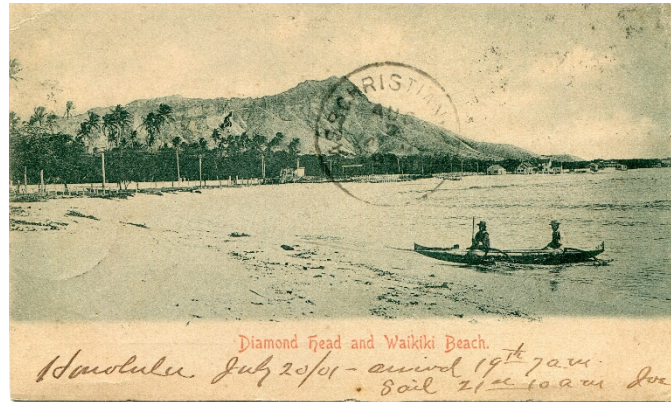


Figure 13. 'Red Letter Font' card RLF-4A ('Diamond Head and Waikiki Beach').

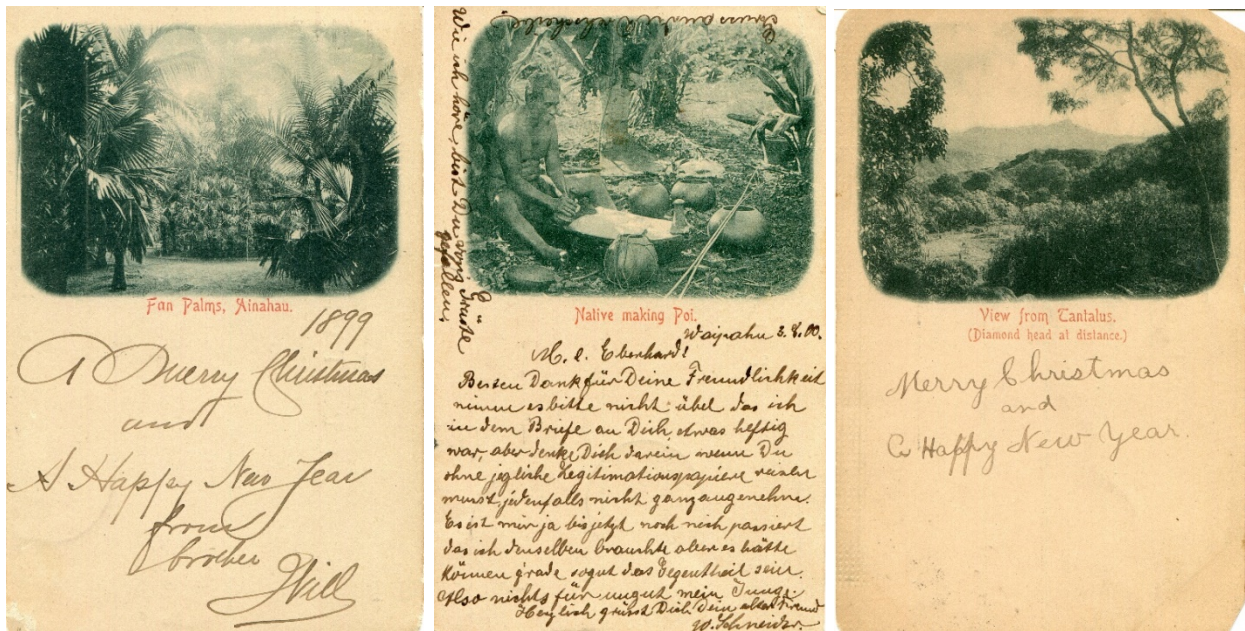


Figure 14. 'Red Letter Font' cards RLF-5A ('Fan Palms, Aieahau'), RLF-8A ('Native making Poi'), and RLF-9A ('View from Tantalus/(Diamond head at distance.)').









Figure 17. 'Red Letter Font' cards RLF-3B ('Cane Cutting at Ewa Plantation') and RLF-4B ('City of Hilo').

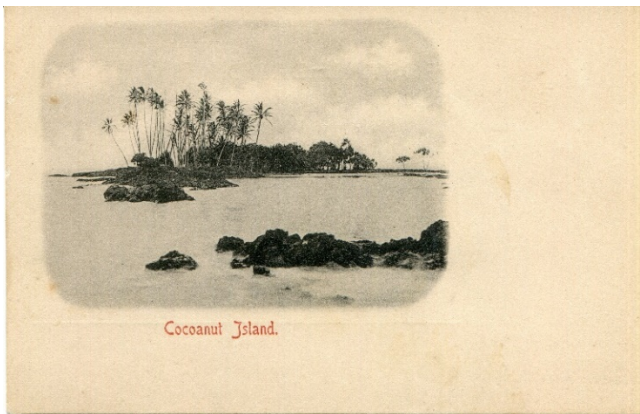


Figure 18. 'Red Letter Font' cards RLF-5B ('Cocoanut Island') and RLF-6B ('Crater of Kilauea'). Note the image for card RLF-6B is identical to the one used for card RLF-1A ('Crater of Kilauea') shown in Figure 12.

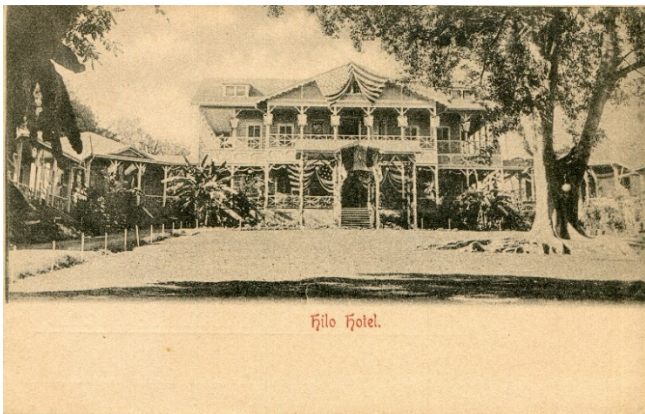


Figure 19. 'Red Letter Font' cards RLF-10B ('Hilo Hotel') and RLF-11B ('Honolulu Harbor').



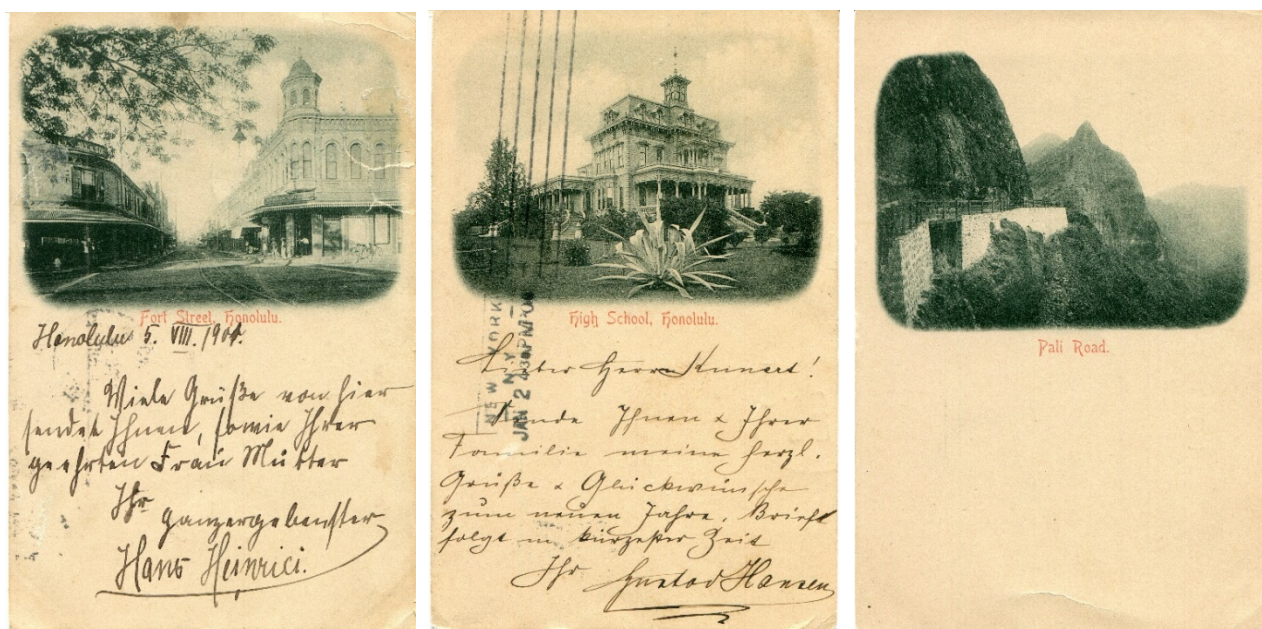


Figure 20. 'Red Letter Font' cards RLF-8B ('Fort Street, Honolulu'), RLF-9B ('High School, Honolulu'), and RLF-14B ('Pali Road').

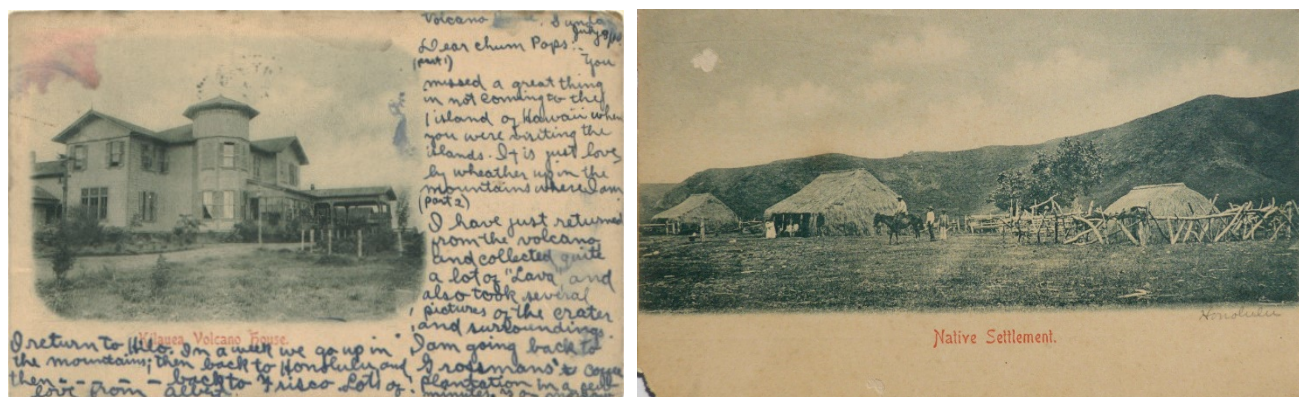


Figure 21. 'Red Letter Font' cards RLF-12B ('Kilauea Volcano House') and RLF-13B ('Native Settlement').

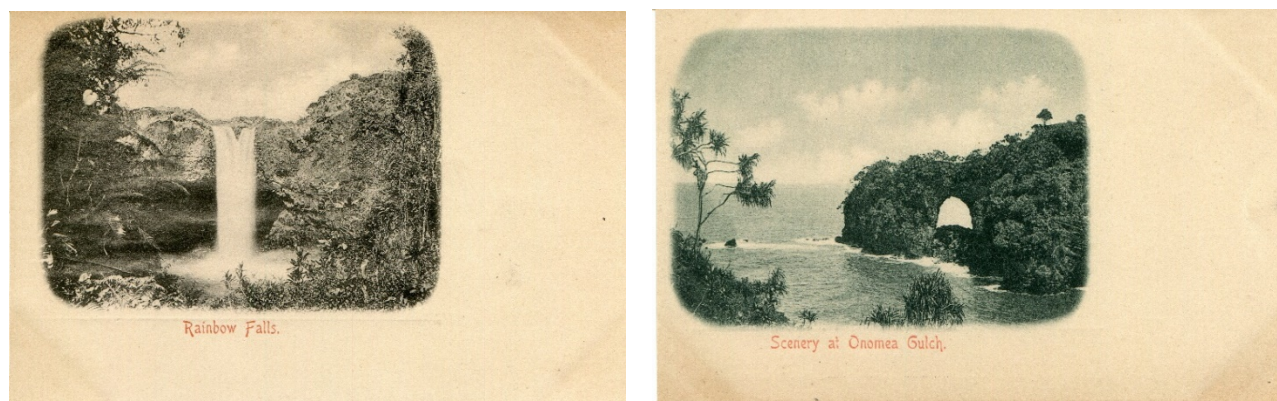


Figure 22. 'Red Letter Font' cards RLF-15B ('Rainbow Falls') and RLF-17B ('Scenery at Onomea Gulch').





Figure 23. 'Red Letter Font' cards RLF-16B ('Royal Palms'), RLF-18B ('Taro Patch'), and RLF-19B ('View from Punchbowl').

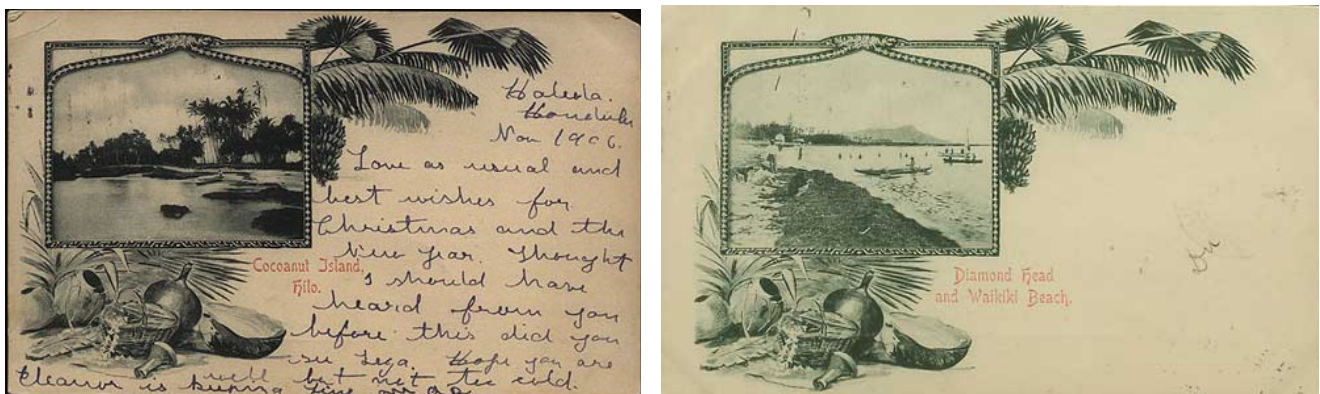


Figure 24. 'Red Letter Font' cards RLF-1C ('Cocoanut Island/Hilo') and RLF-2C ('Diamond Head and Waikiki Beach').



Figure 25. 'Red Letter Font' cards RLF-3C ('Government Building and Kamehameha Statue') and RLF-5C ('Hawaiian Hotel').





Figure 26. 'Red Letter Font' cards RLF-8C ('Kilauea Volcano/House') and RLF-9C ('Native Flower girls/on Nuuanu Street').

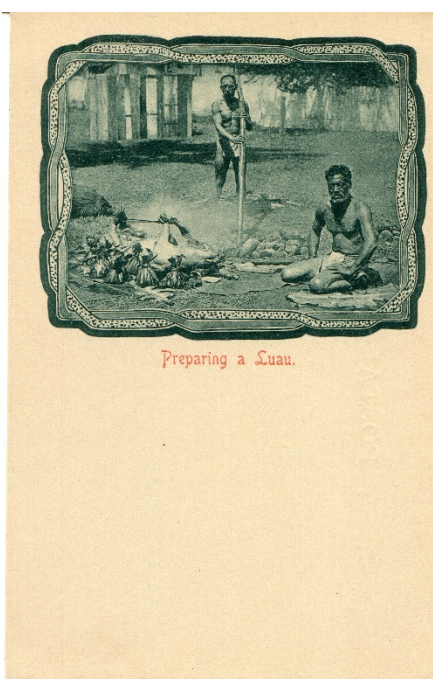
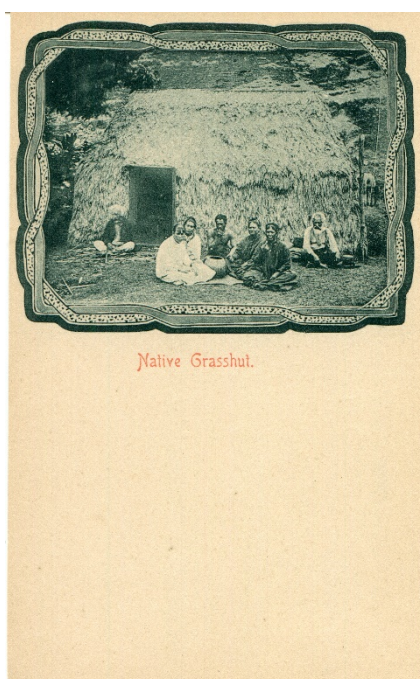


Figure 27. 'Red Letter Font' cards RLF-10C ('Native Grasshut') and RLF-14C ('Preparing a Luau').

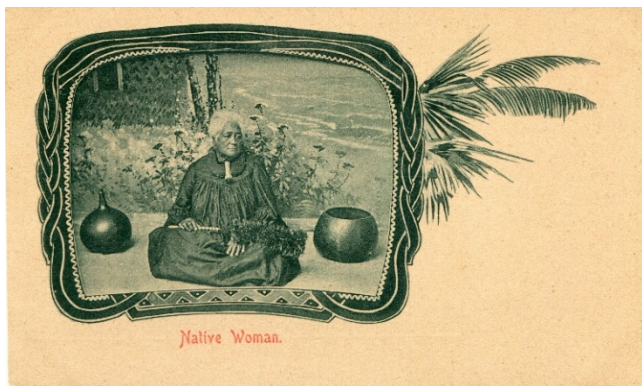
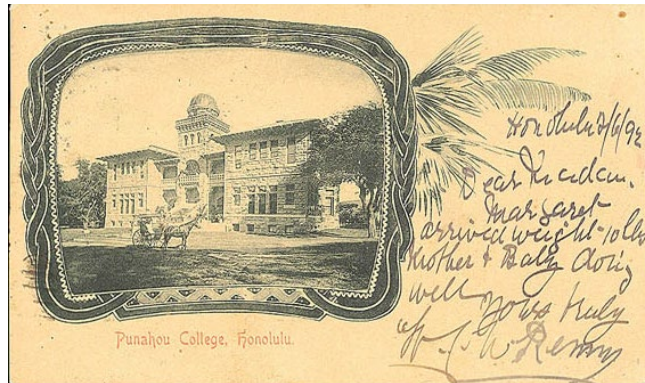
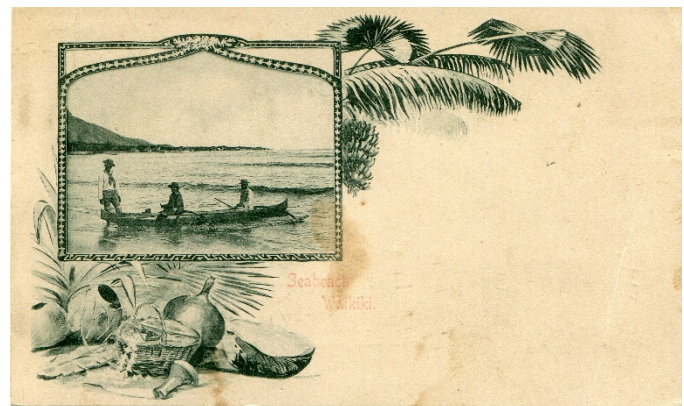


Figure 28. 'Red Letter Font' cards RLF-11C ('Native Grasshut') and RLF-12C ('Native Woman').





**Figure 29. 'Red Letter Font' cards RLF-13C ('Palace/Honolulu') and RLF-15C ('Punahou College, Honolulu').**



**Figure 30. 'Red Letter Font' cards RLF-16C ('Scene on the Waiakea River') and RLF-17C ('Seabeach/Waikiki').**

The next article will examine several more picture postcard series produced during this period. These include the 'Boys in Blue' series produced by Wall, Nichols & Co., and the so-called 'Plain type' cards. Happy hunting!

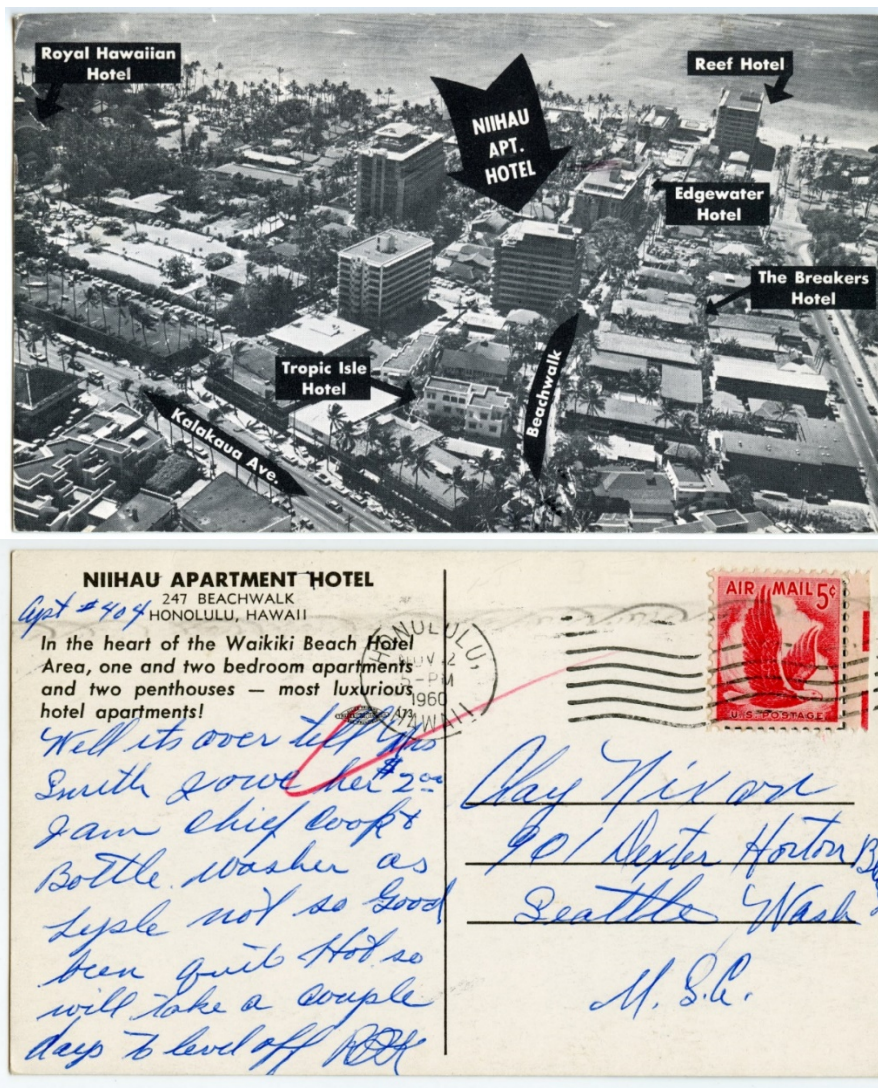
**Acknowledgements:** Many thanks to fellow HPS member Jim Shaffer for alerting me and providing images of cards missing from my collection.

## Waikiki Postcards Part 1: 1960 to 1964

By Charles Chapman

**M**y interest is postcards of Waikiki. I have been collecting them for a few years and have a couple of thousand carefully curated from around 1900 to 1990, mostly street scenes and buildings. In this article, I've present 5 postcards, one each for year 1960 to 1964 with an explanatory description for each. The picture shows something of interest in Waikiki (such as a scene that no longer exists). The message side has interest too in addition to a legible postmark showing the year. Enjoy!

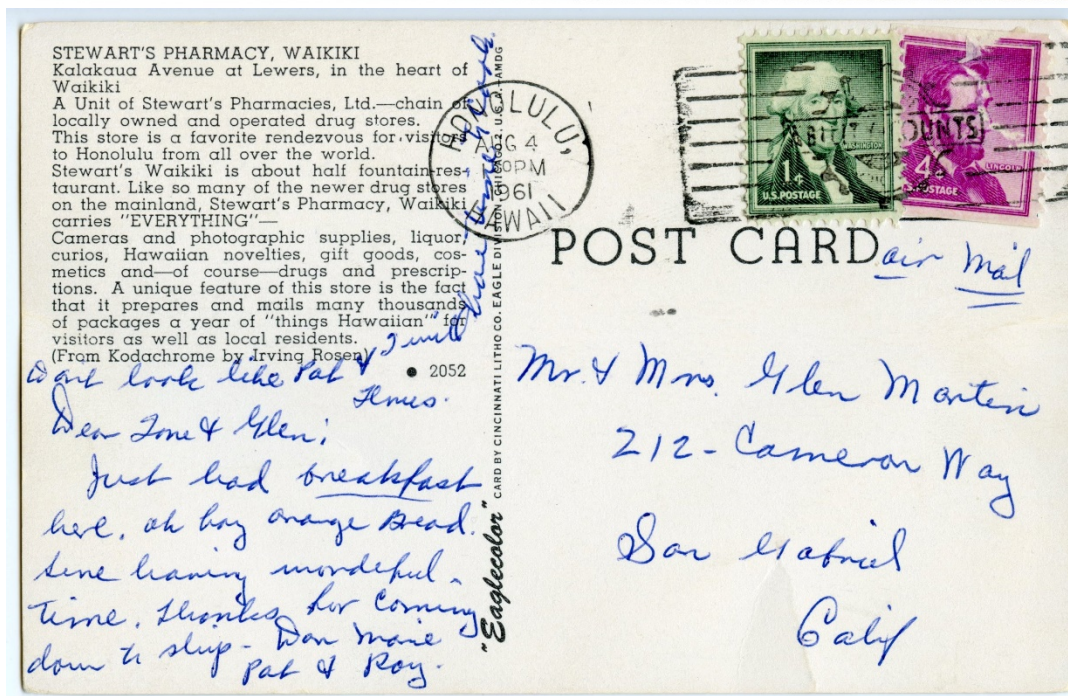
1960



What a good shot to start with -- this *Niihau Apartment Hotel* advertising card postmarked Nov 2, 1960 shows how even 60 years ago Waikiki's transition from low-rise to high-rise was well underway. The Niihau opened the year the postcard was mailed and is now private condos. While a few of the 2 and 3 story buildings shown on the right at Beachwalk and Saratoga Road survive, including the lovely 1954 timewarp Breakers Hotel, the scene today is otherwise redeveloped out of recognition. In the lower left corner note the intersection of Kalakaua and Lewers, it's the site of our 1961 entry...



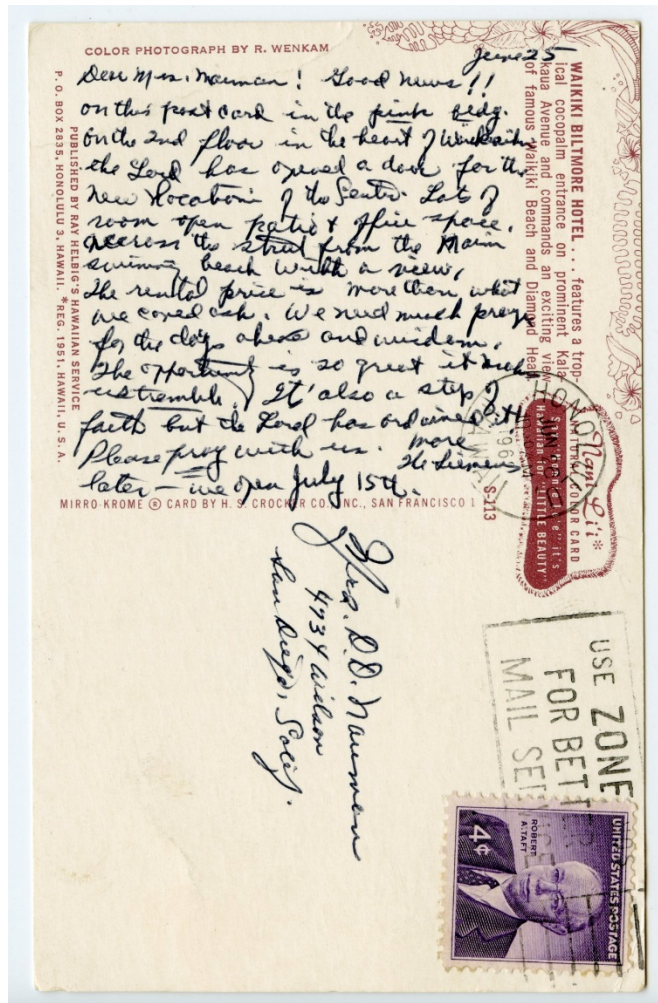
1961



A cool night shot of *Stewart's Pharmacy Waikiki* with its back-lit neon signage at the makai/Diamond Head corner of Kalakaua Ave. and Lewers St., postmarked August 4, 1961. The lengthy blurb on the reverse says the store was "about half fountain-restaurant", which according to the writer served orange bread for breakfast, yum! Today this scene is part of the landscaping in front of Tiffany & Co, an anchor tenant for the Royal Hawaiian Shopping Center, which is a big change from a pharmacy-fountain and highly representative of Waikiki's economic upscaling.



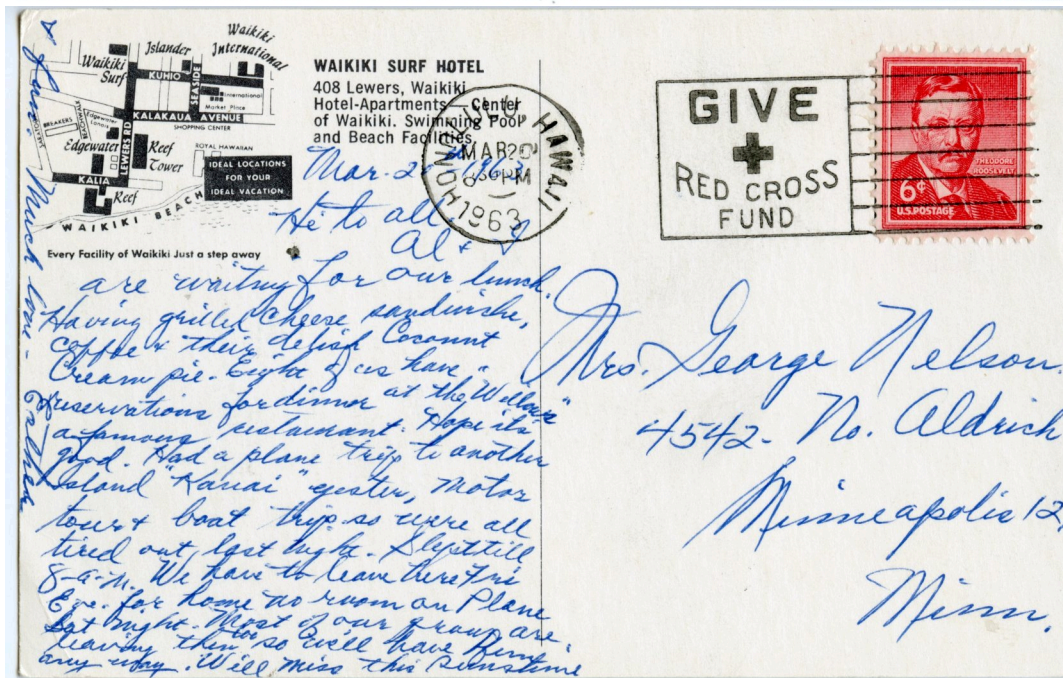
1962



In the 58 years since this card was mailed on June 26, 1962 just about everything in this photo has changed, by which I mean replaced. At that date, the *Waikiki Biltmore Hotel* was only seven years old. It replaced a line of charming ramshackle cottage-style businesses but would last only another 12 years before itself being replaced by the massive 40-story twin towers of the Hemmeter Center/Hyatt Regency. The pink building where the writer says “the Lord has opened a door for the new location of the Center” was built in 1954 as the *Waikiki Hale Hotel*. Just visible on the extreme right is the white apex of the ocean-front *Waikiki Tavern*, removed with its neighbors in the early 1960s to open up the beach to the street. On the left behind the Biltmore are houses demolished in the early 1970s to make way for the Victorian-themed *King’s Alley* shopping center, itself demolished in 2019 for planned luxury development.



1963



Phew, after all that change in the 1962 card it's refreshing to find that the 1963 entry is surprisingly unchanged; all these buildings survive. It now has a highrise backdrop of course but as of 2020 this scene is otherwise different only in detail, such as the corner building now houses an ABC Store, the hotel lanai railings have been replaced, and you'd be hard pressed to find a Renault Dauphine parked on the now one-way street. The *Waikiki Surf Hotel* faced Lewers near the corner of Kuhio and now goes by the name of The Surfjack, still with that rather nifty overhang at the entrance. The writer of the card on March 20, 1963 was waiting for her "delish coconut cream pie" and was going to dinner at the Willows, a restaurant with a long history from 1944 in nearby Moiliili, which is now an event/catering business.



1964



Just as Stewart's Pharmacy stood at what is now one end of the Royal Hawaiian Shopping Center, so the *Snack Shop* shown here stood at the exact opposite end, today the site of the Cheesecake Factory. Unusually for a Waikiki postcard, this one reveals some actual real news: on Nov 3, 1964 the postcard writer says she was "in our room listening to election. The Demo's have done it again". That was the presidential election when Johnson defeated Goldwater. But she goes on to say "There is no news to write" so maybe she wasn't too political. The Snack Shop itself went up in 1958 and was designed by local architect Val Ossipoff who in the early 1940s designed the nearby now-relocated Outrigger Canoe Club and the also-nearby McNerny Store which we'll see in part 2 of this article.



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## Kalaupapa Stamp Collection Project

*By Ben Gale*

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**T**he Hawaiian Philatelic Society was contacted by the National Park Service to aid in dealing with a LARGE collection of used loose stamps. HPS responded and five volunteers, Wayne Yakuma, Glenn Yokoyama, Jerry Coiner, Ben Gale and Joe Bonkowski (a non-member), worked during the period of December 2-5, 2019. The First Task was to separate the individual stamps that had been “soaked” off their backing (typically envelopes) from stamps remaining on piece. During this sorting process a Second Task was to identify the country of origin and separate accordingly. The third task was to select representative samples of each country and place them in stamp albums provided by the NPS.



***The Volunteers***

and #2 it was not practical to initiate placing stamps in albums as proposed in Task #3.

### **RESULTS:**

Due to the volume of material at hand (estimated at 1M stamps), the Team was not able to sort all the stamps as originally proposed. However, a large volume of the material was successfully separated into two categories (1) “loose stamps” and (2) stamps with paper adhesion. The need to separate these stamps was recommended by the National Postal Museum. Paper and stamp gum are responsible for tropical stains and insect infestations. Stamps with neither gum nor paper adhesion is ideal for proper preservation. Additionally, the Team was able to sort many of the stamps by country. As a part of the sorting process it became evident 99% of the stamps were post World War II. Very few reached back to the early 1900’s. Without completing Task #1



### Many Stamps to be Soaked and Sorted

As a result of handling every individual stamp a number of times, reoccurring questions remained unanswered:

- Who were the members of the Stamp Club?
- How long did it exist?
- Was it a formal organization or a loose-knit group of individuals?
- Did the stamps come from correspondence received at the Colony?
- Why were the stamps “soaked” or cut-off of the original envelope?

### FINDINGS AND ASSUMPTIONS:

It appears the residents of Kalaupapa formed a Stamp Club in approximately 1950 and continued collecting sometime into the 1960's.



No formal record is known as to the organization of the club, its officers or members. No record was found to establish a formal organization with officers, by-laws, minutes of meetings, etc. Lacking information to the contrary it is assumed the Stamp Club was a social outlet for residents and not a philatelic pursuit. This is further evidenced by the lack of stamp albums. Typically, philatelic groups/members will have individual collections housed in stamp albums. A couple albums were found in the archives; however, they were void of stamps (evidence did remain that stamps had been mounted in the albums). For whatever reason these few stamps were systematically removed and included in the stamp accumulation. Stamps were found with hinge remnants or hinge marks on the back indicating they had come from a stamp album.

Searching the archives on a previous visit, an original copy was found of a Certificate of Appreciation presented to the Kalaupapa Stamp Club by the Hawaiian Philatelic Society for Philatelic Contributions to HPS's first HAPEX held June 27-30, 1951. It is unknown what "Philatelic Contribution" the Kalaupapa Stamp Club made but it was officially recognized. As a part of that initial visit in October, folders were found to contain copies of letters sent to numerous individuals and organizations world-wide thanking them for their continued interest and support of the Kalaupapa Stamp Club. Each folder contained copies of letters sent during that calendar year. The folders started in 1950 and ended in the middle 1960's.

It is not known who cut the stamps from the envelopes or who was responsible for "soaking" the stamps off their backing. Hindsight says this was a best practice decision to preserve this accumulation of stamps in a tropical



### *The Best Find*

environment. The downside is that without the envelope, all of the postal history is lost. The stamps are in very good condition considering their age and storage in a tropic environment. There is some evidence of minor termite damage. This has been resolved by the modern curator techniques implemented by the NPS. Further damage has been abated.

Lacking evidence to the contrary, it is assumed the residents received worldwide mail and as a part of a social environment cut and "soaked" the stamps we see today. A case can be made that perhaps the stamps were not received as mail to the colony. 99% of the stamps are of a local postal rate. There were very few stamps that qualified for international rates. Thus, it is safe to

assume these stamps were not sent from their



***St. Francis Church – Where the collection is housed***

country of origin. One theory would be they were in contact with other Clubs throughout the world and exchanged or received stamps from other countries.

It was interesting to discover many of the stamps were from unexpected places such as South Africa and Trinidad-Tobago. Jerry Coiner opined perhaps these countries had Hansen's related research. A search of the internet confirmed both places had listed research on the disease. The countries represented was indeed impressive. It was almost world-wide and would be an interesting research topic.

As mentioned earlier, 99% of the stamps are from post-World War II with a few from the early 1900's. The thought here is there is no significant philatelic value with any of the stamps. However, there are a large number of what is referred to in

philately as Washington and Franklin stamps and some of these can carry a significant dollar value. Unfortunately, none of the Team members are experts in the Washington-Franklin issues. Philatelic value aside, the collection does have a strong humanitarian and historical value and is worthy of preservation to tell another story of the residents in Kalaupapa.

## **CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:**

The priority is to continue separating the remaining accumulation into individual stamps and stamps with paper adhesion while concurrently sorting by country. Once those tasks are completed, then a decision needs to be made as to how many and which stamps are to be put into the albums. Two stamps from each country would not be a true representation of the volume of stamps, and then begs the question of what to do with the remaining accumulation. To select several stamps of each denomination and country would be more acceptable. However, the question remains, what happens to the remainder of the stamps? It is possible to put all the stamps in albums although it is time and labor intensive. The downside is that is a form of storage and thus will never been seen by visitors.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- Establish the ultimate disposition of the stamps. What does NPS see happening to this collection? Will it be a part of the Park in the future to highlight the activities of the residents? Will it be a static display showing an enormous accumulation of stamps or as a world-wide collection in albums? The Team recommends the bulk of the stamps be displayed in a loose collection to display volume and effort on the part of the residents. As an adjunct to that, a display that ties into the theme displaying the



world-wide source of the stamps. And the contact with the outside world.

- Continue to use the personnel and resources of the Hawaiian Philatelic Society as needed.
- Contact and request assistance from the National Postal Museum in Washington, D.C. They should be a resource for the ultimate disposition of these stamps and how they would best tell their story to guests and visitors in the future to Kalaupapa.



*Joys of Soaking and Sorting*



*Interesting Trinket Holder*



*Downtown Kalaupapa*



*Flight Home*



*Sample of Sorted Stamps*



*View of Kalaupapa from the Air*



*Another View of Kalaupapa*



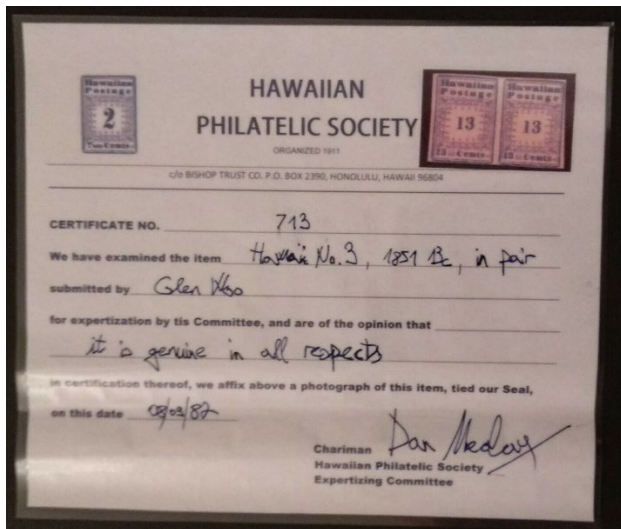
## Alert: Fake Expertizing Certificate

Alert! As noted in the May 2020 HPS Bulletin, notice has been received of a counterfeit pair of HI #3 (Missionaries) offered for sale on Ebay. This pair is accompanied by an HPS Expertizing Certificate that is very clearly fake.

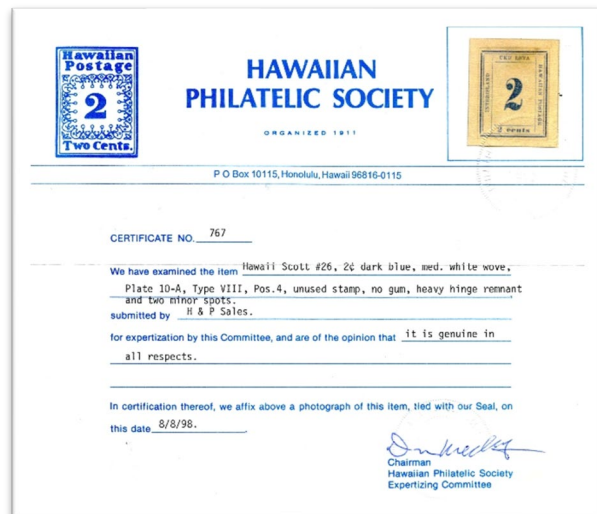
Here are a couple of things to look for:

- There should be two Hawaiian Philatelic Society embossed seals on the certificate. One on the photo image of the item that was expertized, and one by the signature of the Expertizing Committee Chairman.
- The description is typed, not hand written.

Suspect certificates can be authenticated through the Society should any member have doubts or questions.



**Fake Certificate**



**Genuine Certificate**

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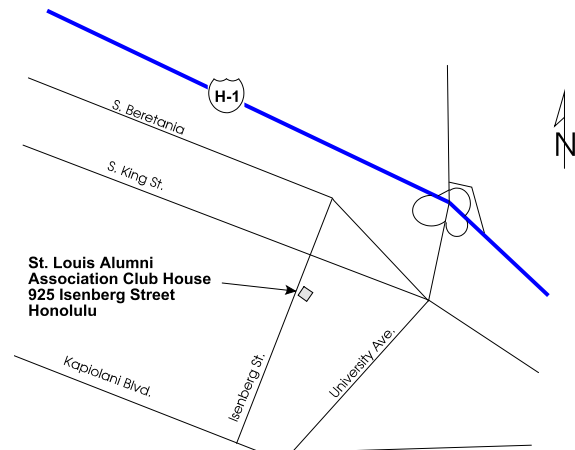
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## HPS Monthly Bulletin

Meister Richard Yanagi

## Monthly Meeting

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: US Scott # UX8 from Philadelphia to Honolulu with a stop in San Francisco

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