

FINDING AID

**THE PUAOI OHANA  
TWO HUNDRED YEARS AT LAWAI KAI**

Kaua'i Historical Society

**MS 46-O**

### The Puaoi Ohana -- Two Hundred Years at Lawai Kai

This family history was researched and written by Betty Snowden in 1996, and the Kaua'i Historical Society has added it to our "Memories of Kaua'i" archive to preserve the history of the family and the unique valley in which they lived.

The family records date back to 1720, the family cemetery dates to mid-1800s, about the time that the missionaries were becoming active in the area, and changing burial rites were becoming more common on Kaua'i. Following the Mahele in 1848, formal land documents were established for the family's property in Lawai Kai, which included two parcels.

Ms. Snowden's excellently written family history begins with Makaea, great-grandfather, and outlines six generations from 1790 through 1990. A chart accompanies the written account, as well as photographs. Personal memories of grandparents and grand-aunts and uncles, childhood memories of daily life, and often told family history and legends are included.

Photocopies of handwritten family genealogy provide detail, distribution of lands in 1883, inventory of the family grave site by William Kikuchi and Susan Remoaldo completed in 1992. The legal distribution of lands, dated January 17, 1883, is handwritten, and a photocopy of the original document is provided.

Contents:

- Map of Lawai Kai, Kauai
- 1790 - 1990 Two Hundred Years of Puaoi Family Genealogy
- Photographs : William Makaea Pokahi Puaoi, Sr. and  
Puniia Kahula Pokahi Puaoi;  
James Alex Pokahi Puaoi, and  
Benjamin Pomaialalea McPuaoi
- "Puaoi Family Cemetery" (some history)
- "Lawai Kai Puaoi Family Cemetery" additional history relating to Hawaiian and  
Christian burials
- "The Puaoi Family of Lawai Kai"
- "Great-Grandpa : William Makaea Pokahi Puaoi Sr. (1854-1913)
- "Memories : Betty Kaleialoha Durate Snowden (1930-)
- "Childhood days in Lawai Kai : the 1930's" by Betty Snowden
- "How 'Lawai' got it's name (a family legend)"
- "The Menehune Wall (a family legend)" by Betty Snowden
- Grave site information: 3 photocopies
- Handwritten genealogy, William M. Puaoi Jr
- Record of death, Mrs. Puni Puaoi
- Handwritten copy of court document : Kuuwaawaa, et als. to Kahaleula, et als.  
dated January 17, 1883
- Photocopies of document cited above
- Statement by Nora Puaoi Kahaulelio