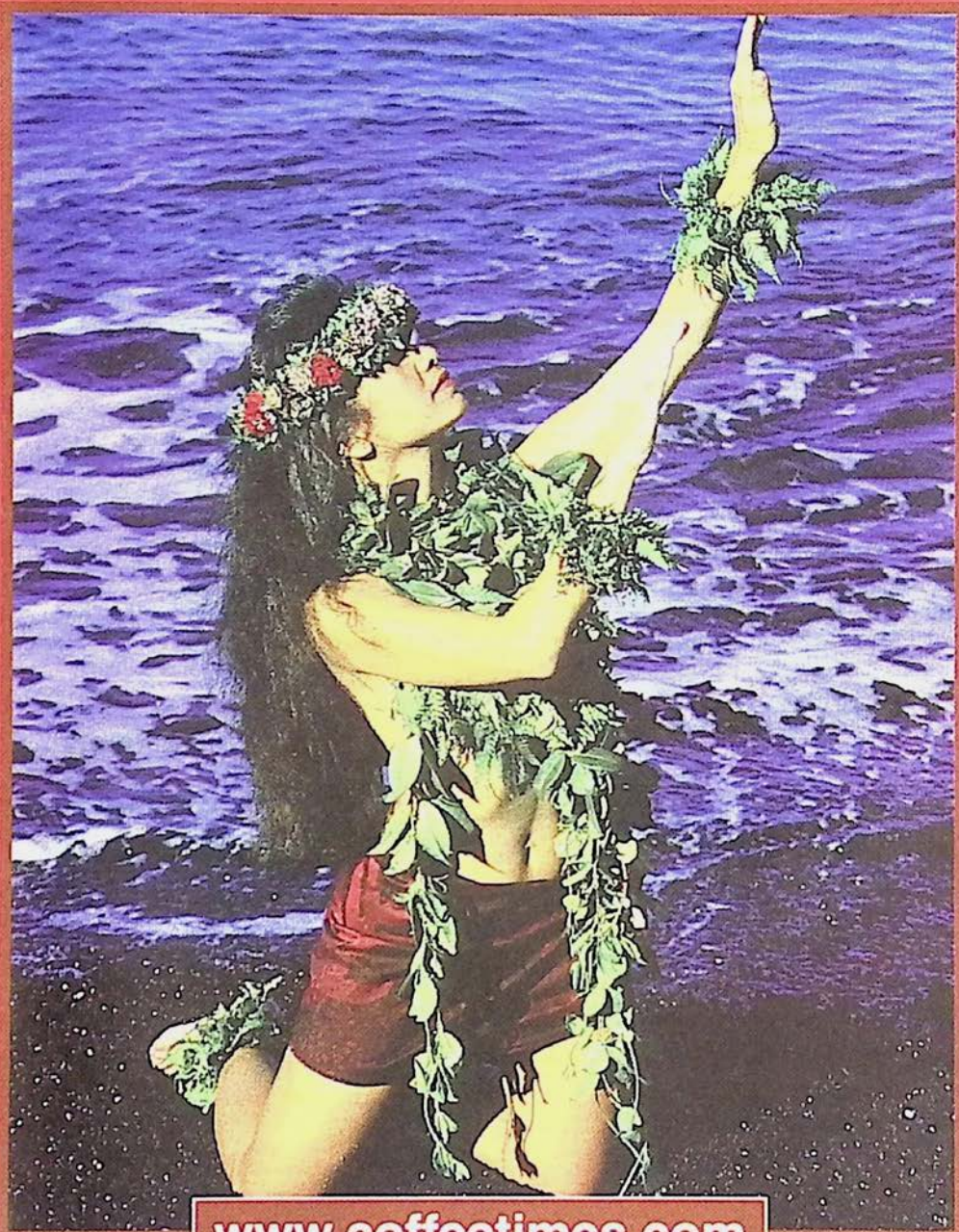


SPRING/SUMMER 2005

COMPLIMENTARY NO. 68

Coffee Times

Your Guide to the Big Island of Hawaii



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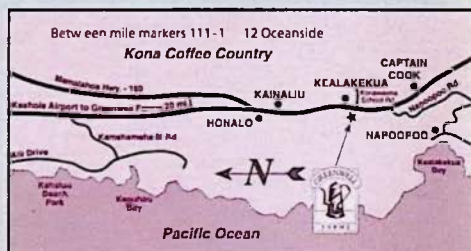
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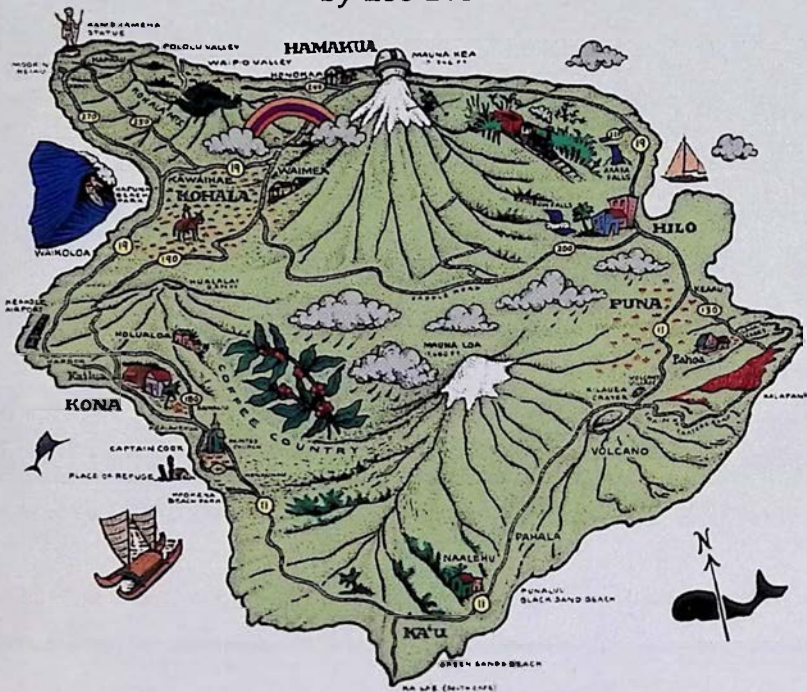


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Welcome to the Big Island!

a guide to our island
by Les Drent



Well... you made it. Now don't you feel good? If you are looking for a little direction follow me and I'll guide you around our island paradise.

You most likely landed in either Hilo or Kona which host the two primary airports on the Island. Since we can't begin our tour of our Island at both places at the same time we'll start this guide in Kona. For you folks in Hilo... too bad you're out of luck. Just kidding. No worries really... just flip ahead in our magazine and start the guide from the Hilo region. Like all things Hawaiian it's really quite easy. And that's probably why you chose to visit us on your vacation, not to mention our weather, people, interesting culture and warm aloha spirit. Our magazine's coverage of these cultural and historical topics is what separates us from the rest of the advertorial and discount

magazines out there so we're glad you found us and we're ready to introduce you to the real Hawaii.

Before we begin the tour let's all remember the phrase, "when in Rome do as the Romans do." In Hawaii this means driving slowly, yielding for everyone, and showing aloha to everyone you meet.

Three other items that your past fellow visitors have informed me to remind you of are remembering to take off your rings (newlyweds) and any loose jewelry before going into the water; locking your cars even though 99.999 percent of the people in Hawaii aren't thieves; and the importance of using sun block even if you insist on not needing it. My own haole (white person) motto for sun block is, "you'll burn with it,



Kona's bustling Alii Drive and sea wall with Mokuaikaia Church in the background (inset is Hulihee Palace).

you'll burn worse without it!" With all that out of the way it's now time to have some fun so

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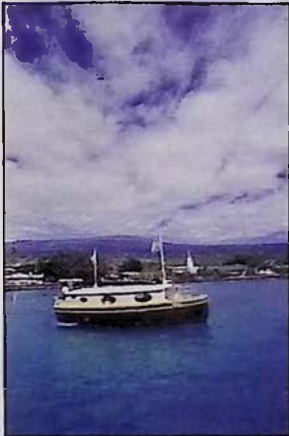
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NORTH KONA

Located in the busiest and most widely known part of the Big Island is the district of North Kona and the seaside village of Kailua. Nestled in this busyness are a few significant historical and cultural landmarks. Beside the Kailua pier is **Ahu'ena Heiau** built in 1817. This ancient temple which was built on a rock platform was dedicated to patron spirits of learning, the arts, and healing. **King Kamehameha** also made his home here in a thatched hut where he could



Kona's Glassbottom Boat

maintain control over boats entering and leaving the bay. Kamehameha also monitored the farming pursuits of his village from Ahu'ena. Also on Alii Drive is **Mokuaikaua Church**. Built in the 1820's Mokuaikaua was the first Christian church to be built by western missionaries. Across the street is **Hulihee Palace**, a nineteenth century vacation home to some of Hawaii's monarchy. Hulihee was built in 1838 and

today serves as a museum open daily to the public. Occasionally, throughout the week, some of Hawaii's youngsters can be seen in the courtyard under the shade of giant banyan trees practicing hula under the direction of a *kumu hula* (teacher of hula).



KIRK AEDER

Later in the nineteenth century Kailua was a village that was used primarily as a sea port for shipping cattle, coffee and sugar off island. Most of the population in Kona lived in the mountainside towns between Honaunau and Holualoa along a stretch of road still called Mamalahoa Highway. The town of Kailua, for the most part, was always a sleepy kind of village. Up until the early 1970's the population was no more than 700 people, today the population of Kailua is around 40,000 and growing rapidly.

Looking beyond the hustle and bustle of Kailua there are many wonderful opportunities for personal dining, shopping and tour experiences around the town. This district of North Kona also hosts some of the Big Islands most beautiful white sand beaches. A short drive north of Honokohau Harbor on Queen Ka'ahumanu Highway are the beaches of **Makalawena**, and **Mahai'ula**. These beaches require a short hike to access them. Easier to reach and located on Alii Drive to the south are **Kahalu'u Beach Park** and **Magic Sand's**. Both these popular beaches provide ample parking and do not require a hike.

Around these historical sights are a whole host of restaurants and shopping opportunities and hundreds of visitor and local businesses keep the streets and sidewalks around Kailua busy with activity throughout the year. Cruise ships lay at anchor off the shores of Kailua-Bay and

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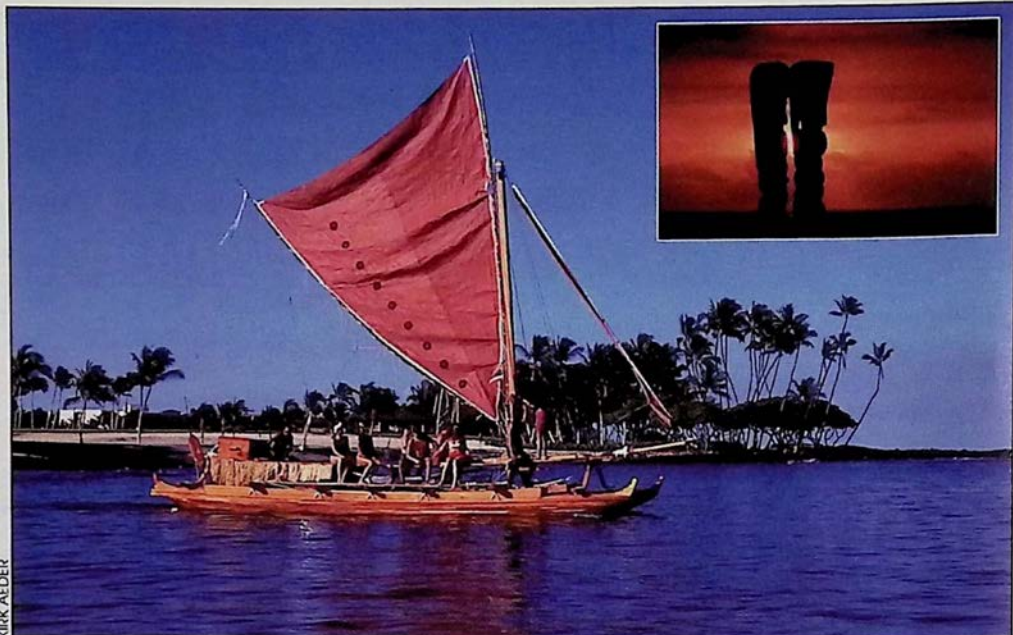
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KIRK AELDER

many tour and activity companies provide visitors with ample opportunity for hiking, sailing cruises, snorkeling and scuba adventures.

HOLUALOA

Days pass slowly in the artist's retreat town of Holualoa, almost like the gentle mountain breezes which weave their way through the groves of coffee trees lining the slopes of **Mt. Hualalai**. Steeped in natural beauty and tradition, this little mountainside coffee town blends a touch of today's art with a passion for the simpler life of the past. The village's many private galleries showcase the works of many local artists in a wide array of mediums.

Make it a point to wander up for a visit to Holualoa, its only a fifteen minute drive up the mountain. You'll love this little country town, it's everything Hawaii is about.

SOUTH KONA

There is, perhaps, no other region on the Big Island shrouded in more history than

the district of South Kona. Whether it be the origins of **Kona coffee**, the ancient Hawaiian village setting of Pu`uhonua O Honaunau (Place of Refuge) National Park, or the Painted Church nestled along the hillside overlooking Kealahou Bay, the spot where the famous English explorer Captain Cook met his fate in 1779, South Kona will keep the historically minded visitor busy weaving their way through its network of mountain roads.

Coffee first came to Kona in 1828 when the Reverend Samuel Ruggles brought plant cuttings to Kealahou. The early Japanese farmers cultivated many of Kona's first farms and engineered the system of milling and processing this prized coffee.

On highway 160 amidst coffee farms and high on the slopes of Kealahou Bay is **The Painted Church**, where sometime between 1899 and 1904, Father John Velge, a Catholic missionary from Belgium painted images on the interior walls of the church depicting the biblical scenes of heaven and hell.

At the bottom of Napoopoo Road is **Hikiau Heiau** at Kealahou Bay, and a white stone monument across the bay that marks the spot where Captain Cook was

killed in 1779. The story behind Cook's death was that it was the result of a failed attempt by Cook and his soldiers to exchange the high chief Kalaniopuu hostage in return for a cutter that was stolen the night before. Cook, who had come south to the Hawaiian Islands seeking shelter for the winter months, was in search of a northwest passage to England.

A lower coastal road connects Kealahakua Bay to **Pu'uhonua O Honaunau** (Place of Refuge) National Park. In the early years of Hawaiian civilization it was the Place of Refuge that people who broke kapu (sacred laws) would attempt to flee. If the kapu breaker could reach this sanctuary his life would be spared. Some of these kapu that governed the common people included not being allowed to walk in the footsteps of the chiefs or to touch their possessions. Other rules forbade commoners from eating foods reserved for offering to the gods, and women were not allowed to eat with the men. The gathering of wood, seasons for fishing and the taking of animals as well as the hula were also controlled under the kapu system. Other features at the park are lokos (ancient fish ponds), haies (thatched roof structures that served as homes), heiaus and ancient rock walls. Visitors are usually provided with live demonstrations of ancient Hawaiian crafts such as the building of canoes and tikis at the park. Check at the Park's visitor center to find out about any special programs that may be happening at the park during your stay.



Some of Hawaii's exotic fruit left to right: mango, star fruit and rambutan.

direction this guide has led you then you should be heading south towards the Ka'u region. If not than you obviously chose a different direction which is fine because there are not too many wrong turns in paradise unless it's late and you're hours from your hotel, with no radio stations coming in and you're about to be cut off by a river of molten lava. Don't laugh, its happened, those footprints in the lava rock didn't get placed their by someone on their way to the beach. Wherever you are on the Big Island right now that's fine you've probably learned to improvise in the use of this guide. Congratulations you're brain is still functioning even though you're on vacation in Hawaii.

The actual place where Polynesians first stepped foot in Hawaii will always remain a mystery, but it was probably somewhere near the southern tip of the Big Island. This area seems like a probable place because their approach would have been from the south, where all of Polynesia lay. When sailing north, the Big Island would be the first island they would have seen, and South Point would have been the nearest landfall. Aside from the logic of such a choice, there is archaeological evidence supporting the supposition of a

KA'U

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landing near **Ka Lae**, as the Hawaiians call the most southern tip of the island of Hawaii. Excavation of lava tubes, that were used as shelters, near Kailikii and Waiahukuni, villages four miles northwest of the Ka Lae, indicate people were using them by A.D.750. There is other evidence that indicates people first were in the area as early as A.D. 200.

The cliff near **South Point Park** is a common mooring place for modern day fishermen who find these waters a rich resource. From the precipice the drop is about forty feet to the ocean's surface, but the cliff base goes down another thirty feet below the surface of the water. Ladders, hung to make access to the boats easier,

swing freely in the air just above the sea. The cliff is deeply undercut. In the heat of the day the water looks inviting. It is so clear the bottom can be seen plainly. For some there might be a temptation to leap into the cool water, and climb back up the ladder. It looks inviting, but don't do it. A swift current runs along the shore. The flow will carry anyone in the water straight out to sea. It is called the Halaea Current, named for a chief who was carried off to his death.

One of South Point's most famous scenic spots is **Mahana Beach**, also called Green Sands Beach because it has a distinctive golden green color. "The grains of green sand are olivine (or call it peridot if you wish although not much of the sand is truly of gem quality), a common mineral in much of the Hawaiian basalt, and as the basalt undergoes weathering the olivine becomes concentrated on this beach due partly to its high specific gravity." (They are apparent as green flecks in the raw lava stones used to build the columns and walls of the Jagger Museum at Kilauea's Volcano National Park.) As lava reached the coast, erosional forces, and the specific gravity of the stones, perhaps are responsible for the accumulation of such a large quantity of the granules

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KIRK AEDER



KIRK AEDER

Volcano National Park's Thurston lava tube and the endangered nene (Hawaiian goose).

that produced the green sand beach.

Up the coast from South Point's main hub of activity, Naalehu town, and heading towards Volcanoes National Park you will pass by **Punalu'u** black sand beach and later a sign marking a road to Pahala. The short drive to Pahala is worth the excursion. In it are the not so active remains of the old **Pahala Theater** as well as a community that is now supported by macadamia nut farming as well as scores of small family owned coffee farms now springing up in the plush hillsides. Although the sugar industry is no longer operating there many of the homes in the village date back to the early 20th century including the two story plantation manager's home which is now a museum and is open to the public for viewing. **Pahala** is a great place to gain

perspective into what life was like on a sugar plantation a hundred years ago. Take time to also drive into the lush tropical **Wood Valley** and past a **Buddhist temple** also located near Pahala. Ask for specific directions to those sights at the local general supermarket, there is only one.

VOLCANO HAWAII

Welcome to Madame Pele's dwelling. She is goddess of the volcano. **Volcanoes National Park** has one entrance, off Route 11, 30 miles south from Hilo or 95 miles east from Kona. The park is open 24 hours a day all year round and requires a \$10.00 entrance fee per vehicle which is valid for 7 consecutive days. The hiker/bicyclist/bus passenger fee for people over 16 and under 62 is \$5.00. When you enter the park during daytime hours you will receive a park brochure at the entrance station. If you enter the park after hours you may pick up the brochure at the **Kilauea Visitor Center** which is located a quarter mile from the entrance on **Crater Rim Drive**. The visitor center is open from 7:45 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. daily. Visitors are encouraged to take the time to carefully read the park regulations and guidelines. The volcano fumes that exist in the park may create a health hazard for pregnant women, infants and people with heart or respiratory problems. People at risk should avoid stopping at the **Sulphur Banks**, **Halema'uma'u Crater** and other areas

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continued on page 18

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The norm of Hawaii's land use is to remove all or most of the native trees in order to develop the land. The landscape of the beautiful mountain sides of Kona has experienced a decrease in population of native trees such as koa, sandalwood and ohia. It is sad to see trees 200 years and older removed.

These types of trees are

superb nesting places and sources of food for rare birds such as the 'apapani, 'i'iwi, 'amakihiki, 'elepaio and the 'oma'o.

The beauty of preserving these trees is not just visual, there are many other rewards. Visiting areas that have preserved these trees alerts individuals to the grandeur and wisdom in preservation of natural habitats. Tiare Lani Coffee's policy is to try and preserve such beauty and to coexist with this natural grandeur.

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To learn more about proper coffee orchard care call George Yasuda at Tiare Lani Coffee. 808-324-1495 or email him at tiarelc@gte.net



A native koa tree hangs over this Tiare Lani coffee orchard. George Yasuda pictured to the left supports the co-existence between modern agriculture and the natural environment.



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2 yr-old trees with 6' laterals full of high quality cherry- the Tiare Lani Coffee Way

Narrative Tour of Volcano

by William Ellis

The following passages were reprinted from the 1823 Journal of William Ellis. The reverend William Ellis (pictured on the right) and his party were the first non-Hawaiian group to enter the sacred region of Pele now known as Hawaii Volcanoes National Park. Ellis was guided by a man named Makoa (pictured on the left) who was provided by the high chief Kuakini of Hawaii. By foot and by canoe the Ellis party had to endure diarrhea, sunburn, fleas, lack of food and water during their two month trek around the island of Hawaii. Ellis' words are western man's first written accounts from the volcano in Hawaii.



FIRST VIEW OF KILAUEA'S FIRES

While the natives were sitting round the fire, Mr. Thurston and I ascended to the upper region, and walked to a rising ground at a small distance from the mouth of the cavern, to try if we could discern the light of the volcano. The wind blew fresh from the mountains; the noise of the rolling surf, to which we had been accustomed on the shore, was not heard; and the stillness of the night was only disturbed by the chirping of the insects in the grass. The sky was clear, except in the eastern horizon, where a few light clouds arose, and slowly floated across the expanse of heaven.

On looking towards the north-east, we saw a broad column of light rising to a considerable elevation in the air, and immediately above it some bright clouds, or thin vapours, beautifully tinged with red on the under side. We had no doubt that the column of light arose from the large crater, and that its fires illuminated the surrounding atmosphere. The fleecy clouds generally passed over the luminous column in a south-east direction. As they approached it, the side towards the place where we stood became generally bright; afterwards the under edge only reflected the volcanic fire; and in a little time each cloud passed entirely away, and was succeeded by another.

We remained some time to observe the beautiful phenomenon occasioned by the reflection of the volcanic fire, and the more magnificent spectacle presented by the multitude and brilliancy of the heavenly bodies. The season was solemn and delightful.

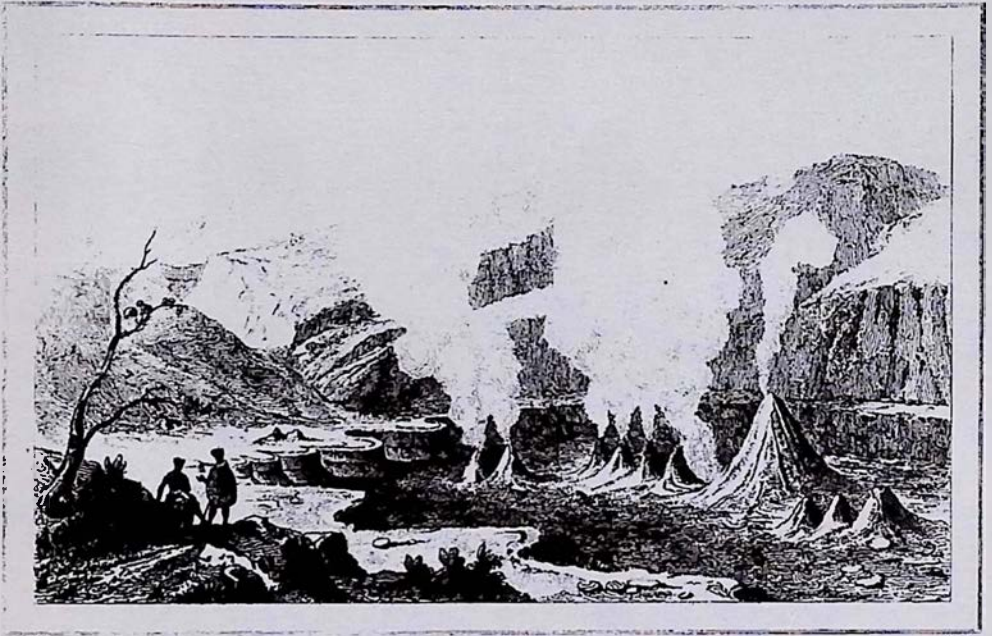
ON THE ROAD TO THE VOLCANO

Refreshed by a comfortable night's sleep, we arose before daylight on the morning of the first of August, and after stirring up the embers of our fire, rendered, with grateful hearts, our morning tribute of praise to our almighty Preserver.

As the day began to dawn, we tied on our sandals, ascended from the subterraneous dormitory, and pursued our journey, directing our course towards the column of smoke, which bore E.N.E. from the cavern.

The path for several miles lay through a most fertile tract of country, covered with bushes, or tall grass and fern, frequently from three to five feet high, and so heavily laden with dew, that before we had passed it, we were as completely wet as if we had walked through a river.

ILES HAOUAI

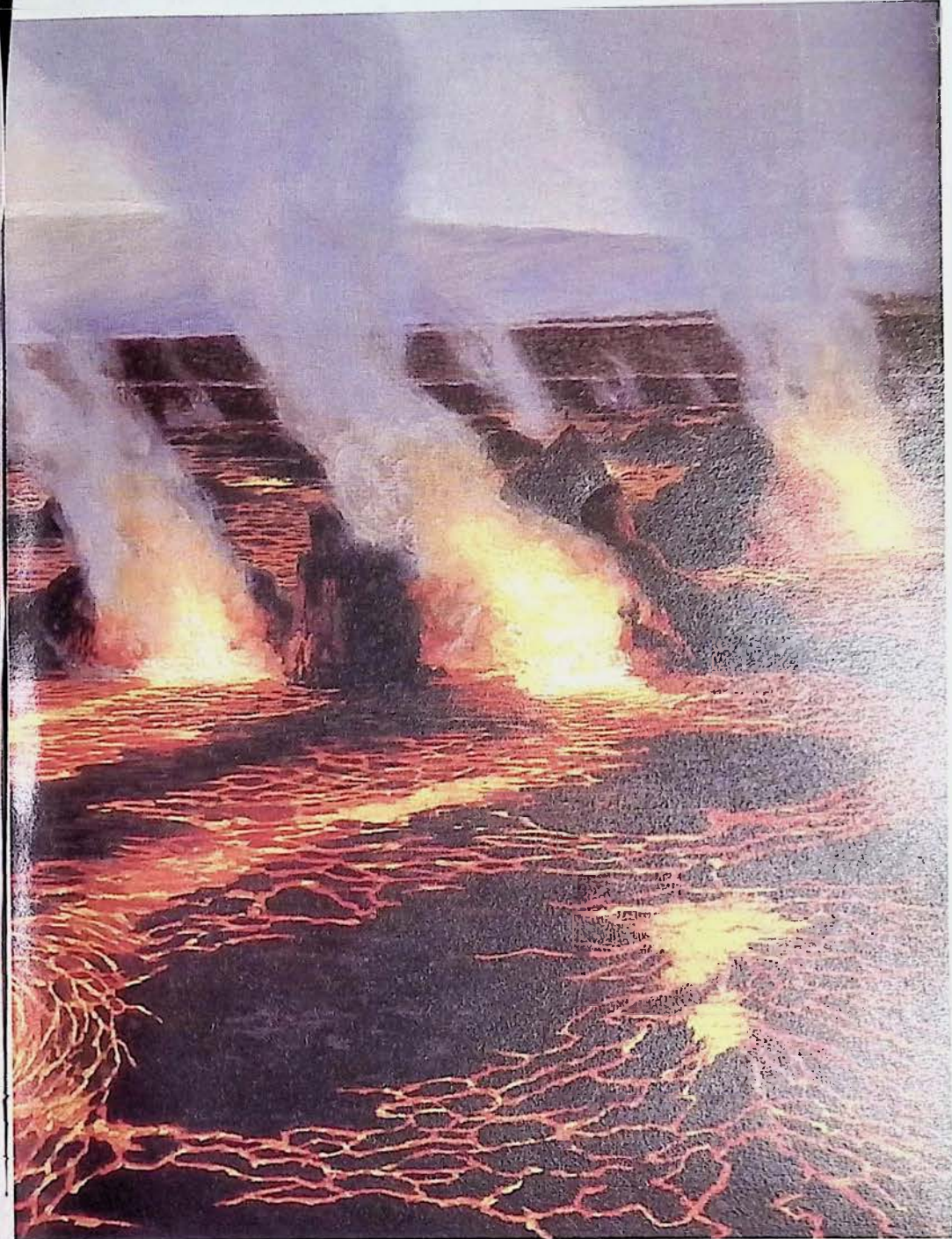
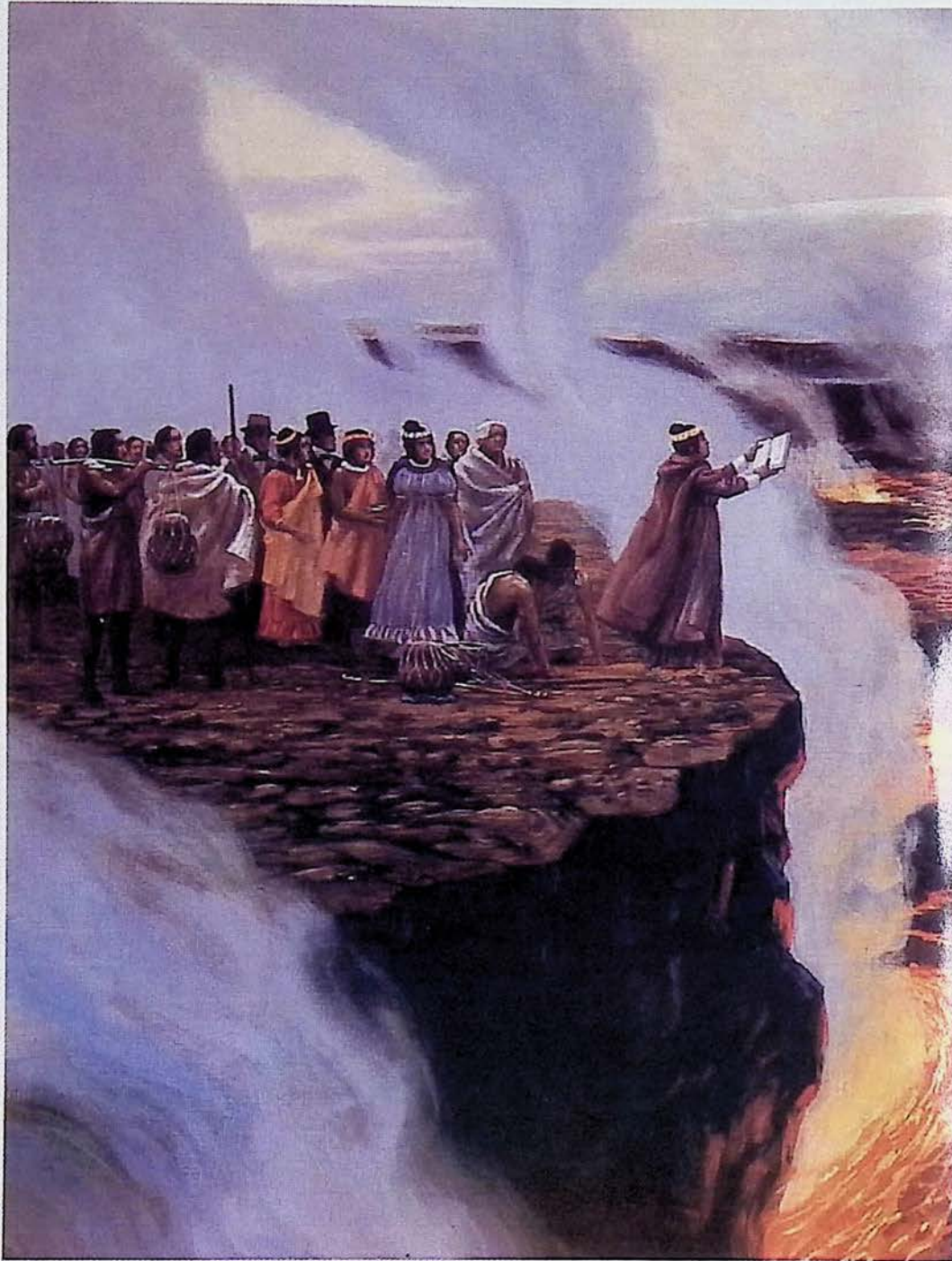


Volcan de Haouai

The morning air was cool, the singing of birds enlivened the woods, and we travelled along in Indian file nearly four miles and hour, although most of the natives carried heavy burdens, which were tied on their backs with small bands over their shoulders, in the same manner that a soldier fastens on his knapsack. Having also ourselves a small leather bag containing a bible, inkstand, note-book, compass, &c. suspended from one shoulder, a canteen of water from the other, and sometimes a light port-folio, of papers, with specimens of plants besides, our whole party appeared, in this respect at least, somewhat en militaire.

STOPPED BY A CHASM

After travelling a short distance over the open country, we came to a small wood, into which we had not penetrated far, before all traces of a path entirely disappeared. We



KAPI'OLANI DEFYING PELE *Image and words by Herb Kawainui Kane*
 In 1824 the high chiefess Kapi'olani, an ardent Christian, decided to act in defiance of Pele as a demonstration to her people of her new faith.

Ignoring dire warnings she descended into the caldera to the brink of

the fire-pit Halema'uma'u. Here she ate 'ohelo berries without asking Pele's permission and read passages from the Bible.

Unharmd, she returned home, hopeful that her action would help win converts among her people.

kept on some time, but were soon brought to a stand by a deep chasm, over which we saw no means of passing. Here the natives ran about in every direction searching for marks of footsteps, just as a dog runs to and fro when he has lost the track of his master.

After searching about half an hour, they discovered a path, which led some distance to the southward, in order to avoid the deep chasm in the lava.

SUGAR CANE REFRESHMENT

Near the place where we crossed over, there was an extensive cavern. The natives sat down on the top of the arch by which it was formed, and began eating their sugar-cane, a portable kind of provision usually carried on their journeys, while we explored the cavern in hopes of finding fresh water. In several places drops of water, beautifully clear, constantly filtered through the vaulted arch, and fell into calabashes placed underneath to receive it. Unfortunately for us, these were all nearly empty. Probably some thirsty traveller had been there but a short time before.

A SANDY DESERT

Leaving the wood, we entered a waste of dry sand, about four miles across. The travelling over it was extremely fatiguing, as we sunk in to our ankles at every step. The sand was of a dark olive colour, fine and sparkling, parts of it adhering readily to the magnet, and being raised up in heaps in every direction, presented a surface resembling, colour excepted, that of drifted snow.

It was undoubtedly volcanic; but whether thrown out of any of the adjacent craters in its present form, or made up of small particles of decomposed lava, and the crystalline olivin we had observed so abundant in the lava of the southern shore, and drifted by the constant trade-wind from the vast tract of lava to the eastward, we could not determine.

When we had nearly passed through it, we sat down on a heap of lava to rest and refresh ourselves, having taken nothing since the preceding noon. About ten o'clock, Messrs. Bishop and Goodrich reached the place where we were sitting. They had heard by some travellers, that two or three days would elapse before Makoa would overtake them, and deeming it inexpedient to wait so long, had procured a guide, and earlier this morning set out from Kapapala to follow the rest of the party.

VOLCANIC FORMATIONS DESCRIBED

Having refreshed ourselves, we resumed our journey, taking a northerly direction towards the columns of smoke, which we could now distinctly perceive. Our way lay over a wide waste of ancient lava, of a black colour, compact and heavy, with a shining vitreous surface, sometimes entirely covered with obsidian, and frequently thrown up, by the expansive force of vapour or heated air, into conical mounds, from six to twelve feet high, which were, probably, by the same power rent into a number of pieces, from the apex to the base. The hollows between the mounds and long ridges were filled with volcanic sand, and fine particles of olivin, or decomposed lava.

This vast tract of lava resembled in appearance an inland sea, bounded by distant mountains. Once it had certainly been in a fluid state, but appeared as if it had become suddenly petrified, or turned into a glassy stone, while its agitated billows were rolling to and fro.

Not only were the large swells and hollows distinctly marked, but in many places the surface of these billows was covered by a smaller ripple, like that observed on the surface of the sea at the first springing up of a breeze, or the passing currents of air which produce what the sailor's call a cat's-paw. The billows may have been raised by the force which elevated the mounds or hills, but they look as if the whole mass, extending several miles, had, when in a state of perfect fusion, been agitated with a violent undulating or heaving motion.

A HARD ROAD

The sun had now risen in his strength, and his bright rays, reflected from the sparkling sand, and undulated surface of the vitreous lava, dazzled our sight and caused considerable pain, particularly as the trade-wind blew fresh in our faces, and continually drove into our eyes particles of sand.

This part of our journey was unusually laborious, not only from the heat of the sun and the reflection from the lava, but also from the unevenness of its surface, which obliged us constantly to tread on an inclined plane, in some places as smooth and almost as slippery as glass, where the greatest caution was necessary to avoid a fall. Frequently we chose to walk along the ride of a billow lava, though considerably circuitous, rather than pass up and down its polished sides. Taking the trough, or hollow between the waves, was found safer, but much more fatiguing, as we sunk every step ankle-deep into the sand.

The natives ran along the ridges, stepping like goats from one ridge to another. They, however, occasionally descended into the hollows, and made several marks with their feet in the sand at short distances, for the direction of two or three native boys with our provisions, and some of their companions, who had fallen behind early in the morning not being able to keep up with the foremost party.

CRATERS AND ACTIVE VOLCANIC CRACKS

Between eleven and twelve we passed a number of conical hills on our right, which the natives informed us were craters. A quantity of sand was collected round their base, but whether thrown out by them, or drifted thither by the wind, they could not inform us.

In their vicinity we also passed several deep chasms, from which, in a number of places, small columns of vapour arose, at frequent and irregular intervals. They appeared to proceed from Kirauea, the great volcano, and extended towards the sea in a south-east direction. Probably they are connected with Ponahohoa, and may mark the course of a vast subterraneous channel leading from the volcano to the shore. The surface of the lava on both sides was heated, and the vapour had a strong sulphureous smell.

DEPOSITS OF PUMACE LAVA

We continued our way beneath the scorching rays of a vertical sun till about noon, when we reached a solitary tree growing in a bed of sand, spreading its roots among the crevices of the rocks, and casting its grateful shade on the barren lava. Here we threw ourselves down on the sand and fragments of lava, stretched out our weary limbs, and drank the little water left in our canteens.

In every direction we observed a number of pieces of spumous lava, of an olive

continued on page 24



Puna's Isaac Hale beach park

continued from page 9

where volcanic fumes are present.

Overnight trips in the park require a backcountry permit that can be obtained at no charge at the Kilauea Visitor Center. Once inside the park enjoy the 25-minute movie on eruptions shown hourly at the visitor's center. Other attractions are the **Thomas A. Jaggar Museum** three miles inside the park along Crater Rim Drive, **The Volcano House**, **Thurston Lava Tube** and scenic vistas. Depending on the timing of your visit you might have a chance to see the volcano erupting. A 45 minute drive to the end of Chain of Craters Road and a short hike will get you to the most recent **lava flow** area. The new coastline is unstable and can collapse into the sea at anytime without warning. Obey all park signs. Do not enter any closed areas! The park also offers many other hiking opportunities which are mapped out in the park brochure.

A reminder to drive slowly and carefully while touring the park as it will help to protect Hawaii's endangered state bird, the **nene**.

PUNA and PAHOA

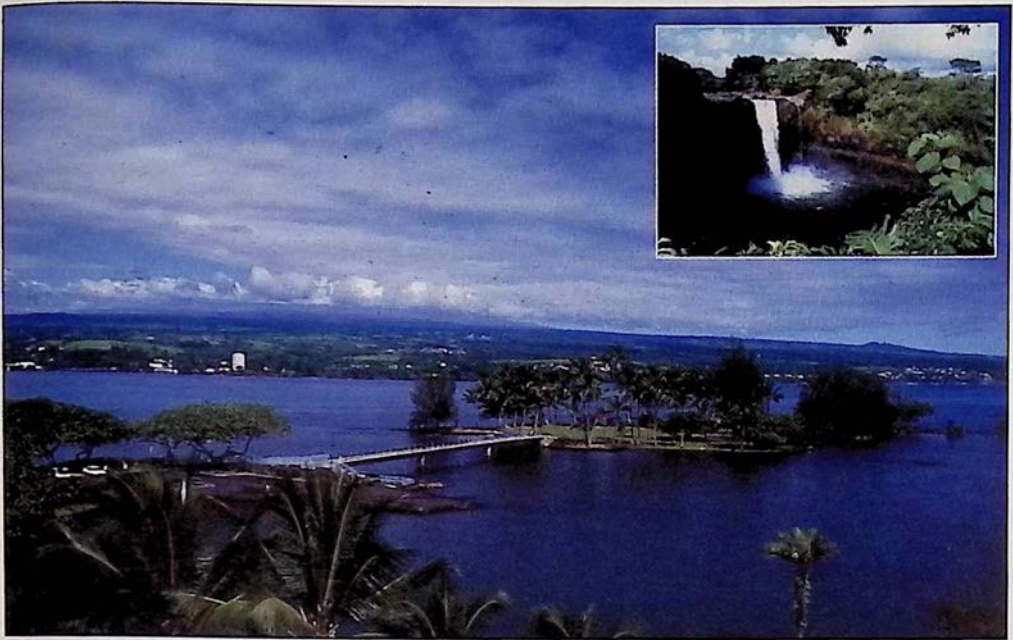
For visitors who want to experience the true feeling of old Hawaii, Pahoia village holds the key to this untouched past. First a rugged sawmill town then a sugar town and also a crossroad on the old railroad, **Main Street Pahoia** has maintained its western style storefronts and wood boardwalks in a charming turn of the century Victorian style.

Quaint shops from surf, to curio and restaurants that span the flavors of the globe from Thailand, to Mexico, and Italy, make Pahoia Village one of the most pleasurable shopping and dining stops on the Big Island. Every restaurant in Pahoia is owner operated, guaranteeing diners a personable meal. Lodging in Pahoia is alternative as well. The historic **Village Inn**, built in 1910, housed some of Puna's earliest travellers and still operates today. The rooms are clean and spacious with vintage Victorian decor. Call ahead to any of the friendly shops to learn of any special events scheduled during your visit. Pahoia has the reputation of holding some lively and entertaining performances both on its Main Street and at the **Akebono Theater**, Hawaii's oldest theater.

The countryside surrounding Pahoia is filled with natural wonders like the **Lava Tree State Park**, steam vents, groves of papaya trees and black sand beaches along the rugged Puna coast. From the bays at **Isaac Hale Beach Park** to the area of Puna once known as **Kalapana** the coastal road, Route 137, winds through untouched pine forests, open pastures and dense tropical foliage. While traveling on 137 you will also pass seaside pools and quiet fishing spots perfect for picnicking or a relaxing snooze. It's no wonder that many tour guides around the Big Island tout Puna as the most scenic and rural area of the Big Island. Visitors are warned however that a prolonged stay in this Aloha time capsule may make leaving a very difficult task.

HILO & EAST HAWAII

On your trek to Hilo, take a right on Kamehameha Highway at the Intersection of Pau'ahi and Kamehameha Highway. If you look to the right just passed the Chevron gas station on the corner of Pau'ahi and Kamehameha Highway you will see a statue of **KAMEHAMEHA THE GREAT**. Nestled amongst royal palms and behind the statue is **Wailoa** with its winding waterways



KIRK AENDER

Quiet Coconut Island in Hilo Bay with inset photo of Rainbow Falls.

and a fishing pond. If Kamehameha's birthplace is Kohala, then why is there a Statue in Hilo? With Kamehameha statues in Honolulu, Washington D.C., and one in Kohala to mark his birthplace only a few people know that this statue in Hilo stands on his father's land.

When you talk about the old Hawaii, at least the one that hasn't been touched as much today by the long arms of commercialization and development, you cannot help but mention the East Coast on the Big Island. At the center of all this is old town Hilo. Hawaii's second largest city is seeing a revitalization of spirit thanks to the

effort of the Downtown Hilo Organization who is busy restoring and preserving the storefronts of this yesterday town. Aiding this effort are the wealth of new businesses occupying Hilo's old buildings.

Adding to this old Hawaii feeling is the **Hilo Farmer's Market** which is held every Wednesday and Saturday in Downtown Hilo. It's fun while walking around to think about what the city was actually like around the early 1900's.

An easy to find waterfall is **Rainbow Falls** which is located inland along the **Wailuku River** at the north end of town. Follow the road running alongside the river



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KIRK AEDER

Akaka Falls, located near the town of Honoumuli.

to the Park where you won't have to walk far to see one of the area's most frequented sights. If you're lucky you will catch sight of a rainbow at the falls.

After leaving Hilo you don't want to miss the drive north to Waipio Valley which takes you over scenic gorges that were once crossed by cane hauling trains in the heyday of sugar cane production. The plummeting waterfalls and river mouths under the

extensive bridge systems leading north up the Hilo Coast are definitely an awesome sight. On this drive north is Onomea Bay located along a 4 mile coastal scenic route. The lush ravines and botanical gardens are brilliantly picturesque along this coastal road and are well worth the detour.

Akaka Falls State Park and the village of **Honoumuli** can be reached by taking Hwy. 220 off of the main route, Hwy. 19 north. Once you reach the Park a short paved hike will take you past a network of

smaller waterfalls and colorful tropical foliage to the plummeting Akaka Falls. Its accessibility and grand size make Akaka Falls a popular stop along this eastern coast. The historic town of Honoumuli boasts many old storefronts from the days when sugar was king. The drive and hike to Akaka Falls will only take you out of the way for an hour but you might just find yourself passing more



LES DRENT

Tex Drive In features a beautiful garden center that offers island plants and garden art.

time over an ice cream and a pleasant cool breeze in the quiet town of Honoumou.

HONOKAA-HAMAKUA

In the old days, during the earlier part of the twentieth century, it was quite a trip to cross the deep coastal ravines before reaching the town of Honokaa, which was the third largest city in the territory of Hawaii. From Hilo, vacationers and soldiers on leave from Uncle Sam's army would travel up the Hamakua and Hilo coast to Honokaa where night life was king. A dance hall was even built above the Botelho building, the first car dealership in the town. That building now hosts a curio and antique shop but one can easily imagine what an average Friday night looked like at the Bohelho in the 1940's.

As Hawaii's old theaters are once again becoming popular, the citizens of Honokaa enjoy their own historic **People's Theater**. The doors of the theater are opened for feature films every Friday, Saturday and Sunday evening. If you decide going to a movie is not what you wanted to do on your Hawaiian vacation go for the feeling of nostalgia which is definitely present once you've found your seat inside the huge old movie hall.

Outside of Honokaa town heading north to Waipio Valley the landscape changes dramatically. A series of deeply cut valleys edge the coastline all the way to Pololu Valley, the tip of the North Kohala region. No roads exist here only rough trails leading up and down the valley rifts which should not be traveled by inexperienced hikers. The hike to Pololu Valley from Waipio takes even the most experienced hiker several days to complete.

Legend has it that it was in **Waipio Valley**, "the land of the falling water", that the great King Kamehameha, as a young boy, received his leadership training and first learned to surf. Today, family ohanas, "houses", still dot the landscape which is separated by a river that leads into the open sea. Local farmers and their families



KIRK AEDER

A new statue in Waimea commemorates Hawaii's only world steer roping champion, Ikua Purdy. The 1908 event was held in Cheyenne, Wyoming.

continue to make their way of life from farming taro and fishing off the sandy shores of this peaceful and remote valley floor.

Outside of Waipio Valley and Honokaa town are other early and small settlements of the Hamakua region such as Paauiilo, Kukuihaele and Laupahoehoe. These towns are all filled with a rich and local culture that happily survives in this region of the Big Island.

WAIMEA

Between snow capped Mauna Kea and the Kohala mountains the green hillsides of North Kohala roll along under wispy white clouds, and afternoon rainbows that frequently stream their way from the skies above Waimea. Inside this landscape herds of grazing cattle can be seen meandering



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their way through sloping pastures filled with cactus and dry underbrush as Hawaiian cowboys called paniolos still ride horseback and work the ranges.

Ranching began in this region of the Big Island after King Kamehameha appointed, in 1815, a young seaman named **John Parker** to hunt and shoot the herds of wild cattle whose population had grown uncontrollably since their introduction to Hawaii in 1793. Parker, who accomplished his mission, managed to domesticate a herd of his own before marrying a Hawaiian chiefess. The marriage helped Parker to acquire the land that would later be used to found his 250,000 acre ranch in 1847. Today's existence of Parker Ranch as one of the largest ranches in the United States gives the outsider an idea of the magnitude of its size.

Today, the town of **Kamuela**, more often referred to after its district name Waimea, is a town that still surrounds itself with a ranching life-style. The brightly colored Victorian houses and shops, tidy yards filled with flowers and skeleton remains of wagons and wheels gives visitors

the opportunity to see yet another sphere of the diversity of cultures that exist in Hawaii.

NORTH KOHALA

Following highway 270 north visitors will encounter a landscape filled with historical landmarks that include the original **King Kamehameha statue**, **Kalahikiola Church**, and **Mo'okini Heiau** which is regarded as the oldest pre-Western contact temple of worship. In the year 1758 King Kamehameha was believed to have been born at Mo'okini. Also to be found in the North Kohala region are the remnants of a once thriving sugar industry of the 1880's which is still visible in the many old storefronts of Hawi & Kapaau towns.

When you're done visiting the towns of Hawi and Kapa'au, Highway 270 will lead you through North Kohala's fertile pasture lands, dense forests, and ultimately to **Pololu Valley**, which offers one of the best scenic view lookouts on the island. If the road were to continue on past Pololu Valley you would eventually end up at Waipio Valley at the northern end of the Hamakua coast. Separating these two valleys are several other magnificent valleys accessible only by foot or horse. If you plan to hike beyond Pololu be prepared for a long trek and bring plenty of water and supplies. The trails are narrow steep and slippery and should not be hiked by amateur trailmen. While driving along the coastline of North Kohala remember that if the skies are clear you may be able to catch a view of the island of **Maui** looming on the other side of the Alenuihaha channel, which separates Maui from the Big Island. Between the months of December and April visitors are almost guaranteed a **humpback whale** sighting off the coast of North Kohala. This region of the Big Island is a particularly favorite spot for our migrating friends from the north.

Come and enjoy this peaceful region of Hawaii. You will be amazed at the ancient and modern wonders it has in store for you.

KOHALA COAST

Almost always under bright sunny skies the Golden Kohala Coast of the Big Island of Hawaii has for years been the tropical playground of not only ancient Hawaiian royalty but contemporary vacationers from around the world. The Kohala coast which hosts many important historical sights is also home to one of America's most highly rated public beaches, **Hapuna Beach State Recreation Area**. Hapuna's long white sand beach, rolling surf, clear skies, and accessibility make it a popular destination for many island guests. Among the ebony lava fields that comprise the Kohala Coast landscape are several world renown championship golf courses. From the air or from a distance the green fairways that blanket this rugged terrain soften its landscape. And, because of the Kohala coast's perfect sunny

weather the courses are rarely closed... maybe once every five years. Wild goat, donkeys and other four legged creatures roam the land freely and occasionally the Hawaiian short eared owl, the **pueo**, can be seen in flight.

Connecting this forty or so mile coastline is the ancient **King's Trail** which was travelled by the ruling ali'i as well as malo-clad runners who were responsible for transporting pond raised fish wrapped in ti leaves to the tables of Hawaiian royalty living down the coast in Kailua-Kona. The King's trail passes through not only the several resort properties but Pu'ukohola Heiau and scores of petroglyph fields.

Pu'ukohola was the last Hawaiian

temple built during King Kamehameha's reign of power. It was said that if Pu'ukohola was built to honor the war god Kuka'ilimoku, Kamehameha would be granted the power to conquer and unite the islands of Hawaii under one kingdom. After the temple's completion, Kamehameha did go on to unite the islands of Hawaii, but only after several bloody battles had been waged on outer islands. Today, the heiau which was the last human sacrificial site in Hawaii is preserved by the National Park service and is open daily to the public.

The extensive **petroglyph fields** that are found all along the King's trail hosts



KIRK AEDER

its most popular spot near the King's Shops on Waikoloa Beach drive. Follow the signs along a short trail that direct you to the petroglyphs. Keep in mind that the preservation of these field depends on people staying on the trail while viewing these ancient rock carvings. And it should be added that this petroglyph field runs along side the golf course so keeping a third eye out for flying golf balls would not hurt. Enjoy it all while you wine, dine, and are treated like royalty on the Kohala coast.

Well... that's our Island. Perhaps the best part of this tour is that you most likely ended up where you began... which is the best place to start your tour again.

Alooooooha!! ~ Les

continued from page 17

colour, extremely cellular, and as light as sponge. They appeared to have been drifted by the wind into the hollows which they occupied.

The high bluff rocks on the north-west side of the volcano were distinctly seen; the smoke and vapours driven past us, and the scent of the fumes of sulphur, which, as we approached from the leeward, we had perceived ever since the wind sprung up becoming very strong, indicated our proximity to Kirauea.

*After walking some distance over the sunken plain, which to several places sounded hollow under our feet, we at length came to the edge of the great crater, where a spectacle, sublime and even appalling, presented itself before us—
“We stopped and trembled.”*

EATING OHELO BERRIES

Impatient to view it we arose, after resting about half an hour, and pursued our journey. In the way we saw a number of low bushes bearing beautiful red and yellow berries in clusters, each berry being about the size and shape of a large currant. The bushes on which they grew were generally low, seldom reaching two feet in height; the branches small and clear, leaves alternate, obtuse with a point, and serrated; the flower was monopetalous, and, on being examined, determined the plant to belong to the class decandria, and order monogynia.

The native name of the plant is ohelo. The berries looked tempting to persons experiencing both hunger and thirst, and we eagerly plucked and ate all that came in our way. They are juicy, but rather insipid to the taste.

NATIVE FEARS OF PELE

As soon as the natives perceived us eating them, they called out aloud, and begged us to desist, saying we were now within the precincts of Pele's dominions, to whom they belonged, and by whom they were rahuiia, (prohibited,) until some had been offered to her, and permission to eat them asked. We told them we were sorry they should feel uneasy on this account, -that we acknowledged Jehova as the only divine proprietor of the fruits of the earth, and felt thankful to him for them, especially in our present circumstances.

Some of them then said, “We are afraid. We shall be overtaken by some calamity before we leave this place.”

We advised them to dismiss their fears, and eat with us, as we knew they were thirsty and faint. They shook their heads, and perceiving us determined to disregard their entreaties, walked along in silence.

KILAUEA DESCRIBED

We travelled on, regretting that the natives should indulge notions so superstitious, but clearing every ohelo bush that grew near our path, till about two p.m. when the Crater of Kirauea suddenly burst upon our view.

We expected to have seen a mountain with a broad base and rough indented sides, composed of loose slags or hardened streams of lava, and whose summit would have presented a rugged wall of scoria, forming the rim of a mighty caldron. But instead of this, we found ourselves on the edge of a steep precipice, with a vast plain before us,



HARK ALDER

fifteen or sixteen miles in circumference, and sunk from 200 to 400 feet below its original level.

The surface of this plain was uneven, and strewed over with large stones and volcanic rocks, and in the centre of it was the great crater, at the distance of a mile and half from the precipice on which we were standing.

Our guides led us round towards the north end of the ridge, in order to find a place by which we might descend to the plain below.

NATIVE TRIBUTE TO PELE

As we passed along, we observed the natives, who had hitherto refused to touch any of the ohelo berries, now gather several bunches, and, after offering a part to Pele, eat them very freely. They did not use much ceremony in their acknowledgment; but when they had plucked a branch, containing several clusters of berries, they turned their faces towards the place whence the greatest quantity of smoke and vapour issued, and, breaking the branch they held in their hand in two, they threw one part down the precipice, saying at the same time,

“E Pele, ela ka ohelo’au; e taumaha aku wau ia oe, e ai hoi au tetahi.” “Pele, here are your Ohelos: I offer some to you, some I also eat.”

Several of them told us, as they turned round from the crater, that after such acknowledgments they might eat the fruit with security.

DESCENDING INTO KILAUEA

We answered we were sorry to see them offering to an imaginary deity the gifts of the true God; but hoped they would soon know better, and acknowledge Jehovah alone in all the benefits they received.

We walked on to the north end of the ridge, where, the precipice being less steep, a descent to the plain below seemed practicable. It required, however, the greatest caution, as the stones and fragments of rock frequently gave way under our feet, and rolled down from above; but, with all our care, we did not reach the bottom without several falls and slight bruises.

The steep which we had descended was formed of volcanic matter, apparently a light red and gray kind of lava, vesicular, and lying in horizontal strata, varying in thickness from one to forty feet. In a small number of places the different strata of lava were also rent in perpendicular or oblique directions, from the top to the bottom, either by earthquakes, or other violent convulsions of the ground connected with the action of the adjacent volcano.

ON THE EDGE OF THE PIT

After walking some distance over the sunken plain, which to several places sounded hollow under our feet, we at length came to the edge of the great crater, where a spectacle, sublime and even appalling, presented itself before us—
“We stopped and trembled.”

Astonishment and awe for some moments rendered us mute, and like statues, we stood fixed to the spot, with our eyes riveted on the abyss below.

Immediately before us yawned an immense gulf, in the form of a crescent, about two miles in length, from north-east to south-west, nearly a mile in width, and apparently 800 feet deep.

A FLOOD OF BURNING LAVA

The bottom was covered with lava, and the south-west and northern parts of it were one vast flood of burning matter, in a state of terrific ebullition, rolling to and fro its “fiery surge” and flaming billows.

Fifty-one conical islands, of varied form and size, containing so many craters, rose either round the edge or from the surface of the burning lake.

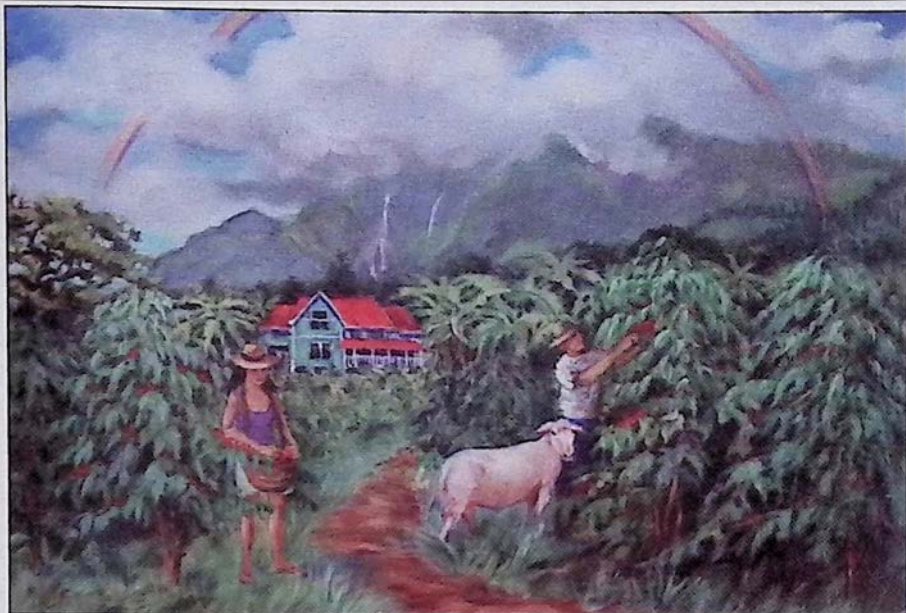
Twenty-two constantly emitted columns of gray smoke, or pyramids of brilliant flame; and several of these at the same time vomited from their ignited mouths streams of lava, which rolled in blazing torrents down their black indented sides into the boiling mass below.

The existence of these conical craters led us to conclude, that the boiling caldron of lava before us did not form the focus of the volcano; that this mass of melted lava was comparatively shallow; and that the basin in which it was contained was separated, by a stratum of solid matter, from the great volcanic abyss, which constantly poured out its melted contents through these numerous craters into this upper reservoir.



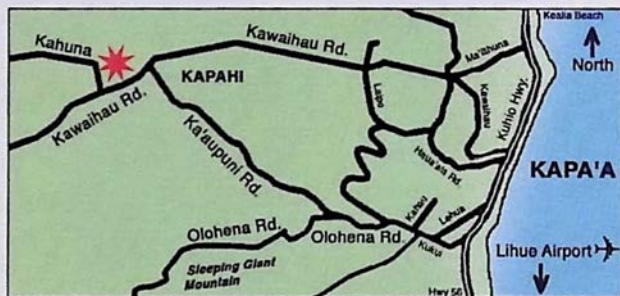
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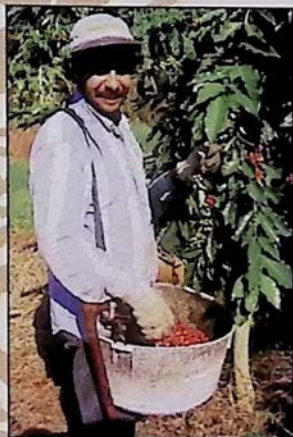
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Today, coffee pickers from Mexico help local farmers to hand pick the ever increasing Kona coffee crop. Miguel A. Meza Mozqueda is pictured here.

ALL COFFEE IS FRESH ROASTED TO ORDER ONLY.
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\$30.00 lb. \$145.00 5 lbs. \$280.00 10 lbs.

100% KONA EXTRA FANCY

The highest grade of 100% Kona coffee available. The large size and high density of these beans all contribute to an exceptional taste in the cup. This is a highly sought after bean among the world's coffee connoisseurs.

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Peaberry Kona coffee offers connoisseurs one of the finest and perhaps rarest coffee beans in the world. Only an estimated 4 percent of the annual Kona coffee harvest yields a Peaberry grade of coffee. Peaberry occurs when a coffee tree is stressed in its growing environment, resulting in an individual coffee cherry producing only one round and very dense bean rather than the usual two beans. The taste of Peaberry in the cup is simply exquisite.

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100% HAWAIIAN COFFEES

100% PURE "ESTATE RESERVE" KAUAI COFFEE

(Decaffeinated Coffee is Available)

The warm Pacific sun, rich volcanic earth and abundant mountain water of Kauai combine to create perfect conditions for growing great coffee. The consistency of this quality coffee is the result of a carefully selected arabica bean with a mild, well balanced taste and enticing aroma. This coffee is the "best of the best" of what's grown by our friends at Kauai Coffee Company!

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100% PURE "MALULANI ESTATE" MOLOKAI COFFEE

The name "Malulani" the Hawaiian word for "heavenly aroma," refers to the unique aromatic characteristics of Molokai coffee. Washed and completely sun dried this Extra Fancy (highest) grade of coffee has a mild acidity, rich body, and deep tasting finish.

EXTRA FANCY GRADE

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100% Kona Macadamia Nuts draped in rich gourmet dark chocolate.

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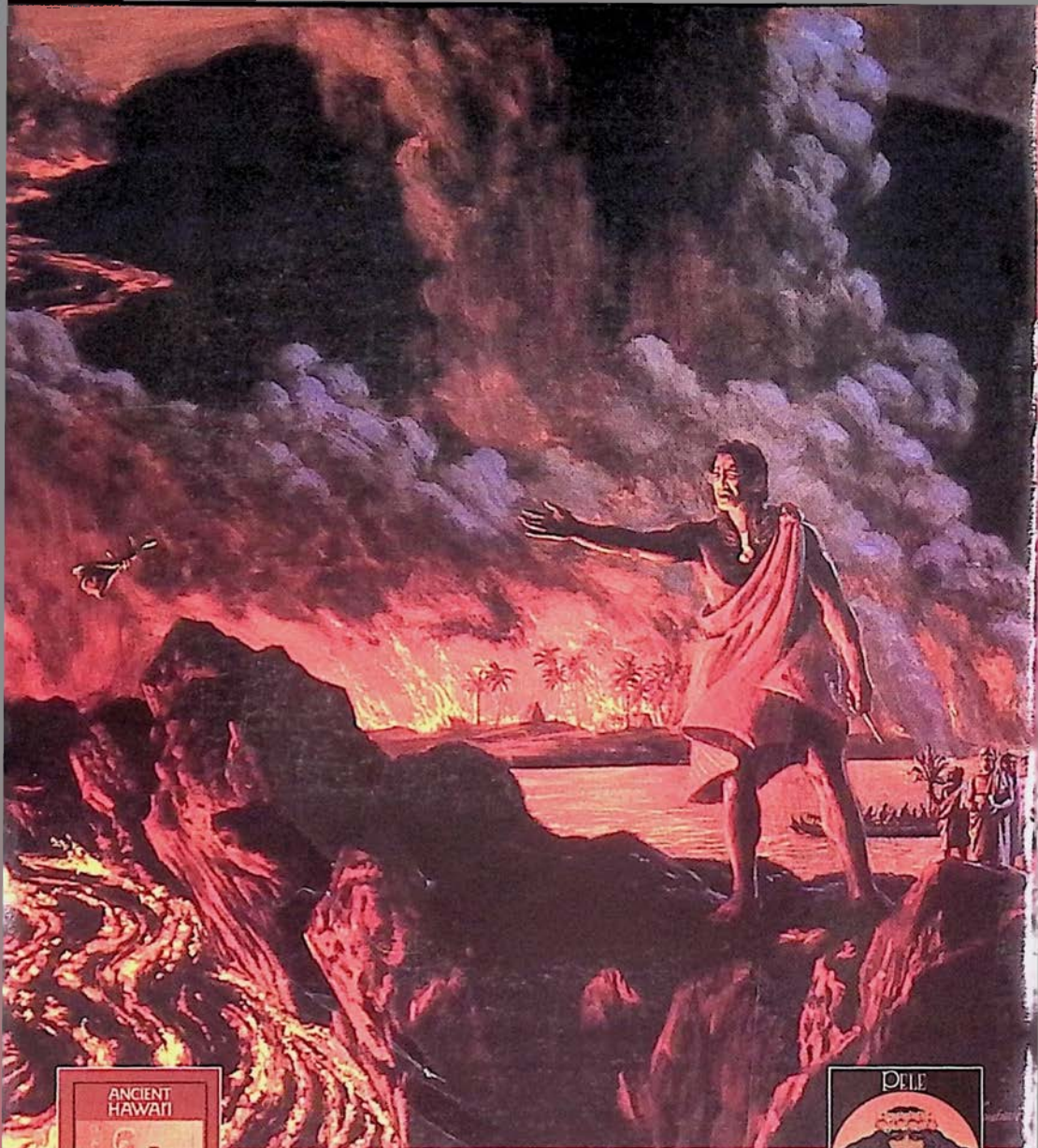
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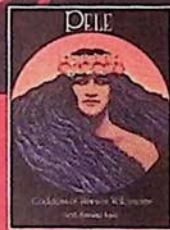
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