

Churches

1. *The Catholic Church.* The same gray and white church building still stands in the same spot today, although I am not sure whether it is being used because of its age and faded paint in some areas. Perhaps the members are attending services in Honoka'a. Next to the church building is the cemetery, still decorated with fresh and plastic flowers.

Although the parish priest did not live on the same grounds, he came to conduct the



PHOTOS: Old Catholic Church and cemetery, Kalopa. 2002.

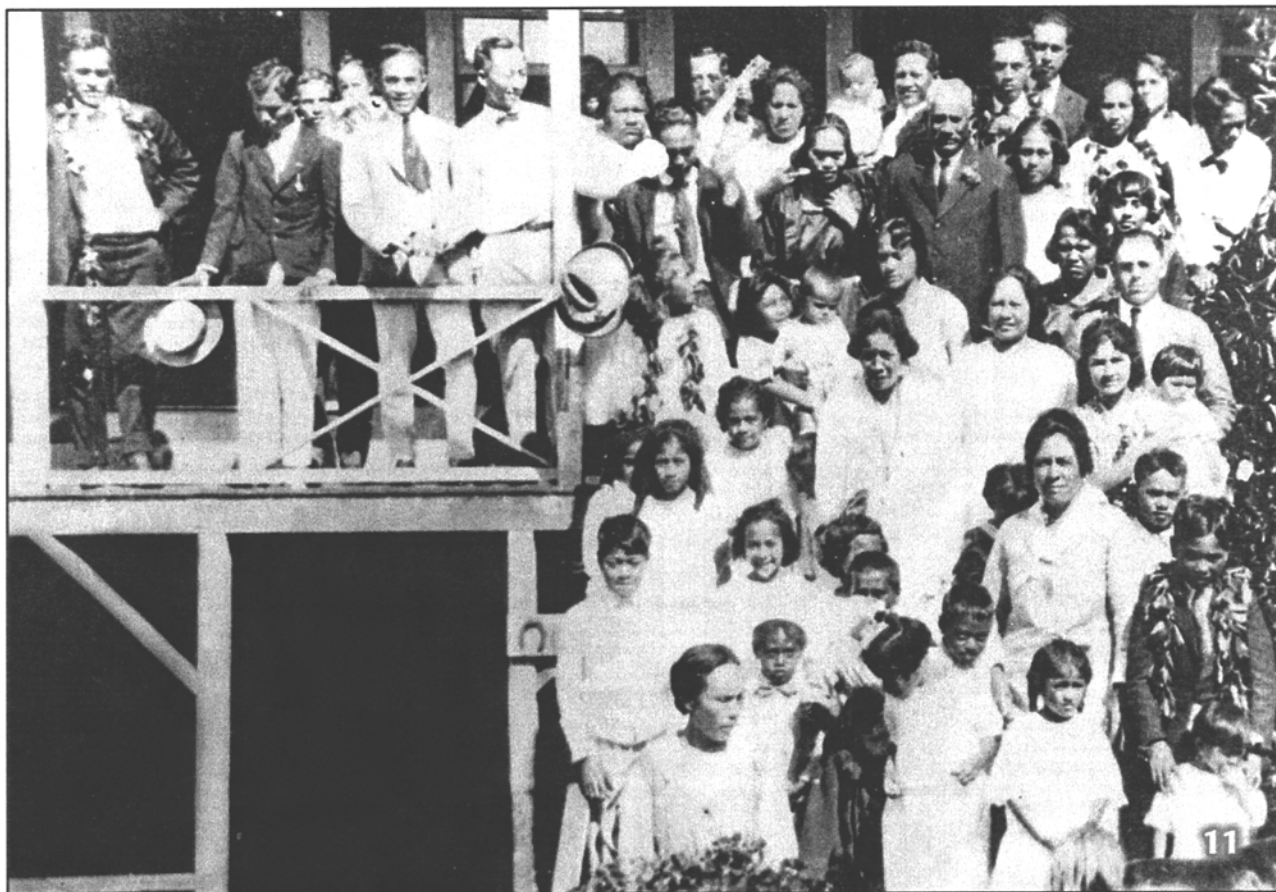


services and funerals there. Once a year, the church held their famous Holy Ghost festivals which was like a bazaar. Baked goods (malasadas and breads) and homemade jams and jellies, and beautiful crocheted hand works were sold. Many came with their colorful costumes of Portugal and played their musical instruments, which added to the festive occasion. Games and door prizes were added attractions. Everyone in the community looked forward to attending this special event.

Their Sunday services were well attended since many of the residents in Kalōpā were Portuguese.

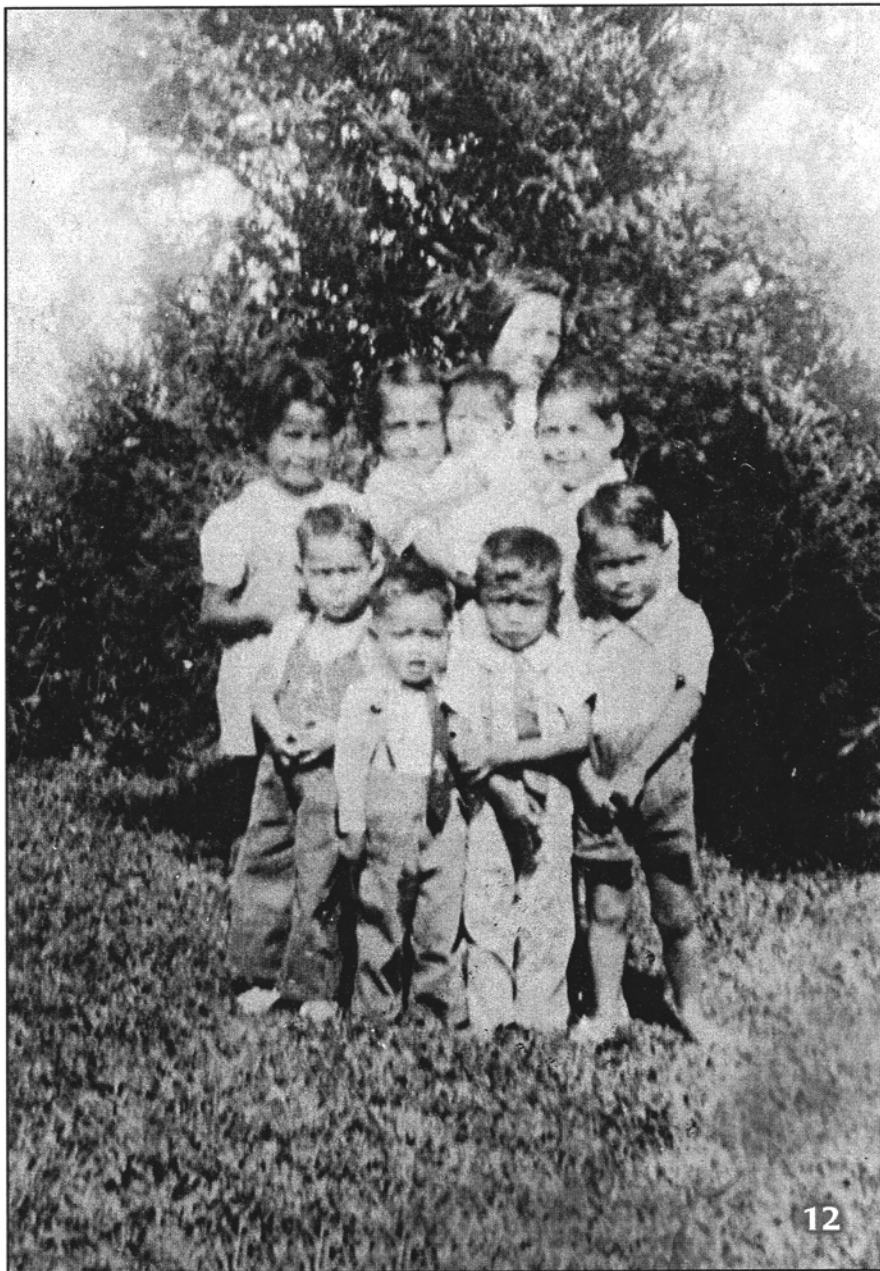
2. *The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints.* The mormon church in Kalōpā must have been established in the early 1920s. It was first held in the Mahoe's house that was situated right across the main road from our house.

My uncle Ho'olulu (Dad's brother), pictured in group below, related to me before he died that the Mahoe family would spend Saturdays cleaning up the living room of their house for the meetings to be held on Sundays.



Mahoe's house where LDS services were first held at Kalopa. 1922. Charles Peleioholani Kekoolani is pictured in the upper left corner leaning on pole. Lillian Kaeo Kanakaole Kekoolani is in lower right corner next to boy with maile lei.

See also picture identification, Page 60.



LDS Primary children of Kalopa. Back row: Ella Keomalū; Middle row: Ella Kamauoha, Katherine Kekoolani (holding Winifred Kekoolani), Amy Kekoolani; Front row: Myra Kekoolani, Charles Heaukulani, Joseph Keomalū, Charles Kekoolani. 1938.

We were still kids when the LDS Kalōpā chapel was built. It was a one-room building with a tiny platform and a podium in the front of the chapel where the leaders conducted the services. The capacity must have been between 70-100 people. There were two closed-in porches, one on the side of the building and the other at the entrance area. People had to climb 10 steps or so to the entrance, and about five steps down from the side porch to get out the back way. The two porches served as classrooms along with sections in the chapel for Sunday school and other auxiliary meetings. The church was painted a brownish-red color with white trimmings, and the walkway from the front steps to the main road was lined with yellow day lilies. At the Honoka‘a end of the church property, a make-shift volleyball court was

set up and the young members invited the neighborhood kids to compete in small tournaments. I was always called on to complete the team, even though I was a lousy player. In fact, every time the ball came over the net in my direction, I was sure to miss it. All I could say was, "Oops", so they nicknamed me "Alley Oop" - the comic strip character in the Sunday Funnies. That really made me angry.

Well, last but not least was the outhouse in the back of the chapel. I don't think I ever used it. I could run home to our house since it was only two houses away.

The members that attended the Kalōpā branch, as far as I can remember, were George & Pi'ilani Needham (children: Nephi, Odetta, Ruth and Leah); John & Ella Kamauoha (children: Andrew (wife Laura); Lottie, Eleanor, Pearl, Eddie, John and Ella); Henry & Rebecca Keomalu (children: Jeanette, Henry, George and Ella); and Nāwai & Emily Keko'olani (children: Nāwai Jr., Katherine, Amy, Charlie, Myra, Winifred and Henry). There were a few others that I don't remember. I do remember that I was baptized in the little reservoir below our house, next to the ditch, on September 12, 1937, by John Kamauoha Sr., and confirmed a member of the church by my dad.

The thing that I remembered most about the Kalōpā church was a sign that hung at the entrance door. It said: "Welcome to Sunday School". When the service started promptly at 10:00 a.m., one of the young deacons was assigned to turn the sign over. It said: "You are late again".

The reason it is still embedded in my mind is because we lived just two doors away; yet, it was always the second sign that greeted us as we tried to sneak into the chapel. Dad was one of the leaders who would see us come in late, and the look of disappointment on his face made me feel very, very guilty.

On Mother's Day, all the young girls were assigned to pass out red carnations to all those in attendance whose mothers were still living, and white ones to those whose mothers had died. Three favorite songs that we sang on Mother's Day were:

1. ***M is for the Million Things She Gave Me***

M is for the million things she gave me

O is only that she's growing old

T is for the tears she shed to save me

H is for her heart as pure as gold

E is for her eyes, with love light shining

R means right, and right she'll always be

Put them all together, they spell MOTHER,

A word that means the world to me.

2. ***I Know a Name***

*I know a name, a glorious name
Dearer than any other
Listen, I'll whisper the name to you
It is the name of MOTHER
Mother so tender and kind and true
I love you, I love you
Mother so tender and kind and true
I love you*

3. ***Oh, I Had Such a Pretty Dream, Mama***

*Oh, I had such a pretty dream, Mama,
Such pleasant and beautiful things;
Of a dear little nest, in the meadows of rest,
Where the birdie her lullaby sings.
Of a dear little nest, in the meadows of rest,
Where the birdie her lullaby sings.

A dear little stream full of lilies
Crept over the green mossy stones
And just where I lay, its thin sparkling spray
Sang sweetly in delicate tones.
And just where I lay, its thin sparkling spray
Sang sweetly in delicate tones.

And as it flowed on toward the ocean
Through shadows and pretty sunbeams,
Each note grew more deep, and I soon fell asleep
And was off to the Island of Dreams.
Each note grew more deep, and I soon fell asleep
And was off to the Island of Dreams.

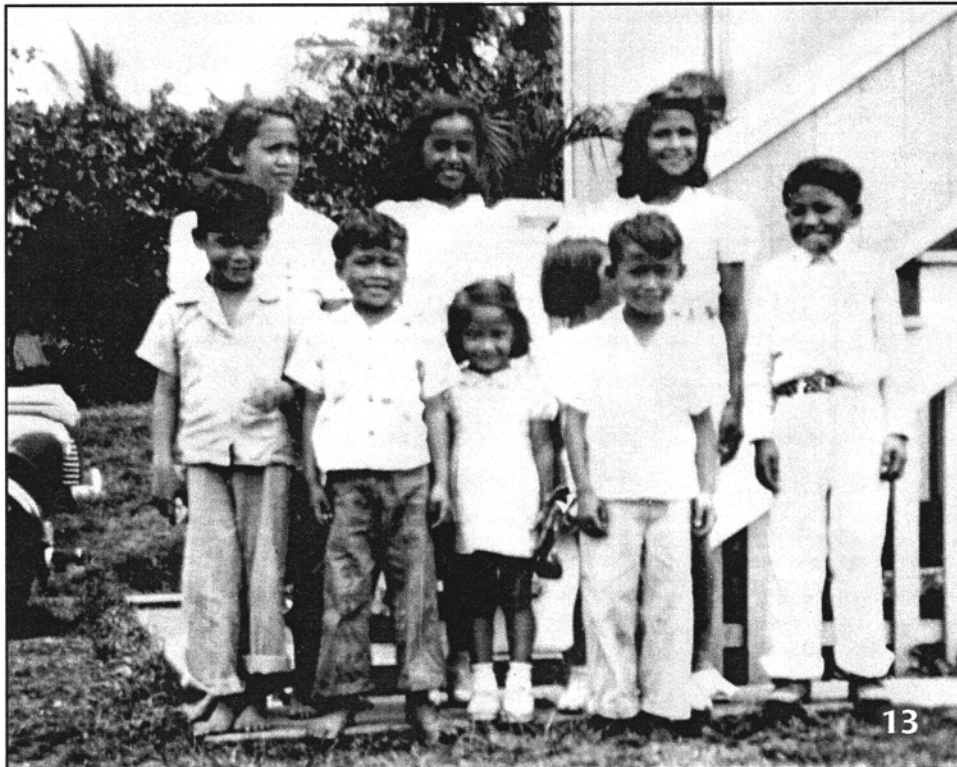
I saw there a beautiful angel,
With crown all bespangled with dew
She touched me and spoke, and I quickly awoke:
And found there, Dear Mama, twas you.
She touched me and spoke, and I quickly awoke:
And found there, Dear Mama, twas you.*

I can still see John Kamauoha Sr., with his wavy, silver hair, standing in the front of the little chapel. With his trusted violin in hand, he played the lilting melody of “Oh, I Had Such a Pretty Dream Mama” while the congregation sang the song from the old Deseret Sunday School Hymnbook.

On Father’s Day, red roses were passed out to all the fathers in attendance, and everyone sang:

*I know a name, another dear name
A name as sweet as mother
Listen, I’ll whisper the name to you
It is the name of FATHER
Father, so noble and brave and true
I love you, I love you
Father, so noble and brave and true
I love you.*

Because the membership of the Kalōpā branch dwindled to only a few families, the church authorities advised that the members there meet with the Honoka’a branch, about five miles away.



LDS Primary children of Honoka’a. Back row: Amy Kekoolani, Ella Kamauoha, Irene Chong.
Front row: Charles Kekoolani, Charles Heaukulani, Florence Kamauoha, Joseph Keomalua, Alvin Chong.

I understand that in 1948, after our family had moved away from Kalōpā, the church building was moved to Kukuihaele, for the members in that area, and was later sold to someone to be used as their residence. That building is still standing today.



Hamakua Jodo Mission, Kalopa. 2002.

3. *A Japanese Church.* Around the bend from Ishii Store on the way to Honoka'a, on the left side of the main road, there was a Japanese church. I don't know whether it was a Buddhist or Shinto temple. It was called The Hāmākua Jodo Mission. The Japanese people in the community attended services there, and still do.

The Kalōpā LDS Graveyard

Situated off the belt highway, at the 38 mile marker past Pa'auilo town on the way to Honoka'a, is the old LDS graveyard. It sits alongside the old government road, which was the main road around the island before the belt highway was built. My dad told me that there used to be a little chapel on that same lot before the new chapel was later built near our home. Evidently, people were buried next to the chapel, and the graves remained there after the chapel was demolished.

Many members of my family are buried in the Kalōpā LDS graveyard: Dad's mother, Lillian Ka'eo Keko'olani; Dad's brother, Charles, and sister, Lillian Kalaniki'eki'e Ka'aikaula; and my brother, Norman, and sisters, Pearl Pi'ilani, and Vivian Shirley Keaolani.

KALOPA LDS CHURCH
CEMETERY

		Koko	
		Gap Kahiwalani	
		Paahao	
		Daniel Kalawa Kapela	
		Miriam Bailado Baby	Unknown
		Miriam Bailado Baby	Palea Kaai
	Unknown	George Kanealii Keomalu	
Kamauoha Baby	Joseph Keomalu	Palea Keomalu	Unknown
Vivian Shirley Kekoolani	Lillian Kalanikie- kie Kekoolani	Charles Koolani Kekoolani	Aina Palea Kaai
Pearl Piilani Kekoolani	Lillian Kalaniahi- ahi Kao Kekoolani	Nellie Bartels Campbell	
Rebecca Haraguchi Keomalu	Ellarine Hussey Keomalu	Kamiki Trip	
	Norman Nawai Kekoolani		

Entrance

OLD GOVERNMENT ROAD

Turn right off Belt Hwy
at 38 mile marker; then
turn left, pass Catholic
cemetery on the left.

KALOPA LDS CEMETERY

Name	Sex	Birth	Death	Father	Mother	Husband/wife	Relative
Norman Kekoolani	(M)	10/16/24-3/18/25		Nawai Kekoolani	Emily Hussey		
Rebecca Keomalu	(F)	9/11/11	9/22/39	Lisaku Haraguchi	Maggie Kanekoa	Henry Keomalu	
Ella Keomalu	(F)	6/10/03	2/6/28	Geo. Hussey Jr.	Ellarine Moi	Henry Keomalu	
Kamiki Tripp	(F)			Cornelius Tripp			GeorgeWoolsey Robert Tripp
Pearl Kekoolani	(F)	5/7/31-4/1/34		Nawai Kekoolani	Emily Hussey		
Lillian Kaeo Bartels	(F)	9/2/82-11/30/23		Samuel Kaeo	Sarah K. Adams	Charles Kekoolani	
Nellie/Campbell	(F)	1879 - 1906		Frederick W. Bartels	Hattie F. Macomber		
Vivian Kekoolani	(F)	3/13/36-8/29/36		Nawai Kekoolani	Emily Hussey		
Lillian Kekoolani	(F)	3/18/08-4/22/33		Charles Koolani	Lillian Kaeo	William Kaaikaula	
Charles Kekoolani	(M)	10/15/98-1/7/16		Charles Koolani	Lillian Kaeo		
Aina Palea Kaa	(F)						Keomalu/Peleiholani/Kaa
Kamauoha baby				Andrew Kamauoha	Laura Lorenzo		
Joseph Keomalu	(M)	5/9/1873-9/16	1900	Joseph Keomalu Sr.	Nellie Bartels		
Palea Keomalu	(M)			George Kanealii Keomalu	SON of Joseph Keomalu Sr.)		
George Keomalu	(M)	8/19/1893-8/15/1922		Joseph Keomalu Sr.	Nellie Bartels		
Palea Kaa	(M)						
Miriam Bailado baby							
Miriam Bailado baby							
Daniel Kalawa Kapela	(M)						Miriam's first husband
Paahao							
Gap Kahiwalani	(M)						
Koko	(F)			Hukaa			Paahao's sister

Above information given to me by my aunt Miriam Bailado (Nawai Kekoolani's first cousin) in 1972. And Ella Keomalu Teves on 9/27/2001

After my sisters, Myra and Winifred, and I moved back to the Big Island with our children and Papa, we discovered that the graveyard was overrun with California grass, weeds, and plum trees. With the help of brother, Charlie, who came home to help, and Myra and Wini and all the children and grandchildren, we managed to clean the area. Charlie made concrete blocks with Aunty Lillian's, Norman's, Pearl's, and Vivian's names as markers for their graves. Aunty Aina, Dad's sister, sent me the money to order a gravestone for her mother, Lillian Kalaniahiahia Ka'eo Keko'olani. And cousin Ella made new headstones for her mother, Ellarine Hussey Keomalū, and stepmother, Rebecca Haraguchi Keomalū. We are in the process of having a sign made to indicate the location of this sacred resting place of our kūpuna in Kalōpā.



