



*The Community of Kalaupapa*

Cover photo: Maria Keawe (right), originally from Hana, Maui, was sent to Kalaupapa on July 21, 1902 at the age of 17. She is pictured with two as yet unidentified friends.

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# *The Community of Kalaupapa*

As Reflected in the Photographs of  
Father Joseph Julliotte

*Produced by:*

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Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa

IDEA Center for the Voices of Humanity

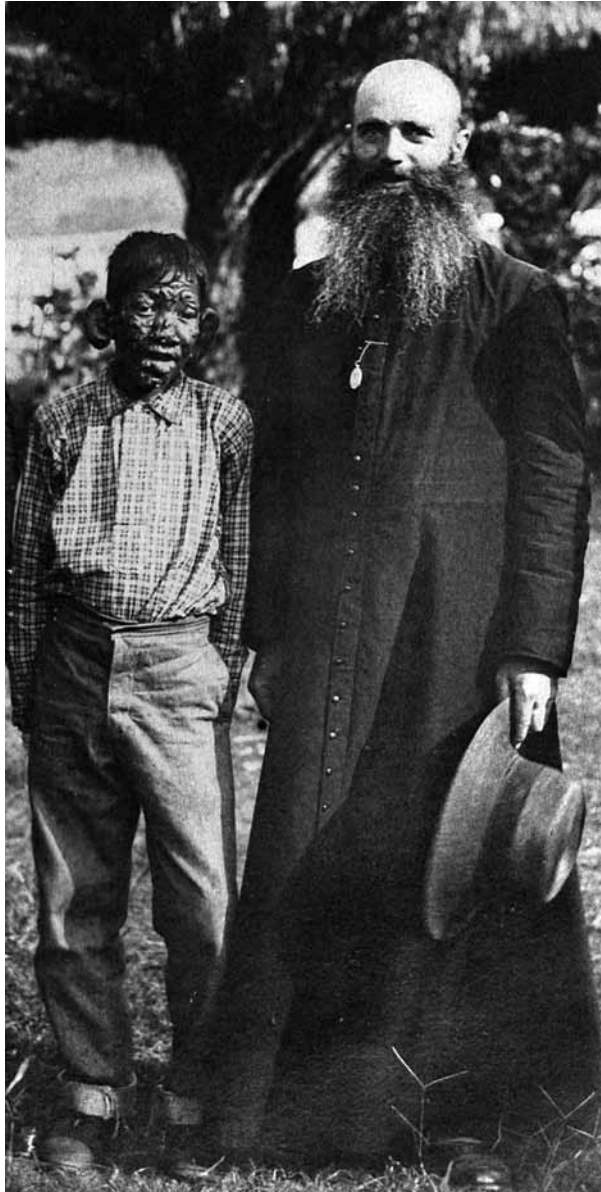
# *The Soul of This Land*

*“Some people who are trying to learn about their family history will come to find out that they had relatives at Kalaupapa. If they feel at all the same way that we do, they will be proud that their family was part of the ʻāina, part of the soul of this land.”*

-- Bernard K. Punikaia, Composer, Musician, Human Rights Advocate, who was separated from his mother at the age of six and sent to Kalaupapa in 1942 at the age of eleven.



A.J. Kauhahao, originally from Holualoa, Hawaii, was sent to Kalaupapa on April 15, 1906. He was 36 years old. He died 14 years later, on June 20, 1920.



Father Joseph Julliotte with Pilipo liili, who was originally from Kauluwela, Hawaii. He was sent to Kalaupapa on February 15, 1896 at the age of 11 and died on August 31, 1904. He lived at the Baldwin Home.

# *A Strong Desire to be Remembered*

Between 1866 and the official abolition of Hawaii's leprosy isolation policies in 1969, an estimated 8,000 men, women and children were taken from their families and sent to the remote Makanalua peninsula on the island of Molokai, commonly known as Kalaupapa. The oldest was 105; the youngest was 4. At least 90% of these individuals were Native Hawaiian.

The photographs taken by Father Joseph Julliotte of the community of Kalaupapa in the early 1900s are truly a treasure. These photos enable individuals to define themselves -- through their beautiful dresses, distinguished suits, and fashionable hats; by the place where they chose to be photographed; and by who they chose to be photographed with. The photographs taken by Father Julliotte reflect individuals, friends, families, and community.

Most of the individuals in these photographs have never been identified until now. Over the last several years, Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa has created a photo bank that includes photographs from different archives in Hawaii, New York, Washington, D.C., Italy, and Belgium. By carefully comparing more than 1,000 photos, as well as looking at Father Julliotte's original photo albums, it has been possible to identify people in many of his photographs. These identifications enable them to be connected to additional information found in Kalaupapa admission registers, correspondence, reports, and newspaper articles. Through the identification of individuals in Father Julliotte's photographs, people are able to regain their place in the history of Kalaupapa, the history of Hawaii, and, most important, in the history of their families.

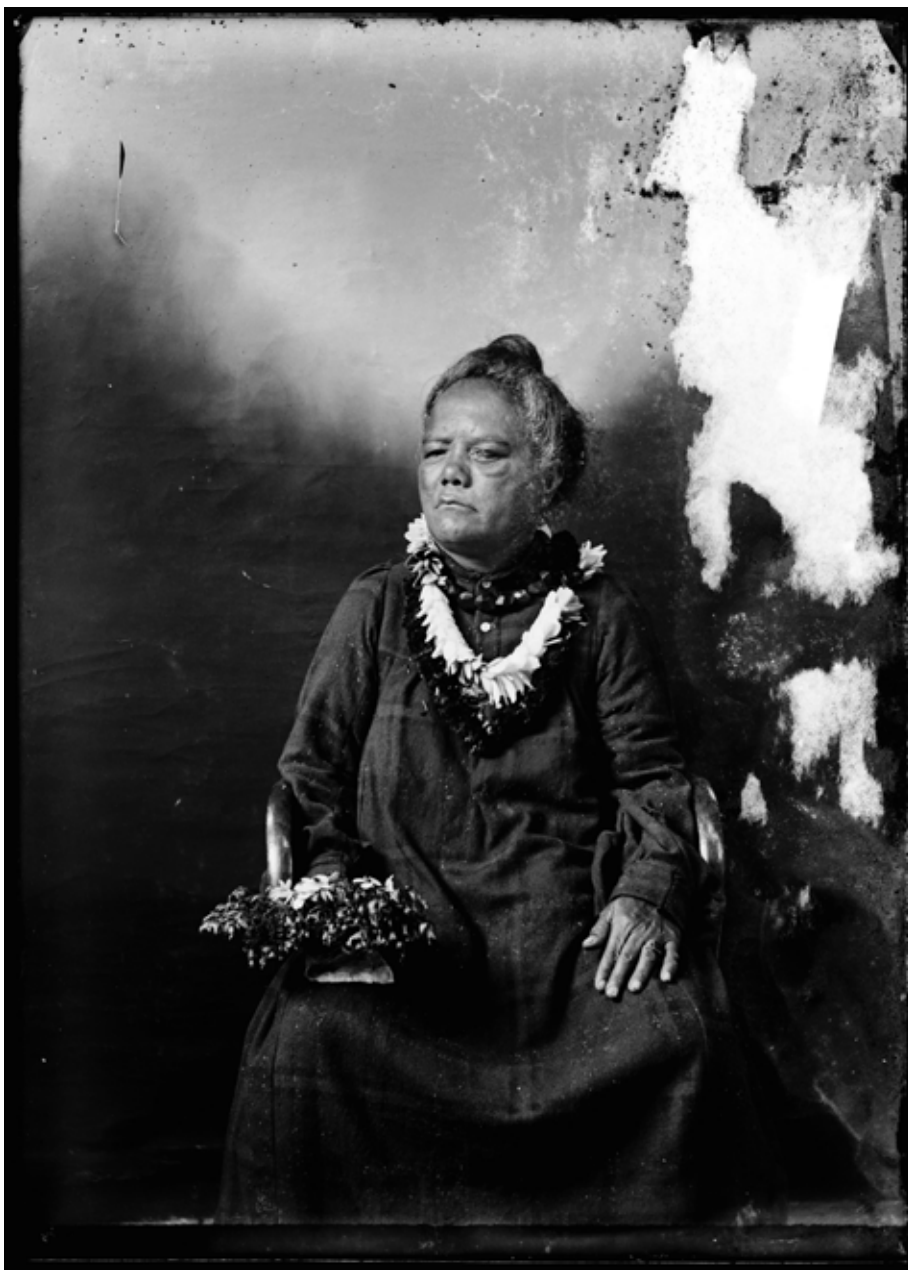
Many descendants have never seen a photograph of their family member who was sent to Kalaupapa. If their relatives were fortunate enough to be photographed by Father Julliotte, the photograph will be especially meaningful since they reflect great dignity and character, together with a strong desire to be remembered.

# *Dignity*



Maka Napela, originally from Lahaina, Maui, was sent to Kalaupapa on February 18, 1901. He was 14 years old. Note the cameo pin he is wearing, which could be a photograph of a relative. He was the first person identified in the current project.





Nahinelua, originally from Wailuku, Maui, was sent to Kalaupapa on May 25, 1905. She was 52 years old. She died a year later, on June 7, 1906.



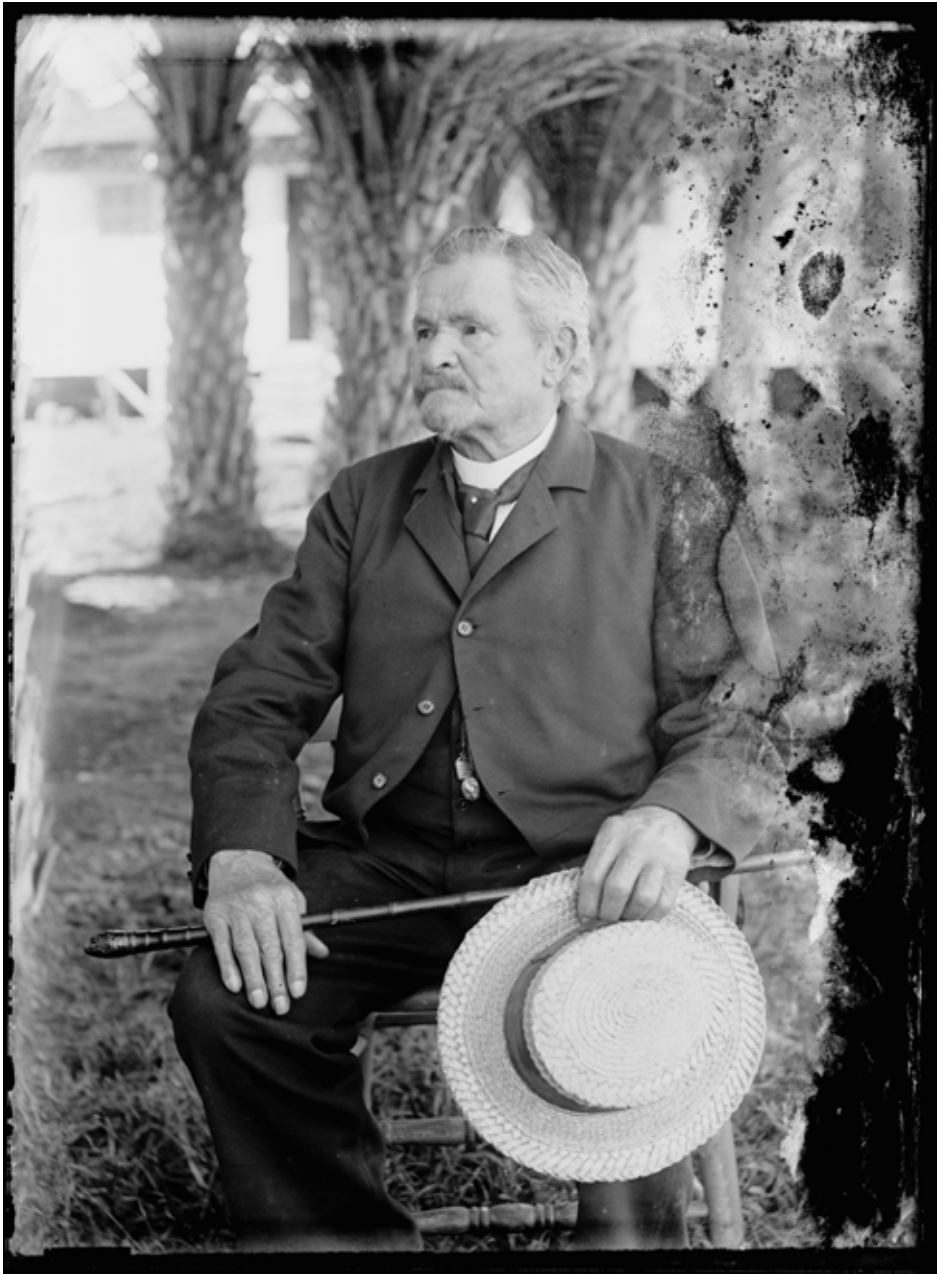
Kunane Naehu. originally from Paia, Maui, was sent to Kalaupapa on November 25, 1902. She was 46 years old.. She died on November 28, 1913.



S. Kamohoalii, originally from Hilo, Hawaii, was sent to Kalaupapa on September 30, 1901. He was 19 years old.



Palakiko Kuokala, originally from Laupahoe, Hawaii, was sent to Kalaupapa on November 1, 1905 at the age of 8. Four other family members were on the same ship with him: Kuokala (age 68 -- possibly his grandfather), Pakule (brother, age 12), Julia (sister, age 18) and Emma (sister, age 13). He died on December 3, 1917.



John De Greaves, an American, was sent to Kalaupapa on August 11, 1903. He was 70 years old. He died on October 31, 1910.



Ah Han, from Puuloa, Oahu, was sent to Kalaupapa on May 24, 1905, at the age of 36. He was on the same ship as Kahawaii (pictured on opposite page). He died just four months later, on September 12, 1905.



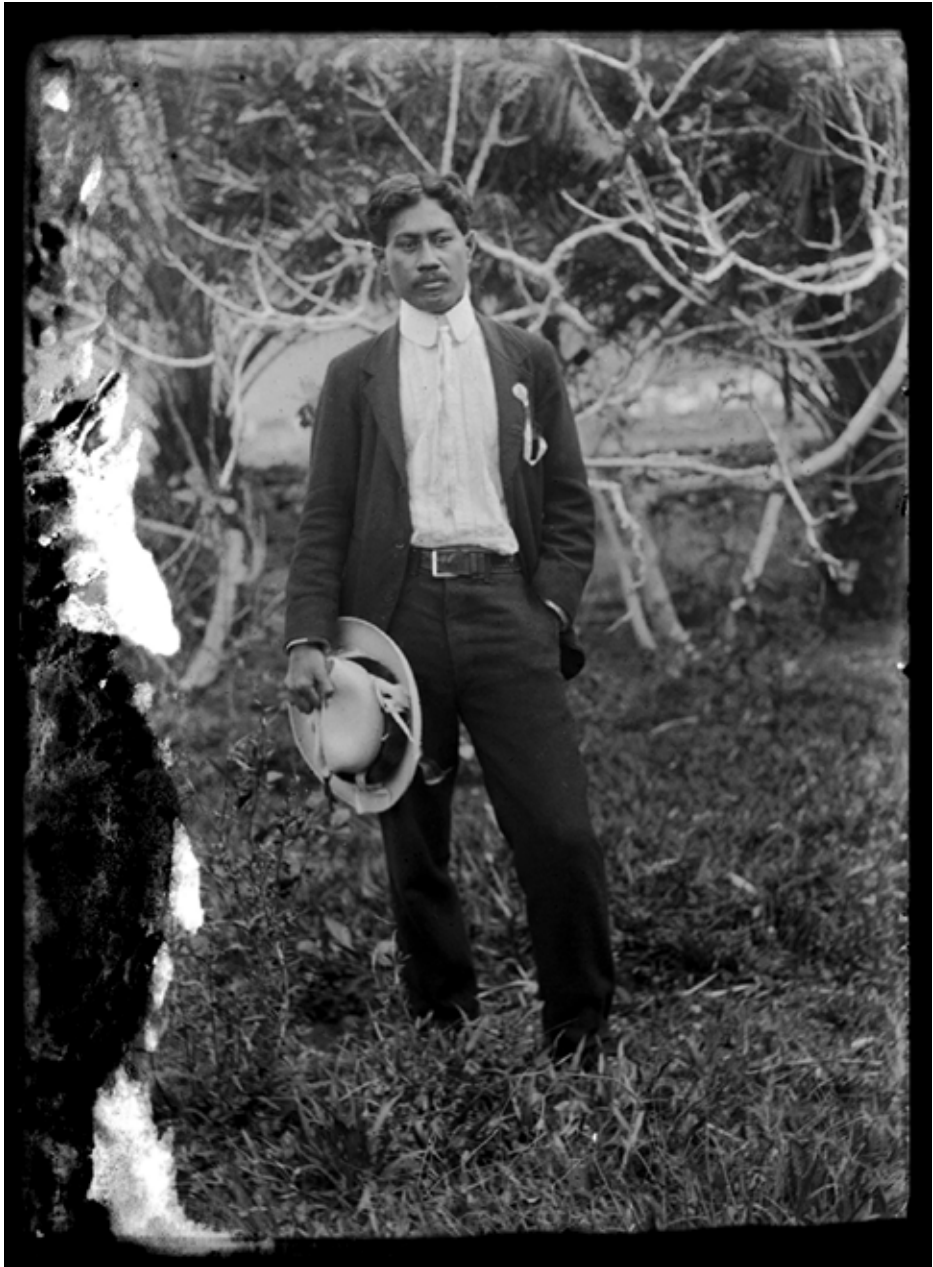


Kahawaii, originally from Makiki, Oahu, was sent to Kalaupapa on May 24, 1905, at the age of 14. She was later released.



A resident of the Bishop Home, as yet unidentified.





Phillip Kilauea, originally from Oahu, was sent to Kalaupapa on December 8, 1904 at the age of 22. He died five years later, on September 12, 1909.

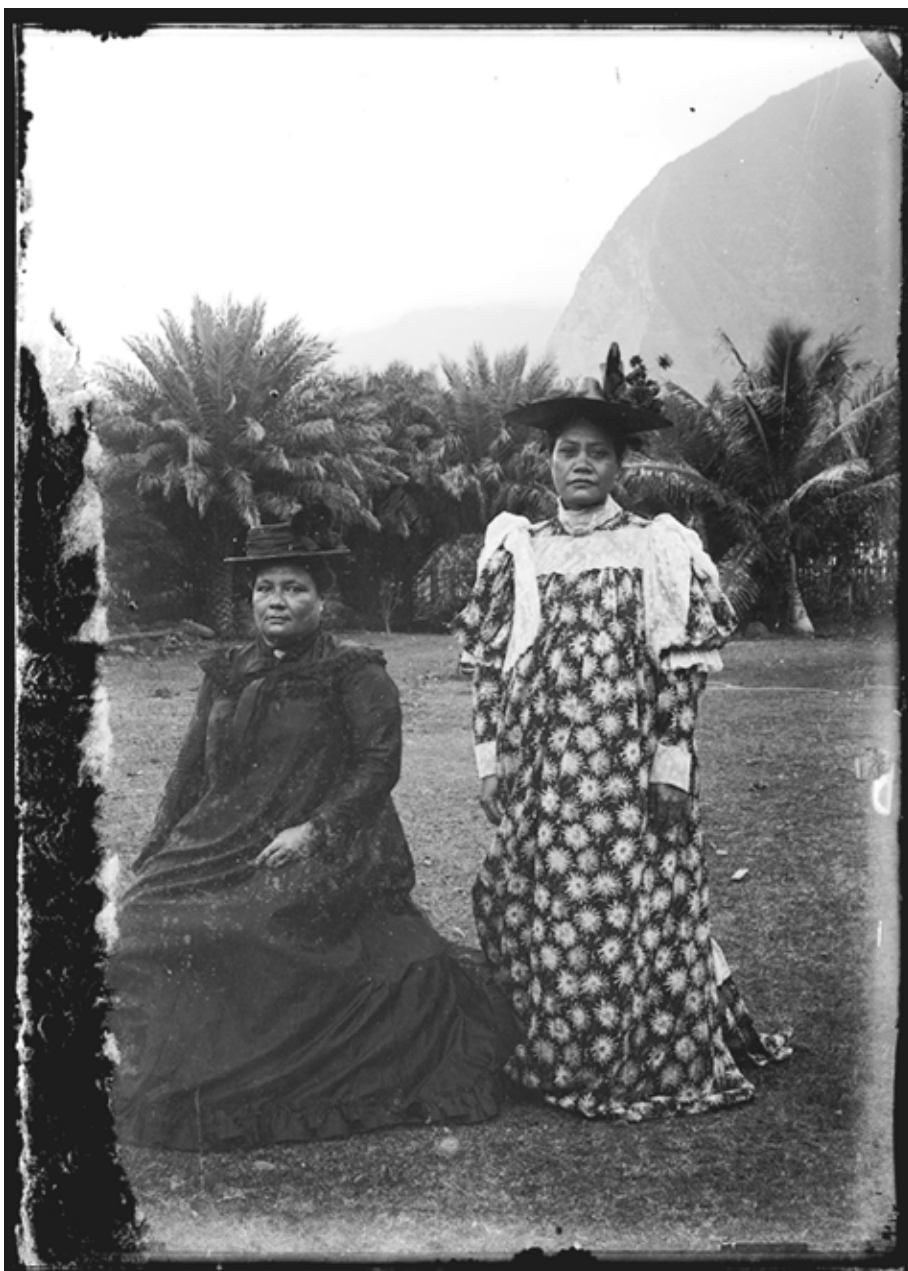
# *Friendship*



Manuel P. Castro (left), from Punchbowl, Oahu, was sent to Kalaupapa on June 29, 1903 at the age of 19. He died on January 20, 1919. Albert Galaspo (right), from Kakaako, Oahu, was sent to Kalaupapa on May 22, 1900 at the age of 17. He died on March 23, 1932.



Becky Perry (left), originally from Kohala, Hawaii, was sent to Kalaupapa on August 25, 1898 at the age of 14. She died on April 26, 1916. Luka Kumalea (right), originally from Kalia, Oahu, was sent to Kalaupapa on January 9, 1899 at the age of 19. She died on April 9, 1914. Their friend (seated) is still waiting to be identified.



Kachu Brown (left), from Waikapu, Maui, was sent to Kalaupapa on December 8, 1904 at the age of 52. She was discharged on April 27, 1915. Her friend is still waiting to be identified.



Alice Kaelemakule (right), originally from Waialua, Oahu, was sent to Kalaupapa on January 24, 1905 at the age of 20. She died on January 12, 1914. Her friend has not yet been identified.



Bernard Palikapu (left) was identified as a catechist for Father Julliotte in one of Father Julliotte's photo albums in Rome, Italy. Originally, from Hanalei, Kauai, he was sent to Kalaupapa on December 7, 1897 at the age of 27. He lived at the Baldwin Home and died on October 23, 1919. His friend is still waiting to be identified.



Bernard Palikapu with Ponepake Lapilio and Ponepake's baby, Bernardo Palikapu Lapilio. Ponepake, originally from Kamoiliili, Oahu, was sent to Kalaupapa on February 25, 1889 at the age of 7. He married Luisa Lui and had several children, including Bernardo, who was born on February 21, 1905. In 1908, Bernardo was sent to the Kalihi Boys' Home. Ponepake appears in numerous photos taken at Kalaupapa.

# *Family*



Elizabeth Kalana, originally from Kapalama, Oahu, was sent to Kalaupapa on April 13, 1903, at the age of 13. One identification indicated that she is pictured with her “Papa.”





In some instances, it is impossible to make a definite identification with the information available. However, it seems very possible that the gentleman in this photograph is Kauhane, who was sent to Kalaupapa on October 6, 1902 at the age of 19. He died on April 22, 1916.. None of the other individuals in this photo have been identified yet.



Jessie Kaena (left) with her husband Kalani Joseph Kaena, who accompanied her as a kokua (helper). Originally from Hanamaulu, Kauai, Jessie was sent to Kalaupapa on March 24, 1903 at the age of 30. They had three children while at Kalaupapa. She died on July 27, 1913. Pictured with them is Malaea Hakalau.



Malaea Hakalau helped in her identification by wearing a necklace with her name on it. Originally from Puuhule, Oahu, she was sent to Kalaupapa on July 18, 1904. She was 40 years old. She died on March 8, 1915



An identification in one of Father Julliotte's albums in Louvain, Belgium, identified the man in this photo as Naihe Kala. Originally from Kohala, Hawaii, he was sent to Kalaupapa on April 13, 1903 at the age of 19. He died on February 24, 1907.





The individuals with Naihe Kala are as yet unidentified. However, the young woman at the right can be seen in the photograph of the Kalawao Choir taken in 1901.

# Community



Lilia Kepane (left), originally from Kewalo, Oahua, was sent to Kalaupapa on January 24, 1905 at the age of 27. She died August 4, 1913. Kalani Kama (right), originally from Wailuku, Maui, was sent to Kalaupapa on June 16, 1898 at the age of 29. She died November 15, 1905. These two women are pictured in Baldwin Home group photos which seems to indicate that they helped care for the children there.



Two as yet unidentified children. Children were allowed to remain with their parents at Kalaupapa until 1908, at which time policies were passed that stated that children had to be taken away at birth.



As yet unidentified resident of The Bishop Home.





The woman holding the photograph appears to be Halekunihi, who was originally from Wailuku, Maui. She was sent to Kalaupapa o April 11, 1899 at the age of 22. The two young women posing with her at The Bishop Home are still waiting to be identified.



Many, many years ago it was noticed that one of the photo albums in Hawaii had a name written alongside this photo -- Willie Wicke. This led to his family finding him in other photos. He was sent to Kalaupapa on January 5, 1904 at the age of 11. He died on February 3, 1922. His grandfather, William Clark, was sent to Kalaupapa in 1886.



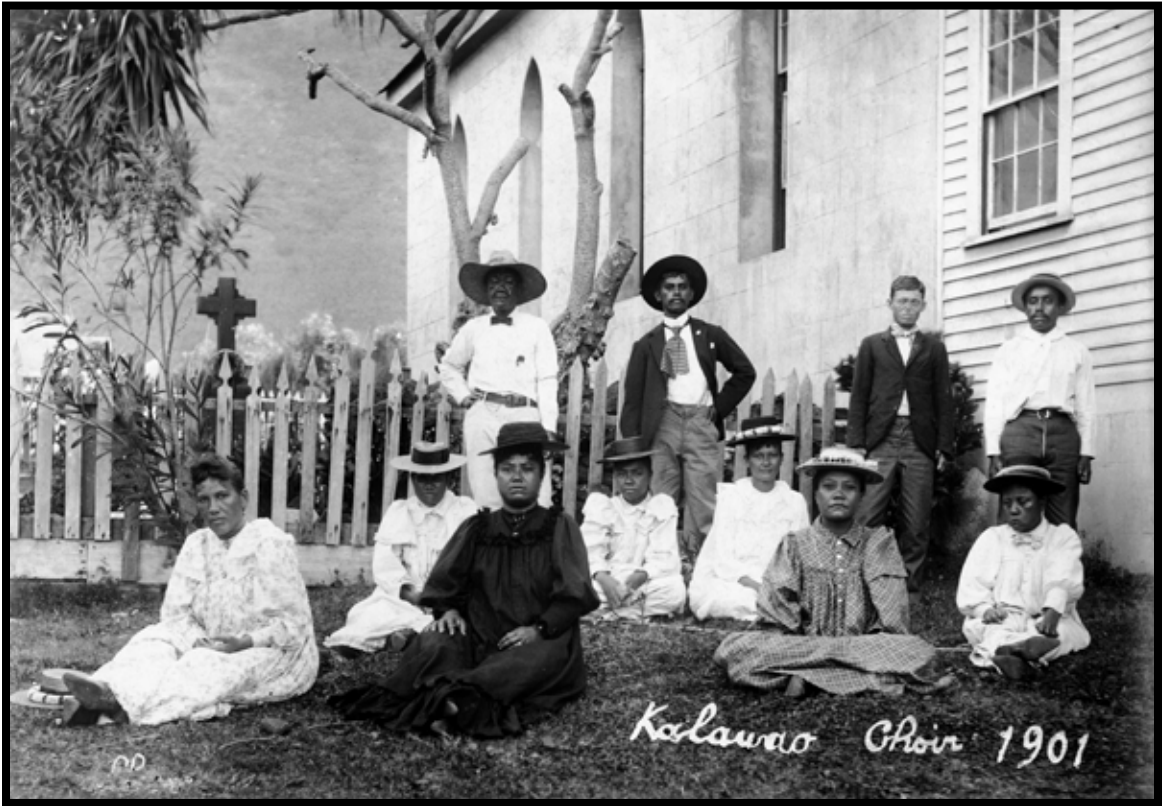
Residents of the Baldwin Home (clockwise starting at lower right): Willie Wicke, Peter Akim, Kahawai Kaichu, Pilipo lili, John Vincent De Coito, and their as yet unidentified friend.

*“I felt so sorry for this kid who had to go through all of this all by himself. I was very happy, and my kids were too, to see all the photos. I really felt that he was home again.”*

-- Emmet Cheeley, relative of Willie Wicke



Emelia Kaaepa (left) was identified in the Kalawao Choir photo in one of Father Julliotte's albums in Rome, Italy. Originally from Nuuanu Valley, Oahu, she was sent to Kalaupapa on July 14, 1891 at the age of 16. She signed the Anti-Annexation petition when it was brought to Kalaupapa in 1897. She died on August 24, 1906.



The Kalawao Choir included Emelia Kaaepa (front row, left) and Ponepake Lapilio (back row, second from left). Here they are pictured alongside St. Philomena Church, with Father Damien's grave behind them.

# *The Restoration of Family Ties*

## *Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa*

*"They are not lost, they're waiting. They're waiting for us to find them."*

-- Kuulei Bell, First President of Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa



Individuals in photographs taken by Father Julliotte who have not yet been identified. *SS.CC. United States Province Archives*

Until recently, the history of Kalaupapa has mostly centered around the remarkable lives of Father Damien de Veuster and Mother Marianne Cope. Even though it has long been estimated that about 8,000 men, women and children – 90 percent of them Native Hawaiian – had been taken from their families and sent to Kalaupapa, few of them were known by their names. They were no longer part of the history they had helped to create. They were becoming lost.

Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa organized in 2003 when Bernard Punikai'a recognized the need to bring together family members and friends to make sure the voices of Kalaupapa would

always be heard. At that time, it was thought that the majority of this new network would be friends because we still believed the often-repeated myth that the people of Kalaupapa had been forgotten by their families.

The descendants themselves have shattered that fallacy as they contact the ‘Ohana in search of answers. As the ‘Ohana has provided them with information about their ancestors, the descendants have offered personal stories and emotional connections that make the overall history of Kalaupapa a richer and more inclusive history . . . a living history.

It was the descendants themselves who inspired “The Restoration of Family Ties,” the program developed by the ‘Ohana that has helped more than 600 families learn about their ancestors. Over the past eight years, the ‘Ohana has assembled a digital library that includes information on more than 7,200 people who were sent to Kalaupapa. The ‘Ohana has created this resource by compiling admissions registers, death registers, marriage records, birth records, Census data and petitions. Letters have been translated from Hawaiian into English. The Kalaupapa PhotoBank has digitally preserved more than 1,000 photographs, many of them old and in poor condition.

Through all of these documents, the people of Kalaupapa have come back to life. They were mothers, fathers, brothers, sisters and friends. They were musicians, artists, farmers, fishermen and women, business people, teachers and civic and church leaders. They were human rights activists who looked out for another and spoke up against injustices.

Most importantly, they are remembered.

The people of Kalaupapa are being returned to their family histories, the history of Kalaupapa and the history of Hawai`i. Hardly forgotten, those sent to Kalaupapa are now being acknowledged, in the words of descendant Mercy Bacon, as “the pride of a nation.”

-- Valerie Monson, Ka ‘Ohana O Kalaupapa



As yet unidentified family.

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