

Frederick Furer & Gloria Furer

34 pp.

In attendance: Beatrice Krauss (only up to tape #200), Evelyn Trapido (interviewer), Margaret Young, Peggy Robb, Miriam Reed, Charles Bouslog (All shown hereafter by initials.)

[Note: The group starts out standing before a 1916 map of Manoa Valley that belongs to Frederick Furer. This rather difficult conversation runs tape #1 - 200.]

CB: Who was "Adolf"?

FF: I guess one of the Ferdinands. ^[See p. 7] I never met him. I've never taken the time to look up any of these people and who the owners were between the time B.F. Dillingham turned that property over to Thomas Myer (Myer Drug Store), who owned it only for three years, then sold it. There were several owners before my folks got it.

CB: You notice that this little road here, called "Gore Way", which is still there, does not appear in Place Names of Hawaii, and this is another "Gore Way" (unnamed), which has disappeared.

FF: My dad wondered whether the "Gore" should have been "Gere".

BK: No, I think it is Gore.

FF: Well, J. L. Young lived here and either his chief bookkeeper or somebody connected with J. L. Young Engineering Contracting Company was named "Gere", and so Dad suspected that that was a misprint.

CB: That's very possible, but a dressmaker called it "Gore".

BK: But Bishop Museum's Map Division says it is not listed anywhere

officially as Gore.

FF: Oh, there was an article in Historic Hawaii that talked about the Manoa Tennis Club that was turned over by Charlie Atherton to the Tennis Club in 1937 or something like that. But they had subdivided and started building houses in there after we graduated from high school in '35.

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CB: It was still going up to World War II. That was when it collapsed.

FF: Yes, I was going to say two to three years anyway. Well, the title was in Manoa Tennis Club way back in that time. Charlie Atherton owned most of this property here, and I was surprised to see the Central Union Church home on this section here where _____ ??? _____ lives now. There's J. B. Atherton, J. B. Atherton all over the place. Of course, this was Theodore Richard's home here. Jack Guard was here.

CB: This Ehrhorn land is now broken up, but there's a narrow piece there with still the same family in it.

FF: I remember Hubey Jones used to be in their scout troop. Their scout troop used to meet over here on this road in Kamanele Park. It was long since then, and you know the road into the park, this is another park, and our boy scout troops used to meet here. That troop had a lot of interesting names in it, Lex Brodie, Perry Arnold.

?: Your father gave my husband his surveying examination.

MY: My husband Fred Young worked for the Harbors Division.

FF: That's our house, and this is the Fries' house. I'd like to

get a print of that. That's the Ray Jerome Baker picture of 1910. You can see the houses that were around. You know the little ironwood trees in 1910 looked exactly like they do today. They haven't grown, they haven't shrunk, they haven't expanded. They're just there. They haven't even blown over.

MR: Well, because they put the Jameson's house in there after the Salvation Army certified it and sold off.

BK: Did you meet Mr. and Mrs. Furer? This is Miriam Woolsey Reed. They have owned their land since before the Great Mahele, the same piece of land.

FF: I had Tom Woolsey in my scout troop. I was the scoutmaster. Is that your brother?

MR: My brother. My second brother James.

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FF: Grandma Woolsey, she always got us a truck when we had to go camping.

MR: Now we need a truck to take our grandchildren.

BK: Miriam remembers driving around in a wagon with her mother delivering the poi. They had a poi factory on their place, as well as growing taro.

FF: That's where Oahu Avenue narrows. You see the pavement is from that line to that line, and this is the right of way.

MY: This is a switch. Right by our house. It was right in front of my house because the motormen always used our bathroom. That's the switch right there, the curve line.

FF: Well, I can see that. Frank Atherton put a drinking fountain out here in the sidewalk.

Mahele

MY: Well, the switch was never any place but here. I lived here from 1908 to 1925. The streetcars left not too long after that.

FF: Yes, that was my place coming up Manoa Hill. Charlie Haygood, who lived here, and Bill Avery, who lived over here, and a few of the others _____??_____, Smitty, who lived on this corner, would get together and pull little tricks; and one of them was Haygood, I guess, or his brother was responsible. They got a can of gasoline and tied it on the track while the old shuttle streetcar was waiting on switch for the other one to come up. While the car was sitting on the siding waiting for the other one to come by, we would tie this can onto the cow-catcher. The little plug was in the hole, and then as soon as the streetcar would start out, we would unplug it. This would let a stream of gasoline out on the road, and as the car would travel up Oahu Avenue to about Armstrong Street, then we'd light a match to the trail, and this string of flame would go shooting up along after this streetcar.

BK: I can tell you other things you did, too. You used to pull off the trolley.

MY: Tom Singer and Pat _____??_____ did it.

FF: Well, I never did the fireworks.

MY: They lived here in back of me, across the alley. The Baldwins lived there. Later Sonny Jim McCandless came back here. He must have bought it back from Baldwin. Baldwin moved to _____??_____. You see, I question whether it showed McCandless the whole thing because the Singlers who'd lived there before we moved in 1908. But the McCandless's used to be

right up here.

No, this is my house here. We had a lot and a half.

FF: That's where Judge Christy lived.

? Judge Christy, 2123 Beckwith Avenue, bought the house. Prissy Ponds bought it from me and sold it in '25, and then Christy lived there later.

FF: Whose house was at 2129 that is now up for sale? The brown house; once Livingston's...

MY: That was built by *Carrie* Westervelt. No, wait a minute. Here it says Cathcarts on it; at one time, the Cathcarts lived here.

The Livingstons' house was built by *Carrie* Westervelt. Andrew and I used to play in the basement, and then Gummy Clarke moved in later.

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FF: Oh, they had a dandy basement. Young Stanley and I were buddies.

MY: Carrie Westervelt was Carrie Castle, and her brother gave her one of the old horse cars, so we had our own horse car in the back yard to play with.

200) (Now seated at the table.)

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ET: What were your parents' names?

FF: Dad was William F. Furer, and mother was Ellen Brawley Furer.

ET: Were they born in Hawaii?

FF: No. Dad came over here in 1908 with a group of engineers that did the basic hydrographic survey and worked at Pearl Harbor. Having been raised in Wisconsin and schooled in Boston at MIT,

he had been accustomed to these, or never quite accustomed to the New England winters, and when he got over here and saw what kind of place this was, he thought this was the place to settle. Then he wrote letters to my mother, and she came here. They were married here in 1909. They were married at the home of the Gere family, photographer. Manoa Road. Was between Ferdinand and Manoa right next to the Burgess, Dr. Burgess's house. It was on the corner.

MY: Was your mother Ellen Brawley, the sister of the doctors Brawley, the dentists?

FF: Right. Dr. Clifford Brawley and Dr. George Brawley. After mother came over here, she corresponded with her tribe back in Tennessee, and pretty soon, practically all of them came out here. Her three brothers, Clifford and his wife, George, the youngest brother, Carl, who's still living in Los Angeles, who's 80, 85, 87. So there were lots of Brawleys. They've all disappeared now. I arrived about 1917.

ET: Where was your family living at that time?

FF: Mother and Dad rented a little place down on Wilder Avenue across from Punahou, right back of the so-called "Chink Store", and on Alexander Street; their backyards met. Dan Hew was one of the kids, one of the people that ran the store, and then we got to be pretty good friends, and then we moved up to this house. I guess the expanded family required more space.

ET: Do you remember a little Catholic church on Wilder and Metcalf? You would have been about only five or six years old when it was there. It's in a city directory, and there are a couple of

old-timers who've mentioned it to Faye Midkiff, who isn't here today. It was on Clement Street.

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FF: When I was six months old, our family moved.

ET: What was the name of the street where you were living as a child?

FF" Well, the house faced on Ferdinand, and at that time it was the corner lot of Ferdinand and Hill and up alongside of it was Adolf Street, both named for Schnaak brothers. All of the lots in that development were approximately an acre. They've all been chopped up into smaller parcels, of course, since then. Adolf Street--the name was changed in World War II when Dad and Dr. _____ who lived down the hill, Valentine, _____ went down as a group to the Board of Supervisors and presented their case. Dad said that it was bad enough being named Furer, but living on Adolf Street was too much, so the name was changed.

MY: They did that to several streets. Emerson Street was Hackfeld Street.

FF: That goes back to World War I, though.

{ 251) tape number refers to above sentence.

260) 272, 281 tape numbers refer to paragraph below.]

FF: Well, I started school in the first grade at Punahou like everyone else, and used to be able to walk to school down past Judd Hillside across the cow pasture at the back end of Punahou. But the public school system was starting a brand new experiment in trying to cope with the pidgin English problem.

They established an experimental school called Lincoln Elementary, called an "English Standard School", and the only requirement was that the kids speak English without the "da kine". So I went there for six years, and then Lincoln had to have a place for its people to go after they got out, so Roosevelt was started as Junior-Senior High School, and it was up at the old Armory School which hadn't been used since Normal School became Teachers' College at the University. Roosevelt occupied those buildings for about three years until they finally built their new school at the site of the old Lunalilo Home, which had by that time moved out to Koko Head. So I entered the tenth grade when Roosevelt was brand new, when it opened. It didn't have its auditorium and so on. So there was very keen, strong competition between Roosevelt and Punahou. The rich haoles and the poor haoles. Gloria was with the rich haole gang, but we sort of got together at Central Union; that was sort of a meeting ground. That's where the Roosevelt boys could meet the Punahou girls and vice versa, I guess.

MY: They painted each other's domes.

FF: Oh, yes. I was a junior. A bunch of "vandals" from Roosevelt High School got over to Punahou the night before the Punahou-Roosevelt game, and managed to get up to the top of Bishop Hall where there were a dome and observatory.

299) Because Punahou's colors being buff and blue and Roosevelt's color at that time were yellow and green, buff and yellow being the same, all we had to do was paint over the blue with green and it made it Roosevelt's colors--up on top of Punahou's dome.

That was a good gag, of course, and the guys were never caught. You know who did it, of course; one of them was Rufus Haygood. The following year, we decided we could pull the same gag. I had the car. (I carried a newspaper route at that time, so I had a Chevy car.) We made arrangements, you know. We'd sleep with a string hanging out the window so the guy would come around at 4 o'clock in the morning and tug on the string to wake him up to get out of the house. So there were seven of us, I guess, that finally got down there. We had our paint and brushes and a bunch of green and yellow ribbons, crepe paper streamers, and a big banner. We proceeded to do a job. The trouble was, we couldn't get up to the dome because somebody had taken the knobs off the pins of the hinges. We tried climbing around the outside to get up but it was impossible. George _____??_____ was supposed to be the lookout and tell us where the guard was. We were doing all this operation in the dark of the moon. George slept through the whole thing. Anyway, the upside of it was we had all this paint, and so some of the fellows proceeded to paint up the concrete steps and splash it all over. We who were more artistically inclined were inside the building decorating the railings with this crepe paper. We suspended a banner over the entry way. Then we took off. But, of course, they put the paint cans back in my car. Now, the prosecuting attorney of the Roosevelt student body was Rufus Haygood's youngest brother, Charles, who was a classmate of ours, and usually in on such operations, but he got left out. Maybe, he was 'teed' on that account. He said, well, if I were going to

do it, who would be the most likely cohorts? And what car would they use? So he went over and snooped around and sure enough there was our car, ^{in it} the paint cans. We hadn't had time to clean it up. We were all "arrested" and brought to trial in the student court. Our principal got up at our football rally the day of the game, and he says, "The culprits who went over and desecrated Punahou School aren't going to help our chances of winning!" He got the whole student body down on us. Yet, we were doing this to bolster the morale of the school. And we lost the game, incidentally; so it was all our fault. They were all after us. Saturday morning, I was at home, and a bunch of Punahou graduates came up to the house. Richard Botts called me out. I thought that was rather unusual because I wasn't on that friendly a basis with Richard, but I went out to see what he had in mind, and three big husky Punahou-types grabbed hold of me and threw me in the back of the car, and they took me, along with Bill Avery, and I don't think they found any of the other culprits, but they gave us the royal dunking in the Punahou lily pond. Of course, I landed with my left hand, like that, and hit a broken bottle and slashed a ligament, so I just stood up in the middle of the lily pond and waited until they got tired and left. And Bill, they took him and gave him a reverse Mohican haircut. Monday morning, we went before the Punahou student council, I guess they call it, and then Jimmy _____, the president at that time. We apologized and said that we didn't mean to smear paint, but in the excitement the can got knocked over and you know and tried to wipe it up with the brush

and we walked through right down there. We said we would do what we could to try to clean it up, and they said, "No, thanks but no thanks, we'll do that ourselves." Then they apologized for us being in the lily pond; they said they liked to reserve that for washing their own dirty things. Then Roosevelt decided that we should have punishment, too. We were sentenced to six weeks' detention after school and busing dishes in the cafeteria every noon until the end of school. They lived to regret that decision because they couldn't fire us, you know. We put the tray of dishes in the cart and would go zooming down the corridors.

[314) Tape No. beginning of above para., 351 mid-para., 382 by Mohican haircut, and 400 end of paragraph.]

ET: What year did you graduate from Roosevelt?

FF: '35. So, anyway, that's the Punahou dome. The following year, a group of Roosevelt students, including Douglas Byer, I don't know who the other characters were, decided they were going to do the same thing, only this time they were going to paint the Roosevelt dome with Punahou colors to get everybody mad at Punahou. So they climbed up on the tower, the auditorium belfry tower there, and proceeded to paint that, but Doug Byer dropped his glasses or something, and he fell off that tower and landed on the roof, the gravel roof, three stories down on his face, and that was bad. So I think that's when that thing came to a screeching halt, and then Punahou took the dome off their building, and that was the end of that.

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MY: Except that it started a tradition, didn't it?

FF: I don't think they did it much after that.

MY: They exchanged paint brushes after that. The paint brush was the substitute. Ceremonial exchange of paint brushes.

FF: They usually painted a big "P" up on the rocks.

MY: I guess the paint brushes were trophies for whoever wins the games.

FF: I didn't know that.

MY: Bob Spencer was principal, Mrs. Nickelson, vice-principal.

ET: Bea asked what did you do when you were attending school. Hiking, ball games, chores?

446) paragraph below

FF: Of course, we had a gang that rode bicycles. The neighborhood kids and we would go on excursions, sometimes as many as five or six of us. One of our favorite things was to ride up the valley and go swimming down Manoa Stream. A neighbor's boy that went up with us was Able Cathcart. Able and I were buddy-buddies for long years, until high school, I guess. The other kids in the neighborhood, their parents didn't want their kids to associate with Able because he was not of the white "hoi polloi". But my parents didn't care, so I got along fine. Then the kids didn't want to associate with me because I associated with Able. He was about a year older than I, and he had some great skills and manual dexterity. I don't know where he got his knowledge. We built some grass houses on the slopes of Roundtop and at the base of Roundtop. We didn't have pili grass, but that redtop grass was up there, so we used the sisal tree as poles, and we

used an old rope. It was all lashed together. We found out later, a fairly authentic style, and we put battons around it and tied the grass on it, and we had made a fairly respectable grass shack. Of course, after a few months, it was infested with centipedes, so we kind of abandoned that project. Then, we used to ride up the valley on our bicycles and swim in Manoa Stream. I guess one of the pools was just right at Manoa School where the bridge is that goes across the stream; just up from that, 100 yards or so, is one of the pools. We had to go down through the taro patches, and we would always come home with a jar full of mosquito fish from the taro patch, and there were little eels that used to live in the slimy mud. They weren't eels. It's called the Hawaiian snake. They were sort of eel-like critters, and we'd bring those home. Maybe Beatrice would remember. Well, anyway, that was one of our activities, and occasionally, we'd ride all the way up. No, there was another place where we liked to swim. It was by Shingle's house, where the road goes down that way and right over there. So we explored all of these valleys and went as far as we could up to the falls. We never went up to the second falls. Not like our kids. I did get up to Mount Olympus, and it was on a day almost like this, and you get one of the trails that goes up Waahila Ridge, and you keep on going and wind around this side of the mountain, and you get right to where it drops off, and there the wind just swishes up like it does at the Fali. But it was all clouds, and fog was coming up, and it was an experience that, I don't know, the fact that it came on so suddenly, and it

was overwhelming, and I went up there once again. That's the only time I've gone up to it.

[490) Tape No., page 13 by words "swim in Manoa stream." #515 by words as far as we could up to the falls." #532 by end of paragraph.]

ET: Did your kids ever go up on a clear day and say that they saw other islands, you know, the Big Island?

FF: From here? not that I know of.

MY: That's what the early missionaries said, that they could see all the islands from Kaahuinui.

FF: That must have been an awfully clear day. Besides, Kauai is very difficult to see. I've seen Kauai from Oahu only once, from the road down from Wahiawa to Waialua, about 6 or 7 o'clock in the morning. Apparently, it had been a very dry week, and there was practically no moisture in the air, and then you could see the outline of it. Then, I've talked to people a little out there on the North Shore, and they say, "Well, one or two days out of the year, you can see Kauai." It wasn't where I thought it was supposed to be, though.

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Chores that I can remember, or that I'd like to remember, are ones where something was built, like helping Dad lay a tile landing at the back door, a ceramic and quarry tile design, laying some brick walks and other constructions, things of that sort, and I guess I was doing such since I was eight or ten. I was helping. Still doing it. Try to get my kids to help now.

ET: Where was the Baldwin tract? Are you familiar with that?

FF: Was it Frank Baldwin's house that's still there?

MY: No, that's Dr. Baldwin, where Sonny Jim McCandless lived later.

FF: Yes, C. W. Baldwin, and he owned all the way from there up to Terrace Drive.

MY: Just below the Fraziers?

FF: It was on the lower side of Manoa.

CB: But it's surely part of what we think is Puupueo? (END OF SIDE ONE)

FF: There were four or five of us kids. It was called the Owl Rock Patrol, and the owl rock was just a big boulder back of our house on the side of the hill, with a few little pukas. Owls did fly overhead every evening. Where they nested, we did not know, but we supposed they were up there. That was our hangout.

ET: Did you hear any other Hawaiian stories when you were young?

FF: Well, Able used to tell us stories of one thing or another, but I can't recall anything. Just Hawaiian lore. This house that we built when we were kids was sort of "Hawaiian lore", but I didn't know it at the time. It was just something that we did, but I used to get a lot of background stuff that would rub off. I'm glad I knew him.

MY: Was Able a nephew of Judge Cathcart who lived on Kamehameha Avenue, next to the Livingstons?

FF: I don't think so.

PR: Able's father was a school teacher.

FF: He was a school teacher.

PR: He was for a while up at Manoa School and then went over to Kuhio School. They had about twelve kids.

MY: Yes, they had a lot of them. They lived on Ferdinand for quite some time 'cause Al, my second son, went to school with one of the Cathcart boys. Then they moved into Woodlawn.

FF: They moved down to Fensacola for a couple of years. Then they moved up to Woodlawn.

ET: Well, there was a Cathcart, and I think it was Able who was involved in the reconstruction of Manoa Church in 1935. So I assume...was there an Able Cathcart, Sr., as well as your friend?

FF: Their father was quite active in the church, and he was very strict, a real Bible-thumper, and Able had to toe the line there. I thought he was a little overbearing, but that was his style. He was also wonderful with plants and teaching kids how to plant things and grow flowers. When he was teaching at Kuhio School, he got the kids to earn money to put in their terraces, you know, the rock wall terraces as you drive up at the end of King Street there where Kuhio School is and look along the border of the street; you could see these block terraces filled with beautiful colored flowers, cannas, and so on. Now it's just weeds 'cause the State can't afford to hire anybody to teach the kids to tend plants there.

PR: They thought it was fun to go out there and plant plants.

FF: When he was down at Kaahumanu School, the same thing there--cannas and colorful flowers all over. He's quite an interesting guy.

ET Is your friend still living?

FF: No. He went to work on a ship as an engineer or ship's

engineer. He had a heart attack over someplace.

ET: Where was Seaview Tract?

MY: Seaview Tract shows on one of those maps that we considered for the Historic Hawaii in Manoa edition, and is below...

ET: What cars did your family first drive in Honolulu...your first car?

FF: The first car that our family acquired was not until 1928 or somewhere there. Was a little Chevrolet touring car. A '23 Chevrolet touring, which Mother bought from a fellow teacher. Mother taught piano at Punahou, and Mrs. Podmore was going to the mainland, so she sold Mother this car.

MY: The Podmores lived on Seaview Avenue, which is a little street that runs right out of the University, just above the YMCA there. Isn't that Seaview?

FF: Between Vancouver and Metcalf. That's about two blocks away. So that was our first vehicle. At first, Mother didn't know how to drive; neither did Dad or anyone else, so Mother got Uncle Harold Brawley to teach her. She was getting so that she could know which was the gas and which was the brake most of the time. Anyway, she had my brother and me along, and Uncle Harold on the passengers' side, and Mother was driving. We were going up Metcalf Street, and to make a left-hand turn into what became University Avenue there, she mistook the gas pedal for the brake pedal, but she didn't turn, and the car went over the sharp lava curbs and blew out both the front tires and landed us on the lawn. Well, that sort of upset her a little bit, so she didn't attempt to learn to drive for some time. In fact, we went to

the mainland for a year shortly after that. Meanwhile, Dad learned to drive the car, so he became the expert. We didn't get another car for quite a few years. Then we had a 1927 Hupmobile sedan. The old Hupmobile wasn't a great performer. I remember in High School some of the boys liked to take their parents' cars and on Friday night excursions go out and see how fast they can go over the roads and Mokapu, or somewhere.

Bob _____ was one of them. He had his Coach '33 Chevy. Frank Fishel had his folks' brand new Essex Terraplane.

MY: Was the Essex the one that was electrically operated with buttons?

FF: I don't know. I never got inside of it.

MY: I have a strong feeling it was.

FF: I tried to keep up with him in the '27 Hupmobile, and I didn't quite compete, and I think I burnt out the bearings. Anyway, it made a horrible noise; I barely made it back into town, and it took some time to live that down, or even get permission to use the car for quite a while.

ET: Did you learn to do the repairs yourself?

FF: Eventually. I couldn't rebuild the motor. At that time, I was still a junior in high school. Oh, that's when I got my Chevy Touring Car, and I used to carry my paper route; that was a '27 model.

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The streetcar originally turned at Manoa Road and Kamehameha Avenue...went down Kamehameha Avenue, so that's where we got off. So we walked two to two and a half blocks, so then, of

course, when the buses replaced the streetcars, the bus went up East Manoa Road, and our closest stop was right at that triangular park. I don't think they've ever given it a name.

ET: Those are all your personal questions that we need, but does anyone else have questions? The rest of them are about your house and the Myer family that lived there before you.

FF: Well, Bea Krauss knows more about the Myer family than I do.

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ET: Well, I guess she wants to verify some of the information that she has.

FF: I have very little except what was put in the Historic Hawaii, except that it was occupied by the Myers' family.

MY: It was built by & for B. F. Dillingham for Mrs. Myer, who had been a governess in the Dillingham family, and they lived there for a couple or three years. I believe _____ Edward _____ was born there, but they were asked to give it back to the Dillinghams. Yes, this is what _____ Myer will tell you.

ET: It says here _____ says that he was the first haole child born in Manoa Valley.

MY: Andrew and I are the same age--78, and _____ is about two years older. But I still don't believe that because there were families with older children. Ruth Shaw's family. Ruth and Jessie Shaw Fisher lived down on Oahu Avenue and in back of the Athertons, and there were people like that in Manoa.

FF: I'm sure there were haole families living here before 1900.

ET: How about the Cooper house?

MR: The Coopers. I don't know if any of them were born there. They moved...that was built in 1908, and I don't know if any of them were born there because

MY: They moved out. They didn't stay there consistently. Tenney... Newton _____ was born up in the Cooper house, and Newton is a year older than Koo, I think. He was at least a year ahead of him in Punahou.

ET: Koo says that Myer, Effinger, and Montano's houses were the only houses in that neck of the woods at the time that the Myer house was built.

MY: The Effinger house is the _____ house, and then you turn. Jon Effinger, who had a curio store down in the Young Hotel Building.

FF: Well, I'd like to verify that because...

MY: Yes, Katie _____ will tell you that. It's part of the Ii Estate property. The land title comes from the Ii original according to Katie _____.

FF: Gosseger. I've got to get her name.

MY: That's Thomas Gosseger's, in the phone book--955-0121.

FF: Where do they live?

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MY: She lives in the Waipuna and has had a broken hip and a lot of other problems. I see her once a week.

FF: Well, I should know because I went to the wedding, but that was some time ago.

MY: The Effingers had children, too. Now, whether they were even born there, I don't know.

FF: But I heard that the priest didn't build that...

MY: No, he didn't build the house. He bought it from the Effingers.

FF: And that it was built about 1910.

MY: Oh, no, it was before that.

FF: It was before that because I know that it shows in that 1910 Baker picture. How far before that, do you know?

MY: It was bought before that. It was built about the same time your house was built, or earlier.

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FF: Go down to the Bureau of Conveyances, dig up some of the records.

ET: Does anybody know what is the second oldest house in Manoa?

MY: I don't think those are the oldest.

FR: Well, the Cooper, we say, is the oldest.

MY: No, I don't say Cooper is the oldest. No, there were houses before the Cooper house.

FF: Castle home was built long before that.

CB: It was started in '98, occupied in 1901, the Castle home. They were living on the grounds while it was being built.

FR: I remember the finished product was in the 1900 New Year's Day.

FF: Has anybody done a paper on the old Castle home?

MY: Yes. Published in the Hawaiian Journal of History,

FF: With photographs and all that, right up through the orphanage days, and Alexander Hume Ford, and then University students who lived in the stables? And stuffed kangaroos up on the third floor? Did you get all that?

FF: They had an elevator in it, and we messed around with this elevator and got stuck in it. It had a _____ in the master bathroom, and there was a bunch of kids after...I guess it was after the young people ganged there on Sunday evenings. They just go there for meeting the girls and congregate and put in the time while there was...whatever the program was, and then immediately from there, well, they...this was standard Sunday evening at Central Union.

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CB: What kind of an elevator was that? Was it hydraulic or...

FF: It was electric. It wasn't hydraulic, it was a lift; the motor's up above. That was worth putting in a museum. But, anyway, we went up there to explore this haunted house and by golly there's anything that...it would have been a perfect movie set for something like Gill House or...we of course knew how to pick the locks and open the doors and get in. We went up the master bedroom, and we had a flashlight, and went into the bathroom, and these girls were looking at this bidet, saying, "What is this?", and Charlie Hagar says, "Why don't you just turn that middle valve right there and see what it does." Well, that middle valve was a vertical stream of water that goes straight up, see. So she turned this valve, and it spurted up and got her face all wet. It was very interesting.

FR: Do you remember ever seeing an airplane in the house?

FF: I think so. I remember there was a motion picture projector that sat out there. The porte cochere, you could glass it in.

had sliding glass doors, so it was sort of an extra storage room. I think there was an airplane there.

MY: You walked through the porte cochere when you took the trail up to Tantalus. Everybody in Manoa who walked to Tantalus walked through the Castle porte cochere. It was part of the trail.

193)

FF: Well, that was the covered area back by the stables, which were on two sides of the driveway that went through, and that's where the trail went. But this was the porte cochere attached to the house.

FR: We still walked through it.

FF: Well, you could if you wanted to. You could go in if you wanted to.

MY: Very definitely. We walked through it. Bobby _____ is on our _____ Club Historical Committee.

FR: Well, Bobby kept remembering this airplane, too. He kept thinking it was the kind that soars, a glider, rather than a plane. But I have never been able to prove it.

FF: There were University students that lived in the stables, the servants' quarters, and maybe one of them had this thing. It was just a small plane, smaller than a Piper Cub, as I recall, it was just a fuselage. Of course, you could have wings on it.

MY: The glider history, you can get, I think, from Alfred Smith, who had the first glider that they tried up the Pali; but it was built in the Funahou shop. I think he knew where the other gliders were, and he's still around. I mean he's on the mainland but available.

NOTE

213)

FR: Well, Ronald wrote me a long letter and told me all about his, 'cause he built his in his living room until it got to the wing stage, and then his mother made him take it out.

FF: Sounds like your dad's sailboat they built, and they had to take the windows out to get the thing out of the house.

CB: When you...what year was this that you were entering the house, picking the locks and going in with a flashlight?

FF: Oh, about senior year in high school, '35 or shortly after.

FR: It was unoccupied then?

FF: No, that was when Pan Pacific had it, and, of course, we did go in there legitimately on several occasions. We rented the place for a party on two or three occasions from Pan Pacific. Who's the lady that operated the place?

MY: Ann Satterthwaite. The one with all the cats.

FF: The cat lady. She was also the blood lady, wasn't she, at Queen's Hospital, a little while. Anyway, she knew Dad, and she was one of his clients, so we went down there and made arrangements and got the keys. We had a party. It was a big party...it was legitimate.

CB: One student staying in the summer in the garret of the big house thought it spooky. This would be about 1935, '36. It was very spooky because it groaned and moved in the wind.

236)

FF: That's where the stuffed kangaroos and other specimens were, up on the third floor.

ET: Fred, do you know any Cathcarts who would like to talk about the

father and his involvement with the Manoa Church?

FF: Is Mrs. Cathcart still alive? I think she passed away.

MY: There's an Ella Cathcart.

FF: Well, there's Donald, who's Able's younger brother, and let's see if I can remember. Of course, the girls are all married off, so I don't know what their names are. Donald would be about a little younger than I. He'd be about 65 now.

250)

MY: I can give you Ella Cathcart's address and telephone number, and she's probably married to one of these.

PR: May I ask something? I see where they refer to it as a quarry up there. Is that where the Bottomleys had a house or the Trotters on Ferdinand?

FF: The Bottomleys apparently bought that from the "decreased" lot. I was talking about that just before. See, the Fennells lived in our house when the folks were off on a trip to the mainland before I was born, and when we got back, this move had taken place. The "decreased" house was moved all the way down Ferdinand Avenue to the end. And on the upper side of the street, it was put on that lot, and that's where the Fennell's moved.

PR: Where it is now?

MY: And that's not the house that the _____ bought from the Effingers? It was several houses up.

FF: No. Do you notice it's two doors up on that map up there?

271)

MY: Up Ferdinand. The other side of the E. R. Ross's.

PR: Right now, did Mrs. Fennel live in it when it was up there on the corner of Aleo and Ferdinand?

FF: Well, it wasn't on the corner. It was up in the middle of the block next to the quarry.

PR: Near the quarry, because she was the one who said Mrs. Castle always said she could look out her window and see the menehune dancing on that rock, which was supposed to be a special rock on the Castle property--that we've never been able to locate. It was because she lived up there.

FF: You could look down from there, I suppose. But, anyway, the house was moved all the way down to the end of the street.

MY: Fennells didn't live in it when it was up there. They lived in it after it was moved. They ^{must} have lived in your family's house, then they lived in it after it was moved.

FF: I think so.

MY: Ask Ebbie Fennell.

FF: Ebbie would be able to tell you. Ebbie's still living in the house...Harrison.

MY: Her mother's dead.

FF: She passed away about three years ago.

PR: Well, it was her mother who told me the stories. Even Mary Fukui went looking for it, that special rock.

FF: On that property?

PR: On the Castle property.

MY: Did you ask Ronald Higgins? You know, there's an early interview that this group did with Ronald Higgins, and he lived on the lower part of the Castle property.

FR: He lived in the "Waikiki-down-valley property where the pasture was.

MY: But Ronald's around now. You can still call him and ask him.

295)

?: He was pretty little. All he...he was telling us about his sisters and had goldfish in them...and the cows.

MY: Yes. They were renting a cottage, I think.

ET: Some young people today say there was a heiau above Puu _____, and there's never been confirmation of this as you can see. Do you ever hike around there?

309)

FF: No. If you hike up there, you will see remnants of all sorts of things. There were Puerto Rican squatters that lived up there and grew vegetables and corn, and they had the whole side of the hill cultivated, and during heavy rains, it would erode. In fact, when the water pressure got strong enough, they put in a reservoir so that we could eliminate our water tanks. I know we sold one of our water tanks to one of these Puerto Ricans, who took it board by board up to the hill up there and reassembled it. Large thing. Twelve feet diameter; you know that was a big thing.

MY: They must have had retaining walls to keep such a big thing.

318)

FF: Where their houses were, there were...you can still see remnants of some rock terracing.

PR: They grew sweet potatoes.

FF: That ground up there is decomposed cinders, and it's very fine

and porous, and you can practically dig the sweet potatoes out by hand because it's that loose, but it was an erosion problem.

329)

MY: It was before Hale Koa, and Aala Hillside was covered by lantana. That it was not covered with...

FF: Well, lantana...

MY: There was the wild lantana with the orange and red...

FF: There was lots of that, but most of the area in there was this scalled "redtop grass", which I think was deliberately planted in there as a soil retainer. I suspect there had been a big fire at some time that wiped it pretty bare, but this grass covered the whole slope, except for, I think, some sisal up there.

MY: There's still sisal up above the Roundtop Road.

FF: One of his...part of his sisal-growing experiments. It's still growing, and in among the sharp pointy things of the sisal plant, was the lantana. So it was kind of a rough kind of a thing to try to hike through to get up there.

MY: The trail that went out of the Castle porte cochere to Tantalus went through lantana, lantana on both sides.

344)

FF: Above our house, you know that slope _____ to _____ Roundtop was almost entirely grass, and then hale koa took over.

PR: May I remind you that those two teachers that came up and told us about the heiau.

FF: There could have been a heiau up there, but I don't know. Was one ever identified by the Bishop Museum?

PR: What they did was they'd do a lot of hiking, and they've seen the "L-shaped" grass area on the hillside. They went looking for it, and in the process of looking for it, they found this area that they thought was a heiau, and they were so sure it was a heiau, they planted _____ around it and everything...

359)

FF: It was probably these squatters that had left the remnants.

PR: You remember that Brown boy that was here? He said he lived down in the Manoa Housing area, and he pointed out that "L-shaped" place, and that's where the Puerto Ricans had been.

FF: Well, they used to raise pigs, and the pigs would wander down into our yard.

PR: They had the best papayas up there.

370)

MR: He mentioned something that there was a huge papaya tree still there. Now, he gave a Clorox bottle, but he said this was "theirs", but you know the Hawaiians didn't have Clorox.

PR: There were even lepers up there, you know. Dr. Phillips had to report them and turn them in because they've been up there in that same area.

FF: Did part of this belong to the squatters? That's a good place to go.

375)

PR: Sure, and rock wall somebody says almost like a root cellar. So it had to be part of this Puerto Rican...Portuguese that were up there growing it _____.

MR: I know of only one young man that had leprosy in Manoa Valley,

and he was from the Moepono family, and they lived on the old Manoa Road just above where Manoa School is now, the entrance to Manoa School. He was eventually taken out to Kalihi Receiving Station. M A E P O N O?

PR: Is that Moses Moepono's family?

CB: Do you remember, from very early childhood, any really big storms in the valley? Terrific floods and rain?

FF: Well, it's like trying to remember pain. You know it's happened, but you can't remember pin-pointing it. I can remember only one occasion. I was impressed by Dad's reporting corrugated iron roof blowing across from Mid-Pacific when Dad was walking home from the University area in 1920, I guess. He was on the faculty, and he walked home, of course, through one of these storms, and this corrugated iron blowing across and cutting off a top of a tree.

MY: The fall of 1918 is when Punahou lost 200 keawe trees on campus.

FF: It might have been that storm.

MY: That was the storm, and all the tiles were blowing off Pauahi Hall, so that they shut down school. In order to really enjoy the storm, we all left school and walked up to the Fali--to see how strong the wind was.

ET: Gloria, has Fred left any stories out that you remember?

GF: Gee, a lot of these, I haven't heard before, _____, but he had told our boys about them. Oh, he used to collect butterflies and praying mantises, I guess it was.

424)

MR: The dragon flies, and before that _____.

we used to gather that. _____ was after me because I used to squash them all. He says, "It's all spread out. But it's not dead yet." I said, "I'll just pick it up and put it outside."

FF: I used to catch praying mantuses and put them in a little box with a screen over it and a little door so I could feed them, and I'd go out with my butterfly net and catch grasshoppers, put them into the box, and watch them catch these things, the praying mantuses eating them all.

CB: Where have the praying mantuses gone?

FF: We saw one the other day, but when their food supply gets stark, well, they move on.

PR: The birds sort of take care of them, too, don't they?

FF: Well, I think they've got enough defenses.

CB: Shell?

FF: No, not shell, but they can throw their "arms" up and frighten an ordinary bird, unless he's a hawk or something. They're pretty cagey animals.

PR: I wonder if the chameleons eat them?

FF: Maybe when they're young.

MY: Did you get to Waikiki?

FF: Right through where the Outrigger Club built theirs. When I was still in. Built their pavillion.

MY: Well, they were there before then even. Their old pavillion that burned.

463)

FF: Mother was, I guess, one of the earlier members of the Uluniu

Club, which branched off from the Outrigger. I had my choice when I was in the sixth or seventh grade, of joining either the Outrigger Club for \$12 a year or Central YMCA Boys' Division. So I opted for Boys' Division, and that was when Alexander Hume Ford was still quite active in the Outrigger Club.

PR: Moana Hotel from the pier.

GF: Yes, I had dinner in that dining room on my first night here, 1946, September 7th or 8th.

MY: There was lots of love on that Moana Pier and lots of music. Johnny Noble, every Sunday night. Yes, dancing Saturday nights.

ET: Did you surf?

FF: Who, me? Very little. I had a surfboard, and I'd go out and mess around.

GF: He had a _____, though. He _____

FF: I'd go out there to the Uluniu Club, you know, with Mother and the family, and we'd go out every other week or so. Take your supper. And I kept my surfboard out there for a while. Couple of years. It was a balsa board with a redwood spine down the center of it. That was a good board, and it cost me \$22.

High school when I started. You know, it was...

ET: Who else was in it?

FF: You know Frank Woolley. He was one of my trumpet players. I'm trying to think of names that you'd remember. Saunders...

MY: Bill or Cecil?

FF: Bill. He played sax. Let's see, Christopher _____ and George Reeves. You know, George's father ran the clinic. There was this...his name was John. He was the business manager.

George, and I'm trying to remember some...Richard Clint.

MY: Oh, I remember Richard Clint. I remember Richard Clint's mother, too.

FF: Father was a defense attorney, Chairman of the Boxing Commission.

EF: Did you go to college here? Did you go to the University?

FF: I started my freshman year but bugged out the end of first semester to go back to Annapolis, where my brother was graduating, for June week ceremonies. I got a job on the Matsonia, and as a bellhop, I worked three free trips, and then I got off at that end, and then Mother and I took the bus back to Detroit and picked up a car there and drove on the East Coast and on to Annapolis. It was quite a tour. Anyway, on the way back, she dropped me off on the West Coast, and I went up to Pullman, Washington. Washington State College, it was called. It was called the "cow college", ^{but} ~~because~~ they're supposed to have a good music department. But I changed my major to Business Administration because I'd become disillusioned. But out of 14 credits I was carrying, 8 of them were in music, so...College Band and the Glee Club and singing in the College Opera and all that stuff. So I spent a year at Pullman. So that was my freshman year, again. So then, when I came back here at the University, I was kind of messed up with credits and things, so I switched courses around and did this and that. Got involved in the theater and generally wasted my time for another three and a half years. I finally got out in 1941. I was supposed to be in the class of '39. But I also worked for a year on Midway,

as a surveyor's rod man. Go out and assist an engineer in the office. I was supposed to stay there until March of '40. It was a contract, but I broke my contract and came back to school. Finished up and so...

FF: What was your major then? Business or...

FF: Well, they had a general liberal arts major at that time, and that's what I'd been doing. I'd been taking art and English and languages and dramatics and drama. So, it was a mish-mash of all kinds of courses, and until I got back from Midway, I decided, well, I better buckle down and get some solids, and maybe I'll switch to engineering. So then I did, but I wasn't doing too well in engineering. Too many other things to do that I didn't have time to study. Wilfred Holmes took me aside when I got a bad mark in Math. I hadn't turned in an assignment or something. He said, "You know, you'd been going to school in your classwork over there in the Department of Arts and Sciences, and it's different over here. Over there, it's sort of like Ferdinand the Bull. You can sniff the work you know and sort of inhale it, and that's all very nice, but over here, we're more like pigs. We have to get down and wallow in it." He was a great guy.

(b. 1907)

FURER, FREDERICK & Gloria

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Interview June 17, 1983

Many names from the 30's

Suggests for further inquiry: lex Brodie, Ella Cathcart, Myer, Donald Cathcart

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*indexed 6/18/85
ESP*