

FINDING AID for the  
AHUKINI TERMINAL & RAILWAY CO., LTD.

KAUAI HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
LIHUE, KAUAI, HAWAII

MS 48

MS 48  
.25 c.f. (1 Box)

Ahukini Terminal & Railroad Co., Ltd.

### Abstract

This collection contains correspondence about the Ahukini Terminal & Railway Co., Ltd which served the east side of Kauai from Puhi to Kealia. The correspondence was motivated by an article "Hawaiian Railroads" that appeared in the January 11, 1964 issue of the "Honolulu Star-Bulletin." Captain Jack Bertrand, who was connected with the Ahukini Terminal Railway from 1923 until 1956, wrote a letter to the Editor in which he pointed out no mention was made of the railroad on Kauai. In response to this letter, Bertrand was contacted by Robert A Ramsay, author and member of the Railway and Locomotive Historical Society, Inc. requesting information on the railroad. Bertrand and Ramsay corresponded until May 1965. There are some financial records concerning the railroad, and there are four black and white photos of locomotives.

Processed in 2006 by Bette Layton

## SCOPE AND CONTENT

Correspondence concerning the Ahukini Terminal & Railway Co., Ltd. begins on January 13, 1964 with a letter to the Editor of the Honolulu Star-Bulletin from Captain Jack Bertrand regarding an article, "Hawaiian Railroads" that appeared in the newspaper on January 11<sup>th</sup>. Capt. Bertrand, former manager of the Ahukini Terminal & Railway, pointed out no mention had been made about the Ahukini Terminal & Railway Co., Ltd. on Kauai. This letter was published in the newspaper on January 15<sup>th</sup>. Upon reading the letter Mr. Robert Ramsay, a member of the Railway and Locomotive Historical Society, Inc. Southern California Chapter, wrote a letter to Capt. Bertrand in which he gave a brief overview of his railroad publications and requested information about the Ahukini Terminal and Railroad. Correspondence then began between Bertrand and Ramsay on January 1964 and continued until May 1965.

Robert Ramsay wrote his first letter to Jack Bertrand on January 24, 1964. Bertrand's response contains a short, but comprehensive history of railroad between 1923 and 1956. During those years he was manager of the railroad.

When Ramsay requested information about the railroad from Bertrand, he replied it would take time and he did have a major problem as all the records were burned when the warehouse in which they were stored was torn down and the records were burned without permission of the Office Manager, Mr. H. C. Wedemeyer. Unfortunately Mr. Wedemeyer was ill and in hospital and Bertrand didn't know how long he would be hospitalized Bertrand had hoped to obtain permission from Wedemeyer to go through the annual reports of Lihue Plantation written for the Directors.

On May 20, 1965 Bertrand wrote Ramsay that he had been in touch with Wedemeyer who would attempt to get information on the railroad from minutes of the company's directors' meetings. Their correspondence concludes with this letter.

There is a letter written by J. C. Conde on June 24, 1966 to Bertrand in which he explains his attempt to reconstruct the history of sugar plantation railroads and requested assistance from Bertrand. Bertrand answered on June 28<sup>th</sup> stating he would be happy to assist but currently was busy as court and police reporter for the local newspaper.

There is some financial data about locomotives at Kealia, Kilohana, Spalding, and Makee facilities. Also the collection contains four 5" x 7" black and white photos of the railroad when it belonged to Lihue Plantation.

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Auhukini Terminal & Railroad Co., Ltd.

BOX 1

File

1. Letter written by Captain Jack Bertrand to the Editor of the Honolulu Star Bulletin on January 13, 1964.

Correspondence between Captain Jack Bertrand and Mr. Robert Ramsay between January 22, 1964 and May 23, 1965.

Letter written by J. C. Conde to Captain Jack Bertrand on June 24, 1966.

2. Four 5" x 7" black and white photos of the locomotive.
3. Financial data on locomotives at Kealia, Kilohana, Spalding and Makee facilities.

List of properties discarded since appraisal of 1921, Makee Sugar Company.