

WHERE TO FIND GENEALOGICAL RECORDS IN HAWAII

1. Births

- A. Department of Health
- B. Delay Birth Registrations - LDS genealogy libraries
- C. Probates and Wills-Archives, Circuit Courts
- D. Church Baptism records
- E. School records
- F. Employment records

2. Marriages

- A. Department of Health
- B. D.A.R. Library
- C. Hawaii State Archives - M/L 1900 to 1910 lists races of parents
- D. Newspaper Society pages
- E. Circuit Court - @1910 -1949
- F. Church records
- G. Divorces, Probates and Wills – Archives, Circuit Court

3. Deaths

- A. Department of Health
- B. Newspaper Obituaries – Main library, Punchbowl and King Street
- C. Hawaii State Archives
- D. Obituary File – Kalihi LDS Genealogy library
- E. City Directories – Archives, Main library
- F. Probates
- G. Church records
- H. Cemeteries

4. Census Reports

- A. 1900-1910 Federal Census for Hawaii – Main library, Kaneohe Stake LDS Genealogy library.
- B. Early Hawaiian Censuses – Hawaii State Archive
- C. Mainland census records starting in 1790-Main library, LDS genealogy libraries.

5. Land Records

- A. Bureau of Conveyances – Look up by Name, Island and Year
- B. Tax Key Maps – Main library, Hawaiian Pacific Room
- C. Early maps – Hamilton library, U of H, Bishop Museum
- D. Courthouses on Outer Islands
- E. Hawaii State Archives – Native and Foreign Testimony of Great Mahele Awards

6. Photographs

- A. Newspaper accounts
- B. Hawaii State Archives
- C. Bishop Museum
- D. Main library
- E. Delay Birth Registrations

7. Adoptions or Hanai relationships

- A. Delay Birth Registrations
- B. Bureau of Conveyances
- C. First Circuit Court 1900-1908

8. Divorces

- A. Department of Health
- B. Circuit Court – 777 Punchbowl St
- C. Hawaii State Archives
- D. Delay Birth Registrations

9. Probates, Wills, Equity cases – Tells date of death, name of spouse, heirs, family land and personal belongings

- A. Hawaii State Archives
- B. First Circuit Court

10 Cemetery Records

- A. Kaneohe Stake genealogy library has O'ahu cemetery records, Big Island records
- B. Nanette Pernell Cemetery Project – O'ahu Mission Home library, Kalihi LDS genealogy library

11. Various Ethnic records

- A. Chinese
- B. Japanese
- C. Filipino
- D. Portuguese
- E. Puerto Rican

HAWAII STATE ARCHIVES

Land Award Records

The records of the Board of Commissioners to Quiet Lands Titles, consisting of the Claims, Testimony Books and Registers are available at the Archives. These are the basic records of the land claims following the Great Mahele and include some genealogical information. A printed index by land division and by award names is available.

Land File: Personal Names

An index by name of addressor, addressee, and persons named in the document dealing with matters, 1830-1900.

Name Index

An index by personal name to the records and letter books in the Foreign Office and Executive (F.O. & Ex.) files; Privy Council minute books, Interior Department records and letter books, some private collections, library books, pamphlets, broadsides, newspapers and periodicals. It is most complete for the F.O.&Ex ..

Newspapers indexed 1836-1950 include the Advertiser, Star-Bulletin, Polynesian Hawaiian Gazette and the Friend, but none of them are completely indexed.

Name of Office Holders

An alphabetical list by name of those who have held office under the Kingdom, Republic and Territory of Hawaii, with dates office held. Members of the ...ture are included.

Naturalization and Denization Records

Naturalization records (1844-1894) Denization records (1846-1898, and Certificates for Special Rights of Citizenship (1894-1895) are indexed (Typed). The country of origin is usually given, and if the application is available, the length of time in Hawaii.

Tax Records

Records of taxes paid, both personal and property. Archives has books for O'ahu 1855-1932; Kaua'i 1855-1931; Moloka'i, 1855-1870, 1887-1892; Lana'i, 1855-1892; Hawaii 1855-1936; Maui, 1887-1892. Records are not complete and are not indexed....Pol records for O'ahu, Hawaii and Kaua'i for 1932-1943 only.

Veterans

Card list of deceased veterans of the Spanish, Civil, and World War I; lists Hawaiians who served in WWI; and list of members of the Citizens Guard, Republic of Hawaii. Also available are the rosters of the Citizens Guard.

Vital Statistics

Newspapers: There are three indexes to vital statistics as reported in newspapers- Births – (1857-1945), Marriages (1845-1945) and Obituaries (1844-June 1950). Newspapers indexed include those listed under Name Index and some of the Hawaiian newspapers. It is not complete for any period, and is particularly selective after 1900. Indexing was discontinued in June 1950.

Marriage records: Incomplete marriage records from all of the islands, 1826-1919. The largest part of the records before 1900 are the marriage record books of the missionaries. Records after 1900 are very incomplete. The Department of Health records should be used for this period. Typed index.

Marriages were recorded at the Circuit Courts between 1900-1949. Microfilm copy is available. Indexed by groom only.

Voting Records

The great Register of Voters for 1887-1888 is available, giving name, age, place of birth and occupation. It is arranged by island and precinct and a great deal of searching is required to find names.

The Oaths and certificates of persons registering as voters in 1894 is also available. In some cases, they give age and birthplace; in others only the name. These are also arranged by island and are not indexed.

PRINTED SOURCES

City Directories

1880 to date. Usually gives occupation as well as address. Occasionally gives a death date.

Telephone Directories

1911 to date.

Index to Hawaiian Annual, 1875-1932: Names of Persons Mentioned

An index to Thrum's, including obituaries.

Men of Hawaii and other biographical compilations on library shelf

SEARCHING

the Archives cannot undertake to do genealogical research for an individual; it must be done in person. Staff members, however, will assist the researcher in using the sources most likely to contain the information he needs. Some sources, such as the Vital Statistics Indexes, would include both Hawaiians and non-Hawaiians, but others, such as Immigration and Naturalization records, would include only non-Hawaiians. Before beginning a search of the records and indexes, the determination must first be made as to the files most likely to yield the desired information.

May 1980.

LOCAL CENTERS WITH GENEALOGICAL INFORMATION

Bernice P Bishop Museum Library

1525 Bernice street
P O Box 19000-A
Honolulu, HI 96817-0916
808-848-4147
<http://www.bishopmuseum.org/>

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

Genealogy Center
1500 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96826

Stakes: Genealogical libraries

Brigham Young University Hawaii Stake

55-220 Kulanui St
Laie, HI 96762
808-293-3703

Honolulu Hawaii Stake

1560 South Beretania St
Honolulu, HI 96826
808-955-8910

Honolulu Hawaii West Stake

1723 Beckley St
Honolulu, HI 96819
808-841-4118

Kaneohe Hawaii Stake

46-117 Haulani St
Kaneohe, HI 96744
808-247-3134

Laie Hawaii Stake

55-600 A Laniloa Loop
Laie, HI 96762

Circuit Courts

First Circuit – City and County of Honolulu

Ka'ahumanu Hale
777 Punchbowl St
Honolulu, HI 96813
808-539-4767
www.ehawaii.gov

Second Circuit – Maui County

Hoapili Hale
2145 Main St
Wailuku, HI 96793
808-442-3800

Third Circuit – Hawaii County

Hale Kaulike
777 Kilauea St
Hilo, HI 96720
808-961-7440

**There is no Fourth Judicial court

Fifth Circuit

3970 Ka'ana St
Lihue, HI 96766
808-482-2300

Daughters of the American Revolution

Aloha Chapter
1914 Makiki Heights Drive
Honolulu, HI 96822

Genealogical Resource Center

Alu Like

Native Hawaiian Libraries Project
458 Keawe St
Honolulu, HI 96819-8940
808-535-1354
<http://www.alulike.org/services/library>

Hawaii Chinese History Center

111 North King Street
Room 410
Honolulu, HI 96817

Portuguese Genealogical Society

c/o Hawaii Council on Portuguese Heritage
810 North Vineyard Blvd
Honolulu, HI 96817

Hawaii State Archives

Iolani Palace Grounds
Honolulu, HI 96813
808-586-0329

Hawaii State Library

478 South King St.
Honolulu, HI 96813
808-586-3500

Hawaii Mission Childrens' Society**Hawaiian Historical Society**

553 South King St
Honolulu, HI 96813
808-531-0481

<http://www.hawaiianhistory.org/ref/mhmguide.html>

Hawaiian Sugar Planters Association

99-193 Aiea Heights Road
Aiea, HI 96701
808-487-5561

Japanese Consulate General

1742 Nuuanu Ave
Honolulu, HI 96819
808-536-2226

Land Court

426 South Queen Street
Honolulu, HI 96809
808-548-6423

Philippine Consulate General

2433 Pali Hwy
Honolulu, HI 96817
808-595-6316

State Bureau of Conveyances

Kalanimoku Bldg
1151 Punchbowl St

Honolulu, HI 96813
808-548-7416

State Dept of Health

Research & Statistics Office
1250 Punchbowl St.
Honolulu, HI 96813
808-548-6501

U.S. Immigration & Naturalization Service

595 Ala Moana Blvd.
Honolulu, HI 96813
808-543-1479

(Adapted and updated from: Conrad: Genealogical Sources in Hawaii
Thompson: Genealogy: Guide to Reference Sources)

PERTAINING TO NAMES (No Na Inoa)

Because we often meet with names of every kind and because our feeling that the law passed on August 24, 1860 has not been properly observed, that is the law called "The Law to Regulate Names". Therefore, we have decided to talk with friends about this important matter. So that our friends will not be misled, we are printing the aforementioned law and here it is:

THE LAW PERTAINING TO THE REGULATING OF NAMES

Passed by the Legislature, Chiefs and Representative elected in the Hawaiian Islands at the Legislative Assembly.

SECTION 1. All married women now living and all those to be married in the future in these islands, beginning from the day this law is passed, shall take the names of their husbands as their surnames.

SECTION 2. All children born in wedlock, from the passing of this law, shall take the names of their fathers as their surnames. They should take proper Christian names according to their sex, whether male or female.

SECTION 3. All illegitimate children born after the passing of the law should take the name of their mother as their surname. They shall also take proper Christian names according to their sex, whether male or female.

SECTION 4. All children under twenty years of age should take the names of their fathers as their surnames.

SECTION 5. All names taken as clarified (above) shall be given to the census recorders selected to count the number of people now living during the year.

SECTION 6. It is not contrary to the law when a name is changed and another given to comply with this law. Nor is it contrary to the law that a name be changed which was taken or given before the passing of this law.

SECTION 7. The father or a mother of a child born before the passing of this law shall report the name or names of the child to the census statistician in the district in which he was born within three months of the date of birth.

SECTION 8. This shall become a law of these islands from the day it is passed.

Approved the 24th day of August, 1860

KAAHUMANU

KAMEHAMEHA

Nupepa Kuokoa June 13, 1863

DATES WHICH RELATE TO GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH.....

Pre-1778	No written records concerning Hawaii
1778	Cook;s discovery of the Hawaiian Islands and introduction of the western calendar. (Any dates prior to this time are estimates)
1820	Arrival of the American Missionaries and the introduction of western marriage.
1822	Hawaiian language becomes a written language.
1840	Constitutional Government formed.
1842	First laws requiring reporting of marriages and births. First lists of passengers arriving and departing. Court records begin.
1846	First law requiring a license to marry.
1847	Legal adoptions authorized.
1848	Great Mahele or land division
1852	First Chinese contract laborers
1859	First law requiring reporting of deaths.
1860	First real property taxes. Law requiring use of family names.
1868	First Japanese contract laborers.
1878	First Portuguese contract laborers.
1881	First Norwegian and German contract laborers.
1885	Second and major immigration of Japanese begins.
1898	Annexation to the US.
1900	Territory of Hawaii organized. Immigration under jurisdiction of Federal Govt.
After 1900	Okinawans, Puerto Ricans, Koreans, Spaniards, Russians, and Filipinos came to Hawaii as laborers.

