

Hale Pa'i (Printing Shop)
in grounds of Lahainaluna Seminary
~~Lahainaluna~~
Maui County
Hawaii

HABS No. HI-8

HABS
HI,
5-LAHNA,
11-

PHOTOGRAPHS

REDUCED COPIES OF MEASURED DRAWINGS

WRITTEN DESCRIPTIVE AND HISTORICAL DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C. 20240

HABS
HI,
5-LAHA,
11-

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

HALE PA'I (PRINTING SHOP)

HABS No. HI-8

Address: In grounds of Lahainaluna Seminary, Lahainaluna,
Maui County, Hawaii

OWNER: Lahainaluna Seminary

OCCUPANT: Lahaina Restoration Foundation

USE: Museum

ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

Used as a shop for the second printing establishment in the Hawaiian Islands where books were produced for Lahainaluna Seminary.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Original and Subsequent Owners:

Lahainaluna Seminary, established in 1831 on land granted to the missionaries by Hoapili-wahine for this purpose. ¹ This grant was confirmed by the king and chiefs in 1835. ² Transferred from the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions to the Hawaiian Government in 1849, to a Maui County Commission in 1917, and to the Department of Public Instruction in 1923. ³

Date of Erection:

1837. ⁴

Builder:

Hale Pa'i was built under the supervision of Mr. Charles Burnham, who had come to the Islands to build the Seamen's Chapel in Honolulu and was hired by the high school in 1833 to act as secular agent, attend to the maintenance of buildings, etc. ⁵

Original Plans, Construction, Etc.:

There is very little information available. Construction started early in 1837, with the building expected to cost about \$2,000. The original plans called for covering the roof with ti-leaf. The walls of the building had been put up when instructions arrived from the ABCFM in June to retrench because of a shortage of funds, and the work was stopped. Clark wrote to Chamberlain, "...Shall we stop short with the printing office, etc., etc.: It is now nearly covered, the glass is set, the floors are plained (sic) ready to lay down and the inside work is got out, doors made, etc. You must tell us whether you will pay any bills from this time onward for that work." In August a report of the Mission's Appropriation Committee recommending that \$100 be appropriated to finish the Printing Office at Lahainaluna was adopted, and the building was completed. Levi Chamberlain visited Lahainaluna in May, 1838, and wrote, "I visited the new printing office, looked at all the rooms. It is a very good building. I looked at the engraving department and the room for striking off impressions. ..." 6

Historical Events Connected with the Structure:

The June, 1831 General Meeting of the Sandwich Islands Mission resolved to establish a high school for the purpose of educating natives and training teachers, and Lahaina was selected as the location for the school. Lahainaluna High School, with the Rev. Lorrin Andrews as principal, opened in the fall of 1831. By 1833 the directors of the school reported a severe shortage of books and requested that a printing press be sent from Honolulu to be used in preparing books and other study aids. A second-hand Ramage press was sent and set up in a temporary building at Lahainaluna in January, 1834. Textbooks began to be produced immediately, and in February the first Hawaiian newspaper (Ka Lama Hawaii) started publication. The printing of books continued, copper engraving work was started, additional equipment was received; and in June, 1835 Mr. E. H. Rogers was located at Lahainaluna to take charge of the printing office. 7

The need of a larger building for the printing office was felt as early as the summer of 1835 and is referred to frequently during the following year, until construction finally started in 1837. The new building, called Hale Pa'i, was occupied as a printing shop from 1838 until 1846. By this time the amount of printing had declined, and the Seminary recommended that the equipment be transferred to the printing office in Honolulu. The works printed at the Hale Pa'i consist of textbooks, religious tracts and some laws, mainly in Hawaiian but also in English. In addition, considerable copper plate engraving of scenery, portraits, maps and some paper

money was done by the students under the direction of Lorrin Andrews. After the discontinuance of printing, the building was used by the school as a classroom, dining room, etc., and was turned over to the Lahaina Restoration Foundation in 1964 to be used as a printing museum. 8

NOTES

1. Robert W. Andrews, "Lahainaluna Seminary," The Friend, Dec., 1902, p. 24.
2. Vol. 2, Land Claims - 387, State Land Office.
3. Documents relating to this reprinted in Ka Lama Hawaii, The Centennial Yearbook of the Lahainaluna Technical High School 1931, Lahaina, Maui, pp. 99-107.
4. For sources, see Notes 5, 6, and 7.
5. E. W. Clark to L. Chamberlain, Jan. 23, 1837, ms, HMCS; Dr. Chapin's Journal, Vol. 4, p. 70, July 19, 1833, ms, HMCS; Clark to ABCFM, Oct. 20, 1837, ms, HMCS.
6. Clark to Chamberlain, Jan. 23, 1837, Feb. 18, 1837, Mar. 24, 1837, Aug. 5, 1837, ms, HMCS; Sheldon Dibble, History of the Sandwich Islands, Lahainaluna, 1843, p. 309; Levi Chamberlain Journals, typescript, HMCS, Minutes of a Meeting of Members of the Sandwich Islands Mission, Lahaina, Aug. 30, 1837, in Minutes of General Meetings of the Sandwich Islands Mission, HMCS.
7. Minutes of General Meetings, 1831, p. 8, 1833, p. 16, 1835, pp. 12-13, 20, HMCS; Dibble, op. cit., p. 309; Lorrin Andrews to ABCFM, Oct. 1, 1834, Missionary Letters, Vol. 6, p. 1869, typescript, HMCS.
8. Clark letters, 1835-1836, ms, HMCS, Report of the Teachers of the Seminary at Lahainaluna, May 13, 1846, ms, HMCS; Larry Windley, Lahainaluna Printing and Lahainaluna Engraving, typescript, Lahaina Restoration Foundation, 1965; Ka Lama Hawaii, the Centennial Yearbook of the Lahainaluna Technical High School, 1931, pp. 43, 47.

Important Old Views: Copies of early engravings of Lahainaluna Seminary showing the Hale Pa'i and also photographs in possession of the Lahaina Restoration Foundation, Lahaina, Maui.

Sources of Information: Research files of the Lahaina Restoration Foundation; manuscript and published material at the Hawaiian Mission Children's Society (HMCS).

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