

EDITH MARGARET LEILEHUA JUDD ELDREDGE

THE WATUMULL FOUNDATION ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

Edith Margaret Leilehua Judd Eldredge

(1906 - 1977)

The late Mrs. Eldredge was born on Parker Ranch where her father, Charles Hastings Judd, Jr., was in charge of the horses. She grew up on Kua-loa Ranch which Mr. Judd managed for owner Francis Mills Swanzey. Her great-grandfather, Gerrit Parmele Judd, was the first missionary doctor to come to Hawaii in 1828.

After graduating from Punahou School and the Territorial Normal School, Mrs. Eldredge became a teacher on Maui where she met and married David Pinkham Eldredge. They had three children and adopted a daughter.

In this interview, Mrs. Eldredge recalls her family's history, ranch life, and her own experiences.

Lynda Mair, Interviewer

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INTERVIEW WITH EDITH MARGARET LEILEHUA JUDD ELDREDGE

(MRS. DAVID PINKHAM ELDREDGE)

At her Manoa home, 3192 Manoa Road, Honolulu, 96822

Autumn of 1971

E: Leilehua Judd Eldredge

Mr: David P. Eldredge

M: Lynda Mair, Interviewer

E: And then my mother--there were eight of us, two girls and, oh, one died. Seven. Let's put it seven. There were five boys and two girls (loud sound like a plane passing overhead). That's with my father, with my mother, there were ten of us altogether. I did not know very much about my older brothers and sisters--brother and sisters--but my one sister left when I was quite young. She went to the mainland and stayed with my grandmother there, went to school there, so that left me with five boys. So with five boys, I had to do everything the boys did. They played football; I had to play football, because we have to have an even side. And we lived on a ranch.

M: Where was this now?

E: Down at Kualoa. Do you know what they call the Morgan Ranch now?

M: Uh huh.

E: Well, my father was manager there. And they just removed that old house that was there and I think they put a--well, I haven't been around but I saw them tearing down that old place. And then the next time I passed, they had a--oh, some brought-in building. But as I say, I don't know what it looks like right now, 'cause I haven't been around there. [Kualoa is on the Windward or Northeast side of Oahu]

M: But you lived there from the time you were born.

E: No. I was born in Parker Ranch and I came here [to Oahu] when I was six months old. (loud sound of traffic of some kind)

M: Was your father working at Parker Ranch?

E: He was manager of the horses up there, Parker Ranch.

M: Would you give me your father and mother's full name?

E: My father's name was Charles Hastings Judd, Jr. (long pause and traffic sound)

M: And your mother?

E: My mother was Louisa Hart.

M: What's the last name?

E: Hart. H-A-R-T.

M: Were both of your parents born here too?

E: My father--well, on the Islands, yes. I couldn't tell you where my mother actually was born, whether it was on Oahu or whether it's on the other island, but they were both from Hawaii. My mother was half-Hawaiian and my father was pure--I guess you'd say the white--English. I'm not quite sure what he really was. And he--his family, there were--he was the only boy, three girls. His father [a twin and one of nine children] was Charles Hastings, Sr. and he was the son of Gerrit Parmele Judd, the first doctor here. [Dr. G. P. Judd married Laura Fish and they came to Hawaii with the Third Company of missionaries on March 30, 1828.] After he left Hawaii, he came--he was made manager by my uncle, Mr. [Francis Mills] Swanzy, who bought out all the interests of the other--you know, the family at that time. See this ranch was the place where the Old Stone Sugar Mill is, you know, down there?

M: Yeh, I know where that is.

E: That was first given to my great-grandfather and then he gave it to, I think was a Mrs. Wilder, who was my grandfather's sister. [Elizabeth Kinau Judd married Samuel Gardner Wilder] They tried to have that sugar plantation there and they had an accident. Maybe you read about it in one of the history things, where the son fell into the sugar boiler. And after he died, she didn't want it anymore, so that's how my grandfather got the place.

And through that, the place was given, if I remember right--I mean, I may be wrong, you know (chuckles)--this was given to the four children. And a Mr. Swanzy, who was an Irishman, married my aunt, Mrs. Swanzy [nee, Julie Judd], who lives right above--they used to live where Mrs. Morgan

lives now, right above Punahou [School] there, in the big white house, right across Alexander Field. [Rosamond Swanzy married James P. Morgan and lived on Alihilani Street, according to the Punahou School Directory, 1841-1961.] And he was very smart. He bought the rest out, so actually that whole ranch down there became the Swanzy Ranch--Kualoa Ranch. And then when--after, they made it into an estate. I think it's Kualoa Ranch Estate, I'm not sure, but everybody calls it now the Morgan Ranch. Well, Mrs. Morgan was a Swanzy. And then my father was the manager, I think, through Mr. Swanzy, of this ranch down there and he took care of the--well, the cattle and the horses and whatever they had there--until he became an invalid. I do not know who's down there now (auto horn honks) but, if I guess right, it's somebody by the name of Hedemann. I'm not sure.

And well, we lived there with my dad and, when I was about four my mother left us. And after four years of that, my father remarried again [Florence Lincoln]. There was no children in that family but every summer we were down there, and during the school I lived with my aunt, Mrs. Swanzy, and went to Punahou. My brothers were--three of my brothers, I think was at that time, were put in a school called Honolulu Military Academy. Ever heard of that one?

M: Where was that, right in town?

E: Yeh, it was--you know where Kaimuki Intermediate School is? [The HMA was located at Eighteenth Avenue, near Kilauea Avenue]

M: Uh huh.

E: Over there. Used to be called Honolulu Military Academy and a Mr. Black [Leopold B. Blackman, Principal], I think--Colonel Black, he was in charge there. [The Honolulu Military Academy was located on Eighteenth Avenue, near Kilauea Avenue, and Leopold G. Blackman was principal of the academy, according to the City Directory for 1925. A card reference in the State Archives states: Advertiser, January 31, 1925. "Papers are signed for its merger with Punahou Academy July 1, 1925. Military buildings and grounds to be developed as an agricultural laboratory, boarding school for boys attending Punahou."]

Then after that--oh, I had two brothers also went to Kam [Kamehameha] School for awhile. Then I had some that went to St. Louis [High School]. I mean, they left and went to the mainland and all this time my sister was in the mainland. She was educated there. And came to the last two in the family, we didn't have an opportunity of going away (chuckles), so that my youngest brother and myself both finished Punahou and he finished University of Hawaii and

I went on to--no, through--Normal School. And after that I went on to the Island of Maui to teach. While over there, I met this handsome man of mine (chuckling) and we were married in 1930, yeh, Daddy? We were married in 1930. Oh, I'm all mixed up here, I forgot to tell you when I graduated, didn't I? Do I have to say that?

M: Yeh. If you don't mind.

E: Well, I graduated from Punahou in 1926 and from there I went to Territorial Normal School and finished there in '28. Then I went over to Maui to teach at the school they call Kam Third. Kamehameha III School. It was right in Lahaina town. And I taught there a year and the following year--two years I taught there and the following year I got married. And then I still taught at Kam Third, then we moved up to a little town called Puukolii and it was the largest plantation village, I guess you would say.

M: Puko--or Poko--?

E: Puuko--. P-U-U-K-O-L-I-I. It's no more. It's right above--which one is it, Daddy?

Mr: Royal Lahaina [Hotel in Kaanapali].

E: Royal Lahaina. It's up on the hill there. And, oh I guess they had a few houses still up there but, I mean, it's just all gone. The school is gone and everything. And we lived there for twelve years. Twelve? Or seventeen?

Mr: From '30 to . . .

E: '45.

Mr: 1945. (very loud sound of traffic)

E: What was that? But we didn't live in Puukolii all that time.

M: Did you continue teaching all the time?

E: I continued teaching. Then I taught at Puukolii School. That was the best, you know. All you had to do was walk from here to the house across the street (laughter). Really! Well, and I had--my oldest son was born on Maui then, who is David III.

Mr: Who?

E: Hmm? Then I had a nice big skip.

Mr: Who is?

E: Heh? David the Third?

Mr: Yeh.

E: Well, who is now the coach of Punahou football team.

M: Oh.

E: Then after many, many, many years, I had my next son. He was born in Lahaina and right after that we went to Lanai. And at Lanai, I had my third child--girl, who says God gave her to us. (laughter) That was really cute, you know. He was scolding her and she turned around and said, "You mustn't scold me, because God gave me to you." (laughter) Well, they're all teaching now at Punahou.

M: For heaven sake.

E: They all graduated from Punahou and they're all teaching there now, at Punahou.

M: What are the names of your children? There's David and then . . .

E: David Pinkham [Kaiana Eldredge III] and the other one is . . .

Mr: Pal.

E: No! Hastings Judd [Kauwela Eldredge]. Pal. Nicknamed Pal. P-A-L.

M: They're all Eldredges, right?

E: All Eldredges.

M: Okay. Your daughter is . . .

Mr: Hattie Lou.

E: Daughter is Hattie Louise. And with my name, of course, [Leilehua] couldn't leave that out, you know. They all had Hawaiian names though. All of these children.

And now, as I said, this you have to go backwards again. We were living at Kualoa. My father was a very strict man and everything was, "You can't go here; you have to do all your chores in the morning," and then you were allowed, in the afternoon, to go swimming--do what we wanted in the afternoon--but we always have to be home

at a certain time (she emphasizes the last four words by rapping on something).

I was telling them the other day, one of the things I remember so well that--my brothers above me were all allowed to go out every Saturday evening and come back at a certain time and I lived every year to be up to that age to do it. And every year came, I had to wait. I waited until the youngest was old enough to stay out (chuckles) and always the excuse was, I was a girl. So I had to wait till the youngest of the tribe was old enough to stay out late.

And then there was another incident at the ranch there I always thought was funny was because the bull of the ranch never liked me. He would chase me around so. (laughter) No matter where I was. If I went down to the beach and he was in that pasture, he actually would chase me, why I don't know. He was in the next pasture, he would really come up to the fence and then he'd paw, like, Oh, who's that face there. So one time, my cousin and I went swimming and he was loose in the regular pasture right below the house there. And she and I came around the old stone mill and while we were coming around here, he was not so far away from us. So we thought we could kind of creep home, you know. We started and you know he came for us. He hated her too, you see. And we got up on top of that stone mill--up in the window--and, you know, we stayed there for hours it seemed. (laughter) We couldn't get down. He just stood there in front of us and he wouldn't let us down from it. Finally he turned around and, you know, we beelined to the main highway and we went all the way down to the shortest distance to the house, which is the straightest line but over a fence, and we got home all right. But I'm telling you, I have never known why that bull had no use for the two of us, not only me.

M: Strange, isn't it. Maybe you were girls, that was why . . .

E: It could have been. I don't know why. It's either that or we always wore bright colors. It might have been that, too, you know. But I've always said it was so funny, that bull always chased me.

And we had other incidents where we had a horse, with a flat, flat back--absolutely no hump at all, it's just flat--and whenever we walked and she was--you know we lead the horses sometimes, we didn't go fast enough, never mind who was leading she would bite us on top of our head. Just simply grab our hair, you know, and that means we have to go step it up. She used to do that with the cattle when we were on a drive, too. They weren't going fast enough, she'd nip 'em. (Lynda laughs) And I guess that's all for the ranch. I left there when I got married.

M: Well, didn't you spend your weekends out at the ranch then

while you were going to school?

E: At times. At times but not always, because there was football games, you know, and we all followed every team around and . . .

M: How old were you when you started coming into town?

E: To school? Oh, let's see now. I went to the country school first. I rode three miles on a horse. And from Kualoa, I went to Waiahole School. That was about three miles from my house and on the way I would meet another boy who was riding to school. And then further up we met someone else, so three of us always rode to school. And then we--I went there for my first year. During the second grade, I came to Punahou and at that time, I boarded. But there was no little children there, so my aunt put me into St. Andrew's Priory [for Girls] for two years. Then after Mrs. Swanzy passed away I came back [1919]. I boarded again at Punahou. By this time, well, there were quite a number of us about the same age. And of course, there were a lot of little incidents there that (laughs) was fun. And I think one of them was throwing ink on all the boys that used to come and try to peep in our windows.

M: You threw what at them, ink?

E: Ink. And in those days, it wouldn't come off their shirts either. Yeh, we used to be in study hall. We were downstairs and took turns, you know. Every student in the dorm had to take charge at least--I don't know whether it was every month, one day a month, or something like that--and they used to come around and throw stones at us, see, from outside. There was a stepway right below the window there and they'd hide down there, so we used to just go squirting ink at them (Lynda laughs) and, of course, spoil all their clothes. Well I finished Punahou and then I got married. I had all my children educated. That's about all.

M: I wanted to ask about some of the Hawaiian names in your family.

E: Our Hawaiian names? My husband's name--mine is Leilehua.

M: That's your first name though. Like, what was--do you know what your mother's Hawaiian name was?

E: My mother's Hawaiian name is Keolaokalani. (long pause)

M: Have to spell that.

E: K-E-O-L-A . . . eh?

Mr: Keola?

E: Yeh.

Mr: K-E-O . . .

M: K-E-O-L-A . . .

E: Yeh.

Mr: Keola-okalani. Keolaokalani.

E: Okalani. Okalani.

M: O-kalani. It's all one word?

E: Yes. Mine is Leilehua. My first name is Edith Margaret.  
I mean, if I have to take it. I dropped it years ago, but.

M: But you go by Leilehua.

E: Yeh. My daughter is Leilehua. (Mr. E. coughs)

M: What's that?

E: My daughter is Leilehua.

M: Would you spell that?

E: L-E-I-L-E-H-U-A.

M: Do you know Hattie Domingo?

Mr: In Kaaawa?

M: Yeh.

E: Yeh.

Mr: I know who she is but I don't know whether that's the same  
Hattie comes from Maui. Is she?

E: Domingo lived--he was a--he lived in Kaaawa there for years.

M: Yeh. He was the principal at Waiahole.

E: And, well, I didn't know . . .

Mr: Is that the one?

E: I don't know but Domingo--there used to be Domingo right there in Kaaawa, married in the Padeken family. All of them were all mixed up right there.

Mr: Yeh.

M: Yeh. They own a lot of that property in the . . .

E: Yeh, right there in Kaaawa, right near the Mokuli'i, the Chinaman Hat. And used to walk over there and have picnics, swim across. [The Chinaman's Hat is a small island to which a person can walk during low tide or swim to during high tide.]

Now my oldest son's name is Kaiana. You were asking for Hawaiian names.

M: Yeh, yeh. Your oldest son is . . .

E: My husband is David Pinkham Kaiana. Same name.

M: Kai . . . . K-A-I-A-N-A?

E: Daddy.

Mr: Kaiana, yeh.

M: What?

Mr: That's right. K-A-I-A-N-A.

E: That's one of the royalty names, you know.

M: No, I don't know.

E: From where, Daddy? That one is--that's the one that was pushed over the Pali? Was that the one . . .

Mr: I don't know. Maybe.

E: No. Kalanikupule was pushed over the Pali. That one is the Kauai king, I think. Kaiana. ["The dashing chief Kaiana" deserted Kamehameha to join forces with Kalanikupule in the battle against Kamehameha and "made a stand in Nuuanu Valley," where "Kaiana stood fast and was killed." Gavan Daws in Shoal of Time.]

Mr: I know I got a Hawaiian name, that's all. (Mrs. E. laughs)

E: He is Kauai king. And my oldest son has the same name. My next boy has Kauwela. And I have an adopted daughter, but . . .

M: You do?

E: I do. Just under the oldest son. Bertha Leialoha. She's just two years younger than the oldest boy.

M: Where did your husband get the name Pinkham?

Mr: It's family.

E: It's a family way back. He has this genealogy of his . . .

M: There are Pinkhams here still. I tried to get an interview.

Mr: These folks were from way back.

E: It's way, way back. Genealogy goes backwards, you know.

Mr: When I look at all of the genealogy and see that name Pinkham . . .

E: I used to tease him that he was named for Governor [Lucius Eugene] Pinkham, [1913-1918], you know, (laughs) but he wasn't.

Mr: You know, I looked over genealogy. There was one of the Eldredge family there whose sons were David Pinkham and Amos.

E: And that's his brother's name.

Mr: And that's my brother's name. And David Pinkham is my name. So you see, way back genealogy, so see he's descendant now. When I looked (Mr. E. and Lynda laugh) . . .

E: I used to tease him all the time but I guess it's impossible because Governor Pinkham was just as old as his grandfather (laughs) so he couldn't be.

Mr: We might be related to him before.

E: You might be related to Governor Pinkham, in a way, because according to your genealogy, too--you know that Lydia Pinkham?--well, there's a Lydia Pinkham in their genealogy.

M: So you're just a little bit Hawaiian. What, about a quarter?

E: Hawaiian? I have just a quarter. He has a little bit more than I have, a teeny bit more.

M: How did you get into all these Hawaiian arts and crafts things that you . . .

E: What do you mean?

M: Well, like your leis and everything.

E: Oh, I just like that kind of craft work. I like craft work. And he likes--he does a lot of things too. He does a lot of things. I have it here. Do you have any of your jewelry here, Daddy? He makes them and I--oh, I have all kinds. I make those little Hawaiian dolls too. They're on my window up on there. I taught for thirty-four years, then I decided I was too lazy to go on, so I retired when I was fifty-nine. Could have gone on to Maui, you know. (laughs) I could have.

M: How long were you at Lanai, then?

E: Beg your pardon?

M: How long were you at Lanai?

E: Four years.

M: Four years. And then you came here [Oahu]?

E: Came here and we've been here since '49.

M: Where did you teach while you were here?

E: I taught at--one year at Kapalama, and I think I had three years at Manoa Housing--that's where they have that school --then I came here to Manoa and I stayed here all through the rest of my time. I retired in '66. (recorder is turned off then on again)

We learned a lot of things there. Some people rather have only craft work but I'm glad that we don't. We learn nearly everything there. Any new methods of things that come out--on the new fabrics, new appliances, anything for the house, paints--all those things are taught to us. And of course, we're not going to school. We pay so much--we pay about two-fifty a year, I think, for our dues, not to the immediate club but this is to the organization as a whole--the state organization and the council. Each council. I belong to the South Oahu Council, and I'm also on the board of the state council. Hope to serve the last year on it.

And then I belong to what we call the Manoa University Extension Club and, as I say, we have these things that we have learnt through the year. Like in this year, we have learnt . . . paints. And all these years I always thought --you know, you see blisters on the paint on the highways or something. What caused it? I never knew until this

year that that board was wet when they painted it, so when the sun hits it, it blisters out. And, you know, little things like that. The care of paints. Of course, I don't really do it, but he does nearly all that kind of work. And then we learnt about--some of the women learnt about what to do when you're preparing for retirement. And we learnt about using our--making the best use of your sewing machine. Now there're some people that will sew and only use the regular sewing. They don't try to use all the other gadgets on a sewing machine. They taught us that this year. And they also--I think one of the consumers' and certain agencies that you should go to for help, instead of just letting them, I guess, draw money without helping anybody, like the protective agencies and the advisors. You know we have classes that they give us. And each club on this island--there're twenty-eight of us in the South Oahu--we have members that go to these different, what we call, projects and they bring it back to the club for us to learn.

We are also affiliated with the 4-H's. Many of the women have 4-H Clubs that are, so we're more like their mother club, like of 4-H's. And also, in South Oahu, we have what we call Achievements and not all the clubs do it, but majority of the clubs select a date and they invite all of us to come and see what they have done at their, you know, club meetings. So ours is on November 6, as I say. If you want to come to it, do come. And it's in the evening at seven o'clock. And at that place we do, all of us, try to prepare something to sell at our bazaar. We do not meet and make a mass production. You know how some people do? We bring what we want and these are the things that I have over here that I am taking down to our Achievement. He makes some of these jewelry and they sell it there. The profit goes right to the club.

M: He made this gadget in the corner there? I can't make out just what it is.

E: Which one?

M: Is that a tree or something, with things hanging from it?

E: Standing there?

M: Yeh. I haven't got my glasses on.

E: That's a coat hanger. Clothes hangers.

M: Oh!

Mr: What's going in here, Ma? Hey! by the way, what is your name?

M: Lynda . . . (the recorder is turned off and then on again)  
. . . see you around because of your work?

E: No! (lightly) No.

Mr: Naw, we're just residents, that's all. Yeh.

E: Ah . . . he was--he worked on the plantation as what they  
call a water man.

Mr: Water luna.

E: Foreman, yeh. And from there, we went to Lanai where he  
was in charge of the--what were you first there?

Mr: Personnel department.

E: Personnel, yeh. And then we came down here and he worked  
for Star-Bulletin. And after that--after the doctor's orders  
that he can't do that job, then we waited until he got--oh,  
he had service station jobs too. A foreman in that. And  
then we waited until Manoa recreation was opened here and  
he took the job there as caretaker of the park so that he  
could be with the little boys after school, and he had this  
Police Athletic League for many years, up until two years  
ago. He had teams here until the Little League came in  
and they got all the boys and so he dropped out. And he's  
retired. We both decided that too much work and why don't  
we live on easy now, eh. (laughs)

Mr: Um hmm.

E: And . . . well, we're not finding it too hard. (laughter)

Mr: Good fun.

M: Yeh.

E: And we're always on the go, go, go. Afraid this morning I  
have a doctor's appointment.

Mr: You know, when you have a question you'd like to know, you  
can call up.

E: Yeh, if I think of anything else.

M: I'm going to be talking to Pat Swanzy Morgan. Or no, wait  
a minute. It's Rosamond Swanzy Morgan (Mrs. E. says this  
name with Lynda). That's the mother.

E: Yeh, she's my cousin.

M: She's your cousin?

E: Yes. I lived with her up in that white house. [see p. 3]

M: Yeh, when you said that Swanzy . . .

E: Yeh, I lived with her.

M: That was her house.

E: That's her house.

Mr: Good lady too, you know.

E: Yes, she's very, very. . . . She would really tell you a lot too. I really liked her. She has one sister, Nora-- off the record, now. Off the record now (laughter). [Nora Hastings Swanzy married George Y. Bennett] (recorder is turned off when counter is at 405)

END OF 1ST TAPE

END OF INTERVIEW

Transcribed and edited by Katherine B. Allen, 1979

Note: There is a lot of traffic noise throughout this recording.

Final typing by Grace Akamatsu

## Subject Index

- 1 Family history: The Judds  
Morgan Ranch; Parker Ranch
- 2 Family history: Judd; Hart; Swanzy; Wilder
- 3 James P. and Rosamond Swanzy Morgan  
Judd family: Education  
Honolulu Military Academy  
Kamehameha Schools; St. Louis High School  
Punahou School
- 4 Mrs. Eldredge's teaching experience  
The Eldredge family history
- 5 Life at Kualoa Ranch
- 7 Mrs. Eldredge's schooling  
An incident at Punahou School  
Family's Hawaiian names
- 10 Family history: The Eldredges  
Hawaiian arts and crafts
- 11 Mrs. Eldredge's teaching experience  
The Eldredges' interests and activities
- 13 Mr. Eldredge's employment
- 14 Rosamund Swanzy Morgan

## THE WATUMULL FOUNDATION ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

In May 1971, the Watumull Foundation initiated an Oral History Project.

The project was formally begun on June 24, 1971 when Katherine B. Allen was selected to interview kamaainas and longtime residents of Hawaii in order to preserve their experiences and knowledge. In July, Lynda Mair joined the staff as an interviewer.

During the next seventeen months, eighty-eight persons were interviewed. Most of these taped oral histories were transcribed by November 30, 1972.

Then the project was suspended indefinitely due to the retirement of the foundation's chairman, Ellen Jensen Watumull.

In February 1979, the project was reactivated and Miss Allen was recalled as director and editor.

Three sets of the final transcripts, typed on acid-free Permalife Bond paper, have been deposited respectively in the Archives of Hawaii, the Hamilton Library at the University of Hawaii, and the Cooke Library at Punahou School.