

Notes to Our Friends

The Newsletter of Waioli Corporation

A 501 (c) (3) Non-Profit Organization

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Grove Farm museum



Makes 45 Years!

After years of planning by Mabel Wilcox, Sophie Cluff, Barnes Riznik, Bob Schleck and many others, Grove Farm museum opened to the public in October, 1980. Providing a wide window on Kauai's sugarcane heritage, Grove Farm museum is a beautifully preserved homestead representing the historic center of a 19th century developing sugar plantation.

The Wilcox sisters first formed a love of old buildings when they visited their great-grandfather's farm homestead in Harwinton, Connecticut and enjoyed seeing many examples of historic preservation. This experience helped them realize that the old Waioli Mission property in Hanalei, where their father and his brothers were raised, had a meaning and purpose beyond themselves. So, in 1921 sisters Etta, Elsie and Mabel began the restoration of the Waioli Mission House. It is the earliest historic house museum restoration in Hawaii.

More than fifty years later, Miss Mabel, with strong encouragement from Sophie, continued the sisters' preservation legacy in caring for Grove Farm and planning for its future. One of the first steps was to purchase the Grove Farm main house and the nearly 80 acres of surrounding grounds from the Grove Farm Company family stockholders. They voted almost unanimously to approve the purchase and museum plans were set in motion.

Today Grove Farm museum is cared for by a staff, Board of Trustees and volunteers who are inspired by the sisters' vision and dedicated to preserving the site as authentically as possible.

To make reservations for a tour please call (808) 245-3202 or visit our website at grovefarm.org. We hope to see you soon!

I remember when...

I visited Aunt Mabel as a child...

from a conversation with Kathy Richardson

Kathy Goodale Richardson is a direct descendant of Abner and Lucy Wilcox, who were the parents of her great-great grandfather, Samuel Whitney Wilcox, who was the father of her great grandmother, Lucy Etta Wilcox Sloggett, who was the mother of her grandfather, Richard Henry Sloggett, Sr. who was the father of her mother, Nancy Sloggett Goodale.

When she was a little girl, Kathy and her family would visit 'Aunt Mabel' at Grove Farm. They would drive in, pull up to the front of the house, and pile inside to say hello. Shortly after, the children would be excused to go to the kitchen where Hisae, Miss Mabel's cook, gave them cookies. Then they headed outdoors to the fish pond. There was always a jar of dried old bread to feed the fish, but the children ate some too, because they were always so hungry. Next, they proceeded down a trail to explore the bomb shelter and just wander all along the hillside. When it was time to go, the house bell was rung, and they ran up to say good-bye.

When Waioli Mission was a family entity, the Wilcox descendants gathered annually on Thanksgiving for meetings at the mission house in Hanalei. Afterward they celebrated the holiday together at one of their homes. Dinner was always pot luck with the host usually doing the turkeys. As the extended family grew, the event became too big, so some families split off to have their own festivities.

A few holiday dinners were held at Grove Farm, but as Miss Mabel got older, she often joined Kathy's family for their celebration.

In the late 1980s, Kathy's mother, Nancy, started the tradition of having Thanksgiving for family and friends up at Camp Sloggett in Kokee, a tradition that continues to this day.

Kathy was elected to the Waioli Corporation Board of Trustees in 1985 and has served ever since. Currently, she is also the President of the Nuhou Corporation Board of Trustees.

GROVE FARM ON PBS Hawaii

In April 2023 we were contacted by PBS Hawaii asking if we would be interested in having Grove Farm museum featured on their *Home is Here* program. We were thrilled to be asked, and in April 2024 the PBS crew came to film. Along with filming the property, Curator Moises Madayag and Tour Coordinator/Office Assistant Maile Kennedy gave a wonderful interview. We understood it would be a while before the segment aired, but it finally did on August 27th of this year. If you are interested in watching the show, you can view it on YouTube at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yfjMnpsMM9s&list=PLJ7VxpMUPOF96ip2NiD6jtdzW4-q91wLE>

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Heaven is the place where all the pets you've ever loved come to greet you.

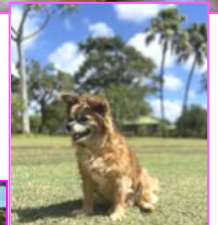
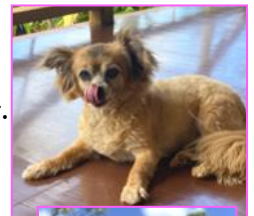
Aloha Sweet Mocha

With heavy hearts we share that sweet Mocha recently passed away. We're totally heartbroken but oh so grateful for every moment we had with her.

Her 'sparky' (Bob used to call her that!) spirit was there to the end... greeting you with a little dance and big tail wag, barking at visitors then quickly rolling over so they could rub her belly, exploring the property looking for where the action was, happily allowing groups of school children to pet her, and of course, running as fast as she could all the way across the large lawn with her tail wagging and a big smile on her face!

Mocha was loved by so many, and she loved you all, too!

We'll miss her forever and love her even longer!



Notes to Our Friends is going digital!

We are working to have our newsletter be fully digital. If you don't currently receive it through email, please send your email address to:

secretary@grovefarm.org
to be sure you're on the list.

The newsletter will also be available on our website at:
www.grovefarm.org



Curator's Corner



Grove Farm Museum maintains a culturally significant East Indonesia Collection. This collection includes textiles, carvings, ceremonial objects, and tools that reflect the traditions and craftsmanship of communities from the Indonesian archipelago.

Recently, the collection was professionally cataloged into the system by Conservator Assistant, Kobe Perez, whose work has enhanced documentation and laid the foundation for future interpretive planning. Plans are underway to integrate the digital inventory into educational programming, highlighting cross-cultural connections and maritime heritage.

The East Indonesia Collection exemplifies Grove Farm Museum's commitment to preserving global narratives and honoring the diverse influences that have shaped Hawai'i's history. It stands as a quiet yet powerful testament to the museum's broader mission of stewardship, scholarship, and cultural engagement.

Though not part of the standard tour, the collection is available for viewing by special request, which can be made by emailing curator@grovefarm.org.