

To date, there has been little in the way of architectural design, and nothing in the way of any drawings on the buildings themselves. The focus has been on site planning, the relationship of building structures both to each other, and the immediate adjacency of the separate ownership of the stone buildings in the midst of the project. At issue is the movement of code required vehicular movement and parking in concert with the people pedestrian movement between functions and amenities. All building delineations are to date, merely footprints and volumetric massings to suggest location area and compliance with Kilauea's Northshore height restriction of 25'.

We are only now at the very beginning of architectural design, revisited if you will, where the very character of the buildings and the spaces of the town center are being examined. Hunt has declared in its presentation that the buildings would address historic eras and traditions and heritage and that is what is being examined in detail as I write this.. The eras are not colonial or pre-railroad or post railroad, as it was on the mainland history of the West. Here at Kilauea it had to do with the years between 1877 when Robert McFie established Kilauea Plantation and 1890 when Grove Farm brought the plantations into full operation on the island.

As part of plantation history, the first Chinese workers came between 1876 and 1882 with 15,000 strong. They raised rice and they worked the sugar cane. By 1890, the Japanese had largely replaced the Chinese. Each of these periods and migrations can be addressed in the design of our town center buildings, not by replicating oriental architecture pavilions, but by trim work, finish, color, textures, and graphic embellishments. The Filipinos came right after the Portuguese and between the two migrations into Kauai; they remain mainstays in the community today and figure into design.

And all though this, the Hawaiian Kingdom at the turn of the century and its plantation economy gradually established the architectural stylings of the territory, especially in the early 1930's with the work of two gifted architects, Hart Wood and Charles Dicky, whose works are still the hallmark of Hawaiian Regional Architecture today. Their work will provide context for the design at Kilauea.

To be sure, designing for Kilauea Town is particularly challenging and sensitive. We are working with zoning called out as "Neighborhood Commercial", and the typical functions and service amenities listed in this category are specific and must comply with County ordinance. None of these uses are unfamiliar to small town development, yet all are to some extent estranged in Kilauea, where except for Kong Lung, and a small enclave in the stone buildings, there has been nothing in the way of any collected gathering of services in the community. None of what has occurred at Kapaa, or Koloa or Waimea took place here. What took place in Hilo, and Lahaina and Kona and elsewhere in the island kingdom, never took hold in Kilauea.

So we have to go slowly and carefully. As such, we are revisiting the architecture, and we are attempting to address the history and the traditions and the cultural heritage that are the legacy of Kilauea.... and we are going slowly...and we do appreciate the comments and the interest and the concern expressed. As we progress, we will share more as it develops.