

# Hawaii Kotohira Jinsha Hawaii Dazaifu Tenmangu

June 2017



An annual family blessing was performed at the shrine on May 14 with prayers that their labors be rewarded, homes be filled with love, health, strength, laughter and protected from harm. May they also be blessed with a bright future, friendship and love for each other and gratitude for all the bounties in their lives.

# MAHALO for your donations

Lance & Tomoe Au

Anthony Fujii

Rodney & Phong Fujisaki

Bryson Goda

Bob Harada

Bruce & Lynne Kauer

James & Melba Kurashige

Milton & Kathy Kwock

Ian Lane

Malcolm & Fran Matsuoka

Steven Miwa

Shinken & Marilyn Naitoh

Diu Nguyen

Craig & Diane Nishida

Dan & Christy Nishita

Davyn & Cheralyn Nishita

Melvyn & Amy Nishita

Akiko Sanai

Gary & Linda Shinsato

Allan Takeshita

Tanabata

Tanzaku

paper

strips

will be available in

the shrine from June 30



A House Blessing was performed at a home in Kaimuki on April 29



A House Blessing was performed at a private home in Las Vegas on May 8



A Car Blessing was performed on May 14

# Torii Gates

*Torii* were called *Uefukazu-no-gomon*. It was an open gate-like structure composed of two pillars connected by a top lintel or crossbar.

Occasionally the structure was strengthened by a secondary crossbar held together with a *nuki* or tie beam.

*Torii* are usually erected at all entrances to a Shinto shrine to separate the hallowed precinct from the mundane world.

The origin of *torii* is unclear. Some scholars believe that the form derives from the *torana* gates found at the Great Stupa near Bhopal in India. Other scholars believe that they are Chinese or Korean in origin.

There are an infinite variety of *torii* named for the shrine itself or for unique characteristics.

The shrine's *torii* is the most

orthodox of styles - *Myojin Torii*.

During WWII, Shinto shrines and other Japanese American organizations were considered a hub of subversive activities.

Many *Isseis* found it difficult to change allegiance, however *Niseis* were eager to allay suspicions.

After the attack on Pearl Harbor and amidst the prejudice and fear, several families felt compelled to scrape off the names of their parents or grandparents who made contributions towards construction of the *torii*.

Look closely at the back of the shrine's main *torii* the next time you're at the shrine.

76 years after the outbreak of the war, the Stars and Stripes can still be seen billowing over the shrine on every U.S. holiday and at our festivals - a testament to our unwavering loyalty to our nation.



SHINMEI TORII  
神明鳥居



KASHIMA TORII  
鹿島鳥居



MYOJIN TORII  
明神鳥居



HACHIMAN TORII  
八幡鳥居



KASUGA TORII  
春日鳥居



NAKAYAMA TORII  
中山鳥居



GEKU TORII  
外宮鳥居



MIHASHIRA TORII  
三柱鳥居



MIWA TORII  
三輪鳥居

The once despised *torii* is now one that welcomes a community of diverse people and a place where tradition has been translated into modern relevance.

# Quarantine Island

The first Japanese and Chinese immigrants to the Hawaiian Islands appeared not long after Western contact, but the greatest numbers arrived in the mid-1800s to fill the labor needs of the sugar plantations.

After the U.S. Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882 shut off growers' access to Chinese workers, they turned to Japan.



Honolulu Harbor in the 1800s

Farmers and peasants from Kumamoto, Fukuoka, Hiroshima, and Yamaguchi having suffered a series of crop failures at home, eagerly filled the jobs promising comparatively high wages.

The laborers arriving in 1868 turned to a flood by 1886 then slowed after the turn of the century.

Sand Island is located at the entrance to Pearl Harbor and during the 1800s, was known as Quarantine Island, Kush Island or Maui-ola.

Originally there was a natural harbor in front of Downtown Honolulu and the early sailing ships that came here found their way easily into the harbor.

The US Government established a Quarantine station in Yokohama and the Kingdom of Hawaii



Honolulu Harbor in the early 1800s

established inspection and quarantine facilities in Yokohama, Kobe, Nagasaki and Hong Kong.

Despite the pre-embarkation inspection, there remained serious cases of epidemic diseases from China and Japan.

In 1869, a Quarantine station was built on the Ewa side of the island for ships coming into the harbor.

It was Hawaii's Ellis Island and a defense against communicable diseases such as Cholera, Typhoid,

Smallpox, Bubonic plague and Leprosy.

A half-mile long wooden bridge six-feet wide was built connecting the harbor and Quarantine Island.

The quarantine equipment that awaited immigrants were ovens where fifty pounds of sulfur was

burned at once along with vats for fumigating clothes and tanks for purifying bodies.

Quarantine Island was eventually landfilled over when the harbor dredging started in the 1940s with all the spoil material from the dredging pumped on top of



Japanese children on Quarantine Island in the late 1800s



Half-mile long wooden bridge connecting the harbor and Quarantine Island

the reef.

During World War II, Sand Island was used as an Army internment camp to house Japanese Americans as well as expatriates from Germany, Italy and other Axis countries living in Hawaii.

The camp opened in December 1941, soon after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

Over 600 Hawaii residents, many of them U.S. citizens, would pass through Sand Island before it was closed in March 1943.

# Maintenance

# CALENDAR



The Honolulu Shinto Renmei Memorial Service was held on Sunday, May 28 at Punchbowl Cemetery of the Pacific, Makiki and Moiliili Cemeteries

The shrine still has several folding chairs from the 1950s that were solidly built with heavy materials. Over the years paint fades or chips and the metal rusts. But with a bit of washing, grinding, buffing and painting - the chairs are slowly being rejuvenated for a few more years of use.



## JUNE

- 3 1 pm  
**Chinowa Preparations**
- 4 9 am - 2 pm  
**Chinowa for People & Pets**

## JULY

- 2 3 pm  
**Tsukinamisai & Tanabata**

## AUGUST

- 5 1 pm  
**Education Blessing Prep**
- 6 10 am ~ 2 pm  
**Back-To-School Education Blessing**