

Awong Brothers Store

Hawai'i, Hawai'i

Name of Property

County and State

Photo Log

Name of Property: Awong Brothers Store (HFS Federal Credit Union)

City or Vicinity: Honoka'a

County: Hawai'i

State: Hawai'i

Photographer: Laura Ruby (unless otherwise noted, Ross W. Stephenson)

Dates Photographed: 2015-2017

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

Photo #1 (HI_Hawai'i County_Honoka'a MPS_Awong Brothers Store_0001)
Māmane Street façade (*mauka* side), camera facing north-northeast.

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Photo #2 (HI_Hawai'i County_Honoka'a MPS_Awong Brothers Store_0002)
External detail: Waipi'o-side bay, Māmane Street façade (*mauka* side), camera facing north-northeast.

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Photo #3 (HI_Hawai'i County_Honoka'a MPS_Awong Brothers Store_0003)

External detail: center bay, Māmane Street façade (*mauka* side), camera facing north-northeast.

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Photo #4 (HI_Hawai'i County_Honoka'a MPS_Awong Brothers Store_0004)

External detail: door to second floor stairs. Māmane Street façade (*mauka* side), camera facing north-northeast.

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Photo #5 (HI_Hawai'i County_Honoka'a MPS_Awong Brothers Store_0005)
External detail: Hilo-side bay, Māmane Street façade (*mauka* side), camera facing north-northeast.

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Photo #6 (HI_Hawai'i County_Honoka'a MPS_Awong Brothers Store_0006)

External detail:, Māmane Street façade (*mauka* side), showing pedestrian awning and Hilo-side façade showing parapet side, camera facing north-northwest.

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Photo #7 (HI_Hawai'i County_Honoka'a MPS_Awong Brothers Store_0007)
Hilo-side façade, camera facing south-southwest.

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Photo #8 (HI_Hawai'i County_Honoka'a MPS_Awong Brothers Store_0008)
Rear façade (*makai* side), camera facing south-southwest.

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Photo #9 (HI_Hawai'i County_Honoka'a MPS_Awong Brothers Store_0009)

Exterior detail: mandated fire escape stairs (*makai* side), photographed through a screened window, camera facing north-northeast.

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Photo #10 (HI_Hawai'i County_Honoka'a MPS_Awong Brothers Store_0010)

Waipi'o-side façade (*mauka* side), camera facing west.

Photographer: Ross W. Stephenson

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ADDENDUM A

HOLMES, MOSES, LAWSON, AWONG, CREDIT UNION TIMELINE

1854—Milton V. Holmes born in Vermont. Early 1880s—moved to Hawai'i from Nevada and Wisconsin. Milton managed his brother Walter's store in Honoka'a. (Walter also had a store in Waipi'o but lived in Honoka'a.) (1900 Hāmākua Census), *Husted's Commercial Directory*, 1884, p. 277, *Hilo Tribune*, 1905).

c. 1870s—original building constructed.

1876—Grant Award from Kalakaua to William Rickard RP 3156: 1 (R.P. 3163: Apana 1) in Haina Ahupua'a Honoka'a Town Hāmākua for 36.3 acres. (Hawai'i Bureau of Conveyances)

1876—William G. Lawson born in Scotland.

1879—Reg0335 HGS map shows store in W. Rickard Grant 3156 property on the Government Road.

1881—RegOrg HGS map shows store at same location on the Government Road.

1881—Alfonso L. Moses born in Yarmouth, Nova Scotia (Canada Census, 1901)

1882—A five-year property lease was signed by William Rickard and Walter H. Holmes for 21,280 square feet. (Hawai'i Bureau of Conveyances)

1884—Milton V. Holmes became manager of his brother W.H. Holmes' stores in Honoka'a. (The other store was located in the Holmes/Rice building across Government Road/Māmane Street.)

1884, 1890-1891, 1898-1899, 1902, 1903—W.H. Holmes listed as general merchandise, Waipia [Waipi'o] and Honoka'a.

1892—December 25—Alfred Awong born in Laupāhoehoe. Father Ah Ah Wong [Au Yan or Yap] born in China in 1842, immigrated in 1874, and mother Jacinta born in Portugal in 1870, immigrated in 1882.

1896—Deed from William Rickard and wife Nora to M.V. Holmes for property. Milton purchased both the Affonso Store [where the Rice-Holmes building is today] and the Holmes Store [where the Credit Union is today]. (Hawai'i Bureau of Conveyances)

1900—Milton Holmes is listed in the 1900 census as merchant [M.V. Holmes in Hāmākua] 41-years-old and single.

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1902—M.V. Holmes general merchandise, Honoka'a.

1902—Alfonso Moses immigrates to Hawai'i.

1904—Reg2267 WIDE Charles Dove map shows Holmes Store building within defined property boundaries. Presumably this defined area is the 21,280 square feet property.

1903-1904—M.V. Holmes in Honoka'a.

1905-06, EN Holmes executor of MV Holmes estate gen merchandise Honoka'a.

c. 1906—Family portrait captures father Ah Ah Wong [Au Yan or Yap] and mother Jacinta with ten children.

1907—E.N. Holmes Hamakua Wine and Liquor Co in Honoka'a.

1907—Lawson immigrated to Hawai'i.

1907-08, M.V. estate E.N. Holmes executor, general store Honoka'a.

1909—1910—E.N. executor for brother's estate M.V. Holmes deceased. The store is listed as general merchandise in Honoka'a.

1907, 1908, 1909-1910—Hamakua Wine and Liquor Co (Everett N. Holmes proprietor), Honoka'a.

1907—Lawson arrived in Hawai'i from Scotland. (born in 1876)

1908—M.V. Holmes estate E.N. executor general store Honoka'a.

1910—Census in Laupāhoehoe, A.L. Moses was 28.

1910—Census in Laupāhoehoe Village, widow Jacinta Ah Wong was 42—children are Mary, Henry, Antone, Alfred (17 years old), John, Nellie, Annie, George, William.

1912, 1913, 1916, 1917, 1918—Alfred Awong (spelled) was a clerk at E.W. Barnard in Laupāhoehoe.

1917—Alfred's draft card stated he was supporting his mother, wife and one child.

1919—Deed from E.N. Holmes to Alphonso L. Moses the Honoka'a land as well as the store and its contents: "Store buildings, furniture and fixture, horses and wagons, auto trucks, stock of

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goods wares and merchandise, fire insurance premiums and the good will and business of the Holmes Store.”

1919—Moses became Honoka‘a postmaster following E.N. Holmes. [Moses was in Laupāhoehoe in 1918 and into 1919].

1919—William Lawson was assistant cashier for the First Bank of Hilo, Ltd. Honoka‘a Branch. (*Directory and Handbook of the Hawaiian Islands*. 1919, p. 970).

1919—Alfred Awong clerk in (A.L.) Moses Store Honoka‘a (in 1918 clerked for E.W. Barnard, Laupāhoehoe).

1920-1—Alfred was a cane planter, Manowai‘ōpae, PO Laupāhoehoe.

1920—Lawson is listed in the 1920 census in Honoka‘a, 44-years-old, and manager of a retail general store. His wife and two sons are not working.

1920—Lawson is listed as the manager of the A. L. Moses Store (*Directory and Handbook of the Hawaiian Islands*. 1920, 1921; p. 1029 and 1080)

1921—Deed from A.L. Moses to W.G. Lawson in partnership agreement states “old” Holmes store is now Lawson’s Department Store.

1922-3-4—Lawson’s Department Store.

1922-1923-1924—Alfred Awong began clerking at Lawson’s store.

1923—Moses and Company had a stationery store in Honoka‘a (Polk-Husted *Directory of Honolulu and the Territory of Hawai‘i*. 1923-1924, p. 604).

1924—Hilo-side portion of Moses-Lawson lot, 5,320 square feet, sold to Bunso Ikeuchi.

1924—Moses died bankrupt at 42 in Honoka‘a. Deed from the Moses Estate administered by Trustee Joseph Pritchard to Lawson, 15,960 square feet. (This also included Lots 37 and 38 in the Spencer Tract.)

1924—Lawson left Honoka‘a for Honolulu where he ran a stationery/music store under the auspices of E.H. Moses’s stationery store (from Hilo) in Honolulu.

1924—Alfred listed as proprietor of a general store in Honoka‘a and homesteader in Manowai‘ōpae PO Laupāhoehoe. Younger brother William was a salesman for Alfred Awong in the Honoka‘a store.

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1925—Property and building leased to brothers Alfred, Henry, titled the Awong Brothers Store.

1925—Awong Brothers Store. General Store leased to brothers Alfred and Henry. Honoka'a P.O. Box 97, and William as salesman. That year Alfred also bought out Henry and became the sole owner of the business.

1926-1927—Awong Brothers General Store listed, but now William was its bookkeeper.

1930—The 1930 Census listed Alfred as a retail merchant of dry goods. The 1940 proprietor retail general merchandise store. Wife Norah (father from Norway, mother from Portugal) children Ernest, Nancy, Gilbert, Issac, Ella Nora were listed. The 1939-1940 *Polk-Husted Directory* listed Awong Brothers General Store in Honoka'a with Tel 2 White 336 and PO Box F.

1939-1940—Alfred's daughter Nancy was the bookkeeper, along with his brother William at the Awong Brothers Store.

1940—Census records Alfred as proprietor retail general merchandise store and son Gilbert as 18 years old.

1939—Awong Brothers And John Mendes were listed as tenants. On the property was a combination of store and rooms, a beer parlor, a warehouse, and a dwelling. The main building was one and two stories and the property had a garage for four cars (*Hawai'i County Field Book*).

1941—William G. Lawson (and wife Mary W.) continue to be owners of the property.

1945—A basement addition and dwelling in rear is recorded in the *Hawai'i County Field Book*.

1947—Deed from Lawson and his wife to Alfred Awong, 16,813 square feet (Hawai'i County History Sheets). It is possible that these additional 853 square feet were recorded when the property was resurveyed. Alfred and Henry co-owners of Awong Brothers Store. Eventually, in 1947 Alfred and his wife Norah bought the property.

1949—Prior property assessed in TMK (3) 4-5-07: 025. New plat (16,813 square feet) (3) 4-5-16: 017 (*Hawai'i County Field Book*).

1950—age of building 51+years old (*Hawai'i County Field Book*).

1956—Alfred Wong died June 20, 1956. William Awong was administrator of the estate.

1956—Deed from Estate of Alfred Awong to Norah Awong sole owner.

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1959—Transfer Deed to Norah Awong and children Gilbert and Nancy.

1959—Gilbert bought out his sister Nancy becoming the sole owner.

1959—estimated age of buildings—1) store, warehouse, electricity, 60 years old, 2) four-car garage, 40 years old (no longer extant)

1962—property buildings listed as: A. store (3,204 square feet), B. 2nd floor (800 square feet), C. warehouse (520 square feet), D. dwelling (432 square feet), E. basement (432 square feet), Plo or Plg (7 square feet), and garage (960 square feet). (*Hawai'i County Field Book*).

1962—William Lawson died at 87 in Honolulu.

1968—Deed from Norah and Gilbert Awong to Honoka'a Community Credit Union.

1968—Norah and Gilbert sold property to the Honoka'a Community Federal Credit Union (16,616 square feet).

1969-1970—Designated bus stop/bus site reduced the property square footage by 197 square feet (*Hawai'i County Field Book*).

1972—Awong Store closed. Gilbert liquidated the business.

1972—Gilbert worked for Brantley Center and Hawaiian Holiday before coming to work as controller for the Credit Union until 1987 when he retired.

1975—Norah died.

1979—The Honoka'a Federal Credit Union through various name changes and mergers, but always with the same credit union functions (to join people together for mutual financial benefit) opened its doors. It has also been the North Hawai'i Community Federal Credit Union, and currently it is the HFS Federal Credit Union.

1987—Gilbert retired from the Credit Union.

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ADDENDUM B

HOLMES, MOSES, LAWSON, AWONG, CREDIT UNION PROPERTY TRANSFERS

TMK (3) 4-5-0016: 017

DATE	LIBER	TRANSACTION	COST	AREA	DESCRIPTION
8/8/1876	Grant Book # 15, p. 377	Award	\$128.61	36.3 acres	<i>From Kalakaua to William Rickard:</i> R.P. 3156 Apana 1 in Haina Ahupua'a.
*2/13/1882	75/1	Lease	\$72 annually	21,280 sq. ft.	<i>From William Rickard to W.H. Holmes:</i> A five-year lease for the location of the <i>makai</i> Holmes Store.
8/1/1896	173/62	Deed	\$650	21,280 sq. ft.	<i>From William Rickard and wife Nora to M.V. Holmes:</i> The location of the <i>makai</i> Holmes Store.
±3/29/1919	558/247	Deed	\$15,062	21,280 sq. ft.	<i>From E.N. Holmes to A. L. Moses:</i> The land as well as the store and its contents.
3/21/1921	590/146	Deed	\$1	21,280 sq. ft.	<i>From A.L. Moses to W.G. Lawson:</i> As part of a partnership agreement, Moses sold the store to Lawson, but retained undivided interest. The old Holmes store is now the Lawson Store.
≠5/10/1924	747/418-419	Deed	\$2,850	5,320 sq. ft.	<i>From the Moses Lawson partnership to Bunso Ikeuchi:</i> This is TMK: 40-5-16: (formerly 4-5-7:25). This reduced the lot size to 15,960 sq. ft.
8/14/1924	746/192-194	Deed	\$3,131.74	15,960 sq. ft.	<i>From the Estate of A.L. Moses by Trustee in Bankruptcy to W.G. Lawson:</i> The Lawson Store premises and Lots 37 and 38 in the Spencer Tract (TMK: 4-5-6: 43). Trustee is Joseph Pritchard.
I ¥8/1/1947	2074/27	Deed	\$15,000	16,813 sq. ft.	<i>From W.G. Lawson and wife to Alfred Awong.</i>
6/20/1956	3415/374	Deed	N/A	16,813 sq. ft.	<i>From Estate of Alfred Awong to Norah Awong.</i>
1/19/1959	3552/74	Transfer Deed	\$10 and love	16,813 sq. ft.	<i>Norah Awong and children Gilbert Awong and Nancy Teves. (Gilbert bought out Nancy in the same year.)</i>
7/18/1968	6135/349	Deed	Unknown	16,813 sq. ft.	<i>From Norah and Gilbert Awong to Honoka'a Community Credit Union.</i>

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*This includes the lot later sold to B. Ikeuchi

± "Store buildings, furniture and fixture, horses and wagons, auto trucks, stock of goods wares and merchandise, fire insurance premiums and the good will and business of the Holmes Store."

≠This transaction takes place just prior to Moses's bankruptcy filed nine days later.

¥Area resurveyed by P. Kaluna in 1949 as sq. footage was determined by the surrounding lots adding 692 sq. ft. to the lot.

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

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