

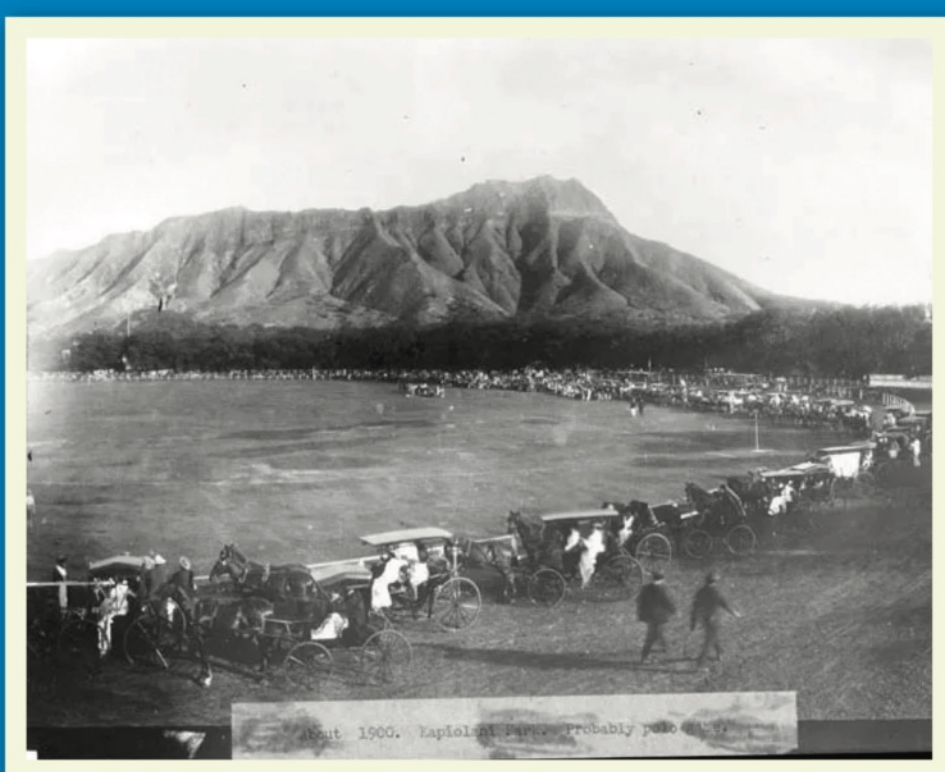


EARLY 1900

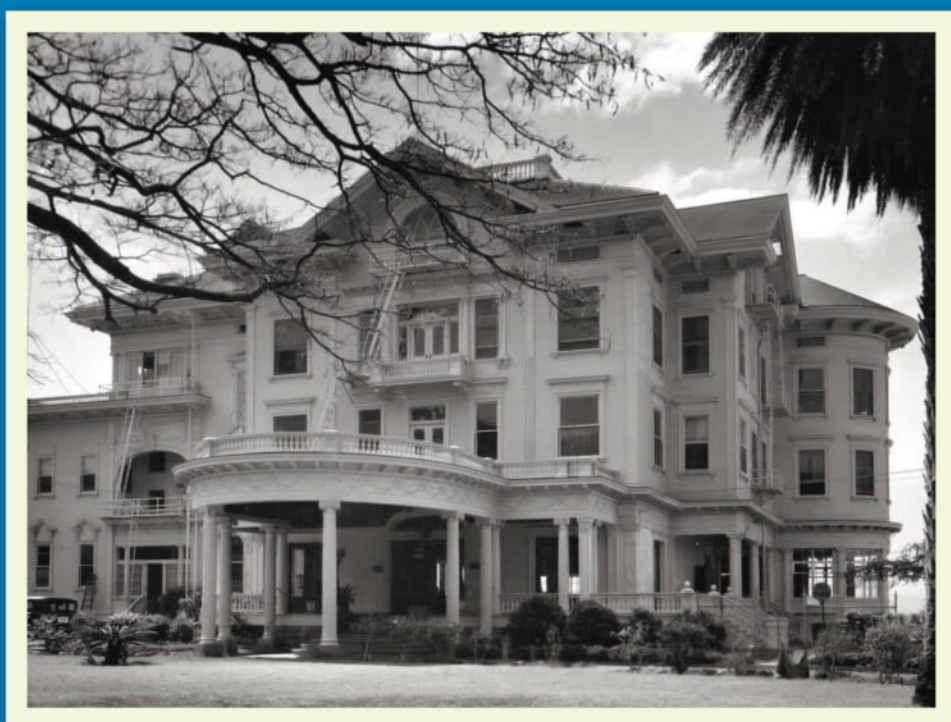
# Early 1900s: Hawai'i's First YMCA Camps

Camping became the cornerstone of YMCA programming in 1885 with the start of Camp Dudley in New York—America's first known continuously running summer camp program.

In Hawai'i, long before a permanent site existed at Mokolē'ia, the YMCA of Honolulu introduced camping to Hawai'i in the early 1900s.



Physical Director Fred Young led boys on hiking and camping trips across O'ahu and Hawai'i Island, with early outings held at the Kapi'olani Park polo field, shown early 1900s.



When camping at Kapi'olani Park, boys slept at James Castle's home, now the Elks Club.



The earliest recorded YMCA Honolulu tent camping was in 1903 in Wahiawā with Youth leaders and Boys' Club members.



Camps were recorded in Wahiawā as early as 1903 and in Mākua in 1905, reached by 80-cent fares on the O'ahu Railway. The first official YMCA camp season opened in 1908 at Camp Mākua, made possible through L.L. McCandless, with rates set at \$8 per week and discounts for longer stays.



Heading off to camp.

Throughout the 1910s and 1920s, the YMCA continued to host camps at various borrowed sites, including Theodore Richards' Kāne'ōhe property Pōmaika'i—later named Camp Malulani—where the first student conference in the islands was held in 1919.

Additional tents and programs operated at Old Emerson Home in Waialua, owned by Alexander Hume Ford, and at Pu'uiki on land provided by the Waialua Agricultural Co. These early, movable camps established the traditions and spirit that would one day take root permanently at Mokolē'ia.

