

G. N. WILCOX TRUST

Bank of Hawaii, Trustee

HISTORICAL INFORMATION



George Norton Wilcox, the son of missionaries Abner and Lucy E. (Hart) Wilcox, was born in Hilo, Hawaii on August 15, 1839. He was educated at Punahou School on Oahu and graduated from Sheffield Scientific School (Yale) in New Haven, Connecticut.

A progressive sugar planter and industrial builder, Wilcox began his career growing sugar at Hanalei, Kauai in 1863. A year later he went to Grove Farm plantation, of which he eventually became owner. His scientific training made him a leader in improving living condition and developing natural resources on Kauai. He was instrumental in planning water systems for irrigation and household purposes and bringing electricity, telephone and ice service to the island.

Wilcox also had a distinguished career in public service. A representative for Kauai, he served as a member of every legislature from 1887 until annexation of the Islands in 1898.

A philanthropist, Wilcox's interests centered largely around religious and educational work. In 1916, he created a trust to build the Salvation Army Home for Boys. Before he died in 1933, he amended the trust to serve a broader scope of purposes.

