APPENDIX A

HAWAIIAN SURFING TERMS

These definitions of Hawaiian surfing terms include their bibliographic sources, using the following key:

A: Andrews, Lorrin, 1865
B: Beckwith, Martha, 1919
E: Emerson, Nathaniel B., 1909
F: Fornander, Abraham, 1916–1920
H: Hawaiian Ethnological Notes
I: I'i, John Papa, 1959
PE: Pukui, Mary Kawena, and Samuel Elbert, 1986
T: Thrum, 1896

ahua: any place inside where the surf first rises and breaks; ʻiilana nalu is where the surf rises and breaks again (T, p. 109)

alaia: a thin, broad surfboard good for fast-breaking surf, usually made from koa or breadfruit; also called ʻono (PE, p. 17); nine feet long (I, p. 135)

ʻale: wave, crest of a wave, billow; apparently used more for open ocean swells than waves breaking on a shore (PE, p. 19)

ʻale lauloa: a long and large wave (PE, p. 19)

he'e: to slide, to surf (PE, p. 63)

he'e nalu: to ride a surfboard; surfing; surf-rider; literally, wave-sliding (PE, p. 63)

he'e pu'ewai: to surf toward the mouth of a stream, or up a stream (PE, p. 63)

he'e umauma: body-surfing; to body-surf (PE, p. 63)

he'ihe'i nalu: a surfboard race (H, vol. 1, p. 656)

honua nalu: the base of a breaker (PE, p. 80)

ho'onalu: to form waves (PE, p. 260)

huia: an especially high wave formed by the meeting of two crests, characteristic of the surf of Kaipalaoa, Hawai'i; literally, joined (B, p. 627; PE, p. 86)

huki: to pull, as in paddling with hands, straining to pull the water back to catch a wave (PE, p. 87)

kaha: to surf; to body-surf (PE, p. 110)

kākala: the surf in which an alaia board is used; a curling wave (F, vol. 6, p. 206)
kiko'o: a twelve-to-eighteen-foot-long surfboard that is good for surf that breaks roughly but is difficult to handle (I, p. 135; PE, p. 150)

kioe: a small surfboard (PE, p. 153)

kipapa: prone position on a surfboard; to surf prone (PE, p. 154); a style of riding (T, p. 110)

kūlana nalu: place where the waves swell up and the surfer paddles to catch them, usually at the primary break farthest outside (PE, p. 179)

lala: riding at an angle; diagonal surf (PE, p. 191; seaward side of a cresting wave; crest of a wave (T, p. 109, 112)

lauloa: a long wave or surf breaking from one end of the beach to the other; one of two types of surfing waves, the other being the ʻōhū, which rises without breaking; the same as a kākala (T, p. 109; PE, p. 196)

lele wa'a: canoe-leaping; jumping off a canoe with a surfboard onto a wave (I, p. 133; PE, p. 202)

muku: the cresting section of the wave face as opposed to the honua, the base (A, p. 109; PE, p. 256)

nalu: a wave; surf; full of waves; to form waves (PE, p. 260)

nalu ha'i lala: wave that breaks diagonally (PE, p. 260)

nalu kua loloa: long wave (PE, p. 260)

nalu miki: receding wave (PE, p. 260)

nalu muku: broken section of a wave (PE, p. 260)

nalu nalu: rough, of a sea with high waves; to form high waves (PE, p. 260)

nalu pū ki: wave that shoots high (PE, p. 260)

ʻōhū: one of two types of waves ridden, the other being lauloa; a low wave that rises without breaking but is of sufficient strength to be ridden with a surfboard (A, p. 109; PE, p. 278)

olo: a very long, narrow, and very thick surfboard with a marked double-convex lenticular cross-section; said to be reserved for the chiefs only and to be good for riding a non-breaking wave (see ʻōhū) (T, p. 109; PE, p. 285; I, p. 135)

ono: a type of surfboard the same as the alaia (PE, p. 288)

ʻonaulu loa: a wave of great length and endurance (PE, p. 288; E, p. 35)

ōnini: a kind of surfboard difficult to manage, used by experts (rare, PE, p. 289); a thick surfboard of wiliwili wood (H, vol. 1, p. 655)

ʻōpuʻu: a large surf, swell (PE, p. 293)

ʻōwili: a thick surfboard of wiliwili wood (A, p. 165; PE, p. 295)
paha: a kind of surfboard (rare, PE, p. 299)

pākā: to surf, as with a canoe, board, or body; to skim, as a surfing canoe (PE, p. 304)

papa he'e nalu: a surfboard; literally, a board [for] wavesliding. Hā'awi papa he'e nalu is to give with the understanding that the object will be returned [surfboards were loaned rather than given away permanently] (PE, p. 317)

pu'ua: a surfboard (rare, PE, p. 358)