

Holister Soda Works

By Chris Sabey, Pearl City, Hawaii

From the investigation of old city directories and newspaper clippings, it has been determined that the first soda water company in Hawaii was ran by Messrs. H.R. Hollister and Hyland. The company surfaced in 1863 and early bottles read "H & H." Then in the year 1868, Hollister set up Hollister Soda Works. The location was originally at the corner of Fort and Merchant Streets.

By 1875, Hollister expanded into the pharmacy and tobacco markets. Imported perfumery and toiletry items from Europe were also sold there. Early medicine bottles from Hollisters are very rare and quite scarce. Several sizes of medicine bottles were produced between three to six inches. The smaller sizes, if available in the collector's market, have been known to start from \$200 and up in price range.

Around the year 1894, Hollister and Tahiti Lemonade Works (1888) merged into the Consolidated Soda Water Works, Ltd., then another soda works, Crystal (1884), merged into Consolidated. From 1890 to the end of the century, Consolidated was the top soda works in Honolulu.

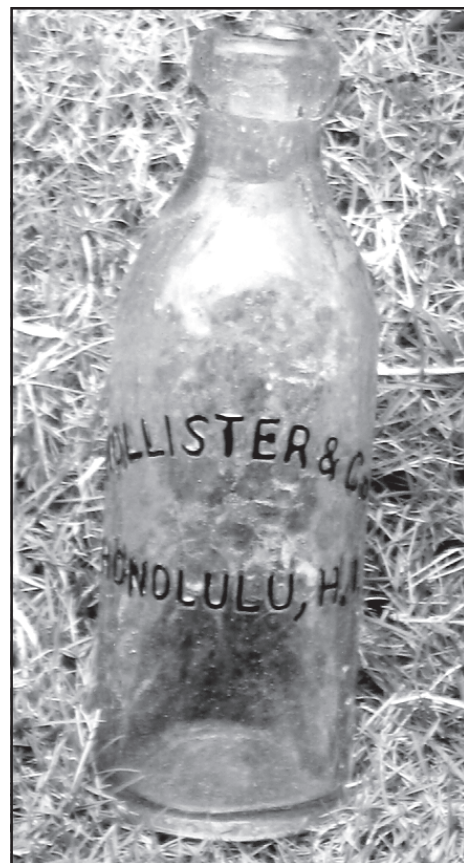
HOLLISTER & CO.,
Wholesale Druggists & Tobacconists,
 IMPORTERS AND DEALERS IN
 American and European Drugs and Chemicals,
 PERFUMERY AND TOILET ARTICLES.

Agents for P. Lorrillard & Co.'s and W. S. Kimball and Co.'s Vanity Fair

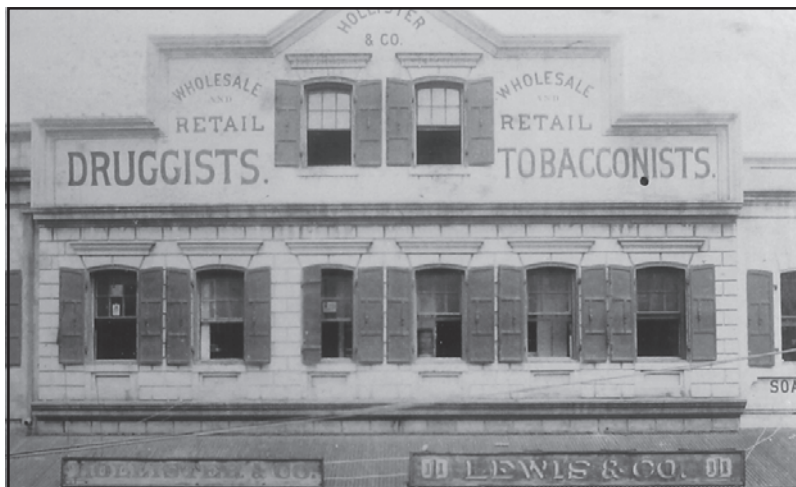
Tobacco, Cigarettes, Etc.,
 109 FORT STREET, HONOLULU.

Aerated Water Works, 73 Hotel Street, Honolulu.

Above: Mid-1800s Hollister & Co. advertisement.



Right: Hollister blob (mid-1880s to 1890), height 7-inches, base marked with a "dot" in the center. Color various shades of aqua.



Side view of Hollister's on Fort Street. Second photo is of the front of the building.