

'If these walls could only talk'



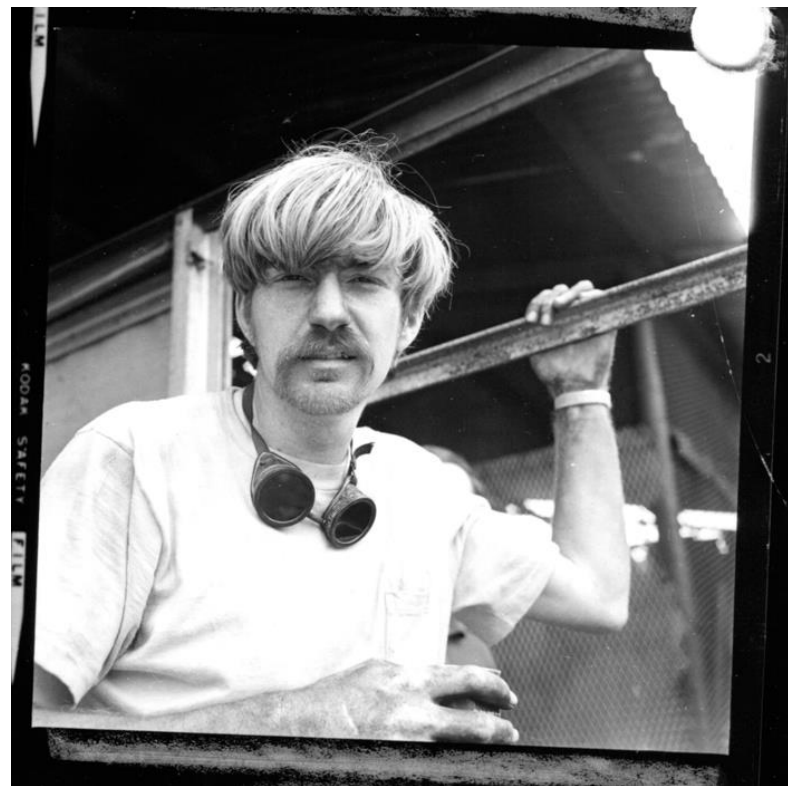
THE FOUNDRY

1969 ----- 1971

STEPHANIE AUSTIN



BOONE MORRISON



BENNI D'ENBEAU

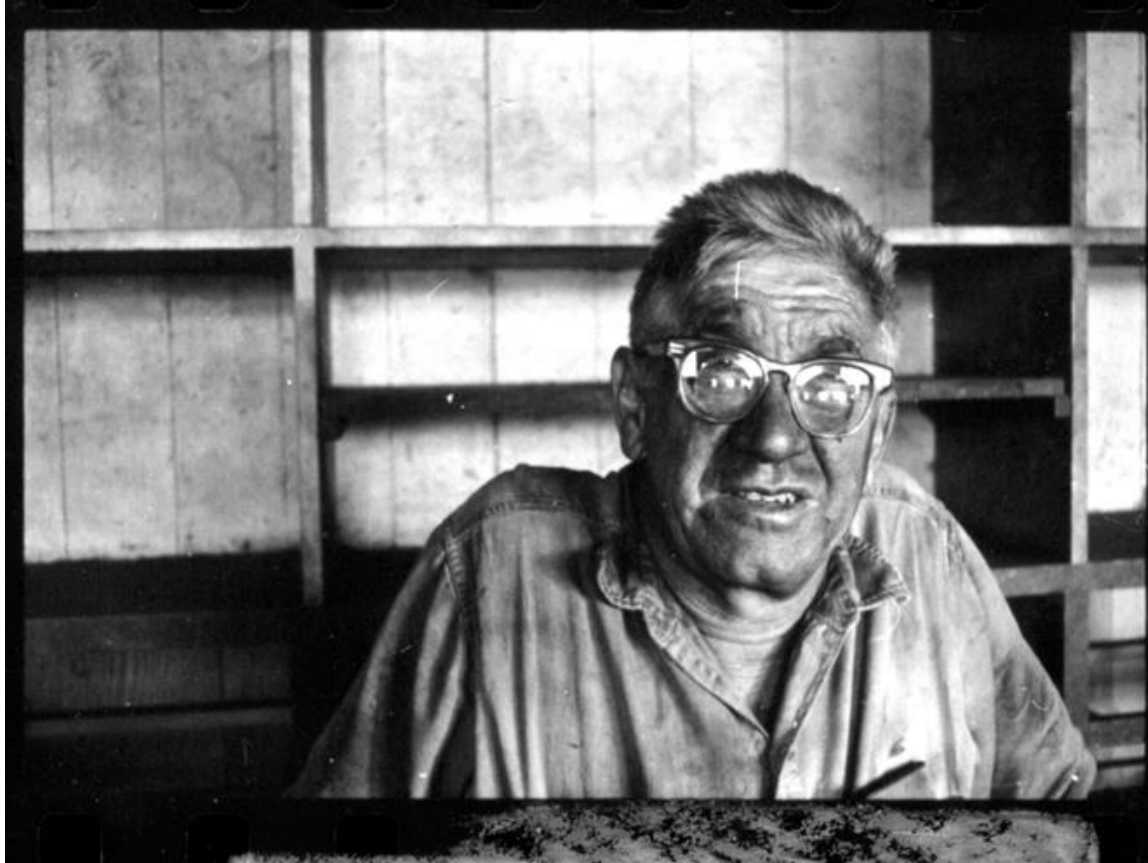


TONY HODGES



NOVELTY FOUNDRY





ED NIELSEN

THE ORIGINAL FOUNDRY FOUNDER

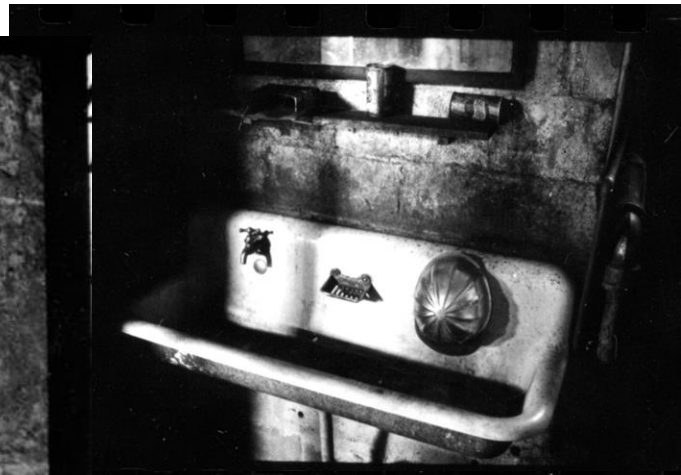




THE BEGINNING

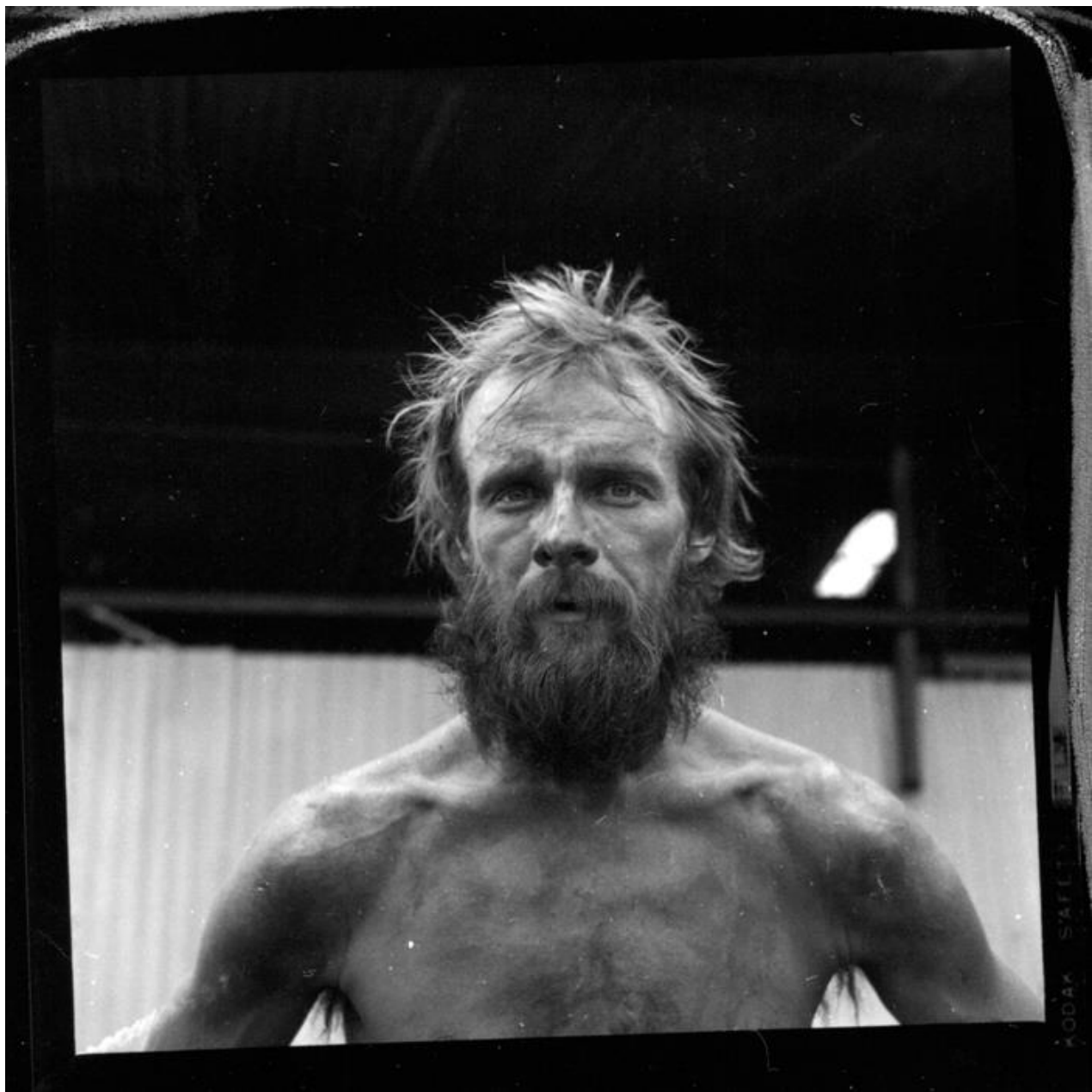
Dear Lord, what have we done to ourselves ?!





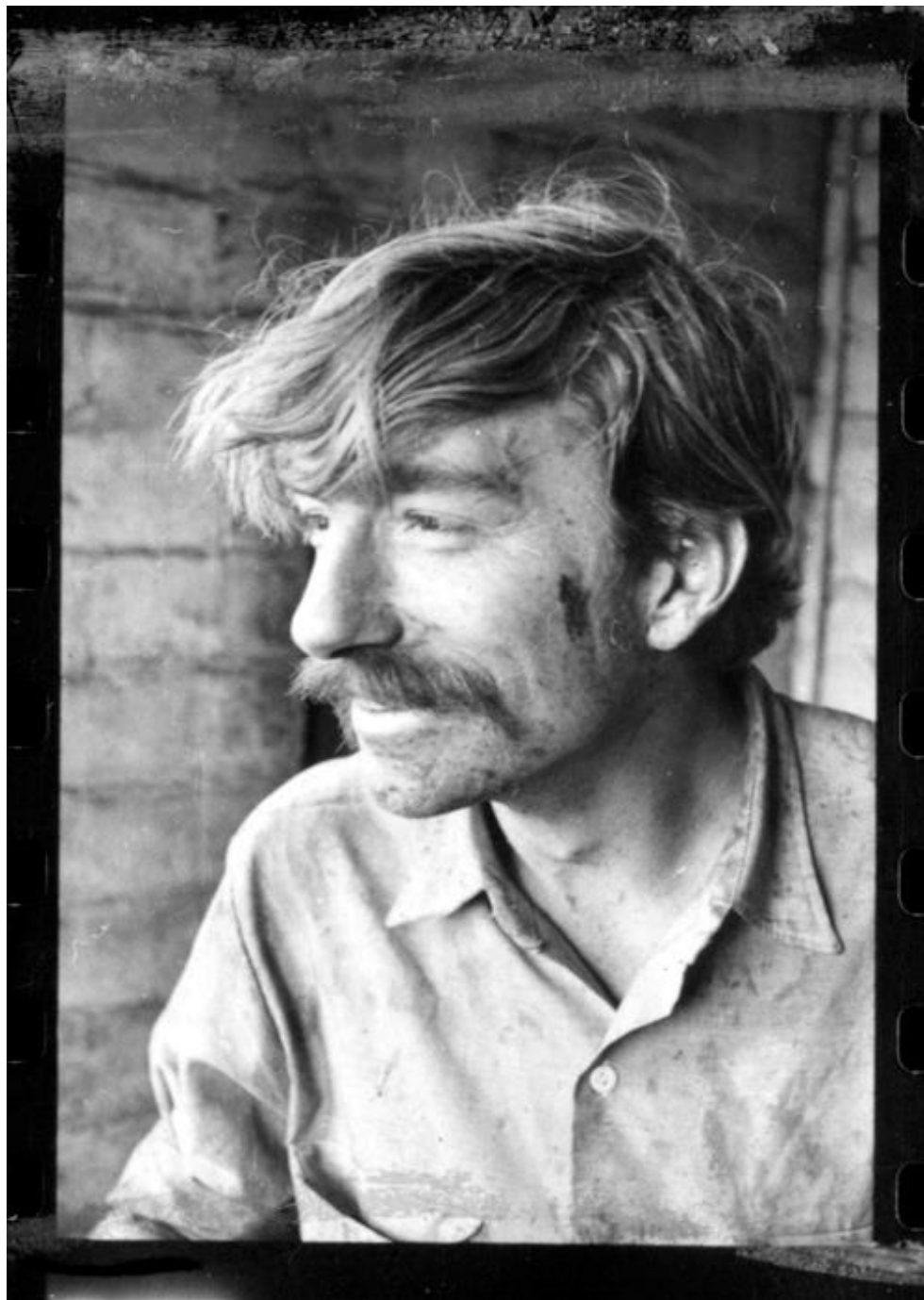


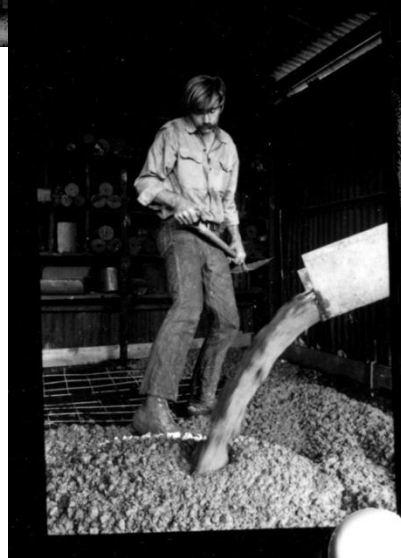
Now what ??!

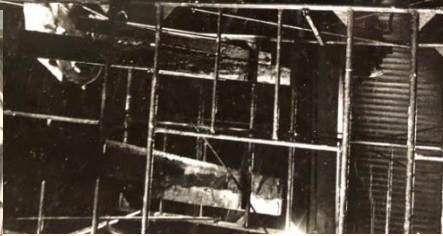


KODAK SAFETY FILM

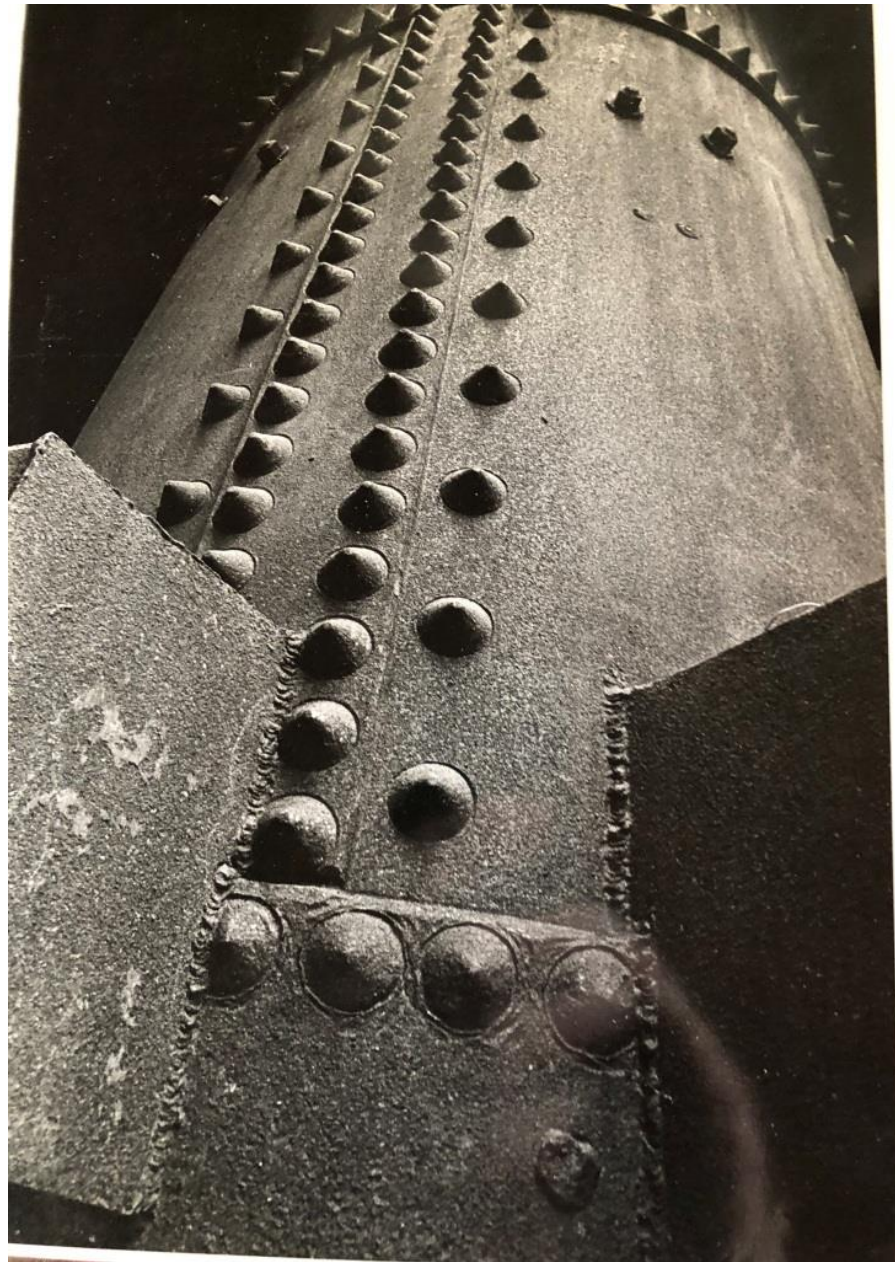














Exterior of junk-strewn metal foundry before work began.



The "new" building will house an arts and crafts center.

All It Took Was Elbow Grease

By HAROLD HOSTETLER
Advertiser Planning Writer

What does it take to turn a blackened, junk strewn and gritty old metal foundry into a picturesque modern arts and crafts center?

Well, for one thing, it takes a lot of human grit, as has been proven by the two young men who have been laboring for the past three months to do just that. The work is now progressing toward a June 9 opening.

Anthony Hodges, 29, and Boone Morrison, 28, and their wives had discussed for several years the need for a new and different type of art gallery—one that would display a wide range of work by known and unknown artists, and one where the public could watch some of the work actually being done.

Hodges, a planning consultant and writer, and Morrison,

owner of Pacific Scale Models, early this year discovered and subsequently leased the old Novelty Foundry on Waimanu Street in Kakaako.

At first glance, the structure might not strike the casual viewer as a possible art gallery. It is a typical corrugated-metal building constructed in keeping with the usual Kakaako-type architecture.

"It was in unbelievable condition when we signed the lease," Morrison said. "It was covered with 10 years of coke dust, and the floor was knee-deep in foundry sand."

"The adjacent yard was so full of junk it was impossible to walk 10 feet without climbing over something."

Morrison said the owner of the Foundry, Edward F. Neilson, told them it had a brick floor, but because of the grime and sand, "it was totally invisible. We had to take his word it existed."

Hodges and Morrison succeeded in getting a variance from the City Zoning Board of Appeals in March which will permit them to operate the Foundry as a regular art gallery, selling art objects that are both manufactured on the premises and created by artists elsewhere for sale in the gallery.

The 40-year-old Novelty Foundry had been used for casting in iron, bronze and aluminum, making such things as manhole covers, sugar-mill parts, traffic-light poles, brass belt buckles for the Royal Hawaiian Guard, the gate grille at Punahou School, and a lot of decorative items.

The floor is of red brick which had been brought to the islands as ships' ballast.

According to Morrison, most of the machinery and foundry forms were still there when they took over—including machines with humorous-sounding names like roll-over bump and jar machine, horizontal ram machine and shot tumbler. All of it had to be removed before work on the structure could begin.

"We removed 26 tons of junk, scrap iron and old machinery," Morrison said. "Junk dealers descended on us, and whole families came down to pick through the stuff."

"But two tons of the junk was so interesting we couldn't resist saving it," he said.

Boostered by volunteer labor from friends and artists interested in getting the gallery established, Hodges and Morrison set to work cleaning up the building and yard. Using tools and a high-pressure water hose, they removed six tons of black oily foundry sand from the brick floor (which they were happy to discover existed).

Besides that, six truckloads of slag sand and coke was hauled away, along with a 40-foot-long shed that had to be torn down in the back yard to make room for a parking lot (a condition of the variance they were granted).

Then the 4,000-square-foot building was "washed inside and out with an industrial pressure wash machine, using 150 pounds of concentrated powdered detergent and 6,000 gallons of water," Hodges said.

"We used so much water, the Board of Water Supply sent an inspector down to find out where the leak was," Hodges said.

Because of the volunteer help ("Even complete strangers walked in and went to work," Morrison said), very little cash was needed to get the building in shape. So far, about \$1,900 has gone into the renovation, including \$350 to have the parking lot graded and covered with shale. Friends did the landscaping for nothing.

Much of the character of the building has been retained. The brick floor lends atmosphere, as does the overhead crane, which can be used to move heavy sculptures. Masonite panels have been installed to allow artwork to be hung.

Bob Flint, Stan Hayase and Murray Holt are building a done. The operation will be open to the public who will be able to watch the glass-blowing through windows along one side of the gallery.

The Foundry's opening to the public has been set for Monday, June 9, preceded by an invitation-only preview on Saturday, June 7.

According to Morrison, "The quality and integrity of the work will be the essential criteria for showing at the Foundry. We will make the gallery available to unknown artists of talent as well as the best-known."

"People coming to the gallery might be able to find a well-done ceramic sugar bowl, or an inexpensive original



HODGES



MORRISON

art in a foundry

ART IN A FOUNDRY

For forty years, the foundry at 900 Waimanu was alive with the casting of utilitarian objects in iron, brass and bronze. Today the Foundry lives again. The large and lofty central nave is now an art gallery, and adjacent areas provide work space for artists and craftsmen. The red brick floor, originally laid to deaden the impact of splashing molten metal, has been restored. The thirty foot cupola used for smelting iron, the overhead gantry crane, the tongs, core-boxes, flasks and wooden patterns all remain.

Adjacent to the gallery, sculptors will be casting objects in brass and bronze. A furnace for glass blowing is being built. We also plan to add space for direct metal work and printmaking. These are all facilities which are difficult for individual artists to maintain on their own.

While visiting the gallery, you will be able to watch these activities and perhaps gain further appreciation and understanding of the relationship between the creative process and the finished work of art. And, if you wish, you are welcome to stay and have a cup of coffee and look through a selection of art books and magazines.

the gallery

THE GALLERY

The gallery itself is the heart of the building and the heart of the idea. Here you will find a wide choice of the best in art, craft, and design being created in Hawaii.

The large gallery area provides ample display space so that in one place you may see paintings and original prints, collage and batiks, direct and cast metal sculpture, ceramics, weaving, blown glass and jewelry. It is exciting and rewarding to see works of art in these diverse disciplines in relation to one-another. The objects range from humble to monumental, but all are chosen because of their quality and integrity. The juxtaposition of a variety of works by known and unknown artists offers an opportunity to enjoy the familiar and to explore the unfamiliar.

A special portion of the gallery is set aside for small shows featuring new works.

Gallery hours are from 9:30 until 5:00 Monday through Saturday. Parking is available on the property.

THE FOUNDRY 900 Waimanu St., Honolulu 9:30-5 Mon-Sat Ph 533-2609 Parking in rear

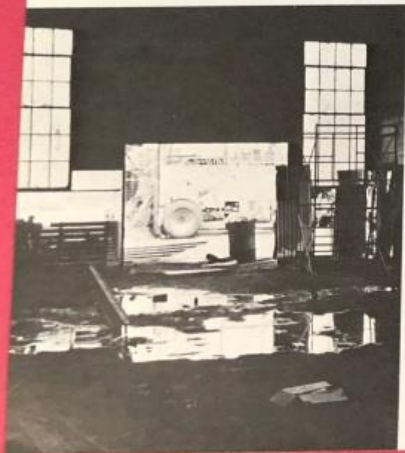
HONOLULU

A TOPICAL TROPICAL MAGAZINE

SEPTEMBER 1969



This is today's handsome gallery. It started out looking like the picture you see below. Jerome Wallace banks hang like banners over the work of 115 artists, known and unknown, who display here.



The Ickkk Was Glliiiiik . . .

Today It's the Snappiest

Art Gallery to Grace Our City

How They Found The Foundry

Two young men who met at Stanford University while waiting at a girls' dormitory for their dates to apply the finishing touches, married those same girls, moved to Hawaii, and eventually became partners in the most exciting art project in town: The Foundry, located right in the middle of seedy old Kakaako.

The men are Boone Morrison, owner of Pacific Scale Models, and Tony Hodges, a former jet pilot who is now a free lance planning consultant and writer of master plans.

The Foundry is a smashing example of their life goals: improvement and city beautification, and they are still amazed at what brawn, sweat, sleepless nights, kokua of the most unlikely people, and the rallying of 116 artists has wrought.

"We always had a hankering to open some kind of little art shop — sort of like The Daisy in Kapahulu," said Boone, whose grandmother started the weaving project at the California School of Fine Arts, and who was nursed on art talk. "But we didn't dream of anything like this. I was looking for a new location for my scale models business and stumbled into the old foundry at 899 Waimanu Street. Of course it was too big for my business, too expensive and the place was a total mess.



The name of the gallery derived from its predecessor business. Hundreds of hours of work turned swine into a very good idea. Above you see the way it was. Here it is now.

"We looked at it three times and cooled off three times. Then one day last February Tony and I walked in and just started working on the place. Cleaning up was a whale of a job. There was a foot of oily black sand on the floor. Junk piled everywhere. But a funny thing happened. People drifted in and just started to work. The whole idea generated interest. Workmen driving by leaned out of their trucks to see what the action was, parked, came in and pitched in. They gave us expertise and lent us tools.

"We removed six tons of oily sand and 26 tons of junk — that adds up to 32 tons. On horizontal surfaces there were three inches of soot so we had to use a power wash. We used so much water that the water department sent a man over to see where the water main had sprung a leak in Kakaako.

"We got caught up in the thing. One of those things you do for the doing. Not for gain. We earn a reasonable living. It became so exciting that Tony and I lived there and the last week before opening we didn't sleep. The Foundry opened as a gallery on June 15. Broke even the first month. We now display the work of 115 artists."

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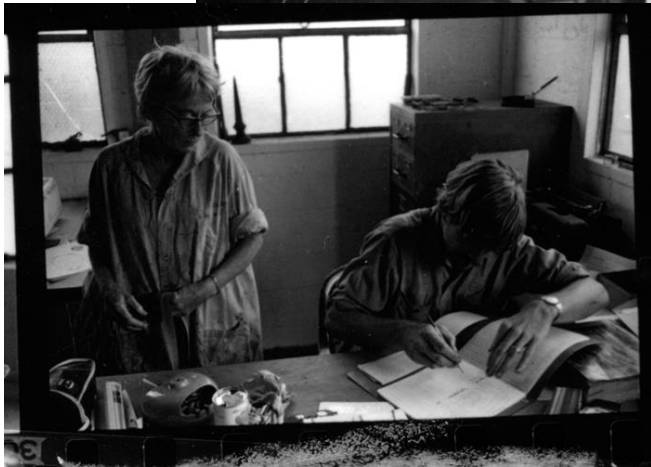


Under a foot of black, oily sand, Tony Hodges found solid red brick. Below, left, Hodges and Boone Morrison construct a new entry.











Opening Night











