



INSET | Mokumanamana has the highest concentration of ceremonial sites anywhere in the Hawaiian archipelago. Photo by Kekuewa Kikiloi.

THIS PAGE | A red-footed booby sits atop a driftwood tree at Tern Island, French Frigate Shoals, Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument. Photo by Koa Matsuoka/NOAA Fisheries.

FACING PAGE | Black-footed albatross family on French Frigate Shoals, Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument. Photo by Mark Sullivan/NOAA Fisheries.



UPCOMING EXHIBIT ■

JOURNEYS

HERITAGE OF THE NORTHWESTERN HAWAIIAN ISLANDS

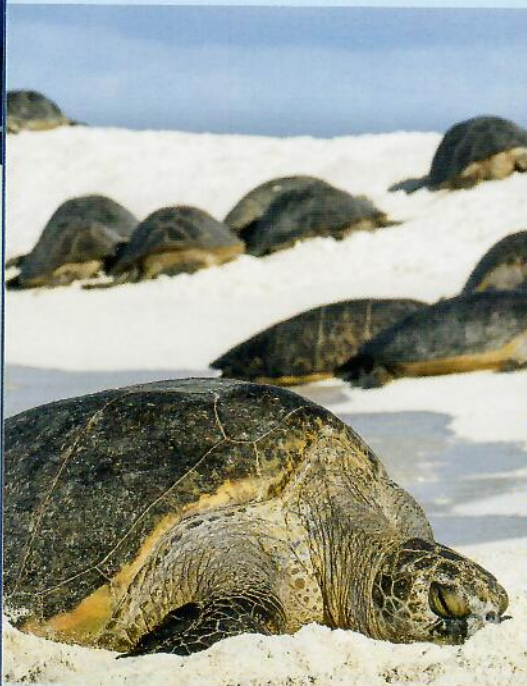
AUGUST 13, 2016 – JANUARY 29, 2017 | J. M. LONG GALLERY

Most think that when the sun sets over the island of Kaua'i, the day is done in the Hawaiian Archipelago. People don't realize that the island chain extends another thousand miles to the northwest, to a chain of small islands, atolls, and barely submerged reefs that were once—millions of years ago—tall, active volcanic isles.





This part of the archipelago, the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands, provides a vital connection to the cultural and natural history of the main Hawaiian Islands and is the subject of Bishop Museum's new exhibit, *Journeys: Heritage of the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands*.



ABOVE LEFT | Nearly all Hawaiian green sea turtles go to French Frigate Shoals in Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument to nest. Photo by Koa Matsuoka/NOAA Fisheries.

ABOVE MIDDLE | Each year, millions of Laysan albatross flock to Midway Atoll National Wildlife Refuge to nest. Photo by Kittipong.

ABOVE RIGHT | Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument provides critical habitat for the endangered Hawaiian monk seal, such as this juvenile resting on a beach at Tern Island, French Frigate Shoals. Photo by Mark Sullivan/NOAA Fisheries.

Centuries ago, native Hawaiians journeyed to these small remote islands, building shrines and agricultural terraces and creating works that seem, to many, unlike any found in the main Hawaiian Islands. Archaeological evidence of habitation comes from both Nihoa and Necker (Mokumanamana), the islands closest to the main Islands. It is thought that the numerous religious structures on Mokumanamana were related to navigation due to the island's proximity to the Tropic of Cancer, an important celestial marker to signal the changing of the seasons.

The exhibit will highlight *ki'i* (carved figures) from Mokumanamana—six from Bishop Museum's Ethnology collection and three on-loan from the British Museum, Peabody Essex Museum, and the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Voyages to the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands in the nineteenth century were typically less conscientious than they are today. During this early period many of the islands in the chain were systematically exploited for resources like guano or seabird feathers and their fragile ecosystems were almost completely destroyed. Remarkably, some of

the unique species of birds, plants, insects, snails, and other animals that make these isles and atolls their home have managed to survive. In the twentieth century, repeated visits by scientists from Bishop Museum and other partnering institutions attempted to catalogue and understand these precious habitats.

By the 1930s, trips to the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands were sometimes made via air and the exhibit will feature memorabilia from the "Golden Age of Air Travel," when Midway was a key stop on transpacific routes. The exhibit will also feature the story of the Battle of Midway, the turning point in the Pacific Theater in World War II.

The islands from Nihoa to Kure were granted protected status as a bird reservation more than a century ago by President Theodore Roosevelt. In 2006, the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands were declared the nation's first Marine National Monument by President George W. Bush and a year later it was named Papahānaumokuākea. Recognized for its rich cultural and natural heritage, it was designated as a mixed UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2010.

UPCOMING EXHIBIT



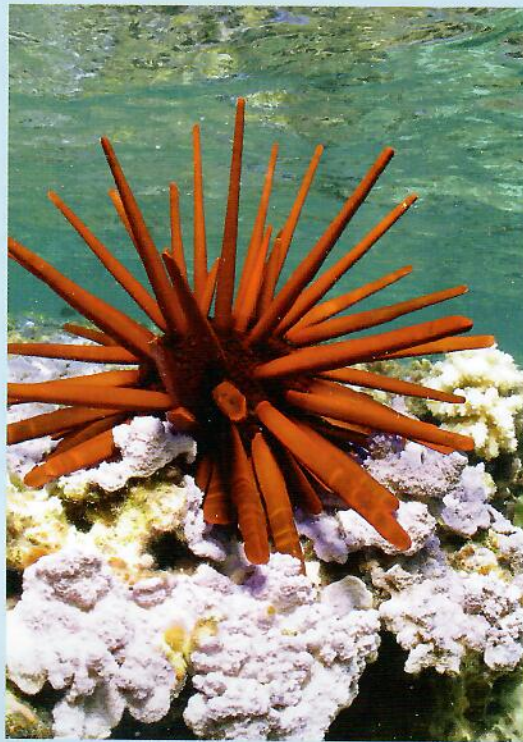
Today, access to the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands is carefully managed to ensure lasting ecological and cultural integrity. Fortunately, visitors to the exhibit journeys: Heritage of the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands can experience the stark natural beauty and rich history of the islands with multimedia exhibits and hands-on interactives including an interactive map, a Battle of Midway flight simulator, a virtual reef dive, and a life-sized, realistic Hawaiian monk seal statue, along with dozens of rarely seen objects from our Cultural and Natural History collections. To create this exhibit, Bishop Museum worked with anthropologist Dr. Kekeuwa Kikiloi and a number of partners, including the co-managers of Papahānaumokuākea, which include agencies from the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), the State of Hawai'i, and the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

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PAPAHĀNAUMOKUĀKEA
Marine National Monument



LEFT | Red pencil urchin on a reef at Midway Atoll National Wildlife Refuge. Photo by James Watt/NOAA Office of National Marine Sanctuaries.

BOTTOM | Aerial image of Kure Atoll, the last emergent feature in the Hawaiian archipelago. Photo by RJ Shallenberger/USFWS.

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Islands of Mystery

THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF NIHOA AND MOKUMANAMANA

Mai Kahiki mai ke kini o ke kua
From Kahiki came the multitude of gods





Scattered throughout the islands of Polynesia are thirteen islands that archaeologists refer to as “mystery islands.”

On these islands, early European visitors recorded cultural sites, but no inhabitants. The islands quickly became shrouded in mystery. Where were the people who built the cultural sites that dotted the landscape? Did they abandon the islands intentionally? Did they die out? Were the islands ever permanently inhabited?

Two of Polynesia’s “mystery islands,” Nihoa and Mokumanamana (Necker), are located in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands. Although we know that Native Hawaiians visited these islands often, they were not permanently inhabited from the late 1700s onward. Visiting ships first recorded their locations in the 1780s. Captain J. A. King and his crew were sent by the Provisional Hawaiian Government to annex Mokumanamana in 1894. Members of the crew recorded stone platforms with upright stones and ki’i, or stone figures, some of which they collected, but they did not survey the island fully.

In 1923–24, Bishop Museum researchers, including ethnologist Kenneth P. Emory, embarked on the Tanager Expedition to explore the natural and cultural history of the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands. Emory’s goal was to record cultural sites on Nihoa and Mokumanamana. He recorded 66 sites on Nihoa, including houses and ceremonial platforms, as well as agricultural terraces. Based on the number of sites,

he estimated that at least 150 people may have lived on the island on a permanent or semi-permanent basis. On Mokumanamana, Emory encountered a very different cultural landscape. There, he recorded 33 ceremonial platforms with stone uprights, as well as eight bluff shelters and a few terraces. He suggested that this island was not permanently inhabited, but that it had served as a gathering place for carrying out religious rites. He also drew connections to ritual landscapes in the ancestral homeland of Tahiti.

More recently, archaeological research has continued on Mokumanamana and Nihoa. Anthropologist Dr. Kekuewa Kikiloi, a research affiliate in Bishop Museum’s Cultural Resources Division, has been conducting archaeological research on the islands since 2002. His 2012 doctoral dissertation solved the “mystery” of the islands and explored their importance to sociopolitical development in ancient Hawaiian society and their significant cosmological role.

To learn more about Kekuewa Kikiloi’s work, listen to a podcast of his Bishop Museum Traditions of the Pacific lecture entitled “The Archaeology of Nihoa and Necker Islands: Towards a New Understanding for Hawaiian Pre-Contact History” at: www.BishopMuseum.org/podcasts.

FACING PAGE, TOP | Four stone ki’i (carved images) from Mokumanamana (Necker Island) collected in 1894 and now in the Bishop Museum Ethnology collection. Photo ca. 1910.

FACING PAGE, BELOW | Nihoa island. Wikipedia Commons photo, Ryan Hagerty, USFWS Pacific Region.

ABOVE LEFT | The reading of the proclamation of annexation by the Provisional Government of Hawai’i, Mokumanamana (Necker Island), May 27, 1894. From left to right: Mr. Gregory, Capt. J. A. King, Capt. Freeman of the *Iwalani*, and three sailors. This ceremony took place atop what was later called “Annexation Hill,” the highest point on Mokumanamana. Photo by Ben H. Norton, chief engineer of the *Iwalani*.

ABOVE RIGHT | Dr. Kekuewa Kikiloi, Bishop Museum research affiliate, visits the Anthropology lab to look at the objects that will be a part of the Journeys exhibit. Photo by Kelli Soileau.

Ka‘Elele

The Messenger

The Journal of Bernice Pauahi
Bishop Museum | Summer 2016





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As "The Museum of Hawai'i," Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum's mission is to be a gathering place and educational center that actively engages people in the presentation, exploration, and preservation of Hawai'i's cultural heritage and natural history, as well as its ancestral cultures throughout the Pacific.

Bishop Museum is open daily, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Closed Thanksgiving and Christmas Day.

Admission:

Adults	\$22.95
Seniors (65+)	\$19.95
Youth (4–12)	\$14.95
Children (3 and Under)	FREE
Bishop Museum members	FREE

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If you have questions about this issue of *Ka 'Elele*, please contact the Bishop Museum Institutional Advancement Division at 847-8271.

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HAGADONE
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HAWAII'S GOOD GUYS | BAD GUYS

Good Guy: Bluestripe Butterflyfish

(Chaetodon fremblii), Kīkākāpu

With a scientific species name that rhymes with "friendly eye," this is one of the more unusually-colored butterflyfishes. Most members of this family feature patterns of yellow and black accented with white, but the electric-blue stripes of the bluestripe butterflyfish set it apart from others. In fact, this species of butterflyfish is truly set-apart from the rest of the members of its family because it is found nowhere else on this planet and its closest genetic relative is unknown. The bluestripe butterflyfish thrives in the Hawaiian Islands, feeding mostly on marine invertebrates (tube-worms, coral polyps, and small crustaceans) while avoiding predatory fishes like moray eels. Bluestripe butterflyfish are more common in rocky, shallow coral-strewn areas, but they have also been recorded at great depths (200–600 feet). Their maximum size is about six inches, but they commonly range from four to five inches.

Butterflyfishes are among the most diverse families of reef fish, and are widely distributed throughout the Indo-Pacific region wherever coral reefs flourish. It is likely that the many different kinds of butterflyfishes evolved at the same time that corals developed and spread through tropical



seas. Their common name, butterflyfishes, comes from the impression they give of flitting through coral reefs like butterflies through shrubbery. That habit and their usually bright colors and squarish body-shape distinguish them from most other reef fishes.

Visit the Hawai'i Biological Survey list of Good Guys & Bad Guys at hbs.BishopMuseum.org/good-bad/list.html.

Kū'ono'ono ka lua o Kuhaimoana.

Deep indeed is the cave of Kuhaimoana.

Said of a prosperous person. The cave of Kuhaimoana, a shark god, is at the islet of Ka'ula.

Selection no. 1923 from *Mary Kawena Pukui's 'Ōlelo No'eau: Hawaiian Proverbs and Poetical Sayings, Bishop Museum Press, 1983.*