

CARTOGRAPHER'S NOTES

ISLAND OF MAUI by Artist / Cartographer Blaise Domino

ISLAND OF MAUI is the second in my series of historical maps of Hawai'i. As with the original MAP OF THE SANDWICH ISLES, the time frame is that of Capt. James Cook's rediscovery of the Hawaiian Islands. I have expanded my basic concept of personalities and events to include more Hawaiian culture and legends, as well as environmental issues; witness the heiau, petroglyphs, endangered plants, animals, and ecosystem changes. I have approached my subject matter with respect, love, and responsibility. However, due to the lack of a written Hawaiian language, definitive answers were difficult to acquire. Traditionally, information was passed on through song (mele), dance (hula), and story (mo'olelo). Also, there are conflicting reports by those who did leave written records. While my research was extensive, I am by no means an authority on history or Hawaiian culture. In the end, the artist must intuit what to emphasize and hope that his artistry will create the perfect marriage between style and content. I consider this piece art first and historical map second. I hope that the following will enrich your enjoyment of ISLAND OF MAUI.

LEGEND OF MĀUI: Some people believe the island of Maui may get its name from the adventurous demigod Māui, known throughout the Pacific. Māui captured the sun and made it promise to slow its pace across the sky, thereby giving us our beautiful long sun shiny days.

HALEAKALĀ: The Hawai'i state bird is the Nēnē (Hawaiian goose), and while most people associate it with Haleakalā Crater, they thrive at a lower, more temperate altitude. The silver-sword, however, is endemic to this unique environment. On the western slope, a large sandalwood and koa forest once helped to maintain a lush Kīhei. Kamehameha I and others traded this valuable lumber for ships and other goods.

KĪHEI: Before the ecosystem was altered by deforestation and the introduction of cattle by Vancouver, Kīhei hosted wiliwili forests, native plants, and freshwater pools that made it a favorite spa for the ali'i.

KŌ'IE'IE FISHPOND: Ancient fishpond used by the ali'i.

KEĀLIA POND: Currently a National Wildlife Refuge, this wetland is home to the endangered Hawaiian stilt, coot, and other water fowl.

PETROGYLPHS: Two of many ancient petroglyph sites on Maui are shown on this map. Olowalu is the best known.

LOWALU MASSACRE: American Capt. Simon Metcalfe fired on would-be traders because of the death of a sailor and a previous trading dispute. Over one hundred Hawaiians were killed.

J.F.G. COMTE DE LA PÉROUSE: This French admiral, commanding the Boussole, was the first European to land on Maui. He did so on May 29, 1786.

MOKU'ULA O KIHA WAHINE (Sacred Island of Kiha Wahine): Under this islet in Mokuhinia Pond lives the Mo'o (lizard) goddess, Kiha Wahine. A favorite deity of Kamehameha I, her power helped him weld the islands into one kingdom.

PU'U KEKA'A (BLACK ROCK): Ieinaoka'uhane (the leaping place of the soul) **MAUNA KAHALEWAI (MOUNTAIN THAT DRIPS):** Shown here as different peaks, this was once one mountain.

CAPT. JAMES COOK: There is some speculation that the Spanish may have visited Maui earlier. However, Capt. Cook is credited for having made the first European sighting of Maui on Nov. 26, 1778. With H.M.S. Resolution and Discovery at Kahului Bay, Hawaiians came out to trade ship's provisions for iron weapons, tools, and other western goods. The great chief Kahekili went aboard Discovery and met Capt. Charles Clerke, perhaps by mistake, as he was intending to meet Capt. Cook.

CHIEF KAHEKILI: A mō'i (paramount chief), Kahekili was an extraordinary warrior/ruler of Maui. Fierce in battle and in countenance, with the right side of his body tattooed black. Kahekili in his ongoing battles with archrival Kalani'ōpu'u and Kamehameha I was more often than not the victor. The date of his death in 1794 is more certain than his birth in 1710.

VOLCANIC ERUPTION: The last lava flow, at Kaluaolapa, occurred in ca. 1500 from two vents at 575 ft. and 1550 ft. above Keone'ō'io (La Pérouse Bay). The flow to the right occurred at an earlier time.

From La Pérouse Bay to Kaupō Gap, a large native population thrived along the south shore. Even though the area was dry, sweet potatoes grew in abundance. Farther down the coast toward Hana, the terrain was very lush and supported many thousands of inhabitants. Native plants, like the endemic Hawaiian tree fern (hāpu'u) and lobelia ('ōhā), are still found today. The Maui parrotbill, endemic to Hawai'i, is found only on the southeast slope of Haleakalā.

QUEEN KA'AHUMANU: A cave near Hāna is the birthplace of the favorite wife of Kamehameha I, who was responsible for abolishing the kapu, a system of laws and rules which governed life.

HEIAU (Religious Place): Lo'alo'a at Kaupō was a luakini temple for human sacrifice where ali'i (royalty) and Kahuna (priests) invoked the highest gods. Pihana heiau near Wailuku was thought to be the residence of Kahekili.

'ĪAO VALLEY: Site of the Battle of Kepaniwai (the Damming of the Waters). European weapons were used for the first time with devastating effect. What would have been an even fight was turned into a bloody rout in which the bodies blocked the flow of the 'Īao Stream.

ENDANGERED SPECIES: In the winter, the humpback whale (koholā) returns each year to mate in the waters off Maui. The Hawaiian green turtle (honu), favorite food of the sharks, can be found throughout the islands. Both are protected.

MAP OF THE SANDWICH ISLES: Found in the upper right corner, this map identifies the ISLAND OF MAUI as part of my Hawaiian Historical Map series.

Inconsistencies of Hawaiian spelling on the map are due to varying source material and old world spelling.