

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Battle of Nu‘uanu & Its Contributions to the History of Hawai‘i Will Be Highlighted in 31st Annual ‘Experts’ Lecture Series

Honolulu, HI: Six free public lectures will discuss the Battle of Nu‘uanu and aspects of Hawaiian culture relating to military campaigns and conquest at the annual historic preservation “Experts” lecture series beginning February 1.

All lectures are open to the public, free of charge, and take place from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. at the Cathedral of St. Andrew’s Von Holt Room at 229 Queen Emma Square in Honolulu.

“The Battle of Nu‘uanu, known as Kaleleaka‘anae in Hawaiian, is one of the most famous battles in Hawaiian history and the climax of Kamehameha’s campaign to unify the Hawaiian archipelago under his rule,” said Dr. William R. Chapman, director of the Historic Preservation Program at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa and organizer of the series.

“Historic accounts corroborated by scientific and cultural landscape studies have narrowed down locational information about where Kamehameha’s troops landed on Oahu’s southeastern shores, progressed from the Wai‘alae and Waikīkī areas inland to Pūowaina, then onward into Nu‘uanu Valley. Kamehameha’s infantry, armed with muskets and cannons, thoroughly routed the O‘ahu forces of Kalanikupule, similarly armed with muskets and cannons. Warriors from both sides perished after plummeting over the Pali cliffs,” said Chapman.

The Experts series will also discuss the American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP) of the National Park Service and later efforts to commemorate the battle that led to the unification of Hawaii's principal islands in 1795.

- More -

The series' speakers and their topics are:

- **February 1:** **Jerry Walker**, Community Expert, Scholar and Practitioner, “Key Elements of the Battle of Nu‘uanu.”
- **February 8:** **Gordon Umi Kai**, Pā Ku‘i a Lua, “Na Mea Kaua: Weapons and Battle Formations.”
- **February 15:** **Monika Frazier**, Aloha Kuamo‘o ‘Āina, “Wahi Pana as ‘Ike Waihona: When the Land Holds Memory.”
- **February 22:** **William Chapman and Noelle Kahanu**, University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa, “Preserving America’s Battlefields: Memorials or Interpretive Sites?”
- **March 1:** **Sam ‘Olu Gon III**, Nā Papa Kānaka o Pu‘ukoholā, “Leleka‘anae: Commemorating the Battle of Nu‘uanu with the Community for 20 Years.”
- **March 8:** **Kim Birnie, Daughters of Hawai‘i**, “A History of Remembrance: Venerating the Battle and Healing the Wounds of Nu‘uanu.”

Created in 1988, the historic preservation Experts series began as a collaboration between the Historic Preservation Program, Department of American Studies, University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa, Historic Hawai‘i Foundation and the Friends of ‘Iolani Palace. Now in its 31st year, the lectures provide kama‘āina and visitors alike the opportunity to explore a particular aspect of the rich history of Hawai‘i.

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Historic Hawaii Foundation (HHF): *Helping People Preserve Historic Places.*

HHF is the only statewide non-profit organization solely dedicated to preserving the historic buildings, sites, communities and objects that tell the unique stories of Hawai‘i’s multilayered history. Founded in 1974, HHF has become the driving force behind historic preservation in the state through its core programs of developing a community ethic of historic preservation, supporting smart legislation, offering educational events and training for local communities and providing technical assistance to make preservation accessible.

Website: www.historichawaii.org

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/HistoricHawaiiFoundation/>

Twitter: [@HistoricHawaii](https://twitter.com/HistoricHawaii)

Historic Preservation Program, Department of American Studies, University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa established a Graduate Certificate Program in Historic Preservation in 1986. The program, as part of the Department of American Studies, attempts to keep issues of cultural identity and the recognition of traditional cultural properties and heritage at the forefront of discussions and instruction.

Website: www.hawaii.edu/amst/

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/University-of-Hawaii-Historic-Preservation-Graduate-Certificate-Program/>

The Friends of ‘Iolani Palace organization supports, guides, and manages Palace activities, providing caring stewardship for this Hawaiian landmark and national treasure. The Friends is also dedicated to preserving the history of the Hawaiian monarchy and to providing visitors with a fresh understanding of Hawaii's royal heritage.

Website: www.iolanipalace.org