



Ancient Sites of Oahu: A Guide to Hawaiian Archaeological Places of Interest

Van James

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This handy and informative guidebook puts the ancient sites of Oahu within the grasp of the general public for the first time. Although many remnants of ancient Hawai'i are accessible, often they are hidden, and few sources provide such comprehensive interpretive information. Now you can connect with these diverse places, their natural beauty and spiritual power, and the people and community groups who care for them.

In this easy-to-follow book, author Van James highlights the features, legends, and archaeology of forty different sites. Each site description includes a photograph, an illustration, directions, and a map for easy location. While the book is organized for touring the island's sites region by region, cross-referenced lists make it easy to develop alternatives according to personal interest.

An introduction by Hawaiian authority Edward L.H. Kanahale gives the reader an understanding of the intimate connection Hawaiians feel to the land and its features. He describes the concept of *wahi pana*, sacred places of Hawai'i that are imbued with spiritual significance. Further context for the site descriptions is given in chapters describing aspects of Hawaiian culture and five main types of sites: *heiau* (temples), *pohaku* (sacred stones), petroglyphs, caves or rock shelters, and fishponds. Tips on selected sites and cultural events are also included.

Sections on site preservation, Hawaiian pronunciation, and a glossary of Hawaiian words round out the volume. A must for visitors and *kama'aina* alike, this book provides an introduction to cultural treasures as yet little known or understood.

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