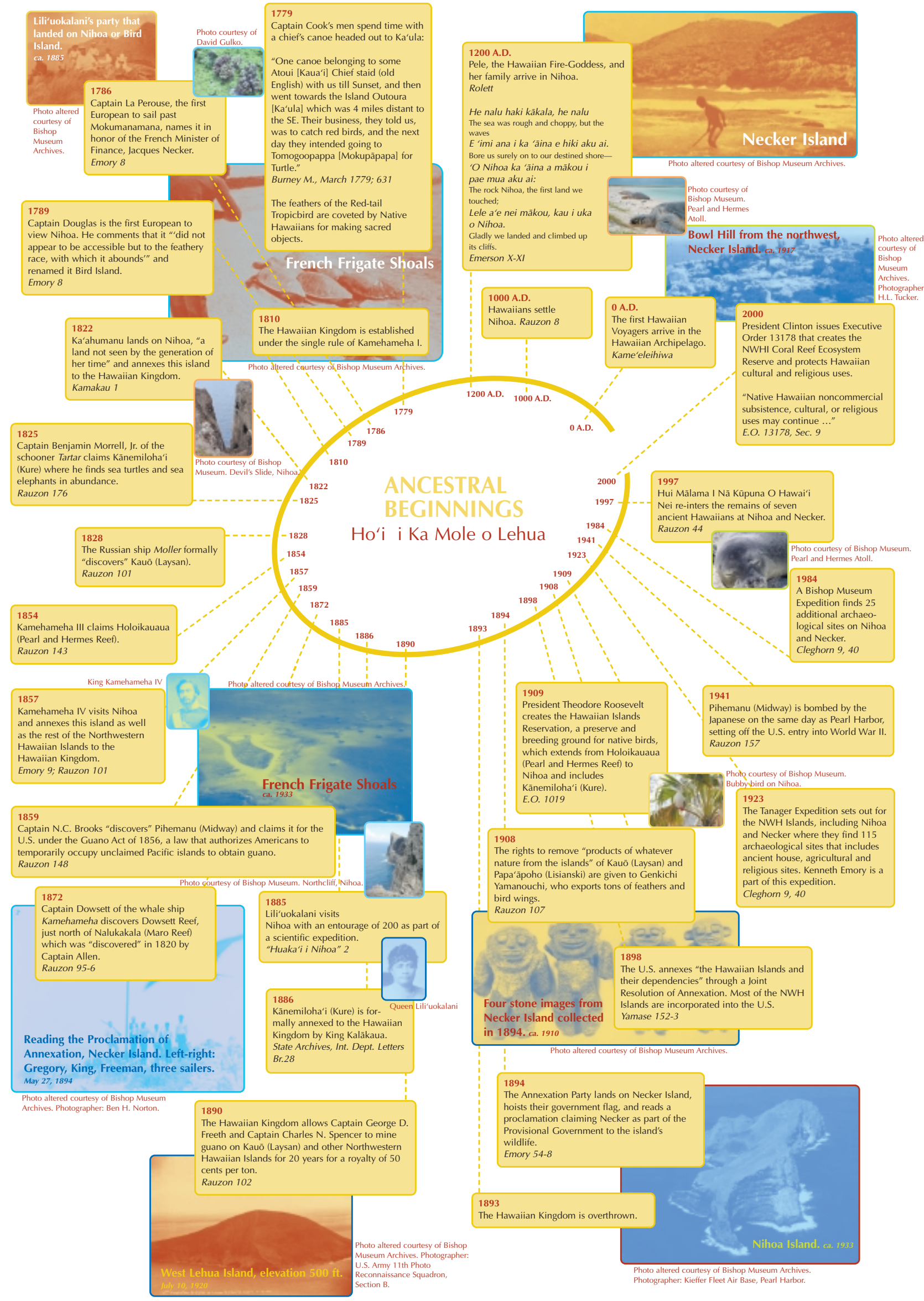


The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) was created by the state Constitutional Convention of 1978 as a public trust, mandated to better the conditions of Native Hawaiians and their communities. OHA revenues are from Native Hawaiian lands designated as "ceded" by the State of Hawai'i. The submerged and fast lands in the NWHI are "ceded" Native Hawaiian lands and are an integral part of Hawaiian history and culture. OHA has a duty to protect its interests in the "ceded" lands and preserve Native Hawaiian sacred sites located in the NWHI. As the lead agency for Native Hawaiians, OHA is also an advocate for the protection of Native Hawaiian traditional and customary rights to access, gather and maintain traditional practices in the NWHI.



Kumulipo:

A Native Hawaiian cosmogonic chant.

Hānau ka pō
Born was the night
Hānau Kumulipo i ka pō, he kāne
Born was Kumulipo in the night, a male
Hānau Pō'ele i ka pō, he wahine
Born was Pō'ele in the night, a female
Hānau ka Uku-ko'ako'a
Born was the coral polyp
Hānau kāna, he Ako'ako'a puka
Born of him a coral colony emerged
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Northwestern Hawaiian Island Names

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Content compiled and designed by OHA staff: Caitriona Kearns, Healani Sonoda and Jerry Norris.

