

A Class Project,

The high school students at **Ke Kula Ni`ihau O Kekaha** (a native Ni`ihau language school) translated "**Waimea**" from the manuscript. Our Institute's preservation project provides access to and encourages study/translation of 19th century Hawaiian text by children whose family members are native speakers and who may be the descendants of the composer(s). Although there are many writings about Kaua`i's 19th century Waimea district, few were written by Hawaiians in Hawaiian. It is hoped that accessibility to these writings will inspire further study and increase the knowledge of the distinctive history, culture, places, families, names, and language of this and other Hawaiian communities.

Waimea©

***I aloha 'ia nō a'ō Waimea**

Beloved is Waimea

Ka pipi'o mau a ke ānuenuē

The constant arching of the rainbow

He nu'a lei nani no ka wai kea**

A pile of beautiful garlands for the clear water

He hoa pili no ka wai 'iliahi

An intimate friend of the reddish water's fiery surface

Nā wai kaulana o ka 'āina

The famous waters of the land

Kaulana a i Kaua'i a puni

Famous throughout Kaua'i

'O ka heke nō 'oe o nā 'ailana

You are the best of the islands

Kihāpai pua nani o Hawai'i nei

A beautiful flower garden of Hawai'i

Hā'ina 'ia mai ana ka puana

The refrain has been told

No ka 'ōiwi nani 'o Mano o ka lani

About the glorious native son Mano of the high chiefs

Hā'ina hou 'ia mai ka puana

The refrain has again been told

Kaua'i ka heke o nā 'ailana

Kaua'i is the best of the islands

*NOTE: Although the first word in line one is "ia," it was decided that this copy may have been handwritten by someone other than the composer, and so the phrase "i aloha 'ia nō" may have sounded like "ia aloha 'ia nō" to the writer.

Upon reading the line in the mele referring to "Waieka and Wai 'iliahi", **Kupuna Rebecca Niheu recalled legends about Waimea Valley told to her during her childhood.

Acknowledgements

Hawaiian cultural advisors:

Kupuna Aletha Kaohi

Kumu Hula Roselle Keli`ihonipua Bailey

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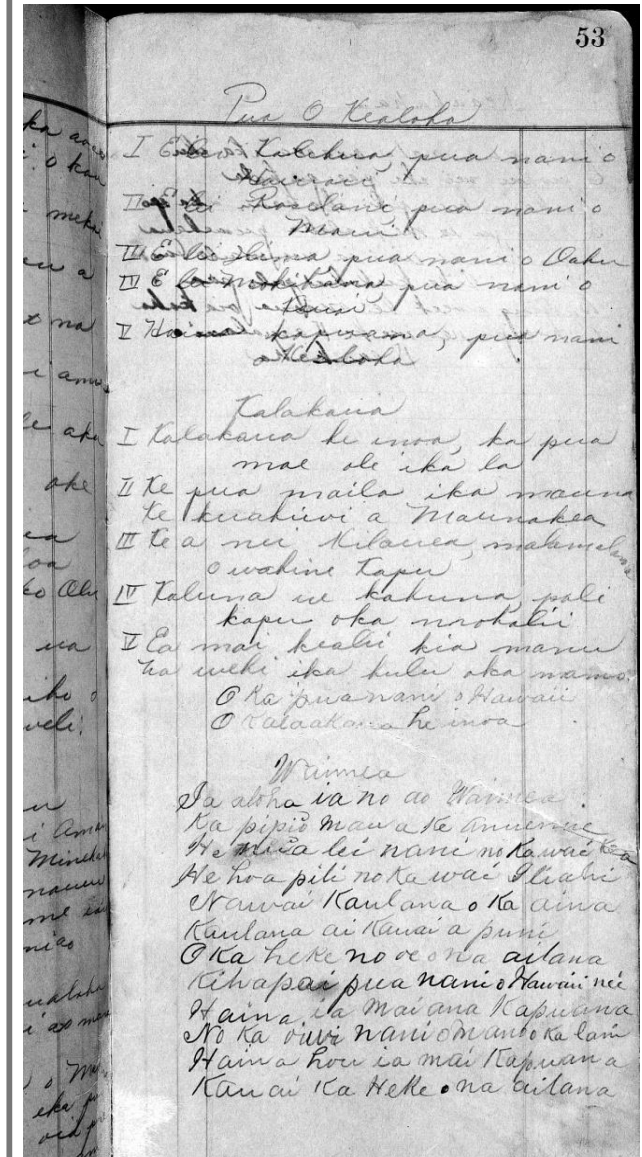
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Grantors:

**Hawai'i Council for the Humanities
Mālie Foundation**

Ia Aloha 'ia Nō A 'o Waimea ©



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