

E HO’OHANOHANO A E HO’OMAU

KALAUPAPA MEMORIAL



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On January 6, 1866, nine men and three women, Kahauliko, Loe, Lili'i, Puha, Kini, Lono, Waipio, Kainaina, Kaaumoana, Nahuina, Lakapu, and Kepihe, were sent to the remote Kalaupapa peninsula on Moloka'i because of government policies regarding leprosy. They were the first of an estimated 8,000 people taken from their families and forcibly relocated, many of them never seeing their loved ones again.

On March 30, 2009, President Barack Obama signed The Kalaupapa Memorial Act of 2009 (HR 41) into law. The Act directs the Secretary of the Interior to authorize Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa, a nonprofit organization made up of the residents of Kalaupapa, their family descendants, and friends to establish a Kalaupapa Memorial within the boundaries of the Kalaupapa National Historical Park (KNHP). The Kalaupapa Memorial will serve as a permanent symbol of justice and a lasting tribute to these individuals to ensure that their memory is never forgotten within a place of reflection, healing, and reconnection.

The Design Concept and Master Plan for the Kalaupapa Memorial was prepared in accordance with agreed upon design guidelines with the National Park Service (NPS) and the State Historic Preservation Division. The NPS manages these lands which have been designated as the KNHP and a National Historic Landmark District. The Kalaupapa Memorial will be located on the east side of the Kalaupapa peninsula in the historic Kalawao Settlement area, on a 5.9-acre site once occupied by the Old Baldwin Boys Home. The site is within an open meadow across Damien Road from the St. Philomena Catholic Church, the Siloama Protestant Church, and Moku Puakala, the largest known field of unmarked graves dating to the time of the Kalawao Settlement.

The Design Concept and Master Plan of the Kalaupapa Memorial documents the process by the 'Ohana's Memorial Design Committee, representing over two years of community-based planning. The Design Concept fulfills a promise to honor the memory of those who were "deprived of their rights, their families, their communities, and the lands of their birth." The Design Concept represents a summoning and convening of stories, memory, and people. Formed by two circles that converge to form a third in its central core, the Kalaupapa Memorial is a cultural exposition rooted in a fundamental understanding of Native Hawaiian identity and connectivity to Ke Akua, to the 'āina, and to one another as kānaka. A designed pathway will provide access to the Memorial with options for interpretative signage.

The APAHI Judges noted: "This timely well-written awards submittal poignantly documents the community-based effort to remember and honor the many, often forgotten...The memorial, a simple yet powerful gesture in the landscape is a fitting tribute to memorialize and perpetuate this significant story in Hawai'i's history... Especially commendable is the distilling of community input, cultural values and knowledge, sense of place and its translation into an expression of remembrance, honor and community healing. It is hoped the effort continues so the memorial becomes a reality".



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