

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9911046706003321
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Titolo	Hawai'i : Eight Hundred Years of Political and Economic Change // Sumner La Croix
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Chicago : , : University of Chicago Press, , [2019] ©2019
ISBN	9780226592121 022659212X
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (390 pages)
Collana	Markets and Governments in Economic History
Disciplina	996.9
Soggetti	chiefs epidemics kingdom land migration native Hawaiians overthrow statehood sugar taro BUSINESS & ECONOMICS / General Hawaii History Hawaii Economic conditions Hawaii Politics and government
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Also issued in print: 2019.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Contents -- Preface -- Chapter 1. The Short History of Humans in Hawaii -- Chapter 2. Voyaging and Settlement -- Chapter 3. The Rise of Competing Hawaiian States -- Chapter 4. Guns, Germs, and Sandalwood -- Chapter 5. Globalization and the Emergence of a Mature Natural State -- Chapter 6. Treaties, Powerful Elites, and the Overthrow -- chapter 7. Colonial Political Economy: Hawaii as a U.S.

Territory -- Chapter 8. Homes for Hawaiians -- Chapter 9. Statehood and the Transition to an Open-Access Order -- Chapter 10. The Rise and Fall of Residential Leasehold Tenure in Hawaii -- Chapter 11. Land Reform and Housing Prices -- Chapter 12. The Long Reach of History -- Appendix: A Model of Political Orders -- Notes -- References -- Index

Sommario/riassunto

Relative to the other habited places on our planet, Hawai'i has a very short history. The Hawaiian archipelago was the last major land area on the planet to be settled, with Polynesians making the long voyage just under a millennium ago. Our understanding of the social, political, and economic changes that have unfolded since has been limited until recently by how little we knew about the first five centuries of settlement. Building on new archaeological and historical research, Sumner La Croix assembles here the economic history of Hawai'i from the first Polynesian settlements in 1200 through US colonization, the formation of statehood, and to the present day. He shows how the political and economic institutions that emerged and evolved in Hawai'i during its three centuries of global isolation allowed an economically and culturally rich society to emerge, flourish, and ultimately survive annexation and colonization by the United States. The story of a small, open economy struggling to adapt its institutions to changes in the global economy, Hawai'i offers broadly instructive conclusions about economic evolution and development, political institutions, and native Hawaiian rights.
