

Hawaiian Mission Houses Historic Site and Archives Presents

# Commemoration of the Bicentennial of the Mission to Hawai‘i

## ‘Ōpūkaha‘ia: The Inspiration for the Hawaiian Mission

‘Ōpūkaha‘ia, a young Hawaiian who came to the U.S. in 1808, was being groomed to be a key figure in a mission to Hawai‘i. He went on a promotional speaking tour of New England. Unfortunately, ‘Ōpūkaha‘ia died unexpectedly at Cornwall on February 17, 1818. His memoir became a best selling book that helped to fund the Mission.

## The Pioneer Company

The life and memoirs of ‘Ōpūkaha‘ia inspired missionaries to volunteer to carry his message. On October 23, 1819, the Pioneer Company of missionaries from the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions (ABCFM) from the northeast United States, set sail on the Thaddeus for the Hawaiian Islands. They first sighted and arrived at Kawaihae on March 30, 1820, and finally anchored at Kailua-Kona, April 4, 1820.

## Missionary Period

Over the course of 43 years (1820-1863, the “Missionary Period”), about 184 men and women in twelve Companies served in Hawai‘i to carry out the mission of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions (ABCFM) in the Hawaiian Islands.

### PLANNING AHEAD—Join Us!

Stay connected with us as we bring specially curated events to New England:

- Reserve a performance at your venue today!
- Receive promotional material for events in your area
- Set up interview for media outlet
- Join us in Hawai‘i for Bicentennial 2020 events in Honolulu and Kailua-Kona!

For more information, contact Mike Smola at [mismola@missionhouses.org](mailto:mismola@missionhouses.org) or (808) 447-3914.

## Some Key Dates (noting the corresponding dates, 200 years later)

### 2019

Hawaiian Mission Houses Annual Meeting	Saturday, April 6, 2019
Lahainaluna High School - David Malo Day	Saturday, April 13, 2019
Kamehameha I Death (200th anniversary)	Wednesday, May 8, 2019
Hawai‘i Book & Music Festival	Sat/Sun, May 4-5 2019
Bingham & Thurston Ordination, Goshen Church, CT	Sunday, September 29, 2019
ABCFM Instructions, Park St Church, MA	Tuesday, October 15, 2019
Formation of Missionary Church, Park St Church, MA	Tuesday, October 15, 2019
Thurston Gives Parting Address, Park St Church, MA	Wednesday, October 16, 2019
Pioneer Company Departs Boston	Wednesday, October 23, 2019

### 2020

Pioneer Company Arrives at Kawaihae	Monday, March 30, 2020
Pioneer Company Anchors at Kailua-Kona	Saturday, April 4, 2020
Liholiho gives Missionaries Permission to Stay	Saturday, April 11, 2020
Thaddeus Sails for Honolulu	Sunday, April 12, 2020
Merrie Monarch Festival, Hilo	Tuesday, April 14, 2020
Hawai‘i Book & Music Festival	Sat/Sun May 2020

553 South King Street, Honolulu, Hawai‘i 96813-3002

Telephone 808.447.3910 | Facsimile 808.545.2280 | [www.missionhouses.org](http://www.missionhouses.org)

Hawaiian Mission Houses is recognized as a National Historic Landmark and accredited by the American Alliance of Museums.