

Mai Lepera: Disease and Displacement in Nineteenth-Century Hawaii.

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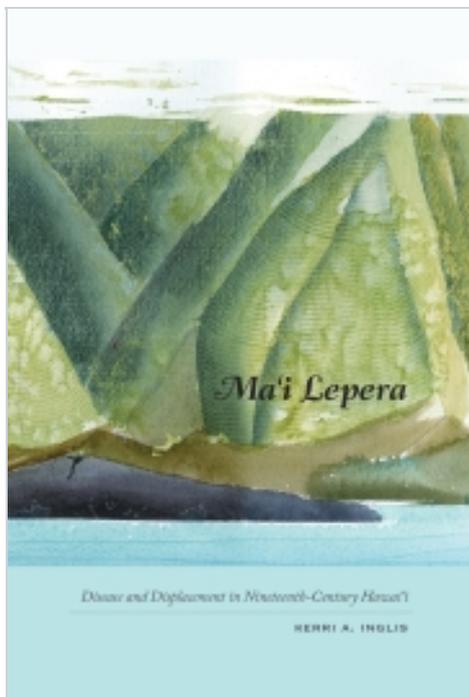


Mai Lepera: Disease and
Displacement in
Nineteenth-Century
Hawaii



In this Book





Mai Lepera: Disease and Displacement in Nineteenth-Century Hawaii

Kerri A. Inglis

2013

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SUMMARY

Ma'i Lepera attempts to recover Hawaiian voices at a significant moment in Hawai'i's history. It takes an unprecedented look at the Hansen's disease outbreak (1865–1900) almost exclusively from the perspective of “patients,” ninety percent of whom were Kanaka Maoli (Native Hawaiian). Using traditional and nontraditional sources, published and unpublished, it tells the story of a disease, a society's reaction to it, and the consequences of the experience for Hawai'i and its people.

Over a span of thirty-four years more than five thousand people were sent to a leprosy settlement on the remote peninsula in north Moloka'i traditionally known as Makenalua. Their story has seldom been told despite the hundreds of letters they wrote to families, friends, and the

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