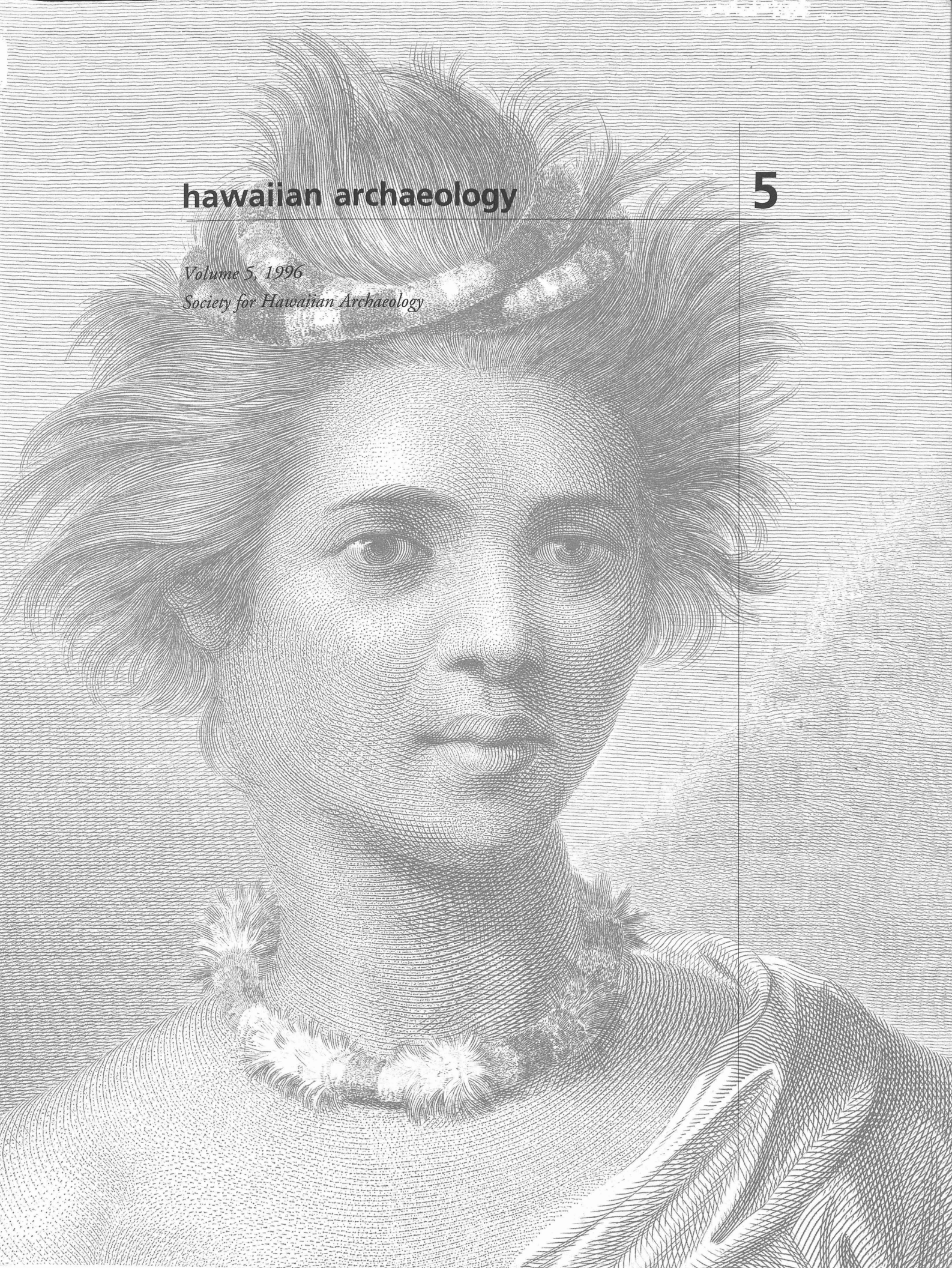


hawaiian archaeology

5

Volume 5, 1996

Society for Hawaiian Archaeology



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Sara Collins, Editor

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Editor's Note

The fifth volume of *Hawaiian Archaeology* attains several goals. First, Volume 5 is a thematic issue of the journal, structured around papers in Hawaiian skeletal biology and related topics. Although these papers do not fill the Volume 5, the several articles on burials and skeletal biology represent a range of work being done in Hawai'i today, and the authors provide direction for future research. Second, the very last of prior contributions, received in the 1980s, now appear on these pages. Third, we have included two new types of articles: an obituary and a review. While we hope that occasions requiring the former will be few and far between, we are hopeful that future volumes of *Hawaiian Archaeology* will carry reviews of books, journals, and monographs of importance to the professional communities who work in and with Hawaiian archaeology.

Chinn Ho, businessman and financial supporter of the Mākaha Valley Historical Project, passed away in 1987. As Yen makes clear, however, Chinn Ho's contributions live on in the form of fieldwork and research publications that even yet set standards for contract archaeology in Hawai'i. Somers' research report on two human burials recovered from Kalaupapa in the mid 1980s provides a nice mixture of data and literature review which allows us to see the larger pattern in the smaller case study. Pietruszewsky's and Douglas' careful study of deliberate fragmentation of human remains has yielded unexpected results which should prompt cautious interpretation of such finds. Trembly provides a thoughtful discussion of skeletal evidence for the presence of tuberculosis prior to western Contact and its meaning for Hawaiian health. Interestingly, her hypotheses devolve in part upon native Hawaiians as active players in their world, rather than passive victims upon whom European diseases are visited. Kirch and Van Gilder give us an overview of the archaeology of the Kahikinui District on Maui. They have built quite successfully on previous fieldwork and reports completed in the 1960s and 1970s; their work of the 1990s more than fulfills the promise of the earlier work. Finally, Dye gives us a brief review of a new and promising journal in a sister discipline: *Journal of Hawaiian and Pacific Folklore and Folklife Studies*.

In accepting the editorship of Volume 5, I hoped to bring skeletal and burial studies back into the mainstream of scholarship in Hawaiian archaeology. I am heartened by the response to a call for such papers and hope that those included in Volume 5 will both inform and assist in making appropriate and timely decisions concerning burial treatment and disposition.

S.C.

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In citing radiocarbon dates, *Hawaiian Archaeology* uses the following conventions: B.P. (before 1950) CRA (conventional radiocarbon age) indicates a radiocarbon age that (i) uses 5568 as the ^{14}C half-life, (ii) was measured against the NBS oxalic acid standard, (iii) uses 1950 as the zero date for radiocarbon time, (iv) is normalized for $\delta^{13}\text{C}$, and (v) has not been corrected for reservoir effects; B.C./A.D. indicates a measurement that has been calibrated to calendar years.

Cover image

Detail. *A Young Woman of the Sandwich Islands*, 1779. Engraving by John Keyse Sherwin after a drawing by John Webber. Courtesy of Barbara Pope.