For Immediate Release

HISTORIC HAWAII FOUNDATION HONORS LONG-TERM HISTORIC PROPERTY MONITORING PLAN FOR UH MANAGED LANDS ON MAUNAKEA

OFFICE OF MAUNAKEA MANAGEMENT, MAUNAKEA MANAGEMENT BOARD, KAHU KU MAUNA AND PACIFIC CONSULTING SERVICES, INC. AWARDED 2017 PRESERVATION COMMENDATION

Hilo, Hawaii (April 7, 2017)— The Historic Hawaii Foundation will honor the University of Hawaii Hilo Office of Maunakea Management’s (OMKM) for its outstanding preservation efforts of Maunakea with a 2017 Preservation Commendation Award at the upcoming 43rd Annual Preservation Honor Award Ceremony.

The foundation’s awards are Hawaii’s highest recognition of preservation, rehabilitation, restoration and interpretation of the state’s architectural, archaeological and cultural heritage. The Preservation Commendation will be presented to OMKM, the Maunakea Management Board, Kahu Kū Mauna— a council comprised of Hawaiian cultural resource persons who serve as advisors—and Pacific Consulting Services, Inc, for the preservation efforts related to the Long-Term Historic Property Monitoring Plan for UH Managed Lands on Maunakea.

“The preparation of this plan and implementation of regular, annual monitoring without a statutory requirement demonstrates the Office of Maunakea Management’s commitment to stewardship and best practices in cultural resource understanding, protection and preservation.” said Historic Hawaii Foundation Executive Director Kiersten Faulkner. “We congratulate you on your exemplary preservation efforts.”
“The Office of Maunakea Management together with the Maunakea Management Board, Kahu Kū Mauna and Pacific Consulting Services created a model we believe would enhance our stewardship of the lands we manage.” said OMKM’s Director Stephanie Nagata. “We are honored and humbled by this recognition.”

Maunakea, a culturally significant mountain to Native Hawaiians, is rich in properties protected by Hawaii State law. The summit and surrounding areas contain sites that archaeologically and architecturally merit inclusion as protected historical properties. These sites include shrines, burials, three traditional cultural properties (Pu'ulilinoe, Kūkahau'ula (cluster of cinder cones), and Lake Waiau) and the stone cabins at Halepōhaku,

Since its inception in 2002 (?), the OMKM has been responsible for the day-to-day management of over 11,000 acres of University of Hawai‘i managed lands, including the Mauna Kea Science Reserve, with oversight by the Maunakea Management Board and Kahu Kū Mauna.

**Long-Term Historic Property Monitoring Plan for UH Managed Lands on Maunakea**

The 2017 Preservation Commendation is awarded for the Long-Term Historic Property Monitoring Plan, developed and implemented to systematically monitor the condition of 200 plus significant historic properties located within the lands on Maunakea managed by the University of Hawaii.

The Long-Term Historic Property Monitoring Plan includes guidelines for monitoring the condition of significant properties to help identify any alteration patterns and steps for maintaining and updating the catalog of historic properties. An initial evaluation of each historic property was done to determine management needs. Following four years of extensive inventory field work and analysis of over 11,000 acres, approximately 260 sites were classified for monitoring in three categories: yearly, every three years and every five years. Historic properties monitored yearly are the sites most exposed to possible disturbances and are therefore monitored most frequently.
A key initiative of the Office of Maunakea Management is the protection and preservation of the historic resources found within UH-managed lands, including the Mauna Kea Science Reserve, the summit access road corridor, and the mid-level facilities at Halepohaku. The plan assists with monitoring implementation, establishes assessment parameters and in consultation with State Historic Preservation Division, develops measures to mitigate possible adverse impacts to preserve and protect historic properties for future generations.

The Office of Maunakea Management was also a recent recipient of the Kona-Kohala Chamber of Commerce’s Pualu Environmental Award. The 2016 Environmental Awareness Award recognized organizations that exhibit sensitivity and concern for the environment through innovative environmental practice.

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**About Office of Maunakea Management**

The Office of Maunakea Management is charged with day-to-day management of Mauna Kea Science Reserve as prescribed in the Master Plan. The adoption of the Mauna Kea Science Reserve Master Plan by the University of Hawai‘i Board of Regents in June 2000 marked a critical milestone in the management of Mauna Kea.

Meetings and public hearings spanning a period of nearly two years went into the formulation of the Master Plan, which established management guidelines for the next 20 years. The Master Plan reflected the community’s deeply rooted concerns over the use of Maunakea, including respect for Hawaiian cultural beliefs, protection of environmentally sensitive habitat, recreational use of the mountain, and astronomy research.

It places the focus of responsibility locally with the University of Hawaii at Hilo. The UH-Hilo Chancellor established the Office of Maunakea Management and the Board of Regents established the Mauna Kea Management Board in the fall of 2000. The Mauna Kea Management Board in turn formed Kahu Ku Mauna, a council comprised of Hawaiian cultural resource persons to serve as advisors.

The mission of the Office of Maunakea Management is to achieve harmony, balance and trust in the sustainable management and stewardship of Mauna Kea Science Reserve through community involvement and programs that protect, preserve and enhance the natural, cultural and recreational resources of Maunakea while providing a world-class center dedicated to education, research and astronomy.

**About Historic Hawai‘i Foundation**

Historic Hawai‘i Foundation has a passion for telling stories about people, history and culture through the celebration of historic buildings and communities. HHF explores, preserves and nurtures diverse cultural and historic places and perspectives of Hawai‘i by working to ensure that the heritage of every historical era remains as part of communities’ civic treasures as a living, useful part of the present.

A statewide non-profit organization, Historic Hawai‘i Foundation encourages the preservation of historic buildings, sites and communities relating to the history of Hawai‘i. Founded in 1974 by concerned citizens who saw the need to protect the Islands’ irreplaceable historic and cultural legacy from destruction, Historic Hawai‘i Foundation has become the driving force behind preservation in the state through core programs of
developing a community ethic of historic preservation, supporting smart legislation, and providing direct assistance to make preservation accessible. Through strong partnerships with public, private and non-profit organizations, HHF helps to unleash critical local energy. Together, we protect the essential character of Hawaii.

Appreciation of this rich and layered inheritance will translate into the public will to take meaningful action to preserve and use historic places. As public awareness increases, community members are motivated to recognize and protect the places that they love. There is an ever-increasing appreciation of the ways that the sites, communities and buildings that reflect the past continue to be living parts of the present. They are gifts that current generations leave for the future.

The heritage of Hawai‘i is worth preserving. By joining Historic Hawai‘i Foundation today, you too can help protect the places that matter.