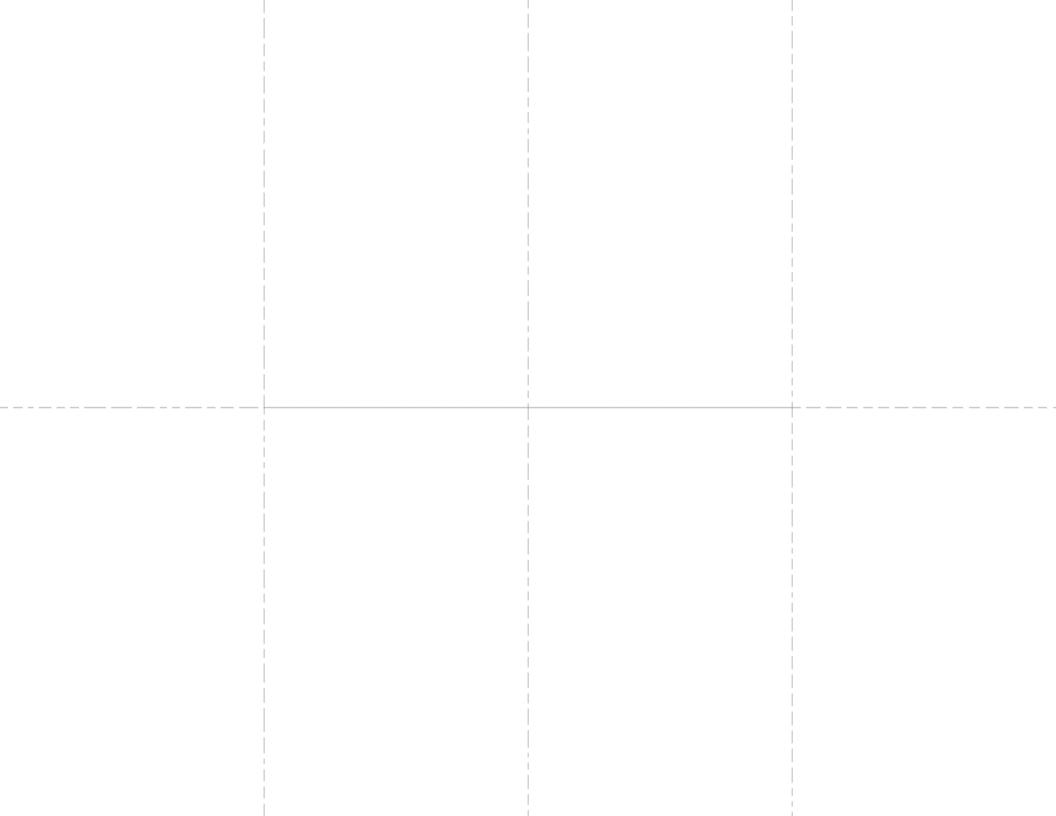


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# 'Ike

Knowledge and Traditions Voyaging and the Revival of Culture and Heritage

1976, the first voyage to Tahiti: We were facing cultural extinction. There was no navigator from our culture left. The Polynesian Voyaging Society eventually found a traditional navigator to guide Hōkūleʻa — a very special man. Without him, we have to realize that our voyaging would never have taken place. His name is Mau Piailug and, he is from a small island called Satawal in Micronesia.

— Nainoa Thompson





At the arrival into Pape'ete Harbor, over half the island was there, more than 17,000 people. The canoe came in, touched the beach.

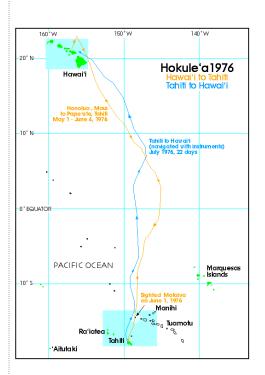




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### Pape'ete

Pape'ete Harbor, 1976 — There was an immediate response of excitement by everybody, including the children. So many children got onto the canoe they sank the stern. We were politely trying to get them off the rigging and everything else, just for the safety of the canoe. None of us were prepared for that kind of cultural response — something very important was happening. These people have great traditions and they have great genealogies of canoes and great navigators. What they didn't have was a canoe. And when Hokūle'a arrived at the beach, there was a spontaneous renewal, I think, of both the affirmation of what a great heritage we come from, but also a renewal of the spirit of who we are as a people today.



## EDDIE AIKAU

Edward Ryon Makuahanai "Eddie" Aikau (May 4, 1946–March 17, 1978) is one of the most respected names in surfing. He was the first lifeguard at Waimea Bay on the island of Oʻahu. He saved many lives and became well known as a bigwave surfer. "Eddie" was a true symbol of aloha.

When the Hōkūleʻa left the Hawaiian Islands on March 16, 1978. The double-hulled voyaging canoe developed a leak in one of the hulls and later capsized in stormy weather about 12 miles south of the island of Molokaʻi. In an attempt to get to land to save his crew and the Hōkūleʻa, Aikau paddled toward Lanaʻi on his surfboard. The crew was soon rescued by the U.S. Coast Guard. Aikau wasmissing at sea. Despite great search efforts "Eddie" was neverseen again.

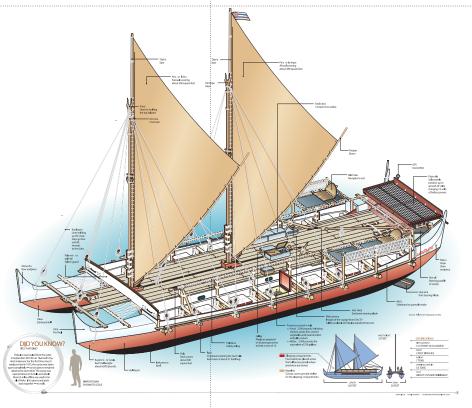


Eddie Aikau. Photo credt: David Bettencourt. Used with kind permission.



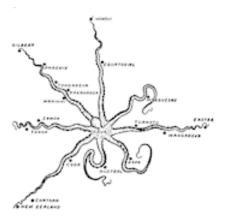


Source credit: Honolulu Star Advertiser





# wa'a canoe

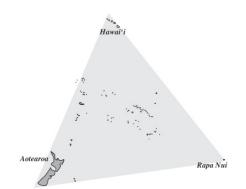


# Star Compass

#### What is a Star Compass?

The foundational framework behind the master art of wayfinding, used by our crewmembers and navigators, is the Hawaiian star compass developed by master navigator Nainoa Thompson. The star compass is a mental construct and not physical like a western compass. The visual horizon is divided into 32 houses, a house being a bearing on the horizon where a celestial body resides. Each of the 32 houses is separated by 11.25° of arc for a complete circle of 360°.

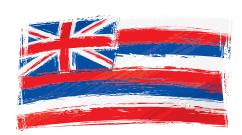


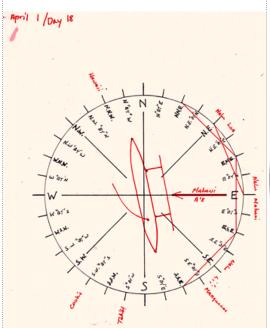














Before the invention of the compass, sextant and clocks, or more recently, the satellite-dependant Global Positioning System (GPS), Pacific Islanders navigated open-ocean voyages without instruments, using instead their observations of the stars, the sun, the ocean swells, and other signs of nature for clues to direction and location of a vess