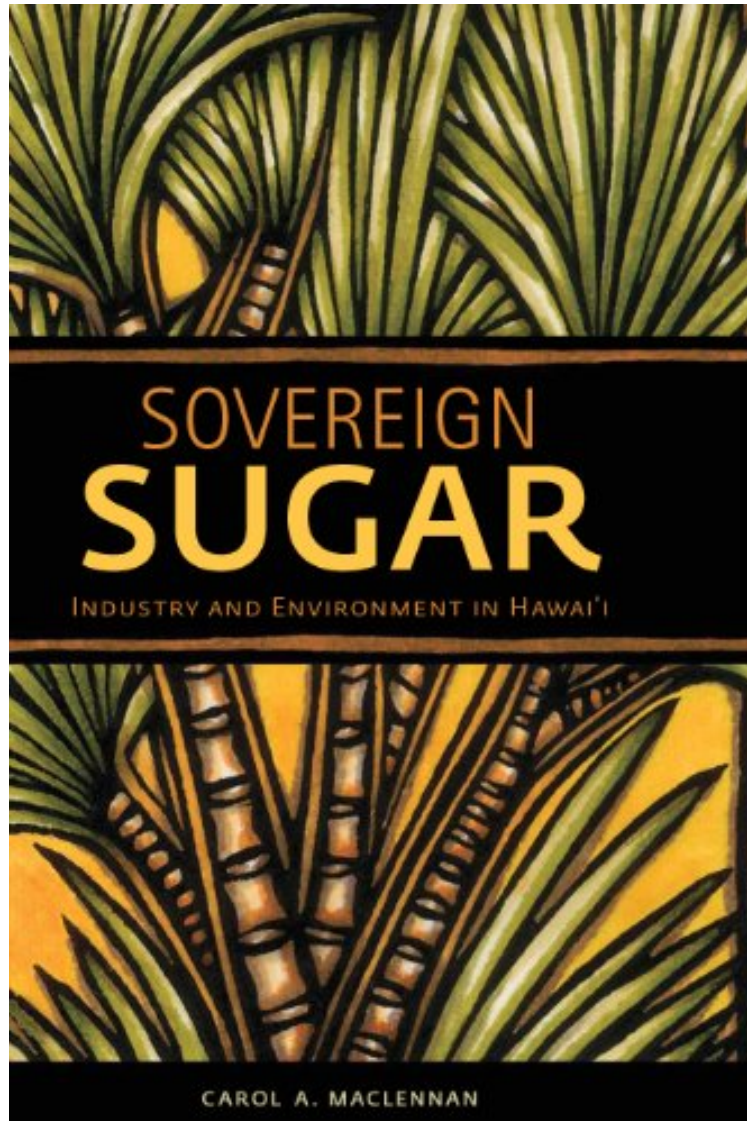


(Download) Sovereign Sugar: Industry and Environment in Hawai'i

Sovereign Sugar: Industry and Environment in Hawai'i

Carol A. MacLennan

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Carol A. MacLennan : Sovereign Sugar: Industry and Environment in Hawai'i before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Sovereign Sugar: Industry and Environment in Hawai'i:

0 of 2 people found the following review helpful. very interesting history oled to her being dethroned. f ...By Bonnievery interesting history oled to her being dethroned.f how the sugar cane industry developed and took over the islands economy. Haoles used it to usurp the queens power and eventually6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. The Sour History of Hawaii's Sweetest CropBy StudephanA definitive read for anybody interested in how

missionaries, Western influences, mainland money and capitalist politics shaped the history of Hawaii. Extremely well documented and researched, this is a must-have addition to any comprehensive Hawaiian-history book shelf or library. The writing is academic, so therefore somewhat dry, but the information (and its bolstering appendixes) is superb. As a relatively new resident to the 50th state, and very interested in how the islands went from chiefdoms to a kingdom, to becoming American soil, I had already studied several other volumes of Hawaiian history. However, amongst them all, *Sovereign Sugar* is the absolute best in aiding the understanding of the intertwined activities and interests that created the political, cultural, business and environmental state of affairs which is Hawaii in the 21st century.

Although little remains of Hawaii's plantation economy, the sugar industry's past dominance has created the Hawaii we see today. Many of the most pressing and controversial issues—urban and resort development, water rights, expansion of suburbs into agriculturally rich lands, pollution from herbicides, invasive species in native forests, an unsustainable economy—can be tied to Hawaii's industrial sugar history. *Sovereign Sugar* unravels the tangled relationship between the sugar industry and Hawaii's cultural and natural landscapes. It is the first work to fully examine the complex tapestry of socioeconomic, political, and environmental forces that shaped sugar's role in Hawaii. While early Polynesian and European influences on island ecosystems started the process of biological change, plantation agriculture, with its voracious need for land and water, profoundly altered Hawaii's landscape. MacLennan focuses on the rise of industrial and political power among the sugar planter elite and its political-ecological consequences. The book opens in the 1840s when the Hawaiian Islands were under the influence of American missionaries. Changes in property rights and the move toward western governance, along with the demands of a growing industrial economy, pressed upon the new Hawaiian nation and its forests and water resources. Subsequent chapters trace island ecosystems, plantation communities, and natural resource policies through time—by the 1930s, the sugar economy engulfed both human and environmental landscapes. The author argues that sugar manufacture has not only significantly transformed Hawaii but its legacy provides lessons for future outcomes. Carol MacLennan is an anthropologist who has visited Hawaii extensively for over thirty years. She teaches at Michigan Technological University about industry and the environment, with a focus on how large-scale industries such as sugar cane and hard rock mining affect environments and communities. She has published on Hawaii's sugar industry and North American mining.

The importance of sugar in Hawaii's pre-statehood economy is a well-known story. ... But anthropologist MacLennan demonstrates that the success of industrial agriculture with its sugar plantations was not as inevitable as many believe. In a sophisticated and nuanced study, she demonstrates that there is a complicated and larger environmental history as to how the sugar industry came to dominate and transform the human and natural landscape of Hawaii. Highly recommended.-- "CHOICE" MacLennan does a great job detailing the diverse, and not always inevitable development of the seemingly dominant sugar industry in Hawaii, especially from the mid-nineteenth century to the 1910s. . . . [She] describes the transition in public land policy and environmental management from the goals of the Hawaiian monarchy (agriculture for international recognition as an equal independent nation) to the motivations of a U.S. territory (supporting the profitability of the sugar industry) . . . provid[ing] much detail on the development of the sugar industry for anyone with a desire for a comprehensive reference on this history.-- "American Historical "This is a well-researched and highly readable book on the history of sugar industry development in Hawaii and its impacts. . . . Much of the political, economic, and social history of sugar in Hawaii is well known, but MacLennan enriches the story with more detail and interesting mini-stories. . . . Her research on the impact of sugar on the natural environment [is] particularly interesting.-- "Western Historical Quarterly" Environmental historians will find plenty of material of interest in this book. . . . MacLennan has produced a well-written and easily readable account of the historical development of the Hawaiian sugar industry and how 'Hawaii' today mirrors a landscape of sugar's touch, but without the sugar.-- "Journal of Pacific History" The importance of sugar in Hawaii's pre-statehood economy is a well-known story. ... But anthropologist MacLennan demonstrates that the success of industrial agriculture with its sugar plantations was not as inevitable as many believe. In a sophisticated and nuanced study, she demonstrates that there is a complicated and larger environmental history as to how the sugar industry came to dominate and transform the human and natural landscape of Hawaii. Highly recommended.-- "CHOICE" MacLennan does a great job detailing the diverse, and not always inevitable development of the seemingly dominant sugar industry in Hawaii, especially from the mid-nineteenth century to the 1910s. . . . [She] describes the transition in public land policy and environmental management from the goals of the Hawaiian monarchy (agriculture for international recognition as an equal independent nation) to the motivations of a U.S. territory (supporting the profitability of the sugar industry) . . . provid[ing] much detail on the development of the sugar industry for anyone with a desire for a comprehensive reference on this history. (American Historical) This is a well-researched and highly readable book on the history of sugar industry development in Hawaii and its impacts. . . . Much of the political, economic, and social history of sugar in Hawaii is well known, but MacLennan enriches the story with more detail and interesting mini-stories. .

. . Her research on the impact of sugar on the natural environment [is] particularly interesting. (Western Historical Quarterly) Environmental historians will find plenty of material of interest in this book. . . . MacLennan has produced a well-written and easily readable account of the historical development of the Hawaiian sugar industry and how 'Hawaii today mirrors a landscape of sugar's touch, but without the sugar. (Journal of Pacific History) The importance of sugar in Hawaii's pre-statehood economy is a well-known story. ... But anthropologist MacLennan demonstrates that the success of industrial agriculture with its sugar plantations was not as inevitable as many believe. In a sophisticated and nuanced study, she demonstrates that there is a complicated and larger environmental history as to how the sugar industry came to dominate and transform the human and natural landscape of Hawaii. Highly recommended. (CHOICE) MacLennan shows that the development of the sugar industry was far from easy or automatic in Hawaii unlike what some other scholars have suggested. Instead, specific human decisions, which she carefully documents and explains, led to the development and dominance of sugar. As she proceeds, MacLennan points out the opposition to the industry's development and analyzes how over time it was overcome. She provides the best account that I have seen on how and why missionary families moved into businesses, especially sugar, and how and why the Big Five firms developed their dominance. (Mansel G. Blackford, Department of History, Ohio State University; author of Pathways to the Present: U.S. Development and Its Consequences in the Pacific)