



*Building community ties
by connecting people and
places through trails,
urban paths and
bikeways.*

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Haleakala Trail – Unlike Any Other in Hawaii

Location. Haleakala Trail now begins at the top of Olinda Road in Makawao. It continues across beautiful open vistas through land owned by Haleakala Ranch, then through the Haleakala National Park to the crater.

Cultural legacy. For hundreds of years before Captain Cook’s arrival, Hawaiians made trips into Haleakala Crater for cultural and spiritual practices. One of the primary paths into the crater was Haleakala Trail.

Historical route for early adventurers. When the first westerners arrived to Maui, Hawaiians showed them this path and guided them to the top. For 50 years (1880s -1930s), the trail was a major thoroughfare for adventure tourists, including the likes of Mark Twain, eager to glimpse first hand a spectacle claimed to be one of the “wonders of the world.”

Expenditures by government. In the late 1880s, the Kingdom of Hawaii spent public funds to maintain the trail. In the early 1900s, the Territory of Hawaii expended public funds to survey and improve the trail to increase tourist traffic. Haleakala Ranch was a major supporter of the Territory’s expenditures.

Forgotten but not lost. With the advent of automobile travel and the new Crater road, the trail was largely forgotten. However, the State of Hawaii has continued to claim ownership over the trail. Under the law, a government never loses ownership of roads and trails through disuse.

Public access denied. Despite the overwhelming facts and law supporting public access over this recreationally and historically important trail, Haleakala Ranch disputes the State’s ownership and has denied access to the general public for over 70 years.

PATH’s efforts. Since 2007, PATH has been advocating for public access over Haleakala Trail. In 2011, PATH initiated a lawsuit against Haleakala Ranch, as well as the State for failing to reopen the trail to the public. PATH has also found a treasure trove of old government documents and maps relating to this very unique Hawaii trail and further supporting PATH’s case.

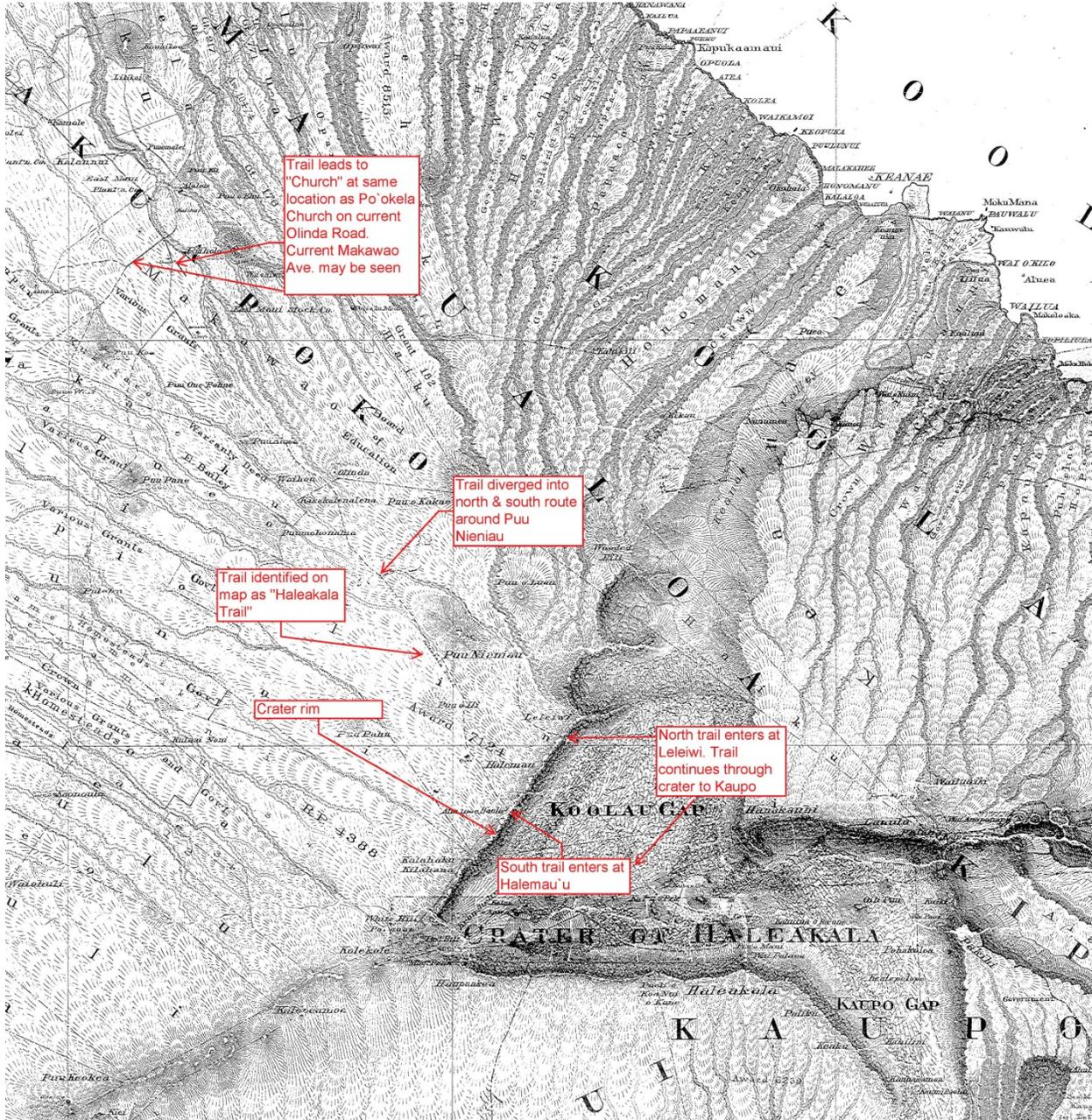
Initial victories. As a result of PATH’s efforts, the State and Haleakala Ranch now permit some guided hikes. ***You can now experience a portion of this trail for yourself!*** To make a reservation for a hike, call Na Ala Hele Maui Trail Specialist Torrie Nohara (873-3508). In addition, the ***State of Hawaii has also filed suit against Haleakala Ranch*** to confirm the State's ownership of the trail.

We need your support! The public is entitled to meaningful public access over Haleakala Trail. PATH is leading that fight but needs your support to make it happen. Connect with us on Facebook and Twitter. Invite friends to do the same. Sign up for email updates. **Donate** (to address above or at pathmaui.org). Purchase *Open the Gates* t-shirts and bumper stickers (use contacts above).



One of the many “fingerposts” erected by the Territory of Hawaii in 1905 during improvements to the trail

1885 Map of Haleakala Trail



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Save
Haleakala Trail