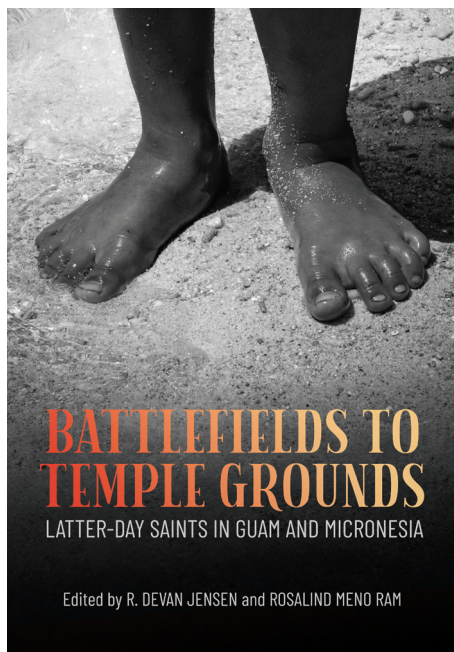


NEW FROM THE RELIGIOUS STUDIES CENTER
COMING MARCH 2023

BATTLEFIELDS TO TEMPLE GROUNDS

LATTER-DAY SAINTS IN GUAM AND MICRONESIA



ABOUT THE AUTHORS

R. DEVAN JENSEN is the executive editor at the Religious Studies Center at Brigham Young University. With a master's degree in English, he has edited eight books on Pacific Latter-day Saints and has researched the European, Asian, and American colonizing forces that have controlled Micronesia. He was a full-time missionary for two years in the Micronesia Guam Mission, where he learned Pohnpeian and grew to appreciate the island culture. He has presented at many academic conferences on Latter-day Saint and Pacific history.

ROSALIND MENO RAM is the associate academic vice president for curriculum and assessment at Brigham Young University-Hawaii. She is a native CHamoru scholar and the second CHamoru sister missionary from Guam. An alumna of BYU-Hawaii in TESOL with a minor in linguistics, she earned her master's degree in library science and a doctorate in education leadership. As a library faculty member at BYU-Hawaii, she became an original cataloger specializing in Pacific materials. She later became an associate professor and in 2012 was invited to her current position. She has presented at many academic conferences on Pacific history.

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PROVO, UTAH, AND SALT LAKE CITY—As World War II raged worldwide, the Japanese bombings of Hawai'i, Wake Island, and Guam caused war in the Central Pacific to break out. The islands of Micronesia became strategic battlefields between the Japanese and American forces during the Pacific War, with both sides treating the islands as strategic bases or resources. The US military counterattack deployed waves of military personnel into the region, including many Latter-day Saint servicemen.

This volume features stories of how Latter-day Saints arrived during and after the war, helping rebuild the damaged infrastructure and gradually planting branches of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints that spread throughout the islands of Micronesia.

Many personal interviews and firsthand accounts tell the story of how courageous Micronesian Saints living in the vast oceanic region from Kiribati to Palau to Saipan have overcome cultural pressures and other obstacles to establish the Church on each island. Within decades, their efforts to live and share restored gospel truths have helped transform some of these islands from

"I love this book. I love the way the authors give voice to hundreds of Micronesians whose faith and courage in many ways match those of other generations of Latter-day Saints, despite their almost inconceivable challenges. . . . It would be difficult to overstate the importance of this book of Church history."

ERIC B. SHUMWAY
former president of
Brigham Young University-Hawaii

devastating battlefields to peaceful temple grounds.

R. Devan Jensen and Rosalind Meno Ram are editors and lead authors of *Battlefields to Temple Grounds: Latter-day Saints in Guam and Micronesia*. The volume is copublished by the Religious Studies Center at BYU, Jonathan Nāpela Center, and Deseret Book. Visit rsc.byu.edu/books/battlefields-temple-grounds for more information.

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