Historic Maps in K-12 Classrooms Exploration and Encounter – Map 3 Captain Cook and Hawaii, 1778

## **Recreating Cook**

Imagine that while on vacation in England you visit an antiquarian bookstore where you find a book that turns out to be quite extraordinary. It is a copy of *A Voyage to the Pacific Ocean...in the Years 1776, 1777, 1778, 1779, and 1780* with a publication date of 179\_[the last digit is torn away]. The whole book is in poor shape and quite inexpensive so, good student that you are, you buy the book. Later in the day as you are paging through it you notice that there are several pieces of loose paper inserted here and there. It seems the book had at some point in the nineteenth century belonged to a scholar who had inserted these documents. The inserted documents are:

- commentaries on plates 62, 63, 64, 65, 67 from the Atlas that accompanied *A Voyage* to the Pacific Ocean...in the Years 1776, 1777, 1778, 1779, and 1780. Internal evidence suggests these plates were for an ethnographic exhibit, perhaps at the Great Exposition in 1851;
- 2) a description of the foodstuffs produced on the Sandwich Islands;
- an argument for the usefulness of the islands as a stopping over place for ships crossing the Pacific Ocean; from internal evidence it seems that the original must have been written by Cook to the Admiralty, and there are some comments on the bottom of the page about maintaining good relations with the islanders;
- 4) a note—from someone in the Admiralty our nineteenth-century friend wrote—about the usefulness of Cook's charts; and finally
- 5) part of a letter or report, probably to a Parliamentary committee, that justifies the expense of Cook's voyages because of the scientific and potentially beneficial economic information he and others gathered. It is clear from internal evidence that this was written after the return from the third voyage because Cook's death is mentioned.

Your task is to create these inserted "documents." You should include as much historical information as possible and in a way that is consistent with what we know about Cook, his voyages, and the Enlightenment. Remember to include comments that give the "internal evidence" mentioned above.