Cultural Landscape, Stories, and Knowledge: How islanders integrate land and philosophy

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In bringing together "fundamental values upon which Pacific cultures are based" and in recognizing social change in the islands, one must take into account what cultural contexts (introduced and traditional) frame current epistemologies in how Pacific Islanders live in the modern world. Accounts of previous events, the shape and shifting of landscapes, and the philosophy of how life was formerly lived, these all determine how Pacific Islanders place themselves in dealing with social change.

How did the people of Belau live once upon a time? And how does it affect how they live today? This paper is meant to look at how Belauan knowledge and philosophy influenced how they lived and at the same time how they live today. The heritage in past that still exists in Belau provide significance to exploring what epistemologies are still kept, what is now lost, and what introduced values are being accepted.