Naval Historical Foundation
Books Available for Review

You may browse our previous book reviews at: https://www.navyhistory.org/category/bookreview/
Please see our review guidelines at: https://www.navyhistory.org/publications/naval-history-book-reviews/

Please send any inquiries to sbland@navyhistory.org

New additions are highlighted in YELLOW

---

**British Naval Weapons of World War II, Vol. I.**

*Book Description*

John Lambert was a renowned naval draughtsman whose plans were highly valued for their accuracy and detail by model makers and enthusiasts. By the time of his death in 2016 he had produced over 850 sheets of drawings many of which have never been published. ... [Google Books]

*Hardcover – June 10, 2019*
*by Norman Friedman (Editor)*

---

**Catastrophe at Spithead: The Sinking of the Royal George**

*Book by Hilary L. Rubinstein*

In one of the most sensational and perplexing incidents in naval history, Rear Admiral Richard Kempenfelt, a much-voyaged veteran and outstanding officer, drowned along with more than 800 crew and many civilian visitors, male and female, on a calm summer’s morning and in a familiar anchorage. ... [Google Books]

*Originally published: January 15, 2020*

---

**Battlecruiser Repulse: Detailed in ...**

*Book by John P. Roberts*

*Description*

The technical details of British warships were recorded in a set of plans produced by the builders on completion of every ship. Known as the 'as fitted' general arrangements, these drawings represented the exact appearance and fitting of the ship as it entered service. ... [Google Books]

*Originally published: June 2019*
*Author: John P. Roberts*

---

**Beyond the Sea: An Event Group Thriller**

*Book by David Lynn Golemon*

*Description*

The Soviet battle cruiser Simbirsk, which launched in June 1940 and was reported sunk in 1944 with the loss of all hands, is still sailing the open sea. ... [Google Books]

*Originally published: June 13, 2017*
*Author: David Lynn Golemon*
*Preceded by: The Traveler: An Event Group Thriller*
*Genres: Science Fiction, Thriller, Adventure fiction, War story*
The Dauntless in Battle
Book by Peter Charles Smith
Description
The Douglas Dauntless was a Second World War American naval scout plane and dive bomber that saw active service during the course of this conflict and beyond, before being retired in 1959. ... Google Books
Originally published: March 30, 2019
Author: Peter Charles Smith

Dead Man Launch: A Todd Ingram Novel ...
Novel by John Gobbell
Description
"John J. Gobbell is the John Le Carré of Naval thrillers." --John Lehman, Former Secretary of the Navy
The year is 1968, and global upheaval is the norm. As the war rages in Southeast Asia, a US traitor ... Google Books
Originally published: September 26, 2017
Author: John Gobbell
Genres: Thriller, War story, Spy fiction, Nautical fiction

Encyclopedia of Armed Forces Football: The Complete History of the Glory Years
Book by John Daye
Originally published: September 2014
Author: John Daye

From Across the Sea: North Americans in Nelson's Navy
Description
From Across the Sea: North Americans in Nelson's Navy explores the varied contributions of North Americans to the Royal Navy during Great Britain's wars against Revolutionary and Napoleonic France. It is the first book that explores this topic in depth. ... Google Books
Originally published: April 2020
Editors: Sean M Hueuvel and John Rodgaard

From Texas to Tinian and Tokyo Bay: The Memoirs of Captain J. R. Ritter, Seabee Commander during the Pacific War, 1942-1945
Description
This is the story of J. R. Ritter (1902-1994), a civil engineer from Texas who became a U.S. Navy Seabee officer during World War II. For his memoir he preserved personal papers, letters, photos, and other items, many of which are reproduced in this book. ... Google Books
Originally published: 2019
Genre: Biography

From Scapa to Jutland: The Story of HMS Caroline ...
Book by John Allison
Description
Amid the twists and turns of her survival to this day, the story of the light cruiser HMS Caroline spans a century and more. This book focuses on the role she played as part of the Grand Fleet in time of war. ... Google Books
Originally published: 2019
Author: John Allison
The Glorious First of June: Fleet Battle in the Reign of Terror
Book by Sam Willis
Description
France, early summer 1794. The French Revolution has been hijacked by the extreme Jacobins and is in the grip of The Terror. ... Google Books
Originally published: 2011
Author: Sam Willis

German Battleship Helgoland: Detailed in the Original Builders' Plans Hardcover – April 1, 2019
by Aidan Dodson (Author)
This book is the latest in a series based entirely on original draughts which depict famous warships in an unprecedented degree of detail. Using the latest scanning technology to make digital copies of the highest quality it reproduces complete sets in full color with many close-ups and enlargements that make every aspect clear and comprehensible. The result is a novel form of anatomy that will be a revelation to any warship enthusiast …

Holding the Line: The Naval Air Campaign In Korea
Book by Thomas McKelvey Cleaver
Description
Naval and air power were crucial to the United Nations' success in the Korean War, as it sought to negate the overwhelming Chinese advantage in manpower. In what became known as the 'long hard slog', naval aviators sought to slow and cut off communist forces and support troops on the ground. ... Google Books
Originally published: March 5, 2019
Author: Thomas McKelvey Cleaver

Homecomings
Book by Laura Bogan
Description
The U.S. Navy Flight Demonstration Squadron, better known as the Blue Angel, is one of the most iconic and respected aerobatics teams in the world. For years, photographer Laura Bogan has been chronicling the Blues as they return to Pensacola, the team's beautiful seaside home on Florida's Gulf Coast. ... Google Books
Originally published: March 5, 2019
Author: Laura Bogan

How Carriers Fought: Carrier Operations in World War II
In November 1921 the first purpose-built aircraft carrier was launched by the Japanese, followed a year later by the launch of the British Hermes. ... Google Books
Originally published: July 19, 2018
Author: Lars Celander

The Impact of the Charles F. Adams Class Guided Missile Destroyers on the Royal ... Book by David J. Shackleton
Description
Did you like this book? Description
Acquisition of a United States Navy (USN) surface combatant constituted a significant change in naval policy direction for Australia, which had hitherto purchased its warships based on British designs of the Royal Navy (RN). ... Google Books
Originally published: December 2019
Author: David J. Shackleton
Large Scale Warship Models: From Kits to Scratch Building – June 10, 2019

The majority of warship modelers work in smaller scales most often based on plastic or resin kits. Many of these creators harbor ambitions to tackle something larger and more demanding but are daunted by the challenge. The aim of this book is to persuade them that it not as difficult as it may seem that they already possess the basic skills required and that they can acquire any necessary new knowledge as they proceed. The discussion focuses on the journey from conventional plastic kits to questions of deciding on a subject; choosing a kit semi-kit or build from scratch; what conventional kit building skills transfer and how these conventional skills such as painting techniques and an eye for detail can be brought to large scale model building so that scale fidelity is not sacrificed but enhanced.

Glasgow Museum the Ship Models: ...

Book by Emily Malcolm and Michael R. Harrison

Description

This publication will be the first full catalog of Glasgow Museums' internationally important collection of ship models. ... Google Books

Originally published: December 2019

Authors: Emily Malcolm, Michael R. Harrison

A Marine Artist's Portfolio: The Nautical Paintings of Susanne Fournais Grube

Book by Susanne Fournais Grube

Description

Susanne Fournais Grube, has been painting marine scenes for over thirty years, during which time, she has produced a large portfolio of material, not only depicting ships and small craft, but also the architecture of marine buildings and light houses. ... Google Books

Originally published: August 30, 2018

Author: Susanne Fournais Grube

The Mayaguez Crisis, Mission Command, and Civil-military Relations

Book by Christopher Jon Lamb

Description

President Gerald R. Ford's 1975 decision to use force after the Cambodians seized the SS Mayaguez merchant ship is an important case study in national security decision making. ... Google Books

Originally published: 2018

Author: Christopher Jon Lamb

Medal with a Heart

Book by Karen Kulinski

Description

Every medal tells a story of bravery, hard work, great achievement. But few people know how one of America's greatest military awards, The Purple Heart, came to be. The Medal With A Heart tells this story, and it begins in 1782 with George Washington and the Revolutionary War. Google Books - Originally published: September 25, 2018

Author: Karen Kulinski  Illustrator: Karen Gruntman
Napoleon's Admirals: Flag Officers of the Arc de Triomphe, 1789-1815
Book by Richard Humble
Description
On the four sides of the Arc de Triomphe in Paris, serried tablets display the names of 660 honored commanders of the Revolutionary and Napoleonic Wars. ... Google Books
Originally published: July 2019
Author: Richard Humble
Genre: Biography

The Nugget
Book by P. T. Deutermann
Description
A novice naval aviator grows into a hero in this gripping and authentic World War II adventure by master storyteller P. T. ... Google Books
Originally published: October 8, 2019
Author: P. T. Deutermann
Genres: Thriller, Historical Fiction, Adventure fiction, War story

Sea Stories: My Life in Special Operations
Book by William H. McRaven
Description
Following the success of his #1 New York Times bestseller Make Your Bed, which has sold over one million copies, Admiral William H. McRaven is back with amazing stories of bravery and heroism during ... Google Books
Originally published: May 21, 2019
Author: William H. McRaven
Genres: Biography, Autobiography

Sighted Sub, Sank Same: The United States Navy’s Air Campaign Against the U-Boat
Book by Alan C. Carey
Description
Sighted Sub, Sank Same examines the United States Naval air campaign against German U-boats prowling for allied merchant shipping traversing the waters of the Atlantic, Caribbean, and Mediterranean; an economic war waged to cut the lifeline of food and armaments sailing across the Atlantic from North America. ... Google Books
Originally published: November 2019
Author: Alan C. Carey

The German Armoured Cruiser SMS Blücher
Book by Marsden Samuel
Description
The SMS Blücher was the last armored cruiser built by the German Empire. She was constructed to counter the new armored cruisers rumored as being built by the British. ... Google Books
Originally published: November 5, 2018
Author: Marsden Samuel

Fleet Air Arm Legends: Supermarine Seafire
Book by Matthew Willis
Description
Renowned naval aviation author Matthew Willis tells the story of the Supermarine Seafire - a navalized version of the famous Spitfire adapted for use on aircraft carriers. Some 2646 examples were built and saw action with the Royal Navy's Fleet Air Arm from November 1942 until after the Korean War in the early 1950s. ... Google Books
Originally published: April 7, 2020
Author: Matthew Willis
Thetis Down: The Slow Death of a Submarine
Book by Antony Booth

Description
On 1 June 1939 His Majesty's Submarine Thetis sank in Liverpool Bay while on her diving trials. Her loss is still the worst peacetime submarine disaster the Royal Navy has yet faced when ninety-nine men ... Google Books

Originally published: 2008
Author: Antony Booth
Genres: Biography, Autobiography