Nautical Archaeology of the Americas
Anthropology 318
Spring 2011

Mondays and Wednesdays, 4:10 to 5:25 p.m.
Room HECC 100

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Course Readings

Readings for Exam #1 (Parts I to IV):
Bass, George F., ed., Ships and Shipwrecks of the Americas, London: Thames and
Hudson, 1988: Chapters 1 to 5.

Timeline:
1415: Portuguese conquer Ceuta
1419: Discovery of Madeira islands
1427: Discovery of the Azores
1433: Gil Eanes rounds Cape Bojador
1488: Bartolomeu Dias rounds Cape of Good Hope
1492: Colombus 1st voyage
1493: Colombus 2nd voyage
1494: Treaty of Tordesillas
1497: Giovanni Caboto sails to Newfoundland
1497: Vasco da Gama sails to India (1497-98)
1497: Amerigo Vespucci 1st voyage (Caribbean)
1498: Colombus 3rd voyage
1499: Amerigo Vespucci 2nd voyage (South America)
1500: Pedro Alvares Cabral discovers Brazil
1502: Columbus 4th voyage

**Molasses Reef Wreck (before 1515)**

**Highborn Cay Wreck (before 1525)**

1513: Ponce de Leon discovers Florida
1513: Balboa sees the Pacific Ocean
1514: Portuguese arrive in China
1519: Cortez starts the conquest of Mexico
1519: Magellan circumnavigation (1519-22)
1523: Giovanni Verrazano sails along the coast of North America to Newfoundland
1533: Pizarro starts the conquest of Peru
1534: Jacques Cartier sails up the St. Lawrence river

**Bahia Mujeres Wreck (before 1550)**

1539: de Soto explores the SE of North America (1539-42)
1540: Coronado explores the SW of North America (1549-42)
1542: Cabrillo sails up the W coast
1545: Spanish discover Potosi

**Caio Nuevo Wreck (c. 1550)**

1550s: Huguenot colonies in Brazil (1550s)
1554: Wrecks of Padre Island: *Espiritu Santo, Sta. Maria de Yciar and San Esteban*

**Emanuel Point Wreck (1559)**

1562: Charles Fort, Huguenot settlement in South Carolina
1562: John Hawkins first voyage to the West Indies
1564: Second Huguenot colony in Florida
1564: John Hawkins second voyage to the West Indies
1565: St. Augustine
1572: Drake's attack on Nombre de Dios
1576: Martin Frobisher tries to find a Western passage to India
1577: Drake's circumnavigation (1577-80)

**Readings**

I. Introduction: Nautical Archaeology in the Western Hemisphere.

a) The story of the Alvin Clark


**b) Archaeology vs. treasure hunting**


**II. Understanding the Ship: Construction, Rigging and Equipment.**


Miscellaneous Illustrations of Ships' Rigging, Equipment, and Armament

**III. European Discovery of the Western Hemisphere.**


IV. The Spanish Maritime Empire in the New World.


**Readings for Exam #2 (Parts V to VIII):**


**Timeline:**

1585: Roanoke
1587: Roanoke, second attempt
1588: Spain fails the invasion of England (the Armada)
1606: Virginia Company of London
1607: Jamestown
1609: Henry Hudson sails up the Hudson River
1609: Samuel Champlain explores Lake Champlain

*Sea Venture lost in the Bermudas (1609)*

1610: Dutch fur trading post in Manhattan (New Amsterdam)
1613: Samuel Champlain in the Great Lakes
1619: First African slaves in Virginia
1620: Plymouth Colony

*N. S. de Atocha and Sta. Margarita Wrecks (1622)*

1624: Virginia Company passes to the English Government
1626: New Netherlands, Dutch colony in New Jersey and Manhattan
1627: English settle in Barbados

*Wreck of the N. S. de la Concepción off Hispaniola (1641)*

1655: Jamaica taken from the Spanish
1660: Merchants start settling at Port Royal
1664: English seize New Netherlands
1682: La Salle sails down the Mississippi River

*La Salle looses the Belle at Matagorda Bay (1686)*

1686: William Phipps finds 32 tons of silver on the *N. S. de la Concepción* (1686-88)
1689: King William's War (1689-1697)
1690: W. Phipps' *Mary, Mary Ann, Hanna and Mary*, and *Elizabeth and Mary*.
1692: William Phipps is made governor of Massachusetts
1692: Salem Witchcraft Trials
1692: June 7 - Earthquake destroys Port Royal
1702: Queen Anne's War (1702-1713)
1715: Silver Fleet lost off the East Coast of Florida
*N. S. de Guadalupe and Conde de Tolosa Wrecks* (1724)
1733: Silver Fleet lost in the Straights of Florida
*Brown's Ferry Vessel - Periauger* (c. 1740)
1744: King George's War (1744-1748)
*Reader's Point Vessel - Sloop in St. Anne's Bay, Jamaica*
*Clydesdale Plantation Vessel - Sloop on the Back River, Savannah, Georgia.*
*Ronson Ship - New York* (before 1750)
5 *Bateaux* (before 1752) under the Museum of Civilization, Quebec City
1755: French and Indian War (1755-1763)
*Land Tortoise - a Radeau, on Lake George* (1758)
3 *Bateaux on Lake George* (1758?)
*Boscawen* - Sloop, on Lake Champlain (1759)
*Machault* - 28 gun frigate, on Restigouche River, Gulf of St. Lawrence. (1760)
1775: Revolutionary War (1775-1783)
*Philadelphia* - Gunboat, on Lake Champlain (1776)
*HMS Augusta* - British 64-gun ship lost in Philadelphia (1777)
*Defense* - American privateer, (170 ton brig) lost at Penobscot Bay (1779)
*Bonhomme Richard* lost off the British Isle (1779)
*HMS Charon* - British 44-gun ship lost at Yorktown (1781)
*Betsy* - (44YO88) 170 ton brig sunk at Yorktown (1781)

**Readings:**

V. New Empires: Northern European Exploration and Colonization of the Americas.


* This article is not included in your packet because I did not get permission from the magazine to include it. For the radeau Land Tortoise you will have to use your notes from my classes.

VII. Shipwrecks of the Revolutionary War.

(Book)

VIII. Freshwater Navies: The Lake Warships 1812-1815.


Readings for Exam #3 (Parts IX to XII):


Timeline:

1786: John Fitch's steamship (with oars)
1790: John Fitch's steamship (with duck feet)
1790s: First canals: Schuylkill & Susquehanna (Pennsylvania), Potomac (then Virginia).
1807: Robert Fulton's *North River Steamboat*, the 1st commercially successful steamboat
1809: Winan brothers launch the steamship *Vermont* on lake Champlain
1812: War of 1812 (1812-1815)

**Wreck of the Hamilton and the Scourge - Schooners, on Lake Ontario (1813)**

1815: Lake Champlain Steamboat Company begins operating by launching the *Phoenix*
1817: Works on the Erie canal start: the 1st section (Itaca-Rome) is completed by 1819

**Phoenix - a 336 tons steamship, caught fire on Lake Champlain (1819)**

1820s: Train appears, but do not look like much of a threat… (1820s)
1823: Champlain canal opens (around 60 miles long)
1825: Erie Canal completed
1825: Canal boom (1825-1845)

**Great Western - built in 1838 in England by Isambard Brunel**

1840s: Train takes on

**Great Britain - built in 1843 in England by Brunel**

1844: Treaty opens Chinese ports to American vessels - Clippers!
1846: Peak of the American whaling fleet, with 736 ships registered
1848: December, gold found on Sutter's Mill, Colona, California

**Niantic - Small packet built in 1835, whaler in 1844, 1st storeship (1849)**

**Great Eastern - built in 1854 in England by Brunel, another financial disaster**

**Indiana - Steamship (propeller) built in 1848 lost on Lake Superior (1856)**

1857: New Bedford is the largest whaling port with 329 whalers.
1860s: Down-Easters transport grain from California to Europe
1861: American Civil War (1861-1865)
1861: Brutus de Villeroi's Confederate submarine caught in the Delaware River

**CSS Virginia - Ironclad, abandoned and fired in the Elizabeth River (1862)**

**USS Monitor - Ironclad, sunk while being towed off N. Carolina coast (1862)**

**USS Cairo - Ironclad on the Yazoo River (1862)**

**Chattahoochee - Confederate Gunboat sunk on Chattahoochee River (1863)**
1863: McClintock, Watson and Hunley built their 3rd submarine; later called **Hunley**
**CSS H.L.Hunley** sinks for the 3rd time, killing its 3rd crew (1864)
**Alvin Clark** - two-masted schooner, on Lake Michigan (1864)
**Snow Squal** - Small clipper built in 1851 abandoned in the Falklands (1864)
**Denbigh** - Blockade runner lost at Galveston (1865)
**Bertrand** - Western Steamboat, lost on the Missouri River (1853)
**General Butler** - Sailing canal boat wrecked on Lake Champlain (1876)

1880s: Down-Easters reconverted into schooner-rigged vessels with 3 and 4 masts
1888: First 5-masted schooner
1900: First of ten 6-masted schooners
1902: **Thomas W. Lawson** - Only 7-masted schooner, lost in the Scilly Islands (1907)
**George R. Skolfield** - Down-Easter from 1885, lost at Sea isle, N. Jersey (1929)

**IX. Transportation Revolution on Inland Waters: Canals, Steamers and Horseboats.**


**X. American Maritime Enterprise in the Nineteenth Century: Clippers and Whalers.**

XI. The American Civil War and the Revolution in Naval Technology.


XII. The Future of the Past: Nautical Archaeology in the Next Century.