

emerged after his experience. Rather, his is an excellent firsthand account, one sailor's recollection of events that were written several years after they occurred. As with any memory, verification is always a safe bet.

Students wanting to use this in an academic context may find Cunninghams work both useful and frustrating. Though thoroughly indexed, he does not provide a bibliography. In fact, given the author's position and perspective on events, his work is often cited as a reference for the Royal Navy's role the Mediterranean. In it, he mentions the names of specific people, places, and events, leaving readers to pursue aspects of his autobiography in greater detail as they wish. More recent scholarship may contradict or correct the information Cunningham provides, but this is his story as he lived it.

A Sailors Odyssey: The Autobiography of Admiral Andrew Cunningham presents the Second World War at sea and in the Mediterranean through the eyes of a uniquely well-placed individual. It combines a broad overview of the conflict with Cunningham's personal insights into the events discussed, making it an essential contribution to the study of the Royal Navy in Second World War.

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Jingle Davis. *Island Passages: An Illustrated History of Jekyll Island, Georgia*. Athens, GA: University of Georgia Press, www.ugapress.org, 2016. 267 pp., illustrations, bibliography, index. US \$37.95, cloth; ISBN: 9-780-8203-4869-8.

The life of an island is inextricably linked with that of the sea surrounding it. *Island Passages* is the tale of Jekyll Island, Georgia.

The coast of southeastern Georgia advanced and retreated over millennia as glaciers and sea levels altered in inverse proportion. Chapter one begins 50,000 years ago and examines geological changes to the present. The ocean ebbed and surged, rivers changed course, fossils were deposited, storms battered, shores eroded and were replenished, marshes drained, and flora and fauna left their marks.

Humans arrive in the second chapter, from nomadic Paleoindians from 12,000 years ago to the landing of Europeans around 1735. Settlements can be located from deposits of oyster shells, shell rings, pottery, and tools. Lifestyles are reflected in food and language.

The third chapter recounts the struggle for empire between Spaniards in Florida and the English settlers in Georgia who arrived at the end of lengthy, trans-Atlantic voyages. Among the most significant was 1735-1736 voyage of the 220-ton *Symond* that brought James Oglethorpe, founder of Georgia, and

brothers John and Charles Wesley, who would later achieve renown as founders of Methodism. Traveling with its sister ship, *London Merchant*, and the armed sloop, *HMS Hawk*, their crossing was typical for the time. Passengers and crew suffered while laying at anchor for weeks on the English coast awaiting favourable weather. Aboard were Moravians from today's Czech Republic, Scots Highlanders, Lutheran Salzburgers, other German speaking refugees, and English middle class as well as slum dwellers. High winds and rough seas encountered during the eight-week transit ended with the navigation of the shoals between St. Simons and Jekyll.

Chapter four focuses on the arrival of the du Bignon family, refugees from Revolutionary France. Their promotion of the plantation production of sea island cotton would influence Jekyll's economy for generations.

The fifth chapter relates the slave trade from Africa to Jekyll. Davis devotes particular attention to the 1858 voyage of *Wanderer*, arguably the last slaver to bring a sizeable number of slaves to the United States. Cruising west African shores for weeks, *Wanderer* loaded perhaps 500 slaves, and managed to evade the African squadron, an American and British naval fleet tasked with indicting the slave trade. Anchoring off Jekyll, the cargo was off-loaded, an event today commemorated by an historical marker and the identifiable descendants of *Wanderer* captives. Among the sidebars is an interesting account of Face Jugs produced by *Wanderer* captives.

Along with the rest of the country, the American Civil War also laid its hand on Jekyll. Defending Confederate troops and guns were withdrawn to other sectors and Union troops occupied the island. Planters retreated with their slaves to mainland locales and returned to rebuild on ruined plantations.

With the return of peace, a new chapter in Jekyll's life began with the founding of the Jekyll Island Club, a luxury hunting club catering to the richest of the rich Northern industrialists. Astors, Goodyears, Rockefellers, Vanderbilts, Morgans, Pulitizers, and their peers made Jekyll their winter playground from 1886 until the beginning of the Second World War. I find this to be the most interesting period Jekyll history. Land transportation and docking facilities were established to accommodate yachts of Club members. The photo of the *Corsair* that transported J. P. Morgan to Jekyll hints at the luxury of the age.

The end of the Second World War turned a new page in Jekyll history. Superseded by resorts in Florida and elsewhere, Jekyll Club closed and the island became a political football between proponents and opponents of state purchase to preserve the island's use as a state park. Proponents prevailed, but its operations were sufficiently hampered to prevent the park from becoming a major tourist attraction.

Jekyll is a special place and author Jingle Davis has captured it in a special,

coffee-table book. The text relates history in an informative and entertaining fashion, supplemented by maps and portraits. The index aids helps you find what you think you remember and the bibliography is a guide to further reading. The scenic photos, both historic and contemporary, of land and sea are spectacular and set this tome apart from others. I was given *Island Passages* in preparation for a Jekyll Island vacation. What I read before the departure gave me ideas of what to look for, and post-trip, generated pleasant memories and answered lingering questions. Whether seeking a worthwhile read, or a treat for your guests, *Northern Mariner* readers will be pleased with *Island Passages*.

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Alfred de Quervain. *Across Greenland's Ice Cap: The Remarkable Swiss Scientific Expedition of 1912*. Montreal & Kingston, Canada: McGill-Queen's University Press, www.mqup.ca, 2022. xxxiv+148 pp., illustrations, index. CDN \$37.95, UK £26.99, cloth; ISBN 978-0-2280-1066-1.

When thinking about crossing Greenland's ice cap, the first name that comes to mind is most certainly Fridthjof Nansen's expedition in 1888. Alfred de Quervain's crossing of the ice cap in 1912 (or the Swiss Scientific Expedition of 1912), on the contrary, is probably known only to a small group of specialized polar historians – despite its equal importance for exploring the inland area of the world's largest island. This group also created an altitude profile along the route of the 640 km traverse of the Greenlandic ice cap from West to East.

For the first time, Martin Hood's new book makes the story of de Quervain's crossing available to an English-speaking readership and provides not only a summary of the events of 1912, but a translation of de Quervain's report on this remarkable Swiss scientific expedition that was critical to establishing Switzerland as a relevant nation for polar research.

While the report on the actual crossing of the ice cap is an informative and important source for all polar historians and historians of science, other historians might find de Quervain's descriptions of the preparation for the crossing and the time spent on Greenland prior to the beginning of the actual traverse of even greater interest. His account provides a unique, first-hand description of everyday life on Greenland at the beginning of the twentieth century, and especially the life of the small group of Danish administrators living on Greenland. Due to the Danish closed-country policy for Greenland, this group of colonial administrators were a closed sociotype. Yet, the existing historiography about Greenland includes very little information about the daily life of this group that was critical for the administration of Greenland