



BIBLIO-PILOT SERIES

The Library at THE MARINERS' MUSEUM

First Sources for Ship Identification: A Selective Bibliography

"American Lloyd's Registry of American and Foreign Shipping" See: *Record of American and Foreign Shipping*

Baker, William A. *Colonial Vessels: Some Seventeenth-Century Sailing Craft*. Barre, MA: Barre Publishing Co. 1962. REF VM23.B3
Illustrates some types of Colonial vessels. Equates early merchant vessels with today's trucks.

Bonsor, N.R.P. *North Atlantic Seaway: An Illustrated History of the Passenger Services Linking the Old World With the New*. Newton Abbot, David & Charles, 1975- 1980. (5 Volumes) REF VM615.B91 1975. Good source on passenger steamers and lines – extensive indexes and appendices.

Cutler, Carl C. *Greyhounds of the Sea: The Story of the American Clipper Ship*. Annapolis MD: U S Naval Institute, 1961. REF VM23.C97
Good source for American sailing vessels and lines.

Cutler, Carl C. *Queens of the Western Ocean: The Story of America's Mail and Passenger Sailing Lines*. Annapolis, MD: US Naval Institute, 1961. REF VM23.C98
Good source on American sailing packets and lines with indexes of ship names and captains.

Dictionary of American Naval Fighting Ships. Washington: Navy Department, Naval Historical Center, 1959-1991. REF VA 61.A53
Definitive source for major U S Naval vessels built before the early 1960s. Some volumes have been updated for ships' histories. For more recent vessels, see *Jane's Fighting Ships*

Dudzus, Alfred. *Dictionary of Ship Types: Ships, Boats, and Rafts Under Oar and Sail*. London: Conway Maritime Press, 1986. REF V23.D844
Basic dictionary with many illustrations

Fairburn, William Armstrong. *Merchant Sail*. Center Lovell, ME: Fairburn Marine Educational Foundation, Inc., 1945-1955. REF VM23.F19
Good source for sailing ships built mainly in the New England states. Index of 13,278 vessels.

Jane's Fighting Ships. London: S Low, Marston & Co. Ltd., Annual 1898+. REF VA40.J3 0
Lists fighting ships from all countries.

List of American-Flag Merchant Vessels That Received Certificates of Enrollment...Port of New York, 1789-1867. Washington, D C: U S National Archives, 1968 REF HE565.U5A43
Lists New York vessels only, but pre-dates American registers.

Lloyd's List. London: Lloyd's Semiweekly, 1740-1826 with gaps. REF HE561.L75
Mentions arrivals with vessel name, Captain's name and port. Not much information, but one of the only sources for these early years.

- Lloyd's Register of British and Foreign Shipping: also Lloyd's Register of Shipping.* London: Annual, 1764+. REF HE565.A3L7 Lists major British vessels and foreign vessels calling on British ports.
- Lyon, David. *The Sailing Navy List: All the Ships of the Royal Navy, Built, Purchased and Captured 1688-1860.* London, Conway Maritime Press, 1993. REF DA85.L96 1993
Some early British Navy ships also served as merchant ships, transporting passengers and goods.
- Merchant Vessels of the United States.* Washington, DC: U S GPO. Annual, 1866-7+ with gaps. REF HE565.U5A2 Gives basic information on U S merchant vessels. Some years have appendices listing U S government vessels by agency and official registration numbers for merchant vessels.
- Millar, John Fitzhugh. *American Ships of the Colonial and Revolutionary Periods.* N.Y.: WW Norton, 1978. REF VM22.M54
Good illustrations of several types of Colonial vessels well before the age of photography.
- Musgrove, H. E. *U.S. Naval ships Data Arranged by Hull Classification.* Madison, WI: Nautical Books, c1975. (3 Volumes) REF VA61.M87
Source for finding a Navy ship's name when you only have the type and ship's number.
- Record of American and Foreign Shipping from Surveys Made and Compiled Under Direction of the American Shipmasters' Association.* N.Y. (Annual w/gaps from 1862; some title changes.) REF HE565.U5A Lists American vessels and foreign vessels that came to American ports. Does not list military vessels or quite small vessels.
- Sawyer, L. A. *The Liberty Ships: The History of the 'Emergency' Type Cargo Ships Constructed in the United States During the Second World War.* Second Edition. London, Lloyd's of London Press, 1985. REF VM391.S29 1985
Brief history of each Liberty Ship as well as ships plans for different types of Liberty ships.
- Sawyer, L. A. *Victory Ships and tankers: The History of the Victory Type Cargo Ships and of the Tankers Built in the United States of America During World War II.* Devon, Newton Abbot, 1974. REF VM391.S211 1974 Brief history of each Victory Ship and tanker. Includes basic ships' plans.
- Smith, Eugene Waldo. *Passenger Ships of the World, Past and Present.* Boston, MA: George H Dean Co. 1978. REF HE565.A3S6
Brief biography of major passenger steamers and lists of vessels of steamship lines.
- Shipping Gazette & Lloyd's List Weekly Summary.* London: 1884-1922 PER HE561.L75 00
Newspaper listing vessel arrivals at various ports.
- Swem, E.G. *Virginia Historical Index: Roanoke, VA: Stone Printing & Mfg. Co. 1934-36.* REF F221.S9
This is an index to articles from numerous publications including the *Calendar of Virginia State Papers, Virginia Magazine of History and Biography, William and Mary College Quarterly Historical Magazine, First and Second Series, etc.* The index covers the Colonial years only and lists both persons and ships by name. The Mariners' Museum has many, but not all, of the sources indexed.
- Visual Dictionary of Ships & Sailing.* London, N Y: Dorling Kindersley, Inc. 1991. REF V23.V57
Good illustrations of ancient vessels, wooden ships, navigational equipment, etc.