

Alex Umholtz
Work and the Human Condition
Annotated Bibliography
March 1, 2009

The following bibliography is designed to cover information related to the study "The Rise and Fall of Professional Whaling" and/or similar studies. The sources listed primarily cover historic whaling, with some information on modern whaling, the politics surrounding it, and the whales themselves.

Andrews, Roy Chapman. *Whale Hunting with Gun and Camera: a naturalist's account of the modern shore-whaling industry, of whales and their habits, and of hunting experiences in various parts of the world*. New York: D. Appleton and company, 1916.

The subtitle of Andrews' book sums up its contents fairly well. In the introduction Andrews states that "in this book I have endeavored to tell of modern shore whaling as I have seen it during the past eight years while collecting and studying cetaceans for the American Museum of Natural History" (vii). As might be expected from the title, there are many high-quality black and white photos detailing Andrews' experiences. Many scientific details are also given about whales, though some seem slightly dated.

Bockstoce, John R. *Whales, Ice, and Men: The History of Whaling in the Western Artic*. Seattle, WA: University of Washington Press, 1986.

Using archival research and extensive fieldwork Bockstoce located and examined the remains of the whaling industry (wrecks, graves, etc.). Over ten summers, Bockstoce traveled over six thousand miles, researching both shore whaling and the whaling industry of the west Artic. Due to this, Bockstoce's account of the physical conditions aboard ships seems very accurate. To supplement the research in his book a large number of photographs and maps are included.

Busch, Briton Cooper. *Whaling Will Never Do For Me: the American Whaleman in the Nineteenth Century*. Lexington, KY: University Press of Kentucky, 1994.

The main purpose of Busch's book is to figure out just what kept men going during lengthy voyages hunting whales. To figure this question out Busch examines a wide range of topics relating to whaling including race and status. In addition to being easy to read, the book includes a map of the major world whaling grounds and an index of whale ships.

Cook, John Atkins. *Pursuing the Whale: a Quarter Century of Whaling in the Artic*. Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1926.

Pursuing the Whale provides a first hand account of the whaling career of the author. Cook's career includes many voyages and stretches from 1879 till the early 1900's. Set up more as a story than as a guide or informational book.

Creighton, Margaret. *Rites and Passages: the Experience of American Whaling, 1830-1879*. New York, NY: Cambridge University Press, 1995.

Creighton provides a social history of American whaling, drawing from sailor diaries and ship logs. Of particular note is a reexamination of the "tyrannical" sea captain stereotype, as well as a number of other topics. The book is very deep though not exceedingly interesting.

Dolin, Eric Jay. *Leviathan: the History of Whaling in America*. New York, NY: W. W. Norton & Company Inc., 2007.

Dolin covers whaling from its rise as a vital industry in 1614 to its fall in 1924. The book provides a solid overview of whaling during its peak and includes some interesting pictures, such as the 1963 Japanese poster "Whales are Useful" which show products made from various parts of whales. *Leviathan* also includes many detailed notes and a large bibliography.

Ellis, Richard. *Men and Whales*. New York: Alfred A Knopf, Inc., 1991.

Ellis offers a comprehensive (i.e., 542 pages) book covering the history of whaling from mythological sagas of Norse whaling up through the modern anti-whaling movement. Additionally, the book provides a nation by nation account of the growth and decline of whaling, as well as the political and moral conflicts involved. An impressive and, almost certainly, useful bibliography is also presented in the book.

Ellis, Richard. *The Book of Whales*. New York: Alfred A Knopf, Inc., 1985.

Ellis' book provides nice, basic information on whales as well as more detailed information on the various different types of whale. The book is particularly notable for its detailed drawings of the various whale species and several beautiful illustrations of some of the more prominent whale species.

Grierson, Johnny. "Whaling from the Air." *The Geographical Journal*, 111.1/3 (1948) 33-46.

This aptly titled article provides an account of the use of sea planes by the whale factory ship Balaena to help hunt whales, with the sea planes being used as spotters for the whale hunter boats. In addition to providing some basic information on the state of whaling at the time, the article also includes several pictures and maps, including a black and white photo of a humpback whale taken from the air.

International Whaling Commission. 2/2/09. The International Whaling Commission main site. 2/28/09 <http://www.iwcoffice.org/index.htm>.

The International Whaling Commission's (IWC) site provides a great deal of information on the current political state of whaling. According to their main information page "The purpose of the Convention is to provide for the proper conservation of whale stocks and thus make possible the orderly development of the whaling industry." In addition to information on the current state of whaling, the website also includes a fair amount of scientific information on whales and an interesting collection of whale sounds.

Kalland, Arne and Moreran, Brian. *Japanese Whaling: End of an Era?* London: Curzon Press Ltd, 1992.

Kalland and Moreran attempt to provide what is perhaps the first comprehensive coverage of Japan's extensive and unique whaling culture in the English language. The book covers both historic and modern Japanese whaling, offering an interesting take on non-Western whaling.

Mandel, Robert. "Transnational Resource Conflict: the Politics of Whaling." *International Studies Quarterly*, 24.1 (1980) 99-127.

The article examines nonviolent conflicts over resources caused by global scarcity. It also examines the possibility that conflict between private-lobbying groups and nations could be more useful (at least from an environmentalist perspective) than normal government to government communication. Overall, it is rather dull.

Mawer, G. A. *Ahab's Trade: the Saga of South Seas Whaling*. New York, NY: St Martians Press, 1999.

Mawer follows a chronological timeline of whaling mixed with useful information (and interesting trivia) on the trade. Throughout the book Mawer attempts "to evoke the past as well as explain it." (ix) The book is clear and quite easy to read.

Melville, Herman. *Moby Dick*. New York, NY: Penguin Books, 2001.

Moby Dick is Melville's famous highly dramatized (though also accurately detailed) novel of the doomed voyage of the Pequod. Based on the real life sinking of the whale ship Essex in 1820 and the killing of an albino sperm whale named Mocha Dick in 1838, *Moby Dick* provides a fairly solid fact-based account of whaling in the early 1850's. Though very long and packed with an excessive amount of symbolism and metaphors, the book does offer an entertaining read.

Moment, David. "The Business of Whaling in America in the 1850's." *The Business History Review*, 31.3 (1957) 261-291.

The article covers exactly what its title suggests. It includes information on the economics, operations, administration, and several other details of whaling business. Moment also includes several informative tables covering a variety of topics. Overall it is an in-depth and surprisingly interesting article that could be very useful.

Murphy, Jim. *Gone A-Whaling: The Lure of the Sea and the Hunt for the Great Whale*. New York: Clarion Books, 1998.

Murphy provides a relatively short and easy to read history of whaling which includes historical photographs, prints, and descriptions of life aboard whaling and factory ships. Murphy also presents the perspectives of the young boys and black sailors who were often employed on historic whaling ships. Descriptions of modern whale watching as well as information on whale conservation and research organizations are included.

New Bedford Whaling Museum. The New Bedford Whaling Museum main site. 2/28/09 <http://www.whalingmuseum.org/>.

According to their site (and several other sources in this bibliography) "The New Bedford Whaling Museum is the largest museum in America devoted to the history of the American whaling industry and its greatest port." The site contains

useful information on their exhibits as well as several online exhibits. Additionally, the website has a very useful searchable collection of objects, photo archives and log books.

Robertson, Robert Blackwood. *Of Whales and Men*. New York: Alfred A Knopf, Inc., 1954.

Of Whales and Men is Robertson's first hand account of a whaling voyage which he was hired onto. This is particularly notable for being a more recent first hand account than many others. The book includes some black and white photos and seems to be an entertaining read overall.

Stackpole, Edouard A. *The Sea-Hunters: The New England Whaleman During Two Centuries 1635-1835*. New York: J. B. Lippincott Co., 1953.

Stackpole provides a history of the "once extensive and important industry known as the American whale fishery". Stackpole compiles descriptions of whaling activities and life aboard whaling ships as far back as 1605. These descriptions come first hand from ship's logs, letters, and diaries which provide an impressive overview of the whaling industry.

Verrill, A. Hyatt. *The Real Story of The Whaler: Whaling past and present*. New York: D. Appleton and Company, 1916.

In his introduction Verrill states that his book is "a narrative of a whaleman's life embodying details of the chase, the vessels and their equipment, the whales and their habits, the dangers incident to whaling, the labors and privations of every day occurrence, the voyages made and true stories of the sea." (vi) Verrill seems exceptionally fond of whales and whalers and stresses their importance to American culture and society. The book is both grandiose and at the same time dull/dry.