



Ships and Seamanship in the Ancient World

By *Lionel Casson*



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Lionel Casson's encyclopedic study is the first of its kind to use underwater archaeological data to refine and area of scholarship that had, for the most part, relied on ancient texts and graphic representations. Tracing the history of early ships and seamanship from pre-dynastic Egypt to the Roman empire, from skiffs and barges to huge oared warships and royal yachts, Casson describes not only the ships themselves, but also the make-up and training of the crews, placement of weaponry, how cargo was stored, methods of navigation, harbor facilities, and the ways ships were named.

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Editorial Review

Review

A wonderful book made even better.

(Greece and Rome)

A bible for all interested in ancient ships, shipbuilding, and sailing techniques... it is a standard reference for every student of ancient history, not only for those interested in maritime matters.

(International Journal of Maritime History)

Lionel Casson's scholarship is impeccable and he adds data from underwater archaeological research. In this paperback edition much new material is included..The remarkable performance of the Kyrenia ship replica, for example, will fascinate any sailing reader. Clearly they were nautical experts, these Kyrenia seafarers of 300 BC!

(Lloyd's List)

Casson is one of those rare individuals able to make a highly technical subject not only understandable to the general reader, but interesting as well... This is unquestionably the finest general reference on the subject of ancient seafaring; copiously illustrated, erudite, and always readable, [it] belongs in the library of anyone with even a passing interest in the roots of maritime enterprise.

(American Neptune)

This fine book... should remain the standard authority on ancient ships for many years to come.

(Classical Philology)

A comprehensive and up-to-date work of reference... [Casson's] extremely thorough study of representations of boats and vessels is complemented by his vast knowledge of text references.

(Archaeological Journal)

About the Author

Lionel Casson is professor emeritus of classics at New York University. He is the author of *Daily Life in Ancient Rome*, *Daily Life in Ancient Egypt*, *Illustrated History of Ships and Boats*, and *Travel in the Ancient World*, the last available from Johns Hopkins.

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