

urbanization and natural resources). This is followed by 1- to 2-page map/graphic spreads on each of the region's political entities. These are well done, although one might question why Sāmoa and American Sāmoa are separated by many pages in this section. A valuable "Pacific Statistics" table at the conclusion of this section is somewhat compromised by the absence of year-specific data sources; "latest available at time of publication" could frustrate students looking for a concise socioeconomic citation.

Overall, the reviewers can recommend this volume as a useful student resource for the Pacific region.

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The Captain Cook Encyclopaedia, written and edited by John Robson. London: Chatham Publishing, 2004. ISBN 1-86176-225-9; 288 pages, figures, maps, appendixes, bibliography, index. US\$49.95.

The Captain Cook Encyclopaedia, edited and largely written by John Robson, is an attractive, well-illustrated guide to the life and voyages of Captain James Cook. The book is also connected to a Web site that offers some additional, but currently limited, information and links: <<http://www.captaincookencyclopaedia.com>> (note the English spelling). It is written for a general readership and would be accessible to readers who have little knowledge of Cook's voyages.

Up until the publication of this encyclopedia, the best reference source on Cook was the index in J C Beaglehole's monumental *Life of Captain Cook* (1974). The biography still has a greater number of entries and sometimes a more comprehensive discussion, but the encyclopedia is better organized as a reference work and has some more up-to-date entries, such as a half-page discussion of "Endeavour replica," a half-page discussion of the "Captain Cook Society (CCS)," and other entries that talk about portraits, stained glass, and stamps. While Beaglehole focuses on Cook's biography, the encyclopedia also considers Cook as a historical and cultural icon, which is often more interesting than the details of the voyages themselves.

The appendixes to the encyclopedia are also very useful. In addition to lists of books and logs, there is an appendix that lists relevant libraries, archives, and museums, giving their addresses and Web sites; a list of the crew, with some biographical information; and a gazetteer of places named after Cook and his crew (although this does not include things such as streets).

The trivia embedded in the encyclopedia makes Cook, his voyages, and his subsequent mythological presence fascinating.

Evaluating an encyclopedia, however, is different from evaluating a regular book. Most books make arguments or narrate events, but an encyclopedia is supposed to offer a sense of an entire subject. With an encyclopedia, it is not the coherence of the narrative or the argument that mat-

ters. What are important, instead, are the comprehensiveness, the arrangement, and the depth of the topics discussed. Thus, while it is often unfair to criticize a book for failing to mention a specific topic, unless the topic actually fits into the book's discussion, to leave an important topic out of an encyclopedia is a serious shortcoming.

This encyclopedia does not offer a comprehensive guide to the different places that Cook visited during the voyages or a workable system for handling the variations of names and spellings. There is an entry for "Easter Island/Rapa Nui," but none for islands such as Atiu, Tubuai, or Thule. Atiu and Tubuai are mentioned in longer articles that summarize an entire voyage, and they can be found listed in the index, but in a comprehensive encyclopedia, all of the places in Cook's voyages should have entries, however insignificant they might be to the voyages. Some entries for places are also inconsistent. Why, for instance, is there an entry for "Hawaiian Islands and Hawaiians" but separate entries for "Tahiti" and "Tahitians"?

The entries for place-names are typically organized by their modern names and spellings, which has its benefits, but also hinders anyone using the encyclopedia while actually reading Cook's voyages. There should have been a cross-reference in the text from variant names and spellings to the one used as the main entry. An obvious example is the lack of a path for readers to move from Otaheite to Tahiti, a connection that might be obvious to many readers,

but still should not have been assumed.

While places and place-names should have been handled in a more comprehensive and consistent way, the encyclopedia is very good at providing biographical information on people connected to Cook's life and voyages. There are entries for people such as William Anderson, John Webber, and Sir Edward Hawke, who was the First Lord of the Admiralty when Cook's first voyage was planned and implemented. Some of these biographical entries provide useful and interesting information about people who may not be crucial, but who are at least relevant for a study of Cook's life and voyages.

Some entries could be confusing to readers. For instance, the only entry under "O" is "Other Cooks," which includes short biographies of two other James Cooks. This is interesting and useful information, but putting it under "Other Cooks" is not only strange, but also not very helpful. Including them under Cook, James (other) would have been better. Incidentally, some entries for "O" that should have been included but were not are a cross-reference for Oberea; an entry for Observatory Island (there are two distinct ones in Cook's voyage); a cross-reference for Omai; a cross-reference for Otaheite; an entry for Ori (a chief of Huahine Island); an entry for Orio (a chief of Raiatea Island); and a cross-reference for Owhyhee.

The relationship between entries is sometimes confusing, suggesting that the classification of different entries should have been clarified.

For instance, a long entry headed “Literature of Cook’s voyages” relates, among other things, Beaglehole’s argument on how Cook learned to write more than a ship’s journal while on the first voyage. Not only is the entry itself unfocused, it also points the reader to an entry headed “Published accounts,” which provides bare details on the first published accounts and then points the reader back quite expectedly to “Literature of Cook’s voyages” and also to an entry headed “Logs, journals and muster rolls.” The latter entry illustrates the simplicity (and paucity) of a typical ship’s log in slightly more detail than the discussion found in “Literature of Cook’s voyages,” but otherwise the entry could just as easily have been added to the “Literature” entry. The problem here is not factual, but organizational: there is no sense for why these three entries are organized in this way or why there is no entry for “Journals of Cook’s voyages.” Ideally, the encyclopedia would have had separate but related entries for journals, logs, printed books containing firsthand accounts, printed books reprinting the voyages, and printed books of secondary literature. There should also have been entries for engravings (discussing techniques, limitations, history, and so on) and paintings (which would have afforded a chance to talk about Bernard Smith’s analysis of the graphic production connected to Cook’s voyages).

Finally, there are also entries that should have been included but were not. For instance, the encyclopedia should have discussed weaponry, whether as a general topic or some-

how divided into subsections: European, native, ship, and personal, or what have you. Readers might like to know what grapeshot is, or be able to find some discussion of the production, character, and reliability of gunpowder, which played such an important role in Cook’s death.

In fact, little in the encyclopedia engages with the darker aspects of the voyages. There are no entries for such topics as cannibalism, theft, or violence, while the text in other entries generally does not point to these aspects of Cook’s voyages. One of the few entries where a discussion of violence occurs is headed “Discipline and punishment.” Here, however, the tone is more apologetic than descriptive, appealing to the need for punishment on a ship of the Royal Navy, providing a table that simply summarizes the number of punishments during each voyage, and failing to mention such things as incidents where Cook punished natives for some offense or another. It is as if Cook could do nothing wrong.

The book also makes little or no mention of Cook’s mistakes, including geographical ones. For instance, while Robson mentions Vancouver Island in various entries, he does not consider Cook’s insistence that the coast where the English stopped at Nootka Sound was part of the North American continent and not, as Vancouver would demonstrate on his next voyage, an island.

With these limitations in mind, Robson has done an impressive job with *The Captain Cook Encyclopaedia*. There are many high-quality illustrations throughout the book,

including eight pages of colored ones, and the entries are well written. Robson clearly enjoyed the process of putting the encyclopedia together, and the result would work well as a basic reference book for Cook and his voyages. However, a comprehensive and academic encyclopedia of Captain Cook must be more than a personal project. Many more entries, and many more perspectives, should have been included. An encyclopedia must anticipate a variety of different users. But the evident goal of this book is like any regular book on Cook's voyages: to make the readers believe a single account and evaluation of what happened. Cook is not described so much as he is celebrated. While this goal may be admirable, it is not the proper task of an encyclopedia to try to achieve it.

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Nā Kkai Takū: Takū's Musical Fables, collected by Richard M Moyle. English translations by Natan Nake and Tekaso Laroteone. Apwitihi: Studies in Papua New Guinea Musics, 7. Boroko, PNG: Institute of Papua New Guinea Studies, 2002. ISBN 9980-68-043-1; xxix + 147 pages, tables, figures, maps, photographs, written in Takū and English, notes, bibliography. K15.00 plus postage.

This volume is an anthology of fables that incorporate short songs, known as *kkai*, from the island of Takū, a Polynesian outlier at the very edge of

Papua New Guinea—some 200 kilometers east of Bougainville. Richard Moyle, director of the Archive of Māori and Pacific Music at the University of Auckland, undertook fieldwork on Takū from 1994 to 2001. This book stems from a request made by the chief of the island who approached Moyle in 1994 and asked for “a tangible means of documenting . . . performance traditions” (xviii), aimed at the needs of those leaving the island for school or employment.

Moyle recorded a number of *kkai*, and two research assistants from the island, Natan Nake (who died during the course of the work), and his replacement, Tekaso Laroteone, translated the fables into English. It is a collaborative work, a response to a request for practical assistance, and represents a working example of returning research material to the field, a concept so often defined more by surrounding rhetoric than actuality. Takū's location as part of the troubled North Solomons province led to a pledge from the Bougainville Revolutionary Army to relocate the population when (if) that island gains political independence. The island is also sinking, leading Moyle to suggest, “This first compilation of fables therefore may also be the last” (xxv), reinforcing a thread of cultural ecology underlying the genesis of the volume.

Don Niles, head of the Music Department at the Institute of Papua New Guinea Studies (IPNGS), in his editor's introduction, provides an overview of similar narrative structures in Papua New Guinea. He then points out that one of the early goals of the institute was to publish works

Captain James Cook on his third voyage of exploration created the circumstances that resulted in the beginning of modern Hawaiian history, for a major consequence of the voyage was the opening of the northeastern quadrant of the Pacific Ocean, including the Hawaiian Islands, to world commerce and international politics. The effects on the eight populated Polynesian islands were revolutionary. The four domains ruled by high chiefs of Kauaï, Oâhu, Maui, and Hawaiï were united into one kingdom. The subsistence economy was transformed by its role in trans-Pacific commerce. JOHN ROBSON. European voyages to the Pacific in the eighteenth century did not always carry good quality charts, nor did all the voyagers make an effort to improve matters by drawing new ones. The Captain Cook Encyclopaedia book. Read reviews from world's largest community for readers. This new encyclopedia of the life of the great Pacific expl... Let us know what's wrong with this preview of The Captain Cook Encyclopaedia by John Robson. Problem: It's the wrong book It's the wrong edition Other. Details (if other): Cancel. Thanks for telling us about the problem. Return to Book Page. Captain Cook. Edited by Glyndwr Williams. Online ISBN: 9781846152528. Your name * Please enter your name. 'The Legacy of Captain Cook' compares Cook's death on Hawaii with the later killing of a missionary on Eromanga, examines fluctuations in Cook's reputation, and describes life on board the replica of the Endeavour. GLYNDWR WILLIAMS is Emeritus Professor of History, Queen Mary & Westfield College, University of London. His many books include an edition of Captain Cook's Voyages, 1768-79, from the official accounts derived from Cook's journals. Aa. Aa.