

The Edwin Fox

HOW AN ORDINARY SAILING SHIP
CONNECTED THE WORLD
IN THE AGE
OF GLOBALIZATION,
1850–1914



BOYD COTHRAN and ADRIAN SHUBERT

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The Edwin Fox: How an Ordinary Sailing Ship Connected the World in the Age of Globalization, 1850–1914

Boyd Cothran and
Adrian Shubert
\$42.25 HB, \$31.16 eBook
(University of North
Carolina Press)

The *Edwin Fox* is the oldest surviving merchant sailing vessel in the world. After decades travelling the globe transporting cargo, indentured labourers, immigrants and convicts, then being used to store coal and frozen meat, it is now drydocked in Picton, just past the playground. Maritime heritage enthusiasts, and particularly the Edwin Fox Society, which bought

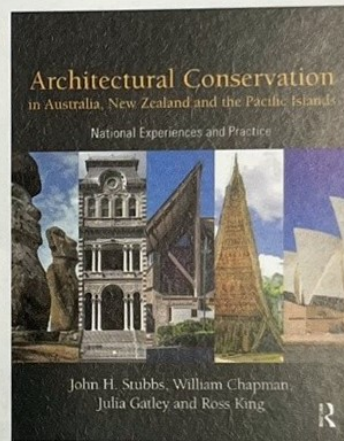
the ship for one shilling in 1965, have memorialised the vessel through preservation and in the quirky museum built around it, but it took a pair of US academics (and their funds) to compile a thorough account not only of the ship but also of the era of globalisation it chartered.

From its novelistic opening pages, the book is a compelling read. Full of interesting biographies and dense with facts and figures, it nonetheless retains a conversational style; the authors are invested emotionally, as well as academically, with a deep respect and enthusiasm for their subject matter and the human stories that bear it through time. They marvel at the capacity of humans to build, trade, travel and expand, while also weighing the devastating cost of this insatiable drive to all the forms of life that make it possible.

At times, however, this cultural critique can feel like box-ticking. The handful of references to women might

reflect the official record but it doesn't reflect the historical reality, and the accounts of indigenous peoples often read like an afterthought. Te Tiriti is not mentioned, even in comprehensive passages covering 1840, and the terms 'pakehas' and 'the Māori iwi' are telling. A casual dismissal of local histories and the suggestion that analysis of US colonial history "applies equally well to Aotearoa New Zealand" represents a new type of globalisation.

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Architectural Conservation in Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific Islands: National Experiences and Practice

John Stubbs, William
Chapman, Julia Gatley,
Ross King
\$141.60 HB, \$120.80 eBook
(Routledge)

An academic text that doesn't pretend to be otherwise, Routledge's *Architectural Conservation* is required reading for anyone involved in heritage conservation. But it's also a highly readable and

comprehensive overview of the field; foundational reading for anyone interested in why and how we try to preserve heritage in the Pacific (including globally groundbreaking approaches), and how this might be done better.

The book is part of a global series that documents architectural heritage preservation throughout the world. Covering Australia, New Zealand, Hawai'i, Micronesia, Melanesia, South Pacific Polynesia and the polar regions, the research and analysis take in both the big picture and its localised details. Experts share experiences, knowledge, laws and practices specific to their locales, revealing, in particular, how "the architectural conservation ethos that has developed in Australia and Aotearoa has been a significant development in global heritage management".

Several Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga staff are contributors, and the history and values of the organisation are well relayed. A highlight is the section by Ellen Anderson, Kaiwhakahaere Tautiaki Taonga me Kāupapa Māori, on the conservation of Māori architecture, in which she gives elegant context to the trend examined throughout the book "toward increasing validation of the intangible origins or cultural value" that is being "led from the Pacific".

"It is impossible to consider Māori architecture without considering the way that whare are an encapsulation of the entire history of the world, and of all the ancestors before us," she explains.