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THE MUTINY ON THE BOUNTY

Links with the Isle of Man

Select Bibliography

No. 12

July 2004

The Naval Mutiny on HMAV (His Majesty's Armed Vessel) Bounty which took place in the South Seas in 1789 has been the subject of numerous books and articles and in more recent years several Hollywood films. The Isle of Man has strong links with this famous episode in naval history. This bibliography attempts to provide an aid in accessing some of the material available in the MNH collections, much of which will be obtainable from other libraries world wide.

Glynn Christian in his book *Fragile Paradise* states that the bibliography of the Bounty/Pitcairn story exceeds 2500 items! Therefore this guide is only

intended to provide a starting point for access to the vast amount of material available to the researcher. Please note that other material is accessible through our catalogues and a summary list of the books, articles and pamphlets we hold in our collections is available in the reading room or by e-mail as an attachment.

For a more comprehensive list refer to those titles which have included detailed bibliographies. A selection of these are listed at the end of this resource sheet since they provide a convenient way for researchers to locate material and then request it through the inter library loan system.

Just outside Douglas is the village of Onchan, where on February 4 1781 at the parish church, William Bligh, later commander of the Bounty, married Elizabeth Betham, whose family lived at Bemahague, Onchan. Bligh was from Plymouth, where his father was a customs officer. Whilst serving as a midshipman on HMS Ranger in the 1770s William was a frequent visitor to Douglas, where he met customs officer Richard Betham and his family. After this posting Bligh subsequently sailed with Captain Cook to the Pacific and was promoted to Lieutenant, returning to England in 1780. After their



Peter Heywood
[Library Ref Photographs - Persons - Heywood]

marriage the Blighs lived in Douglas where their daughter Mary was christened at St Matthew's Church on July 7 1784. The family subsequently moved to Lambeth in London.

Peter Heywood of Douglas (Midshipman on the Bounty) was the son of a former Deemster (Judge) who was Steward to the Duke of Atholl. Born in the early 1770s Heywood joined the navy in 1786. In a small community his family would have known the Bethams and this helped persuade Bligh to select him as one of his officers for the voyage. Heywood's subsequent arrest, trial and sentence to death and the efforts of his sister Nussy and family to have him pardoned are recorded in some detail in

family correspondence and subsequent publications.

The leader of the mutineers was Fletcher Christian. Although from Cumberland, which is just across the sea from the Isle of Man, he was related to the Christian family of Milntown near Ramsey and maintained links with the Island. Christian had sailed with Bligh before.



Onchan Church [From An Appeal on behalf of the Poor Churches in the Diocese of Sodor and Mann c. 1830
[Library Ref E205/5(1)F]

The Mutiny

Barrow, Sir John

The eventful history of the mutiny and piratical seizure of HMS Bounty: its causes and consequences

London: John Murray, 1831

A full account of the events surrounding the mutiny. The author was Secretary of the Admiralty.

Library Ref.G88/1/18

Barrow, Sir John

The Mutiny on the Bounty

Boston: David R Godine, 1980

0 89723 343 5

A modern edition of the above title edited by and with an introduction by Gavin Kennedy which refers to sources which have been found since the original publication and work on them by scholars.

Library Ref G88/1/127

Bligh, William

A narrative of the mutiny on board HMS Bounty: and the subsequent voyage of part of the crew in the ship's boat...

London: Printed for George Nicol, 1790

Bligh's account of events.

Library Ref.G88/1/3x

Bligh, William

A voyage to the South Sea...in HMS the Bounty

London: Printed for George Nicol, 1792

Expanded and amended account of events.

Library Ref.G88/1/4x

Bligh, William

Bligh and the Bounty: his own unabridged narrative edited and illustrated by Laurence Irving

London: Methuen, 1936

A reprint of Bligh's voyage to the South Sea in 1792

Library Ref.G88/1/59

Mackness, George (editor)

A Book of the Bounty

London: J.Dent, 1938

This volume combines the following works: 1. Bligh's A Voyage to the South Sea; 2. A Narrative of the Mutiny on board HMS Bounty; 3. Barney's Report of the Court Martial of ten of the Mutineers with an appendix by Edward Christian; 4. Bligh's answer to Edward Christian's assertions; 5. A selection of Bligh's correspondence.

Library Ref G88/1/68

Rutter, Owen

The Court-Martial of the 'Bounty' Mutineers

Edinburgh: William Hodge & Company, 1931

A reprint of the Court-Martial proceedings with an introduction by Owen Rutter.

Library Ref.G88/1/50

Interpretation of events

Alexander, Caroline

The Bounty: The True Story of the Mutiny on the Bounty.

London: Harper Collins, 2003.

ISBN 0 00 257221 4

A reinterpretation of events using a wide range of material..

Library Ref: G.88/1/164

Belcher, Diana, Lady

The mutineers of the Bounty and their descendents in Pitcairn Islands and Norfolk Islands...

London, John Murray, 1870

Includes extracts from James Morrison's Journal.

Library Ref: G.88/1/38

Dening, Greg

Mr Bligh's Bad Language: Passion Power and Theatre on the Bounty

Cambridge University Press, 1992

0 521 38370 6

An attempt to interpret the mutiny in the context of its historical and cultural representations.

Library Ref G.88/1/123

Danielsson, Bengt

What happened on the Bounty

London: George Allen & Unwin, 1962

A reconstruction of what happened on the Bounty, the adventures of the survivors and the subsequent Court-Martial.

Library Ref.G88/1/77

Du Rietz, Rolf

Studia Bountiana 1: the causes of the Bounty mutiny, some comments on a book by Madge Darby Uppsala, 1965

This author has written numerous articles about the Bounty and this is a critique which provides a discussion of the various ways the events have been interpreted.

Library Ref.G88/1/89/1

Hough, Richard

Captain Bligh & Mr Christian: The Men and the Mutiny

London: Hutchinson, 1972

0 09 112860 9

A study of the leading characters in the mutiny.

Library Ref G88/1/124

Kennedy, Gavin

Captain Bligh the man and his mutinies

London: Duckworth, 1989 ISBN 0 7156 2231 5

Developed from his biography of Bligh. Issued in the bicentenary year of the mutiny.

Library Ref G88/1/116

McFarland, Alfred

Mutiny in the Bounty!: and story of the Pitcairn Islanders

Sydney: J. J. Moore, 1884

A compilation from the various books about the Bounty aimed at the Australian reader.

Library Ref.G88/1/31

Shapiro, H.L.

Heritage of the Bounty: The story of Pitcairn through six generations

London: Victor Gollancz, 1936

The author, formerly Curator of the American Museum of Natural History, wrote a number of articles on matters related to the Bounty.

Library Ref G88/1/61

Wahlroos, Sven

Mutiny and Romance in the South Seas: A

Companion to the Bounty Adventure

Topsfield: Salem House, 1989

Part 1 is a chronicle of events, Part 2 a Bounty

Encyclopedia with a 27 page sample of literature (bibliography)
Library Ref G88/1/120

HMS Pandora

Gesner, Peter

HMS Pandora Project: A report of five seasons of excavation
Brisbane: Memoirs of the Queensland Museum Cultural Heritage Series Vol. 2, part 1, 2000
ISSN 1440 4788

Library Ref G88/1/147b

Gesner, Peter

Pandora: An Archaeological Perspective

Brisbane: Queensland Museum, 1991
0 7242 4482 4

Library Ref G88/1/147

Hamilton, George

A Voyage Round the World in His Majesty's Frigate Pandora

Hordern House for Australian National Maritime Museum, 1998

Facsimile reprint with an essay by Peter Gesner, Curator of Maritime Archaeology, who was involved in the Pandora excavation.

Library Ref G88/1/149

Thomson, Basil, (editor)

The voyage of HMS Pandora:

despatched to arrest the mutineers of the 'Bounty' in the South Seas, 1790-91

London: Francis Edwards, 1915

This tells the story of the treatment of the mutineers on the voyage back to England to be put on trial.

Library Ref.G88/1/41

Pitcairn Island

Murray, Thomas Boyles

Pitcairn the Island, the People and the Pastor

London: SPCK, 1853

This volume was frequently reprinted with the last edition published in 1909.

It includes details of the mutiny.

Library Ref G88/1/36 (1909 ed)

Young, Rosalind Amelia

Mutiny on the Bounty and Story of Pitcairn Island 1790-1894

Wellington: Pastor David Nield, 1924

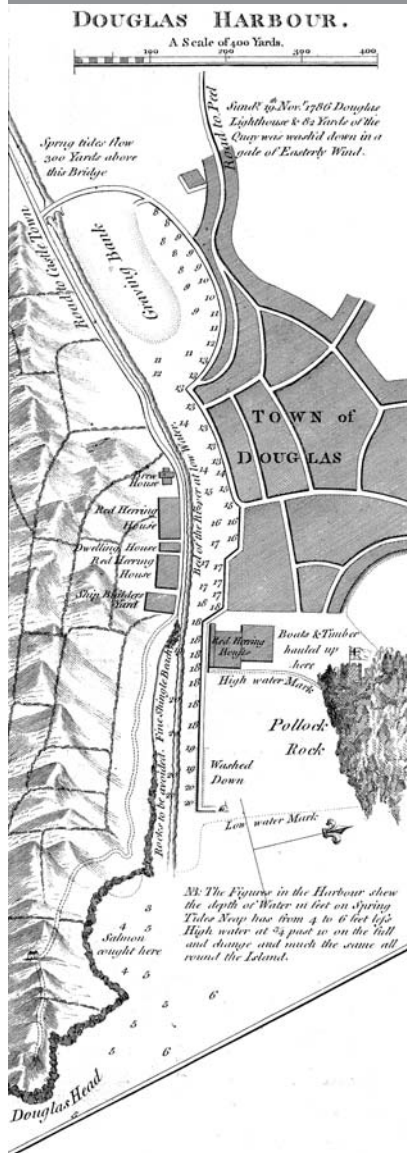
Written by a descendant of the mutineers who was born and lived on Pitcairn.

Library Ref G88/1/43

A correct plan of the Isle of Man by

Peter Fannin 1789

[Library Ref pXX2L]



The Personalities:

William Bligh

Kennedy, Gavin Bligh

London: Duckworth, 1978

A biography using recently discovered sources.

Library Ref.G88/1/105

Mackness, George

The Life of Vice-Admiral William Bligh

Sydney: Angus and Robertson, 1931

2 volume comprehensive account.

Library Ref G88/1/48-9

Montgomery, H. S.

William Bligh of the 'Bounty':

in fact and in fable

London: Williams & Norgate, 1937

A biography.

Library Ref.G88/1/65

Rawson, Geoffrey

Bligh Of the Bounty

London: Philip Allan, 1930

With sixty pages on the Mutiny.

Library Ref.G88/1/47

Rutter, Owen

Turbulent journey

London: Ivor Nicholson and

Watson, 1936

Library Ref.G88/1/60

Fletcher Christian

Beach, Susan Hicks

The yesterdays behind the door:

a family biography

Liverpool: Liverpool University

Press, 1956

This volume deals with the Christian family history and includes details about Fletcher Christian.

Library Ref G90/CHR

Christian, Glynn

Fragile Paradise: the discovery of Fletcher Christian Bounty mutineer

London: Hamish Hamilton, 1982 ISBN 0 241 10757 1

An interesting interpretation of the events leading up to and subsequent to the mutiny by a descendant of Fletcher Christian. It also includes the Christian family tree.

Library Ref.G88/1/103

Peter Heywood

Moore, A. W., SHK

Nessy Heywood

Douglas: Brown & Sons, 1913

Nessy was actively involved in securing her brother's pardon from his conviction for his involvement in the mutiny. This book contains all the published letters of Nessy and Peter Heywood

Library Ref.G88/1/39

Tagart, Edward

A memoir of Captain Peter Heywood, R.N. with extracts from his diaries and correspondence.

London: Effingham Wilson, 1832

Extensive coverage of his naval career, the Bounty voyage and subsequent court martial.

Library Ref. G88/1/19

Bibliographies

The following have useful bibliographies. The more recent examples provide a vivid indication of the amount of material available to researchers.

Alexander, Caroline

The Bounty

pp 441-448 sources.

pp 449-467 select Bibliography

Dening, Greg

Mr Bligh's Bad Language

pp 397-427 over 620 references.

Kennedy, Gavin

Bligh

pp 400-412 a detailed list of 328 items.

Kennedy, Gavin

Captain Bligh: the man and his mutinies

Updated and condensed list pp 307-310

Lucas, Charles, Sir

The Pitcairn Island register book

London: SPCK, 1929

pp 165-178 has 82 references divided by theme.

(Library Ref. G88/1/45)

Rutter, Owen

The Court-Martial of the 'Bounty' Mutineers

pp 200-202 23 references

Wahlroos, Sven

Mutiny and Romance in the South Seas:

A Companion to the Bounty Adventure

pp 439-466

Manuscript Resources

Heywood Family Letters

The letters and papers of Peter and Hester (Nessy) Heywood.

A detailed handlist is available in the search room.

Archive Ref 09519

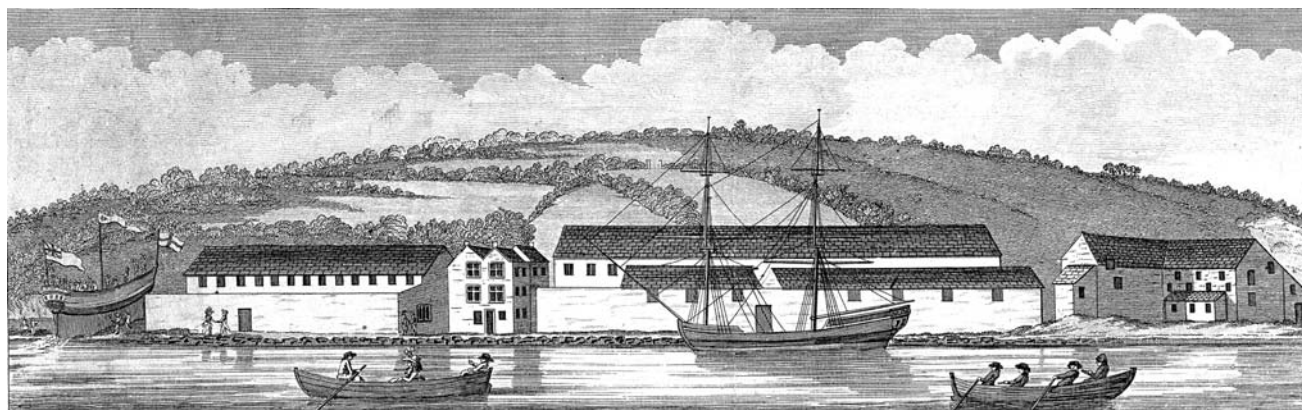
Web Sites:

There is a wealth of information about the Bounty available on the Internet. Try running searches using terms such as Bounty Mutiny, Pitcairn Island, William Bligh to get up to date references.

At the time of writing this guide a useful site was

<http://lareau.org/bounty.html>

This had numerous links and an online bibliography by H.L.Kerr which included books, manuscripts, articles and portraits relating to the mutiny.



A VIEW of the Southside of DOUGLAS HARBOUR from His GRACE the DUKE of ATHOL'S HOUSE.

A correct plan of the Isle of Man by Peter Fannin 1789 [Library Ref pXX2L]

The Manx National Heritage Library holds a wealth of various and extensive source material.

Staff at the library and throughout Manx National Heritage, are always pleased to hear from anyone with an interest in Manx history.

**Manx National Heritage,
Douglas, Isle of Man IM1 3LY.**

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Website: <http://gov.im/mnh>

Opening times: Monday to Saturday, 10am to 5pm
Closed Sunday and for one week in January.

MNH Library is a reference only facility and does not lend items through the Inter Library Loan system. However, photocopies of some material, subject to copyright and the need to preserve originals may be available on receipt of the appropriate copying fee.

Some material may also be available through Inter Library Loans from other libraries and research centres.

The following links are useful for researchers:

British Library Newspaper Library -

<http://prodigi.bl.uk/nlcat>

British Library on-line public catalogue -

<http://blpc.co.uk>

Library of Congress -

<http://catalog.loc.gov>

AGF/KG 07.04