Frederick H. Hanselmann, *Captain Kidd's Lost Ship: The Wreck of the Quedagh Merchant*. Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 2019. xxii + 199 pp. (Cloth US\$85.00)

This true account of the merchant vessel *Quedagh Merchant* challenges the romance and mythology of piracy. Captain William Kidd was an ambitious man who lived and died during a time of emerging globalization that made the world smaller, and in which there were tremendous institutional and governmental shifts taking place around the world. In *Captain Kidd's Lost Ship*, Frederick Hanselmann brings to light the social, political, and human influences affecting world events between the close of the seventeenth century and the early eighteenth-century age of pirates. During 1696–99, the actions of Captain Kidd, a privateer and affluent citizen in the British American colonies, together with the subsequent exertion of international political pressures and shifting personal and governmental alliances, resulted in his being accused, imprisoned, found guilty, hanged, and gibbeted over the River Thames in 1701; his lot became a symbol for all to witness the fate to be faced—going forward—for acts of piracy. While he was not necessarily innocent, that is how he viewed his actions. To his dismay, instead of being heralded as a hero among his associates and benefactors for capturing *Quedagh Merchant* and delivering wealth to his allies, his life was destroyed.

This fascinating book explores archaeology, historical fact, human nature, and psychology to tease out the true story of Captain Kidd and the *Quedagh Merchant*. Hanselmann begins with a chronology of events between the 1500s and the twenty-first century, guiding readers through the complexities of history that resulted in Kidd's emergence and decline, and the capture and loss of his ship. He uses theoretical foundations to examine the archaeological shipwreck site that was discovered in the Dominican Republic, making history tangible, and analyzes social institutions, processes, and networks in primary and secondary sources. And he probes the interaction between institutions and individuals to reveal the influence of human activity in this case.

The first chapter, "Theoretical Models for Interpretation," introduces theoretical, multiscale analysis, maritime archaeology and world systems, networks, and agency, and applies these to the *Quedagh Merchant* story. The second chapter, "Globalization, Trade, Piracy, and Scandal," takes readers on a journey to the Eastern Hemisphere to explore the relationship of the English East India Company, founded in 1600, with Armenian trade networks, and eventually the history of the mission and capture by Kidd of the *Quedagh Merchant*. It then moves to the Western Hemisphere to examine the trade and political economy of seventeenth-century British America, as well as the networks of

sailors and privateers, and the increase in piracy in British America. Finally, it focuses on piracy and violence, and the growth and spread of English piracy to the Indian Ocean. The third chapter, “The Tale of Captain Kidd and *Quedagh Merchant*,” drills down on the story, recounting the venture, the voyage, the capture, the aftermath, and the imprisonment and trial of Captain Kidd that resulted in his demise.

Once the narrative and historical foundation is laid, a fourth chapter, “Archaeological Investigations and Shipwreck Identification,” transitions to the present, making the historical event tangible. Hanselmann describes field methods, site formation and spatial analysis, the shipwreck, site features and origins of the vessel as revealed through ferrous artifacts, wood sample analysis, ballast stone analysis, keel, planking and frames, rabbeting, square notches, and the use of *Chuna* (lime), concluding that the Caribbean shipwreck site in question is in fact the remains of *Quedagh Merchant*. Once that is established, a final chapter, “The Shipwreck as a Living Museum in the Sea,” underscores that the physical site of Kidd’s lost ship exists now, holding the unique value of connecting the past with the present in the human psyche, for this pivotal time and shift in world view, which can be experienced today. Hanselmann touches on variables at play to make this happen, including legal frameworks for underwater cultural heritage in the Dominican Republic, the shipwreck as a common-pool resource, the geographical background, and examination of resource usage in the Catalina Island area, including fishing, tourism, adaptation and transition, and diversification and specialization. He examines ideology and models of co-management within a framework for multi-institutional connectivity aimed at protecting and sustainably developing the site of the *Quedagh Merchant* as a Marine Protected Area to be accessed for economic and touristic value for the local community, while at the same time assuring the preservation of the physical site without excluding measured, targeted, and justifiable archaeological investigation and research now and in the future. The book is inclusive and compelling.

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