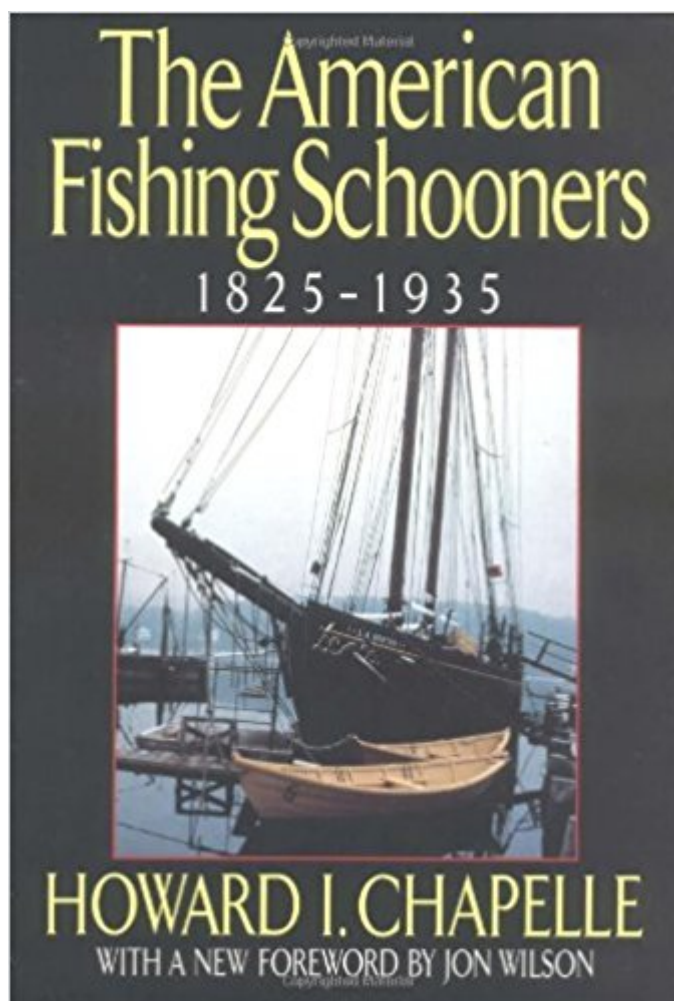


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# The American Fishing Schooners, 1825-1935



## Synopsis

An important feature of the book is its illustrated glossary-appendix, which covers items of hull construction and equipment, rigging and gear, colour and carving, and includes notes by the builders and riggers themselves. The evolution of the American fishing schooner from the 18th century to the last working and racing schooners of the mid-1930s is recounted in this book. The designers, builders and crews are discussed, and 137 plans of schooners show graphically the development of the type.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

The history of the development of the unique vessels built for the New England fishing industry from colonial days to the first third of the twentieth century is here recounted by the leading authority on the subject. Mr. Chapelle gathered material from numerous sources over many years for this book, bringing together a vast amount of important information on the beautiful American fishing schooners, now extinct, built at Essex and other shipbuilding areas of New England. This book traces the evolution of the American fishing schooner from the eighteenth century to the last working and racing schooners of the mid-1930s. The designers, builders, and crews are also discussed. There are 137 plans of schooners which graphically show the development of the type. An important feature of the book is its illustrated glossary-appendix based on Mr. Chapelle's notebooks. It covers scores of items of hull construction and equipment, rigging and gear, color and carving, and includes notes by the builders and riggers themselves, in fact, everything that could be recorded about these crafts, then fast-disappearing.

Howard I. Chapelle (1901-1975) was an American naval architect, and curator of maritime history at the Smithsonian Institution. In addition, he authored many books and articles on maritime history and marine architecture, including *Yacht Designing and Planning*, *Boatbuilding: A Complete Handbook of Wooden Boat Construction*, *The History of American Sailing Ships*, *The History of the American Sailing Navy: The Ships and Their Development*, *American Small Sailing Craft*, and many more. Jon Wilson grew up under the heady influence of the ocean's forces and fragrances on the Rhode Island and Connecticut shores. Taking more naturally to New England's saltwater traditions than its academic ones, he became a carpenter and builder of wooden boats before launching *WoodenBoat* magazine from a cabin in Maine in 1974. In the wake of that magazine's international success and influence, Wilson sensed an opportunity to create a new magazine that could further thinking and dialog on the deeply human and personal aspects of challenging individual and social issues. He began working on ideas for *Hope* magazine in 1994, and launched the magazine in early 1996. He is Publisher and Editor-in-Chief of *Hope*.

Good detail on Schooners

Found everything I was looking for!

Chappelle is considered the authority on the naval architecture of American sailing craft, and this book is a "must have" for anyone interested in the construction and design of these unforgettable working ladies of the sea.

A classic every schooner lover should have on the shelf.

Chapelle has written a book for those who love ships and want to explore this wonderful corner of naval history. As he admits the early years (late 1700's and up to the 1830's) is a little light but with enough well drawn (warning, Chapelle has been accused of "improving" lines on his drawings of ships he did not design) drafts to understand most of what he is taking about. However, if you are not familiar with nautical design you will need nautical dictionary to get the full value out of this book. I don't want to sound too negative, I really enjoyed this book, but it is not for the average reader. Also, the drawings are really beautiful and all are fun to look over. Please note, when I say drawings, I mean nautical draft, with the hull drawn from one side (usually starboard), a view that splits a fore

and aft view (on one the left and one on the right), and a view of the hull that I don't completely understand but seems to show the hull from below and helps to show the shape of the hull. Mastings and sails may or may not be shown, rigging not shown to any detail.

It gives a lot of information about many working sailing schooners. Plenty of drawings to let you envision what each schooner was like.

I got a great book at a fair price. It was in a little tougher shape than I expected but I am very happy with the purchase and the speed of delivery.

This is the most comprehensive book ever written on the subject. It was penned by one of America's premier historians of 19th Century Naval Architecture. It is doubtful that a finer book will ever be written on the subject of American fishing schooners. It was a classic when I was a boy, and it is still a classic. No student of 19th Century Maritime history should go without this book.

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