

SPRINGER BRIEFS IN ARCHAEOLOGY  
UNDERWATER ARCHAEOLOGY

Lynn Harris *Editor*

# Sea Ports and Sea Power

## African Maritime Cultural Landscapes



 Springer

SpringerBriefs in Archaeology

Underwater Archaeology

**Series Editor:**

Annalies Corbin

More information about this series at <http://www.springer.com/series/13636>

Lynn Harris  
Editor

# Sea Ports and Sea Power

African Maritime Cultural Landscapes

 Springer

*Editor*

Lynn Harris

Program in Maritime Studies

East Carolina University Program in Maritime Studies

Greenville, NC, USA

ISSN 1861-6623

SpringerBriefs in Archaeology

ISBN 978-3-319-46984-3

DOI 10.1007/978-3-319-46985-0

ISSN 2192-4910 (electronic)

ISBN 978-3-319-46985-0 (eBook)

Library of Congress Control Number: 2016958312

© The Author(s) 2017

This work is subject to copyright. All rights are reserved by the Publisher, whether the whole or part of the material is concerned, specifically the rights of translation, reprinting, reuse of illustrations, recitation, broadcasting, reproduction on microfilms or in any other physical way, and transmission or information storage and retrieval, electronic adaptation, computer software, or by similar or dissimilar methodology now known or hereafter developed.

The use of general descriptive names, registered names, trademarks, service marks, etc. in this publication does not imply, even in the absence of a specific statement, that such names are exempt from the relevant protective laws and regulations and therefore free for general use.

The publisher, the authors and the editors are safe to assume that the advice and information in this book are believed to be true and accurate at the date of publication. Neither the publisher nor the authors or the editors give a warranty, express or implied, with respect to the material contained herein or for any errors or omissions that may have been made.

Printed on acid-free paper

This Springer imprint is published by Springer Nature

The registered company is Springer International Publishing AG

The registered company address is: Gewerbestrasse 11, 6330 Cham, Switzerland

# Introduction: Maritime Landscapes as an African Approach to Maritime Archaeology

There has been a fundamental shift in maritime archaeology moving away from purely descriptive approaches to material culture, such as shipwreck assemblages and ship construction, towards an alternate focus on examining the social implications of these cultural remains (Babits and Van Tilberg 1998; Gould 2010; Catsambis et al. 2011). The cultural landscape approach has recently been widely integrated into archaeological discourse and cultural heritage management and is well represented in academic publications such as *Journal of Maritime Archaeology*. A cultural landscape represents the idea that cultural identities and collective histories are anchored to the physical landscape features as well as contained within the cognitive perceptions of a given geographical area. This intellectual platform provides a mechanism for researchers to amalgamate a variety of different approaches to analyze the complexity of people's social interactions and relationships with their environment over space and time (Westerdahl 1992; Duncan 2006; Marano 2012; McKinnon et al. 2014; Borrelli 2015).

While the concept of a maritime landscape is very broad, a more focused thematic approach draws together a number of case studies in South Africa, Namibia, Tanzania, and Nigeria with a common thread. Specifically, diverse practitioners in this compilation of papers will address the subtheme of sea ports and sea power as part of understanding the African maritime landscape. Sea ports and surrounds are dynamic centers of maritime culture supporting a rich diversity of cultural groups and economic activities. Strategic locations along the African coastline have associations with indigenous maritime communities and trade centers, colonial power struggles and skirmishes, establishment of naval bases and operations, and World War I and II engagements. Topics highlight an array of tangible and intangible heritage themes such as identity and maritimity, harbor infrastructure and risk, port laborers and fishers, naval shipwrecks and technology, slave trade landmarks and memory, and recognition of global contributions towards port communities that supplement local African maritime histories.

While primarily addressing research themes and questions, a few chapters include discussions about maritime heritage tourism and education. Recent developments in maritime archaeology theory and method have led to the recognition that

training students in the field of both academia and cultural resource management poses new challenges as the discipline struggles to meet the needs of the twenty-first century, and specifically, a more Africanist approach. Engaging with the concept of the maritime cultural landscape, heritage managers can link submerged sites and sites which do not resonate with adjacent communities to a more expansive and inclusive heritage narrative, not focused exclusively on European shipwrecks and cargoes. New narratives about European ships and shipwrecks might include the roles of African crew like Kroomen. Other maritime industries, linked to smaller watercraft fleets like sealing, fishing, and whaling, offer much potential for exploring the evolution of local industry from a multicultural perspective.

Adoption of the 2001 Convention has opened a space for a new discourse on underwater cultural heritage and management approaches and provided a framework from which to propose a strategy for more relevant government intervention. Increasingly professionals and students from the USA and elsewhere collaborate to study heritage sites within international jurisdictions, in this case Africa. Shipwrecks represent global heritage, especially warships or those playing auxiliary war roles, like the Confederate Raider *Alabama*, US Liberty shipwreck *Thomas Tucker* at Cape Point in South Africa, or the German and British WW I and II warships in Tanzanian waters. Another trend is the best practice of in situ preservation and how to effectively monitor, manage, and showcase these diverse maritime sites which are often at risk or have potential for recreational, educational, and tourism ventures (Sharfman et al. 2012). This trend has occurred in tandem with a perceived concern that students are trained for academia in a world in which the job market increasingly has an applied dimension, with students primarily entering employment in private sector CRM, tourism, and historic preservation directly after acquiring an MA degree. Internships, field schools, and summer abroad studies allow students to view maritime archaeology with a global outlook (Bender and Smith 2000; Harris 2013; Harris and McKinnon 2016).

For African countries, adoption of the 2001 Convention has opened doors for a new discourse on underwater cultural heritage and management approaches. It has provided a framework from which to propose a strategy for more relevant government intervention. Although Iziko Museums in South Africa and other groups have implemented maritime archaeology capacity building and training projects in several African countries, the challenge is to sustain these groundwork initiatives with internal funding and support. This volume addresses these current issues within the discipline.

## References

- Babits, L., & Van Tilberg, H. (Eds.). (1998). *Maritime archaeology: A reader of substantive and theoretical contributions*. New York: Plenum Press.
- Bender, S. J., & Smith, G. S. (Eds.). (2000). *Teaching archaeology in the twenty-first century*. Washington, DC: Society for American Archaeology.
- Borrelli, J. (2015). *The bay of storms and tavern of the seas: Risk in the maritime cultural landscape of the harbor at Cape Town, South Africa*. Master's thesis, Department of History, East Carolina University, Greenville.
- Catsambis, A., Ford, B., & Hamilton, D. L. (Eds.). (2011). *The Oxford handbook of maritime archaeology*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Duncan, B. G. (2006). *The maritime archaeology and maritime cultural landscapes of Queenscliffe: A nineteenth century Australian coastal community*. Doctoral dissertation, School of Anthropology, Archaeology, and Sociology, James Cook University.
- Gould, R. (2010). *Archaeology and the social history of ships*. New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Harris, L. (2013). Chapter 9: Maritime heritage outreach and education: East Carolina university's engagement with international public communities in Africa and the Caribbean. In D. Scott-Ireton (Ed.), *Between the devil and the deep: Meeting challenges in the public perception of maritime cultural heritage*. New York: Springer Press.
- Harris, L., & McKinnon, J. (2016). A job market and benchmarking survey of maritime archaeology. In *Society for Historical Archaeology Proceedings* (pp. 143–150).
- Marano, J. L. (2012). *Ship ashore! The role of risk in the development of the United States life-saving service and its effects on local wrecking patterns along the North Carolina Coast*. Master's thesis, Department of History, East Carolina University, Greenville.
- McKinnon, J., Mushynsky, J., & Cabrera, G. (2014). A fluid sea in the Mariana Islands: Community archaeology and mapping the seascape of Saipan. *Journal of Maritime Archaeology*, 9(1), 59–79.
- Sharfman, J., Boshoff, J., & Parthesius, R. (2012). Maritime and underwater cultural heritage in South Africa: The development of relevant management strategies in the historical maritime context of the southern tip of Africa. *Journal of Maritime Archaeology*, 7(1), 87–109.
- Westerdahl, C. (1992). The maritime cultural landscape. *International Journal of Nautical Archaeology*, 21(1), 5–14.

# Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>When Did the Swahili Become Maritime? A Reply to Jeffrey Fleisher et al. (2015).....</b>	<b>1</b>
	Elgidius B. Ichumbaki	
<b>2</b>	<b>Port of Badagry, a Point of No Return: Investigation of Maritime Slave Trade in Nigeria.....</b>	<b>13</b>
	Wale Oyediran	
<b>3</b>	<b>“A Gulf Between the Mountains”: Slavers, Whalers, and Fishers in False Bay, Cape Colony .....</b>	<b>27</b>
	Lynn Harris	
<b>4</b>	<b>Technology and Empire: A Comparative Analysis of British and Dutch Maritime Technologies During the Napoleonic Era (1792-1815) .....</b>	<b>43</b>
	Ivor Mollema	
<b>5</b>	<b>Bay of Storms and Tavern of the Seas: The Role of Risk in the Maritime Cultural Landscape of the Cape Town Harbour.....</b>	<b>55</b>
	Jeremy R. Borrelli	
<b>6</b>	<b>World War I Shipwrecks of the Western Indian Ocean of Tanzania: Neglected Underwater Heritage Resources .....</b>	<b>67</b>
	Elinaza Mjeme	
<b>7</b>	<b><i>Thomas T. Tucker</i>: A Beached US Liberty Ship in Cape Point Nature Reserve, South Africa .....</b>	<b>77</b>
	Nathaniel King	
<b>8</b>	<b>On Desolate Sands: Beached Shipwrecks in the Namibian Coastal Landscape .....</b>	<b>89</b>
	Jennifer J. Jones	

<b>9</b>	<b>Benefits, Burdens, and Opportunities in South Africa: The Implications of Ratifying the 2001 UNESCO Convention on the Protection of Underwater Cultural Heritage.....</b>	<b>101</b>
	Jonathan Sharfman, Jaco Boshoff, and Jonathan Gribble	
<b>10</b>	<b>Epilogue .....</b>	<b>111</b>
	Wale Oyediran and Lynn Harris	
	<b>Index.....</b>	<b>115</b>

# List of Figures

Fig. 2.1	Port of Badagry Archway (Photograph by author).....	14
Fig. 2.2	Bight of Benin showing Badagry (www.weather-forecast.com Accessed 3/29/15).....	15
Fig. 2.3	Signage for the slave route (Photograph by the Author) .....	20
Fig. 3.1	False Bay Community gathered around a Whale Carcass .....	32
Fig. 3.2	Newspaper notification of Kroomen building destruction (Photo by Author) .....	35
Fig. 3.3	Kroomen gravestones in Seaforth Naval Cemetry (Photo by Author) .....	38
Fig. 3.4	Kalk Bay Snoek Fishing boat (Photograph by Author).....	39
Fig. 4.1	An illustration of European colonial trade. Note the bottleneck of trading at the Cape of Good Hope (Spatial Analysis 2012) .....	44
Fig. 4.2	Illustration of iron knee use on the French ship <i>Invincible</i> from 1758 (Goodwin 1998:29) .....	49
Fig. 4.3	Ivor Mollema taking wood samples on <i>Bata</i> wreck (Photograph by Lynn Harris) .....	51
Fig. 5.1	GIS progression of spatial and temporal expansion of Cape Town harbour with relevant harbour works, extent of harbour property, and supplementary infrastructure utilized by the maritime community. Shaded areas represent bathymetric differentiations in the bay (Image by author, 2015).....	59
Fig. 5.2	Chronological distribution of shipwreck incidents in Table Bay with a special note indicating the construction of the harbour breakwater .....	60
Fig. 5.3	Distribution of historically and archaeologically known shipwrecks from 1806 to 1910. Shipwreck remains were grouped according to spatial patterning and general density of wrecks along the bay.....	61

Fig. 6.1	Location of partially salvaged WWI shipwrecks on Tanzania coast. Site key: 1 = H.M.S <i>Pegasus</i> ; 2 = <i>Newbridge</i> ; 3 = <i>Somali</i> ; 4 = S.M.S <i>Königsberg</i> (Map Source: Expert Africa 2012).....	69
Fig. 6.2	SMS <i>Königsberg</i> at Dar es Salaam in 1914 (Photo courtesy of Kevin Patience).....	70
Fig. 7.1	Map showing Table Bay, Simon's Bay, and location of <i>Thomas Tucker</i> (Google Earth image adapted by author).....	79
Fig. 7.2	<i>Thomas T. Tucker</i> stern section and wreck site, facing East (Photo by author, 2014).....	82
Fig. 7.3	<i>Thomas Tucker</i> site map.....	83
Fig. 7.4	(a, b) Sections of <i>Thomas Tucker</i> showing marine growth (Photo by author) .....	85
Fig. 8.1	Map of Namibian coastline (Figure by Author) .....	91
Fig. 8.2	Changes in coastline shown using GIS (Figure by author).....	92
Fig. 8.3	<i>Eduard Bohlen</i> (Photo by author) .....	96

## About the Editor

**Lynn Harris** (PhD University of South Carolina in 2002) is an Associate Professor in the Maritime Studies Program, History Department at East Carolina University. She is originally from Cape Town, South Africa, and has a background in nautical archaeology, terrestrial archaeology, submerged cultural resource management, and maritime history. Lynn received her BA and Honors degrees in Archaeology, Anthropology, and African Studies at Stellenbosch University in South Africa. Areas of fieldwork experience and research interest include the American South, Africa, and the Caribbean. Her particular interest is the African diaspora and labor history. She teaches courses in underwater archaeology methods, maritime material culture, watercraft recording, and African and Caribbean maritime history with an interdisciplinary Atlantic World perspective. Teaching assignments have included offering summer annual abroad study programs in South Africa or Namibia. Lynn has also directed and co-directed underwater archaeology field schools for graduate students in a variety of locations. She has published on vernacular watercraft, colonial period shipwrecks, public outreach, maritime heritage tourism, and international collaboration in underwater archaeology initiatives. Most recently, she authored and coauthored articles and reviews in the *Journal of Maritime Archaeology*, *Nautical Research Journal*, *Historical Archaeology*, *Journal of Anthropological Research*, *International Journal of Heritage Studies*, *Nautilus: A Maritime Journal of Literature, History, and Culture* and *Northern Mariner*. In 2013 she was presented with the Gerald E. Morris Prize by the Fellows of the G. W. Blunt White Library, Mystic Seaport, for an article best representing Maritime scholarship.

# Contributors

**Jeremy R. Borrelli** QAR Archaeological Conservation Laboratory, Office of State Archaeology, North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, Greenville, NC, USA

**Jaco Boshoff** South African Heritage Resources Agency, Cape Town, South Africa

**Jonathan Gribble** Iziko Maritime Museum, Cape Town, South Africa

**Lynn Harris** Program in Maritime Studies, East Carolina University Program in Maritime Studies, Greenville, NC, USA

**Elgidius B. Ichumbaki** Department of Archaeology and Heritage Studies, University of Dar es Salaam, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

**Jennifer J. Jones** Cultural Resources Management Program, East Carolina University, Greenville, NC, USA

**Nathaniel King** Program in Maritime Studies, East Carolina University, Greenville, NC, USA

**Elinaza Mjeme** Department of Archaeology and Heritage Studies, University of Dar es Salaam, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

**Ivor Mollema** East Carolina University, Greenville, NC, USA

**Wale Oyediran** East Carolina University, Greenville, NC, USA

**Jonathan Sharfman** African Centre for Heritage Activities (ACHA), Cape Town, South Africa