

general description of Tahiti . . . because it is so obviously not a part of the original journal but added during the later revision . . .

James Cook was a great re-drafter, and as Beaglehole (again) defined, 'to chart the coasts and record the soundings' of his *Journal* in all its variations, 'the reader' should be warned 'that there are rocks and deceptive shallows, and even a quantity of fog' (*Journals* 1, p. cxciv). I have attempted to overcome these within the confines of acceptable editorship.

Then again, a brief extract from Beaglehole's long Textual Introduction to the *Journal* of the first voyage (p. ccxxiii) gives some hint of the complexities involved in authenticating details of what Cook himself might regard as the definitive manuscript. Here Beaglehole is discussing what he calls the Greenwich ms, which was probably once the property of King George III and presented to the National Maritime Museum at Greenwich by King George V in 1935:

One may suggest that the copy was made at different times, for it reflects different stages of the original. Some of its omissions are identical with those of the Mitchell ms [Mitchell Library, Sydney, New South Wales]; on the other hand it picks up some revisions and alterations which that ms does not have . . . The names Botany Bay and New South Wales are written without erasure, although the frequent use of *was* in place of *were* argues a copy made before some of Cook's own revision . . .

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Chronology

1728	27 OCTOBER	James Cook born	
1745	SUMMER	Apprenticed to William Sanderson, shopkeeper, at Staithes, north Yorkshire	16 YEARS
1746	AUTUMN	Apprenticed to John Walker, shipowner, Whitby, north Yorkshire	18 YEARS
1755	17 JUNE	Volunteers for Royal Navy	26 YEARS
1757	30 MAY	First serious action against a French man o' war	28 YEARS
	SUMMER	Promoted master	
	27 OCTOBER	Appointed to HMS <i>Pembroke</i> on his birthday	29 YEARS
1758	22 FEBRUARY	Sails for Canada under Admiral Boscawen	
	26 JULY	At the capture of the French fort, Louisburg	
1759	13 SEPTEMBER	Involved in the capture of Quebec	30 YEARS
1762	26 OCTOBER	At the conclusion of the Seven Years' War, arrives Spithead from Newfoundland	33 YEARS
	21 DECEMBER	Marries Elizabeth Batts	34 YEARS
1763	5 APRIL	Appointed surveyor of Newfoundland	
	29 NOVEMBER	Returns from first survey	35 YEARS
1764	6 AUGUST	Injured by explosion	
1766	11 NOVEMBER	Returns from final survey	38 YEARS
1768	5 MAY	Appointed to command an expedition to the Pacific to observe the transit of Venus in 1769	39 YEARS
	25 MAY	Promoted to rank of lieutenant RN	
	26 AUGUST	Departs from Plymouth in <i>Endeavour</i> bark	
	12 SEPTEMBER	Anchors at Madeira	
	3 NOVEMBER	Anchors at Rio de Janeiro	40 YEARS

Captain James Cook

1769	15 JANUARY	Anchors in the Bay of Good Success, Tierra del Fuego	
	25 JANUARY	Doubles Cape Horn	
	11 APRIL	Sights Tahiti	
	3 JUNE	Transit of Venus observed	
	26 JUNE	Circumnavigates Tahiti	
	9 AUGUST	Departs from the Society Islands	
	2 SEPTEMBER	Fails to find Great Southern Continent and heads north	
	7 OCTOBER	Sights coast of North Island, New Zealand	
1770	16 JANUARY	Anchors in Queen Charlotte Sound, South Island	41 YEARS
	7 FEBRUARY	Departs from Queen Charlotte Sound	
	27 MARCH	Completes circumnavigation of South and North Islands, New Zealand	
	19 APRIL	Sights the coast of New Holland (Australia)	
	28 APRIL	Lands at Botany Bay	
	10 JUNE	The <i>Endeavour</i> strikes a coral reef and in great danger	
	13 AUGUST	Takes the repaired <i>Endeavour</i> to sea again	42 YEARS
	11 OCTOBER	Arrives at Batavia and anchors	
	26 DECEMBER	'My hospital ship' departs from Batavia	
1771	14 MARCH	Arrives at Table Bay, Cape Town	
	16 APRIL	Departs from Table Bay for England	
	13 JULY	Anchors off Deal, Kent	
	DECEMBER	Takes Elizabeth to Yorkshire and visits his father and John Walker at Whitby; stays there until January 1772	43 YEARS
1772	13 JULY	Departs from Plymouth on second voyage	
	22 NOVEMBER	Departs from Table Bay on first Antarctic sweep	44 YEARS
1773	17 JANUARY	Crosses Antarctic Circle for the first time	
	23 MARCH	Arrives Dusky Bay, New Zealand	
	19 MAY	Reunited with <i>Adventure</i> Queen Charlotte Sound	
	JUNE	Both ships depart from Ship Cove	
	17 AUGUST	At Vaitepiha Bay, Tahiti	
	18 SEPTEMBER	Departs from the Society Islands	
	30 OCTOBER	Ships separated again off New Zealand	45 YEARS

Chronology

	25 NOVEMBER	<i>Resolution</i> embarks for Antarctic again on second sweep	
1774	23 FEBRUARY	Taken ill on approach to Easter Island	
	4 JUNE	Leaves Tahiti again on King George III's birthday	
	27 JUNE	<i>Resolution</i> anchors at Tasman's Rotterdam, in the Tongan, or Friendly, group	
	JULY- AUGUST	Deep among the Melanesian Islands	
	18 OCTOBER	Back at Ship Cove, New Zealand	
	10 NOVEMBER	Departs Ship Cove	46 YEARS
	25 DECEMBER	At Christmas Harbour, Tierra del Fuego	
1775	3 JANUARY	Embarks on last Antarctic sweep	
	21 MARCH	Table Mountain sighted again	
	27 APRIL	Leaves the Cape	
	30 JULY	Anchors at Spithead	
	9 AUGUST	Promoted post-captain, his commission personally handed to him by George III	
1776	9 JANUARY	Dinner with Palliser, Stephens and Sandwich to discuss command of new North Pacific expedition	47 YEARS
	25 JUNE	Sails from the Nore	
	18 OCTOBER	At Table Bay	
	1 DECEMBER	<i>Resolution</i> and <i>Discovery</i> , united, sail from Table Bay	48 YEARS
	25-31 DECEMBER	At Christmas Harbour, Kerguelen	
1777	27-30 JANUARY	At Adventure Bay, Van Diemen's Land (Tasmania)	
	12-25 FEBRUARY	Queen Charlotte Sound, New Zealand	
	1 MAY-		
	17 JULY	Diverts to Friendly Islands	
	13 AUGUST	At Tahiti again	
	8 DECEMBER	Departs from the Society Islands	49 YEARS
	25 DECEMBER	At Christmas Island	
1778	18 JANUARY	First Hawaiian islands sighted	
	6 MARCH	West coast of North America sighted	
	29 MARCH- 26 APRIL	At Nootka Sound, Vancouver Island	
	1 JUNE	Suffers disappointment at Turnagain River, Cook Inlet, Alaska	
	26 JUNE	Hazards his ships again	
	3 AUGUST	Suffers the death of Surgeon Anderson	

1814
- Endeavour at
- Cook's early career
- Some years later
- Daily in place of King's visit

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- 17 AUGUST Both ships halted by ice
26 OCTOBER Departs from Unalaska
27 OCTOBER Celebrates his fiftieth birthday
26 NOVEMBER Back at the Hawaiian islands, sights Maui
30 NOVEMBER Chief Terreeoboo on board, and later sights Owhyhee (Hawaii)
1779 16 JANUARY Kealakekua Bay sighted
4 FEBRUARY Departs from Kealakekua Bay
8 FEBRUARY *Resolution* loses her foremast and returns to Kealakekua Bay
14 FEBRUARY Theft of a cutter by Hawaiians leads to an affray ashore, Cook's failure to kidnap the King, and to his death, along with four marines
15 FEBRUARY Part of Cook's body returned
22 FEBRUARY Remains of Cook buried in Kealakekua Bay
- 50 YEARS

The Young Yorkshireman

JAMES COOK, THE SECOND SON of James Senior and Grace Cook, was born on 27 October 1728 at Marton, north Yorkshire. His father was a labourer on the land. The son was to become the most famous navigator in the world, discovering and charting coastlines from the Arctic to the Antarctic, the east coast of Australia to the west coast of North America, and hundreds of islands between.

Cook first sailed the Pacific 250 years after Ferdinand Magellan, but it was Cook who shaped the shores of this vast ocean, picked out the islands, made its geography coherent and 'cultivated a friendship with the natives'. In a single coasting of North and South Island, New Zealand (2,400 miles), Cook gave the world a chart which mariners relied upon for many years. His discoveries in Australia led to the founding of the first colony there a mere eighteen years later.

Cook's voyages led to the identification and drawing of thousands of new plants, birds and mammals by his talented passengers and officers, and the astronomical and horological work advanced those sciences immeasurably. His dietary routine for his crews, at a time when fifty per cent losses from scurvy on long voyages were commonplace, not only preserved their lives, but also the lives of numberless sailors in the future. So highly valued was his work for the betterment of man in days of peace, that the French and Americans, at the height of a naval war against his country, gave Cook's ships immunity from interference.

There were geo-political motives behind all three Pacific voyages: the claiming by Britain of the Great Southern Continent, if it could ever be found; the possession of New Holland (Australia) and New Zealand, and other lands that might be discovered; and the opening of the much-sought North-West Passage to shorten the route to the East. But there were other and more disinterested reasons for these voyages, too, in a period of intense scientific and geographic curiosity. As one botanist has claimed, the *Endeavour* expedition was