



Shipwrecks of the Great Lakes

Paul Hancock

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Containing almost a fifth of the world's fresh water, the Great Lakes system of Superior, Michigan, Huron, Erie, and Ontario in North America are vast inland expanses, and subject to the same hazards for shipping more commonly found on the high seas. Since the seventeenth century, when the first wooden vessels of colonists and adventurers set a course across them, the lakes have claimed many ships as well as the lives of those unfortunates aboard them. Shipwrecks of the Great Lakes narrates the tales of over a hundred of them. From the dramatic stories of the many ships that have foundered with all hands in the great storms that can sweep across the lakes, to the tales of vessels like the Gunilda, lost because her wealthy master refused to pay a few dollars for a pilot, this book is packed with the fascinating narratives of Great Lakes disasters. Including photographs of the boats it is also a document of change and progress, showing how the ships have been developed over the centuries as well as the industrial cities and towns that have grown from the wealth brought by the shipping lanes of the lakes. From the griffon, which went down without a trace in 1679, to the more recent disaster of the Edmund Fitzgerald, which was ripped apart and sank with all twenty-nine lives onboard lost, Shipwrecks of the Great Lakes includes tales of courage and tragedy, stupidity and heroism. Inside find: The tales of over a hundred of the most famous shipwrecks on North America's Great Lakes, including the Edmund Fitzgerald, Daniel J. Morrell, Eastland, and many more. Fully illustrated with archival photography. Chronological listing of wrecks. Dramatic stories of the ships' last moments - the tragedies, courage, and the miraculous rescues.

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