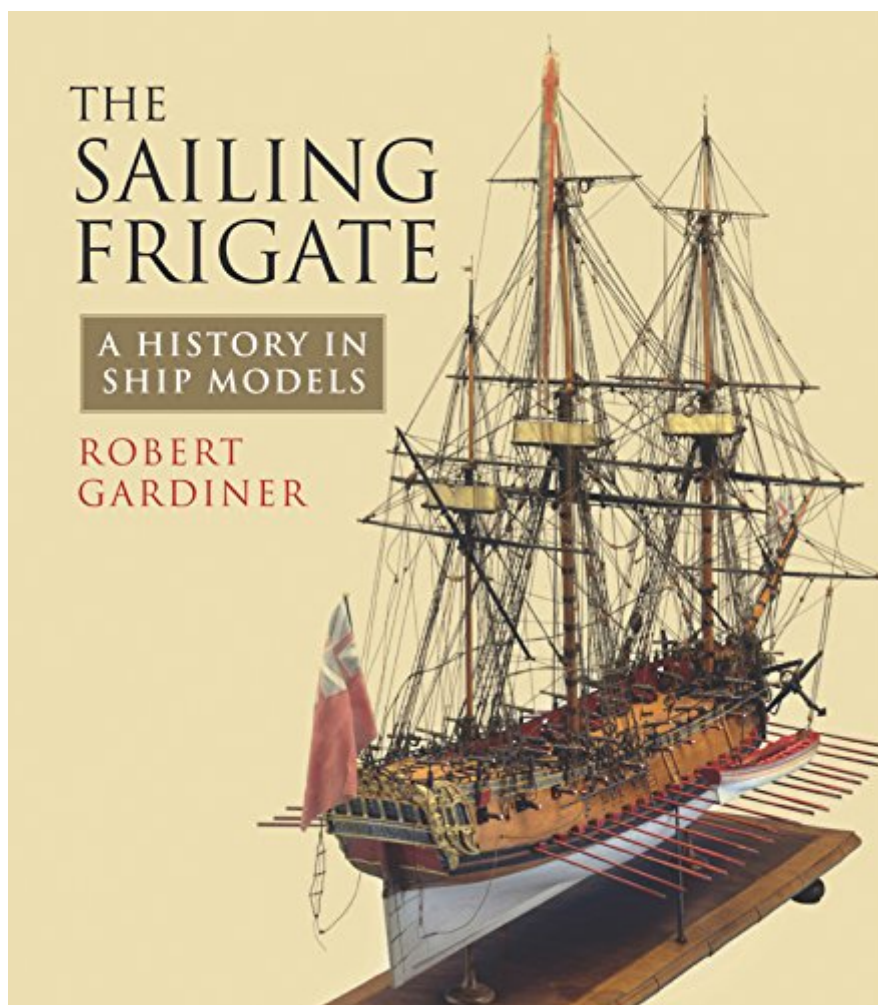


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# The Sailing Frigate: A History In Ship Models



## Synopsis

The National Maritime Museum in Greenwich houses the largest collection of scale ship models in the world, many of which are official, contemporary artefacts made by the craftsmen of the navy or the shipbuilders themselves, and ranging from the mid seventeenth century to the present day. As such they represent a three-dimensional archive of unique importance and authority. Treated as historical evidence, they offer more detail than even the best plans, and demonstrate exactly what the ships looked like in a way that even the finest marine painter could not achieve. This book is the first of a series which will take selections of the best models to tell the story of specific ship types; in this case, the evolution of the cruising ship under sail. Each volume reproduces a large number of model photos, all in full colour, and including many close-up and detail views. These are captioned in depth, but many are also annotated to focus attention on interesting or unusual features. Although pictorial in emphasis, the book weaves the pictures into an authoritative text, producing an unusual and attractive form of technical history. While the series will be of particular interest to ship modellers, all those with an interest in ship design and development will be attracted to the in-depth analysis of these beautifully presented books.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

A few years ago, with no relevant training or experience whatsoever - except that of paying attention to detail, I built a scale model of the Thermopylae followed by a much larger version of Cook's HMS Endeavour. The results compared favourably to models built by those who style themselves 'advanced modellers' and show off their efforts on the internet. As a result of that experience I have reviewed a small number of books which explain rigging and planking techniques - if only because I have a modest understanding of the subject. This excellent work, however, is a book about the Sailing Frigate told through those historic models which are still in existence and, just as soon as I opened the book, I was unable to put it down. The underlying history of this particular genre of vessel is based on the scale models held by the National Maritime Museum - and what a collection it is too! Only now do I see the difference between the laudable efforts of the amateur and the precision provided by the various shipbuilders of the day who produced these scaled down versions of the larger size vessels they were using in a bid to sell their ships to the Royal Navy and beyond. May I say, as a professional shipwreck historian, I was previously unaware of frigates which were also equipped for rowing in addition to the normal complement of sail. A truly outstanding model - showing all 36 oars deployed, appears on the front cover and is fully explained on p.99. That, however, is just one example of many different models. The book makes an excellent job of explaining the life of the Sailing Frigate.

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