

CONTENTS

FOREWORD	7
INTRODUCTION	8
THE AGE OF SAIL	
CHAPTER 1 EARLY SHIPS UNTIL 1450	14
CHAPTER 2 THE AGE OF EXPLORATION 1451–1729	26
CHAPTER 3 THE END OF SAIL 1730–1859	56
THE AGE OF STEAM AND BEYOND	
CHAPTER 4 MERCHANT SHIPS 1860–2000	126
CHAPTER 5 STEAM AND STEEL 1860–1905	222
CHAPTER 6 NAVAL VESSELS 1906–35	292
CHAPTER 7 WORLD WAR II 1936–45	354
CHAPTER 8 THE NUCLEAR ERA 1946–2000	426
GLOSSARY	535
INDEX	539



The British ship *Royal George* is a fine example of an 18th century first-rate.