(page 290), Peck described shamanic healing rites as well as the ways Inuit celebrated Christmas and other Christian holidays. Boas' editorial decisions are not surprising in some respects. Boas wanted to construct an image of a people who had not yet been contaminated by contact with commercial whalers and missionaries. Peck, by contrast, wanted to show that many Inuit were now Christians or at least on the path to conversion, even if that path had a slow start; it was not until 1901 that the first baptisms of Inuit occurred, seven years into his mission. It is surprising, however, that it was the anthropologist who misrepresented the social life of south Baffin Inuit at the turn of the nineteenth century and not the missionary, a twist that seems all the more ironic given Boas' quest to rescue Inuit from the savage slot, a portrait supported by those social and natural scientists of the nineteenth century committed to tracing the grand evolutionary trajectory of humanity. In subtle ways the editors of this volume point the way to a more nuanced historiography of the representation of Canadian Inuit, and the next important steps are more fine grained analyses of how theoretical, political, and ideological trends motivated portrayals of Inuit 'culture' during different periods of history.

One of the strengths of the book is its dual identity as a compilation of archival resources related to Peck's years in south Baffin and a study of how Peck's works contribute to the transformation of religion and cosmology in the eastern Canadian Arctic. As a compilation, it is extremely practical. All of Peck's journals and ethnographic materials are neatly housed in one volume. Although some may find many of the journal entries repetitive, there is much new information that historians and anthropologists will find useful. The analytical aim of the book is less successful, however, because Peck's relation to the Inuit is never adequately discussed. Both the editors' introduction to his journal entries and Peck's entries themselves provide surprisingly little insight into Peck's view of the Inuit or their view of him. One could argue that such a critique is unfair given the goal of the editors, a synopsis of his work and writings from his years on Baffin Island and not a comprehensive biography. But focusing on such a narrow slice of Peck's life and not providing enough analysis of what Peck included in his journal entries (as well as what he left out) leaves the reader longing for more biographical information about Peck and the state of Anglicanism at the end of the nineteenth century. The editors do not contextualise enough some of the peculiar choices made by Peck, including his willingness to gather ethnographic notes about shamanism for Boas, a task that he apparently never disclosed to his benefactors, the Church Missionary Society (CMS). Although we learn that the CMS subsidised Peck's efforts on Baffin, there is little information about the CMS or how it related to other bodies and institutions in the Church of England and the Anglican Communion. Other features about Peck that are not adequately discussed include his unwillingness to portray Inuit as inferior to Europeans. Compared to his successors, Peck seems unusually progressive in this respect. Archibald Fleming, who arrived on Baffin Island shortly after Peck's departure and who later became the first Bishop of the Arctic in 1933, wrote that Inuit ways were 'dirty and degraded' and their beliefs 'crude and false.' Still, anyone interested in exploring the roots of Inuit Anglicanism and understanding its ongoing popularity in the Canadian Arctic today will have to read this book. (Edmund Searles, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Bucknell University, Lewisburg, PA 17837, USA.)

SEAL FISHERIES OF THE FALKLAND ISLANDS AND DEPENDENCIES: AN HISTORICAL OVERVIEW. A.B. Dickinson. 2007. St John's, Newfoundland: International Maritime Economic History Association (Research in Maritime History 34). viii + 202 p, illustrated, soft cover. ISBN 978-0-9738934-4-1.
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Tony Dickinson was the last man to be employed as Sealing Inspector and Biologist on South Georgia. He is thus one of the few living links with the now-extinct industry that exploited southern seals over a period of two centuries. He subsequently taught at Memorial University, of Newfoundland, where he continued his interest in the history of sealing and whaling. Doctoral research at Cambridge, and the Scott Polar Research Institute in particular, gave Dickinson the opportunity to consult extensive archives on sealing in the Falkland Islands and its Dependencies. This small book is based on Dickinson's unpublished PhD thesis.

At the start, a clearer explanation of the geographical extent of the Falkland Islands Dependencies would help readers unfamiliar with the region. The Dependencies were defined in Letters Patent of 1908 to include South Georgia, the South Sandwich Islands, the South Orkney Islands, the South Shetland Islands, and 'the territory known as Graham's Land' — now the Antarctic Peninsula. With minor changes in overall extent, this definition lasted until the Antarctic Treaty of 1959, when 'islands and territories' south of 60°S (including the South Orkneys and South Shetlands) became British Antarctic Territory. Then, in 1985, the remaining Dependencies of South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands became a territory separate from the Falklands, so there are now no Dependencies of the Falkland Islands. This book covers the Dependencies as defined in the 1908 Letters Patent.

The history of sealing is very similar to that of whaling, in which a new stock was discovered and developed with good profits, but was quickly overexploited to the point of collapse, and then largely abandoned. Sealing started in the Falkland Islands as a sideline to whaling in the second half of the eighteenth century and progressed to South Georgia after 1786, the delay following Captain Cook's 1777 report of the abundance of seals on the island being due to the American War of Independence. The discovery of the South Shetlands by William Smith in

1819 transferred the sealers' attention from South Georgia to stocks farther south.

One year after the discovery of the South Shetlands, at least 47 British and American vessels were sealing in the South Shetlands. But by the following season, many vessels were already returning practically empty. Sporadic sealing continued on South Georgia and elsewhere in the Dependencies through the nineteenth century, and the last old-time sealer and whaler was the brig *Daisy*, which visited South Georgia in 1912–13.

The sealers' quarry was the southern elephant seal, which was taken for its high quality oil, and the South American fur seal of the Falkland Islands and the Antarctic fur seal of the Dependencies, which were taken for their fine pelts. The valuable, easily processed, fur seals were the main quarry, while elephant sealing, which required the setting-up of tryworks, was often of secondary importance. I would have been interested to see an analysis of the changing values of the two types of seals as markets and economic conditions changed.

Several sealers and explorers visiting the region commented on the unsustainability of an industry in which all adult seals were slaughtered and their offspring left to starve. James Weddell wrote in 1825 that '. . .the fur seal might. . .have been spared to render annually 100,000 furs for many years to come. This would have followed from not killing the mothers till the young were able to take the water; and even then, only those which appeared old, together with a proportion of the males. . .'

As fur seal stocks at South Georgia dwindled in the nineteenth century, sealers took increasing numbers of elephant seals. When shore whaling began at Grytviken in 1904–1905, elephant sealing started again as a sideline. It was a very cost-effective operation that yielded around 2,000 tons per year of an oil equal to the best whale oil, and it became increasingly important to the profitability of Grytviken. In the early 1960s, before Grytviken closed, seal oil accounted for nearly one-third of total oil production.

In a bid to prevent a recurrence of the earlier overexploitation of fur and elephant seals, the Falkland Islands Government issued the Seal Fishery (Consolidation) Ordinance in 1909. Elephant sealing was regulated by dividing the coastline of South Georgia into four sectors, each of which was allotted a quota of 2,000 seals. Only three divisions would be worked each year, in rotation, and the fourth was left undisturbed. There was a close season for breeding and there were also four reserves where seals were fully protected. An important part of this management plan was that only male seals could be killed. However, the population dwindled and, in 1952, the quota was reduced. The population soon rose again and sealing was then managed on a sustainable basis until Grytviken whaling station closed in 1964–1965 (and Dickinson's employment was terminated).

There is an emphasis on sealing in the Falkland Islands, with three chapters being devoted solely to this area. This is a subject that is less well-known in popular accounts than the short-lived slaughters in South Georgia and the South Shetland Islands, and it included a pelagic hunt for fur seals. Unfortunately, the method of hunting at sea is not described. As an interesting sideline for fans of Shackleton's expeditions, Frank Worsley, the captain of *Endurance* and *Quest*, applied for a sealing licence and permission to use *Discovery* as his sealing vessel. Both were refused, but Worsley then set up British Sealing Industries Ltd, which never went into operation.

The final chapter, 'Aftermath,' discusses developments since the 1960s. Seal populations are flourishing, and fur seals have recovered from near extinction to an amazing abundance at South Georgia and growing populations elsewhere. They could support a sustainable industry, and there are suggestions that a cull would not come amiss before they seriously hamper the flourishing cruise ship industry. However, given the widespread antipathy to killing seals and the wearing of furs, it is likely that fur seals will be left to swarm undisturbed.

Dickinson has amassed under one cover a huge amount of information, often from obscure sources, on one of the more discreditable episodes of human involvement in the Falkland Islands Dependencies. As such, the book will be a valuable reference, but it shows the hallmarks of being hastily compiled. The combined chronological and geographical organisation is not easy to follow, and the amount of detail on individual sealing expeditions cries out for overviews to put them into perspective. (Robert Burton, 63 Common Lane, Hemingford Abbots, Huntingdon PE28 9AW.)

NORTHEASTERN SØRKAPPLAND LANDSCAPE DYNAMICS (SPITSBERGEN, SVALBARD)/DYNAMIKA KRAJOBRAZU PÓŁNOCNO-WSCHODNIEGO SØRKAPPLANDU (SPITSBERGEN, SVALBARD). Wiesław Ziaja, Wojciech Maciejowski, and Krzysztof Ostafin. 2007. Krakow: Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Jagiellońskiego. 64 p + 22 plates, illustrated, hard cover. ISBN 978-83-233-2317-4.
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The area of Svalbard described in this book is the southernmost part of Spitsbergen, the largest island in the archipelago of Svalbard. Sørkappland (South Cap Land) is bounded by latitudes 76°30' to 77°N and 16° to 17°E longitude. Longyearbyen, the largest settlement on the island, is at 78°N, a near latitudinal opposite of McMurdo Station in Antarctica, at 77°51'S, where the climate is markedly colder. Northernmost Svalbard extends to nearly 81°N. The geography is mentioned here because of the differences that ocean currents and related factors produce in local and regional climates. The Gulf Stream in the North Atlantic Ocean warms landmasses, producing major differences in climate compared to those in the Southern Hemisphere. In addition, ocean currents and weather are different on the eastern (cold current) and western (warmer current) sides of Sørkappland, and that