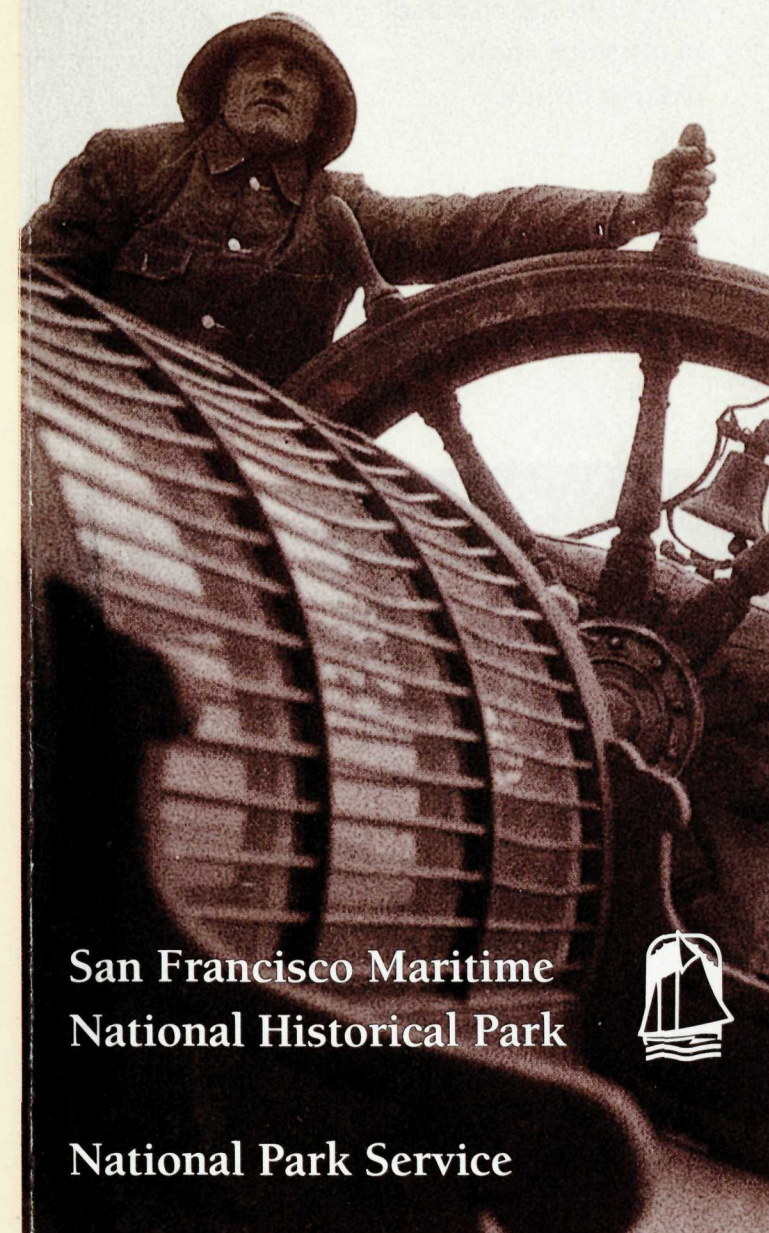


# THE SHIPS: A VOYAGE THROUGH TIME

The vessels of the Maritime Museum's historic fleet represent a pivotal period in West Coast maritime history. They reflect radical transitions—from sail to steam, and from wood to steel. And they illustrate important transformations in the scope

and variety of Pacific maritime trade. These vessels are preserved because, as a group, they tell the story of the most historically significant period of commercial maritime activity on the West Coast.

## THE MARITIME MUSEUM



San Francisco Maritime  
National Historical Park  
National Park Service



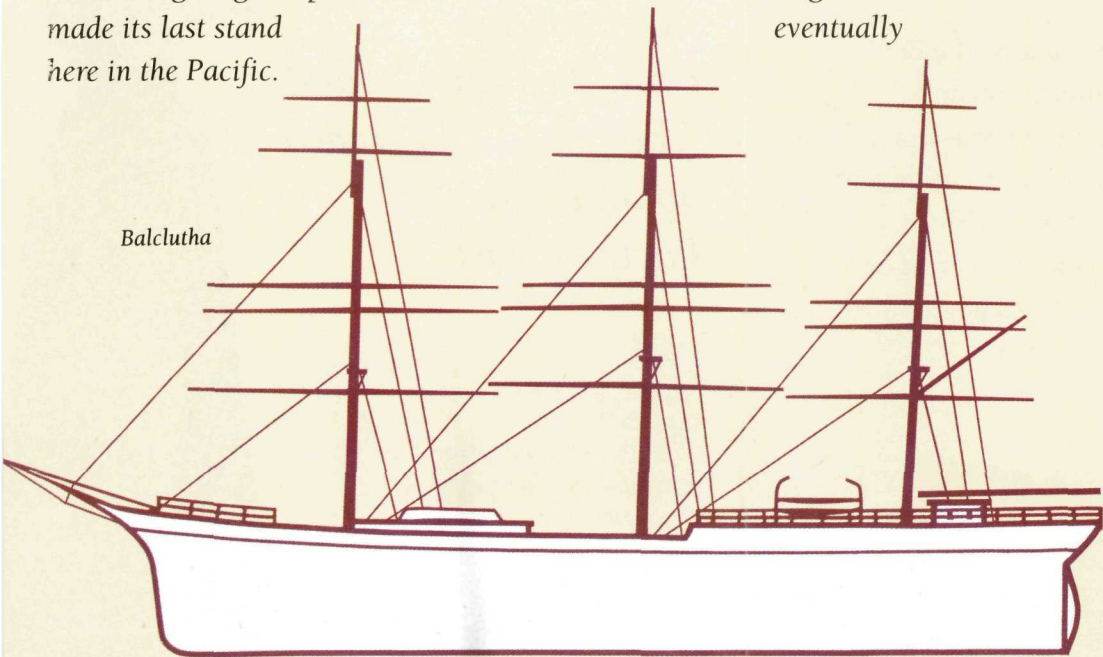
The Balclutha, built to carry California grain around the world, is the final form of the mighty square-rigger. The sailing cargo ship made its last stand here in the Pacific.

Sailing lumber schooners like the C.A. Thayer supplied the timber that built San Francisco and Los Angeles. Steamers eventually

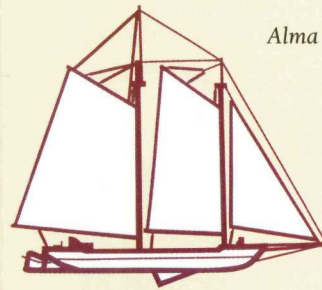
monopolized West Coast lumber routes—then the C.A. Thayer sailed to Alaskan salmon salteries and codfish banks.

Tugs are often the unsung heroes of maritime history. The Hercules, a seagoing, steel-hull steam tug, towed sailing ships through the Golden Gate, limping lumber schooners to Puget Sound, and heavily-laden barges to Hawaii.

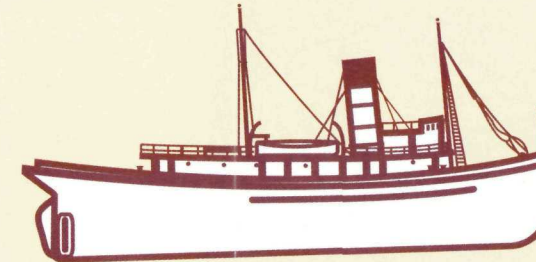
The Eppleton Hall, a British paddle tug built in 1914, is reminiscent of the tugs used on San Francisco Bay during the Gold Rush era.



Balclutha



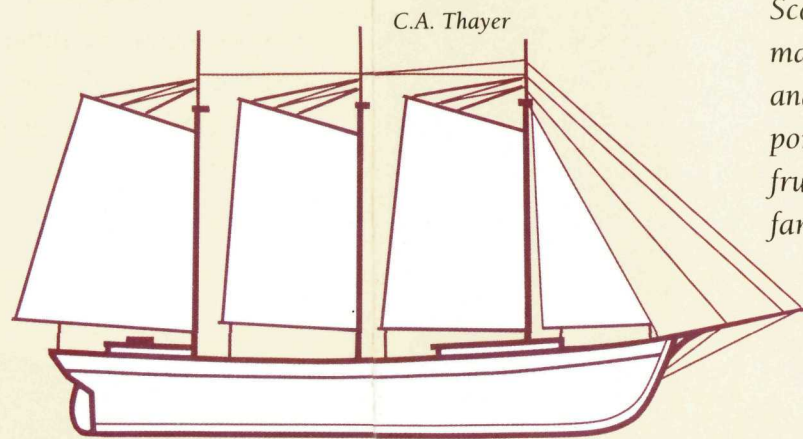
Alma



Hercules

The scow schooner Alma was an 1891 "delivery truck." Scows distributed manufactured goods and coal between Bay ports, and brought the fruits of Big Valley farms to market.

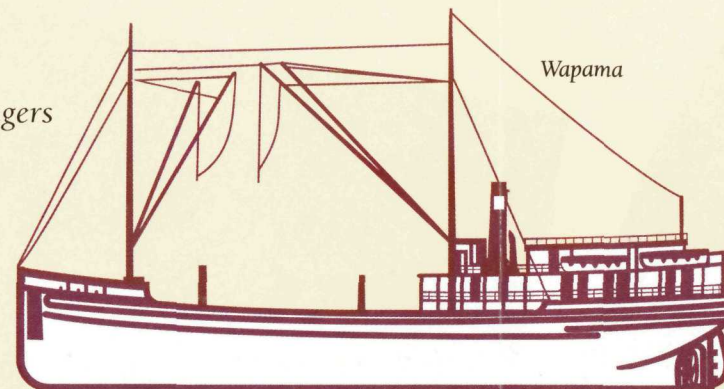
Vessels like the Wapama, a single-ended steam schooner, wrested the lucrative West Coast lumber routes from schooners like the C.A. Thayer. The Wapama later carried passengers to Los Angeles and Alaska.



C.A. Thayer

The sidewheel ferryboat Eureka hauled freight trains to San Francisco in 1890, and later carried passengers and automobiles. Eureka's cargo evolution—from

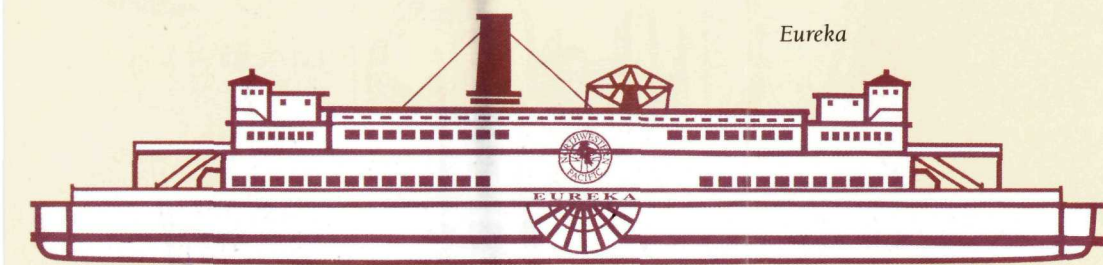
passengers and railcars, to passengers and automobiles—illustrates the Pacific Coast's changing transportation patterns.



Wapama



Eppleton Hall



Eureka

# PRESERVING OUR MARITIME HERITAGE: LIVES AND CAREERS AT SEA

The streamline moderne MUSEUM BUILDING at Aquatic Park echoes the life and scenes of San Francisco's maritime past. Intricate models, ships' figureheads, maritime art and thematic exhibits tell the story of strong men and sturdy ships on the Western Frontier.



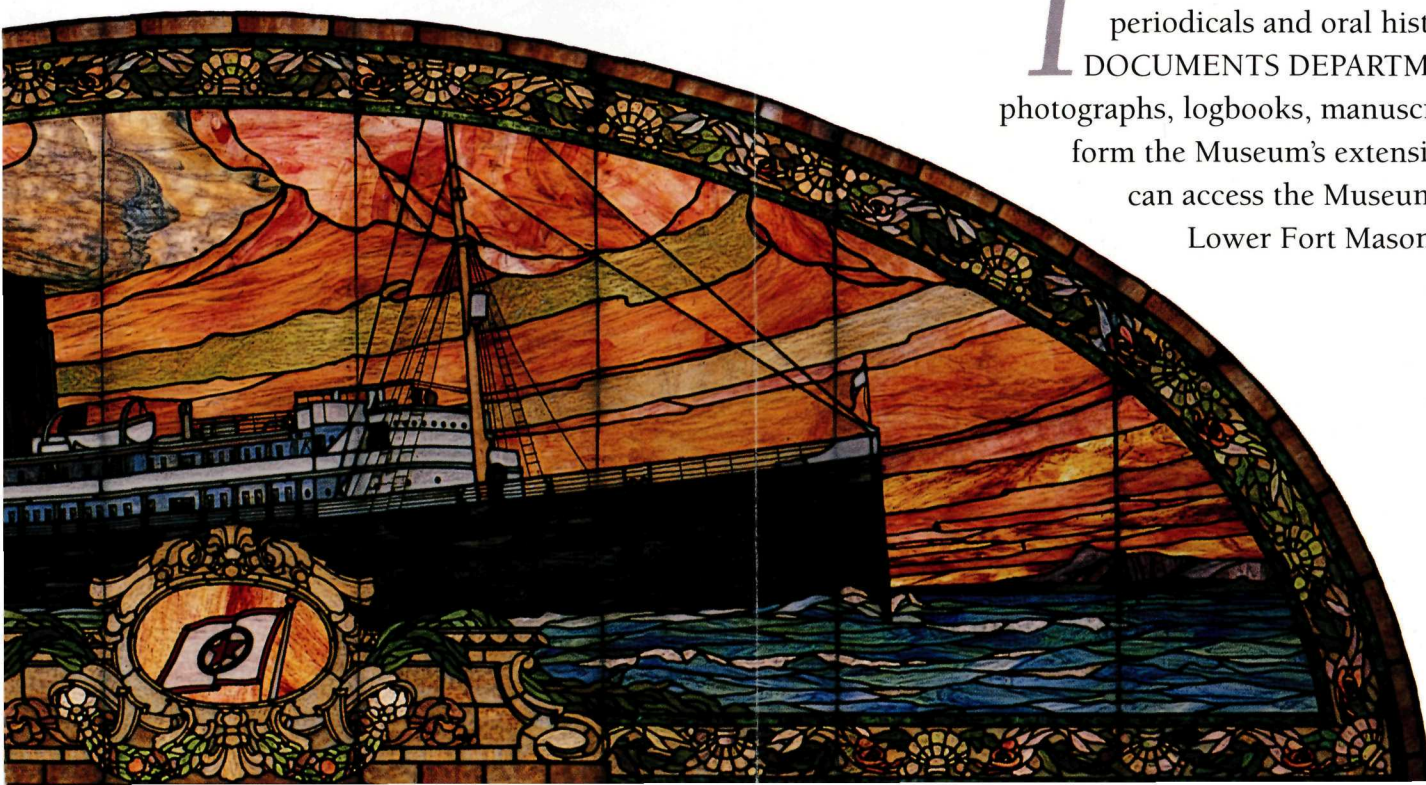
The *Balclutha*, the *C.A. Thayer*, and the *Eureka* are preserved and open to the public at HYDE STREET PIER. Re-creations of sailor ceremonies, lectures and tours relate the life and work of 19th century seafaring men. And Museum boatbuilders keep traditional skills alive by conserving original small craft and constructing replicas in Hyde Street Pier's working Small Boat Shop.



The diary of a shipowner's son, kept while bound to Gold Rush San Francisco, relates the joys and toil of a tradewind passage aboard the ship *Apollo*. Beautiful, rare volumes echo the words of the seafaring men captured live, on a library of oral history tapes. And cloth, hand-inked vessel plans recount the life's work of turn-of-the-century marine architects and draftsmen in exact, timeless lines.

In a navigator's trained hands, the cool precision of the chronometers and sextants—now resting in velvet-lined boxes—made the difference between life and death on the high seas. And those blunt, utilitarian belaying pins, yardarm bands and anchors once held fast as men struggled to wrest a livelihood from the ocean.

The J. PORTER SHAW LIBRARY—which houses books, periodicals and oral histories—and the HISTORIC DOCUMENTS DEPARTMENT—which manages vintage photographs, logbooks, manuscripts and vessel plans—together form the Museum's extensive research facility. Researchers can access the Museum's collections at Building E, Lower Fort Mason.

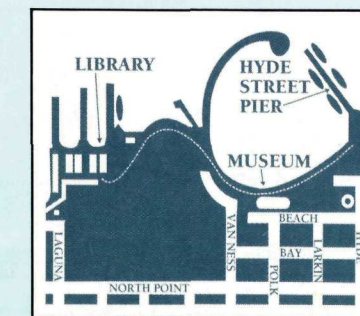


ARTIFACT PHOTOGRAPHY: STEVE DANFORD/TIM CAMPBELL

The Maritime Museum preserves the spirit and technology of the men and women who sailed lumber schooners from Washington State to Los Angeles, who knocked together sturdy scows on the shores of San Francisco Bay — and who fished and traded up and down the Pacific Coast.



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