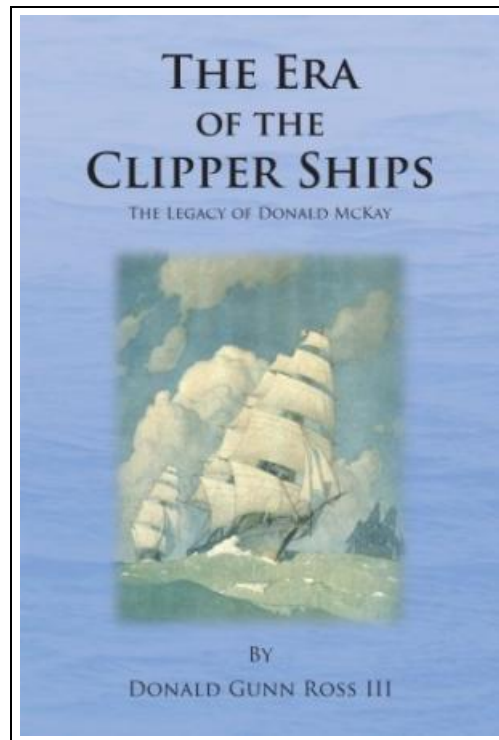


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## THE ERA OF THE CLIPPER SHIPS: THE LEGACY OF DONALD MCKAY (PAPERBACK)



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Createspace Independent Publishing Platform, United States, 2012. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book \*\*\*\*\* Print on Demand \*\*\*\*\*. This story begins with the arrival aboard a lumber schooner of young Donald McKay at South Street Seaport in the spring of 1826. A short history of the New York shipyards sets the stage for the beginnings of the golden age of sail and the indentureship of Donald McKay at the shipyard of Issac Webb, the Father of shipbuilders. These were exciting times for the ever increasing demand for fast sailing ships spurred on by the demand for tea from China and the lust for California gold. The struggle for the world s carrying trade was picking up in intensity, and the search for answers that the American merchant marine so desperately sought came down to this: How to reshape the most convenient and capacious cargo box into a solid of least resistance-and how, at the same time, to translate the unpredictable energies of wind into the swiftest forward motion. - Alexander Laing The book follows the career of Donald McKay, along with fellow shipbuilders of the era, such as John Willis Griffiths, Samuel Harte Pook, William Webb and others. I have drawn from a wide number of sources [see Bibliography] as I try and catch a glimpse, here and there, of the lively cast of characters, seaports, merchants, captains, and shipbuilders, and of various sailing ships, many of them packets, leading to the clippers throughout the era. All the while trying to follow a general timeline keeping track of several score, the very crest of the clipper wave, and the fastest of the fleet as they raced around Cape Horn and the world with their precious cargoes. Every ship had a tale to tell, such as Houqua, Rainbow,...



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