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Shipwrecks of Curry County
by H.S. Contino

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HIGHLIGHTS

- The book features a variety of different ship types and sizes ranging from old sailing ships to steam ships to modern motor vessels.

- The book tells the story of the *Larry Doheny* which was the last American ship to be torpedoed off of the Oregon coast during World War II.

- Unlucky ships can run into a variety of trouble ranging from groundings to foul weather to equipment malfunction-- just to name a few. The book discusses ships that encountered these problems and more.

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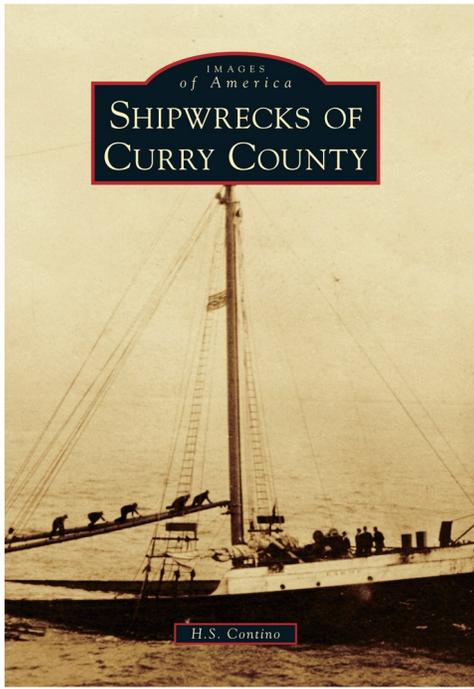843.853.2070 x127
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Sail into a History of Shipwrecks of Curry County

Historically, mariners considered the Oregon coast one of the most dangerous in the world. In 1852, explorers discovered gold in the rivers and along the beaches in Curry County, which is located in the southwestern corner of the state. Subsequent settlement concentrated on the coast. With few roads, water transportation was crucial for early settlers. The area contained many potential dangers to ships, including unpredictable weather, frequent fog, and submerged rocks and reefs. There have been many shipwrecks in the area like that of the tanker Larry Doheny, which was torpedoed by a Japanese submarine during World War II. Curry County is home to Cape Blanco, the second most westerly point in the continental United States, and Port Orford, the only open-water port on the Oregon coast (and one of only six "dolly" ports in the world). Modern technology and port improvements have reduced the number of shipwrecks, but accidents still occur.

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

H.S. CONTINO gained her passion for history from her grandfather, who owned a small antiques store. She resides on the Oregon coast, where she spent five years as the research assistant at the Coos History Museum. Contino is also the author of *Shipwrecks of Coos County* (Arcadia, 2011).