The Voyages of Captain Cook

(and other quasi-related stuff)
1642

Abel Tasman sails right around Australia and misses it entirely
1642

Abel Tasman sails right around Australia and misses it entirely

Finds a large island, calls it Van Diemen's Land

English later turn it into a vast prison, whose terrible reputation mandates a name change immediately after Australia gains independence
1642

Tasman presses on, finds another large island

Names it Nova Zeelandia / Niew Zeeland
At Murderers Bay, one of Tasman's boats is attacked by Maori warriors. Some of the crew is eaten. Tasman no like New Zealand anymore.
James Cook

No middle name

Born Oct 27, 1728
    in a mud hut in Yorkshire

Died Feb. 14, 1779
    in Kealakekua Bay, Hawai'i

Joined the navy as a teenager

First to map the coast of Newfoundland
    and parts of the St. Lawrence River
The Three Pacific Voyages

The Three Voyages of Captain James Cook

- **Endeavour 1768 - 1771**
- **Resolution 1772 - 1775**
- **Resolution 1776 - 1780**
The (Replica) Endeavour

Fun fact: daily allowance of rum for 18th century British sailors was 1 pint/day
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Captain James Cook</th>
<th>Captain James T. Kirk</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Born</td>
<td>On a farm in England</td>
<td>On a farm in Iowa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ship</td>
<td>His Majesty's Bark Endeavour</td>
<td>USS Enterprise</td>
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Two Voyages of Discovery
## Two Voyages of Discovery

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mission</th>
<th>Captain James Cook</th>
<th>Captain James T. Kirk</th>
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<td>“...to go not only farther than any man has been before me, but as far as I think it is possible for a man to go”</td>
<td>“...to boldly go where no man has gone before”</td>
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A Voyage of Discovery

Cook's (and botanist Joseph Banks') mission was a scientific one

Collected thousands of plant species

Sketches of animals

Coastline charts
  some of Cook's maps were used until the 1990's

Medical experiments
  The men were given an anti-scurvy potion
  Cook ruined the experiment by forcing his crew to eat grass

Astronomical survey

Native peoples
Some of the Places “Discovered”

- Hawai‘i
- Tahiti
- New Zealand
- East coast of Australia
- South Georgia
- Easter Island
- New Caledonia
- Vanuatu
- Nootka Sound

Skipped Fiji and Samoa (though he knew they existed)
Polynesian
The Polynesian Triangle

Taiwan

Aotearoa/New Zealand

Madagascar

Hawai'i/Hawaii

Rapa Nui/Easter Island
Polynesians

Beat the pants off everyone in seafaring for a long time, settling parts of the Pacific by 900 BC, all of it by 1280 AD

Where did they come from?

- Research says Taiwan
- Mythology says Hawaiki / Hawai'i / Savai'i / 'avaiki
- Maintained closely related cultures despite huge distances
Cook Picks Up a Guide / Translator

Tahiti
Polynesians and Aborigines

- Tupaia, a Tahitian, had no problem communicating with the Maori in New Zealand.

- No such luck in Australia.

- Aboriginal tribes on either side of Sydney Harbour spoke mutually unintelligible languages.

- Cut off from the rest of the world for thousands of years.

- Tasmanian Aborigines had no bone tools, no wheel, no ability to make fire.

- Standard approaches to encounters with natives failed completely.
The End

Feb. 1779: some bad diplomacy on Cook's part in Hawai'i

Tried to take the king hostage to retrieve a stolen boat

Killed on the beach

And eaten (out of respect)
Stuff Named after Cook

Cook Islands

A proposal to change the country's name to 'Avaiki Nui was rejected
Stuff Named after Cook

Cook Strait, New Zealand
Stuff Named after Cook

Aoraki / Mt. Cook, New Zealand

Highest in the Southern Alps (second highest is Mt. Tasman)
Stuff Named after Cook

Cook Inlet, Alaska
Stuff Named after Cook

Cooktown, Queensland, Australia
Blue Latitudes

BOLDLY GOING WHERE CAPTAIN COOK HAS GONE BEFORE

Tony Horwitz

AUTHOR OF CONFEDERATES IN THE ATTIC