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Griffin - On the Route of an Indiaman

Franck Goddio, Evelyne Jay, Guyot de Saint Michel : Griffin - On the Route of an Indiaman before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Griffin - On the Route of an Indiaman:

0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Nice Try, but Falls Short
By Zone 10A
It's obvious that the publisher put a lot of money into the production of this well-made book on a subject of interest to historians of the China trade and collectors of Chinese export porcelain. It's a shame they didn't use some of it to hire a better translator and proofreader. The book, which originally appeared in French, suffers from an uneven translation and the maps are still in that language. Several Marketplace sellers offer new copies for less than \$40 and it's a valuable addition to your library at that price. But I would not recommend buying this book at its full retail of \$220.

In this publication, Franck Goddio presents the results of fifteen years patient research, restoration and preservation work on the thousands of items found on the wreck of the Honourable East India Company ship, the Griffin. The ship was part of a convoy sailing along a little-known sea route sometimes used as a shortcut. It was charged with a clandestine mission crucial to the expansion policy which the East India Company was aggressively, if discreetly, pursuing at that time. The minute restoration, documentation and comparison of the remains of this shipwreck cast new light on European trading patterns, but above all on our knowledge of the great Chinese art of porcelain manufacture and decoration and its master artists. The excavation proved a massive undertaking, requiring a sizeable team, 420 days of work onsite and a total of 15 years to complete. The book is lavishly illustrated with photographs, maps and archival material, and contains a complete inventory of the porcelain found on the wreck site.