



AN ENTRY POINT INTO THE

KOUROO CONTEXTURE

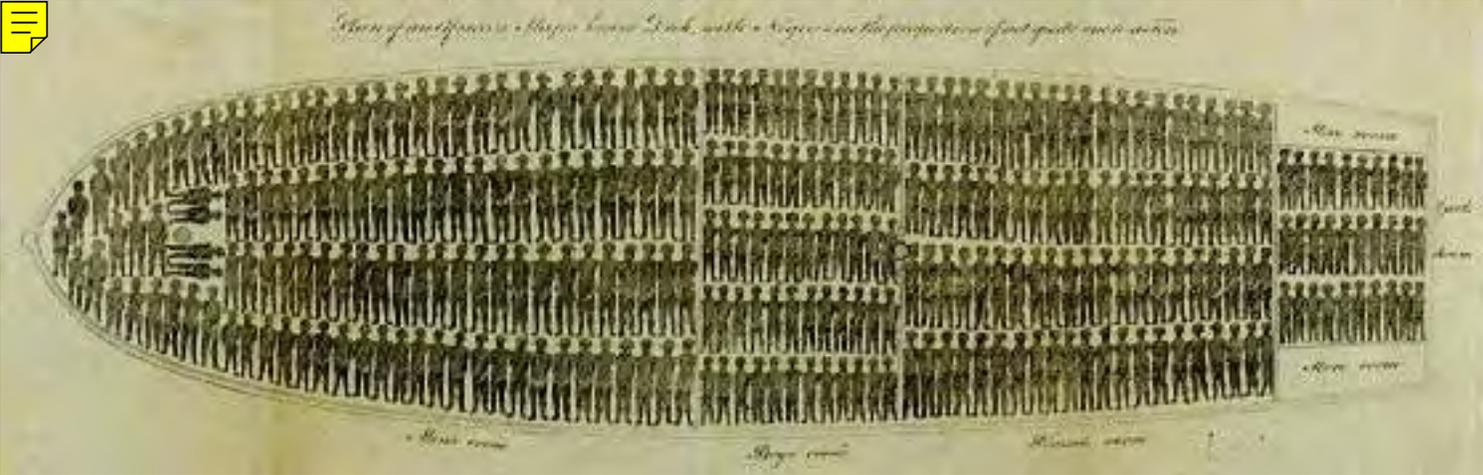
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“Stack of the Artist of Kouroo” Project

1764

Summer: Captain **ESEK HOPKINS**, who would become the 1st Commodore of the US Navy, on behalf of the firm of **NICHOLAS BROWN** and Company of **PROVIDENCE**, was fitting out the square-rigged brigantine **SALLY** at **NEWPORT** for a slaving voyage to the Guinea coast of Africa. Enormous profits were being anticipated, for if a big cargo of a couple of hundred healthy young human beings could be delivered from the slave castles on the coast of Africa, where they could be obtained on the cheap in exchange for **RHODE ISLAND** rum, to the sugar plantations of the West Indies, the profit for a single voyage might run up toward several hundred thousand pounds.

In general, in **RHODE ISLAND** harbors alone during this year, it has been estimated by Alexander Boyd Hawes, some 20 vessels were being fitted out for the international slave trade. If an average cargo of slaves was 109 –as we have estimated on the basis of a number of known cargos– then a total of 2,180 souls were transported during this year in Rhode Island bottoms alone. Examples from this year include the Rhode Island brig *Betsey* carrying a cargo of 120 slaves, the *Friendship* carrying a cargo of 180, the brig *Osprey* carrying 100, and the *Polly* carrying 160.



[This data snippet is intended to provide an easy entry point into the Kouroo Contexture, approximately one percent of which has been, entirely without any funding assistance, to date uploaded to the internet at <http://www.kouroo.info>. To transit into the general materials of the database, click on one of the above hypercontext buttons.]