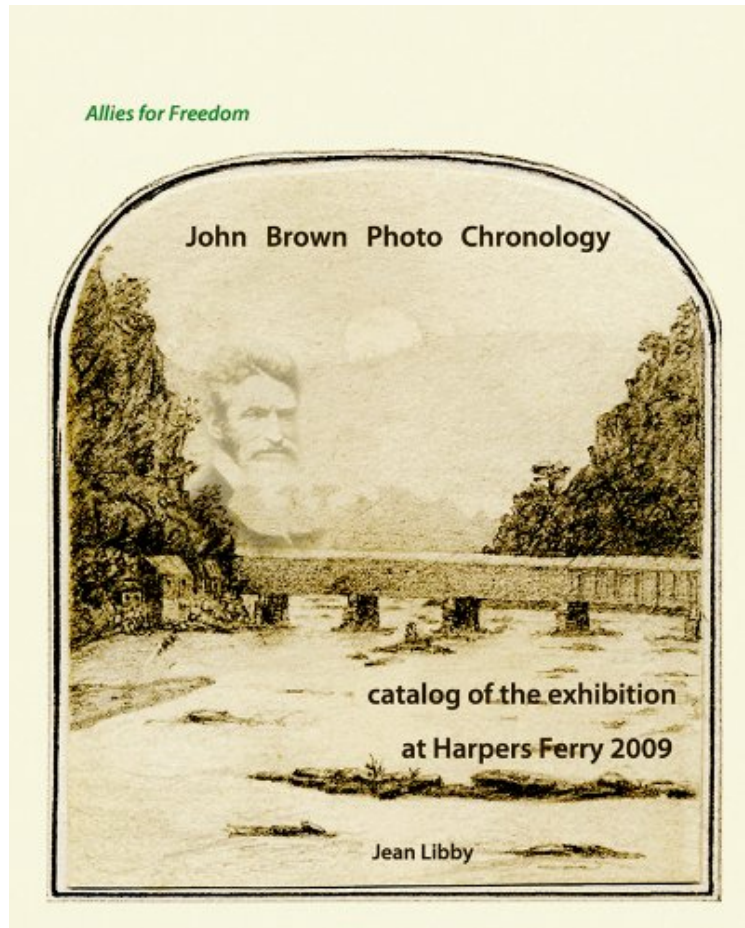


John Brown Photo Chronology: Catalog of the Exhibition at Harpers Ferry, 2009

Jean Libby

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Jean Libby : John Brown Photo Chronology: Catalog of the Exhibition at Harpers Ferry, 2009 before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised John Brown Photo Chronology: Catalog of the Exhibition at Harpers Ferry, 2009:

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Easily the next best thing to visiting the exhibition at Harpers Ferry in person! By Midwest Book Review John Brown Photo Chronology: Catalog of the Exhibition at Harpers Ferry 2009 is a compendium of historic black-and-white photographs and images of John Brown (1800-1859), the notorious abolitionist who led an anti-slavery revolt in Harpers Ferry, Virginia. The text goes into detail on the origin of each black-and-white image, as well as offering the reader a grounding in the Brown's dramatic and historic rebellion. An excellent addition to Virginia history collections, and easily the next best thing to visiting the exhibition at Harpers Ferry in person!

John Brown used photographs to raise funds and recruit followers to fight for liberation of slaves. Since publication and exhibition in 2009 there are new discoveries of a John Brown daguerreotype and a tintype. There are fourteen original portrait sittings of the abolitionist John Brown. This full-color catalog of the exhibition with supplement inserts adds many historic details and context of his life and movements. Most of Brown's his original portraits were daguerreotypes. The prints are as close as possible to the original source, resulting in detail that is astonishing when compared with the familiar renditions in textbooks and the Internet. Abolitionist and Free-State emigration to Kansas sponsors of several of the sittings wanted to utilize his charismatic force evident in the new medium. The author/curator describes the practices of photography at the time, such as painted photographs, photographs projected onto canvas, as well as making reproducible negatives from the single-image daguerreotype with original photography copyright. Association of some photographers with the Underground Railroad shows compelling evidence of John Brown's motivation and actions. Others were inventors and creators of new processes and techniques, which John Brown eagerly adapted, just as he wanted the newest weapons. Major collections of John Brown papers and artifacts are described by historians and archivists for readers who want to look for John Brown in their travels or research, and online. The definitive aspect of the exhibition and catalog is the dispersal of the early photographs into many institutional collections, which in turn copyright and reproduce them. This process is respected. The catalog is revised with supplementary pages based on new research.

John Brown's raid on Harpers Ferry in 1859 constituted one event that brought American debate to a head via the Civil War, and his story continues to be relevant today. Jean Libby's past research into Brown and Harpers Ferry has shaped and challenged the ways that scholars and the public perceived his insurrectionist work and activism for African Americans. Her recent publication on John Brown is the catalog that accompanies a photographic exhibition on permanent display at Harpers Ferry National Historical Park in Harpers Ferry, West Virginia. The exhibit also traveled to the National Archives and Records Administration in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and other locations. The catalog focuses on images of Brown by way of daguerreotypes, albumen and sepia prints, painted photographs, engravings, and other representations of Brown, his family, and places and people associated with his efforts. The images illustrate a series of essays by Libby and other authors on elements of Brown's actions and their significance in American history. Together, the images and essays demonstrate the importance of photography in John Brown's crusade to end African American slavery in the United States. Teresa S. Moyer --African Diaspora Archaeology Newsletter, June 2010 The only collection of its kind --Underground Railroad Free Press About the Author Jean Libby is a longtime chronicler of events and people associated with the John Brown raid. She began this independent journey in 1977 with assistance from the African American community in Jefferson County, West Virginia. She continued at the University of California, Berkeley, with a President's Undergraduate Fellowship to create a cable classroom program John Brown's Black Nation Campaign. As each decade brought new research and experiences, Jean developed a collection of reproductions of the original photographic portraits of John Brown. In 2002 she began focusing on the images with the contribution of forensic analysis Dr. Eileen Barrow of Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge for identification and aging. Jean Libby's analyses were published in the annual of The Daguerreian Society Annual 2002-2003 and by Palgrave MacMillan in a collection of essays, *The Afterlife of John Brown* in 2005 (John Brown, Bearded Patriarch). Jean Libby is a retired instructor of U.S. History and Ethnic Studies at community colleges in northern California. She has written, edited, and photographed widely on John Brown the abolitionist since 1978. She is now a small publisher named for the ad hoc group of teachers, librarians, and local historians formed in 1999 who published *John Brown Mysteries by Allies for Freedom*. After completing a Professional Photography A. A. degree in 1978, she enrolled at the University of California, Berkeley, as a re-entry student, completing her B.A. in Social Science / African American Studies in 1986. Jean was awarded a President's Undergraduate Fellowship at the University of California to document her thesis on John Brown, *Mean To Be Free: John Brown's Black Nation Campaign* on videotape for the cable classroom series. She holds an M.A. in Ethnic Studies from San Francisco State University, receiving the Outstanding Graduate Student award at the School of Ethnic Studies in 1991.