This article discusses the history of whaling from prehistoric times up to the commencement of the International Whaling Commission (IWC) moratorium on commercial whaling in 1986. Humans have engaged in whaling since prehistoric times. The earliest depictions of whaling have been discovered in Korea at the Neolithic Bangudae site, which may date back to 6000 BCE. Bangudae is the earliest evidence for whaling. Richard M. Romm. Book Info. Original Title: America's First Whaling Industry and the Whaler Yeomen of Cape May: 1630-1830. Author: Richard M. Romm. Genre: Language: English. ISBN: 9783844314229. ASIN: -. Publisher: Published April 18th 2011 by LAP LAMBERT Academic Publishing. Format: Paperback, 56 pages. Whaling, the hunting of whales for food and oil. Whaling was once conducted around the world by seafaring nations in pursuit of the giant animals that seemed as limitless as the oceans in which they swam. However, since the mid-20th century, when whale populations began to drop catastrophically, whaling has been conducted on a very limited scale. The British Arctic fleet was devastated in the 1830s and '40s by overfishing and frozen seas. The introduction of whale-product substitutes, such as vegetable oil, steel-boned corsets, and gas lamps, was partially offset by rising industrial demand. Residual whaling activity continued in the South Pacific and the Davis Strait until about 1914, and the taking of North Pacific right whales from San Francisco continued into the 1920s.