

NEWS RELEASE

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***LOST VOYAGES* EXPLORES TIME CAPSULES OF THE ATLANTIC**

"To see the huge engine of a nineteenth century steamship towering above the ocean bottom, to gaze upon a half-buried china plate on the wreck of a nineteenth century passenger steamer, to swim through the rooms and corridors of a World War I warship, or to touch an eighteenth century cannon from an English warship sunk during the American Revolution is to see and touch history itself."—

Bradley Sheard, *Lost Voyages*

The ocean floor in the approaches to New York is littered with the sunken hulks of hundreds of ships of every era and type. These shipwrecks are time capsules of America's maritime heritage, each one detailing part of the evolution of oceangoing ships.

Lost Voyages: Two Centuries of Shipwrecks in the Approaches to New York by Bradley Sheard is the story of shipwrecks, and of the human dramas played out in the throes of howling winter

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nor'easters, frozen rigging, tremendous seas, wrenching collisions, burning oil and exploding torpedoes. It is a story fraught with pathos and heroism, death and survival.

Not only is *Lost Voyages* a highly readable adventure story of the sinking of many of these ships, but it is also an historical account of the evolution of shipping as pictured through these shipwrecks.

The author, who has been diving and photographing shipwrecks in the cold, murky Atlantic waters off New York for over twenty years, has included wooden warships from the days of the Revolution, coastal schooners, once majestic ships from the great days of sail, tramp steamers, passenger liners, U-boats, WW I warships, torpedoed freighters from WW I and II, rumrunners, and modern victims of collisions. Line drawings of many wrecks as they lie today have been rendered by Sheard, an aerospace engineer with Boeing. Photographs of the wreckage are keyed to these drawings. Also included is line art tracing the advances in ship construction and propulsion from the days of sail through steam. Over 215 color and 111 black and white photographs accompany the text. Pictures of artifacts and ships either before they sank, in the throes of sinking, or while beached are included.

Lost Voyages: Two Centuries of Shipwrecks in the Approaches to New York is available at book stores and dive centers, or directly from the publisher: Aqua Quest Publications, PO Box 700, Locust Valley, NY 11560-0700; Tel: 800-933-8989, 516-759-0476; Fax: 516-759-4519. Retail price is \$29.95 plus \$4.00 P & H.

Author interview: Bradley Sheard is available for interview. Please call Tony Bliss at 516-759-0476 for scheduling information or with review copy requests.

Specifications: 256 pages, 8-1/2 x 11 inches (upright), flexi-binding/full flaps, 213 color and 111 B&W photographs, 39 drawings, 11 maps, bibliography, source notes, index. \$29.95 ISBN 1-881652-17-3. Publication Date: 1 April 1998.