Underwater archaeology deals with shipwrecks and submerged settlements, and its finds are recovered by divers rather than diggers. But this is by no means a marginal branch of archaeology. Studying maritime history, analysing changes in shipbuilding, navigation and shipboard life, reconstructing the infrastructure of overseas commerce, underwater archaeologists provide important fresh perspectives on the cultures that produced the ships and sailors. Drawing on detailed and recent case studies, Richard Gould provides an up-to-date review of the field, and a clear exposition of new developments in undersea technologies. He also argues for the careful management of underwater cultural resources.

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Archaeology and the Social History of Ships

Richard A. Gould
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Acknowledgements

As a relative newcomer to the field of underwater archaeology, I benefited more than usual from the help and advice of friends and colleagues as I labored on this book. Sometimes the learning experience was exhilarating, at other times it was humbling. Researching and writing this book was a voyage of sorts. First I had to get my “sea legs” and acclimatize myself to unfamiliar surroundings. In my previous academic existence I was a land archaeologist and ethnoarchaeologist. I had never been a sport diver, and, indeed, the idea of becoming one had never crossed my mind until I met Keith Muckelroy in Cambridge in 1977. We were both writing books for Cambridge University Press at that time and shared the same editor, so we wound up conversing in the waiting room (and later in the pub) more than once. It was Keith, more than anyone else, who planted the idea in my mind that underwater archaeology had scholarly legitimacy beyond the arcane details of nautical history and technology. A student of a leading pioneer of analytical and anthropological approaches to archaeology, David Clarke, he led the way in this direction with his *Maritime Archaeology* (1978). Twenty years later, Keith’s intellectual influence on my book will be apparent to anyone familiar with his work, and I am grateful for the stimulation and encouragement he provided at the beginning of this voyage.

Several institutions have played a key role in aiding and supporting the efforts leading to this book. Special thanks go to the Western Australian Museum, both in Perth and at the Maritime Museum in Fremantle. Graeme Henderson, Jeremy Green, Charlie Dortch, and Mike McCarthy were unstinting in their advice and support and communicated a sense of
direction and purpose for their discipline that is seldom found. This same
sense of purpose was echoed by Ian MacLeod, Myra Stanbury, Pat Baker
(whose “photo tips” were invaluable), and everyone else on the staff of
the Western Australian Maritime Museum.

The same can be said for the Submerged Cultural Resources Unit of
the U.S. National Park Service in Santa Fe. Dan Lenihan and Larry
Murphy, in particular, coached me in the skills of underwater site record-
ing and imparted a high level of professionalism while doing so. It was
always a pleasure as well as a learning experience to work with the SCRU
team. Their support for our research in the Dry Tortugas from 1989 to
1997 deserves special mention. I also wish to acknowledge the generous
advice and support of the Bermuda Maritime Museum, most notably that
of Edward Harris and his able staff, especially Steve and Catherine Hoyt.
Special thanks go, too, to Jack Arnell and to the late Rowan Sturdy
and Douglas Little. And, of course, none of our work in Bermuda from
1987 to 1992 would have been possible without the generous aid and
support of Earthwatch and the splendid volunteers they recruited for our
field projects. Certain volunteers stand out, and special mention here
goes to Eugene T. Rowe and William May, who aided in the fieldwork
in Bermuda and in the Dry Tortugas and also coached me in various
“unsolved mysteries of the Bermuda Triangle” such as Brownie’s Third
Lung, underwater photography, and small-boat handling. My wife,
Elizabeth, deserves special thanks, too, for her editorial expertise and
assistance but, above all, for her endless patience throughout this long
process.

Many individuals also contributed scholarly advice and expertise along
the way. I have learned much from my students and former students, and
particularly I want to acknowledge and thank Donna Souza, Brenda
Lanzendorf, Rebecca Upton, Steve Lubkemann, Cathie Hall, and David
Conlin. Other scholars also offered useful suggestions in general discus-
sions or on various drafts of the manuscript. In particular, I wish to thank
James Bellingham, J. Richard Steffey, Rodger Smith, Ben Finney, Nan
Godet, Patrick McCoy, Nicholas Rodger, Daniel Martinez, James
Delgado, Stuart Frank, Christian Ahlström, Patrick Malone, Jim Smailes,
Iain Stuart, Michael Schiffer, David Lyon, Colin Martin, Fred Lipke, Ross
Holloway, Ray Sutcliffe, and Fred Walker for their advice. I remain
responsible, however, for any conclusions or interpretations presented
in this book. Unless specifically stated otherwise, all photographs in this book are mine.

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