

# SHIPWRECK DETECTIVES

A shipwreck can be many things.  
Time capsule. Workplace and home.  
Grave and memorial.  
A treasure and a teacher.

## What's that Stuff?

When archaeologists use the word "treasure" to describe the objects contained within a shipwreck, they don't mean "made of gold." Artifacts are a window into the lives of the men, women and children who once worked and lived aboard these vessels. A single button can narrow the date of a shipwreck site; a cannon ball's size reveals the type of gun that fired it.

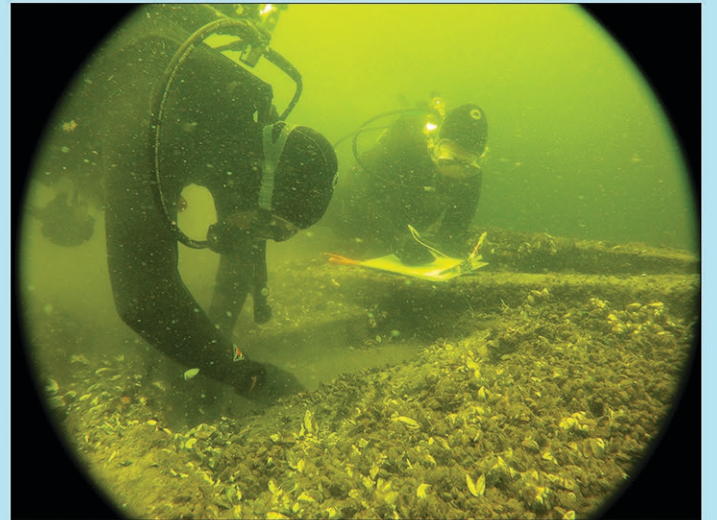
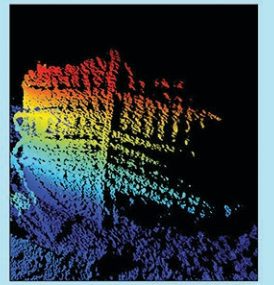


Photo by Sam Meacham, Courtesy Lake Champlain Maritime Museum

## Don't Get Wet

Technology now allows the researcher to get information without ever leaving the surface. Remote sensing equipment includes sonar, bathymetry, sub-bottom profiler, and remotely operated vehicles.



3D Mechanical Scanning Sonar, Courtesy Lake Champlain Maritime Museum

## An Archaeologist

strives to learn and share. His or her studies may result in books, films, artwork, exhibits, or even full-sized working replica vessels.

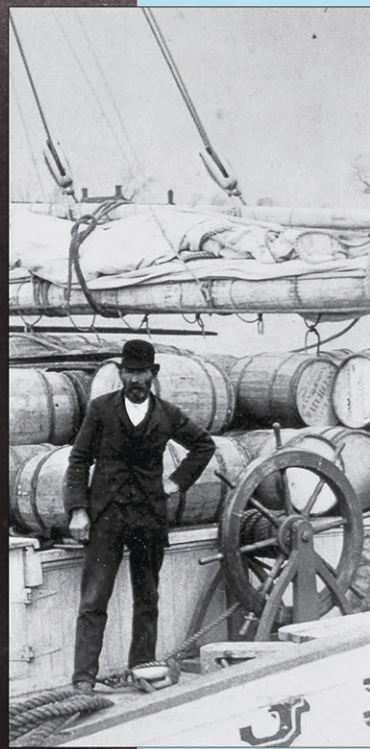


Replica Sailing Canal Boat, Lovi McClure, Courtesy Lake Champlain Maritime Museum



Videography by Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute, Courtesy Lake Champlain Maritime Museum

In addition to schlepping scuba gear, nautical archaeologists bring tape measures, cameras, rulers, pencils, and clipboards to document a shipwreck. For every hour spent underwater, it takes more than seven to transcribe drawings and do research.



Courtesy Isle La Motte Historic Society



Courtesy Lake Champlain Maritime Museum