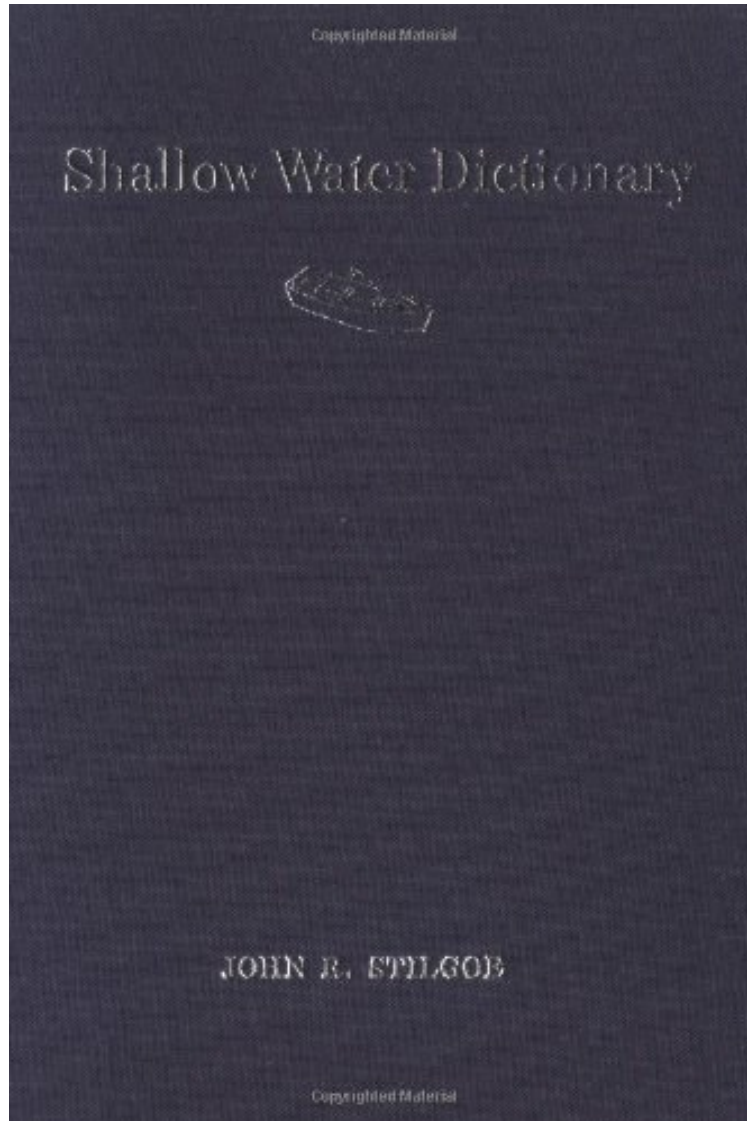


Shallow Water Dictionary

John Stilgoe

*ebooks | Download PDF | *ePub | DOC | audiobook*



 Download

 Read Online

#2311759 in Books Princeton Architectural Press 2004-02-27 Original language: English PDF # 1 6.80 x .40 x 4.90l, .27 #File Name: 156898408148 pages | File size: 36.Mb

John Stilgoe : Shallow Water Dictionary before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Shallow Water Dictionary:

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Estuary English is FascinatingBy SeachranaicheWhat a gem of a book! Who would have know that a topic as esoteric as the 19th century English of eastern American coastal marshes could be so interesting, and that such a small book could deliver so much information? One learns the correct usage of the word "creek", the difference between a "gutter" and a "guzzle", the etymology of "schooner", and a detailed

description of the elusive "gundalow". John Stilgoe provides some great comparisons of the unabridged dictionaries of the 18th, 19th, and 20th centuries, as well. "Shallow Water Dictionary" is written as a narrative, a lament for the loss of words from dictionary English, arrived at while the author pilots his rowboat, "Essay" (A pretty enough boat, then, with lines more gentle than a skiff...), through the saltwater marshes of Massachusetts. Don't be put off by its small size; lovers of the English language will find this book to be a good reference that is also enjoyable to read. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Short and Beautiful By jeepers This book is a poem in the form of a glossary. It combines a love of the sea with a love of easily accessible natural phenomena. I believe the book will become a classic. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By a real person Makes you think about other words that have left us.

Shallow Water Dictionary is both a celebration of the richness of our vernacular language and a lament on its passing and with it, the passing of the words we need to understand our shallow water regions, once the primary landscape of America and now facing extinction, both physical and linguistic. This small book is an intriguing and valuable addition to our knowledge of a changing landscape. Literary, etymological, historical, and vernacular investigations of such varied terms as guzzle, creek, and chartreuse, Stilgoe's definitions are lyric explanations of words whose original meanings have been eroded by time.

"Provides readers with thought-provoking insights to our language and leaves them with the unanswered question: How can we accurately and usefully describe a landscape which lacks modern-day vocabulary?" - Underwater Naturalist
About the Author John R. Stilgoe is the Robert and Lois Orchard Professor in the History of Landscape at Harvard University. He lives in Norwell, Massachusetts.