Gundalow Crossword Reference Sheet

A gundalow is a kind of boat. As early as the mid 1600s, this sailing vessel carried cargo up and down the Piscataqua River. It was known as the “workhorse” of the river. The gundalows were heavy flatbottom boats with strong decks to carry large loads of cargo such as bricks, clay to make the bricks, cordwood, and salt hay. The gundalows had flat bottoms so that they could sail in the rivers without getting stuck on the mudflats. The captains of the gundalows relied on the wind to power the large triangular sail. They did not have an engine. The sail was attached to a long mast called a yard. The yard was made out of a very tall, straight tree. The yard was hung at an angle off of a smaller mast called a stumpmast. The sail was hung this way so that it could be raised and lowered to fit under bridges.

A gundalow has a rudder in the stern or back of the boat to help steer, and a leeboard on the left side of the boat or the port side to help it stay balance din the water. Large oars called sweeps help turn the boat around. When a gundalow was built, a tool called an adz helped shape the boards for the hull or frame of the boat. There were no nails to hold together a gundalow’s frame, only wooden pegs called trunnels. There were 5000 trunnels needed to hold together each gundalow.

During the mid 1880s, Captain Edward Adams built the last “working” gundalow which he named the “Fanny M.” after his wife, Fanny Mac. A reproduction of his gundalow was launched in 1982 with the help of a team of oxen, the traditional means of launching a gundalow. This reproduction was named the “Captain Edward Adams” and is the last of its kind in the world. It is now docked at Strawberry Banke in Portsmouth, New Hampshire where it is used for educational purposes.

Created by: Beth Heckman, Interpretive Naturalist
Great Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve
22. Aids
20. Yard
17. Penny M.
16. Port
14. Sweep
13. Clay
10. Stump mast
8. Cordwood
7. Parasailing
6. Gundalow
4. Steer
2. Deck
1. Teakboard

Down
25. Salt
23. Rudder
21. Bowl
19. Salt hay
18. Oxen
15. Captain Edward Adams
13. Turned
11. Brick
9. Carice
3. Yeast
1. Last
Across

GUNDALOW CROSSWORD ANSWERS
GUNDALOW SONG
by Rick Shaw (The Shaw Brothers)

About a small boat I'll now sing a song
That played a big part when our country was young
She was built on these shores and called gundalow
And long may her story be told

chorus:
Gundalow row
Gundalow sail
Carry the lumber the crops and the mail
Carry the freight on river and main
Gundalow, gundalow boat

They were shallow of draft
They were chubby and square
They could sail on the dew
They could go anywhere
Down the river on one tide
And home on the next
With 10 tons of cargo stacked high on the deck

chorus:

From Exeter, Newmarket, Durham, and Dover,
South Berwick and Portsmouth they traveled all over
To the towns all around the Piscataqua Basin
They carried the goods to build a new nation

chorus:

So here's to the gundalow
Here's to the men
And though we may never see their likes again
Their story and glory and pride will live on
Whenever we join in the gundalow song
HELP CAPTAIN EDWARD H. ADAMS BUILD HIS NEXT GUNDALOW!

1. Can you find the hull, lateen sail, stem, mast, oar, lee board, rudder, and candy?
2. Cut out all the pieces and assemble your gundalow onto the large oak tag sheet.
3. Where is your gundalow and what cargo is it carrying?
4. Now give your gundalow a name and color everything in!
How to draw a Gundalow in 5 steps!

1. 
2. 
3. 
4. 
5. 

Now You Try!

Visit us at www.gundalow.org!

How do these words relate to a gundalow?
- Vessel
- Historic
- Piscataqua
- Maritime
- Tidal
- Estuary
- Commerce
- Yankee
- Environmental
- Community
- Agriculture
- Rudder
- Wheel
- Lee Board
- Yard
- Wheel
- Bilge
- Oars
- Sweeps
- River Freighter
THE GUNDALOW SONG  by Rick Shaw

VERSE 1: ABOUT A SMALL BOAT I'LL NOW SING A SONG, THAT

A7       Bm
PLAYED A BIG PART WHEN OUR COUNTRY WAS YOUNG, SHE WAS

A7
BUILT ON THESE SHORES AND CALLED GUNDALOW AND LONG-

D     (CHORUS)  D
MAY HER STORY BE TOLD  GUNDALOW ROW, GUNDALOW

D
SAIL, CARRY THE LUMBER, THE CROPS AND THE MAIL, CARRY

D
FREIGHT ON RIVER AND BAY, GUNDALOW, GUNDALOW BOAT

VERSE 2: THEY WERE SHALLOW OF DRAFT, CHUBBY AND SQUARE

VERSE 3: FROM EXETER, NEW MARKET, DURHAM AND DOVER

VERSE 4: SO, HERE'S TO THE GUNDALOW, HERE'S TO THE MEN

(Chorus)  (Chorus)
AND THOUGH WE MAY NEVER SEE THEIR LIKE AGAIN
THEIR STORY AND GLORY AND PRIDE WILL LIVE ON
WHENEVER WE JOIN IN THE GUNDALOW SONG -  (Chorus)

(C) Copyright  BRANDY CINER MUSIC (ASCAP)