

Shallop



**Captain John Smith
Chesapeake National
Historic Trail**



Shallop

In the 1600s, the word "shallop" referred to an open wooden workboat such as a barge, dory, or rowboat. Shallops were small enough to row but also had one or two sails. Captain John Smith's shallop could carry 15 men. It was probably about 30 feet long and 8 feet wide. Also, it could float in less than 2 feet of water, which was important for navigating the shallow waters of the Chesapeake Bay and its rivers.