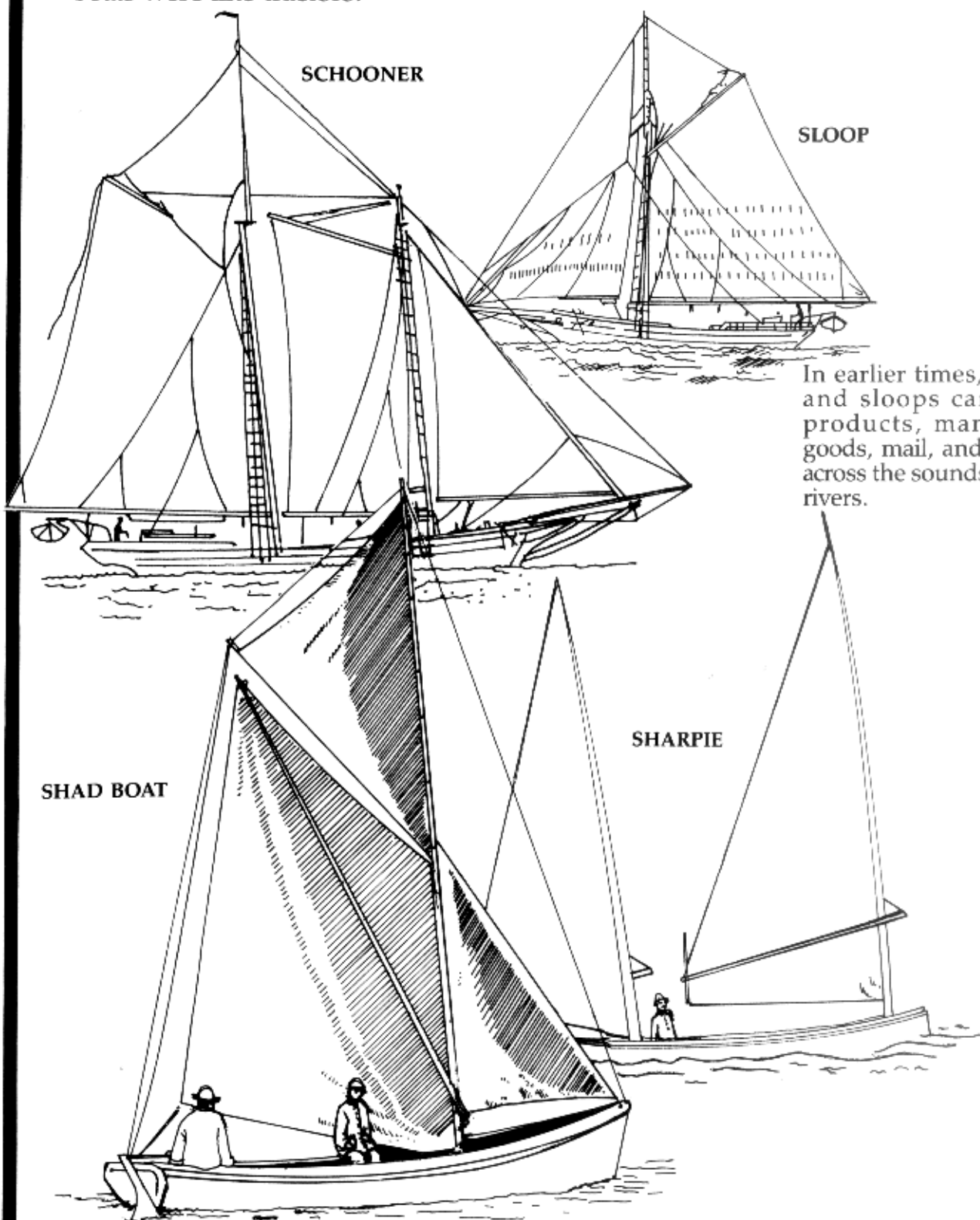


INSHORE WATERS

Inshore waters provide sheltered avenues for transportation. Before improved bridges and roads, it was easier to travel by water than overland because creeks, rivers and bays hindered land travel. The waters, rich in seafood, were like fields to be harvested, and boats were like tractors.

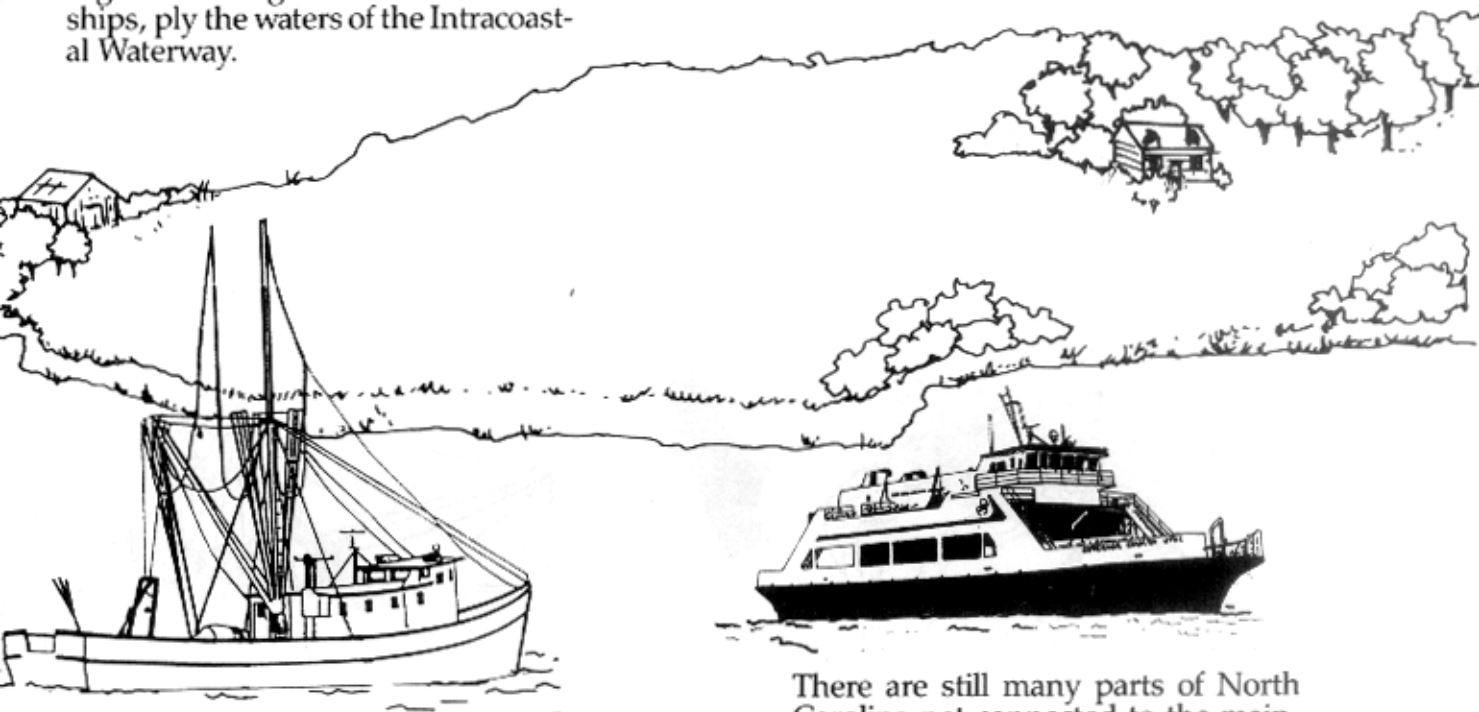


In earlier times, schooners and sloops carried farm products, manufactured goods, mail, and passengers across the sounds and up the rivers.

Shad boats and sharpies were used in local fisheries, and to a lesser extent, transport for goods.



Yachts and commercial traffic, such as tugs with barges and small cruise ships, ply the waters of the Intracoastal Waterway.



Trawlers work in the sounds and rivers and sometimes go long distances offshore in search of fish.

There are still many parts of North Carolina not connected to the mainland by bridges. Ferries serve these areas and cross some of the wider rivers.



The Core sounder is a style of boat, still seen today, that harks back to the sharpies of former times.

KEY WORDS

trawlers
ferries
barges
schooners
sloops
shad boats
sharpies
intracoastal
waterway