



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

NAVAL SEA SYSTEM COMMAND
1333 ISAAC HULL AVENUE
WASHINGTON NAVY YARD DC 20376

IN REPLY REFER TO

4770

Ser 21I/011

1 Dec 2014

John M. Fowler, Executive Director
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
401 F Street NW, Suite 308
Washington DC 20001-2637

SUBJ: ANNUAL REPORT ON THE PROGRAM COMMENT FOR THE DISPOSITION
OF HISTORIC VESSELS

Dear Mr. Fowler:

Per the requirements of the Program Comment for the Department of Navy for the Disposition of Historic Vessels (Program Comment), issued by the Advisory Council for Historic Preservation on 5 March 2010, the annual report is provided as enclosure (1).

If you have any questions, my point of contact is Mr. James Poles, NAVSEA SEA21-I, Navy Inactive Ships Program, (202) 781-0149 or James.Poles@navy.mil.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. A. Clark".

G. A. CLARK

Director

Inactive Ships Office, SEA 21I

Enclosure: 1. Annual Report on the Program Comment for the Disposition of Historic Vessels

Copy to:

Eric Hein, Executive Director, National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers

Annual Report to the
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
and the
National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers
on the
Program Comment for the Department of the Navy
for the Disposition of Historic Vessels

Prepared by:

Naval Sea Systems Command with
the
Naval History and Heritage Command

Washington, DC

1 December 2014

Annual Report on the Program Comment for the Disposition of Historic Vessels

I. Introduction

This is the fifth Annual Report to the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) and the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers (NCSHPO) as required by the Program Comment for the Department of the Navy for the Disposition of Historic Vessels (hereinafter "the Program Comment"). The Program Comment was initiated by the Naval Sea Systems Command as an alternative method for the way in which the Navy will comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) with regard to the determination of National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) eligibility of its vessels and the treatment of adverse effects that may result from their disposition. The Program Comment was approved and issued by the ACHP effective 5 March 2010 and published in the *Federal Register*, Vol. 75, No. 49 on 15 March 2010.

For a property to be eligible for listing in the NRHP, it must meet one or more of the five evaluation criteria established by the Secretary of the Interior. The Program Comment provides guidance for applying these evaluation criteria to the Navy's vessels, including active and inactive (decommissioned) vessels, which have unique characteristics compared to many other types of property assessed under the NHPA. In accordance with the Program Comment, U.S. Navy vessels are evaluated using these five characteristics:

1. The vessel was awarded an individual Presidential Unit Citation. (A Presidential Unit Citation is awarded to military units that have performed an extremely meritorious or heroic act, usually in the face of an armed enemy.)
- ii. An individual act of heroism took place aboard the vessel such that an individual was subsequently awarded the Medal of Honor or the Navy Cross. (The Medal of Honor is awarded for valor in action against an enemy force. The Navy Cross is awarded for extraordinary heroism in action not justifying an award of the Medal of Honor.)
- iii. A President of the United States was assigned to the vessel during his or her naval service.
- iv. The vessel was the first to incorporate engineering, weapons systems, or other upgrades that represent a revolutionary change in naval design or warfighting capabilities, or other historic or socially significant event occurred on the vessel.
- v. Some other historic or socially significant event occurred on the vessel.

Qualified Navy Historians with knowledge about Navy vessels review active and inactive vessels to determine which meet one or more of the five evaluation characteristics stated above.

According to National Register Bulletin titled *"How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation,"* issued by the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, a property shall not only be significant under the National Register criteria, but it also must retain integrity.

The National Register Bulletin states:

"The evaluation of integrity is sometimes a subjective judgment, but it must always be grounded in an understanding of a property's physical features and how they relate to its significance.

Historic properties either retain integrity (this is, convey their significance) or they do not. Within the concept of integrity, the National Register criteria recognize seven aspects or qualities that, in various combinations, define integrity.

To retain historic integrity a property will always possess several, and usually most, of the aspects. The retention of specific aspects of integrity is paramount for a property to convey its significance. Determining which of these aspects are most important to a particular property requires knowing why, where, and when the property is significant".

The bulletin defines seven aspects of integrity that require evaluation to determine integrity. They are location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. For any vessel that meets one or more of the five Program Comment Evaluation Characteristics stated above, the same qualified Navy historians then determine whether that vessel continues to possess integrity applying the seven aspects of Integrity as described in the bulletin.

In accordance with the Program Comment, if the Navy determines that a vessel satisfies one or more of the five characteristics above, and possesses integrity such that the vessel looks much like it did when it was built or during the period for which it is considered historically significant, then the vessel is eligible for listing in the NRHP. For inactive vessels, the Navy documents its findings with a Determination of Eligibility (DoE) or a Determination of Ineligibility (DoI) statement after decommissioning but prior to vessel disposal. DoE's and DoI's are subject to participation by historic preservation stakeholders in accordance with Section III.C of the Program Comment. For active vessels, any DoE is preliminary until the vessel has been decommissioned, unless the vessel is planned to be a hot-ship Foreign Military Sale transfer on the same day it is decommissioned from U.S. Navy active service.

II. Report Requirements

In accordance with Section V of the Program Comment, the Navy will submit an annual report to the NCSHPO and the ACHP on the progress of the Program Comment by 1

December. The Program Comment requires that the annual report include the following information:

- 1) The names and status of active vessels identified as eligible for listing in the NRHP, and the basis for their eligibility. See Table 1.
- 2) The names and status of decommissioned vessels identified as eligible for listing in the NRHP, and a copy of the statement of eligibility. See Table 2.
- 3) The names and status of decommissioned vessels identified as ineligible for listing in the NRHP, and a copy of the statement of ineligibility. See Table 3.
- 4) The names of the vessels eligible for listing in the NRHP whose final disposition occurred during the reporting period. See Table 4.

III. NHPA Eligibility Determinations

Tables 1 through 4 identify vessels and the completed NHPA eligibility determinations made for these vessels from the previous report through the cutoff date for information contained in this report, 8 November 2014. Copies of the DoE or DoI final determinations for inactive vessels listed in this report are publicly accessible at www.navsea.navy.mil/teamships/InactiveShips/Historic/Completed_Evaluations.aspx.

Table 1: Active Vessels Identified as Eligible for Listing in the National Register of Historic Places

Hull Number	Vessel Name	Vessel Status	Applicable Characteristic(s) (I, ii, iii, iv, v)
None			

Status of participation by historic preservation stakeholders for vessels identified in Table 1 (Program Comment Section III.C): N/A

Table 2: Inactive Vessels Identified as Eligible for Listing in the National Register of Historic Places

Hull Number	Vessel Name	Vessel Status	Applicable Characteristic(s) (I, ii, iii, iv, v)
None			

Status of participation by historic preservation stakeholders for vessels identified in Table 2 (Program Comment Section III.C): N/A

Table 3: Inactive Vessels Identified as Ineligible for Listing in the National Register of Historic Places

Hull Number	Vessel Name	Vessel Status
AS 33	SIMON LAKE	Stricken, awaiting disposal
DD 933	BARRY	Display/Museum Ship
FFG 43	THACH	Decommissioned, possible Foreign Military Sale
FFG 54	FORD	Stricken, awaiting disposal
LPD 12	SHREVEPORT	Stricken, awaiting disposal
LST 1190	BOULDER	Stricken, awaiting disposal
MCM 2	DEFENDER	Stricken, under contract for dismantling
SSN 75	MIAMI	Decommissioned
T-AGS 61	SUMNER	Stricken, pending title transfer to MARAD for disposal

Status of participation by historic preservation stakeholders for vessels identified in Table 3 (Program Comment Section III.C):

- Ex-SIMON LAKE (AS 33): The DOI was provided to the NCSHPO and Historic Naval Ships Association (HNSA), via email 30 December 2013. Further, the DOI was posted to www.navsea.navy.mil/teamships/InactiveShips/Historic/Vessels_Review.aspx for a 60-day public comment period that expired on 28 February 2014. No comments were received by any stakeholder or member of the public.
- Ex-BARRY (DD 933): The DOI was provided to the NCSHPO, Historic Naval Ships Association (HNSA), and the National Association of Destroyer Veterans (Tin Can Sailors) by email 12 December 2013. Further, the DOI was posted to www.navsea.navy.mil/teamships/InactiveShips/Historic/Vessels_Review.aspx for a 60-day public comment period that expired on 15 February 2014. Two comments were received and considered. A comment from the DC SHPO dated 9 January 2014 did not concur with the Navy's initial finding of ex-BARRY's ineligibility for listing on the NRHP. A comment from Tin Can Sailors dated 12 December 2013 concurred with the Navy's initial finding. On 13 Nov 2014, the Navy Inactive Ships Office submitted a letter to the DC SHPO to acknowledge and respond to the issues raised in the 9 January 2014 letter. The Navy's 13 Nov 2014 letter, explained the eligibility criteria set forth in the Program Comment upon which the Navy's determination of ineligibility was based.

- Ex-THACH (FFG 43): The DOI was provided to the NCSHPO and HNSA via email 30 December 2013. Further, the DOI was posted to www.navsea.navy.mil/teamships/InactiveShips/Historic/Vessels_Review.aspx for a 60-day public comment period that expired on 28 February 2014. No comments were received by a stakeholder or member of the public.
- Ex-FORD (FFG 54): The DOI was provided to the NCSHPO and HNSA via email 30 December 2013. Further, the DOI was posted to www.navsea.navy.mil/teamships/InactiveShips/Historic/Vessels_Review.aspx for a 60-day public comment period that expired on 28 February 2014. No comments were received by a stakeholder or member of the public.
- Ex-SHREVEPORT (LPD 12): The DOI was provided to the NCSHPO and HNSA via email 7 January 2014. Further, the DOI was posted to www.navsea.navy.mil/teamships/InactiveShips/Historic/Vessels_Review.aspx for a 60-day public comment period that expired on 07 March 2014. No comments were received by any stakeholder or member of the public.
- Ex-BOULDER (LST 1190): The DOI was provided to the NCSHPO and HNSA via email 30 December 2013. Further, the DOI was posted to www.navsea.navy.mil/teamships/InactiveShips/Historic/Vessels_Review.aspx for a 60-day public comment period that expired on 28 February 2014. No comments were received by a stakeholder or member of the public.
- Ex-DEFENDER (MCM 2): The DOI was provided to the NCSHPO and HNSA via email on 10 September 2014. Further, the DOI was posted to www.navsea.navy.mil/teamships/InactiveShips/Historic/Vessels_Review.aspx for a 60-day public comment period that expired on 8 November 2014. No comments were received by any stakeholder or member of the public.
- Ex-MIAMI (SSN 75): The DOI was provided to the NCSHPO and HNSA, 16 December 2013. Further, the DOI was posted to www.navsea.navy.mil/teamships/InactiveShips/Historic/Vessels_Review.aspx for a 60-day public comment period that expired on 7 March 2014. No comments were received by any stakeholder or member of the public.
- Ex-SUMNER (T-AGS 61): The DOI was provided to HNSA by email on 2 July 2014. Further, the DOI was posted to www.navsea.navy.mil/teamships/InactiveShips/Historic/Vessels_Review.aspx for a 60-day public comment period that expired on 08 September 2014. No comments were received by any stakeholder or member of the public.

**Table 4: Vessels Eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places
Whose Final Disposition Occurred during the Reporting Period**

Hull Number	Vessel Name	Vessel Status	Applicable Characteristic(s) (I, ii, iii, iv, v)
AVT 59	FORRESTAL	Dismantling in progress	iv
CV 64	CONSTELLATION	Under contract for dismantling	i

Status of documentation supporting final disposition for vessels identified in Table 4 (Program Comment Section V):

The Program Comment calls for the Annual Report to provide a status of the transfer of documentation (Book of General Plans, final In-Service condition (INSURV) report) to the National Archives associated with the vessels listed in Table 4. The Books of General Plans reproduced in digitally stable media for ex- FORRESTAL and ex- CONSTELLATION have been transferred to NAVSEA's Records Office for subsequent transfer to the National Archives/Federal Records Center. The last INSURV report for ex- CONSTELLATION exists but remains classified. The last INSURV report for ex- FORRESTAL is no longer extant according to the Board of Inspection and Survey Administrative Officer.