

Naval Vessel Historical Evaluation
FINAL DETERMINATION

This evaluation is unclassified

Name	Hull Number
CHARLES F. ADAMS	DDG-2
Vessel Class	Previous Vessel Designation (if any)
CHARLES F. ADAMS (DDG-2)-class guided missile destroyer	None
Vessel Location	Current Status
NAVSEA Inactive Ships On-site Maintenance Office, Philadelphia, PA	On donation hold as a museum and memorial

Initial Evaluation Date	Initial Finding
22 July 2011	Eligible
Final Evaluation Date	Eligibility for Listing to the National Register of Historic Places
10 November 2011	Eligible

Vessel Snapshot

Lineage	First ship of the name
Displacement	3,601 tons (full load)
Length	437 feet
Beam	47 feet
Draft	24 feet (maximum navigational)
Speed	30 knots
Propulsion	Geared turbines, twin screws
Armament	2 5-inch, 1 Mark 11 (TARTAR) missile launching system, 2 Mark 32 triple torpedo tube mounts, 1 Mark 16 ASROC launcher

Laid Down	15 June 1958
Launched	8 September 1959
Built By	Bath Iron Works, Bath, ME
Sponsor	Mrs. Robert Homans, sister of the late Secretary of the Navy Charles F. Adams (1866-1954), for whom the ship was named
Delivered	31 August 1960
Commissioned	10 September 1960
Decommissioned	1 August 1990
Stricken	20 November 1992

Vessel History

Deployments	CHARLES F. ADAMS conducted 12 Mediterranean/6 th Fleet deployments; five to Northern Europe; two to the Middle East Force; one to the Black Sea; one to the Indian Ocean and Red Sea; carried out three law enforcement/counter-narcotics deployments in the Caribbean; in addition, in October 1962 she covered Project <i>Mercury</i> astronaut CDR Walter M. Schirra, Jr.'s <i>SIGMA 7</i> six-orbit flight, and served on the Cuban Quarantine; in 1968, she was one of the ships involved in the search for the lost submarine THRESHER (SSN-589).
Awards	1 Meritorious Unit Commendation, 3 Navy Expeditionary Medals, 2 Armed Forces Expeditionary Medals, 4 Battle Efficiency (Navy E) Ribbons
Noteworthy Accomplishments	CHARLES F. ADAMS is the first vessel designed and constructed specifically as a guided missile destroyer (DDG-1, GYATT, was converted from a World War II construction program DD). As such, she is first in this class although her hull number is DDG-2. She and her 22 sister ships formed the backbone of the U.S. Navy's destroyer force throughout the Cold War period and participated in the Vietnam War.

DANFS* Entry	In early stages of preparation
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**Dictionary of American Naval Fighting Ships*

Criteria Evaluation¹

i. Was the vessel awarded an individual Presidential Unit Citation?	No
ii. Did an individual act of heroism take place aboard the vessel such that an individual was subsequently awarded the Medal of Honor or the Navy Cross?	No
iii. Was a President of the United States assigned to the vessel during his or her naval service?	No
iv. Was the vessel was the first to incorporate engineering, weapons systems, or other upgrades that represent a revolutionary change in naval design or warfighting capabilities?	Yes. CHARLES F. ADAMS was the first ship to incorporate engineering, weapons systems, or other upgrades that represented a revolutionary change in naval design or warfighting capabilities, and was the first ship designed and constructed specifically as a guided missile destroyer (DDG-1, GYATT, was converted from World War II construction). As such, she is first in this class. Her design successfully established the guided missile destroyer as an integral part of the U.S. Navy. Through successive generations, the type is still under construction for the U.S. Navy. Every DDG built since 1960 is a lineal descendant of CHARLES F. ADAMS. The DDG-2 design, therefore, does not represent a dead end.
v. Did some other historic or socially significant event occur on board the vessel?	No
Assessment of integrity of (as appropriate)	None found

¹ Evaluation conducted using triggers established for naval vessels in *Program Comment for the Department of Navy for the Disposition of Historic Vessels*, issued by the Advisory Council for Historic Preservation on 15 March 2010.

design, materials, workmanship, feeling and/or association	
Historical Evaluation Conclusion	Eligible

Sources	CHARLES F. ADAMS (DDG-2) Command History Reports, 1960-1963, 1966-1990, History and Archives Division, Naval History and Heritage Command

Historic Preservation Stakeholder Comment

Historic preservation stakeholder comments received are considered when preparing final determinations. The initial determination for this vessel was made available for comment by historic preservation stakeholders for 60 days. During that time, the Navy received no written comments.