

Naval Vessel Historical Evaluation

FINAL DETERMINATION

This evaluation is unclassified

Name	Hull Number
SHADWELL	LSD 15
Vessel Class	Previous Vessel Designation (if any)
CASA GRANDE (LSD 13) – class dock landing ship	Ex-TOMAHAWK, ex-WATERWAY (originally allocated to the Royal Navy under Lend-Lease)
Vessel Location	Current Status
Mobile Bay, AL	In service as an advanced fire research vessel

Initial Evaluation Date	Initial Finding
24 August 2015	Ineligible
Final Evaluation Date	Eligibility for Listing to the National Register of Historic Places
3 November 2015	Ineligible

Vessel Snapshot

Lineage	First U.S. Navy ship named <i>Shadwell</i> , honoring the birthplace of Thomas Jefferson, the author of the Declaration of Independence and the third President of the United States.
Displacement	9,375 tons
Length	457 ft.
Beam	72 ft.
Draft	18 ft.
Speed	Cruising speed at 15 knots, max. 16 kts.
Propulsion	Steam turbines, twin screws
Armament	1 5-inch/38, 12 40 millimeter (two twin mounts and two quads) 16 20 millimeter (at commissioning in 1945)

Laid Down	17 January 1944
Launched	29 May 1944
Built By	Newport News Shipbuilding & Dry Dock Co., Newport News, VA
Sponsor	Miss Mary Greenman, daughter of CAPT William G. Greenman, who had recently served as Chief of Staff to the Atoll Commander, Kwajalein, and who, soon afterwards, would become Director of Naval Petroleum Reserves, Office of the Secretary of the Navy.
Commissioned	24 July 1944
Decommissioned	10 July 1947
Recommissioned	20 September 1950
Decommissioned	9 March 1970
Stricken	1 November 1976

Vessel History

Deployment Summary	<p>Joined Task Force 78 in the Pacific Fleet in December 1944. Downed an enemy plane in the Philippines on “D-Day,” 9 January 1945, during the invasion of Lingayen Gulf in Luzon. Subsequently attacked by 3 torpedo bombers, one of which torpedoed a 60-ft hole in her hull (no fatalities, 3 injuries). Following repairs at Puget Sound Navy Yard, Bremerton, Wash., she participated in the Occupation of Japan. Performed routine occupation duties until May 1946. Joined the Reserve Fleet at Orange, TX, in July 1947. Decommissioned and placed in reserve.</p> <p>Recommissioned on 20 September 1950, she joined the Atlantic Fleet Amphibious Force. Following her second commissioning, SHADWELL deployed on Caribbean and Mediterranean missions including the Cuban Missile Crisis of 1962; special operations in the Bahamas; Arctic Circle</p>
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	<p>expeditions and exercises.</p> <p>Decommissioned 9 March 1970, SHADWELL was placed in the James River Reserve Fleet, Fort Eustis, VA, transfer taking place on 9 September 1970. Permanent transfer to MARAD effected on 1 September 1971.</p> <p>Stricken on 1 November 1976, SHADWELL was transferred to the Energy Research and Development Administration; on 31 May 1985, request made for authority to dispose of ex-SHADWELL as a land-based full scale test bed for fire and smoke testing of shipboard materials and equipment; MARAD transferred ex-SHADWELL to the Department of the Navy on 25 October 1986.</p> <p>Re-reactivated on 2 June 1987 as an advanced fire research vessel, serving as a working laboratory of the Naval Research Laboratories (NRL) dedicated to the study of shipboard fires; located at the U.S. Coast Guard's Fire Test Detachment, Mobile, AL.</p>
Awards	One battle star for World War II (Lingayen Gulf, 1945); Navy Expeditionary Medal (Cuban contingency operations, 21 January – 2 March 1962); two Armed Forces Expeditionary Medals (one for the Cuban Missile Crisis, 24 October -5 December 1962, and the second for Dominican Republic contingency operations, 10 May-4 June 1965)
Noteworthy Events	Torpedoed at Lingayen Gulf, took part in Occupation of Japan; in 1959, she was the first LSD to operate helicopters. In 1959, she carried the helicopters assigned to the Mediterranean phase of President Dwight D. Eisenhower's ten-nation tour.
DANFS* Entry	Yes, but needs to be updated.

**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	

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.

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?	No
v. Did some other historic or socially significant event occur on board the vessel?	No
Historic Evaluation Conclusion	Ineligible

Sources	“Shadwell Retires,” Amphibious News, CPL 24-70, 5 March 1970
	“NRL To Use Former Navy Vessel To Test Firefighting Safety Gear,” Sea Services Weekly, 23 June 1987
	Memorandum, CNO to SECNAV, Ser. 325E/5U3988420, 31 May 1985, “Disposal of Ex-SHADWELL (LSD 15)
	“In the Line of Fire,” ALL HANDS, www.new.navy.mil, November 2004

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.

Comments Received	Comment Disposition