

Naval Vessel Historical Evaluation

INITIAL DETERMINATION



This evaluation is unclassified

Name	Hull Number
JOHN F KENNEDY	CV 67
Vessel Class	Previous Vessel Designation (if any)
Unique ship, a variant of KITTY HAWK (CVA 63)-class multipurpose aircraft carrier	CVA 67
Vessel Location	Current Status
INACTSHIPMAINTO Philadelphia, PA	Donation hold

Initial Evaluation Date	Initial Finding
12 July 2016	Ineligible
Final Evaluation Date	Eligibility for Listing to the National Register of Historic Places

Vessel Snapshot

Lineage	First ship to be named for John F. Kennedy, 35 th President of the United States. Nicknamed, “Big John”. Second ship to be named for a member of the Kennedy family; the destroyer JOSEPH P. KENNEDY, JR. (DD 850, commissioned in 1945) was named after the late president’s brother.
Displacement	82,655 tons (full)
Length	1052 ft
Beam	252 ft
Draft	37 ft (max)

Speed	30 + knots
Propulsion	Conventionally powered, steam turbines, 4 screws, 500,000 shaft plus horsepower
Armament	two Mk 29 NATO Sea Sparrow launchers, two 20mm Phalanx CIWS Mk 15, two Rolling Airframe Missile (RAM) Systems
Laid Down	22 October 1964
Launched	27 May 1967
Built By	Newport News [Va.] Shipbuilding & Dry Dock Company
Sponsor	Miss Caroline Bouvier Kennedy, daughter of the late President Kennedy
Delivered	31 August 1968
Commissioned	7 September 1968
Inactivated	1 August 2007
Decommissioned	1 August 2007
Stricken	16 October 2009

Vessel History

Deployment Summary	<p>Last conventionally powered aircraft carrier built for U.S. Navy. Maiden voyage to the Mediterranean (1968), plus another seven deployments to the Middle East during the 1970s. By the mid-70's JOHN F. KENNEDY was upgraded to handle the F-14 fighter jet and the S-3A Viking antisubmarine aircraft thus giving her a triple-threat capability for surface, submarine, and air warfare. Underwent a major overhaul in 1979. Ninth deployment, in 1981, to the Indian Ocean. Second overhaul in 1984 in Norfolk Naval Shipyard. In July 1986, JOHN F. KENNEDY served as the centerpiece for a</p>
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	<p>vast international naval armada during the International Naval Review in honor of the 100th Anniversary and Rededication of the Statue of Liberty. Departed for the Mediterranean 1986-1987. 12th major deployment to the Mediterranean in August 1988. Participated in several exercises in early 1990, then was deployed in August 1990 in support of Operation DESERT SHIELD. Flagship of the Commander, Red Sea Battle Force. On January 16, 1991, aircraft from the ship's Carrier Air Wing Three began Operation DESERT STORM with attacks on Iraqi forces.</p> <p>Following a homecoming in 1991 and extensive repairs and maintenance in Norfolk, JOHN F. KENNEDY was deployed to the Mediterranean for the 14th time, conducting multiple exercises with the armed forces of Mediterranean littoral nations. Upon her return, underwent an extensive overhaul in the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard, and then changed her homeport to Mayport, FL. Fifteenth deployment to the Mediterranean in April 1997; Sixteenth deployment to the Mediterranean/Arabian Gulf in 1999. Participated in Operation SOUTHERN WATCH to enforce the no-fly zone over Iraq. Participated in the 2000 International Naval Review in New York City, and then to Boston for Sail Boston 2000. Upon returning to Mayport, underwent important technological upgrades. JOHN F. KENNEDY's 17th deployment in 2002 was to the North Arabian Sea in support of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM. After returning to homeport in August 2002, JOHN F. KENNEDY underwent a comprehensive maintenance project totaling \$300 million in living spaces, steam plants, computer systems and more, with the intent of extending the life of JOHN F. KENNEDY to 2018.</p> <p>JOHN F. KENNEDY's 18th deployment began in June 2004 in support of Operations IRAQI FREEDOM and ENDURING FREEDOM. In 2005, having returned to Mayport, she served as a training platform for new naval aviators to obtain their carrier qualifications. In 2006, JOHN F. KENNEDY down-shifted from acting as a training platform for fledgling USN and USMC aviators to command-wide training, advancement, and retention. JOHN F. KENNEDY's final port visit was to Boston, March 1-5, 2007.</p>
Awards	<p>Navy Unit Commendation; Meritorious Unit Commendation (three stars), Navy "E" Ribbon (four "E"s); Navy Expeditionary Medal; National Defense Medical (two stars); Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (four stars); Southwest Asia Service Medal (two stars); Global War on Terrorism Service Medal; Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal; Armed Forces Service Medal; Sea Service Deployment Ribbon (three silver stars); Kuwait Liberation Medal.</p> <p>A unique award, the "John F. Kennedy Award," was established during the</p>

	commissioning ceremony. This award was given annually to the officer and enlisted man who contributed the most each year to morale, operating efficiency, and material readiness of USS JOHN F KENNEDY.
Noteworthy Events	<p>Originally designated a CVA (fixed wing attack carrier); however, the designation was changed to CV to denote that the ship was capable of anti-submarine warfare, making her an all-purpose aircraft carrier.</p> <p>The ship's in-port cabin was designed to be a living reminder of President Kennedy and featured donations from the Kennedy Foundation in Boston and an original painting of John and his daughter Caroline sailing in the family yacht.</p>
DANFS* Entry	Yes, to 2005

**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 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	Naval Vessel Register
	Brochure, "Decommissioning of USS John F. Kennedy (CV 67), "Big John,"

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.

	Commissioned September 7, 1968, Decommissioned March 23, 2007 [sic]
	Brochure, "Welcome Aboard," 1969
	http://navysite.de/cvn/cv67.htm
	Action Memo: Striking and Disposal of JOHN F KENNEDY (CV 67), approved 16 October 2009

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 __ written comments.

Comments Received	Comment Disposition