

Naval Vessel Historical Evaluation
FINAL DETERMINATION



This evaluation is unclassified

Name	Hull Number
Fort McHenry	LSD 43
Vessel Class	Previous Vessel Designation (if any)
LSD 41	N/A
Vessel Location	Current Status
Philadelphia, PA	Disposal

Initial Evaluation Date	Initial Finding
10 May 2022	Ineligible
Final Evaluation Date	Eligibility for Listing to the National Register of Historic Places
13 Dec 2022	Ineligible

Vessel Snapshot

Lineage	First ship named FORT MCHENRY
Displacement	16,372 tons
Length	610 ft

Beam	84 ft
Draft	21 ft
Speed	20 + knots
Propulsion	Diesel Engines
Armament	2 × 25 mm Mk 38 cannons, 2 × 20 mm Phalanx CIWS mounts, 2 × Rolling Airframe Missile, 6 × .50 caliber M2HB machine
Laid Down	06/10/1983
Launched	02/01/1986
Built By	Lockheed Shipbuilding & Construction Co.
Sponsor	Helen D. Bentley
Delivered	07/24/1987
Commissioned	08/08/1987
Inactivated	4/16/2021
Decommissioned	04/16/2021
Stricken	12/14/2021

Vessel History

<p>Deployment Summary</p>	<p>West Pac (4), Northern Arabian Gulf (5), Emergency Deployment to the Philippines, Gulf of Guinea, U.S 5th Fleet areas of Operations (3), U.S 6th Fleet areas of Operations (2), Kernel Usher (1), Cobra Gold (3), Valiant Usher (3), Valiant Blitz, Kernel Blitz, Operation Desert Shield, Operation Desert Storm, Eager Mace, Bell Thunder, Infinite Moonlight, Sea Soldier IX, Iron Magic, Operation Vigilant Warrior, Valiant Mark, Foal Eagle (2), CARAT (2), Balikpapan, Neptune Thunder, Cooperation- from-the-Sea, Africa Partner Ship Initiative, Cold Response, Camel Sand, Sea Soldier II, Operation Unified Assistance, Operation Unified Response</p>
<p>Awards</p>	<p>Navy Unit Commendation, Meritorious Unit Commendation</p>
<p>Noteworthy Events</p>	<p>1989 April-August - Supported oil clean up and acted as the command center for the EXXON Valdez oil spill in Prince William Sound, Washington</p> <p>1994 - Participated in Operation Vigilant Warrior, she was the United States response to renewed Iraq aggression against Kuwait.</p> <p>1996 January 31-February 4 - Arrived in Shanghai, People’s Republic of China to conduct a goodwill visit. Arrival also marked the first time a front line US Navy amphibious vessel visited China.</p> <p>2004/November - Emergency deployed to the Philippines after several typhoons hit the country. While on station, she provided a platform for U.S. Air Force helicopters to bring much-needed fuel into the Philippines.</p> <p>2005 Indian Ocean Earthquake and Tsunami- Fort McHenry was dispatched to render assistance as part of Operation Unified Assistance alongside other U.S. Naval Ships.</p> <p>2006/April - Fort McHenry participated in HULLSWAP2006 with USS Tortuga. Fort McHenry departed Sasebo, Japan and arrived Norfolk Naval Station Sept 2006.</p> <p>2006/July – Fort McHenry arrived in port Baltimore, MD. This event marked the first time the Fort McHenry had visited its namesake, she was greeted with replica cannons from the war of 1812, and gun salute was fired by the forts living history unit, the Fort McHenry Guard.</p> <p>2009 January - May the ship served as the Flag Ship for the inaugural Africa Partnership Station Deployment.</p> <p>2010 Earthquake in Haiti, Fort McHenry was member of the Bataan ARG that arrived in Haiti in January 2010 rendering assistance as part of Operation Unified Response.</p>
<p>DANFS* Entry</p>	<p>FORT MCHENRY (LSD-43) I</p>

**Dictionary of American Naval Fighting Ships*

Criteria Evaluation¹

i. Was the vessel 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.)	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? (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.)	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 - https://www.nvr.navy.mil/SHIPDETAILS/SHIPSDETAIL_LSD_43.HTML
	Naval History and Naval History and Heritage Command - https://www.history.navy.mil/research/archives/Collections/command-operations-reports/ships/f/fort-mchenry-isd-43-i.html
	U.S. Navy Awards -

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

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.

historic preservation stakeholders for 60 days. During that time, the Navy received __ written comments.

Comments Received	Comment Disposition
NONE	