



Brooklyn Navy Yard Development Corporation Archives
Guide to the Glenn Williams and Brett Curlew USS Ohio collection
1820-2012
MC/53

Brooklyn Navy Yard Development Corporation Archives
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Finding aid produced on: 2019-05-29
Description is in English.

Descriptive Summary

Title: Glenn Williams and Brett Curlew USS Ohio collection

Creator: Williams, Glenn R.
Curlew, Brett

Date(s): 1820-2012, bulk dates 1820

Quantity: 1 box

Language of Materials: English

Call Number: MC/53

Administrative/Biographical History

The second USS Ohio was a ship of the line designed by Henry Eckford, laid down at Brooklyn Navy Yard in 1817, and launched on May 30, 1820. The Ohio was the first ship built by the U.S. Navy at the Brooklyn Navy Yard. Refitted for service in 1838, the Ohio joined the Mediterranean Squadron under Commodore Isaac Hull. Acting as flagship for two years, she protected commerce and suppressed the slave trade off the African coast. In 1840, the Ohio returned to Boston and from 1841-1846 she served as receiving ship. The Ohio was recommissioned on December 7, 1846 and supported a number of operations during the Mexican-American War. Following the war, she operated in the Pacific before returning to Boston in 1850 where she again served as a receiving ship until 1875. Sold in 1883, she was sunk in a controlled burn in 1884 in Greenport Harbor, New York.

Between 2011 and 2012, Dr. Glenn Williams, of the Physical Sciences Department at Nassau Community College, and Brett Curlew conducted an underwater project with a focus on capturing as much

information regarding the history of the USS Ohio as possible. The project was threefold in nature. First, to uncover forensic evidence of the ship's remains and subsequent burning and sinking. Second, to survey the entire wreck field by use of structured transect line flagging, metal detection, and photographic techniques. Third, the recovery of artifacts using passive/non-invasive techniques and subsequent stabilization, preservation, and conservation.

Scope and Content

This collection consists of seven artifacts salvaged from the wreck of the USS Ohio, along with supporting materials related to the underwater project. The artifacts include three bronze drift pins, a drift pin washer, a wooden peg (treenail or trunnel), a piece of wooden beam with drift pin bore hole (probably a futtock), and a metal sheathing strap with tack holes (probably used for hull repairs). According to the research of Dr. Williams, the drift pins were probably manufactured by the Revere Foundry in Boston. Supporting materials include an original U.S. Receiving Ship Ohio recruit boarding certificate dated 1865, an underwater photo of a drift pin intact through the ship's beam, underwater survey video of the Ohio wreck site, and research portfolio detailing the project's activities and supporting research.

Related Materials

Location of Copies: Items in this collection may have been digitized and if so, are featured in [BNY Collections](#), the BNYDC Archives' digital library. Only those items that have digital reproductions contain an Object ID listed in the Container List below. Use the Object ID or title of the item when searching BNY Collections.

System of Arrangement

This collection has no arrangement.

Access Points

New York Naval Shipyard
Artifacts
Documents
Ohio (Ship of the Line)
Photographs
Shipwrecks--New York (State)--Long Island
Underwater archaeology--New York (State)--Long Island
Video

Administrative Information

Accession Number(s): N/A

Acquisition Notes: The materials were donated by Dr. Glenn R. Williams directly to the BNYDC Archives in 2015. This collection has a collection documentation file.

Processing Notes: This collection was processed by Dennis Riley, Assistant Director of Archives and Records Management in March 2015. Collection maintenance completed by Elizabeth Mc Gorty, Archivist & Records Manager, in May 2019.

Access and Use

Access Restrictions: This collection is open for research.

Use Restrictions: Material in this collection is made available for use in research, teaching, and private study, pursuant to U.S. Copyright law. The use must assume full responsibility for any use of the material, including but not limited to, infringement of copyright and publication rights of reproduced material. Please see the BNYDC Archives' Policy on Access and Use for more information about reproductions and permissions to publish. Any material used for academic research or otherwise should be credited using the citation below.

Preferred Citation: Published citations should take the following form: Identification of item, date (if known); Glenn Williams and Brett Curlew USS Ohio collection; MC/53; Brooklyn Navy Yard Development Corporation Archives, Brooklyn, NY.

Related Material at the BNYDC Archives: N/A

Container List

Box 1 (4-D-4-1)	Title	Date	Object ID
Object 1	Sheathing strap	ca. 1820	15202
Object 2	Intact drift pin	ca. 1820	15199
Object 3	Intact drift pin	ca. 1820	15205
Object 4	Treenail (aka Trunnel)	ca. 1820	15202
Object 5	Wooden beam	ca. 1820	15208
Object 6	Drift Pin Washer	ca. 1820	15200
Object 7	Fragmented drift pin	ca. 1820	15211
Folder 1	Documents and research	1865-2012	