



Lady Washington, the Official Ship of the State of Washington
Hawaiian Chieftain
Grays Harbor Historical Seaport Authority

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MYSTIC SEAPORT ORDERS YARDS FROM HISTORICAL SEAPORT FOR JOSEPH CONRAD

Aberdeen – Mystic Seaport – The Museum of America and the Sea, the nation’s leading maritime museum, has contracted with the Grays Harbor Historical Seaport Authority to turn two large yards for the tall ship *Joseph Conrad*, now undergoing maintenance at Mystic Seaport’s facilities in Mystic, Conn. Mystic Seaport has ordered a fore yard, which will be 49 feet long and 11 and three-quarter inches in diameter. The museum also requested a mizzen topsail yard, which will be 35 feet, ten inches long and eight and one-half inches in diameter.

The Spar Shop, a unit of the Historical Seaport, will perform the work using logs harvested from a western Washington forest. The logs will be turned on the Spar Shop’s tracer lathe, which can handle logs up to 122-foot long. The project is expected to take four to six weeks. A purchase price was not disclosed.

Launched in 1882, the *Joseph Conrad* is an iron-hulled sailing ship originally used as a training vessel for Danish sailors. The vessel was acquired in 1934 by Mystic Seaport, which displays the vessel as a museum ship. Mystic Seaport’s education programs also use the vessel as an overnight facility. Mystic Seaport regularly contracts with the Historical Seaport to turn masts and spars. In 2006, the Historical Seaport supplied spars for the schooner *Amistad*, which was undergoing a restoration at Mystic Seaport.

Editors: Download high-res images of our ships at <http://historicalseaport.smugmug.com>. Click the “Media Images” category and select a gallery. We welcome media aboard to observe operations and interview crew. Contact Joe Follansbee, 360-589-0766, jfollansbee@historicalseaport.org. Information is subject to change without notice. A vessel fact sheet is available on the Press Releases page at www.historicalseaport.org. Follow our activities on Facebook ([facebook.com/graysharbor.seaport](https://www.facebook.com/graysharbor.seaport)) and Twitter (@graysharborhist).

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*The Grays Harbor Historical Seaport Authority is a not-for-profit, 501(c)(3) public development authority based in Aberdeen, Wash. that owns and operates the tall ships **Hawaiian Chieftain** and **Lady Washington**, now the Official Ship of the State of Washington. GHSA provides educational, vocational, recreational and ambassadorial activities and experiences that promote and preserve the maritime history of Grays Harbor, the Pacific Northwest, and our nation while serving the needs of the community.*