Guide to the Northrop Grumman Newport News
USS Monitor Photograph Collection, 2001–2002
Catalog Number MS336

The Library at The Mariners' Museum

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DESCRIPTIVE SUMMARY

Repository: The Library at The Mariners' Museum
Title: Northrop Grumman Newport News USS Monitor Photo Collection, 2001–2002
Catalog number: MS336
Accession number: A2003.01
Physical Characteristics: 289 photographs
Language(s): English
Creator(s): Northrop Grumman Newport News Media/Photography Department

SCOPE AND CONTENT

This collection contains color photographs of the USS Monitor’s engine and turret after recovery. It shows the Monitor’s engine at Northrop Grumman Newport News on July 18, 2001, being prepared for transfer to The Mariners' Museum. It shows the Monitor’s turret arriving at Northrop Grumman Newport News on August 9, 2002, and arriving at The Mariners' Museum on August 10, 2002. These photographs, taken by Northrop Grumman staff photographer John Whalen, illustrate four facets of the recovery and transfer processes: the equipment used to load, unload, and transfer the engine and turret; the processes of loading, unloading, and transferring these items; the people involved with the research, recovery, and transfer of these items; and the ceremonies commemorating the turret’s arrival at Northrop Grumman Newport News and The Mariners' Museum.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Accession number
A2003.01
Accession date
January 29, 2003
Restrictions
Collection is open to all researchers.

Publication Rights
Copies of any materials may not be reproduced, published, or distributed, in any form without written permission from The Mariners’ Museum.

Preferred Citation

Note to Users
When using these materials, please preserve the original order of the collection.
BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL SKETCH

The wreck site of Monitor was discovered sixteen miles off the coast of Cape Hatteras, North Carolina, in August 1973 during a joint expedition in which Duke University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the National Geographic Society, and the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources participated. Numerous artifacts, including the Monitor’s anchor, a lantern, and glassware, were recovered in subsequent expeditions during the years that followed. However, the two largest artifacts were recovered from the wreck site in 2001 and 2002.

The Monitor’s 30-ton engine was raised on July 16, 2001, after nearly a month of work by NOAA scientists and US Navy divers. Two days later the engine was transported by barge to Northrop Grumman Newport News where it was transferred to another barge and then transported to The Mariners’ Museum for conservation.

On August 5, 2002, Monitor’s gun turret was raised by derrick barge Wotan. On August 9 the turret arrived aboard Wotan at Northrop Grumman Newport News. The following day the turret was transferred to another barge and transported to The Mariners’ Museum for conservation.

Both artifacts are housed at The Mariners' Museum and will be prominently featured in exhibitions at the Museum’s USS Monitor Center, scheduled to open on March 9, 2007.

SERIES DESCRIPTION

Series I: Engine at Northrop Grumman Newport News
This series is comprised of color photographs of the Monitor’s engine at Northrop Grumman Newport News on July 18, 2001. The photographs are arranged in ascending numerical order according to “Photo Request Numbers” assigned by Northrop Grumman Newport News Media/Photography Department and are stored in files 2 through 6. This series illustrates the equipment used and selected steps of the transfer process as well as Museum and Northrop Grumman staff involved in preparing the engine for transfer to The Mariners’ Museum. There are also close-up photographs of the newly recovered engine before undergoing any conservation work.

Series II: Turret’s arrival at Northrop Grumman Newport News
This series is comprised of color photographs of the USS Monitor’s turret arriving at Northrop Grumman Newport News on August 9, 2002. The photographs are arranged in ascending numerical order according to “Photo Request Numbers” assigned by Northrop Grumman Newport News Media/Photography Department and are stored in files 7 through 23. This series illustrates the equipment used and Museum and Northrop Grumman staff involved during the transfer process of the turret to The Mariners’ Museum. NOAA staff and US Navy divers who worked on the recovery of the turret as well as the commemoration ceremony where Museum, city, and federal officials spoke
are depicted in the photographs. There are also close-up photographs of the newly recovered turret before undergoing any conservation work.

**Series III: Turret’s arrival at The Mariners' Museum**
This series is comprised of color photographs of the *Monitor*’s turret arriving at The Mariners’ Museum on August 10, 2002. The photographs are arranged in ascending numerical order according to “Photo Request Numbers” assigned by Northrop Grumman Newport News Media/Photography Department and are stored in files 24 through 33. This series starts with the turret departing Northrop Grumman Newport News aboard a barge and ends with it being loaded into a conservation tank at The Mariners’ Museum. This series also shows the equipment used and measures taken during the transfer as well as Museum and Northrop Grumman staff involved. It shows the speakers, events, and attendees at the commemoration ceremony held at the Museum. There are close-up photographs of the newly recovered turret before undergoing any conservation work.

**FOLDER LISTING**

**BOX 1: PHOTOGRAPHS**

**Folder 1**
Finding Aid/ Background Information

**Series I: USS Monitor Engine at Northrop Grumman Newport News, July 2001**

**Folder 2**
Photographs CO1-201-2 through CO1-201-10
*Monitor* Engine in cradle; Northrop Grumman Newport News staff; The Mariners’ Museum staff

**Folder 3**
Photographs CO1-201-11 through CO1-201-20
Northrop Grumman Newport News staff; *Monitor* engine in cradle

**Folder 4**
Photographs CO1-201-21 through CO1-201-30
Northrop Grumman Newport News staff; The Mariners' Museum staff; *Monitor* engine in cradle

**Folder 5**
Photographs CO1-201-31 and CO1-201-33 through CO1-201-40
Northrop Grumman Newport News staff; The Mariners' Museum staff; *Monitor* engine in cradle; *Monitor* engine transfer from dry dock station to barge

**Folder 6**
Photographs CO1-201-41, CO1-201-43, CO1-201-44, and CO1-201-46 through CO1-201-50
*Monitor* engine in cradle; *Monitor* engine in Northrop Grumman Newport News dry dock station; and *Monitor* engine aboard barge
Series II: Turret’s arrival at Northrop Grumman Newport News, August 2002

Folder 7  Photographs CO2-207-1 through CO2-207-10
Monitor turret in “spider”; Monitor turret aboard barge; and ceremony attendees

Folder 8  Photographs CO2-207-11 through CO2-207-20
U.S. Navy divers; ceremony speakers; ceremony attendees

Folder 9  Photographs CO2-207-21 through CO2-207-30
U.S. Navy divers; ceremony speakers; ceremony attendees

Folder 10  Photographs CO2-207-31 through CO2-207-36 and CO2-207-38
Ceremony speakers

Folder 11  Photographs CO2-207-41, CO2-207-42, and CO2-207-44 through CO2-207-50
Monitor turret

Folder 12  Photographs CO2-207-51 through CO2-207-54 and CO2-207-56 through CO2-207-60
Monitor turret; ceremony attendees

Folder 13  Photographs CO2-207-61 and CO2-207-63 through CO2-207-70
Monitor turret; ceremony attendees; Monitor turret transfer to barge

Folder 14  Photographs CO2-207-71 through CO2-207-73 and CO2-207-75 through CO2-207-80
Monitor turret aboard barge; U.S. Navy divers

Folder 15  Photographs CO2-207-81 through CO2-207-90
U.S. Navy divers; NOAA staff; ceremony speakers

Folder 16  Photographs CO2-207-91 through CO2-207-100
Ceremony speakers

Folder 17  Photographs CO2-207-101 through CO2-207-110
U.S. Navy divers; ceremony speakers; flag-folding ceremony

Folder 18  Photographs CO2-207-111 through CO2-207-120
Flag-folding ceremony; ceremony speakers; ceremony attendees

Folder 19  Photographs CO2-207-121 through CO2-207-130
Monitor turret in “Spider”; Civil War re-enactors; ceremony attendees
Folder 20  Photographs CO2-207-131 through CO2-207-140
Monitor turret in “Spider”; Monitor turret transfer to barge; interior of the Monitor’s turret

Folder 21  Photographs CO2-207-141 through CO2-207-150
Monitor turret in “Spider”; Monitor turret transfer to barge; interior of Monitor’s turret

Folder 22  Photographs CO2-207-151, CO2-207-152, CO2-207-154, and CO2-207-156 through CO2-207-160
Monitor’s turret transfer to barge; Monitor turret on barge bound for The Mariners' Museum

Folder 23  Photographs CO2-207-160 through CO2-207-168
U.S. Navy Color Guard; Civil War re-enactors; Monitor turret aboard barge bound for The Mariners' Museum

Series III: Turret’s arrival at The Mariners' Museum, August 2002

Folder 24  Photographs CO2-208-1 through CO2-208-3 and CO2-208-5 through CO2-208-10
Monitor turret aboard barge bound for The Mariners' Museum; preparations for transfer to shore

Folder 25  Photographs CO2-208-11 through CO2-208-20
Lockwood Marine staff; The Mariners' Museum staff; ceremony attendees; Monitor turret transfer to trailer

Folder 26  Photographs CO2-208-21 through CO2-208-30
Preparations for transfer of Monitor turret to shore; Lockwood Marine staff; ceremony attendees; ceremony speakers; Monitor turret on trailer en route to The Mariners' Museum

Folder 27  Photographs CO2-208-31 through CO2-208-40
Civil War re-enactors; ceremony attendees; ceremony speakers

Folder 28  Photographs CO2-208-41 through CO2-208-50
Civil War re-enactors; ceremony attendees; ceremony speakers

Folder 29  Photographs CO2-208-51 through CO2-208-56 and CO2-208-59, CO2-208-60
Ceremony speakers; turret conservation tank at The Mariners' Museum

Folder 30  Photographs CO2-208-61 through CO2-208-70
Monitor turret transfer to conservation tank at The Mariners' Museum; Civil War re-enactors
Folder 31  Photographs CO2-208-71 through CO2-208-80
Monitor turret transfer to conservation tank at The Mariners' Museum;
Civil War re-enactors

Folder 32  Photographs CO2-208-81 through CO2-208-88
Monitor turret transfer to conservation tank at The Mariners' Museum

MATERIALS REMOVED
Duplicate photographs removed. Stored in Box 2.

SOURCES CONSULTED

Newspaper Articles File: USS Monitor
   The Library at The Mariners' Museum, Newport News, Virginia

SUBJECTS

Monitor (Ironclad; 1862)—Conservation and Restoration
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Northrop Grumman Newport News
The Mariners' Museum (Newport News, Va.)
United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 -- Personal narratives.