

Interview Guide

USS Constitution Museum

*Introduction: "Hi, my name is _____ and I am working with the USS Constitution Museum to help develop an exhibition about life at sea aboard "Old Ironsides" during the War of 1812. To assist the staff in making informed decisions about what should be included in the exhibition, would you be willing to spend **Ten** minutes answering a few questions? If you have a time restriction, you can leave at any point during the interview process. We are happy to receive any input you can provide. (Invite visitor(s) to sit at table.)*

First we are trying to collect some information about who our visitors are, where they come from, etc. so I'm going to ask you a few basic questions:

1. Note sex of interviewee: ___ male ___ female

2. Where are you from? City _____ State _____ or Country _____

3. Please choose the card that most closely resembles your status today:
 ___ Adult Visiting alone
 ___ Adult Visiting with other adults
 ___ Adult Visiting with children
 ___ Adult Visiting with other adults and children
 ___ Child Visiting with other adults (age of interviewee ___)
 ___ Child Visiting with other adults and children (age of interviewee ___)

4. (**Family only**) Please describe the age and gender of each of your children with you today:
 Child #1 age _____ M F
 Child #2 age _____ M F
 Child #3 age _____ M F
 Child #4 age _____ M F
 Child #5 age _____ M F

5. Please choose the card or cards that best describe you (your family)?
 ___ Caucasian
 ___ African American
 ___ Latino
 ___ Asian
 ___ Other

6. Have you visited the USS Constitution Museum before? ___ Yes ___ No

7. Excluding the sites you've visited along the Freedom Trail today, how many historic sites do you/your family visit in a year?

0-1

2-4

5- 6

7 or more

8. Have you visited the USS CONSTITUTION today? _____ Yes _____ No

9. Do you plan on visiting the ship after the museum? _____ Yes _____ No

If no, why?

10. (Give visitor Form A.) Now I would like to ask you a few questions that will help guide design of the exhibit. First let me give you an overview of the proposed themes for the exhibit. Themes are the overarching statements that tie the exhibit together. I'd like you to take a look at each, and rank them according to your interest by placing an "X" in the appropriate column.

	Very Interested	Somewhat	Not
Very Not At All			
A unique isolated world afloat anchored on shore.			
Diverse Crew Works Together			
Dependence on Communities			
Personal Sacrifice and Hardship for the Collective Well Being			
Ordinary Individuals in Extraordinary Circumstances Changed the Nation			

Can you tell me why you found these very interesting? (or) What did you like about them? _____

Why were these not of interest to you?

11. **(Family Only - Give visitor form B.)** Now I'd like you to look at these themes from your family's perspective. Which themes would your family find most compelling and relevant? Please place an "X" in the appropriate column.

Very Not At All	Very	Somewhat	Not
A unique isolated world afloat anchored on shore.			
Diverse Crew Works Together			
Dependence on Communities			
Personal Sacrifice and Hardship for the Collective Well Being			
Ordinary Individuals in Extraordinary Circumstances Changed the Nation			

Can you tell me why your family would find these compelling and relevant?

Why were these not compelling and relevant?

12. *(Show visitor form C.)* Now I'm going to show you a proposed outline for the exhibit. I'd like you to take a look at each section, and rate it in order according to your interest.

Very Interested Somewhat Not Very Not

At All

Recruiting a Crew				
Joining a Seafaring Community				
Forging a Fighting Team				
Testing the Crew in Battle				
Returning Home				

Can you tell me why you found these very interesting? (or) What did you like about them? _____

Why were these not of interest to you?

13. **(Family Only)** An exhibit about life at sea during the War of 1812 will address battle. Do you have any concerns about how we represent battle in an exhibit designed for families?

Yes _____ No _____

Please share your thoughts or concerns:

14. a) What is your level of interest in an exhibit about life aboard USS CONSTITUTION in 1812? Are you:

___Very Interested ___Somewhat Interested ___Not Very Interested ___Not at all Interested

Why?

b) **(Family Only)** What do you think your family's level of interest in an exhibit about life aboard USS CONSTITUTION in 1812. Would they be:

___ Very Interested ___ Somewhat Interested ___ Not Very Interested ___ Not at all Interested

Why?

15. (*Spread themes and exhibit outline cards on the table.*) We want to make this exhibition experience interactive and interesting for adults, children, and families. This is your opportunity to tell the exhibit designers what you (or) your family would be interested in seeing and doing in an exhibit about life at sea.

Interviewer's Name: _____

Date: _____

Location: _____

Interview #: _____

Time of Interview: _____

Sex of Interviewee: ___ *M* ___ *F*

Approximate Age of Interviewee:

10-20 _____

21-40 _____

41-60 _____

61-80 _____