

Hold

- **Diagonal Riders**

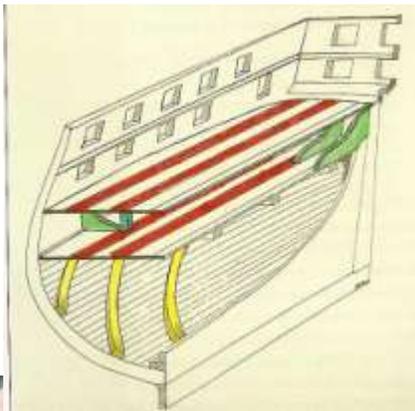
Joshua Humphreys specified “diagonal riders” in the 6 frigates: “...six pair on each side...with two shorter ones to complete [the pairs]...to be tenoned and bolted into the keelson.” (1794)

The riders added strength & helped prevent ‘hogging’ – bow & stern drooping.

***Constitution* was built with 8 pair of riders; it is not known when the riders were removed – possibly as early as the 1820s or as late as the 1870s re-build.**

Approx. 8-12% of *Constitution*, below the waterline, is original to 1794-97.

Modern riders, made in one piece from laminated white oak, were installed in the 1992-96 restoration, based on evidence found of riders in the ship’s original frames. New rider (lower left) & riders in hold (lower right) .



Naval History & Heritage Command (left)

Naval History & Heritage Command Detachment Boston (below & right)

