

Spar Deck – Open Waist

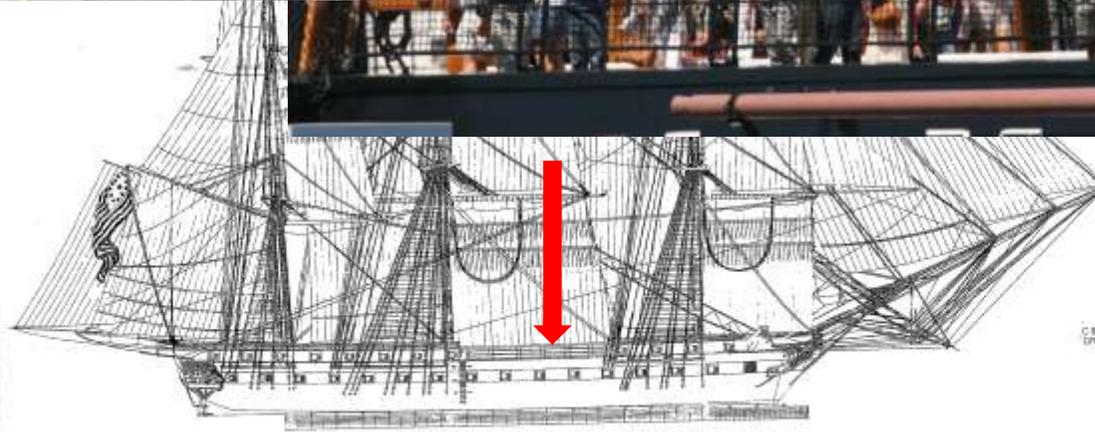
In 1812, *Constitution* had an open “waist” port & starboard, the mid-section of the spar deck bulwarks, flanking the 40’ main hatch (the largest opening to below decks). The waist bulwarks were closed by 1847; reopened in the 1906-07 restoration, then closed again in the 1927 restoration (because the 1847 *Constitution* plan was used); the 2007-2010 restoration re-created the W/1812 open waist look to the ship (1817 USSC sail plan, below, showing open waist).



Cutting open the waist (left), September, 2010
New open waist and hammock cranes (below), 2011



1817 *Constitution*
plan showing
open waist



Photos NHHC
Detachment Boston,
2009 & 2011