

## U.S. Coast Guard History Program

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# Madison, 1833

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Builder: Unknown, but likely from New York as all other vessels of this class were built in New York yards.

Displacement: 112 tons

Rig: Topsail Schooner

Complement: 20-24

Armament: Unknown, but likely to have been 4 6- to 9-pounders

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### History:

There is no record of the cutter's acquisition. It is believed to have been part of the *Morris-Taney* class vessels built between 1830-1833.

5 March 1833 En route to Norfolk.

3 April 1833 Order, addressed to Captain Jones at Washington, sends *Madison* to Portsmouth, NH.

15 April 1833 *Madison* arrived at Portsmouth.

30 January 1836 There is an accident with *Madison*.

17 February 1836 *Madison* repairing - estimated cost \$505.

3 March 1836 *Madison* reported ready for sea.

25 September 1837 Intending to employ *Madison* on temporary service on the coast of Florida, Levi Woodbury, Secretary of the Treasury wrote to D.P. Drown, Collector of Customs at Portsmouth, NH, "You will cause her to be thoroughly repaired with all practicable dispatch."

2 November 1837 Captain W. A. Howard ordered to Portsmouth to assume command of *Madison*.

5 February 1838 The Secretary suggests to Captain Howard the propriety of sailing without his full complement of officers.

3 March 1838 USRC *Madison* arrived at Key West en route to Pensacola.

26 March 1838 Commodore Dallas, USN, Commanding West India Squadron at Pensacola wrote to the Secretary of the Navy Mahlon Dickerson that *Madison* and Captain Howard had arrived and reported for duty in the Squadron.

26 April 1838 From Key West Captain Howard wrote Commodore Dallas, "Agreeably to instructions I visited Tampa Bay, Sanibel, etc. Sailed on the 21st from Key West for Havana and arrived here this morning, and shall sail tomorrow morning for New River.

5 August 1838 - Captain Howard wrote to Commodore Dallas,  
I cruised with *Madison* on both sides of Florida as far north as Brunswick, Florida. At St. Mary's a body of hostile Indians appeared when I was on the point of sailing and I was detained at the solicitation of the Collector and other prominent citizens to give protection to the place. I was detained there on this duty 2 weeks. I then communicated with General Taylor. He discharged me from any further cooperation with the Army.

20 August 1838 *Madison* ordered to return to Portsmouth.

7 September 1838 At Pensacola, Captain Howard acknowledged receipt of orders of August 20, to return to his station.

24 October 1838 *Madison* arrived at Portsmouth.

29 July 1840 *Madison* was ordered to Wilmington, DE to replace *McLane*. Officers were awaiting orders when relieved by officers of *McLane*.

30 July 1841- George E. Badger, Secretary of the Navy to Thomas Ewing, Secretary of the Treasury- I transmit the authority of the President for the transfer of the Revenue cutters *Jefferson*, *Van Buren*, and *Madison* to the jurisdiction of this Department for the purpose of being employed in connection with the Naval force on the coast of Florida in the suppression of Indian hostilities, in cooperation with the Army.

2 August 1841 *Madison* transferred to the Navy, temporarily, for duty in the Florida war against the Seminoles. Secretary of the Treasury Ewing wrote to First Lieutenant J.J. Nimmo, commanding, *Madison*:

Sir: The President by an order dated the 30th ultimo, having directed that the Revenue Cutter *Madison* be transferred to the Navy Department, you will be relieved from the usual duties arising under the Revenue laws, and until otherwise ordered, be subject to the orders of the Secretary of the Navy.

17 September 1841 Lieutenant Nimmo reported from Norfolk that he had transferred the revenue cutter *Madison* to the Navy at the Brooklyn Navy Yard.

23 July 1842 Secretary of the Navy Abel P. Upshur to Secretary of the Treasury Thomas Ewing- The Revenue Cutters *Jefferson*, *Van Buren*, and *Madison*, which vessels have been for some time past engaged in connection with the Navy on the coast of Florida, have arrived at Norfolk. Orders will be issued for their return to the Revenue Service."

29 July 1842 This Department has been notified of the arrival of the cutters *Jefferson*, *Van Buren*, and *Madison* at Norfolk, and the desire of the Navy Department to return them to the Revenue Service. Instructions as to the manner of receiving these vessels are also contained in this letter.

26 August 1842 To New London for duty.

29 September 1842 *Madison* was undergoing extensive repairs at New London.

9 November 1844 *Madison* was ordered to Baltimore to transfer officers and crew to USRC *Wolcott*.

2 December 1844 *Madison* arrived at Baltimore where she underwent repairs throughout the month of December.

6 May 1846 *Madison* ordered from Baltimore to Norfolk.

8 June 1846 *Madison* arrival at Norfolk reported

12 June 1849 *Madison* ordered Baltimore to be laid up

6 December 1850 *Madison* transferred to the Coast Survey

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### **Sources:**

Donald Canney. *U.S. Coast Guard and Revenue Cutters, 1790-1935*. Annapolis, MD: Naval Institute Press, 1995.

U.S. Coast Guard. *Record of Movements: Vessels of the United States Coast Guard: 1790 - December 31, 1933*. Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1934; 1989 (reprint).

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