

**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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Processed by Gregg Cina, 2005

## 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**

Northrop Grumman Newport News USS *Monitor* Photograph Collection, 2001-2002: MS336. The Library at The Mariners' Museum, Newport News, Virginia

**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**

<http://www.monitorcenter.org/preserving/discovercov/1984to2000/>, accessed December 19, 2005.

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.](#)