

## United States Coast Guard Cutter *Eagle* New London, Connecticut

The United States Coast Guard Cutter *Eagle* is a three-masted and steel-hulled barque that serves as the sail-training vessel for the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in New London, Connecticut. Founded as the Revenue Service in 1790, the U. S. Coast Guard is the nation's



oldest armed forces and provides law enforcement, coastal defense, navigation, life-saving, and humanitarian services. Built in 1936 at the Blohm and Voss Shipyard in Hamburg, Germany, the *Eagle* originally served as the German naval cadet training ship *Horst Vessel*. It was captured by the United States in 1946 as a war prize. The vessel is 295 feet long overall with a beam of 39.1 feet, and is capable of making 17 knots when under sail or 10 knots under diesel power. The *Eagle* sails two or more times a year for training voyages and ceremonial events. The *Eagle* has remained relatively unaltered with normal wear-and-tear replacements of lines and sails, and is updated with communication and navigation electronics for modern seamanship training. Sometimes called "America's Tall Ship," the *Eagle* served as the flagship of Operation Sail in 1964, the celebration of the Bicentennial of the American Revolution in 1976, and OpSail in 2000. The *Eagle* is one of the oldest sailing vessels

in the world, and for over 70 years has served to foster ingenuity, self-reliance, spirit of cooperation, sense of tradition, and love of the sea among the Coast Guard's Academy's cadets and officers. The *Eagle* is an enduring and preeminent symbol of the United States' maritime heritage. The National Historic Landmark Nomination form was compiled by AHS historian Bruce Clouette.