

Naval Architect, by profession. While this was in hand an investigation was launched to find out if support for the project would be forthcoming in sufficient strength to make the building possible. The response from individuals, business, trade unions and other organizations was most encouraging. Equipment, services and money were pledged. In October, 1953 the work on the hull was started at Kingston Shipyards, and a few weeks later, on November 16, the keel was declared "well and truly laid" by Captain (now Rear Admiral) D. W. Piers, D.S.C., C.D., R.C.N. Three short weeks after this, December 5, the ship was christened "ST. LAWRENCE II" in a ceremony graciously performed by Mrs. Piers. With the Sea Cadet band playing and the cadets and their many guests cheering, "ST. LAWRENCE II" was set afloat in the chilly waters of Lake Ontario.

The work of finishing was carried on over the following three years with much of the work done by volunteer craftsmen and by the cadets themselves. She first sailed, in an unfinished state, in June 1955 and was commissioned and put into full time service as a training ship in July, 1957.

The all welded steel hull has an overall length of 59' 8", beam of 15' 2" and a draft of 7' 9". She displaces 42 Long tons. She is rigged as a traditional brigantine (or hermaphrodite to the purist!) carrying 830 square feet of sail in her square fore topsail and course and 1660 square feet of fore and aft working sail (1964 sail plan). She also carries a light weather genoa and "golliwobbler" totalling 1200 square feet. All sails are nylon.

Her auxiliary engine is a 72 B.H.P., G.M.-Diesel. She will accommodate 22, 16 cadets and 6 officers.

She is named "ST. LAWRENCE II" after her predecessor, "H.M.S. ST. LAWRENCE" the 112 gun three-decker Man-O-War launched in the Naval Dockyard, Point Frederick, Kingston, on September 10, 1814.