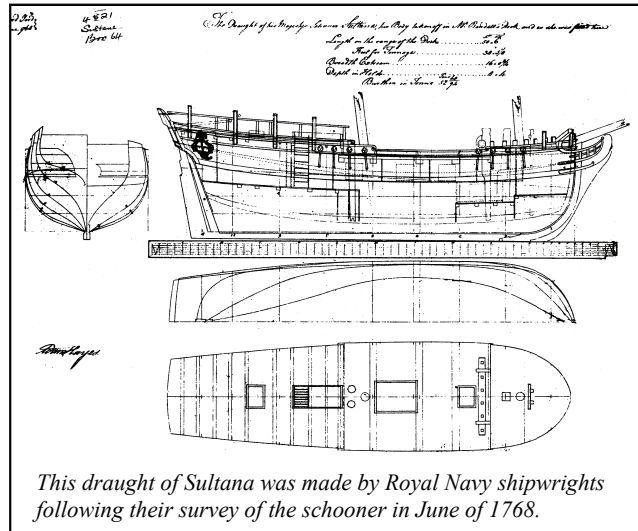




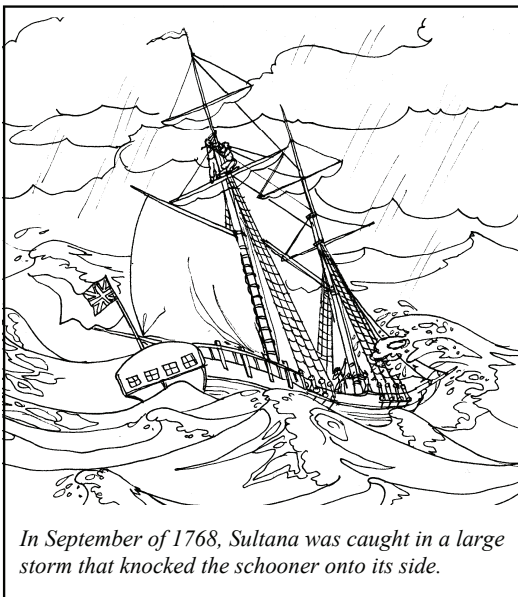
Sultana Joins the Royal Navy

In June of 1768, the schooner Sultana arrived in Deptford, England to be surveyed by Royal Navy shipwrights. After finding that the tiny schooner was “*well wrought and put together*”, the Royal Navy decided to purchase the vessel and add it to its fleet of revenue cutters in North America. Work was soon underway outfitting Sultana with food, water, armaments and a crew of twenty five sailors. Topmasts and topsails were also added to increase the schooner’s speed and improve its maneuverability.



This draught of Sultana was made by Royal Navy shipwrights following their survey of the schooner in June of 1768.

In early September, Sultana sailed out of the English Channel and headed across the Atlantic Ocean to North America. Along the way, a powerful storm pounded the ship with giant waves, knocking the schooner onto her side. To keep the vessel from sinking, Sultana’s officers cut away several barrels of beer and threw them overboard. Once the ship righted itself, the storm subsided and the sailors managed to reach Halifax, Nova Scotia in October of 1768.



In September of 1768, Sultana was caught in a large storm that knocked the schooner onto its side.

Almost immediately after arriving in North America, Sultana’s officers received orders to sail to Boston and help ferry British troops into the city. The troops had been sent to restore order after angry mobs reacted to the passing of the Townshend Duties by attacking British tax collectors and threatening them with their lives. The reaction in Boston was symbolic of the colonists’ attitude towards the new taxes Sultana had been sent to enforce.

For the next four years, Sultana patrolled the waters of Boston, New York, Rhode Island, Delaware Bay and the Chesapeake Bay searching for smugglers. As tensions mounted between England and the colonists, the searches Sultana had been ordered to carry out would become increasingly dangerous.



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NAME: _____ DATE: _____

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

DIRECTIONS: Read the text on the previous page, then answer the following questions in complete sentences. Write your answers on the lines provided.

1. After the Royal Navy purchased Sultana, what are some items that they added to the ship?

2. How did Sultana's sailors keep the ship from sinking in the storm of 1768?

3. What was Sultana's first job in North America?

4. Why had British troops been sent to Boston in 1768?

5. What were some of the areas that Sultana patrolled during her tour of duty?
