

Bugeye Returns to Solomons 102 Years After Being Built

On Friday, July 25, the Little Jennie bugeye will return to Solomons harbor, 102 years after she was built there by James T. Marsh.

The restored (and somewhat modified) Chesapeake oyster dredging boat sailed in Liberty Weekend festivities in New York harbor and is now

making her way south with stops at Baltimore, Annapolis, St. Michaels, Oxford, and Solomons, she will be docked at the Calvert Marine Museum and Solomons Island Yacht Club where the public will be able to see this historic vessel.

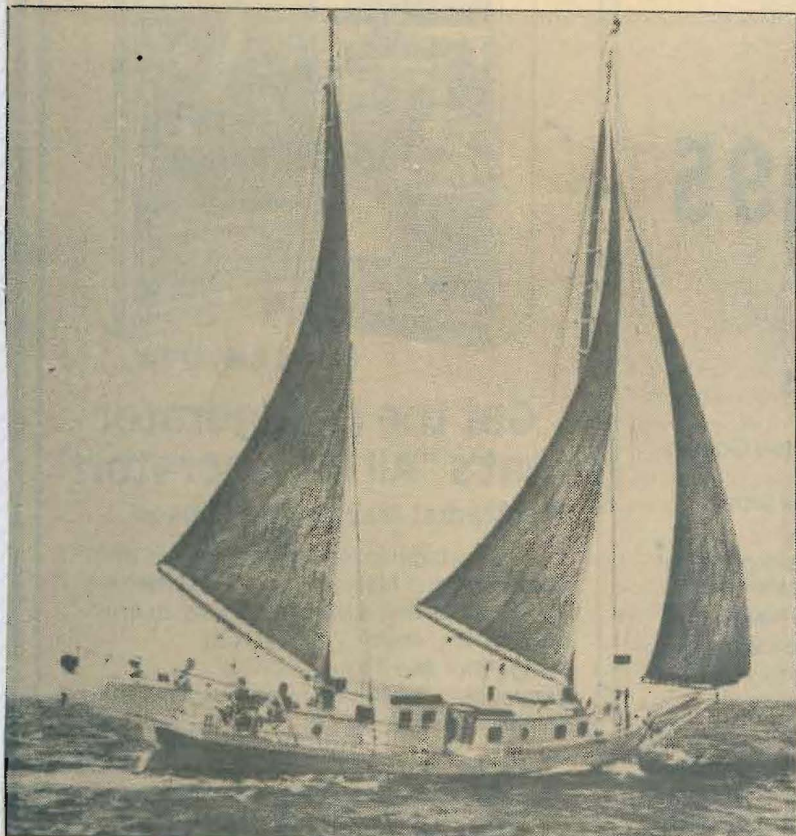
For the first few years after her launching at Solomons in October

1884, the Little Jennie was owned by her builder, James T. Marsh. In 1888 William Bradshaw of Tilghman Island bought her and for the next 28 years used her for dredging oysters in winter and hauling produce in summer. Following Bradshaw she had owners in Cambridge, Easton, and Oxford, where she remained from the 1920s until she left the Chesapeake in 1959.

During this time she sank in a storm and was raised, rebuilt, and fitted with her first engine by Captain James H. Mills, who used her for hauling grain and other cargo to Baltimore. Captain Mills eventually converted Little Jennie back to her oystering rig, but in 1946 she was rebuilt into a yacht at Oxford. She served as a yacht for many years, but eventually wound up abandoned in a warehouse on Long Island. In 1894 the Little Jennie was rescued by Captain William T. Perks, harbor-master for the Township of Huntington, Long Island. Perks directed the rebuilding process and established a foundation to finance her restoration.

The Little Jennie will be on view at the Calvert Marine Museum from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, July 26. A film about the history and restoration of Little Jennie will be shown periodically throughout the day in the museum's program room.

Calvert Marine Museum is accredited by the American Association of Museums and is a founding member of the Solomons Environmental and Archaeological Research Consortium. The museum is located on Route 2/4 in Southern Maryland at Solomons. For further information write the museum at P.O. Box 97, Solomons, Md. 20688, or phone 326-2042.



The Little Jennie bugeye will return to Solomons harbor June 25, 102 years after she was built there by James T. Marsh. She will be on view July 26 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Calvert Marine Museum. For more information call 326-2042.