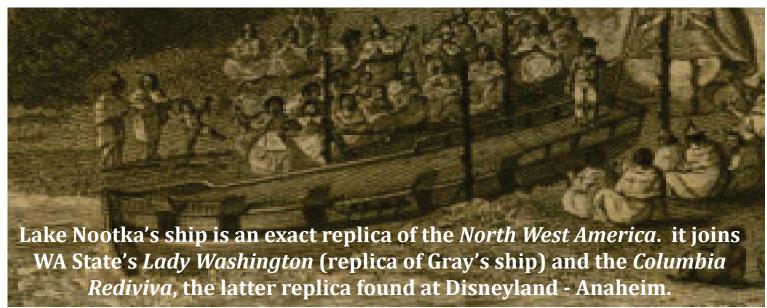
# FIRST NW SHIP PORTUGUESE?

## **History**

The North West America, flying under the Portuguese Flag, re-entered Nootka Sound where it had been commissioned September 19, 1788 (painting below). A Spanish ship awaited and similar to what had happened to British ships, the captain and crew were arrested and the "tub," fresh from Hawaii was seized. The North West America was never returned. It became a Spanish ship, renamed Santa Gertrudis la Magna and later Santa Saturnina. The boat was used by the Spanish for several exploration voyages, including José María Narváez's discovery and exploration of the Strait of Georgia in 1791 and the mapping and naming of the San Juan Islands. Spain ceded its rights to the US in 1819. These latter Spanish trips were the winning argument for the San Juan Islands becoming American.





Nootka Sound - Wikipedia



Launch of the North We oregonhistoryproject.org

#### Shipbuilding in the Pacific Northwest

Chronological Table of the Chief Coast-Built Vessels 1788-1795

Date	Name	Place	Kind
1788	Northwest Ameri	ca Nootka Sound	schooner
1792	Adventure	Clayoquot Sound	sloop
1811	Dolly	Astoria	schooner
1841	Star of Oregon	Swan Island	schooner



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### **Ethnobotanical Gardens**

Native plant "starts" from Bonhoeffer Gardens (to your SW, by the I-5) illustrate 99 foods and materials available to the American peoples who lived here 10,000 years without the need to develop agriculture. Planter boxes contain:

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# **Legends & Lessons**

The Spanish arrived at Nootka Sound on 5 May 1789. They found ships already there. One was a British ship the *Iphigenia Nubiana* sailing under a Portuguese flag. It was seized and the captain arrested. The other two ships were American, the Columbia Rediviva and the Lady Washington, that had wintered at Nootka Sound. Over the summer a number of other ships arrived. All British commercial ships were seized on the grounds of violating Spanish rights of trade and navigation on the coast. Interestingly, the Spanish were using English law. The only English ships licensed to trade along the northwest coast of the American continent were those flying the flag of the East India Company. English ships circumvented this (claiming of their profits) by flying the Portuguese flag. This is/was known as flying "false colors." (In warfare at sea, a belligerent warship may fly the flag of a country other than its own in order to deceive an enemy into believing that it is neutral or even a ship of the enemy's own navy. Penalties, however, are harsh should one be caught flying false colors.)