

What the Public Will See

THE JOHN SMITH SHALLOP



Little is known about the small open boat or “shallop” that John Smith used to make his exploration of the Chesapeake in 1608. Most likely, the vessel was built in England and transported to America in the hold of the *Susan Constant*, the flagship of the Jamestown fleet. Measuring about 30 feet in length, the shallop was too large to travel to America in its final form and thus had to be transported in sections which were reassembled upon arrival in Virginia.

The 2007 voyage is employing a full-scale reproduction of Smith’s shallop, built at the Sultana Shipyard in Chestertown, Maryland. Constructed using period materials and techniques, this new shallop is home to a crew of 12 modern adventurers as they attempt to retrace Smith’s expedition.

Shallop Specifications

Length Overall:	28 feet, 7 inches
Beam:	7 feet, 8 inches
Framing:	Osage Orange
Planking:	White Oak
Fastenings:	Wooden and Iron Nails
Oars:	6-8 oars
Sails and Rig:	2 sailed “sprit” rig
Builders:	John E. Swain, Master Shipwright Nicholas Biles, Shipwright The Volunteers of the Sultana Shipyard
Rigging	Matthew Otto, Rigger, Mystic Seaport Museum
Ironwork:	Kelly Smyth, Shipsmith
Research and Design:	Sultana Projects, Inc. Master Shipwright John Swain Kees de Mooy – Washington College The papers of William A. Baker Eric Speth – Jamestown Yorktown Foundation Research funded by National Geographic