

Basic Detail Report



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Title

Portside view of the AMERICA under sail

Date

1851

Primary Maker

Oswald Walter Brierly

Medium

Ink on paper, framed

Dimensions

Overall: 395 x 535 mm

Name

Lithograph

History

In 1848 Queen Victoria instigated the creation of a golden cup, known as the 'One Hundred Guinea Cup' to be awarded for a yacht race. The competition would be open to all nations. In the inaugural race on 22 August 1851 the United States built schooner AMERICA challenged 16 British vessels and was victorious in the 85 kilometre race around the Isle of Wight. The competition is still in operation today and one of the most respected and prestigious sailing competitions to be held in the world. AMERICA was a schooner yacht designed by George Steers for Commodore John Cox Stevens. Steers was a member of the New York Yacht Club and built the vessel as a deliberate challenge to the British designed vessels that were dominating the sport of yachting. Due to the fact that AMERICA contested the race off Cowes in England and later returned to New York, it was the first yacht to cross the Atlantic both ways. The crossing from New York to Le Havre took 17 and a half days.