At the time of her commissioning on April 9, 1941, and for many years afterward, the USS North Carolina was the greatest sea weapon ever built by the United States. Affectionately nicknamed “The Showboat” by Navy men, she was the first of the modern American battleships.

Her magnificent battle record—one of the most extensive in Navy history—included participation in every major offensive engagement in the Pacific during World War II, from Guadalcanal to Tokyo Bay. In all, the USS North Carolina earned 12 battle stars.

Pertinent facts: 729-ft. length overall, 108-ft. beam, 30-ft. draft, 183-ft. high, 35,000 tons net displacement, rated speed 27 plus knots, four turbines with shaft horsepower of 121,000, and armor plate ranging up to 16-inches thick.

President John F. Kennedy is designated “Admiral in the North Carolina Navy” by Governor Terry Sanford as the kick-off for the drive to save the ship.
The Battleship Memorial, though relatively new, is already an outstanding travel objective in the nation.

Dedicated to the men and women of all the U.S. military services in World War II, the USS North Carolina Battleship Memorial is open 8 A.M. until sunset seven days a week the year around. Admission charges are 50¢ for adults, 25¢ for children to age 12. Children under six are admitted free when accompanied by an adult. Proceeds go to the Battleship Memorial fund.

The Battleship Memorial is supported entirely from admissions and contributions, and is independent of tax funds.
Tremendous guns tower above the broad decks of the USS North Carolina.

Children especially like to aim the 40mm and 20mm antiaircraft guns aboard the ship.
State of North Carolina
U. S. S. NORTH CAROLINA
BATTLESHIP COMMISSION

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