

DOGWOOD

<i>Length, overall</i>441' 6"	<i>Gross tons</i> 7,933	<i>Propulsion</i>Recip. eng.
<i>Beam</i> 56' 10"	<i>Speed (knots)</i> 11	<i>Patients</i> 597
<i>Draft</i> 24' 0"	<i>Radius (miles)</i> 21,000	<i>Cargo</i> None

Built in 1943 by Permanente Metals Corp (Yard # 1), Richmond, Calif.

Former name: GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER

Operated by American South African Line, Inc., prior to acquisition by the War Department.

THE DOGWOOD was one of six Liberty type freighters selected for conversion to bona fide The Hague Convention hospital ships. She was transferred to Army ownership on 23 November 1943 under the name of GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER.

Conversion was done by Atlantic Basin Iron Works at New York between November 1943 and July 1944. At that time the ship was renamed DOGWOOD on recommendation of the Surgeon General.

On her first trip as a hospital ship the DOGWOOD sailed from New York in late July 1944 and returned in August to Charleston, S. C., where she was based for the ensuing year. She made six trips from there to England, usually calling at Avonmouth, Liverpool and the Mersey.

In May 1945 the vessel was ordered through the Panama Canal, to proceed directly to the Philippines. She arrived at Leyte and Manila in late June. From the latter, she went to Biak and Hollandia and returned to Manila. In August she again left Manila going to Biak, Hollandia and Finschhafen, thence to Los Angeles.

In November the DOGWOOD left Los Angeles and went to Manila and returned to San Francisco in early January 1946. At this time she was decommissioned as a hospital ship and was altered for transporting dependents and troops. She then reverted to her former name, GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER, description of which is carried on page 33.