



Civil War Cannon

Interesting how naval cannon technology hardly changed in the 50 years between the War of 1812 and the Civil War of the 1860s. Sixteen years ago my friend John McCollum and I built the brass and wood Civil War naval cannon shown above. He did the brass on his metal lathe and I fashioned the wooden carriage in my shop. At right, the model cannon sits on a library table next to a Nissan Motors model of the first Datsun. It gets polished occasionally.



The Real Thing

Actually not. The cannon at left on the *USS Constitution*'s quarterdeck in Boston is a cannonade, a stubby "smasher" for closeup battle in the War of 1812. Long cannons closely resembling my model were on the gun deck below. I didn't see them because wimpy Yoshi wanted to get out of the windy chill. Wives don't appreciate cannon.

Jackson Sellers
December 2005