

Cala Waterfront Plaza Development Site 2018, Blocks A - E, appropriate Street names should perhaps include names of ships built in or having direct link to Leith Docks Heritage.

SS Sirius (1837)



Operator: Saint George Steam Packet Co, [Cork](#), Ireland

Builder: Robert Menzies & Sons, [Leith](#), Scotland

In service: 1837

Fate: Wrecked and sunk off [Ballycotton](#), Ireland, 16 January 1847



Figurehead of the Sirius (dogstar) salvaged from the wreck and now in Hull Maritime Museum

One of the oldest shipbuilding firms in Leith was Messrs. Sime and Rankin's, which built several warships in the days of the old "wooden walls." Their yard, now built on, was opposite the Custom House, but their dry dock, dating from 1720, and the oldest in Leith still remains, between the Shore and Sandport Street, and now forms the repairing dock of Messrs. Marr and Company

At the Old Dock gates is the yard of Messrs. Menzies, a firm which has been established for over a century, and which has sent out many fine ships in its day. In 1837 Messrs. Menzies built the *Sirius*, the first steamship to cross the Atlantic, which she did in eighteen days, arriving a few hours before the *Great Western*, which had set out three days after her..

USS Cythera

Builder: Ramage and Ferguson, Ltd. Leith
Launched: 20 September 1906
Christened: As civilian yacht *Agawa*

Commissioned: 20 October 1917 as SP-575 and 31 December 1941 as PY-26

Photo # NH 83392 USS Cythera (PY-26) in port, March 1942

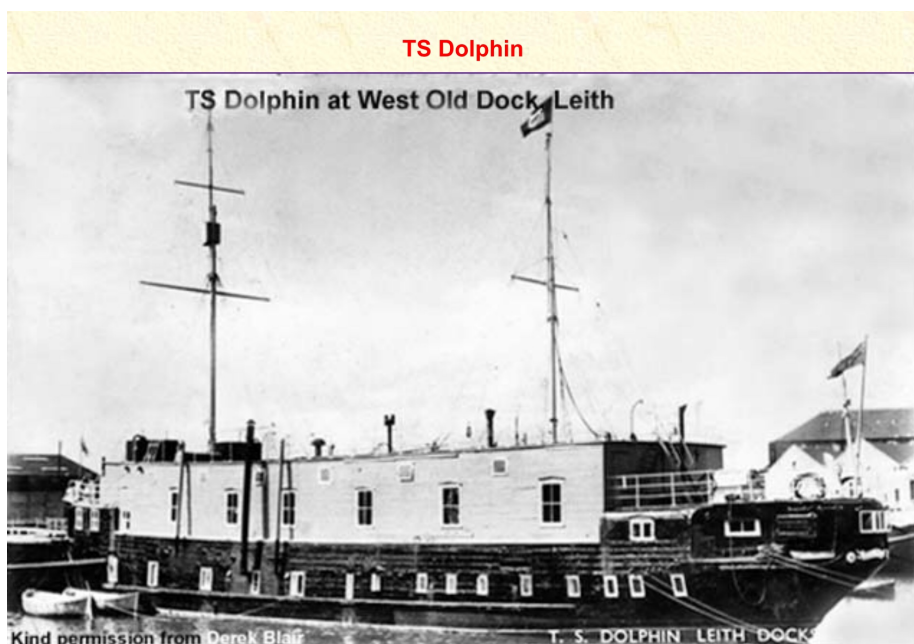


Decommissioned: 17 March 1919 and returned to civilian ownership until 1941.
Fate: Sunk 2 May 1942 by *U-402*

Cythera was a US Navy patrol yacht, originally laid down as the civilian yacht *Agawa* for William L. Harkness, that saw service in the Atlantic during both World War I and World War II.

Site 2018 - Cala Waterfront Plaza Development, Block F, Affordable Housing,
appropriate Street names should include TS Dolphin somehow or West Old Dock

TS Dolphin



TS Dolphin (The Training ship at Leith) was built at Middlesburgh and was launched in 1882, the fifteenth ship to bear the name HMS Dolphin." Built 1750/1751 "HMS Dolphin which visited Samoa in 1767 was a different ship, a 24 gun 'sixth rate frigate' built at Woolwich Dockyard 1750/51. She was used as a survey ship from 1764 and made two circumnavigations of the world under the successive commands of John Byron and Samuel Wallis . She was the first ship to circumnavigate the world twice. On 17th June 1767 Captain Samuel Wallis RN , Commander of HMS Dolphin, raised the British flag in Samoa. She was a three-masted auxiliary barque, of 925 tons, fitted with a horizontal compound "Back acting" steam engine. Her normal crew numbered 113

"In 1944, Dolphin changed career to become a Merchant Navy Training Ship. Captain Salvesen, Mr Tom McPhail and Mr J. J. Robertson agreed with Leith Nautical College that she should become a pre-training sea school for cadets and deck boys. It was then she became "TRAINING SHIP (TS) DOLPHIN". Between 1944 and 1977, *TS Dolphin* acted as a merchant navy training ship, based at West Old Dock, Leith Docks, Edinburgh, training 4,000 boys. Up to fifty boys had residential accommodation on Dolphin. 80 to 90 were at any one time being taught. This was made up of Deck Boys, Catering Boys and Cadets.

In 1950 the college opened a class for ship's cooks; boys who trained sat the Ships' Cooks and Catering Certificates. The department was run under the guidance of the Atholl Crescent School of Domestic Science

The End

"The need for this type of ship declined, and on July 4, 1977, when West Old Dock was scheduled to be filled in, she was towed away from the dock.

She was beached later that day, on a spring tide, near to Bo'ness, to be burned out where she lay. It was ironic that her fate was decided in order to salvage her copper cladding that had kept her hull in good condition for almost a century.