

USS Washtenaw County Exhibit Proposal

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Multiform Studios:

Former projects include: Cranbrook Institute of Science, Arab American National Museum, Detroit Institute of Arts, Louisville Science Center, National D-Day Museum, Atomic Testing Museum

Limitations of former exhibit:

- Located in lobby of County Administration building
- Artifacts were housed in a single wooden case with its back to the decorated glass of the Board Room windows, facing the street.
- Did not blend with wood panels, decorated glass, marble, or floors of lobby
- Did not include signage, narration, or context of any kind.



Option for new exhibit:

- I. Design several small, free standing cases to house the artifacts. These would be roughly 24X24X60. For example; two cases could be placed off center in the middle of the lobby, one for the bell, and one for the ship's model. The wheel, the placards, and the ribbons could be hung on the wall or placed in another small case. This will allow for:
 - a. More narrative flow between artifacts
 - b. More room for incorporation with the surrounding décor. The bases of each case could be designed to match the marble or the wood panels in the lobby. The red tiles, green marble and dark brown wood could be incorporated as highlights.
 - c. Lower cost. Building small cases is more cost effective than building a large one because the price of large glass and wood panels is much higher than small pieces. Added detail to the case would increase the cost, but not significantly.
- II. Develop a narrative to go along with the exhibit. This would entail a bit of research and a brief description of each artifact. We might also include a single narrative piece giving an overview of the ship's history. A sign indicating Local Historic District status should also be included to give context to the exhibit's placement.
- III. Estimated cost:
 - a. Each case would be roughly \$1700-1800, depending on the amount of detail.
 - b. Due to the nature of the artifacts, no special mountings will need to be crafted.
 - c. Cost of signage?
 - d. **Total: Under \$4000**