Open Sea | Closed Sea
Local and Inter-Regional Traditions in Shipbuilding
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THE *FOUGUEUX* (1785-1805): PROTOTYPE OF AN 18TH–19TH CENTURY FRENCH CONSTRUCTION METHOD

*In memory of our friend Manuel Izaguirre Lacoste*

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**Abstract**

The 74-gun French ship *Fougueux* (1785-1805) belonged to the Spanish-French fleet that faced the British in the Battle of Trafalgar on 21 October 1805. This warship was lost off the coast of Sancti Petri after the battle. About two centuries later, an array of iron cannons and wooden remains were studied at this site by the Underwater Archaeology Centre of Andalusia. This paper presents the results of the analysis of the ship's construction method, whose particularities place it within the tradition of French naval construction between the late 18th century and early 19th century.

**Keywords**

Battle of Trafalgar, fastenings, *Fougueux*, naval construction, sheathing

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**Résumé**

Le navire français de 74 canons *Le Fougueux* (1785-1805) appartenait à la flotte franco-espagnole qui affronta les Britanniques lors de la bataille de Trafalgar le 21 octobre 1805. Ce navire de guerre fut perdu au large de Sancti Petri après la bataille. Environ deux siècles plus tard, un ensemble de canons de fer et de vestiges en bois ont été étudiés sur ce site par le Centre d’archéologie sous-marine d’Andalousie. Cet article présente les résultats de l’analyse des méthodes de construction du navire, que ses particularités placent dans la tradition de la construction navale française entre la fin du xviiième et le début du xixe siècle.

**Mots clés**

Bataille de Trafalgar, assemblages, *Le Fougueux*, construction navale, doublage