

# JOSEPHINE



**Sail No:** 279

**Launch Date:** 1954

**Type:** Sloop

**Owner:** David Messum

<b>Designer:</b>	<i>Philip Rhodes</i>	<b>Builder:</b>	<i>Heidtmann, Hamburg</i>
<b>Construction:</b>	<i>Carvel</i>	<b>Sail Plan:</b>	<i>Bermudan</i>
<b>LOA/LWL:</b>	<i>13:71 / 10.36m</i>	<b>Beam:</b>	<i>3.58m</i>
<b>Draft:</b>	<i>1.67/2.59m</i>	<b>Displacement:</b>	<i>16.3 Tonnes</i>

## History

Built in 1954 to a design by one of America's leading yacht designers of the period, Philip L. Rhodes, JOSEPHINE is of particular interest because she is a shoal draft yacht with a draft of 5ft 6in that increases to 8ft 6in with the centreboard lowered. The design is a superb example of Rhodes' centreboard hull. Seven sister ships were built. Jane Dore IV (JOSEPHINE) was designed for the Commodore of the Cruising Club of America. All owners reported the design as very fast, comfortable and seaworthy.

She was built to a high specification with centreline and framing of white oak, planking and deck joinery of Burma teak, all fastenings of bronze, lead keel, centreboard and centreboard truck of bronze. JOSEPHINE is a typical example of the 1950's American-style yacht of moderate size and designed "to be worked by her amateur crew, yet having a performance which should enable her to hold her own in any company". (YWA 1956). In comparison to English yachts of this era, JOSEPHINE has a broader beam, 11ft 9in; this makes for a hull of considerable initial stability and offsets the effect of the comparatively shallow draft.

After discovering JOSEPHINE on Long Island in September 1999, her last owner moved her to the Gannon & Benjamin yard on Martha's Vineyard, where she underwent an extensive structural rebuild before shipping the boat to the UK in 2001. In her current ownership JOSEPHINE is looked after by Traditional Shipwright Services in Poole and always winters inside their boat shed.