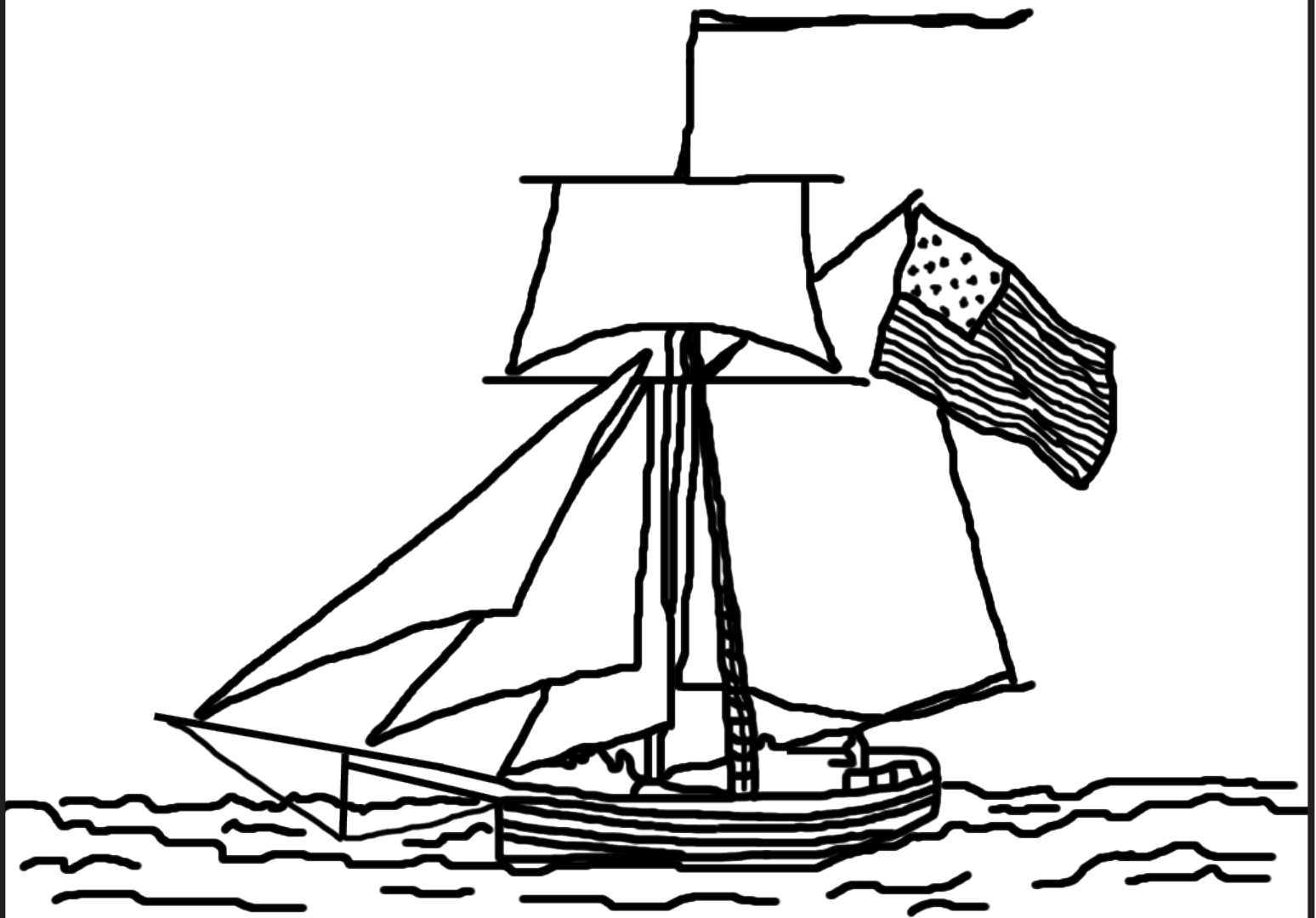


# FRIENDS GOOD WILL



*Friends Good Will* is a replica of a top sail merchant sloop that plied the waters of the Great Lakes in the early 19th century. The original was built in Michigan at River Rouge in 1810 as a merchant vessel for Oliver Williams.

During the War of 1812, she was chartered by the federal government to take military supplies to Fort Dearborn (now Chicago) carrying a load of furs when she was captured by the British at Mackinac Island. She was renamed *Little Belt* and fought for the British in the Battle of Lake Erie where she was recaptured by United States Commodore Oliver Perry. Commodore Perry mentioned her in his now famous dispatch, "We have met the enemy and they are ours: Two Ships, two brigs, one schooner and one sloop." That sloop was *Friends Good Will*.

*Friends Good Will* is the Museum's flagship and sails from her home port of South Haven daily in the height of summer. Crew, dressed in period clothes, offer passengers a glimpse into the life of a Great Lakes tall ship and her sailors.