

## Son, Joshua L. - PDR

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**From:** Chen, Kimberly M. - PDR  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 5, 2019 3:10 PM  
**To:** Son, Joshua L. - PDR  
**Subject:** Slave Trail Enhancements

Josh,

I have some reservations regarding the image selected for the trail head sculpture. If the intent is to depict the types of ships that brought enslaved Africans to the upper James River ports of Rocketts and Manchester – then this is not it. The selected image is a frequently used image of The Brooks, a British slaver, which was modified to carry as many enslaved Africans as possible. Documentation suggests that The Brooks carried as few as 454 enslaved Africans and as many as 744. The image of The Brooks first appeared in a 1788 abolitionist pamphlet and has been frequently reproduced to illustrate the horrors of the Middle Passage. The Brooks never came to North America.

The records related to ships involved to the Trans-Atlantic slave trade, suggest that approximately 192 ships transported over 19,000 enslaved Africans to ports on the upper James River which would have included stops at wharfs and plantations along the way before arriving at Manchester and Rocketts. These were generally smaller ships and carried on average 75 to 100 persons to be sold at local auction houses.

Kim

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