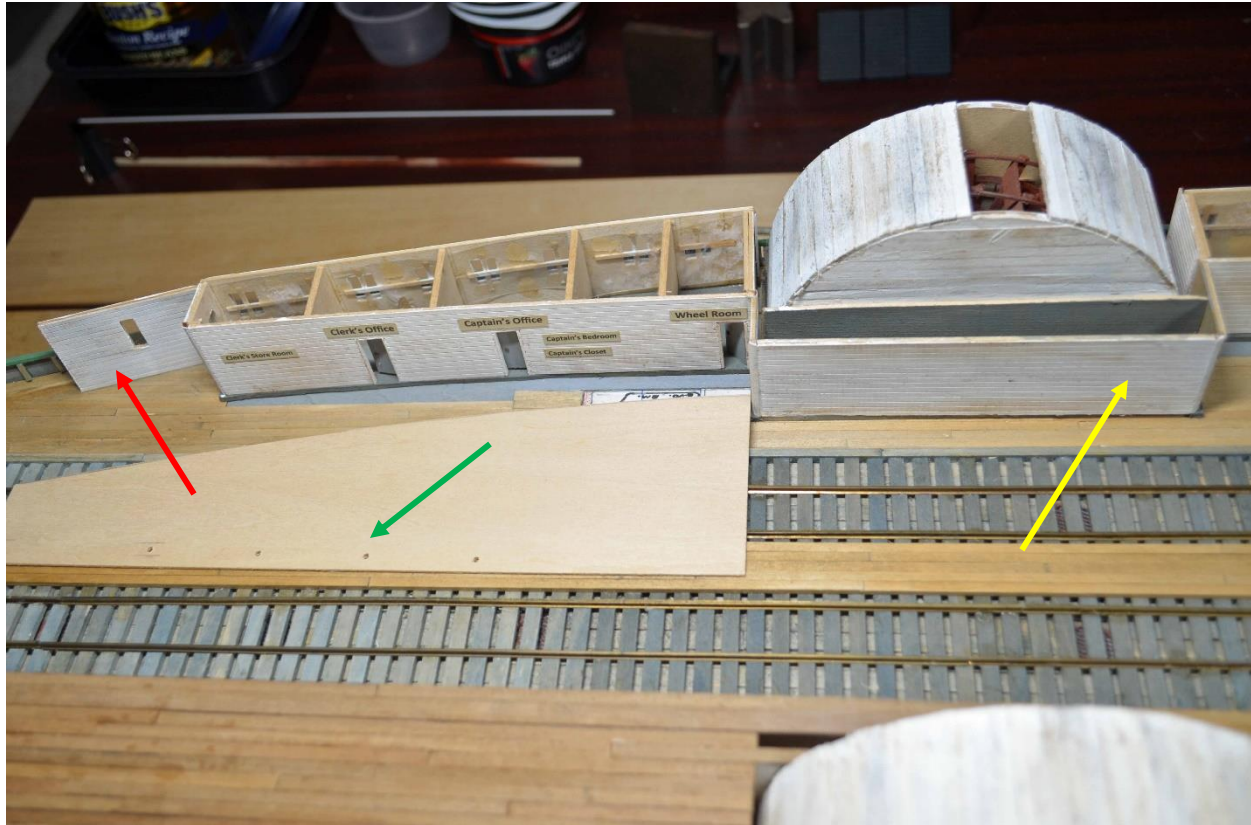


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Phase 6: The Upper Deck and then some...

This phase of the Build is not only getting the Upper Deck planked but will include some of the essential supports rising from Main Deck. Also, with the overhang of the full deck, taking care of those items that need to be finished before being "covered over".



No. 6: 1 The **red arrow** shows the outer end wall extension completed.

The first step was to finish the gear housing wall (the **yellow arrow**) and the 4 outer end walls.

Just as I did on the main deck, I took 1/32" sheet basswood and made templates to outline and then trim the sub-decks. But here for the upper deck you had to have not only to cover the deck housing tops but recognize the needs of the overhang flooring.

Looking ahead as to the needs of sub-floors:

Rising from the main deck to support the upper deck are 22 structural steel rods, 11 per side.

Rising from the main deck and through the upper deck are 8 ventilators (funnels), 4 each side, 8 davits, 4 stairways, and 4 support timbers to the pilot house assembly.

The pattern, fortunately, also showed the location of all the supports and openings required (stairways) rising from the main deck. It also is the upper deck outline of overhang at the outer main deck railings.

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NOTE: The **green arrow** in **No. 6: 1** is pointing to hole drillings for the steel rods (1/16" drill bit) and yet the planking has not yet started.



No. 6: 2

Here is how I proceeded:

I started by cutting out the outline patterns on the plans but extending the outlines by 1/8" to overhang some "wobble room". Two plans forward of the wheel house and two plans aft of the wheel house were then laid each over the deck housing top taking into consideration the above. I then took the flat lead side of a carpenter's pencil and ran it along the edges of the deck housing to the paper. It is not a perfect world and this will show you if you are on the same page (the deck housing of the plan and the deck housing actually glued to the surface of the model.), The actual housing top is to be followed. (If you could also take a strip of double stick tape and run it across the interior walls to hold it in place.) . If needed, you can then adjust the outer edges. I used my ship curves to, to tweak to the finished outline that makes sure all is well to my needs. Now, I use scissors to cut the pattern that works with my model location and then spray glue to the basswood.

I then freed the basswood with a #11 X-Acto trimming and dry fit into place. Before I removed the paper pattern, I cut all the deck openings shown on the plan: Steel rods 1/16" drill bit, Ventilators and davits, bits as needed, Support timbers with X-Acto blades and small files. **I held off with the stairways.**

The **No. 6: 2** picture shows the last of the planking being nearly finished with a dry fit.

You can see the upper deck planking (1/32" x 1/4") is not basswood, but some old strips from an Italian species (unnamed) but I likened it to an outdoor teak wood kind of color.

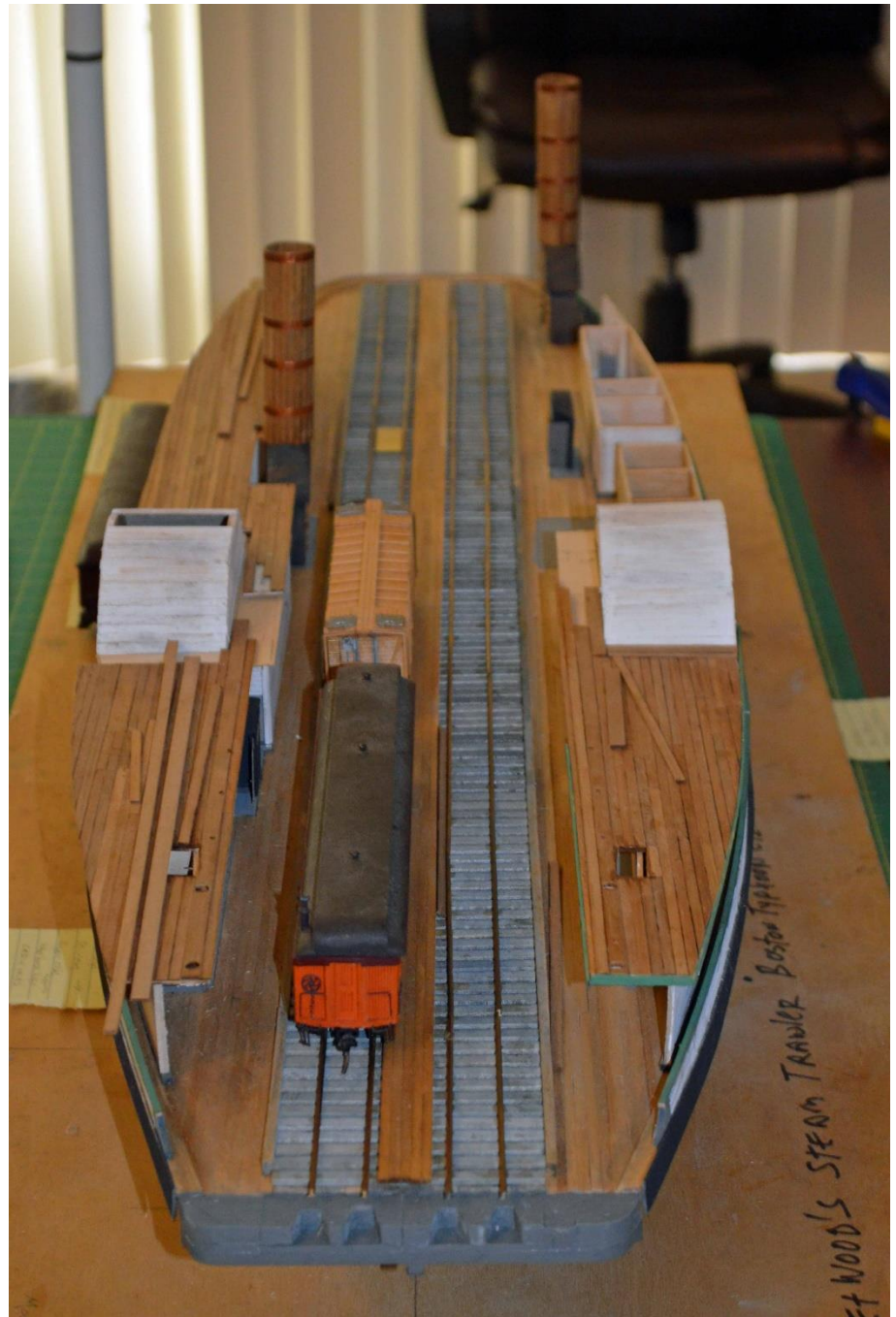
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Summary:

- 1) Sub-deck sized, shaped, and ready for dry fit.
- 2) All upper deck supports are located and opened. (except stairways).
- 3) Upper deck planking begins working inside out.
- 4) The 22 rod supports can be addressed in 2 ways: I cut the rod to a perfect fit to the sub-deck to be planked over, or, I over cut the rod, plank over, then flip the sub-deck over and drill through planking and trim flush with flooring.
- 5) Remember, upper decks (4) have not been glued in place.
- 6) All the other pass throughs are then drilled and fitted.

Now to the stairways:



No. 6: 3

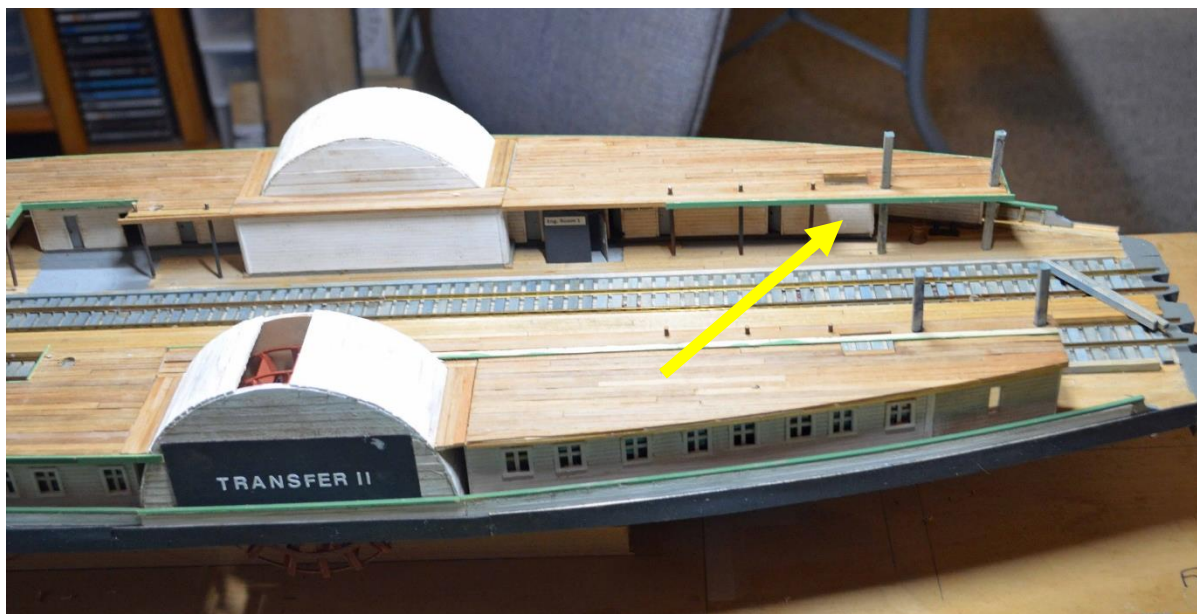
No. 6: 4 There are 4 stairways: Two are not a problem, but two rise from the main deck to the upper deck flush against a housing wall. So, build the stairway first and then size the opening appropriately.

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You can see with the pictures below that all has been tested and the planking at the Wheel Box has been completed.

No. 6: 5 The upper deck has been permanently attached and the “fixtures” are being set in place and secured. Also, the **surround planking** is in place.



No. 6: 6 Rising **yellow arrow** stairway lays against housing wall.

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No. 6: 7 Note the bollard and the capstan are in place.

The four companion ways to the engine rooms:



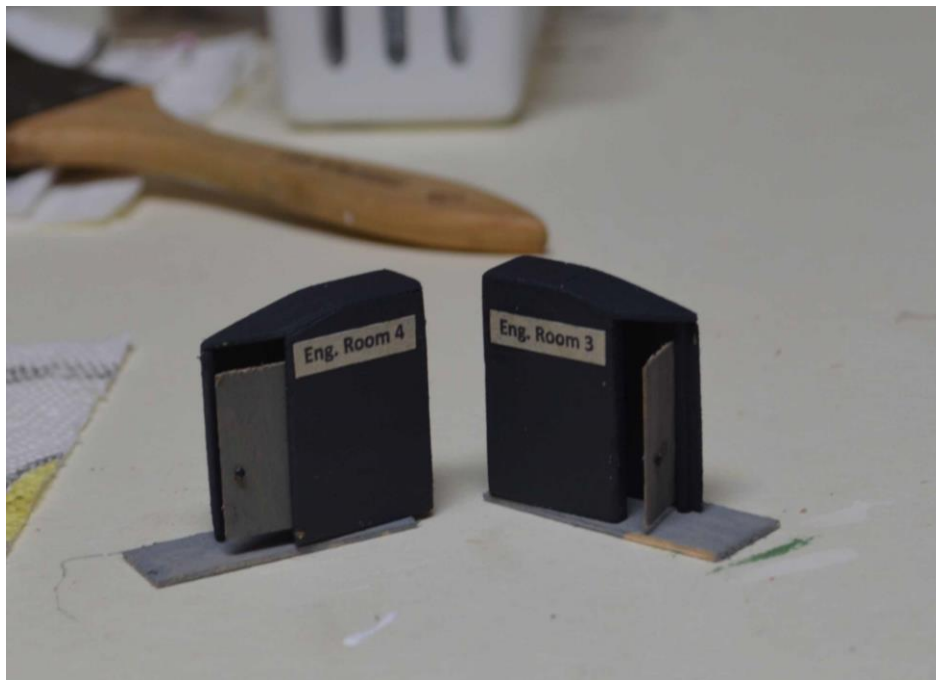
No. 6: 8. No it is not a restroom.

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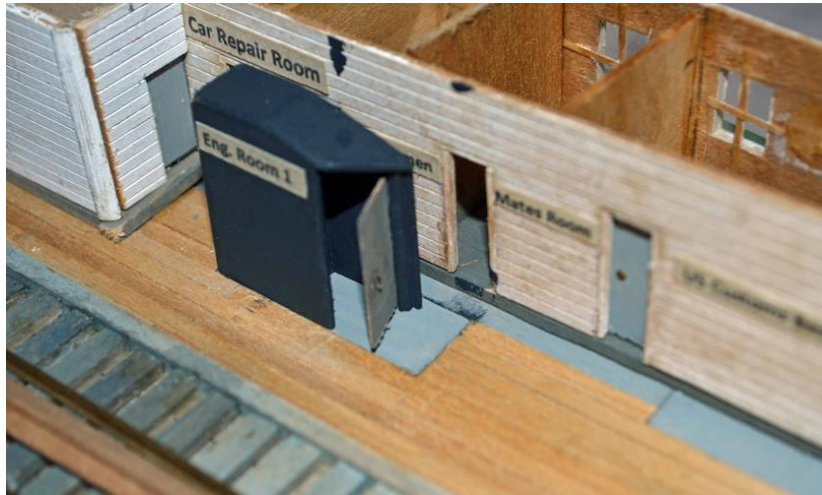
No. 6:9 I took some basswood stock, cut to height, rounded the aft wall, and added some thin side walls, V-neck the doorway, and opened the door. Then I painted it black.



No. 6: 10 I left the doors open – it must have been, despite winter, hotter that hell down there.

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No. 6: 11 Note: Set in place before the placement of the upper deck.



No. 6: 12 Note: The green arrow points to the area of the life boats and will be completed later.

Bill Strachan, CMMS, Feb. 23, 2023