

# **Chapter Ten**

#### Planking and fittings for the Qdeck...

I had already planked the qdeck along the bulwarks after adding the margin planks. So before I could plank down the center I had to get the coamings all made first.

The coamings are built exactly like the others we built. They are laser cut for you. Just build them using the 3/64" thick right angle template as before. Round off the corners ......yada....yada....and add the cambered gratings. Two packages were enough to do these three gratings on the qdeck. They are the same as the others.

But dont glue all three hatches and coamings down yet. Only glue the forward most grating and coaming in first. This is very important. As you can see above, the first coaming was positioned and then it could be used to help position the capstan partners. These are also laser cut for you. But because so much depends on where you placed your beams.....where you placed your lower capstan, etc....you may have to make some slight adjustments. This is why only the forward coaming is added initially.

I laser cut the three parts for the capstan partners a bit longer on both ends (forward and aft). This will give you some wiggle room to adjust to suit your model and get the round opening directly centered over the lower capstan. Then trim the aft side so it falls on the deck beam nicely. The aft end of the partners should cover half the beam it sits on.



Then the other coamings can be glued in position. Make sure to center them down the qdeck of course.

In the photo above you can also see the mizzen bitts. These must be glued to the forward side of the beam before you start planking down the center. So these were made up next. They are laser cut but you must finish the top timberhead shape as is usually the case. There is a hole laser cut through these as well. They will accept a 1/16 dia. rod. Use either brass, or even styrene or wood. It doesn't matter. You will have to clean out the holes with a 1/16" drill bit first as the laser doesn't cut a perfect right angle. So I made this hole slightly smaller as a pilot hole. Drill them again with a 1/16" bitt and insert the rod. Use the plans to get their length.

Above right, you can see the bitts pretty well. But you can also see my modeler's convention for adding the slots for the ships wheel rigging. This is laser cut in two layers 3/64" thick. The lower layer is glued between



the deck beams first. It has a laser etched reference for the second final layer. Just glue it on top like its shown in the photo. You will plank around this.

Now the planking can finally commence down the center of the qdeck. Use your template as a guide just like when you planked the fcastle.

This will complete the planking or most of it for the model. We still have the gangways to do but that will be done much later. You can see I also test fit the upper capstan. I still have to



paint it red and add the metal band. But its all coming together.



The ships wheel for the Winnie is sold separately and is already available as a mini kit on the Syren Website. They are sold one per package. For those guys waiting for the next chapter this is something that could be bought It's just the wheel as the other parts are included in chapter 10. You will need to buy the larger 1 1/4" wheel for Winnie.

The wheel kit is built just like other master model builders scratch build them. There are lots of small parts but it makes a beautiful boxwood wheel as you can see. You just need to go really slow and take your time. If you rush through the wheel mini kit ...it will look a mess. So take your time and practice.

The instructions are available in the online store as a download. You can see the wheel completed and the other parts in the photo below.



## The ship's Wheel...

Note in that image how the discs for the drum have two layers. You can glue the smaller disc to the larger ones as shown. The other parts had their char removed. The forward wheel support is longer than the aft support. This is done because of the camber of the deck forward to aft. So after cleaning the char from these, dont glue the feet onto the wheel supports yet. Those are the flat pieces or strips shown in the photo (previous page). Once you test assemble all the parts on the 1/16" brass bar, you should position it on deck to see how it fits. Adjust the bottom of the two supports (probably the forward longer support) so the wheel is nice and vertical. You don't want it to lean forward because of the slope of the deck.

Once you get those adjusted you can glue the feet into position.



To complete the drum...take the 1/4" brass tube and it will fit onto the two layer disc. Then add the other side to finish it up. Paint it red.

I also painted the supports red and the rim of the wheel. You can see in the accompanying photo that the feet have been glued onto the bottom of the supports before painting them.



Treat every fitting like it is a model all its own. Treat every fitting as if it is the only project you have to work on....just smaller. As if it will be displayed on its own. Don't rush this as it's a major feature of the completed model.

Cut the brass rod to length and glue the elements in position. Remember to face those supports in the right direction. The longer one on the forward end. Then you can glue it on the model.



See the overall view of the model on the next page showing the progress to date.





# The Binnacle...

The plan above is available at the end of this chapter at full size.

These parts have been laser cut for you. Take the forward face of the binnacle which has a laser etched rectangle on it. Glue a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " x  $\frac{1}{4}$ " x



15/16" long strip into this reference area. It should fit pretty tight to the lines on that



forward face. You will need to cut a  $\frac{1}{4}$  x  $\frac{1}{4}$  strip to length.

Then glue the two side panels into position. The laser etched groove on each should face the inside. This will accept the top panel next.

Slide the top panel into the grooves and glue it in place. (photo previous page). Note the other parts we will be adding next.



Paint the inside area black and then add the two discs. Make sure you position the discs so they will sit directly in back of the open window areas of the front panel.

In the photo above it is a little difficult to see but I painted the inside edges of the openings of the front panel red. I did this so I could glue some acetate onto the back side of each opening to simulate the glass. I will paint the entire binnacle red when it is all assembled, but painting the inside edges of the opening now will help keep it a neater paint job. There is a rectangle of laser cut wood that is glued between the openings and one below them as well to simulate a drawer. They have a laser etched detail on them. I rounded off the edges like you would see on any drawer front panel today.



After you glue the acetate in position you can glue the front of the binnacle into place as well. See above.

Also NOTE in that photo that I have glued the two squares with the vent holes into position. They are slid into place on the top of the binnacle. Take a look at the drawing for details.

The only pieces remaining are two more laser cut square pieces. These will become the top of the binnacle's center area. I rounded off the outside edges and glued the two layers of this



top together. Then I actually sanded the top layer even thinner. It should be very very, very thin. Then it was glued in position and the binnacle was painted all red.

To really finish off the binnacle I added the optional painted frieze. This can be printed out from the drawing at the end of this chapter. I printed it onto tissue paper so it was really thin. I cut out the images really close to the edge of each design element. I glued them to the binnacle with an Elmer's glue stick. This technique will require some paint touch up around the edges of the fries when it dries. But it does a good job of hiding the cut edges of the frieze.



The friezes are optional however and you can decide what you prefer.





### The breastrail....

It's pretty straight forward. All of the parts are laser cut for you. But you will still need to prepare them and shape them. You must do so in the same way you did for the various laser cut columns during this project. Sand off all of the laser char carefully if you dont plan on painting the uprights. I left them natural which meant they had to be pretty clean. Use some files, sandpaper and small chisels...or even a #11 blade as in my case. Duplicate the overall shape on the fore and aft sides which was laser cut for you. Remember to get these clean, although you can paint them black if you wanted to. I have basically just laser cut and etched the general shape of these uprights and it's up to you to finish them with care. Take

your time as the breastrail is a feature element on the model and your eye will be distracted at one that looks sloppy.

The lower rail is a 3/64" thick piece of laser cut boxwood. It slides onto each upright. Keep in mind that the angle on the top and bottom of each upright changes as the rail moves outward from the center. This is to accommodate for the roundup of the qdeck. Make sure you position them accordingly. The more severe angles are toward the outside of the rail. The center pair of uprights has the least amount of angle.

Then glue the lower rail onto all six uprights. Slide it down from the top...Make





sure it's seated properly and do a test fit before gluing.

The top rail is actually made in two layers (top of the first photo). There is a very thin 1/64" thick boxwood layer with square holes cut out of it. Glue this onto the solid rail. You will notice it's slightly smaller so it leaves a nice lip all around the bottom edge. The square holes become mortices to fit each rail upright. Paint both rails black before doing a test fit of all pieces.

You should be able to align the top rail in position by inserting the tops of the uprights into the square holes on the underside of the top rail. This should also force all of the uprights to be perfectly vertical as the laser cut holes are all lined up.

Then test it on the model....it is very important to center this rail port to starboard. You can peg each upright into the margin plank at the edge of the qdeck if you like. Make sure its straight in all directions. Meaning its vertical when viewed from the side of the hull....and along the edge of the qdeck when viewing it from overhead. You can see how it looks with the uprights left natural. You can paint the entire rail black if you prefer.

Also note that I constructed the railings around the companionway and made the ladder leading down to the gun deck....just like the ones on the gundeck you already made a few chapters back. I created the stanchions using 1/16" x 1/16" boxwood strips. I created what I though was a nice fancy profile. I kept them square in profile except for the center portion and the little ball on top. They were painted black. They were chocked in my Dremel and turned to create the rounded areas. The horizontal rails were cut from 1/32" x 1/32" boxwood strips.





You can also choose not to add this railing at all. Many contemporary models including the one for Winchelsea don't show such a rail. But I think it adds a nice detail.

## Quarter Deck Fancy Rail...

I will detail the step by step. All Parts are laser cut in groups. I thought it would be easiest to build it if completed in sections. The laser cut parts for each group are labelled as such...M-1 and O-1 and L are the parts for the first section....then working your way aft you will use the parts M-2 and O-2 for the second section etc.

The first section of rail is the most finicky but I will try and explain.

The first section of rail (parts L, M-1 and O-1)

First I glued the various parts together in the photo below. Just like the fcastle rail, finish the timberheads on all four sides. Then glue the fancy curved pieces to the notched rails so after painting them black you won't see the seams.



Once painted black, the first lower section was dry fit on the drift in the waist. Don't glue it on yet permanently. But you will also notice in that same photo (below), the longer post and short post on the qdeck sheer. These are actually painted ahead of time and glued in position. I found it easier to have these glued in place so the assembly behind it can be slipped into position. This is the other assembly we made earlier in that first group.



To complete this first portion of the fancy rail, dry fit this section on the cap rail. ALSO... Don't glue it on yet.



See above. Note how the forward end connects with the lower rail on the drift. These should look like one continuous rail. I added some wiggle room so you can sand the aft end of the lower rail so it will be flush. That is why you shouldn't glue any of them in yet. Mark it with a pencil, and sand the aft end until its flush and looks like one rail. This will be easier to understand as you guys are actively doing it...I understand that it is difficult to write about but you will see what I mean once you get to this step.

When you get everything to fit nicely, you can glue it all in position permanently.

Then moving aft it gets easier. Each additional group contains just two longer uprights, the rail, and two timberheads.

The photo below shows one of these sections already completed. This was section 2. Section 3 of the rail is in progress working my way aft.



In the same photo above you will see the two longer uprights painted and glued in position for the 3<sup>rd</sup> section. Once again, I found it easier to complete it this way. Behind it you can see the center section with the timberheads waiting to be inserted between the two long uprights.

One NOTE....the longer upright in each group (in this case section 3) are different lengths. The uprights get shorter as they work their way aft. Make sure you glue them into position in the correct order. *Shorter ones are aft*.

Then add the center assembly which has been already painted. Also make sure its facing the correct direction. It will only fit one way. The timberheads should be vertical and as such have angled bottoms. Make sure each upright



and timberhead are vertical and because of the angled bottoms facing the correct way.

The photo above shows the center inserted...and sections 2 and 3 completed.

Continue in this fashion for all five sections of the rail. Then the top rail can be added. It comes in two pieces. One fancy piece on the forward end and a long length of rail which runs to the transom. I found it easier to attach both pieces together and sand them while off the model. Then pre paint it black. You will have to adjust the aft end to fit against the transom stern frame.

Also note the fixed block that sits on the cap rail against the transom. The fifth and final section of the rail sits on this block. A small laser cut disc is glued into the slot of the fixed block.





This rail can be finicky but manageable if done a section at a time. It's not a plastic kit so you will have tweak the angles and shift some timberheads to get them to look just right. Remember the timberheads and uprights on this rail should be vertical when viewed from the side. Make sure the longer uprights are all the proper height which they should be before you put that top rail on. You don't want a wavy top rail. So DONT sand their lengths at all. They are all precision laser cut to the proper lengths. Test the top rail before gluing it on.

## Transom Cap...

There is a laser cut template for marking the height of the stern frames. Now I must admit an error in judgement. Not that this will be terribly difficult for me do, but this would have probably been easier to do before the qdeck rails were added.





So just a suggestion....and I will make the monograph chapter reflect this. The stern frames are best cut down before you start on the qdeck railings port and starboard. Or maybe at least think about it and decide what might be easier for you. There are plenty of reasons to support either of these paths. But sadly no perfect way.

I have already cut down the stern frames using a sharp #11 blade. Slicing a little at a time. Then sanding down to my pencil lines made using this template. Note how the transom rail will be the same height as the qdeck fancy rail where the two meet. Hence the difficulty in surgically cutting away those outer stern frames.

I followed that up with sanding them down to their final height.

The first part of the cap added was the laser cut center section. It is 1/16" thick. This piece has a gentle curve to it when viewed from above to follow the curve of the transom. This piece was centered and glued in position. I also cleaned up both ends to make them neat and tidy to accept the pieces we will glue into position next. You can see the center section glued into place above. In addition the first outer section is glued on as well. Note how it is much wider than the center length. This will allow you to draw and MATCH the curve of the transom when viewed from above. I am not really stressing the sanding of char here because that will be taken care of once you reduce those outer pieces. You will be reducing them to the same width as the center section while maintaining the same graceful curve.

Once you finish both sides, you can sand it all with a fine grit sandpaper to prep for painting. Then paint the whole thing black. Sanding made a lot of dust so remember to clean that away before you start painting. You want the best quality painted surface as possible.

Here are some pictures after the cap was completed and painted. This really ties everything together well.



One of the last items to make for chapter ten are these fairleads that are positioned along the inboard side of the qdeck bulwarks. They are basically like timberheads with a sheave. They are used to belay the falls for the upper ropes of the main mast and mizzen.

Now I originally placed I believe 5 of these on each side. But recently I have



learned there were only three. So if you are examining the plans. You will ONLY be adding the aft-most three of these on both sides. This matches the Winnie contemporary model along with several others.

They are easy to make and laser cut in two layers. Just glue the thinner 1/32" thick layer (this actually becomes the back side against the bulwarks) to the thicker layer with the sheave etched in it. Then sand the char and even out the sides. You will have to shape the top of the timberhead like the others you made with a sharp blade. Also round off the bottom front edge as shown. Remember to round off the correct side......the front side.

These are then glued to the inboard side of the bulwarks. They are exactly opposite the timberheads on the rail as you can see on the plans. This makes positioning them easy enough. They should be vertical.



These are laser cut with the tops and bottoms on an angle. So there are port and starboard versions of these. Make sure you select the right ones for each side.

Here you can see them in position on my model.

#### Six Pounders for the Qdeck...

These guns and their carriages are built just like the ones for the gun deck. They are just much smaller. The split rings were made using a 45 drill bit this time. You can also see the eyebolts and such on the inboard side of the qdeck rail. All made with 24 gauge black wire once again.

If you are going to rig these I would use .045 tan for the breech line and .018 for the tackles. I would also use 1/8" single blocks for the tackles. I managed to knock loose one of the mizzen bitts while drilling the holes for the eyebolts on the rail. I keep forgetting to fix that. You can see that it is slightly askew in the photo. It's tricky getting in there to drill the holes for the eyebolts on the inboard side of the rail ...so be careful of your sleeves!! Try also not to drill all the way through the rail. Only



go enough to insert the short ends of the eye bolts.

The 1 9/16" resin cannon and carriages are also available separately in the Syren Online Store. You will need two packages of each. There is also a build jig for the carriages like the larger ones we made on the gundeck. Be sure to ask for yours when ordering the smaller carriages.

Once all eight gins are completed chapter ten will be finished. Onward and upward!!!

