

ton Daily News": "Views of buildings, machinery, vessels and landscapes, etc. I am prepared to execute in any style of the art." Specimens of his work were exhibited at his Daguerre Gallery at Kingston. It is highly probable that he was the photographer who took this view of the BANSHEE, as well as an equally good view of the sidewheeler KINGSTON. The BANSHEE photo is particularly interesting because of the myriad of other ships which appear in it. [11]

BANSHEE (II) was a handsome steamer, with a pleasing sheer to her hull. She had a curved stem and a counter stern. The cabin on the main deck extended out to the sides of the ship forward of the paddleboxes, enclosing the freight deck area. Aft of the wheels, the cabin was recessed and there was a promenade around the stern. We have no knowledge of any of BANSHEE's interior cabin arrangements, but undoubtedly the purser's and chief steward's offices were located on this deck, aft of the freight area. The ladies' cabin may well have been aft on the main deck.

On the upper deck was the cabin which contained the main passenger quarters, including lounges and staterooms. There was an open promenade all the way around the cabin on this deck, except for the area on each side which was obstructed by the paddleboxes, and a large, open observation area was located forward. Light for the interior of the deckhouse was admitted via a clerestory which ran for almost the entire length of the hurricane deck above. In typical fashion of the day, there probably was no special dining-room; tables would be set at mealtimes down the centre of the passenger cabin, between the rows of staterooms.

Far forward on the hurricane deck was placed a small octagonal (or "bird-cage") pilothouse, with a domed roof topped by a decorative finial. There were two tall, thin and virtually unbraked smokestacks which were set athwartship, just forward of the paddleboxes, and the engine's walking beam was situated between the funnels. As a result of the large diameter of the radial wheels, the paddleboxes were very large indeed, and they rose high above the hurricane deck. There was only one mast, which rose immediately abaft the pilothouse, and the photo of BANSHEE strangely shows no evidence of lifeboats, either on the hurricane deck (where one would expect them) or anywhere else.

The steamer was painted white all over, with some dark shade of trim at deck levels, on fenders and strakes, and at the rails. The ship's name was displayed in large, ornamented letters down the sides of the paddleboxes at the level of the main deck, and as was the custom on the lakes for many years, a period was placed after the name. The paddleboxes themselves were relatively plain, although a decoration in roughly the form of a sunburst was placed with its centre approximately at the level of the hurricane deck.

Perhaps a word of explanation is due in regard to the Kingston BANSHEE photograph. Readers will note that two smokestacks seem to be visible, one shorter and darker, and set to the left of the other. In point of fact, the shorter, darker funnel is one of a pair of 'thwartship stacks that belongs to the steamer moored behind, or inboard of BANSHEE, and the bow of this ship can be seen just forward of BANSHEE's stem. (Unfortunately, we do not know the identity of this steamer.)

BANSHEE's portside funnel is the tall stack visible just forward of her paddlebox and, careful observation will reveal, this definitely is BANSHEE's funnel, as it is set between the camera and the port side of the hurricane deck clerestory. (Only one of the two stacks on each steamer is visible because the view is a dead broadside, taken from amidships.) BANSHEE's walking beam is the one set farthest to the right in the photo, so that its after end is set directly over the centre of BANSHEE's port wheel.

There are numerous discrepancies between the appearance of BANSHEE in the Kingston photograph and a drawing of the steamer which accompanied a history of her on Page 27 of Early American Steamers - Volume III, published in 1964