

PH0367613

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY
 RECEIVED MAR 16 1977
 DATE ENTERED AUG 12 1977

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC
 AND/OR COMMON
 (Steam Yacht) "Kestrel"

2 LOCATION

Berthed at New York Ontario and Western Railroad Coal Pier,
 at the south end of River Road, 400 feet south of
 Guttenberg border.

STREET & NUMBER
 CITY, TOWN West New York VICINITY OF
 STATE New Jersey CODE 34 COUNTY Hudson CODE 017
 CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 14th

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SUBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: unused

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME American Maritane Academy
 STREET & NUMBER
 New York Harbor
 CITY, TOWN West New York VICINITY OF
 STATE New Jersey

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Not applicable
 STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE New Jersey Historic Sites Inventory (#3298.2)
 DATE September, 1976
 DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Historic Sites Office, Department of Environmental Protection
 CITY, TOWN Trenton STATE New Jersey

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		not applicable

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Concise Details

- Hull - Carvel built in Charleston Massachusetts in 1892 with straight stem and fan-tail stern, length 62 feet, beam 12 feet, draught 4½ feet, weight 14 short tons.
- Boiler - Coal-fired vertical firetube design, 5 feet 10 inches high, 4 feet 4 inches diameter, working pressure 125 p.s.i.
- Engine - Open Crank, compound expansion, made by Fore River Engine Company in 1892, bores 6 inch and 12 inch, stroke 10 inches.
- Propeller - Four blades, square tipped 4 feet diameter, about 2 feet pitch.
- Speed - 8 Knots at 100 r.p.m.
- Auxiliaries - Include boiler feed pump, condenser pump, feed-water heater and Pyle "National" 32-volt turbine driven electric mystery.

The steam yacht "Kestrel" was built in Charleston, Massachusetts, but who built it and for who it was built remains a mystery.

The wooden hull, which is 62 feet long, 12 foot beam, and 4½ foot draught has a shapely fan-tail stern. Weight is 14 short tons and official number is 161027.

The original boiler built for the "Kestrel" in 1892 was replaced in 1926 by Robert Pinkerton of Green Island, New York for John Hamilton Fulton of New York City. In 1967 the Coast Guard insisted that the 1926 boiler be replaced and the Erie City Iron Works contracted to build the new boiler. This was to be exactly like the old Pinkerton boiler except the new one was to be all welded instead of riveted and the Coast Guard did allow the water glass to be moved to the starboard side rather than directly aft where it was always in the way of the engineer. While the cabin roof was off for the boiler exchange the engine was lifted out, completely overhauled and replaced. This entire job ran into a figure of about \$7,000.

The fire and engine room are next proceeding aft. Port and starboard coal bunkers which hold a total of 1½ to 2 tons of hard coal are filled through deck plates. As mentioned the boiler was installed new in 1967. The coal burning boiler, which is designed to operate at 125 p.s.i. is a conventional vertical fire-tube boiler with a water leg. It is 52 inches in diameter and has a ½ inch welded

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Steam Yacht "Kestrel"

West New York

Hudson County

New Jersey 034

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2

DESCRIPTION (continued)

steel shell containing 300 1 1/8 inch outside diameter tubes. Height is a 5 feet 10 inches, insulation being by asbestos plaster. The hard coal makes no smoke when the yacht is running. This boat seems to run best with about 70 to 80 p.s.i. pressure at 100 r.p.m. and doing about 8 knots.

The beautiful teak lagged compound steam engine, which stands nearly 5 feet tall, just aft of the boiler was designed and built by the Fore River Engine Company in Weymouth, Massachusetts in 1892. The brass engine name plate is all but obscured by years of polishing. The cylinders are 6-inch bore on the high pressure, 12-inch bore on the low pressure with a stroke of 10 inches. It is rated at 50 horse power. The valve gear on this engine is unusual. It may have been one of a kind. In addition to the boiler and engine, this room contains a boiler feed pump, a condenser pump, hot well, a Pyle National 32-volt turbo steam generator, boiler feed water heater and engine room gong.

Save for the bow the "Kestrel" is completely surrounded by a wooden skeleton frame which provides support for a protective canopy over most of the deck.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1892 BUILDER/ARCHITECT Yacht: Unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Engine: Fore River Engine Company, Weymouth, Massachusetts.

TRANSPORTATION

According to Conrad Milster, Chief Engineer, of Pratt Institute the "Kestrel" is probably the last functioning steam yacht on the East Coast and possibly the last of its kind using coal in the United States.

Probably never used as anything but a private yacht the "Kestrel" is a graceful 62 foot vessel.

The steam yacht "Kestrel" was built in Charleston, Massachusetts, in 1892, but who built it and who it was built for remains a mystery. Early Bills of Sale and Records of Title recorded at Ogdenburg, New York City, Saint Augustine, Florida and Jacksonville, Florida, which are sketchy at best do show the following- the home port of the "Kestrel" prior to a sale made on June 14th 1899, was Baltimore, Maryland. On that date William Keyser sold her to Samuel Keyser. On July 1st, 1905, title was transferred from Samuel Keyser to David Crawford Clark. On August 25th, 1919, the estate of David Crawford Clark transferred title to John Hamilton Fulton. Fulton died and his property was willed to his wife Jean Thompson Fulton on October 27th, 1927. Then on October 10th, 1934, Mrs. Fulton sold the "Kestrel" to W. J. Arthur and on July 27th, 1935, Arthur sold to W. Cecil Grant of Daytona Beach, Florida. The next transfer was made by a United States Marshall by the name of Guy C. Reeve to J. R. Anderson on May 13th, 1936. Anderson sold on August 11th, 1936, to three owners, W. E. Montgomery, W. E. Compton and W. E. Morrow, all of Jacksonville, Florida. On January 20th, 1937, Montgomery and Compton sold to James A. Throwbridge, Jr., of Noroton, Connecticut.

The "Kestrel" presently is owned by the American Maritime Academy, a marine educational facility.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

"The Steam Yacht "Kestrel" Light Steam Power. Richard M. Mitchell and Robert P. Scripps.

Information supplied by Conrad Milster, Chief Engineer, at Pratt Institute. Home Address: 178 Emerson Place Brooklyn, New York.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY not applicable

UTM REFERENCES

A	18	584460	4515400
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C			

B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Terry Karschner, Historian-Curator

ORGANIZATION

Historic Sites Office, Dept. of Environmental Protection

DATE

October, 1976

STREET & NUMBER

P. O. Box 1420

TELEPHONE

(609)-292-2023

CITY OR TOWN

Trenton

STATE

New Jersey

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE Commissioner, Dept. of Environmental Protection

DATE

12/22/1976

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

8/12/77

DATE

8.11.77