

The Naiad Frigate

(38)1797

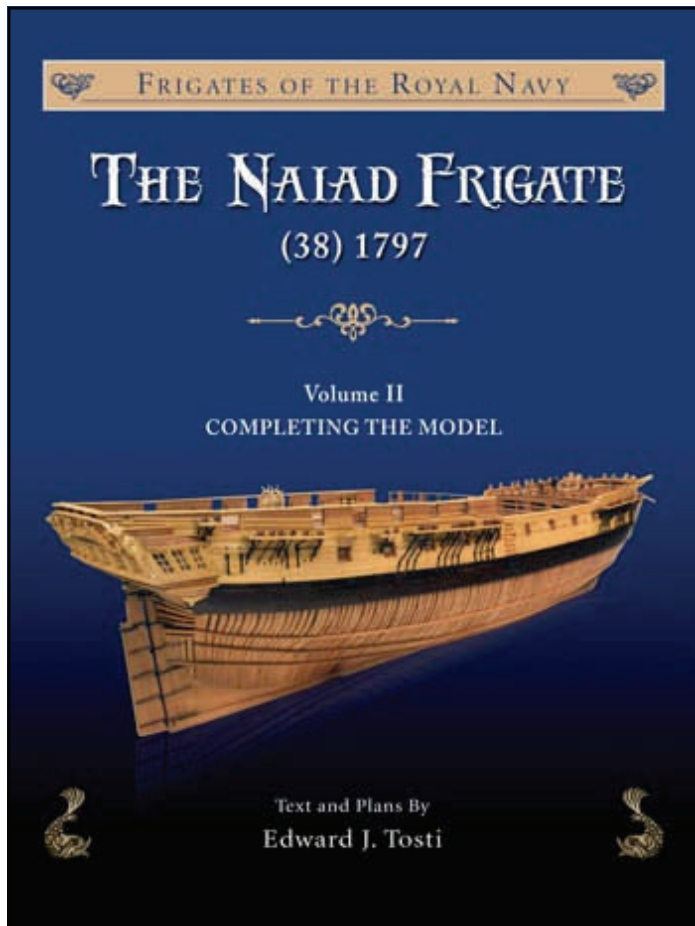
Volume II

Completing the Model

Text & Plans by Edward J. Tosti

Distributed by: Sea Watch Books, LLC, Florence, Oregon
www.seawatchbooks.com, seawatchbooks@gmail.com

This writer has always felt that the second book in a series of this type can be the more interesting, and it is only because it deals with so many different subassemblies and details. *The Naiad Frigate (38) 1797 Volume II*, by Edward Tosti, has certainly reinforced that belief. With



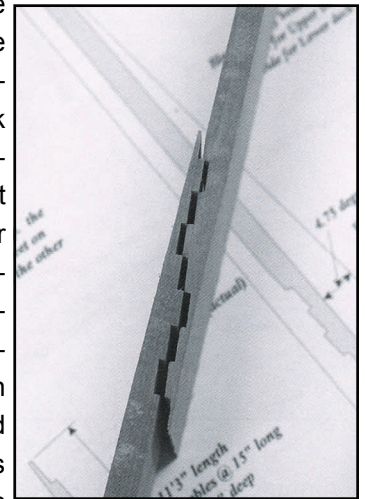
over 300 pages, 770 photos and illustrations, 9 sheets of 1:60 scale plans, 14 pages of color photos, and a CD containing tables, templates, and patterns., this book represents a ship modeling tour de force, which is only enhanced by its companion, Volume I.

It is beyond the scope of this review to detail the contents of each of the 19 chapters this work contains. Instead, examples of the attention to detail, helpful hints, tips, and research the author has conducted will be discussed.

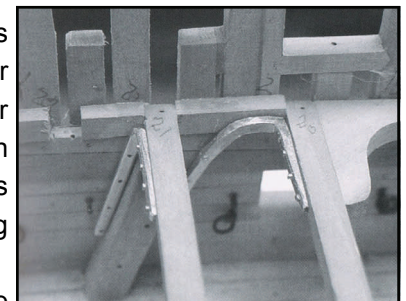
This book starts out with chapter 22, thus picking up where Volume I ends. This first chapter describes construction of the magazine and forward platform. Consistent with the author's approach wherever possible, this complex structure is constructed so that it can be, for the most part, dropped into position when completed. Rabbits play a prominent role in this construction, and a number of suggestions are offered for performing this procedure. Numerous types of fasteners were used in the actual vessel, and these are also noted, which is an indication of this book's thoroughness.



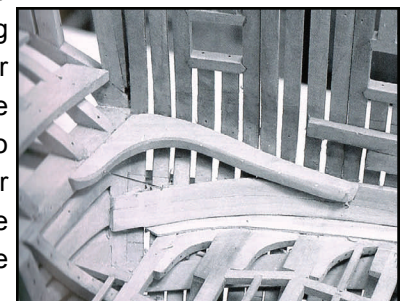
Chapters 23 through 29 discuss the orlop deck and hold, aft platform and magazine, deck beams, knees, the lower deck framing, and the wale and related work. The author's description for laying out the large deck beams is particularly interesting, since it involves short sections scarphed together with long tabled joints. Apparently, this was quite common as larger lumber became harder to come by in the 19th century. Top and butt structural planking is also simplified with Tosti's tapered guide, which is featured in the CD.



Records do not indicate what type of knees *Naiad* had, so the author describes fabrication for both the wood and iron varieties. Excellent tips are provided for drilling the metal versions.



A unique variety of the previously mentioned components are the wing transom knees with their s-curved offset. These are particularly difficult to make, and the author explains how he made quick work of these pieces.

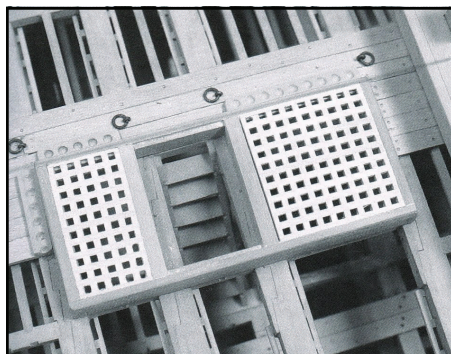


Chapter 30 deals with the lower stern and rudder. The author's research and detailed account for constructing the rudder is most noteworthy. Did you know the bearded edges of *Naiad's* rudder were covered with lead sheet? This is one of the many little "gems" this book offers.

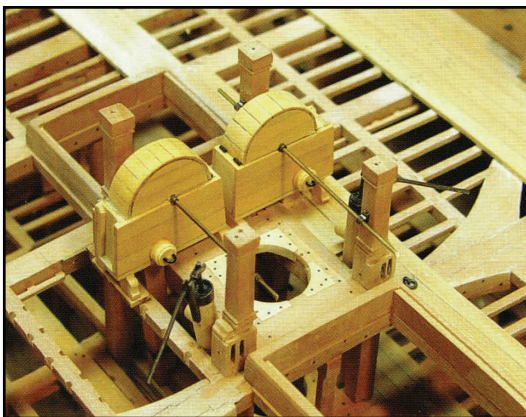


Chapter 31, Upper Deck Framing, discusses more than the title indicates. The complex steering gear, lower deck partitions, hammock battens, riding bits, main partners, pump shafts and fireplace supports are some items that are covered.

The mixed bag of offerings continue in "thirty two" as subassemblies on the upper deck are fabricated. "Lead" scuppers, hawseholes, bollard heads, bowsprit chocks, riding bits, and fixed blocks that are imbedded in the hull framing and outside planking are just a few of the items discussed. The hatch gratings with their round up on the upper surfaces are also explained in great detail. Thoroughness is exemplified by the fact that almost two full pages, with photos, are devoted to just making ring-bolts!

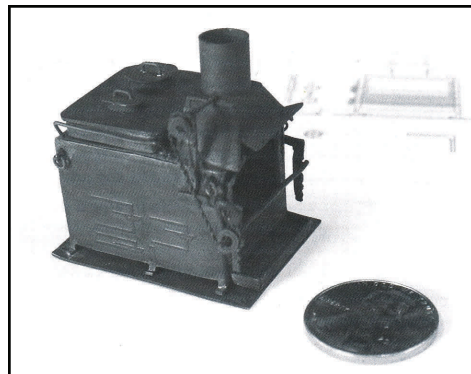


The next chapter title, Quarterdeck Framing, is a bit misleading, since it also deals with the ship's chain and elm tree pumps.



These intricate assemblies are broken down into easy to understand steps. The latter variety have metal parts that require that they be silver soldered in a specific order, and Ed Tosti does an excellent job explaining how this is accomplished.

Chapter 34, Forecastle and Waste Framing, covers the framing of the bow, catheads, y-bitts, bowsprit step, waste framing, turned pillars and the Brodie Stove. Before getting into the construction of this last piece, the author gives a brief history and explanation as to how this versatile device functioned.



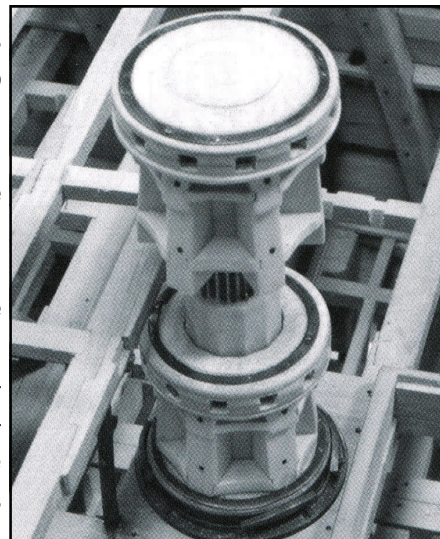
The author's version is quite detailed with an open front, internal baffles and partitions, spit racks and other cooking gear.

Finishing the Stern is discussed in Chapter 35. Details include the taffrail, counter planking, decorative rails,

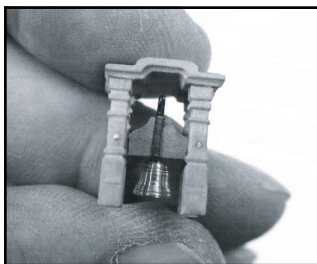


quarter galleries, the multi-paned lights (windows), and the taffrail decoration. Since no record of the *Naiad's* decoration exists, Tosti was forced to use a "best guess" approach. Patterns for all the figures he designed are included on the CD.

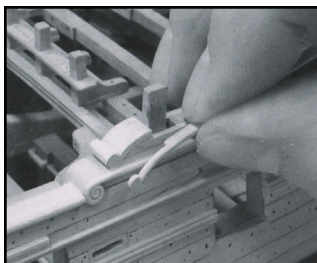
The next chapter is devoted to only two items, the capstan and ship's wheel. This is primarily due to the similarity in their fabrication processes. A lathe is an absolute must, and a milling machine is highly recommended. The author describes his procedures making extensive use of both machines.



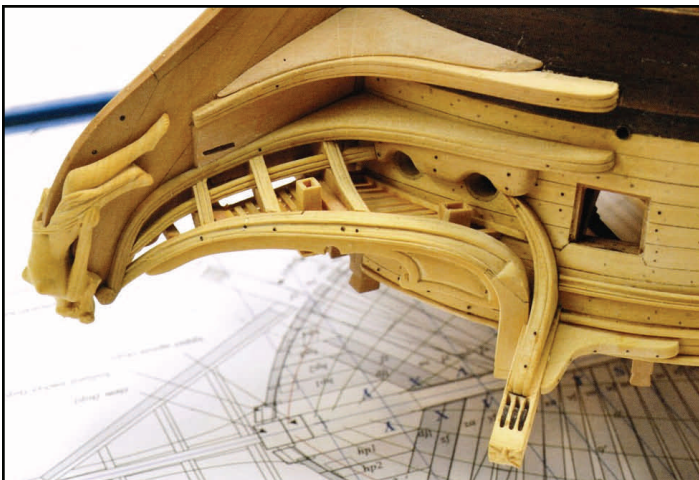
The 37th chapter includes setting the capstan, steering wheel and its gear, panel partitions, the captain's quarters, fore brace bits, quarterdeck breastwork, vent stack and belfry. In spite of it's small size, the author believes that the ornate belfry is one of the focal points of the model, and provides special attention in the book.



The next segment, Outboard Planking and Rails, provides information on sheer strakes, waist rails, forecastle rails and the channels, which contain drainage openings along their inner edges. (I'll bet most of you didn't know that.) The iron work for the channels is also covered. Last, but certainly not least, Tosti provides direction on fabricating those pesky hances with their intricate scroll work.



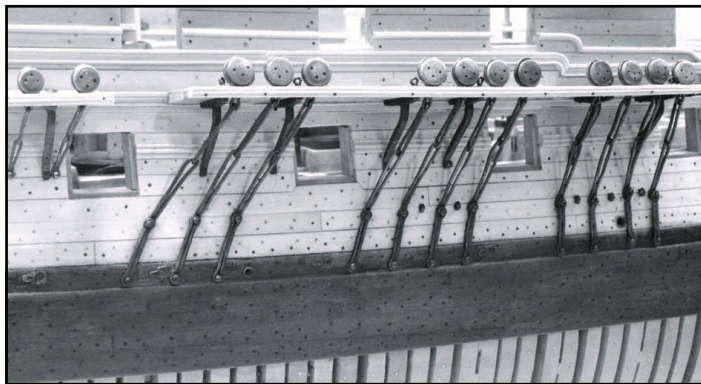
The author starts out in chapter 39 by stating that, from a purely woodworking perspective, the head structure is undoubtedly the most interesting in the ship. The graceful lines and light timbers belie the fact that *Naiad* was a ma-



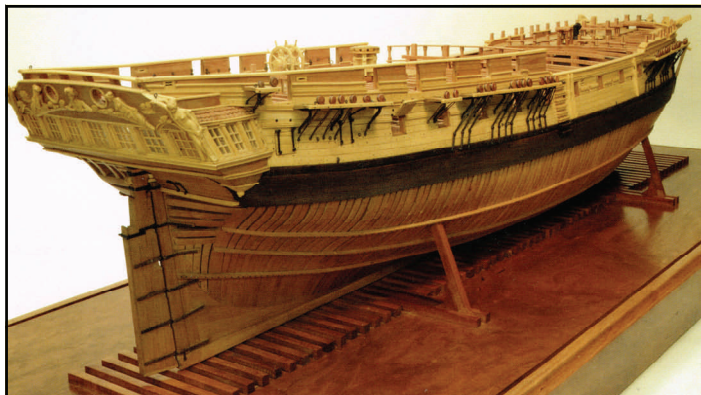
chine built for war. Fabricating the beautifully curved pieces with their relief beading, and carving the striking figurehead, is worth the price of the book by itself!

The final chapter, number 40, is appropriately titled "Finishing Up." It discusses gun port lids, scuttle hinges, anchor lining, deadeyes, catblocks, iron horses, and quarter gallery trim. The deadeye assemblies are also installed. They are composed of the binding around the deadeye, two links and a preventer plate. The author explains how he compensated for the differing lengths as

the angle of each shroud would have changed.



The book concludes with a glossary of terms, a selected bibliography, and 24 color photos of the model under construction or completed. Some of those photos have already been featured in this review. Here are two additional examples of a truly magnificent model!



There is no doubt that this two volume set of *The Naiad Frigate (38) 1797* will take its rightful place, as a definitive reference, alongside works by Antscherl, Herbert, Yedlinsky and Kempson. Edward Tosti is to be congratulated on this remarkable achievement!.

Reviewed by
Bob Filipowski