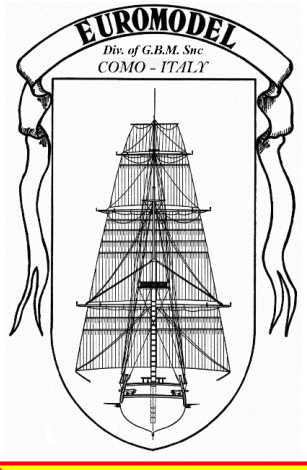
TRANSLATION LINKS

1. type into your browser ... **english+italian+glossary+nautical terms**
2. utilise the translation dictionary 'Nautical Terms & Expressions' from Euromodel website



Checked the Resource Information File ?

A research paper including an *interpretive* build

Royal William

1st. Rate English Vessel

Originally launched in 1670 as the 100-gun HMS Prince
Re-built and launched in 1692 as the HMS Royal William
Finally re-built again and ...

Launched 1719

Scale 1:72

05. FIRST PLANKING (above main deck)

September 2021

This paper is based on the supplied drawings, external references, kit material – and an amount of extra material. It serves to *illustrate how this ship* *might* *be built.The level of complexity chosen is up to the individual*

This resource information was based on the original text supplied by Euromodel and then expanded in detail as the actual ship was constructed by MSW member piratepete007. [Additional & exceptional support was gratefully received from MSW members **marktiedens, Ken3335, Denis R, Keith W, Vince P & Pirrozzi.** My sincere thanks to them and other MSW members who gave advice and gave permission to use some of their posted photos.

Neither the author or Euromodel have any commercial interest in this information and it is published on the Euromodel web site in good faith for other persons who may wish to build this ship. Euromodel does not accept any responsibility for the contents that follow.

This is not an instructional manual but is a collaboration amongst a number of MSW members whose interpretations were based on the drawings and the supplied kit.

- Additional material used was dictated by personal choices.
- Greater simplification would be achieved by using the material as it is supplied.

Model Ship World Forum
I am indebted to those members who were, or are, involved in their own build of the Royal William and have allowed me to add photos from their posts – but not utilising their personal text - in the belief that the images could add both a stimulus and an interest to new builders of this ship. So my grateful thanks go to … Brian C; Denis R; KeithW; marktiedens; Vince P, Ken3335

They have taken the RW build to a much higher level than intended by this kit.

Reference Texts

Fighting at Sea in the Eighteenth Century; The Art of Sailing Warfare by Sam Willis (2008)
Historic Ship Models by Wolfram zu Mondfeld (1989)
Seventeenth Century Rigging by R.C. Anderson (1955) [almost a complete copy of his earlier book ***The Rigging of Ships in the Days of the Spritsail Topmast, 1600 – 1720*** (1927)]
The Construction and Fitting of the English Man of War 1650-1850 by Peter Goodwin (1984)
The Masting and Rigging of English Ships of War 1625 – 1860 by James Lee (1984).

For the purposes of discussion, this ship is considered as an 18 C build.

Content

[To navigate through the contents – use 'control + click']

CHAPTER 1: FIRST PLANKING *ABOVE* MAIN DECK 5
Bulwark Height 5
Bulwarks 6
Main Deck Cannon Gunport Positioning 8
Reference Position 8
Lateral Separation 8
Height AMD 8
Gunport Dimension (unlined) 8

Illustrations

[The figures below are not hyperlinked]

Figure 1: No. Planks Above Main Deck, Part 1 5
Figure 2: No. Planks Above Main Deck, Part 2 5
Figure 3: Planking Above Main Deck 6
Figure 4: Double-walled Bulwark 6
Figure 5: Temporary Strengthening of Main Deck Bulwark Wall 6
Figure 6: Main Deck First Planking 7
Figure 7: Plank Sanding 7
Figure 8: First Planking (unsanded) - Towards Stern 7
Figure 9: Main Deck Gunport Positioning 8

CHAPTER 1: FIRST PLANKING *ABOVE* MAIN DECK

Bulwark Height

There is considerable variation in the heights of the first planking (***6 x 1.5 mm***.) above the main deck level (MDL) so ***careful reference to Plan Sheet 8*** was needed. For the purposes of calculating the number of planks in height, the upper rail which sits above the bulwark wall was disregarded since this is added much later.

Minimum number (centre) of planks above MDL was ***four***. Towards aft that number rose to ***twelve*** and abaft up to ***six***. The following two diagrams illustrate what I did aft of the main mast. The remaining planking can easily be deduced from Plan Sheet 8.

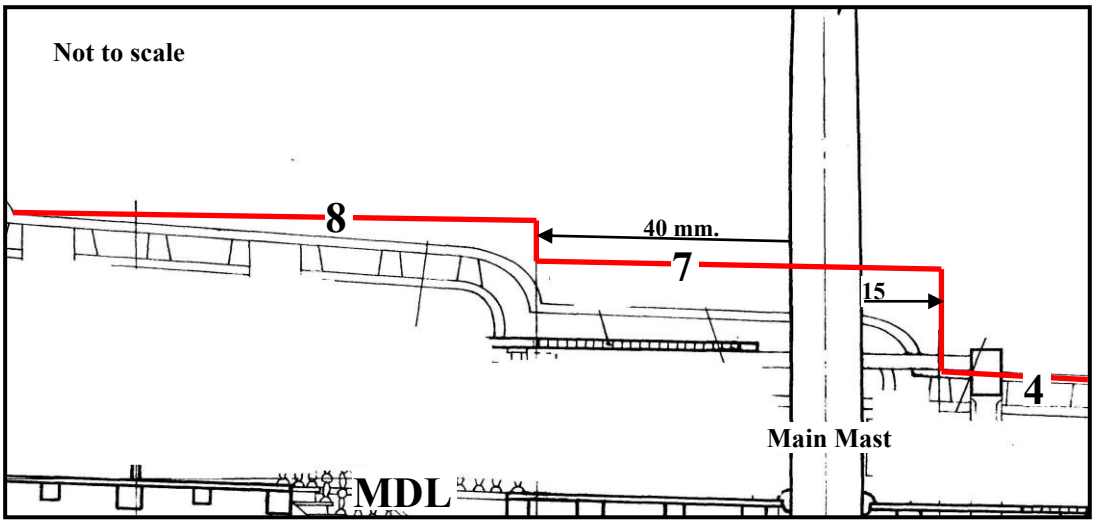


Figure 1: No. Planks Above Main Deck, Part 1

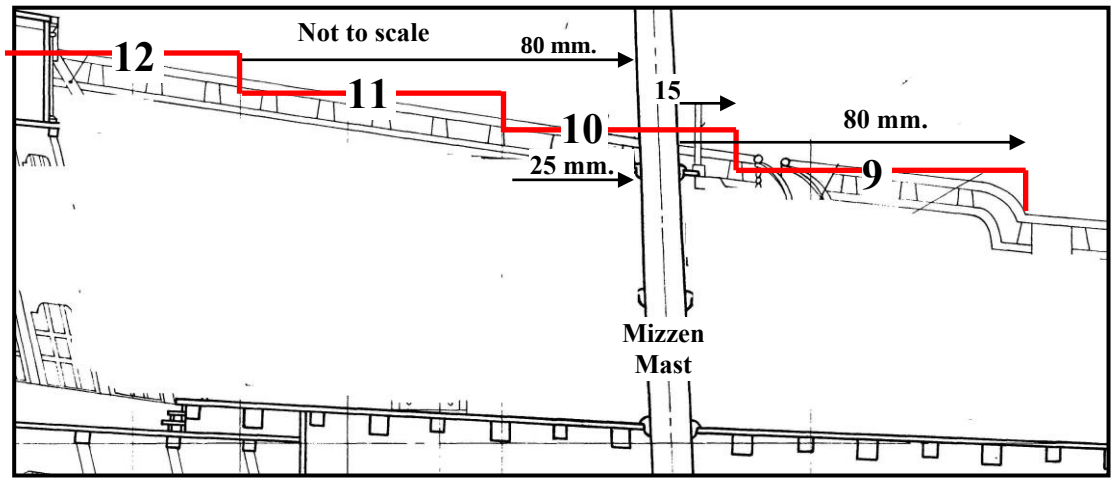


Figure 2: No. Planks Above Main Deck, Part 2

The amount of planking done allowed for a reasonable excess of timber that was easily cut back after the metal ornamentation was set in place (at a later stage).

Bulwarks

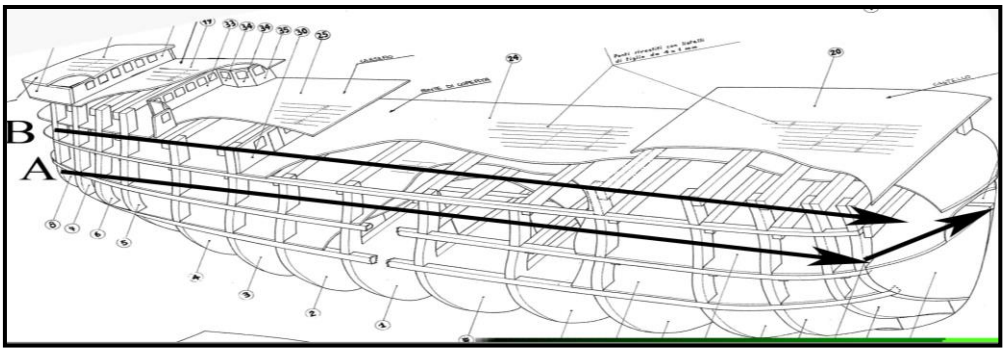


Figure 3: Planking Above Main Deck

- Above the MDL, four more full-length untapered planks were fixed in position. When finished, the height of the bulwark at the lowest point (in the centre) needed to be ***20.0 mm.*** (Plan Sheet 8 indicates ***18.0 mm*** BUT with the metal ornamentation provided in the kit, a small adjustment needed to be made).

- Fig. 3 shows the planks (arrow 'B') above the MDL extend **at least 15mm past the furthermost frame at the bow and back to the furthermost edge of Frame 8 at the stern.** Arrow A indicates the need to have planks long enough to wrap around the bow to the stem post.

- Reference to the drawings (e.g. Plan Sheet 8) shows the hull side being a double wall so at least at this point – above MDL - in the build, I created a solid double wall which finally would consist of second + first + first + second planking glued together as one solid mass for the added strength (Fig. 4). This gives a total theoretical thickness of 5.5 mm. excluding adhesive which after sanding during the process would reduce that down slightly. Bulwark wall thicknesses are shown in the drawings of ***4.5 – 5.5 mm.***

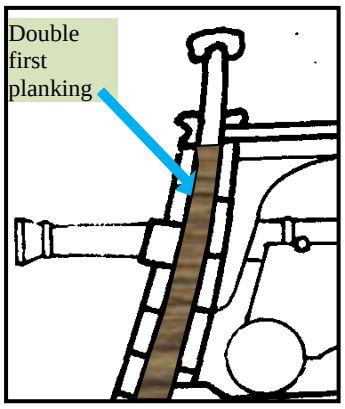


Figure 4: Double-walled Bulwark

- However, just for the moment, the bulwark wall will just be the double first planking. Double planking like this was continued right up to the bulkheads at either end of the main deck. With the extra thickness, this had the added advantage of ***helping to support the quarter deck.*** I also continued this back above the decks to the stern – and above the forecastle deck. One difficulty was quickly anticipated … the unsupported length along the main deck needed some temporary support behind the first planking (Fig. 5) whilst the glue was drying to prevent warping. Here some scrap wood pieces covered with some plastic wrap were used to prevent any sticking!

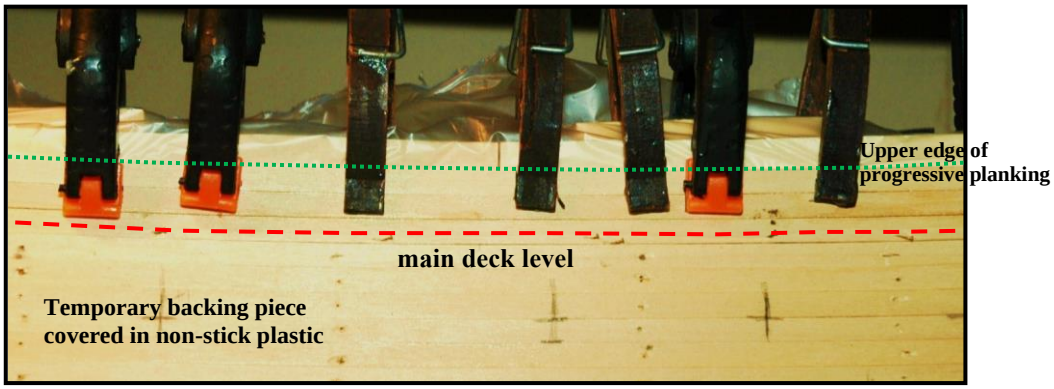


Figure 5: Temporary Strengthening of Main Deck Bulwark Wall

Figure 6: Main Deck First Planking

- When the first planking was finished, some filler may need to be used on certain external areas of the hull and then sanding back to a final smooth surface. A Dremel power tool with a flexible extension and a drum sanding tool and then finishing off with a few grades of sandpaper supported by a dense foam sanding block.

Figure 7: Plank Sanding

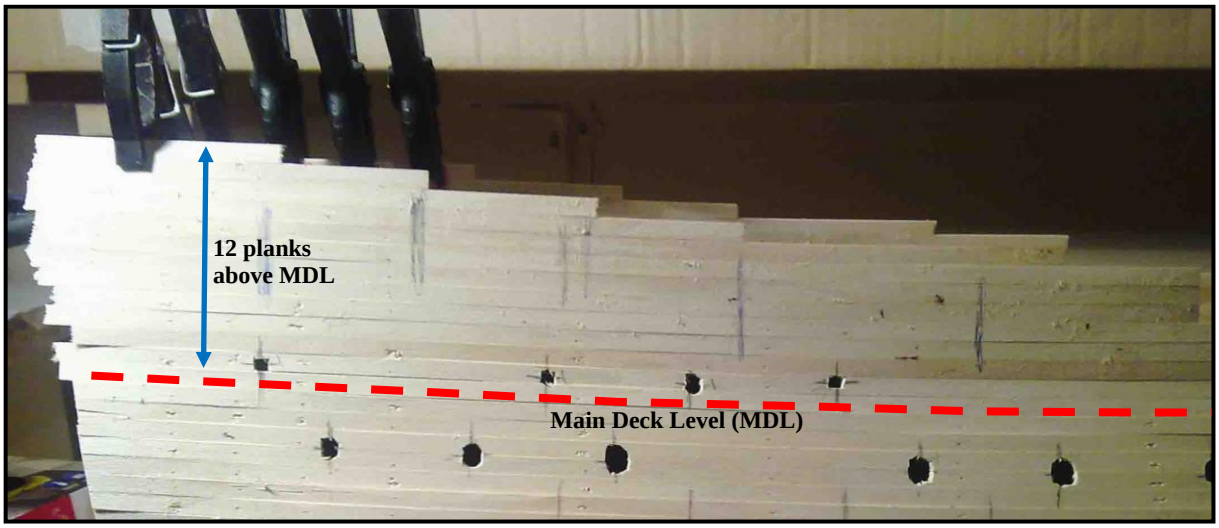


Figure 8: First Planking (unsanded) - Towards Stern

Main Deck Cannon Gunport Positioning

The following discussion refers to the twelve complete cannon-mounted carriages – ***all of which need to be constructed before proceeding any further***.

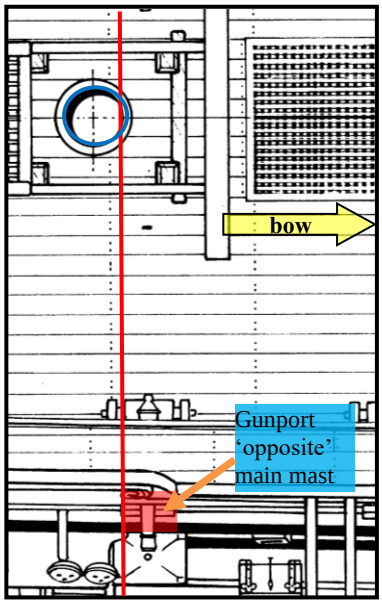


Figure 9: Main Deck Gunport Positioning

The cutting out of the gunport openings was done before adding the second (walnut) planking on the inside. This then largely avoided the likely splintering of that latter planking

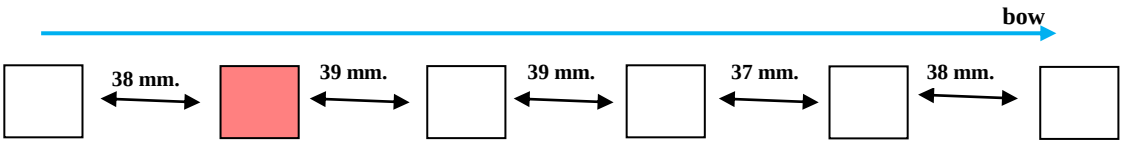
Reference Position
One of the main deck gunports accommodating a complete cannon was selected as a reference point for positioning.

In Fig. 9, a red line drawn immediately on the aft edge of the illustrated gunport (pale red) is 1.45 mm. aft of the original deck opening (blue circle) for the main mast.

Having established that gunport edge, the lateral positions of the six gunports on each side were identified.

Post editing … there is a better method in the Background Resources file found on the Euromodel website or the MSW Forum website (at a later stage).

Lateral Separation
From my own measurements, the following diagram shows the dimensions used to achieve lateral separation on the starboard (right hand side):



Height AMD
This dimension is ***absolutely*** dependent on the finished height of the gun barrel when mounted in its carriage. In this build, the dimension from the main deck to the top of gunport was **14.5 mm**.

NOTE: Whatever dimension is utilized, the total height of the bulwark wall (excluding the rail sitting on the wall) is ***15.5 mm.***

Gunport Dimension (unlined)
11 x 11 mm.

Second Planking
The walnut second planking was applied to the inside surface of the main deck bulwarks. The finished height can be created later. The quarter deck was then installed.