A guide to the Addendum to HAER Report, HAER CA-67 for Wapama Steam Schooner, 2011

Processed by: Historic Documents Department Staff (Brogden).
San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park
Building E, Fort Mason
San Francisco, CA 94123
Phone: 415-561-7030
Fax: 415-556-3540
SAFR_Historic_Documents@nps.gov
URL: http://www.nps.gov/safr
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A Guide to the Addendum to HAER Report, HAER CA-67 for Wapama Steam Schooner

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Abstract: The addendum to steam schooner WAPAMA HAER Report CA-67, includes a detailed history of maintenance and overhaul efforts since 1958, fifty-two black and white photographs, thirty reduced copies of measured drawings, and two CD-ROM discs.
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Historical or Biographical Note
This addendum to the steam schooner WAPAMA, HAER report CA-67, presents a history of the ship as a historic structure between 1958 and 2011. This report is an addendum to a historical report transmitted to the Library of Congress in 2001, and presents a history of the WAPAMA as an historic structure, from 1958 to 2011. The WAPAMA is the last steam schooner, a specialized type of wooden steamship developed on the Pacific coast at the end of the nineteenth-century to carry lumber from the mills of Washington, Oregon, and northern California to markets in San Francisco and other cities. It is one of the nation's most significant artifacts, embodying the economic importance and far ranging impact of the Northwest lumber industry. The immense size of the vessel's timbers - some planks exceed 70 feet in length - and the use of extra wood framing in place of diagonal iron strapping to strengthen the hull, further demonstrate the magnificence of the trees available and Americans' eagerness to use them. The WAPAMA is one of just a handful of very large, historic wood vessels surviving in the United States, and was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1973. Its significance on the Register was expanded...
from regional to national through a revised nomination written in 1982, a step undertaken specifically to lay the groundwork for the eventual designation of the ship as a National Historic Landmark in 1985.

Unfortunately, as this addendum documents in its forty-one page history since 1958, the condition of the WAPAMA has significantly deteriorated, with the decision being made in 2009 to conduct a partial salvage and disposal of the ship. As part of that process the Historic American Engineering Record (HAER) documented the ship’s final condition in 2010. That documentation included LIDAR scanning of the hull and computer modeling of the engine room and hull framing (all done to inform the creation of measured drawings), additional photography, and the research for this addendum.

The conclusion of this report lays the blame for the demise of the WAPAMA on the inability of the federal appropriations process and of established planning and budget mechanisms within the National Park Service to provide money for the long-term preservation of this important National Historic Landmark.

Collection Scope and Content
The addendum to steam schooner WAPAMA HAER Report CA-67, includes a detailed history of maintenance and overhaul efforts since 1958, fifty-two black and white photographs, thirty reduced copies of measured drawings, and two CD-ROM discs.

The addendum is comprised of a 41 page report that is an addendum to the 36 page historical report transmitted to the Library of Congress in 2001. The earlier report included a history of the WAPAMA’s years in service and a physical description of the vessel. This addendum presents a history of the ship as a historic structure between 1958 and 2011.

Collection Arrangement
Addendum to HAER Report CA-67 is housed in 3 folders. Folder 1 contains the report's front matter and the 41 page historical report. Folder 2 contains 52 black and white photos and an index. Folder 3 contains 30 reduced copies of measured drawings and 2 CD-Roms.

Subjects and Indexing Terms
Wapama (built 1915; steam schooner)
San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park (Agency : U.S.)
Historic American Engineering Record
Historic structure reports
Maritime history
Ships--Maintenance and repair
Administrative records