

Moosehead - Passenger Steamer

Mayflower - Passenger Steamer



Vessel History

Moosehead - Passenger Steamer

Not to be confused with the smaller Moosehead, owned by the Coburn Steamboat Company, that ran on Moosehead Lake in Maine.

Built As: Moosehead
Subsequent Names: *Porpoise*, *Mayflower*, *Col. William B. Corwin*
Class: Passenger Steamer
Hull: Iron
Hull Number: 55
Build Date: 1910-1911
Launch Date: Delivered July 12, 1911
Built by: Bath Iron Works
Built at: Bath, Maine
Built for: Maine Central Railroad
Hailed from: Portland, Maine
Named for: Possibly for Moosehead, Maine.
Power: Two four-cylinder triple-expansion engines rated at 2350 IHP - capable of 19 knots.
Gross tons: 710
Length: 185'2"
Beam: 35.8'
Draft: 10'6"
Number: 208616

She was a luxury steamer designed to appeal Bar Harbor rusticators. Fast, powerful and elegantly appointed, she was known as "Queen of the Fleet."

Moosehead played a major role in the rescue of Passenger Steamer Norumbega at Clark Point on August 20, 1913.
See: Norumbega - Passenger Steamer

She ran until the early 1920s except for her service during WWI.

"When the automobile and rising costs brought an end to the service, she was sold to owners on the Hudson River where she went through two name changes - *Porpoise* and *Id* - before being sold to the army for use as a transport in 1941. As the *Col. William B. Corwin*, she was wrecked off Boston in mid-December 1941." - Snow, Ralph Linwood. *Bath Iron Works: The First Hundred Years* (Maine Maritime Museum, Bath, 1987), p. 174-175.

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Title: Moosehead - Passenger Steamer
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Type: Reference

Subject: Vessels, Steamboat

Description: "At the end of the first decade of the century management of the Maine Central Railroad decided it wanted more class and more power for its Mt. Desert Ferry steamers and directed Bath Iron Works to produce two vessels meeting these qualifications. They were the twin steamers, "Moosehead" and "Rangeley," both 185 feet long and named after two of Maine's largest lakes.

"Moosehead came out first in 1911, with two triple expansion engines that could produce 2350 horsepower and give Bar Harbor rusticators a thrilling ride"

"During World War I, "Moosehead" was taken over by the Navy, but after the war returned to civilian service under the name first of "Porpoise" and later "Mayflower," running between New York and Bridgeport, Connecticut" - Penobscot Bay, Mount Desert and Eastport Steamboat Album by Allie Ryan, p. 5 & 32 - 1972.

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