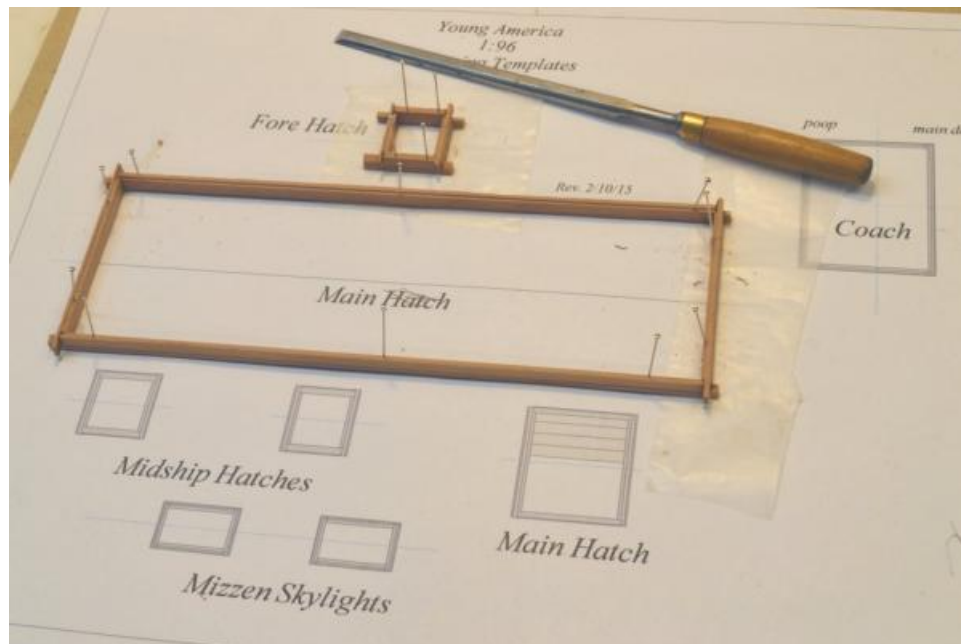


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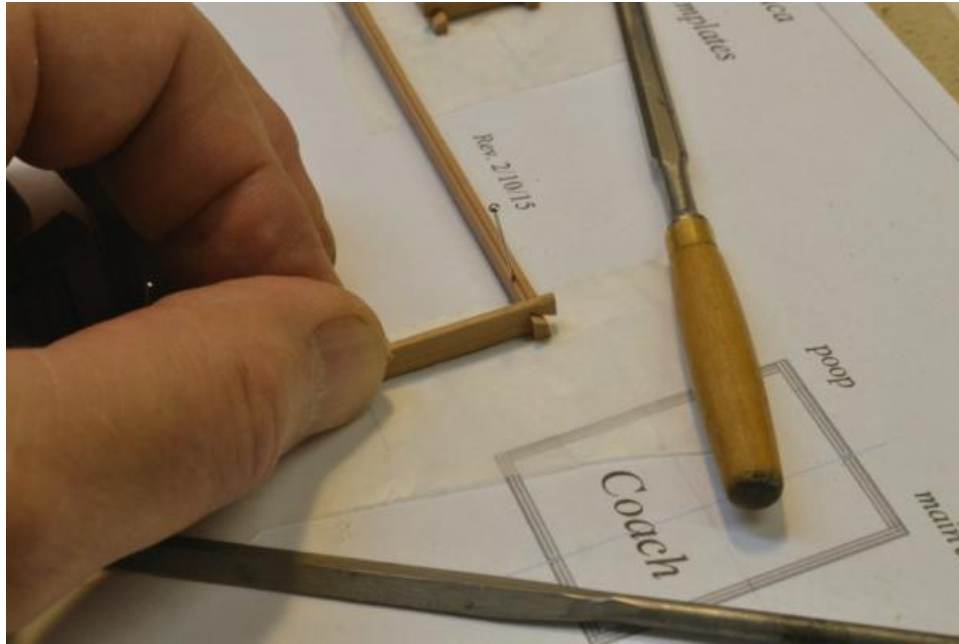
Young America 1853 – POB 1:96

Part 30 – Coamings

I think I have mentioned before that the term “coamings” describes not only the entire hatch framing but also the fore and aft members. This can be confusing when writing – or reading - descriptions. The cross deck members are called head ledges. Coamings for hatchways and deck cabins needed to be installed on the model before decking could begin. On the full framed version, with its complete underdeck framing, the hatchways were built up on the actual opening. Since the POB model has only bulkheads at the stations, a template made from the deck plan drawings was used to assemble the hatchways. This is shown below. (Sorry, the main cabin template is mislabelled "main hatch" on this early version of the template.)

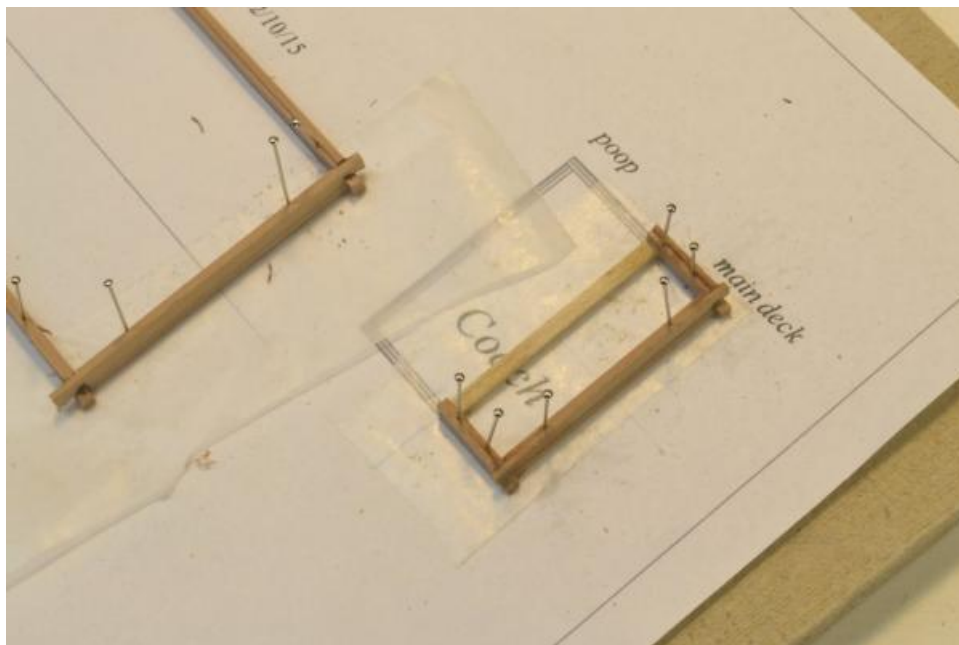


The hatchways for the POB model were made in exactly the same way as those on the larger framed model. I described this process in the build log for the other model and more thoroughly in the book. In the next picture a dovetailed lap joint at the corner of the main deck cabin coaming is being fitted.



These corner joints are a bit complex, but as I said, they are well described elsewhere. In all cases the cross-deck head ledges fit over the ends of the coamings, thus clamping them down. Head ledges were bolted through the beams, while coamings were fitted over carlings that were normally only wedged between beams – thus having little resistance to upward forces. The excess stock at the corners was removed after assembly when the corners were squared off and the above deck parts rounded - by sanding/filing.

The next picture shows the poop deck portion of the coach coaming being constructed.



A reinforcing strut was glued into this assembly to maintain the correct width. The next picture shows a finished hatchway installed on a bulkhead and on to one of the supplementary pine members described in an earlier post.



To support the ends of the planks forward of this framing, another supplementary member was need and later installed. In the next picture the coamings on the poop deck have been installed and planking has begun starting with the central plank.



Note that the cap on the breast beam was cut out to fit the aft section of the coach framing. The lower part of this coaming is shown installed on the main deck. These two assemblies had to be carefully aligned so the side walls of the coach would fit neatly – and vertically. Another view of this is shown in the next picture.



This picture shows the first version of the pin clamps I used to hold down the glued planks on this model. I will discuss the improved final version of these in the next part.