The Principal Dimensions of *Titanic's*Officers' Quarters Windows

By Bob Read, D.M.D.

Introduction

Our reference for the principal dimensions of most of the windows for *Titanic* comes from the so-called Andrews Notebook. The height and width of almost every type of window is given. The dimensions are straightforward with the exception of the officers' quarters windows. This article will not discuss all the aspects of these windows. The purpose of the article will be to establish and document the principal dimensions of these windows.

Documentary Evidence

Figure 1 shows an example of the type of window used on the officers' quarters of *Titanic*.



Figure 1
Officers' quarters window example

The officers' quarters windows consisted of a lower window which opened like a door. Above it was a transom-type window used primarily for ventilation. In Figure 2 we see the "Andrews Notebook" notation regarding the dimensions of the officers' quarters windows.



Figure 2

Notation from "Andrews Notebook" regarding the officers' quarters windows

The notation specifies the dimensions of the window as 22 H x 17 W. From surrounding structures, we can easily tell that these are not the dimensions of the entire window frame. Early on, it was thought that possibly this was an error in transcription. More recently we have uncovered a Board of Trade Survey document for Titanic which listed window dimensions in crew quarters areas. The pertinent entry is shown in Figure 3.

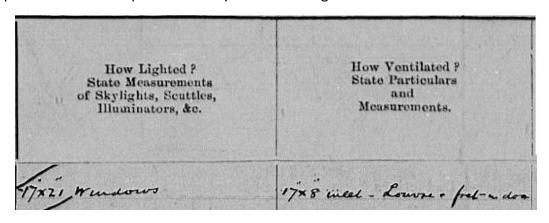


Figure 3

Board of Trade document listing dimensions of officers' quarters windows

It will be noted that there are two measurements given. The larger is for the lower window and the smaller is for the upper ventilating transom window. We can now see that the "Andrews Notebook" figure was for the lower window. The Board of Trade survey document lists the height of the window as being one inch shorter than the "Andrews Notebook" figure. After further study of the window construction, it is noted that the smaller height figure is a measurement of the height of the clear opening through the bulkhead while the larger height measurement represents the dimensions of the glass of the window. Measurements of photos of the window also indicate that the Board of Trade measurement of the height of the upper transom vent window is one inch greater in the vertical dimension than that of the glass.

Measured Dimensions

The two constants in the documented dimensions of the window are the width and height of the lower glass. Using this as our "ruler" we can set up proportional equations to determine other dimensions of the window. Figure 4 shows dimensions which were calculated by measuring the photo and setting up proportional equations using the known width and height of the lower window glass.

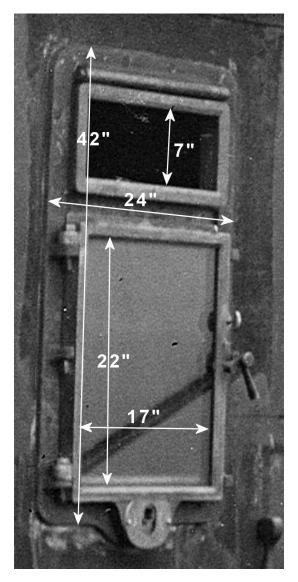


Figure 4

Measured principal dimensions of an officers' quarters window

Since we only have documented principal dimensions for the lower window, all other dimensions have to be determined by photometric analysis. As such, there can be small percentage errors. However, this should provide a relatively close estimate of the principal

dimensions. From these principal dimensions a scale drawing was made of the officers' quarters window. There are two types of windows. The one we have been discussing is the opening type. The other is a non-opening type in which the upper transom vent can still be opened. Figure 5 is a scale drawing showing both types of windows.

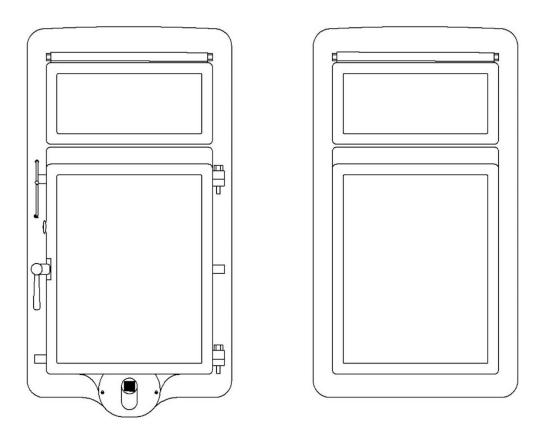




Figure 5

Scale drawing of both types of officers' quarters windows

Conclusion

The purpose of this article has been to establish and document the principal dimensions of *Titanic's* officers' quarters windows. Both documentary evidence and photometric analysis were used to accomplish this.