



Steamboat Paddlebox Lunette

Primary Maker

Unknown Maker

Medium

Carved, painted and gilded pine

Description

A robustly carved paddlebox lunette, or half-circle, of a rampant eagle, with head facing right and wings outstretched. The eagle clutches a shield painted red, white and blue in its left claw, while the right claw rests on a curving grapevine. The vine, with leaves and bunches of grapes, appears along the entire lower edge of the lunette. Six stars in graduated sizes ornament the its upper curved edge. Surface colors have dulled over the years. The eagle was originally painted white with brown feathers, a yellow beak, and red eyes with black pupils. The background was a bright blue or blue/green, with green grape leaves and vine, and purple/blue grape bunches. The stars were painted yellow. The upper section of the beak has been replaced.

Dimensions

31 × 66.5 × 5 in. (78.7 × 168.9 × 12.7 cm)