



## Sun Ship Historical Society's Ship's History Page

Site: [www.sunship.org](http://www.sunship.org)

Pub: 2025.01.27

Copyright Sun Ship Historical Society 2025

**Subj: S.S. *Joseph D. Potts***

**Hull No: 651**

**SSHS No: 500\_651**

Hope you enjoy this work-in-progress 'Ship's History Page'. As always, if you have any additional information, suggestions or corrections, please let me know.

**Note 1:** While due diligence has been applied in the research of this information, responsibility for any errors is the ultimate responsibility of the end-user.

**Note 2:** Information has been obtained from various sources to enhance the history of Sun Ship and where possible, sources have been identified.

**Note 3:** Text added by SSHS to the review will be bordered with paratheses

**Note 4:** A series of three 'periods', before or after transcribed text indicates that not all the text was transcribed to the review.

**Note 5:** Dates are configured YYYY.MM.DD

"Any work of history is necessarily a joint venture"  
Author Unknown

Thank You,  
Dave Kavanagh  
SSHS  
davekav@verizon.net

### 1. Ship's Record:

#### Sun Ship Data & Others<sup>8</sup>

**Original Name:** *Joseph D. Potts*  
**Port of Registry:** Wilmington, De  
**Contract Date:** 1968.07.17  
**Keel Laying Date:** 1968.10.29  
**Shipway:** CY-6-Way  
**Launch Date:** 1970.04.21  
**Time-on-Ways:** 17m-23d  
**Date Delivered:** 1970.05.22  
**Time-in-Wetdock:** 1m-1d  
**Total-Time-Bldg:** 18m-24d  
**Delivery Promised:** -  
**LBP-B-D:** 765'x125'x57  
**Ship Type:** Tanker  
**DWT:** 80,759  
**Draft:** 43'7-1/8"  
**Agency:** A.B.S  
**Propulsion:** Steam Turbine.  
**Propeller(s):** 1-24'dia, 5-blade, 92 RPM<sup>11</sup>  
**Engine Mfg:** GE  
**SHP:** 24,000  
**Speed-Knots:** 16-1/2  
**Capacity BBLs:** 611,869  
**GT:** 37,950  
**Propulsion Boilers(s):** Pending  
**Sponsor:** Mrs. Wm W Smith  
**Owner(s):** Key Leasing Co.  
Mathiasen Tankers<sup>11</sup>  
**Complement:** 35<sup>11</sup>

#### Shipway Designations:

**SY:** South Yard 9 thru 12  
**CY:** Central Yard 1 thru 8  
**NY:** North Yard 13 thru 20  
**4Y:** No.4 Yard 21 thru 28

#### Maritime Commission Data <sup>[1]</sup>

**Contract Design:** Tanker  
**Maritime Comm Hull:** Pending  
**Official Number:** 526588  
**Contract Price:** Pending

#### Ship's Ownership/Operator Transition<sup>9</sup>

**1978:** '*Glacier Bay*' (Key Leasing Co.)  
**1988:** '*Glacier Bay*' (GNP Barge & Tanker)

**Disposition:** BU 1993.07.25  
Alang [Arya Steel]

## 2. Historical Data:

Sources:

- 1-Navsource.org/archives
- 2-National Archives
- 3-Dictionary of American Fighting Ships
- 4-Moore-McCormack-Cargo Liners-Timeline
- 5-Wikipedia
- 6-Independence Seaport Museum
- 7-Hagley Museum and Library
- 8-SSHS
- 9- Miramar Ship Index
- 10-United States Maritime Commission
- 11-Marine Engineering Log

## 3. Photos

3.1 Pre-launch photo of ship on No.6 Shipway  
Courtesy of HML: 74.319.2179\_resize



Photo showing piping for tank pumping mounted on a bulkhead that separates the pumping/engine room spaces from the cargo carrying spaces.  
Courtesy of HML: 74.319.2182\_resize

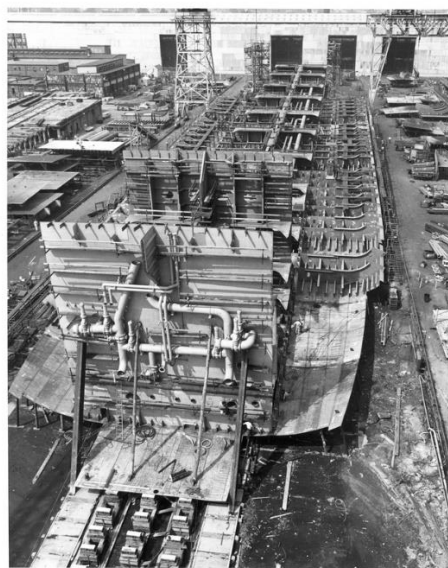


Photo showing ship's engine room area.  
Courtesy of HML: 74.319.2185\_resize

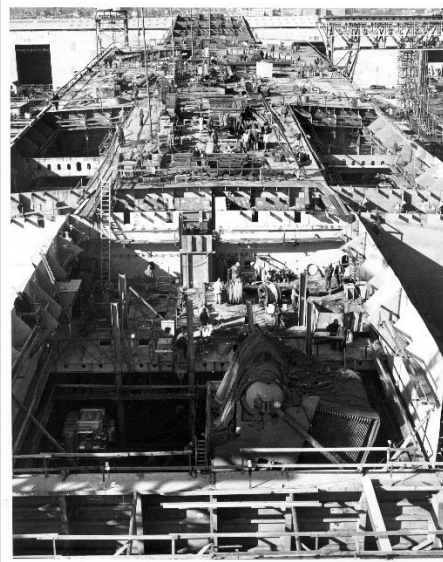


Photo showing the 'cab' of the 'Barge Crane (626\_34\_034) had been relocated to the deck of the 'Potts' to aid in the construction and free up time for the two 50-ton R-25 gantry cranes servicing No. 6 Shipway and the two 92-foot R-25 gantry cranes that service both No.6 and No. 8 Shipway.  
Courtesy of HML: 74.319.2186\_resize



Photo showing stern of the ship with 6-Way aft gantry crane on the left and 92-aft gantry crane on the right. Note the cab on the upper trolley rail assembly that permits this crane to service both No.6 and No.8 Shipways.

Courtesy of HML: 74.319.2196\_resize



3.1 Pre-launch photo of ship on No.6 Shipway

Photo courtesy of Hagley  
HML: 74.319.2205\_resize



Pre-Launch photo, showing No.4 Shipway's Bridge Crane to the right of the ship's aft-house.

Courtesy of Dave Boone: 651\_01 dbr



Post-Launch photo, showing ship clear of shipway.  
Courtesy of Dave Boone: 651\_02 dbr



Photo showing ship's GE Central Control Console in the engine room permits remote control and monitoring of all ship's vital services.

Courtesy of: ISM/Marine Eng. Log  
SSHS No: 454\_54\_2778



Photo showing under way.

Courtesy of: ISM/Marine Eng. Log  
SSHS No: 454\_54\_276

