

# Water Pipes on *Titanic's* Funnels

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## Introduction

This article is aimed at modelers of *Titanic* in any medium. There is no single source which has examined the locations and types of water pipes which were attached to *Titanic's* funnels. The locations and types of these pipes are important for the modeler who wants to portray *Titanic* accurately. This article will rely more heavily on images than on text.

## Pipe Types

The pipes found on *Titanic's* funnels are of two primary types:

1. Pipe loops – These simple loops are run up the funnels and are closed throughout their exterior run. No attempt will be made in this article to discuss the purpose of each pipe. Only the locations and the appearances of the pipes will be discussed.
2. Open pipe overflow and cup with drain pipe – These inverted J shaped pipes are combined with a drain pipe with a cup attached to catch any water overflow. Figure 1 is an image of an open pipe overflow which empties into a drain cup attached to a drain pipe.



Figure 1

Open pipe overflow and cup

## Funnel #1 (forward aspect)

The pipes on the forward aspect of funnel #1 consist of a simple pipe loop on the starboard side and double open pipe overflows and cup with drain pipe. Figure 2 shows this arrangement on *Titanic*.

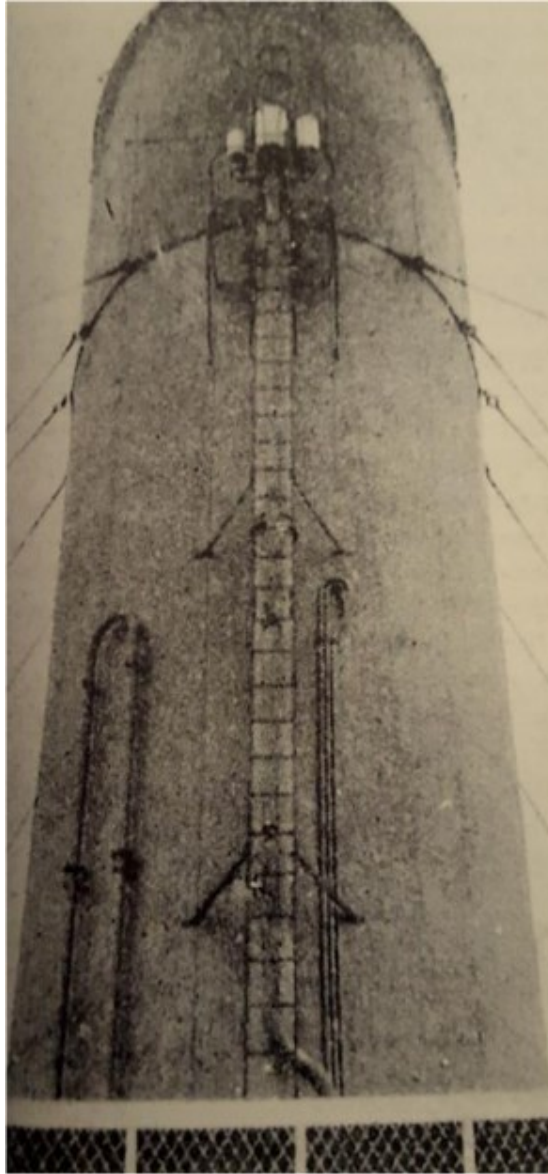


Figure 2

### Water pipes on forward aspect of *Titanic's* #1 funnel

There is one unique aspect of the pipe loop. It supplies a tank which is located in the fidley vent shaft. The inboard end of the loop travels forward and pierces the starboard fidley vent grating to service the tank there. Figure 3 shows a wreck photo of *Titanic* with an arrow pointing to the circular flange on the starboard fidley vent grating.

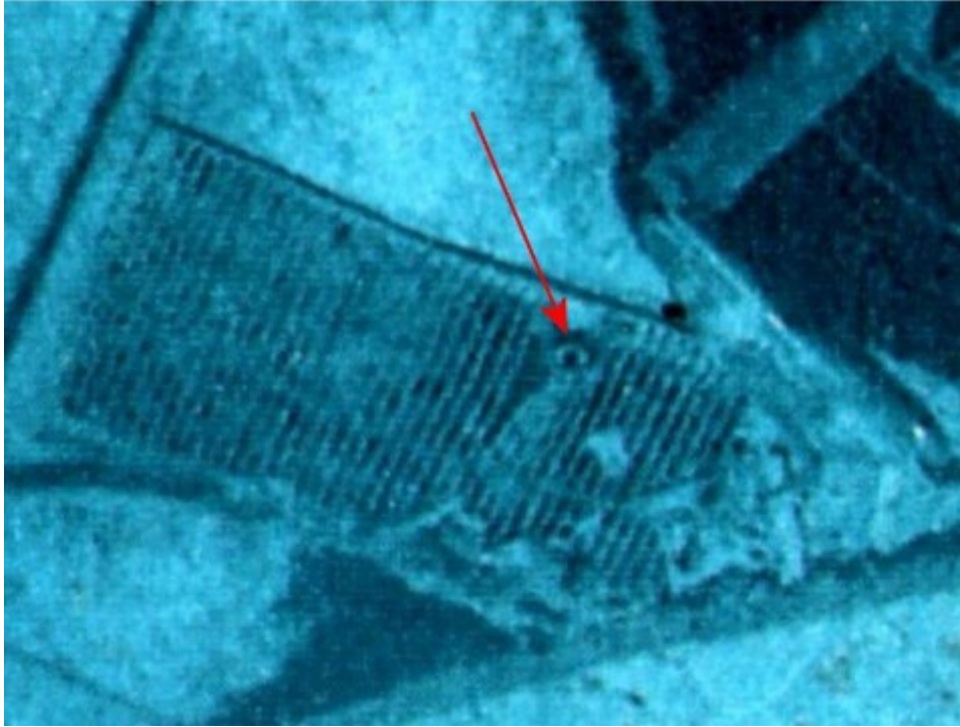


Figure 3

Flange on fidley grating forward of *Titanic's* #1 funnel

Figure 4 is a drawing showing how the pipe travels forward across the casing to the fidley vent.

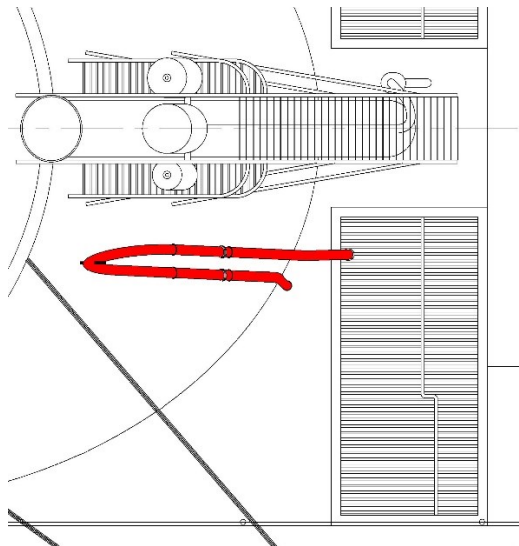


Figure 4

Pipe loop entering fidley vent forward of *Titanic's* #1 funnel

Figure 5 is a drawing showing the arrangement of the pipes on the forward aspect of *Titanic's* funnel #1.

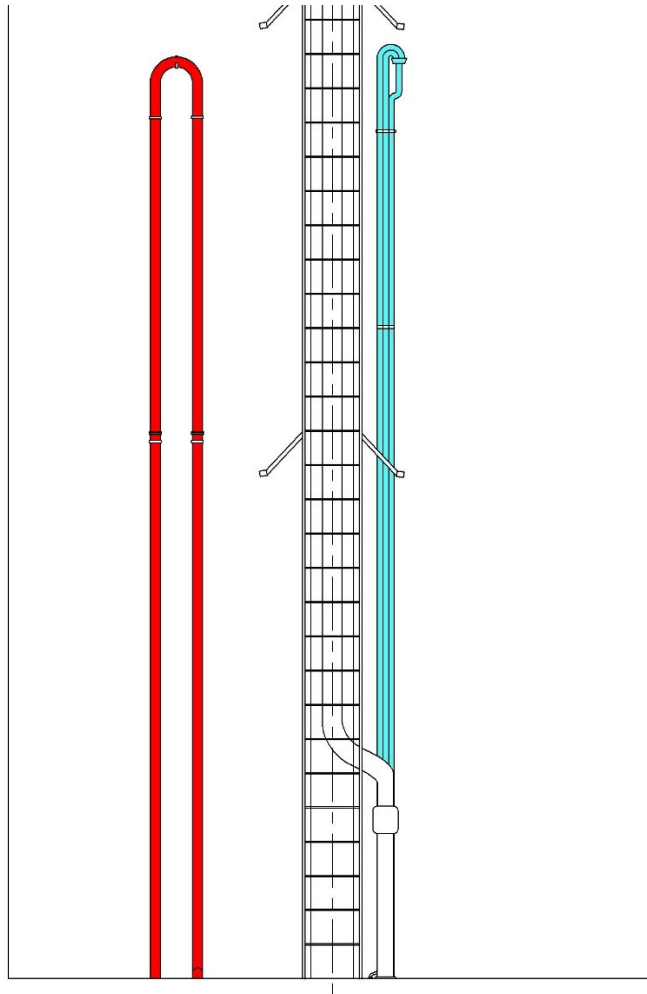


Figure 5

Pipes on forward aspect of *Titanic's* funnel #1

### Funnel #1 (aft aspect)

The water pipes on the aft aspect of funnel #1 present the first of several challenging areas to be identified. There are really no clear photos of this area. Fortunately, there is another resource which can help us. This is the water supply distribution plan for *Titanic*. There are aspects of this plan which are difficult to interpret but when used in combination with photos, it is possible to decipher the arrangement of the pipes. Figure 6 is cropped from the water supply distribution plan. It shows the area aft of funnel #1.

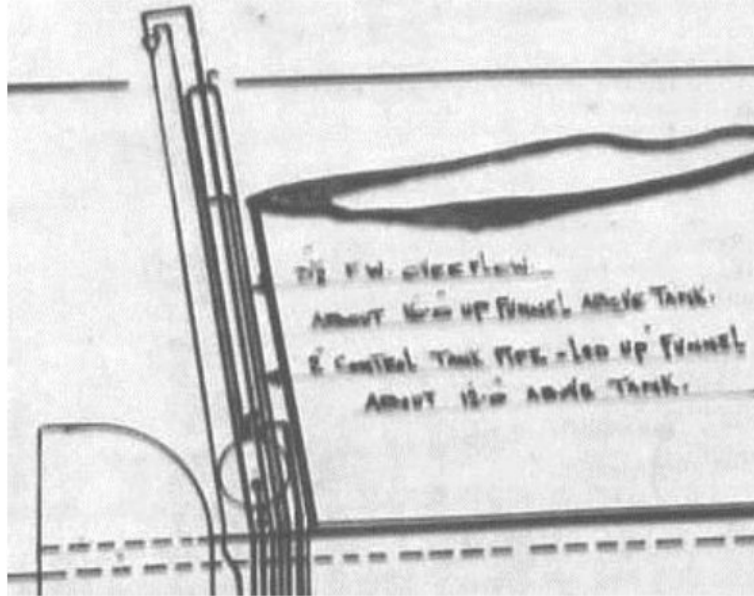


Figure 6

*Titanic* water supply distribution plan showing area aft of #1 funnel

The drawing shows a double open pipe overflow and cup with drain pipe on the port side and a pipe loop from the water tank starboard and aft of funnel #1. Figure 7 shows a photo of this area.



Figure 7

Photo of pipes on aft side of *Titanic's* funnel #1

Figure 8 is a drawing showing the pipes on the aft aspect of *Titanic's* funnel #1.

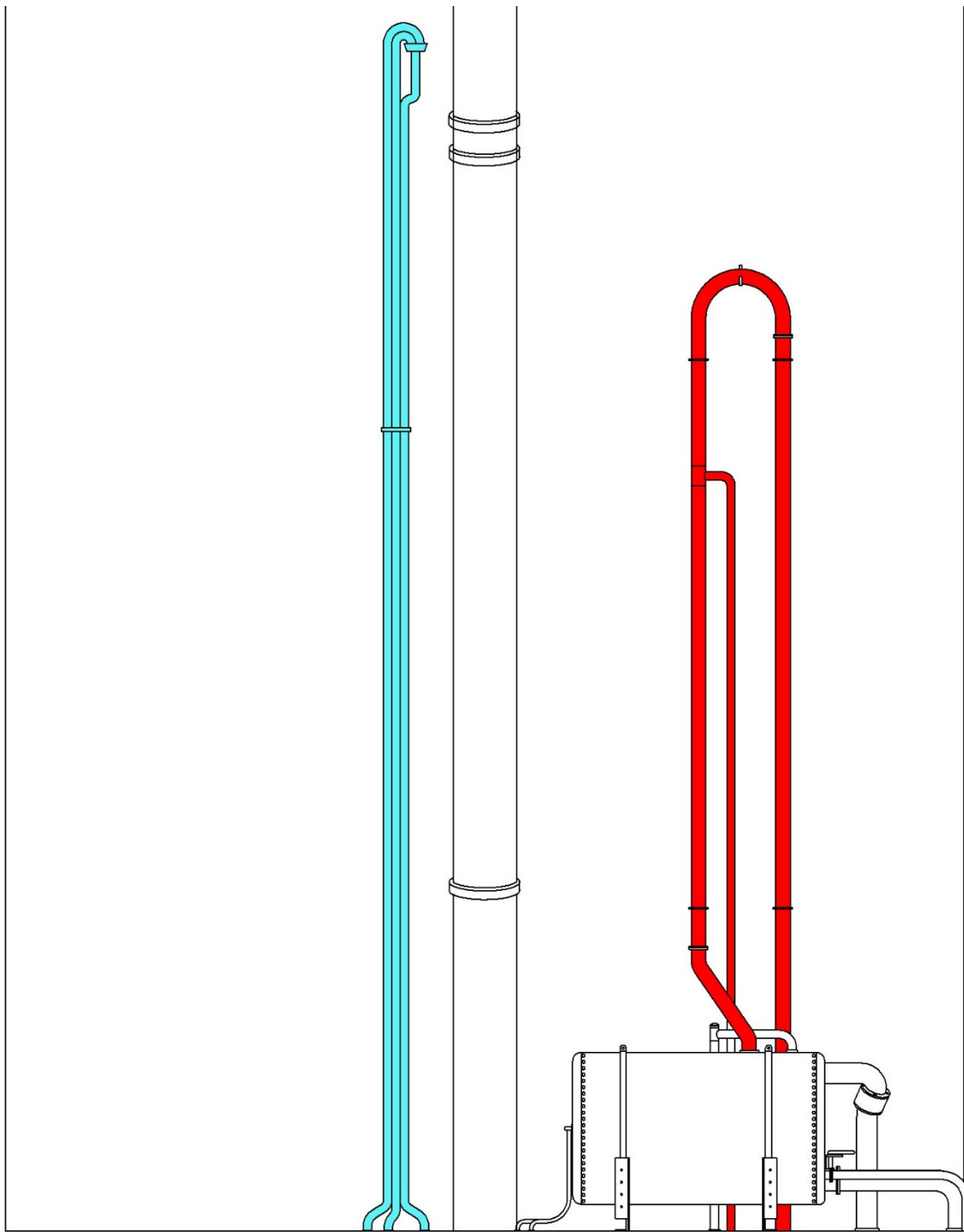


Figure 8

Water pipes on aft aspect of *Titanic's* funnel #1

Figure 9 shows the water tank which is starboard and aft of funnel #1. It shows how the outboard side of the pipe loop connects to the water tank. The inboard part of the loop and the control pipe attached to it both enter the boiler casing and the base of the funnel.

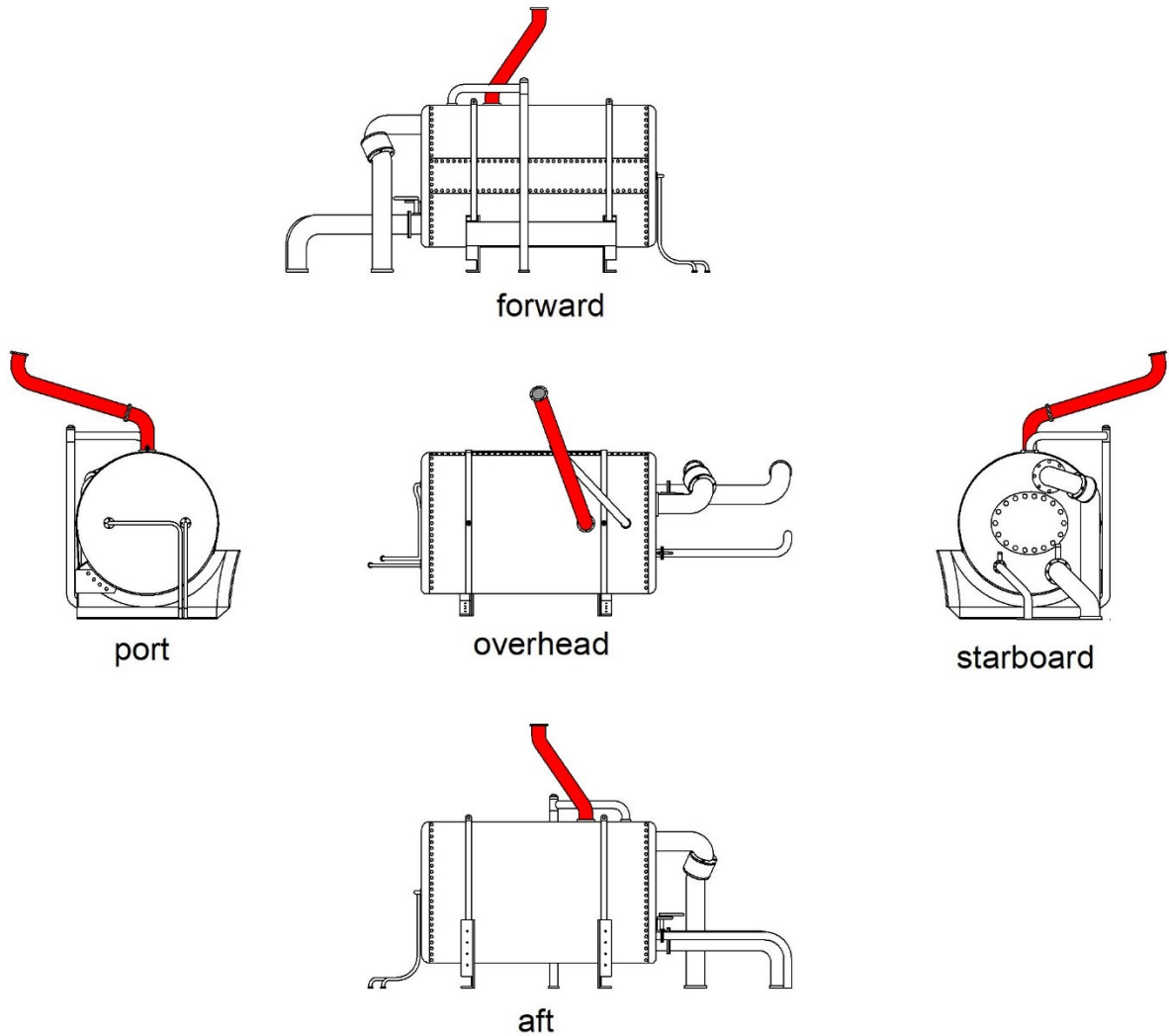


Figure 9

Water tank aft and starboard of *Titanic's* funnel #1

Go to next page

## Funnel #2 (forward aspect)

Funnel #2 is simple in that it has a single open pipe overflow and cup with drain pipe. There aren't really clear photos of this but Figure 10 shows the water distribution plan of this pipe group.

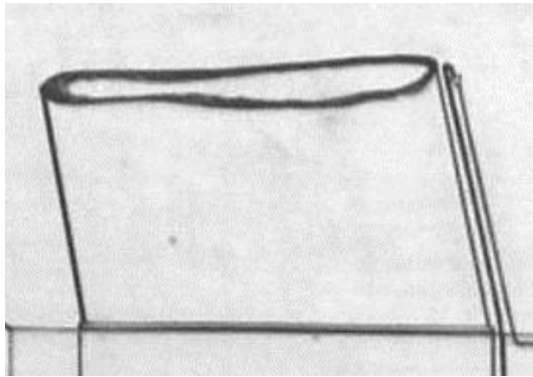


Figure 10

Water distribution plan showing pipe arrangement on forward aspect of funnel #2

## Water pipes on forward aspect of *Titanic's* funnel #2

Figure 11 is a photo of the pipes on the forward aspect of funnel #2

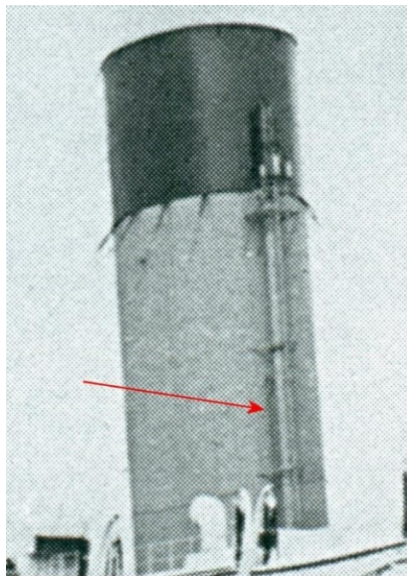


Figure 11

Photo of pipes on forward aspect of funnel #2

Figure 12 is a drawing of the pipes on the forward aspect of funnel #2.

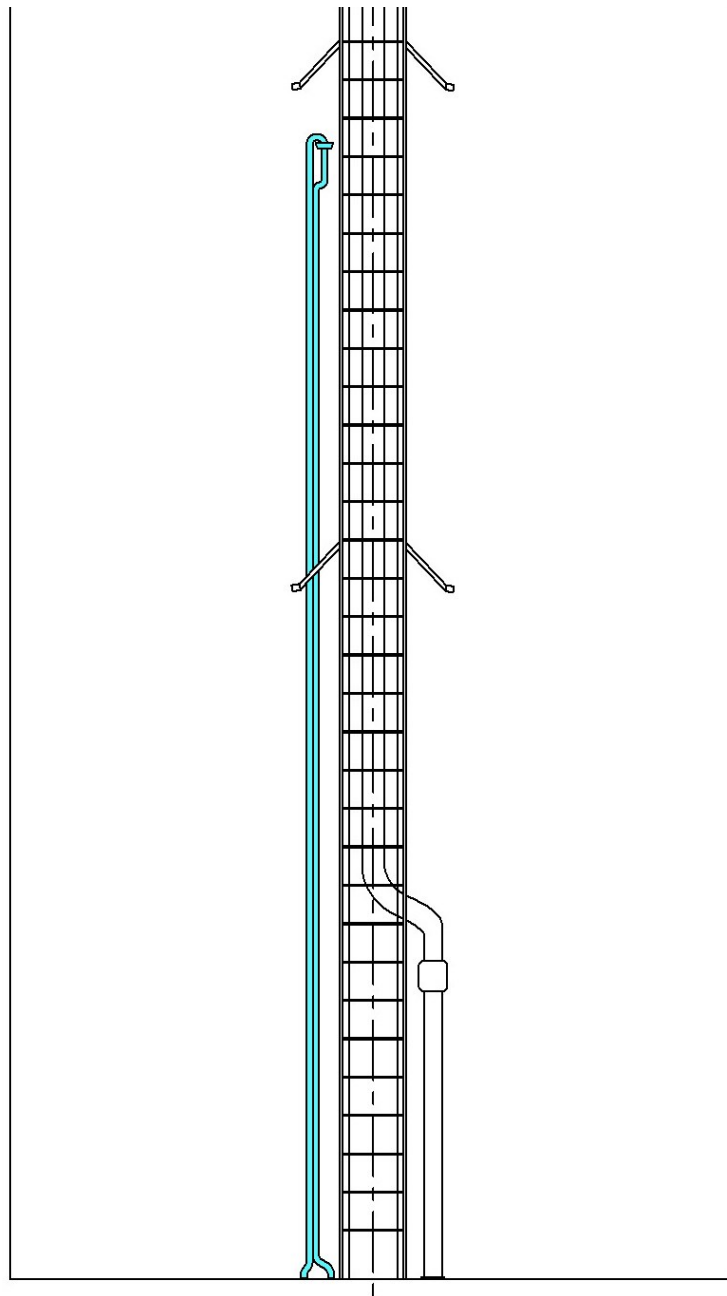


Figure 12

Pipes on forward aspect of *Titanic's* funnel #2

Funnel # 2 (aft aspect)

There are no pipes on the aft aspect of *Titanic's* funnel #2.

### Funnel #3 (forward aspect)

The pipes on the forward aspect of *Titanic's* funnel #3 are identical to the forward aspect of funnel #2. Figure 13 is a cropped section of *Titanic's* water distribution plan showing a single open pipe overflow and cup with drain pipe.

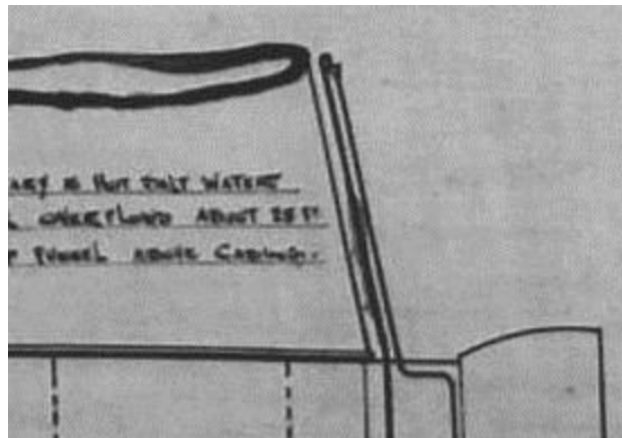


Figure 13

*Titanic* water distribution plan showing forward aspect of funnel #3

Figure 14 is a photo showing the pipe arrangement on the forward aspect of funnel #3.

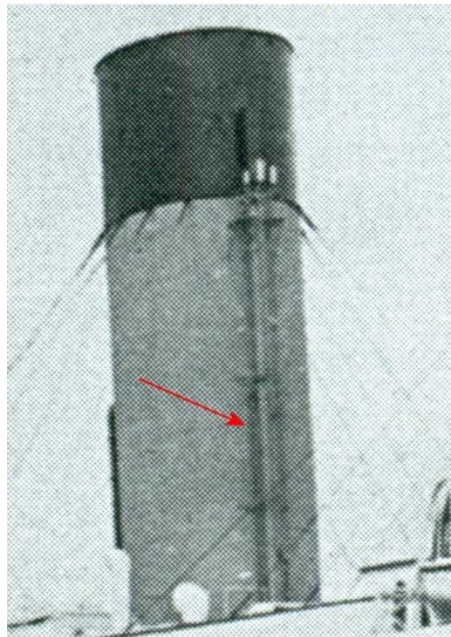


Figure 14

Water pipes on forward aspect of *Titanic's* funnel #3

Figure 15 shows a drawing of the forward aspect of *Titanic's* funnel #3

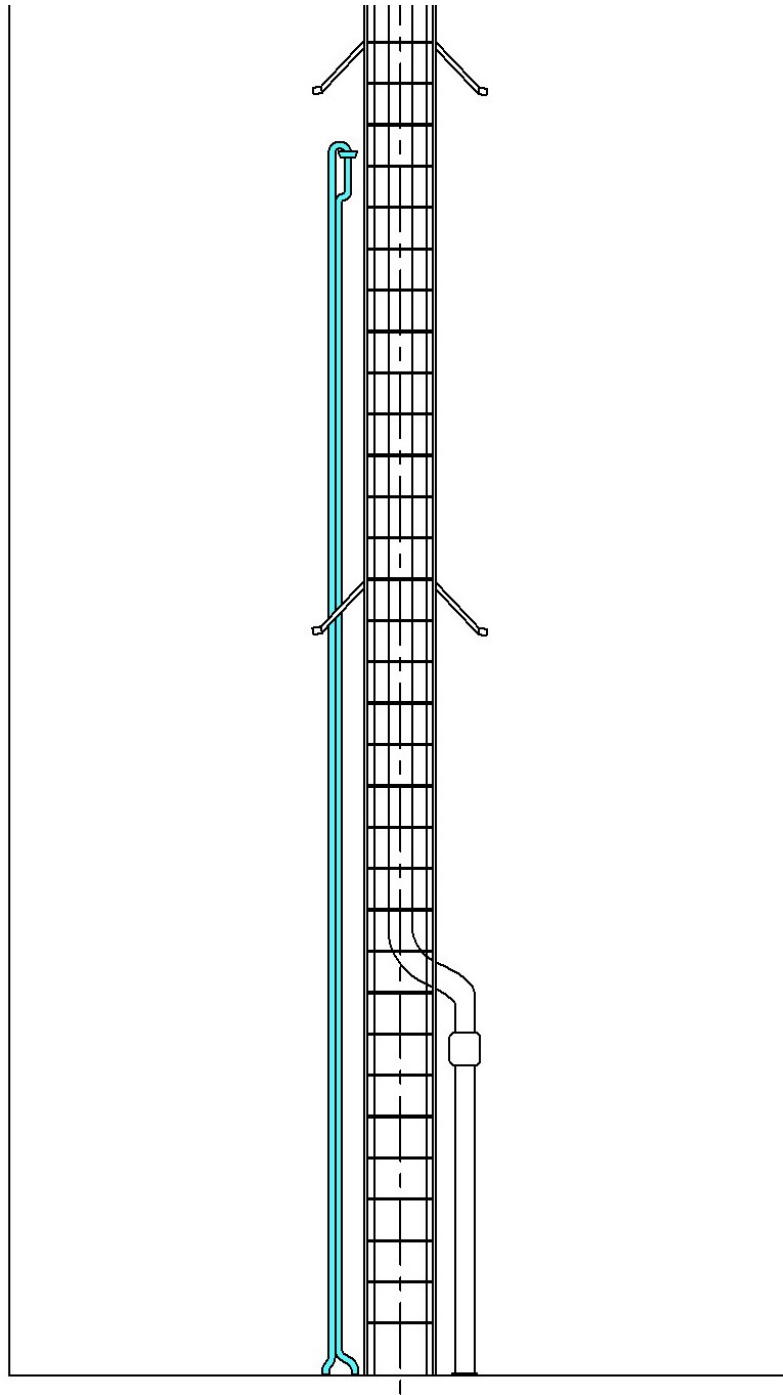


Figure 15

Pipes on forward aspect of *Titanic's* funnel #3

## Funnel #3 (aft aspect)

The aft aspect of funnel #3 presents the most complex number and pattern of pipes of any of the funnels. Fortunately, we have two of the best *Titanic* photos of this area. The one area which is the most difficult to decipher is the run of the pipes on the roof of the tank room. The photos are taken primarily from aft looking forward. There are no overhead photos of the roof of *Titanic's* tank room. Figure 16 is the first photo showing the port aft side of funnel #3.



Figure 16

Pipes on aft port aspect of *Titanic's* funnel #3

Go to next page

Figure 17 is a photo taken on the starboard side of *Titanic* showing the starboard aft aspect of funnel #3.



Figure 17

Pipes on the starboard aft aspect of *Titanic's* funnel #3

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Figure 18 is a color-coded drawing of the pipes on the aft aspect of *Titanic's* funnel #3.

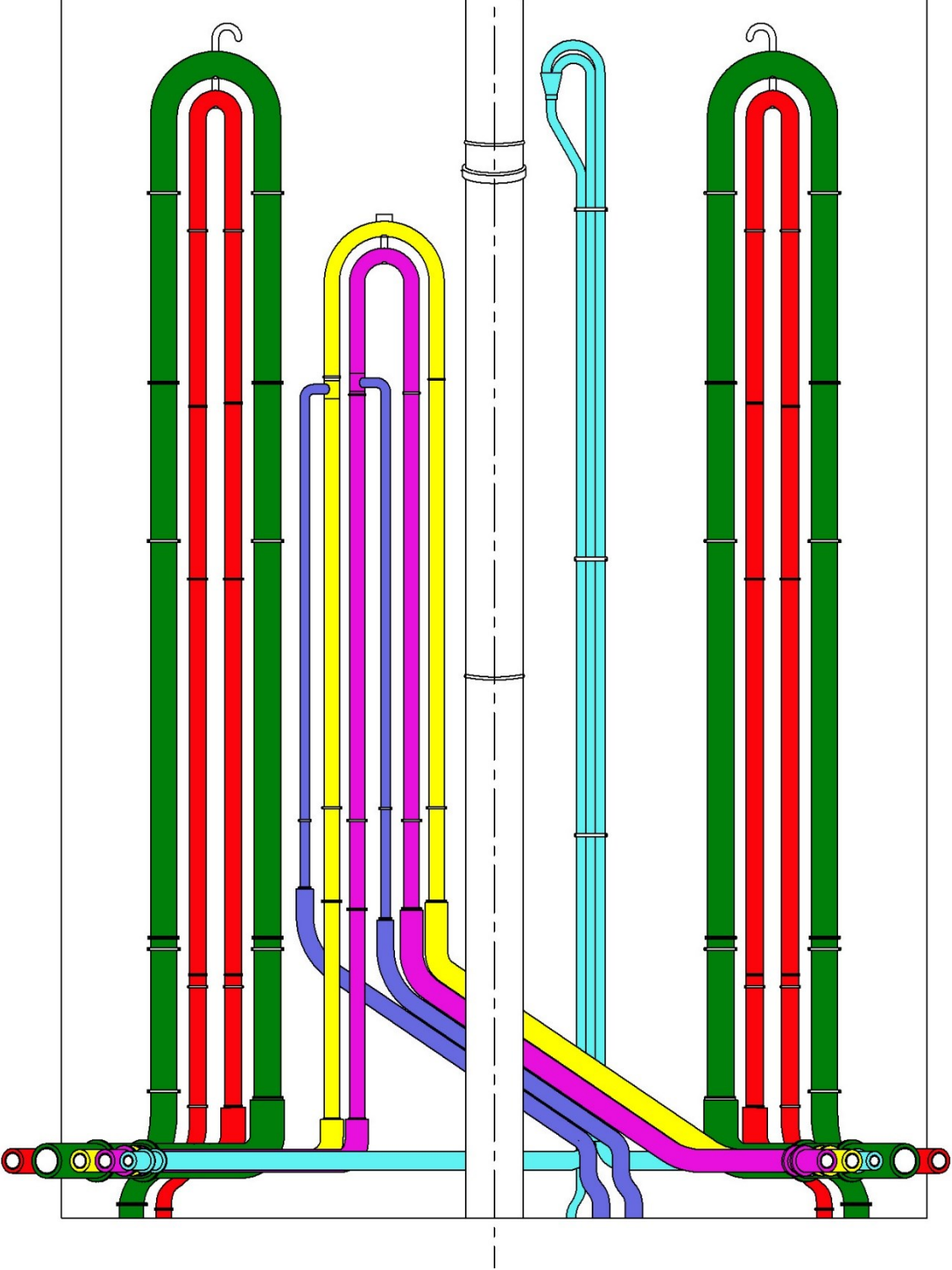


Figure 18

Pipes on aft aspect of *Titanic's* funnel #3

Figure 19 uses the same color-coding to show where each pipe travels on both the port and starboard sides of the roof of the tank room. This is a proposed arrangement based on photo analysis.

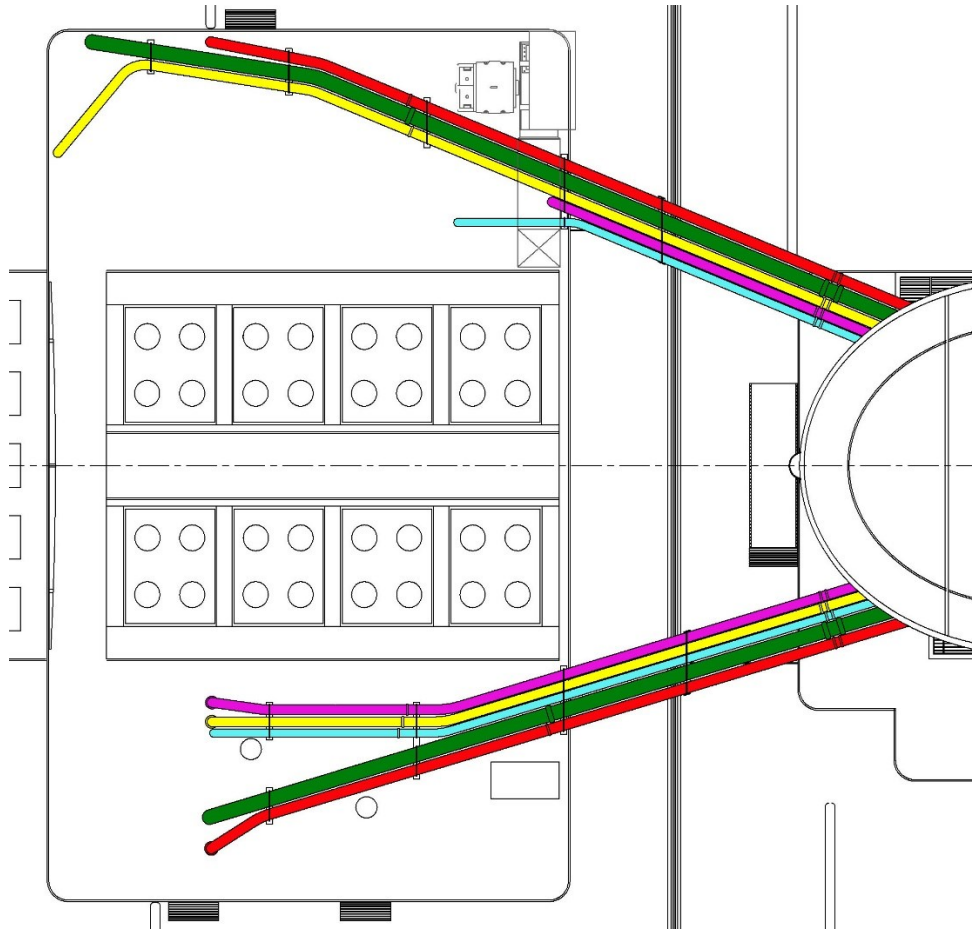


Figure 19

Proposed pipe arrangement on roof of *Titanic's* tank room

### Funnel #4 (forward aspect)

There are no pipes on the forward aspect of funnel #4.

Go to next page

## Funnel #4 (aft aspect)

The aft aspect of funnel #4 has only a single open pipe overflow and cup with drain pipe group on the starboard aft aspect. This pipe group can be seen in the water distribution plan in Figure 20.

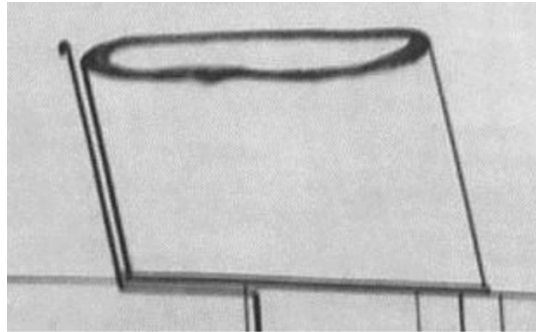


Figure 20

Water distribution plan showing pipe arrangement on aft aspect of *Titanic's* funnel #4

Figure 21 shows this pipe group in a photo of the aft aspect of *Titanic's* funnel #4.

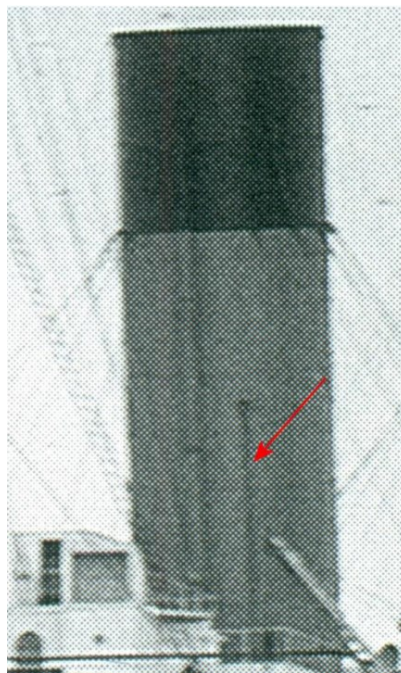


Figure 21

Pipes arrangement on aft aspect of *Titanic's* funnel #4

Figure 22 is a drawing of the pipe group arrangement on the starboard aft aspect of funnel #4.

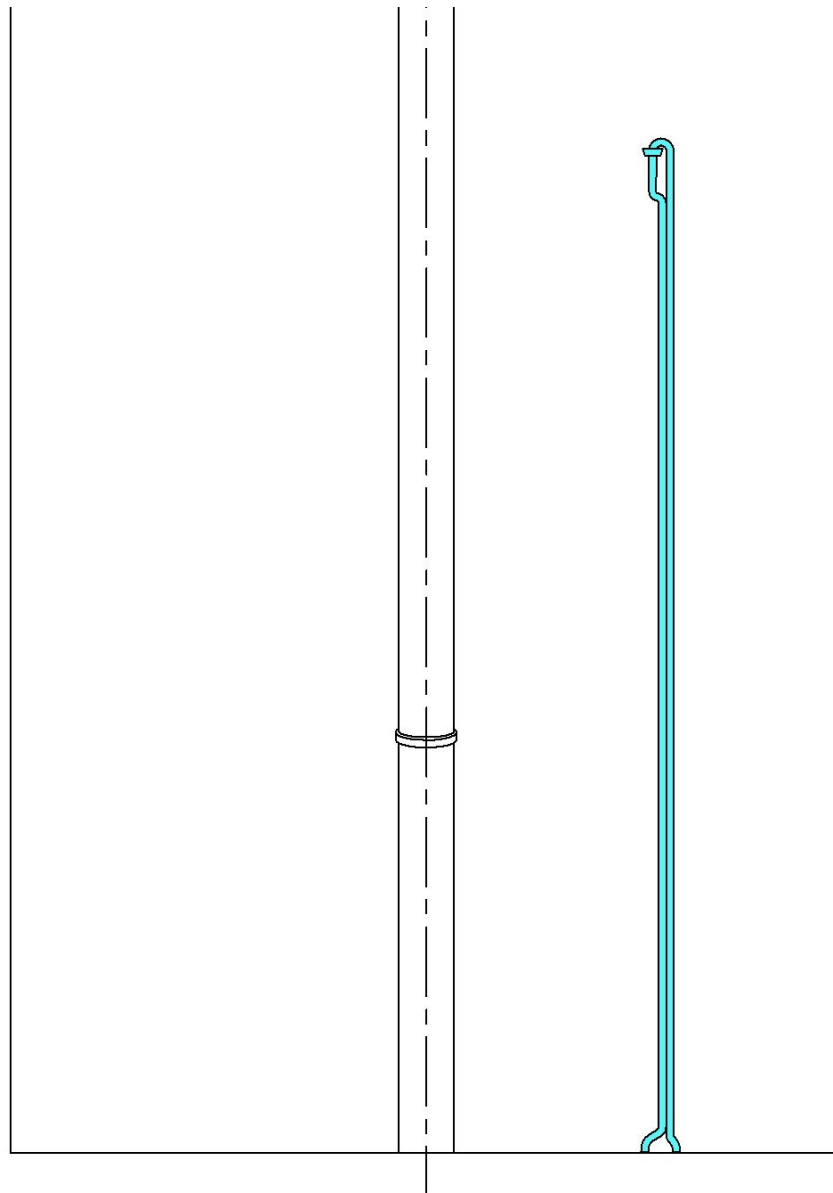


Figure 22

Pipes arrangement on aft aspect of *Titanic's* funnel #4

## Conclusion

This article has sought to clarify the arrangement of water pipes on *Titanic's* four funnels. No attempt was made to explain what below-deck and under-roof areas these pipes served. This article was written to demonstrate the layout of the water pipes for model builders who work in various media.