The USS CAIRO

Principal Characteristics

Overall length: 175’
Breadth: ± 52’
Full load keel draft: 6’
Displacement, full load, FW: 888 tons
Tonnage: 512 tons
Number of hull compartments: 15
Speed: 6 knots
Estimated built-weight of wood hull and casemate: 350 tons
Number of keels: 3
Paddle wheel arrangement: recessed wheel
Decks: 3 (boiler deck, gun deck, hurricane deck)
Frame timbers hull planking, and ceiling: white oak
Deck planking: white pine
Ship’s boats: 3 cutter, 1 launch
Anchors: 2 forward
Rudder arrangement: 2 stern-post hung
Hurricane deck awning arrangements: stanchion mounted
Accommodations: Captain’s cabin (aft of waterway), 8 officers cabins (4 port and 4 starboard)

Cost

Contract price for each of the seven boats: $89,600
Average cost of changes: $12,208
Total average cost: $101,808
Uniforms and clothing for crew: $6,430
Small stores: $1,142
Ground tackle, hawsers, hammocks, bags, coal, engineer’s and carpenter’s stores: $7,150
Carpenter’s wages: $2.00 per 10-hour day
Carpenter’s overtime wages: $0.25 per hour

The recovered gunboat Cairo is the only true record of the City Class ironclads.