

# Basic Detail Report

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## Steamboat Thomas Hunt

### Primary Maker

James Bard

### Medium

Oil on canvas

### Description

Painted in profile from the port side, the Thomas Hunt is rendered in the typical precise, draftsman style of James Bard. The white vessel with a black-painted smokestack is ornamented with an elaborately carved paddlebox lunette, a gilded pilot house eagle, a flag on the bow mast that reads "T.H.," a larger flag flying from the stern mast that reads "Thomas Hunt," two white flags on short masts flanking the walking beam that feature depictions of large crabs, as well as patriotic flags and banners. Men in black coats and top hats are posed on the upper and lower decks. The vessel, sailing in a choppy sea, is heading toward a coastline that may depict the Highlands of the Navesink in the left distance. A lighthouse painted white sits on the righthand point of land, and may be the Sandy Hook Lighthouse of 1764. The blue sky is vividly streaked with orange and yellow in imitation of sunset. Splashing water at the bow and the backwash of the paddle wheel represent what has been termed "bubbly water" by Bard scholars.

### Dimensions

29.5 × 49 in. (74.9 × 124.5 cm)