

## S.S. Arizona

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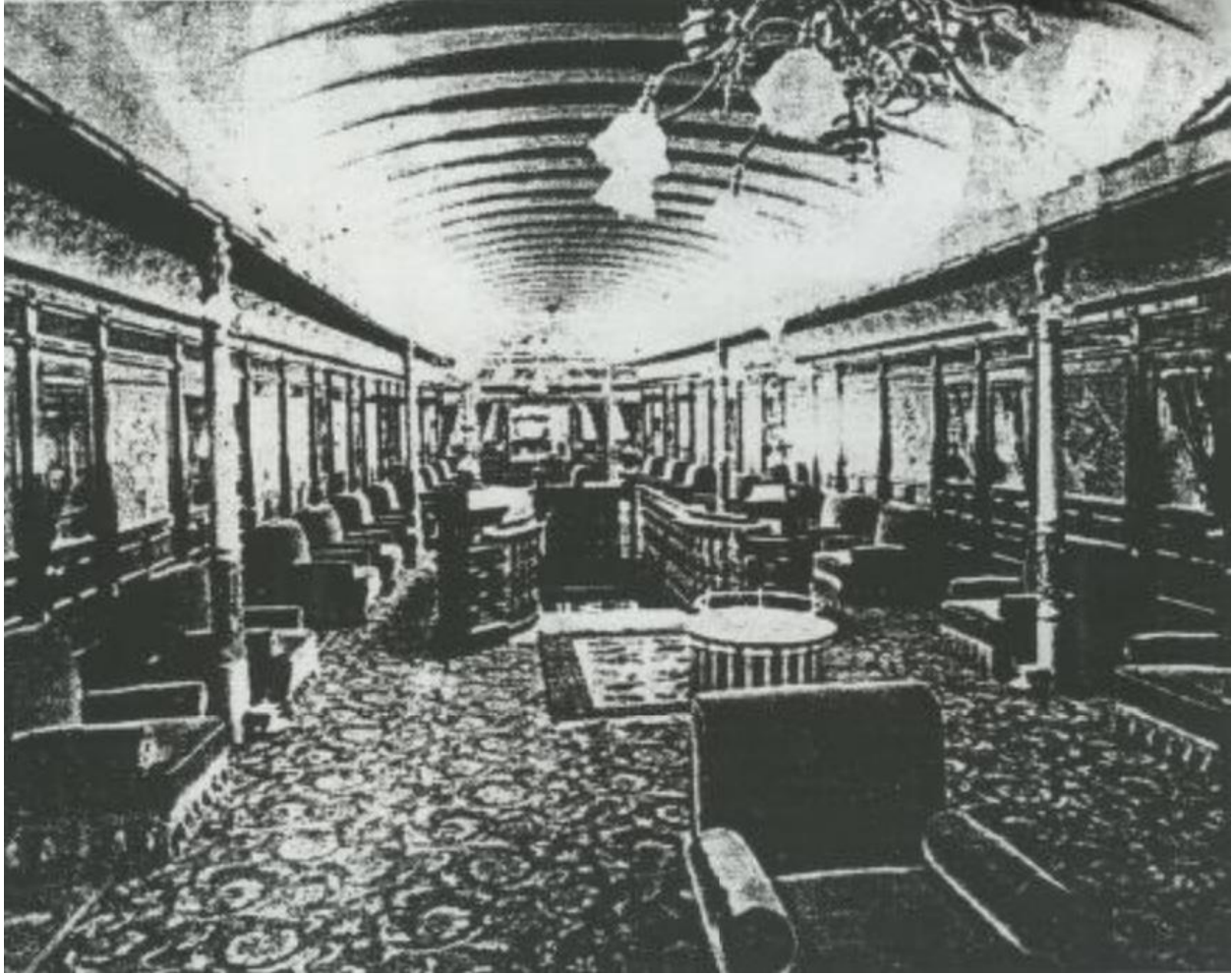


*C1920s – The S. S. Arizona on White Lake*

Of all the steamships that came to White Lake, the one everyone seems to know about is the Carolina. But before the Carolina, there were a couple of others who also brought passengers and goods to the area. One of those other ships was the Arizona.

Built in 1889 by Burger and Burger in Manitowoc, Wisconsin, for the Goodrich Steamship Company, it was originally given the name City of Racine. Classified as a Propeller, it was a little over 203 feet in length, and had the capacity of between 300 to 800 passengers.

Between 1911 to 1917 is when the Arizona is mentioned in the local newspapers. The Captain during those years was local resident Christa C. Fowler of Montague.



*Interior view of the Arizona's saloon or main cabin*

In 1919, the local paper reported that the S. S. Arizona had arrived on July 4<sup>th</sup> with one of the largest loads ever carried into the harbor. There were 300 Boy Scouts from Chicago on board bound for Camp Owasippe at Crystal Lake for a two-week outing. This was the first group of boys to arrive at camp for that year.

The Arizona also made a special trip in 1921 to accommodate patrons who had extended their vacations after Labor Day. The ship sailed from White Lake on Sunday, September 11, leaving from Montague at 7 p.m.; and Sylvan Beach at 7:30 p.m., arriving in Chicago on Monday morning.

Information indicates the Arizona last operated regularly as a passenger vessel in 1925.

From 1935-37 it was owned by the Arundell Corporation of Detroit, and was used as a floating dormitory and power plant during construction of the Livingston Channel in the lower Detroit River. Between 1937-39 it was dismantled at Toledo.