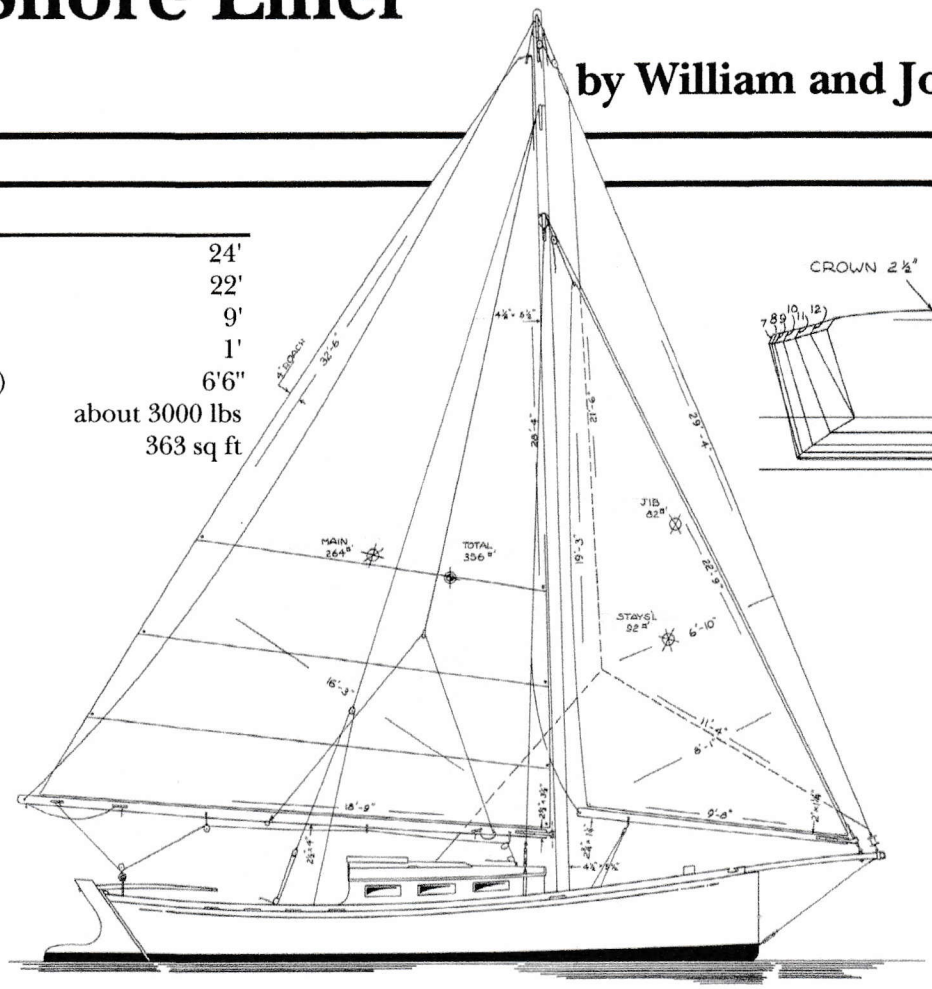
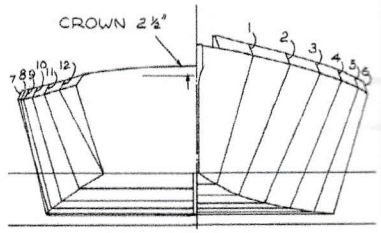
24' Shore Liner

by William and John Atkin

PARTICULARS	
LOA	24'
LWL	22'
Beam	9'
Draft (cb up)	1'
(cb down)	6'6"
Displacement	about 3000 lbs
Sail area	363 sq ft





William and John Atkin designed this simple shoal-draft boat to sketches supplied by an experienced client, Commander Ed Hanks.

Shore Liner is simply a large flat-bottomed skiff. Hanks, a knowledgeable sailor, understood the advantages and limitations of these basic hulls. He chose simplicity and shoal draft over hydrodynamic niceties.

He requested the raised deck amidships for reasons of strength and easy construction. A man of his experience also knew that greater comfort below, and additional buoyancy when heeled down, come with this configuration at no extra cost. For their part, the Atkins worked in good tumblehome above the rail and got the proportions just right. Sailors tend either to like the aesthetics of raised decks or not, but it's hard to imagine a conventional cabin trunk that might look better than this.

By skiff standards, Shore Liner provides almost sybaritic accommodations for two people. The double V-berth up forward is of generous dimension, although the centerboard trunk bisects its head. Whether a crew considers this division beneficial depends, most likely, upon the situation.

Two seats directly abaft the berth are only for sitting. They don't fold or morph into chart tables, extra berths, or small automobiles. They do look to be mighty comfortable seats.

Shore Liner's low-aspect-ratio sail plan (the mainsail's luff is not much longer than its foot) suits her well. The sails provide considerable power with minimal heeling force, and they set on a short, inexpensive, easily made mast. That mast is supported by simple standing rigging...there are no spreaders, jumpers, or hydraulics here.

Boats of this type like to carry just the right amount of sail at all times. The three sets of reef points specified by Shore Liner's owner, should be considered as more than affectations.

As suits this simple boat, the Atkins specified straightforward hull construction: seven strakes of white cedar on each side. We'll cross-plank the bottom with 1½" white oak. For those builders who prefer planking this hull with sheet plywood, the designers have detailed that option in the plans.

Shore Liner is a simple, comfortable, shoal-draft sloop that sails well for her type. She presents a striking appearance in any company and will be welcome in any harbor.