

NEW DESIGNS

SCANNER COMMENTS -

Last month we showed you the Hughes Columbia 8.7, a truly handsome update of the Whittaker Columbia 8.7 from days gone by. This month we're picking on another Hughes classic, the Sparkman & Stephens-designed Hughes 38.

The interior cabin layout is really quite conventional. But the overall effect in 38 feet is that there is room for all hands - no stubby berths that tuck under handing locker, no over-and-under forward cabin schtick, no pop-out-of-nowhere tuck-away nav stations. This yacht has storage room galore and room for living. The galley, particularly, is not cramped. Note how the storage for the galley counter extends a good distance below the starboard cockpit seat. That's nice! It's even accessible.

Standard gear for comfort and good looks in the cabin includes "drapes," 110V and 12V electrical systems, teak sole and interior, four small ports, six large ports, gimballed stove with oven, "large" water and holding tanks, hot and cold pressure water system and shower, large head area, good shelf and hanging locker space, plus excellent attention to detail in interior work.

There are also standard double pulpits, double lifelines, a standard diesel engine, bow plate with anchor roller, dual battery system, full-length genoa tracks, bronze thru-hulls and gate valves, pedestal steering and pedestal compass. Lightning ground is also standard as are large alloy hatches, anti-fouling paint, and an external lead keel.

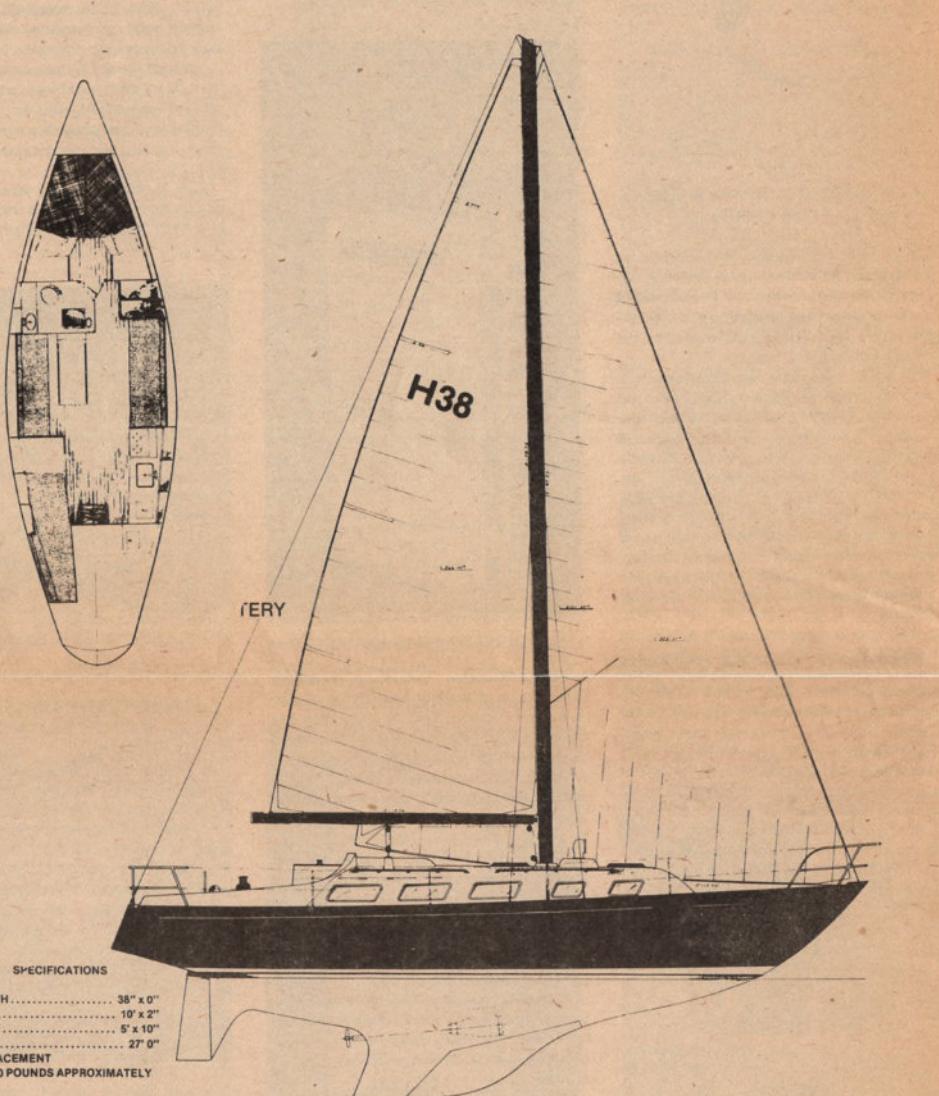
The overall effect of the design is extremely eye-pleasing. Typical of Sparkman & Stephens designs, the Hughes 38 has long overhangs forward and aft, a high sheer, and large-skinned rudder. The traveller is on the cabin top up-and-out of the cockpit. We could not determine this from the literature and information provided by Hughes, but we would probably order the boat ourselves with the dorade vents if they are not in fact a standard. The dorades will provide an extra measure of ventilation for the large and liveable cabin.

Best thing about the Hughes 38 is the price. Try \$54,400.00 for this standard boat. For that reason alone you should take a good long look at this yacht. The comfort and quality seem to be too good to be true for the price, but it seems to be too good to be true for the price, but it is "for real." You'll be particularly happy about the Hughes 38 just about the first time you hit heavy weather. Try to put the rail down, we dare you.

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Built by Hughes



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