William Hepburn, a native of Orphir in the Orkney Island who joined the Hudson's Bay Company as a labourer in 1845. Whilst employed at Peel River post Hepburn was engaged by Commander Pullen to accompany the party under orders from the Admiralty to proceed to Banks Island in search of Sir John Franklin. The party did not get beyond Cape Bathurst. Hepburn sailed for England from York Factory in the Autumn of 1851 and died shortly after his arrival in London.