UNIT NUMBER:

DISCOVERY

AREA OF SERVICE: 
LONDON-JAMES BAY (1905-1911)
CHARTERED (1914-1916)
CARDIFF-FRANCE (1917)
ENGLAND-CHARLTON ISLAND (1918-1919)
ENGLAND-ANTWERP (1919)
ENGLAND-CONSTANTINOPLE (1920)

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:
Three-masted barque-rigged auxiliary steamer

Construction: Oak, carvel built
Designer and builder: Dundee Shipbuilders Co., 1901 for polar exploration.
Dimensions: Length - 179.3' Breadth - 33.8' Depth - 18.5'
Draft: 
Number of passengers: 
Number of crew: 
Plans: A.12/FT 313/1 or PP 1905-3
Power: 3 Tri-Compound Direct Acting Vertical engines - Gourlay Bros., Dundee
Registered: 
Speed: 8.5 knots
Tonnage: Gross - 751 tons; net - 357 tons registered - 421

HISTORY:
1905, January Hudson's Bay Company bought her from Royal Geographical Society (A.1/197, p. 32).
1912-1913 Laid up (Proceedings of Annual General Court, 8 July 1912, p. 3).
1913, November Deposit from the British Antarctic Expedition for purchase of the steamer, but the sale was not completed (A.1/201, p. 39; A.5/111, fo. 543; A.5/117, fos. 245; A.10/465).
1915-1920 French Government Business
1916 Used by the Admiralty to relieve 22 men from Shackleton's expedition (SF: "Ships - Discovery").
1917 Carried cargo Cardiff to France (AFG5/2728).
1918-1919 Sailed from Cardiff to Montreal, Charlton Island, and Liverpool (C.1/274-278; C.4/1, fo. 38d).
1919 Sailed between England and Antwerp (C.1/280).
1920 Sailed to Constantinople (AFG5/2728).
1920-1922 Laid up.
1922, 18 October Completion of sale to Crown Assets for Colonies, to be used for scientific research in the South Seas (A.1/166, pp. 154-155; A.1/171, fo. 106)
1937 Purchased by Scouts' Association
1986 Moved from London to Dundee

MASTERS:
1905 Alexander Gray C.4/1, fos. 37d, 38
1906-1911 John G. Ford C.1/267-272
1915-1916 W.J. Bartley AFG5/2273
1917 S. Hiles AFG5/2273
1917 Frederick Hyland AFG5/2273
1917 F. Gray AFG5/2273
1918-1919 George Henry Mead C.1/274-280

BIBLIOGRAPHY:
Ann Savours, The Voyages of the Discovery, Virgin, 1992
A.R. Williamson, "Voyage of the Discovery 1919", The Beaver, Spring/Summer 1983

PHOTOGRAPHS AND DOCUMENTARY ART:
1987/363-D-15 and others; Painting by T.G. Purvis, 1911 (HBCA Documentary Art, P-207)

REFERENCES:
A.12/FT 313/1 Correspondence 1905-1918 (836)
A.102/1471 Correspondence 1932-1933 (not filmed)
AFG5/2273 Correspondence 1915-1916 (9M185)
RG4/18/1294-1318 Logs 1916-1920 (not filmed)
C.1/267-280 Logs 1906-1919 (2M142)
C.7/41 Bill of sale, allotment notes, other 1905-1915 (2M147)
RG4/17/41 Crew Lists 1917-1919 (not filmed)
RG4/15/54 Charter Parties 1917-1919 (not filmed)
H2-219-4-2 to Sale & Company: correspondence, 1916-1922 (not filmed)
H2-219-4-5 copies of logs, reports
Search File "Ships - Discovery"

Filename: Discovery March 1988/JHB:wg; November 1989/AM/November 1993/AM; April/99/mhd; rev’d August/05/MS; rev. 07/10 DSM