UNIT NUMBER: NORTHCOTE  
DISTRICT: CUMBERLAND (1875-1877)  
RED RIVER (1877-1878)  
AREA OF SERVICE: SASKATCHEWAN RIVER (1874-1886)

Named for Sir Stafford Northcote, Governor, Hudson's Bay Company

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:
Stern paddlewheel steamer; 2 decks, carvel built.

Construction: Wood galleries and framework.
Designer and builder: Captain J. Reeves supervised building, shipwrights from St. Paul (McCarthy, "Steamboats...").
Dimensions: Length - 150'; width - 28.5'; depth - 4.5'.
Number of passengers: 50 (after renovation); Number of crew:
Specifications: 1875 (D.20/2, fo. 61-61d.)
Plans: 1877 (D.20/8, fo. 224, siphon pump); 1881 (D.20/19, fo. 247, cabin).
Power: Two horizontal high-pressure engines, C. Dumont, Cincinnati, 1872 (39 h.p.)
Registered: British Registry Certificate #74028 (SF: Ships-Northcote').
Tonnage: 164.94 tons below decks; gross-461.34 tons; registered-290.65 tons.

HISTORY:
1873-1874 New steamer for Saskatchewan River under construction using the engines of the Saskatchewan which was wrecked in August 1873 (D.13/1, fo. 13-14).
1874, 1 August New steamer launched at Grand Rapids (D.13/1, fo. 52-53, 60-61; SF: "Ships - Northcote").
1874-1882 In service (A.1/184, fos. 153d, 196d; A.1/185, fo. 75d).
1882, 18 July Sold to Winnipeg & Western Transportation Co. for $25,000 (F.41/2)
1883 Struck a rock and required repairs at Fort Pitt (McCarthy)
1884 Sank at Medicine Hat, refloated and berthed for winter (McCarthy)
1885 Used as troop ship at Batoche during Riel Rebellion (McCarthy)
1886 Stopped on a bar (A.1/186, fo. 42d).
1888 Out of service at Cumberland House (A.1/187, fo. 48d).
1899 Declared hazard to children and burnt by local residents (McCarthy)

MASTERS:
1874-1877 Frank Aymond B.235/k/1, fo.13d, 22d; B.239/g/116-118; D.13/2, fo.194
1877-ca. 1880 John Griggs B.235/k/1, fo.49, 62, 75; D.14/16
1881 Jerry Webber B.235/k/1, fo.87

BIBLIOGRAPHY:
H.M.S. Cotter, "The Steamer Northcote", The Beaver, September 1931, p. 287-288
A.J. Dalrymple, "Old Saskatchewan Steamboats", The Beaver, June 1943, pp. 41-43
Bruce Peel, "First Steamboats on the Saskatchewan", The Beaver, Autumn 1964, pp. 16-21

PHOTOGRAPHS AND DOCUMENTARY ART:
1987/363-N-21 and others

REFERENCES:
F.40/1, 2b Cargo Book, 1886
Inventory, 1890
F.41/2 Miscellaneous, 1875-1883, includes Certificate of British Registry, 1878.
Search File: "Ships - Northcote"

MICROFILM REELS: