

UNIT NUMBER:

D.A. THOMAS

AREA OF SERVICE: PEACE RIVER (1924-1930)

Named for Baron Rhondda, a Welsh capitalist developing Hudson's Hope coalfields on whose orders she was built. (*The Beaver*, March 1953, pp. 28-32).

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:

Construction:

Builder: Peace River Tramway and Navigation Company (A.12/FT 341/[1], fo. 41).

Designer: George Askew, Vancouver (*The Beaver*, March 1953, pp. 28-32).

Dimensions: 175' long, 40' beam.

Number of passengers: Number of crew:

Speed: 16 knots/hour, steam ship.

Plans: no plans in Archives; originals in Peace River Centennial Museum; copies in Provincial Archives of Alberta.

Registered:

Description: A.12/FT 341/[1], fos. 42-43 (N.H. Bacon to Governor, 13 April 1916).

Speed:

Tonnage: 2,000 tons (500 on docks, balance in scows).

HISTORY:

1915-1916, April Under construction by the Peace River Tramway and Navigation Company (A.12/FT 341/[1], fo. 42).

1916, May Expected to be ready for service between Vermilion Chutes and Hudson's Hope (570 miles) (A.12/FT 341/[1], fo. 42).

later Operated by Lamson, Hubbard & Co. (*The Beaver*, March 1953, pp. 28-32).

1922 Laid up (*The Beaver*, March 1953, pp. 28-32).

1924 Hudson's Bay Company take over and re-launch (*The Beaver*, March 1953, pp. 28-32).

1929 Piled up on a sand-bar near Fort St. John (*The Beaver*, March 1953, pp. 28-32).

1930, Spring A spring freshet took her off the sand-bar.

1930 Transferred to Athabasca-Slave River route over the Vermilion Chutes (*The Beaver*, December 1930, p. 109-110) and dismantled at Fort Fitzgerald (*The Beaver*, March 1953, p. 31).

MASTERS:

1930 Captain Cowley *The Beaver*, December 1930, p. 110

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Norman Soar, "An Era Closes", *The Beaver*, March 1953, pp. 28-32

C.H. French, "S.S. D.A. Thomas", *The Beaver*, December 1930, pp. 109-110

PHOTOGRAPHS AND DOCUMENTARY ART:

HBCA Photo Collection 1981/28-1203 to 1210 - includes the steamer office for the D.A. Thomas, ca. 1922, the steamer laid up at Peace River ca. 1922-1924, the re-launching 1924, and two steaming on the river, n.d.

REFERENCES:

A.12/FT 341/[1], fo. 42 *Athabasca River* and Northern Transport, 1897-1917

MICROFILM REELS:

(853)

