

Barbara Rutherford. (1820-1894)

Barbara, a Métisse, was born at Fort Severn in 1820 and died at Moose Factory in December 1894 at age 94.



Mrs. James Rutherford.

“Mrs. James Rutherford, a native of the Red River Settlement, came to Moose Factory by canoe in the 1840s. She was a domestic in the household of Chief Factor Robert Miles and during her lifetime was a staunch and loyal H.B.C. employee. Her duties were many, ranging from the supervision of the large dairy to the nursing of the sick. During the fruit season she supervised the making of all jams, jellies, etc. for the Officers Mess, and at the annual slaughtering time looked after the preparation of all meals, etc. A first class seamstress and barberess, she was kept busy summer and winter. In the social life of the Bay she shone par excellence, a beautiful dancer, and an expert demonstrator of the famous ‘Red River Jig’. She married James Rutherford, the Company's blacksmith.”

Source: Hudson's Bay Company Archives, Archives of Manitoba.



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