

SHAW, Angus

Angus Shaw, fur-trader, was a native of Scotland who entered the service of the North West Company as a clerk prior to 1787. In 1789 he was at Fort L'Original, near the source of the Fraser River; and in 1790 he was "at Moose Hill Lake, up the Beaver River from Isle a la Crosse".



A statue of Angus Shaw at the Bonnyville Museum

In 1791 he was back at Fort L'Original; and in 1792 he was at Fort George. He became a partner in the North West Company between 1795 and 1799; in 1797 he was elected a member of the Beaver Club of Montreal; and in 1799 he was proprietor in charge of the Upper English River district. In 1802 he was appointed agent in charge

of the King's Posts, with headquarters at Quebec; and in 1808 he became a member of McTavish, McGillivrays, and Co. He was one of the agents of the North West Company at Fort William in 1810 and 1811; but thereafter he took little part in the fur-trade, until the struggle with Lord Selkirk reached its height, when he was one of the partners of the North West Company arrested by the Hudson's Bay men in 1819. He continued to be partner in McTavish, McGillivrays, and Co. after the union in 1821, when they were made Montreal agents of the Hudson's Bay Company; and his estate, which was involved in the failure of that firm in 1825, was not settled until 1847. He became a victim of pulmonary tuberculosis; and he died at New Brunswick, New Jersey, on July 25, 1832. He married a sister of William McGillivrays; and she died in London, England, on March 27, 1820.

(W.S.Wallace (ed.), Documents relating to the North West Company, Toronto. The Champlain Society, 1934)