

NAME: SPENCE, Magnus (1st, Sr.)

PARISH: Birsay, Orkney Islands
(A.16;A.30)

ENTERED SERVICE: 1783
(A.30/3;A.32/2,fo.14)

DATES: b.c.1764 or 1765

Appointments & Service

Outfit Year*	Position	Post	District	HBCA Reference
1783 - 1787	Labourer	York Factory**		A.16/33,fo.107;A.30/3;A.32/2,fo.14
1788 - 1790	Canoeman	York Factory**		A.16/33,fo.107;A.30/4
1791 - 1795	Steersman & Linguist	York Factory**		A.30/5,6
1795 - 1803	Steersman & Linguist to Blackfoot Indians	Edmonton	Saskatchewan	A.16/34,p.146;A.30/7-10;B.60/a/1-4
1803 - 1811	[Steersman & Linguist]	[Edmonton]	Saskatchewan [present-day Alberta and Saskatchewan]	A.16/34,p.146;A.30/14;B.60/d/1,fo.9
1812 - 1815	Steersman [& Linguist]	[Edmonton]	Saskatchewan [present-day	A.16/14-16;A.30/11-14
1815 - 1816	Labourer	Qu'Appelle	[Saskatchewan]	A.16/15;A.30/15
1816 - 1821	Steersman		[Saskatchewan]	A.16/39, fo.124d-125; A.16/41, fo.100d-101
1821 - 1822	retired			A.16/43,fo.241

**He would have been based in York Factory but would have spent most of the year inland.

Magnus Spence was described as a steady, careful servant and good linguist; "a better servant is not in the Company's employ particularly in the Station he fills" (A.30/5,9).

Children: John, baptised 1820; Mary, 17 married James Whitford 27 November 1820; Christy, 16, married Peter Whitford 27 November 1820; Magnus Jr., baptised 1823, married Salley Favell, 11 August 1834, buried 22 October 1849 at 38 years; Andrew, baptised 1 June 1823; Janet, baptised 1823 (PAM, St. John's and St. Andrew's Baptisms, Marriages and Burials, 1820-1835, 1835-1860)

See also: Johnson, Alice M., ed. *Saskatchewan Journals and Correspondence 1795-1802* (London: Hudson's Bay Record Society, 1967).

