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“Six Steamboats Still Sailing”

by Andrew H. Wilson

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Abstract

The first effective steamboats began to appear in North America and Europe in the early 19th century. As a medium for boat and ship propulsion, steam served well during the balance of that century but began to give way to gasoline and diesel, and later still to diesel-electric units.

Not many older steamboats remain in service in the 21st century. This paper describes the careers of a half-dozen of them.

About this Series

Principally, the Cedargrove Series is intended to preserve some of the research, writings and oral presentations that the author has completed over the past half-century or so but has not yet published. It is, therefore, the modern-day variant of the privately-published books and pamphlets written by his forebears, such as his paternal grandfather and grandmother and his grandfather's brother John.

About the Author

He is a graduate in mechanical engineering and the liberal arts and has held technical, administrative, research and management positions in industry in the United Kingdom and the public service of Canada, from which he retired 30 years ago.

He became actively interested in the history of engineering on his appointment to chair the first history committee of the Canadian Society for Mechanical Engineering in 1975 and served both CSME and the Engineering Institute of Canada in this capacity for varying periods until 2003. He has since then researched, written and edited historical material for both organizations and for the Canadian Society of Senior Engineers. He is a past president of both CSME and EIC.

