

APPEAL FOR THE HORNSBY STEAM CRAWLER

Coal Harbour, Canada

TRANSATLANTIC APPEAL FOR DONATIONS AND SPONSORSHIP

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

From Grantham to the Pacific Northwest

The **Hornsby Steam Crawler** is important for both its specifications and original purpose as commissioned in 1909 from Fosters of Lincoln (engine) and Hornsby's of Grantham (chain track). The winter conditions of the Yukon, coupled with marshy summer terrain were detrimental to the movement of coal to Dawson City by the Northern Light Power & Coal Company. An unknown engineer identified the experimental technology of the tractor or caterpillar tread as a potential solution and the machinery was ordered from the United Kingdom.

Richard Hornsby & Sons was an engine and machinery manufacturer in Lincolnshire, United Kingdom from 1828 until 1918. In 1904 David Roberts, managing director of the firm patented a new form of crawler track which was applied to various prototype vehicles, the patent for which was later sold to Holt & Co. (predecessor to Caterpillar Inc.) in America. Five known Hornsby caterpillar machines were manufactured: 3 diesel powered engines for gun haulage; one small Schneider auto; and the Hornsby steam crawler. One oil crawler survives in operational condition at the World War One Hall of the Tank Museum in Dorset, United Kingdom.

The Hornsby Steam Crawler is also important for its unique presence on Northern Vancouver Island after the Yukon, operating to serve the forest industry in the Port Alice and Holberg areas before falling into disrepair at Apple Bay.

The Hornsby Steam Crawler is significant in that it is:

A rare, one-of-a-kind, custom built steam crawler tractor inspired by the Yukon Gold Rush.

A unique piece of forest industry equipment used on the British Columbia coast.

The only surviving example of the Roberts-Hornsby "chain track" steam crawler in North America.

A pre-World War One forerunner to the army tank.

Other names by which it is known:

Roberts-Hornsby Chain Track Crawler; Hornsby Steam Chain Crawler; Steam Engine No. 12459; Hornsby Chain Track No. 35086; **Hornsby Mammoth**



Conserving the Hornsby in BC

In 2013, after nearly a decade of difficulties concerning the final fate of the artefact due to its condition and known significance, the Regional District of Mount Waddington, local government and owner of the artefact, will move the Hornsby Steam Crawler to a piece of public land in Coal Harbour, a community close to its historical area of operation around Holberg Inlet. While many steam aficionados understandably wish to privately own and restore this piece of history at another location, **it belongs to the people of the Mount Waddington region** and needs instead to be affordably and appropriately housed, protected and interpreted for future generations. To achieve this, donations and sponsorship are required.



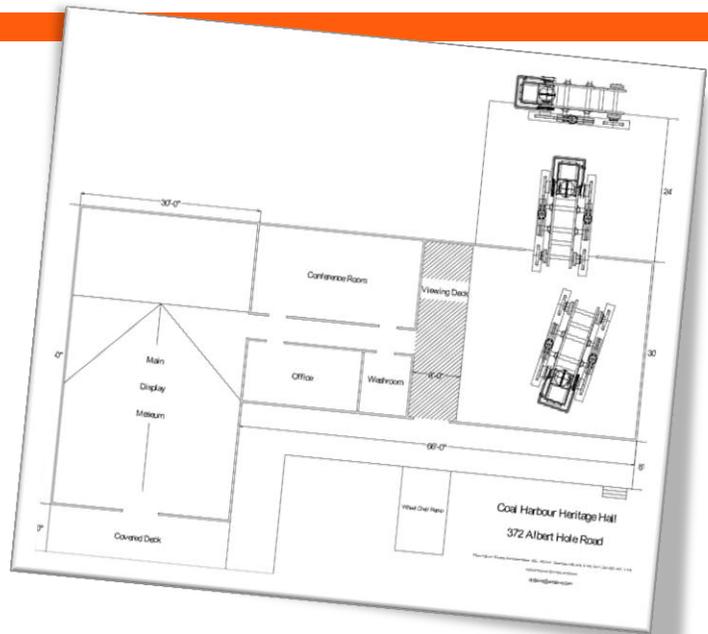
Current Condition

Coal Harbour Heritage Hall

by Coal Harbour Community Club

Coal Harbour Community Club, supported by North Island Heritage Society and the Regional District of Mount Waddington, propose the permanent display of the Hornsby Steam Crawler in Coal Harbour within a purpose built structure.

Coal Harbour currently has no heritage hall or public museum. The Coal Harbour Community Hall is a WWII building built by the Royal Canadian Airforce, its renovation and proposed use will give to Coal Harbour a sense of its own past that has been lacking. Bringing this dream to fruition will create pride and energy in the community. It will give a gathering place not only for the remnants of our past but for its people.



COAL HARBOUR

Population: 180

PRIMARY CONTACT:

Andrew Hory, Area 'C' Director

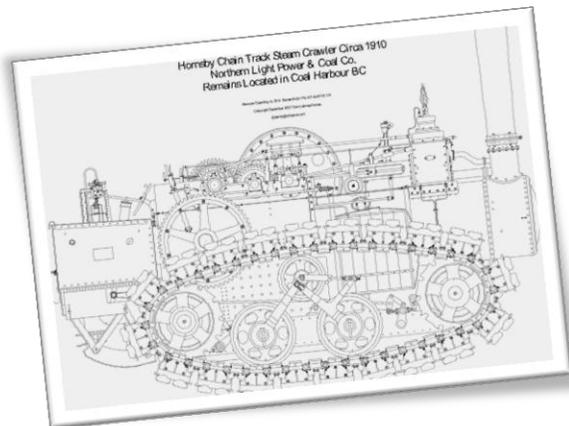
ahory@rdmw.bc.ca

www.rdmw.bc.ca

Project site



Who might be interested in the Hornsby's relevance as an artefact?



Major companies or organisations with a historical tie to the engineering or use of the Hornsby artefact through patents, takeovers or mergers:

- Caterpillar
- Siemens
- MAN Diesel SE
- Rolls Royce
- Neucel Specialty Cellulose

Governments with a potential historic interest in the Hornsby artefact:

- Government of Yukon
- Province of British Columbia
- Government of Canada
- Government of the United Kingdom
- South Kesteven District Council

HERITAGE WITHIN A LIVING INDUSTRY



Logging Industry Heritage

The last private operational logging railway in North America is just a little over an hour's drive south of Coal Harbour.



Port Alice Pulp Mill

Coal Harbour is only about an hour from Neucel Specialty Cellulose in Port Alice. This century old working sulphite pulp mill was one former haunt of the Hornsby in its working days.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Coal Harbour Community Club
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Coal Harbour, BC V0N 1K0
CANADA

Contact: Jeanne Alley
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Support a community project of international interest!

The Hornsby Steam Crawler is an important artefact and the community of Coal Harbour, supported by its local government, wishes to give it a final home that is both affordable and appropriate in its rural setting.

What do we need?

Support is required for a host of areas:

- Renovation
- New construction
- Artefact conservation
- Interpretative content/ presentation
- Promotion
- Letters of support for the project

At the time of completion, your contribution to this effort, whether large or small, will be prominently recognised by both the Coal Harbour Community Club and Regional District of Mount Waddington.

Sponsorship proposals are welcome.

More about the region

The local internet portal, www.northislandresource.ca offers a considerable amount of background information concerning the Mount Waddington region.



Charitable Donations

If you wish to make a **charitable donation** to the project and **receive an income tax receipt**, please make it to the Coal Harbour Community Club **c/o the Regional District of Mount Waddington**. For more details contact regional district staff at info@rdmw.bc.ca

