

# Greater Sudbury and the Canadian Navy

H.M.C.S. Sudbury

And

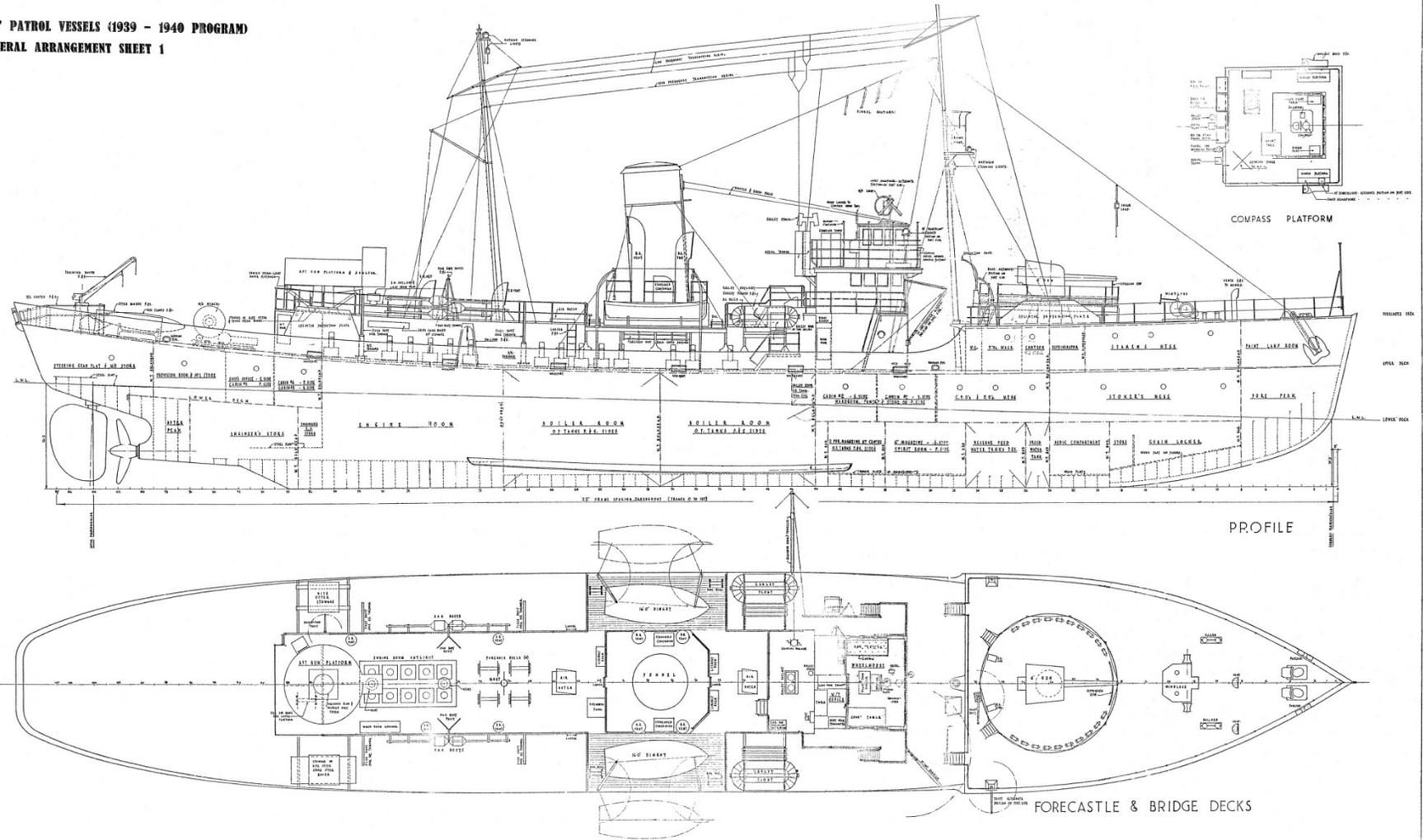
H.M.C.S. Copper Cliff



During the Second World War the Canadian Navy named a series of ships for towns and cities.

The H.M.C.S. Sudbury and Copper Cliff were two such ships.

190' PATROL VESSELS (1939 - 1940 PROGRAM)  
GENERAL ARRANGEMENT SHEET 1



The Sudbury was a "Flower" class corvette.

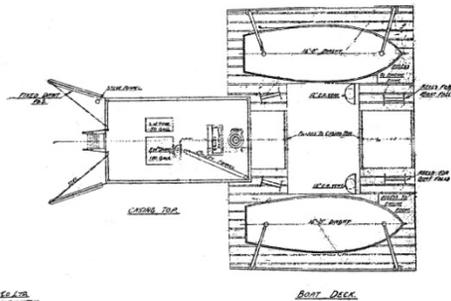
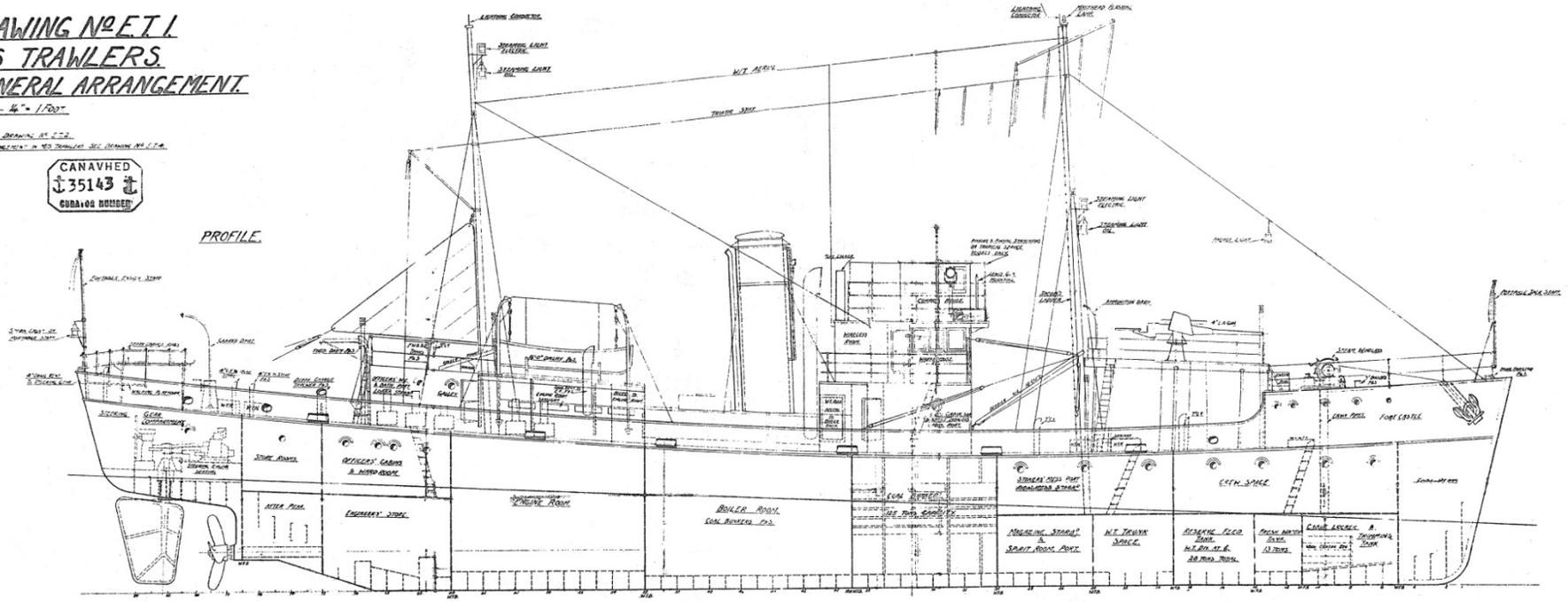
**DRAWING NO. E.T. 1**  
**A/S TRAWLERS**  
**GENERAL ARRANGEMENT**

SCALE - 1/4" = 1'-00"

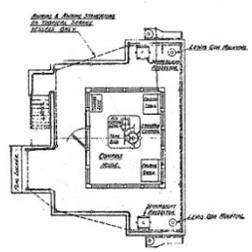
SEE ALSO DRAWING NO. E.T. 2  
 FOR DIMENSIONS IN NO. 20 DRAWING SEC. DIVISION OF C.P.A.

CANAVHD  
 35143  
 CANADIAN HULLING

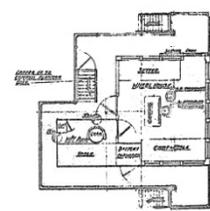
PROFILE



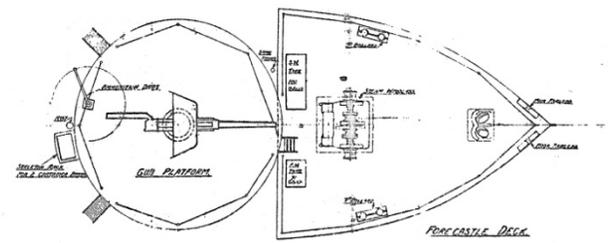
BOAT DECK



COMPASS PLATFORM



BRIDGE DECK



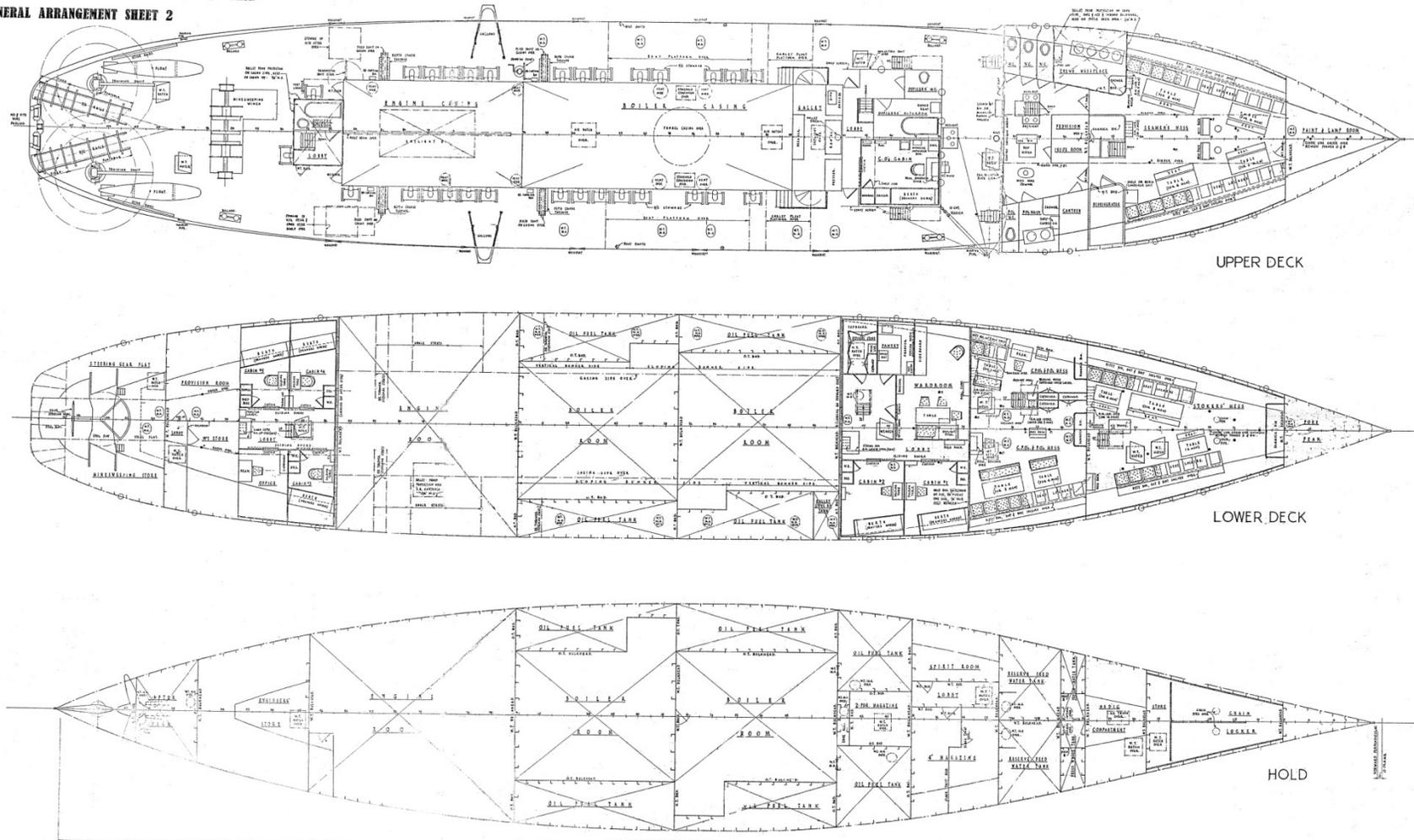
FORECASTLE DECK

SEE ALSO DRAWING NO. E.T. 2  
 FOR DIMENSIONS IN NO. 20 DRAWING SEC. DIVISION OF C.P.A.

CANAVHD  
 35143  
 CANADIAN HULLING

The Copper Cliff was a Castle class corvette.

190' PATROL VESSELS (1939 - 1940 PROGRAM)  
GENERAL ARRANGEMENT SHEET 2



The two ships served as convoy escorts.

# H.M.C.S. Sudbury

Commissioned in October 15 1941.  
Paid off 28 August 1945 at Esquimalt.  
Broken up in Victoria 1967





Mrs. Beaton christened the Sudbury in Kingston harbor.



Hundreds of people attended the launch of “The Sudbury”  
on May 31 1941

Photos courtesy Kingston Marine Museum



The Sudbury's trials were held in Kingston Harbor.

Photos courtesy Kingston Marine Museum



Mayor Beaton presented the ship's officers a silver tea set on behalf of the City.

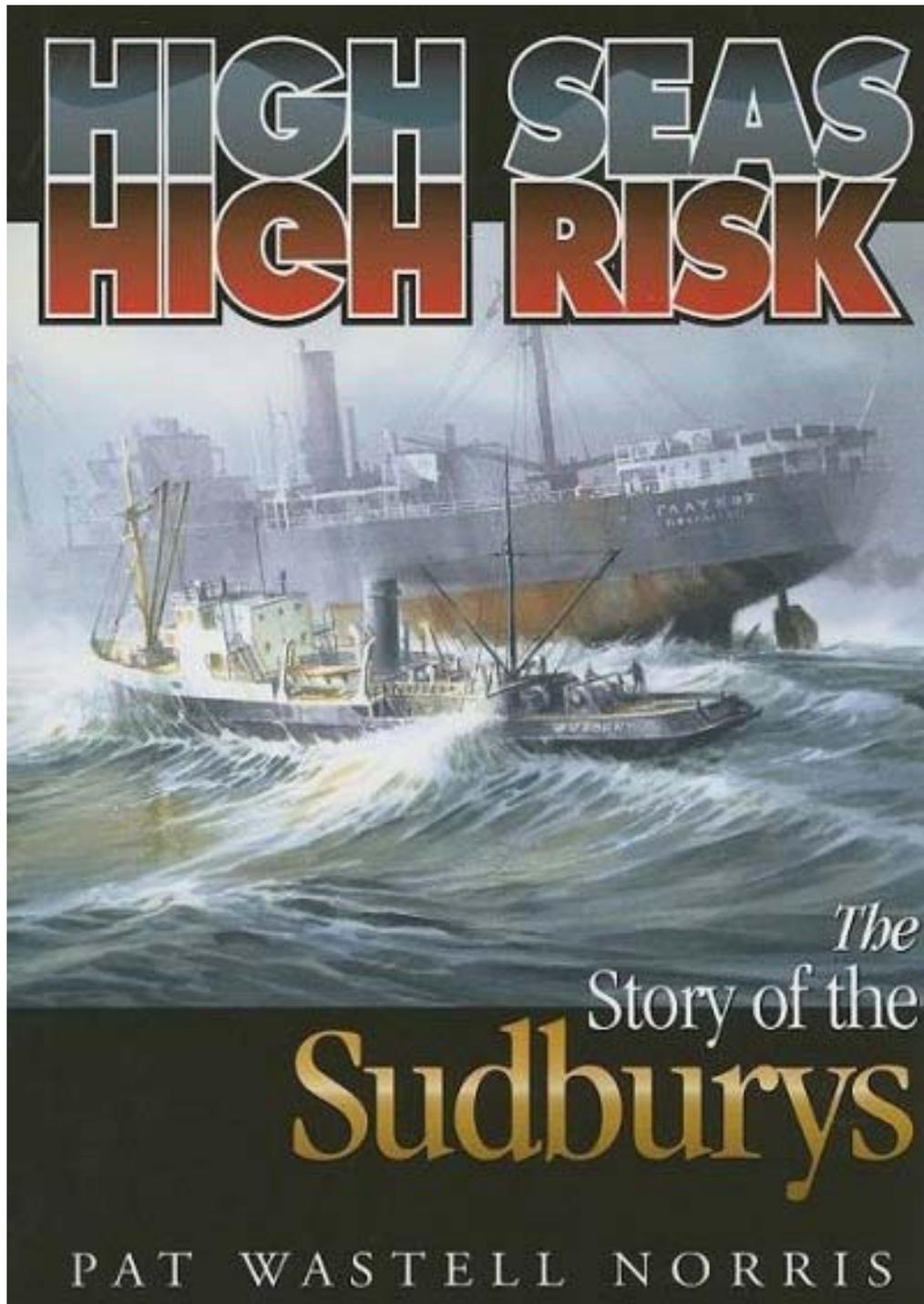
# HMCS Sudbury

V. Forsyth

Printed in the Sudbury Daily Star May 31 1941

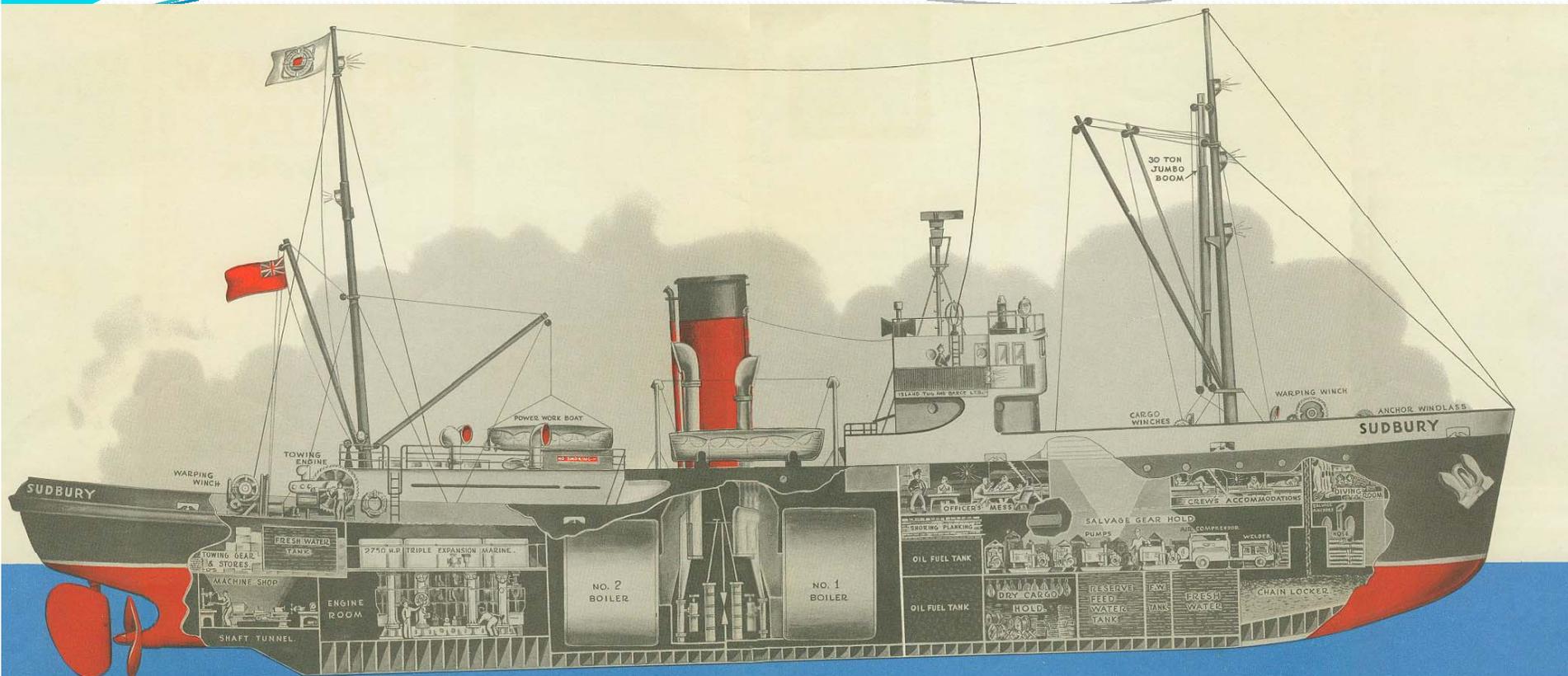
I've roamed the Nickel district  
Nigh half a hundred years;  
Lived with the hardy miners  
And seen their smiles and tears.  
I've heard their careless laughter  
As danger they would face  
To save an injured comrade.  
I've known and loved the race.  
Today a tiny warship  
is slipping down the way  
To guard our ships and sailors  
And curb the tyrant's way.

Named for the Nickel District's  
Stout heart, may it and we  
Stand up to face the danger.  
however great it may be.  
And may it gladly follow  
The course it must pursue  
To help our sturdy seamen  
Their dangerous duty do.  
Then here's a toast my hearties  
To ship and guns and men  
A happy voyage and good luck  
And back in port again.



After the war, The Sudbury began a whole new career as an ocean going tug boat.

She was credited with many life saving rescues.



**SALVAGE VESSEL SS. SUDBURY**

TONNAGE: 892 LENGTH: 204 FT. BREADTH: 33 FT. DEPTH: 17 FT.  
 Island Tug & Barge Ltd., Victoria and Vancouver  
 BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA

Courtesy SeaSpan International Ltd.



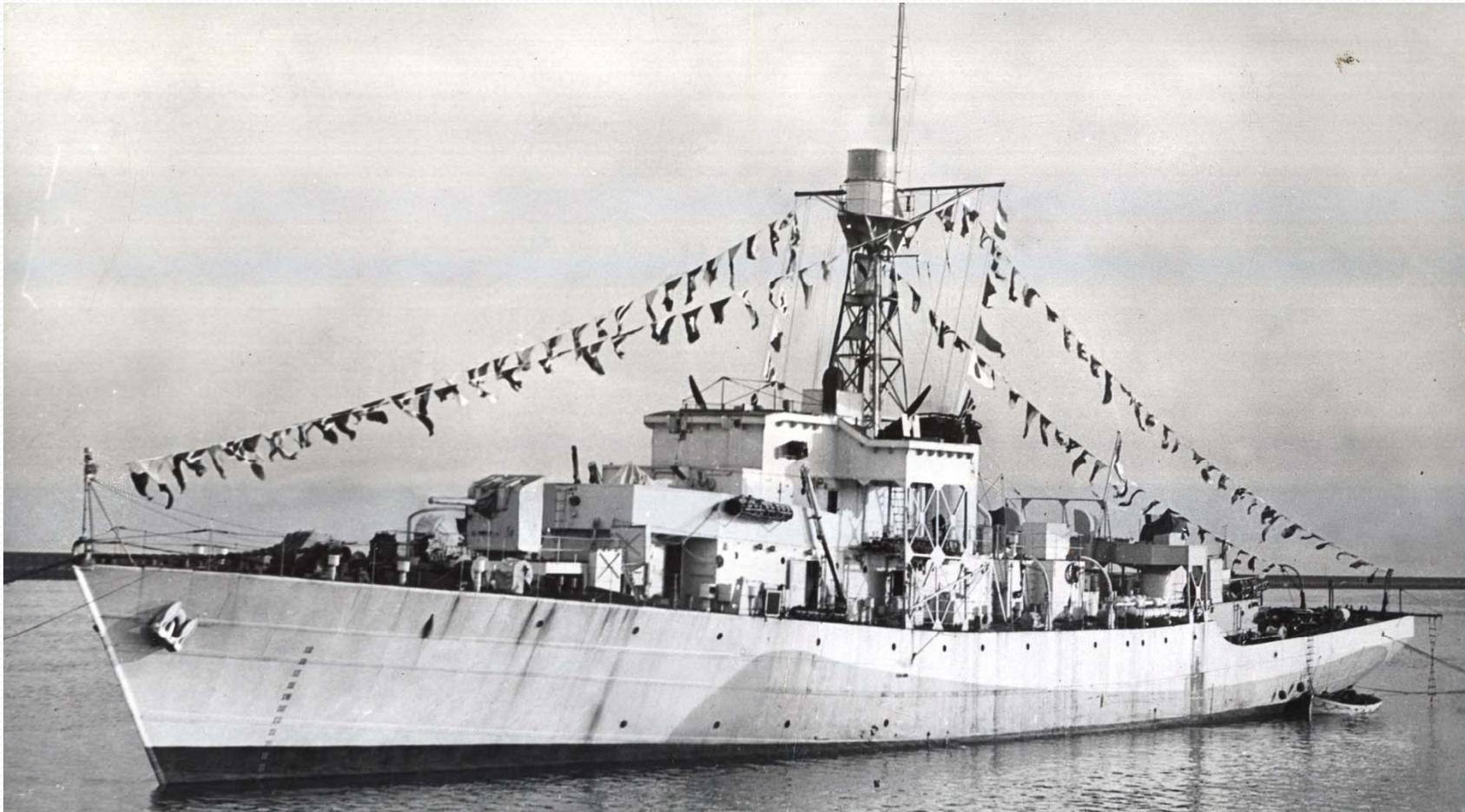
HMCS Sudbury

# H.M.C.S. Copper Cliff

Keel Laid: 29-Jun-43

Commissioned as HMS HEVER CASTLE

Paid off: 21-Nov-45





Department of National Defence  
Naval Service

Ottawa, Canada.

OUR FILE NS. 4052-333/130 Pers (N).

YOUR FILE .....

25th September, 1944.

Sir:

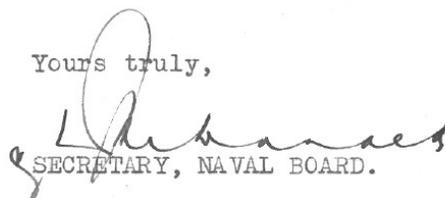
Pursuant to the Department's N.S. 450-11-489 Pers (N), dated 14th August, 1944, a completed adoption form has just been received from H.M.C.S. "Copper Cliff", whose adoption the good people of Copper Cliff have so generously undertaken. A copy of this list is enclosed for your information and guidance. If you would care to provide any or all of the requested items, the Department as well as the crew of H.M.C.S. "Copper Cliff" would be most appreciative.

The Commanding Officer is A/Lt. Cmdr. F.G. Hutchings, R.C.N.V.R., who may be reached c/o Canadian Fleet Mail Office, Glasgow, Scotland.

If any further information or assistance is required in connection with this adoption, please do not hesitate to contact the Department at any time.

Please accept the renewed thanks of the Department for your continued interest in the crew of H.M.C.S. "Copper Cliff".

Yours truly,

  
SECRETARY, NAVAL BOARD.

Mr. R.M Thomas,  
Secretary,  
H.M.C.S. "Copper Cliff" Sponsoring Committee,  
Copper Cliff, Ontario.

The Town of Copper  
Cliff adopted their  
ship.

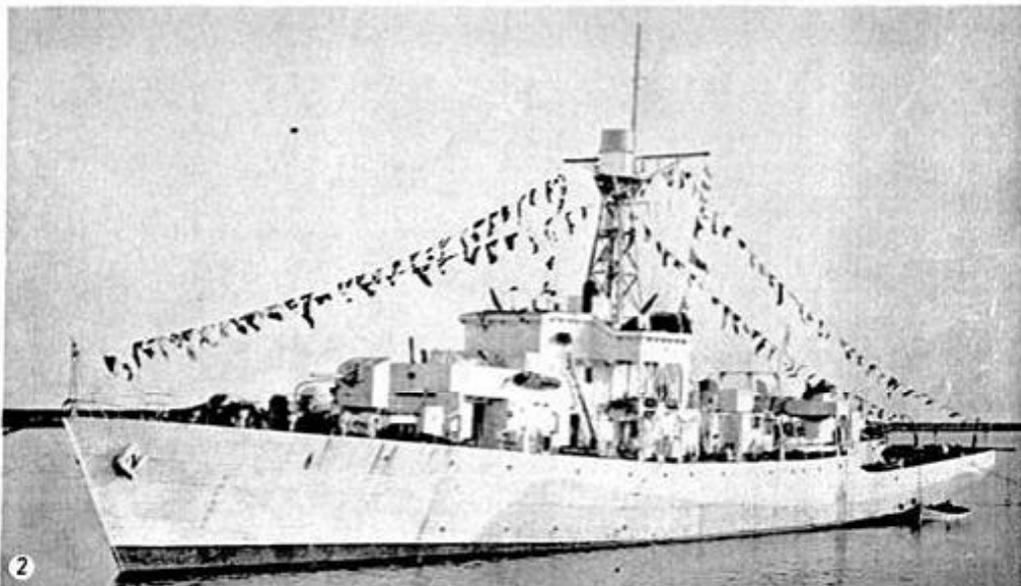


VOLUME 4

COPPER CLIFF, ONTARIO, FEBRUARY, 1945

NUMBER 11

CHRISTENING OF TWO STURDY SHIPS NAVY'S  
SALUTE TO INCO WORKERS



The Town of Copper Cliff was as proud as Sudbury was, to have a ship named for it.



Lt.Cdr. Frank Goddard Hutchings, RCNR .  
First Commander of The Copper Cliff  
Christening ceremony 24 Jul 1944 3 Dec 1944



The “White Ensign”  
is hoisted  
on board the Copper Cliff



## Ditty Bags for Sailors

### SUGGESTED LIST FOR FILLING

(This list need not necessarily be strictly adhered to)

**Gifts for Our Sailors and Seamen:** This year the Navy League has been requested by the Department of Naval Affairs and the Director of Merchant Seamen to supply more than 120,000 ditty bags. Ontario quota this year is 70,000 bags.

**Demand for Woollen Garments:** The demand for woollen garments is increasing every day and we would greatly appreciate it if you would send to Navy League, Comforts Headquarters, 748 Yonge Street, Toronto, any knitted articles you may have, so that we may send them to the ports for distribution to the sailors who need them.

We all realize that it is more difficult every day to purchase some of the articles we would like to put in ditty bags, and we are therefore making a smaller bag, and are asking our workers to fill the bags at an average value of \$4.00.

**Woollens:** It is suggested that one pair of socks and another small knitted article be placed in each bag, and from the following suggested list we feel sure a very useful and worthwhile bag may be packed.

#### We suggest these articles as FIRST CHOICE

Pair of Socks	New Testament
Tooth Brush	Hard Candy, Nuts, Raisins
Tooth Powder	Cake in tin container, if possible
Shaving Stick	Canned Goods
Cigarettes	Soup or Fish
Writing Paper and Envelopes	First Aid Kit or Adhesive Tape and Band Aid
Small Book or Digest	

#### Complete your bag from the following list, or gifts of your own choice:

Small Towel and Wash Cloth	Home-made Candy or Toffee (tin container)
Cigarette Paper	Maple Sugar (tin container)
Pipe and Tobacco, Tobacco Pouch	Can or Bottle Opener
Pen or Pencil	Comb
Gum or Paste	Small Mirror (Metal)
Playing Cards	Razor Blades
Felt Insles	Safety Pin
Handkerchiefs	Small Cigarette Lighter
Flashlight and Refill	Flints for Lighters
Ash Tray	Leather Belt
Small Memo Book	"Housewife" containing:
Small Calendar	Shoe Laces and Shoe Polish, Shoe Cloth or Brush
Whisk	Buttons
Mouth Organ	Knives
Package Sweet Biscuits, Nuts, Raisins	Thread (Black and White)
	Mending Wool (Navy and Gray)

Because of the danger of fire, do not put any kind of matches in bag.

**PLEASE DO NOT INCLUDE SOAP.**

**NOTE:** Please print your name and address plainly on the front of the bag in the space designated for donor's name. Please DO NOT put the name of any sailor on the bag. We cannot be responsible for delivery of personally addressed bags. Each and every sailor will receive a bag.

The Navy League will supply ditty bags free to those who wish to fill them and return them to our Headquarters for any sailor. Ask your friends to fill a bag.

All sailors like to receive letters. It is suggested that you write a letter and enclose it in your ditty bag. If you receive a letter of thanks in reply, please send it or a copy to us.

#### Please return filled bags to:

THE NAVY LEAGUE OF CANADA, ONTARIO DIVISION  
Comforts Headquarters, 748 Yonge St., Toronto, Ont.

Ditty Bags should be received at our Headquarters by October 1st and not later than December 15. Owing to the heavy freight shipments, bags must be out of our Headquarters the middle of December in order that they will reach our ports and be distributed for Christmas.

**NOTE:** Throughout the year, the Navy League, in addition to supplying Christmas Bags, distributes Ditty Bags to newly-commissioned ships and to shipwrecked sailors.

The Copper Cliff Comfort  
Committee raised funds and  
sent many things to the  
sailors on board the Copper  
Cliff



“Most of the crew of the Copper Cliff were teenagers or just out of their teens”.

*NSB*



TEL. E. LAVENDER 465780,  
HMCS Copper Cliff,  
F.M.O. St. John's.  
Newfoundland.

Dear Sir:

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking you, sir, and the citizens of your town for showing such lively interest in our ship.

The pans, washing machines, and all the other lovely, and much needed gifts, which arrived here lately, were very much appreciated I assure you, but even more appreciated by some of us, is the spirit and whole hearted interest that you have shown for the welfare of your ship and its crew. Indeed it is a true sign of northern Ontario neighbourliness and friendship, and it is a honour to say that I hail from that section of Canada.

Have no fears, sir, your ship is a sturdy one, well built, and as comfortable as any afloat. The officers are tops, every one of them and the spirit



Sailors from The Copper Cliff sent letters of thanks to the Town.  
“A true sign of northern Ontario neighbourliness and friendliness’

Photos taken on the Copper Cliff

Courtesy Historica-Dominion Institute

[www.ontarioveteranarchive.ca](http://www.ontarioveteranarchive.ca)



Lishahally, May, 1945

E.S. Lavender, Tel. T/O  
H.M.C.S. Copper Cliff



A ship torpedoed and burning.

Courtesy Historica-Dominion Institute

[www.ontarioveteranarchive.ca](http://www.ontarioveteranarchive.ca)



The Copper Cliff was decommissioned 14 November 1945.

She was sold into mercantile service in 1947 being renamed Ta Lung.



After the war the two ships bells were presented to Sudbury and Copper Cliff. Mayor Collins accepted on behalf of the Town of Copper Cliff and Mrs. Beaton accepted on behalf of the City.



Sailor John Hughes of Sudbury shows Copper Cliff Mayor Everett Collins pictures of the corvette. AS Hugh Watson of H.C.M.S. Orkney. Hughes spoke highly of the generosity of Cliff people in sending gifts to the ship, christened in honor of the town.