

## **HBCA Information Sheet: *Five Ships in Canadian History***

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The portfolio, ***Five Ships in Canadian History***, is a boxed set of colour reproductions of paintings depicting five different historic ships. The Hudson's Bay Company commissioned well-known marine artist Melbourne Smith to paint the original watercolours and had the portfolio printed in commemoration of the HBC's tercentenary in 1970. The five ships featured are *Mathew*, *Grande Hermine*, *Nonsuch*, *Resolution*, and *Gjøa*.

The prints are full colour reproductions, 16 inches x 20 inches, printed on high quality art stock. There are bilingual (English and French) descriptions of each of the prints detailing the type of ship depicted and its significance in Canadian history. The set was printed by Bulman Brothers Limited, Winnipeg.

The HBC had 3000 of the commemorative sets printed, which were sold for \$8.00 each. An additional 2000 copies of the *Nonsuch* print were also produced and sold separately for \$2.25 each.