

# A Guide to the Potomac Steamboat Company Stock Certificates, 1848-1869

The Potomac Steamboat Company Stock Certificates, 1848-1869  
1848-1869

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## Title Statement

A Guide to the Potomac Steamboat Company Stock Certificates, 1848-1869

**Subtitle:** Potomac Steamboat Company Stock Certificates

**Collection:** MSS 02-05

## Publication Statement

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## Profile Description

**Creation:** Machine-readable finding aid created by Ross Landis, April 14, 2024

**Language Usage:** Description is in English

## Descriptive Summary

### Record Group Number

MSS 02-05

### Language

English

### Abstract

The Potomac Steamboat Company Stock Certificates consist of 0.25 linear feet, spans the years 1848-1869, and contains an original certificate and seal for the Washington and Fredericksburg Steamboat Company hand signed by the company's president and secretary; and a blank certificate for the Potomac Steamboat Company.

### Creator

Potomac Steamboat Company

### Extent

0.25 linear feet

### Repository

Fairfax County Public Library

## Administrative Information

### Access Restrictions

None

### Use Restrictions

Consult repository for information

### Acquisition Information

Unknown

## **Processing Information**

Chris Barbuschak, December 2017

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## **Preferred Citation**

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# **Adjunct Descriptive Data**

## **Separated Material**

None

## **Historical and Biographical Information**

Beginning in 1842, one could travel from Washington, D.C. to Richmond, Virginia by boarding a Washington & Fredericksburg Steamboat Company boat at the Washington waterfront which sailed down the Potomac River to Aquia Landing where one disembarked and boarded a Richmond, Fredericksburg, and Potomac Railroad train enroute to Richmond. The steamboat company had been in existence for some time prior, and the RF&P acquired majority control of it in order to complete the connection from Washington to its trains. The RF&P renamed the steamboat company the Potomac Steamboat Company in 1855.

On April 19, 1861, a few days after the Civil War began, the United States government seized four of the company's steamboats which practically dissolved the company. The Potomac Steamboat Company reorganized in 1869, and the terminus was moved from Aquia to Quantico Creek. In 1872, the RF&P completed a direct track link between Richmond and Washington, and ended its contract with the Potomac Steamboat Company. The company continued to operate until 1891, and the steamboats "George Leary", "Keyport", "Excelsior" and "Georgeanna" made up a part of its fleet.

## **Scope and Content**

The Potomac Steamboat Company Stock Certificates consist of 0.25 linear feet, spans the years 1848-1869, and contains an original certificate and seal for the Washington and Fredericksburg Steamboat Company hand signed by the company's president and secretary; and a blank certificate for the Potomac Steamboat Company. A copy negative of the Washington and Fredericksburg Steamboat Company certificate is also included.

## **Index Terms**

Potomac Steamboat Company (Fredericksburg, Va.)  
Washington and Fredericksburg Steamboat Company  
Transportation - Virginia - History

## **Container List**

**Box 1 Folder 1: Stock certificate, Washington and Fredericksburg Steamboat Company [includes negative copy], 1848**

**Box 1 Folder 2: Seal, Washington and Fredericksburg Steamboat Company, Undated**

**Box 1 Folder 3: Stock certificate, Potomac Steamboat Company, 1869**