

**THE ARCTURUS LYELL LAND EXPEDITION
NORTH EAST GREENLAND**

JULY/AUGUST 2007

NOTES ON SOME ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES AND FEATURES

BY

JEAN STENICO AND RAY WOOLMORE

BRUXELLES AND CHELTENHAM 2008

**THE ARCTURUS LYELL LAND EXPEDITION, NORTH-EAST
GREENLAND JULY/AUGUST 2007**

LEADER: KATHLEEN CARTWRIGHT

ZODIAC SKIPPER AND ASSISTANT LEADER: KEVIN DA SILVA

**REPORT, PHOTOGRAPHS, SKETCHES, MAPS AND PLANS OF KNOWN
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES ON THE COAST OF LYELL LAND, AT KAP
LAGERBERG, KAP DUVFA AND ON HAMMAR AND ÅKERBLOM ØER**

Introduction

On 21 July 2007 the eight person expedition was flown from Reykjavik, in Iceland, to Constable Pynt, in North-East Greenland. The following day we were flown by Twin Otter, via Mestersvig, to our final destination – a landing strip between Kap Lagerberg and Kirschdalen on the South-Eastern coast of Lyell Land, just north of the entrance, from Kong Oscar Fjord, to Segelsaellskapet Fjord. Our base camp was established by the landing strip, at 72°32'N 24°37'W.

During the next fourteen days, members of the expedition, either singly or in small groups, surveyed, on foot the area between Kap Lagerberg and north to Kap Dufva. We established a subsidiary camp at Kap Dufva. Kevin da Silva took us by Zodiac to Hammar Ø and Åkerblom Ø, where both islands were thoroughly surveyed by the authors of this report. Woolmore also travelled by Zodiac to the famous Kap Harry archaeological site on the south-western tip of Ella Ø, but because this site was so well known, only took photographs.

Archaeologically Lyell Land and its adjacent small islands have already been surveyed by Alfred Nathorst¹ (1899), Soren Richter², the Norwegian trapper/archaeologist (1930-33) and later by P. V. Glob, who recorded all the then known sites in his Gazetteer³ (1946). More recently Rob David⁴, leader of the British North-East Greenland Project, in 1993, visited and recorded the same sites.

As part of the Arcturus Lyell Land expedition, the authors of this report aimed to visit the known archaeological sites, including early twentieth century trappers' huts as well as Inuit sites, recording their current state, and also look for, and record, any new sites and features along the Lyell Land coast and on neighbouring islands. The authors limited their work to drawing up plans of the known sites which they visited, and to re-recording and describing the individual features.

The survey of the coast and islands between Kap Lagerberg and Kap Dufva did not produce any new discoveries, though despite a hut being shown on the 1:250,000 scale map, just to the south of Kap Dufva, the authors confirmed that no trapper's hut exists, even as a ruin. Two features, albeit enigmatic, were found by Stenico on Kap Dufva itself, and may relate to the hunting camp found there by Glob² in 1932 (Glob's Gazetteer site 174 "Hunting camp with meat caches").

The survey work completed on Hammar Ø showed a summer settlement site virtually identical to that recorded by previous surveyors, while the survey of Åkerblom Ø revealed no sites or features, despite Glob's Gazetteer site 176 recording that A. G. Nathorst had discovered a settlement with tent rings on the island. Given that Glob recorded no sites or features on Hammar Ø, whereas both Rob David, in 1993, and the authors, in 2007, identified a summer settlement with tent rings and caches, it does seem extremely likely that Nathorst recorded this settlement on the wrong island. Adding to the puzzling nature of this apparent mistake was the fact⁴ that Hammar Ø was named after Dr. Hammar, the archaeologist on Nathorst's expedition.

Interestingly enough Stenico found evidence of reindeer and perhaps musk-ox on Åkerblom Ø.

Equipment. In the survey work the authors used a 20 metre tape, an optical laser rangefinder, (together with flag-pins), and for initial survey (Woolmore), a sectioned two-foot rule and measured foot paces.

Structure of Report – Section A is the authors’ report on “Kap Lagerberg” winter settlement (adjacent to the Beinhaugen⁵ trappers’ hut), and contains a map of the settlement and, drawings and photographs of the features 1-7; Section B covers the survey of the “Hammar Ø” summer settlement, and includes a map of the settlement, and drawings and photographs of features 1-7; and Section C deals briefly with the three features found on Kap Dufva itself.

Acknowledgements. The Authors thank Arcturus, the leader, Kathleen Cartwright, and the Zodiac Skipper and assistant leader, Kevin da Silva, for making the trip to Lyell Land and its adjacent islands possible; the Greenland Authority, the Danish Polar Center, and the Sirius Patrol for permitting the expedition to visit and stay in the area, and Flugfelag Islands (Air Iceland) for transferring the expedition safely to, and from, the area. Thanks are also due to other members of the expedition, Mike and Diana Cavanagh, Bill Corner, and David Shaw as well as to the two leaders, Kathleen Cartwright and Kevin da Silva for their interest in the archaeology of the area and their observations.

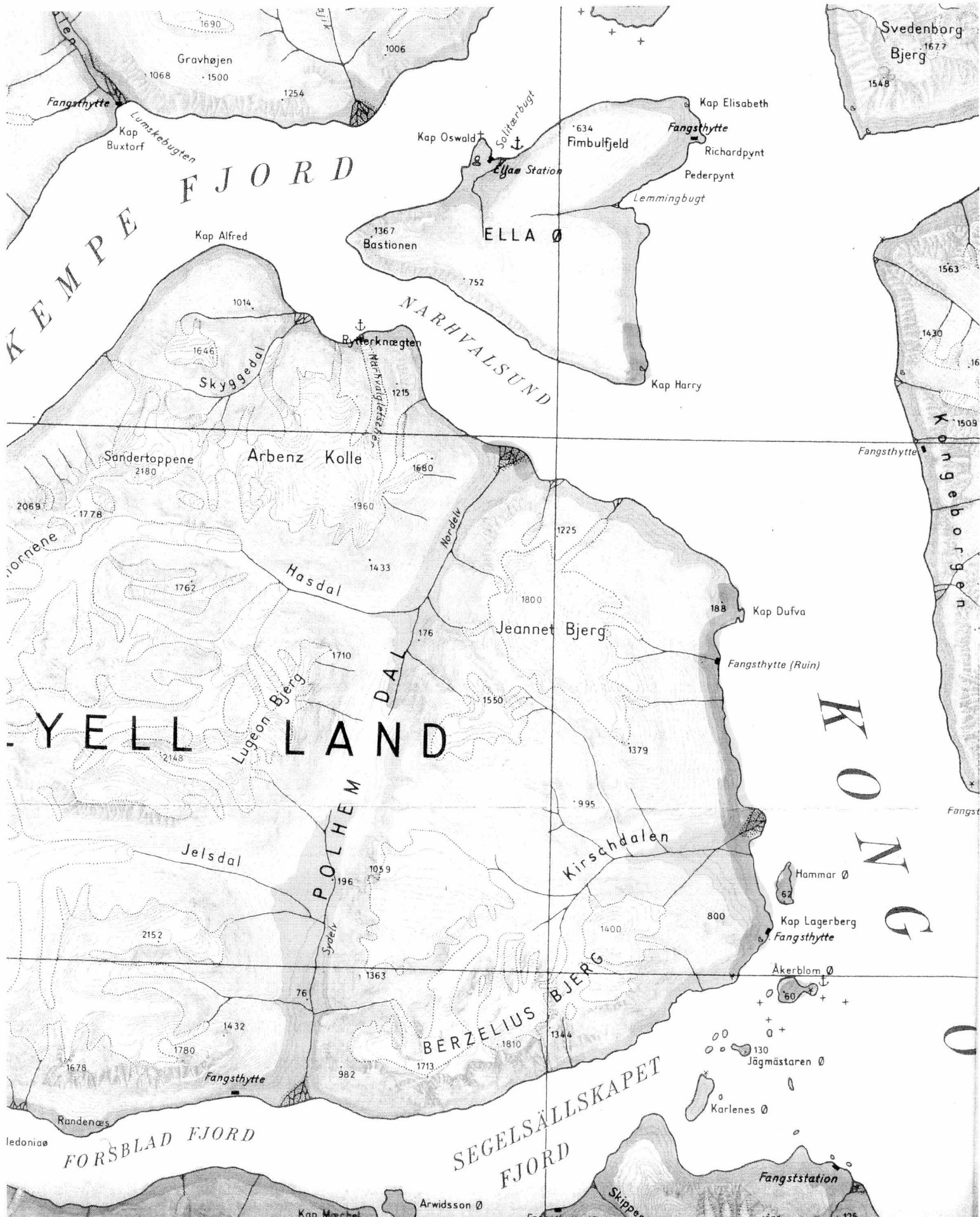
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Skrifter om Svalbard og Ishavet, Nr. 63 Oslo 1934.
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KONG OSCAR FJORD

200703

72°Ø.2



Section A – Kap Lagerberg

Winter Settlement

Section A

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Kap Lagerberg Winter Settlement 72° 31246', 24°39478'W. This settlement stretches E – W for about 200 metres just above the shore at Kap Lagerberg. It was here that Norwegian trappers built, in 1930, a small cabin, aptly named Beinhaugen (hut 223, Peter Schmidt Mikkelsen⁵), because of the large quantities of animal bones found scattered around the area. The hut, although badly damaged, is still standing; Stenico chose the highest point of the hut roof as the reference point for the survey of the whole site as the hut lies between the sea and the gently sloping land where the four winter dwellings are located.

West of the hut and the winter dwellings (1 - 4) a seasonal small river and its bed runs into the sea, separating the dwellings from the less permanent and perhaps enigmatic features, 5, 6 and 7, namely a tent ring, a shelter and a possible winter dwelling.

Notes on features. The features 1, 2, 3, 4 and 7 had been investigated in 1933, and described by Soren Richter² (page 131-132 of the Richter Report, 1934 and Annex 1 to Section A of this report). Richter's work and report are also referred to in Glob's 1946³ Gazetteer, which summarises all the previous archaeological surveys undertaken in North-East Greenland, from the nineteenth century to 1946, including Glob's own work.

1. The easternmost winter dwelling is well dug into the rising slope and has a quite obvious south-facing entrance passage first excavated by the Norwegian trappers at the Beinhaugen and by Richter afterwards;
2. This is the second winter dwelling investigated and excavated by Richter; it has a south-facing passage, and like the first one is well dug in.

3. Not a very large nor visible winter dwelling with fewer stones and rocks scattered around its perimeter than would be expected with an excavated feature. It is very deep with traces of its south-facing passage.
4. Basically a shallow depression in the rising hill slope, with few rocks and stones emerging from the rich vegetation. The feature is relatively small and not set very deep into the bank; the passage is deeper than the dwelling itself and is overgrown with vegetation.
5. A tent ring on the western side of the stream bed on a gravelly shelf close to the beach; on the eastern side of the ring there is a hearth (5a) built against, and sheltered by, a large white boulder (1_m high). The ring is quite large (3-4 metres diameter) and is formed by a mixture of medium to small sized rocks, some of which are well embedded. Its floor is part-covered in vegetation and part in small flattish stones. However, its nearness to the beach makes it possible it has been partly covered with gravel and sand. Interestingly enough, Richter does not mention this ring (see Annex 1 to this Section) and the other remaining site south of the river bed, whereas David, visiting the site in 1993, (Annex 2 to this Section) does, describing it as *“a large tent ring with adjacent fireplace utilising a boulder for shelter”*.
6. A D-ring shelter (also recorded by David), under the northern side of a large boulder, further west on the same shelf of land just above the shore. However, it is clear from the coarse grained stony debris masking some of the shelter rocks, and from slates leaning vertically against the boulder, that high tides or freak waves caused by iceberg collapse have affected the state of this feature.
7. This possible winter dwelling occupies a depression in the surface only a few metres north-east of the D-ring shelter. Richter, recorded this feature as his fifth winter dwelling, and suggests (Annex 1) that this feature *“must be included among the*

incompleted huts; with the exception of the tunnel, the site had not been fully excavated for a dwelling; it had, however, subsequently been used as a refuse pit ...” .

Glob³, informed by Richter’s work, records the existence of five winter dwellings, while David⁴ (Annex 2) suggests the existence of “*two shallow depressions in the ground*”.

In 2007 there was little evidence of the access passage (tunnel) as the sea had probably covered all evidence with a layer of beach deposit. Only one depression is still visible and there is very evident dark discoloration of the soil, as would occur with freshly disturbed ground. Fragments of bone were found, probably evidence of its previous use, and also pieces of glass from a bottle and shreds of rusted tins. The centre of the depression remained unvegetated. It seems possible that this site had been used as a refuse pit by the Norwegian trappers.

Also attached to this Section is a large-scale plan of the Kap Lagerberg site.

KONG OSCAR FJORD

LYELL LAND

KAP LAGERBERG SITE

SCALE  1 = 10M

⑦ MANMADE FEATURE



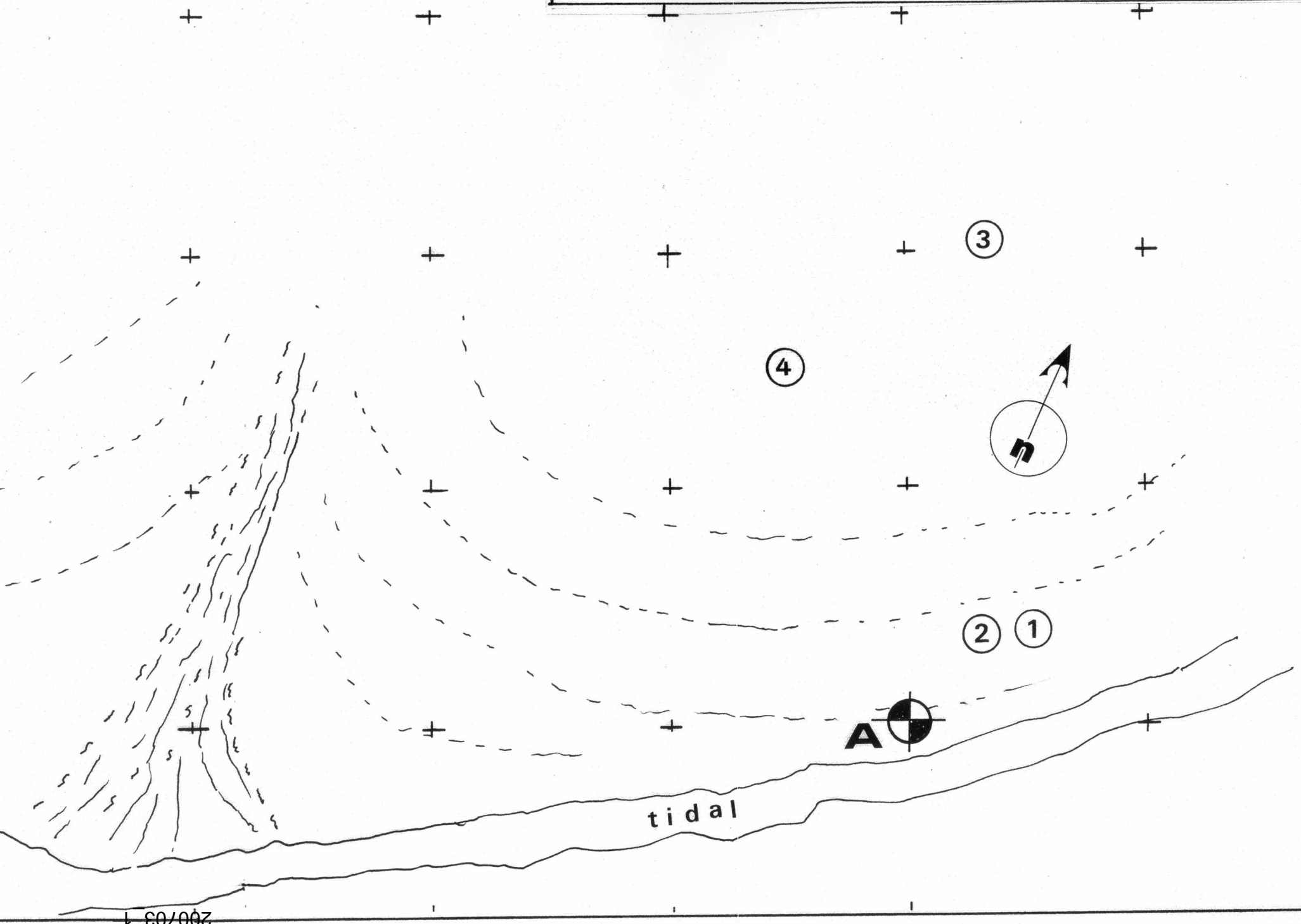
"BEINHAUGEN" FANGSTHYTTE

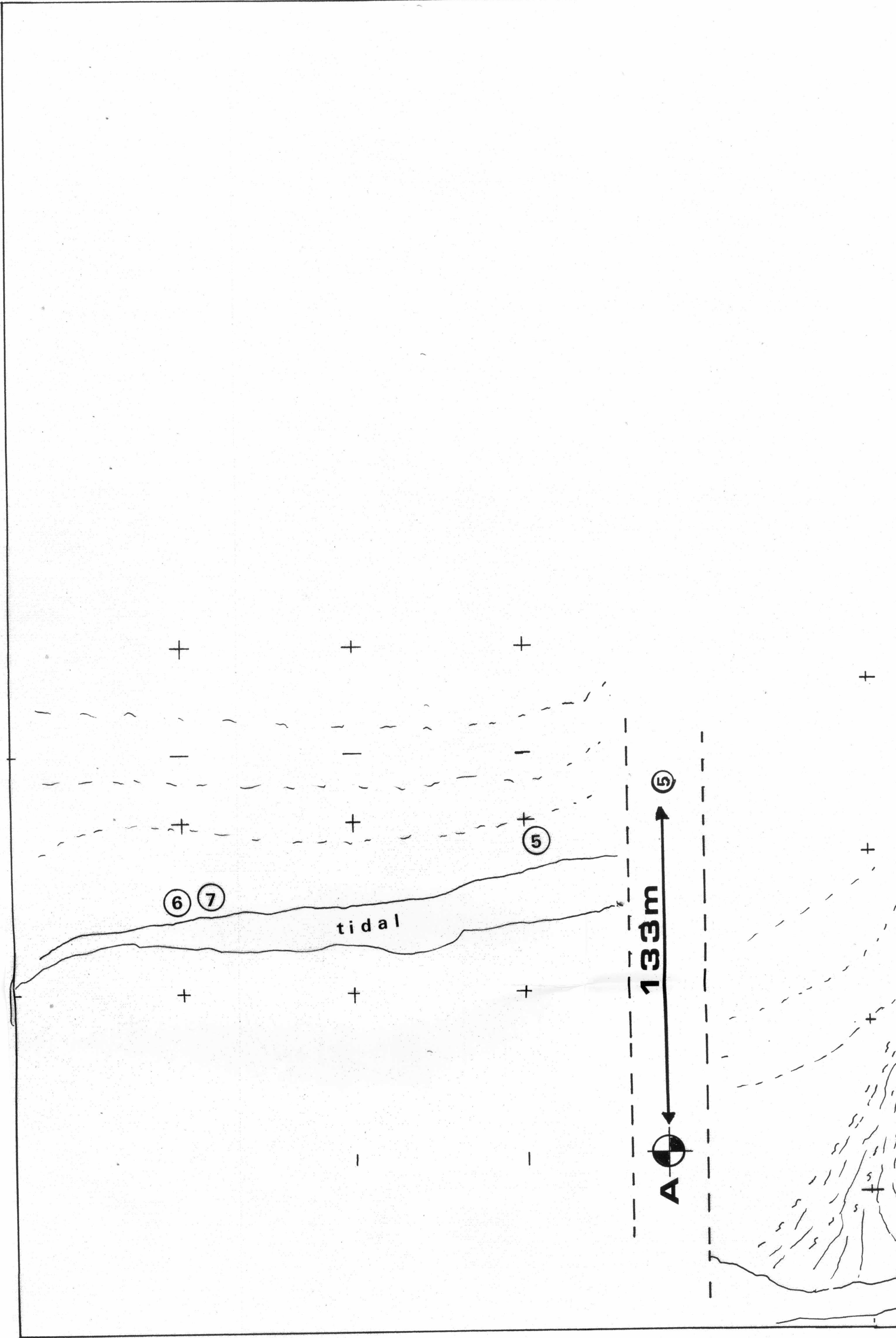
LAT.72°31'246"N LON/24°39'475W

ARB.KORT GRØNLAND 1:250.000

BLAD 72 Ø.2

BESIGTIGET AF J.V.STENICO / R.WOOLMORE
DATO 24/07/2007





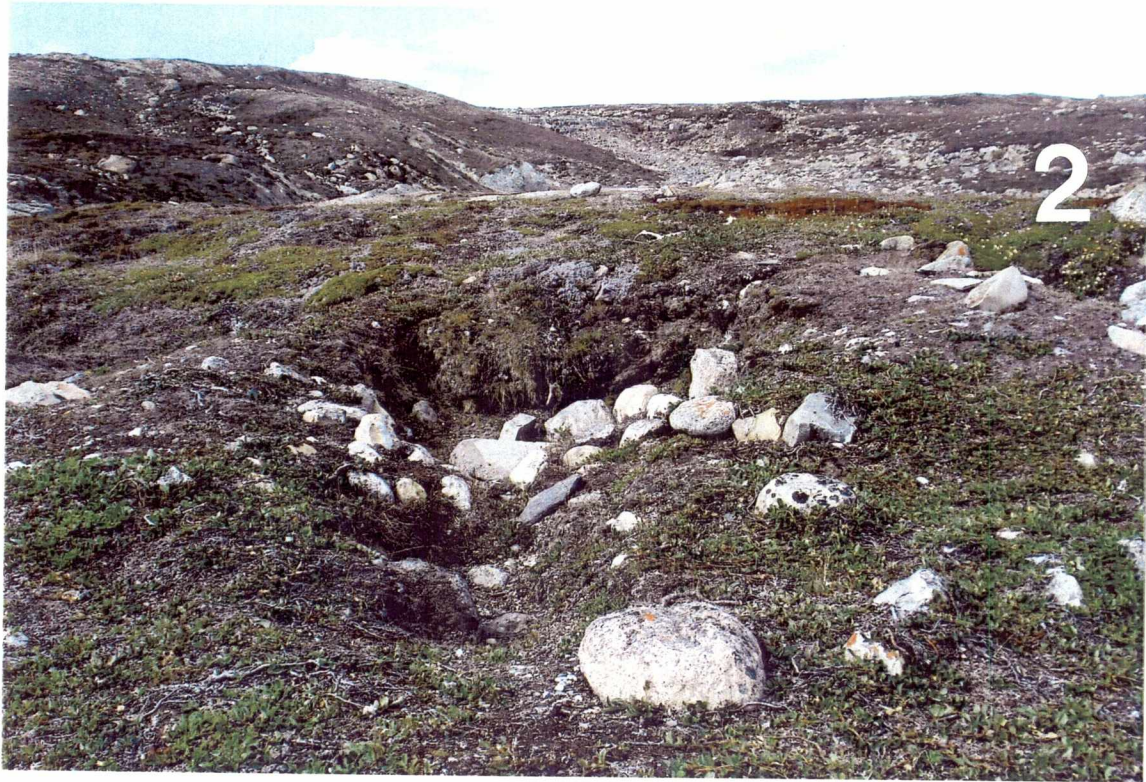


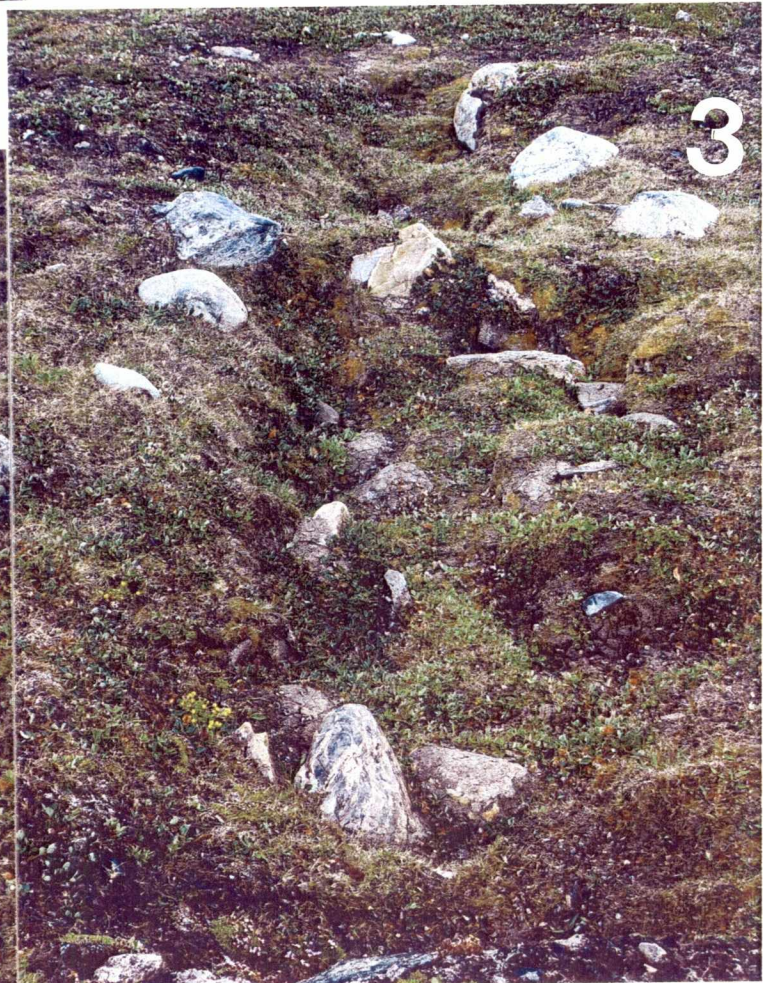
View of the site from the East

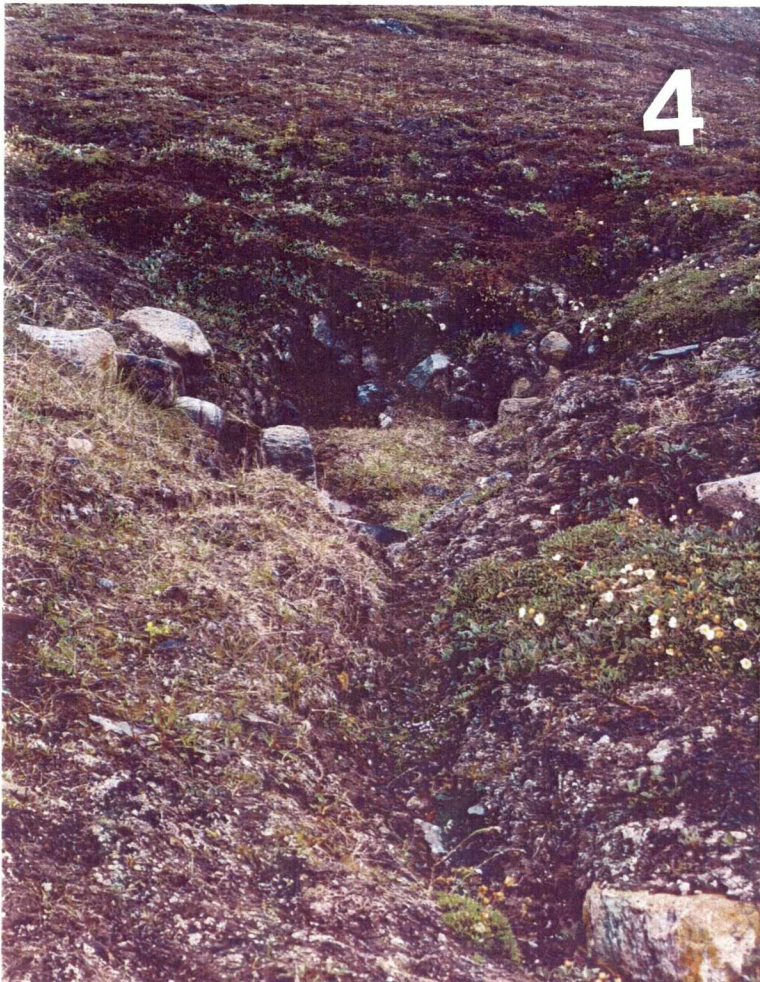


View of the site from the West









5



5



5A







Section A – Annex 1

DET KONGELIGE DEPARTEMENT
FOR HANDEL, SJØFART, INDUSTRI, HÅNDVERK OG FISKERI

NORGES SVALBARD- OG ISHAVS-UNDERSØKELSER

LEDER: ADOLF HOEL

SKRIFTER OM SVALBARD OG ISHAVET

Nr. 63

SØREN RICHTER

A CONTRIBUTION TO THE ARCHÆOLOGY
OF NORTH-EAST GREENLAND

WITH 124 TEXT FIGURES AND 1 MAP

OSLO

I KOMMISJON HOS JACOB DYBWAD

1934

To the north of Holm B. the country again becomes rugged and the foreland practically disappears altogether.

We now headed across the fjord to the north side of the entrance to Segelsällskapets Fjord, where, from previous knowledge, I knew that 2 Eskimo huts were to be found close to the Norwegian station, "Beinhaugen".

The photograph, fig. 115, gives a view of the country here. The two known huts lie to the right of the Norwegian Station, but I also discovered 3 additional huts. The sketch, fig. 116, explains their distribution.

We commenced investigation in Huts Nos. 1 and 2. The Norwegian hunters who had discovered this settlement had already excavated to some extent in Hut No. 1 but there was still much to be done. Hut No. 2, however, had not been touched at all.

Both huts were of medium size and neither seemed to have been built with any particular care. In Hut No. 2, for instance, the walls are of poor construction and a large stone entirely occupies one kitchen corner. Quite a considerable quantity of refuse was to be seen, however, and we made several finds.

The following day, 9th August, is particularly memorable because never before in Greenland had I experienced such terrible torment from mosquito swarms. There was no wind and the sun simply blazed. During the broiling hours of the afternoon when the mosquito torment was at its worst we therefore fled across to Åkerblom Island to investigate there.

Nothing of archæological interest was found, however.

As I wanted to finish by the afternoon of the following day, we worked throughout the greater part of the night. Huts Nos. 3 and 4 had collapsed to such an extent that they were difficult to distinguish in the terrain. Both belong to the poorest built huts I have seen in Greenland, although, in the vicinity, there was no lack of building stone.

Hut No. 4 was 2.5 m in length, but its width, apparently, had never exceeded 1.25 m. It does not seem to have possessed a flagstone-lined floor and the raised couch was



Fig. 115. The country at "Beinhaugen" St.

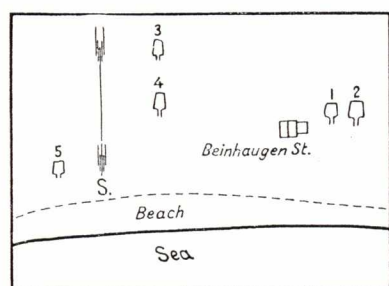


Fig. 116. Eskimo Settlement at the mouth of Segelsällskapets Fjord.

also missing. There was considerable bone-refuse in both huts, particularly in No. 4 where there was a deep layer of reindeer bones.

Hut No. 5 must be included among the incomplete huts; with the exception of the tunnel, the site had not been fully excavated for a dwelling; it had, however, subsequently been used as a refuse pit as, just beneath the turf, there was a layer, 5 cm in depth, of bone fragments, principally reindeer.

We left "Beinhaugen" the next day, 10th August, and continued along the same shore of King Oscars Fjord. A foreland, in parts very pleasant, runs along the whole coast as far as Narwhal Sound, but nowhere did we find any Eskimo relics. We thereupon crossed to Ella Island but found another expedition already working there. A short distance to the north of Cape Harry we passed a settlement the existence of which I had hitherto been unaware, as it lay just outside the periphery of my previous tramps on the island.

We thereupon proceeded to the headland on the north side of the entrance to Vega Sound. Here were two Eskimo huts which I had not hitherto had an opportunity of excavating, but I found I had been forestalled.

The next day we landed at various places along the north side of Vega Sound as far as Sverresborg; here, however, only tent-rings were to be found. The following day we completely excavated an Eskimo hut situated on a headland about 3 km inside of Sverresborg and retrieved several articles made of stone.

The engine of our motor boat now failed us for the first time and for two days we strived to get it into some sort of working order again. My plan was to visit the outer regions of Vega Sound also, but now there was lack of time and I resolved on proceeding northwards.

We did the journey to C. Humboldt in two stages and we arrived there during the night of 16th August. Careful excavation was carried out in two of the huts there the following day.

The 17th August proved stormy with strong winds, pouring rain, sleet, and driving fog-banks.

The next day, however, the weather was again brilliant and we therefore moved out to Cape Wijkander in order to complete the investigation of the settlement on which I had commenced operations three summers earlier. We worked on the site that day and the next, and made several finds. About midnight on 19th August the "Polarbjørn" came and took us off.

The next day I was able to work for about 6—7 hours on Bontekoe Island. The whole of the low-lying southern part of the island was traversed but, with the exception of the settlement we found on the south-east and three tent-rings on the east, there does not seem to be anything more than the small settlement on the west and the tent-ring on the south discovered last year by Mr. Orvin.

We therefore continued the investigation of the settlement I have already discussed. The two huts on the east are of the type I term incomplete. Stone had not been utilized;

Section A – Annex 2

A survey of Eskimo sites from Mesters Vig to Kuhn Ø, northeast Greenland

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Received January 1995

ABSTRACT. In 1946 P.V. Glob published a gazetteer of Eskimo settlement sites in northeast Greenland, and this remains the most comprehensive list to date. Between 1990 and 1994, four expeditions visited a variety of locations between 72 and 75°N and recorded a significant number of new sites. In addition, some of the sites recorded by Glob were revisited, and revisions to his descriptions have been found to be necessary. This article draws attention to the limited archaeological survey work of recent years in the northeast fjords, and reviews the nomenclature used by previous authorities in describing the sites and structures of the region, in particular the so-called 'mosaics' or 'children's playthings.' It then goes on to offer revisions of some of Glob's descriptions (using Glob's numerical system), and concludes by listing and briefly describing the features of the sites recently discovered.

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Introduction

The fjord region of northeast Greenland, lying between 72 and 75°N, saw an upsurge in Danish archaeological activity during the 1920s and 1930s, the results of which contributed to the gazetteer of Eskimo sites compiled by P.V. Glob (1946). With the exception of some further excavation at sites on Clavering Ø (Bandi and Meldgaard 1952), this area has not attracted subsequent archaeological investigation. This is largely because the cost of archaeological fieldwork in northeast Greenland is high, and scarce resources have had to be channelled into projects where valuable outcomes could reasonably be assured, or where logistical support could be shared with other organisations — for example, the programme of oil exploration in Jameson Land in the late 1980s, or the Northeast Water (NEW) polyna research programme in 1993. As a consequence in more recent years, significant archaeological programmes have taken place to the north and south of the northeast Greenland fjord region. Some projects have been undertaken north of 80°N (Knuth 1981), as well as between 75 and 80°N (Andreasen and Elling 1990, 1991, 1995; Andreasen and Lange 1994), and extensive work has been carried out in the Jameson Land and Scoresby Sund regions to the south (Møbjerg 1988; Sandell and Sandell 1991).

Between 1990 and 1994 four British expeditions visited a number of localities between 72 and 75°N, and undertook a programme of fieldwork at the archaeological sites that were encountered during the various journeys. In

1990 the British North East Greenland Expedition (leader Geoffrey Halliday) was based in Thomas Thomsen Land and on Kuhn Ø, and from 1992 the British North East Greenland Project (leader Rob David) has been operating in the fjord area around Clavering Ø (1992), Lyell Land and Forsblad Fjord (1993), and Strindbergs Land (1994). This article presents an overview of the archaeological fieldwork, including a number of revisions to the description of sites in Glob's gazetteer, as well as offering descriptions of the new sites. However it is beyond the scope of this article to enter into a discussion about the dating of these sites, and their possible cultural affiliation.

Early recording of archaeological features in the northeast fjords

It was during Karl Koldewey's German Arctic Expedition of 1869–1870 to the northeast fjords that the first detailed investigation was made of the Eskimo archaeology in the area (Koldewey 1874). Koldewey's fieldwork was carried out on Sabine Ø, Pendulum Øer, and at the bay on the south shore of Clavering Ø, where he thought the famous encounter between the British naval officer, Captain Douglas Charles Clavering, and a small group of Eskimos had taken place in 1823 (Clavering 1830). This encounter with 12 Eskimos was the first and last occasion on which Eskimos were recorded as living in northeast Greenland. Koldewey identified a number of structures, namely huts, tent rings, graves, and caches, but subsequent exploration has revealed a wider variety of features and has led to further refinements in nomenclature. A brief discussion of terminology will enhance the value of the gazetteer that follows.

Some terms, such as winter house sites, tent rings, fox traps, and graves are common throughout the Arctic, and, although important in determining the culture-history of the area, need no further description. 'Caches' or 'meat stores' were classified by Thostrup (1911: 200–201) into two groups: permanent and temporary. The former consists of a carefully laid circular, oval, or rectangular stone setting over which a cairn of stones was built, while the latter involved the construction of a rough heap of stones to protect the meat from foxes and other animals.



Fig. 4. A group of 'mosaics' to the northwest of the ancient Eskimo summer camp near Kap Ovibos, Strindbergs Land.

length.

Between the hunter's hut and the southern headland at Damesten is the summer camp recorded by Richter. To the northeast of the camp, and some distance from the shore, there are some rather ill-defined groupings of quartz pebbles and other coloured stones. To the northwest there is a series of well-defined 'mosaics' (Fig. 4). One group consists of open-fronted rectangular features with particularly conspicuous side edges consisting of a variety of large coloured pieces of rock with a concentration of quartz. The inner area has been cleared of pebbles, and some have evidence of a line of stones placed parallel to the back edge. A second grouping consists of a small D-shaped 'mosaic' and a number of ill-defined assemblages of quartz pebbles and other stones.

Near the small lake at Damesten is a third site consisting of the largest 'mosaics'; two are square-shaped with one edge missing, and with part of the interior clear of stones. Pieces of white quartz and flat stones have been carefully positioned at specific points in the curb, and in the interior. One has a prominent white rounded boulder (Fig. 5) adjacent, exactly as described by Thostrup (1911: 298): 'Each [children's plaything] consisted of a collection of flat stones with one large rounded boulder...the

rounded boulder has served as a seat.' The other features in this area consist of less clearly defined groupings of quartz pebbles and flat stones.

The large number and variety of styles represented by the Kap Ovibos 'mosaics' indicate that this grouping is a significant addition to those that are known. It should be pointed out that these features could be irretrievably damaged if large numbers of people were to visit the site.

142: Grejsdalen

The mosaics recorded by Johnson (1933) seem to have suffered badly from erosion by the stream that passes through the site. His group one and group two mosaics (pages 50–51) have disappeared. The 'numerous small mosaics' (page 52) are located precariously near the edge of the steep and much-eroded bank of the stream. The two large mosaics (page 53) are still in good condition. (Information on this site was supplied by Iain and Fiona Roy.)

175: Kap Lagerberg

The five winter houses around the hunter's hut, which were recorded by Richter (1934: 131), should be supplemented by a series of sites on a raised beach a few hundred metres to the southwest. These were visited in 1993, and consist of a large tent ring with adjacent fireplace utilising a boulder for shelter, a D-shaped shelter, and two shallow

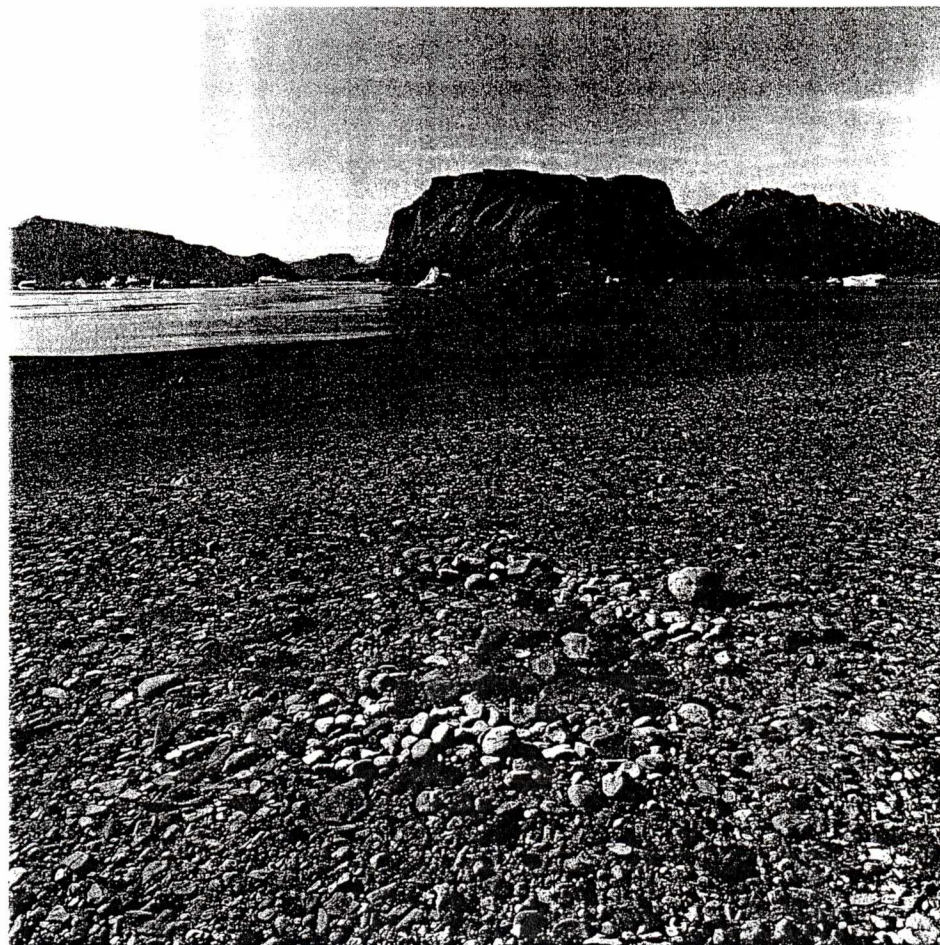


Fig. 5. A 'mosaic' near the lake at Damesten, Strindbergs Land.

depressions in the ground (one of which appears to have a passageway) and could therefore be two additional winter houses. There is a considerable amount of bone debris adjacent to one of them.

176: Åkerbloms Ø

Glob (1946) cited A.G. Nathorst's map of the fjord region (Nathorst 1900) as marking a summer site on this island. However Richter, who visited the island in 1933, escaping from the mosquitos at Kap Lagerberg, reported that 'nothing of archaeological interest was found' (Richter 1934: 131); and Glob, who visited the island the same year, made no reference to any site (Glob 1935: 83). A visit to the island in 1993 confirmed Richter's statement.

Additions to Glob's gazetteer

As a result of the survey work undertaken on Kuhn Ø in 1990, in Payer Land and on Clavering Ø in 1992, in Lyell Land and on Hammar Ø in 1993, and in Strindbergs Land in 1994, a number of new sites have been located. These have been given names and are shown in Figure 1.

Kuhn Ø 1 (75° 01'N, 20° 31'W)

This site lies north and south of the northernmost river delta on the west coast of Kuhn Ø. The site to the north consists of two shelters, one oval and one D-shaped. In addition, there is an arrangement of quartz pebbles and

dark coloured rocks placed on the predominantly red coloured pebbles of this area. It is clearly not the product of random distribution but does not conform to the normal 'mosaic' pattern.

The site to the south of the delta lies on a rocky spur. The shape of some of the structures was influenced by outcrops of bedrock and the shape of the terraces on the spur. Two tent rings have stones marking the edge of the sleeping platform. There is also a D-shaped shelter, two possible fireplaces, and a very well-constructed ring of inward leaning stones of 1.4 m in diameter.

A kilometre to the south on the second promontory north of the hunter's hut is a meat store with a muskox skull within it, an oval shelter and a tent ring with stone-edged sleeping platform.

Kuhn Ø 2 (74° 59'N, 20° 37'W)

This site lies on the headland immediately to the south of the fangsthytte. The site is divided into north and south sections by a small river delta.

The site on the north side of the delta consists of six tent rings (some circular, some oval), four caches, and two shelters (one D-shaped, one oval). Bone debris is scattered over much of the site.

There is a similar site to the south of the small delta, but conditions precluded any detailed recording. An unusual

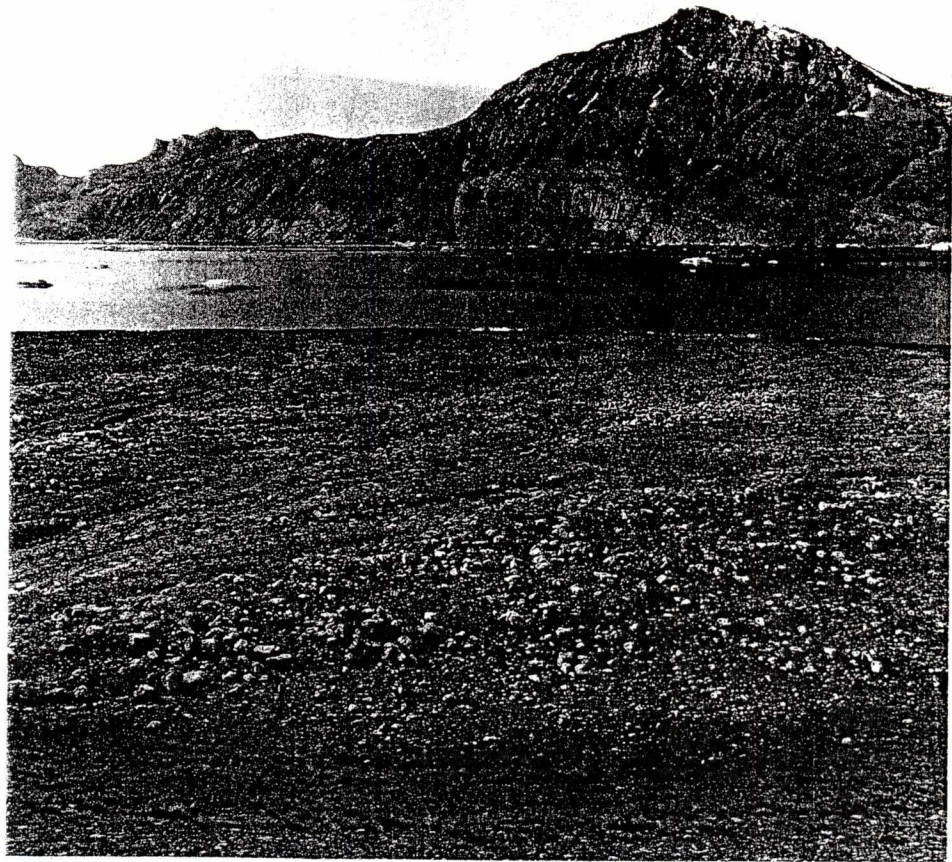


Fig. 7. Meat caches and tent rings at Primulabugt, Strindbergs Land.

number of apparently incomplete groupings of stones.

Hallebjergene 2 ($74^{\circ}10'N$, $21^{\circ}44'W$)

The sites lie in two groups: to the east, a tent ring with an outer ring of small groups of stones lying about 0.5 m beyond the circle, and, to the west, two circular temporary caches with floors of sand, and a tent ring with defined sleeping area.

Hallebjergene 3 ($74^{\circ}12'N$, $21^{\circ}50'W$)

This group of structures lies about 1 km east of the hunter's hut. The site consists of a permanent cache, three tent rings (two of which are partly eroded by the sea), a horseshoe-shaped shelter, and three 'mosaics.' Two of the 'mosaics' are very small, consisting of a concentration of quartz pieces set within a defined rim of stones; one of these is approximately the same design as that at Grejsdalen in Suess Land and illustrated by Johnson (1933: 51). The third is about 2 m^2 , well defined by stones set on edge, and similar in appearance to those at Cape Borlase Warren, which were also illustrated by Johnson (1933: 27), although without the row of stones that can be interpreted as representing the edge of the sleeping area.

Primulabugt ($73^{\circ}49'N$, $25^{\circ}20'W$), **Strindbergs Land**

An extensive site of tent rings and meat caches lies in the bay (Fig. 7). A large number of reindeer antlers and pieces of bone in and around the caches suggests that this was a

late-summer/early-autumn camp on a reindeer migration route. There is easy access into the hinterland from the slopes behind the bay.

Polhem Dal (north end) ($72^{\circ}44'N$, $25^{\circ}2'W$), **Lyell Land**
Two winter houses lie on a terrace to the east of the river and 200 m from the fjord.

Hammar Ø ($72^{\circ}32'N$, $24^{\circ}38'W$)

A summer site towards the south end of the island consists of two tent rings and four permanent caches (Fig. 8). The map that accompanied Glob's report on his activities in Kempe Fjord and Kong Oscar Fjord shows a summer settlement on Hammar Ø (Glob 1935). This is not referred to anywhere else, and Glob does not include it in his own 1946 report. It is worth considering whether Nathorst's reference to the site on neighbouring Åkerbloms Ø, which has not subsequently been located, was a mistake. Was the site that his expedition located not on Åkerbloms Ø but on Hammar Ø, which was named after Dr Hammar, the archaeologist on his expedition? If so, was that island therefore visited at the same time?

Conclusions

In the absence of any historical record other than the account of Clavering's encounter with the small group of Eskimos in 1823, current understanding of Eskimo settle-

Section B – Hammar Ø

Summer Settlement

Section B

FM 7202-OIV-009

Hammar Ø Summer Settlement 72°31980'N, 24°37784'W. Elongated north-south, and formed of coarse sandstone and conglomerated, the island runs parallel to the shore at the Kirschdalen landing strip (the Expedition Base Camp), and is separated from it by a narrow sound. The summer settlement of two tent rings and five caches lies across the narrow “waist” of the southern peninsula of the island. As already noted in the Introduction, the summer settlement is not mentioned in Glob’s Gazetteer, though he does mention a similar site (Number 176) on Åkerblom Ø² nearby. Given that neither Richter² nor David⁴ found Inuit archaeological features on Åkerblom, and that David found a site with tent rings and caches on Hammar Ø, the authors believe that Glob’s site 176 is, indeed, the Hammar Ø summer settlement site. Stenico’s find, at the site, of bone fragments of sledge runners, however, does raise the possibility that this site could also have been used in the winter.

The authors would seek the advice of experts on this, though it seems most probable that the Hammar Ø site is, indeed, a summer settlement, probably frequented by Inuit hunters who lived at the nearby winter settlement of Kap Lagerberg, or from further away, at winter settlements at Kap Petersens (Glob², 179) or Kongeborgen (Glob², 177).

The attached plan to this Section clearly shows the settlement (features 1-7) straddling the narrowest part of the island’s southern peninsula, consisting of two large tent rings and five large and empty caches. These features are as follows:

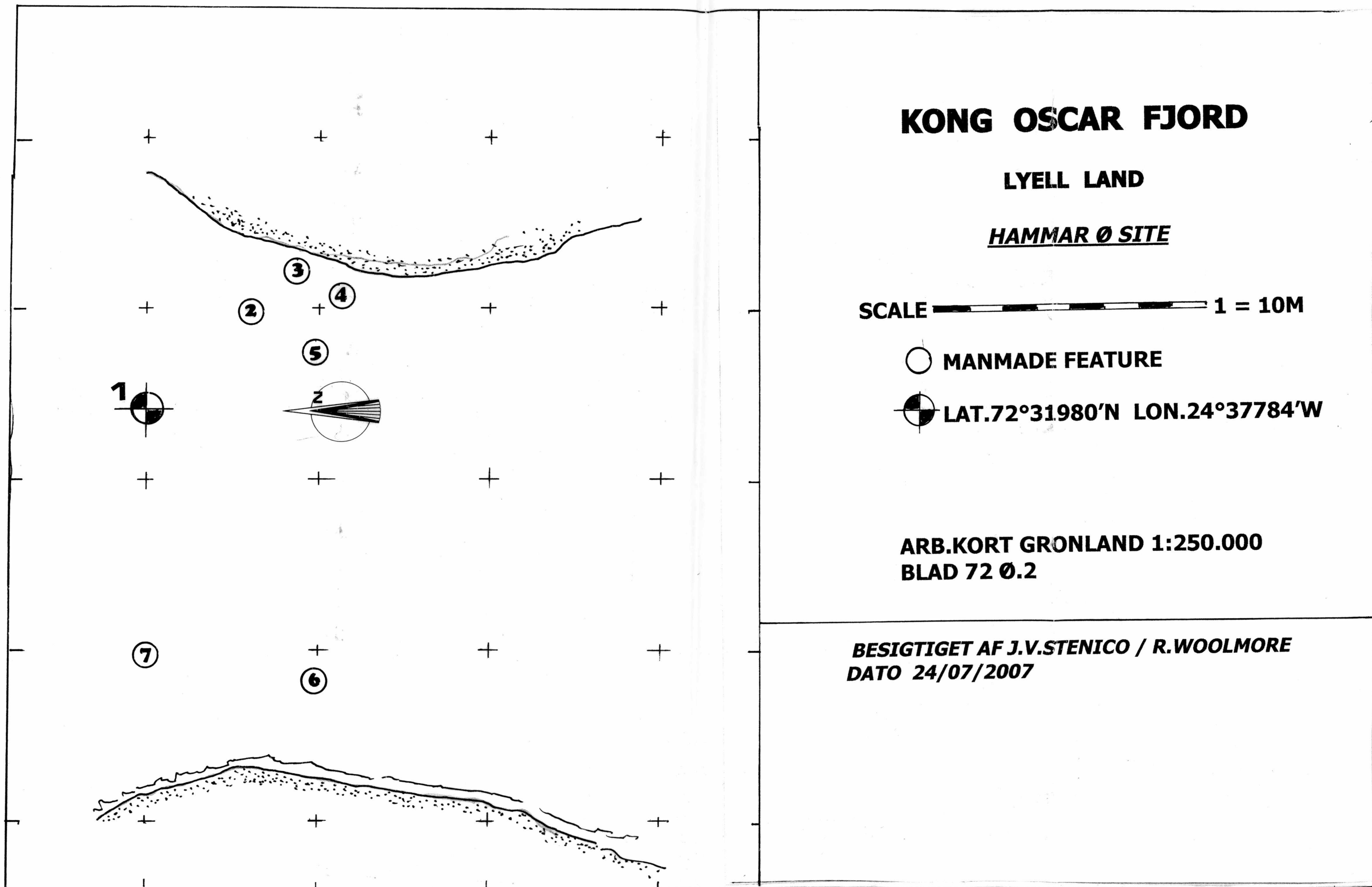
1. A cache consisting of large boulders at the highest point of the settlement.
(Reference point for mapping exercise – lat. 72°31980'N, long. 24°37784'W.)
2. A substantial cache with two layers of large rocks,

3. The remnant rocks of a small cache; with smaller rocks inside a small circle of larger rocks,
4. A cache consisting of a few large rocks piled up against one side of a very large boulder,
5. A remnant cache with large rocks enclosing smaller rocks at its centre.
6. A 5 metre diameter tent ring of larger rocks, not embedded, with a floor of flattish pebbles and small vegetated areas.
7. A 6 metre diameter tent "ring", possibly more squarish in form, of smaller rocks; with western side of floor more vegetated and eastern side with flat pebble floor. on the northern side of the ring a small earth

The plan of the site shows caches **3** and **4** located near the eastern edge of the shore of the island, and thus subject to damage and eventual destruction by wave action. On the western side of the site, close to the tent rings **6** and **7**, the land falls sharply in a low cliff to the waters of the fjord.

In looking round the site the authors found several bones, some recognisable as reindeer, whale or narwhal bones. Stenico discovered some flat rib bones which had been perforated to act as sledge-runners, but like the other bones, the authors left these in situ.

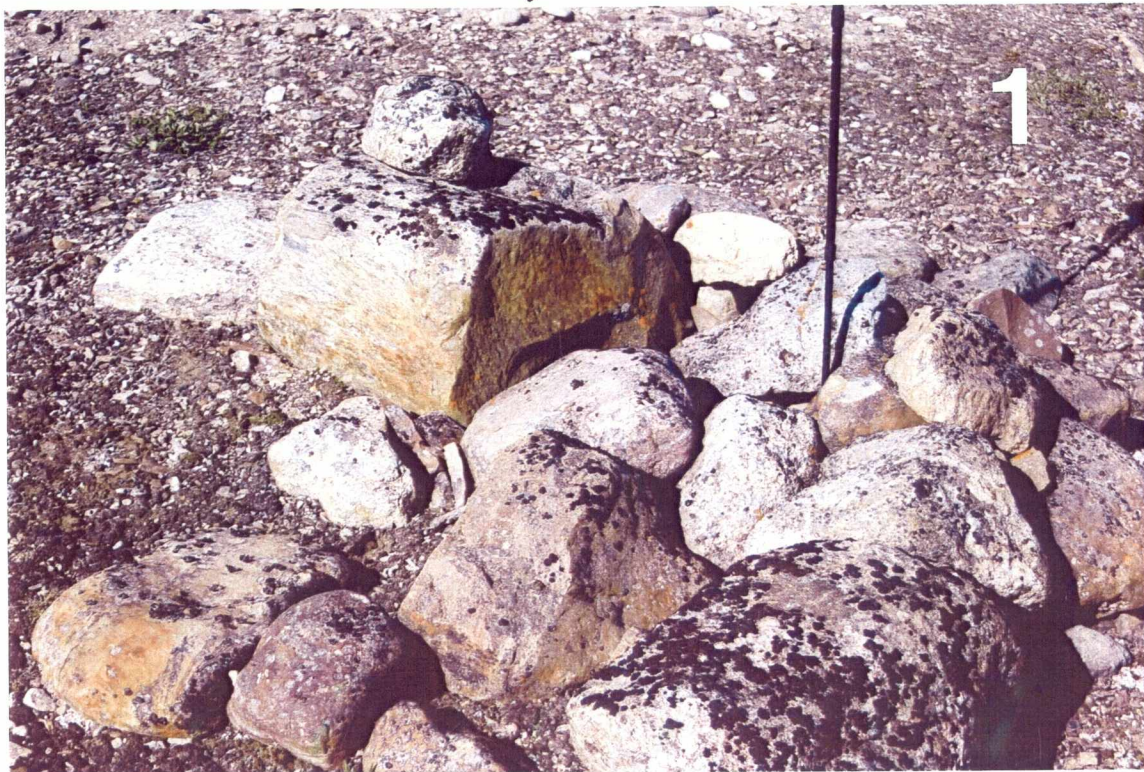
Survey work on the summer settlement site was restricted to preparing the plan of the site, drawing plans of the two tent rings and making rough sketches of the five caches, as well as photographing the features.







View of the Hammar Ø site from Kap Lagerberg







4

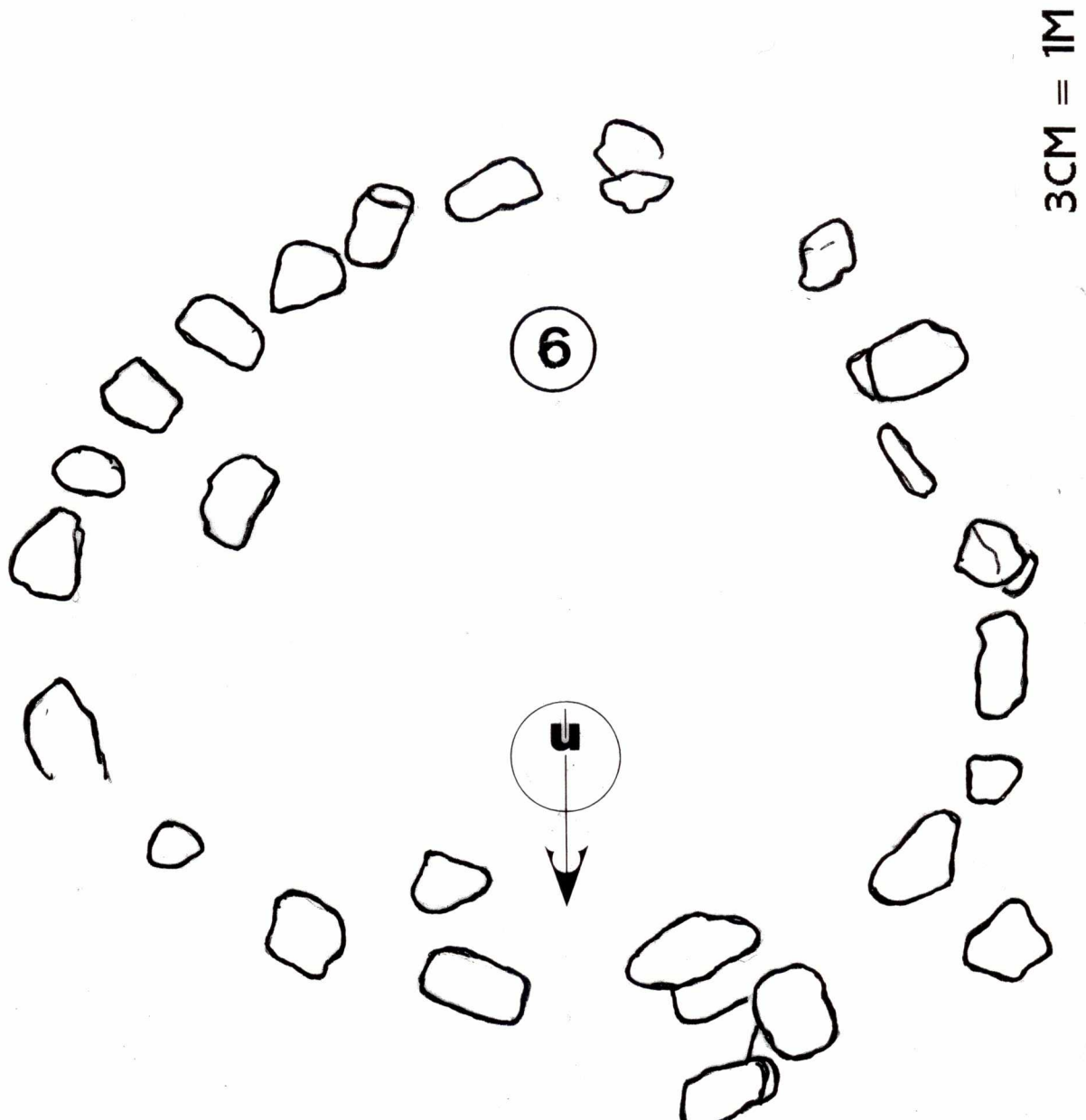
HAMMAR 200703_1 Ø.72 Ø.2



4

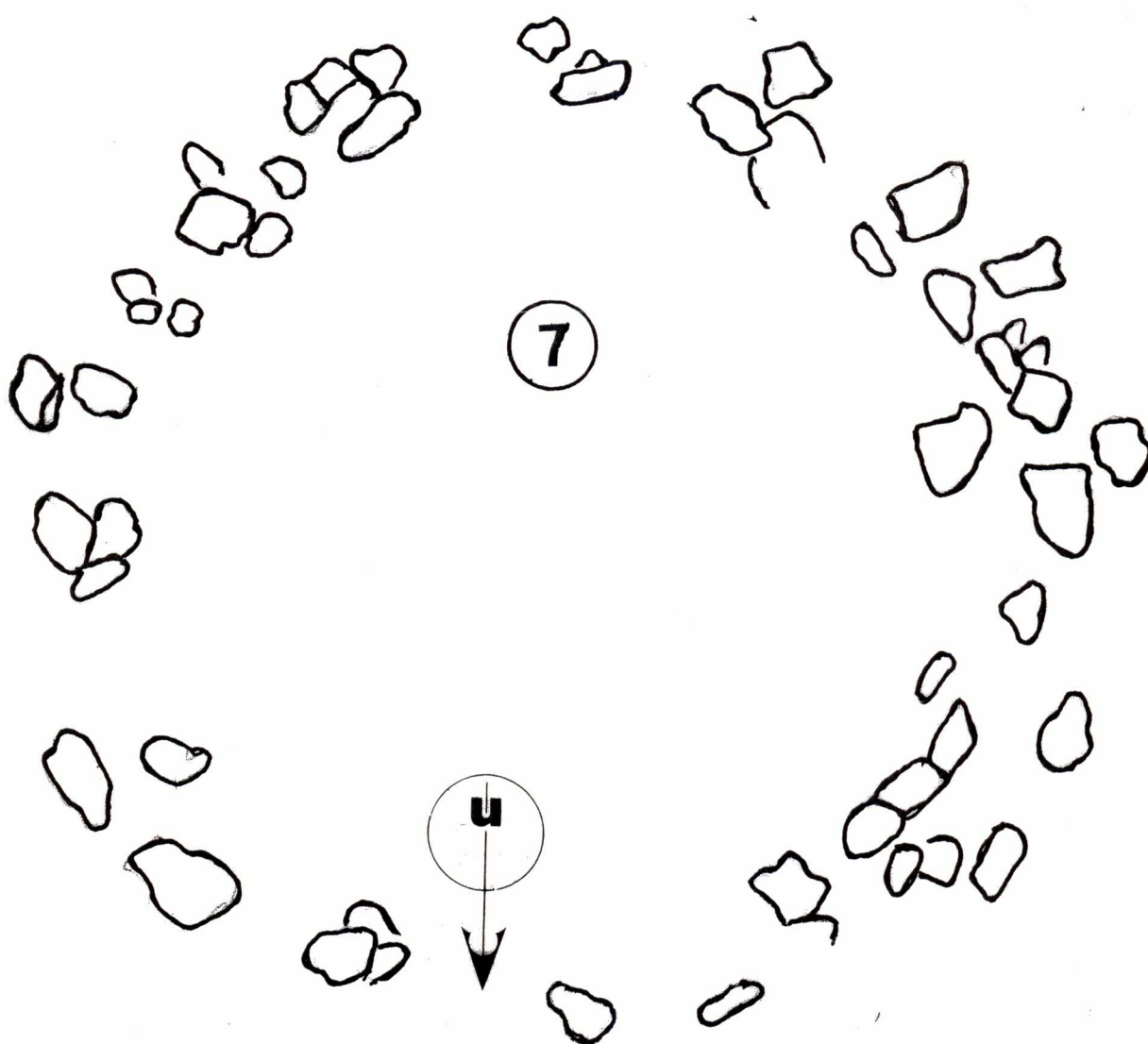








3CM = 1M





Section C – Kap Dufva

Section C

Kap Dufva – two enigmatic features 72°40278'N, 24°42866'W

FM 7202-0IV-002

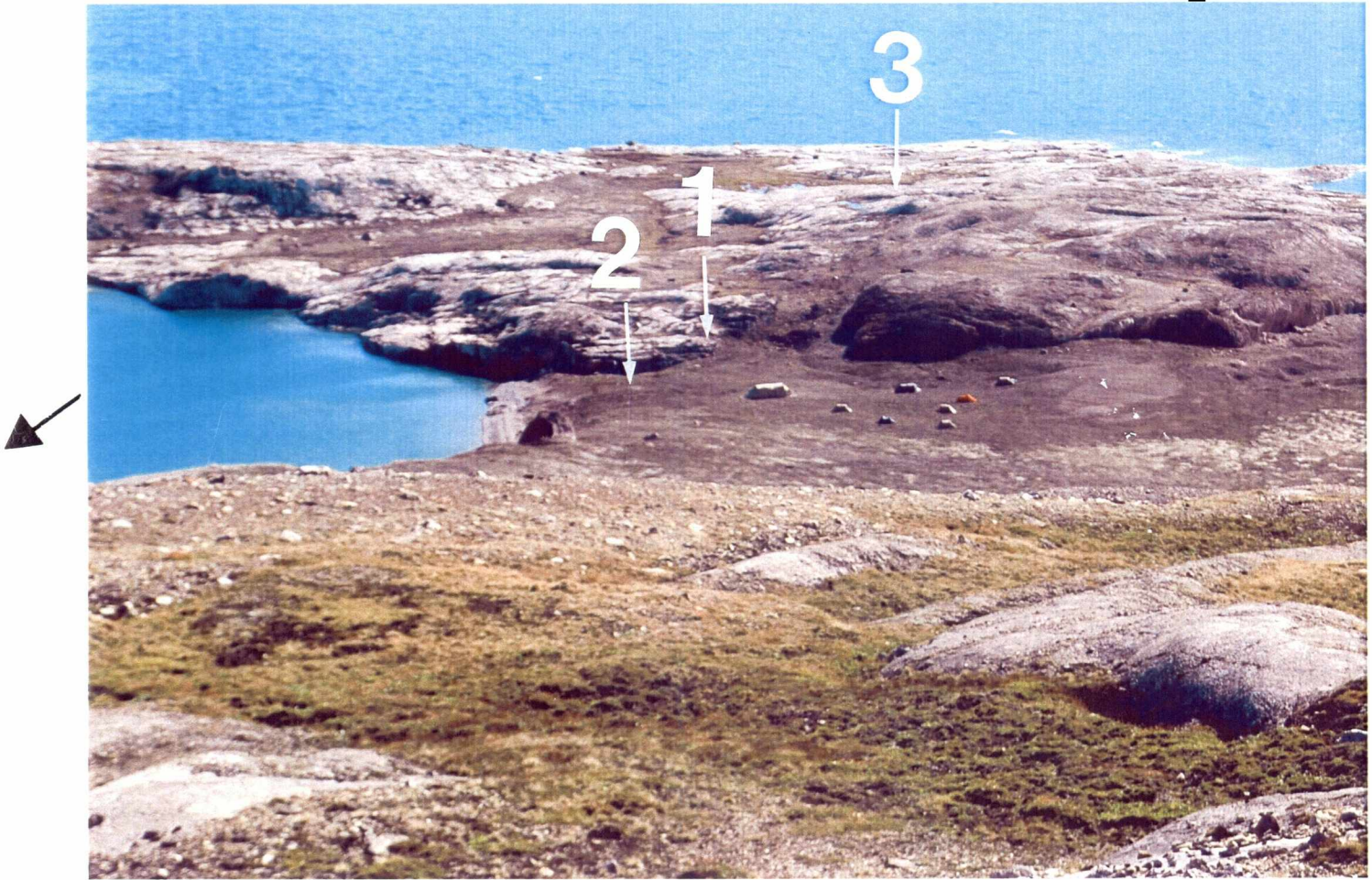
Glob's Gazetteer³ recorded a hunting camp with meat caches (site 174) at Kap Dufva.

In surveying the low rocky promontory of Kap Dufva itself the authors discovered an enigmatic pile of rocks (1) on a low ledge overlooking the east-facing bay where our Expedition leaders had established our subsidiary camp. Our photographs show a large pile of angular rocks, and suggest that the feature is a large dismantled cache which has been converted into either a smaller meat cache or possibly a fox trap.

A few metres further away, at the foot of the low wall or ledge, on which the cache/foxtrap is located, close to the beach, is a tent ring (2), most probably a recent one.

At a site near the summit of the low rock promontory south of the eastward facing bay, the authors found a small pile of rocks and stones, forming a cairn (3).

Nearby, on the surface of flat rocks was a faded large red-painted letter, partly covered by lichens. Perhaps, in the more recent past, Kap Dufva could have been used as a landing place for helicopters. The cairn, of course, could be a trigonometric reference point; and the red letter merely an indication of its presence. A rusted tin in soft ground nearby also points to a more recent use, and occupation of Kap Dufva.







2



3

