



Field report from the journey to North-East Greenland 2014



Sverresborg resurrected!

Almost as the Phoenix, the old Sverresborg trappers' station in Vega Sund has re-emerged. After 85 years of decay, Nanok has now brought the house back to life. Read more about this and much more in this report.

Introduction

Nordøstgrønlandsk Company Nanok has had a successful 24th field season. During the summer, our two field teams have completed an extensive programme.

The North team has finished the renovation of the house in Dødemandsbugten that was begun in 2013. The result is not only a house, completely restored according to the directions from The Greenland National Museum & Archive (NKA) in Nuuk, but also the establishment of a new “*Communication Centre Dødemandsbugten*”, the first of its kind in National Park North & North East Greenland. The idea behind this and other coming communication centres is to put suitable information on specifically selected historic sites for instance in the form of posters with information on local history. Thus, this information may be of use to visitors of the location, e.g. cruise tourists, research scientists, etc.

The South team for their part completed a full renovation of the old Sverresborg trappers’ station in Vega Sund. At the time the house was finished in 1929, it was considered by experienced trappers to be the finest trappers’ house ever built in North East Greenland. Unfortunately, Vega Sund turned out to be a poor area for fox trapping, so after a few years the trappers gave up the station. 85 years without maintenance, Sverresborg drew close to total decay until Nanok at the 11th hour chose to save it.

Besides the works mentioned here, the North team and the South team in collaboration have done the preliminary reinforcements of “Ørnereden” on Ella Ø which for several years has been subject to strongly damaging attacks from polar bears. In the attempt to prevent further damage to Lauge Koch’s historic expedition house, we decided, with short notice and the means at hand, to strengthen the weakest places in the building, until we can complete a proper reinforcement and restoration of “Ørnereden”, hopefully in 2015. On this occasion, it is our intention to renovate the

so-called “12-mandsbarak”, which Sirius has cleared out during this summer, so it can be used for overnight stays and as a base for Nanok, research scientists and other visitors in the future.

This summer curator Inge Bisgaard, who is the building expert at NKA, received navigation assistance with the navy’s inspection vessel “Ejnar Mikkelsen” and in that way got the opportunity to finish the registration of List-A huts. Thereby a plan for the preservation of these places can now be made. A warm thanks to Inge Bisgaard and NKA for inspiring and exemplary cooperation in the past year. At the same time, we thank “Ejnar Mikkelsen” and Greenland Command (GLK) for the goodwill and support that has made it possible to visit these places.



AAGE V. JENSENS FONDE

Nanok sends a great and warm thank you to our loyal sponsor, Aage V. Jensens Fonde, for never failing trust and support.

A great thank you also to the Sirius men and to the MarinBasis/Daneborg team, who once again showed us helpfulness and hospitality.

Furthermore, we direct a well-intentioned thank you to the many private persons, who continuously show a positive interest in and support to our work.

We are also very grateful for all the support from the relations to the dispatched Nanok’ers, who generally spend a great deal of their summer vacation on the voluntary and unpaid work for Nanok. The endorsement of the support base is of great importance.

Finally a warm thanks to our many excellent collaborators and expeditions and authorities, who each have made positive contributions and make our work possible.

On behalf of NANOK,
Peter Schmidt Mikkelsen

This field report is also available in English and Danish at: www.xsirius.dk/nanok.html

Field report for the North team 2014

Tasks

The North team had the following tasks:

- a) to see through the final restoration of Dødemandsbugten [408] following the directions of The Greenland National Museum & Archive and to maintain the already renovated buildings in the area.
- b) to undertake a temporary bear reinforcement of Ørnereden and 12-mandsbarakken on Ella Ø and do the necessary measurements and assessments in order to plan a proper reinforcement, renovation and decoration of Ørnereden and 12-mandsbarakken respectively in 2015.
- c) to inspect, count and maintain the Nanok depot in Sandodden/Daneborg.
- d) to receive goods for Nanok in Daneborg.
- e) to make preparations for the NANOK-expedition 2015.

North team

Jens Chr. Worm "Goffi" Gotfredsen (Sirius '77), Asger Lakmann Nielsen (Sirius '77), Jørn M. "Tjock" Ladegaard (Sirius '74).

The stay and work on Ella Ø

The North team made the journey directly to Ella Ø together with the South team to immediately begin the impending tasks. The bear had broken through the south-eastern window, then it ravaged one room after another; it even managed to get through the

hatch to the attic, where it made a mess but fortunately did not break anything. Also, the bear gave the attic a hard time from downstairs, apparently in an attempt to get up from elsewhere.

The North team's carpenter assists in the clean-up and mending after the bear visit in Ørnereden and prepares the equipment for Sverresborg [232].

One of the engineers of the North team gives a hand in the starting-up and launching of "Agsut" and preparation of outboard motor. Besides cleaning up, the other engineer is assisting on the boats and is welding the railing to "Agsut", which was broken. Furthermore, he inspects the coal stove with chimney pipe, plates, etc, so it is fully ready to set up on Sverresborg.

Together with the machine operator of the South team, the North team makes depot sailing to Sverresborg.

Moving on to Daneborg

After a week's work on Ella Ø, the North team flies to Daneborg/Sandodden. We fly straight above Sverresborg, where "Agsut" is observed in front of Sverresborg. The North team lands in excellent weather on Daneborg and immediately begins inspecting depots and making arrangements with Sirius regarding communication on the sails, and with Egon Frandsen from the scientist group on Daneborg regarding assistance to lay out equipment to Dødemandsbugten. After having inspected all the security measures for the preliminary task and having carried equipment down to the boat "Aage V. Jensen", we sail load to



The North team in the fully renovated house in Dødemandsbugten.

From the left: Goffi, Asger, Tjock.

The attic and inside walls of the house have been covered with rustic boards. Posters with local historical information in Greenlandic, Danish and English respectively, have been put up.

Dødemandsbugten during the night with Egon and his team. Along the day we get ready with the first load in our own rubber dinghy and are on our way in perfect weather.

Dødemandsbugten

On 31st of July we arrive at Dødemandsbugten, where we install ourselves in a practical manner with the timber yard straight outside the front door, so we don't have to walk far with the material after having worked at the saw bench.

An extensive clear-up lies ahead, as the outside area is littered with broken glass, rusty nails, cartridge cases and old wood. The wood is for reuse. We sort it and spread it, so it can dry in the wind and the sun for later use.

We carry everything out of the hut except the partition between the rooms, which we have to reposition until later, when it can be installed as directed. Soon we realise that the hut is very damp. The undersides of the boards that are lying on the floor beams are soaked in water, and the ground is so slushy that we are slipping.

The floor

Good advice is hard to come by. All experience say that for this floor to dry, it needs air, a lot of air, and time that we do not have. The risk that dry rot and permanent dampness will occur, if we block with isolation, is an immediate problem that has to be calculated. It will cause that the floor beams would be infected with rot to a degree that can only be prevented with the

option of air circulation. Furthermore, the outer walls are sealed with roofing felt in the same height from where the peat has been stacked last year. Therefore it is not an option to use a base to make air circulation below the isolation.

Owing to the building style and lack of time, we decide to lay the floor without isolating. Also, this style is in accordance with the original building style of the hut.

The attic

The attic is slanting, so we have to detach several of the rafters. Pliers are loosened from the end of the rafter, which is straightened, so we are able to put up the rustic boards in an acceptable craftsman-condition. We isolate with 145 mm. A vapour barrier is put up, however not completely in accordance with the demands to contemporary building. Mostly, it is put up to help us walk below the isolation, while fixing the attic boards. Rustic boards are also fixed to the entrance to conceal the wind support wire.

The walls

All outer walls are isolated with 100 mm. No vapour barrier, so the materials can breathe. Every 50 cm laths are put up horizontally to which rustic boards are attached.

The windows

These have been installed last year and are all intact. A frame for the laths is put up on the inside to support the windows in case the bear does push the shutters.



Isolation and laths attached as sheathing.



Isolation of attic.



Attic boards are put up.



*Walls and ground are very damp.
The condition of the wood is OK.*



New floor.



Isolation of attic.

Having just arrived with the ship in 2014, a new window is installed in the entrance. A perfect fit. Also here a frame is made as support.

The doors

Also new doors have arrived with the ship. The front door and the door inside are installed. They fit the old measurements of the hut. A door handle is installed, it works perfectly. The door in the old partition, consisting of old, broad, vertical boards, is kept and restored according to original style.

Lists

With handsaw we adjust the attic sections, wall bases, shadow list and architrave and do modifications to ensure the final result.

Coal stove & chimney

A very impressive, newly renovated coal stove with all equipment was delivered with the ship. For the sake of the possibilities of navigation and the scarcity of time, we agree with Sirius that they on a later occasion will bring and install it on the spot, where all the preparations have been made. We make a hole in the roof for the lead-in of the

chimney and attach all plates and lead-in components, so the stove only has to be put in place, and the chimney pipe lowered to its place. We seal with roofing felt around the metal plate. The plates to protect the wood are installed onto the floor and walls.

Bunks

The bunks are made from old wood, and the bed boards from new wood. The new mattresses are put in place.

Roofing felt

As we do not dare to burn it in place, the roofing felt on the outer wall is fixed with lists at the base of the hut. We tidy up and do a counting inside and outside.

Painting

The indoor paint that was shipped here is not used due to the lack of time. We apply linseed oil (crystal varnish) to the woodwork outside and to the new doors.

Equipment

Nanok's equipment and gear - rubber dinghy, motor, boat equipment, trailer, tools, clothes, gas, safety gear and provisions -



Wall is boarded.



Lists are formed.



Old partition wall put up.



Bunks made from old boards.



Information posters put up on the wall.

work well. A reparation is performed of the boat trailer's wheels and the fittings for the side stabiliser wheels. We only use the battery drill the last two days after ship's call.

The weather

The North team has been at Daneborg/Sandodden and Dødemandsbugten. Furthermore we have sailed the distance of 40 km between the two destinations several times in sunshine, in fog and in calm and windy weather – locally up to 30 knots. We have observed only few and small icebergs. The "great icebergs" that we know from the late seventies have not been in sight on the entire journey. Not even during our flights up and down the coast.

It was warm on Ella Ø and cold in the North at Dødemandsbugten and Daneborg. Almost no snow in the Ella Ø area, but some snow North at Daneborg / Sandodden.

Wildlife

The animals we have spotted have repeatedly been the same species: eider, barnacle goose,

fulmar, seagull, arctic tern, raven, plover, wheatear, snow bunting, musk ox, polar bear, fox, walrus, common seal and bearded seal. That is, several different species but in small numbers.

Closing and thank you to ...

During the stay at both Ella Ø and Daneborg, we recieved much help from the Sirius men and from the MarinBasis team at Daneborg, Egon Frandsen and Henrik Spanggaard Munch – a priceless help. A support that we value highly, and we are very grateful for everything.

Goffi – Asger – Tjock



Dødemandsbugten at our departure. The house is now fully renovated with a new door and new windows. It was a conscious choice to keep the fine, rustic board facade and to exchange only the rotten boards.



Front room.



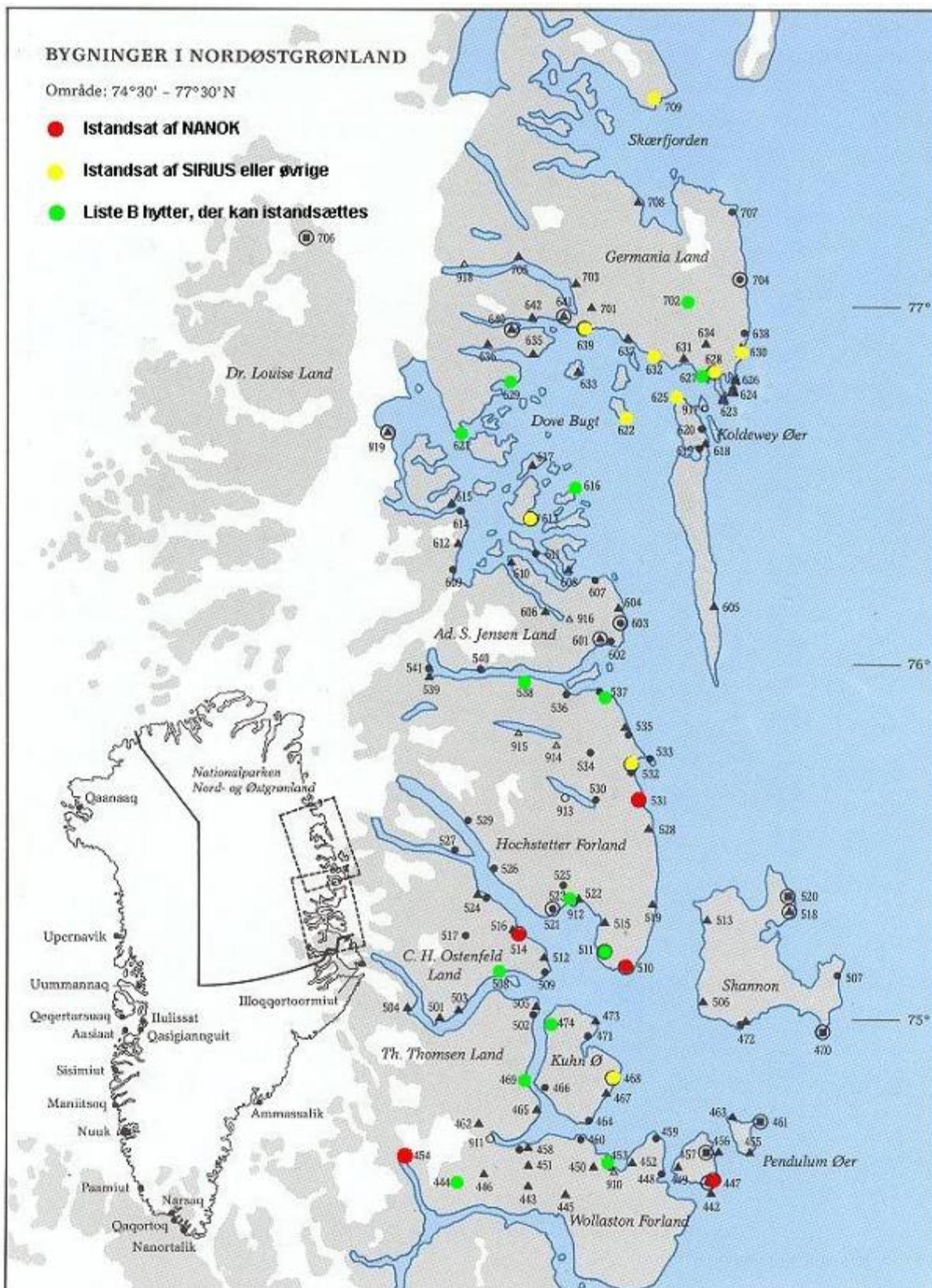
Front room.



The new coal stove put up by Sirius after the Nanok team's departure.



The new outer door.



The maps on this and opposite pages show the maintenance status for the old huts, houses and stations in North-East Greenland. The sites marked red or yellow can be expected to be in reasonably usable condition. Other sites, however, cannot be expected to be usable. Sites marked green are other huts with the classification B, which Nanok may renovate and maintain in the coming years.

BYGNINGER I NORDØSTGRØNLAND

Område: 71° 30' - 74° 30' N

- Istandsæt af NANOK
- Istandsæt af SIRIUS eller øvrige
- Liste B hytter, der kan istandsættes



Field report for the South team 2014

Tasks

The South team had the following tasks:

- a) to renovate Sverresborg [232] and to maintain the already restored buildings in the area.
- b) to do the necessary measurements and assessments (in cooperation with the North team) in order to plan a proper reinforcement, renovation and decoration of Ørnereden and 12-mandsbarakken respectively in 2015.
- c) to inspect, count, and maintain Nanok depot at Ella Ø / Mestersvig / Nyhavn.
- d) to receive goods for Nanok at Ella Ø / Mestersvig / Nyhavn.
- e) to prepare for the Nanok-expedition 2015.
- f) to inspect and maintain M/B "Agsut".

The team

Hasse Nielsen Staunstrup (Sirius '78), Claus "Tavse" Birkbøll (Sirius '73), Leif Kjær Pedersen (Sirius '78).

Journey to and preparation on Ella Ø

Due to the heavy damages caused (once again) by bears during the winter, shortly before departure both North and South team had an additional task on Ella Ø, see b). Hence, we began the journey together on July 21st via Reykjavik for one overnight stay, via Akureyri, Constable Pynt and Mestersvig to Ella Ø, where we arrived July 22nd at mid-evening. We immediately organised ourselves for the night in Ørnereden, which had been emergency-repaired very well by Sirius.

The following day we split up in groups organized to simultaneously work on preparing "Agsut", project Ørnereden, create an overview of equipment and prepare these for the coming renovation of "Sverresborg". On the very first day, Ørnereden was subject to a sweeping clean-up and airing plus minor reparations of the windows and doors.

Also, we had had the task to assess and if necessary dispose of some very old provisions. The assessment was done

according to the motto "would you eat it?", so a lot was discarded and packed for sending home via Sirius.

The first evening was also spent on getting to know the five perky Sirius men on Ella Ø. Four Icelandic legs of lamb, fresh vegetables, a nice gravy and some "mosquito repeller" made it a successful and amusing process.

Already on the next evening, preparation



After dinner the Sirius men put five x 5 litres of quality ice-cream on the table. However, we had to leave some to the great disappointment of Leif, who was immediately nicknamed "The Iceman" by the Sirius men.

and launch of "Agsut" was done. This included an extensive rebuilding of the fixture for the emergency motor (25HK Mariner). This was not taken into use, however, since the emergency motor turned out not to be immediately functional. Instead, it was decided to use the outboard motor of the RIB as emergency motor, in case it proved necessary. Later, the original emergency motor was repaired and is now fully functional.

Later that evening, the North team sailed off together with Leif, our machinist, with materials including the renovated stove for Sverresborg. While they were on their way, we continued to work on Ørnereden. After cleaning up and airing, the attic was sealed, plastic was put before all broken windows, and all shutters were prepared for extra protection with (torx) screws. Moreover, more equipment and provisions for Sverresborg were collected. Also measurements and material estimation for next year's restoration and reinforcement of Ørnereden were made.

The following evening the boat team returned and could tell about and show

pictures of the condition of Sverresborg. For one thing, it was ascertained that the outside walls could not be brought back to original condition with red paint, but were to be covered with felt. This was partly due to the lack of tongue and groove boards, partly to the general decayed condition of the walls.

First visit at Sverresborg

The next day, based on our updated knowledge about Sverresborg's condition, we packed "Agsut" with the necessary extra materials and provisions. Then on the following day, the South team sailed off to Sverresborg, where we arrived in the mid-evening after a splendid sail via Maria Ø. Off the coast of the station, the bed rises suddenly approx. 25-40 m and the bed here is full of rocks. Thus, an advice to the coming traveller is to anchor 50-70 m from the coast. The safest way to approach the coast is to make for the east and keep the



First impression of Sverresborg.

decayed storehouse and the station house in line.

At Sverresborg we were welcomed by hordes of mosquitoes that tried to make our lives miserable. They fully succeeded, but in time their numbers grew smaller or maybe we got used to the mosquitoes. Also, there were lots of blowflies that were stuffing themselves with a dead, devoured musk ox situated approx. 15 m from the hut. We carried materials ashore and installed ourselves in the attic of the heavily decayed building. There were no functional doors left, neither outside nor inside.

July 28th we started the renovation. Originally the hut was built with double walls and roof. A few places there were indications of isolation with wood chips between the boards. The floor, however, was a single layer and very corroded by rot and fungus due to the dampness in the area. Later we renewed approx. 40 % of the floor in the living room. On this occasion it was



Incredibly, after 85 years there are still traces of the original red paint.

necessary to reinforce the original laths. Also, especially on the south side, the outside boards had rotten away from the ground with 5-30 cm.

As mentioned before, the hut was originally built in 1929 with felt on the roof and the outer walls were painted red. It has only been utilized as trappers' station for less than a year because of the poor trapping opportunities in the area. Felt has been attached to the outer walls later. This, however, was gone except from a few little (max. 2 cm²) flakes, and only the number of felt nails gave evidence to the felt that had once been.

In this way inspired by the actual condition of the hut, we started our tasks. To make a safe site for our work, we cleared a space of 2 m from the hut. Furthermore, we had to fabricate roof ladders, so we could work safely on the relatively high roof. We also tidied up and made an easy cleaning inside to make a place for eating and coffee breaks. Even without windows and doors in the place, it gave an illusion of "hygge".

The roof boards on the south side were all so crumbled that they needed replacement, and a new roof was laid. The two rows after the ridge on the north side was also exchanged.



Believe or not – the new lath is in plumb!!

Parts of the inner wall on the south side of the attic were missing, and new boards were attached. Moreover, we dug away the ground from the walls around the house, so we were able to see the condition of the boards beneath the surface and make sure that they could dry out to some degree.

The woodwork that was in too poor shape was replaced everywhere in the hut. The hole beneath the window to the south was mended and 60 % of the eastern wall was renewed. To prevent snow from getting into the attic, we also put an underlay beneath the eaves on the south side of the hut.

The original stove was not in a functional state. For this reason we had brought along a renovated stove in similar size. The old stove was carried outside and is now placed approx. 5 m from the hut. Having modified the floor, the new stove was carried inside and installed with new stove pipes. Surprisingly, the heat protection plate on the wall was reusable and was used again. The



The SAR-boat from Inspection Vessel "Ejnar Mikkelsen".

stove itself was tried out on a later occasion and found to be both well-functioning and workable.

Well assisted by hammers and crowbars, we removed old felt nails from the entire hut, and we could start putting on inner felt. Soon we realized that we needed extra materials just to finish the renovation outside. When all the inner felt had been fixed, except the north wall, we prepared a replenishment sail to Ella Ø.

The day before the sail, we had an unexpected but pleasant visit from the SAR-boat (Search And Rescue) from the inspection vessel "Ejnar Mikkelsen". Enriched with 3 cokes and news from the world, we were ready to sail to Ella Ø very early the next morning August 2nd.

Journey to collect materials on Ella Ø

Well-arrived at Ella Ø, we handled the unnecessary, carried materials into place and got rid of the garbage that we had brought according to regulation. "Agsut" was prepared for the journey back. Refreshed by a warm shower and some clean clothes, we spent an enjoyable evening with the Sirius men, who had invited us for supper.

The following day was spent finding the necessary materials for Sverresborg and to load "Agsut" for the journey back.

As previously arranged with the manager director of Nanok, 12 bunk beds, complete with mattresses, had been shipped from Sirius Daneborg to Ella Ø for use in 12-mandsbarakken. These had arrived, and we carried them inside. They have not been assembled, however, since they probably have to be carried outside again before the renovation of 12-mandsbarakken next year.

Later that evening, we returned the favour of the Sirius men and invited them for lamb chops, which we had brought from Iceland.

Back at Sverresborg

In the morning of August 4th, we set off back to Sverresborg. A wonderful day with zero clouds and almost shallow water.

When we were in range of vision of Sverresborg, we observed a small bear in there. When it saw us, it lumbered away in eastward direction. Apparently, it had been



The bear had only made a small mess with the inventory.

inside the hut making a mess, but since there were no doors or windows installed at this point, the damage was insignificant. Later on, the bear tried once again to approach the hut, but it followed our insisting directions to turn around. We never saw it again.

Once more, we installed ourselves in the hut and resumed the work where we had left off. To our great joy we could establish that the number of mosquitoes had fallen drastically during our absence.

Rather quickly we managed to attach the last inner felt and to make a door from the outhouse to the hut itself. The next day, when we had installed acrylic glass in most of the windows, the hut started to get homely. Indeed, also a temporary table and seats were produced.

We worked on finishing the hut up until late afternoon August 9th. Outer felt was welded on everywhere, and, despite the flammable wood, only once it was necessary to remove the newly welded felt to reach some smouldering wood dust beneath.

Acrylic was put in all windows, and they



The summer fridge – probably 85 years old.

were framed. New shutters were produced and fitted to all ground floor windows, and a holder for shovels was made and put next to the main entrance in the outhouse. The outer part of the stove pipe was dismantled and made secure by reinstalling.

It was not possible to restore the front door itself, so a new one was produced a few days before departure. The evening before departure, this and all new woodwork by the windows and shutters was painted with white linseed oil paint corresponding to the original colour of the windows. We took some photos and a GPS position as well.

We could now look upon our Sverresborg tasks as accomplished, but recommend a coming team to give the indoor paint a touch up and to produce living room table and chairs.

A little curiosity we found on the site was a simple but very effective summer fridge. It was dug down to the permafrost, the ground was made skidfast with boards and a lid was put on top.



Finally it begins to take form.



The final result was quite reasonable.

Finalising on Ella Ø

Around 6pm August 9th, we were back once more at Ella Ø. We unshipped the boat immediately. Shortly after, four Belgians arrived in their aluminium yacht “Jooley”. During a visit to Maria Ø, their gangway rubber dinghy had been punctured by a bear. Luckily, Sirius, who had observed them, stopped by the island at that moment to say hello. So with Sirius catering, we were dinner hosts to a total of 13 people in Ørnereden (it was considered to invite Ludwig the 14th).

The following days, with the help of Sirius and their Manitou, we got “Agsut” ashore, secured and preserved, as well as the dinghy motor, to prepare them for winter. Emergency-motor and dinghy motor were put in the storage room of “Agsut” and the dinghy was put on the deck, before we secured “Agsut” with tarps the next day. Simultaneously, we counted and cleaned up in Nanok’s equipment referring to the counting lists for the different buildings.

That same day, we were informed that our departure for different reasons had been postponed 24 hours. We therefore got an entire extra day on this splendid site, where we could fine-tune various work and enjoy the area. We also had time for, once again, to go through project Ørnereden and get some paint samples, etc. Half of a broken

window was also brought as a model to produce three new windows with correct fit. With little means, the last lamb chops were used this day to say thank you for the extraordinary hospitality we were shown by the Sirius men at Ella Ø. They were all very much participating in making this summer a very special experience.

Status of solving the tasks

We solved our tasks, but for several reasons we did not have time to attend “skibsmik” at Mestersvig. Thus, we agreed with Sirius at Ella Ø that they would arrange the sailing of 5 foot container #500057 6 to Ella Ø from Mestersvig, either in connection with depot or with the inspection vessel in the middle of August 2014. Upon arrival at Ella Ø, it will be properly secured against weather and bear.

Journey home

On August 13th we melancholically left Ella Ø, a place that, surely, for everyone who has stayed there, ranks as one of the natural gems of this world. In Mestersvig we met the North team, and together we travelled almost without stop to Denmark. In Akureyri we met with Kibba, who took over our float for annual inspection.

Hasse - Leif - Tavse



Nanok-team 2014: From left: Jørn M. Ladegaard (Tjock), Claus R. Birkebøll (Tavse), Hasse Nielsen Staunstrup, Leif Kjær Pedersen, Asger Lakmann Nielsen, Jens Chr. Worm Gotfredsen (Goffi).

Field report for Greenland National Museum's visit to the National Park 2014

Summary

In 2013, Greenland National Museum & Archive (NKA) applied for navigation assistance from Greenland Command (GLK) to finish and register six List-A huts and stations in the National Park, as these could not be inspected earlier due to the ice condition in the area.

In May 2014, NKA received a positive answer on the application, being that the inspection vessel "Ejnar Mikkelsen" (EJMI) would assist NKA with navigation for two persons to the huts and stations in question in the area between Daneborg and Danmarkshavn. The navigation assistance could be arranged simultaneously with the inspection vessel's navigation in the area in connection with placing depots for Sirius.

This summer expedition is a continuation of the registration journey in the summer of 2012, where NKA in collaboration with Nordøstgrønlandsk Kompagni Nanok reconnoitred and registered 18 huts and stations plus examined and photo-documented 28 other.

The navigation assistance made possible the visit to and registration of all six planned List-A huts and stations, and also the

exploration of six additional huts in connection with the inspection vessel's depot for Sirius. All List-A huts/stations have now been measured, their condition have been recorded and photo-documented. Samples from the fungus-infested workwood have been taken for the study of which sorts of fungus are found on each site.

From Iceland to Hochstetter Forland

We are Inge Bisgaard from NKA and Thomas Riis from Arkitekt Thomas Riis ApS. We board EJMI in Akureyri on August 14th and make our first stops in Mestersvíg and Ella Ø and Daneborg, where large quantities of fuel, dog food, equipment and provisions are placed for depot.

At 7pm August 16th, EJMI sails out from Daneborg in direction of Danmarkshavn and the first stop is Sigurdsheim [468], where Sirius have to place depot. Next stops are Blåbærhytten [469] and Ny Jonsbu [514-2]. On August 18th we start placing depot at 8.30am at Hochstetter Nanok station [510] on Hochstetter Forland. Even though the house was not on the list for this trip, we got permission to come ashore. Sirius has chosen to use the house as a base during their sledge journeys instead of their normal depot at Kap Rink. The old stove has been replaced with a new one. Before we got a chance to look around, the old stove, which



Kap Philip Broke on Shannon



Alabamahuset on Shannon

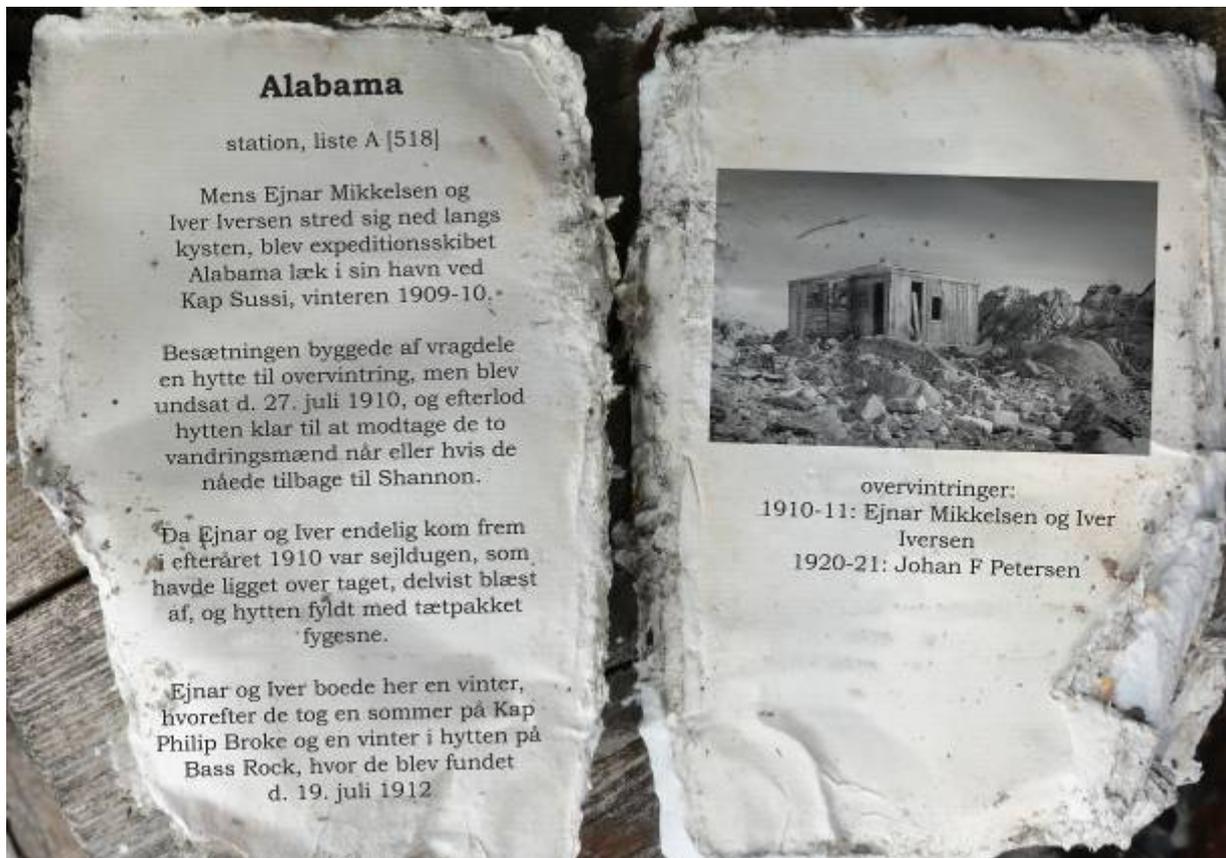
we had wished to remain on the site as a testimony to previous times, had already been carried out to EJMI. We have expressed our wish to Sirius not to remove anything from the sites, as the sites thereby lose some of their narrative and history. We have noted that as soon as possible we must devise general guidelines for the Sirius patrol regarding hut renovations.

A brown fungus has infected the woodwork due to rot on the floor and the lower wall in the back depot, and we have taken samples of the rot-damaged wood.

At Shannon

That day at 7pm, we arrive six men at Kap Philip Broke [470]. We measure the hut and photo-document everything. It is only the porch, however, that receives a greater measurement, since we already in 2012 have measured Bass Rock [461], which is a similar element hut and dates from the same year. The same day at 10.30pm, we arrive at a Sirius depot at Kap Pansch.

We arrive at Alabamahuset [518] at 8.30am on August 19th. It is a big experience to actually see the house, which I have only read about and seen on several photos that others have been so kind to send me at the





Alabamahuset outside and inside

museum in Nuuk. We immediately start to measure, register the condition of the house and photo-document. It is around loose objects, such as wooden parts and textiles, in the house that damp has accumulated, and it would be a good idea to empty the house for these objects, so the woodwork gets a chance to dry out.

After about an hour of registration of Alabamahuset, we sail further in a rubber dinghy to Kap Sussi [520]. On various spots in the landscape, remnants from Snehulestationen from the war are found. We are not able to find “Funkhütte”, however, which was built from the remains of “Eislager” (Islejren), that was made unusable by a Foehn storm. There are a few remains of the radio station that testify to the presence of the Germans during the Second World War. The site has been photo-documented thoroughly.

In Bessel Fjord and Dove Bugt

From Shannon we continue and arrive at 7pm the same evening at Ottostrand [531] – a fine hut reconditioned by Nanok in 2009, which Sirius now use as depot. Next morning, on August 20th at 9am, we sail to Bessel Fjord Station [601-2]. You get quite

dizzy from moving around outside and inside this hut. It is tilting 30 degrees, and it is amazing that it still stands, as the construction lacks braces and wind bracing applications. The house is measured and photo-documented. The front door has fallen off and lies at the main entrance.

At 8pm we arrive at Ålborghus [615], which is a nice trappers’ station with a shed with appurtenant toilet situated 10 m from the house. A few years ago, the stove was in such a bad shape that Her Royal Majesty, Queen Margrethe donated a new stove. The house was measured from floor to roof and was photo-documented well. Close to the house, Sirius has put up their orange standard depot and on this trip, there has been laid a nice portion of pemmican for the dogs, skis, fuel and provisions.

At 10.30am August 21st we arrive at Hvalrosodden [639-1] and Alvin Pedersens hus [639-2]. Sirius have placed their standard depot approx. 30 m south-west of Hvalrosodden. Approx. 40 meters to the north lies the small house of Alvin Pedersen’s, the zoologist, which he himself has brought with “Gustav Holm” and built when he arrived as “freelancer” on the Mørkefjord expedition in 1938. The houses



Left: Ottostrand . Right: Ålborghus.

were measured and thoroughly photographed. Among other things in the house of Alvin Pedersen, you can see a Berlingske Tidende newspaper from June 1938 lying on the table, lots of old jars and test tubes.

Around 7.30pm, we arrived at Danmarkshavn in the most beautiful weather imaginable. Approx. 70 m west of Danmarkshavn and with a scenic view of the sea, Villaen [628-1], the old house of the Danmark expedition, is situated. A nice little house with a fine sign above the large window saying “Danmarksminde”. Around the house, there is a bank of earth which unfortunately looks like the cause of rot in the woodwork closest to the ground. Beneath the window in the south gable, there are signs of an attempt to drain the site of water.

To Daneborg and Dødemandsbugten

We set off from Danmarkshavn at 8am on August 22nd and make our first stop in Daneborg and afterwards inspect Dødemandsbugten [408]. The Sirius men barely get the new stove ashore and install it in Dødemandsbugten. The house looks



Villaen in Danmarkshavn.

amazing having been renovated by Nanok during the past two summers. I take pictures of the beautiful features such as the bedpost made from driftwood and coat hooks made from the vertbras of a musk ox.

Thank you....

On behalf of Greenland National Museum & Archive, we would like to give a warm thanks to the crew of “Ejnar Mikkelsen”, whose navigation assistance has made possible this summer’s exploration and measurement results, and for the very professional logistic that enabled our planned registrations of List-A huts and stations.

Thank you to the depot team for patience and helpfulness during the registration and measurements of the huts.

A big thanks to restaurant EJMI, whose gastronomic deeds gave us wonderful and delicate experiences on top of the adventurous voyage in the beautiful national park.

Also a warm thanks to the Sirius patrol for their great helpfulness on board and ashore.

A great thank you to Nordøstgrønlandsk Kompagni Nanok for their extraordinary work carrying out the extensive renovations of the north-eastern huts and stations. Their achievements are invaluable to the preservation of many of the historic huts in North-East Greenland. Without your contribution, Greenland would have lost a part of the culturally historic buildings in the National Park.

*Inge Bisgaard
Greenland National Museum & Archive*

On Nanok

Nordøstgrønlandsk Kompagni Nanok is a private, non-profit organisation founded in 1992 upon the former *Østgrønlandsk Fangstkompagni Nanok A/S*, founded in 1929.

The aim of Nanok is a.o. *to contribute to disseminate knowledge of North-East Greenland and its cultural history and to contribute in securing the cultural monuments and buildings in the area.*

Nanok consists of a board of seven persons. These are: Peter Schmidt Mikkelsen (manager director), Jens Erik Schultz, Tommy Pedersen, Palle V. Norit, Søren Rysgaard, Fritz Ploug Nielsen and Jesper Mølbak Stentoft (treasurer). Accountant is Aka Lynge. Torben E. Jeppesen assist with material purchase. Nanok's logistics centre is managed by Kristian Nevers. Besides the above mentioned, a number of individual persons – "Nanok'ers" – participate actively in the Nanok projects. All work in Nanok is voluntary and unpaid.

Each summer, Nanok dispatch a field team of typically six persons divided on two teams who work in North-East Greenland for three to five weeks. The result of this work is documented and published in a field report. The board chooses the expedition participants. In the years 1991-2014 a total of 146 Nanok'ers – or more than 75 private individuals – has been dispatched to North-East Greenland.

To perform its tasks, Nanok controls a considerable amount of expedition equipment; however Nanok possesses no property in Greenland.

Nanok projects are financed by the Aage V. Jensens Fonde. The organisation is furthermore supported by a number of private contributors. Among Nanok's many, supportive partners are: Royal Arctic Line, Norlandair, Air Greenland, Arctic Research Centre, Arctic Science Partnership, Greenland Self Government, The Greenland National Museum & Archive, Greenland Institute of Natural Resources/Greenland Climate Research Centre, Arctic Command, Polar Logistics Group, The Sirius Sledge patrol, Defence Guard Mestersvig and Education- & Maintaining Section Greenland.

Since 1991 Nanok has repaired and maintained approx. 50 cultural historic buildings and has for this effort gained considerable recognition from a.o. The Greenland Self Government. Encouraged by The Greenland Self Government of the time, in the years 2003-2007 Nanok worked out a new, unique structural survey of all cultural historical cabins and stations in North-East Greenland. The records are available free of charge for The Greenland National Museum & Archive in Nuuk. Extensive material from these surveys, incl. photos and GPS positions, is published in the book "North-East Greenland 1908-60. The Trapper Era" (Mikkelsen 2008)

Nanok has had a formal cooperative agreement with The Greenland National Museum & Archive since 2010.



List of North-East Greenlandic stations and huts restored by Nanok 1991 - 2014:

No.	Name	Year restored	No.	Name	Year restored
201	Antarctichavn	2001 (crushed 2002)	347	Petrahytten	2011
218	Kap Peterséns	1998	350	Loch Fyne	1993, 2007
224-2	Kongeborgen	2001	356	Hoelsbu	1999, 2000, 2007
222	Holm Bugt hytten	2001	358-3	Strindberghuset	2013
232	Sverresborg	2014	367-2	Mellemhuset	2010
236	Maristua	2008	403	Krogness	2010
238	Mineralbukta	2010	405	Eskimonæs	1998
241	Svedenborg	2011	407	Elvsborg	2007-2008
301	Laplace	2009	408	Dødemandsbugten	2013-2014
304	Arentz hytten	2008	411-2	Norma hytta	2010
305	Namdalshytten	2010	412	Dahl Skær hytten	2010
308	Kap Humboldt	1997	417	Kap Herschell	2002
309	Rendalshytten	2010	425	Sandodden/Karina	1994-2000, 2007, 2009
310	Bjørnheimen	2008	429	Moskusheimen	1994
317	Brøggers hytte	2012	434	Leirvågen	2008
320	Smedal	2012	438-2	Zackenbergt	1991-1992
322	Noa Sø hytten	2008	438-4	Fiskerhytten	2008
324	Varghytten	2002, 2007	437	Bjørnesstua	2008
325	Renbugthytten	2010	447	Germaniahavn	1999
335	Myggbukta	1999, 2002, 2011	454	Fjordbotten	2013
337	Ragnhilds-hytten	2008	510	Hochstetter	1996, 1998
340	Kap Ovibos hytten	2000, 2007, 2012	514	Ny Jonsbu	1995
341	Halle	2011	531	Ottostrand	2009
345	Bråstad	2011	---	Kap Moltke /Brønlundhus	2001

Source of hut numbers and names: Peter Schmidt Mikkelsen: North-East Greenland 1908-60 The Trapper Era. The Scott Polar Research Institute (SPRI), University of Cambridge (2008).

