



Field report from the journey to North-East Greenland 2013



New life in Dødemandsbugten (Dead Mans Bay).

Dødemandsbugten is historically one of the most interesting places in North East Greenland. Numerous Inuit rouse ruins bear witness that the area has been a great and significant settlement for lost Inuit cultures. It was also here that Captain Clavering by coincidence in 1823 met the last few indigenous North East Greenlandic Inuit. Much later the area for a short and hectic period during World War II became head quarter for the North-East Greenland Sledge Patrol; the house dates back to this time. The house had almost fallen into total decay; but now Nanok has started the restoration of the house following the directions from The Greenland National Museum & Archive in Nuuk. Read more about this and a lot more in this field report.

23rd field season

Introduction

Nordøstgrønlandsk Kompagni NANOK has completed its 23rd field season, accomplishing our planned schedule as expected.

This year's Nanok team consisted of seven team members divided into a North team with base in Daneborg and a South team with base on Ella Ø. A professional boat builder went along with the South team to make a condition assessment of our boat "Agsut" with a view to a coming renovation of the boat, probably in the Summer 2015.

The restoration this year took its starting point directly from the recommendations and decisions that were the results of the joint field work in the Summer 2012 by Nanok and the architectural experts from The Greenland National Museum & Archive (NKA) in Nuuk. They visited and measured a row of particularly selected huts and stations in order to estimate the need and methods for future preservation.

On the basis of this work, in the Autumn 2012 in cooperation with Nanok, NKA presented a report with a revised classification of the huts in North East Greenland. The list of the huts particularly worthy of preservation (list A) has accordingly been reduced to the following 10 sites: Ørnereden [235], Nordfjordhuset [358-2], Dødemandsbugten [408], Sandodden [425-1], Fjordbotten [454], the houses of Bass Rock [461], Hochstetter [510], Alabamahuset [518], Villaen, Danmarkshavn [628-1], Hvalrosodden [639]. The restoration of these list A sites must be made only following the instruction from NKA. In close cooperation with NKA, it is the goal of Nanok to restore and secure these sites particularly worthy of preservation for the foreseeable future.

The list of buildings (list B) that Nanok freely can restore and maintain has now been increased to 100 named sites.

In consequence of the growing problems we have experienced in the recent years with damages on huts and other buildings caused

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

by polar bears, particularly in the Ella Ø area, we have decided to set up a 20-foot container on the Ella Ø station for the storage of provisions and various other vulnerable equipments. Unsurprisingly, this does not prevent the polar bears from damaging the huts, but at least it secures the most vulnerable and valuable provisions.



AAGE V. JENSENS FONDE

Nanok wishes first and foremost to express our thanks and gratitude to our main sponsor, Aage V. Jensens Fonde for their never failing trust and support. Despite the fact that all work in Nanok is voluntary and unpaid, it would not be possible to perform this work through so many years without significant important financial support from a faithful sponsor.

Also, a warm-hearted thanks to the Sirius men and the MarinBasis/Daneborg team, who once again showed us the greatest helpfulness and hospitality.

We also wish to thank the many private individuals, who each and every one continuously support and show positive interest in our work.

We are also grateful for the support that relatives give to the dispatched Nanok men, who generally spend their entire summer vacation on the voluntary and unpaid work for Nanok. It is essential with such a backing from the support base.

Finally, a warm thanks to our many competent collaborators, to expeditions and authorities, who with their positive contributions have made our work possible.

On behalf of Nanok,

Peter Schmidt Mikkelsen

Field report for the North team 2013

Tasks

The North team had the following tasks:

- a) To see through the initial restoration of Dødemandsbugten [408] and Fjordbotten [454] following the directions of The Greenland National Museum & Archive, and to maintain the already renovated buildings in the area.
- b) to inspect and maintain the Nanok's depot in Sandodden/Daneborg
- c) to receive goods for Nanok in Daneborg
- d) to stocktake the Nanok depot in Sandodden / Daneborg
- e) to make preparations for the NANOK-expedition 2014.

North team

Troels Vinther, Jesper Madsen, Jesper Stentoft (Sirius '97)

Journey out and the following progress

The journey out with the South team went as planned. We met in Kastrup Airport around midday 23rd July. From here the journey went to Keflavik/Reykjavik. After one night in Reykjavik, we took the morning plane to Akureyri. From Akureyri we flew with a crammed Dash 7 to Constable Pynt.

On the point we were welcomed by Polog, who briefed us about the journey to come. We fetched our stored weapons and ammunition, and in the late afternoon we took off in the Twin Otter with destination at Daneborg, where we arrived 8 PM. After

half an hour ground stop, the Twin Otter continued to Ella Ø with the South team.

After a chat with Sirius, we lodged at Sandodden and started locating equipment and packing out the goods from last year's ship. The next day the new and the old rubber boats (RIB) were prepared. For the old RIB we borrowed a motor from MarinBasis, since our own 40 HK had broken in 2012. Meanwhile the equipment and materials were packed down for our first renovation task, Fjordbotten [454], in the bottom of Tyrolerfjord.

In the days from 26th July to 30th July we inspected huts in Young Sund and Tyrolerfjord, and we renovated Fjordbotten. On the journey to the bottom of Tyrolerfjord, we visited Pashuset [433], Zackenberg [438-2], Zackenberg-basen [438-3], Fiskerhytten [438-4], Bjørnesstua [437].

The voyage back from Tyrolerfjord to Daneborg started with completely flat water. Around noon the journey offered a good repetition of how changeable the weather in North East Greenland can be. In the course of 10 minutes the weather changed from being calm to 20-30 knots. On the way we visited Skænthytten [440], Moskusheimen [429], Bakkehaug [435] and Leirvågen [434].

When returning to Daneborg 30th July the supply ship had already arrived. The following days were spent on receiving goods for Nanok and preparing the equipment and materials for our next project in Dødemandsbugten. The unloading of Nanok's materials was a child's play owing



Fjordbotten before and after renovation.



Fjordbotten's fantastic location.

to the help from Sirius' tractors and Zackenberg's mini-loader.

Thursday 1st August we sailed the 40 kilometres from Daneborg with two heavily loaded RIBs bound for Dødemandsbugten on the south side of Clavering Ø. After arrival we set out to renovate the remainings of the old railway station building.

Saturday morning 3rd August we sailed back to Daneborg. MarinBasis had offered to help us transport the materials in their

motorboat Aage V Jensen (Aage V). The day went by loading Aage V with boards and roofing felt. After a delicious dinner on "the new weather station", the two RIBs were loaded once more to the point of bursting, and at 7 PM we sailed with Aage V out through Young Sund on fine water. Upon arriving at Dødemandsbugten, the boats were quickly unloaded thanks to the five-man crew of Aage V. As appreciation for the help, Nanok offered whiskey in pots,



Fjordbotten inside before the renovation.

*Left: Everything is filled with sand. Right: Old home-rolled cigarette buds that are still **smokeable!***



Left: Troels and Jesper working on Fjordbotten. Right: Entrance with patina.

cups and mugs.

Then a few days followed with hard work digging the station building free from metre high banks of dirt and removing wet and rotten woodwork.

Wednesday 7th August we had our first and only day with rain. At noon we loaded a RIB and sailed out to inspect the huts in Gael Hamkes Bugt, Loch Fyne and Godthåb Golf. Loch Fyne [350] provided the wooden floor for our first night. On our arrival the station had been occupied by a Norwegian/Danish party led by Farmer (Sirius '74). After a cosy night with lots of cock-and-bull stories, we turned in on the wooden floor in the side shed with fish, fat and pemmican.

Early Friday 9th August we returned to Dødemandsbugten after one night at

Eskimonæs [405]. On the journey we inspected Krogness [403], Mellemhytten [367], Danske Villa [370], Norma Hytta [411]. Now followed the further renovation of the house. However, Saturday went by somewhat different than expected, when we received no less than two cruise ships for guided tours. The first ship arrived before noon with 45 Australian tourists. Past midday the other ship followed with four English tourists (serviced by a crew of 15 and a guide).

Sunday 11th August we finished the first stage of the renovation of Dødemandsbugten and began the return journey to Daneborg. The journey offered us violent waves on the area between Kap Breusing and Sandøen accompanied by wind gusts of up to 40 knots. At this moment we valued our life



Left: Fjordbotten inside with new Nanok oven. Right: The hut is ready.



Right: Ready for transporting goods to Dødemandsbugten. Left: Dødemandsbugten upon arrival.

preservers. Late in the evening we arrived tired to Daneborg.

The remaining time in Daneborg was used for cleaning equipment and tools, and stocktaking all Nanok gear and provision.

Wednesday 14th August at 9 AM, we bid Daneborg thanks and farewell. During the past weeks, we had sailed 550 km, inspected 17 sites, renovated a hut and half a station and – at the same time – had had a wonderful journey. Now the journey ended with a flight to Ella Ø to pick up the South team. Around 5 PM we took off from Constable Pynt and head for Reykjavik.

Generally, the entire journey has been marked by nice weather, reasonable water and an outstandingly positive “coastal spirit”. It was great with so many visits from the interested Sirius men at Sandodden. At the same time we must thank Zackenberg and MarinBasis for excellent company, use

of equipment, a much needed shower and food on two occasions.

Renovating Fjordbotten

We made our arrival to Fjordbotten in fine weather and on calm water. We immediately fell in love with the hut and its location. Due to shallow water in the end of the fjord, we had to leave the boats approx. 600 m from the hut. The initial feeling of love quickly subsided as we were carrying tools and materials. The journey first went through mud and next through dry, rocky riverbed.

The renovation of the hut was started by tearing off old pieces of felt from the wood framework and removing dirt and stone banks from the sides. It soon was apparent that the wooden structure was in very good condition, and it would therefore only be necessary to replace a few boards.

Inside the hut was also well-preserved,



Left: Soaked træfiberplader. Right: The house is dug free to dry.



Left: Cleaning the kitchen area. Right: Repairing the roof base and roofing with felt.

however, it bore the mark of many sandstorms in the area. The hut contained a good deal of historical artifacts such as old tins, dog harnesses, newspapers and not least a tea can stuffed with 2 cm long cigaret buds – they still tasted excellent. On several boards Henry Rudi had dated his visits in the years 39-45 with pencil.

The hut was given new under- and over-felt on the roof and the sides. The door was given new glass, but otherwise kept raw in a nice contrast to the black felt.

Inside the hut was dusted and emptied for sand. The stone floor was changed and a new Nanok oven was installed.

The hut is now standing ready to future visitors, equipped with Nanok's hut box, coal and oven, and tight enough to stand snow and sandstorms for many years to come.

Renovation of Dødemandsbugten

Our goal with the first stage of the renovation of Dødemandsbugten was to secure the house from seepage of moist and snow, so the renovation can continue in 2014.

The house was very marked by the lack of windows and doors, and had holes in the roof. Previously the house had been lined with plywood. These boards had come off from the ceiling and the walls and lay scattered on the floor. Outside, the house was encircled by banks of dirt covering 1 meter of the walls. Through many winters snow has had free access to the house, but contrarily the melted snow has not easily exited the house. The result of this was that the floor and the lower fourth of the walls were soaked.

We started digging the dirt bank away from the house. This made us break a sweat, since the banks consisted by a mixture of dirt, rock, wood, tin cans and plywood.



Left: Cruise ship arrives at Dødemandsbugten. Right: 45 Australian tourists get a tour and cock-and-bull stories.



Left: The roof is given new roofing felt. Right: Completed gable.

When the outer walls had been bared, the floors followed. First stage was to shovel the moist layer of plywood out followed by several metres of soaked and rotten wood. Now the house was able to breathe and start to dry.

The weather porch was removed completely to make way for changing the boards on the base frame. The northern bay of the weather porch was replaced by a bay that for years had been lying next to the hut, but it was still fine and fresh. The sides were erected again, and a new roof construction identical to the one of the main house was established.

All roofing felt was removed from the roof, and next the defect boards were changed. Actually, contrary to expectation, only a few boards were changed by the base of the roof. A fine roof base of the house and the weather porch were restored and had new under-felt hemmed on followed by weld over-felt.

Since all the window frames were damaged, seven new frames with glass were installed. The windows were brand new but

had been made specifically for the house according to old principles with a single layer of glass cemented to the frame.

The house was straightened without the use of a level, but with the purpose that the windows would fit into the frames. The facing boards were changed to the necessary extent either with usable old boards or entirely new ones in the same profile.

The lower part of the house that initially had been covered by dirt banks was protected with a drainage layer of stone and beach sand, and then it was covered with roofing felt. Finally the dirt bank was restored.

The windows got new shutters and a temporary front door was made.

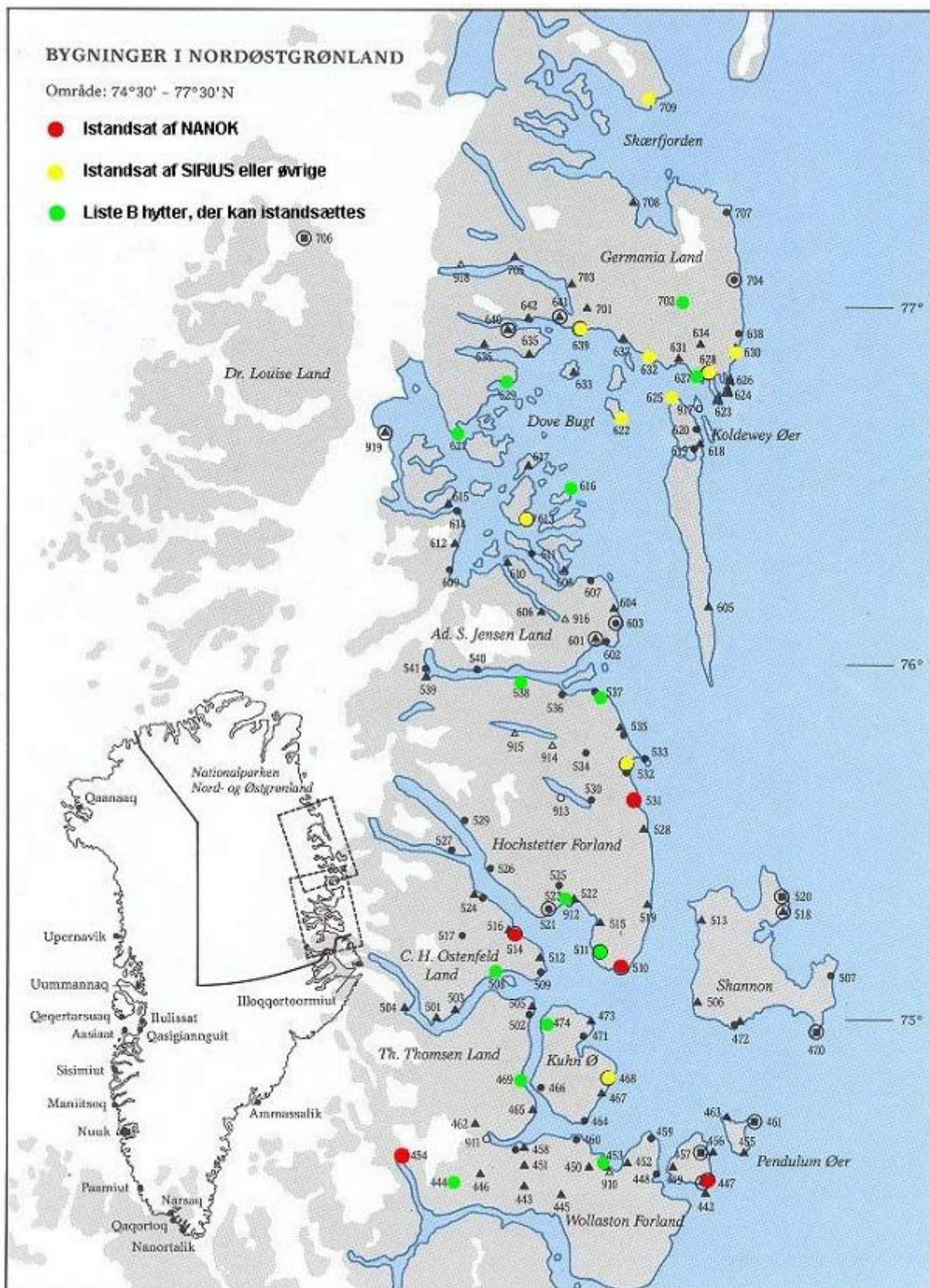
By the end of this summer's work, the station of Dødemandsbugten was ready to receive even the worst storm without being filled with snow. Now only the restoration of the inner part of the house is left, but you can already sense the re-emerging of a fantastic building.

Jesper – Troels – Jesper



Left: The house is cleared and put to dry.

Right: North team ready go home. From the left: Troels Vinther, Jesper Stentoft, Jesper Madsen.



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 2013

Tasks

The South team had the following tasks:

- a) to renovate Strindberghuset [358-3] and to maintain the already restored building, whereof some have been damaged by polar bears. Secondly to renovate Von Krogh [328]
- b) to inspect and maintain M/B "Agsut"
- c) to receive goods for Nanok at Ella Ø / Mestersvig / Nyhavn
- d) to inspect, count, and maintain Nanok depot at Ella Ø / Mestersvig / Nyhavn
- e) to prepare for the Nanok-expedition 2014
- f) to set up and 20' container and move Nanok depot to this place from Ørnereden, Maskinhuset and Tolvmandsbarakken

Participants

Full time: Thyge Thisgård Christensen, Per Frøstrup Torben Jeppesen (Sirius '98).

Part time: Erik Jochumsen (Sirius '00).

Journey out and preparation

For Nanok's South team, this years journey to North-East Greenland was about renovating the old hut, Strindberghuset [358-3] / Laksehytta, by the mouth of Brogetdal on Strindberg Land.

The journey started 23rd July with a couple of days of travel, before we, via Island, Constable Pynt, Mestersvig and

Daneborg finally set our feet in the gravel at Ella Ø, Wednesday 24th July at 9.30 PM.

Here we got a fantastic reception from the island's Sirius men, who - immediately after accommodation in Ørnereden – invited us to a meal of freshly caught char. The weather was fantastic, and we spent a good while around the bonfire and enjoyed the beautiful evening while the chat went on.

The following days were spent preparing Brebøljollen and "Agsut" for launch. While Erik Jochumsen did a thorough check-up of the cutter's condition, the rest of us spent the time changing the glass of most of Ørnereden's windows, after the visits of bears this winter.

Finally the day arrived, when we would launch "Agsut" and see, if she was still able to float on water. There were no problems, and when we pushed the start button, it slowly chugged and started, and with the high tide, the cutter floated without taking much water in.

According to the plan, we were to receive our building materials with the supply ship 1st August, so we still had some time to spare. Therefore we started renovating the façade of the old "Tolvmandsbarak" that again this year was vandalised by a hungry bear. In the midst of the renovation, we had word that the supply ship was delayed and would call into port at Ella Ø 5th August. Hence, we decided to pack the cutter with the shutter boards and roofing felt on hand, and to sail to Strindberg to start the renovation, knowing that it would cost us another sail back, when the ship arrived.



Left: The South team arrived at Constable Pynt. Per Frøstrup, Thyge Christensen, Torben Jeppesen.
Right: Tolvmandsbarakken at Ella Ø had been severely damaged by polar bears.



Left: Repairation of Ørnereden's window. Right: Per prepares the engine in "Agsut".

Strindberg

29th July we said goodbye to Erik, who had to go home to Denmark one of the following days. We sailed along in a very nice weather and arrived after approx. 15 hours of sailing to Strindberg at 2.20 AM. The sun was still up on the night sky, so since the night was still young, we started to accommodate in Nordfjordhuset, after which we took a look around in the area and made an idea of what was to be done to Strindberghuset. The following days we spent removing the old felt on the house, dig away the dirt bank around the house and levelling the house. Especially giving support to the floor in the house turned out to pose a challenge and getting under the house called for a good deal of acrobatic display. The floor in the front room had been totally destroyed by moist and was not to be saved. Here we chose to make a new stone floor with the

many flat stones that were to be found along the beach. Loads of pebbles were filled into buckets, carried and used to fill the joints between the stepstones. The result: – if we may say so ourselves – a rather fine-looking floor.

"Ship-mik"

1st August the Sirius men woke us with the news that after all the supply ship had decided to make the ship-mik at Ella Ø before Mestersvig, and they would be arriving in the afternoon 2nd August. We therefore quickly went to measure and determine what we needed of extra felt, boards and other material, before we packed up and made for a return to Ella Ø. After 14 hours of sailing in a fantastic weather and almost calm sea, we once more anchored in front of Ørnereden and sail our gear ashore with Brebøljollen. The next morning Sirius made their "ship-bomb" ready and we



Left: "Agsut" ready to be launched. Right: Loaded and ready for launch. Torben, Erik, Per and Thyge.



Strindberghuset upon arrival.

helped them pack some gear. Suddenly we again received a new timetable for “Arina Arctica” and this time it was reported that they would call into port in Mestersvig first, and therefore not would call into port at Ella Ø until 4th August. Once again, this gave us some time to continue working on “Tolvmandsbarakken”. However, we decided to split up, so Per remained behind playing at carpenter, while Thyge and Torben sailed to Mestersvig in Brebøljollen to collect various gears and stocktake in Nyhavn. On the way we stopped by Kongeborgen [224-1], [224-2], where we could establish that the door had a broken hinge – and Skida [211], where the door and buffer had been broken by a bear. However, we did not have the materials to repair any of these, so we arranged with Sirius that they would take care of it. It became a very nice day-trip with a march-speed of approx. 38 km/h, though we finished with a decent round of waves in Narhvalsund and around Bastionen. Having successfully arrived at home, once again we enjoyed the hospitality

of Sirius and sit down at a well-laid table at “Pynten”.

After a good night’s sleep, we woke up to a different view than normally, namely “Arina Arctica” that had sailed from Mestersvig to Ella Ø during the night and was now anchored in Solitærbugten.

Finally the ship-mik could begin. While we were packing some gears for our coming navigation, we also helped Sirius carry their things as soon as they came ashore. The heavy lifts the Sirius men normally do during a ship-mik were seriously reduced this year, due to the recently arrived telescope loader. Come late afternoon all materials were ashore, and with thrill we could now open our new container, which is going to function as Nanok’s bear-proof depot in the future. We took the material we needed for Strindberg and left the rest for later.

Strindberg again

The following morning everything was ready, so we quickly took off to get up to



Strindberghuset is being straightened.



The chimney before and after renovation.

Strindberghuset and finish the work. Over the last few days we had come to know the way, and as the weather and the wind were just by the book, everything went as planned. Upon arrival at Strindberg, the expedition “Dit eventyrs kajakekspedition” had also just arrived in their two Klepper kayaks. They were so kind as to put up their big tent and leave the bunks in the hut to us, which was a very grand gesture. We had a very cosy evening with a good heat from the coal stove, chatting about the many experiences we all had had.

Immediately after breakfast the next day, we started to renovate the hut again. Rotten wood was exchanged for new, after which a new layer of under-felt was nailed on. A new door was made, and windows were repaired and renewed with new shutters.

In the front room we made a small museum with all the old tools and

instruments we had found in and around the hut. Everything started to take form. While we were burning the outer-felt on, we could suddenly hear a soft chugging from the water. It proved to be M/B “Jytte” and crew, who stopped by for a short visit. After having greeted each other, Farmer (Sirius ’68) offered to help us a few hours. He didn’t have to offer twice and a few seconds later, he was washing down the walls and ceiling in the hut with Per. It was not long before all the old soot had been washed off, and the hut was once again clean and comfortable to be in.

This year we had been sponsored with linseed oil paint from the company Original Linoliemaling / lindolie.dk, and we committed to get all the outer woodwork painted. The product proved to be very good, and we are looking forward for it to last for many years to come.

Now the only thing left was to clean up



Left: the floor in the front room was made from flat beach stones. Right: New name plate.



Strindberghuset ready to shelter visitors in the national parks for many more years.

and to fetch half a billion bucket loads of pebbles from the beach to decorate around the house. After four long days of work, we had reached our goal. The hut was done, once again nice and usable, standing at the same spot where it was built almost 80 years ago. Ready to give shelter and lee once more for the visitors of the national park for many years to come.

At sea

Next morning we packed our gear and cleaned Nordfjordhuset, where we had been accommodated. We had agreed that we would sail briefly by Waltershausen Gletscher in Brebøljollen before continuing south in “Agsut”. However, the wind had started to rise and the closer we got to the glacier, the higher the waves were. Consequently, we chose to turn around while ahead. Back at “Agsut” in one piece, we said our goodbyes to Strindberg Land and chugged slowly southwards. As it turned

out, the journey back to Ella Ø was to be rather rough. The wind continuously blew from changing directions, and the big waves certainly didn’t make it easier to keep balance on deck. Again and again we were thrown around in the stormy sea, but impressively the dear cutter took the blows and only kept rolling on to the next wave. At Skildvagten the sea settled, and we easily sailed the last stretch in to Ella Ø, where we anchored approx. 3 AM.

Winter preparations and stocktake

After having “recharged our batteries” with a few hours of sleep, Per started to clean and preserve “Agsut” for the winter. Meanwhile, Thyge and Torben dealt with the job of converting the new container to a depot. A fair bit of shuttering, laths and reglars had to be carried outside just to be put back inside again on a new rack of wood, we had made. In the other side of the container, we put up a newly bought rack of



Mission completed!



T.v. Der gøres klar til lagercontaineren. T.h. Containeren fyldt med gods ved ankomsten.

steel, where all our gear was put in neat order. Yet again Sirius helped us carry the heavy materials in place with their new super machine – the telescope loader.

In the early afternoon, we again had a visit from “Dit eventyrs kajakekspedition”. While they accommodated themselves with us in Ørnereden and washed their clothes, we moved the remaining materials into the container, so we would be ready for the big day of stocktaking.

We all had a nice evening in Ørnereden with Christoffer from Sirius, and nobody hold back cock-and-bull stories from “the old days” or the fantastic experiences that we all had gotten the past three weeks.

The following day, Thyge and “the kayak boys” went for a walk on Bastionen, while Per and I took stock and emptied Tolvmandsbarakken of old food. Finally, Brebøljollen was pulled ashore, cleaned and thoroughly wrapped up warm for the winter.

The tasks of the summer were now completed, and the only thing left was to pack our own personal belongings, before we were to be picked up the next morning by the Twin Otter with the North team aboard.

Thank you and goodbye

During the night, the weather changed suddenly. The wind blew heavily and the clouds settled more and more densely around the station. When the Twin Otter landed around 10.30 PM, it also started to rain, and the only thing to do, was to load the plane and continue, while the weather still permitted it.

The journey to Constable Pynt did indeed resemble a ride in Tivoli’s merry-go-round. Safely on the ground again we were well received by Aka and Per from Polog, who made sure that the six hours of waiting were not long-winded. Around 5 PM we boarded a Dash 8 and waved goodbye to the beautiful country and continued on to Denmark via Island.

Every member of the South team has had a fantastic trip with lots of unforgettable experiences – both on our own trips but not least with the people, we have met along the way. A warm thanks to you all for your helpfulness and your kind-hearted behaviour.

Torben – Thyge - Per



The Nanok container in its place and fully equipped.

Surveyor's report for M/B "Agsut"

- by Erik Jochumsen (Boat builder and Sirius '00)

As the fourth member of the South team, it was my task to make a thorough assessment of "Agsut" to prepare a surveyor's report for the ship to Nanok and to be able to plan, what work that needs to be conducted by a coming renovation team.

Well arrived at Ella Ø and to the best welcome imaginable by the Sirius men, we started the day by rigging "Agsut" for the winter. At first sight it looked very nice, and at the later and more thorough assessment, this proved to be right. It is always astonishing, how well wood is preserved in the arctic region!

The first couple of days passed examining the hull outside and inside. The hull is made from oak entirely. I loosened the ice

sheathing by fore and aft stern, keel and amidships over and under the waterline. The condition of the wood was very good and the ice sheathing as well. The only place where there was a trace of rot was outside by the aft stern near the stern tube. But not something that has any influence on the security.

Similarly, I took out some of the nails that hold the planks on to the frames to test if there was any sign of pitting. This often can happen - especially in boats built from oak. The nails were very intact, even after 50 years! The ice sheathing was laboriously braided together and attached again. When I was done examining the hull, we prepared "Agsut" for launching. The hull proved to be very tight thanks to the ice sheathing that prevents the part of the hull underwater from drying out. The reparation inside by the stern tube from last year still holds well. The upper part of the hull that had not been ice



Left: Aft stern is examined. Right: Ice sheathing lifted at for stern.



Left and middle: Midship below the ice sheathing. Right: Keel and planking are in good condition.



*Left: the deck seen from the cargo. Right: planks under the ice sheathing **above the waterline.***

sheathed, was somewhat dried out, and it was here the boat took in most water during sailing. This can be helped caulking the gaps again.

The last day, before the South team's departure with "Agsut", I spent assessing the rest of the ship. The deck and the deck barks were also in a very good condition. However, the deck needs to be caulked, because of leakages in the gaps due to drying-out.

Regarding the accommodation outside and inside, there was not much to see, all the wood was intact even after many years attrition. Besides small reparations, it is the wheelhouse that most of all needs to be renovated. Finally, I measured the rooms below the deck in the front of the ship in order to procure ballast in the right size.

The assessment has shown that "Agsut" still is a healthy ship, and by all appearances is in a very good condition. Which makes it worthy of preservation for many years to come, especially since it has the best loading

and sailing qualities of the coast!

Works (competence demanding) to do for a future renovation team:

- Caulk the deck
- Caulk the freeboard (the top part of the)
- Exchange the roof of the wheelhouse
- Reparation of the sides of the wheelhouse
- Reparation of the payroll
- Inspect and possibly repair rot damage by aft stern and put on new ice sheathing.

When the South team had sailed off, there was approx. a day until I was to be picked up by the Twin Otter and fly southwards again. This time was spent cleaning and installing new shutters in Ørnereden after the bear visit. Furthermore, I was fortunate enough to be of assistance to Sirius by among others helping repair one of their boats. A big thanks to Polog for their service and hospitality. And a great thanks to Sirius for their helpfulness and kindness. It has been a pleasure.

Erik



Left. Nails are taken out for inspection. Right. Nails – almost as good as new.



Left. Leakage at the deck. Right. "Agsut" during sailing.



"Agsut" swaying.

On Nanok

Nordøstgrønlandsk Kompagni Nanok (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 spreading 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 (dir.), Jens Erik Schultz, Tommy Pedersen, Palle V. Norit, Søren Rysgaard, Fritz Ploug Nielsen and Jesper Mølbak Stentoft. Accountant is Aka Lyngge. Nanok's logistics centre is managed by Kristian Nevers. Besides the board a number of individual persons – "Nanok'ers" – participate actively in Nanok projects. All work in Nanok is voluntary and unpaid.

Each summer Nanok sends an expedition of typically 6-10 persons divided on 2 or 3 teams to work in North-East Greenland for 3 to 5 weeks. Result of this work is documented and published in a field report. The expedition participants are chosen by the board. In the years 1991-2013 a total of 140 Nanok'ers – or more than 75 private individuals – has been sent out 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 (RAL), Norlandair, Air Greenland, Arctic Research Centre, Greenland Self Government, The Greenland National Museum & Archive (NKA), Greenland Institute of Natural Resources/ Greenland Climate Research Centre, Greenland Command (GLK), Polar Logistics Group (POLOG), The Sirius Sledge patrol, Defence Guard Mestersvig and Education- & Maintaining Section Greenland (EMSG).

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 and The Greenland National Museum & Archive. Encouraged by The Greenland Self Government, Nanok in the years 2003-2007 has 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 from the summer 2007 with approval from The Greenland Self Government resumed the renovation of the huts in North-East Greenland.



List of North-East Greenlandic stations and huts restored by Nanok 1991 - 2013:

No.	Name	Year restored	No.	Name	Year restored
201	Antarctichavn	2001 (knust 2002)	350	Loch Fyne	1993, 2007
218	Kap Peterséns	1998	356	Hoelsbu	1999, 2000, 2007
224-2	Kongeborgen	2001	358-3	Strindberghuset	2013
222	Holm Bugt hytten	2001	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
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	Bjørnnesstua	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
347	Petrahytten	2011			

Source to 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).

