



## Field report from the journey to North-East Greenland 2009



*Summer evening at Ottostrand*

*During this Summer Nanok has succeeded in repairing another two old, North-East Greenlandic trappers' huts - Ottostrand og Laplace – thereby rescuing these historical buildings from total decay. Furthermore, one Nanok-team at Daneborg accomplished a much needed exterior renovation of Sandodden and also inspection of the historical collection in Hotel Karina. Read more of this in the report.*

**19<sup>th</sup> field season**

## Introduction

Nordøstgrønlandsk Kompagni NANOK can look back on the 19th field season with satisfaction. The work that had previously been agreed on with our sponsor, Aage V. Jensens Fonde, has been done as planned.

Therefore, it is also with a good deal of pride that we can inform that another two historical trappers' huts worthy of preservation – being Ottostrand and Laplace – have been renovated all over and thereby have been granted survival far into the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Furthermore, Nanok has done much needed repairing of exterior parts of Sandodden at Daneborg as well as clean-up and relabeling of the collected historical objects in the historical collection in Hotel Karina on the same location.

Completion of projects in Arctic is perhaps – more than other places – about long ranged and thought-through planning combined with the ability to adapt the plans and find alternative solutions as challenges are occurring. Furthermore to appoint the right team to the specific task. In Nanok we have therefore chosen a minimal organisation and a long ranged expedition horizon. As far as the participants, we always handpick our men/team – among people we know and often have a experience from North-East Greenland specifically. For this reason we also have to disappoint many hopeful and undoubtedly well-qualified applicants.

On the practical level this year we have had the opportunity to establish a basic stock of materials for renovation i.e. timber, roofing felt, stoves, inventory, coal, fuel, etc. at Daneborg and Ella Ø respectively, so our expedition teams no longer will have to wait for supplements brought in by the supply ship of the year.

During the Autumn 2008 the results of Nanok's 5 year long mapping project (2003-2007= was published in the book: *"North-East Greenland 1908-60. The Trapper Era"*

– published by The Scott Polar Research Institute (SPRI), University of Cambridge. The book received economic support from Aage V. Jensens Fonde. It is a newly revised and considerably extended English version of the original Danish edition. For further information see [www.xsirius.dk](http://www.xsirius.dk).

In relation to the renovation of the huts has been resumed, we have established guides and guidelines for our renovation in a manner that both support the historical and the practical aspects. In other words: We wish to make an effort to preserve and combine authenticity and functionality. Therefore it is our hope that people visiting the huts in the National Park – be it locals, scientists, or tourists – will get both memorable experiences from and practical benefit of our work.

Naturally all of this would not be possible without the important support, contributions and understanding from a great number of companies, institutions, authorities and individuals. And it is indeed our experience that we receive this.

Nanok wishes first and foremost to express our gratitude to our sponsor - Aage V. Jensens Fonde – for their never failing trust and support that make it possible for us to plan for several years and carry out our work with great efficiency and safety.

A special thanks to Royal Arctic Line for sponsoring the transport of goods, and a great thanks to Logistik Center Grønland for abiding by the agreements.

Nanok forwards our thanks to the many private individuals, who each and every one have supported us and shown positive interest for our work.

Finally warm thanks to our many competent collaborators, to expeditions and to authorities, who with their positive contributions have made 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](http://www.xsirius.dk/nanok.html)

## Field report for the South team 2009

### Tasks:

The South team had the following tasks:

- To renovate the Laplace station [301], alternatively to renovate 5-10 list-B huts in South region,
- To inspect and maintain M/B "Agsut" and inspect Nanok depot in South region (Ella Ø / Mestersvig / Nyhavn),
- To receive goods for Nanok on Ella Ø / Mestersvig / Nyhavn,
- To register Nanok depot on Ella Ø / Mestersvig / Nyhavn,
- To prepare for Nanok expedition 2010.

### South team

Kristian Nevers (former member of Sirius), Ole Schirmer Nielsen (former member of Sirius), Boye Viftrup Kjærsgård (student of HTX, first visit to Greenland).

### A review

We were three Nanok teams that collectively flew Northwest on 20<sup>th</sup> July 2009. One night's stay in Akureyri and then with Dash 8 flight(s) to Constable Pynt. Here we were divided into two team in two Twin Otters, and we arrived via Mestersvig to Ella Ø 4.15 pm that same day. At arrival the weather changed into huge masses of rain.

The Laplace station was in severe decay, but after a colossal overtaking, the house is now looking better than ever. Ships call on Ella Ø



*M/B "Agsut" with Ole at the rudder.*

31st July, all goods arrived safely. On 11<sup>th</sup> August we left Ørnereden for our trip home with arrival at Kastrup airport early morning on 12th August.

### Preparations

"Agsut" had got well through the Winter. We secured the keel rail with approx. 50 8x80 mm rustproof screws. We tried to tug the engine a bit astern on its console, but unsuccessfully. The new rustproof ¾" bolt for propeller shaft was fastened and secured. All screws on the copper sheathing got a couple of blows with a hammer as some of the nails had worked their way out. The launch of "Agsut" was unproblematic. But before the second trip to Laplace, we had to change the gear oil on "Agsut", as there was water in the oil. More frequent reading will probably prevent this.

Ole sorted all Nanok provisions and meanwhile packed for the first trip. "Agsut" lay comfortable in the water after the loading of 29 rolls of roofing felt, 60 boards, coal, gas, fuel, provisions and a lot more.

### About the trappers' station Laplace

The trappers' station Laplace [301] <sup>1</sup> on the North-side of Geographical Society Ø, about 20 km South-East of Kap Humboldt, was built in 1938 of the Norwegian trapper Ole Klokset from Tennfjord. The station has only been used for wintering in 1938-39. In 1950 the Danish government bought Laplace from Klokset for use during Operation Resolut (later named Slædepatruljen Sirius). Use and maintenance of the house supposedly already came to an end in the 1960ies.

### First trip to Laplace

The weather was not first-rate: rain, mist and low clouds. In contrary wind to have a little shelter we followed the shore along the south-side of Sofia Sund. Fortunately, as we encountered quite some sea, the load was well lashed. "Agsut" ploughed through the waves without complaining. As we sailed so

<sup>1</sup> Numbers in parentes [ ] refer to Peter Schmidt Mikkelsen: "North-East Greenland 1908-60", (2008).



*Laplace [301] at arrival.*

close to land, we saw quite a few musk oxen, geese, terns, seagulls and ducks on Geographical Society Ø.

The sea was calmer when we reached shelter behind Robertsons Ø, Borg Øer and Laplace Øer; but the rain poured down on us when we sailed in on the beach below the Laplace station [301].

When most of the goods were ashore, we anchored on 4-6 m water and did not turn in

until 03.30 in "Agsut", too well aware of the task beforehand.

There are good anchoring conditions by the station; it is possible to anchor in shelter for almost every direction of wind, and large floes only rarely enter the bay. The bottom consists mainly of sand, so if a floe do occur and push the boat, the anchor can be pulled across the bottom until the floe turn round.

The station was decaying after having been



*At arrival Laplace was open and moist, but after 12 hours with our mouths full of nails during nonstop work nailing on new felt, the living room was cleared and tight.*



*The interior before renovation.*

without roofing felt for more than 30 years. We stepped right through the floor and plinth wood could barely be spotted. No windows/glass. The stove had crumbled away. The porch on the south side of the station was not possible to renovate, but it can be rebuilt if necessary.

The following morning, everything onboard "Agsut" was wet. Therefore we decided that at least one room in Laplace was to be water tightened as soon as possible so that we could move inside and dry our equipment.

After 12 hours with our mouths full of nails

during nonstop work nailing on new felt, the living room was cleared and tight. That 24 hours gave about 150 mm of rain. We dug gutters along the walls and outflows. Oh bother!

The following day Ole and Boye removed the remains of the porch on the south side of the station. Beneath the remains were four neat windows. Two were 100 x 100 cm, but without glass, and two were 100 x 50 cm with inserted glass. Coal of good quality also turned up in the ruins. The coal was put in the sacks we had brought with us. The coal



*The inner felt is put on, one nail each 10 cm. That sums up to about 10,000 nails!*

stove was not repairable and we took it to the back of the station. Then Nanok hut stove no. 5 was installed and it gave a blessed warmth and with time also less moist in the station. A new, heavy door was placed between kitchen and forum, so the warmth was kept inside and the mosquitoes outside. The stove easily warms the place in the summer and can probably also bring about a pleasant room temperature during the winter months.

The lowest part of the uprights and a lot of the bottom posts of the house's foundation were rotten and therefore had to be replaced piece by piece. The floors were rotten, so we changed about half of the floor in the living room and fourth in the kitchen. There was a big canister of tar at the station, so we smeared a good layer of tar on the bottom parts of boards and posts. From the remains of the original windows, we were able to put together just enough parts for a complete, big window for the living room turning east and for small windows in the gables. Three of the "new" windows from the porch were installed on the north side of the station. The two windows of 50 x 100 cm were put together to one big window of 100 x 100 cm in the living room and a new window in the kitchen. The old frames measured 100 x 80 cm, so it was quite easy to make it fit.

We made contact with the supply ship

"Arina Arctica" and they told that they expected to call at Ella Ø 31st July. The renovation of Laplace was put on hold for a moment and we set out for Ørnereden. On the way we saw the inspection ship "Hvidbjørnen" leave through Antarctic Sund.

### **Ships call**

We were ready to receive the goods 08.00 31st July with the Sirius-men and Sebastian from POLOG. Fortunately the weather was dry and calm. The truck with 20 feet containers was brought ashore, a total of nine containers, of these 2-3 for Nanok. Ole drove the loader tractor with great confidence. The goods that could not be handled was pulled out with the loader tractor and grabbed. Everyone helped each other and the ships call was taken care of within 7 hours. Among others Nanok received 200 boards, 172 rolls of roofing felt, 10 bottles of gas, diesel, jet fuel, gasoline and 75 sacks of coal of 25 kg. As the weather forecast predicted rain and wind, we put everything in place before dinner at Sirius in Pynten.

### **Second trip to Laplace**

"Agsut" needed a gear oil change, to be loaded and refuelled for yet another trip. Boye sawed acrylic plates on measure for all the windows that were still missing. Once



*The interior before...*



*... and after renovation*



*Laplace after restoration.*

*Remedies from the trappers' era and the early Resolut/Sirius years have been put back in place at the station, and the old stove has been placed nicely in the back of the house.*

again the good ship "Agsut" displaced a good deal more water than usual as she was loaded out in all corners. It turned out to be a nice navigation to Laplace in quiet weather and calm sea, but unfortunately it rained during the whole trip.

Once more vi sailed "Agsut" all the way ashore and moved all goods directly ashore. It was a pleasure to arrive to an almost dry hut. Then we started to nail on the inner felt, one nail each 10 cm, which sums up to about 10,000 nails. That takes a while!

Ole fit a zinc plate for the stove pipe with a

glass wire for sealing. A new floor was put in the entre. Boye installed all the new acrylic windows. In the afternoon 4<sup>th</sup> August, the weather changed for the better. Then we coved the house with outer felt and painted the boards, preparing them for windows and shutters. The weather gradually cleared up, so we took a walk into the mountains in the midnight sun. On the mountain behind Laplace rivers run in all directions, there had also been quite a few mud slides. Once in a while we went for a dive in the salt water, and for the coal stove



*Laplace at departure – ready for use!*



*Left: Dinner is served. Kristian and Boye with a newly caught char.*  
*Right: Nanok South Team 2009: Ole Schirmer Nielsen, Kristian Nevers, Boye Viftrup Kjærsgård*

to get warm. We succeeded in catching a couple of char, one of 83 cm and one of 60 cm, which was a great supplement to our other provisions.

The old door from the porch was repaired and reused as much as possible.

Laplace station is now almost as good as new, especially exterior. Remedies from the so-called Trapper Era have been put back in place for display at the station. If the station lacked life and spirit before, it has definitely got it now – and a few materials, of course: 50 rolls of roofing felt, at least 80 boards, 10,000 roofing felt nails and 2,000 miscellaneous nails and screws.

"Agsut" and crew took off from Laplace 8th August and set course for Humboldt station [308]. Everything was in order there; a couple of musk oxen grazed behind us as we had our lunch by the eskimo ruins. On the way back we stopped by the ruins of Orvinhytten [307] and Røvballehytten [241]. We arrived at Ella Ø 22.00 at ebb. Then we unloaded the ship for all goods and cast the anchor of "Agsut" for a last time. Ramps were put out and the trailer pushed far out. Around 02.00 "Agsut" could be sailed up on the trailer and pulled into her winter lair.

On 10th August Ole and Kristian went for a rubber dinghy sail to Ørkendal to see on the canyon river there. Afterward we returned to Ella Ø and then sailed to Maristua [236] to put a tray for the ash in the stove. In the

meantime Boye went for a helicopter ride to Robertsons Ø and Rødebjerg.

### **Unrigging and stocktaking**

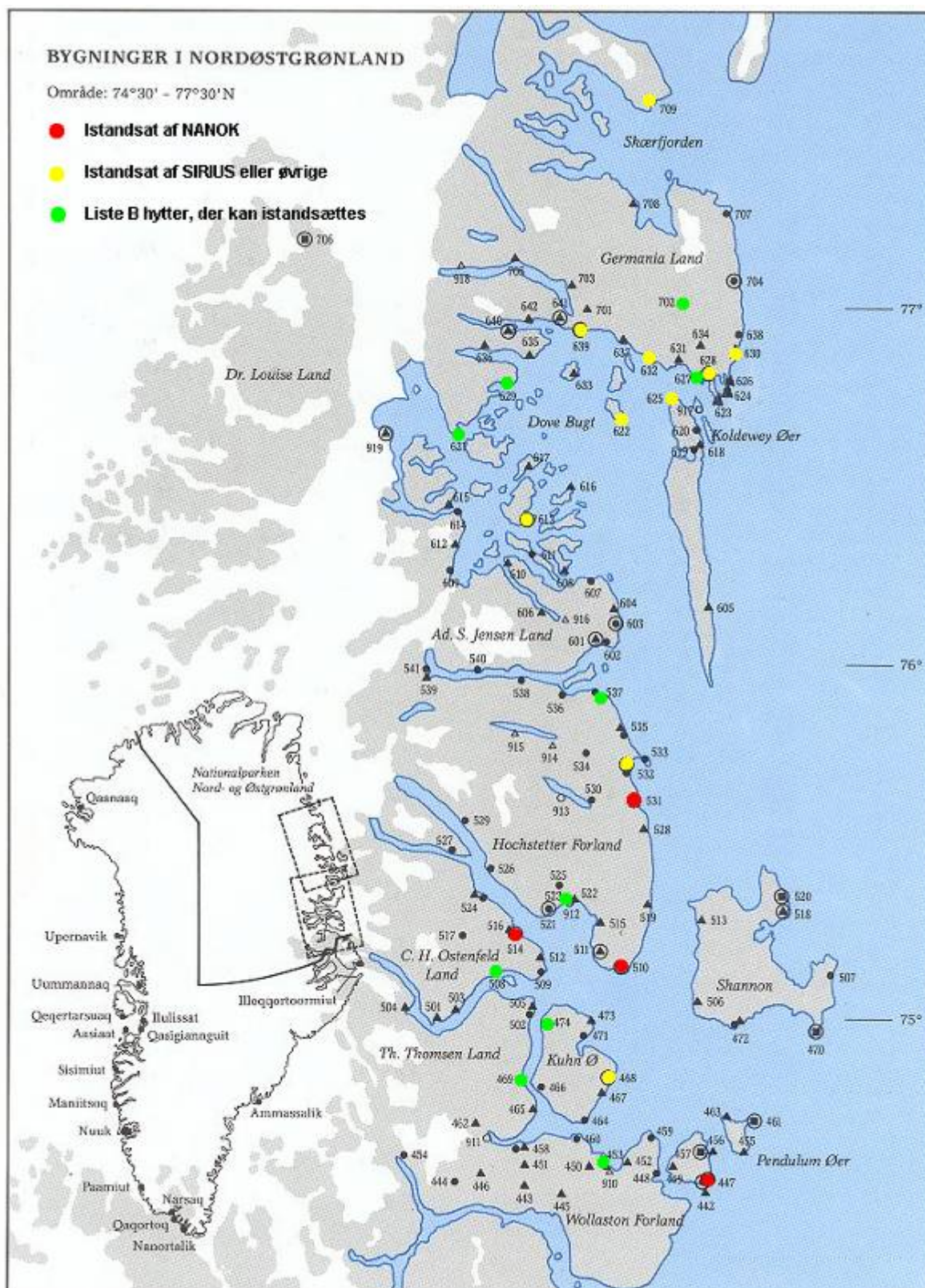
"Agsut", the rubber dinghy and outboard motors were rinsed with fresh water, preserved for winter and prepared for next season. All of Nanok's equipment, materials and provisions were cleaned and counted.

### **The journey home**

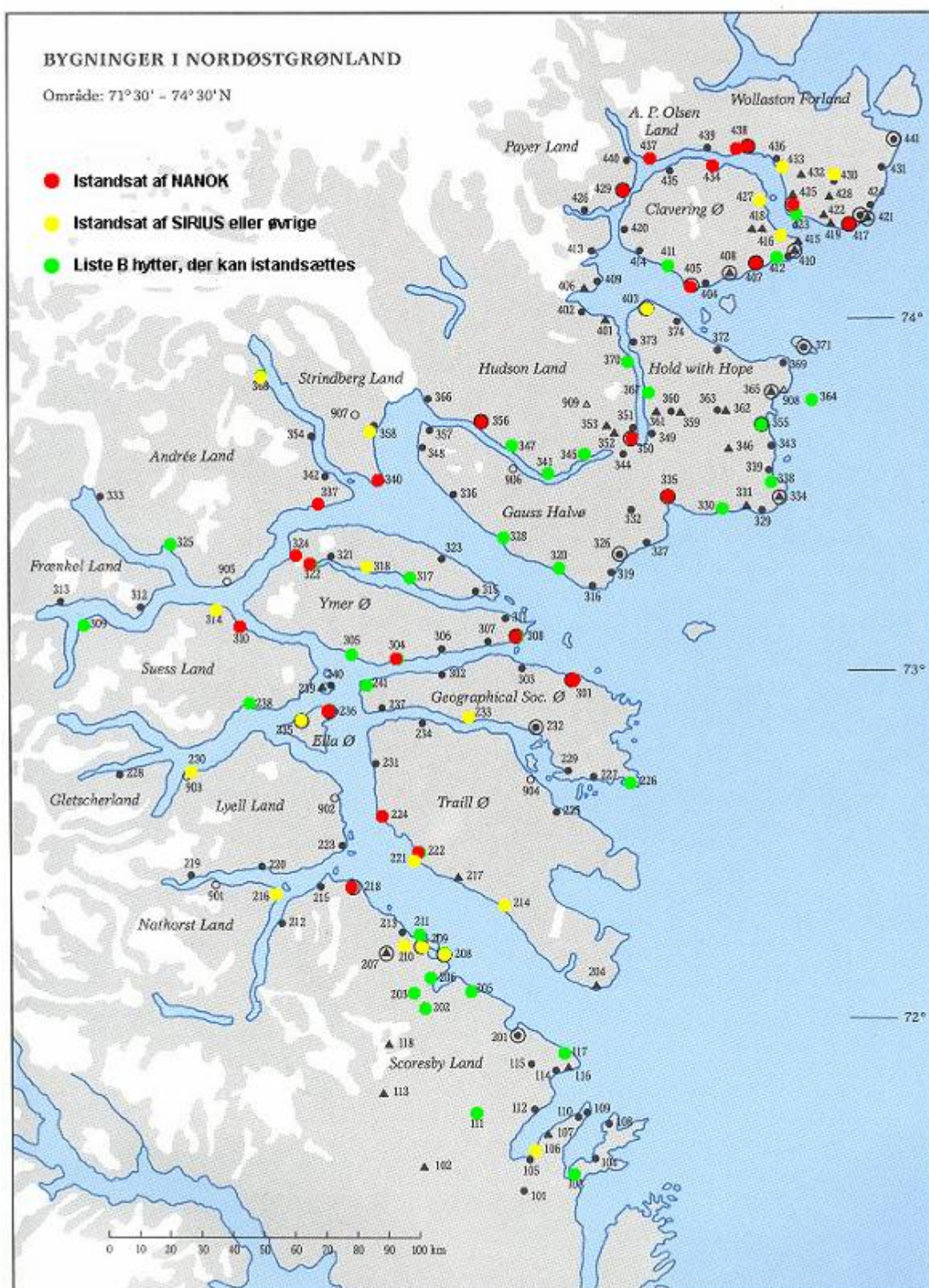
Ørnereden was shut on 11th August and the Twin Otter arrived from Daneborg about 11.30 with Jens and Jannik onboard. Unfortunately the North team was bound by fog by Mønstedhus and therefore they did not go home along with the rest of us. We took off from Constable Pynt at 17.10 directly to Reykjavik in Dash-8. We five Nanoks had a pleasant meal in Reykjavik, before we took a taxi to Keflavik and from there we took the airliner to Kastrup with arrival about 06.00 on 12th August.

Thanks for the trip. Thanks for the help and thanks to the Sirius-men and Chef Sirius for the good cooperation. Thanks to Norlandair and POLOG for their great commitment. It has been a great joy and an amusement to revisit the Coast.

*Boye, Ole and Kristian*



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, can not 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.



## Field report for Sandodden team 2009

### Tasks:

We two, old Nanoks, Jannik Berntsen and Jens Erik Schultz, had the following tasks:

- a) To renovate Sandodden, where the bottom part of the western wall is rotten (below the peat plinth),
- b) To complete clearing and maintenance of Hotel Karina, including draw up of a new list, description of the all the historical objects at the exhibition and make a durable relabeling of all the displayed objects,
- c) To attend to and maintain the Nanok depot on Sandodden,
- d) To receive goods to Nanok on Daneborg,
- e) To count the Nanok depot on Daneborg,
- f) To prepare for Nanok expedition 2010.

### Sandodden

A little wooden house of original 10 m<sup>2</sup> has been the frame of several historical occurrences since 1923.

Today symbolically situated in the hierarchy of history in the middle between the "city" Daneborg and the scientific stations to the north, but in its time a lonely outpost in the deserted land.

Erected in 1921 on Kap Mary and relocated in 1923 by men from the Danmark Ekspeditionen - Hans Ludvig Jensen and Henning Bistrup. The first decades it served as trapper station, then it became the residence of different Sirius-men, among others Erik Jensen, the later co-founder of Nanok. Therefore it has to be preserved with



*The stone wall in front of the western wall is removed and wet, rotten wall is exposed.*

respect to its previous functions.

Immediately after arriving the weather changed to strong wind with rain for a couple of days. But with invaluable help from Sirius and their hydraulics, we managed to remove the stone wall in front of Sandodden in the western wall and a



*Left: The bottom part of the outer board wall is replaced and reinforced.*



*Right: The wall is boarded with roofing felt.*



*Left: All exterior green and white woodwork was painted.*



*Right: The stone wall was rebuilt and the renovation completed.*

seriously wet and rotten wall was exposed; among other things the head was rotten. We succeeded in rebuilding a new board wall, which we afterwards covered with two layers of roofing felt putting it under the lower boards. With more help from Sirius with the big stones, the stone wall was then re-established and covered with stones from the surroundings.

Afterwards all exterior green and white woodwork was painted and there was puttied and glass put in. Nothing in the house's interior has been changed or "improved" though.

### **Hotel Karina**

The house was built in 1938 by Elmer Drastrup. In 2000 it was prepared by Nanok



*New objects have arrived to the collection including the original cross from the grave of Eli Knudsen. By an extraordinary coincidence the cross was found in a pile of scrap in Denmark by a previous Sirius-man. Notice that the cross is seen standing below the new cross by the grave on a drawing from 1969 by Kay Walther. The cross has now returned to Greenland and been placed in the historical collection in Hotel Karina along with the report about the finding.*



*Left: Hotel Karina in front of Sandodden. Right: Jannik Berntsen and Jens Erik Schultz photographed on "Arina Arctica" with Captain Fritz Ploug Nielsen.*

to the historical collection (see feild report) and this year Bent Zwergius has made a new guide to a part of the collection. New objects have arrived including the original cross from the grave of Eli Knudsen found by an extraordinary coincedense in a pile of scrap in Denmark by a previous Sirius-man. It is seen below the new cross by the grave on a drawing from 1969 by Kay Walther.

We cleared up and rearranged the collection which generally was in good condition. It was nice to see from the guest book that so many have visited and complimented the place. Among others we had 50 cruise tourists visiting. The house is covered with a very worn out layer of cardboard and is in much need of new roofing felt. It is situated near the coast, only 4 m. from the cliff.

### **Ships call**

Ships call time is still a busy time, but now fully mechanised with containers and trucks. Old Nanok's risk getting run over, or best scenario, to be in the way. In the bottom eider mothers dart off closely followed by little croocket-legged down balls – met by hungry seagulls. Above a choir of 87 dog voices in all tunes. A quiet night eight walrosses on a floe out on Young Sund sail by in majestic calm. You almost wanted to stand up and salute.

We were saved onboard the "Arina" by Captain Fritz Ploug, and we spent some delightful hours with him and his crew. As a thank for their hospitality we chose to give a special number in out favourite disciplin: Fri klatring på skibsljeder med og uden line in the category old Nanok's. What we lacked in artistic impression, we made up for in

contempt of death and common entertainment value – judged by the facial expression of the crew in any case.

We received larged amounts of goods and everything was placed to the best of our ability, again thanks to the exeptional Sirius-men and their hydraulic! We redecorated depot house no. 9 with Kristian's hut stoves. And then we made a full counting.

### **Visit in Zackenberg**

Our five friends in the boat house from the Greenland Institute of Natural Resources in Nuuk invited us to a short trip to Zackenberg in "Aage V. Jensen", where we had time to see the station and Ivar Ytreland's nicely renovated salmon hut. The trip proceeded with recumbent comfort with 160 horsepower in the back and 28 knots forward. Jens sent a thought to Henning (Sirius 54), who in 1991, as Nanok-man, wandered the distance Zackenberg-Daneborg four times, and a thought to 1992, when we launched out first ship, the aluminium dinghy with 1,5 horses in the back and 2,5 knots forward. Ah yes – good old days!

### **The journey home**

The journey home started with an order of immedeate departure, so unfortunately we did not have time to say a proper goodbye and thank you. We thank our neighbours in the boat house for their hospitality and comfortable good-fellowship and not least Sirius for great kindness and never failing helpfulness.

*Jannik Berntsen and Jens Erik Schultz*

## Field report for the North team 2009

### Tasks

The North team had the following tasks:

- g) To renovate Ottostrand station [531], alternatively to renovate 5 - 10 classification B huts in the North region
- h) To scouting for/ Reconnaissance for – and to make ready if possible– a Twin Otter landing field by Ottostrand.

### The North team

The North team was expedition leader Erik Jochumsen, Klaus Mynzberg Jensen and Anders Bjerregaard – all former Sirius-men.

### The journey to North-East Greenland

We left Denmark 20th July together with both the South team and the team for Sandodden. We flew directly from Copenhagen to Akureyri, where we stayed for one night. The following morning we flew from Akureyri to Constable Pynt.

The plan was then that we were to stay one night at Daneborg in order to have enough

time for finding the last gear and provisions. However, this plan was changed last minute, so we had only very little time at Daneborg before we were to fly on to Ny Mønstedhus. It was only due to the great help and kindness of the Sirius-men that we managed to do everything on time at Daneborg!

That evening around 19.00 we landed at Ny Mønstedhus [432-4] in a rough northern wind. The following days we also endured hard winds. On the third day we even had a blizzard. That same morning we got a visit from a bear which was on a distance of about 15 m from the hut.

Four days passed before the weather allowed us to sail the about 10 km. southwards to Ottostrand. Thus we arrived at Ottostrand 25<sup>th</sup> July in the afternoon.

### Renovation of Ottostrand

The primary task of the North team was to renovate the old trappers' station Ottostrand, which is situated by the coast in the northern region of Hochstetter Forland. The station was built in 1932 by the two Norwegian trappers Otto Johnsen (hereby the name) and Ove Høeg. It was last used by trappers back in 1953. In the years after that it was



*Ottostrand [531] at arrival.*



*Left: The backside of the station before the renovation. Right: In the summer of 2008 Nanok had laid out a great quantity of materials for the renovation of Ottostrand. For the transport we got kind help from the Navy vessel "Vædderen".*

scarcely used by Sirius who preferred to use the Mønstedhus station only 10 km. further north. Sadly Mønstedhus was taken by the sea in the autumn of 2002, but thereby raised another good reason to renovate Ottostrand, which gradually had decayed.

At arrival we were happy to find that all goods transported by inspection ship "Vædderen" to Ottostrand in 2008 was still standing dry and nicely behind the hut.

The hut itself was actually in better shape than we had dared to hope! We spent the first day emptying completely the hut for equipment and dirt as well. Then we removed the old coal stove, and a newly renovated Scandia coal stove was installed. After this the stove was by and large running constantly for two weeks to dry the hut as much as possible before we started to nail on the roofing felt.

The first couple of days we spent removing the banks of earth surrounding the hut and removing all loose and bad roofing felt as

well as old nails. You easily get the idea that the trappers were sponsored by a nail manufacturer; it is almost unbelievable how many nails there are – and in so few square centimetres!

The original table and stools were repaired and were then ready for use. We made new bunks for the hut and Erik spent several days carefully renovating the old windows, which then were provided with new glass. The porch was very usable in size and placing and functioned partly as workshop and partly as storage during our stay.

During our stay we made numerous halfday trips to Ny Mønstedhus in the alu-dinghy to get provisions, fuel and materials. Furthermore we went for many trips into the hinterland to scout for possible areas for a landing field but unsuccessfully as the earth was too wet and soft everywhere.

On the fourth day we began to nail on the inner felt, and on the ninth day we started on the outer felt. We endured a great deal of



*It was necessary to replace the lower part of the woodwork on the rear side of the house due to rot.*



*Above six photos that clearly show the wonderful result of the renovation. Left are three photos taken before the renovation and right are three photos after the renovation. The four in the top are from the kitchen/living room, and the bottom two are from the workshop/weather porch. In reality the condition of the interior is quite remarkable after about 50 years without maintenance.*

rain and mist the first week, but in spite of this the hut was dried pretty well before the felt was put on. Klaus reinstalled the door to the bedroom and even managed to repair the locking mechanism.

Generally we put great effort into making the house look as much like the original trappers' station as possible. This partly from the images in Peter Schmidt Mikkelsen's book and partly from the objects that were on location and the hut was provided with at arrival. Among other things the triangular fillet on the roof were reused,

even though quite a few were in kit form. The bolster against the southern wall in the living room was recreated as well. It can as a curiosity be noticed that we spent almost 270 nails for the process, which also needed a great deal of manual drilling.

We had a visit from the helicopter from Royal Arctic Line's "Arina Arctica" and Captain Fritz Ploug. He had had the cook onboard pack a huge lunch for us, which we enjoyed the following days living as counts and barons!



*For a while there is once more life, light and evening cosiness in Ottostrand.*

After two weeks at Ottostrand the work on the house finally was finished on 9th August. The sign from 1932, which we had carefully removed at beginning, was now put above the doorway along with two antlers that for so many years have been characteristic of Ottostrand. The hut is now standing very usable and in a condition to make it last for another couple of centuries in North-East Greenland.

We also made time for a hike on the mountain Haystack a little north of Ny Mønstedhus, some fishing and a couple of trips to the hinterland. The first week the weather was marked by much rain and mist, but especially the last week we had very beautiful unclouded calm weather with sunshine. In addition to the polar bear we

saw many musk oxen, mountain hares, seals and two walruses. For a couple of days we had a visit from a black arctic fox on the station.

### **The journey home**

Our journey home was delayed due to mist on Ny Mønstedhus, therefore we arrived in Denmark one day later than planned. Once again our staying the night in Daneborg was cancelled and once again we received great help from the Sirius-men, who helped us with vehicles, transportation, etc.

Overall we have had a fantastic trip on which we accomplished all our tasks except the landing field.

A warm thanks to the crew on "Vædderen"



*Left: Window after restoration. Nanok-men make an effort to repair and maintain as much of the original building parts as possible. Right: Ottostrand after restoration.*



*Ottostrand [531] newly restored at departure.*

for their help with lay out of materials in 2008 to “Arina Arctica”, for helicopter support and to the Sirius-men for their help. It was wonderful to again experience the coastal spirit and find that it is very well indeed! A special thanks to the board of Nanok for their work and support.

*Klaus, Erik and Anders*



*Left: the original sign is reinstalled. Right: North team 2009: Anders Bjerregaard, Erik Jochumsen and Klaus Mynzberg Jensen.*

## 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 management of seven persons. These are Peter Schmidt Mikkelsen (dir.), Søren Andersen, Jens Erik Schultz, Tommy Pedersen, Palle V. Norit, Søren Rysgaard and Fritz Ploug Nielsen. Besides the management a number of individual persons – "NANOK'ers" – participate actively in NANOK's projects. All work in NANOK is voluntary and unpaid.

Each summer NANOK sends an expedition of typically 5-10 persons divided on 2-3 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 management. In the years 1991-2009 a total of 114 NANOK'ers have been sent out to North- East Greenland.

In order to perform its tasks NANOK controls a considerable amount of expedition equipment; however NANOK possesses no property in Greenland.

NANOK's projects are financed by the Aage V. Jensens Fonde. The Royal Arctic Line sponsors NANOK's transport of goods. The organisation is furthermore supported by a number of private contributors. NANOK's many, good partners are a.o. Air Greenland, Danmarks Miljøundersøgelser, Forsknings- og Innovationsstyrelsen, Forsvarets Vagt Mestersvig, Grønlands Selvstyre, Grønlands Nationalmuseum & Arkiv, Grønlands Naturinstitut, Logistikcenter Grønland, NANU-travel, Norlandair, POLOG, Slædepatruljen Sirius.

Since 1991 NANOK has repaired and maintained approx. 30 cultural historic buildings and has for this effort gained considerable recognition from a.o. The Greenland Home Rule and The Greenland National Museum & Archive.

Encouraged by The Greenland Home Rule 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.

In the summer 2007 NANOK has – with the approval of The Greenland Home Rule – resumed the restoration of huts in North-East Greenland.



## List of North-East Greenlandic stations and huts renovated by NANOK 1991 - 2009:

| No    | Name              | Repaired in       | No    | Name             | Repaired in           |
|-------|-------------------|-------------------|-------|------------------|-----------------------|
| 201   | Antarctichavn     | 2001 (knust 2002) | 356   | Hoelsbu          | 1999, 2000, 2007      |
| 218   | Kap Peterséns     | 1998              | 405   | Eskimonæs        | 1998                  |
| 224-2 | Kongeborgen       | 2001              | 407   | Elvsborg         | 2007-2008             |
| 222   | Holm Bugt hytten  | 2001              | 417   | Kap Herschell    | 2002                  |
| 236   | Maristua          | 2008              | 425   | Sandodden/Karina | 1994-2000, 2007, 2009 |
| 301   | Laplace           | 2009              | 429   | Moskusheimen     | 1994                  |
| 304   | Arentz hytten     | 2008              | 434   | Leirvågen        | 2008                  |
| 308   | Kap Humboldt      | 1997              | 438-2 | Zackenbergt      | 1991, 1992            |
| 308   | Bjørnheimen       | 2008              | 438-4 | Fiskerhytten     | 2008                  |
| 322   | Noa Sø hytten     | 2008              | 437   | Bjørnnesstua     | 2008                  |
| 324   | Varghytten        | 2002, 2007        | 447   | Germaniahavn     | 1999                  |
| 335   | Myggbukta         | 1999, 2007        | 510   | Hochstetter      | 1996, 1998            |
| 337   | Ragnhilds-hytten  | 2008              | 514   | Ny Jonsbu        | 1995                  |
| 340   | Kap Ovibos hytten | 2000, 2007        | 531   | Ottostrand       | 2009                  |
| 350   | Loch Fyne         | 1993, 2007        |       |                  |                       |

Source conc. 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).

