

**ARCTIC CIRCLE MEMBERS KNOWN TO HAVE FEATURES IN CANADA
NAMED FOR THEM**

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P.D. Baird
E.S. Fry
R.W. (Paddy) Hamilton
H.A. Larsen
T.H. Manning
A.E. Porsild
G.W. Rowley
A. Stevenson
L.J. Weeks

**Closely associated vessels: RCMPV *St. Roch*
RMS *Nascopie***

PATRICK DOUGLAS BAIRD (1912-1984)

After graduating in Geology from Cambridge University, Pat Baird's life soon focussed on expeditions to the Canadian Arctic – including the J.M. Wordie Expedition (1934), the British-Canadian Expedition (1936-39), Arctic Institute of North America (1950, 1953) and numerous climbing and research (notably glaciological) expeditions to Baffin Island. In WWII he joined the Royal Canadian Artillery as a gunner and rose to the rank of Lt. Colonel. He was a trainer for paratroopers in his homeland of Scotland and for arctic and mountain warfare in Canada. He was field commander in the *Musk-Ox* military exercise between Churchill and the Peace River (1946). Pat became Chief of the Arctic Section of the Canadian Defence Research Board, Director of the Montreal Head Office of The Arctic Institute of North America and after returning to Scotland as Professor at the University of Aberdeen (1954-59), he came back to Canada to be in charge of McGill's Schefferville Subarctic Research Station. He was instrumental in promoting the establishment of Auyuittuq National Park and authored *The Polar World* (1964). Pat Baird received recognition for his achievements, for example, the Founder's Medal of the Royal Geographical Society (1952) and the Bruce Memorial Medal of the Royal Society of Edinburgh.

<i>Baird Peninsula</i> on western Baffin Island	68° 55' – 76° 04'
<i>Baird Peak</i> on Bylot Island	73° 07' 30" – 78° 20'

ERIC STANLEY FRY (1890-1973)

As a Dominion Land Surveyor (DLS), Eric Fry played a significant role in opening up northern Canada by open-cockpit aircraft mapping. He was born in Sandbach, England and came to Canada at age 16. After working on a construction crew building the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway through the Yellowhead Pass, in 1910 he began his survey career – first with town sites for the railway, then private surveys and township subdivision surveys. Fry enlisted with the survey section of the North British Columbian Battalion in WWI; after being wounded he returned to Vancouver. The 1920s saw Fry qualify as a DLS and engaged in government aerial surveys, initially in the cumbersome three-man Vickers Viking flying boat as an aerial navigator and surveyor, shooting oblique aerial photos. For much of his career with the Topographical Survey Branch he was attached to the RCAF and involved with establishing astronomical control in the north. In 1941, borrowed by the RCAF, he was instrumental in finding the site for the Goose Bay airport and mapping with the RCAF and the US Army Air Force in Labrador and Baffin Island. After mapping vast areas around Great Slave Lake and Great Bear Lake he retired in 1955, but subsequently played a major role in selecting DEW Line sites across the North. Eric Fry was awarded the OBE in recognition of his war efforts. He was an early member of the Arctic Circle.

<i>Fry Inlet</i> on Contwoyto Lake, NWT	65° 16' – 110° 26' 14"
<i>Fry Mountain</i> , northern Labrador	58° 43' – 63° 05' 57"

ROBERT WARREN (PADDY) HAMILTON (1898-1974)

Paddy Hamilton was a long-time member of the RCMP and a veteran of life in the Arctic. He was born in Castlefin, Ireland and came to Canada in 1926 after serving four years in the Royal Ulster Special Constabulary. He joined the RCMP and after training was sent to Dundas Harbour, Devon Island. For 17 of his 27 years of commendable years in the RCMP, Hamilton was also posted with northern detachments at Bache Peninsula, Craig Harbour, Pangnirtung, Baker Lake and Chesterfield Inlet. His wife Mabel Bochmar was from Madison, NY and they were married by Bishop Fleming of the Arctic on board the *RMS Nascopie* in 1940. During the years of Hamilton's service, in the days of once a year contact with the outside world through the annual supply vessel, he undertook many long dog team patrols. Paddy Hamilton retired, as a Sergeant since 1945, on November 30, 1952. He received the Coronation Medal in 1937 and commendations on two other occasions.

<i>Paddy Hamilton Peninsula</i> on southern Ellesmere Island beside Craig Harbour (abandoned)	76° 09' – 80° 59'
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HENRY ASBJØRN LARSEN (1899-1964)

Henry Larsen is well known as the captain of the RCMP *St. Roch* that made the first west-east crossing through the southern Northwest Passage and was the first ship to complete the northern route. Larsen was born in the Hvaler Islands, Norway and as a child was inspired by Roald Amundsen. He immigrated to Canada, and in 1928 joined the RCMP, the same year the RCMP commissioned the *St. Roch* for Arctic service. Serving initially as mate on the schooner, once in the Arctic he was appointed captain, and continued to command the *St. Roch* for another two decades. They took supplies to the scattered RCMP posts in the far north, carried out functions of government departments, and over-wintered 11 times in isolated locations. In 1940, Larsen was ordered to proceed from Vancouver to Halifax. *St. Roch* over-wintered at Walker Bay (Victoria Island) in 1940-41 and Pasley Bay (Boothia Peninsula) the following winter. Escaping in August 1942 they drifted in icepack for 20 days in Larsen Sound, battled ice in Bellot Strait before reaching Fort Ross HBC post, ascended Prince Regent Inlet to Lancaster Sound and arrived in Halifax in October 1942. In 1944, Larsen and the *St. Roch* journeyed from Halifax to Vancouver (via Parry Channel and Prince of Wales Strait) in one season (86 days from late July to mid-October). Larsen rose to Superintendent, responsible for all Arctic detachments before he retired in 1961; he was awarded the Polar Medal and the first Massey Medal of the Royal Canadian Geographical Society.

Larsen Sound to the west of Boothia Peninsula 70° 30' – 98° 45'

THOMAS HENRY MANNING (1911-1998)

Tom Manning was an Arctic explorer, biologist, zoologist and geographer. He was born in Northampton, England, and educated at Harrow and Cambridge. Manning travelled in 1933-35 to Southampton Island, undertaking research for the Royal Geographical Society and studying birds for the British Museum, while making long dog-sled journeys during the winters. He returned in 1936 as surveyor, zoologist and leader of the British-Canadian Arctic Expedition that spent six years around the Foxe Basin and Melville Peninsula. During WWII Manning became a lieutenant in the Royal Canadian Navy, serving as a cipher officer, developing Arctic clothing, and seconded to the US Army Corps of Engineers to establish an airfield on Southampton Island. In 1944-47, Manning was seconded to (and later employed by) the Geodetic Survey of Canada, determining astronomical ground control for photo surveys, particularly in the Ungava Peninsula and James Bay. He retired from the RCN in 1945 with the rank of lieutenant commander. As a consultant for the Defence Research Board, he led five multi-disciplinary expeditions to the Foxe Basin, James Bay, Beaufort Sea, and Banks Island. Further fieldwork in the 50s and 60s took him to various parts of the Arctic with the National Museum and the Canadian Wildlife Service. Manning earned many awards from Canada and Scotland for his Arctic research, most notably Officer of the Order of Canada in 1974. He and his wife, “Jackie”, were original Arctic Circle members.

Manning Islands in the Foxe Basin, east of Hall Beach 68° 47' – 80° 04'

ALF ERLING PORSILD (1901-1977)

Erling Porsild was a respected Arctic botanist whose meticulous research contributed to the taxonomy of boreal plants and to their geographic and circumpolar relationships. Porsild was born in Copenhagen, but grew up in Godhavn on Disko Island, Greenland where his father, a botanist, was establishing the Danish Biological Station. From 1922-25 he was Assistant Botanist at the Station and then was invited, with his brother Robert, by the Canadian government to survey reindeer grazing potential in the Northwest Territories and Alaska. After some five years in the north studying grazing possibilities and collecting flora, Erling established the reindeer research station on the east side of the Mackenzie Delta and brought over herders from Scandinavia to work with the Inuit to build a sustainable industry. By 1935, Porsild began to publish studies of boreal North American flora and went on to collect over 100,000 plant specimens for the Canadian Museum of Nature and other world herbaria. In 1938 he was first to borrow the Inuit term 'pingo' for scientific use. During WWII he was appointed Canadian Consul in Greenland (receiving an OBE), and by 1946 he became Chief Botanist at the National Museum of Canada – a position he held until his retirement in 1967. Porsild received several honorary doctorates and awards for his scientific work, including election as a Fellow of the Royal Society (in 1946) and of the Norwegian Academy of Sciences (1964). He was one of the original members of the Arctic Circle.

Porsild Mountains, east Southampton Island 64° 49' – 83° 05'
Porsild Pingo, to east of the Mackenzie Delta 69° 09' – 134° 06' 10"

GRAHAM WESTBROOK ROWLEY (1912-2003)

Graham Rowley had a lifelong involvement with the Canadian Arctic through exploration, administration and scientific endeavour. Born in Manchester, Rowley attended Cambridge University, specializing in natural sciences and archaeology. As archaeologist, he was invited to join Tom Manning's British-Canadian Arctic Expedition (1936-39) to the Foxe Basin. In the winter of 1936-37, Rowley and Reynold Bray (ornithologist) drove by dog team from Resolute Bay to Igloolik (200 miles). Later travelling with Inuit, they completed the mapping of the west coast of Baffin Island. After spending the next winter in England, he returned in 1938 to resume archaeological work and successfully excavated a pure "Dorset" site, as distinct from Thule culture, so confirming a theory of Diamond Jenness. During WWII, Rowley served in the Canadian Army, and on his return from Europe commanded the advance party of Exercise Musk-Ox, for testing wartime vehicles in the Arctic and Subarctic. In 1946, Rowley joined the Defence Research Board; in 1951 he became Secretary of the Advisory Committee on Northern Development, Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources and later Scientific Adviser. After retiring in 1974, he joined Carleton University as a research professor. Rowley's contributions to the Canadian Arctic were recognized by honorary doctorates and awards, in particular, the Order of Canada and an MBE. Graham and Diana Rowley were founding members of the Arctic Circle in 1947.

Rowley Island, northern Foxe Basin 66° 06' – 78° 52'
Rowley River, western Baffin Island 70° 15' – 77° 47'

ALEXANDER STEVENSON (1915-1982)

Alex Stevenson was best known as the “Administrator of the Arctic”, a part of his career that spanned decades of association with the Canadian Arctic. He was born in Verdun, Quebec and at 19 joined the Hudson’s Bay Company as a clerk in the eastern Arctic. During WWII, Stevenson served in an RCAF Wellington Bomber crew, but was shot down and spent three years as a prisoner-of-war. On returning to Canada, he was briefly with the HBC in Winnipeg, before starting a career with the federal government in 1946. For six years on the Eastern Arctic Patrol, Stevenson used his knowledge of Inuktitut to undertake duties such as Justice of the Peace, Game Officer, assisting with x-ray clinics and the Post Office. He was on board when the *RMS Nascopie* went aground near Cape Dorset in 1947. From 1953, as Assistant Administrator of the Arctic he was responsible for education, welfare, economic development and engineering activities in the eastern Arctic. By 1960, he became Administrator of the Arctic and his activities included the DEW line coordination, wildlife preservation, fur promotion, arctic weather stations, salvage archaeology, geographical names, and aboriginal land claims until the responsibilities of Northern Administration of DIAND were transferred to the Government of the NWT. In 1974 Stevenson was seconded from DIAND to the Inuit Tapirisat to establish their Language Commission and finished his career with a contract on government-sponsored relocations of the Inuit.

Stevenson Inlet, west of Pond Inlet

72° 15' 35" – 78° 29' 35"

LUDLOW JACKSON WEEKS (1899-1964)

Ludlow Weeks was a geologist who spent more than 39 years (1925-1964) in the employ of the Geological Survey of Canada, carrying out field work in various parts of Canada, including the Arctic. He was born in Wolfville, Nova Scotia, graduated from Acadia University and took post-graduate studies at Yale. Weeks joined GSC in 1925, sailing on the CGS *Arctic* on her annual visit to the Arctic islands, to make geological observations. In 1926 he again went north – this time with Maurice Haycock – to winter at Pangnirtung. Both men were aboard the *Beothic* when it arrived to open the Bache Post (eastern Ellesmere Island) on August 9, 1926. During the winter on southern Baffin Island Weeks carried out a long traverse, despite being badly wounded in his right arm from a shotgun accident. From 1929-32 Weeks returned north, this time around the Hudson Bay coast, south of Rankin Inlet. During the Depression years Weeks was sent to the Quebec Gold Belt to map the geology of the Precambrian Shield in support of mining activity. In the 1940s he studied metallic deposits of Cape Breton Island and in 1949 supervised the entry of the GSC into Newfoundland, taking over projects of the former Newfoundland Survey. In his years with GSC, Weeks published many geological maps and reports on the Eastern Arctic, western Hudson Bay, northern Quebec/Ontario and Nova Scotia. In 1955, he became Chief of the Post-Precambrian Division – a position he held until his death in 1964.

Weeks Bay, west Baffin Island

67° 51' – 72° 47'

RCMPV *ST. ROCH*

The wooden schooner *St. Roch* was built at the Burrard shipyards in North Vancouver in 1927-28 for the RCMP to serve as an Arctic supply/patrol vessel and for sovereignty purposes. The *St. Roch* was constructed of Douglas fir planks sheathed with Australian eucalyptus 'iron bark' and reinforced with steel plates to withstand ice pressure.

Dimensions: Length 31.78 m; Beam 7.74 m; Draft 3.81 m

150 hp diesel engine + sails

Captained by **Henry Larsen**, the *St. Roch* was the first ship to transit the Northwest Passage west to east (1940-42) overwintering at Walker Bay and Pasley Bay, and the first to completely make the east-west transit (1944) of the northerly route, whose existence had been determined by McClure. She was also the first ship to circumnavigate North America. The *RCMPV St. Roch* was purchased by the city of Vancouver in 1954 and designated a National Historic Site in 1962.

<i>St. Roch Basin</i> , W. of Spence Bay	69° 15' – 95° 00'
<i>St. Roch Harbour</i> , N. of Cape Dyer, E. Baffin Island	66° 55' – 62° 06'
<i>St. Roch Island</i> , in Tuktoyaktuk Harbour	69° 26' – 132° 59' 10"

RMS *NASCOPIE*

The steamship *Nascopie* was built by Swan Hunter and Wigham Richardson of Newcastle upon Tyne, England and was launched in 1911. She was fitted with ice breaker bow and thickened steel plates.

Dimensions: Length 87 m; Beam 13.3 m; Draft 5.3-6.7 m

Triple expansion steam engines; two main boilers fired by six furnaces; 1870 gross tons
The *Nascopie* started life carrying coal from Wales to St. John's and employed by Job Brothers in the annual seal hunt off Newfoundland in the winter. The Hudson's Bay Company was the majority interest owner and took over the vessel in 1912, sending her from England as a supply ship for the HBC northern outposts – undertaking 34 such voyages through Hudson Strait. During WWI, she was chartered for war efforts and carried wheat and munitions between France and Russia, surviving a German submarine encounter north of Murmansk. In 1921 she carried 550 reindeer from Norway to Baffin Island (for a venture that was not successful). In the 1920s the *Nascopie* was heading further north (for instance to Arctic Bay in 1926), then from 1933 she was based in Montreal and in 1937 was used to establish Fort Ross. In WWII she had extra duties for the war effort, shipping cryolite from Greenland to Canada. On July 21, 1947, the RMS *Nascopie* struck an uncharted reef off Beacon Island near the entrance to Cape Dorset and her broken hull sunk in storms later the same year.

<i>Nascopie Reefs</i> , off Cape Dorset	64° 12' – 78° 26'
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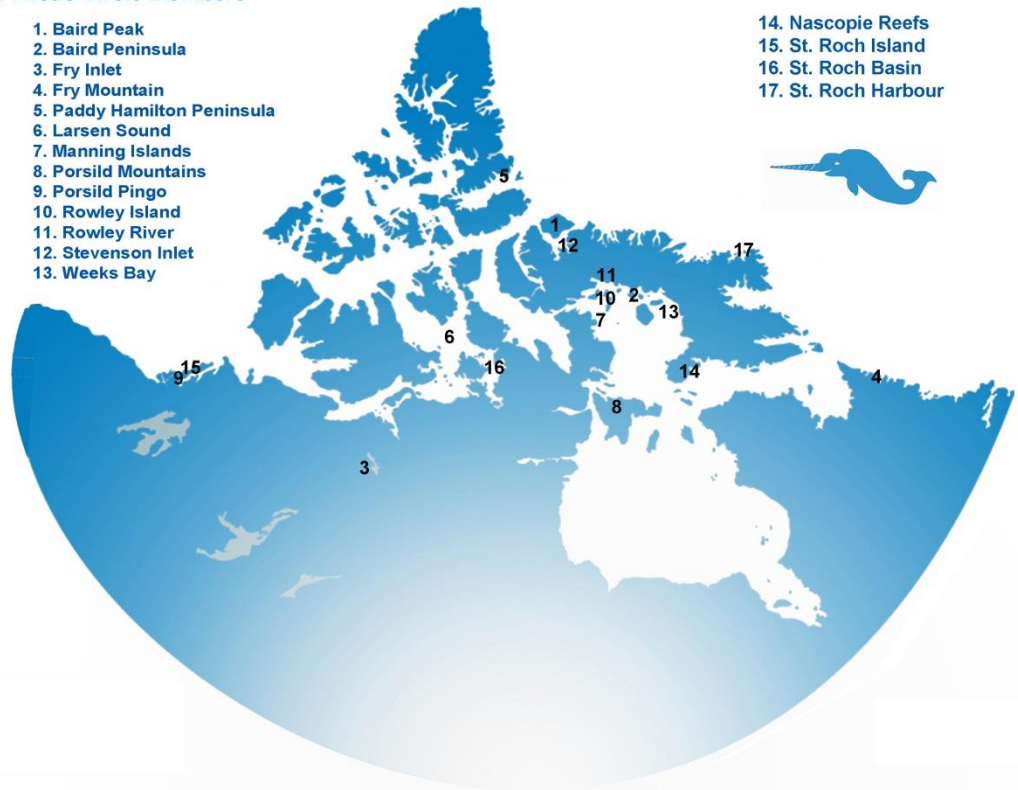
The Arctic Circle 500th Celebration

Geographical features named after Arctic Circle members

1. Baird Peak
2. Baird Peninsula
3. Fry Inlet
4. Fry Mountain
5. Paddy Hamilton Peninsula
6. Larsen Sound
7. Manning Islands
8. Porsild Mountains
9. Porsild Pingo
10. Rowley Island
11. Rowley River
12. Stevenson Inlet
13. Weeks Bay

Geographical features named after ships associated with these members

14. Nascopie Reefs
15. St. Roch Island
16. St. Roch Basin
17. St. Roch Harbour



Map designed by Patricia Sutherland.