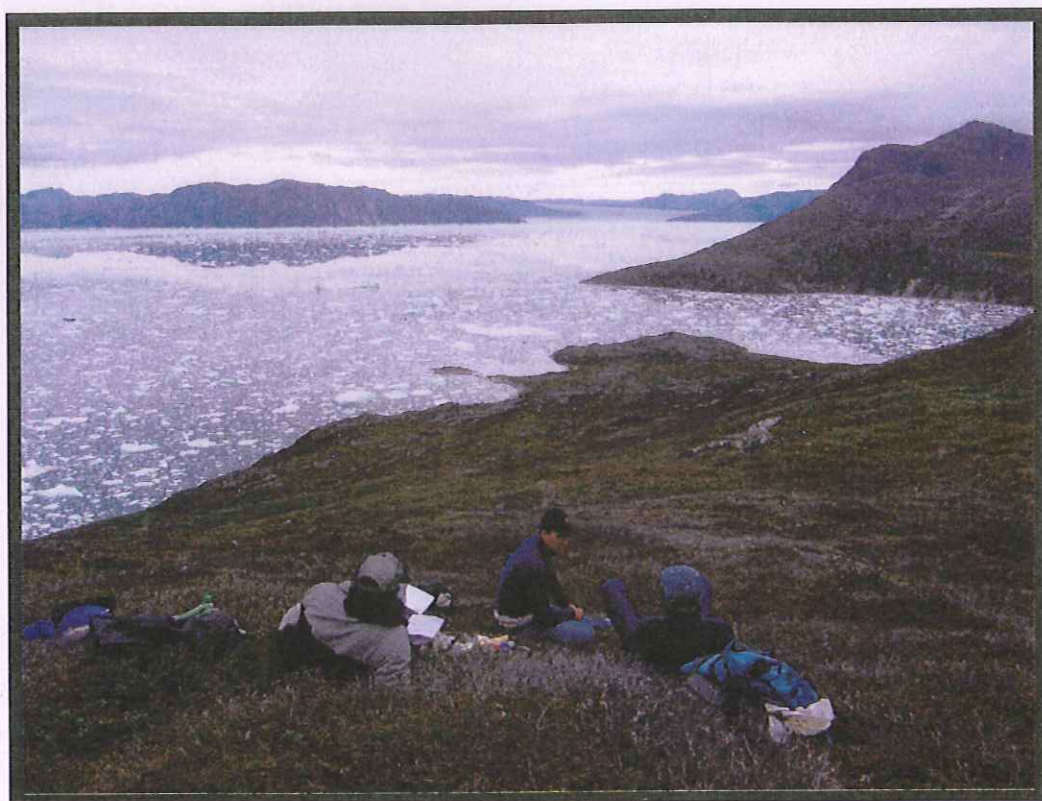


THE STEATITE OBJECTS ANALYSES PROJECT (S.O.A.P) 2005 - 2007

TRAVEL AND PROJECT – REPORT 2005

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- Travel and project -report 2005

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TABLE OF CONTENT

Introduction	3
Goals for Research and dissemination	3
This years results	4
Thank you to!	5
The historical and archaeological sources to soapstone exchange/trade in the Nuuk area	
The historical sources	6
The archaeological sources	7
Travel log	10
Sites visited during the 2005-campaign	
SW-Uummannaq Island	14
Ikkattut	17
Siaqqinneq	19
Quassusuaq	21
Kuanninnguit	22
NE-Uummannaq Island	23
Mannik/Amitsuarsuk	25
Narsatsiaq	26
Narsatsiaq/Mariane Q site	30
Narsaarsuk	31
Kangiussap Nunaa/formation 1	32
Kangiussap Nunaa/formation 2	34
Kangiussap Nunaa/Mikkel Q site	35
Kangiussap Nunaa/Clemens Q site	36
Ipiutaq	41
Appendix A: The Steatite Objects Analyses Project 2005 – 2007	42

INTRODUCTION

During August 2005 Sila (the Greenland Research Centre at the National Museum of Denmark) in collaboration with the National Museum and Archives and Friederich-Schiller Universität (Jena, Germany) conducted the first of three field-campaigns in the Nuuk area.

This first fieldtrip is to be considered as a pre-project campaign specifically aiming at assessing the possibilities for conducting the intended large-scale field-campaigns in 2006 and 2007, and not the least to give the involved institutions the possibility for a face-to-face discussion of research-goals and – strategies for the coming years. Furthermore, we also intended to create as full an overview as possible of the logistic challenges the large-scale projects involve.

By every standard the campaign can be considered successful as hopefully will be immediately visible from the present report.

THE RESEARCH GOALS

The ultimate (and brief version) of the research goals of the project is to reach a deeper understanding of the role and structure of exchange and trade in the prehistoric Greenlandic societies. We feel that an emphasis on trade and exchange (or more broadly communication) is a crucial research venue for further deepening our understanding of dynamics of the prehistoric societies, whether it is in the social, economic or ideological spheres.

This has long been of interest for archaeologists working in Greenland, but has to some extent stopped short in between various standard archaeologically founded models and models derived exclusively from the historical sources - mostly out of our reservations of projecting the historical models into the prehistoric periods, and thus creating a "tyranny of the ethnographic model". Furthermore, the limited amount of research focus on the early parts of the Thule period, as well as on historical archaeology has contributed to widening the gap between the prehistoric and historic Greenlandic societies. One notable exception though is the work of Hans Christian Gulløv (for example Gulløv 1997).

With point of departure in the historical and ethnographical record, specifically focusing on the soapstone trade in the Nuuk area, we will highlight the imprints in the archaeological record that the various types of historical trade and exchange have generated over time. In order to achieve this goal we will try to source the soapstone to particular quarries, firstly within the Nuuk region and secondly from all of Greenland's west coast. This will be done by experimenting isotopic analysis on soapstone in collaboration with the Geological Institute at the University of Copenhagen (represented by Dr. Robert Frei).

The next step will then be to juxtapose the historical imprints with the prehistoric material in order to create relevant historically derived analogies for the prehistoric material.

A more developed and detailed description of the project is included in the final part of this report.

Goals for education and research dissemination

From the beginning SOAP 2005 – 2007 was planned to include several substantial elements of education and public dissemination. The educational part will first and foremost be achieved by including some 20 – 25 students in the fieldwork, in order to crosscut nationality, institution and traditional borders between ethnography, history, art history, geology, zoology and archaeology. The students will be

divided into teams that are supposed to work largely independently both in the field and when writing reports, university-essays and articles on the special topics that each of the students groups are to get part of their ECTS-points from.

Presently, the project has brought about at least one MA-thesis project and we are generating the basis for one PhD-thesis.

With regards to the dissemination element a high profile will be achieved by employing several venues. One way is via reports and articles in one of the two leading Greenlandic newspapers. To that extent it is our hope that we establish a long-term collaboration with one or more journalists resulting in presentations both on printed-paper, but also on the newspapers web site (possibly in collaboration with the Danish Polar Centre). Another way is to open the project to a Greenlandic audience by public lectures in Nuuk, as well as giving room for local participation in the field. Finally, we hope that the exhibition concept that we intent to develop during the project will be of interest to the National Museum and Archives of Greenland and lead to an exhibition opening in 2008 or 2009. A first step could be to have a public soapstoneproduction-session in Nuuk already in 2006 or 2007.

This years results

- 15 soapstone quarry sites were visited
- Three previously unregistered soapstone quarry sites were found at the northern end of Kangiusap Nunaa which will be the basis for the fieldwork in 2006.
- 13 soapstone samples were sent to the Geological Institute at the University of Copenhagen for isotopic analysis.
- Connections have been established leading to contacts in and outside Greenland. We have successfully presented the project to the Greenlandic Minister of Culture (Mrs. Henriette Rasmussen) and director of the Greenland National Museum and Archives (Dr. Daniel Thorleifsen) by having them participate in part of the fieldtrip. As well, plans for the coming years have been settled in between the leading parties.
- First steps in planning the logistics for the coming years have been achieved with bringing Sila's ship to Nuuk and establishing storage facilities of field-equipment at the Greenland National Museum and Archives .
- Financing for some of the Danish participation has been ensured and an application for financing the German participation has been submitted to the German Research Council.
- The first popular article on the project will very soon be published in "Polarfronten" (the Danish Polar Centre). Furthermore, the project has already been presented to the heads of the Danish National Museum.

Thank you to

Janus Chemnitz Kleist and Boris Lund for giving us an excellent and unforgettable evening at „Hønen“ (Narsaq). Also a great thank to Knud Erik Kleist and Allan (and their wives) for bringing us to Qaqortoq and thereby saving us one day of travelling.

Kristine and Poul Raahauge for, as always, making our stay in Nanortalik extremely pleasant, and not the least for taking care of “Sonja” and us for so many years.

Henriette Rasmussen and Daniel Thorleifsen (and his family) for coming into the field and allowing us the great pleasure of showing our tiny part of the history of Greenland to interested and knowledgeable people.

Klavs Nygaard and Inngi Bisgaard for letting us participate in a great party and coming back with much good advice from the artist Anne-Birthe Hove and husband, Greenland’s former Consul in Ottawa Marianne Thomsen and her husband Brian Buus Pedersen (head of Tele Greenland), Mette Meldgaard, Øyvind Rosing (doctor at Sana) and his wife nurse Henriette Rosing, and Ida Nicolaisen (formerly from the Ethnographical department at the Danish National Museum and presently Senior Research Fellow at the Nordic Institute of Asian Studies, University of Copenhagen).

Especially Mariane Petersen for first of all letting us borrow her magnificent summer house, and even more so for (on very short notice) to participate in the project and sharing her huge knowledge of the Nuuk area.

Hans Christian Gulløv and Claus Andreasen for being very good discussion-partners, with loads of relevant advice. To Hans Kapel for directing us to the right places in an area of Greenland he also knows so well.

The historical sources

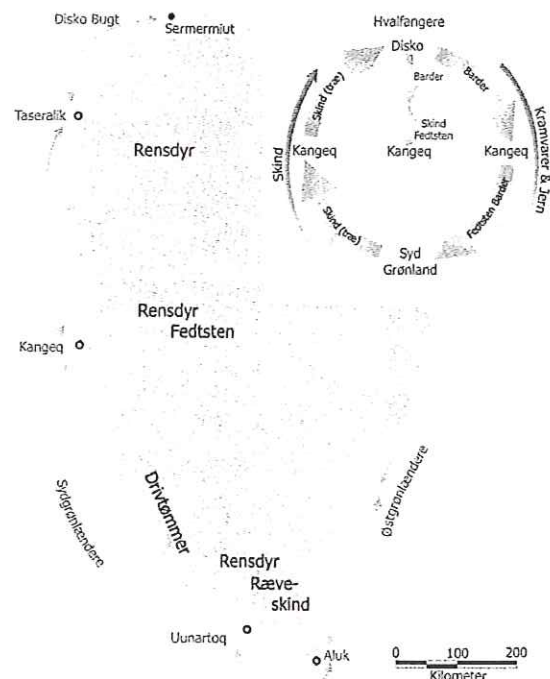
The earliest historical information on the use of soapstone in the Nuuk area can be found in Hans Egede's reports from the early 18th century (Egede 1925a; 1925b). In Egede's reports special mention is made on the soapstone from the Ameralik fiord and the general Ujarassuit area (innermost part of the Nuup Kangerlua), and in several places he stresses the variety and good quality of the soapstone found in the Nuuk area. He also relates that the local people use the soapstone for lamps and vessels, and as a trading object with people outside the Nuuk area:

"The Greenlanders, who live in these parts [the Ujarassuit area], makes small kettles and lamps of soapstone, and trade them to people living further to the north, where no such soapstone is found." (Egede 1925a:174 (authors translation))

From Egede we furthermore learn that the exchange value for a small soapstone pot at the time would have been 8 – 10 caribou skins, while a lamp would have the value of between 2 and 4 strips of baleen or and equal number of caribou skins (Egede 1925a:329; Gulløv 1997:400).

Other early sources also make special mention of the high quality and valuable soapstone found in the Nuuk area. The exploitation of the soapstone even seems to have become an instrument in the 18th and 19th century competition between the German Herrnhut mission and the Danish Godthaab mission. According to the missionary Eigill Thorhalsen (1914:61-62) the merchant Lars Dalager (who had strong sympathies for the Herrnhut mission) prevented the Greenlanders belonging to the Godthaab mission from buying the tools necessary for the soapstone exploitation. When reading Dalager's own description of the situation one does get the impression that Dalager had plans for a more commercial exploitation of the soapstone, that among other included "importing" Norwegian and

Finnish families to the Godthaab mission with the specific purpose of setting up an organised production of soapstone vessels (Dalager 1915:83). However, Dalager's suggestions should perhaps also be seen in the light of some other concerns of the time: the conflict seems to be as much between the trade and mission, as between competing missions, Dalager's concerns with the South Greenlanders extraction methods, when they started to do the extraction



Seventeenth and 18th century Inuit exchange-networks, as illustrated by Hans Christian Gulløv (2004:336).

themselves after the population crash (due to small-pox) of the Nuuk population in 1733-34 (Gulløv 1997:403). According to Dalager the "new" extraction meant that huge quantities of useable soapstone were destroyed when acquiring material for just one vessel (Dalager 1915:82). Finally, Dalager may have been genuinely concerned with the seemingly too small production of vessels that were in need outside the Nuuk area (ibid.).

From Thorhallsen we also learn that soapstone in the 1770's were to allow "many a poor family and many a widow to ensure the livelihood of them and theirs" (1914:61 (authors translation)). He also points to areas and localities with soapstone formations. Thorhallsen for instance mentions that the formations in the Kapisillit fiord (in Thorhallsen's terminology "Pissigsarbik") have been exhausted by the people connected to the Herrnhut-mission, while the formations in the Kangiusap fiord ("Tataræt fjord") was used by people belonging to the Godthaab mission (ibid: 47-48). As for the area last-mentioned by Thorhallsen it seems likely that the Ipiutaq-site and the sites between Kangiusaq fiord and Narsatsiaq should be included in his Tataræt-fiord.

A third very valuable source to the early historic soapstone quarrying in the area are the diaries of Karl Ludwig Geisecke from the early 19th century (1910), in which we among other learn a great deal about the soapstone-formations in the vicinity of the Narsatsiaq site ("Narkseitsiak") that he visited on August 8th to 10th 1808). Geisecke among others writes that the area holds the largest concentration of soapstone he has ever seen in Greenland (ibid:148), and that he met an umiaq-crew of women and children returning from work in the quarries. He furthermore relates that the soapstone vessels are in that high demand that Greenlanders are willing to pay the high costs of travelling all the way from Nuuk to these innermost parts of the Nuuk fiord in order to stay for some weeks during summer (ibid:149). To sum up one may conclude that soapstone in the first part of the 18th century constituted a crucial resource for people living in the Nuuk area, and that their access to the soapstone played an important role in the long-distance exchange networks between south and north Greenland. After the smallpox had killed off much of the local population in the Nuuk area in the early 1730's, the exploitation and trade in soapstone vessels were taken over by south Greenlanders. In addition the soapstone vessels seem to have continued to be of great importance and a valued resource at least until the early 19th century.

The archaeological sources

The use of formal vessels (soapstone lamps, ceramics etc.) in the Arctic seems to take its beginning around the middle of the second millennium BC (Møbjerg 1999), while more informal types of lamps were probably used in the West Greenlandic Saqqaq culture from around 2200 BC - a natural depression in a boulder was found to have been used as a lamp at Qeqertasussuk (pers. comm. Bjarne Grønnow 2005). A similar pecked stone has been found at Narsaarsuup Nuua that may date to around 1900 BC (Hinnerson-Berglund 2004:44ff).

In Greenland the use of soapstone lamps and other vessels are first found among the sites of the Saqqaq groups inhabiting the West Coast, especially on sites from the Sisimiut area (Godtfredsen and Møbjerg 2004) and the Nuuk area. The archaeological collections from the Saqqaq sites Itinnera (Meldgaard 1961;

Gulløv and Kapel 1988) and Nuunnguaq (Appelt 1995; 2004) in the Nuuk area include a substantial number of whole and fragmented lamps, and some structures at Nuunnguaq even seem to include "sets" of soapstone lamps, i.e. one or two larger and 2 – 5 smaller lamps found in a single ruin (Appelt and Pind 1996). Other palaeo-Eskimo sites in the Nuuk area with soapstone vessels are; Narsaarsuup Nuua, Kikiallit Nuua and Qoornoq (Hinnerson-Berglund 2004:116-117). The lamps from the Saqqaq culture are generally round and 5 – 15 cm in diameter, while a number of miniature examples may be as small as 3 cm in diameter (Appelt and Pind 1996). Given their extremely small size it has been suggested that they may exclusively have been as a source of light, and not for cooking and heating (e.g. Rosing 1978:69). During at least some parts of the Saqqaq-period most of the central western coast seems to have been included in a well-established trade/exchange network visible through the vast quantities of silicified slate and agate that found its way to the Nuuk fiord area, from the sources of the northern coast of Nuussuaq (Jensen et al. 1997; Grønnow 2004; Sørensen & Pedersen 2005). Given the extensive interregional exchange in lithics it seems likely that also soapstone was included in the exchange networks, and that the Nuuk area was a major contributor.

Almost no Greenlandic Dorset sites have been excavated in the Nuuk area, but from sites outside the study area a number sites have the characteristic small and oval lamps or fragments thereof (Jensen 2004).

Very little is known about the palaeo-Eskimo soapstone quarrying in the Eastern Arctic. Recent years research at Newfoundland (at Fleur de Lys) does however suggest that some quarries were used systematically for generations, and the extraction process can be described in details (Erwin 2005). From Greenland palaeo-Eskimo soapstone quarry sites have never been investigated, but at sites in the Ameralik fiord (McGovern and Jordan 1982) and in Ujarassuit (Kapel 1982) preliminary recording suggests the presence of palaeo-Eskimo quarrying. Given the amounts of soapstone at some Saqqaq and Greenlandic Dorset sites it is highly probable that further archaeological investigations would reveal an extensive quarrying also from the palaeo-Eskimo periods.

In the present report we will not go into the Norsemen's soapstone use, as we for the time being consider this topic outside the scope of the project. It should however be mentioned that soapstone objects on a number of excavated Norse settlements make up the largest group of artefacts (Rousell 1941), and according to Poul Nørlund (1967) Greenland was famed all over the Nordic countries for its soapstone – it even led Poul Egede to suggest that the Cathedral in Trondheim was built of Greenlandic soapstone. Furthermore it is noteworthy that the Church-farm Anavik is located very close to some of the richest soapstone formations in Greenland – in the Ujarassuit fiord.

Finally, turning to the Thule culture soapstone use we may first of all note that in the present connection it will be an impossible task to describe all the Thule culture sites with soapstone, as that would mean describing almost any Thule site ever excavated. To illustrate the point one may for example mention that soapstone objects account for between 62% (Illorpaat/Itissalik) and 100% (Qaarajaat) of the household utensils on the sites excavated by Hans Christian Gulløv in the Nuuk area (Gulløv 1997). In

Therkel Mathiassen's material from the Disko Bay (Mathiassen 1934) the numbers from the Illutalik and Illorsuit sites are 39% and 85% respectively, and from Erik Holtved's excavations in the Thule district (Holtved 1944; 1954) about 25%. At some Thule sites soapstone objects may well be overrepresented due to lack of preservation of organic materials, but the mentioned sites all have from good to excellent preservation conditions.

TRAVEL LOG

August 1st Mikkel Myrup, Bjarne Grønnow and Martin Appelt arrived at Narsarsuaq from where we picked up a private boat, that were supposed to take us all the way to Nanortalik. Instead, we stranded in Narsaq allegedly due to an upcoming storm and because we needed a larger boat to bring us south. After a very pleasant and amusing evening in the company of some of Mikkel Myrup's friends (Janus Chemnitz Kleist and others).

August 2nd As it turned out the evening provided us with a lift with Knud Erik Kleist and Allan xx the following afternoon. Arriving early next evening at Qaqortoq we spend some hours trying to find a boat that would get us to Nanortalik, during which we collected survival suits at the Museum and had a chance to talk to the head of Qaqortoq Museum, Georg Nygaard. At about 10PM we arrived at Nanortalik and were picked up and hosted by Kristine Raahauge (head of the Nanortalik Museum) and her husband Poul Raahauge. As always we had the most pleasant evening at the Raahauges.

August 3rd Most of the day was spent preparing our boat "Sonja" and shopping for the trip north. Poul Raahauge had prepared our arrival by having "Sonja" placed in the harbour. Again, as always we received all the assistance we could desire in the practical matters from the Raahauges. By 7.30 PM we left Nanortalik and arrived at Alluitsup Paa at 11.20 PM.

August 4th Departure from Alluitsup Paa at 8.05 AM, and after a stop at Qassimiut we arrived at Stærkodder Havn (Nordre Mågeløb) at 8.50 PM. The evening was spend making some brief notes on the two large sites in Stærkodder Havn until the dark prevented further work.

August 5th Departure at 6.30 AM, and after stopping for fuelling at Arsuq and Paamiut we arrived at Avigaat at 11.55 PM.

August 6th Departure at 8.30 AM after having given the engine a thorough check. After a brief stop at Tulugartalik we decided to leave the route on the inside of the skerries to sail the more direct open sea route. Southwest of Færinghavn this turned out to be a somewhat problematic decision, as the gearbox was starting to have serious problems. After drifting around at the open sea for some hours Mikkel and Bjarne managed to fix the engine. The following morning we anchored up in beautiful weather at bridge H, at Godthåb Bådforening, at 6.00 AM.

August 7th After arriving in Nuuk we had the great pleasure of being settled in at the National Museums building B43 that was at our disposal whenever we were in Nuuk for the rest of the season. We are indeed very grateful for the hospitality we once again met in Nuuk. After about half an hours sleep we started to prepare "Sonja" for the further trip. During the work at "Sonja" Martin had the good fortune of meeting Lindemann Bertelsen (a former sheep-herder at Kapissiliit) that related a number of important information on both the soapstone quarry-sites at Neriunaq and Kuussuaq/Nordboernes badekar ("the Norsemens bathtub"), as well on the sites in Ujarassuit. During the evening we dined with Mikkel's wife, son and Mette Meldgaard (Senior Researcher at Institute of Anthropology, University of Copenhagen). Mette was supposed to go with us to Kapisillit, but told us that she had changed her plans and decided to stay in Nuuk.

August 8th Getting up late we continued work on "Sonja", shopped for the trip and visited the staff of the National Museum and Archives (among others meeting the newly appointed head of the Museum Daniel Thorleifsen). At 4.30 PM we picked Clemens Pasda up at the airport and met with the former

curator of the National Museum Mariane Petersen, who decided on the one hand to lend her summerhouse at Neriunaq to us and on the other hand to participate in the second part of the trip. Bjarne during the day met the head of Katuaq Cultural Centre Juaaka Lyberth, who expressed a strong interest in participating in the coming years' field-campaigns. The evening was spent in the very pleasant company of the head of the Institute of Nature Klavs Nygaard and his wife Architect Inngi Bisgaard. This one the one hand gave us a chance to present the project and on the other to receive a large number of important advice.

August 9th During the morning we packed "Sonja" at the Colonial Harbour and left Nuuk for the first trip. Arriving at Mariane's summerhouse at 5.30 PM we prepared a birthday-dinner for Bjarne. The evening was spent visiting, sampling and photo-documenting the Kuussuaq - soapstone quarry-site. We returned to Mariane's house at 11.30 PM.

August 10th Leaving at 10 AM we first headed for Kapisillit after which we sailed for the Kangiusaq fiord and the Ipiutaq site. After about one hour at Ipiutaq we gave up locating the quarry-site and left for the innermost part of Kangiusaq fiord, arriving at 6 PM.

After dinner we surveyed the area immediately north of the bottom of the fiord, seeing among others the supposed Norse wolf trap.

August 11th Survey of the area between the bottom of Kangiusaq and the Narsatsiaq (at Kangersuneq Icefiord). While we relatively easily located the soapstone-formation found by Hans Kapel and Ole Vitus Lynge in 1982 - in the following referred to as Formation 1 - we had more difficulties in finding Formation 2. Both formations were preliminarily recorded and sampled. Afterwards we continued to the Narsatsiaq site, that turned out to be a truly amazing site with a very high archaeological research potential, and probably were used in connection to the soapstone extraction at both Formations 1 and 2. Prior to returning to "Sonja's" anchor place we briefly visited the site south of Narsatsiaq, that shows a large number of well-preserved graves, but no actual dwelling site. It therefore seems likely that the graves may well be connected to the Narsatsiaq-site. We also located several additional graves and quite a number of cairns and fox traps west of the site. All in all there

seem to be strong indications that the site was intensely used through centuries. We arrived at "Sonja" at 8 PM.

August 12th We began the morning with yet another



The so-called "Norse wolf-trap" at the bottom of the Kangiussap fiord.



Henriette Rasmussen and Mariane Petersen aboard "Sonja" on the way to the soapstone formations at Narssatsiaq

thorough check of "Sonja's" engine after which we left for a second survey of the Ipiutaq-site at 10 AM. After about an hour we had located, documented and sampled the soapstone formation at the Ipiutaq-site. Our next stop was the northern end of the Uummaanaq Island. The quarry site is totally destroyed by modern exploitation and we only photographed and sampled the site. On the way to Nuuk we made a final stop at Mariane's Pynt at the south-western corner of Bjørnø (in order to visit the site that formed the basis for Maria Hinnerson-Berglund's thesis). Time unfortunately only allowed us a brief view from the seaside. We arrived at our anchor place in Godthåb Bådforening at 8.00 PM.

August 13th Bjarne left for Denmark (and subsequently Northeast Greenland) at 6.30 AM. Clemens and Martin used the first part of the day to shop for the coming week, a brief visit to the Museum and cleaning up "Sonja". After having fuelled we sailed to the Colonial Harbour and picked up Mariane Petersen and Henriette Rasmussen (the Greenlandic Minister of Culture). Furthermore Daniel Thorleifsen and his wife and son – Karen and Niklas – joined our journey on their own boat "Ronja". We left the Colonial harbour at 3.45 PM and arrived at Qoornooq at 8 PM.

August 14th Departure from Qoornooq at 8 AM trying to go directly to the Narsatsiaq site via the Ice fiord. We soon had to realise that the ice was packing to heavily to go into the fiord. Next stop was therefore our former anchor place at the bottom of Kangiusaq. After raising the wet tents from last night everybody left for a walk towards Narsatsiaq at noon. On the way we turned slightly more to the south than our previous route, which resulted in the discovery of three hitherto unregistered soapstone quarry-sites, which were tentatively named Clemens Q-site, Mikkel Q-site and Mariane Q-site. A couple

of hours were spent at the Formation 1-site and at Narsatsiaq (finding large amounts of new material washed out on the beach in front of the site). To everybody's excitement Daniel on the way back shot a caribou. We arrived at our anchor place at 8 PM, after which Daniel, his family and Henriette left for Nuuk. In light of the heavy ice conditions in the Kangersuneq Martin decided to skip going to Ujarassuit, as had been our original intention, instead using our energy on making a preliminary recording of the three newly discovered sites.

August 15th Clemens and Martin spend the whole day recording the three new sites, while Mariane and Mikkel walked to the Narsaarsuk-site (64V2-0IV-52) in order to find the quarry-site that Josef Josefsen had told Mariane about. They did not find the quarry-site, but did find a number of palaeo-Eskimo artefacts eroding out of the shoreline.

August 16th Departure from Kangiusaq at 8.45 AM bound for the Mannik-site in the Amitsuarsuk fiord. The site was somewhat of a disappointment, as the whole area was covered in dense fog, which prevented us from finding the upper soapstone formation (that Josef Josefsen had told Mariane about). The lower quarry site turned out to having been intensely exploited in recent years. The site was sampled after which we left for our next stop at the Herrnhut village Uummanaq. Again Mariane had heard about a rich soapstone formation above the village, but our expectations for finding marks of prehistoric and



Daniel Thorleifsen and son with the added bonus on the way back from Narsatsiaq to Kangiusaq

historic exploitation were low with the impressions from the Mannik site in mind. The quarry-site turned out to be the richest and maybe most interesting of all the sites. A fast count of the number of negative scars of preforms for lamps and others ended at approx. 250, while there is no doubt that a thorough investigation of the site after having cleared the vegetation would multiply the number manifold. Our final destination for the day was Ikkattut at the southern end of Storeø. For the first time during the trip the sea turned a bit rough and a fog almost entirely closed the view to the Ikkattut bay, and we did not arrive at the bay until 8.10 PM.

August 17th The morning until about noon was spent making a somewhat superficial recording of the modern quarry site at Ikkattut. Nothing seems to be left of any prehistoric or historic use of the quarry-site. The quarry-site is very large and huge blocks of soapstone have been blasted off the soapstone front, and dragged to the shore with steel cables. We decided to give up finding the other soapstone-formations in the Ikkattut bay area, as fog was still very dense. Arriving at Nuuk's Colonial harbour at 4.30 PM. We used the rest of the day on emptying "Sonja" and locking up our rubber dinghy.

August 18th The whole day was spent on cleaning "Sonja" up and preparing her for winter quarters.

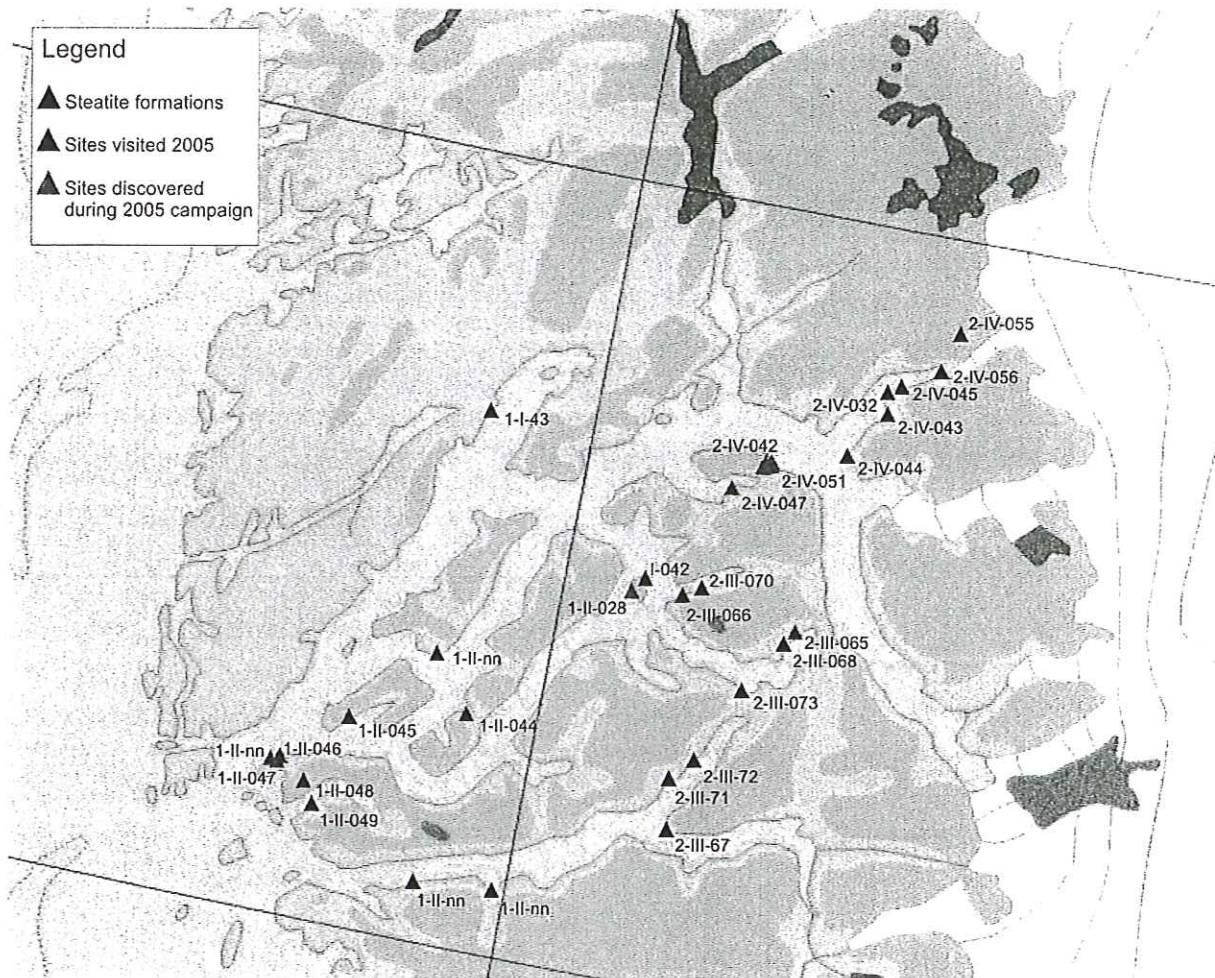
August 19th The early part of the day was used to ensuring winter quarters for "Sonja", among others meeting with Daniel Thorleifsen, Claus Andreasen (vice director at the National Museum) and the city administration. During the latter part of the day the finds from the trip were preliminarily recorded.

August 20th The whole day was used to discuss the results of the trip and making plans for the coming years field-campaigns.

August 21st The three sites at Malene-fjeldet were visited, photographed and sampled by Clemens, Mariane and Martin. Unfortunately, Mariane fell and hurt her knee while crossing a river – a really sad finish on the season. During the evening the finds-bags from the 13 quarries were sampled and packed for the trip to Copenhagen.

August 22nd Martin and Clemens left for Copenhagen at 8.00 AM.

SITES VISITED DURING THE 2005-CAMPAIGN



Soapstone-formations in the Nuuk area as of October 2005 (data from Kapel 1982; Gulløv 1983; 1997; McGovern and Jordan 1982; Olsen 2004; Hinnerson-Berglund 2004; GFA 2005).

SW-Uummanaq Island (64V1-0II-028)

64°29.704'/50°47.398', 104 m.a.s.l.

Sampled!

Literature:

Thorhallesen 1914:47; Bendixen 1921:256-7 and 28576

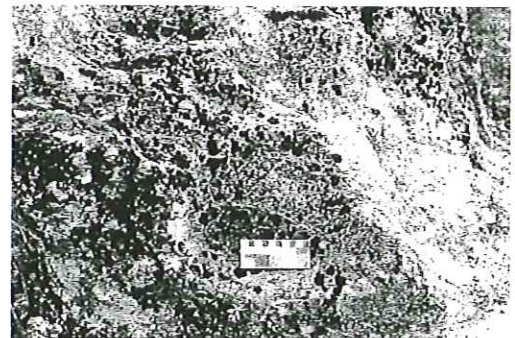
The soapstone formation is seen as a two approx. 50m long and up to four metre high ridges about a 100m north of the church and about 100m above sea level. The ridges are mostly covered in black to grey lichens. All around the ridges the negative scars of extractions can be seen, but three extraction-zones stands out in particular. These are found in the northern end of the northern part of the ridge (towards the mountain-side). The three extraction-zones have tentatively been called A, B and C, even if B and C may be part of one larger extraction-zone.



The SW-Uummanaq Island formation seen from above. Circles with letters indicate the areas with particular high concentrations of negative scars from the extraction of soapstone vessels or preforms. The two knolls (about 40 m's long all in all) are mainly soapstone and a preliminary count indicate that the more than 250 soapstone objects may have been extracted from the site.

Extraction-zone A

The extraction-zone, on the ridge, holds the negative scars of at minimum 75 small soapstone lamps or vessels. A small and separate soapstone block holds a number of additional negatives that are not included in the above count. The shape of the negative scars seems to indicate that the extracted lamps/vessels would have been either oval or crescent-shaped. The scars are generally some 20-25cm long and 8-12cm wide. The lamp seems to have been extracted with the use of relatively "fine" tools (among other by grinding) than seen on other quarry-sites. At the base of the extraction-area a thick layer of soapstone refuse is seen.



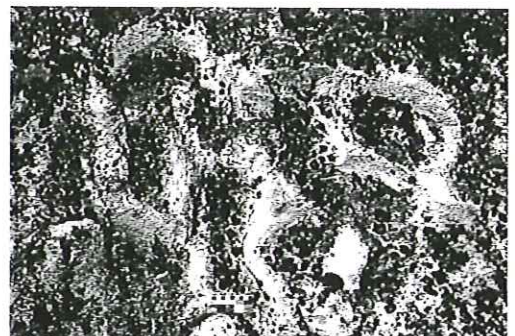
Negative scars at extraction-zone A, Uummanaq SW-site.

Extraction-zone B

Generally the extraction-zone holds the same characteristics as zone A. Zone B seems to have the scars of the extraction of at least 30 vessels/lamps.

Extraction-zone C

Zone C can be sub-divided into three sub-zones; C1: covers a wedge-shaped area of approx. 4 metres in length and 1,5m metres at the widest point. The more than 100 negative scars seem to be of small oval to crescent lamps/vessels. The extraction-technique seems generally more "rough", deeper and younger than at extraction-zone A. The scars are generally 15-23 cm x 10-15cm



Negative scars at extraction-zone C1, Uummanaq SW-site.

C2: The extraction-zone is situated on a separate block about one metre from C1. The zone holds at minimum 15 negative scars and relatively distinctly separates out in oval and crescent-shaped lamps/vessel. Dimensions are comparable to C1.

C3: The extraction-zone covers an area of approx. 2x0.5m with negative scars of minimum 30 lamps/vessels.

Besides the above mentioned extraction-zones the area holds the scars of quite an additional number of vessels, and additional depressions at the vegetation-level suggests that the above-mentioned numbers would likely be multiplied several times if the vegetation were

removed. At the southern end of the ridge small areas are seen with the marks of modern extraction (saw-marks).



Negative scars at extraction-zone C3, Uummanaq SW-site.

Photos:

MA Film 4/13-16	The Uummanaq hamlet
/17	The Uummanaq soapstone formation from below
/18-19	The Uummanaq soapstone formation from above
/20	Extraction-zone A
/21-22	Details from extraction-zone A
/23-25	Extraction-zone B and details
/26-27	Extraction-zone C1
/28	Extraction-zone C2
/29	Extraction-zone C3

Finds:

- A reel-shaped soapstone object with transverse line cut in one end and low rectangular square cut in the opposing end was collected at the beach in front of the present-day settlement.

Ikkattut/lower formation (64V1-0II-044)

64°17.524'/51°13.009', 5 – 30 m.a.s.l.

Sampled!

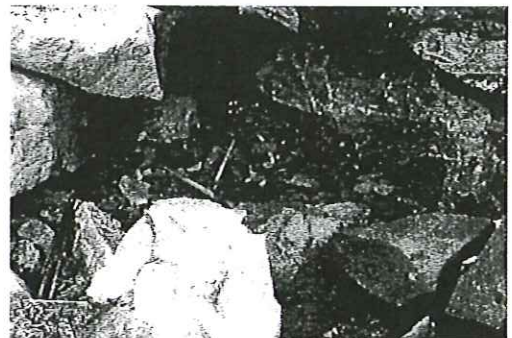
Literature:

Bendixen 1921:193; Kapel 1981 (33-13); 1982 (33-14); Gulløv 1983:76; Jensen 1986; Hinnerson-Berglund 2004: fig. 56; Olsen 2004: 26-28.



The Ikkattut lower formation seen from the boat. The formation have received much recent attention and almost nothing is left of the historic use of the site.

The formation is composed of a large number of both smaller and larger blocks of soapstone and a single very large block (approx. 5x4x4m) spread out over an area of maybe 2000m. The soapstone is found from the high tide mark and up to some 30m.a.s.l. All blocks have distinct marks of the modern and semi-industrial exploitation of the site; large blocks were extracted by drilling holes and fitting them with wedges. They were then dragged from their original positions by steel cables or thick ropes, deep saw-marks are seen. Everywhere one sees spades, shovels, ropes and a jack. One finds the remains of a tent, of "Cup Noodles", a can of gear-oil, cartridges, half a plate, cigarette butts, the lower part of a aluminium ladder. The place will be an archaeological paradise in a couple of centuries and may even be interesting for a here and now "living-archaeology"-project. At several places the users of the site have carved their initials and their date of visit. At only two places in the uppermost part of the quarry-site one sees the marks of three historical vessels being subtracted (one of these have been made into a funny face).



A few leftovers from the recent use of the site among the very large blocks of soapstone.



The Ikkattut lower site provides excellent opportunities for conducting "living archaeology", especially since we know some of the names of the users of the site.

Photos:

MA Film 5/0	Ikkattut with the modern huts
/1-15	The lower quarry at Ikkattut
/16-19	The Ikkattut site seen from the sea-side

Finds:

Collected at beach and in eroding bank immediately below "Taki's house" (64°17.689/51°12.273)

- Light grey and rusty red block of soapstone roughly hollowed out at one side (ca. 130x95x35mm) – toy-lamp?
- Rectangular to trapezoid soapstone block (app. 75x45x30mm) – preform of toy lamp?
- An uneven somewhat rectangular block of soapstone (app. 105x75x30mm). On one side the imprint of an envelope has been scratched, while the opposing side holds the initials "J.", possibly followed by "IP".
- Sherd from the side of a soapstone vessel with burnt blubber on both sides (app. 80x25x25mm).
- Sherd from the side of a soapstone vessel with burnt blubber on both sides (app. 60x45x9mm).
- The bottom of a small oval soapstone lamp (57x53x4mm) – Dorset?
- Five quartzite flakes
- Two quartzite blocks
- Medial fragment of bifacial blade
- One rockcrystal flake.

Siaqqinneq/Niaqornannguaq? (64V1-0II-043?) 64°11.952'/51°40.323', 70 m.a.s.l.

Sampled!

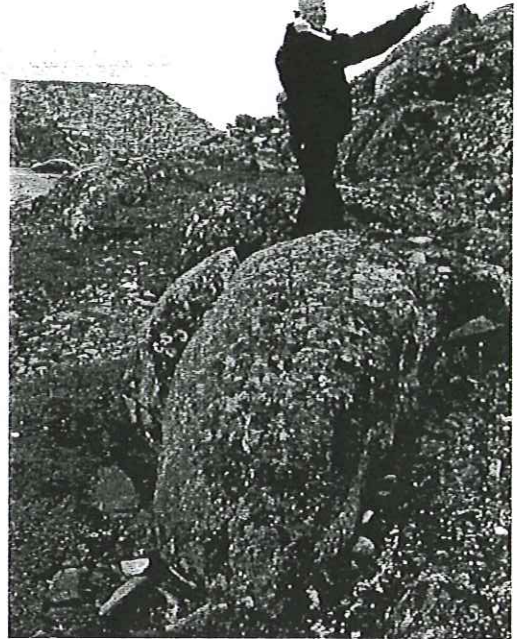
Literature:

Jensen et al. 1986; Olsen 2004:55-56

The site was only visited briefly in order to obtain geological samples, and as Hans Kristian Olsen's description of the site fully correspond to our own observations (i.e. with no historic exploitation) it will not be described further.

Photos:

MA Film 6/10-12 The Siaqqinneq formation



Clemens Pasda at the major soapstone feature at the site. Most likely the site was not used historically, as the soapstone is of an especially hard variety

Quassussuaq/Lille Malene (64V1-0II-047)

64°11.659'/51°37.689', 240 m.as.l.

Sampled!

Literature:

Gulløv 1983:46; Hinnerson-Berglund 2004:fig. 46; Olsen 2004:53-54

The soapstone formation is highly marked at the modern activities at the site to the extent that no indications were found of prehistoric or historic exploitation. On the site large quantities of modern waste was found (including the heads of at least 12 sledgehammers, several crowbars, the remains of tents, various kitchen wares etc.). The main soapstone formation stands out a narrow gully in which two large soapstone blocks have been exposed. The exposed parts of these are each approx. 6x1-2x1m. In the vicinity of the gully several stonewalls have been erected as protection for the tent. According to Mariane Petersen the soapstone is cut from the formations prior to the frost and brought to town by sledges or skidoos after the first larger snowfall.



Photos:

Ma Film 5/26-27
/28-33
/34
/35

Garbage surrounding the quarry site
The soapstone formations
Tent shelter at the quarry site
The quarry seen from above



Various impressions from the intensely used soapstone formation at Lille Malene. The site is only a few kilometres from the centre of Nuuk



Kuanninnguit/Niaqornannguaq? (64V1-0II-46) 64°11.889'/51°36.998', 102 m.a.s.l.

Sampled!

Literature:

Gulløv 1983:46; Hinnerson-Berglund, Maria 2004:figs. 56&57

The site was only visited briefly in order to obtain samples for geological analyses, as the site has been surveyed and recorded recently by the National Museum and Archives of Greenland (NKA-report #?).

Photos:

MA Film 6/1-9 The Kuáninguit site and details



A few kilometres from the centre of Nuuk one finds a very beautiful soapstone quarry-site with distinct impressions of the historic use. Maybe the site could serve as a future point of departure for dissemination of the local soapstone extraction.

NE- Uumannaq Island (64V2-III-42)

64,4926/50,7636*, 10 m.a.s.l.

Sampled!

Literature:

Thorhallesen 1914:47; Jensen et al. 1986; Olsen 2004:24-25

A thorough description of the site has been given by Hans Kristian Olsen, and it is only necessary to add that the site does not seem to hold any traces of any prehistoric or historic exploitation. If the formation was used historically any traces of these activities have now been removed from the soapstone formation itself, by modern exploitation. There is however the possibility that traces of an earlier activity may be found beneath the layer of modern soapstone debris.



Mikkel Myrup at the NW Uumannaq Island site that shows very distinct marks of a very recent exploitation of the site (by among others chain-saw). Chances are slight for finding traces of the historic use of the site.

Photos:

MA Film 1/17-24

The NE-formation.



Mannik/Amitsuarsuk (64V2-III-66)

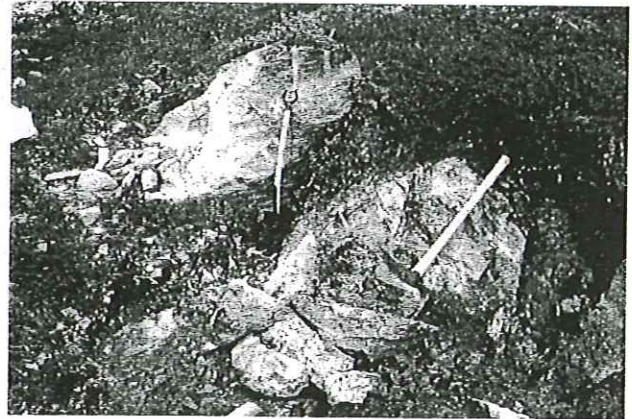
64°29.195'/50°38.256', 25 m.a.s.l.

Sampled!

Literature:

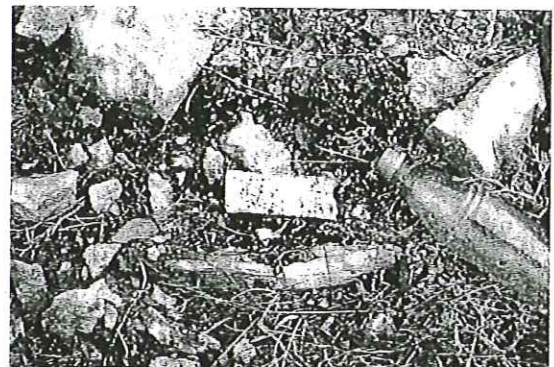
Bøggild 1953: 323; Kapel 1981 (33-13): xx; McGovern et al. 1982; Gulløv 1983:168; Hinnerson-Berglund 2004:fig. 56; Olsen 2004: 39-40

As the team arrived at the site in very dense fog we did not succeed in finding the formation that according to among others Mariane Petersen (as related to her by Josef Jossesfen) can be found at higher



The Mannik site was visited in dense fog that prevented us from locating the sites higher up, which Mariane Petersen had been told about by Josef Jossesfen (who used to have one of his summer-camps at the site). The lower soapstone formation holds distinct marks of the modern-day use.

grounds in the area. The geological samples and artefacts obtained therefore exclusively relate to the lower formation. The lower formation is exposed in an excavated depression. The exposed surface is approx. 1,5x5m and is heavily marked by modern activities, such as blasting parts of the soapstone of into smaller blocks. Tools such as saws, pickaxes and a crowbar is seen at the site. If the site was used during prehistoric or historic periods all traces has been removed on the exposed surface. There is however the possibility that traces of an earlier activity may be found beneath the layer of modern soapstone debris. The debris layer seems to be relatively thick and is seen surrounding much the periphery of the actual soapstone formation.



One of the "tablet-shaped" pieces with inscriptions found immediately below the lower quarry-site at Mannik

Photos:

MA Film 4/1
/2-12

The Mannik site in dense fog
The quarry site

Finds:

- The objects were collected at the edge of the lower quarry site and at the beach line immediately below thereof.
- Sherd from the side of a large soapstone vessel with thickness from 20 to 35mm (110x95mm).
- Sherd from the side of a soapstone lamp (app. 85x50x15-25mm).
- Sherd from the edge of a soapstone lamp (app. 48x47x11mm).
- Six piece of soapstone with marks of either/or chopping and scratching.
- Parts of the side and bottom of a (toy?) lamp.
- Soapstone piece with broad side ground in two facets and longitudinal groove.
- Cylinder-shaped piece of soapstone (app. 29 x10mm) – preform for pearls?
- Trapezoid and rounded piece of soapstone (28 mm long) – perform for pearls?
- A piece of worked antler.
- Rectangular “tablet” of soapstone with saw-marks along two of the edges. The two broad sides with inscriptions “DORTHEE” and “1996”
- Amorphous soapstone tablet with inscriptions on the two broad sides; “Dagma” (Dagmar?) and “Kristian” (Kristiane?), and on opposing side “22/7-97” and “Kristiane”.

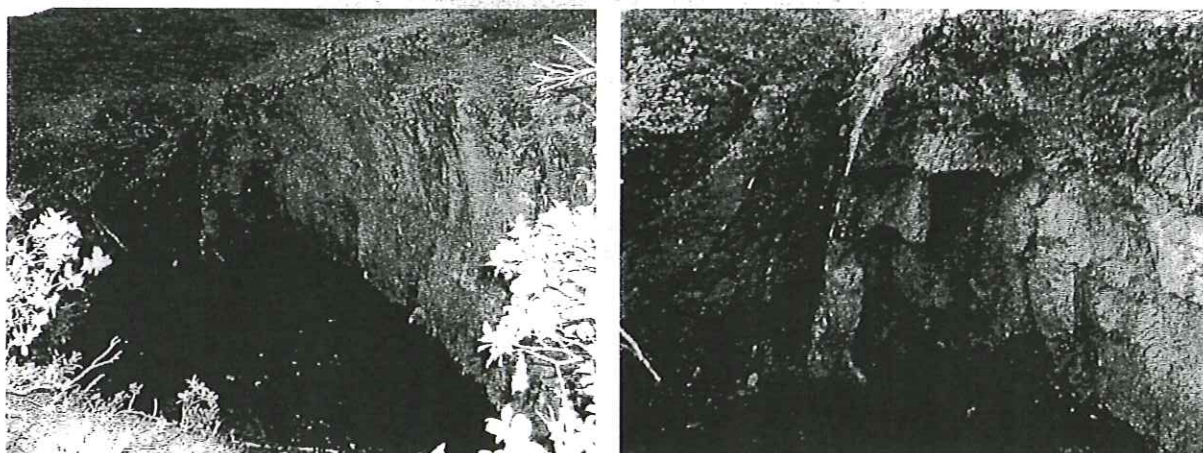
Kuussuaq/"nordboernes badekar" (64V2-III-65) 64,4975/51,2841*, 115 m.a.s.l.

Sampled!

Literature:

Kapel 1981 (33-13); Gulløv 1983:168; Lange & Larsen 2002; Hinnerson-Berglund 2004:fig. 56; Olsen 2004:33-35

The formation is situated some 100 m.a.s.l. between the creek and Niels Motzfeldts westernmost field. It is visible as a trapezoid depression immediately behind a low ridge. The depression is approx. 8x5x2m and about 4m deep (the lower part of which is filled by approx. 1m of water). At the northern wall one



Seeing the "face" (photo on right side) we do understand that the site is known as the "Norseman's bath-tub". However what one sees is not a Norse face, but the result of the extraction of several very large and rectangular vessels – most likely by Thule-people or historic Inuit

sees the famed "Norse" face that most likely gave rise to the name "the Norsemen's bathtub". The "face" is most likely a product of the extraction of a number of large rectangular blocks, probably for the production of large the Thule-type large rectangular vessels. The wide southern wall is densely covered by extraction marks, most of which seems to be of considerable age and among others display the "walrus head" photographed by Hans Berg in 1963. The head also seems to be the arbitrary result of the extraction of a couple of soapstone vessels. In a few places marks can be seen that have been cut in recent years. A particular dry summer in 2002 dried up to the bottom of depression and created the possibility for new extractions. This caused the National Museum and Archives to initiate a recording of the site, that were conducted by Hans Lange and Frederik Larsen (2002). The site seems to hold considerable potential for archaeological investigations, as the markings of possibly older vessels can be seen below the surface of the water in the depression, as organic material could be preserved in the depression and areas immediately surrounding the depression seems to hold large quantities of soapstone production waste and at least one other extraction-zone (all of which is mostly covered by the dense vegetation).

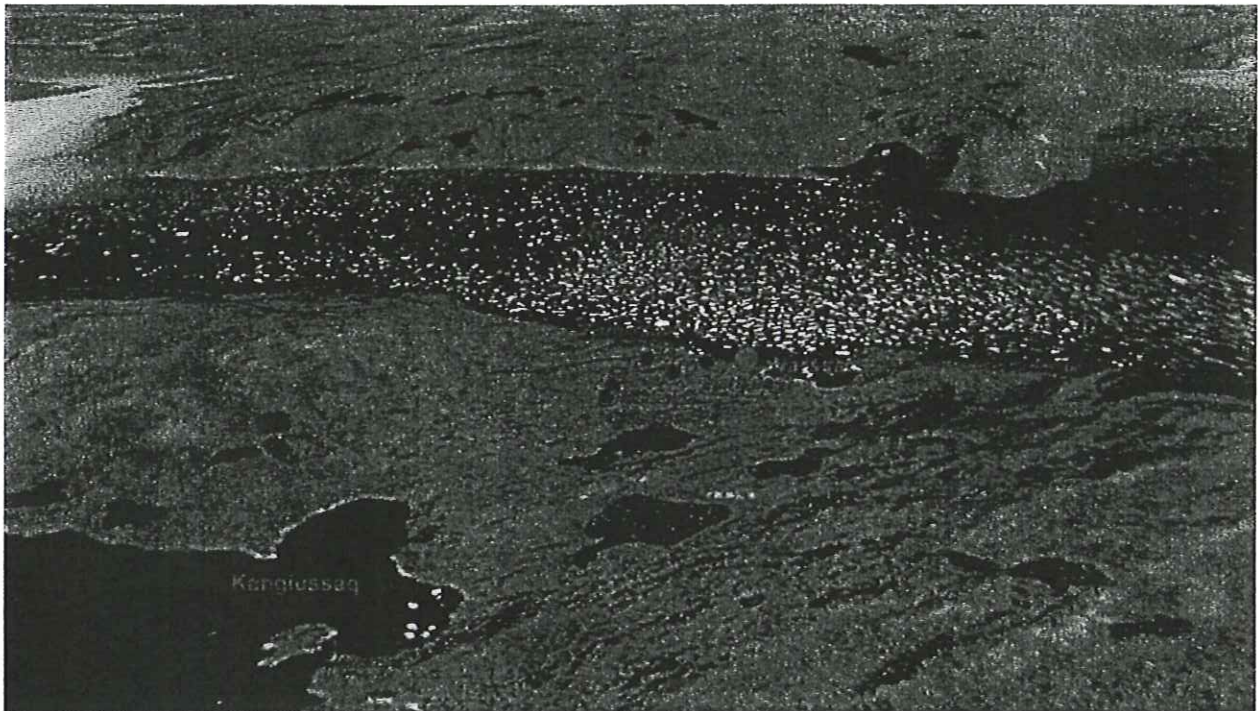
Photos:

Bjarne G. P8100046 – P8100049 and P8100056 – P8100067

Digital video by Bjarne Grønnow

The General Narsatsiaq area

The following sites all belong to what one may call the general Narsatsiaq area, as it seems likely that the site formed the point of departure for the exploitation for all of the sites mentioned below. The image below illustrates the approximate location of the formations that have now been found in the area, it is however very probable that the area includes several as of now undiscovered quarry sites.



Narsatsiaq (64V2-0IV-50)

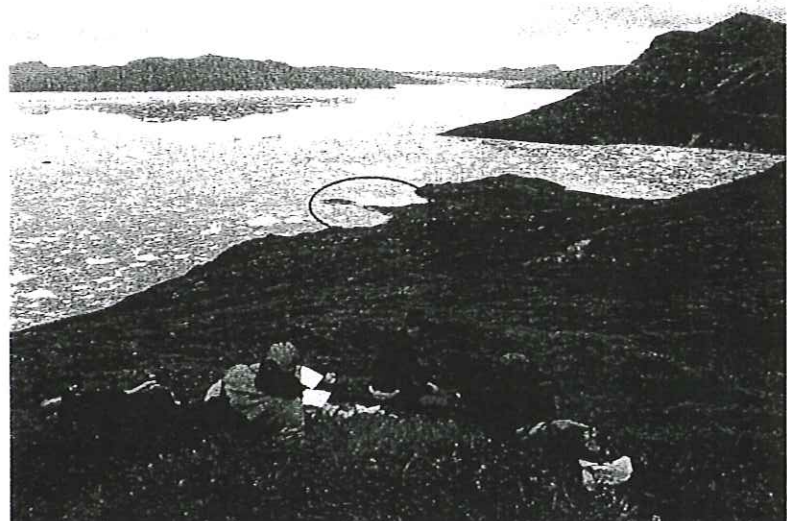
64°40.410'/50°26.168', 0-10 m.a.s.l.

Literature:

Bøggild 1905:329; 1953:322-23; Giesecke 1910: 148-9; Kapel 1982 (33-14)

The team visited the site briefly twice and it was decided that a more substantial recording of the site would have to await the coming field campaign, as it was also decided

The Narsatsiaq seen from above, sitting at the edge of formation 1. In the background the Kangersuneq fiord with one of its glaciers visible. The 2005 crew visited the site almost precisely 197 years after Karl Ludwig Giesecke had some rainy and in his situation generally unpleasant days at the site. Waiting for his crew to row him to Nuuk he met several women and kids that stayed at the site while extracting soapstone for their vessels



that a recording and partial excavation of the site would be one of the major objectives for 2006. The Narsatsiaq dwelling-site is situated at the edge of the Kangersuneq Icefiord, at the northern end of Kangiusap Nunaa, precisely where the passage between the two fiords is narrowest. At the central part of the site - on a grass-covered plateau - one still sees the remains of Josef Josefsen's (according to Mariane Petersen) turf house built in the 1950ies. The northern side of the plateau, towards a small and heavily eroded naze, several tentrings in and on the vegetation reveals that the site has been extensively used in modern times. Smaller and larger pieces of soapstone are found in quantities all over the plateau, and at a few places at the eroding banks the site seems to be resting on a layer of soapstone-gravel. During a brief survey of the narrow beach in front of the site several palaeo-Eskimo flakes and fragments of tool-blades were collected. Furthermore a number of palaeo-Eskimo flakes could be seen washing out of the walls of Josef Josefsen's house suggesting that the large square area from where the wall-turfs were cut once housed a palaeo-Eskimo dwelling-site.



As seen on the photo the Narsatsiaq site is situated very close to the shoreline. Large quantities of both prehistoric and historic artefacts are now being washed out of the brinks of the site. Martin Appelt is standing where the highest concentration of palaeo-Eskimo artefacts were found.

Given the large quantities of broken soapstone lamps, preforms, flakes and other that are eroding out of banks it seems likely that the Narsatsiaq site functioned as the centre of the soapstone-production in the area. It was probably the people from the Narsatsiaq site who quarried the Formation 1, Formation 2, Mariane Q, Clemens Q and Mikkel Q -sites, that all are situated within one kilometre of the site. It is furthermore likely that the site was used periodically from the middle of the Saqqaq period to very recent times (i.e. from the middle of the second millennium BC to at least the 1950's AD).

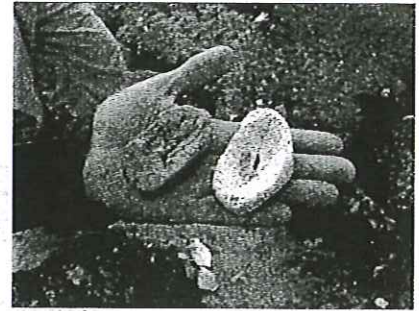
Photos:

Bjarne G P810102 - P810111
 Digital video by Bjarne Grønnow

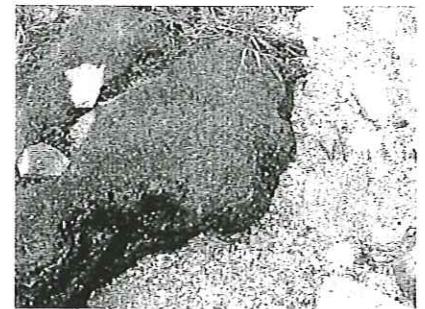
Finds:

- Objects were collected on the beach immediately below the northern side of the settlement area during two visits to the side.
- Crescent-shaped toylamp of light grey soapstone. The depression in the middle of the lamp is roughly carved out and in the centre of the depression reaches the bottom (80x49x23mm).

- Preform of crescent-shaped toy-lamp of a yellowish soapstone (74x38x24mm). The preform is broken in two pieces.
- Preform of crescent-shaped toy-lamp of grey soapstone.
- Fragment of crescent-shaped toy-lamp of grey soapstone.
- Fragment of crescent-shaped lamp of greenish soapstone. The piece has been reworked and polished into a teardrop-shaped object of unknown function.
- Large fragment of a preform of a crescent-shaped lamp. The centre depression is only roughly carved out in the greenish soapstone (135x98x42mm).
- Sherd from the "corner" of a crescent to oval lamp. With marks of burning on the "outside".
- Large fragment of a crescent-shaped lamp with wide ledge of greenish soapstone (115x105x35mm).
- Rim sherd of large soapstone vessel. The "outside" densely scratched.
- Triangular sherd of a soapstone vessel with five boreholes along one edge.
- "Corner" fragment of soapstone vessel in light grey soapstone
- Bottom of a thin-walled soapstone vessel (thickness approx. 4mm).
- Teardrop-shaped soapstone object of unknown function (33x22x9mm).
- Rim fragment of soapstone vessel, with suspension hole from inside to the rim.
- Cylinder-shaped soapstone objects with slightly flattened sides and with the remains of piercing in one end. Function unknown.
- Cylinder-shaped soapstone objects with slightly flattened sides and with the remains of piercing in one end. Function unknown.
- Broken cylindrical soapstone bead?
- Irregular sandstone "ball" – 13-17mm in diameter.
- Rusty and broken "ulo" balde.
- Rusty nail – 115mm long
- Rusty nail – 82mm long
- Two pieces of grinding stones?
- Block of white soapstone
- A bag of soapstone "gravel". Collected to illustrate the bed up on which some of the midden area rest.
- A piece of bottle glass



Two toy-lamps found lying on the beach in front of the site. It does not take much imagination to feel the presence of the two kids playing with these lamps, while their parents were up working at the soapstone sites



Parts of the site is literally resting on soapstone gravel created by generations of families finishing their vessels on the site

- Worked antler
- A piece of molybdenum
- One piece of flint for a flintlock gun
- A flint strike-a-light
- 17 pieces of quartzite, eight quartzite flakes, a propeller-retouched quartzite flake, a unifacially formed projectile point (arrowhead).
- Fragment of a especially fine-grained and homogenous quartzite flake
- One piece of smoked quartz
- A flake of black translucent agate
- Two rockcrystal scrapers (?)
- A piece of baked (?) reddish slate
- A small piece of tile
- Two pieces of killiaq, five killiaq flakes, one retouched killiaq flake and one denticulated killiaq flake.

Narsatsiaq/Mariane Q-site (64V2-01V-50)

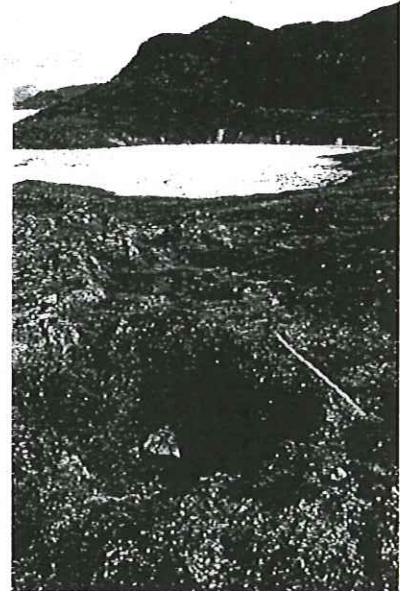
64°40.378'/50°26.664', 80 m.a.s.l.

Sampled!

Literature:

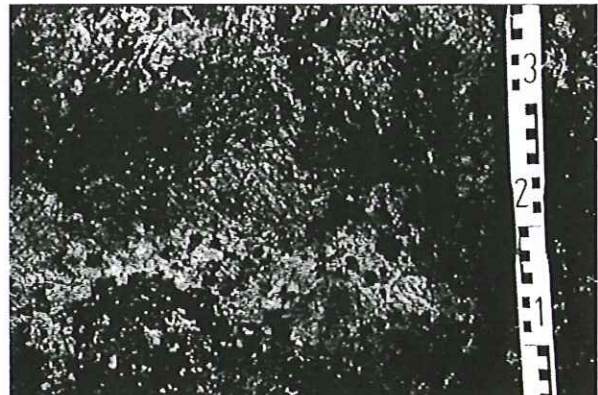
Giesecke 1910:149

The Mariane Q-site is situated immediately southwest of the Narsaatsiaq site close two very distinct and well-constructed graves. The quarry-site is almost fully covered by dwarf shrub, but stands out as an oval depression at approximately 2,6 x 2m and approx. one metre deep. A large boulder is seen in the centre of the depression, with some "chopping"-marks. The western wall of the depressions bears the negative scars of the extraction of at least four preforms, with "chopping"-marks 3 to 4cm's long, 3mm wide and 2mm deep. An approximately three metres long heap of soapstone refuse is visible on the north-eastern side of the depression.



Photos:

Clemens Images 161 - 163



Three photos of the soapstone quarry site closest to Narsatsiaq. The site was tentatively named Mariane Q-site, but should probably be included in the FM-# and designation for Narsatsiaq.

Narsaarsuk (64V2-0IV-052(?))

A fragment of the "corner" of a soapstone lamp

Two pieces of soapstone

A soapstone "tablet" with longitudinal grooves and boreholes at one edge.

Five killiaq flakes, five killiaq retouch flakes

Six white quartzite flakes

One piece of rockcrystal.

Kangiusap Nunaa/Formation 1 (64V2-0IV-51)

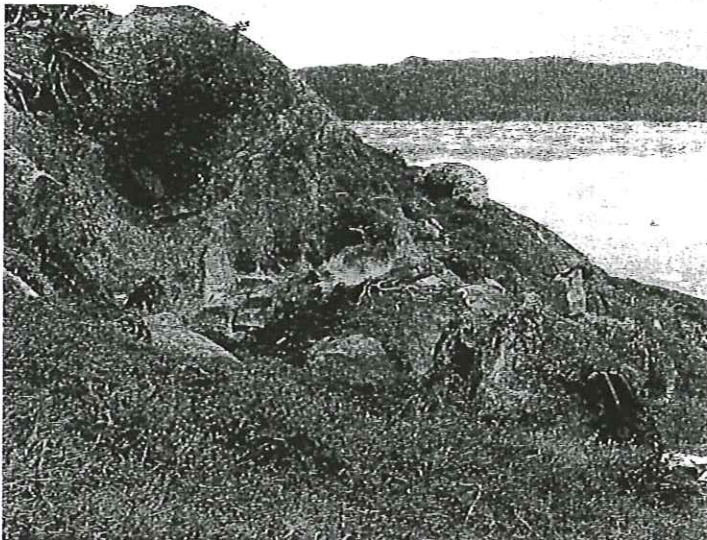
64°40.401'/50°27.002', 135 ma.s.l.

Sampled!

Literature:

Giesecke 1910:149; Kapel 1982 (33-14)

The formation is situated SE of the Narsatsiaq dwelling site (64V2-0IV-050) at some 135m.a.s.l. The central part of the formation is constituted by a large greyish rock of which some 8x3.75x5m is exposed.



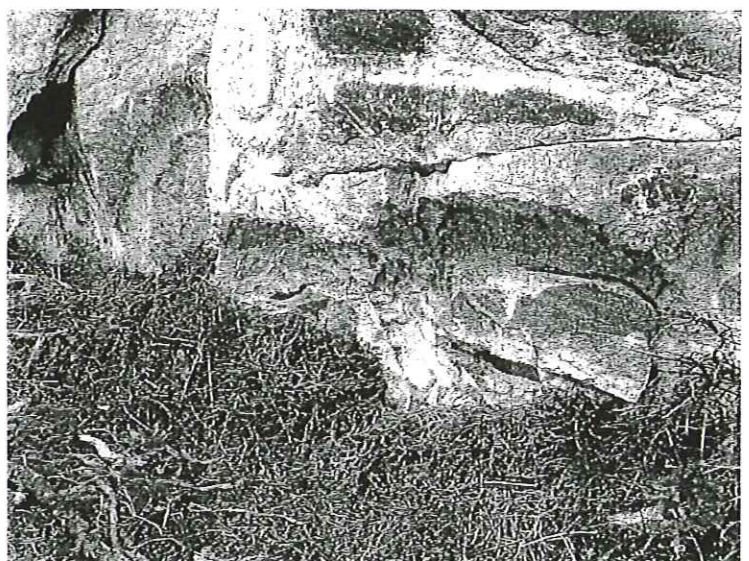
The fine-crystalline soapstone is situated in several broad bands across the rock. The lower soapstone band on the southern side of the rock has the negative impressions from the extraction of at least 10 vessels of which the largest is ca. 60x40cm.

The so-called Formation 1, which was found by Ole Vittus Lynge and Hans Kapel in 1982. It was Hans Kapel's report that led the 2005 crew to focus on the Narsatsiaq area. The soapstone is seen as light grey bands criss-crossing the large stone boulder, and negative scars from extracting are seen all over the boulder

A half made vessel is protruding from the central part of the band of which a minor part of has been cut away. On the face produced by the cut the initials "OVL96" has been scratched. The initials were probably carved by Ole Vittus Lynge – the original finder of the site (Kapel 1982). The lower band turns almost 90 degrees upwards at its western end holding the negative imprint of one additional vessel. The preform for a large vessel is also seen on the western side. The vessel seems to have been cut into an area with a somewhat less good quality of soapstone and abandoned.

On the lowermost part (on the eastern side) of the large rock the negatives of at least four vessels are barely protruding the vegetation-cover, as is a "positive" of a fifth vessel.

A few of the negative scars from extraction of large rectangular to oval vessels. In the foreground one see the marks of a modern saw, and the initials of Ole Vittus Lynge



A small gully on the eastern side of the rock a narrow and low gully leads up to a small plateau the northern side of which is surrounded by smaller soapstone rocks. At the plateau on the large rock one sees the imprint of several vessels; an oval

negative (ca. 60x25x10cm), a positive of vessel (ca. 45x25x10cm) and the perform (positive) of a very large vessel (ca. 75x40x20cm) with the transverse marks of a saw. On one of the smaller soapstone rocks leading up to the plateau the negative scars of two vessels is visible as is two positive imprints. At the floor of the low gully, immediately below it (on the eastern side of the rock) and on the southern side (below the lower soapstone band described above) there are clearly thick layers of soapstone debris. It also seems likely that a number of additional imprints of vessels would become visible if the site was excavated.

Photos:

MA Film 1/33	The formation seen from below
/34-36	The imprints in the lower band
MA Film 2/1-4	The imprints in the lower band
/5	The formation seen from East
/6-8	The imprints in the lowermost (eastern) band
/9	Imprints on the northern smaller soapstone rock
/10-20	Imprints at the plateau.
Bjarne G	P8110080 – P8110089
Digital video by Bjarne Grønnow	

Kangiusap Nunaa/Formation 2 (64V2-0IV-51)

64°40.350'/50°26.837', 124 m.as.l.

Sampled!

Literature:

Giesecke 1910:149; Kapel 1982 (33-14)

The formation is situated some 200m approx. south of Formation 1. The site is mostly covered by dense vegetation, but seems to cover an area at about 50m². A horizontal soapstone face is exposed at the centre of the site, beneath which one finds an excavated depression of approx. four metres in diameter. A broad rim of gravel and soapstone fragments encircles the depression. The site generally leaves the impression of being older than formation 1, in that no signs of modern exploitation is visible, the extraction negatives seems more weathered and almost entirely covered by lichens. The extraction negatives seem mainly that of crescent-shaped lamps. Even if there are several colour-variants present on the site (grey, greenish) the formation seems to have a more a higher frequency of yellow to rusty red soapstone than does any of the other soapstone formations visited.

Photos:

MA Film 2/21-30

The formation and some of the extraction negatives

Bjarne G

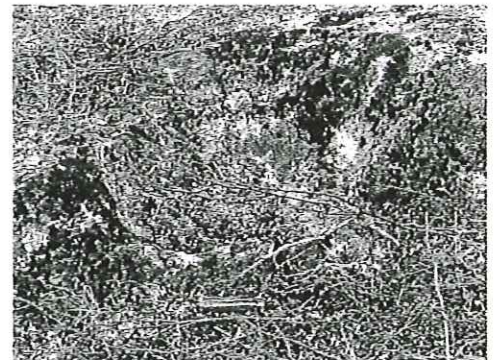
P8110090 – P8110101

Bjarne G

Digital video



Formation 2 is a lot less visible than formation 1, and is also very different in appearance, i.e. with denser vegetation (see photos below) and with soapstone dominated by reddish colours



N. Kangiusap Nunaa/Mikkel Q-site (64V2-0IV-?) 64°40.121'/50°27.401', 190 m.a.s.l.

Sampled!

Literature:

Giesecke 1910:149

The site is situated some 200 metres east of the Clemens Q-site, at about 190m above sea level.

Recordings at the site are very preliminary, but the following information was recorded. The formation is made up of a very large boulder at approximately 12 x 15m, and with the highest point ca. 3 metres



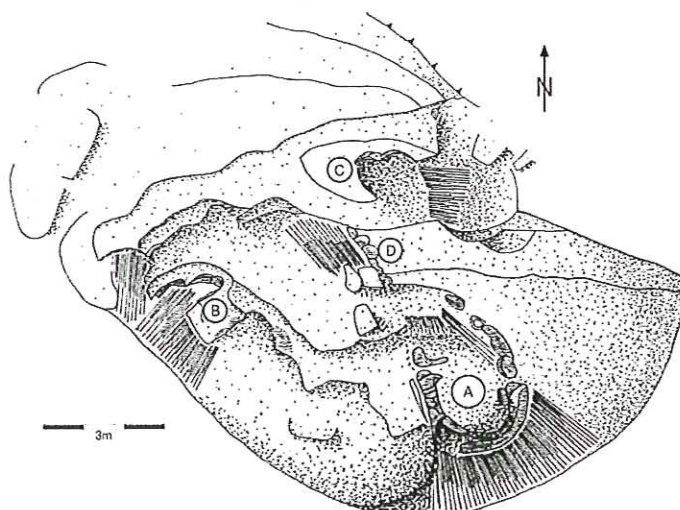
As with the two other new sites discovered by the 2005 crew the so-called Mikkel Q site was discovered by pure luck. It therefore seems probable that a systematic survey of the area will reveal a number of new sites

above the surrounding surface. The boulder was transversed by a number of bands of soapstone, and the extraction-zones are seen at, at least, three different places (areas A, B and C on drawing). Furthermore the site may hold a number of additional extraction-zones – seen as smaller or larger depressions beneath the vegetation-layer - of which the area marked D is the most promising one. Below each of the extraction-zones dense layers of soapstone refuse is seen.

Photos:

MA Film 3/35 Clemmens at Mikkel Q-site

Clemens Images 155 – 159



Clemens Pasda's sketch of the Mikkel Q site. Area with letters are extraction zones and lines beneath marks the distribution of soapstone debitage

N. Kangiusap Nunaa/Clemens Q-site (64V2-0IV-?) 64°40.078'/50°27.637', 197 m.a.s.l.

Literature:

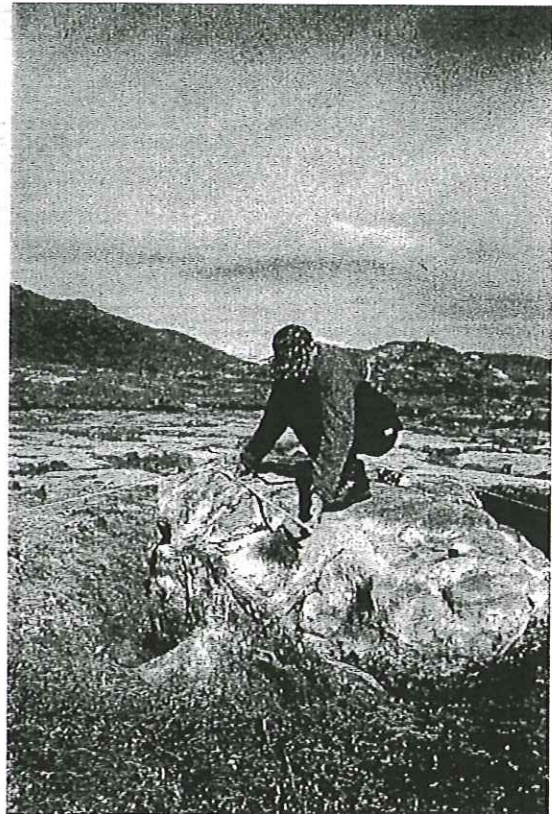
Giesecke 1910:149

The site was found by Clemens Pasda and is situated about half way between Kangiusaq and Narsatsiaq (Kangersuneq) at about 200 m.a.s.l. The main soapstone formation (Feature A) is found at the southern edge of a dried up pond, while a smaller formation (Feature B) is found at the western end of the pond.

The pond has an amorphous outline and is approx. 35x45m's across, inside which the subsoil is marked by heavy cryoturbation.

A large rock of which approximately 6x4x1m is visible makes up *Feature A*. There is however no doubt the rock is substantially larger underneath the vegetation cover and that part of the exploited area is now also covered by vegetation. A trench has been excavated around the western and southern parts of the larger section of the rock. The bottom of the trench is now up to 50 cm's below the vegetation cover. Where the rocks meets the trench's gravel layer one sees the

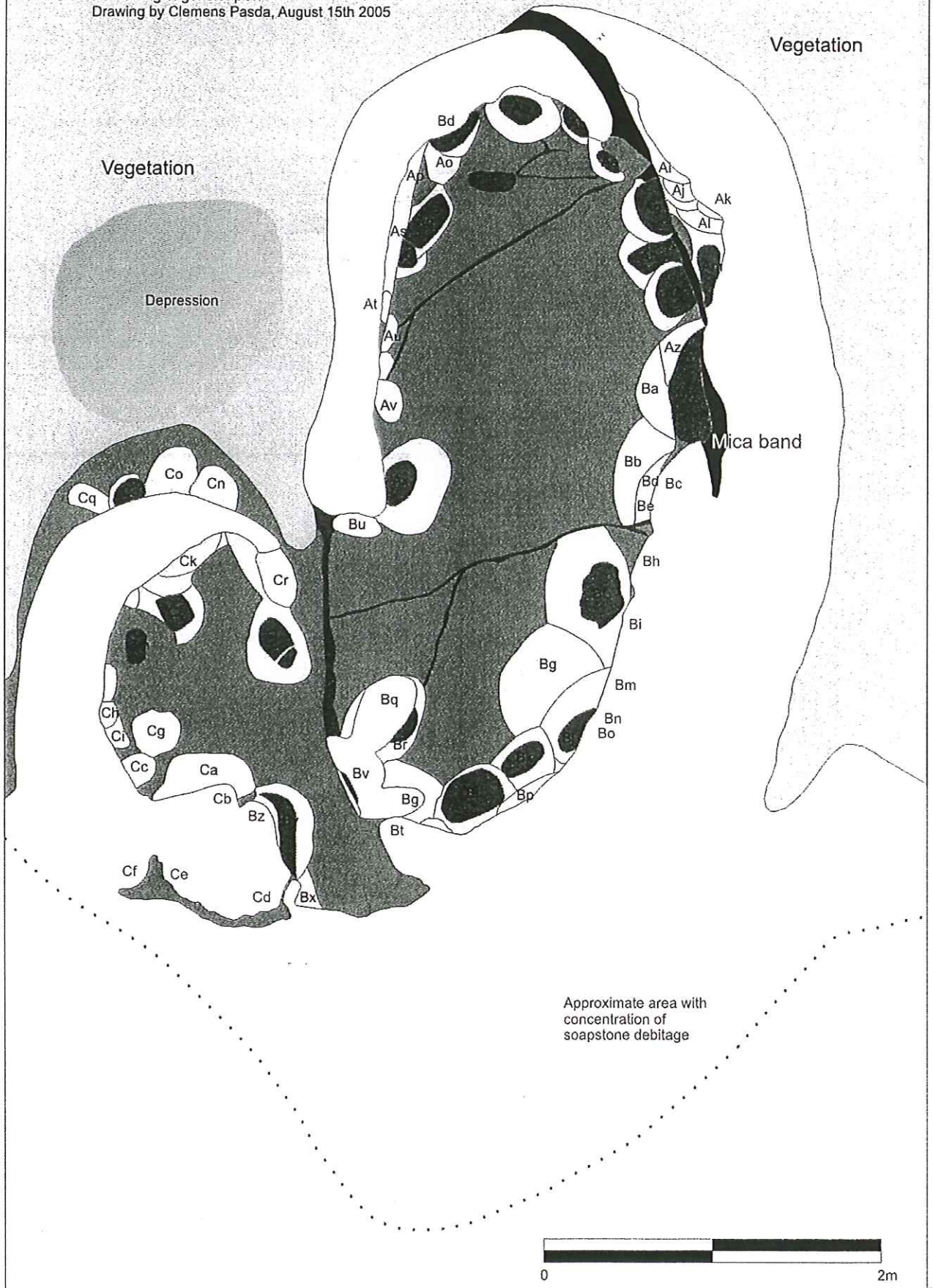
Clemens Pasda at Feature A of the site named after and found by him. The surface of the rock have the marking of more than sixty extraction scars, and an excavation at the base of the rocks would definitely reveal many more



One of the stone slabs with chopping and grinding marks that makes up the much smaller Feature B at the Clemens Q-site

uppermost parts of several negative impressions from the extraction of vessels. There is therefore no doubt that the exploited part of the rock continues deep into the gravel layer. A thick gravel and soapstone debris layer has also formed around northern and eastern parts of the rock, and also the exploited area seems to continue beneath the now visible surface. The northeastern half of the rock is almost entirely covered by vegetation, but a depression (about one metre in diameter) reveals the presence of yet a subtraction area. The feature was briefly documented in a 1:20 general plan and photos, during which we counted and described the impression of at least 67 vessels having been carved from the rock. Our impression is however that this number will increase substantially if the entire surface of the rock was fully exposed. The entire surface of the rock showed distinct marks of "testing" in the shape of small scars of adze and pick.

S.O.A.P. 2005
CLEMENS Q-SITE (FM#64V2-0IV-?)
Redrawing of general plan
Drawing by Clemens Pasda, August 15th 2005



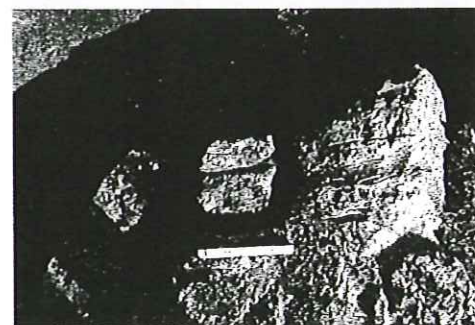
The properties of the soapstone varies considerably through the various parts of the rock; ranging from fine-grained light grey and greenish parts to coarse-grained and black areas (some with bands of almost pure mica). *Feature B* includes one large slab and several small slabs and blocks of soapstone that are situated at the western side of the dry out pond. The visible part of the large slab-like soapstone is app. 150x80cm. The surface of the slab has a number of individual chopping marks – most likely from the “carvers” testing of the stone – and a groove encircling what should probably have been a large oval lamp.

Extraction-scars Feature A

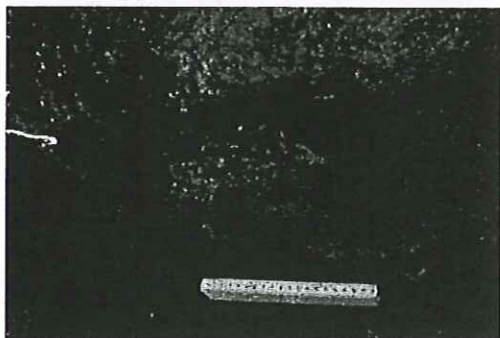
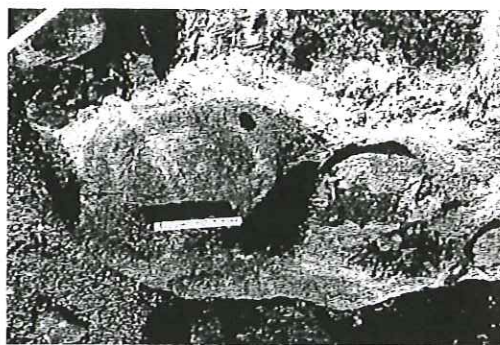
In the following description we several times use the terms “negative”, “preform” and “plinth”. While it is absolutely preliminary to suggest the variable methods and steps employed during the extracting process we do however feel the need to use these terms as preliminary descriptive categories. The term “negative” is used to describe the depressions left after the different performs has been removed from the formations. It seems that the first step in extracting many of the performs have been done by carving, picking, cutting and/or grinding a narrow groove that outline the desired shape of the object. This was apparently followed by expanding and deepening the groove outwards and downwards probably with the use of an adze or pick, followed by a third step during which the “carver” would (from the bottom of the groove) work his/her way inwards. When sufficiently deep the object (preform) would then be snapped of, thus leaving a “plinth” at the centre of the negative. Finally “preform” is used in an attempt to avoid assigning any particular category to the object removed (or to be removed). In some cases it is however obvious that the preform was intended a crescent-shaped lamp, a rectangular vessel or other. Rather many of the negatives are also shaped such that one can make a qualified guess as to the shape of the object to be produced from the preform.

Pictures below of various types of extractions gives an impression of the diversity of the site

- Aa: Undetached preform of an irregular crescent-shaped amp (app. 30x17x6cm).
- Ab: Negative of vessel with parts of the plinth preserved
- Ac: Parts of the negative of rounded triangular lamp (app. 28x16cm)
- Ad: Roughly outlined perform of a rectangular vessel (ca. 40x25cm)
- Ae: Negative of what was probably a rectangular vessel. The plinth is app. 14x16cm
- Af: Weakly defined negative imprint
- Ag: Negative of crescent-shaped lamp (app. 30x23cm). The negative is app. 10cm deep.
- Ah: Negative of rounded rectangular vessel (app. 40x25cm). Parts of the plinth preserved.
- Ai: Negative of large rectangular vessel (app. 65x17cm). The lower part of the negative disappears into the gravel.
- Aj: Negative of crescent-shaped lamp, of which app. One half is below the gravel. The visible length is 27cm, while the width is app. 16cm.



- Ak: Very weakly defined negative, likely of crescent-shaped lamp.
- Al: Very weakly defined negative, likely of crescent-shaped lamp.
- Am: Undetached perform of large lamp. One end is rounded rectangular, while the opposing end is somewhat more pointed. The maximum length is 52cm and maximum is 19cm, while the detached part of the perform is about 6cm.
- An: Weakly defined negative with an also weakly defined perform of what is most likely a crescent-shaped lamp (18x12cm).
- Ao: Weakly defined imprint of crescent-shaped lamp.
- Ap: Deep and weathered negative with the preform still attached. The perform seems to be that of an round to oval vessel (app. 20x17cm).
- Aq: Weakly defined negative of rounded rectangular vessel.
- Ar: Undetached preform of a rounded square vessel (app. 20x20x4cm).
- As: An app. one centimetre deep and two centimetre wide groove encircling an oval area
- At: Weakly defined negative, likely of crescent-shaped lamp.
- Au: Weakly defined negative, likely of crescent-shaped lamp.
- Av: A round negative (app. 23cm in diameter) with a plinth of what was likely a triangular vessel.
- Ax: Weakly defined negative.
- Ay: Undetached perform (or plinth) for (of) a large vessel. Length 48cm.
- Az: Deep negative of crescent-shaped lamp.
- Ba: Negative of crescent-shaped lamp (app. 40x25cm)
- Bb: Weakly defined negative of vessel
- Bc: Weakly defined negative of crescent-shaped lamp that continues into gravel layer
- Bd: Weakly defined negative of crescent-shaped lamp
- Be: Weakly defined negative of crescent-shaped lamp
- Bf: Hard part of the rock with scars of a dense chopping – probably in order to remove this section of the rock.
- Bg: Negative of large crescent-shaped lamp (app. 70x35cm)
- Bh: Weakly defined negative of vessel
- Bi: Weakly defined negative of vessel
- Bj: Large negative with the perform (or plinth) still attached (the size of the perform 32x16cm)
- Bk: Deep negative with distinct mark of crescent-shaped to oval lamp having been extracted.
- Bl: The rock most well defined negative with low plinth. The negative is irregular oval and app. 47x40x12cm.



Bm: Deep negative with distinct perform still attached. Negative app. 30x25x12cm
 Bn: The remains of a circular plinth (app. 8cm in diameter)
 Bo: The remains of a circular plinth (app. 8cm in diameter)
 Bp: Heavily weathered negative
 Bq: Large negative – almost fully covered by vegetation
 Br: Unattached perform or plinth - almost fully covered by vegetation
 Bs: Negative of crescent-shaped lamp (31x16cm)
 Bt: Heavily weathered negative
 Bu: Negative of crescent-shaped lamp (37x18cm)
 Bv: Heavily weathered negative
 Bx: Heavily weathered negative
 By: Heavily weathered negative
 Bz: Heavily weathered negative of crescent-shaped lamp
 Ca: Heavily weathered negative of crescent-shaped lamp
 Cb: Heavily weathered negative of crescent-shaped lamp
 Cc: Heavily weathered negative of crescent-shaped lamp
 Cd: Heavily weathered negative of crescent-shaped lamp
 Ce: Heavily weathered negative of crescent-shaped lamp
 Cf: Heavily weathered negative of crescent-shaped lamp
 Cg: Deep groove outlining oval-shaped area (24x18cm)
 Ch: Heavily weathered negative of crescent-shaped lamp
 Ci: Heavily weathered negative of crescent-shaped lamp
 Cj: Negative with low undetached preform of oval to rounded rectangular lamp (37x21cm). The preform almost divided into halves by transverse groove
 Ck: Roughly negative probably of crescent-shaped lamp
 Cl: Distinct undetached perform of rectangular object (17x18cm). The preformed
 Cm: Undetached Preform of crescent-shaped to rounded rectangular lamp (23x14cm)
 Cn: Weathered negative in area with high mica density
 Co: Weathered negative in area with high mica density
 Cp: Weathered negative in area with high mica density
 Cq: Weathered negative in area with high mica density

Photos:

MA Film 3/22	Clemens Q-site from W
/23	Clemens Q-site from W
/24	Clemens in action
/25 – 26	Feature A from S and W
/27	Feature A from N
/28	Feature A from E
/29	Negative Aa
/30	Negatives Cc, Ci and Ch
/31	Negatives Bk, Bl and Bp
/32	Towards negatives Bb, Bd and Be
/33	Towards negatives at southern end of feature A
/34	Feature B

Ipiutaq (64V2-0IV-2, 47 or 52?)

64°38.424'/50°33.683', 2-5 m.a.s.l.

Sampled!

Literature:

Gulløv 1983:172; Hinnerson-Berglund 2004:fig. 56

The central part of 64V2-0IV-42 is situated on a low-lying sandy saddle. The soapstone formation is situated in the northwestern "corner" of the saddle, where the rock face meets the sea. The formation is approx. 2x3m and dominated by white to greenish soapstone of coarse-grained soapstone that mostly is



Mikkel Myrup standing in front of the very small soapstone formation at Ipiutaq. The formation seems to have been of only limited use as it is small, hard and with a thick layer of asbestos.

covered by an up to five centimetre thick layer of asbestos. At only two places one sees distinct marks of attempts to extract preforms for vessels, while the extraction-zone generally leaves the impression of having been abandoned after the attempts of extracting the two vessels.

Photos:

MA Film 2/33-36

The Ipiutaq site

MA Film 3/1-4

The soapstone formation

Bjarne G

P8120112 - P8120117

Our slow but beloved "Sonja" in front of the Ipiutaq site.



APPENDIX A

THE STEATITE OBJECTS ANALYSES PROJECT (S.O.A.P.) 2005 – 2007

- A joint Greenlandic/Danish/German/Swedish Research and Education project

RESEARCH

Introduction

One of the basic preconditions for human existence in the Arctic in pre-modern times was the development of social systems that allowed for an easy flow of and access to information and commodities over large distances. The present project focuses on creating flow-models for the historic period and employing these models as the basis for discussing prehistoric trade and exchange patterns and their connected social structures. As a point of departure the project will highlight the exploitation of soapstone (steatite), and secondarily, will bring caribou products into focus.

Generally the Arctic is characterised by a limited variety of prey-animals (living resources) relevant for human existence, but both on Land and in the Sea the prey-animals can be found in large numbers at particular times of the year in particular geographical areas (Rowley-Conwy 1999) situated with relatively large distances in between. It was therefore crucial for humans to time their placement and movement in the landscape such that they could intercept the prey-animals at these particular points in time and space. Accordingly, human settlements had to be equally dispersed and generally, at a regional scale, mobile. But, living resources also fluctuate in numbers and geography on various timescales, i.e. yearly, decadal or over centuries. In pre-modern human societies the fluctuations on the regional level were overcome by one of three strategies: 1) interregional movement of humans; 2) movement of commodities; or 3) changes in the regional economic strategies that would shift emphasis to secondary resources. The first-mentioned of these strategies demanded the development and maintenance of particular kinds of social structures (mostly by living in small groups with an egalitarian structure) and of networks that allowed for a relatively easy flow of people and commodities (i.e. with social systems that tended to be at the "open" end of the scale (Friesen 2000)).

For the Greenlandic Norsemen, the situation were somewhat different because a major part of their basic subsistence was created and maintained within relatively limited areas surrounding fixed settlements. Nevertheless, Norse societies were also included in and dependent on the large-scale North Atlantic trading/exchange networks (Arneborg 2004). In order to participate in the North Atlantic networks the Greenlandic Norsemen regularly travelled inter-regionally primarily in the pursuit of walrus products (ivory and hide), which were in high demand throughout Europe and beyond.

Non-living resources are also unevenly distributed in the Arctic, but unlike living resources they are predictable in their distribution. Already from about 2000 BC, Greenland saw the rise of an extensive

trade network in lithic raw materials (killiaq, agate and possibly soapstone) that included the area from northern Disko Bay to the inner fiords of the Nuuk area (Jensen et al. 1997; Sørensen & Petersen 2005). Societies in the northernmost parts of West Greenland around 1000 AD were seemingly also part of an extensive trade/exchange network reaching as far as the central Canadian Arctic archipelago, which included meteoric iron and natural copper (Appelt 2003).

Moving further up in time to the early historic period, it is well known that trade and exchange networks included groups settled in areas from southwest to central West Greenland and centred on both living and non-living resources (Gulløv 1987).

While examples of trade/exchange networks from historic Greenland are numerous, limited knowledge exists concerning their extent in time and space, and characteristics of the networks during the prehistoric periods are also poorly understood. However, archaeological material from Greenland shows great potential for developing testable models (frames of reference) for the Prehistoric periods that will also have significant importance for archaeology outside Greenland.

Due to the cultural continuity of the Thule/Inuit culture, significant potential exists in Greenland for employing a "direct historical approach" (Trigger 1989), i.e. creating models from the known "ethnographic" or "historical" situation and juxtaposing these models with patterns observed in prehistoric periods. The historical sources from the "colonial side" are comprehensive, and in Greenland a large amount of material is also available from the "native" side, such as drawings, paintings and a rich oral tradition that was made literate already in the early part of the historic period. The historical sources from Greenland furthermore hold potential for operating at various historical levels; from the personal biographic level, via the stories of the region, to a broad Arctic history connected with World Systems.

The intent of the present project is to develop models for historic trade and exchange, focusing on their imprint in the archaeological material from the historic period. With a point of departure in the models and their correlates in the archaeological material (their imprints) we then intend to test their applicability in the prehistoric period. We expect that the procedure described on the one hand will lead to a more solidly founded understanding of prehistoric exchange and trade patterns, and likely reveal substantial variability over time and space. On the other hand we believe that the process will be an important aid in describing and understanding dynamic changes in the prehistoric social structures that have been outlined by recent research (Gulløv (ed.) 2004).

The Project

The project will be focused on the exploitation of and trade in two independent groups of raw materials/commodities, namely steatite and caribou skin. During the first year the research area will be centred in the Nuuk area that holds Greenland's largest concentration of high-quality steatite and large and important caribou-hunting areas.

Today some 25 soapstone formations are known in the Nuuk area (Gulløv 1983 & 1997; Olsen 2004; GFA 2005), of which many have properties that make them excellent for human use. Some of these formations have been explored by humans from at least 1500 BC (Appelt & Pind 1996; Hinnerson-Berglund 2004) and are still used today.

Throughout the larger part of human history in Greenland the soapstone lamps provided the sole source of heat and light in the long and cold wintertime, and one may even say that the use of soapstone lamps is one of the basic features that technologically defines the Eskimo way of life. Soapstone vessels were also important to the daily life of the Norse farmers living in southern Greenland throughout their presence in Greenland (Arneborg 2004).

In historic times the soapstone products provided the Nuuk area with a valuable resource for the long-distance trading networks that seem to have included southeast Greenland and all of southwest Greenland north to Disko Bay (Gulløv 1987).

During the last couple of decades attempts have been made to source Greenlandic soapstone based on their geological characteristics, but none of the attempts have been successful due to the large geological variability found within each of the soapstone formations (personal comment Hans Kapel 1998). This has to some extent prevented progress in the area. Within the present project it is the intention to experiment with sourcing the soapstone through strontium isotope frequencies (from the background radiation) in the different soapstone formations, and in soapstone artefacts from archaeological excavations. It is suspected that the strontium levels contrary to the geological features will be relatively even within each formation.

It will, furthermore, be necessary to attempt to refine the basic typology for each of the types of soapstone artefacts found in the archaeological collections. At present we are only able to ascribe the large number of lamps and vessels to Saqqaq, Dorset, Thule or the Historical period, thus preventing a truly synchronic analyses of the relationship between the archaeological and ethnographical collections and sites. For most parts of the Arctic, and especially in Greenland, very limited work has been done to develop descriptions of the full "life story" or *chaîne opératoire* of soapstone objects, thus also preventing an understanding of the relationship between, for example, the acquisition of the preforms, the procurement and production of the objects, their distribution, their use and secondary use, and finally their discard. Also, none of these stages have been described as they relate to the social structures in which they would have been embedded.

As with soapstone, it has also been demonstrated that caribou skins were of major importance for the historic trade and exchange from the Nuuk area into interregional networks (Gulløv 1987). Furthermore, one of the earliest excavated and most well-known caribou-hunting sites from the Saqqaq culture is situated in the Nuuk area – the Itinnera site (Meldgaard 1961; Møhl 1972). While individual caribou-hunting sites have been documented in large numbers especially in the southern parts of the Nuuk fiord area little has been done to document the larger hunting systems or their relation to the very large historic and prehistoric dwelling sites that are found in the Nuuk fiord area. In particular the northern and northeast side of the area are almost unknown in this regard. In other parts of Greenland, in particular north and south of Kangerlussuaq (Sdr. Strømfjord), extensive archaeological investigations have been conducted on the caribou-hunting systems and sites (Grønnow et al 1983; Secher et al. 1987;

Grønnow & Pind 1991 (edi.); Gabriel et al 2002; Odgaard et al 2003; Odgaard & Knudsen 2005; Pasda, C. 2001; 2002; 2003; 2004; 2005; Im druck a; Im druck b; Pasda, K. 2001; 2005).

During the present project several small-scale surveys will be launched in the vicinity of the soapstone quarry sites situated in the inland. Some of these steatite sites - among others in the Ujarassuit area - seem to have been among the most important in the Nuuk region, at least during the historic period. The intent is partly to describe the subsistence of the soapstone sites and partly to assess the potential for future more intensive investigations. In addition it is likely that the exploitation of these two resources would have occurred simultaneously, and may have been connected to the famous Norse church farm Anavik (situated in innermost Ujarassuit).

The project will be carried out as a combination of archaeological fieldwork, laboratory work, and studies of archival and artefactual materials housed in the national museums of Denmark and Greenland.

DISSEMINATION: EDUCATION AND PUBLIC OUTREACH

An almost equally important side of the S.O.A.P. is a multi-level and versatile research dissemination that will be integral to the activities of the project and its research results. During the project, we will thus seek to integrate the purely educational aspects of the project with a broad public dissemination effort, while at the same time crossing institutional borders. The integration will be achieved in a number of ways; several of the most important follow:

Each of the participating institutions will set up courses relevant to both the overall research themes and sub-themes. Each institution will also be involved in setting up and carrying out field-courses in Greenland. Also, we will seek to raise funding for a teacher exchange programme, such that each institution will at a minimum have the opportunity to incorporate one teacher from another institution. Various research sub-themes will be highlighted through student papers and exercises. Some of these will be focused on topics that we believe will appeal to a wider audience, and will be directly aimed at the Greenlandic newspapers. For example, one topic will involve discussion of a responsible strategy for modern exploitation of the soapstone formations, a second on the relationship between the artists' and handcrafters' use of soapstone, and a third on a "living archaeology approach" that would combine a mapping of the garbage on a recently used site, interviews with the people who created the "modern archaeological record" and an analyses of the products made from the quarried pieces.

In order to ensure easy communication between the many partners, we will set up a project homepage that will on the one hand have closed discussion forums for project members, and on the other an open part directed at a wide audience. We furthermore intend to develop an interactive field-diary with updates on the fieldwork every second or third day during the field season.

In the final phase of the project Martin Appelt, Mikkel Myrup and Clemens Pasda will develop a concept for an exhibition on the project aimed at the National Museum and Archives of Greenland.

During the project we will set up a demonstration of soapstone production to take place at the National Museum and Archives of Greenland, the aim of which will be two-fold. First, it will be a means to describe to various production-steps of the prehistoric vessels and others (the chaine opératoire), and second it will serve as a public outreach activity.

Teachers exchange programme

During 2006 and 2007 we intend to strengthen the educational collaboration between the participating institutions by establishing a teacher exchange programme. The intent is to circulate teachers between the institutions in order to take advantage of the specific knowledge of each of the participating scholars, and not the least facilitate the exchange of students before, during and after the project period. In order to rationalise expenditure, meetings in the organising group will coincide with the exchange programme.

THE FIELDWORK

The fieldwork will be conducted in two main campaigns, one during July/August 2006 and July/August 2007. The campaigns will be conducted as a combination of research and field-school activities. Plans for the 2006 field-campaign have been discussed and agreed upon during and immediately after the 2005 fieldtrip (Appelt et al 2005), while plans for 2007 will not be finalised until after the 2006-campaign.

Fieldwork 2006

The fieldwork will be conducted in the northern part of Kangiussap Nuna, and include excavations, test-excavations, and surveys for a period of approximately four weeks. Activity areas will include a full-scale excavation at the Narssatsiaq site (64V2-0IV-050), trenching at Formations 1 and 2 (64V2-0IV-051) above the Narssatsiaq site, testpitting the Clemens Q and Mikkel Q sites (64V2-0IV-?), a survey of the area between Kangiussap and Narsatssiaq especially focused on finding other soapstone formations, and a broader survey of the northern part of Kangiussap Nuna, during which focus will mainly be on caribou related sites and systems. Finally, a three-person crew will make a preliminary survey of the Ujarassuit steatite formations and the caribou-hunting systems to its north, with the specific purpose of assessing the archaeological potential and logistical requirements of moving the project into the Ujarassuit area in 2007.

Plans are to bring some 20 students and five or six teachers (researchers) into the field (approx. 6 students from Germany, 5 from Greenland, 4-5 from Denmark and 4 from Sweden). The students will then be organised into "tent teams" of about four students, which will include one student from each of the institutions. Our intent then is to circulate the tent-teams in between the various types of fieldwork. Preparation for the fieldwork will take its beginning in the "class-room" prior to the actual fieldwork. Among other assignment, individual students will develop sub-theme projects, and fundraising will take place for participation in the fieldwork.

Besides the field-courses in standard excavation techniques we also hope to be able to offer the students an on-site basic course in quaternary zoology. As a point of departure for determining the bones produced during the excavation at the Narssatsiaq site, we intent to bring two freshly caught seals and a

caribou to the site and extract the bones to create a small comparative collection for the on-site faunal identification.

In order to ensure an optimal sampling of the soapstone formations for future geological determination, the project will collaborate with Institute of Geology (University of Copenhagen) on including a geology student in the fieldwork. The geology student is also expected to give a small field-course in geological determination and sample procedures.

As mentioned above, some of the sub-themes of the project may well be focused on the modern exploitation of soapstone sites and "living archaeology". If plans are further developed in this respect we will also be formulating and implementing a small-scale second field campaign in the vicinity of Nuuk (at Lille Malene (GFA# 64V1-0II-047)).

Fieldwork 2007

As mentioned above, detailed plans for the 2007 field campaign cannot be described until after the logistic information concerning Ujarassuit has been collected in 2006. We are, however, in the process of discussing alternative plans, in which we will target the soapstone sites at Uummannaq Island which will have significant implications also for the direction of some of the research components. The major soapstone formation at Uummannaq Island is situated immediately above one of the very important 19th Century Moravian mission sites in the Nuuk area. Several soapstone objects have been collected on the Moravian mission dwelling site over the years (personal communication Mariane Petersen 2005; and also the ethnographical collections at the Völkerkundemuseum Herrnhut seems to contain a number of soapstone artefacts from Uummannaq Island (Israel 1984; Inuit-Sammlung Grönland (Kalaallit Nunaat) 2003)). If we were to perform one a major field-campaign at the Uummannaq site it would naturally lead to a further emphasis on the use of historical sources.

PARTNERS, ASSOCIATES AND FRAMEWORK

The S.O.A.P. project will in the coming years be organized as a component of the central Danish/Greenlandic/German sub-project under the international IPY-project "Dynamic Social Strategies in Arctic Environments: Long-term Perspectives on Movement and Communication" (Activity ID# 6), that received a preliminary endorsement by the Joint Committee on August 24th 2005.

The S.O.A.P.-project will formally be headquartered at the Danish National Museum in collaboration with an organisation group that will include a representative from each participating institution. For now, the involved partners/institutions are:

National Museum of Denmark
National Museum & Archives of Greenland
Frederic-Schiller Universität, Jena

Post. Doc. Martin Appelt
Curator Mikkel Myrup
Professor Clemens Pasda

Ilisimatusarfik/University of Greenland
Lunds Universitet
University of Copenhagen
(University of Toronto
(Avataq Cultural Institute

Professor Yvon Csonka
Professor Lars Larsson
Under negotiation
Professor T. Max Friesen)
Chief Archaeologist Daniel Gendron)

In addition, the project will be collaborating with several other institutions and individuals (here called associates) such as the Institute of Geology, University of Copenhagen (Professor Robert Frei), Curator emeritus Mariane Petersen (Greenland National Museum & Archives), Dr. Kerstin Pasda (Universität Erlangen), Post Doc. Ulla Odgaard and Project coordinator. Einar Lund Jensen (both National Museum of Denmark).

TIME SCHEDULE AND MILESTONES

2005

During the summer representatives from the participating institutions carried out preliminary investigations at soapstone formations in the Nuuk fiord area, in order to identify relevant sites for the coming years' archaeological research. Throughout the autumn months preliminary archival and museum studies will begin, and plans will be made for coming year's university courses and fieldwork (some of the courses may begin in the second half of 2005). Fundraising for the coming two years begins.

Milestone:

Moving the "Sonja" (SILA's boat) from Nanortalik to Nuuk, in order to facilitated fieldwork. Sampling of soapstone formations in Nuuk fiord for geological analyses.

Travel report from pre-investigations

Applications for 2006-07

Description of university courses 2006

2006

During the first half of the year university courses on the "prehistory of Greenland" and "archaeological field techniques" are given at the participating institutions. Each student is expected to choose an area of particular interest and to write a short paper on the area as part of the course. Preparation for the practical side of the fieldwork is carried out in collaboration with the students. Archival work and museum studies are carried out in Denmark and Greenland by the head of the project in collaboration with the curator from the National Museum and Archives of Greenland, and collections are sampled for strontium-analyses. During the first half of the year a homepage for the project is created. An approximately three-weeks field campaign is carried out in the inner Nuuk fiord. Mikkel Myrup, Clemens Pasda, Bjarne Grønnow and Martin Appelt will begin preparing "Sonja" and establish base camp one week prior to the

field-campaign. During the second half of the year field reports finished and preparation for the coming year's university courses and fieldwork are made. If sufficient funding can be raised the teachers exchange-programme take its beginning during 2006.

Milestone:

Full-scale fieldwork in the Nuuk area
Report on fieldwork
Description of university courses 2007
First results of strontium analyses

2007

In the first half of the year the university courses are continued and students are expected to prepare articles on their particularly studied areas of interest, as well as preparing for the summer field campaign. During the autumn period articles for a students' volume on the fieldwork is finalised and the final field-reports are produced. By the end of the year the student fieldwork volume will be published and manuscripts for at least three scientific articles on the overall results of the project are finalised by the head of the project. These articles will be on the results of the experiments with the strontium analyses, on the archaeological soapstone typology and trade and exchange in the Nuuk area in the historic period.

Milestone:

Full-scale fieldwork in the Nuuk area
Student fieldwork volume
Final field report
Three articles in international journals

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