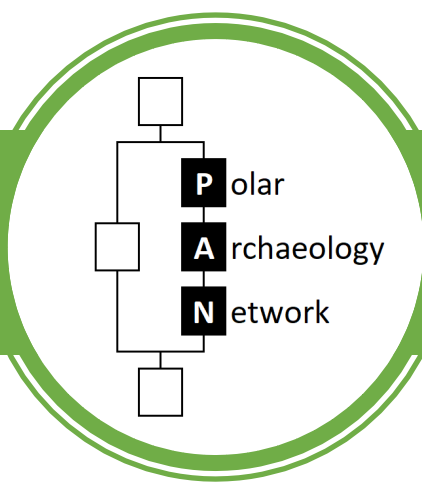


Via ZOOM, 15 February 2022



Polar Hour 2022

An online series of popular science talks
Open to members and friends of the Polar Archaeology Network (PAN)

A Kalaallit perception of fieldwork in the Arctic

Kirstine Eiby Møller, kirstine@natmus.gl
Nunatta Katersugaasivia Allagaateqarfialu –
Greenland National Museum and Archives
Memorial University of Newfoundland,
Ilisimatusarfik – University of Greenland



zenodo

Kirstine E. Møller
Kalaaleq – Greenlandic Inuk
Danish citizenship and roots

PhD Candidate - archaeologist
Community member
Parent - caregiver



A brief overview

Saqqaaq

Independence I

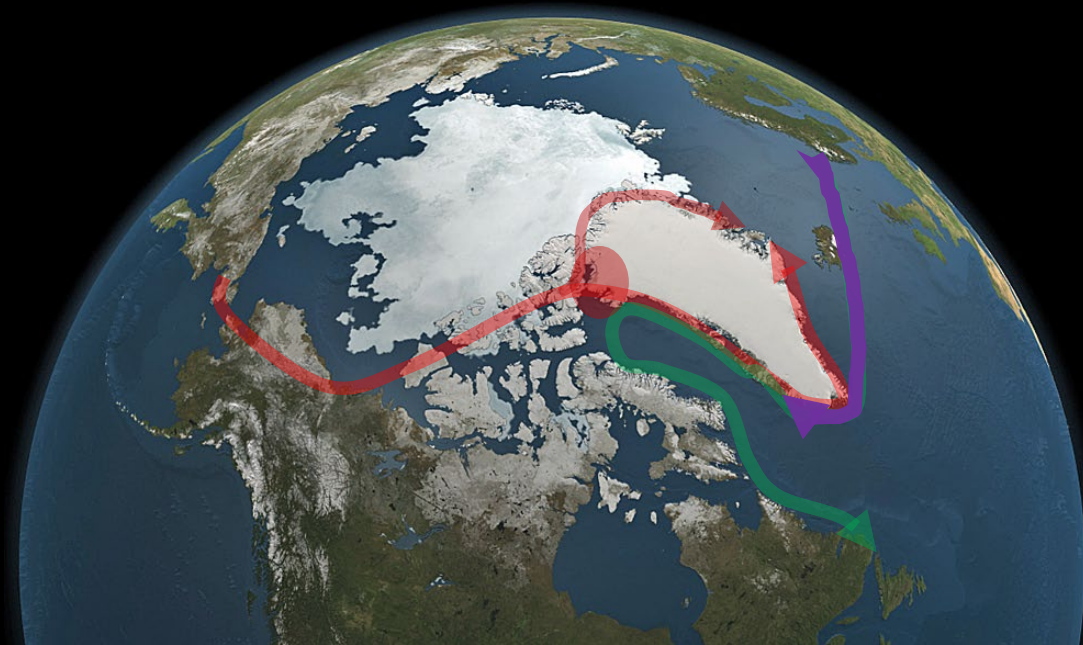
Greenlandic Dorset

Late Dorset

Norse

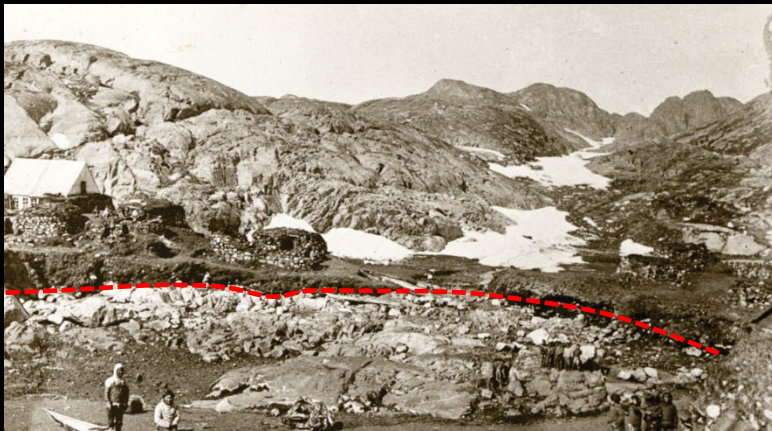
Inuit

Colonisation



Threats to archaeological heritage :

- Increased coastal erosion from rising sea levels and decreased sea- and drift ice
- Increased snow cover raises winter soil temperatures and micro-bacterial activity
- Increased spring meltwater flows are washing out soils.
- Increased vegetation swallowing features and destroying cultural deposits
- Increased landslides threaten sites in North Greenland



1894

Kangeq



2016

Possible solutions:

- 1) Raising scientific, public, and political awareness that there is urgent need for rapid action and increased funds.
- 2) Developing a systematic protocol to assess site preservation, value, and threats, which we can use to target the few sites that we can manage to investigate.
- 3) Building local knowledge and stewardship through training and participatory heritage management practices.



Noorliit field school

2 field seasons

7 Kalaallit students, 1 Canadian student

88 ruins and features surveyed and assessed

3m² trench excavated

More than 600 finds

Still waiting for lab results on eDNA

Possible solutions:

1) Raising scientific, public, and political awareness for the urgent need for rapid action and increased funds

2) Developing a systematic protocol to assess site preservation, value, and threats, which we can use to target the few sites that we can manage to investigate

3) Building local knowledge and stewardship through training and participatory heritage management practices

4) Encouraging collaboration with the international archaeological and scientific community to increase shared competences and research efforts

Considerations

- Co-production of knowledge/community-based projects starts with involvement of communities from the beginning.
- Equal participation or consultancy?
- Avoid tokenism

Suggestion:

- Defined roles
 - Researcher
 - Research assistant
 - Interpreter
 - Community associate

If your Indigenous partners and participants do not fit into these roles, then reconsider your approach!

You may be using them as tokens to validate your research and that is unethical and not okay!

Qujanaq – thank you for your attention!

Questions?

