

Reviews

GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES OF THE ELLESMERE ISLAND NATIONAL PARK RESERVE AND VICINITY. Geoffrey Hattersley-Smith. 1998. Calgary: The Arctic Institute of North America. x + 89 p, illustrated, soft cover. ISBN 0-919034-96-9.

Geoffrey Hattersley-Smith is one of the world's foremost experts on polar place-names, and his previous works, *The history of place-names in the British Antarctic Territory* and *The history of place-names in the Falkland Islands Dependencies*, are recognised as classics in their field. Hattersley-Smith's most recent book, which deals with the 382 officially accepted geographical names in northeastern Ellesmere Island, makes a threesome of extremely valuable works of outstanding scholarship.

As did Hattersley-Smith's previous publications on place-names, this slim volume is packed full of virtually all imaginable information about the area in question. The book starts with the historical background for, and a review of the principles of, the Canadian Permanent Committee on Geographical Names, the body that, under various titles, has, since 1897, had the overall authority for the adoption of names. A brief history follows, examining the development of the names, not only via expeditions and voyages for discovery and science, but through the field-work of various Canadian government departments.

Most of the book is the actual detailed examination of the names themselves, listed alphabetically, with each entry giving the longitude and latitude of the feature; its locality in relation to neighbouring features; the chronological details of its discovery, mapping, and naming; and references to the first publication of that name and to the most recent Canadian government map. Cross-references are provided linking the more than 100 synonyms to the entries, including those Pan-Canadian names that are officially approved in both English and French.

There are also two appendices. The first lists the place-names chronologically by the naming expedition, starting with Ellesmere Island itself, the southeast coast of which was initially charted by Edward Inglefield in September 1852 and was named after Francis Egerton, First Earl of Ellesmere, a statesman and president of the Royal Geographical Society. The second appendix lists the historic sites within the book's area, in chronological order of the expedition involved. The book also has a series of excellent full-colour pictures and a detailed map of Ellesmere Island.

Although this is not a book that one would normally read from cover to cover, it does make fascinating browsing, and one can receive a history lesson on virtually any page of it. For on or adjoining northern Ellesmere one can find features named for exploring heroes, such as M'Clintock Inlet or Kennedy Channel; for imperial lead-

ers, such as Disraeli Glacier or Mount Gladstone; for far-away areas of the world, such as Mount Oxford; or for natural aspects of the area, such as Mount Timmia (for the moss genus *Timmia*, represented by three species in the area) or Taconite Inlet (for the cherty iron formation exposed in the cliffs). Perhaps most interesting are those names later rescinded for lack of positive identification, because they seem frequently to relate to individuals not normally associated with the Arctic (such as Mount Frere for Sir Henry Bartle Frere, well-known governor first of Bombay and then of the Cape of Good Hope, and Mount Rawlinson, named for the one-time president of the Royal Geographical Society, who was known for his verbal battles with Henry Morton Stanley).

Like his earlier works on place-names, Hattersley-Smith has again produced a book that will be an essential reference work. It should be valued both by libraries and by anyone travelling to or interested in the Canadian high Arctic. (Beau Riffenburgh, Scott Polar Research Institute, University of Cambridge, Lensfield Road, Cambridge CB2 1ER.)

GEOLOGY AND SEISMIC STRATIGRAPHY OF THE ANTARCTIC MARGIN, 2. Peter F. Barker and Alan K. Cooper (Editors). 1997. Washington, DC: American Geophysical Union (Antarctic Research Series 71). xv + 187 p, illustrated, hard cover. ISBN 0-87590-884-5. \$US 57.00.

This is the second volume dealing with the results of ANTOSTRAT (the Antarctic Offshore Stratigraphy Project), an international programme organised under the auspices of SCAR. The two books are designed primarily to combine and interpret large seismic reflection data sets from the Antarctic continental margin, and interpret them particularly in terms of the long-term glacial history of the Antarctic ice sheet.

The first volume (reviewed in *Polar Record* 33 (185): 160–161, 1997) is a fine compilation of the seismic and marine record, but focuses heavily on the Antarctic Peninsula region and the Ross Sea. This new volume fills in some of the gaps, and the 10 papers therein are complementary to those of the first.

Four more papers describe the continental shelf and rise of the Antarctic Peninsula, and the adjacent basins on the basis of seismic stratigraphy. Improved resolution has given scope for interpreting depositional processes west of the Antarctic Peninsula in a paper by Larter and others, although the glaciological models presented are simplistic and disregard much recent sedimentological work undertaken at modern ice margins. Glacial as well as tectonic history is addressed in an account by Rebesco and others of sediment drifts, bodies of sediment that occur at the foot