



**NORTH BY DEGREE:
An International Conference on Arctic Exploration, 1850-1940**

**21 – 23 MAY 2008
PHILADELPHIA, PA**

**Wednesday, 21 MAY, at
AMERICAN PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY
Benjamin Franklin Hall, 427 Chestnut Street**

**Thursday, 22 MAY, and Friday, 23 MAY, at
THE ACADEMY OF NATURAL SCIENCES
19th Street & Benjamin Franklin Parkway**



**Arctic Exploration in Motion
A Film Festival**

**Saturday, 24 MAY, at
THE ACADEMY OF NATURAL SCIENCES
19th Street & Benjamin Franklin Parkway**



Sponsors

The Academy of Natural Sciences
Philadelphia, PA

American Philosophical Society
Philadelphia, PA

The Peary-MacMillan Arctic Museum
and Arctic Studies Center, Bowdoin College
Brunswick, ME

Philadelphia Area Center for History of Science (PACHS)
Philadelphia, PA

Conference phone number:
267-386-3488

www.pachs.net/north



Registration

The conference registration fee covers attendance at any or all sessions, Wednesday evening's reception and private exhibit viewing at the American Philosophical Society, Thursday's lunch, and Saturday morning's film festival. In addition, a Thursday banquet has been partially subsidized; attendees will have to pay an additional modest fee to attend the banquet.

Pre-Registration at: <http://www.pachs.net/north>. Regular Fee: \$35.00; Student Fee: \$20.00

On-site Registration: Regular Fee: \$50.00; Student Fee: \$30.00

Thursday Evening Reception and Banquet (subsidized)

By reservation only, limited seating, ticket required.

Regular Conference Attendee: \$15.00

Registered Student: Free

Conference attendees are encouraged to pre-register in order to be guaranteed a place at the events involving meals, as we must provide meal counts ahead of time and space is limited. To pre-register please go to the *North by Degree* website: <http://www.pachs.net/north>.

The registration desk will open at the American Philosophical Society's Benjamin Franklin Hall, 427 Chestnut Street, on Wednesday, May 21, at 12:00 PM. Name badges and copies of the final program will be available at that time.

Hotels

There is no conference hotel. Participants should make their own hotel reservations and are urged to do so quickly. Availability of hotel rooms in Philadelphia around this time may be limited as many of the universities in the area hold their graduations in late May. Most of the conference activities will take place at the Academy of Natural Sciences, so participants might want to select a hotel with that in mind.

Sponsorship and Organization

The Academy of Natural Sciences, the American Philosophical Society, The Peary-MacMillan Arctic Museum and Arctic Studies Center (Bowdoin College), and the Philadelphia Area Center for History of Science (PACHS) are co-sponsors of this conference. We gratefully acknowledge partial support from the National Science Foundation (Grant No. SES-0549957).

Organizational Committee: Babak Ashrafi (PACHS), Susan A. Kaplan (Bowdoin College), Martin Levitt (American Philosophical Society), and Robert M. Peck (The Academy of Natural Sciences).

Program Committee: Susan A. Kaplan (Bowdoin College), Robert M. Peck (Academy of Natural Sciences), Philip Cronenwett (Dartmouth College), and Lyle Dick (Parks Canada).

CONFERENCE
American Philosophical Society
Benjamin Franklin Hall, 427 Chestnut Street

Wednesday, MAY 21

12:00 – 1:00 PM On-site registration, conference program and name tag distribution

Nationalism and Identity

1:00 – 1:20 PM Welcome, Introductions, Organizational Matters

1:20 – 1:40 PM “Robert E. Peary: The Making of an American Icon”
Lyle Dick (Parks Canada)

1:40 – 2:00 PM “Frederick Cook: A Reappraisal”
Michael F. Robinson (University of Hartford)

2:00 – 2:20 PM “An Early Twentieth-Century Canadian Culture
of Arctic Exploration”
Christina Sawchuk (Scott Polar Research Institute)

2:20 – 2:40 PM “U.S. Polar Imaginaries”
Elena Glasberg (Princeton University)

2:40 – 3:10 PM *Coffee Break*

Culture Contact, Race, and Gender

3:10 – 3:30 PM “To Be Black and American: The ‘Twoness’ of Matthew Henson
and his Post-Pole Lecture Tour, 1909-1910”
Emma Bonanomi (Loyola University)

3:30 – 3:50 PM “Furs and Satin: Understanding Inughuit Women’s Roles in
Culture Contact Through Clothing”
Genevieve LeMoine (The Peary-MacMillan Arctic Museum) and
Christyann Darwent (University of California-Davis)

3:50 – 4:10 PM “ ‘The Desolate Shores of a Frozen Zone’:
American Whalers in an Arctic Homeland, 1851-1868”
Karen Routledge (Rutgers University)

4:10 – 4:30 PM “Samuel J. Entrikin and the Peary Greenland Expedition of 1893-95:
Gender, Race, and Society at the New American Frontier”
Rob Lukens (Temple University)

4:30 – 5:10 PM Discussion of the day’s papers

6:00 – 7:00 PM **Reception & Viewing of American Philosophical Society Exhibit:**
“Undaunted: Five American Explorers, 1760-2007”

CONFERENCE
The Academy of Natural Sciences
19th and Benjamin Franklin Parkway

Thursday, MAY 22

Culture of the Explorer

- 9:00 – 9:10 AM Organizational Matters
- 9:10 – 9:30 AM “Den Norske Skole (The Norwegian School)”
Erik Sundholm (Harris Electric, Inc.)
- 9:30 – 9:50 AM “In the Shadow of the North Pole: Josephine Peary and American Narratives of Arctic Discovery”
Patricia Pierce Erikson (University of Southern Maine – Portland)
- 9:50 – 10:10 AM “Russian Revisionism and Frederick A. Cook: Centennial Notes on the Race to the Pole”
Russell W. Gibbons (Frederick A. Cook Society)
- 10:10 – 10:30 AM “Congering the Past: The Books of the Lady Franklin Bay Expedition (1881-1884)”
David Stam (Syracuse University)
- 10:30 – 11:00 AM *Coffee Break*

Technological Advancements

- 11:00 – 11:20 AM “Balloonacy: Commander Cheyne’s ‘Flight of Fancy’”
Huw Lewis-Jones (Scott Polar Research Institute)
- 11:20 – 11:40 AM “A ‘Radically New Method’:
Balloon Buoy Communications of the Baldwin-Ziegler Polar Expedition,
Franz Josef Land, June 1902”
Peter J. Capelotti (Penn State University, Abington College)
- 11:40 AM– 12:00 PM “*SS Roosevelt*: A Technological Wonder or Just Another Ship?”
Anne Witty (The Peary-MacMillan Arctic Museum)
- 12:15 – 2:15 PM **Lunch at the Academy of Natural Sciences***
with a talk by
Tori Murden McClure
“To Rise for Brief Moments Above the State of Crawling Things:
The Rewards of Exploration”

* *Lunch is included as part of the registration fee.*

Thursday, MAY 22 (cont'd)

Knowledge of the Natural World

- 2:30 – 2:50 PM “Imaging the Arctic: Fridtjof Nansen as an Artist”
Clarence Burton Sheffield, Jr. (Rochester Institute of Technology)
- 2:50 – 3:10 PM “ ‘The Advancement of Exploration Along Scientific Lines’: American Geographical Society Involvement in Arctic Exploration, 1851-1950”
Frederick E. Nelson (University of Delaware)
- 3:10 – 3:30 PM “Nineteenth Century Natural History and Arctic Science: A Smithsonian Perspective on Nomenclature, Knowledge, and ‘Good-for-nothing-things’”
Stephen Loring (Arctic Studies Center, Smithsonian Institution)
- 3:30 – 4:30 PM Discussion of the day’s papers
- 6:30 – 9:30 PM **Reception and Banquet, Dinosaur Hall,
Academy of Natural Sciences**

Friday, MAY 23 CONFERENCE / The Academy of Natural Sciences

Popular Culture

- 9:00 – 9:10 AM Organizational Matters
- 9:10 – 9:30 AM “Icy Embellishments: Arctic Exploration and the Decorative Arts”
Robert M. Peck (Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia)
- 9:30 – 9:50 AM “The Polar Trek and the Children’s Book”
Helen Reddick (Newcastle University)
- 9:50 – 10:10 AM “Reversing a Tradition of Artistic and Cinematic Representation of the Arctic: Staffan Julien’s ‘The Prize of the Pole’”
Lisa Bloom (University of California, San Diego)
- 10:10 – 10:30 AM “Showmen and Explorer, Showmen on the Panoramic Stage: The Arctic in the American Imagination”
Russell Potter (Rhode Island College)
- 10:30 – 10:50 AM “Bridging Geographic and Cultural Divides: Donald B. MacMillan, Radio Broadcasts, Illustrated Lectures, Films, and Books”
Susan A. Kaplan (The Peary-MacMillan Arctic Museum)
- 10:50 – 11:10 AM *Coffee Break*

Roundtable Discussion

- 11:15 AM – 12:15 PM A panel reflects on conference themes, followed by an open discussion of future directions of Arctic exploration scholarship and possible collaborations that might advance peoples’ research agendas.

**Arctic Exploration In Motion
A Film Festival Featuring Historic Arctic Film Footage**

**Saturday, 24 May 2008 at
The Academy of Natural Sciences
19th & Benjamin Franklin Parkway
Philadelphia, PA
10:00 AM – 12:30 PM**

**This program is free to registered conference participants.
It is free and open to the public with the price of regular museum admission.**

Many of us have seen photographs of famous early 20th century Arctic explorers. Few of us have seen them in motion. The staff of The Peary-MacMillan Arctic Museum and Arctic Studies Center, Bowdoin College has been locating archival film footage featuring Arctic explorers and the equipment they used, as well as footage taken on their expeditions. This film festival marks the first time film footage of over a dozen Arctic explorers has been brought together and shown to the public.

Beginning in the 1900s, Arctic explorers were captured on motion picture film when they departed or returned from expeditions. By the 1920s motion picture cameras were part of the equipment of well-financed expeditions. Films were used to document expedition activities, and the landscapes, seascapes, animals, and communities of the North.

This film festival will present rare, historic motion picture film footage drawn from a number of film archives. Footage being shown features Arctic explorers in action, Inuit working with explorers and involved in various pursuits, Western and Inuit technologies employed by explorers, Arctic landscapes and wildlife, and scientific work. The organizers will offer brief commentaries, providing background information and context for watching the films and film clips, most of which are silent.

This film festival is presented in conjunction with “North by Degree: An International Conference on Arctic Exploration 1850-1940.”

Film Festival Organizers: Susan A. Kaplan (Director, The Peary-MacMillan Arctic Museum), Genevieve M. LeMoine (Curator, The Peary-MacMillan Arctic Museum), Audrey Amidon (Special Media Preservation Laboratory, National Archives and Records Administration), and Audrey Kupferberg (Film Studies at University of Albany SUNY, Archives Consultant, Historic Films Appraiser).

Film Festival Program

10:00 – 10:10 AM **Introduction and Welcome.** Susan A. Kaplan

Background

10:10 – 10:30 AM **Cameras Recording in the Far North**
Edison Films (1901) and recently discovered Crocker Land Expedition
Clips (1914-1917). Audrey Amidon

10:30 – 10:50 AM **An Archivist's View of an Arctic Film Archive**, illustrated with clips.
Audrey Kupferberg

Explorers at Home and in the Field

10:50 – 11: 20 AM **Arctic Explorers in Motion**
Film clips featuring over a dozen Arctic explorers, including Robert Peary,
Frederick Cook, Richard Byrd, Josephine Peary, Roald Amundsen,
Matthew Henson, Lincoln Ellsworth, Vilhjalmur Stefansson, Donald
MacMillan, and Robert Bartlett.
Susan A. Kaplan, Genevieve M. LeMoine, and Audrey Amidon

11:20 – 11:25 AM **Short Break**

Technologies and Access to the North

11:25 – 11:55 AM **Western and Inuit Technologies**
Film clips featuring the dirigible *Norge*, the first airplanes to fly above the
Arctic Circle and to the North Pole, the first radio broadcasts from the
Arctic, famous Arctic ships including SS *Roosevelt*, Schooner *Bowdoin*,
Effie Morrissey, and *Karluk*, a Model T Ford snowmobile, Inuit sledges
and kayaks.
Susan A. Kaplan and Genevieve M. LeMoine

“Under the Northern Lights.” A lecture film by Donald B. MacMillan.
Silent, 14 minutes long.

Science and Understanding the North

11:55 AM – 12:25 PM **Scientific Inquiry in the North**
Clips featuring archaeological work at the Martin Frobisher site in Baffin
Island, anthropometric studies, Arctic animals captured for zoos, banding
birds, making casts of large sea mammals, water sampling.
Genevieve M. LeMoine

“Hunting Muskox with the Polar Eskimos.” A film by Donald B.
MacMillan, sound, 10 minutes.