
Aasivissuit-Nipisat. Inuit Hunting Ground between Ice and Sea (Denmark)

No 1557

Official name as proposed by the State Party

Aasivissuit-Nipisat. Inuit Hunting Ground between Ice and Sea

Location

Qeqqata Municipality
Greenland
Denmark

Brief description

Climate and topography in West Greenland along a vast west-to-east transect from the ocean and fjords to the ice sheet contains evidence of 4200 years of human history. Several diverse fisher-hunter-gatherer cultures have created an organically evolved and continuing cultural landscape based on hunting of land and sea animals, seasonal migrations and settlement patterns, and a rich and well-preserved material and intangible cultural heritage. Large communal winter houses and evidence of communal hunting of caribou are distinctive characteristics, along with archaeological sites from the Saqqaq (2500-700 BC), Dorset (800 BC-1AD), Thule Inuit (from the 13th century) and colonial periods (from the 18th century). Today's Inuit community and its contemporary cultural traditions complete the cultural landscape, which is presented through the histories and landscapes of seven key localities from Nipisat in the west to Aasivissuit near the ice cap in the east.

Category of property

In terms of categories of cultural property set out in Article I of the 1972 World Heritage Convention, this is a *site*.

In terms of the *Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention* (12 July 2017) paragraph 47, it is a *cultural landscape*.

1 Basic data

Included in the Tentative List

29 January 2003

International Assistance from the World Heritage Funds for preparing the Nomination

None

Date received by the World Heritage Centre

24 January 2017

Background

This is a new nomination.

Consultations

ICOMOS has consulted its International Scientific Committees on Cultural Landscapes and on Archaeological Heritage Management, and several independent experts.

Comments about the evaluation of this property were received from IUCN in November 2017. ICOMOS examined this information to arrive at its final recommendation.

Technical Evaluation Mission

An ICOMOS technical evaluation mission visited the property from 2 to 7 September 2017.

Additional information received by ICOMOS

A letter was sent to the State Party on 18 October 2017 requesting further information about the system for legal protection; mining leases; progress on the construction of a new ATV-track; consent and involvement of Indigenous peoples; proposed new regional visitor centre; intangible cultural heritage programs; and tourism and interpretation planning.

An Interim Report was provided to the State Party on 22 December 2017 summarising the issues identified by the ICOMOS World Heritage Panel. Further information was requested in the Interim Report, including: the approach taken by the nomination to select a large and continuous transect; the wider context of historical movements of people into the nominated area; specific extensions to the comparative analysis; confirmation that legal protection is in force; implications of the lack of a buffer zone; monitoring; tourism planning, documentation of cultural practices; Indigenous community benefits, and wind turbine developments.

Additional information was received from the State Party on 13 November 2017 and 22 February 2018 and has been incorporated into the relevant sections of this evaluation report.

Date of ICOMOS approval of this report

14 March 2018

2 The property

Description

The nominated property is 417,800 ha in area and is located north of the Arctic Circle in West Greenland. It is approximately 235 km long and up to 20 km wide – an irregular rectangular-shaped west-east transect from the Davis Strait in the outer sea, into and including a span of approximately 40 km of the dynamic ice sheet in the east.

The nominated property is an organically evolved and continuing cultural landscape that has been used and managed by humans for several millennia. The State

Party has identified seven key localities that demonstrate its cultural histories. These contain a range of archaeological sites, historical and present day settlements and have been chosen as localities that convey the values of the nominated property, including the interdependence between humans and the landscape-seascape over time. The seven localities demonstrate different periods in Greenland's human history, spanning approximately 4200 years; and seasonal patterns of migration and land use. The surrounding seascapes and landscapes provide the resources for hunting, fishing and gathering that have made human life possible in this region.

The seven key localities in order from east to west are briefly described below. These are connected by traditional annual migration routes from coast to inland in summer and then back again in late autumn.

Aasivissuit is the largest summer camp, located along the shores of a lake, with Thule hunting features and historical settlement elements from the late 15th-19th centuries. Excavations have revealed evidence of Saqqaq and Paleo-Inuit hunting settlements, including tent rings and tent houses near the lake shore. There are stone graves, meat caches, and hopping-stones. An impressive caribou drive system (3.9 km, the largest in Greenland) is located here, along with stone cairns and fences used as hides for the hunters, demonstrating summer communal hunting methods.

Itinnerup Tupersuai has a number of typical summer camps that provided intermediate points when migrating from the coast to the interior for caribou hunting. Most visible features are the 18th-19th centuries, but pre-Christian graves are also found. The summer camps can be reached by small river boats, and these are still used by fishers and hunters.

Saqqarliit is an abandoned fjord settlement, established in 1859, and subject to officially-managed relocations in 1961. Some houses were removed, leaving only concrete foundations; and the remaining houses are slowly decaying, along with a quay, chapel, Christian graveyard and pre-Christian graves.

Established in 1843, *Sarfannguit* is the only inhabited settlement within the nominated property (approximately 120 inhabitants who work mainly in fishing and hunting). Sarfannguit has modern features, including a windmill, quay, factory, houses and school.

Two components face Davis Strait in locations protected from the weather. *Arajutsisut* is a large winter settlement complex with a number of graves, structures and ruins of Thule and historical Inuit houses, including five communal houses that are typical of the 17th-18th century coastal settlements.

Innap Nuua is also a winter settlement with three large, well-preserved communal houses, and older Thule and

Inuit structures, stone graves and middens, demonstrating an extensive fishing and hunting culture.

Nipisat Island is located in the western end of the nominated property and contains a unique diversity of archaeological remains, including Saqqaq, Thule, historical Inuit and colonial period sites. The Saqqaq tent rings are of particular significance. Excavations show that seal and caribou have been an important part of the diet through all periods. Many of the excavated artefacts are exhibited at the museum in Sisimiut. Ruins associated with the colonial settlement of Nepisene include a large warehouse and pre-Christian and Christian graves.

ICOMOS notes the importance of the spiritual and mythical dimensions of the landscape. Rituals and stories of mythical persons, of sacred places, and about the Aurora Borealis (Northern Light) are part of the continuing cultural traditions.

The dynamic geomorphology, climate, biodiversity and fauna of the nominated area are interlinked. The boundary overlaps with part of Ramsar area no. 386 Equalummiut Nunaat and Nassuttuup Nunaa at its eastern end, designated on the basis of Ramsar criteria 1 (representative example of the wetlands in this inland area); 3 (high waterbird diversity); 4 (moulting and breeding of the Greenland White-fronted Goose, *Anser albifrons flavirostris*); and 6 (the second-most important area for Greenland White-fronted Goose, with approximately 6% of the world population of this endemic sub-species). One species of vascular plant (*Sisyrinchium groenlandicum*) is endemic and grows only east of Sisimiut and at Nuup Kangerlua.

History and development

The human history of this cultural landscape spans 4200 years. Three major migrations of Paleo-Inuit and Inuit peoples came to Greenland from present-day Canada: Saqqaq (2500-700 BC), Greenlandic Dorset (800 BC-AD1) and Thule Inuit (from the 13th century). From the 18th century, colonists from Denmark-Norway established settlements on the island of Nipisat.

About 6000 years ago, the ice sheet reached a position about 40 km east of its present extent (coinciding approximately with the eastern boundary of the nominated property). The ice sheet reached its current position about 3500 years ago. Continuing processes of uplift created an ice-free area with freshwater waterways and lakes, running roughly west-east, which is the focus of this World Heritage nomination. This area of Greenland features a steep climate gradient between summer and winter, strong tidal currents on the coastline, and an arid steppe interior. The sea provides fish and marine mammals, and in the interior caribou is the main game species (in 2005 their population was estimated to be 90,000).

These natural factors have strongly shaped the cultural landscape of the nominated property. Despite many differences, these cultures shared conditions of subsistence based on the marine and terrestrial hunting,

establishing seasonal migration patterns. These have primarily involved west-to-east movements in the summer to access the caribou hunting grounds; but other regional systems of exchange also functioned for resources such as soap stone, Disko Bay slate, driftwood and baleen.

Paleo-Inuit: Saqqaq

The Saqqaq cultural traditions are known from their distinctive tools of a slate called *killiaq*, and a fully adapted maritime-oriented hunting culture. The Saqqaq lived in tent dwellings, and ventured inland to hunt caribou, but are not genetically related to Greenland's Inuit people today. A Saqqaq summer camp site dated to 2200-700 BC was excavated on Nipisat from 1989-1994. Artefacts with a high level of preservation were recovered, including: bone, ivory and antler objects; a wide range of stone tools; and, large quantities of faunal remains.

Paleo-Inuit: Greenlandic Dorset

New Paleo-Inuit migrations came from Eastern Canada around 800 BC, overlapping with the Saqqaq in this area. There are distinctive stone tools and types used. There are five known Dorset sites in the nominated property, suggesting a settlement pattern oriented primarily at the coastal areas, but with some forays into the interiors.

Inuit: Thule Culture

Today's Inuit people are descendants of the Thule hunter-gatherers that came to Greenland from Alaska and Canada around 1100 AD, arriving in this area by the mid-13th century. Many Early Thule sites are found in the nominated property, demonstrating a well-developed Arctic marine-hunting technology, and use of teamed dogs, sledges and watercraft. Thule hunted large animals, such as caribou and whales, and had distinct summer and winter settlements. Their houses were different from the earlier Paleo-Inuit cultures, including semi-permanent round and clover-leaf shaped winter dwellings, igloos built on the ice, and portable summertime tents. Thule sites feature meat caches, stands for kayaks and stone graves. Tools were made of wood, iron or cut and polished slate; and a wide array of weapons and tools have been found. From the 14th century, Thule Inuit spread to all parts of Greenland.

European Colonisation and Contemporary History

European exploration of Greenland grew from the late 16th century. Sporadic whaling by Dutch and Danish-Norwegians became more frequent from the early 18th century, and European-Inuit trade relationships were established. The settlement of Nepisene was established at Nipisat in 1724.

Hunting of inland caribou and bartering voyages allowed Inuit to profit from trade. In the late 17th century, spectacular communal houses were built, accommodating 4-6 families. Some of the largest examples in Greenland are known from Aasivissuit-Nipisat (e.g. Innapp Nuua). Use of the communal houses declined from the 19th century, and ceased in the 20th century.

All periods have some evidence of summer camping and migration routes from Ikertooq Fjord through Maligiaq and

Itinneq to Aasivissuit. Spring camps at the coast or in the fjord could exploit harp seal, fish and birds; and caribou season would draw people further inland.

Missionaries to Greenland introduced literacy, epidemic diseases, and Christianity to the Inuit, with sweeping changes to material culture and population levels. In the 19th century, there were eight small community settlements in Aasivissuit-Nipisat, located near the sea. In the 1950s and 1960s these were abandoned, other than Sarfannguit.

Although the nomadic lifestyle of the Inuit ended during the 20th century, traditional subsistence activities continued, including seasonal migrations, whaling and sealing, hunting caribou and fishing. Although more than 90% of Greenland's population now belongs to the Lutheran Church, and there are many continuing pre-Christian traditions and stories.

The fishing industry grew in importance for Greenland in the 20th century, and salt and fish production were established at Sarfannguit. Tourism has been an important economic activity from the 1990s. Hunting of caribou continues from the towns of Sisimiut (population 5539) and Kangerlussuaq (population 499). Sarfannguit has a fish processing factory and is poised to act as the gateway for visitors to Aasivissuit-Nipisat.

3 Justification for inscription, integrity and authenticity

Comparative analysis

The comparative analysis is primarily focused on hunter-gatherer cultural landscapes in other parts of Greenland and the Arctic regions of Canada, Alaska, Siberia and Norway. The analysis includes World Heritage and Tentative List properties and other areas throughout the world with comparable attributes and/or cultural histories.

The State Party notes that there are no 'New World Arctic' properties inscribed in the World Heritage List, with the recent exception of 'Kujataa Greenland: Norse and Inuit Farming at the Edge of the Ice Cap' (Denmark). Similarly, fisher-hunter-gatherer cultural landscapes are relatively under-represented.

The State Party identifies a range of themes to guide the comparison: such as the transect from inland ice to sea; seasonal movements and settlements; early human occupation; Thule Inuit cultural settlements; colonial historical settlements; continuing traditional land use practices; caribou hunting/drives; and, communal houses.

The analysis demonstrates that there are common themes and significant archaeological evidence of Paleo-Inuit and Inuit fisher-hunter-gatherer histories that extend across the Arctic region. However, the State Party concludes that none have the full extent of landscape elements, the specific and complete inclusion of chronological historical sequences, seasonal migration routes, seasonal occupations, communal hunting of

caribou, and the continuing and contemporary traditions as the nominated property. While not unique, the distinctive Greenland communal house from the 17th century is also rare within this context. Differences are due in part to the inclusion of a sweep of coastal, fjord, inland and ice cap environments, as well as hunting of different species, different colonial-historical interactions and different states of preservation of key attributes.

ICOMOS considers that the comparative analysis is useful in illuminating the specificities and significance of the nominated property; and that additional information provided by the State Party has presented a comprehensive analysis.

ICOMOS considers that the comparative analysis is appropriately framed and justifies the consideration of the nominated property for the World Heritage List.

Justification of Outstanding Universal Value

The nominated property is considered by the State Party to be of Outstanding Universal Value as a cultural property for the following reasons:

- Cultural landscapes associated with hunter-gatherer cultures are under-represented in the World Heritage List. The hunter-gatherer cultural histories of the Arctic region are therefore a gap;
- The cultural landscape conveys an important testimony to the ways of life of Inuit cultures within the harsh Arctic climate;
- As part of the largest ice-free area in Greenland, the nominated property has a complete chronological history (including Paleo-Inuit, Inuit and historical phases), demonstrated by rich archaeological sites with an excellent state of preservation;
- The long history of hunting caribou and marine animals, and the associated seasonal migrations is visible in the landscape;
- The nominated cultural landscape provides a full 'transect' of movement of peoples over more than 4000 years, from the winter and spring coastal and fjord areas to the summer camps in the interior;
- There are continuing cultural traditions within the nominated property.

ICOMOS considers that the cultural landscape approach is justified for this nominated property since it is the inter-relationships between the various cultural layers and changing natural processes that establish the potential for Outstanding Universal Value. ICOMOS considers that this justification is appropriate.

Integrity and authenticity

Integrity

The nominated property is a single area of 417,800 ha, with ocean, fjords, islands, inland and ice cap. The seven key localities and the archaeological, historical and present-day settlements are included within this large area. The nominated property contains many sites that

demonstrate the history of this part of Greenland, including the hunting, fishing and gathering activities of the present-day communities.

ICOMOS notes that the settlement at Sarfannguit has infrastructure and facilities to meet community needs. ICOMOS is also aware of the project to establish a new dirt road that is partly within the boundary of the nominated property, and that this project has been the subject of heritage and environmental impact assessments. However, the project is contentious for some users of the Arctic Circle Trail.

ICOMOS considers that the nominated property includes sufficient representation of the landscape features and processes, and contains all the attributes related to the proposed Outstanding Universal Value. For the most part, these attributes are in good condition, although some archaeological sites are vulnerable to wind and sea erosion, and the abandoned buildings in Saqqarliit are being allowed to decay. ICOMOS considers that there are few visual intrusions or pressures of development on the nominated property, although climate change impacts and future tourism activities pose potential threats.

ICOMOS considers that the conditions of integrity for the nominated property have been met but could become vulnerable due to future pressures.

Authenticity

The authenticity of the nominated cultural landscape rests on the inclusion of a complete landscape and seascape, as well as the well-documented evidence of the hunting and settlement practices and patterns for 4200 years. The transect of environments from the sea, fjords, interior and the ice cap has been used by each phase of human culture for fishing and hunting of marine animals and caribou, according to seasonal movements. The very small human population size, specific climatic conditions, and remoteness of these localities have allowed a high degree of preservation. The archaeological sites, artefacts and ruins bear witness to this long history and traditions of land and sea uses in the Arctic.

The long and continuing interdependence of the fishing-hunting-gathering lifeways with the natural processes and resources of the land and sea are central to understanding the cultural landscape. Throughout its history, the harvesting of natural resources has been central to the cultural landscape, demonstrating traditional and continuing hunting competence and knowledge about weather, food collection, medicinal plants, navigation and so on. The present Inuit culture has been and still is shaped through the relationship between nature and people. Despite changes over time, particularly in the 20th century, the continuity of some of the hunting and migration practices and the associated Inuit intangible cultural heritage contribute to the authenticity of the nominated property.

ICOMOS notes that all cultural attributes, sites and structures within the nominated property exhibit a stable state of conservation. The archaeological sites and ruins demonstrate authenticity according to their periods of construction, use and abandonment, and are a valuable source of new evidence and historical understanding.

ICOMOS considers that the conditions of authenticity of the nominated cultural landscape have been met.

Criteria under which inscription is proposed

The property is nominated on the basis of cultural criteria (iii) and (v).

Criterion (iii): *to bear a unique or at least exceptional testimony to a cultural tradition or to a civilization which is living or which has disappeared;*

This criterion is justified by the State Party on the basis of the presence of archaeological evidence of all periods of Greenland's human history, and the demonstration of seasonal movements and subsistence patterns. These include the 4200-year old site at Nipisat, ruins from the Thule culture (1250-1700), historical evidence of caribou drives (1700-1900), and present-day continuities of hunting and fishing lifestyles in this remote region.

ICOMOS agrees that the layering of cultural traditions and dynamic natural processes within this organically evolved and continuing cultural landscape is significant and has the potential to demonstrate Outstanding Universal Value. Some of the sites included in the cultural landscape – such as the complex of archaeological sites at Nipisat or the evidence of communal caribou drive systems at Aasivissuit – are of individual significance. However, the cultural landscape is more than its parts. Because of the diversity of cultures and sites presented, ICOMOS considers that the arguments presented by the State Party for the justification of this criterion are more strongly relevant to the requirements for criterion (v).

ICOMOS considers that this criterion has not been demonstrated.

Criterion (v): *be an outstanding example of a traditional human settlement, land-use, or sea-use which is representative of a culture (or cultures), or human interaction with the environment especially when it has become vulnerable under the impact of irreversible change;*

This criterion is justified by the State Party on the basis of the ability of the nominated property to demonstrate the resilience of the human cultures and their long history of traditional seasonal migrations. This is demonstrated through the continuing uses of the west/east routes, and the camps that enabled hunting, fishing and gathering cultures to live in the Arctic region.

ICOMOS considers that this criterion is appropriate for the nominated cultural landscape, and that the archaeological sites are significant and exceptionally well preserved,

particularly in the context of the Arctic region. The abundant evidence of culture-nature interactions over several millennia, intact and dynamic natural landscape, intangible cultural heritage and continuing hunting and seasonal movements by Inuit people and other attributes strongly contribute to the demonstration of criterion (v).

ICOMOS considers that this criterion has been demonstrated.

In conclusion, ICOMOS considers that the nominated property meets criterion (v), and the conditions of authenticity and integrity.

Description of the attributes

The attributes of the property are: the buildings, structures and archaeological sites and artefacts associated with all periods of human history within the property (including, but not limited to the elements of the seven key localities identified by the State Party); the ice cap, fjords, lakes and natural resources (in particular the caribou, and other animal species that support the hunting and fishing cultural practices), are attributes of the cultural landscape given their inextricable relationship with cultural practices throughout history; the routes and methods of traversing the landscape from west to east (and back), together with the seasonality of the landscape are also attributes of the Outstanding Universal Value of this property. Finally, the cultural practices, 'know-how' and weather knowledge, and many other aspects of the intangible cultural heritage of the Greenland Inuit peoples (including language, place names, ecological knowledge, crafts and seasonal rituals and activities) are attributes of the Outstanding Universal Value of this cultural landscape.

4 Factors affecting the property

The main factors affecting the nominated property are climate change impacts, wind and water erosion, increased uses of the area (including tourism growth), and future development pressures (including modernisation of the settlement at Sarfannguit; sustainability of hunting; and transportation, energy and communication infrastructure).

The fluctuation of the ice cap is a key attribute of the nominated property, demonstrating how the landscape has changed. Climate change is therefore a major environmental pressure. In 2017, the State Party noted that lowering water levels at Aasivissuit lake exposed a large cache of caribou antlers and faunal material along the eastern shoreline. Research suggests that active glaciers and marginal ice zones in Greenland tend to obliterate heritage sites and artefacts that might otherwise be revealed. Other factors include damage to archaeological sites by foxes on Nipisat Island, and wind erosion at Aasivissuit and on the western islands.

The nominated property is exempt from mining. There are no mining exploration licenses within the nominated

property; and the Greenland Ministry of Mineral Resources has confirmed that it will not issue prospecting licenses within the nominated property. The Executive Order for Cultural Heritage of Aasivissuit-Nipisat also prevents granting of licences for prospecting and mineral exploration within the nominated property. The nearest mining or extraction activity is at White Mountain, to the south of the nominated property, where a quarry for Anorthosite minerals is planned to start in 2018. There are no visual impacts on the nominated property foreseen, although the extraction and transportation processes could cause some additional pressures on the nominated property that will require planning and monitoring by the State Party.

There are no plans for large-scale developments such as hydro-electric power plants or dams, and no major transmission lines are permitted in the nominated property. ICOMOS notes that the first Greenlandic wind turbine connected to the public power supply was installed at Sarfannguit in 2010 as an experiment in providing renewable energy. The Government of Greenland's energy policies have an overall objective of deriving energy from renewable sources to the fullest extent possible, and the current priorities are focused on providing wind and hydro power to Greenland's urban areas. There are no plans to add more wind turbines within the nominated property. ICOMOS considers that any future wind energy plans near the boundaries of the nominated property will require Environmental and Heritage Impact Assessments, including consideration of how the visual impacts on the nominated property can be minimised.

The State Party advises that there may be future small proposals for boat landing sites, drying racks for fish, camping sites and so on. The coastal areas depend on boats for transportation, and in the winter, dog sledges, ATVs and snowmobiles are used for transportation in the inland areas. All year traffic with motorised vehicles is possible via two narrow tracks: between Kangerlussuaq and the ice sheet, and between the northern shore of Maligiaq via Itinneq to a small dammed lake north of the nominated property, used mainly by hikers. A third dirt road/ATV-track of 3-4 metres wide will be constructed in 2018 connecting Sisimiut and Kangerlussuaq to improve communication, transport, and access to the nominated property for inhabitants and visitors for recreational use, tourism, hunting and fishing. Approximately 35 km of this new road will cross through part of the nominated property. ICOMOS notes that there have been local debates about the new track project, including concerns about the effects on users of the Arctic Circle Trail. According to Additional Information provided by the State Party, the Environmental and Heritage Impact Assessment processes are still ongoing. The impacts on the nominated property have been incorporated into the two possible routes for this new track. The State Party has confirmed that there are no plans to upgrade the Arctic Circle Trail to any kind of ATV or dirt road; although some possible alterations to its route could be made in order to ensure the separation between the ATV Road and the hikers, and to integrate the settlement of Sarfannguit into the hiking experience.

With approximately 120 inhabitants, Sarfannguit is the only inhabited settlement within the nominated property. The main sources of income are hunting, fishing and jobs in schools and other social services. Modernisation is a continuing process, including new community facilities and tourist accommodation. Tourism planning is foreshadowed, and will include consideration of opportunities for accommodation, handicrafts, food and fjord fishing tourism and transportation from the hiking route between Kangerlussuaq and Sisimiut.

Currently visitor levels are modest. In 2015, almost 10,000 visitors visited the ice sheet by bus from Kangerlussuaq, accompanied by guides. During the summer, approximately 1000 people hike in the area using the Arctic Circle Trail, arriving and departing via Kangerlussuaq. Current visitor impacts are considered to be minimal, although numbers are expected to increase, along with an increasing diversity of visitor activities, especially for Aasivissuit. ICOMOS considers that, in the future, monitoring of tourism impacts will need to include social and cultural pressures on local communities.

Throughout its human history, the Aasivissuit-Nipisat cultural landscape has had hunting and fishing as its core. The landscape and seascape therefore need to continue to be harvested in a sustainable way. While weapons and other equipment have changed, and hunting tourism is likely to grow, there is still a dependence on traditional knowledge and competence about natural resources, land and sea, and weather conditions. Future pressures on the primary fish and animal species will therefore be a threat to the continuing cultural landscape, and it will be essential to strike a balance between hunting and tourism. The State Party has measures in place to ensure the sustainability of their populations, including monitoring.

Aside from ongoing environmental pressures, including those associated with climate change, ICOMOS considers that there are few current threats, but that there are potential future threats from, transportation infrastructure, modernisation of the settlement at Sarfannguit, and tourism growth, including hunting tourism.

5 Protection, conservation and management

Boundaries of the nominated property and buffer zone

The nominated property covers a large area, totalling 417,800 ha. It is approximately 235 km long and 20 km wide, stretching from Davis Strait in the west, and 40 km onto the ice sheet in the east. The boundary divides Qeqqata Municipality, running west to east across its extent; and has been established on the basis of a mixture of topographic features and municipal boundaries, with the purpose of including settlements that can represent a full year of traditional hunting and gathering activities from the ice sheet to the sea.

An important feature within the area is the traditional migration trail from the winter settlements on the coastal islands to the inland close to the ice cap, connecting the key localities.

ICOMOS notes that, from the migration route, there are few locations where the boundary is visible, although the areas on each end are more exposed to visual intrusions. ICOMOS considers that all attributes related to the proposed Outstanding Universal Value of the nominated property are included within the property boundary.

No buffer zone has been established for the nominated property. The State Party justifies this on the basis that the large nominated area provides adequate protection to the attributes of the proposed Outstanding Universal Value. There are no current adverse effects of development that would require a buffer zone.

ICOMOS considers that the lack of a buffer zone is unlikely to be an issue for its long-term protection. The property occurs across a large area, is delineated to the north and south by topographical considerations, and there are few threats to its context, setting and visual integrity. Nevertheless, ICOMOS has continuing concerns about potential off-site impacts on the nominated property (including visual, hydrological and geological impacts), particularly in relation to future mining and energy projects and activities. The State Party has indicated that the legal frameworks for the exploitation of mineral resources provide sufficient safeguards. However, this relies heavily on the strength of the systems of legal protection and planning tools for the property, and on thorough and timely assessments of environmental and heritage impacts of future development projects located outside the nominated property.

ICOMOS considers that the boundary of the nominated property is adequate, and that a buffer zone is not essential. The State Party should further strengthen its mechanisms for assessment and protection of the nominated property from off-site activities, including the potential hydrological and geological impacts of future mining proposals.

Ownership

There is no private land ownership in Greenland, and all land is owned by the Government of Greenland. In 2016, there were 113 inhabitants within the nominated property, living at Sarfannguit. There are 43 privately owned family homes in Sarfannguit, and 12 buildings owned by businesses there (not including the land on which they stand).

Protection

The government of Greenland is responsible for decisions about land and sea use. An Executive Order regarding the protection of the cultural heritage of Assivissuit-Nipisat was adopted by the Government of Greenland (Naalakkersuisut) and came into force on 1 February 2018. This provides the basis of the legal protection for the nominated property, including the formal

establishment of the boundary, and provisions for access, protection, management, monitoring and uses. The regulations to the Executive Order and the Mineral Resources Act will prevent the granting of licenses for mining prospecting or exploration.

A number of legal protection mechanisms apply to the nominated property: Heritage Protection Act (Inatsisartut Act no. 11, 19 May 2010 on Cultural Heritage Protection and Conservation); the Museum Act (Inatsisartut Act no. 8, 3 June 2015); and the Planning Act (Inatsisartut Act no. 17, 17 November 2010).

The Museum Act safeguards the tangible and intangible cultural heritage, while the Heritage Protection Act safeguards historic assets as ancient monuments, historic buildings and historical areas. Isolated graves and all ancient monuments pre-dating AD 1900 are automatically protected. The Greenland National Museum and Archives is responsible for decisions within the Heritage Protection Act, including designations, alterations and monitoring. There are no currently listed historic buildings within the property, although there are four buildings in Sarfannguit under consideration. Listed buildings are protected by Greenland laws and municipal planning which regulate alterations.

Protection of the landscape and natural attributes is provided by a range of laws and planning regulations, including the Inatsisartut Act no. 9, 22 November 2011 on Environmental Protection, revised in Inatsisartut Act no. 1, 29 May 2012; and Executive Order no. 12, 21 June 2016 on protection of Greenland's internationally appointed wetlands and protection of some species of water birds ("The Ramsar Executive Order). Protection of the wetlands (Ramsar Area no. 386) includes protection of some threatened goose species that gathers here to moult, and for calving caribou. Human activities are regulated in this area, including a period of three months each year for caribou calving.

There are also relevant laws and regulations for the conservation of natural amenities, catching and hunting, tourism, mining, project approvals and traffic management. The Municipal Plan for the Qeqqata Municipality (2010) covers relevant planning regulations for the nominated property, such as for local tourism, infrastructure, zoning for wilderness, summer houses, recreation and trophy hunting and matters concerning the settlement at Sarfannguit.

Greenland is dependent on its fisheries and there are regulations for catch quotas for fish, sea mammals and inland hunting species (such as caribou). There are different quotas for professional hunters and for recreational hunters. Fish and animal populations are monitored, and quotas are adjusted if stocks decrease. There are also regulations for when and where certain game species can be taken.

ICOMOS notes that changes to the status of Greenland (2008-2009) have resulted in increased autonomy and responsibility, as well as added pressure to the budget.

ICOMOS considers that the nominated property is subject to sufficient and effective legal protection.

Conservation

The cultural landscape is well-documented through descriptions over many years by travelers, ethnographers, colonial administrators, archaeologists, local people and natural scientists. Archaeological research has occurred for almost a century. Aasivissuit was excavated several times from the 1970's. Nipisat's Saqqaq sites were excavated in 1980s and 1990s, and finds are exhibited at the Sisimiut Museum. The State Party expects that Aasivissuit will become an important tourism destination and has established the 'Aasivissuit Special Conservation Initiative 2018-2021', starting with high-resolution documentation.

ICOMOS considers that there is sufficient research concerning the landscape histories of the nominated property, including the changing cultures over time, the culture-nature relationships, and the importance of the human settlements and migration routes from the sea to the interior and ice sheet. The State Party has provided additional information concerning contemporary Inuit cultural practices, such as the re-use of materials at the camp sites, uses of trails, caribou hunting, and family associations with specific hunting grounds. ICOMOS considers that these and other aspects of the continuing cultural landscape could be documented in more detail. There is future research potential, and a need for continuing research at the key localities and other sites within the nominated property.

A web site called Katersaatit has been established as part of the nomination process to gather, tell and maintain collected stories, place names, knowledge of animals, hunting and cultural memories. Recent oral history and documentary research has identified three new narratives associated with the nominated property (included in the Additional Information provided by the State Party). The Sisimiut/Kangerlussuaq museum is working on a web-based participatory mapping project to gather cultural knowledge.

Beyond basic site management, monitoring and archaeological surveys, there are few active conservation programmes or measures in place. ICOMOS considers that the physical fabric of the landscape and seascape and all attributes demonstrate a good state of conservation. An exception is the abandoned houses/quay and Christian graveyard of Saqqarliit, which are slowly decaying. Developing specific policies for these could be beneficial.

ICOMOS considers that the state of conservation of the attributes of this nominated property is satisfactory/good, and that there is considerable research potential. Further attention could be given to the development of regular cyclical maintenance, and the development of policy objectives for the abandoned historical period buildings at Saqqarliit. Continued work to document cultural practices and intangible culture heritage is also needed.

Management

Management structures and processes, including traditional management processes

A Management Plan for the nominated cultural landscape was established in January 2017. The Danish Agency for Culture and Palaces acts in relation to the responsibilities of the State Party, and the Government of Greenland provides for the protection and management of World Heritage properties in Greenland, led by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Research and Church. The nominated cultural landscape is located within the Qeqqata Municipality, which is responsible for the uses and planning of the nominated area.

A Steering Committee has been established by the Qeqqata Municipality, with representatives of the Danish Agency for Culture and Palaces, the Greenland Ministries of Education, Culture, Research and the Church; Industry, Labour and Trade; and the Sisimiut and Kangerlussuaq Museum. Advisory roles are played by the Greenland National Museum and Archives, Ministry of Nature, Environment and Energy and the Mineral License and Safety Authority. Should the nominated property be inscribed, this Steering Committee will be replaced by a World Heritage Steering Committee. It will have 10 members: four appointed by the Qeqqata Municipality including the Chair and representatives of the Sisimiut and Kangerlussuaq Museum and the settlements of Sarfannguit and Kangerlussuaq; one from the Danish Agency for Culture and Palaces; four from the Greenland Government's relevant Ministries; and one person from the Greenland National Museum and Archives. The tasks and competencies of the Steering Committee are outlined in the Management Plan.

The Qeqqata Municipality provides information, licenses and services relevant to the management of the nominated property. The Municipality's website has information about regulations and permissions relating to hunting, catching and fishing, such as applying for licenses, timing and sizes of quotas, maps indicating caribou calving areas, and monitoring arrangements. The Municipality is also responsible for day-to-day approvals in relation to summer houses, and the settlements at Sarfannguit and Kangerlussuaq.

Part of the Ramsar area no. 386 falls within the nominated property. A management plan for the Kangerlussuaq area has some provisions for the protection of threatened species, and calving caribou. IUCN recommends that the Ramsar criteria are taken into account and integrated into the overall management plan for the nominated property.

A site management facility will be established in the Qeqqata Municipality and a site manager appointed. One or more Park Rangers will also be appointed. The Park Ranger service was to be established in 2017.

ICOMOS considers the proposed management system to be appropriate for the nominated cultural landscape. However, a number of the key elements are not in place, nor are all the required resources clearly allocated for these purposes.

Financial resources will be provided by the Government of Greenland, Qeqqata Municipality and Danish Agency for Culture and Palaces. Overall, the financial resources are modest, raising questions about whether there is sufficient secure funding for the needed conservation activities across this large area. Staffing resources are not yet in place, other than what can be available via the Greenland National Museum and Archives, which has well-trained and experienced staff with relevant competence, particularly in archaeology. Capacity building for tourism and guiding is an identified need, particularly given the preference for guided tourism in the arctic region. ICOMOS notes that Campus Kujalleq in south Greenland offers tourism programmes for arctic tourist guiding and arctic adventure guiding.

There are no particular threats associated with natural disasters in this part of Greenland, although the State Party notes that some coastal archaeological sites could be at risk due to marine oil pollution.

Policy framework: management plans and arrangements, including visitor management and presentation

The Management Plan was developed to accompany the World Heritage nomination and included input from the Government of Greenland, Qeqqata Municipality and Greenland National Museum and Archives. The Management Plan sets out some broad objectives; identifies assets, values and threats; the different responsibilities for providing financial resources; and time-based schedule for implementing some of the identified initiatives.

ICOMOS considers that the Management Plan provides an adequate framework for decisions. However, for the most part it is not yet in operation, and coordination by different levels of government decision making will be important. Much therefore relies on the legal mechanisms set up by the Executive Order, and on the establishment of the World Heritage Steering Committee and its capacities.

The Management Plan outlines planned initiatives for visitor facilities and communication, including suggested new access points within and near to the nominated property. Since the 1990s, tourism has grown in its importance for the local economies. The State Party expects tourism levels to increase if the nominated property is inscribed in the World Heritage List. Current tourism levels are modest, and there is minimal tourism infrastructure. ICOMOS notes that the islands need safer access and landing facilities, and that toilet facilities, water supply, camp sites and additional accommodation at Saqqarliit and Sarfannguit are identified needs.

Most visitors arrive by plane to Kangerlussuaq. There is also an airport at Sisimiut and there are plans to enlarge it. Arrival by cruise ship is also occurring, and is expected to grow.

Tourism focuses on experiencing the landscape. Hikers use the 160 km long Arctic Circle Trail, which has a number of cabins along its route. Most of this Trail is located outside the nominated property, although some of its route crosses it. Visitors also access the area by ATVs, dog sledges, skis or bikes, in summer and winter. The planned new ATV dirt track, will open up the area to more visitors.

Visitors have limited opportunities to understand the cultural heritage and history of the region. A number of information boards are planned, along with apps and websites, viewing points, teaching materials, and tourism/information brochures. 'Code of Conduct' guidelines are being prepared to introduce visitors to Greenland, especially for hikers.

Greenland's National Tourism Strategy covers the period 2016-2020. Its main focus is the development of the framework needed for the potential growth of the tourism sector in Greenland, and to significantly increase visitor numbers. This will require infrastructure and investment in tourism activities and destinations.

The Government of Greenland has planned regional visitor centres. One of these is envisaged for Qeqqata Municipality, but is dependent on the establishment of funding arrangements with partners, philanthropic funds and international research centres. The Greenland Government has prioritised 15 million Danish Krone, and the Municipality is expected to contribute 8 million Danish Krone, but the full arrangements are not yet in place. Arctic Circle Business provides advice to local businesses, and education courses for the tourism and fishing industries.

A tourism strategy is being prepared for the nominated property by the Municipality and Arctic Circle Business. Broad goals for local tourism and tourism branding are established in the Municipal Plan. A number of tourism initiatives outlined in the Management Plan will be implemented in 2018; and a workshop was held in February 2018 with tourism operations and hunting and fishing industry representatives. Discussions regarding cruise ship tourism have been initiated with Visit Greenland and the Association of Arctic Expedition Cruise Operations. Planning includes proposals for a visitor centre at Kangerlussuaq and another (unstaffed), as well as interpretation of the key sites. There are also planned initiatives to improve the visitor experience in relation to food and crafts.

ICOMOS considers that the interpretation planning could be improved further by actively engaging the hunting communities as transmitters of knowledge and making better uses of new technologies to augment static signs.

Involvement of the local communities

The population within the nominated property is small, and it appears that local people have been engaged in the nomination and management processes.

ICOMOS notes that local people wish to ensure their ability to continue their ways of life within the nominated property and have been assured that the proposed inscription is compatible with these continuing traditions. It is noted that Greenland's population is 88% Inuit, and that the nomination has been largely steered by the Qeqqata Municipality. The development of the nomination has been conducted in Greenlandic and has directly involved the village councils of Kangerlussuaq and Sarfannguit, as well as the municipal council, based in Sisimiut.

Currently the tourism sector is locally owned and support the continuation of traditional hunting and fishing skills, sailing and land transportation. Nevertheless, ICOMOS considers that there are opportunities to proactively acknowledge and benefit the needs and rights of Inuit people, including adoption of Inuit governance arrangements and support for local small businesses arising from World Heritage management and tourism/interpretation.

ICOMOS considers that the proposed management system for the nominated property is appropriate, but notes that most of the key structures and positions are not yet in place. ICOMOS considers that continued strategic planning for tourism is required, including pro-active engagement with the cruise ship tourism sector. The availability of the resources for implementation of the management system should be confirmed, including the timeline, expertise and financial resources to engage appropriately skilled site manager and rangers, and to develop the tourism and interpretation plans. ICOMOS encourages the State Party and the Qeqqata Municipality to work with local communities to enhance the benefits for Inuit people arising from World Heritage inscription.

6 Monitoring

The State Party has developed a monitoring plan including the establishment of baseline data. All seven of the key localities are included in the monitoring system. Monitoring of cultural heritage sites is the formal responsibility of the Greenland National Museum and Archives, but the work will be carried out mostly by park rangers and the Qeqqata Municipality.

The large size of the nominated property poses challenges for monitoring, and the State Party proposes to involve citizens and tourists, utilising smartphone applications. A scheme of key sites and natural resources has been devised, along with associated indicators, methods, frequencies and responsibilities. In 2017, equipment to monitor the snow depth, atmospheric and subsurface temperatures was installed at Nipisat and Aasivissuit; and there are plans for further expansion of monitoring

technologies (utilising drones and aerial survey). Visitor levels will be monitored at the seven key sites by the Greenland National Museum and Archives.

The State Party has explained its rationale for according a low priority to monitoring areas exposed by retreating ice for their archaeological potential on the basis that such sites are typically destroyed by the geomorphological processes.

ICOMOS considers that the monitoring arrangements are a satisfactory beginning but are not yet systematic and need to be more explicitly focused on monitoring the condition and changes to the attributes of Outstanding Universal Value, and future pressures. The State Party should continue to enhance the monitoring system, including introduction of regular and cyclical monitoring and maintenance.

7 Conclusions

Continuing cultural landscapes that can demonstrate the importance of fisher-hunter-gatherer cultures in human history are under-represented in the World Heritage List, and the nominated property potentially contributes to addressing this gap. The cultural landscape is a large west-east transect from the ocean to the ice sheet, containing seven key localities with rich archaeological evidence of the histories of Paleo-Inuit/Saqqaq, Thule, Inuit and colonial periods, spanning 4200 years. This is an organically evolved and continuing cultural landscape, with a small contemporary settlement, continuing communal hunting and fishing traditions, and elements of intangible cultural heritage – all set within large-scale land and seascapes.

ICOMOS considers that the requirements for demonstrating the Outstanding Universal Value of this cultural landscape have been met by the State Party. The nominated cultural landscape demonstrates criterion (v) and meets the requirements of integrity and authenticity. ICOMOS considers that the comparative analysis provides a sound basis for understanding the specificities of the nominated landscape.

ICOMOS considers that the nomination strategy adopted by the State Party is unusual, in that a large west-east landscape 'transect' has been provided, but with seven key sites or nodes highlighted within the larger area. This seems a useful approach, but ICOMOS emphasises the need for attributes of Outstanding Universal Value occurring throughout the entirety of the property to be conserved, even those known or potentially occurring outside the seven key sites.

ICOMOS considers that the main threats to the property are ongoing environmental pressures, including those associated with climate change. There are very few additional pressures, although there are potential future threats from environmental processes, transportation infrastructure, wind energy installations, modernisation of the settlement at Sarfannguit, and tourism growth.

ICOMOS considers that the boundaries of the nominated property are adequate. The State Party has not provided a buffer zone, on the basis of the large area of the nominated property and the lack of direct pressures. ICOMOS accepts the arguments by the State Party that a buffer zone is not essential, due also to the topographic basis of the long boundaries; noting that there are few potential threats based on direct visual impacts. ICOMOS has concerns about potential off-site impacts on the nominated property, including visual, hydrological and geological impacts, particularly in relation to future mining and energy projects and activities, placing considerable reliance on the strength of the legal protection for the property, and on thorough and timely assessments of environmental and heritage impacts of future development projects located outside the nominated property.

ICOMOS considers the legal protection of the property is sufficient. The nominated property demonstrates a good state of conservation for the most part, and the management system is adequate, although it will be important to ensure that the resources for implementation are available. ICOMOS considers that the proposed management system is appropriate, but notes that most of the key structures and positions are not yet in place. The Management Plan should provide a sound overarching framework for decision-making, together with the operation of the proposed World Heritage Steering Committee. The availability of the resources for implementation of the management system should be confirmed, including the timeline, expertise and financial resources to engage appropriately skilled site manager and rangers, and to develop the tourism and interpretation plans for the nominated property.

ICOMOS considers that the monitoring arrangements need to be more explicitly focused on the condition and changes to the attributes of Outstanding Universal Value, and the key future pressures, such as tourism and environmental change. Monitoring arrangements should also be systematic and cyclical rather than reactive and opportunistic.

8 Recommendations

Recommendations with respect to inscription

ICOMOS recommends that Aasivissuit-Nipisat. Inuit Hunting Ground between Ice and Sea, Denmark, be inscribed as a cultural landscape on the World Heritage List on the basis of **criterion (v)**.

Recommended Statement of Outstanding Universal Value

Brief synthesis

Climate and topography in West Greenland along a vast west-to-east transect from the ocean and fjords to the ice sheet contains evidence of 4200 years of human history. Fisher-hunter-gatherer cultures have created an organically evolved and continuing cultural landscape

based on hunting of land and sea animals, seasonal migrations and settlement patterns, and a rich and well-preserved material and intangible cultural heritage. Large communal winter houses and evidence of communal hunting of caribou via hides and drive systems are distinctive characteristics, along with archaeological sites from the Saqqaq (2500-700 BC), Dorset (800 BC-1 AD), Thule Inuit (from the 13th century) and colonial periods (from the 18th century). The cultural landscape is presented through the histories and landscapes of seven key localities from Nipisat in the west, to Aasivissuit, near the ice cap, in the east. The attributes of the property include buildings, structures, archaeological sites and artefacts associated with the human history of the landscape; the landforms and ecosystems of the ice cap, fjords, lakes; natural resources, such as caribou, and other plant and animal species that support the hunting and fishing cultural practices; and the Inuit intangible cultural heritage and traditional knowledge of the environment, weather, navigation, shelter, foods and medicines.

Criterion (v): Aasivissuit-Nipisat and the transect of environments it contains demonstrates the resilience of the human cultures of this region and their traditions of seasonal migration. The abundant evidence of culture-nature interactions over several millennia, intact and dynamic natural landscape, intangible cultural heritage and continuing hunting and seasonal movements by Inuit people and other attributes combine in this distinctive cultural landscape. This is demonstrated through the continuing uses of the west/east routes, the rich archaeological record of Palaeo-Inuit and Inuit cultures, and the camps and hunting elements that enabled hunting-fishing-gathering peoples to live in the Arctic region.

Integrity

The integrity of the cultural landscape is based on the inclusion of areas of ocean, fjords, islands, inland and ice cap that can demonstrate the historical and present-day migrations and seasonal patterns of hunting and fishing. The property contains a sufficient sequence of environments, archaeological sites and settlements to demonstrate the cultural histories and significant intangible cultural heritage of this part of Greenland, including the settlements and the seasonal hunting, fishing and gathering activities of the present-day communities. Seven key localities have been specifically described, although attributes of Outstanding Universal Value occur throughout the property, and are potentially vulnerable due to pressures from climate change.

Authenticity

The authenticity of the cultural landscape is based on the inclusion of a complete landscape and seascape, the interdependence of the fishing-hunting-gathering lifeways with the natural processes and resources, and the tangible evidence of the hunting and settlement practices and patterns for 4200 years. The transect of environments from the sea, fjords, interior and the ice cap has been used by each phase of human culture for fishing and hunting of marine animals and caribou, according to seasonal movements. Archaeological sites and artefacts

demonstrating a good state of preservation, and the ruins of historical structures bear witness to the history and traditions of land and sea uses in the Arctic. The continuity of some of the seasonal hunting and migration practices, and the associated Inuit intangible cultural heritage and traditional knowledge contribute to the authenticity of the cultural landscape.

Management and protection requirements

The government of Greenland is responsible for decisions about land and sea use, and protection of the cultural landscape is subject to an Executive Order of the Government of Greenland (Naalakkersuisut) which came into force on 1 February 2018. This provides the basis of the legal protection for the property, including the formal establishment of the boundary, and provisions for access, protection, management, monitoring and uses. The regulations to the Executive Order and the Mineral Resources Act prevent the granting of licenses for mining prospecting or exploration. Further legal protection of the cultural landscape is provided by Greenland's Heritage Protection Act, Museum Act, and the Planning Act. The Greenland National Museum and Archives is responsible for decisions within the Heritage Protection Act. The Municipal Plan for the Qeqqata Municipality covers relevant planning regulations for the property, such as for local tourism, infrastructures, zoning for wilderness, summer houses, recreation and trophy hunting and matters concerning the settlement at Sarfannguit.

Protection of the landscape and natural attributes is provided by the Act on Environmental Protection and the Ramsar Executive Order (2016). There are regulations for catch quotas for fish, sea mammals and inland hunting species (such as caribou). There is a need to integrate the Ramsar criteria for the Eqalummiut Nunaat and Nassuttuup Nunaa area into the overall management plan for the property.

Because there is no buffer zone for this property, there are continuing needs to strengthen mechanisms for assessment and protection of the property from off-site activities, including the potential hydrological and geological impacts of future mining proposals, transportation infrastructure and wind turbine installations. Greater attention and detailed planning is needed for the area's future tourism management, including monitoring of the social and physical impacts of tourism.

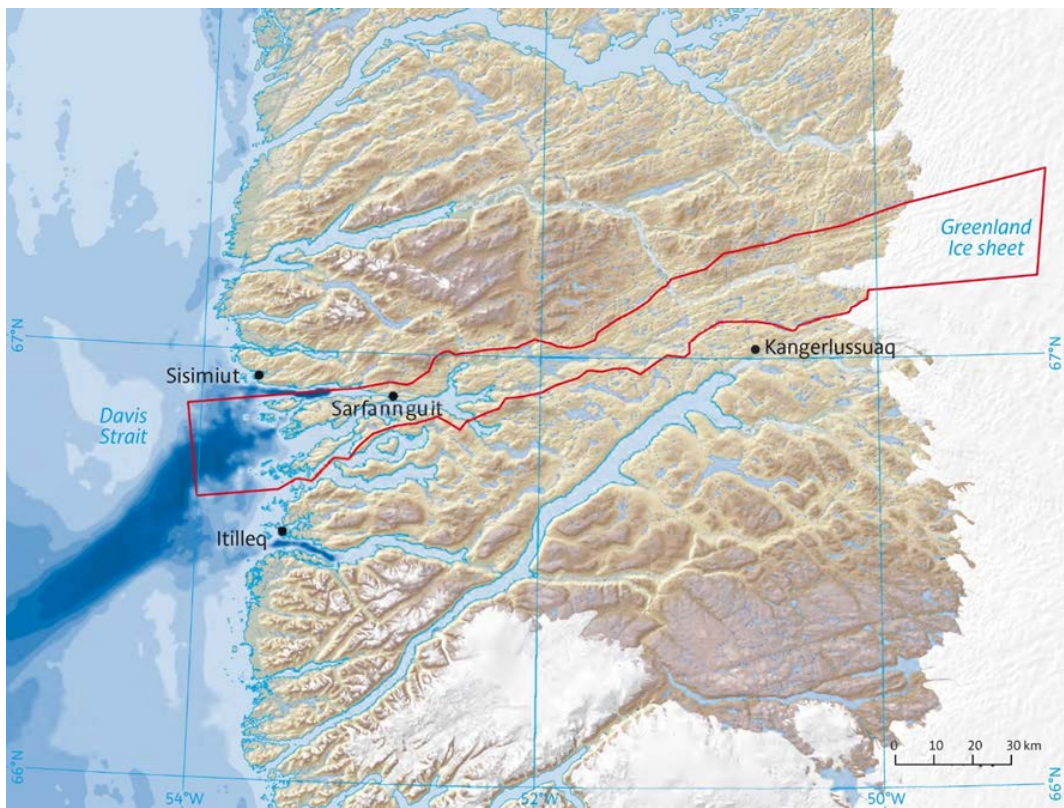
The Management Plan (January 2017) provides a sound framework for decision-making, together with the operation of the 10-member World Heritage Steering Committee. The Management Plan outlines responsibilities of the Danish Agency for Culture and Palaces, the Government of Greenland, and the Qeqqata Municipality. The availability of the resources for implementation of the management system should be confirmed, including the timeline, expertise and financial resources to engage appropriately skilled site manager and rangers, and to develop the tourism and interpretation

plans. Continuing documentation of cultural practices and intangible culture heritage, and regular and cyclical monitoring and maintenance are needed as a priority.

Additional recommendations

ICOMOS recommends that the State Party give consideration to the following:

- a) Establishing the proposed Park Ranger service and ensure that sufficient annual funding is available to fully implement the management system,
- b) Minimising the impacts of the new ATV track on the property, and ensuring as far as practicable the separation between the new ATV track and the Arctic Circle Trail,
- c) Further developing and implementing the monitoring system with an explicit focus on the attributes of Outstanding Universal Value, including introduction of regular, pro-active and cyclical monitoring and maintenance; and indicators and processes to monitor the social and physical impacts of tourism,
- d) Developing policies that clarify the conservation aims for the decaying buildings and other features from the historic period at Saqqarliit into the management system, and conclude the processes of the designation of historic buildings in Sarfannguit,
- e) Continuing to actively engage with the cruise ship tourism sector regarding future plans as part of the tourism strategies for the property,
- f) Working with the Qeqqata Municipality and local communities to enhance the benefits for Inuit people arising from World Heritage inscription, including capacity building programs for local people to take a strong role in future tourism and interpretation initiatives,
- g) Ensuring that all major projects (including any planned future wind energy installations located outside the property boundary) that could impact on the Outstanding Universal Value of the property are communicated to the World Heritage Centre in line with paragraph 172 of *Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention*;



Map showing the boundaries of the nominated property



Large stone grave, Thule culture



River in Itinneq and fjord of Maligiaq