



Geography

- Ice cap and rock glaciers, surging glaciers
- Glacial and periglacial geomorphology
- Marine terraces
- Cryosoils and buried soil surfaces

Botany

- High arctic vegetation types – northern Disko
- Low arctic vegetation types – southern Disko

In addition there are a number of hot springs (0-18°C) which give the possibility for several species to have their northern distribution limit on Disko.

The ice-free period gives an excellent opportunity to study plankton communities and the relatively well-developed littoral and sublittoral vegetation.



Zoology

- Rich bird life – several bird cliffs
- Marine mammals
- Marine invertebrates
- Invertebrates in the hot springs are of considerable interest.

Qeqertarsuaq/Godhavn

The Arctic Station is situated at the eastern edge of Qeqertarsuaq/Godhavn (69°15'N, 53°34'W). Godhavn has ca. 900 inhabitants and it provides a super market, several other shops, hospital, church and power station (220 V).

Traffic connections

There are connections to Ilulissat/Jakobshavn and Aasiaat/Egedesminde with further connections to Kangerlussuaq/Søndre Strømfjord. This is the main gateway to Greenland with connections to Copenhagen.

For further travel information contact:
Grønlands Rejsebureau – www.greenlandtravel.dk
or VR Travel – www.vejle-rejser.dk

Arctic Station – guests

Guest researchers must submit an application to the secretary with a description of the scientific programme and the period needed.

Deadline: 1 January if you want to stay in July-August, but applicants are advised to apply as early as possible.

Arctic Station – management

The Arctic Station is administratively under the Faculty of Science, University of Copenhagen. The Board consists of:

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Research Station
of Natural History
in Greenland



This folder presents the possibilities for scientists to do research in an arctic environment within the following disciplines:

- Marine and terrestrial biology
- Geology
- Geography

The Arctic Station

The Arctic Station at Qeqertarsuaq, Godhavn, has functioned since 1906 as an arctic research station. It was founded by Morten P. Porsild, who was the head of the station for 40 years. During his period the station became a scientific and cultural center. In 1953 the station was placed under the Faculty of Science at the University of Copenhagen and a board of scientists is now responsible for the decisions concerning the station.

A succession of ships has served the scientists in the region, the latest is a new research vessel “Porsild” built in 1994.

The station consists of four buildings:

- M. Porsild’s original but now modernized two-storey building. The technical manager lives in the western wing



of the ground floor. The rest of the building has room for 26 guests, kitchen facilities, dining and living rooms and a class room. There is a magnificent view from the living room to the icebergs in the Disko Bugt.

- The laboratory building contains a dry laboratory, an extensive library, herbarium, etc.
- The scientific leader’s house.
- Garage and workshop.

Arctic Station – purpose

The Arctic Station at Godhavn is the center for research and university courses in botany, zoology, geography, and geology. All-year research has top priority, and the scientific leader lives at the station throughout the year so guests are welcome at any time. The station is the base for:

- University extra-mural courses.
- Advanced courses on specific subjects.
- Research projects in social sciences and humanities.
- Courses held by the Greenland school authorities.
- Specific research programmes, and monitoring.

Arctic Station – surroundings

The Arctic Station is situated on the south coast of Disko in an area of West Greenland with the greatest variation in the environment.

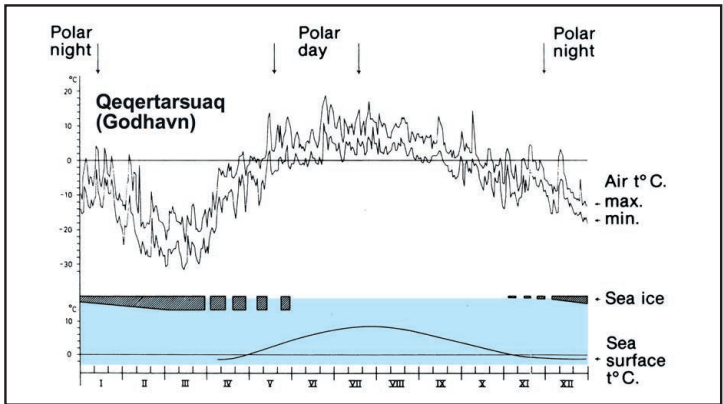
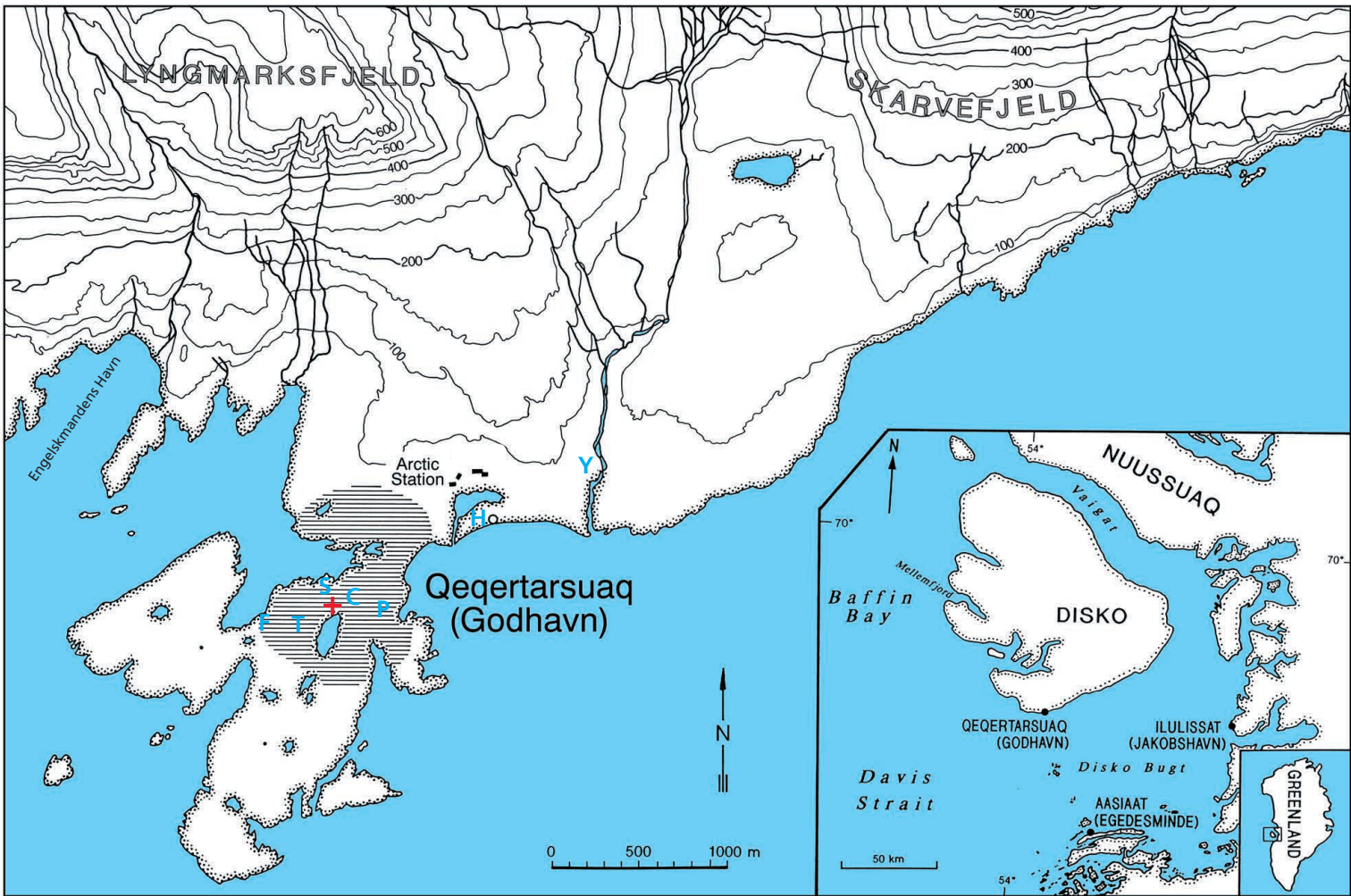
Climate

The climate is arctic with polar night from November to February and from December to May the sea is ice-covered (see diagram). The amount of sea ice varies from year to year. Sudden changes in the weather conditions are common and it may snow even in the summer.

Geology

Pre-Quaternary formations found in the area:

- Precambrian crystalline basement – older than 1800 ma.
- Cretaceous and Tertiary shales and sandstones with coal layers.
- Tertiary breccias and extensive plateau-basalt lavas. The Quaternary deposits include tills, marine interglacial sediments and Holocene lacustrine deposits.



- C Church
- F Factory
- H Heliport
- P Post Office
- S Shop
- Y Youth hostel

Light conditions, air temperature, the duration of the sea ice and the sea temperature during a typical year at Qeqertarsuaq/Godhavn