

Sverdrup an arctic vessel, the funds to defray the expenses of the expedition were obtained from private sources. The main object of the expedition was to explore the north coast of Greenland and as much of the east coast as could be accomplished. With this intention Sverdrup proceeded through Smith sound to Kane basin, where he was stopped by drift ice and obliged to winter. The following summer he made several attempts to penetrate northwards, but the ice was again unfavourable and he was in danger of being frozen in for another winter. Having decided to leave Smith sound, he erected a cairn in latitude $80^{\circ} 55'$, on the Ellesmere coast, and then turned southwards into Jones sound. A record of the journey was deposited under the cairn and the Norwegian flag was hoisted on top. From Jones sound Sverdrup passed through Cardigan strait and explored and named Axel Heiberg island and the Ringnes islands. He states that 'an approximate area of one hundred thousand square miles had been explored, and, in the name of the Norwegian King, taken possession of.'*

*It does not appear that Sverdrup took possession at any point on the ground, unless the act of hoisting the flag in Kane Basin may be so considered. It is to be observed, however, that up to this time he had made no discoveries.

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