

# Nares Strait and the drift of Greenland: a conflict in plate tectonics

edited by

*P. R. Dawes & J. W. Kerr*



## Frontispiece 1

The Kennedy Channel, the central part of Nares Strait. View is approximately north from Washington Land, Greenland, towards Judge Daly Promontory, Ellesmere Island, Canada. Hans Ø, at the territorial boundary between Canada and Greenland, is to the right of the large island (Franklin Ø). Greenland: Silurian limestones, carbonate buildups and shales of the Arctic Platform; Ellesmere Island: folded and faulted strata of the Ellesmere–Greenland fold belt. Photograph 545 H–N, no. 11803, July 1953; copyright Geodætisk Institut, Denmark.

## Frontispiece 2

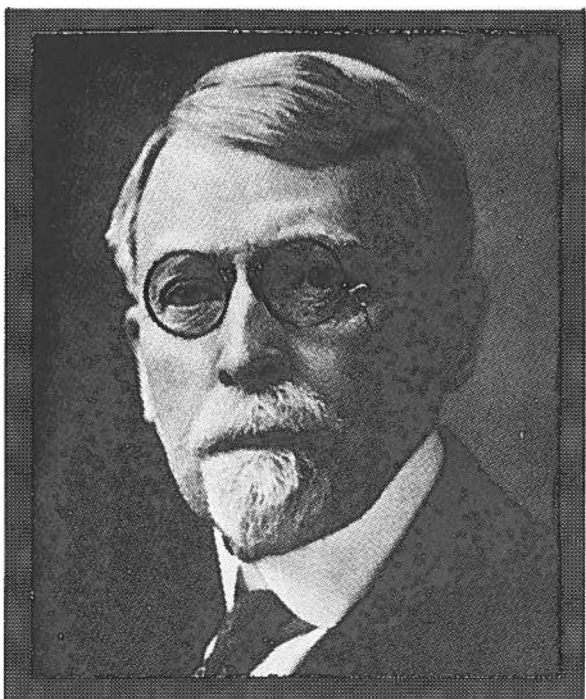
Personalities of Nares Strait. Admiral Sir George Strong Nares commanded the first successful return navigation of the narrow Strait in 1875–6 in H. M. Ships *Alert* and *Discovery*; Captain Henry Wemyss Feilden was the first to compile a geological map of the Strait from own observations (published in 1878); Frank Bursley Taylor initially drew attention to Nares Strait as an important strike-slip lineament separating the continent of North America from Greenland; and Alfred Lothar Wegener, who through his widely publicised writings on continental drift, focused attention on Nares Strait as a horizontal large-scale dislocation along which Greenland had drifted past Ellesmere Island, such that in geological discussion, Nares Strait has become synonymous with the ‘Wegener Fault’.



Sir George S. Nares  
1831–1915



Henry W. Feilden  
1838–1921



Frank B. Taylor  
1860–1937



Alfred L. Wegener  
1880–1930

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# Contents

Foreword .....	11
J. Tuzo Wilson	
Preface .....	13
K. Ellitsgaard-Rasmussen and J. G. Fyles	
Introduction .....	15
P. R. Dawes and J. W. Kerr	
<b>HISTORY</b>	
History of exploration and geology in the Nares Strait region .....	19
P. R. Dawes and R. L. Christie	
History and implications of the Nares Strait conflict .....	37
J. W. Kerr	
<b>PHYSIOGRAPHY</b>	
Physiography of Nares Strait: importance to the origin of the Wegener Fault .....	53
D. Monahan and G. L. Johnson	
Postglacial emergence along northern Nares Strait .....	65
J. England	
<b>STRATIGRAPHY</b>	
The Precambrian Shield of northernmost Baffin Bay: correlation across Nares Strait .....	79
T. Frisch and P. R. Dawes	
The Proterozoic Thule Basin of Greenland and Ellesmere Island: importance to the Nares Strait debate .....	89
P. R. Dawes, T. Frisch and R. L. Christie	
Proterozoic – basal Cambrian stratigraphy across Nares Strait: correlation between Inglefield Land and Bache Peninsula .....	105
J. S. Peel, P. R. Dawes, J. D. Collinson and R. L. Christie	
Cambrian–Ordovician platform stratigraphy: correlations around Kane Basin .....	117
J. S. Peel and R. L. Christie	
Upper Ordovician to Silurian facies patterns in eastern Ellesmere Island and western North Greenland and their bearing on the Nares Strait lineament .....	137
J. M. Hurst and J. W. Kerr	
Nares Strait and the down-current termination of the Silurian turbidite basin of North Greenland .....	147
F. Surlyk	
The Bjørnehiet Formation: a faulted preglacial conglomerate, Washington Land, North Greenland .....	151
H. F. Jepsen	
Meddelelser om Grønland, Geoscience 8 · 1982	7

## STRUCTURE

Fold belts and metamorphic zones of northern Ellesmere Island and North Greenland .....	159
A. K. Higgins, U. Mayr and N. J. Soper	
Reconnaissance of Tertiary structures along Nares Strait, Ellesmere Island, Canadian Arctic Archipelago .....	167
U. Mayr and C. D. S. de Vries	
The Nyeboe Land fault zone: a major dislocation on the Greenland coast along northern Nares Strait .....	177
P. R. Dawes	
Brecciated lineaments in Washington Land, North Greenland, and their relation to Nares Strait .....	193
J. M. Hurst and J. W. Kerr	
A geological case for movement between Canada and Greenland along Nares Strait .....	199
P. H. Newman	
Cretaceous–Tertiary magmatic and tectonic events in North Greenland and the history of adjacent ocean basins .....	205
N. J. Soper, P. R. Dawes and A. K. Higgins	
Fragmentation of the Canadian Arctic Archipelago, Greenland and surrounding oceans .....	221
L. W. Sobczak	
The evolution of the Nares Strait lineament and its relation to the Eurekan orogeny .....	237
J. W. Peirce	
GEOPHYSICS	
Marine geophysical study of southern Nares Strait .....	255
P. H. Newman	
Review of seismicity and other geophysical data near Nares Strait .....	261
R. J. Wetmiller and D. A. Forsyth	
Motion along Nares Strait recorded in the Lincoln Sea: aeromagnetic evidence .....	275
L. C. Kovacs	
Satellite magnetic field over the Nares Strait region .....	291
R. A. Langel and L. Thorning	
Crustal history and basin development of Baffin Bay .....	295
A. W. Menzies	
Problems with plate tectonic models for Baffin Bay – Nares Strait: evidence from the Labrador Sea .....	313
A. C. Grant	
The geophysical implications of minimal Tertiary motion along Nares Strait .....	327
C. E. Keen and J. W. Peirce	
Nares Strait: a conflict between plate tectonic predictions and geological interpretation .....	339
S. P. Srivastava and R. K. H. Falconer	

**ECONOMIC GEOLOGY**

Nares Strait and the petroleum explorer ..... 355  
N. J. McMillan

**SUMMARY**

The case for major displacement along Nares Strait ..... 365  
G. L. Johnson and S. P. Srivastava

The case against major displacement along Nares Strait ..... 369  
P. R. Dawes and J. W. Kerr

**APPENDIX**

Note on the magnetic polarity time scales used in the Nares Strait volume ..... 389  
P. R. Dawes