

A complication added to the inherent difficulties both for the camp generation in making the transition to settlement life, and for the settlement generation in finding purpose and success in their lives, was the domination of the small but powerful Qallunaat (white) population. Based on his interviews and observations, Rasing concludes “all contacts between Inuit and Qallunaat in the settlements were colonial in nature in these years [1960s–80s]...this colonial paternalism, with its inherent hierarchical power imbalance, contrasted with and therefore poorly fitted the Inuit sense of individual freedom and equality” (p. 238).

Rasing does not shy away from the evident social pathologies of settlement life, from rootless teenagers beyond their parents’ control, to widespread abuse of alcohol and drugs (not just among the younger generation), to criminal activity. An especially troubling section is entitled “Hidden Crimes: Drug Abuse, Domestic Violence, Catholic Priests” (p. 279–286). Other changes may not constitute the breakdown of order, but are notable for what they say about modern-day Inuit society. Rasing provides an insightful example: in 1986 he would hear hunters on the radio inviting people to come and share their meat, but by 2004, people were going on the radio to ask for meat, sometimes offering to pay for it. Elders, Rasing observes, “did not romanticize the past...[but as one put it] ‘life was harder then, but we were happier’” (p. 251–252).

Although the book focuses on disorder and social problems, it is far from uniformly negative about the state of culture and society in Igloodik. For Rasing, Inuit culture remains strong; he argues that most Iglulingmiut perceive changes “not as threats, but as a test of their adaptive abilities” (p. 394). His recounting of Igloodik’s notable successes include an extended account of the youth circus group Artcirq and a surprisingly brief treatment of the work of well-known film maker Zacharias Kunuk. On the political front, he notes that Inuit activism means that “Inuit are more in control now and know it. [And] The churches have lost their powerful position” (p. 374).

Significantly, Rasing does not attribute these positive developments to the new political regime: “the creation of Nunavut, which may have entailed hopes of a better future, has not yet resulted in an improvement of socio-economic conditions. Indeed apart from the appearance in Igloodik of the Government of Nunavut building...Nunavut has had little impact on (daily) life in Igloodik” (p. 442). One wishes that he had expanded on this noteworthy observation.

The book’s (minor) flaws are more “longcomings” than shortcomings. Some of the repeated accounts of the admittedly profound consequences of the transition from the camps to the settlement could have been shortened or eliminated without loss. And *Too Many People* simply has too many notes. All of the nearly 400 explanatory endnotes (not references), taking up 53 small-type pages, are interesting, but many are tangential. Continually flipping to the back of the book interferes with following the main story.

Finally, the reader cannot help but wonder whether the experiences of the Iglulingmiut are to some extent unique—and if so, why? Or are they typical of small Nunavut communities? Clearly Rasing lacks the detailed data necessary to properly address this question, but given his expertise, some speculation would have been welcome.

Graham White  
Department of Political Science  
University of Toronto Mississauga  
3359 Mississauga Road  
Mississauga, Ontario L5L 1C6, Canada  
[gwhite@chass.utoronto.ca](mailto:gwhite@chass.utoronto.ca)

THE POLAR ADVENTURES OF A RICH AMERICAN DAME: A LIFE OF LOUISE ARNER BOYD. By JOANNA KAFAROWSKI. Toronto, Ontario: Dundurn Press, 2017. ISBN 978-1-4597-3970-3. 368 p., maps, b&w illus., appendix, notes, bib., index. Softbound. Cdn\$24.99; £15.99. Also available in PDF and epub formats.

I first came across Louise Arner Boyd’s name when I was a graduate student and read her American Geographical Society publications about East Greenland (Boyd 1935, 1948). Boyd’s multidisciplinary expeditions were intriguing, and her beautiful black-and-white photographs of geological features were captivating. Decades later, while reviewing Robert A. Bartlett’s papers, I again encountered Boyd’s name when I read correspondence about the top secret 1941 L.A. Boyd Expedition to southwestern Greenland, conducted by Boyd and Bartlett on behalf of the United States’ war effort.

In 1985, Elizabeth Fagg Olds published an excellent profile of Boyd in *Women of the Four Winds* (Olds, 1999). More than a decade later, Amy Rule (1998) published an article about Boyd’s friendship with Ansel Adams. Boyd is mentioned in histories of the research vessels she chartered, in some children’s books, and in a few compilations about women explorers and travelers. William Mills included Boyd in his 2003 historical polar encyclopedia, but her name is absent from most accounts of Arctic exploration history. Durlynn Anema self-published a limited popular biography of Boyd in 2013, and a number of Internet sites describe facets of Boyd’s life. In 2016, Michele Willman published an analytical piece about Boyd, focusing not on Boyd’s personal history, but on her travel narratives and what they reveal about her views as a woman navigating a largely male domain.

Who was this woman, famous during her lifetime and largely forgotten after her death in 1972, except in San Rafael, California, location of the Boyd home? Her absence from accounts of polar exploration and science is astonishing when one realizes that beginning in the 1920s she organized, often financed, and led seven ship-based Arctic expeditions to Franz Josef Land, Jan Mayen, and East and West Greenland, and participated in the 1928

search for Roald Amundsen, for which she was awarded the Royal Norwegian Order of St. Olav by a grateful Norwegian government. A locality in East Greenland and an undersea bank in the North Atlantic are named after her. She made scientific contributions in various fields, including botany and geography; adopted cutting-edge technologies to enhance and facilitate research on her expeditions; and was recognized by eminent scientific organizations, including the American Geographical Society, which awarded her the Cullum Geographical Medal.

Joanna Kafarowski's comprehensive biography of Boyd is a long-overdue examination of this wealthy and generous socialite, gifted photographer, and goal-oriented and determined expedition organizer. The research underpinning Kafarowski's biography of Boyd is extensive. She studied Boyd-related archival holdings on both sides of the North Atlantic, the papers of scientists and explorers who were on Boyd's expeditions or worked with her in other contexts, and newspaper and magazine articles.

This detailed biography, illustrated with maps and interesting photographs (though astonishingly none of Boyd's scientific photographs), is divided into three major sections, arranged chronologically so that one gets a sense of Boyd's evolving character and intellectual interests. The first section covers the Arner and Boyd family history, Louise's upbringing, and her initial recreational Arctic forays, which included polar bear hunts. The second section details the Arctic expeditions that established her standing in the world of Arctic exploration and scientific investigations, as well as her social activities in the parlors of high society and the corridors of scientific organizations. The third section focuses on her important East Greenland expeditions, Second World War work, philanthropic enterprises, and 1955 jaunt to the North Pole. A short epilogue summarizes aspects of Boyd's life and takes some tentative steps toward assessing her legacy. Kafarowski notes that some of Boyd's thousands of photographs are being used to track climate change, and alarmingly, she reports that many of Boyd's journals and photographs are missing.

Kafarowski's descriptions of what many male expedition members wrote about Boyd, as well as direct quotes from their journals, add an important dimension to this book, for the accounts vividly convey the significant challenges Boyd faced in scientific circles because of her gender, upbringing, and lack of higher education. The extent to which Boyd earned the respect of some initially skeptical ship captains, crews, and scientists becomes obvious, but so does the deep resentment of her expressed by a number of scientists who were not used to taking orders from a woman, let alone one who maintained an iron grip on the conduct of research on her expeditions and who lacked formal academic credentials.

Kafarowski has detailed her subject's vast social and professional networks; Boyd seems to have met or corresponded with almost everyone of note in the fields of polar exploration and polar science. Descriptions of the cast of important characters with whom she interacted is fascinating reading if one knows the importance of the

individuals to the history of polar research and history of science. Kafarowski provides short explanations of the backgrounds of many of these people. Regrettably, she does not go one step farther and anchor Boyd to the larger historical, political, scientific, or social stage on which her life unfolded. Nor does she analyze the significance of Boyd's scientific work. One is left wondering: how unique a woman was Boyd, a member of the Society of Woman Geographers, for her time? In what ways were Boyd's scientific goals and methods similar to or different from those of other scientists working during the same period? Why has Boyd been absent from the annals of polar history for so long? Did she have a lasting impact on polar science? And where does this woman, who took still and motion picture cameras into very remote and hard-to-access northern spaces and worked in the newly emerging field of photogrammetry, fit in the history of photography and geography?

Thanks to Joanna Kafarowski's biography, Louise Arner Boyd can no longer be ignored in accounts of the history of polar research. Hopefully this biography, which should be read by polar historians and anyone doing fieldwork in polar regions, will serve as a springboard from which Boyd's scientific contributions to a diversity of disciplines can be assessed and her life contextualized.

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*Susan A. Kaplan*  
*Professor of Anthropology and Director*  
*The Peary-MacMillan Arctic Museum*  
*and Arctic Studies Center*  
*9500 College Station, Bowdoin College*  
*Brunswick, Maine, 04011 USA*  
*skaplan@bowdoin.edu*