

tlers whose housing needs are inadequately served. Avoidance of squatting seems to be a more important issue than dealing with the problem after it has become firmly entrenched. The lack of control over squatters in many areas has made it necessary to pass laws and to place sanctions against them long after they have established a foothold in an area.

Existence on the resource frontier can be socially and economically very difficult. This predicated the continuance of squatting on the Canadian frontier. One might say that with present policy the existence of squatter populations is the heritage of the manifest destiny of the frontier.

Growth is going to take place on the resource frontier; but there must be some measure of responsibility imposed to see that the community grows not only in size, but also in good health.

Squatting can be avoided by anticipating the movements of peoples onto the resource frontier and making land or housing available to them, or simply by preparing for their advance. To affect a *laissez-faire* attitude towards the problem of squatters would be like posting a "squatter's welcome" sign. Such a welcome would magnify the problems of regional and community development that already exist on the resource frontier.

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The Admiral Richard E. Byrd Polar Center

The Polar Center was incorporated as a non-profit organization under Massachusetts law in July 1968 by a group of Bostonians interested in carrying on Admiral Byrd's life work of advancing man's knowledge of the polar regions and in the creation of a memorial to the Admiral and his men.

Nearly a year was spent in determining how the Polar Center might best carry out its mission and, without duplication, coordinate its activities with work already in progress. Initially over fifty people were interviewed, people in the government and the universities of Canada, the United States, and Europe, people with arctic and antarctic experience, many of whom had worked with Admiral Byrd; all of whom had an interest in the polar regions.

It became evident that not enough could be said to emphasize the importance of these regions and that not enough was being said. They have bestirred men's imaginations in time gone by; they can again, and the Polar Center proposes to participate actively in this process.

To this end the Center is attempting to focus public attention on these regions and stimulate polar awareness, in an effort to provide a substantial base of public support for all kinds of study programs that will broaden and intensify our knowledge of these areas, their problems and their wealth. It proposes to be the means for attracting young scholars to the field of polar studies. It has established contact with most of the polar oriented institutions, both government and academic, in the United States, Canada, and abroad. It proposes to work closely with all of them in order to advance the research and international cooperation so necessary to intelligent polar development.

To do these things it will build a permanent Polar Museum, the first of its kind in

the Western Hemisphere and one of few in the world in order to acquaint people with the polar regions. The memorabilia of Admiral Byrd and several of his men form the nucleus around which the museum will be built.

Having decided on this course, Polar Center personnel have visited existing polar and polar-related museums and institutes in Canada, Britain, Scandinavia, and the Soviet Union. Besides furnishing a fund of information on existing polar museums these visits have opened up valuable sources of advice and material aid in the establishment of its own museum.

While Boston seemed a suitable location for a Polar Center, it was not until it became entirely clear that this feeling was shared by the polar community, both in this country and in Canada, that a final decision was made. The museum is planned to be built on Central Wharf adjacent to the new and successful New England Aquarium in the heart of the redevelopment area of Boston's historic waterfront and a stone's throw from the embarkation point of Admiral Byrd's expeditions. Its offices are already there.

Beside housing the memorabilia of Admiral Byrd and other explorers, the Museum will demonstrate and display the geography, history and phenomena peculiar to the polar regions, their exploration, and their potential. It will conduct special programs, including exhibits, tours, lectures, seminars, and film showings for school children, college students, scholars and the general public. With it will be a library, both film and book, that will be available for the enlightenment of any interested party.

A particularly effective way of acquainting men with the polar regions is to experience it at firsthand. The Polar Center proposes to provide this opportunity by sponsoring trips for the general public to the Arctic and Antarctic. The educational and polar-action aspects will be under its control. The logistics will be carried out by an independent agency which has a wealth of experience in travel to out-of-the-ordinary places and which is in sympathy with the aims of the Center.

These journeys will follow the patterns set by two well received trips sponsored in 1969, one around the world and over both poles, the other to the Canadian Arctic. All will involve the polar regions and all will afford an opportunity to observe, learn, and participate in activities indigenous to the areas visited. Some will feature added variety, combining polar experience with that of other less familiar parts of the world.

Others will be specifically polar in concept, designed to concentrate on the Polar Center's commitment of acquainting people at firsthand with the polar regions. They will be educational in nature and will afford maximum observation and participation to the extent that is practicable on any given trip. This includes sightseeing, hunting, fishing, camping, living and associating with the people of the area. Reading will be provided and interviews, instruction and talks arranged. Travellers will be encouraged to see the areas as they really are and to participate, to learn, to become involved and to get a feel for the Arctic and the Antarctic, experiences to be remembered and shared.

While the primary aim of the trips is to educate, they offer a rare opportunity for the Center to achieve a measure of self-sufficiency, for a portion of the charge will be a tax-deductible contribution to the Center. Government and foundation fund sources are hard-pressed. Competition is keen; and, as mentioned at the outset, projects frequently outrun their support and must terminate before completion. By being in a measure self-supporting, the Polar Center expects to go forward with a more vigorous and effective program.

In all its activities, whether they involve information, instruction, illustration, or actually going to the polar regions, the goal of the Polar Center is single—to advance men's knowledge of the Arctic and Antarctic. By making men aware of the Polar regions it hopes to bring about broad public support for on-going research, thoughtful development, and international cooperation in order to realize the potential of these areas that hold such great promise for the future of mankind.

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Panel on Geology and Solid Earth Geophysics

Two meetings of the Panel on Geology and Solid Earth Geophysics, Committee on Polar Research (CPR), National Academy of Sciences, were held during the 1969-70 academic year. The fall meeting took place at the Academy on 27 September 1969. Items discussed included 1) the status of the CPR report *Polar Research — A Survey*, 2) a planned symposium on Antarctic Geology at the 1970 annual meeting of the Geological