NAPATCHIE POOTOOGOOK  (NAWPASHEE; NAWPACHEE; NAPACHEE; NEPACHEE; NAPACHIE)

Date of Birth:  1938          Male/Female:  Female
Deceased:  2002
Place of Birth:  Sako Camp, South Baffin Island
Mother:  Pitseolak Ashoona
Father:  Ashoona

"Born at Sako, a traditional Inuit camp on the Southwest coast of Baffin Island, Northwest Territories, Napatchie Pootoogook is the only surviving daughter of one of Inuit art’s most important figures, Pitseolak Ashoona. Along with her sculptor brothers, [Namoonai, Koomwartok, Ottochio], Kiawak and Kaka Ashoona and her graphic artist sisters-in-law, Mayureak and Sorosiluto Ashoona, Napatchie belongs to a family with a strong artistic identity that has contributed significantly to the reputation of Cape Dorset art and the printmaking studio of the West Baffin Eskimo Co-operative. In the mid-1950’s while living at Kiaktuuk, she married Eegyvulkuk Pootoogook (b. 1931), son of the important camp leader, Pootoogook, who has since become the main printers at the Cape Dorset studio. Like her mother, Napatchie began drawing in the late 1950’s. Since 1960 her work has been included in almost every annual collection of Cape Dorset prints. Napatchie and her husband moved into Cape Dorset in 1965, where they have continued to live, except for a two-year stay in Iqaluit in the early 1970’s.

Although much of her early work, such as the print, “Eskimo Sea Dreams” (1960), presents a lyrical, dream-like reflection of Inuit beliefs in the spirit world, the main thrust of her prints and drawings since the mid-1970’s have been more concerned with recording traditional life, clothing and local Inuit history. In prints such as, “Atcheald’s Battle” (1978), “The First Policeman I Saw” (1978), “Nascopie Reef” (1989) and “Whaler’s Exchange” (1989), Napatchie uses a vigorous, energetic figurative style to bring to life significant events of the past. Like her sister-in-law, Sorosiluto, Napatchie participated in the acrylic painting/drawing workshops established by the West Baffin Co-operative in 1976. Her interest in landscape and Western notions of spatial composition would seem to grow out of this experience. Most recently, Napatchie has been working directly in the lithographic medium and experimenting with life drawing as a preparatory stage toward the print image."

Marie Routledge

Napatchie’s work in recent years has focused on local history and stories about people and events in the Cape Dorset area, often with accompanying text to explain the circumstances. She has amassed a unique and important body of work. She is represented in this year’s annual collection by three prints which illustrate her narrative style and the importance of traditional culture and stories.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year(s)</th>
<th>Exhibition Title</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1951</td>
<td>Eskimo Art</td>
<td>National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa, Ontario</td>
<td>(illustrated brochure)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1967</td>
<td>The Eskimo Art Collection of the Toronto-Dominion Bank</td>
<td>Toronto-Dominion Bank, Toronto, Ontario</td>
<td>(tour) (illustrated catalogue)</td>
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<tr>
<td>January – February 1967</td>
<td>Cape Dorset – A Decade of Eskimo Prints and Recent Sculpture</td>
<td>National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa, Ontario</td>
<td>(tour) (illustrated catalogue)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April – May 1967</td>
<td>Carvings and Prints by the Family of Pitseolak</td>
<td>Robertson Galleries, Ottawa, Ontario</td>
<td>(illustrated catalogue)</td>
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<tr>
<td>February – March 1968</td>
<td>A Collection of Original Drawings by Cape Dorset Artists (in conjunction with Davidee Kavik Sculpture)</td>
<td>Lofthouse Galleries, Ottawa, Ontario</td>
<td>(illustrated brochure)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year</td>
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<tr>
<td>1970</td>
<td>Graphic Art by Eskimos of Canada: First Collection</td>
<td>Cultural Affairs Division, Department of External Affairs, Canada</td>
<td>(tour)</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ottawa, Ontario</td>
<td>(illustrated catalogue)</td>
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<tr>
<td>January – February 1971</td>
<td>The Art of the Eskimo</td>
<td>Simon Fraser Gallery</td>
<td>Simon Fraser University</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Burnaby, British Columbia</td>
<td>(catalogue)</td>
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<td>January – March 1972</td>
<td>Eskimo Fantastic Art</td>
<td>Gallery 111, School of Art</td>
<td>University of Alberta</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Winnipeg, Manitoba</td>
<td>(tour)</td>
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<td>(illustrated catalogue)</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 1975 – December 1977</td>
<td>Inuit Games/Inuit Pinguangit/Jeux des Inuit</td>
<td>Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development</td>
<td>Ottawa, Ontario</td>
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<td>(illustrated brochure)</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 1978</td>
<td>Inuit Games and Contests: The Clifford E. Lee Collection of Prints</td>
<td>University of Alberta</td>
<td>Edmonton, Alberta</td>
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<td>(illustrated catalogue)</td>
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<td>(illustrated catalogue)</td>
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<tr>
<td>May – August 1979</td>
<td>21 x 12 (Eskimo Drawing Exhibition)</td>
<td>Inuk 1 Gallery</td>
<td>San Francisco, California, U.S.A.</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 1979 – October 1981</td>
<td>Images of the Inuit: from the Simon Fraser Collection</td>
<td>Simon Fraser Gallery</td>
<td>Simon Fraser University</td>
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<td>Burnaby, British Columbia</td>
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<td>(illustrated catalogue)</td>
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<tr>
<td>January – March 1980</td>
<td>Cape Dorset</td>
<td>Winnipeg Art Gallery</td>
<td>Winnipeg, Manitoba</td>
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<td>(illustrated catalogue)</td>
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<tr>
<td>July – August 1981</td>
<td>Eskimo Games: Graphics and Sculpture/ Giuochi Eschimesi: grafiche e sculture</td>
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October – November 1983
National Gallery of Modern Art
Rome, Italy
The Cape Dorset Print
Presented at Rideau Hall by Indian and Northern Affairs, Canada
Ottawa, Ontario
(Illustrated catalogue)

October – December 1983
Inuit Masterworks: Selections from the Collection of Indian and Northern Affairs, Canada
McMichael Canadian Art Collection
Kleinburg, Ontario

February 1984 – June 1986
Arctic Vision: Art of the Canadian Inuit
Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and Canadian Arctic Producers
Ottawa, Ontario
(Tour)
(Illustrated catalogue)

May – June 1986
Northern Exposure: Inuit Images of Travel
Burnaby Art Gallery
Burnaby, British Columbia
(Illustrated catalogue)

November 1986
Inuit Graphics Through the Year: Rare Prints from the Arctic
Arctic Artistry
Hamilton, Ontario

November – December 1986
Cape Dorset Prints and Sculpture
McMaster Art Gallery
Hamilton, Ontario

June – July 1987
Works from the McCuaig Collection in the Laurentian University Museum and Arts Centre
Laurentian University Museum and Arts Centre
Sudbury, Ontario
(Illustrated catalogue)

October 1987
Recent Acquisitions of Early Inuit Sculpture
Arctic Artistry
Hartsdale, New York, U.S.A.

November 1987
Arctic Artistry
Hartsdale, New York, U.S.A.
September 1988  Canadian Prints from the McMaster Art Gallery Collection
McMaster Art Gallery
Hamilton, Ontario

Gallery 210
University of Missouri
St. Louis, Missouri, U.S.A.
(illustrated brochure)

Winnipeg Art Gallery
Winnipeg, Manitoba
(illustrated brochure)

February – April 1989  Spoken in Stone: An exhibition of Inuit Art
Whyte Museum of the Canadian Rockies
Banff, Alberta
(tour)

August 1989  Art Inuit, la Sculpture des Esquimaux du Canada
Presented by l’Iglou Art Esquimau, Douai
At Chapelle de la Visitation, Thonon
Thonon, France

August – October 1989  Inuit Graphic Art from Indian and Northern Affairs, Canada
Winnipeg Art Gallery
Winnipeg, Manitoba

December 1989  Art Inuit, la Sculpture des Esquimaux du Canada
Presented by l’Iglou Art Esquimau, Douai
At Les Chiroux, Centre Culturel de la Walloni Liege
Belgium

Arctic Artistry
Hastings-on-Hudson, New York, U.S.A.

November – December 1990  Art Inuit: Autour de la Collection de Cape Dorset 1990
Presented by l’Iglou Art Esquimau, Douai
At Centre Culturel Canadien
Paris, France
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<th>Exhibition Title</th>
<th>Dates</th>
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<tr>
<td>January 1991</td>
<td>Sojourns to Nunavut: Contemporary Inuit Art from Canada</td>
<td>March – April 1991</td>
<td>At Bunkamura Art Gallery, presented by the University of British Columbia Museum of Anthropology and the McMichael Canadian Art Collection, Tokyo, Japan (tour) (illustrated catalogue)</td>
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<tr>
<td>April – May 1991</td>
<td>Art Inuit</td>
<td>Presented by l’Iglou Art Esquimau, Douai</td>
<td>At Le Theatre, La Ciotat, France</td>
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<tr>
<td>May – June 1991</td>
<td>Art Inuit</td>
<td>Presented by l’Iglou Art Esquimau, Douai</td>
<td>At Palais de l’Europe, Le Touquet, France</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 1991</td>
<td>Art Inuit</td>
<td>Presented by l’Iglou Art Esquimau, Douai</td>
<td>At La Halle aux Bles, Saint Malo, France</td>
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<td>July – August 1991</td>
<td>Glaciopolis: Art Inuit</td>
<td>Presented by l’Iglou Art Esquimau, Douai</td>
<td>At Maison de Pesey, Les Arcs, France</td>
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<td>December 1991 – March 1992</td>
<td>In Cape Dorset We Do It This Way: Three Decades of Inuit Printmaking</td>
<td>McMichael Canadian Art Collection, Kleinburg, Ontario (illustrated catalogue)</td>
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<td>February – April 1992</td>
<td>Art Inuit</td>
<td>Presented by l’Iglou Art Esquimau, Douai</td>
<td>At Galerie Montador, Dieppe, France</td>
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<td>June – July 1992</td>
<td>Women of the North: An Exhibition of art by Inuit</td>
<td>Women of the Canadian Arctic</td>
<td>Marion Scott Gallery, Vancouver, British Columbia (illustrated catalogue)</td>
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<td>May – June 1994</td>
<td>Cape Dorset Revisited: a collection of previously unreleased prints, exhibited at selected commercial galleries, organized by West Baffin Island Co-op Cape Dorset, Northwest Territories</td>
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<td>May 1994 – July 1995</td>
<td>Cape Dorset Revisited McMichael Canadian Art Collection Kleinburg, Ontario (illustrated catalogue)</td>
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<td>September – October 1994</td>
<td>Kunst van de Inuit Eskimo’s Gemeentelijk Kunstcentrum Huis Hellemans Edegem, Belgium (illustrated brochure)</td>
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<tr>
<td>April – June 1995</td>
<td>Exhibition of Inuit Art Harbourfront Centre Organized by the Macdonald Stewart Art Centre Guelph, Ontario</td>
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<td>June 1995</td>
<td>Sunakatagnuvalautut: Things from the Past Feheley Fine Arts Toronto, Ontario</td>
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<td>December 1995 – March 1996</td>
<td>Imaak Takujavut: Paintings from Cape Dorset McMichael Canadian Art Collection Kleinburg, Ontario</td>
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<td>March – June 1996</td>
<td>Imaak Takujavut: The Way We See It Paintings from Cape Dorset McMichael Canadian Art Collection Kleinburg, Ontario (illustrated catalogue)</td>
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<td>May – June 1996</td>
<td>Exhibition of Inuit Art Glenhyrst Art Gallery Organized by the Macdonald Stewart Art Centre Guelph Brantford, Ontario</td>
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<td>May – October 1996</td>
<td>Elagiiqniq/Family Macdonald Stewart Art Centre Guelph, Ontario (tour)</td>
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<td>November 1997</td>
<td>Graphite and Stone</td>
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Sculpture and Drawing: Baffin Artists in two mediums
Spirit Wrestler Gallery
Vancouver, British Columbia
(illustrated catalogue)

October
Collection D’Estampes de Cape Dorset
Canadian Guild of Crafts Quebec
Montreal, Quebec
(brochure)

May – October 1999
Three Women, Three Generations: Drawings by Pitseolak Ashoona, Napatchie Pootoogook and Shuvenai Ashoona
McMichael Canadian Art Collection
Kleinburg, Ontario
(illustrated catalogue)

June – September 2000
Arctic Spirit: Canadian Inuit Sculpture
Boise State University
Boise, Idaho, U.S.A.

October 2000
Cape Dorset Print Collection 2000
West Baffin Eskimo Co-operative
Cape Dorset, Nunavut

November – December 2000
Paintings from Cape Dorset
The Albers Gallery of Inuit Art
San Francisco, California, U.S.A.
(illustrated catalogue)

April – May 2001
Spirit of the Walrus
Feheley Fine Arts
Toronto, Ontario
(illustrated brochure)

June
Cross-Currents
Cape Dorset in the 1960’s
Feheley Fine Arts
Toronto, Ontario

January – February 2002
Cape Dorset Prints: 1961 – 1976
The Albers Gallery of Inuit Art
San Francisco, California, U.S.A.

April
Art by Women: An investigation of Inuit Sculpture and Graphics
Feheley Fine Arts
Toronto, Ontario

April
Cape Dorset: First Generation Printmakers
The Albers Gallery of Inuit Art
San Francisco, California, U.S.A.
(illustrated catalogue)

2003
Cape Dorset Prints (annual collection)
(illustrated catalogue)
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>January 2003</td>
<td>Then and Now: Inuit Prints from 1962 – 2002&lt;br&gt;</td>
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<td>Inuit Gallery of Vancouver&lt;br&gt;</td>
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<td>Vancouver, British Columbia&lt;br&gt;</td>
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<td>(Illustrated brochure)</td>
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<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>Women of the Ashoona Family: Inuit Print Retrospective&lt;br&gt;</td>
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<td>The Guild Shop&lt;br&gt;</td>
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<td>Toronto, Ontario</td>
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<td>November 2004 – Jan</td>
<td>Our Land: Contemporary Art from the Arctic&lt;br&gt;</td>
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<td>Peabody Essex Museum&lt;br&gt;</td>
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<td>Salem, Massachusetts, U.S.A.&lt;br&gt;</td>
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<td>June 2005</td>
<td>Windows on Kinngait – The Drawings of Napatchie Pootoogook and Annie</td>
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<td>Pootoogook&lt;br&gt;</td>
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<td>Feheley Fine Arts&lt;br&gt;</td>
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<td>October – June 2005</td>
<td>The Power of Dreams&lt;br&gt;</td>
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<td>Winnipeg Art Gallery&lt;br&gt;</td>
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<td>Winnipeg, Manitoba</td>
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<td>October, 2009 – Jan</td>
<td>Nunannguaq: In the Likeness of the Earth&lt;br&gt;</td>
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<td>McMichael Canadian Art Collection&lt;br&gt;</td>
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<td>Kleinburg, Ontario</td>
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<td>May, 2010</td>
<td>Mothers in Inuit Art&lt;br&gt;</td>
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<td>Feheley Fine Arts&lt;br&gt;</td>
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<td>Toronto, Ontario</td>
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<td>August, 2010 – Jan</td>
<td>Traditional Stories: Unikaaqtuat/&lt;br&gt;</td>
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<td>Modern Stories: Unkaat&lt;br&gt;</td>
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<td>McMichael Canadian Collection&lt;br&gt;</td>
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<td>Kleinburg, Ontario</td>
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<td>April, 2011</td>
<td>Inuit Modern: The Samuel and Esther Sarick Collection&lt;br&gt;</td>
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<td>Art Gallery of Ontario&lt;br&gt;</td>
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<td>Toronto, Ontario</td>
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<td>(Illustrated catalogue)</td>
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<td>Inuit Contemporary Women Artists&lt;br&gt;</td>
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<td>Museo Nazionale Preistorica Etnografica&lt;br&gt;</td>
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<td>“Luigi Pigorini”&lt;br&gt;</td>
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<td>Rome Italy&lt;br&gt;</td>
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SOLO EXHIBITIONS:

October – November 2002  Napatchie Pootoogook: Drawings
The Albers Gallery of Inuit Art
San Francisco, California, U.S.A.

November – December 2002  Napatchie Pootoogook: Drawings
The Albers Gallery of Inuit Art
San Francisco, California, U.S.A.
(illustrated catalogue)

June – September 2004  Napatchie Pootoogook
Winnipeg Art Gallery
Winnipeg, Manitoba
(illustrated catalogue)

2005  Original Drawings by Napatchie Pootoogook
Home and Away
Kennebunkport, Maine, U.S.A.

May, 2014  Napatchie Pootoogook  True North
Feheley Fine Arts
Toronto, Ontario
(illustrated catalogue)
COLLECTIONS:

Ackland Art Museum, Chapel Hill, North Carolina, U.S.A.
Agnes Etherington Art Centre, Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario
Amon Carter Museum of Western Art, Fort Worth, Texas, U.S.A.
Art Gallery of Greater Victoria, Victoria, British Columbia
Art Gallery of Windsor, Windsor, Ontario
Beaverbrook Art Gallery, Fredericton, New Brunswick
Canadian Museum of Civilization, Hull, Quebec
Clifford E. Lee Collection, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta
Confederation Centre of the Arts, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island
Dennos Museum Center, Northwestern Michigan College, Traverse City, Michigan, U.S.A.
Department of Foreign Affairs, Ottawa, Ontario
Fitzgerald Collection, Whyte Museum of the Canadian Rockies, Banff, Alberta
Glenbow Museum, Calgary, Alberta
Inuit Cultural Institute, Rankin Inlet, Northwest Territories
Laurentian University Museum and Arts Centre, Sudbury, Ontario
London Regional Art Gallery, London, Ontario
McMaster University Art Gallery, Hamilton, Ontario
McMichael Canadian Art Collection, Kleinburg, Ontario
Musee des beaux-arts de Montreal, Montreal, Quebec
Museum of Anthropology, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, British Columbia
National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa, Ontario
Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre, Yellowknife, Northwest Territories
Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto, Ontario
Simon Fraser Gallery, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, British Columbia
Teleglobe Canada, Montreal, Quebec
Toronto-Dominion Bank Collection, Toronto, Ontario
University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta
University of Lethbridge, Lethbridge, Alberta
Whyte Museum of the Canadian Rockies, Banff, Alberta
Winnipeg Art Gallery, Winnipeg, Manitoba

HONOURS, ACHIEVEMENTS AND EVENTS:

1979 McClelland and Stewart Commission. Napatchie produced the commission lithograph, “Inuksuit”, which was included in the limited edition book, “Landmarks of Canadian Art”. This work is documented in the Cape Dorset Graphic annual catalogue, 1979.

SELECTED REFERENCES:


Baird, Irene

Berlo, Janet Catherine
Berlo, Janet Catherine

Blodgett, Jean
IN CAPE DORSET WE DO IT THIS WAY: THREE DECADES OF INUIT PRINTMAKING:
Jean Blodgett/with essays by Heather Ardies, Leslie Boyd and Linda Sutheland.
Kleinburg, Ont.: McMichael Canadian Art Collection, 1991.

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CANADIAN ESKIMO ART. Ottawa, Ont.: Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources, 1955.

Collinson, Helen

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WHEN THE WHALERS WERE UP NORTH: Inuit Memories from the Eastern Arctic.

Gautsche, Nancy

Gillmor, Alison

Gustavison, Susan J.

Houston, James A.

Jackson, Marion E.

Jackson, Marion E.

Laurentian University Museum and Arts Centre

Leroux, Odette et alia
Lipton, Barbara
*ARCTIC VISION: Art of the Canadian Inuit.* Ottawa, Ont.: Canadian Arctic Producers, 1984.

Marion Scott Gallery

Pauktuutit
*NAALATSIARLUTIT: A presentation of artwork by northern artists on spousal abuse.* Ottawa, Ont.: [London and New York, 1975]

Ritchie, Carson I.A.

Routledge, Marie

Ryan, Leslie Boyd

West Baffin Eskimo Co-operative

Winnipeg Art Gallery
*CAPE DORSET. Winnipeg, Manitoba: The Winnipeg Art Gallery, 1979.*