

The picturesque town

During the summer many ships and boats visit the South Greenland port Qaqortoq.

Qaqortoq is the main town in the South Greenland municipality Kujalleq. The town is still developing, although the population decline, which is now reflected all over Greenland outside Nuuk, also means that the population growth of the town in these years is stagnating.

Despite an eternal process of change with the creation of new modern shops, new institutions and new modern housing, Qaqortoq has maintained a picturesque appearance. The town, located on the shores of the lake Storesøen, spreads over the mountains, which previously has shielded the original small settlement around the current port.

All around the harbour, the plan to preserve many of the buildings dating far back in the history has succeeded. Many

of the houses are surrounded by small gardens, which in the summer are filled with green plants and colourful flowers. Outside the harbour large icebergs, which have run aground, provides the perfect coulisse to the town, when the big cruise ships are visiting Qaqortoq in the tourist season.

In the coming years a lot is at stake for the South Greenland town. Currently the parliament negotiates the establishment of an airport behind the town to replace the current helicopter traffic. At the same time the government negotiates with Australian investors on the establishment of a large scale mine with rare earth elements close to the town.

No matter what this development brings, we must hope that we succeed to maintain Qaqortoq's current picturesque appearance.



Qaqortoq, South Greenland,
September 2014

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Quit

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