

Between Coppermine Settlement and Bathurst Inlet, the coast is more rugged than that to the westward. Rocky cliffs line the south coast of Coronation Gulf, except where broken by river mouths and valley plains. South of Coppermine settlement, the Copper Mountains are linear ranges of hills with south-facing cliffs. Much of the interior country south of the Copper Mountains and extending towards Burnside River consists of barren rocky ridges and drift-filled valleys. South of Burnside River the Peacock Hills, which have an altitude of about 2,000 feet, rise abruptly 500 to 1,000 feet above the rolling plain.

Around Bathurst Inlet rugged hills rise directly from the water, sometimes to over 1,000 feet elevation. The hills decrease in relief inland. Numerous rocky islands fill the Inlet and almost block its mouth. Their precipitous cliffs make a scenic setting of rugged grandeur.

Elevations decrease east of Bathurst Inlet as the rocky hills become lower and the grassy valleys widen. Kent Peninsula is generally low. Its shelving beaches rise from the shallow shores to low rocky hills in the interior. Higher hills of Precambrian rock form the neck of the peninsula, and numerous small rocky islands are sprinkled offshore to the east.

The south coast of Queen Maud Gulf is low and flat. Numerous islands and unmapped shoals are found in the shallow water offshore. The lowland is rocky near the shore and extends far inland in swampy, lake-covered tundra. Several long rivers, some of them entrenched, drain through the area towards the coast. The low divide between these streams and Back River is covered with glacial deposits forming low hills. Southeast of Perry River there is a hilly section consisting of rock ridges rising about 500 feet above the surrounding region. Streams with steep-sided valleys have cut into it. The extent of the hilly section is not known and details are scarce concerning the topography of the inland region.

The only features on low Adelaide Peninsula are disintegrated rock and gravel ridges which indicate ancient beachlines. A similar low coast extends eastward to the mouth of Murchison River. Little is known about the interior country other than the fact that rugged hills are found between Chantrey Inlet and Wager Bay.

East of Rae Strait and along the west coast of Boothia Peninsula as far north as the Tasmania Islands, shelving coasts marked by old beach terraces are common. The rugged Precambrian hills rise abruptly above this plain on the west side of central Boothia Peninsula and occupy the entire northern part of the peninsula north of Wrottesley Inlet. This rough region has barren rocky hills and ridges rising about 1,000 feet above lake-filled, narrow valleys. The west coast of Somerset Island is also rugged and has numerous high, steep, offshore islands.

The whole of King William Island is low. Near the coast the surface consists of broad terraces marking former beaches. Except for a small conical hill east of Gjoa Haven, and slightly higher land on the northwest corner, it is doubtful if any of the island exceeds 400 feet in altitude. Its surface is mantled with broken sedimentary rock and glacial deposits. Lakes fill the depressions above the permanently frozen ground. Shallow water extends offshore in most places, especially along the northeast coast.

Prince of Wales Island has three physiographic divisions. The southern third of the Island is low and flat and is covered with numerous small, shallow lakes. Vegetation is unusually sparse, with much of the exposed surface consisting of disintegrated, angular sedimentary rock in low, flat ridges or domes. Another flat plain is located on the northwest corner of the Island. The central part of the