

From the institute's Photo Library

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Sigurd Helle, Norwegian Polar Institute geologist and leader of the Norwegian Antarctic Expedition of 1956–60, has dental trouble attended to by the expedition's medical doctor Håkon Sæther. The two men were part of a team overwintering at Norway Station, on the coast of Dronning Maud Land, from 1956 to 1960. The station was established at 70.5° S 02.5° W in January 1957, during the International Geophysical Year of 1957–58 (otherwise known as the third International Polar Year). Using Norway Station as their base, the team carried out a range of meteorological and glaciological investigations as well as observations and measurements of the tide, atmospheric ozone, aurora australis and Earth's magnetism. They also mapped the area. (Photo by John Snuggerud; courtesy of Norwegian Polar Institute Photo Library.)



The Norwegian Polar Institute's Photo Library preserves some 80 000 polar-related images captured during the last 135 years, including glass plates and slides, stereo images, print photographs and modern digital photographs. Images documenting Norwegian activities in the Arctic and Antarctic comprise the bulk of the collection. Scanning the older images and registering newer ones is an ongoing endeavour. To date, digital versions of 19 000 pictures are available in a searchable online database at http://sivert.npolar.no/fotoweb/. The online images are described mostly in the Norwegian language; please send an e-mail to bildearkiv@npolar.no for assistance in searching the database.