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, Ottochie], 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 Kiaktuuq, she married Eegyvulkuk Pootoogook (b. 1931), son of the important camp leader, Pootoogook, who has since become of 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, “Atchealda’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.*

EXHIBITIONS:

1951

Eskimo Art
National Gallery of Canada
Ottawa, Ontario

(illustrated brochure)


Cape Dorset Graphics
(annual collection)

December 1961

Contemporary Eskimo Art
Gimpel Fils
London, England

(illustrated catalogue)

1967

The Eskimo Art Collection of the Toronto-Dominion Bank
Toronto-Dominion Bank
Toronto, Ontario
(tour)

(illustrated catalogue)

January – February 1967

Cape Dorset – A Decade of Eskimo Prints and Recent Sculpture
National Gallery of Canada
In cooperation with the Canadian Eskimo Arts Committee
Ottawa, Ontario
(tour)

(illustrated catalogue)

April – May 1967

Carvings and Prints by the Family of Pitseolak
Robertson Galleries
Ottawa, Ontario

(illustrated catalogue)

February – March 1968

A Collection of Original Drawings by Cape Dorset Artists (in conjunction with Davidee Kavik Sculpture)
Lofthouse Galleries
Ottawa, Ontario

(illustrated brochure)

September – November 1969

The Eskimo
Museum of Fine Arts
Houston, Texas, U.S.A.

(illustrated catalogue)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1970</td>
<td>Graphic Art by Eskimos of Canada: First Collection</td>
<td>Ottawa, Ontario</td>
<td>Cultural Affairs Division, Department of External Affairs, Canada (tour)</td>
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<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>Burnaby, British Columbia</td>
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<tr>
<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>Winnipeg, Manitoba</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></td>
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<td>(tour)</td>
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<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></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>San Francisco, California, U.S.A.</td>
<td>Inuk 1 Gallery</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></td>
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<td>(tour)</td>
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<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/</td>
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<td>Giuochi Eschimesi: grafiche e scultura</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
National Gallery of Modern Art
Rome, Italy
(illustrated catalogue)

October – November 1983
The Cape Dorset Print
Presented at Rideau Hall by Indian and Northern Affairs, Canada
Ottawa, Ontario

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

November – December 1988  
Inuit Women and their Art: Graphics and Wallhangings  
Gallery 210  
University of Missouri  
St. Louis, Missouri, U.S.A.  
(illustrated brochure)

November 1988 – April 1989  
Night Spirits: Cape Dorset 1960 – 1965  
Winnipeg Art Gallery  
Winnipeg, Manitoba

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

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

June – September 1990  
Inuit Graphics and Drawings from 1959 – 1990  
Arctic Artistry  
Hastings-on-Hudson, New York, U.S.A.

November – December  
Art Inuit: Autour de la Collection de Cape Dorset 1990  
Presented by l’Iglou Art Esquimau, Douai  
At Centre Culturel Canadien  
Paris, France
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 1991</td>
<td>Sojourns to Nunavut: Contemporary Inuit Art from Canada</td>
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<td>At Bunkamura Art Gallery, presented by the University of British Columbia Museum of</td>
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<td>Anthropology and the McMichael Canadian Art Collection</td>
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<td>Tokyo, Japan (tour) (illustrated catalogue)</td>
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<tr>
<td>March – April 1991</td>
<td>Art Inuit Present by l’Iglou Art Esquimau, Douai</td>
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<td>At Le Theatre, La Ciotat, France</td>
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<tr>
<td>April – May 1991</td>
<td>Art Inuit Present by l’Iglou Art Esquimau, Douai</td>
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<td></td>
<td>At Palais de l’Europe, Le Touquet, France</td>
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<tr>
<td>May – June 1991</td>
<td>Art Inuit Present by l’Iglou Art Esquimau, Douai</td>
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<td>At La Halle aux Bles, Saint Malo, France</td>
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<td>July 1991</td>
<td>Art Inuit Present by l’Iglou Art Esquimau, Douai</td>
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<td></td>
<td>At Chapelle de la Visitation, Thonon, France</td>
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<td>July – August 1991</td>
<td>Glaciopolis: Art Inuit Present by l’Iglou Art Esquimau, Douai</td>
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<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>
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<td>McMichael Canadian Art Collection, Kleinburg, Ontario (illustrated catalogue)</td>
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<tr>
<td>February – April 1992</td>
<td>Art Inuit Present by l’Iglou Art Esquimau, Douai</td>
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<td>At Galerie Montador, Dieppe, France</td>
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<tr>
<td>June – July 1992</td>
<td>Women of the North: An Exhibition of art by Inuit Women of the Canadian Arctic</td>
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<td>Marion Scott Gallery, Vancouver, British Columbia (illustrated catalogue)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
May – June 1994  
Cape Dorset Revisited: a collection of previously released prints, exhibited at selected commercial galleries, organized by West Baffin Island Co-op, Cape Dorset, Northwest Territories

May 1994 – July 1995  
Cape Dorset Revisited  
McMichael Canadian Art Collection  
Kleinburg, Ontario  
(illustrated catalogue)

September – October 1994  
Kunst van de Inuit Eskimo’s  
Gemeentelijk Kunsten Centrum  
Huis Hellelmans  
Edegem, Belgium  
(illustrated brochure)

October 1994 – September 1995  
Isumavut: The Artistic Expression of Nine Cape Dorset Women  
Canadian Museum of Civilization  
Hull, Quebec  
(illustrated catalogue)

April – June 1995  
Exhibition of Inuit Art  
Harbourfront Centre  
Organized by the Macdonald Stewart Art Centre  
Guelph, Ontario

June 1995  
Sunakutagnuvalautut: Things from the Past  
Feheley Fine Arts  
Toronto, Ontario

December 1995 – January 1996  
Inuit Art: from the Collection of Maurice Yacowar  
Collector’s Gallery  
Calgary, Alberta

December 1995 – March 1996  
Imaak Takujavut: Paintings from Cape Dorset  
McMichael Canadian Art Collection  
Kleinburg, Ontario

March – June 1996  
Imaak Takujavut: The Way We See It  
Paintings from Cape Dorset  
McMichael Canadian Art Collection  
Kleinburg, Ontario  
(illustrated catalogue)

May – June 1996  
Exhibition of Inuit Art  
Glenhyrst Art Gallery  
Organized by the Macdonald Stewart Art Centre  
Guelph  
Brantford, Ontario

May – October 1996  
Elagiiqniq/Family  
Macdonald Stewart Art Centre  
Guelph, Ontario  
(tour)

November 1997  
Graphite and Stone
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 catalogue)

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>
<th>Exhibition</th>
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<tr>
<td>January 2003</td>
<td>Then and Now: Inuit Prints from 1962 – 2002</td>
<td>Inuit Gallery of Vancouver</td>
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<td>Vancouver, British Columbia</td>
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<td>April</td>
<td>Women of the Ashoona Family: Inuit Print Retrospective</td>
<td>The Guild Shop</td>
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<td>Toronto, Ontario</td>
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<td>November 2004 – January 2005</td>
<td>Our Land: Contemporary Art from the Arctic</td>
<td>Peabody Essex Museum</td>
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<td>Salem, Massachusetts, U.S.A.</td>
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<td>(illustrated catalogue)</td>
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<td>June 2005</td>
<td>Windows on Kinngait – The Drawings of Napatchie Pootoogook and Annie Pootoogook</td>
<td>Feheley Fine Arts</td>
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<td>Toronto, Ontario</td>
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<td>October – June 2005</td>
<td>The Power of Dreams</td>
<td>Winnipeg Art Gallery</td>
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<td>October, 2009 – January, 2010</td>
<td>Nunannguaq: In the Likeness of the Earth</td>
<td>McMichael Canadian Art Collection</td>
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<td>May, 2010</td>
<td>Mothers in Inuit Art</td>
<td>Feheley Fine Arts</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</td>
<td>Art Gallery of Ontario</td>
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<td>Museo Nazionale Preistorica Etnografica</td>
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<td>“Luigi Pigorini”</td>
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<td>Rome Italy</td>
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<td>(illustrated catalogue)</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               |  Napachie 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  

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

Collinson, Helen  

Eber, Dorothy Harley  

Gautsche, Nancy  

Gillmor, Alison  

Gustavison, Susan J.  

Houston, James A.  

Jackson, Marion E.  
INUIT PRINTS: Impressions of a Culture in Transition. LSA 9 (1) :6 – 12, Fall (The University of Michigan), 1985.

Jackson, Marion E.  

Laurentian University Museum and Arts Centre  
WORKS FROM THE MCCUAIG COLLECTION IN THE LAURENTIAN UNIVERSITY MUSEUM AND ARTS CENTRE. Sudbury, Ont.: The Laurentian University Museum and Arts Centre, 1987.

Leroux, Odette et alia  
Lipton, Barbara

Marion Scott Gallery

Pauktuutit

Ritchie, Carson I.A.

Routledge, Marie

Ryan, Leslie Boyd

West Baffin Eskimo Co-operative

Winnipeg Art Gallery
View over 78 Napatchie Pootoogook artworks sold at auction to research and compare prices. Subscribe to access price results for 150,000 different artists! Napatchie Pootoogook Auction Price Results. Napatchie Pootoogook (1938-2002) Please Register/Login to access your Invaluable Alerts. Sort by: Auction Date: Soonest Auction Date: Farthest Price: Low to High Price: High to Low Location: A to Z Location: Z to A Auction House: A to Z Auction House: Z to A.