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Glacial erosion and history of Inglefield Land, northwest Greenland

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13 Abstract:

14 We used mapping of bedrock lithology, bedrock fractures, and lake density in Inglefield Land, northwest Greenland, combined with cosmogenic nuclide (10Be and 26Al) measurements in 15 16 bedrock surfaces, to investigate glacial erosion and the ice-sheet history of the northwestern 17 Greenland Ice Sheet. The pattern of eroded versus weathered bedrock surfaces and other glacial 18 erosion indicators reveal temporally and spatially varying erosion under cold- and warm-based ice. 19 All of the bedrock surfaces that we measured in Inglefield Land contain cosmogenic nuclide inheritance with apparent ¹⁰Be ages ranging from 24.9 ± 0.5 to 215.8 ± 7.4 ka. The ²⁶Al/¹⁰Be ratios 20 21 require minimum surface histories of ~150 to 2000 kyr. Because our sample sites span a relatively 22 small area that experienced a similar ice-sheet history, we attribute differences in nuclide 23 concentrations and ratios to varying erosion during the Quaternary. We show that an ice sheet history with ~900 kyr of exposure and ~1800 kyr of ice cover throughout the Quaternary is 24 25 consistent with the measured nuclide concentrations in most samples when sample-specific subaerial erosion rates are between 0 and 2 x 10^{-2} mm yr⁻¹ and subglacial erosion rates are between 26 0 and 2 x 10⁻³ mm yr⁻¹. These erosion rates help to characterize arctic landscape evolution in 27 crystalline bedrock terrains in areas away from focused ice flow. 28



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29 **1. Introduction**

The Greenland Ice Sheet is presently the largest single contributor to sea-level rise and is predicted to continue to melt at an accelerated rate throughout the next century (e.g., Aschwanden and Brinkerhoff, 2022; Goelzer et al., 2020). Ice streams play a large role in modulating the volume of the modern Greenland Ice Sheet, and their stability is directly linked to overall ice sheet mass balance (e.g., Khan et al., 2022; Mouginot et al., 2015). These features are large areas of fastmoving ice, with onset zones that feed into main channels, which eventually calve into the ocean and are constrained by topography or slow-moving ice (Benn and Evans, 2010).

38 Ice sheet models used to predict future ice sheet evolution are aided by the knowledge of 39 long-term ice sheet history and patterns of past ice flow variability, as these play a large role in 40 modulating ice sheet mass balance (e.g., Hubbard et al., 2009). Uncertainty in ice-sheet model 41 parameters can be narrowed when paleo-ice-sheet simulations are performed alongside geologic 42 constraints (e.g., Briner et al., 2020; Cuzzone et al., 2016; Patton et al., 2017). Observations of 43 many ice-sheet processes are sparse because it is difficult to access the bed of modern ice sheets; thus, investigating the beds of former ice sheets (i.e., previously glaciated landscapes) provides 44 45 information on past ice sheet dynamics and basal processes.

The distribution of glacial erosional features across formerly glaciated landscapes has been used to map past basal thermal conditions and relative ice velocities delineating zones of warmbedded and/or fast flowing ice where erosional features are abundant, from areas of cold-based ice and ancient landscape preservation where these features are absent (Andrews et al., 1985; Daly, 1902; Flint, 1943; Margold et al., 2015; Sugden, 1978). Identifying areas of differential erosion in formerly glaciated landscapes is particularly useful for mapping paleo-ice streams, as knowing their extent is helpful for understanding the mass balance of former ice sheets through ice sheet





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53 models. Paleo-ice stream onset zones are found at the transitions between warm-and cold-based 54 ice, which can be delineated via mapping of erosion imprints on a landscape and cosmogenic 55 nuclide analysis (Briner et al., 2008; Margold et al., 2015, 2018)

56 Cosmogenic nuclides are produced mostly in the upper few meters of the Earth's surface when it is exposed to the cosmic ray flux and are routinely used in formerly glaciated landscapes 57 58 to quantify erosion rates and the timing of past ice sheet fluctuations (Gosse and Phillips, 2001). 59 In areas covered by warm-based, highly erosive glaciers, nuclides that have accumulated in the 60 upper 2-3 meters of bedrock are often removed through efficient glacial erosion. In areas of 61 minimal-to-no glacial erosion (i.e., covered by cold-bedded glaciers or short-lived erosive ice), 62 bedrock surfaces contain inventories of cosmogenic nuclides from multiple periods of exposure (known as cosmogenic nuclide inheritance; Bierman et al., 1999). Patterns of inheritance (or lack 63 64 thereof) across a landscape can be used to delineate ice streaming where faster flowing, erosive 65 ice depleted nuclide inventories (Briner et al., 2006; Corbett et al., 2013; Roberts et al., 2013).

66 Cosmogenic nuclide inheritance resulting from minimal glacial erosion can pose an issue for single nuclide surface exposure dating, where the apparent exposure age will be anomalously 67 68 old (Ivy-Ochs and Briner, 2014). However, some cosmogenic nuclides are radioactive and decay when they are shielded from the cosmic ray flux by ice (e.g., 10 Be, 26 Al, and *in-situ* 14 C). The 69 production ratio of ${}^{26}\text{Al}/{}^{10}\text{Be}$ is 7.3:1 in quartz at the Earth's surface across Greenland (Corbett et 70 71 al., 2017). Because ²⁶Al has a shorter half-life (705 kyr) than ¹⁰Be (1388 kyr), departure from this 72 ratio indicates surface burial (Korschinek et al., 2010; Nishiizumi, 2004). By measuring multiple nuclides in bedrock surfaces near the modern Greenland Ice Sheet margin, researchers have 73 74 exploited cosmogenic nuclide inheritance to investigate periods of ice sheet minima, glacial





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erosion, and longer-term ice sheet history (e.g., Corbett et al., 2013; Skov et al., 2020; Young et
al., 2021).

77 Recently, attention has been drawn to retrieving samples from the bed of extant ice sheets 78 (Briner et al., 2022; Johnson et al., 2024; Spector et al., 2018). The information contained at the 79 contemporary ice-bed interface provides valuable, and rare, terrestrial constraints on previous ice 80 sheet minima and long-term ice sheet history. Cosmogenic nuclide and luminescence analysis of 81 sediment and bedrock samples collected from this key transition zone under ice sheets have 82 provided insight into the stability of the ice sheet throughout the Quaternary (Balco et al., 2023; 83 Bierman et al., 2023; Christ et al., 2020; Christ et al., 2021; Christ et al., 2023; Schaefer et al., 84 2016). Studying the landscape at the fringes of the Greenland Ice Sheet allows us to systematically 85 investigate large areas of the former ice sheet bed, without the need to drill through the ice sheet, 86 providing complementary results for efforts focused on obtaining material from under the ice.

87 We mapped bedrock features and used cosmogenic nuclide analysis to determine the extent 88 and magnitude of erosion and the ice sheet history across Inglefield Land, northwest Greenland 89 over the Quaternary. We established that while most of Inglefield Land was covered by cold-based 90 ice during the last glacial cycle, there were areas of ice streaming in incised valleys near the modern 91 coastline. Finally, we modeled cosmogenic nuclide accumulation through the Quaternary glacial 92 cycles and find that our measurements are consistent with an ice-sheet history with 900 kyr of 93 cumulative exposure and 1800 kyr of cumulative ice cover when we allowed subaerial and 94 subglacial erosion rates to vary for each sample.

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98 2. Inglefield Land

99 Inglefield Land is an ice-free area in northwest Greenland situated between the Greenland Ice 100 Sheet and the coastline 30 km to the northwest. It is bounded by Smith Sound to the west, Kane 101 Basin to the north, Prudhoe Dome and the main body of the northern Greenland Ice Sheet to the 102 south, and the Hiawatha Glacier sector of the Greenland Ice Sheet to the east (Fig. 1). Today, much 103 of the ice bordering Inglefield Land is cold based (MacGregor et al., 2022). Inglefield Land is 104 characterized by relatively low-relief uplands that reach 700 m asl near the ice margin with valleys 105 incised along the northern coast. Ice sheet meltwater drains into through these valleys and into four 106 embayments (from west to east): Force Bay, Rensselaer Bay, Dallas Bay, and Marshall Bay 107 (henceforth the unnamed valleys crossing Inglefield Land will be referred to by the bays into which 108 they drain).

109 During the Last Glacial Maximum (LGM; 26 - 19 ka), the northern Greenland Ice Sheet 110 covered Inglefield Land completely as it advanced into Kane Basin, where it coalesced with the Innuitian Ice Sheet and flowed southward, eventually terminating in an iceshelf spanning northern 111 Baffin Bay (Fig. 1; England, 1999; Couette et al., 2022; Batchelor et al., 2024). Although the 112 113 timing and duration of the LGM ice advance remains unknown, retreat onto the modern coast of Inglefield Land is constrained to $\sim 8.6 - 7.9$ ka based on radiocarbon dating of organic material in 114 raised beach deposits and *in-situ*¹⁴C ages from erratic boulders (Blake et al., 1992; Mason, 2010; 115 116 Nichols, 1969; Søndergaard et al., 2020). The ice sheet continued to decay, arriving at the modern 117 margin by \sim 7 ka and maintaining to a smaller-than-modern position between \sim 5.8 and 0.3 ka, an 118 estimate based on radiocarbon ages from reworked wood fragments at the modern ice margin 119 (Søndergaard et al., 2020).





120	The pre-Holocene ice-sheet history and dynamics of Inglefield Land is not known, though
121	cosmogenic nuclide inheritance found in boulders across Inglefield Land indicates that much of
122	the landscape was covered by cold-based ice during the last glacial cycle (Søndergaard et al.,
123	2020). Limited ice sheet-scale terrestrial records suggest that there were major deglaciation events
124	during the Quaternary as captured by cosmogenic nuclide and luminescence analysis of sub-ice
125	sediment and bedrock at Camp Century and Summit, during which Inglefield Land was almost
126	certainly ice free (Christ et al., 2021; Christ et al., 2023; Schaefer et al., 2016). Additionally,
127	offshore marine sediment records imply that the ice sheet underwent several cycles of advance and
128	retreat, though inland extent of ice-sheet recession in North Greenland during interglacials is
129	poorly constrained (Bierman et al., 2016; Colville et al., 2011; Hatfield et al., 2016; Knutz et al.,
130	2019; Reyes et al., 2014).
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147 **3 Methods**

148	We used mapping, field observations, ¹⁰ Be and ²⁶ Al measurements from bedrock surfaces at eleven
149	sites to assess the ice sheet history and erosive conditions of the northwestern Greenland Ice Sheet
150	across Inglefield Land. Mapping and field observations allowed us to broadly identify variable
151	erosion across the landscape, while cosmogenic nuclide measurements helped us quantify ice-
152	sheet history and erosion.
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154 3.1 Geologic mapping – GIS and field observations

155 3.1.1 Bedrock lithology

156 The relatively simple bedrock geology of Inglefield Land allowed us to investigate the long-term 157 pattern of erosion and landscape evolution of the area using pre-existing geologic maps. Inglefield 158 Land is underlain by crystalline paragneiss and capped with near-horizontally bedded sedimentary 159 rocks; therefore, generally speaking, outcrops of basement rock indicate areas where cap rocks 160 have been removed by erosion (Fig. 2). Some of this cap rock removal likely took place prior to 161 Quaternary glaciation (e.g., Krabbendam and Bradwell, 2014), but the patterns seen in the geologic 162 map – with crystalline lithologies in glacial troughs – hints at the role of past glacial erosion in 163 shaping the landscape. To identify the removal of sedimentary cap rocks, we created a simplified 164 geologic map of Inglefield Land using the 1:500,000 Greenland-wide geologic map in ArcGIS Pro 165 (Kokfelt et al., 2023) and classified units as crystalline, sedimentary, Quaternary sediments or 166 lakes. In the field, we noted the lithology at each of our sample sites and the relative amount of 167 weathering or ice sculpting (Figs. 2, 3).

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170 *3.3.2 Mapping bedrock fractures*

171 Bedrock fractures in glaciated terranes are exposed through the removal of regolith by glacial 172 erosion (Gordon, 1981; Skyttä et al., 2023; Sugden, 1974, 1978). Areas with a high density of 173 exposed bedrock fractures within crystalline bedrock terranes have been used to identify intense 174 glacial erosion (e.g., Sugden, 1978). This is in contrast to areas where bedrock fractures are 175 obscured by sediment cover, a regolith mantle, or in some cases, sub-horizontal sedimentary 176 bedrock units. Our field area has a heterogenous pattern of mappable fractures that are easily 177 identifiable at the landscape-level, indicative of areas where regolith has been stripped via glacial 178 erosion. We outlined zones of bedrock fractures at the landscape scale in ArcGIS Pro using a 25 179 m resolution digital elevation model (Korsgaard et al., 2016). We created hillshade images with a 180 three-times vertical exaggeration for our mapping (Fig. 4). Our digital elevation model resolution 181 of 25 m was fine enough to capture areas of obvious bedrock fractures on a landscape scale, but 182 coarse enough to avoid issues with differentiating fractures from other features.

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184 *3.3.3 Mapping lake density*

185 Lake density has also been used as a proxy for glacial erosion (e.g., Andrews et al., 1985; Briner 186 et al., 2008; Sugden, 1978). Areas of regolith cover are generally smooth on the landscape-scale 187 and contain few lakes. Meanwhile, erosive ice sheets can remove this overlying regolith and 188 expose the underlying bedrock, after which the bedrock is susceptible to ice sheet scouring and 189 erosion. These bedrock basins then fill with water following glacial retreat forming lakes across 190 previously-glaciated areas and thus, the density of lakes can be used as an indicator of past ice 191 sheet erosion. We created an inventory of lakes in Inglefield Land to calculate lake density (Fig. 192 5). While the 1:500,000 geologic map of Greenland shows larger lakes, smaller lakes are not





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193 included due to the relatively coarse map resolution (Kokfelt et al., 2023). Therefore, we used a 194 semi-automated process in ArcGIS Pro to map all lakes in the study area. First, we used cloud-free 195 LANDSAT8 images to visualize surface water (Band 1; visible blue-green). We explored a range 196 of threshold values to extract cells with surface water from this image (i.e., cells with a value 197 higher than the threshold were water) and evaluated these against the original LANDSAT8 images 198 to determine a suitable threshold value that adequately captured lakes and streams. We converted 199 this raster to polygons of lake and river extents. Finally, we conducted manual quality control by 200 removing rivers and any lakes that were either dammed by sediments or the ice sheet and then 201 merged our new lake polygons with those from the geologic map. To calculate lake density across 202 Inglefield Land, we determined the percentage of each cell in a 1 x 1 km grid covered by lake 203 polygons.

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205 3.4 Cosmogenic nuclide measurements

206 *3.4.1 Sampling approach*

207 We collected samples for cosmogenic nuclide measurements from bedrock surfaces along two 208 SSE - NNW transects from the ice margin to the coast in Inglefield Land (Figs. 1 – 5). We sampled 209 roughly one kg of crystalline rock from 15 bedrock surfaces and one boulder using a handheld 210 angle grinder, hammer, and chisel during summer 2022. We collected nine samples along our 211 western transect (beginning at the mouth of Rensselaer Valley): two from bedrock surfaces and 212 one from a boulder (2.5 m long x 1.6 m wide x 1.1 m tall) close to the ice margin, one bedrock 213 sample from each of three separate inland sites, one bedrock sample from a higher-elevation 214 coastal site (255 m asl), and two bedrock samples from a lower-elevation coastal site (~100 m asl). 215 Along our eastern transect (beginning at the mouth of western Marshall Valley), we collected





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216	bedrock samples: three from near the ice margin, one sample from each of three different inland
217	sites, and one sample from a low-elevation coastal site (~100 m asl).

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220 *3.4.2 Lab procedures*

We measured ¹⁰Be and ²⁶Al in all 16 of our samples. We isolated guartz and extracted ¹⁰Be and 221 222 26 Al at the University at Buffalo Cosmogenic Isotope Laboratory (n = 12) and the Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory (LDEO) cosmogenic dating laboratory (n = 4) using well-established 223 224 procedures (Corbett et al., 2016b; Kohl and Nishiizumi, 1992). We spiked our dissolved samples with precisely weighed ⁹Be carrier (PRIME Lab 2017.11.17-Be #3/#4 – ⁹Be concentration of 1074 225 \pm 8 ppm – at the University at Buffalo and LDEO carrier – ⁹Be concentration of 1038.8 ppm – at 226 LDEO). We measured the amount of native ²⁷Al in our dissolved quartz and added varying 227 amounts of 27 Al carrier to ensure each sample had ~2000 mg of 27 Al. We measured the total amount 228 of ²⁷Al in aliquots removed after sample digestion with inductively coupled plasma optical 229 emission spectrometry. We sent ¹⁰Be samples processed at the University at Buffalo and all ²⁶Al 230 231 samples to PRIME Lab and ¹⁰Be samples processed at Lamont-Doherty to Lawrence-Livermore National Laboratory, where the ¹⁰Be/⁹Be and ²⁶Al/²⁷Al ratios were measured by accelerator mass 232 233 spectrometry.

¹⁰Be/⁹Be ratios were measured relative to the 07KNSTD standard (¹⁰Be/⁹Be ratio: 2.85 x 10⁻¹²; Nishiizumi et al., 2007) at both facilities and ²⁶Al samples relative to the KNSTD standard (²⁶Al/²⁷Al ratio: 1.82 x 10⁻¹²; Nishiizumi, 2004). Analytical uncertainties (1 σ) of ¹⁰Be measurements at Lawrence Livermore were between 1.8% and 1.9% and ranged from 1.5% to 6.0%, with an average of 2.6 ± 1.3% at PRIME lab. ²⁶Al measurement uncertainties ranged from





239	3.6% to 8.4% with an average of 4.8 \pm 1.5%. We applied background corrections to both ^{10}Be and
240	²⁶ Al sample ratios using batch-specific process blank values (Table S1).
241	We calculated apparent exposure ages using version 3 of the online exposure age calculator
242	from Balco et al. (2008). We used the Arctic ¹⁰ Be production rate, with a time-independent 'St'
243	production rate scaling method to calculate apparent exposure ages (Lal, 1991; Stone, 2000; Young
244	et al., 2013). We did not include production rate uncertainties in our exposure age calculations
245	because we do not compare our age results to other independent dating methods. We used a
246	Greenland-specific ²⁶ Al/ ¹⁰ Be surface production ratio in quartz of 7.3 for interpreting
247	exposure/burial histories from both nuclides (Corbett et al., 2017).
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255	3.5 Modeling cosmogenic nuclide accumulation in rock surfaces
256	In bedrock samples with cosmogenic nuclide inheritance, measurements of two isotopes with
257	different half-lives have been used to calculate Greenland Ice Sheet exposure and burial histories
258	(e.g. Andersen et al., 2020; Beel et al., 2016; Corbett et al., 2013; Knudsen and Egholm, 2018;
259	Knudsen et al., 2015; Skov et al., 2020; Strunk et al., 2017). Although in-situ ¹⁴ C ages constrain
260	ice retreat across Inglefield Land to between ~9 and 7 ka, apparent 10 Be ages date from boulders
261	date to between 8.3 \pm 1.2 and 92.7 \pm 1.5 ka, indicating the presence of nuclide inheritance





262 (Søndergaard et al., 2020). Inglefield Land bedrock also is likely to contain nuclide inheritance 263 and therefore yield information about ice sheet history and erosion prior to the last glacial cycle. 264 Given the relatively small distance from the modern ice margin to coast and the speed at which Inglefield Land deglaciated following the LGM, we hypothesize that, within ¹⁰Be and ²⁶Al 265 266 measurement uncertainties, the 15 bedrock samples should have similar ice-cover histories on glacial-interglacial timescales. Therefore, differences in ¹⁰Be and ²⁶Al concentrations across the 267 268 landscape likely relate to varying sample-to-sample sub-glacial and sub-aerial erosion rates and 269 not differences in ice-sheet history at each sample location..

270 To explore this hypothesis, we simulate complex Pleistocene exposure histories using a forward model that calculates cosmogenic ¹⁰Be and ²⁶Al accumulation in rock brought to the 271 272 Earth's surface by subaerial and subglacial erosion. Because little is known about the ice-margin 273 history in Inglefield Land prior to the Holocene, we define the pre-Holocene exposure/burial 274 history by applying a threshold value on the benthic δ^{18} O LR04 stack (Lisiecki and Raymo, 2005)to define a range of plausible exposure/burial scenarios for the last 2.7 Myr, following the 275 276 approach adopted in prior studies (Balter-Kennedy et al., 2021; Knudsen et al., 2015). Exposure 277 and burial take place at δ^{18} O values below and above the threshold, respectively. We use a 30 kyr running mean to smooth the δ^{18} O curve (Knudsen et al., 2015). Given the prevalence of nuclide 278 279 inheritance across Inglefield Land (Søndergaard et al., 2020), we do not expect ¹⁰Be to give post-280 LGM deglaciation ages at each sample location, but deglaciation ages from *in situ*¹⁴C in boulders 281 at the coast and ice margin are provided by Søndergaard et al. (2020). We therefore estimate site-282 specific Holocene exposure durations by scaling the deglaciation ages from Søndergaard et al. 283 (2020) to each of our sites based on their relative distance between the coast and ice margin, as 284 calculated along our sample transects.





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285	The cosmogenic-nuclide concentration (atoms g^{-1}), N, for nuclide, i, at the end of each
286	timestep, j , is the sum of nuclides inherited from the previous timestep (adjusted for radioactive
287	decay) and the new accumulation of nuclides (assumed zero when ice covered and limited by the
288	surface erosion rate when ice free):
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290 201	$N_{i,j} = N_{i,j-1}e^{-\lambda_i t_j} + \int_0^{t_j} P_i(z_{end,j} + \varepsilon_j \tau)e^{-\lambda_i \tau} d\tau$
291 292	where λ is the decay constant (5.00 x 10 ⁻⁷ for ¹⁰ Be; 9.83 x 10 ⁻⁷ for ²⁶ Al; (Korschinek et al., 2010;
293	Nishiizumi, 2004) and t_j is the duration of the timestep (yrs). P_i is the sum of nuclide production
294	(atoms $g^{-1} yr^{-1}$) by spallation and muon interactions at a given mass depth (g cm ⁻²). Here, mass
295	depth is time-varying, controlled by subaerial and subglacial erosion during ice-free and ice-
296	covered timesteps, respectively. Therefore, the mass depth is defined by the sample depth at the
297	end of each timestep, $z_{end,j}$, and the erosion rate (g cm ⁻² yr ⁻¹), ε_{j} , during that timestep. We calculate
298	spallation production rates at the Earth's surface using the Arctic ¹⁰ Be calibration dataset of Young
299	et al. (2013), a ²⁶ Al/ ¹⁰ Be ratio of 7.3 (Corbett et al., 2017; Young et al., 2021), and the scaling
300	method of Stone (2000). We assume spallation production decreases exponentially with mass
301	depth at an attenuation length of 160 g cm ⁻² . We calculate production by muon interactions in
302	MATLAB using the cross sections for ¹⁰ Be and ²⁶ Al determined by Balco (2017) and implemented
303	in Model 1A in the same reference.

304 We determine the misfit between the modeled and measured nuclide concentrations for 305 each sample, *d*, using the error-weighted sum of squares (EWSS):

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$$EWSS = \left(\frac{N_{10,p,d} - N_{10,m,d}}{\sigma_{10,m,d}}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{N_{26,p,d} - N_{26,m,d}}{\sigma_{26,m,d}}\right)^2$$





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where $N_{i,p,d}$ is the predicted nuclide concentration, $N_{i,m,d}$ is the measured nuclide concentration, and $\sigma_{i,m,d}$ is the 1 σ measurement uncertainty. An error-weighted sum of squares close to two indicates that the difference between the modeled and measured concentrations can be explained by the measurement uncertainty. We consider model runs with an error-weighted sum of squares less than 2.5 to be acceptable fits.

We created 2.7-Myr exposure histories using δ^{18} O threshold values ranging from 3.60 to 313 314 4.00% (corresponding to 0.7–1.9 Myr cumulative exposure and 0.8–2 Myr cumulative burial over 315 the last 2.7 Myr) at 0.02‰ spacing. For each exposure history, we ran the forward model with subaerial and subglacial erosion rates ranging from 0 to 2.5 x 10⁻¹ mm yr⁻¹ on a log scale (coarse 316 spacing from 0 to 1 x 10^{-5} mm yr⁻¹ and finer spacing from 1 x 10^{-5} to 2.5 x 10^{-1} mm yr⁻¹) to capture 317 the potential range in erosion rates for cold-bedded glaciers and polar environments (e.g., Cook et 318 319 al., 2020; Koppes et al., 2015; Portenga and Bierman, 2015). Subglacial and subaerial erosion rates 320 are each held constant for all periods of ice cover and exposure, respectively, and therefore we do 321 not consider changes in erosion within glacial cycles or from one glacial cycle to the next. If total (subaerial + subglacial) erosion through a model run is high, a higher proportion of modeled ¹⁰Be 322 323 and ²⁶Al accumulates deep in the rock column where production is low, while less erosion results 324 in a larger fraction of the nuclide production near the surface where production is higher. The two 325 erosion rates may therefore trade-off. For example, an exposure history may yield a good fit to the 326 data with a higher sub-aerial erosion rate and lower sub-glacial erosion rate for a certain sample, 327 as well as with a lower sub-glacial erosion rate and a higher sub-aerial erosion rate. Nevertheless, 328 this model allows us to investigate potential Quaternary erosion and ice cover scenarios across 329 Inglefield Land to test the hypothesis that the variability in our cosmogenic nuclide measurements





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330	can be explained with a common 2.7 Myr exposure-burial history and sample-specific subaerial
331	and subglacial erosion rates.
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342	4 Results
343	4.1 Mapping
344	Paleoproterozoic crystalline paragneiss basement rocks are overlain by sub-horizontally bedded
345	Mesoproterozoic to Ordovician sedimentary rocks across Inglefield Land (Fig. 2). Near the ice
346	margin, crystalline basement rocks are exposed, with some areas covered by Quaternary
347	sediments. Along much of the coastline of Inglefield Land, sedimentary rock units extend up to 20
348	km inland, except where erosion incised the cap rock to expose the underlying basement rocks in

the four main valleys. North of Hiawatha Glacier, crystalline basement outcrops from the ice margin to the coastline. In total, 48.2% of the surface of Inglefield Land is crystalline basement, 350

29.4% is sedimentary cap rocks, and 17.4% is Quaternary sediments, with the remaining 5% made 351

352 up of various minor rock units and lakes.





The low-elevation coastal (~100 m asl) sites exhibit ice-sculpted bedrock with primary glacial erosional features, including striations (Fig. 3). Smoothed bedrock is also present at the higher-elevation coastal site (255 m asl), though it lacked primary glacial erosional features. Inland, highly weathered bedrock outcrops, often with abundant gruss, rose only a few meters above the surrounding landscape, which is covered by Quaternary sediments composed of weathered, angular boulders. Near the ice margin sites, we also found highly weathered bedrock outcrops exhibiting lots of gruss and weathering pits on rock surfaces.

Exposed bedrock fractures are sparse across Inglefield Land, except for the areas west and north of Hiawatha glacier where bedrock fractures are clearly visible at the kilometer-scale (Fig. 4). There are sizable fracture zones along Rensselaer Valley and both Marshall valleys; in particular, the fracture zone of the western Marshall Valley extends ~25 km inland. Finally, there are some limited fracture areas in the central inland sector towards the ice sheet.

Lakes are abundant across much of Inglefield Land, covering 161 km², (2% of the surface area), but are concentrated in certain sectors (Fig. 5). Regions to the west and north of Hiawatha Glacier have the highest lake densities, with some 1 km² cells 87% covered by lakes. There are also areas of high lake densities towards the coast, particularly near the coastal valleys. Inland, the highest density of lakes is found in central Inglefield Land. Many grid cells do not contain lakes (grid cells not filled in on Fig. 5), or host very small lakes (<1% of grid cell is lake-covered).

Taken together, there are clear areas of overlap between exposed crystalline basement rock, bedrock fractures, and high lake densities north of Hiawatha Glacier and in the valleys draining into Rensselaer and Marshall bays (Fig. 6). West of Hiawatha Glacier and in western Inglefield Land, there are large areas of exposed basement rocks with lakes, but no large-scale fractures.





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- There are also a few areas of sedimentary cap rock with high lake densities, most notably between
- 376 Rensselaer, Marshall, and Dallas bays.
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378 4.2 Cosmogenic nuclide analysis

379 Apparent ¹⁰Be ages are generally youngest at our coastal sites and oldest at inland sites. ¹⁰Be 380 concentrations are lowest at our ~100 m asl coastal sites, corresponding to apparent exposure ages 381 between 24.9 ± 0.5 and 36.5 ± 1.7 ka (Figs. 6 & 7; Table S1). These sites exhibit ice-sculpting, 382 suggesting short-lived wet-based ice. At the higher elevation coastal site on the western transect 383 (255 m asl), the apparent ¹⁰Be age is slightly older -62.2 ± 1.7 ka. Our oldest apparent exposure 384 ages come from the inland sites on both transects, dating from 99.1 ± 2.4 ka to 213.7 ± 3.5 ka on 385 the western and 87.9 ± 3.8 ka to 215.8 ± 7.4 ka on the eastern transects. We do not observe any relationship between the apparent ¹⁰Be exposure age of our inland sites and their elevation or 386 387 distance along the transect. Ages from the ice margin sites generally fall between those from the 388 coast and inland sites. Apparent ¹⁰Be exposure ages from the western ice margin site range from 50.2 ± 0.9 ka to 133.7 ± 2.6 ka. At the eastern ice margin site, ¹⁰Be ages are between 49.2 ± 0.9 ka 389 390 and 62.6 ± 1.2 ka.

²⁶Al/¹⁰Be ratios follow a general inverse pattern to the apparent ¹⁰Be ages, with the highest ratios (closest to the production ratio) at the coast, lowest ratios inland, and ratios from the ice margin in the middle. At the coastal sites, the three samples taken from ~100 m asl have ratios of 6.38 ± 0.44 , 7.58 ± 0.42 , 8.41 ± 0.81 and overlap with the constant exposure isochron with 95% confidence (Fig. 8). The 255 m asl coastal site has a ratio of 5.68 ± 0.30 requiring a minimum burial duration of 500 kyr and at least 25–100 kyr of exposure. In contrast, ²⁶Al/¹⁰Be ratios at our inland sites range from 2.19 ± 0.16 to 5.28 ± 0.30 , with the majority falling between the 500 and





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1500 kyr burial isochrones and between the 100 and 500 kyr exposure isochrones for total 398 399 minimum exposure and burial durations of between ~600 and ~2000 kyr. There is one apparent 400 outlier below the 2000 kyr burial isochron with a ratio of 2.19 ± 0.16 (22GRO-03). At the western 401 ice margin site, ${}^{26}\text{Al}/{}^{10}\text{Be}$ ratios in our three samples range between 4.00 ± 0.18 and 5.14 ± 0.21, 402 corresponding to a minimum glacial history with ~100 and ~250 kyr of cumulative exposure and ~250 – ~1250 kyr of cumulative burial. The boulder has a 26 Al/ 10 Be ratio of 5.15 ± 0.21, which is 403 the highest ratio at the western ice margin site. At the eastern ice margin site, ²⁶Al/¹⁰Be ratios are 404 405 between 5.11 ± 0.21 and 5.53 ± 0.26 and represent minimum glacial histories with cumulative 406 exposure durations of \sim 50–125 kyr and cumulative burial durations of \sim 500–750 kyr. From both transects, ${}^{26}Al/{}^{10}Be$ ratios from samples at the ice margin (5.14 ± 0.26; mean ± 1 σ) are slightly 407 408 higher than those from the inland sites (4.47 ± 0.86) ; excluding the apparent outlier of 2.19 ± 0.16 ; 409 22GRO-03), though these overlap at 1σ uncertainty.

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411 4.3 Constraints on Quaternary ice cover history and erosion

412 We modeled cosmogenic-nuclide accumulation through the Quaternary to determine whether the measured ¹⁰Be and ²⁶Al concentrations across Inglefield Land can be explained by a common 413 414 exposure history and differential erosion. We tested exposure histories derived from $\delta^{18}O$ thresholds between 3.6 and 4.0‰, corresponding to 0.7-1.9 Myr of cumulative exposure and 0.8-415 416 2 Myr of cumulative burial over the last 2.7 Myr. For each of these exposure histories, modeled 417 nuclide concentrations yielded a good fit to those we measured for at least one sample. Yet only the exposure history constructed with a δ^{18} O threshold value of 3.74‰ yields ¹⁰Be and ²⁶Al 418 concentrations with a good fit to the data in all bedrock samples except those with ²⁶Al/¹⁰Be ratios 419 420 above the production ratio (22GRO-01 and 22GRD-CR04-SURF) and the sample previously





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421	identified as an outlier based on its low ²⁶ Al/ ¹⁰ Be ratio (22GRO-03). This best-fitting exposure
422	history corresponds to ~0.9 Myr of total exposure and ~1.8 Myr of total burial over the last 2.7
423	Myr (Fig. 10). Given this ice-cover scenario, we find model-data agreement with subglacial and
424	subaerial erosion rates ranging between 0 and ~2 x 10^{-3} mm yr ⁻¹ and 0 and ~2 x 10^{-2} mm yr ⁻¹ ,
425	respectively. While there were some exposure and erosion combinations that were compatible with
426	measurements from our single boulder sample (22GRO-32), we prioritized bedrock samples in
427	assessing whether all sites could have a common Quaternary ice-cover history, as the boulder
428	likely has a different exposure history than the collocated bedrock.

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434 **5 Discussion**

435 5.1 Differential erosion, ice streams, and ancient landscapes across Inglefield Land

436 We identified an ancient landscape with our oldest sites retaining at least a ~ 1.5 Myr history. 437 However, the nuclide concentrations vary throughout the landscape despite the fact that the long-438 term ice-margin history should be similar across sites, as evidenced by recent retreat and advance. 439 After the LGM, the ice sheet retreated over Inglefield Land from its maximum extent in Kane 440 Basin following saddle collapse over Nares Strait. The modern coast deglaciated ~8.5 ka, and ice 441 retreated behind the present margin by 6.7 ka (Søndergaard et al., 2020) corresponding to our entire 442 <50 km transects becoming ice free within 2 kyr. Advance across Inglefield Land was likely 443 similarly swift - for example, Bennike (2002) suggested that the Petermann Glacier advanced at





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444	least 25 km in 0.3 kyr towards its Little Ice Age maximum following a mid-Holocene minimum.
445	These findings suggest that – within error of our ${}^{26}\text{Al}/{}^{10}\text{Be-derived}$ exposure scenarios – all our
446	sites have experienced similar periods of ice cover and ice-free conditions on glacial-interglacial
447	timescales. This thus begs the question: why do amounts of nuclide inheritance and ²⁶ Al/ ¹⁰ Be ratios
448	at our coastal, inland, and ice-margin sites differ?

449 Our combined mapping of bedrock lithology, landscape-scale fractures, and lake density 450 as evidence for past glacial erosion, along with field observations of bedrock surface weathering provide a first hint that erosion is responsible for differing ²⁶Al and ¹⁰Be concentrations. Though 451 452 some of the cap rock removal likely occurred before the Quaternary (e.g., Krabbendam and 453 Bradwell, 2014)., our other mapping reveals a clear imprint of differential erosion by the ice sheet. 454 Regions of crystalline bedrock and high lake density inland (with the exception of the areas 455 fronting Hiawatha Glacier) and near the ice margin exhibit weathered bedrock surfaces, diagnostic 456 of cold-based ice cover during the last glacial cycle. Overlapping areas of crystalline bedrock, 457 fractures, and high lake densities in the four valleys leading into Force, Rensselaer, and Dallas 458 bays and in front of Hiawatha Glacier, however, contain fresh, unweathered bedrock outcrops with 459 primary surface features intact. The prevalence of erosion indicators in these areas suggests a role for erosive ice with higher velocities than experienced by the surrounding landscape for at least a 460 portion of the last glacial cycle. We posit that these areas were ice stream onset zones during the 461 462 last glacial cycle and likely earlier glacial cycles as well.

The ²⁶Al/¹⁰Be ratios and lower levels of cosmogenic nuclide inheritance support more erosion at the coastal sites versus the inland and ice margin areas. The samples at 100 m asl in Rensselaer and Marshall valleys have the youngest apparent exposure ages and ²⁶Al/¹⁰Be ratios close to the production ratio, suggesting removal of the longer burial signal preserved at the upland





sites via erosion. Furthermore, the 255 m asl coastal site in Rensselaer Valley has more inheritance 467 and lower ²⁶Al/¹⁰Be ratios compared to the 100 m asl elevation site, which may reflect differential 468 469 erosion by an ice stream in the Rensselaer Valley as it increased velocity and erosion down flow. 470 Previous studies on Baffin Island and in Scandinavia used mapping and cosmogenic nuclide 471 measurements to identify areas as ice stream onset zones (Andersen et al., 2018; Briner et al., 2006; 472 Briner et al., 2008; Brook et al., 1996). Ice at these onset zones transitioned from cold-based to 473 warm-based ice and did not erode >3 m during the last glacial cycle, though it is thought that 474 velocities increased downstream from these areas. We find similar cosmogenic nuclide evidence 475 of ice stream onset zones at the mouths of Rensselaer and Marshall bays, suggesting that ice 476 streams may have initiated in these areas during glacial maxima.

Cosmogenic nuclide concentrations in weathered bedrock surfaces at our inland and ice margin sites retain combined minimum exposure and burial signals of 500 kyr to 1500 kyr, demonstrating the antiquity of Inglefield Land. The preservation of these inland and ice margin landscapes implies past cold-based ice conditions and, in turn, low erosion across Inglefield Land through multiple glacial cycles. This also suggests the erosional landscapes seen in mapping across the interior of Inglefield Land (i.e., lack of cap rocks and exposed crystalline basement, high lake densities, and bedrock fractures) were created prior to the last glaciation.

Such old, low-erosion landscapes have been preserved in other glaciated parts of the Arctic. Our results are similar to studies from southern, western, northwestern, and northeastern Greenland and Baffin Island that identify long-preserved (often > 1000 kyr), ancient landscapes with low amounts of erosion and high amounts of cosmogenic nuclide inheritance (Andersen et al., 2020; Beel et al., 2016; Bierman et al., 1999; Briner et al., 2006; Ceperley et al., 2020; Corbett et al., 2016a; Miller et al., 2006; Roberts et al., 2013; Sbarra et al., 2022; Skov et al., 2020; Søndergaard





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490	et al., 2020). Similarly, the pattern of significantly lower cosmogenic nuclide inventories at lower,
491	coastal areas in less preserved landscapes is seen elsewhere in Greenland and the Canadian Arctic.
492	In eastern Greenland, for example, Skov et al. (2020) found higher degrees of cosmogenic nuclide
493	inheritance in weathered bedrock uplands and lower concentrations in sculpted bedrock closer to
494	the coast around Dove Bugt, attributing this to a polythermal ice sheet with efficient erosion at
495	lower elevations. Studies on Baffin Island using ¹⁰ Be and ²⁶ Al measurements found transitions
496	from cold-based and non-erosive to warm-based and erosive ice at lower elevations near the coast
497	(e.g., Briner et al., 2006; Briner et al., 2008), supporting our conclusions of transitions from cold-
498	based to warm-based ice near the coast of Inglefield Land.

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503	5.3 Can measured ²⁶ Al/ ¹⁰ Be ratio differences be explained with a common ice-cover history and
504	variable erosion rates?

We tested our hypothesis that the disparate nuclide concentrations across Inglefield Land could have resulted from a shared Quaternary exposure history and differential erosion. Indeed, we found that the ¹⁰Be and ²⁶Al concentrations in most of our bedrock samples can be explained through a Pleistocene ice-cover history with 0.9 Myr cumulative exposure and 1.8 Myr cumulative burial, and sample-varying subglacial and subaerial erosion rates.

510 The range of sub-aerial erosion rates (0 mm yr⁻¹ and 2 x 10^{-2} mm yr⁻¹) that provide good 511 fits to the measured nuclide concentrations for our preferred exposure history are broadly 512 consistent with sub-aerial erosion rates measured in other cold, arid, polar environments. A global





synthesis found mean subaerial erosion rates at rock outcrops are 13 x 10⁻³, 8 x 10⁻³, and 4 x 10⁻³ 513 mm vr⁻¹ in cold, arid, and polar environments, respectively (Portenga and Bierman 2011). A 514 515 cosmogenic nuclide-based study from the southern Ellsworth Mountains, Antarctica found longer-516 term subaerial erosion rates of 5.52 x $10^{-3} \pm 0.26$ x 10^{-3} mm yr⁻¹ for gneiss (Marrero et al., 2018), 517 similar to those derived from Baffin Island gneiss of 2 x 10^{-3} mm/yr (Margreth et al., 2016). Furthermore, subaerial erosion of gneiss in the polar regions is thought to occur primarily through 518 519 mineral- and granular-scale processes, including abrasion and disintegration, and are accelerated 520 by wind-blown sediments (Margreth et al., 2016). We noted abundant gruss around our inland and 521 ice-margin sites and near constant winds with wind-transported sediments, suggesting that these 522 processes may be responsible for subaerial erosion in Inglefield Land.

Subglacial erosion rates that yield good model-data fits are between 0 and $\sim 2 \times 10^{-2}$ mm 523 yr⁻¹ and are generally lower than those measured elsewhere in Greenland. Many of these previous 524 525 estimates, however, come from warm-based glaciers, while Inglefield Land was covered primarily 526 by cold-based ice. The upper range of our modeled sub-glacial erosion rates agree with those from east Greenland derived from sediment flux data of $1 - 4 \times 10^{-2}$ mm yr⁻¹ (Andrews et al., 1994), 527 528 though this was later updated by Cowton et al. (2012) to 3×10^{-1} mm yr⁻¹ to account for sediment entrained in icebergs (Syvitski et al., 1996). In central-west Greenland, suspended sediment 529 measurements from the Watson River yielded average subglacial erosion rates of 5 x 10⁻¹ mm 530 531 yr⁻¹, with annual erosion rates as high as 4.5 mm yr⁻¹ and 4.8 ± 2.6 mm yr⁻¹, all higher than our 532 modeled rates (Cowton et al., 2012; Hasholt et al., 2018; Hogan et al., 2020). Glaciomarine 533 deposits near Petermann Glacier, northwest Greenland and at the mouth of Jakobshavn Isfjord constrain erosion rates during the last deglaciation to 0.29 - 0.34 mm yr⁻¹ and 0.52 mm yr⁻¹, 534 respectively (Hogan et al., 2012; Hogan et al., 2020). Finally, Balter-Kennedy et al. (2021) 535





determined centennial-scale subglacial erosion rates of $3-8 \ge 10^{-1}$ mm yr⁻¹ and orbital-scale rates of $1-3 \ge 10^{-1}$ mm yr⁻¹ near Jakobshavn Isbræ. While these previously derived subglacial erosion rates are likely higher than what we report because they come from places with different ice sheet thermal states, these estimates of subglacial erosion reflect periods when temperatures were generally warmer or periods of warming, which can lead to higher subglacial erosion rates because of increased basal temperatures and subglacial sliding (Alley et al., 2019).

542 Cold-bedded glaciers are commonly considered non-erosive, yet glacial erosional features 543 (striae, scrapes, grooves, and isolated blocks) in landscapes otherwise protected by cold-based ice 544 demonstrate their erosional capacity (Atkins et al., 2002; Cuffey et al., 2000; Sugden, 1978; 545 Sugden et al., 2005; Ugelvig and Egholm, 2018). Our modeled sub-glacial erosion rates between 0 and $\sim 2 \times 10^{-2}$ mm yr⁻¹ in mapped areas of cold-based ice cover point to the erosive nature of cold-546 547 based glaciers and are consistent with previous estimates of erosion. Syntheses found modern sub-548 glacial erosion rates under frozen-bedded glaciers on the Antarctic Peninsula to be between 1 x 10⁻ 2 and 1 x 10⁻¹ mm yr⁻¹, (Koppes et al., 2015), while on the Meserve Glacier, a cold-based alpine 549 glacier in Victoria Land, Antarctica, subglacial erosion rates have been estimated to be 2×10^{-3} 550 551 mm yr⁻¹ (Cuffey et al., 2000). Studies of tors in the Cairngorm Mountains, Scotland, yield subglacial erosion estimates of \sim 4.4 x 10⁻³ mm yr⁻¹ during cover by a cold-based Celtic Ice Sheet 552 553 (Phillips et al., 2006). Various mechanisms have been proposed for erosion by cold-bedded 554 glaciers. Frozen bedded glaciers entrain debris at their bed and can minorly abrade and pluck 555 bedrock surfaces (Atkins et al., 2002; Cuffey et al., 2000; Sugden, 1978; Sugden et al., 2005; 556 Ugelvig and Egholm, 2018). Extensive studies from the Cairngorm Mountains in Scotland using 557 cosmogenic nuclides and geomorphic models of tor formation and erosion found cold-based ice





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erosion was potentially capable of significantly modifying pre-existing landforms (Goodfellow et
al., 2014; Hall and Glasser, 2003; Hall and Phillips, 2006; Phillips et al., 2006).

560 In sum, we find that the disparate nuclide concentrations across Inglefield Land can be 561 explained by a common Quaternary exposure/burial history if differential erosion is invoked. 562 Erosion rates consistent with the cosmogenic data are consistent with others found in polar areas 563 covered by cold-based glaciers. Variability in erosion rates across the landscape likely reflect 564 differences in lithology, as well as subglacial conditions. Spatial variability in erosion is captured in our model, and may be due to local differences in lithology (e.g., mineralogy and crystal size) 565 566 and landscape position. However, our model does not account for temporal variability in sub-567 glacial erosion. Temporal variability (abrasion versus quarrying) should be diminished when 568 averaged across many glacial cycles, but the imprint of variable glacial erosion during the last 569 glacial cycle (e.g., a site of cobble-sized block of bedrock removed beneath mostly frozen ice; 570 Atkins et al., 2002; Hall and Phillips, 2006) may lead to differences in the resulting sub-glacial 571 erosion rates. Furthermore, the basal zone across Inglefield Land may have transitioned from less-572 erosive to more-erosive and back to less-erosive during switches between warm- and cold-bedded 573 conditions through the thickening and thinning of the ice sheet during a glacial cycle. This could 574 lead to time-varying sub-glacial erosion rates and shorter periods of increased glacial erosion, as 575 evidenced by the glacial sculpting at our coastal sites.

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577 5.4 Long-term ice sheet fluctuations across Inglefield Land

578 ²⁶Al/¹⁰Be ratios from our oldest bedrock surfaces suggest that, at a minimum, the Greenland Ice 579 Sheet covered Inglefield Land for 1200 kyr and was smaller than today for 400 kyr over the last 580 1600 kyr. We determined that a Quaternary exposure history with ~0.9 Myr of cumulative





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exposure and ~1.8 Myr of cumulative burial (constructed using a δ^{18} O threshold of 3.74‰) is consistent with the measured cosmogenic-nuclide concentrations in nearly all of our bedrock surfaces when erosion rates are allowed to vary for each sample. In this preferred exposure scenario, much of the exposure takes place between 2.7 and 1.2 Ma before the mid-Pleistocene transition, but still requires ice-free conditions (and exposure) within the last ~1.2 Myr during major interglacials.. These periods of exposure are of particular interest as they indicate times when the Greenland Ice Sheet was at its present extent or smaller.

588 Our results complement limited other terrestrial studies of Greenland Ice Sheet stability throughout the Quaternary. ²⁶Al/¹⁰Be measurements from the GISP2 bedrock core from under the 589 590 center of the Greenland Ice Sheet revealed that the ice sheet was present for most of the Quaternary 591 but was nearly completely absent at least once in the last 1.1 Myr (Schaefer et al., 2016). Studies 592 of basal material from Camp Century show similar results, supporting that the northwestern 593 Greenland Ice Sheet was present through most of the Pleistocene (Christ et al., 2021). Additionally, 594 when compared to studies these of material from under the modern Greenland Ice Sheet, our results 595 suggest that Inglefield Land was ice-free throughout much more of the Quaternary than interior 596 sectors (i.e., currently covered by the modern ice sheet), logical given that Inglefield Land would 597 be completely covered only during glacial maxima. When taken at face-value, our preferred exposure history corresponding to a δ^{18} O threshold of 3.74‰ indicates that the northwestern 598 599 Greenland Ice Sheet persisted at an extent larger-than-today throughout some Pleistocene 600 interglacials, further supported by similar findings from the Laurentide Ice Sheet (Leblanc et al., 601 2023).

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604 6 Conclusions

- Geologic mapping partitions Inglefield Land into zones of glacial erosion and protection
 revealing restricted zones of erosion in lower Force, Rensselaer, and Marshall valleys and
 in front of Hiawatha Glacier as ice-velocity increased coastward into ice streams;
 elsewhere landscapes were likely covered by low erosion (e.g., frozen-bedded) regimes.
- 609 Patterns of glacial erosion are confirmed with cosmogenic nuclide measurements, 610 revealing an ancient landscape. This implies widespread cold-based ice cover across much 611 of Inglefield Land during Quaternary glacial cycles, even during transitions between 612 interglacial and glacial periods. These measurements also indicate that, despite cosmogenic 613 nuclide inheritance, there was perhaps temporarily warm-based ice at coastal sites during 614 the last glacial cycle when the Greenland Ice Sheet extended well beyond Inglefield Land, 615 and ice streams originated near the mouths of the modern Force, Rensselaer, and Marshall 616 bays. Mapping and cosmogenic nuclide measurements allow us to differentiate between areas of cold- and warm-based ice offering a clear look into the polythermal nature of 617 former ice sheets. 618

Differential subglacial and subaerial erosion explains disparate cosmogenic nuclide
 concentrations found at our inland and ice margin sites. Modeled subaerial erosion rates
 match those found in other polar regions for similar lithologies. Our modeled subglacial
 erosion rates are lower than those previously calculated for Greenland, as other studies
 focused on warm-based parts of the Greenland Ice Sheet. We provide estimates of
 subglacial erosion under cold-bedded conditions.

Ice cover durations derived from ²⁶Al/¹⁰Be ratios and cosmogenic nuclide modeling reveal
 a common ice sheet history, and variable erosion rates indicate that the ice sheet





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627	persistently covered Inglefield Land for approximately one-third of the last 2.7 Myr. This
628	exposure occurred mostly early in the Quaternary before the mid-Pleistocene transition.
629	Like other findings (e.g., LeBlanc et al., 2023), when taken at face value, our δ^{18} O threshold
630	value when applied to the global δ^{18} O stack implies ice-cover during some middle and late
631	Pleistocene interglacials. Our results also suggest that the Greenland Ice Sheet was at its
632	current extent or smaller during several interglacial periods, adding to the body of literature
633	that indicate a dynamic Greenland Ice Sheet throughout the Quaternary.
634	• Bedrock surfaces across much of Inglefield Land were not greatly eroded during the LGM
635	and contain a long-term cosmogenic nuclide memory of ice sheet fluctuations through the
636	mid-Pleistocene - at a minimum. Our bedrock sampling strategy and measurements
637	provide an analog for information contained in sub-ice material under the Greenland Ice
638	Sheet, indicating that this material should contain valuable cosmogenic nuclide archives of
639	ice sheet change during minimum phases.
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642	Code availability
643	All MATLAB codes and data used in the study are provided in the supplementary materials.
644	
645	Data availability
646	All cosmogenic nuclide data required to calculate exposure ages are included in the supplementary
647	materials.
648	





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- 653

654 Author contributions

- 655 All authors designed the study and conducted fieldwork. CKW undertook GIS mapping and lab
- 656 work. ABK led modeling of cosmogenic nuclide results. CKW, JPB, and ABK wrote the first draft
- of the manuscript and created all figures. All authors edited and contributed to subsequent
- 658 manuscript drafts.
- 659

660 **Competing interests**

661 The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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673 Figures





676 Figure 1: Overview map of Inglefield Land and key geographic locations.







- 689 Figure 2: simplified geologic map of Inglefield Land.







- 703 Figure 3: representative images of bedrock surfaces at sample sites in Inglefield Land.







- 719 Figure 4: mapped fracture zones in Inglefield Land.







738 Figure 5: map of lake densities across Inglefield Land. Grid cells are 1 km².

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753 Figure 6: combined map of bedrock lithology, fracture zones, and lake densities with cosmogenic nuclide results. 754 Semi-transparent arrows show zones of increasing erosion as indicated by mapping proxies.

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- Figure 7: subset of bedrock sample photos and resultant cosmogenic nuclide results.







Figure 8: ²⁶Al/¹⁰Be two-nuclide diagram. Concentrations normalized to Arctic high latitude, sea level ¹⁰Be production rate of 3.96 atoms g yr⁻¹ using Greenland-specific ²⁶Al/¹⁰Be surface production ratio of 7.3 (Corbett et al., 2016; Young et al., 2013).





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785 Figure 9: Model-data fits for exposure histories constructed with $\delta^{18}O$ thresholds of 3.60-4.00‰. For each $\delta^{18}O$ 786 threshold, we modeled cosmogenic nuclide concentrations for each sample using subaerial and subglacial erosion 787 rates ranging from 0 to 2.5×10^{-1} mm yr⁻¹ mm/yr. Colored tiles show the best/lowest error-weighted sums of squares 788 (EWSS) for each sample and $\delta^{18}O$ threshold across all tested erosion rate combinations. We consider an EWSS <2.5 789 to be an acceptable model-data fit. White tiles indicate that no combination of erosion rates yielded an EWSS <2.5. 790 An exposure history constructed with a $\delta^{18}O$ threshold of 3.74‰, outlined in black box, was the only exposure history 791 we tested that gave an acceptable fit for all non-outlier bedrock samples. "outlier samples identified with ${}^{26}Al/{}^{10}Be$ 792 ratios. ^bboulder sample.

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Figure 10: Exposure history constructed with a 3.74‰ $\delta^{18}O$ threshold (teal line) on the LR04 stack (Lisiecki and Raymo, 2005), below which we considered the site ice-free and above which we considered the site ice-covered. The resulting exposure history is shown in the top panel, where periods of exposure are red, and periods of burial are blue. This is the only exposure history we tested that, even when considering site-specific subaerial and subglacial erosion rates, yielded an acceptable fit for all non-outlier bedrock samples.













812 813 814 815 816 817 818 819 820 821 822	Figure 11: Model-data fits for tested subaerial (top) and subglacial (bottom) erosion rates for our preferred exposure history constructed with a $\delta^{18}O$ threshold of 3.74‰. Colored tiles show the best/lowest error-weighted sums of squares for tested erosion rate for each sample. White tiles indicate that, for this exposure history, there is no combination of subaerial and subglacial erosion that yield a good fit to the data. For example, in combination with subaerial erosion, only one tested subglacial erosion rate (5 x 10 ⁻⁴ mm yr ⁻¹) yielded an acceptable fit for sample 22GRD-CR02-SURF. Yet, when applying that subglacial erosion rate, subaerial erosion rates ranging from 0.2–1.2 x 10 ⁻⁴ mm yr ⁻¹ yielded an acceptable model-data fit. We tested subaerial and subglacial erosion rates from 0 to 2.5 x 10 ⁻¹ mm yr ⁻¹ . For no sample was there an acceptable model-data fit for the preferred exposure history when either erosion rate was >2.5 x 10 ⁻² mm yr ⁻¹ . In addition, any sample that yielded a good model-data fit for an erosion rate of 1 x 10 ⁻⁵ mm yr ⁻¹ , we also found good fits down to 0 mm yr ⁻¹ (no erosion of that type). For clarity, the y-axis for both panels is restricted to 1 x 10 ⁻⁵ to 2.5 x 10 ⁻² mm yr ⁻¹ . "outliers identified from ²⁶ Al/ ¹⁰ Be ratios. ^b boulder sample.
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