

A change of profile?

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Geologists working in East Greenland have introduced a number of place names derived from their measurement of sedimentary sections (or profiles) in well exposed rock sequences. These names include: **Profilbjerg**, **Profildal**, **Profilfjeldet**, *Profile Ravine* and another *Profilbjerg*. The first three of these have been approved by the Greenland Place Names Committee, and of these two are type localities for stratigraphical units; the latter two have not been approved, and have no official status.

Profilbjerg is a mountain in northern Scoresby Land, 9 km west of Mesters Vig. The name arose during detailed lead prospecting in 1948–49, and was subsequently approved. Detailed topographic maps show the present spelling, but in some early geological publications (e.g. Witzig, 1954) it appeared in the form *Profilbjærg*. Kempter (1961) subsequently named one of the units of the Carboniferous–Permian sequence the ‘Profilbjærg-Schichtglied’; in the revised terminology of Perch-Nielsen *et al.* (1972), this becomes the Profilbjerg Member of the Mesters Vig Formation.

Profilbjerg has also been used for the 950 m high peak south of Lille Cirkusbjerg in southern Wegener Halvø. The name has never been approved for this mountain, and its location only 67 km south-east of the mountain of the same name near Mesters Vig makes its official adoption in the future improbable. The term appears to have been introduced by Grasmück & Trümpy (1969) in their description of 1958 field work in Wegener Halvø. Haller (1971) used the name on one of his geological maps, Birkenmajer (1977) referred to it as the locality where he collected Upper Permian reworked fossils in Lower Triassic rocks, and Fedorowski (1982) noted it as the site of collections of *Callophyllum profundum* made by Birkenmajer. To avoid confusion with the approved locality Profilbjerg near Mesters Vig, use of the same name for a mountain in Wegener Halvø should be avoided.

Profildal was used in the early 1970s by GGU geologists for a valley in Renland, east of Rypefjord. The name is approved, but so far has only been used as a reference locality on geological maps.

Profile Ravine has been used for a small ravine on the south side of Sederholm Bjerg, central Gauss Halvø. It was introduced during the 1931–34 Treårsexpedition by G. Säve-Söderbergh, and used as a reference locality by Johansson (1935) and Stensiö (1948). This name, and several others used for minor features in the same region, have never been approved.

Profilfjeldet is a mountain on the north side of Sødalén, Kronprins Christian Land. The name was given by Eigil Nielsen who studied geological sections here during the 1938–39 Dansk Nordøstgrønlands Expedition (Nielsen, 1941), and has approved status. A sequence studied by Nielsen at Profilfjeldet was described by Fränkl (1954) as the ‘Profilfjeldet Schiefer’ or ‘Profilfjeldet Shales’, and subsequently by Scrutton (1975) as the ‘Profilfjeldet Formation’. Hurst & Surlyk (1982) redefined the sequence as the Profilfjeldet Member, a unit of the Silurian Lauge Koch Land Formation of the Peary Land Group.

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