

The geologist David Ferguson was employed by Christian Salvesen of Leith to make a geological survey of the region of worked by the company's Antarctic whaling fleet. The object was to search for economic deposits of minerals. Ferguson first visited South Georgia from 7 January to 19 April 1912, and went south again a year later to visit the South Shetlands and Graham Land in the 1913-14 whaling season. A whalecatcher was put at his disposal (*Hanka* in 1913-14; unknown in 1912).

The operating range of the vessel restricted Ferguson's survey to areas close to the anchorages of Salvesen's factory ships. It seems that he did not venture to the exposed south-west side of South Georgia but, in the following year, he explored much of the South Shetlands as far east as Elephant and Clarence Islands and down the Antarctic Peninsula to Flandres Bay.

Ferguson published two papers in the Transactions of the Royal Society of Edinburgh. No useful deposits of minerals were found but the papers include discussions of the geology of the area.

Boxes containing glass negative of these photographs were deposited with Salvesens in 1919 and eventually were transferred to the archives of the library of the University of Edinburgh. They are accompanied by a letter to Theodore Salvesen giving a very brief description of each photograph. Unfortunately the numbering of the negatives was based on their position in the box rather than by marking them. They are now out of order. Conservation and scanning of the negatives, funded by the South Georgia Association, has allowed most photographs to be identified by people familiar with South Georgia, the South Shetlands and the Antarctic Peninsula region. Some have also been reproduced in journals. Some photographs reproduced in print are missing from the negative collection.

The photographs are almost entirely scenes of geological features but some, especially in South Georgia, are of historical interest.

More information may come to light with further examination of Ferguson's report, held at Edinburgh, and his notebooks which were deposited in the University of Glasgow in 2004.

Image File	Description
	Passages marked " " are captions from Ferguson's papers
7618	Leith Harbour whaling station same viewpoint as 7619. Factory is centred on 'Jericho' at the head of the cove. 2 steam ships – <i>Coronda</i> (transport) behind <i>James Turpie</i> (coal hulk) and <i>Imberhorne</i> (three-master).
7619	Same viewpoint as 7618, but looking across Stromness Bay to Grass (Mutton or Rabbit) Island, Tønsberg Point and to Olsen Valley on the Busen Peninsula. "Stromness Bay, Mutton Island and central range viewed 1100 feet above sea level" Ferguson 1915: Plate LXXXV, 1.
7620	Looking beyond Leith Harbour whaling station to moraine that blocks the valley where the river runs out.
7621	Rocky hill with vertical strata unconformably on horizontal strata. "Crumpled rock strata, 1100 ft above sea level, at Leith Harbour" Ferguson 1915: plate LXXXV, 2
7622	From Tønsberg Point, looking across Stromness Bay to Olsen Valley on the Busen Peninsula.
7623	From near glacier west of Leith Harbour with river running out of it. See 7624
7624	From Hansen Point looking NW. Glacier from which river runs. River running into the sea. Chimney and smoke of Leith Harbour whaling station visible behind headland on right. "Leith Harbour, looking from S.E. to Moraine and N.W. Glacier."
7625	Same as 7621
7626	From Harbour Point looking across Leith Harbour to cliffs between Clear Point and Pram Point.
7627	Looking towards the Busen Peninsula from the north.
7628	Crew of catcher used by Ferguson in King Edward Cove with coalhulk <i>Louise</i> behind them. Presumably it is Ferguson with tie and notebook in jacket pocket.
7629	Plain at the back of Husvik looking south towards Gulbrandsen Lake.
7630	Plain at the back of Husvik looking south towards Gulbrandsen Lake.

7631	Tønsberg peninsula looking south. "Tonsberg Point, looking S. to central hill range" Ferguson 1915: Plate LXXXIV, 2.
7632	"Tonsberg Point, looking out of rock cavern to Stromness Bay" Ferguson 1915: Plate LXXXIV, 1.
7633	From Tønsberg Point, looking towards Leith Harbour (<i>Imberhorne</i> visible). Grass Island in foreground on right.
7634	Boulder in shingle at top of beach. Or is it 4.13. Crumpled quartz veins in dark shale?
7635	Grass Island in Stromness Bay.
7636	Same as 7619.
7637	Almost identical to 7636 and to 7619.
7638	Looking south-east from behind Leith Harbour, across Stromness Bay and over Grass Island to the Busen Peninsula. The whaling station and <i>Imberhorne</i> can be seen on the left.
7639	Looking from Hansen Point across Stromness Bay, with Grass Island on right and Framnaes Point on left, towards Busen Peninsula, with Jason Peak on right and Justa Peak on left. Note debris from whaling station in foreground. Whalecatcher at anchor.
7640	Grass Island on right, Busen Peninsula at back. Saddle to Jason Harbour on left.
7641	Head of Moraine Fjord from near KEP. Osmic Hill on right; Greene Peninsula on left. "Morain Fiord, rock strata, Mount Paget and glaciers" Ferguson 1915: Plate LXXXVII, 2.
7642	Entrance to South Bay in Cook Bay. Brutus Island on right.
7643	Looking south from Horsehead across Moraine Fjord to Osmic Hill with Zenker Ridge centre left. Mt Paget behind.
7644	"Cape George and folded rock strata" Ferguson 1915: Plate LXXXVIII, 1.
7645	See 7846
7646	Possibly the north shore of Stromness Harbour looking west.
7647	"Cape George Harbour, rock strata and cirque" Ferguson 1915: Plate LXXXVII, 1.
7648	Brown Mountain and Mt Paget from King Edward Point.
7649	Same as 7641
7650	Same as 7646
7655	From the top of Hestesletten looking south west looking at the overspill from Hamburg Glacier. "Moraine flat, glacier, and rock strata, Cumberland Bay" Ferguson 1915: Plate LXXXVII, 1.
7656	Overspill from Hamburg Glacier.
7657	Looking south-west up Hestesletten from the tussac ridge behind the beach. Penguin River in the centre, Mt Sugartop top right. Hamburg Glacier overspill in centre. "Moraine Flat, glacier, small loch and stream, Cumberland Bay" Ferguson 1915: Plate LXXXVI, 2.
7658	Maivatn with Mt Hodges to left and the pointed Petrel Peak. "Mai Viken Glen and glacier loch, near Gryt Viken, Cumberland Bay" Ferguson 1915: Plate LXXXVI, 1.
7659	Looking from Cape George across Godthul. Giant petrels nesting in foreground. Cape George Harbour = Godthul.
7660	Looking from Cape George, Godthul. Gentoos nesting in foreground.
7661	Same as 7660
7662	
7663	Probably north shore of Royal Bay on the plateau above the 1882-3 research station. Mt Krokisius in background. Whalers Valley far left.
7664	
7665	Elephant seals on beach.
7666	Looking from near Köppen Point across Moltke Harbour. Neighbour Peak on left.
7667	Looking from Moltke Harbour at the Hindle Glacier coming in from left. Pirner Point on right. Ross Glacier out of sight on far right. (Misidentified as Weddell Glacier in Ferguson 1915.)
7668	Head of Godthul, depot out of sight on left; Echo Lake out of sight at foot of cirque; path from Reindeer Valley in dip on right. Vertical white post just left of centre at top of cliff is the beacon on a circular stone base, close to stream flowing out of Echo Lake.
7669	Looking south-south-east down the coast from above Horseshoe Bay area. Southern side of Johannsen Loch, Tijuca Point, Cape Vakop. "Coast Line, Cape George to Royal Bay" " Ferguson 1915: Plate LXXXIX 1.
7670	Whaling station in New Fortuna Bay, now Ocean Harbour. Salvesen T.E. Sci Results of the voyage of the Scotia. Vol iv, pt xix. Plate VII, fig 1.
7671	Hindle Glacier in Royal Bay. Very similar to 7667 but taken from closer to Moltke Harbour, looking South-west. Pirner Point to the right and perhaps Mt Patterson skyline to the right. "Royal Bay, Weddell Glacier and cirques." But Ferguson misidentified - it is the Ross Glacier " Ferguson 1915: Plate LXC, 1.

7672	Looking from the hills behind the head of Moltke Harbour, west across Whale Valley. The mountain may be Coffin Top.
7673	Grytviken from KEP. Ship-rigged skrot factory <i>Nor</i> . This image appears in Salvesen T.E. Sci Results of the voyage of the Scotia. Vol iv, pt xix. Plate IX, fig 1.
7674	Prince Olav Harbour. <i>Restitution</i> with unidentified sailing ship behind. Frame of new station building behind the ships. Similar to 7685.
7675	Possession Bay to east of Shackleton Gap. see 7682.
7676	Taken from north entrance of Johan Harbour looking south to Laurie Point, Undine Harbour.
7677	Undine Harbour looking towards the main beach, valley containing Hope River running off to the right and Elsehul out of view far left.
7678	Taken from north entrance of Johan Harbour looking south to Laurie Point, Undine Harbour. (SP) Similar to 7676.
7679	"Adventure Harbour (Undine Harbour), looking across neck to Elsie Harbour" " Ferguson 1915: Plate XCI, 2.
7680	Entrance to South Bay, Cook Bay. Brutus Island.
7681	Entrance to South Bay, Cook Bay. Brutus Island on right.
7682	Possession Bay to east of Shackleton Gap.
7683	Possession Bay to east of Shackleton Gap.
7684	Possession Bay to east of Shackleton Gap.
7685	Prince Olav Harbour. <i>Restitution</i> with unidentified sailing ship behind. Frame of new station building behind the ships "Port Gladstone, rock strata, 1633 feet to crest; floating factory s.s. <i>Restitution</i> ." " Ferguson 1915: Plate XC, 2. Appears in Salvesen T.E. Sci Results of the voyage of the Scotia. Vol iv, pt xix. Plate VIII, fig 2.
7686	Half Moon Island in Moon Bay, Livingston Island.
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7691	Dufayel Island (centre), looking west into Ezcurra Inlet, King George I.
7692	Possibly/probably Noel Hill (Barton Peninsula), looking SE from Marian Cove, King George I.
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7694	JS Vaureal Peak, looking c. NE; might be Chabrier Rock in sea. E side of entrance to Admiralty Bay, KGI.
7695	"North arm of Admiralty Bay, King George Island, South Shetlands; showing exposure of later (Tertiary) andesite lavas, traversed by a dyke (p. 37 text)" Ferguson 1921: Plate III, 1. Ship on left with Salvesen funnel, prob. <i>Neko</i> . North end of Admiralty Bay, looking at west flank of either Keller Peninsula, Ulmann Spur or Precious Peaks; King George I.
7696	Ternyck Needle, looking E from Martel Inlet; tiny bit of ?Precious Peaks showing at LHS; King George I.
7697	
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7700	Orne Harbour.
7701	"Orne Harbour, Danco Coast, Graham Land. North entrance, showing pinnacles of Graham Land plutonic rocks." Ferguson 1921: Plate III, 4.
7702	Factory ship with 'O' on funnel is owned by A/S Ørnen. Ship is probably the <i>Ørn</i> . With another factory ship and a catcher behind.
7703	
7704	Skrott factory <i>Nor</i> with factory ship <i>Hvalen</i> behind. Wilhelmina Bay. 1913/14.
7705	
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7707	Baily Head, Deception Island .
7708	Neptune's Bellows, Deception Island. "Deception Island, South Shetlands. Entrance to harbour seen from within. The entrance is a breach in the crater walls, consisting of tuffs and agglomerates, with a few slaggy lavas. The harbour is a sea-flooded crater (p.45, text)." Ferguson 1921: Plate III, 2.
7709	"Deception Island. Interior crater wall on north-western side, showing glaciated slopes of tuff, and a small tarn fed by hot springs (p.45, text)." Ferguson 1921: Plate III.
7710	Whalecatcher <i>Hanka</i> . Port Foster, Deception Island.
7711	Factory ship <i>Bombay</i> in Mikkelsen Harbour, Trinity Island. Water boat moored aft.

7712	
7713	"Coughtrey Island, near Leith Harbour, Danco Coast, Graham Land; showing folded grits and mudstones with intrusive igneous rocks." (now Coughtrey Peninsula in Paradise Harbour. Brown station is on it.) Ferguson 1921: Plate IV, 2
7714	"Leith Harbour, Danco Coast, Graham Land; showing exposures of the plutonic massif of Graham Land (p.48, text)." Ferguson 1921: Plate I, 2
7715	
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7717	"Mount Theodore, Andvord Bay, Danco Coast, Graham Land. This is probably a great intrusive mass of red granite belonging to the plutonic massif of Graham Land (p.47, text)" Ferguson 1921: Plate IV, 1
7718	
7719	
7720	Waterboat Point, Paradise Harbour.
7721	?Mt Francais. Note pluton spike.
7722	"Mount William, Anvers Island, Palmer Archipelago. Believed to consist of plutonic rocks." Ferguson 1921: Plate IV, 3.
7723	
7724	
7725	
7726	"Shackleton Harbour (=Duperré Bay) Schollaert Channel, Brabant Island, Palmer Archipelago. Folded and deeply inclined sediments intruded by massive diorite and associated porphrites." Ferguson 1921: Plate IV, 4.
7727	
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7731	Thunder Glacier, Port Lockroy.
7732	Mt Français, Anvers Island.
7733	Nansen Island, Factory ship <i>Governoren</i>
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7735	Similar to Plate IV no 4.
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7741	The distinctive spike of rock is in Leith Harbour, according to Ferguson's caption. Hart p.138 says factory ship <i>Horatio</i> in Skontorp Harbour (not quite the same image). Skontorp Harbour according to 7741, 42, 43
7742	Leith Harbour.
7743	Leith Harbour.

Please send any suggestions for identifying the sites of photographs to Robert Burton rwburton@ntlworld.com