

**Archives of the Arctic. Ice, Entropy and Memory**  
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*Petermann's Paperwork. Conquering the North Pole at home*

The talk will consider the case of August Petermann, Prussian cartographer in English service, who altered the course of arctic exploration in the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Combining the rich archive of Northern travel literature with cartographic methods adopted from his mentor Alexander von Humboldt, Petermann conjectured the existence of a warm polar sea -- with far-ranging consequences. His example highlights the impact of paperwork on the turn-of-the-century race to North Pole.