

Gjoa Haven
Population: 1065
King William Island

Gjoa Haven was named after Norwegian explorer Roald Amundsen's sloop, Gjoa, the first vessel to transit the Northwest Passage. Piloted by Amundsen, who made his historic journey from 1903 to 1906, the crew of the Gjoa came to the "finest little harbor in the world" to escape a gale. Before continuing their successful navigation of the Passage, Amundsen and his crew established a scientific station here to explore the mysteries of the North Magnetic Pole. They ended up staying at Gjoa Haven for two years. The Northwest Passage Historic Park located here, celebrates those early years of European exploration and the role of native people in this era of Arctic discovery.