



Robert "Buck" L. Detterman 1919–1990

Robert "Buck" L. Detterman served in the Army Air Force during WWII and joined the U.S. Geological Survey Alaska Branch, Navy Oil Unit, in 1947. During his 42-year career, he became renowned for research achievements in Arctic Alaska and the Alaska Peninsula. His research was focused mainly on the NPR-4¹ foothills (1947–1964), the Alaska Peninsula (1964–1990), and the eastern North Slope and Brooks Range (including ANWR²; 1969–1988). Topics of Buck's most fundamental contributions include stratigraphy, structure, and geologic mapping of the NPR-4 foothills; glacial advances in the Sagavanirktok–Anaktuvuk rivers region; Mesozoic stratigraphy of the Alaska Peninsula; and post-Carboniferous stratigraphy in northeastern Alaska, including redefinition of Sadlerochit Group stratigraphy. He was known to colleagues as a wonderful mentor.

¹Naval Petroleum Reserve No. 4, renamed National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska in 1976

²Arctic National Wildlife Range, expanded and renamed Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in 1980

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