



---

# ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ANTARCTIC NAMES PROPOSAL FORM

---

This document is for those interested in proposing:

1. **A new name for a currently unnamed geographic feature in Antarctica, or**
2. **A change to an existing name, spelling, or to which feature a name is applied.**

By submitting this form, the proponent acknowledges Advisory Committee on Antarctic Names (ACAN) Policies and agrees to work with ACAN staff regarding their proposal.



# Advisory Committee on Antarctic Names (ACAN) Name Proposal Form

[Advisory Committee on Antarctic Names](#) is responsible for considering geographic feature names for recommendation to the U.S. Board on Geographic Names for official recognition by the United States.

This form should be used to submit a proposal, whether a new name for an unnamed feature, or to change an existing name, spelling, or location. A proponent should:

1. Carefully review the proposal prior to submission to ensure that it is consistent with [ACAN Policies](#).
2. Search [GNIS Query Form for Antarctica](#) to determine if the proposed name is already used, and for commemorative names, if the intended honoree (whether a person, organization, expedition) already has a named feature in Antarctica.
3. Save completed PDF as 'ACAN\_GeographicName' for example 'ACAN\_DiscoveryGlacier' or 'ACAN\_JohnSmith'

Please note all fields with a red outline are required.

The proponent should be aware that the entire proposal — including personal identifying information and any associated correspondence — may be made publicly available at any time.

**Submit Proposal:** 1. Email the completed form and supporting documentation to: [BGNEEXEC@usgs.gov](mailto:BGNEEXEC@usgs.gov) with the email subject: ACAN\_GeographicName OR 2. By U.S. Mail to: Executive Secretary for Antarctic Names  
U.S. Board on Geographic Names  
U.S. Geological Survey, MS-523  
Reston, VA 20192

Contact Us: [BGNEEXEC@usgs.gov](mailto:BGNEEXEC@usgs.gov)

*Please note that anything submitted by mail could be delayed significantly.*

## I. Acknowledgments

1. I have reviewed the [ACAN policies](#)  
 Y  N
2. Did you query the [Geographic Names Information System \(GNIS\) for Antarctica](#) to determine if the proposed name is used for another feature?  
 Y  N

## II. Proposed Name and Feature Selection Information

3. Proposed Name:

*Please provide a specific and generic component, e.g. for a peak, the name could be Spyglass Hill, Spyglass Summit, Mount Spyglass, or something similar with an appropriate generic term.*

4. Please list any supporting documentation (to be attached to submittal email):

*Examples: Published sources showing the proposed name, letters of support, or names/contact information. Contact information should be for individuals or organizations who can be consulted regarding the feature or the honoree.*

## II. Proposed Name and Feature Selection Information (continued)

5. Other Descriptive Notes: *Describe any characteristics (beyond elevation, location, and size that are requested below) that the proponent believes are important to a decision and wishes ACAN to be aware of.*

6. Is the proposed name intended to honor a person?

Y *If yes, be sure to also complete Section IV, Commemorative/Honoree below.*

N

**Please Note:** *ACAN policy generally limits commemorative names to individuals who have concluded or are near the end of their Antarctic careers. Exceptions may occasionally be made if the honoree's contributions to U.S. Antarctic interests are so compelling as to warrant consideration at an earlier career stage.*

6.1 If yes, would you like ACAN to select a feature for this proposal?

Y

N *If no, please complete Section III, Feature Location below.*

6.2 If yes, do you have a preferred location/region?

## III. Feature Location



*This section is optional if you are proposing a commemorative name **and** you want ACAN to select the feature. Otherwise, proceed to Section IV.*

7. Feature and Name Information:

*Please explain why you believe the selected feature merits a name and why the proposed name is appropriate, including how long has it been in use (verbal or published), as well as any current or historical significance of the name.*

8. Elevation/Length/Size:

*(Indicate feet or meters)*

9. Geographic Coordinates (Decimal or DMS)

Latitude:  (-77.8418)

Longitude:  ( $\pm 166.685$ )

OR

Latitude:  (77° 50' 30" S)

Longitude:  (166° 41' 08" E/W)

## IV. Commemorative/Honoree

10. Honoree's Full Name:

11. Is the intended honoree living or deceased?

Living  Deceased  Unknown

12. Honoree's Date of Birth (if known):

13. Honoree's Date of Death (if known):

14. Does the honoree already have a named feature(s) in Antarctica?

Please search the description field in [GNIS](#).

Y  N

14.1 If yes, what are the name(s)?

15. Please provide the years of the intended honoree's involvement with Antarctic research or activities, e.g., dates of expeditions, field parties, or any other relevant contributions, if known:

16. Honoree Biography & Justification for Naming:

*Please Note: ACAN policy generally limits commemorative names to individuals who have concluded or are near the end of their Antarctic careers. Exceptions may occasionally be made if the honoree's contributions to U.S. Antarctic interests are so compelling as to warrant consideration at an earlier career stage.*

## IV. Commemorative/Honoree Information (continued)

17. Association, if any, of the honoree with the Geographic Feature:

18. What is your relationship to the intended Honoree?

*Note: ACAN will typically not accept proposals from family members or friends of intended honorees.*

19. Honoree's Contact Information (to be notified after BGN decision):



Email:



Mailing Address:



Phone:

**Please note:** ACAN will notify the proponent of the final decision. In the event of a commemorative name, ACAN will normally notify both the proponent and the honoree. If you would prefer to make special arrangements for notifying the honoree, please check this box and ACAN will contact you to discuss options.

## V. Proponent Information



Proponent's Name:



Email:

Agency or Organization, if relevant:



Mailing Address:



Phone:

*Please submit this form and supporting documentation:*

*1. By email to [BGNESEC@usgs.gov](mailto:BGNESEC@usgs.gov) OR 2. By U.S. Mail to the address at the top of the form.*