

An igloo is a dome-shaped dwelling made of hard snow known as pukaangajuq. Although igloos are often associated with all Inuit and Eskimo peoples, they were traditionally used only by the people of Canada's Central Arctic and Greenland's Thule area. In the past, Inuit generally kept on their warm, fur-lined clothes while inside the igloo during the day, including boots, jackets, gloves and hats. Igloos were sometimes arranged in clusters, with a number of living chambers sharing a common entry tunnel or a communal facility, such as a feasting room or a dance house. Some clusters, as among the Iglulingmuit of Hudson Bay, might have had as many as 10 domed units, each with a different function; for example, a living unit, dog kennel or storage. At the centre of social life in the igloo was oil lamp, around which the Inuit cooked, ate, warmed up and socialized. Inuit communities had different igloo designs.