Sir Peter Markham Scott Encyclopedia Article

Sir Peter Markham Scott

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Sir Peter Markham Scott

1909-1989

English ornithologist and painter who became a well-known painter of birds, especially waterfowl, exhibiting his work in London and New York. He mapped the previously unexplored Perry River region in the Canadian Arctic in 1949 and subsequently led naturalists' expeditions to Antarctica, Iceland, the Seychelles, the Galapagos, and Australasia. A founder and longtime officer of both the World Wildlife Fund and Wildfowl Trust, he was also president of a number of other international conservation organizations. Author of 18 books on ornithology and conservation, he also illustrated 20 volumes written by other individuals. Scott received many honors for his work in conservation and ornithology, including 8 honorary degrees, and was the first Englishman to be knighted (in 1973) for his contributions to conservation.