
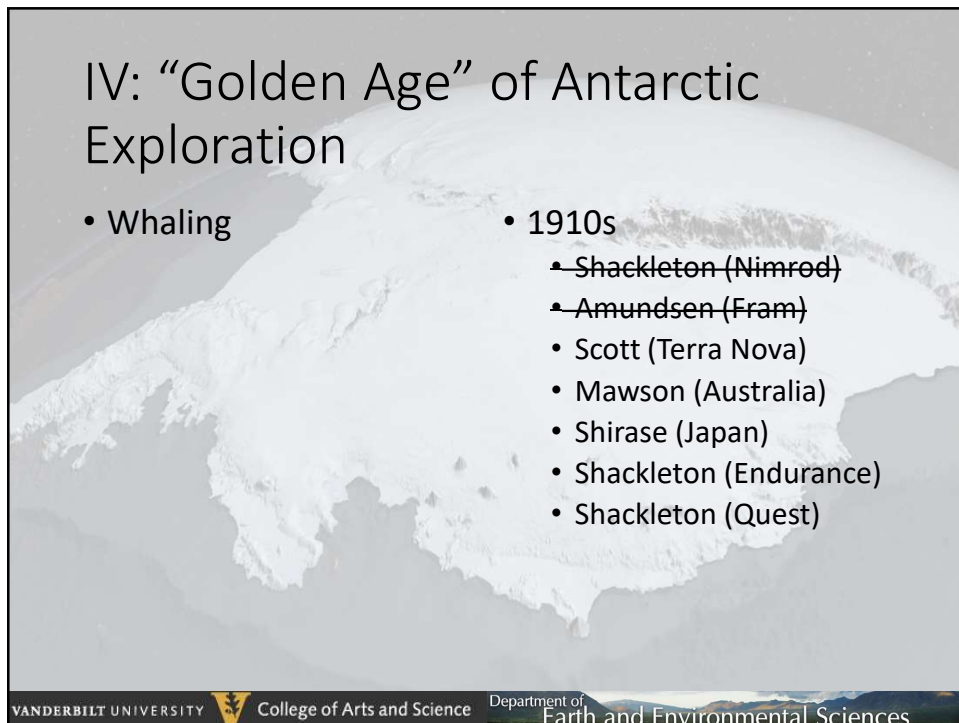


Antarctica: At the heart of it all


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Spring 2021
[Webcams for Antarctic Stations](#)

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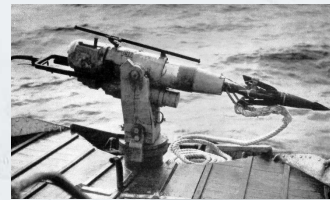
IV: “Golden Age” of Antarctic Exploration

- Whaling
- 1910s
 - Shackleton (Nimrod)
 - Amundsen (Fram)
 - Scott (Terra Nova)
 - Mawson (Australia)
 - Shirase (Japan)
 - Shackleton (Endurance)
 - Shackleton (Quest)

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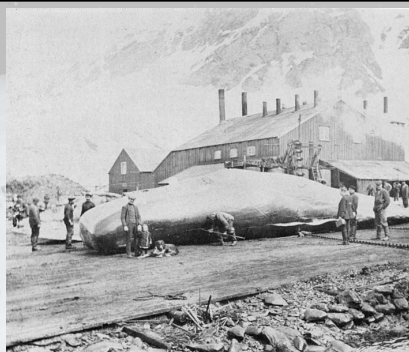
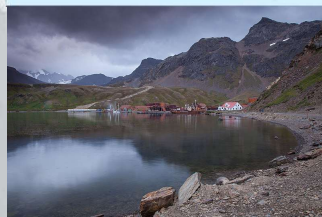
Whaling

- Whale oil declines in use as petroleum develops in 1850s
- But baleen still useful through beginning of 20th century
- Rorqual whales
 - e.g. humpback whales
 - Plentiful in the southern ocean, but faster and less buoyant than other species



Harpoon gun on the bow deck of a whale catcher boat

Grytviken, South Georgia Island



Top: Grytviken in 1916. Bottom: 1947



Scott II: British Antarctic Expedition, *Terra Nova*, 1910 - 1913

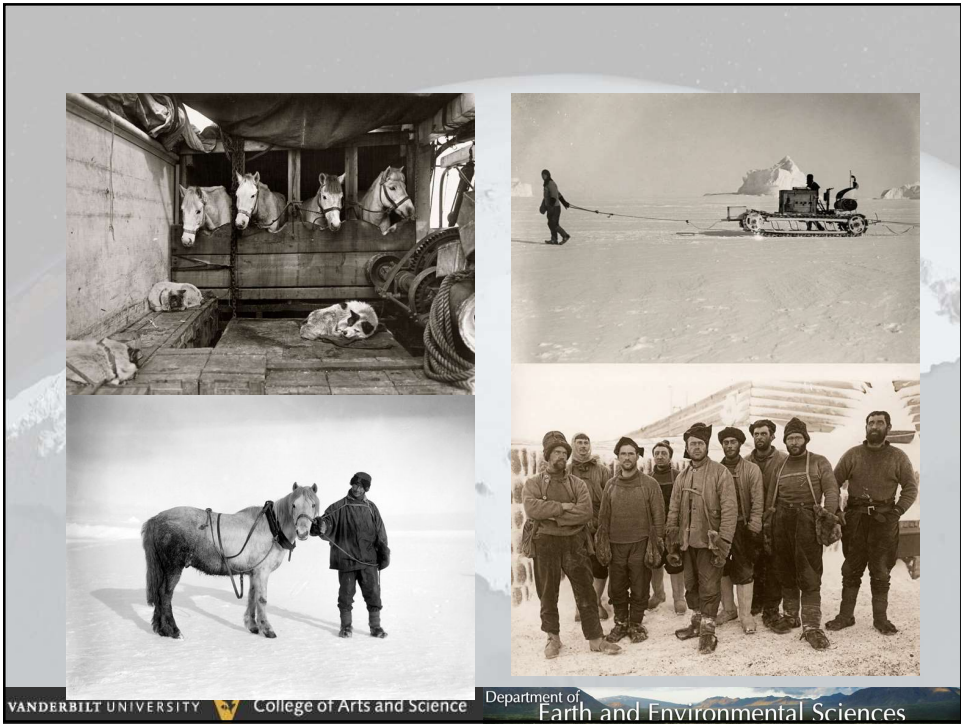


- Private and government funding
- To reach South Pole, scientific goals
- 65 men
- <http://www.freezeframe.ac.uk/>



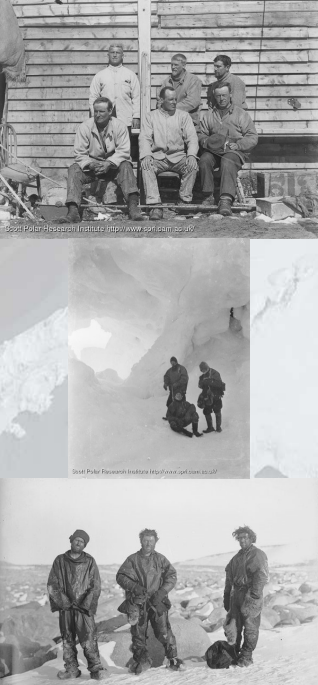
Cape Evans





Northern Party

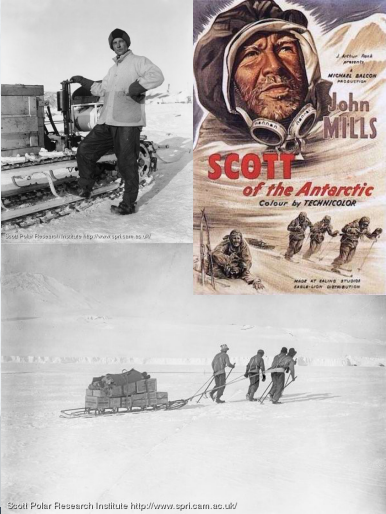
- Supposed to be Eastern Party, but find Amundsen
- Go to Cape Adare instead
- Then Evans Coves
- Ship can't pick them up
- Spend winter in snow cave
- Walk back to Cape Evans, arrive Nov 7, 1912



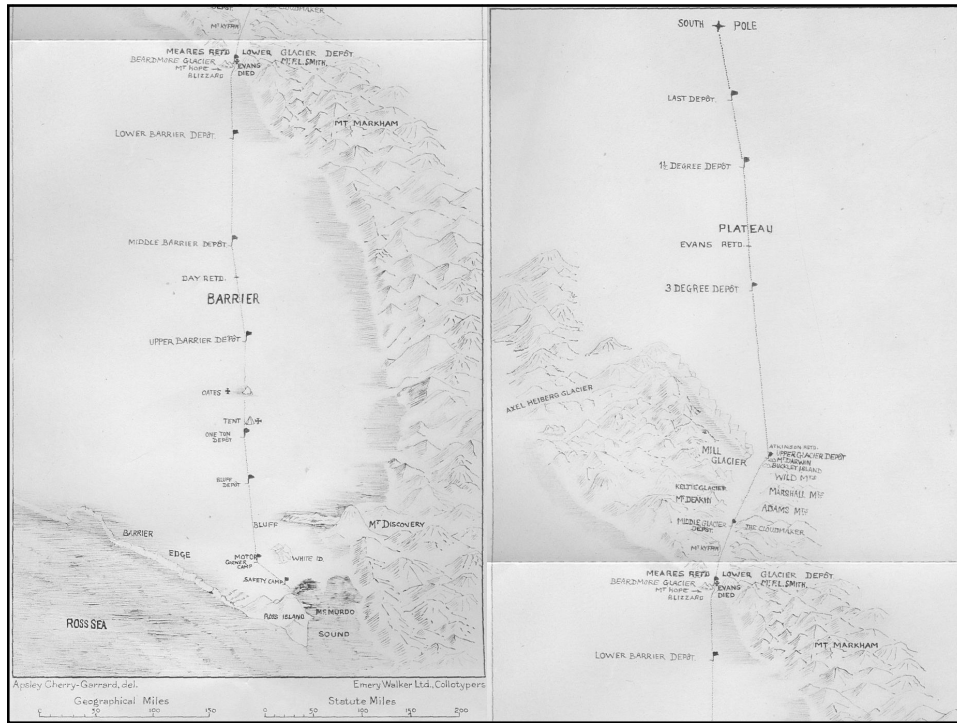
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Southern Journey

- Lay depots in Jan, Feb 1911
 - One Ton Depot ~30 miles farther north than intended
- Start Oct 24, 1911
- Use motors, dogs, ponies to mountains, then man-haul
 - Motors last 1 week, 50 miles
- Starts with 16 men, 5 in pole party



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• Jan 17, 1912: "The Pole. Yes, but under very different circumstances than those expected... Great God! This is an awful place and terrible enough for us to have labored to it without the reward of priority... Now for a desperate struggle to get the news through first. I wonder if we can do it."



Return Journey



- At Beardmore, day off for Wilson to “geologise”
- Edgar Evans
 - Frostbite, several falls
 - Collapses and dies Feb 16
- Cpt. Lawrence Oates
 - Scurvy, frostbitten feet
 - Mar 16, “I am just going outside and may be some time.”

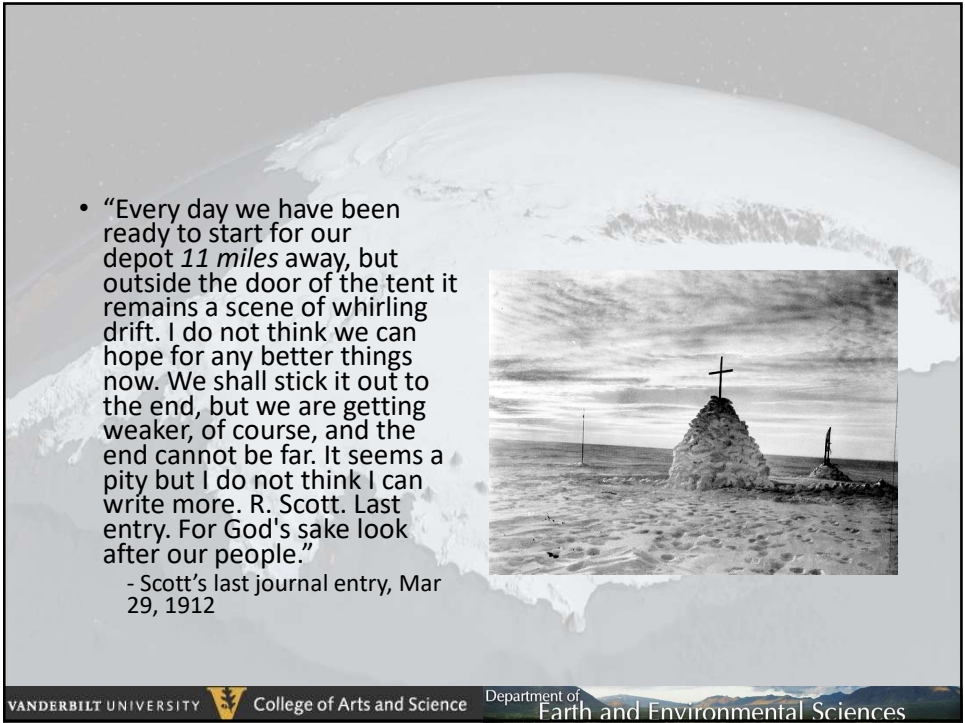
Support parties

- Dog parties supposed to leave McMurdo in Feb to find polar party
 - Support party needs help, Teddy Evans scurvy
 - Cherry-Garrard resupplies One Ton Depot Mar 4, stays until Mar 10




APSLEY CHERRY-GARRARD
THE
WORST JOURNEY
IN THE WORLD



BYBLOTECH

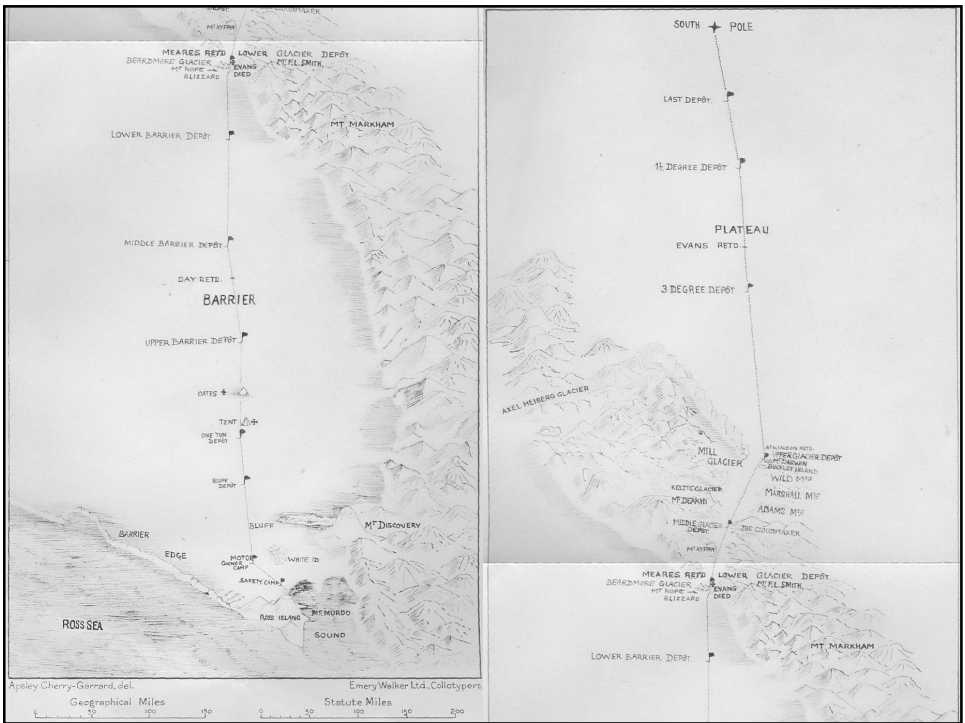


- “Every day we have been ready to start for our depot 11 miles away, but outside the door of the tent it remains a scene of whirling drift. I do not think we can hope for any better things now. We shall stick it out to the end, but we are getting weaker, of course, and the end cannot be far. It seems a pity but I do not think I can write more. R. Scott. Last entry. For God's sake look after our people.”

- Scott's last journal entry, Mar 29, 1912



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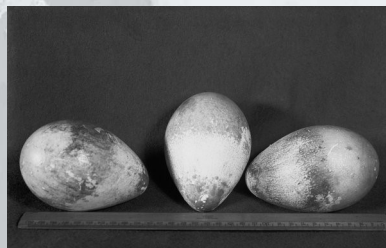


Route comparison

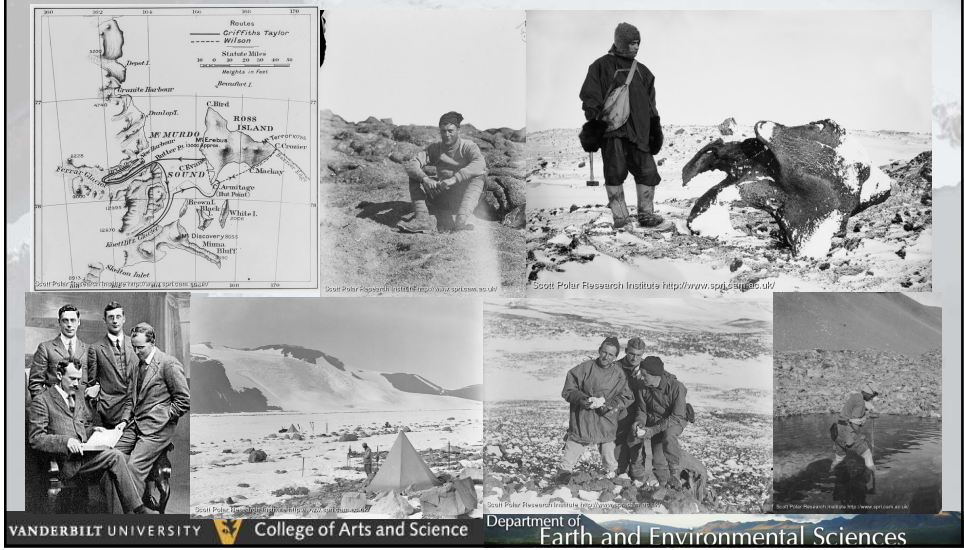


Winter Journey – “The Worst Journey in the World”

- June 27 – Aug 1, 1911
- Collect emperor penguin eggs
- Link between birds and reptiles

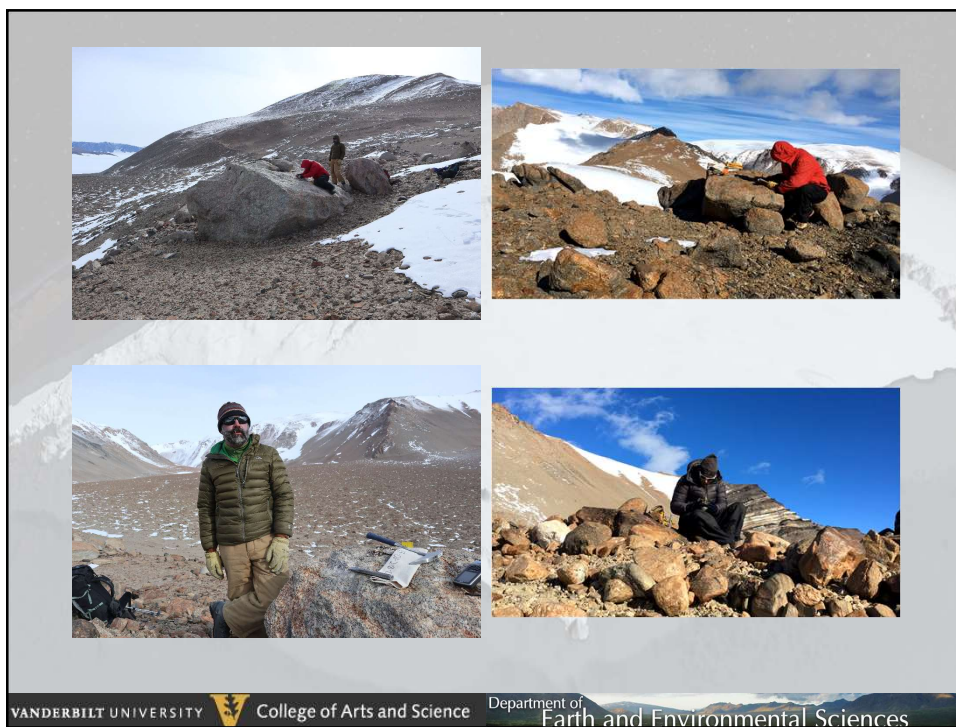


Western geological Parties: Jan – Mar 1911 and Nov 1911 – Feb 1912



Western Parties

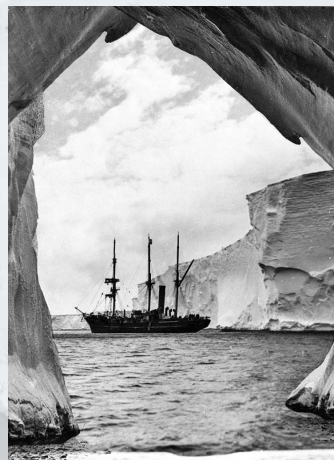






Douglas Mawson (1882-1958)

- Australasian Antarctic Expedition (1911-14)
- Boat Aurora
- Scientific, geographic goals, some sovereign goals too
- Hut at Cape Denison, Commonwealth Bay



Cape Denison



Mawson, Mertz, and Ninnis

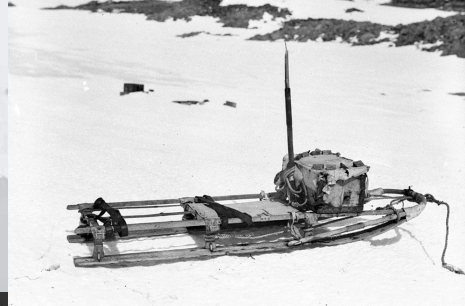


- Depart Nov. 10, 1912
- Two dogsleds
- Map new parts of east Antarctica
- Magnetic south pole



Mawson's return

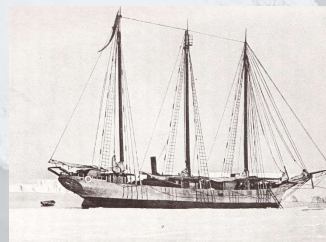
- Ninnis and one dogsled fall in a crevasse on Dec 14, 1912
- Mertz dies Jan 7, 1913
- Jan 29, Mawson misses rescue group by hours
- Feb 1 Mawson reaches Aladdin's Cave
- Feb 8 reaches Cape Denison, but *Aurora* gone
- Spends winter at hut



Nobu Shirase (1861-1946)



- Japanese Antarctic Expedition (1910-12)
- Experience on islands north of Japan
- Ship *Kainan Maru*



Japanese Antarctic Expedition (1910-12)

- Leave late in 1910
- Winter of 1910 in Australia
 - Mawson and David help
- 1911-12 on ice, Bay of Whales
- “Dash” to see how far south they can go

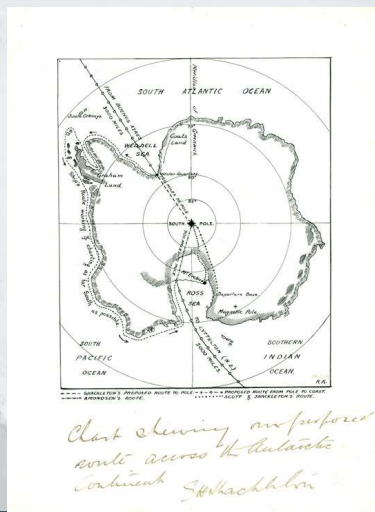
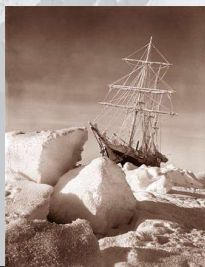


Shackleton II: The Imperial Trans-Antarctic Expedition, *Endurance* 1914 – 1917

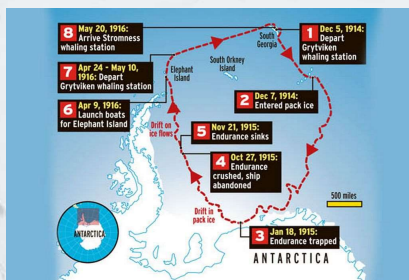


Endurance and Aurora

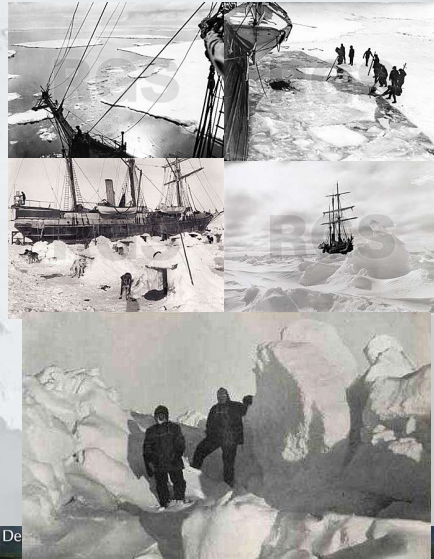
- Endurance originally built for de Gerlache
- Reinforced hull, not flat bottomed
- Sails and coal engine
- 28 men
- Aurora was whaling ship
- Used by Mawson 1910-1913



South Georgia Island: Nov 5, 1914 – Dec 5, 1914



Trapped in ice, ~ Jan 16, 1915



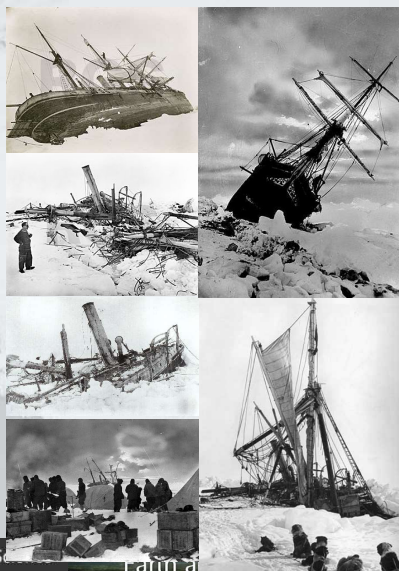
The Long, Long Night

By Feb 24, 1915 Shackleton realizes ship will not get free, will winter on ship



Endurance abandoned ,sinks

- Aug 1, 1915: Ship begins to list to port
- Sept 30, 1915: “the worst squeeze we had experienced”
- Oct 24, 1915: hull begins to bend, take on water
- Oct 27, 1915: Ship abandoned
- Nov 21, 1915: Ship sinks “She’s going, boys”



First march: Oct 30 – Nov 1, 1915: 3 miles in 3 days



Ocean Camp: Nov 1-Dec 23, 1915



Second March: Dec 23-Dec 29, 1915



- 7.5 miles in 7 days
- McNish, carpenter, rebels



Patience camp: Dec 29, 1915-April 8, 1916




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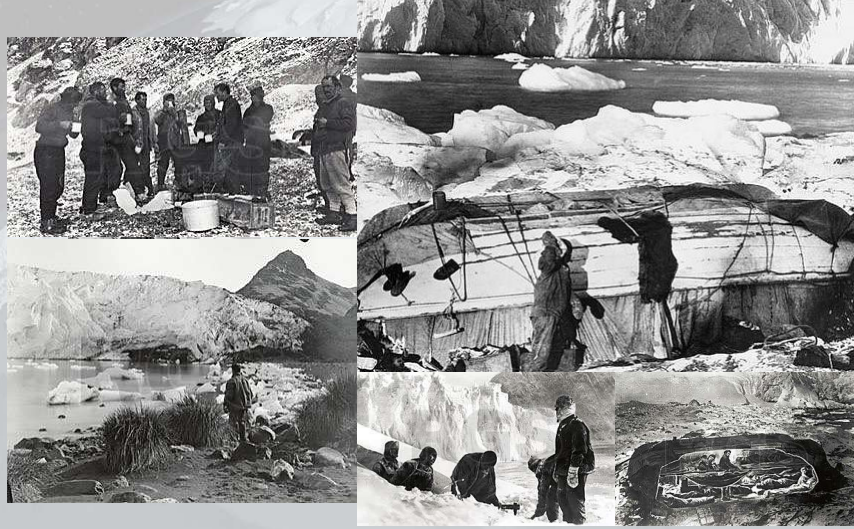
Lifeboat journey to Elephant Island: Dudley Docker, James Caird, Stancomb Wills

• Apr 9-Apr 15, 1916



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Elephant Island




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Voyage of the James Caird



- 22.5 ft lifeboat
- McNish adds deck, mast, seals hull



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Most mislabeled photo



Voyage of the James Caird:

Apr 24 – May 10, 1916 (17 days)



Worsley



Crean



Vincent



McCarthy

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZtckoSaCv9E>

- Shackleton, Worsley, Crean, McNish, Vincent, and McCarthy



South Georgia Island



Crossing South Georgia Island May 19 – 20, 1916

- When I look back at those days I have no doubt that Providence guided us, not only across those snowfields, but across the storm-white sea that separated Elephant Island from our landing-place on South Georgia. I know that during that long and racking march of thirty-six hours over the unnamed mountains and glaciers of South Georgia it seemed to me often that we were four, not three. I said nothing to my companions on the point, but afterwards Worsley said to me, "Boss, I had a curious feeling on the march that there was another person with us." Crean confessed to the same idea. One feels "the dearth of human words, the roughness of mortal speech" in trying to describe things intangible, but a record of our journeys would be incomplete without a reference to a subject very near to our hearts.



“My name is Shackleton”

We reached the outskirts of the station and passed through the “digesting-house,” which was dark inside. Emerging at the other end, we met an old man, who started as if he had seen the Devil himself and gave us no time to ask any question. He hurried away. This greeting was not friendly. Then we came to the wharf, where the man in charge stuck to his station. I asked him if Mr. Sorlle (the manager) was in the house.

“Yes,” he said as he stared at us.

“We would like to see him,” said I.

“Who are you?” he asked.

“We have lost our ship and come over the island,” I replied.

“You have come over the island?” he said in a tone of entire disbelief.

The man went towards the manager’s house and we followed him. I learned afterwards that he said to Mr. Sorlle: “There are three funny-looking men outside, who say they have come over the island and they know you. I have left them

outside.” A very necessary precaution from his point of view.

Mr. Sorlle came out to the door and said, “Well?”

“Don’t you know me?” I said.

“I know your voice,” he replied doubtfully. “You’re the mate of the *Daisy*.”

“My name is Shackleton,” I said.

Immediately he put out his hand and said, “Come in. Come in.”

“Tell me, when was the war over?” I asked.

“The war is not over,” he answered. “Millions are being killed. Europe is mad. The world is mad.”



Rescued! Aug 30, 1916



- May 23, *Southern Sky*, 100 miles from Elephant Island
- June 10, *Instituto*, within sight of island
- July 12, *Emma*, 100 miles from island
- August 30, *Yelcho*, rescued!

Ross Sea Party

- Late getting to McMurdo Sound
- Cape Evans Hut
- May 7, 1915, *Aurora*, breaks anchor in storm, goes to NZ
- Lay depots as planned
- Mackintosh and Hayward lost in blizzard
- *Aurora* arrives Jan 1917



THE ROSS SEA PARTY
Mackintosh and Sturges in the centre



Return to England



- Shackleton returns May 29, 1917
- Debts
- Lectures
- "I feel I am no use to anyone unless I am outfacing the storm in wild lands."

LADY SHACKLETON LEARNS WITH JOY THAT HER HUSBAND IS SAFE.



Shackleton-Rowett Expedition

Quest 1921 – 1922

- Initially intends to go to Arctic
- Mechanical age
- *Quest* is refitted sealer
 - Engine and sails
 - Electric lights and heating



Shackleton dies Jan 5, 1922 on South Georgia Island



- Dec 17, 1921 Shackleton ill
- Jan 4, 1922: "The old smell of dead whale permeates everything. It is a strange and curious place... A wonderful evening. In the darkening twilight I saw a lone star hover, gem like above the bay."
- Buried on South Georgia