

72° 36' E

72° 34' E

HEARD ISLAND INTERIM OPERATIONS MAP INCLUDING McDONALD ISLANDS

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Kilometres

73° 40' E Heard Island is approximately 40 kilometres long by 20 kilometres wide and is dominated by Big Ben which is an active volcano. The island lies within the Antarctic convergence and is consequently glaciated. In the past most of the glaciers reached the sea but they are now in retreat, revealing large areas of moraine which are being colonised by vegetation.

> The first ANARE Heard Island expedition arrived on 12 December 1947. On 26 December the Australian Flag was raised and the Territory of Heard Island and McDonald Islands formally claimed for Australia. The ANARE station was established at Atlas Cove and manned by wintering parties for meteorological and scientific research until 1954. Sovereignty was transferred from United Kingdom to Australia on 19 December 1950 and the Heard Island and McDonald Islands Act which provides for the government of the territory was enacted in 1953. There have been irregular visits by ANARE vessels since then. In 1993 an ANARE overwintering expedition occupied a station at Spit Bay to carry out biological research. Plans are currently being discussed for the development of an interdisciplinary scientific program for Heard Island in 1999-2000

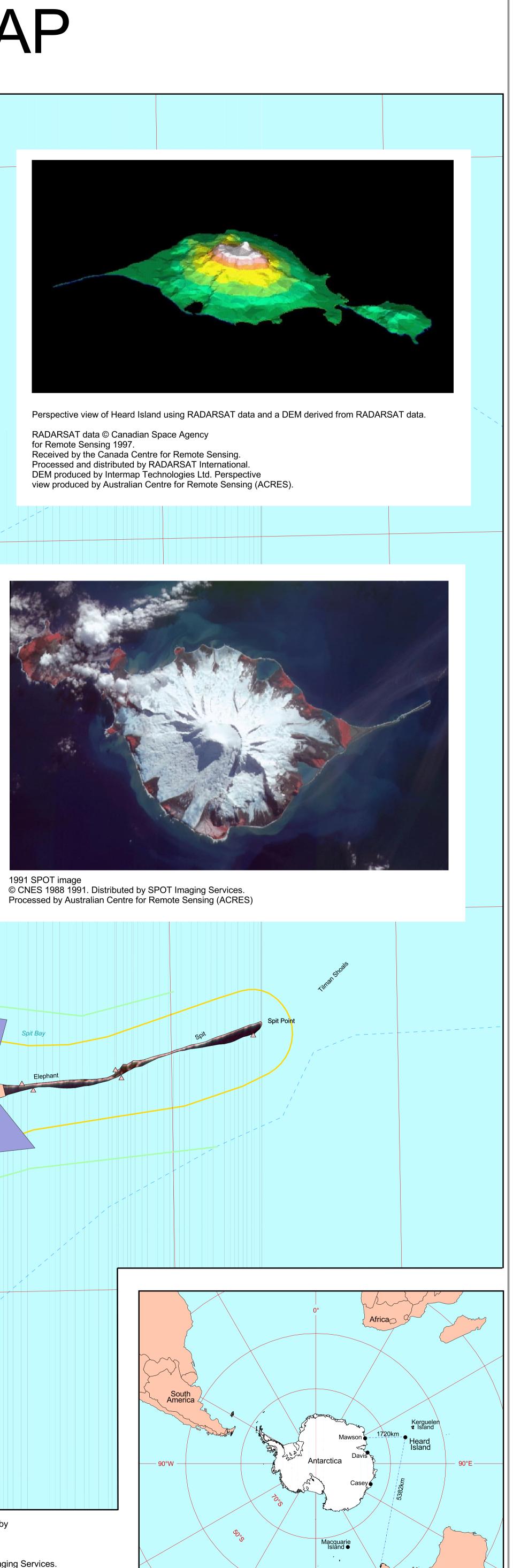


ambeth Bluff

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