

South Atlantic Odysseys 2012 - 2018



*Steve Thomas*

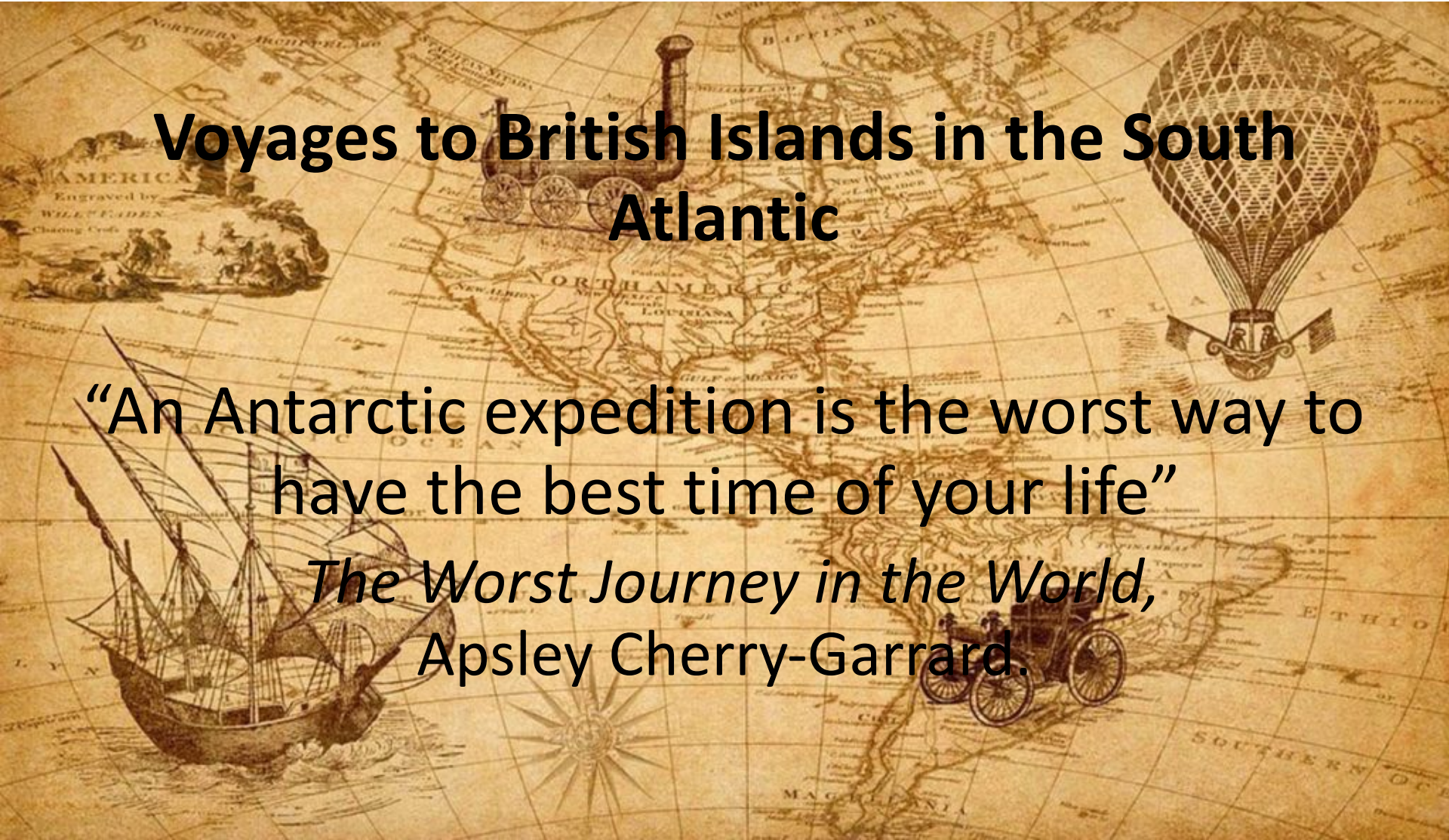
# Introduction



## Voyages to British Islands in the South Atlantic

“An Antarctic expedition is the worst way to have the best time of your life”

*The Worst Journey in the World,*  
Apsley Cherry-Garrard.



# Introduction



Over 75 years ago I was an avid reader about polar exploration and mountaineering and if I fast forward to ten years ago when I was trekking in the wild west region of Nepal, I heard about a voyage down the Beagle Channel to the Antarctic.

I had to go....

I retired at the end of 2011 – and ten days later I joined the first of five voyages which started from Ushuaia, Montevideo and Puerto Madryn

# Our Journey



# MV Plancius



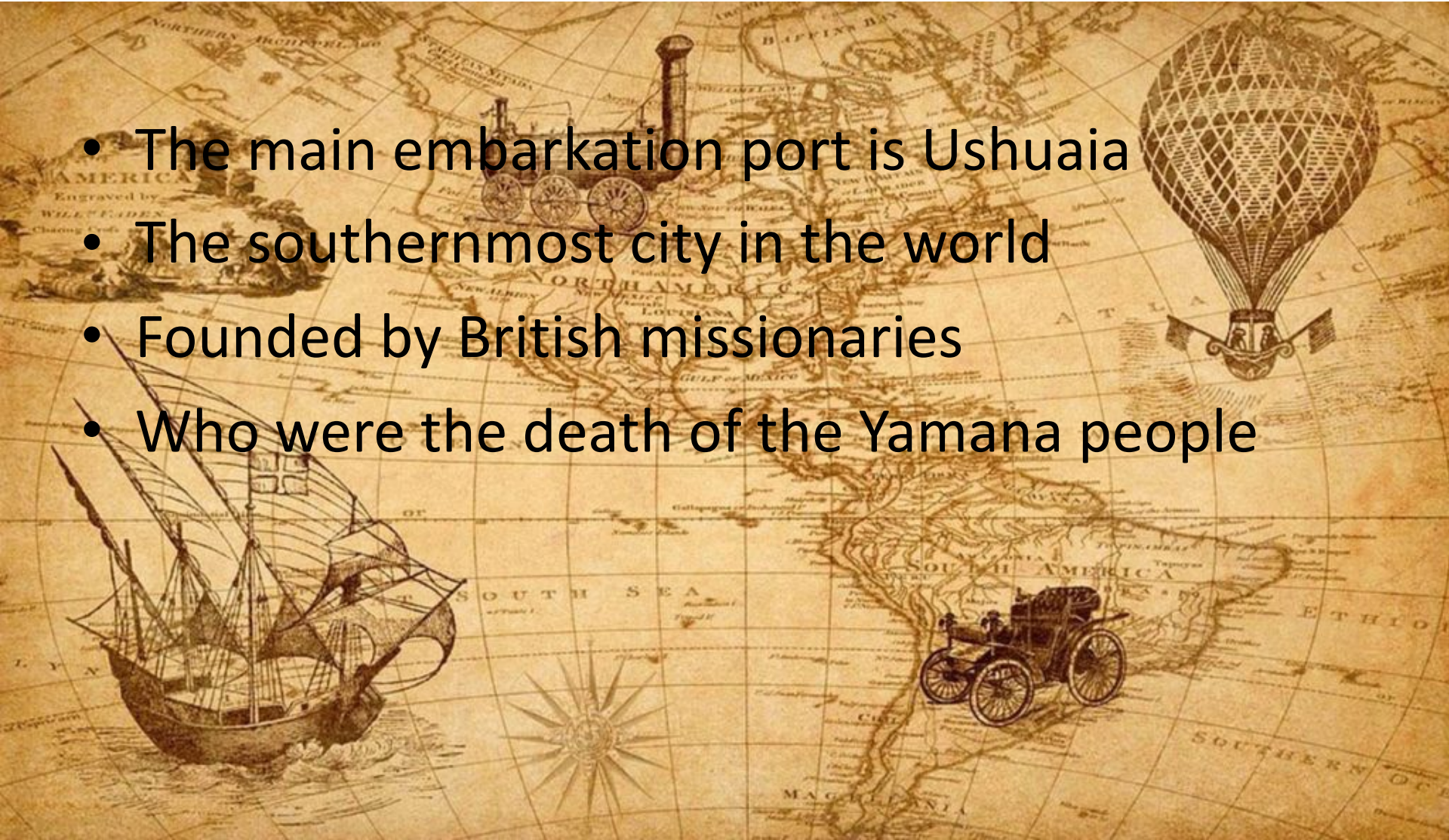
*MV Plancius was named after the Dutch astronomer, cartographer, geologist and vicar Petrus Plancius (1552-1622). Plancius was built in 1976 as an oceanographic research vessel for the Royal Dutch Navy and was named Hr. Ms. Tydeman.*

*The ship sailed for the Royal Dutch Navy until June 2004 when she was purchased by Oceanwide Expeditions and underwent a complete refit in 2007, being converted into a 114-passenger expedition vessel. Plancius is 89 m (267 feet) long, 14.5 m (43 feet) wide and has a maximum draft of 5 m, with an Ice Strength rating of 1D, top speed of 12+ knots and three engines generating 1230 hp each.*

# Ushuaia



- The main embarkation port is Ushuaia
- The southernmost city in the world
- Founded by British missionaries
- Who were the death of the Yamana people





GAUCHO RIVERO 852, Provincia de Tierra del Fuego

**PROHIBIDO EL AMARRE  
DE LOS  
BUQUES PIRATAS INGLESES**

Ushuaia TIERRA DEL FUEGO - REPÚBLICA ARGENTINA!!!











"EL PUEBLO DE USHUAIA A QUIENES... CON SU SANGRE REGARON LAS RAICES  
DE NUESTRA SOBERANIA SOBRE MALVINAS... VOLA EREMOS !!!"



PARA QUE TODOS LOS HEROES CUSTODIEN POR SIEMPRE NUESTRA SOBERANIA



2 de abril 1982

**MALVINAS**

2 de abril 2012



**XXX ANIVERSARIO**



# Falkland Islands



- 12,173 sq km
- Population 2,800 plus over 2,000 military
- Industry – mostly sheep farming & wool exports
- fishing
- tourism
- maybe offshore oil industry support



# FALKLAND ISLANDS

1. West Point Island
2. Carcass Island
3. Stanley



# West Point Island, West Falklands













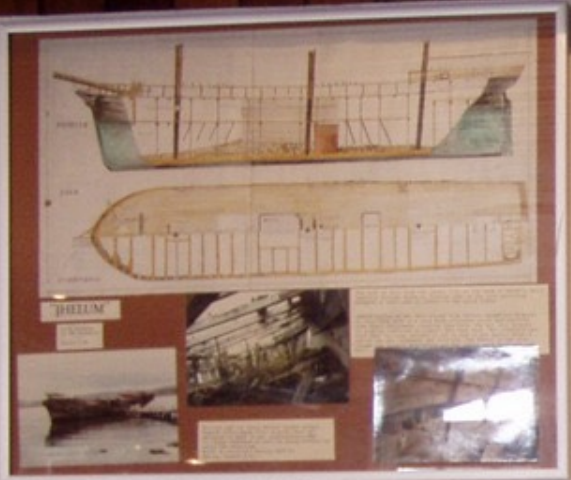




THE FALKLAND ISLANDS







Stanley Museum, Shirley Hirtle





PLANCIUS

# South Georgia



- 3,900 sq km
- No permanent population
- Industry: seven whaling stations ashore for 60 years until 1965
- British Antarctic Survey near Grytviken
- 19 March 1982 Argentinians occupied Leith Harbour
- Retaken by British forces 25 April 1982









































































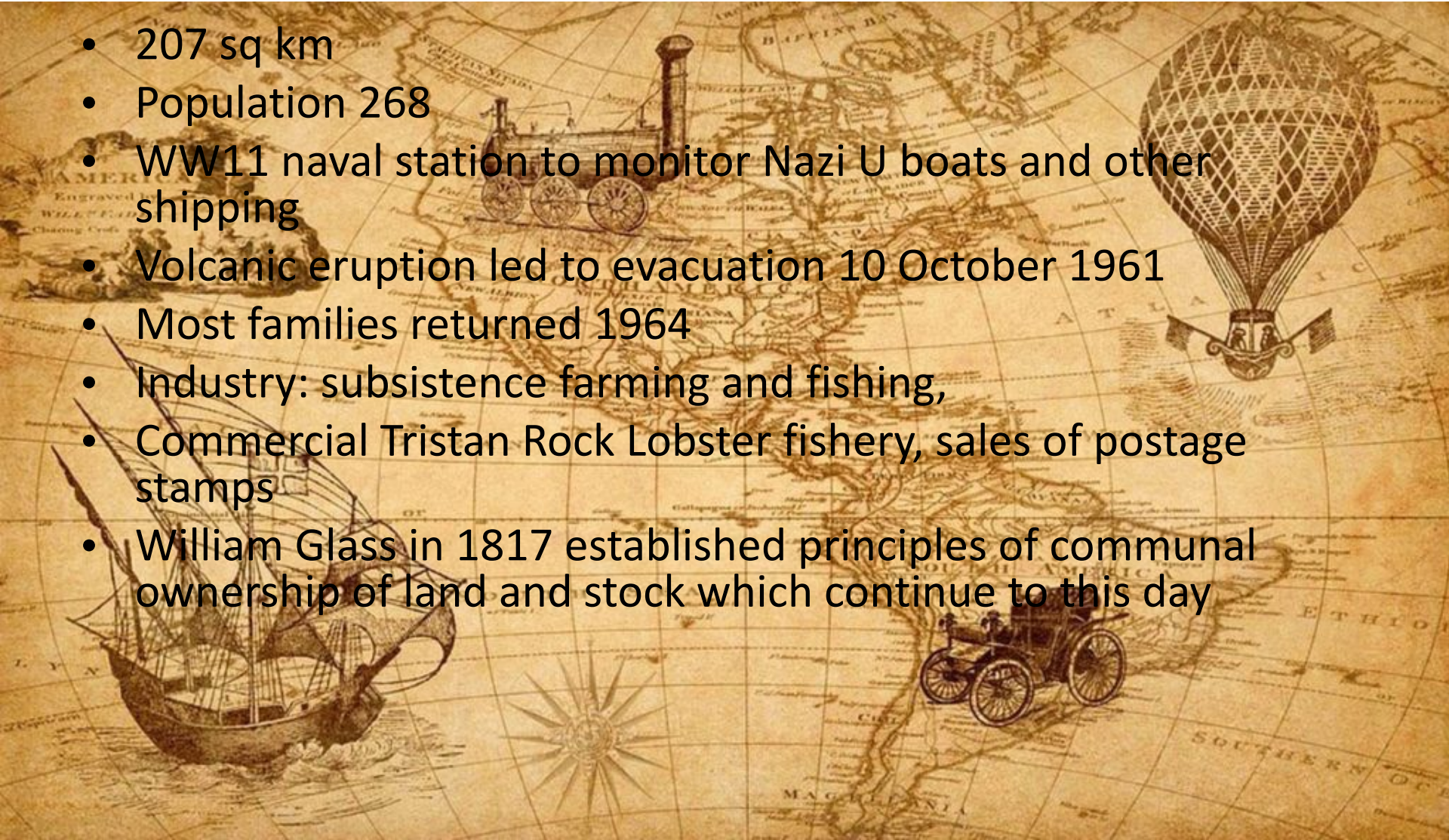




# Tristan da Cunha



- 207 sq km
- Population 268
- WW11 naval station to monitor Nazi U boats and other shipping
- Volcanic eruption led to evacuation 10 October 1961
- Most families returned 1964
- Industry: subsistence farming and fishing,
- Commercial Tristan Rock Lobster fishery, sales of postage stamps
- William Glass in 1817 established principles of communal ownership of land and stock which continue to this day

















PETREL



# St Helena



- 121 sq km
- “Saints” population 9,850 in 1901
- Current population 4,500 following collapse of the flax industry
- DFIS airport cost £285M allegedly
- Weekly flight for 76 passengers









THE ARCH  
1822

FLOOD MARK  
14-11-1978













CONSUL HOTEL

40554

KLT 242







# ST HELENA AIRPORT

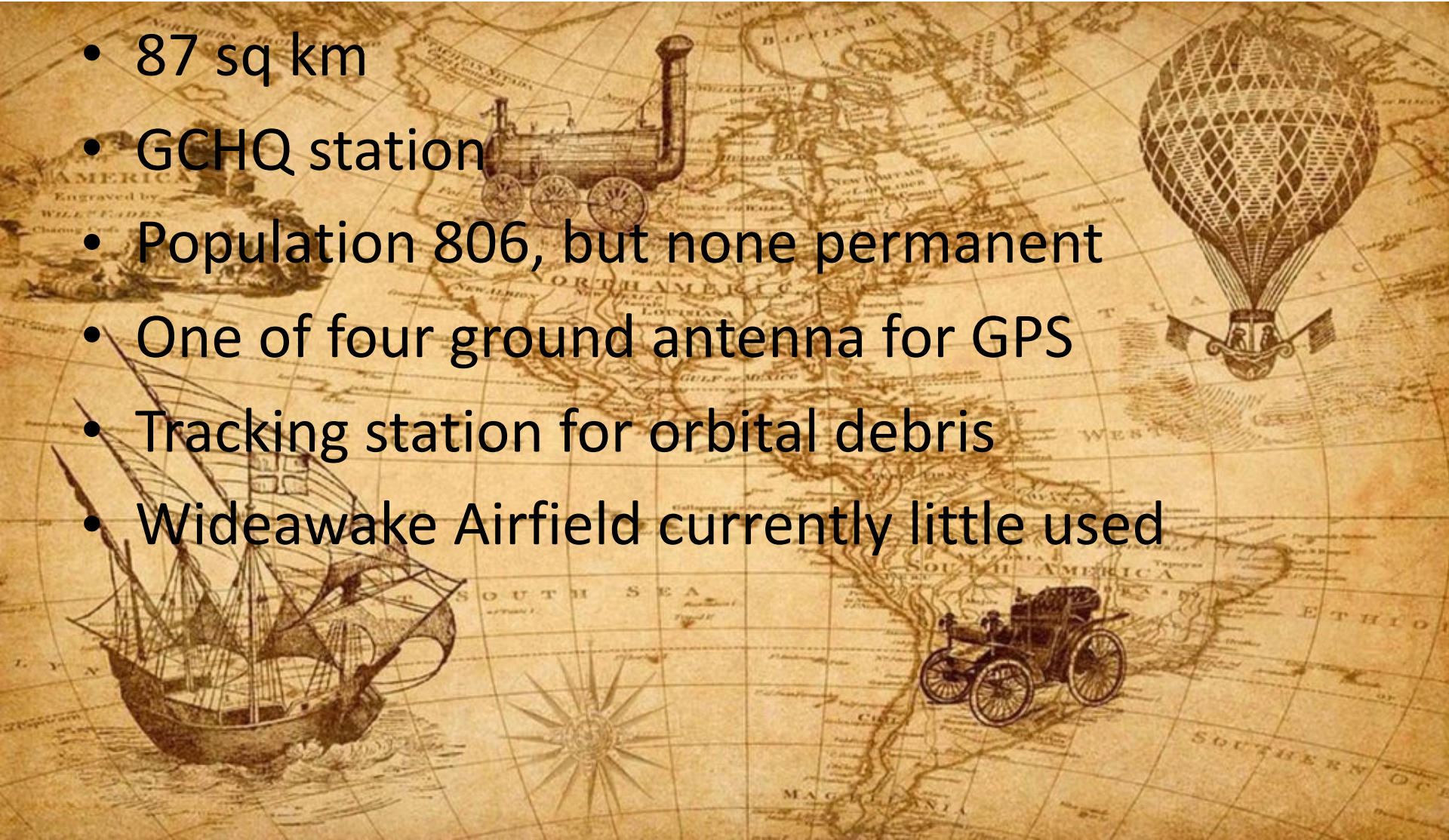
No Parking  
Except for  
Authorized  
Persons

BUS

# Ascension Island



- 87 sq km
- GCHQ station
- Population 806, but none permanent
- One of four ground antenna for GPS
- Tracking station for orbital debris
- Wideawake Airfield currently little used









OSIDIAN GROUP LTD  
Hotel  
Souvenir Shop  
Restaurant  
Anchor Inn Bar  
Car Hire  
Internet Bureau





SHELLEY BEACH

SOOTY TERNS NESTING



PLEASE DO NOT DRIVE













# Praia Island, west of Senegal



- Disembarkation point  
Cape Verde, Portuguese  
Exports coffee, sugar cane & tropical fruits  
Tourism  
Population 131,700





GATO DO MAR

BANG-BANG ST 194

DEUS AJUDA









PLANCIUS

*Thank you!!*

Voyages to British Islands in the South Atlantic  
- 2018 by Steve Thomas

2012







