

ISLANDS TO ICE

THE GREAT SOUTHERN OCEAN & ANTARCTICA

Earliest Perceptions of the Antarctic Region

Prior to Captain James Cook's expedition in 1772–5, the polar region of the southern hemisphere were uncharted. Cook and his second in command Furneaux were credited with being the first to circumnavigate Antarctica and define it as a separate continent.

In the preceding centuries however map makers and explorers illustrated what they thought the region might look like. The image below is a modern interpretation of what was going on in the minds of people of these times.

