



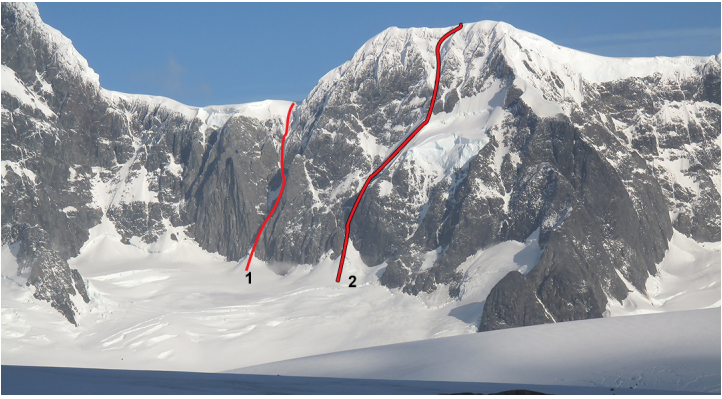
Cape Perez (ca 650m), north face and northwest ridge; First Sister of Fief (986m), east face

Antarctica, Antarctic Peninsula

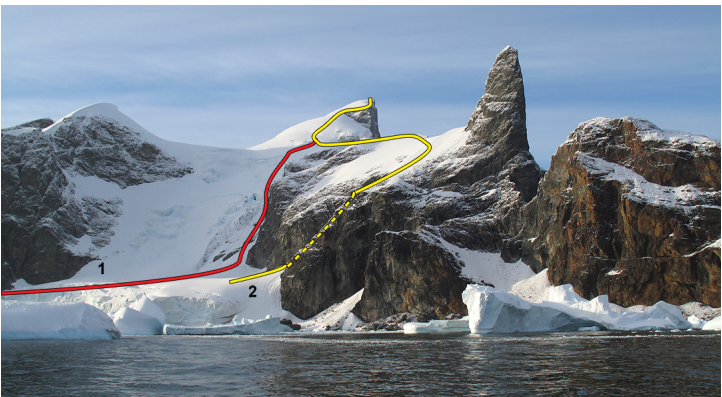
On March 5, 2010, New Zealanders Lydia Bradey, Penny Goddard, and Dean Staples made the first known ascent of Cape Perez (65°24'S, 64°06'W). Prior to this, on February 23, the three made what is believed to be a new route on the east face of the First Sister of Fief on Wiencke Island. They climbed 12 pitches of snow and ice at New Zealand 5. From the summit they descended the south ridge to the top of the couloir between the First Sister and Mt. Luigi, then made seven 60m rappels down the couloir, returning to camp after a 14-hour day.

For Cape Perez, the landing proved to be the most difficult part of the route. Once on shore, the three slanted right through a rocky barrier on the right side of the north face, reaching the northwest ridge above a prominent rock spire. They followed moderate snow slopes on or near the ridge until forced into a detour by a gulch. The summit was a spectacular point above the big walls of the southwest face, dropping into the ocean below. Perez was named after three Argentinian brothers by French explorer Jean-Baptiste Charcot in 1904.

Images



The east face of the First Sister of Fief. (1) Rappel descent route. (2) New Zealand ascent route. The ridge on the left rises toward the summit of Mt. Luigi.



Cape Perez from the north. (1) January 2013 second ascent. (2) March 2010 New Zealand first ascent. The impressive rock tower remains unclimbed.

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