



AAC Publications

Liard Island, Mt. Bridgman, First Ascent and Ski Descent

Antarctica, Antarctic Peninsula

In January 2024, I led a team of six aboard the yacht Icebird to make a number of ski ascents in the Grandidier Channel and Crystal Sound areas. After an ascent of frequently climbed Mt. Scott (880m), the team summited a 530m peak on Lahille Island (first climbed by a group led by me in February 2019), followed by two minor unclimbed summits on Larrouy Island.

We then headed south of the Antarctic Circle and on January 14 landed on a small cape on the east coast of Liard Island. We traversed to the unnamed glacier that flows northeast from Mt. Bridgman, the highest point of the island (approx. 66.825442°S, 67.368824°W), and established a camp.

The following day, in perfect weather, we made the first known ascent of Mt. Bridgman, via an improbable-looking line up its east face, following a minor glacier to reach the south ridge and southwest summit slopes. We measured the elevation on top as 1,410m. We then made a very enjoyable ski descent via the line of ascent.

– **Phil Wickens, U.K.**

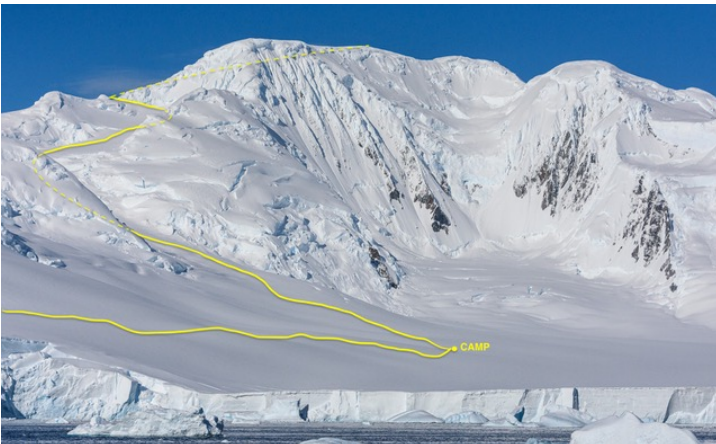
Images



Skiing the east face of Mt. Bridgman (1,410m GPS) on Liard Island, with Glen Peak (probably unclimbed) in back on the right. The skiers made the first known ascent of Bridgman by the same route.



Descending the upper east face of Mt. Bridgman after the first ascent.



The line of the first ascent and ski descent of Mt. Bridgman (1,410m GPS) on Liard Island.

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