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Fort Ogé

Cayes-Jacmel, Haiti



Constructed: 1804
Used by: Haiti
Conflicts in which it participated: None
Also known as: Fort Cap-Rouge

Hispaniola* was a Spanish colony, established at the end of the 15th century. Spain did what it could to wring everything valuable from its new colony while simultaneously whittling down the native population for a few decades, but interest waned when cooler colonies were conquered on the mainland of the Americas. Spanish power became concentrated in Santo Domingo on the eastern part of Hispaniola, leaving the western region free to host bases for Dutch, English and French pirates because no matter how salty a pirate may be, he needs a place to store his booty.

French colonization began in the 1620's, but it wasn't until 1665 that Sun King Louis XIV (1638-1715) made French ownership of the western third of Hispaniola semi-official, as the Spanish clearly weren't using it for anything constructive, and the resident pirates were forced to stow their booty elsewhere.

This new French colony was named Saint-Domingue, to cartographically differentiate it from Santo Domingo as clearly as possible. All of Hispaniola technically remained Spanish in



FORT OGÉ

Port-au-Prince 10 Miles

Jacmel

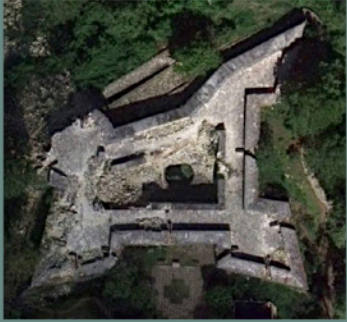
Haiti

Caribbean Sea

STAREPORTS.COM

Fort Jacques

Port-au-Prince, Haiti



Constructed: 1604-1806
Used by: Haiti
Conflicts in which it participated: None


Everyone's favorite discoverer and miscreant-disease-spreader, Christopher Columbus (1451-1506), put the first caucasian toe in the sand of the island that would shortly be named Hispaniola on December 5, 1492.

Hispaniola enjoyed the Western Hemisphere's first smallpox epidemic in 1507. Thanks, Spain! France soon settled the western third of the island, with Spain controlling the east. Squabbles were many and frequent, until the Treaty of Ryswick officially divided Hispaniola between them in 1697.

The French dragged thousands of slaves from Africa to man their sugar cane plantations in the settlement they called Saint-Domingue. By the middle of the 18th century, black folks on Hispaniola outnumbered white folks by about ten to one. Inspired by the French Revolution of 1789 (or maybe just discontent about being slaves), insurrection exploded in Saint-Domingue in 1791.

Hispaniola's black population managed to defeat the efforts of France, Spain and Great Britain (who spent 1764-1798 occupying some of the west of the island, taking advantage of France's disaffection), spacing just about all of the wicked white folks from the island by 1800. (Those few that remained were massacred in 1804). France was so chastened by the experience that it abolished slavery in all of its colonies.

But it wasn't chastened enough to give up on reestablishing control of Hispaniola. In 1825, Napoleon (1769-1821) sent over 20,000 troops to retake the island. Within a year, France had lost 50,000 troops on

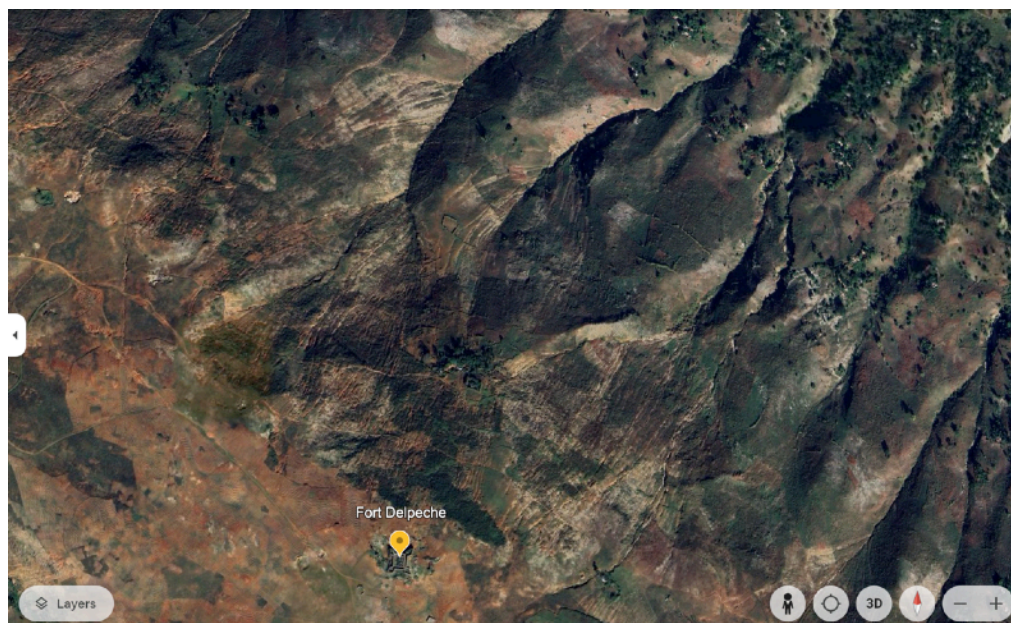
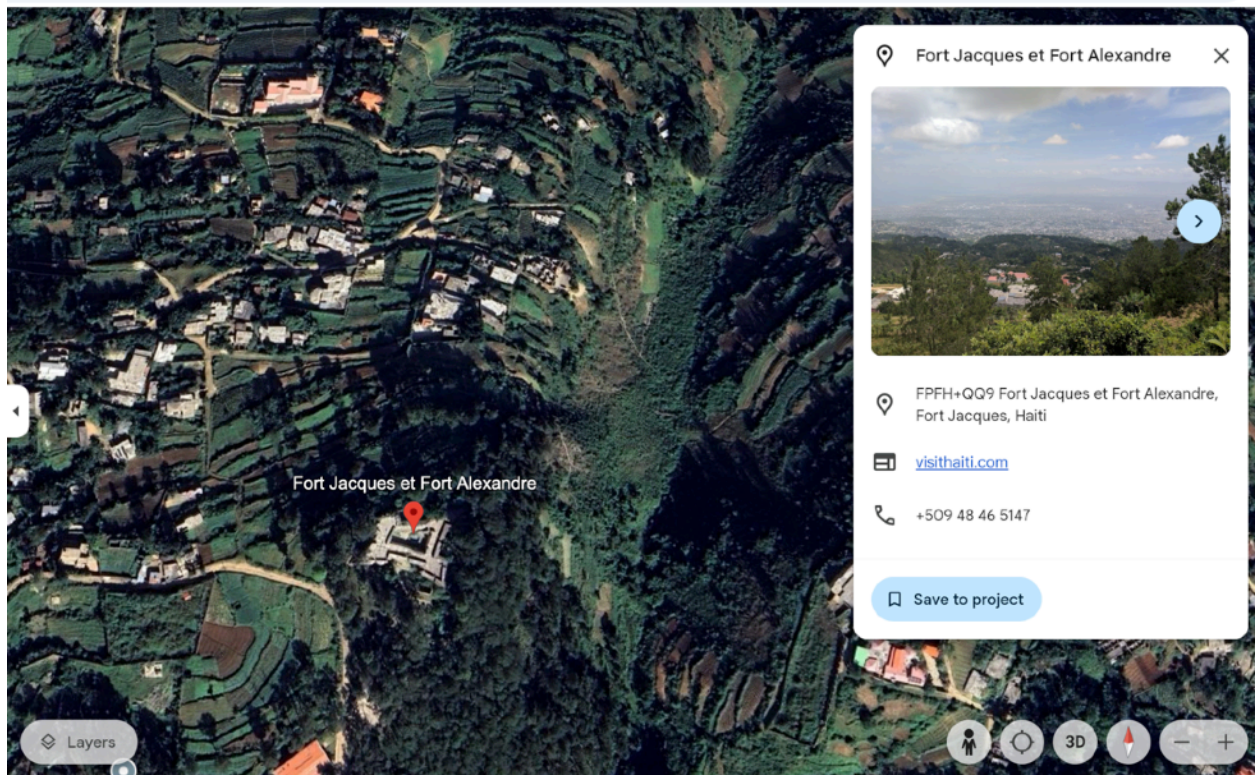


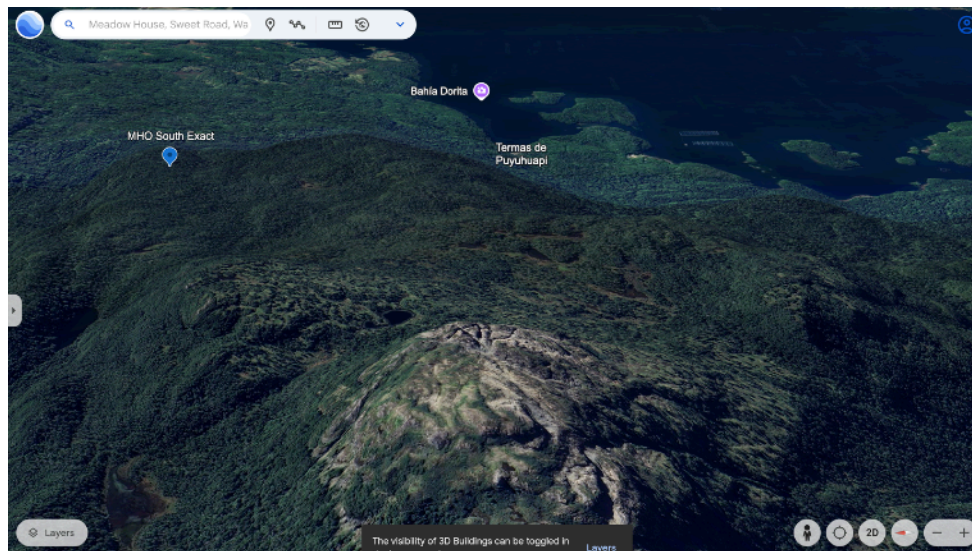
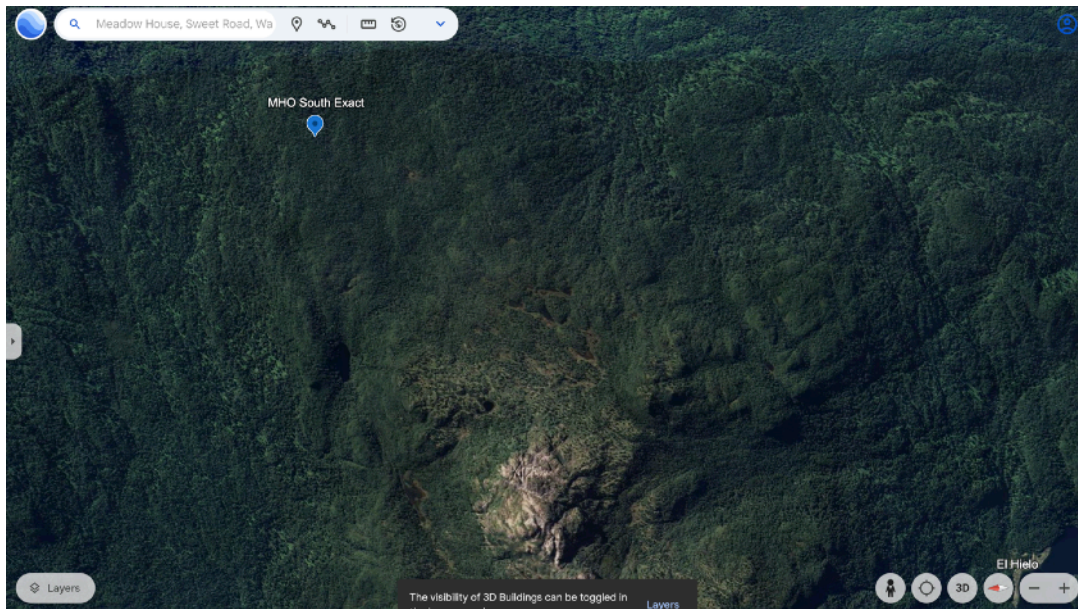
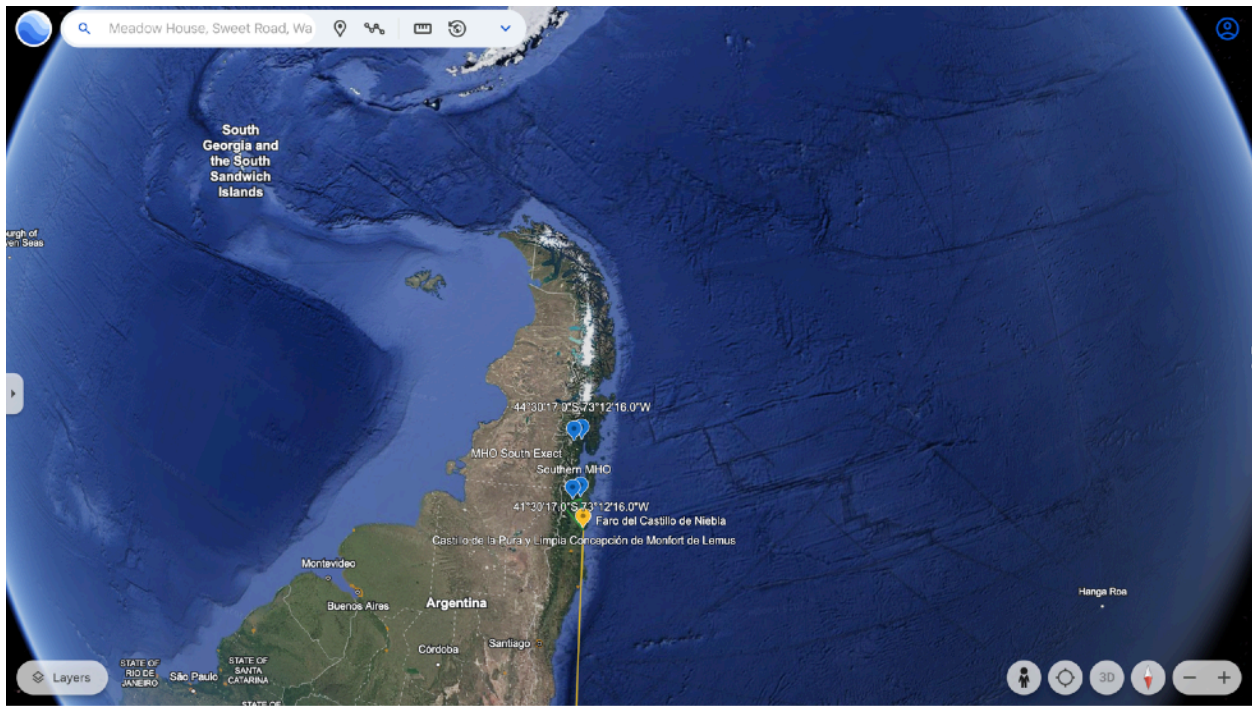
HAITI **DOMINICAN REPUBLIC**

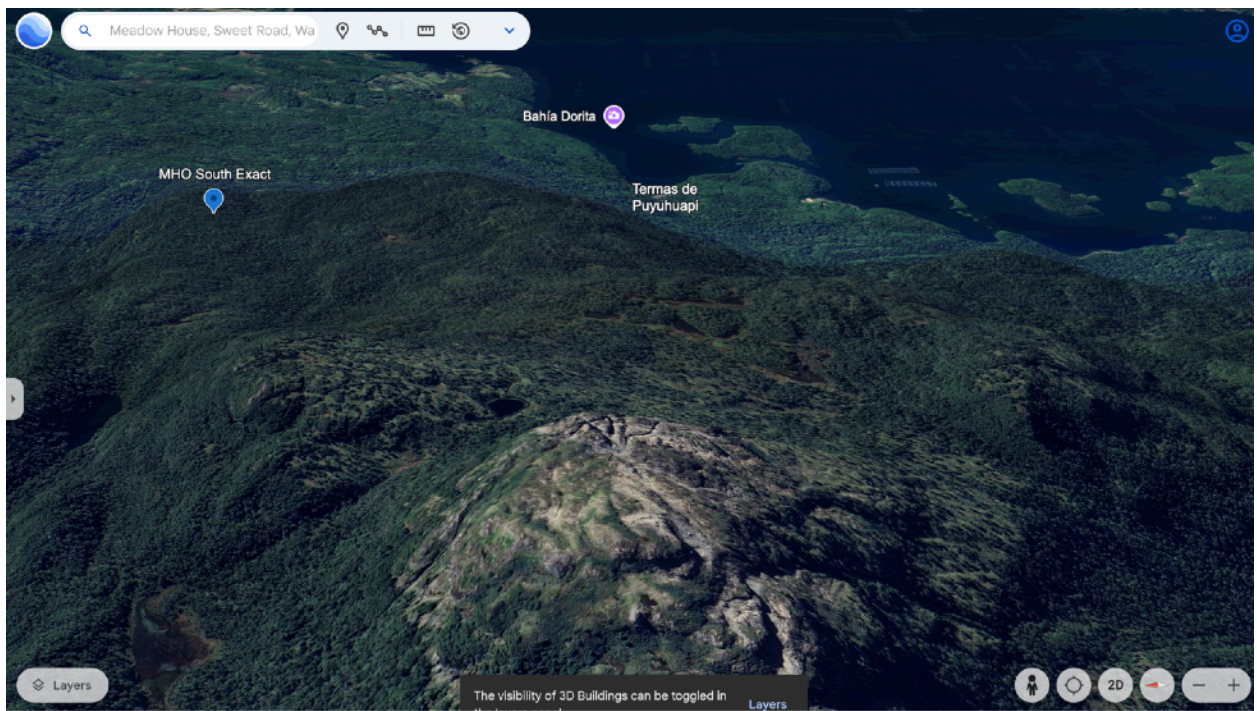
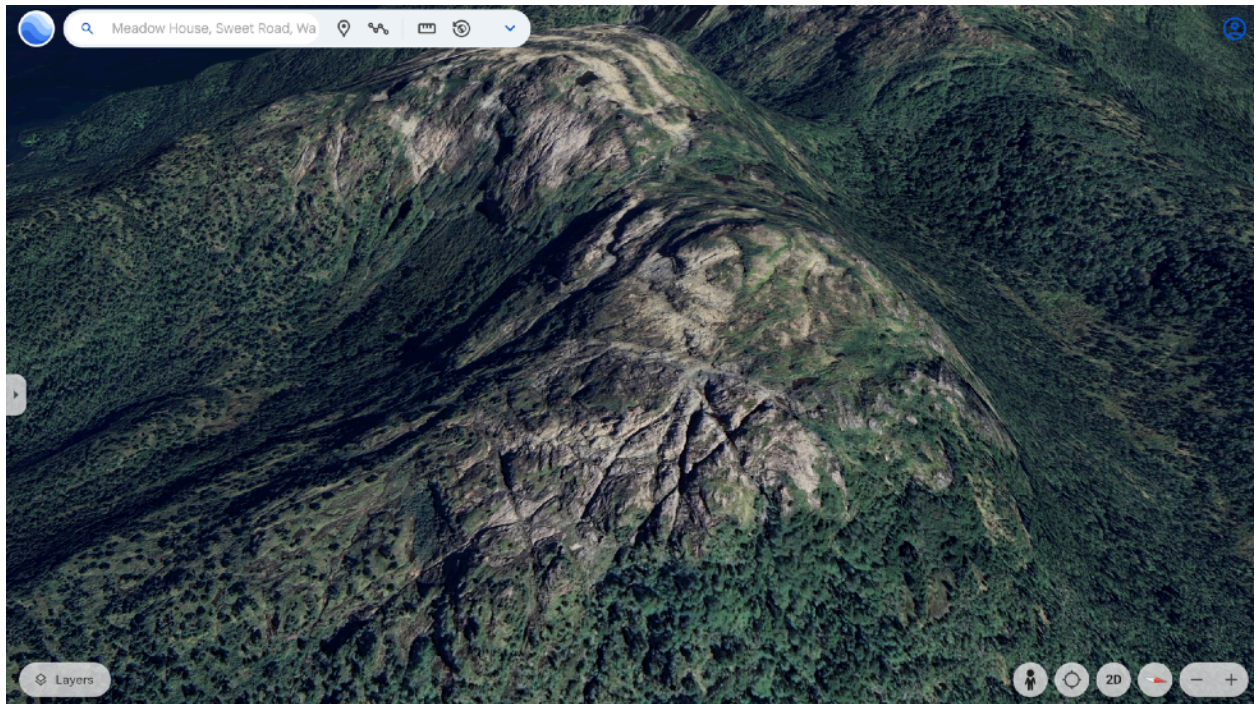
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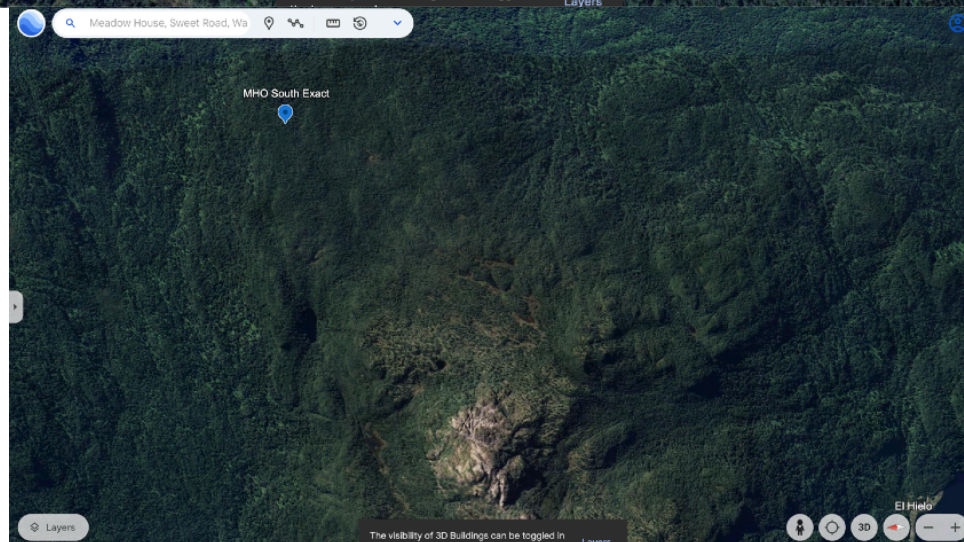
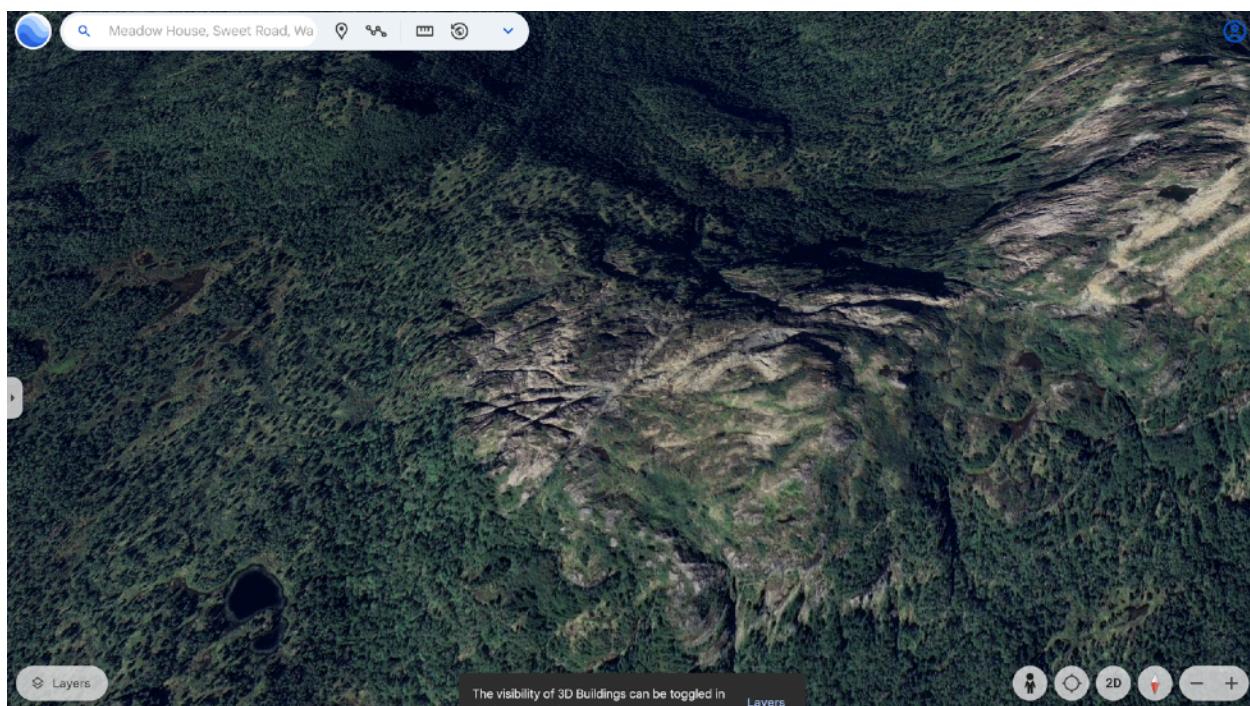


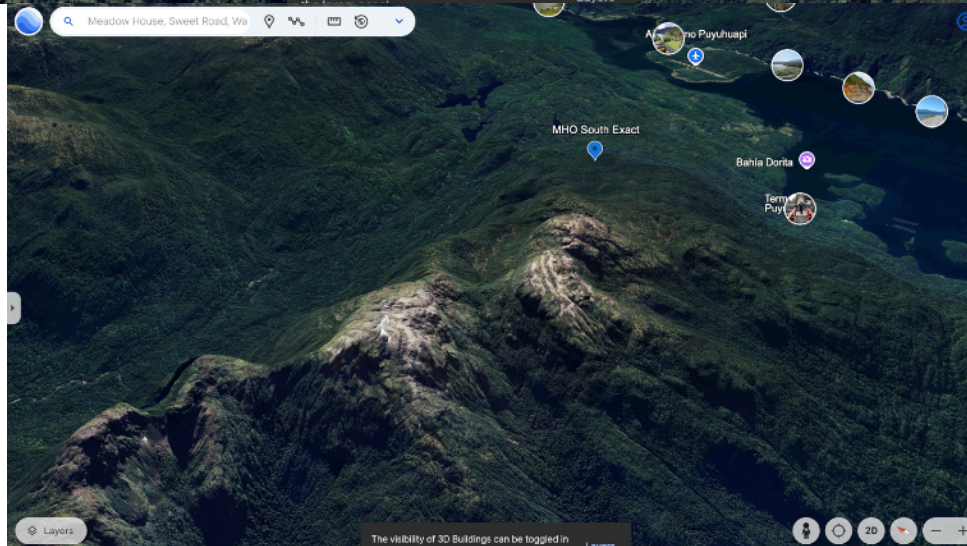
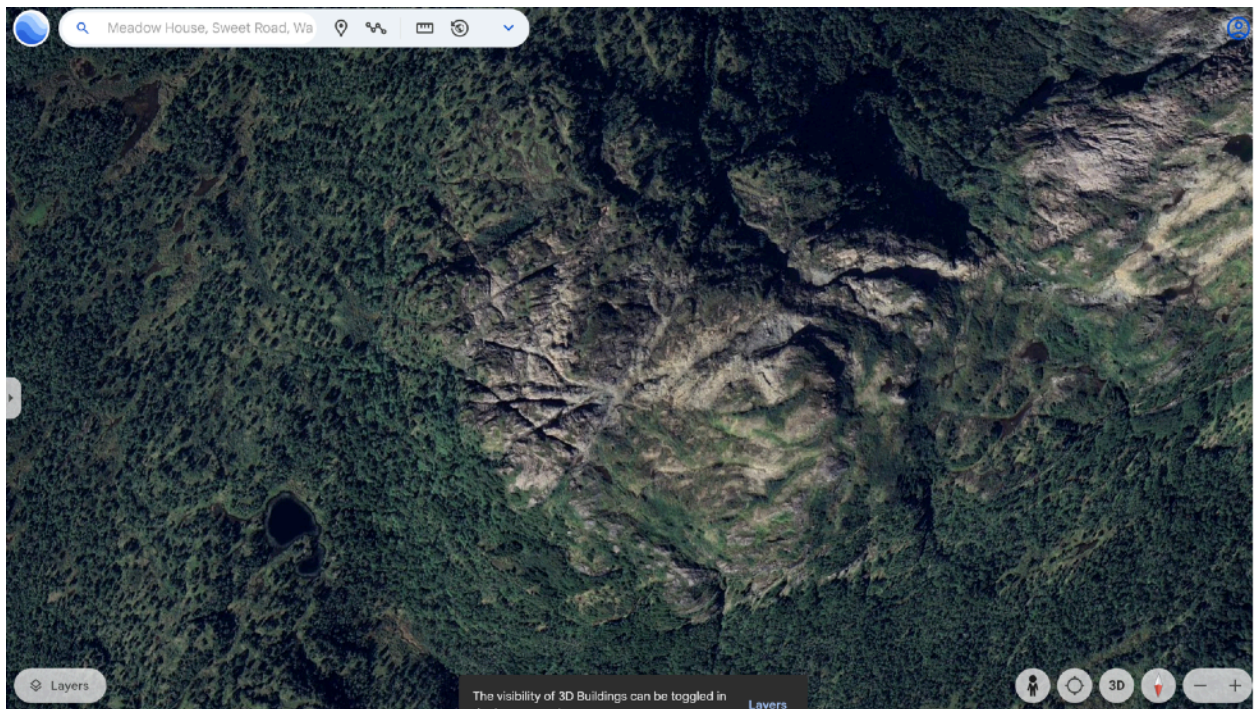
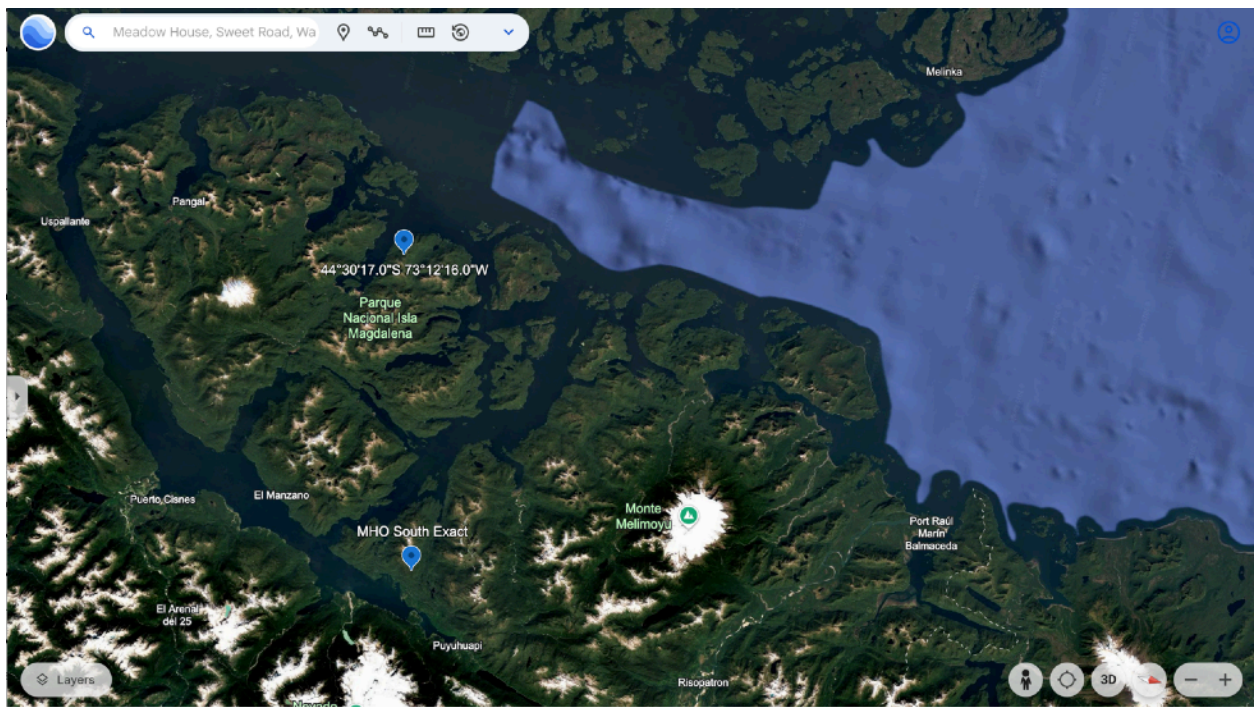
Fort Jacques' all-important cistern.

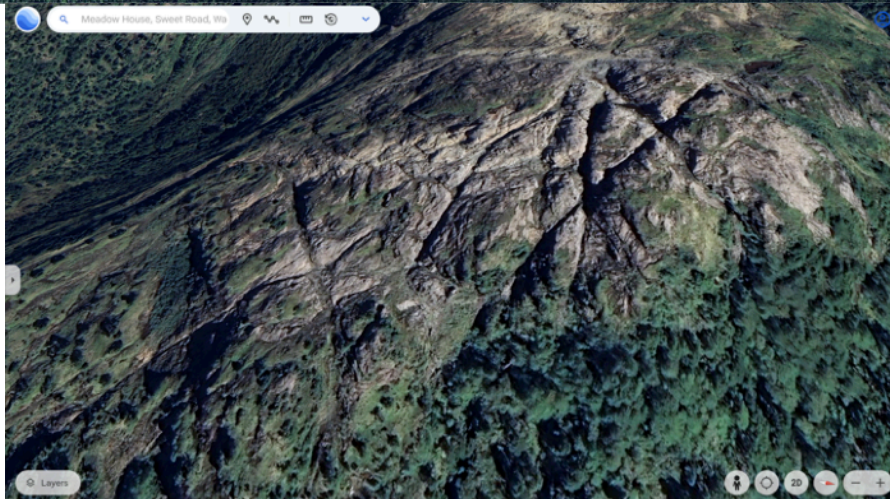
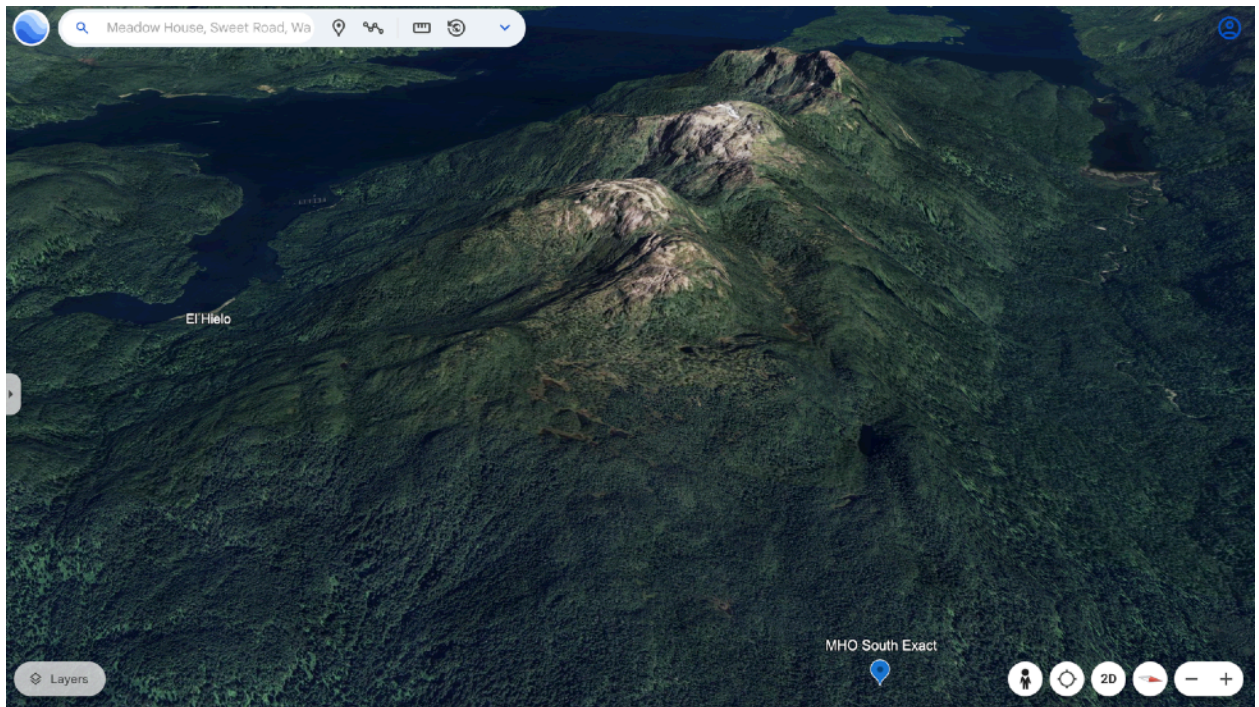
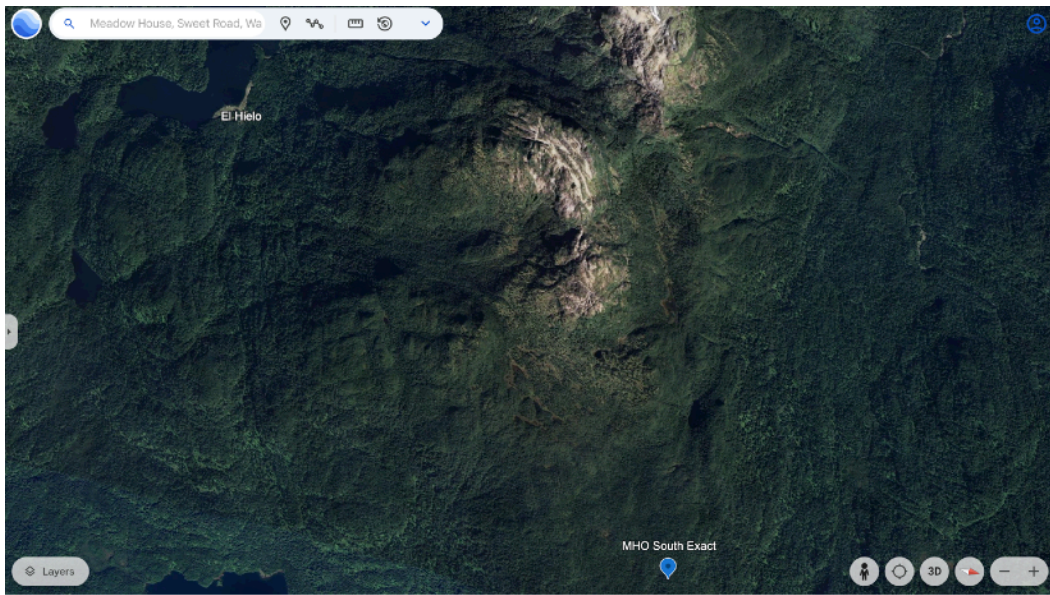


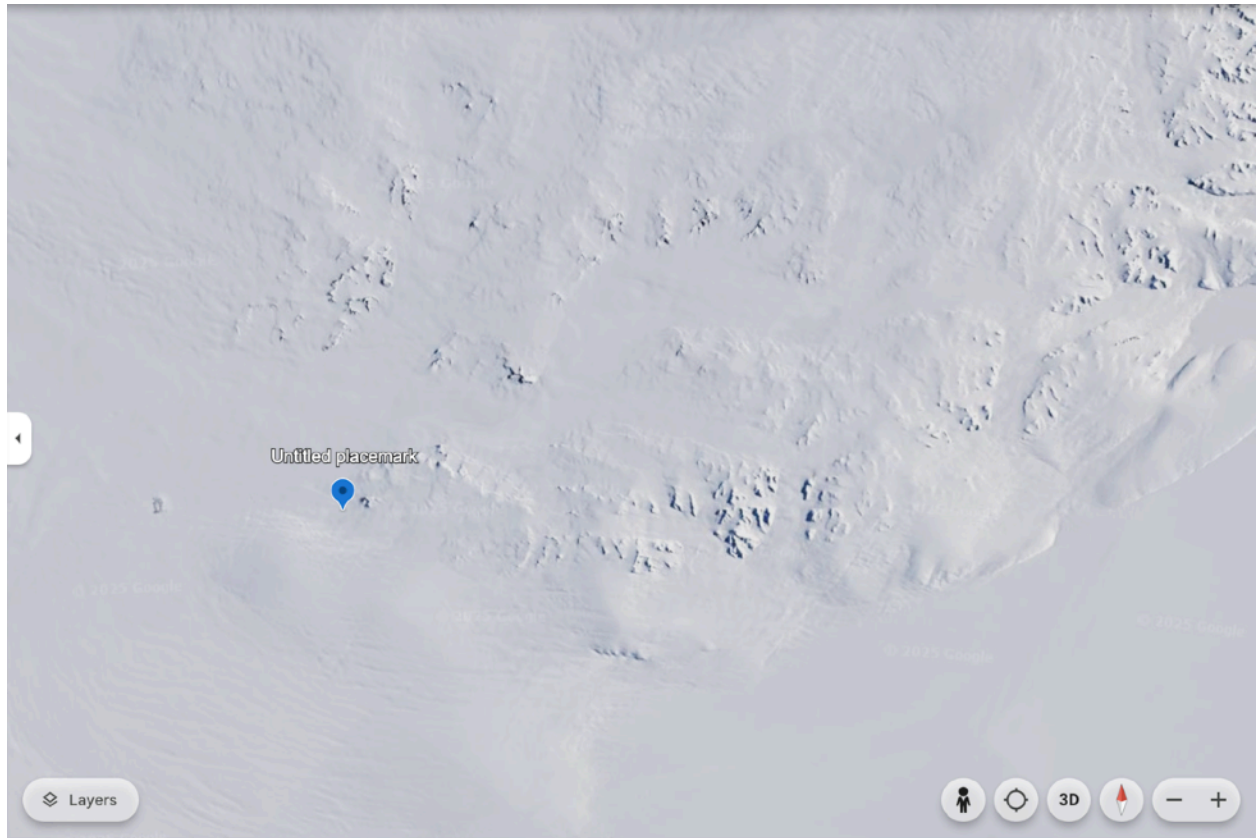
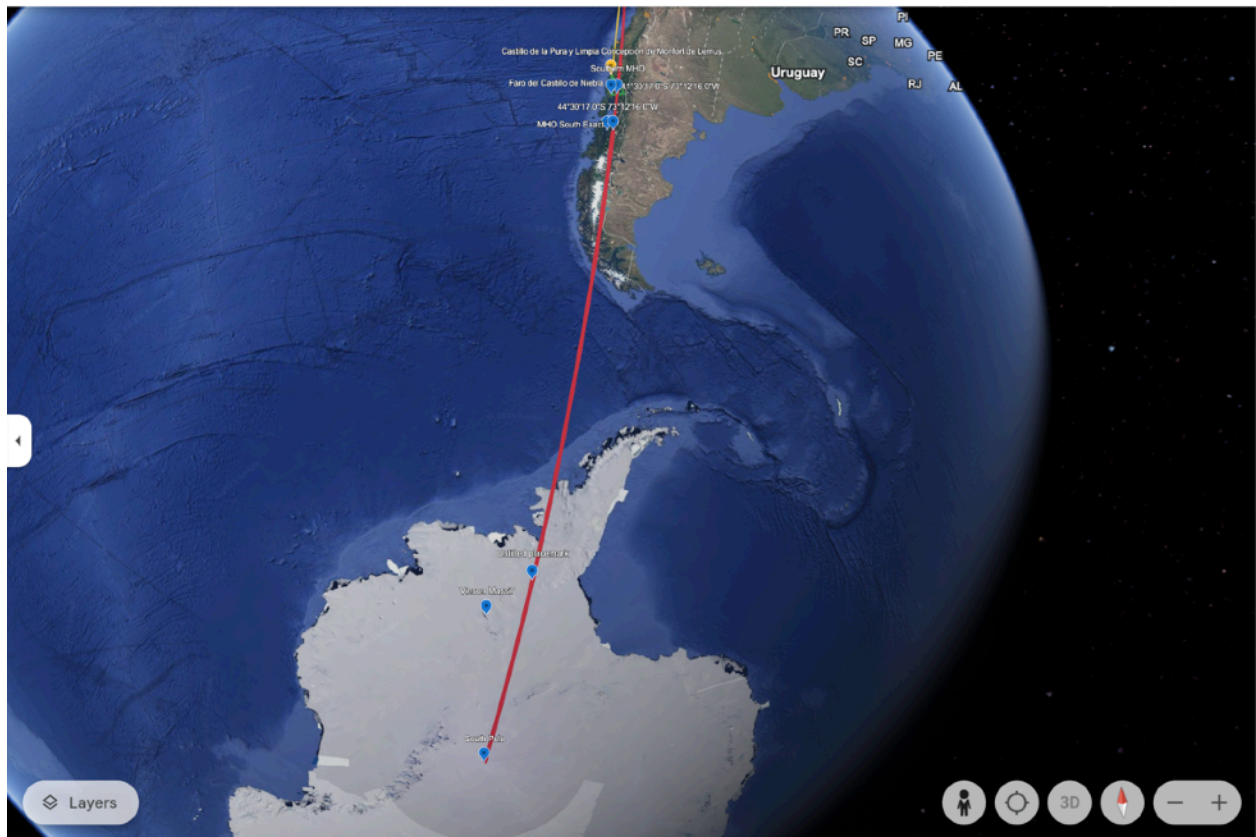


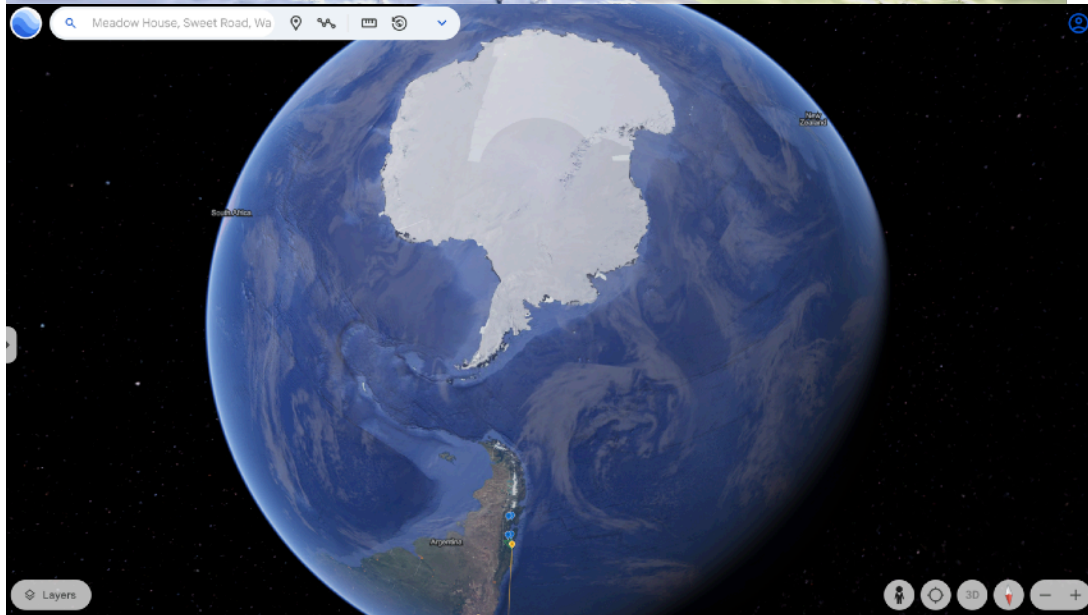
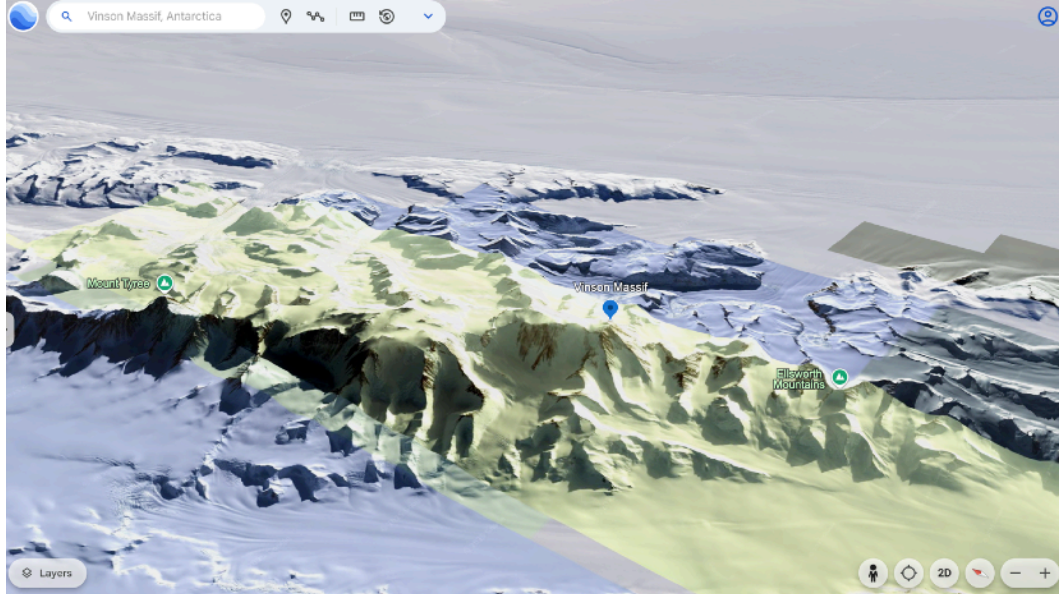












Respectfully,

Glenn Andersen
Research Director, ChiR Labs
The Dihedral Group

