

Shackleton knew it was now time to venture across the island to seek help at the Stromness whaling station. The whalers themselves thought the interior of the island to be impenetrable. But Shackleton realised that the quickest route would be overland, so he moved down towards the head of the bay and established Peggotty Camp, creating a shelter from the upturned boat.

He decided to cross the island with Crean and Worsley, leaving the other three men behind and taking enough provisions for three days. Crean had experience in alpine environments, and Worsley was an experienced mountaineer and had proved himself a splendid navigator.

