Browns Glacier, Heard Island, Southern Ocean

Browns Glacier as it was in 1947; an active tidewater glacier with a 20-30m terminal ice cliff (RAAF photo 620; Copyright AAD)

Browns Glacier in 2004; the glacier has retreated 1.17 km, and is fronted by a 50 m deep lagoon (Copyright Doug Thost)

Browns Glacier has lost 38% of its volume and retreated 1.17 km at an average rate of 21 m/yr since 1950 (the earliest record from which physical boundaries of the glacier can be defined). This retreat is attributed to an increase in average annual temperatures of about 1 degree C. (Doug Thost, Glaciology Program, AAD, & ACE CRC)