

THE HOMEWORLD UNIVERSE



HOMEWORLD

- HOMEWORLD 1998
- CATAclysm 2000
- HOMEWORLD 2 2003



While certainly not the most important cartographic instrument in the entire universe, the Guidestone has transcended the simple status of a map for the Higarans and has become a cultural icon among the returned population of Higarra. Composed of igneous rock cooled in a vacuum, the Guidestone was later confirmed to have been created out of rock carved from Higarra's only moon. Though most of the Guidestone is damaged and the original message conveyed is lost, it still held the galactic coordinates of Khanak and Higarra on its surface. Today the Guidestone has been mounted on a pedestal, shielded behind armored glass, before the Daimid's assembly building in the Higarra capital.

This map represents the state of the galaxy following the second homeworld war (The dust war), approximately 9637 Galactic Standard Year (1937 After Landing). The Vaygr have since retreated from their maximum extended reach during the war, yet still hold a wide range of space in the eastern fringe. While the new Galactic Council tries to reestablish itself in the wake of the Dust Wars, forces in the western side of the galaxy continue to grow in power, unchecked, and may soon prove to be a threat to the safety of the core in the very near future.

The homeworld universe is of a spiral shape with a neighboring star cluster, Hyperborea. Much of the universe appears to have been colonized previously before the present races existed. This ancient empire is widely known as the Progenitors. No known progenitor is known to live to this day, but estimates establish that they wandered this galaxy sometime around 4,000,000 GSY. Many archaeologists conclude that the Progenitors apparently died out through warfare, suggesting a kind of civil war, but nothing conclusive has been deduced from the ruins.

In the past hundred years, the most noteworthy effects on the galaxy have been the return of the Higarans from their exile, the rise of the Vaygr in the east, and the coalescence of the Turanic Raiders in the west. With the return of the Higarans from their exile, the Taidan hold on the universe has been shattered sending the Taidan race in a number of directions, never again to be the same. When the Higarans were firmly established, the prophecy of the three cores being united was fulfilled during the second homeworld war. Karin Sit and the Higarans under her leadership found and unlocked the last of the progenitor ruins: the hyperspace network centered on the Eye of Arran. With it, the universe was now open to expeditions of travel never before thought possible—even travel to other universes. This has yet to be explored, mostly out of fear of what could be discovered on the other side of the network.

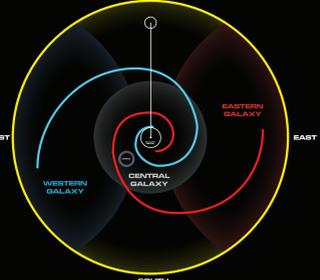
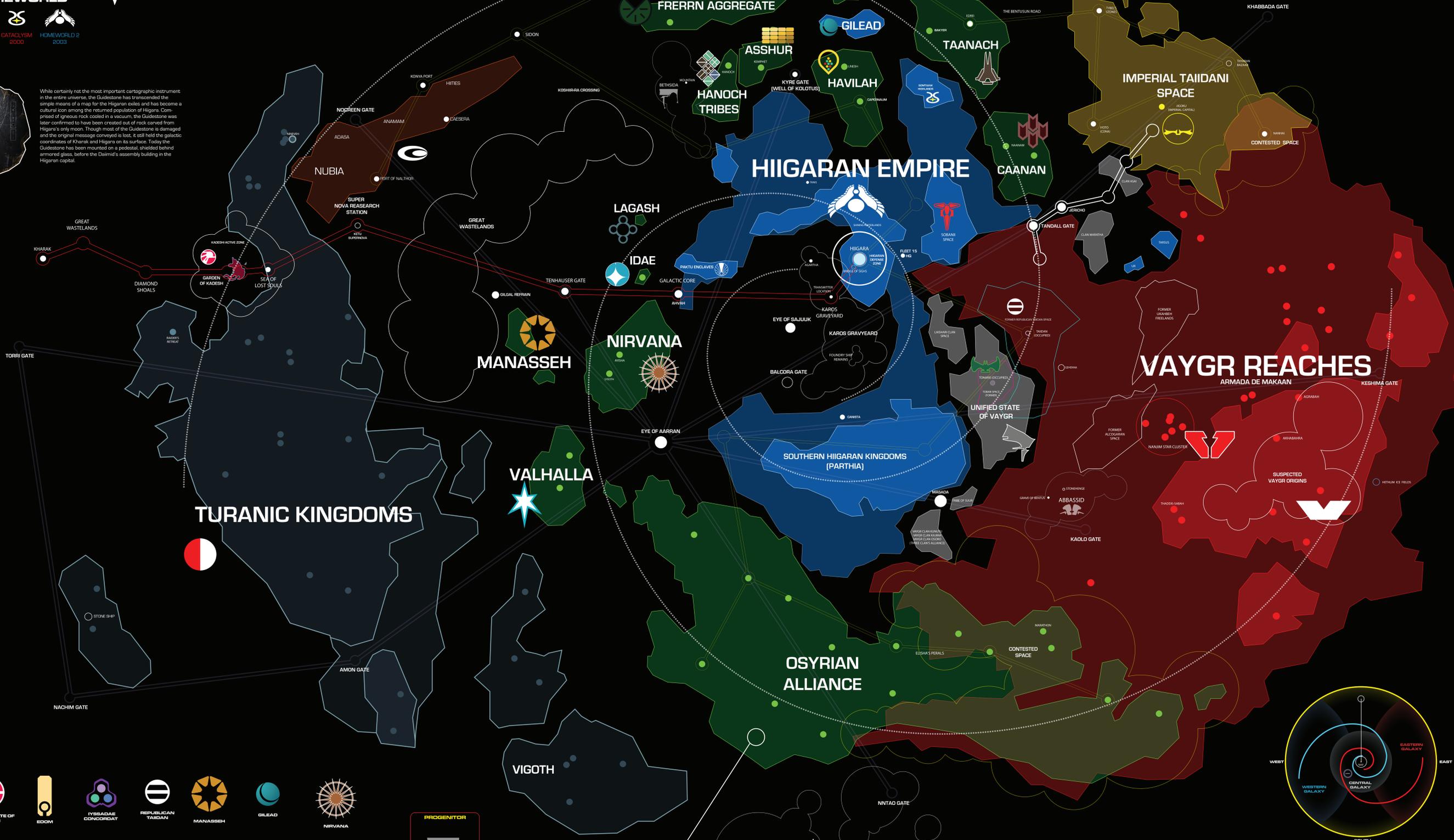
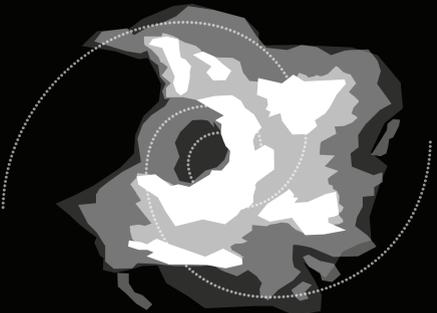
The Homeworld universe is based on the M51 Galaxy. Reference images were reviewed and illustrated on to create the first Homeworld guide map that plotted the path of the Exiles to Higarra. Maps created since then have either been purely conceptual, or were referenced in outscene sequences with no apparent concern for continuity. This map attempts to combine the aspects of Homeworld 2 concept maps, canonical maps presented in the game, and fan speculation on the part of Michael Ptak.

DISTRIBUTION OF PROGENITOR RUINS

Scattered across the homeworld universe are the remains of an ancient galaxy-spanning civilization known as the Progenitors. Responsible for constructing the Eye of Arran's vast hyperspace network, the Progenitors were also responsible for millions of derelicts, devices, and spacecraft scattered across the universe. Many of these artifacts are no longer intact, as the ruins at Karos can attest to.

The fall of the Progenitors has not been clearly defined, but popular theory suggests a massive civil war engulfed the Progenitor people around the same time the Arran hyperspace network was completed. This suggests the Progenitors were divided about their control of hyperspace to the degree that they went to war—and nearly extinguished their entire race. From the ashes younger civilizations rose, giving birth to the modern civilizations across the galaxy.

Progenitor ruins are great sources of technological wealth and information, but travelling to them comes at great risk. Many Progenitor ruins and progenitor areas of space are guarded by automated defenders who attack anyone who trespasses on their territory. Five times during the second Homeworld war did the Progenitor Automated Space Fleet—the Keepers—become involved in conflicts with the current generation of Higarra empires. Two of those five were against the Higarra Mothership, Pride of Higarra. The second of two encounters left the Higarans with the Bentusi's Progenitor core, allowing the Higarans to claim inheritance of the Progenitor Arran hyperspace network.



THE GALACTIC COMPASS
The Galactic Compass was first recorded in the ancient Bentusi Trade maps that the Bentusi imparted to whomever they visited in an attempt to propagate knowledge of the universe. On these "Bentusi Maps" of the first time, all were charted with the Bentusi compass aligned in the "North" position over the Galactic core. Sometime around 2100 GSY, the Bentusi revised their map with new data from surveying the universe, aligning West and East with the magnetic configuration of the Galactic core. This style of galactic arrangement has since remained standard, and the universe is divided into "West", "East", "Core", and "East" fringes under the "Bentusi North" system.

OSYRIAN ALLIANCE			