Welcome to a scale model of our solar system.

In the model, this circle shows the relative size of the Sun. The distances between panels show the relative distances between solar system objects. The panels for the Sun, Earth and other planets are located on the Keele campus. The object Sedna is so far from the Sun that it is located at Glendon in this scale model.

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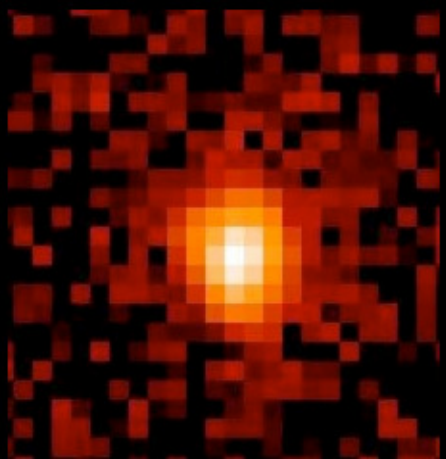
The false-color image to the right, our best photo of Sedna to date, was taken with the Hubble Space Telescope. The next generation James Webb Space Telescope should provide a somewhat better photo, but Sedna is too far away to see much detail.
[French]

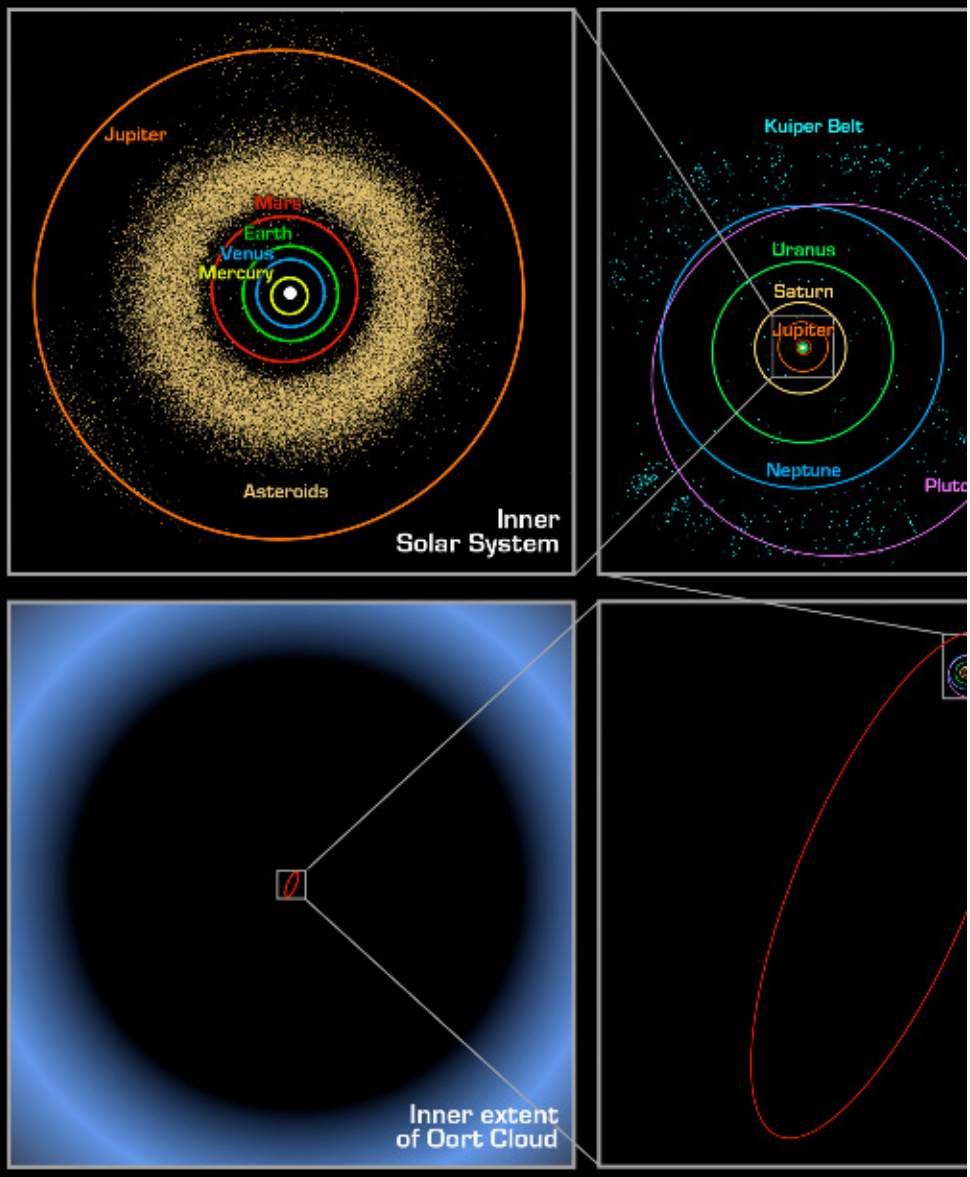


Sedna

na is a trans-Neptunian object discovered on N
003 by Michael Brown, Chad Trujillo and David
a has a very elongated orbit, more like a comet
takes over twelve thousand years just to orbit
s composed mostly of ices which for unknown
ost as red as the surface of Mars. The tempera
r gets warmer than -240 C (33 degrees above
cause it is the coldest, most distant place know
em, Sedna was named after the Inuit goddess o
s thought to live at the bottom of the frigid ar

(French)

November 14,
Rabinowitz.
t than a planet,
the Sun once.
reasons are
ture on Sedna
absolute zero).
n in the solar
f the sea, who
ctic ocean.



The four panels above (moving clo
place Sedna in context. The first pa
Jupiter. The second panel shows th
Kuiper belt objects. The third pane
just shy of its closest approach to t
orbit falls inside the inner edge of t
of cold, icy cometary bodies lying a

(French)

French translation

of text in Sun at upper left corner of panel.

ckwise from the upper left) repeatedly zoom out to
anel shows the orbits of the inner planets and
at Sedna lies beyond the orbits of Neptune and the
el shows Sedna's full orbit and its location in 2004,
he Sun. The final panel shows that Sedna's elliptical
he spherical, transparent Oort Cloud (a distribution
t the limits of the Sun's gravitational influence).

1 Sednan day = 10.273 Earth hours *(French)*

1 Sednan year = 12,059 Earth years *(French)*

Comparaison de la taille de Sedna avec d'autres objets transnept

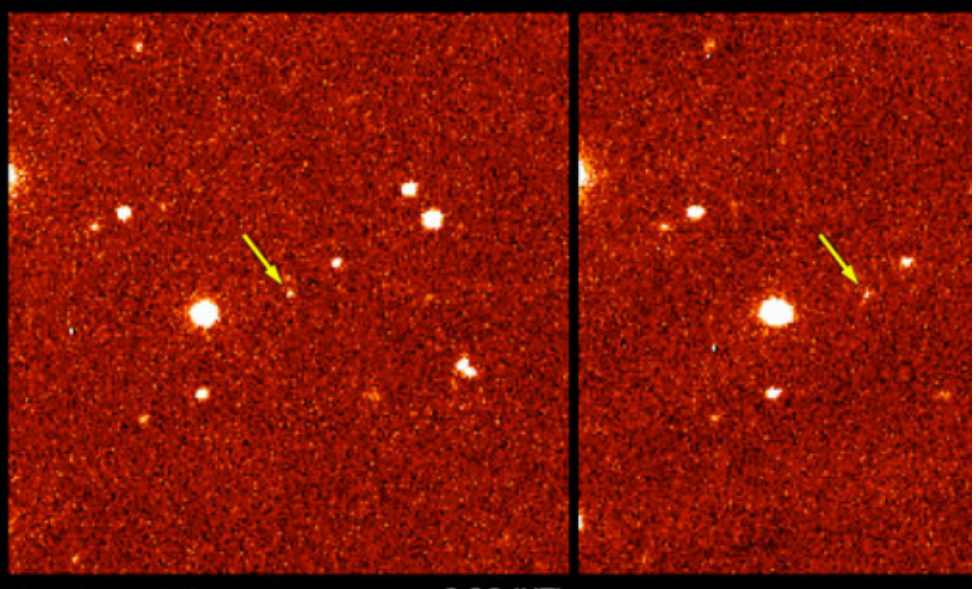
As seen in the figure at left, Sedna
the largest known trans-Neptunian
It is probably smaller than Pluto bu
than Pluto's largest moon Charon.
may someday be classified as a dwa

(French)

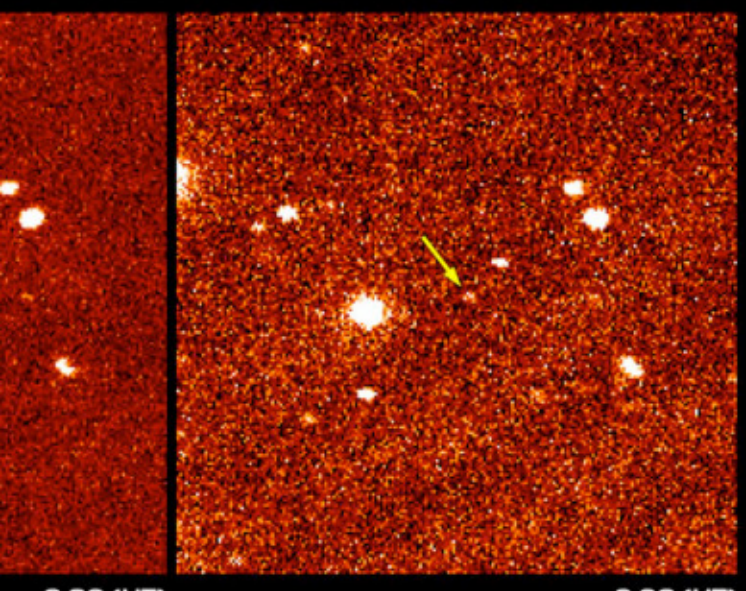
(French)

is one of
n objects.
ut larger
Sedna
arf planet.

Discovery images of Sedna. Over
moved slowly with respect to
[French]



three hours' time, Sedna
the background stars.



Logos here, if needed