



Engraving by E. Duncan after J.W. Huggins, Swan River, 50 miles up. Coloured aquatint, 1827. NATIONAL LIBRARY

## CHAPTER 24

# EXPLORATION

IAN F. McLAREN

WHEN JAMES COOK sighted Cape Howe in 1770, 'Terra Australis Incognita' was an appropriate name for the great southern island continent. The vast expanse of the Australian hinterland remained a mystery to the members of the first fleet after their landing at Botany Bay in 1788. The mystery had to be solved—adequate farming land was needed to ensure the survival of the new colony. The fragmented written accounts and the few charts of odd sections of the coastal outline made by Dutch, Portuguese and other discoverers, and particularly by Cook, gave no information about the interior. This survey begins therefore after 1788 when exploration began, at first mainly by sea, then by land and ultimately by air and satellite, of Australia's coastal areas, landmass and territorial interests.

The literature of exploration, as discussed in this chapter, is defined as the written revelation of the existence and nature of the physical features of continental Australia, Tasmania and the present offshore territories, but excluding Antarctica and Papua New Guinea. Manuscripts and fictional accounts are discussed generally, but are not listed in the bibliography; neither are works on the Aboriginal inhabitants, or tours made to, from or through the continent, unless there is a substantial description of previously unexplored country. Select biographies are included but explorers are generally adequately covered in the *Australian dictionary of biography*. Indexes to British and some Australian parliamentary papers, and to the records of geographical and historical societies, are readily available; and attention should be drawn to the important Victorian report of the *Burke and Wills Commission* (1862).

Geoffrey Blainey explained Australia's major challenge in *The tyranny of distance* (1982) with his subtitle: 'How distance shaped Australia's history'. Shipping had to travel over 19 000 kilometres from Europe to face another 19 000 kilometres of Australian coastline. This isolation was accentuated in the early years by the inadequacy of coastal shipping and by inaccessible mountain ranges rising to 2400 metres. This barrier restricted access to the interior and prevented overland connections for many years.

There are very few readable accounts of Australian explorations. Among the best are Geoffrey Blainey (1982) and C.M.H. Clark's monumental *A history of Australia* (MUP, 1962– ), but perhaps the most satisfactory exploration accounts remain Ernest Scott (1929) and that in the 1958 edition of the *Australian encyclopaedia* (vol 3, 423–95). A number of general histories include satisfactory descriptions of Australian explorations, but Feeken (1970) provides possibly the most thorough survey of Australian maritime and land exploration.



Works on Australian exploration can be found in the great bibliographies such as Ferguson's *Bibliography of Australia* which lists publications to 1900, and W.C.H. Robert's *Contributions to a bibliography of Australia* which lists particularly works from continental Europe. However, at the time of writing a comprehensive bibliography of Australian exploration is still being awaited. Although book sale catalogues have not been included, valuable references may be found in *F.G. Coles' Australian collection catalogue*, prepared by Gaston Renard (Melbourne, Gaston Renard, 1965), and in the catalogues of other leading Australian and London booksellers, such as Maggs Brothers and Francis Edwards.

The exploration of Australia falls naturally into eight chronological stages. The first, between 1788 and 1815, was important for successful maritime discoveries. It began with the occupation of Norfolk Island and the discovery of Lord Howe Island in 1788, followed by Captain Hunter's exploration in the *Sirius* and his charting of the areas north and south of Port Jackson. In 1797–98 George Bass sailed in the whaleboat *Tom Thumb* to investigate the coast south of Port Jackson, reaching Westernport, Victoria, in 1798; later that year Bass and Flinders in the *Norfolk* passed through Bass Strait and circumnavigated Van Diemen's Land.

During the first voyage from England of the *Investigator* in 1801, Flinders explored the southern coastline, entering Port Phillip Bay. The logs of these voyages are published in Collins (1802; repr, 1975).

George Vancouver explored part of the southern coast in 1791, while James Grant (1803; facs, 1963) recorded the first voyage from the west through Bass Strait in 1800. This feat shortened the voyage from Europe to Sydney, which until then had to pass south of Van Diemen's Land.

Flinders made a second voyage in the *Investigator* and circumnavigated Australia for the first time in 1802–03; in 1803 he began a third voyage in the *Cumberland* and came to grief on Wreck Island. He managed later to sail through Torres Strait to Timor and then Mauritius, where he was taken captive in 1804 by the French and imprisoned as a spy for six years. It was not until the day before he died in 1814, after his release and return to England, that Flinders saw a copy of his *A voyage to Terra Australis* (1812; facs, 1966) which recorded his outstanding contribution to the history of Australian exploration and the delineation of the outline of the Australian coast.

During the first voyage in the *Investigator* Flinders met, along the south coast, the French exploration expedition under Baudin. There are several accounts in French and English of these voyages, including Baudin (1974); the encounters and resulting claims were considered by Ernest Scott (1910).

Apart from other short inland excursions, such as attempts to penetrate the mountain barrier to the west of Sydney and the survey of the Port Phillip area in 1803 by Charles Grimes, little land exploration was carried out in the founding period. With an increasing population, pressure grew to explore the hinterland and in 1813 Blaxland, Wentworth, Lawson and others attempted to cross the Blue Mountains to the west; their journals have been brought together by George Mackaness (1965). The crossing into the western plains was finally accomplished by George Evans in 1813 and in 1815 he reached the headwaters of a west-flowing river, which he named Lachlan after Governor Macquarie. The journals of Evans and other explorers are found in the *Historical records of Australia* (36 vols, Melbourne, Library Committee of the Commonwealth Parliament, 1914–25).

Evans' discovery of an access to the west introduced the second stage of exploration between 1817 and 1827. John Oxley was appointed by Macquarie to trace first the Lachlan River (1817) and then in 1818 the Liverpool Plains and the north-flowing Macquarie River. Both rivers drained into marshes which Oxley concluded were the eastern edge of an inland sea. His *Journals* (1820; facs, 1964) was the first of the major land exploration accounts to be published. Barron Field (1825) printed the journals of many of these expeditions.

The overlanders, droving their cattle and sheep, sought rich pastoral land particularly in the Riverina district of New South Wales and the western and northeastern regions of Port Phillip district. There are several accounts of these developments, such as those by Billis and Kenyon (1930; facs, 1974) and Joseph Hawdon (1952). Robert Dawson, chief agent of the Australian



Agricultural Company, described the initial activities in 1830; A.L. Meston (1958) recounted the exploration of the northwest of Tasmania.

Hamilton Hume and William Hovell moved south over the Hume (later Murray) River in 1824, reaching the western end of Port Phillip Bay, and opened up a land route from Sydney to the south coast. Differences between the two explorers led to the publication of several varying accounts of their discoveries; these have been brought together in Andrews (1981).

A settlement was formed at Moreton Bay (Brisbane) in 1824; Alan Cunningham discovered the Darling Downs in 1827 and explored the district in 1828–29. His accounts are found in H.S. Russell (1888), along with other Queensland explorations.

Official surveys of the Australian coast by ships of the Royal Navy have been chronicled by Geoffrey Ingleton (1944). Following on the work of Cook, Flinders and Bass, Phillip Parker King completed charting the Australian coast, which he described in 1827; J.B. Jukes was to make further surveys, published some twenty years later in 1847.

The third period from 1828 to 1840 saw further exploration in eastern Australia, and was important for the discovery of the Murray River and its tributaries, flowing west and south.

Captain Charles Sturt travelled in 1828 into the interior of southern Australia and discovered Australia's greatest river systems; in 1829–30 he sailed down the Murrumbidgee River and continued on to the mouth of the Murray. His account appeared in 1833 (facs, 1982).

Major Thomas Mitchell explored the Namoi and Gwydir rivers in northern New South Wales in 1831; he followed the Darling River to Menindee in 1835. In the following year, Mitchell crossed the Murray River, travelling through *Australia Felix* to Portland, where he found the Henty brothers. Mitchell published his discoveries in 1838 (facs, 1965).

Paul Strzelecki crossed the Snowy Mountains south of Sydney, climbing and naming Mount Kosciusko, Australia's highest mountain, in 1840. Strzelecki followed Angus McMillan into the eastern Port Phillip district, naming the area Gippsland. His account (1845; facs, 1967) is more technical than descriptive. Kenneth Cox wrote about Angus McMillan in 1973 (repr, 1984).

A settlement had been formed at the Swan River in 1829 and in the late 1830s George Grey made two disastrous expeditions into the northwest; these he recounted in 1841 (facs, 1964).

Edward John Eyre surveyed the peninsula that bears his name in 1839, and then undertook the arduous crossing of the continent along the Great Australian Bight, arriving eventually at Albany in 1841. His account of his explorations appeared in 1845 (facs, 1964).

The fourth stage (1841–50) witnessed the continuing opening up of the continent. Mitchell (1848; facs, 1967) went into tropical Australia and Charles Sturt (1849; facs, 1965) told of seventeen months spent in 1844–45 attempting to cross central Australia north of Innamincka, during which he suffered severely before turning back.

Ludwig Leichhardt travelled north from Brisbane in 1844–45 and crossed the base of the Cape York Peninsula and the area south of the Gulf of Carpentaria before reaching the isolated settlement at Port Essington. This he described in 1847 (facs, 1980) During his journey in 1848 through Queensland he disappeared; his fate remains unknown, but it has generated considerable discussion in subsequent years. A.C. Gregory travelled along Leichhardt's first route, proceeding from west to east, in 1855–56 and in 1884 (facs, 1981) recounted the story of nine expeditions between 1846 and 1862.

William Carron (1849; facs, 1965) described the expeditions of Edmund Kennedy in 1847 in western Queensland, and his travels along the east coast to Cape York in 1848.

The northwest and the arid centre of Australia became the centre of attention in the fifth period between 1851 and 1870. Gregory had determined the course of rivers flowing into the lakes in central South Australia, and John McDouall Stuart (1863; facs, 1963) confirmed the outlines of those lakes.

To cross the continent from south to north now became a new objective and the Victorian Exploring Expedition was organised in 1861 under the leadership of Robert O'Hara Burke and William Wills. Although the advance party was the first to cross Australia from south to north, Burke, Wills and Grey died on the return journey. Relief expeditions were mounted by



Landsborough, McKinlay, Norman, Howitt and Walker; journals of the first three were printed in order to satisfy the immense public concern over the fate of the explorers. The extensive literature generated by these expeditions has been summarised by Ian McLaren (1959); the most readable account is by Alan Moorehead (1977). The final report of the Royal Society Exploration Committee (1863) and the royal commission (1862) are important documents relating to this tragic enterprise, and William Wills Sr edited his son's journals in 1861.

The sixth stage, between 1870 and 1880, began with the decision to build the overland telegraph; this was to link Adelaide with Darwin and followed the route taken by John McDouall Stuart in 1862 to Arnhem Land. The telegraph line, completed in 1873, provided a supply base for explorations of the Gibson, Sandy and Great Victoria deserts, described by Alfred Giles (1926). Peter Warburton (1875; facs, 1968) reports on his crossing of the Sandy Desert in 1873–74, while the crossing of the Great Victoria Desert (1875) and Gibson Desert (1876) were recorded by Ernest Giles (1889; facs, 1979). Giles was also the author of *Geographic travels* (Melbourne, The Author, 1875); both works are important for their vivid, even flamboyant narrative style.

After John Forrest had visited Mount Margaret in 1869 in his search for the remains of Leichhardt's party, he travelled along the southern Australian coastline to South Australia in 1870 in order to confirm Eyre's reports of the desert. In the same year Forrest crossed the central desert area to the Musgrave Ranges, reporting on these activities in 1875 (facs; 1969). F.K. Crowley produced the first volume of a Forrest biography in 1971. Forrest's brother, Alexander, explored northwest Australia between the De Grey River and Port Darwin in 1879 and G.C. Bolton published a biography of him in 1958.

The seventh stage commenced in 1880, after the major inland exploration had been completed, and continued to 1939. It included a number of important expeditions undertaken to further agricultural, commercial, mining, anthropological and other scientific interests, such as the British Museum expedition to northern Australia in 1923–25, the story of which is told by G.H. Wilkins (1928). Even at this period first discoveries of major regions were still to be accomplished, such as C.T. Madigan's crossing of the Simpson Desert in 1939, described in 1946.

The need to defend northern Australia during World War II hastened sea, land and air surveys. New airfields and highways were built. The development of motor vehicles capable of negotiating sand and fording rivers made desert crossings practical and almost commonplace.

The anthropological enquiries of Baldwin Spencer and F.J. Gillen were mainly of a scientific nature, but the latter's diary (1968) has been listed as representative of this type of literature.

So far only passing reference has been made to aerial exploration; developments in aircraft, rockets and satellites have assisted in Australian mapping from the air and could be considered as the eighth stage of the history of Australian exploration. An aerial survey was made of the Simpson Desert in 1929 and annual reports of the Aerial Geological and Geophysical Survey of the Northern Territory commenced in 1935. Books relating to aviation are listed in *Australian aviation: a bibliographical survey* by Ian McLaren (Melbourne, The Author, 1958, first published in the *Victorian historical magazine* 28, 3, 1958, 85–141).

There still exist numerous unpublished accounts of exploration and geographical discoveries. The private archival material deposited in the National Library of Australia, in several state libraries and archives, and in the strongrooms of geographical and historical societies in every state, contains diaries and letters relating to voyages of exploration of which we have as yet no full account. The publication of lists of manuscripts (or typescripts) held in society libraries will aid the researcher, and those seeking such documents should examine the lists of indexes in chapter 8 of this volume. But besides the archival material now safeguarded in organised repositories there are still many documents in private hands. At present there is no list of such collections except for the larger 'private archives' recorded by Phyllis Mander-Jones in *Manuscripts in the British Isles* (ANUP, 1972).

Although not included in the listing of Australian exploration literature, there are numerous examples of imaginative and fictional historical writing. The excitement, mystique and national



involvement rising at times to mass hysteria that accompany the preparation of major expeditions into unknown areas of the earth, or beyond, quite naturally give rise to the literature of imagination. Before the period of discovery and exploration in the Pacific, Australia was a fertile source for the imaginative literature of travel. Moralising accounts of a paradisiacal society allegedly discovered in Terra Australis go back to the seventeenth century: Bishop Joseph Hall's *Mundus alter et idem sive Terra Australis* first appeared in 1605 and was translated in 1608 as *The discovery of a new world*. Its principal importance lies in Hall's satirical attack on Roman Catholicism, though there were many who took the travelogue and discovery as 'gospel truth'.

The work is a forerunner of many moralising travel accounts which include Swift's *Gulliver's travels* (1726), whose hero, a cousin of William Dampier, visits the imaginary Lilliput placed in South Australia; the tales by Gabriel de Foigny (1676) and others; and, as late as 1837, an *Account of an expedition to the interior of New Holland* allegedly edited by Lady Mary Fox. It purports to tell of a group of explorers leaving Bathurst in August 1835 and discovering a civilised European race in central Australia. Alas, it became known all too soon that the travellers were figments of the author's imagination and that the model community did not exist at all. It is now assumed that Lady Fox was none other than the Archbishop of Dublin, the Reverend Richard Whately.

Leading explorers have frequently been the subjects of fictional writing, but not all novels or stories have had the well-deserved success of Australia's Nobel Prize winner. Now one of the well-known books of exploration fiction, Patrick White's *Voss* (London, Eyre and Spottiswoode, 1957) is based around the life and disappearance of Ludwig Leichhardt, and has contributed much to an awakening of general interest in that German explorer. It has been reprinted many times and translated into German, Spanish and other languages.

It may be a long time before it is safe to say that the exploration of Australia has been completed. The contours and dimensions of the continent have been almost completely mapped, the distances measured and most rivers bridged. Commercial interests prompt and support continuous mineral exploration; modern technology allows us to probe beneath the surface of the land and into the space above it. The romance of the adventure has perhaps been lost. The accounts of the experiences of lonely explorers are being replaced by impersonal government or corporate reports, but company balance sheets will not reveal any stories of blood and sweat behind the discoveries.

It seems unlikely that this age of organised scientific exploration will generate the same respect for human endeavour and ingenuity as did the travels into the unknown of the past; there will be less emphasis on the heroism of individuals and more stress on institutional planning as the reliance on technological research and the cost of the equipment involved continue to increase.

The bibliography that follows is divided into several sections. The first presents general accounts of exploration and descriptions of Australia by the first Europeans to venture into the interior; these are followed by eight sections citing the literature related to various geographical regions. The final section lists works by or about the leading figures in Australian exploration. These works are arranged alphabetically by author; the index to this volume indicates individual explorers where they have been the subject of a book listed here.

Owen Stanley, *The Morley, Britomart and Sesostris* near Sydney Heads, from *Voyage of HMS Britomart 1837-43*. Watercolour. Stanley's sketchbooks form a record of several voyages he made in Australian waters with the Royal Navy. As commander of HMS Britomart he was involved with the attempt to found a settlement at Port Essington in 1838 and subsequently conducted coastal surveying work in Australia and New Guinea.

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## GENERAL ACCOUNTS

CALVERT, A.F. *The exploration of Australia*. London, George Philip & Son, 1895–96. 2 vols, illus, maps.

General coverage of the exploration of Australia from 1844 to 1896.

FAVENC, E. *The history of Australian exploration from 1788 to 1888, compiled from state documents, private papers and the most authentic sources of information*. Sydney, Turner & Henderson, 1888. 474 p, illus, maps.

Chapters on land and maritime exploration, with an index of names, dates, incidents and a chronological summary. Favenc was the leader of the Brisbane–Darwin survey, 1878, and of the inland rivers journey, 1883. Facsimile edition, Sydney, Golden Press, 1983.

FEEKEN, E.H.J. AND FEEKEN, G.E. *The discovery and exploration of Australia ... with an introduction by O.H.K. Spate*. Melbourne, Nelson, 1970. 318 p, illus, maps.

Selective but wide coverage with an introduction by Spate entitled 'The nature of Australian exploration'; excellent cartography and bibliography.

INGLETON, G.C. *Charting a continent: a brief memoir on the history of marine exploration and hydrographical surveying in Australian waters from the discoveries of Captain James Cook to the war activities of the Royal Australian Navy Surveying Service*. A & R, 1944. 145 p, illus, maps.

History of Royal Navy surveying service, 1770–1939.

IRISH UNIVERSITY PRESS. *Index to British parliamentary papers on Australia and New Zealand 1800–1899*. Dublin, IUP, 1974. 2 vols.

This index provides a key to the reprint of the numerous reports relating to Australia, individual state explorers and exploration in general.

LEE, I. *Early explorers in Australia, from the log-books and journals, including the diary of Allan Cunningham, botanist, from March 1, 1817 to November 19, 1818*. London, Methuen, 1925. 651 p, illus, maps.

Following the introductory chapters, this work by Ida Lee (later known as Ida Marriott) is mainly concerned with the explorations of Allan Cunningham, who also participated in John Oxley's journey and P.P. King's voyage.

ROBERT, W.C.H. *Contributions to a bibliography of Australia and the South Sea islands*. Amsterdam, Philo Press, 1968–1972. 4 vols.

Detailed listing to 1923 of Australian exploration literature, especially in vol 1 (materials printed in the Netherlands) and vol 4 (materials printed in Europe other than the Netherlands)

SCOTT, E. *Australian discovery ...* London, Dent, 1929. 2 vols, illus, maps.

All except the last three chapters of vol 1 refer to the discovery of Australia; vol 2 provides abridged extracts from explorers' journals.

SHARP, A. *The discovery of Australia*. Oxford, Clarendon Press, 1963. 338 p, illus, maps.

Extracts from first-hand accounts and reproduction of relevant portions of charts.

TOOLEY, R.V. *The mapping of Australia*. London, Holland, 1979. 633 p, maps.

Description restricted to the author's own collection of 1560 maps now in National Library, Canberra; provides 239 facsimiles of maps.

WOODS, J.E. Tenison. *A history of the discovery and exploration of Australia ...* London, Sampson Low, Son and Marston, 1865. 2 vols, illus, maps.

The first chapters deal with the discovery of Australia by sea, followed by a detailed account of exploration by sea and land.

## NEW SOUTH WALES: BLUE MOUNTAINS

MACKANESS, G. ed, *Fourteen journeys over the Blue Mountains of New South Wales, 1813–1841*. Sydney, Horwitz Grahame, 1965. 273 p, illus.

Following a brief introduction to explorations prior to 1813, this collection contains extracts from explorers' accounts.

RICHARDS, J.A. ed, *Blaxland–Lawson–Wentworth 1813*. Hobart, Blubber Head Press, 1979. 222 p, illus, maps.

Reproduces the journals of Blaxland and Lawson, Wentworth's monograph, and other material relating to their successful crossing of the Blue Mountains in 1813.

## NEW SOUTH WALES: INCLUDING PORT PHILLIP AND MORETON BAY

DAWSON, R. *The present state of Australia: a description of the country, its advantages and prospects, with reference to emigration ...* London, Smith, Elder, 1830. 464 p.

Dawson arrived in NSW in 1824 as chief agent of the Australian Agricultural Co and retained this position for three years, during which he travelled into many parts of the unexplored lands.

FIELD, B. ed, *Geographical memoirs on New South Wales; by various hands: containing an account of the surveyor general's late expedition to two new ports; the discovery of Moreton Bay River ...* London, John Murray, 1825. 504 p, illus, maps.

Accounts of the early expeditions of exploration in NSW.

## QUEENSLAND [MORETON BAY]

JACK, R.L. *Northmost Australia: three centuries of exploration, discovery, and adventure in and around the Cape York Peninsula, Queensland ...* London, Simpkin, Marshall, Hamilton, Kent & Co, 1921. 2 vols, illus, maps.

Deals with discovery and exploration of the Cape York Peninsula, the gulf country west to the Qld border and the coastal area south to Bowen. It includes the author's own journeys in the northern area as a geological surveyor.

RUSSELL, H.S. *The genesis of Queensland: an account of the first exploring journeys to and over Darling Downs ...* Sydney, Turner & Henderson, 1888. 636 p, illus, maps.

General account of Qld exploration.

STEELE, J.G. *The explorers of the Moreton Bay district 1770–1830*. UQP, 1972. 386 p, illus, maps.

Reproduction of original manuscripts, journals, fieldbooks and reports of various explorers who travelled within a radius of about eighty kilometres from Brisbane.

## SOUTH AUSTRALIA AND NORTHERN TERRITORY

CROWLEY, F.K. *South Australian history: a survey for research students*. Adelaide, LBSA, 1966. 200 p.

Useful guide covering foundation history and exploration.

THREADGILL, B. *South Australian land exploration, 1856 to 1880*. Adelaide, Board of Governors of the Public Library, Museum, and Art Gallery of SA, 1922. Vol 1 text; vol 2 maps.

Compiled mainly from official papers, it covers twelve South Australian explorers and the overland telegraph. Bibliography.

WILLIAMS, G. *South Australian exploration to 1856*. Adelaide, Board of Governors of the Public Library, Museum, and Art Gallery of SA, 1919. 118 p, maps.

Historical compilation which considers South Australian exploration, by both land and sea, and the overlanders.



**TASMANIA [VAN DIEMEN'S LAND]**

BINKS, C.J. *Explorers of western Tasmania*. Launceston, Mary Fisher Bookshop, 1980. 264 p, illus, maps.

Exploration of mountainous western Tas 1815–70, by both government surveyors and those from the Van Diemen's Land Co. It also covers the search for minerals in the area.

GIBLIN, R.W. *The early history of Tasmania*. London, Methuen, 1928; MUP 1939. 2 vols, illus, maps.

Survey of Tasmanian history to 1818, including explorations and settlements.

MESTON, A.L. *The Van Diemen's Land Company 1825–1842*. Launceston, Museum Committee, Launceston City Council, 1958. 62 p. (Queen Victoria Museum, Launceston. Records, ns no 9).

The company was chartered in 1825 and given a land grant outside the settled areas, with Edward Curr as colonial agent. Includes stories of explorations carried out.

**VICTORIA [PORT PHILLIP DISTRICT]**

BILLIS, R.V. AND KENYON, A.S. *Pastures new: an account of the pastoral occupation of Port Phillip*. Melbourne, Macmillan, 1930. 272 p.

Considers the pastoral development of Vic, with rapid expansion and exploration leading to land occupation; further details are given in *Pastoral pioneers of Victoria* (1932; facs, 1974) by the same authors. Facsimile edition, Melbourne, Stockland, 1974.

BONWICK, J. *Port Phillip settlement*. London, Sampson Low, Marston, Searle & Rivington, 1883. 537 p, illus, maps.

General account of the beginnings of Vic, with facsimile letters and documents.

RUSDEN, G.W. *The discovery, survey and settlement of Port Phillip*. Melbourne, Robertson, 1871. 56 p.

Short account of discovery and exploration of the Port Phillip district.

**WESTERN AUSTRALIA [SWAN RIVER SETTLEMENT]**

[CROSS, J.] *Journals of several expeditions made in Western Australia, during the years 1829, 1830, 1831, and 1832 ...* London, J. Cross, 1833. 264 p, map.

Important for journals of 22 West Australian expeditions. Facsimile edition published by UWAP (1980).

CROWLEY, F.K. *The records of Western Australia*. Vol I. Perth. Publications Committee, University of WA, 1953. 1094 p.

Includes references to explorations.

MARCHANT, L. *France Australe: a study of French explorations and attempts to found a penal colony and strategic base in south western Australia 1503–1826*. Perth, Artlook Books, 1982. 384 p, illus, maps.

French maritime explorations and plans to colonise western Australia during the Revolutionary (part II) and Restoration (part III) periods.

**DEPENDENCIES**

CUMPSTON, J.S. *Macquarie Island*. Canberra, Antarctic Division, Dept of External Affairs, 1968. 380 p, illus, maps.

Macquarie Island became a dependency of Van Diemen's Land in 1825. This work provides a full history of this subantarctic island.

RABONE, H.R. *Lord Howe Island: its discovery and early associations 1788 to 1888*. Sydney, Trading Post, 1940. 54 p, illus, map.

Lord Howe Island was discovered during the voyage to occupy Norfolk Island in 1788.

SPRUSON, J.J. *Norfolk Island: outline of its history from 1788 to 1884*. Sydney, Government Printer, 1885. 52 p, illus.

Earliest history of Norfolk Island, which was settled in 1788 as a penal settlement.

**INDIVIDUAL EXPLORERS**

ANDREWS, A.E.J. ed, *Hume and Hovell, 1824*. Hobart, Blubber Head Press, 1981. 389 p, illus, maps.

Besides Hume's report, Hovell's journal and Bland's account of the journey from Yass plains to the Port Phillip district, this study covers the subsequent controversy between the explorers.

BAUDIN, N. *The journal of Post Captain Nicolas Baudin, commander-in-chief of the corvettes Géographe and Naturaliste ...* Trans from the French by Christine Cornell. Adelaide, LBSA, 1974. 609 p, maps.

First translation of 'Journal de mer', kept by Baudin, who led the French cartographic survey in 1801–02. They charted Van Diemen's Land, Bass Strait, moving westward until they met Flinders at Encounter Bay; they named the area Terre Napoleon.

BEALE, E. *Kennedy the Barcoo and beyond 1847: the journals of Edmund Besley Court Kennedy and Alfred Allatson Turner with new information on Kennedy's life*. Hobart, Blubber Head Press, 1983. 292 p, illus, maps.

Kennedy's and Turner's journals of the expedition to trace the mouth of the Victoria River.

BEALE, E. *Sturt the chipped idol: a study of Charles Sturt, explorer*. SUP, 1979. 270 p, maps.

Critical assessment, including medical evidence, of Sturt's Murray voyage and central Australian expedition.

BECKER, L.P.H. *Ludwig Becker: artist & naturalist with the Burke & Wills expedition*. Ed with an introduction by M. Tipping. MUP for the Library Council of Vic, 1979. 224 p, illus, maps.

Reproduction of Becker's reports, letters, drawings and watercolours.

BIRMAN, W. *Gregory of Rainworth: a man in his time*. UWAP, 1979. 296 p, illus, maps.

Tells of Augustus Gregory and his expeditions, including those in WA 1846–43, the north Australian expedition, 1855–56 and the Leichhardt search expedition in 1858.

BOLTON G.C. *Alexander Forrest: his life and times*. MUP, 1958. 196 p, illus.

Alexander Forrest led expeditions to Hampton Plains in 1871 and 1876. He examined the northwest in 1875 and discovered the Kimberleys, and the Margaret and Ord rivers in 1879.

BOWDEN, K.M. *George Bass 1771–1803: his discoveries, romantic life and tragic disappearance*. OUP, 1952. 171 p, illus, maps.

George Bass, naval surgeon, explorer, naturalist and adventurer, discovered in 1798 the strait named after him, and sailed with Flinders around Van Diemen's Land in 1798–99.

*THE BURKE and Wills exploring expedition: an account of the crossing the continent of Australia, from Cooper's Creek to Carpentaria*. Melbourne, Wilson and Mackinnon, 1861. 36 p, illus.

One of the contemporary publications that produced the diaries and reports of Brahe, Burke, Howitt, King and Wills. Reprinted from the *Argus*.

BURN, D. *Narrative to the overland journey of Sir John and Lady Franklin and party from Hobart Town to Macquarie Harbour 1842*. Ed by G. Mackaness. Dubbo, NSW, Review Publications, 1977. 72 p, illus.



- Tasmanian journey, originally printed in the *United services' journal* 1843. Facsimile of 1955 edition.
- BYERLEY, F.J. ed, *Narrative of the overland expedition of the Messrs Jardine, from Rockhampton to Cape York, northern Queensland*. Brisbane, J.W. Buxton, 1867. xii, 88 p, illus, map.
- Compiled from the journals of Frank and Alexander Jardine who travelled along the west coast of Cape York Peninsula, determining the course of rivers flowing westward into the Gulf of Carpentaria.
- CALVERT SCIENTIFIC EXPLORING EXPEDITION, 1896–97. *Journal of the Calvert Scientific Exploring Expedition, 1896–97*. Perth, Government Printer, 1902. 62 p, illus, map.
- Wells, who had been second in command to David Lindsay in 1891, led Calvert's expedition in WA in 1896–97.
- CARNEGIE, D.W. *Spinifex and sand: a narrative of five years' pioneering and exploration in Western Australia*. London, C.A. Pearson, 1898. 454 p, illus, maps.
- Based on the reports of two West Australian prospecting expeditions to the Coolgardie goldfields in 1894, and in 1897 through the Gibson and Great Sandy deserts to Halls Creek and return to Coolgardie. New edition published in 1983.
- CARRON, W. *Narrative of an expedition, undertaken under the direction of the late Mr. Assistant Surveyor E.B. Kennedy, for the exploration of the country lying between Rockingham Bay and Cape York*. Sydney, Kemp and Fairfax, 1849. 126 p, map.
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- Summary account of the French explorations along the South Australian coastline.
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- The explorer travelled from Monaro in southern NSW in 1839, finding new pastures, and found his way to Corner Inlet in 1841. Strzelecki followed McMillan's tracks in 1840, taking much of the credit for these discoveries. First published in 1973.
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- Forrest was a surveyor, explorer and politician. He organised large-scale surveys of WA and led three expeditions. This volume deals only with his work as an explorer.
- CUMPSTON, J.H.L. *Augustus Gregory and the inland sea*. Canberra, Roebuck Society, 1972. 146 p, illus, maps. (Roebuck Society Publication, 9).
- An account of explorations in WA, 1846–48, the north Australia expedition of 1855 led by Gregory, and the Leichhardt search expedition to the Barcoo River in 1855.
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- William Westgarth's review of the expeditions of Stuart, Burke and Wills, Landsborough and McKinlay is followed by the diary of John Davis, one of the members of the McKinlay expedition of 1861–62.
- DUNMORE, J. *French explorers in the Pacific*. Oxford, Clarendon Press, 1965–69. 2 vols, illus, maps.
- The second volume covers to Baudin, followed by Freycinet and other French explorers.
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- Eyre's main explorations were in SA and WA. He was also protector of Aborigines. First published in 1967.
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- Giles was engaged in several pastoral assessment expeditions in western NSW, 1861–65, and explored west from the overland telegraph line in 1872 and 1873. These were covered in his *Geographic travels* (Melbourne, The Author, 1875); two major explorations followed.
- EYRE, E.J. *Journals of expeditions of discovery into central Australia, and overland from Adelaide to King George's Sound, in the years 1840–1 ...* London, T. and T. Boone, 1845. 2 vols, illus, maps.
- The journals cover explorations from Adelaide to Lake Torrens, and Port Lincoln to Streaky Bay. In June 1840 Eyre left Adelaide along the Great Australian Bight, arriving at Albany after walking 1600 kilometres. Facsimile edition, Adelaide, LBSA, 1964.
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- Flinders explored the southeast coast of NSW and circumnavigated Van Diemen's Land in 1788–89. He was navigator, hydrographer and scientist and served with Bligh in the Pacific. Facsimile edition, Adelaide, LBSA, 1965.
- FLINDERS, M. *A voyage to Terra Australis: undertaken for the purpose of completing the discovery of the vast country, and prosecuted in the years 1801, 1802, and 1803 ...* London, G. & W. Nichol, 1814. 2 vols and box of charts, illus, maps.
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- Giles conducted five expeditions through central SA and WA between 1872 and 1876. He crossed the Great Victoria Desert in 1875 and the Gibson Desert the following year. Facsimile edition, Sydney, Doubleday, 1979.
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- Gillen crossed Australia with Baldwin Spencer in 1901-02, conducting ethnographical research.
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- The expedition started from the overland telegraph line, 65 kilometres north of Alice Springs, moved south of the Macdonnell Ranges and then north to rejoin the telegraph line.
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- The first passage between Van Diemen's Land and the Port Phillip district, sailing through Bass Strait from the west. Facsimile edition, Adelaide, LBSA, 1963.
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- The first expedition landed near Hanover Bay but it was abandoned after Grey was badly wounded. The second expedition worked north and south of Shark's Bay, discovering the Gascoyne River; a storm forced the expedition to proceed 500 kilometres overland to Perth. First published in 1841.
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- Relates the first overlanding of cattle from NSW to Adelaide in January 1838.
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- Howitt examined the pastoral potential of the Lake Eyre region in 1859. In 1861 he led the Burke and Wills relief expedition, finding King and the bodies of Burke and Wills. During a second visit, he explored the Barcoo country.
- JUKES, J.B. *Narrative of the surveying voyage of HMS Fly, commanded by Captain F.P. Blackwood, R.N. in Torres Strait, New Guinea and other islands of the Eastern Archipelago during the years 1842-1846* . . . London, T. and W. Boone, 1847. 2 vols, illus, maps.
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- Voyage of exploration in the *Mermaid* to the northern and western coasts of Australia. King laid down a new route from Sydney to Torres Strait, inside the Barrier Reef. Facsimile edition, Adelaide, LBSA, 1969.
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- Sturt left Adelaide in 1844, following the Darling to Menindee, reaching the Barrier Range, finding the Sturt Desert and penetrating the Simpson Desert, covering 4800 kilometres through unknown country. Facsimile edition, Adelaide, LBSA, 1965.
- STURT, C. *Two expeditions into the interior of southern Australia, during the years 1828, 1829, 1830, and 1831 ...* London, Smith, Elder and Co, 1833, 2 vols, illus, map.
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Account of an expedition to central Australia in 1889, with contributions by F. von Mueller and H.Y.L. Brown.

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Although most of this work concerns North America, Vancouver also reached the southwest coast of Australia and discovered King George's Sound and Cape Hood.

VICTORIA. Royal Commission. Burke and Wills Commission. *Report of the commissioners appointed to enquire into and report upon the circumstances connected with the suffering and death of Robert O'Hara Burke and William John Wills, the Victorian explorers.* Melbourne, Government Printer, 1862. 104 p. (Vic. Parliament. Parliamentary paper no 97 of 1861-62.)

Official report of the Victorian royal commission which strongly criticised the Exploration Committee and also Burke, Wright and Brahe.

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Includes contributions from D.J. Mulvaney and J.A. Talent.

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An account of Warburton's exploration from Alice Springs to Roebourne in 1872, with long introduction by Charles H. Eden. Facsimile edition, Adelaide, LBSA, 1968.

WEATHERBURN, A.K. *George William Evans, explorer.* A & R, 1966. 138 p, illus, maps.

Evans was surveyor in both NSW and Van Diemen's Land (1812), and was the discoverer, with Oxley, of the Macquarie and Lachlan rivers.

WEBSTER, E.M. *Whirlwinds in the plain: Ludwig Leichhardt—friends, foes and history.* MUP, 1980. 462 p, illus, maps.

A detailed study of Leichhardt's life and an assessment of his place in the history of Australia.

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After accompanying Sturt to central Australia in 1844-45, Stuart carried out six expeditions to central and west Australia. He succeeded in crossing the continent in 1861-62.

WESTALL, W. *Drawings by William Westall: landscape artist on board HMS Investigator during the circumnavigation of Australia by Captain Matthew Flinders R.N. in 1801-1803.* Ed by T.M. Perry and D.H. Simpson. London, Royal Commonwealth Society, 1962. viii, 71 p, illus, maps.

Reproduction of Westall's drawings, illustrations, maps and charts associated with Flinders' voyage, with editorial notes.

WILKINS, G.H. *Undiscovered Australia: being an account of an expedition to tropical Australia to collect specimens of the rarer native fauna for the British Museum, 1923-1925.* London, Benn, 1928. 292 p, illus, maps.

Report of a scientific expedition to northern Australia.

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The journals and letters of the explorer, edited by his father, Dr William Wills.

WINNECKE, C. *Journal of the Horn scientific exploring expedition, 1894...* Adelaide, Government Printer, 1897. 86 p, illus, maps.

NT expedition organised by W.A. Horn and led by Winnecke.



Death of Kennedy, the explorer. Coloured lithograph published by Gibbs, Shallard and Co as a supplement to the Illustrated Sydney News, December 1870. The mythologising of Australian explorers began as early as 1870. Edmund Kennedy's ignorance and recklessness, which resulted in the deaths of ten of the thirteen men on his overland expedition, are not represented; far more significant is the nobility of the attempt.