

Kathryn Hanna

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January 26, 2022

University of Minnesota Retirees Association (UMRA)

Resources:

**Tour Company with Arctic Emphasis:**

Adventure Canada <https://www.adventurecanada.com>

**Inuit Art Sites:**

Katilvik website: Inuit Art Timeline <https://www.katilvik.com/inuit-art-timeline/>

Inuit Art foundation <http://www.inuitartfoundation.org/>

Dorset Fine Arts <http://www.dorsetfinearts.com/>

Nunavik Art Alive <http://art.avataq.qc.ca/>

Inuit Art Society (collectors' group) [www.inuitsociety.org](http://www.inuitsociety.org)

Winnipeg Art Gallery—Inuit Art Collection <https://www.wag.ca/qaumajuq/>

Dennos Museum, Traverse City, Michigan

<https://www.dennosmuseum.org/art/collections/index.html>

**Book:**

Confessions of an Igloo Dweller: Memories of the Old Arctic by [James A. Houston](#) (1995)

Gene Allen

***Aussie Travel and Trivia***

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***Australian Statistics & Facts***

- Australia-- “Immigrant Nation” with 30% born elsewhere!
- Population---25.85 m (3.3% Aboriginal) (US—332.4m)
- Sydney (4.63m) & Melbourne (4.25m) are largest cities
- 85% of Australians live within 31 miles of the coast. This contributes to the “laid-back” Aussie lifestyle!
- There are many beautiful beaches. If you visited a new one each day, it would take 27 years to visit each!
- Aussie English is a blend of British English, Aboriginal terms and Aussie slang with some letters or syllables left out, so don’t expect to initially understand all of Aussie English!
- Land Area (m acres)—2.9 vs 3.1 for US --Arable Land is 6.6% of total vs 19.2% for US.
- About 20% is desert & 40% is in tropical zone
- Highest Elevation—Mt Kosciusko (7,328 ft)
- Average Elevation is 1,083 feet vs 2,493 feet for US
- Equivalent position for Australia in northern hemisphere would be from Roselawn on north side of UM Golf Course to the northern tip of South America, spanning temperate to tropical.
- QANTAS stands for “Queensland & Northern Territory Airline Service.” Started in 1920 and is known as “The Flying Kangaroo”
- Marsupials, reptiles and Gondwana floral species have dominated Australia’s history.
- Australia has been shaped by droughts, heat, floods and fires! Major droughts are common, vary by regions and typically last for 3-8 yrs. Severe flooding sometimes follow the droughts, causing isolation and lost lives!
- Aborigines came to Australia ~50-80,000 years ago from SE Asia during lower sea levels. They formed as many as 500 clans, had 200 languages and were dispersed across the landscape as early as 10,000 years ago or well before Europeans arrived in 1788.
- Daintree Rainforest in northeast is world’s oldest by at least 10m years. Its evolution started in Gondwanaland & has continued for 180m years! Aborigines manage it.
- The last volcanic activity was 5,000 years ago! The country has eroded over time & many soils are low in nutrients.
- Introduced species like dingoes, pigs, burrowing rabbits, cane toads & feral cats are major problems.
- Ten largest cattle stations (3-6 million acres each) produce ~350,000 head with only ~200 people! Australia ranks in 3rd in world for beef exports.
- W. Australia & parts of Queensland have diverse & rich mineral resources that are significant to the economy.

## *Selected Australian History, Travel & Story Books*

- *“A Traveller’s History of Australia”* by John H. Chambers (2<sup>nd</sup> Ed, 2002), Interlink Publishing Group (347 pages). Sufficiently detailed and very informative. This and the next book were backgrounding for teaching historical aspects in my four Global Seminar Classes on “Human & Environmental Impacts in Australia” (2002-06).
- *“The Future Eaters”* by Tim Flannery (1997), New Holland Publishers (423 pages). Quite detailed historical info about the continent, its people, flora and fauna. This was the textbook for my Global Seminar classes.
- *“The Road from Coorain,”* by Jil Ker Conway, Penguin Random House (1989). This is the first of the author’s three memoirs. She grew up as a young child in the Outback “and did a man’s work.” She never saw another girl until she was seven, graduated from University of Sydney (1958) and Harvard graduate school, taught history at University of Toronto & went on to become the first female President of Smith College & serve on the boards of Fortune 500 companies. This is an incredible story of confronting difficult situations and succeeding in multiple ways! There is a film adaptation of this memoir that received numerous awards. She passed away in 2018.
- *“Rabbit-Proof Fence”* by Doris Pilkington (1996) and adapted into film in 2002. This is an award-winning true story of three young Aboriginal mixed race girls who were taken (the “Stolen Generation”) from their families and placed in a distant training camp for domestic workers as a part of government policy (1931) to integrate them into white society. Speaking their native language was forbidden, but they escaped by following a rabbit-proof fence for hundreds of miles back to their home area in Western Australia! One of the three girls, was the author’s mother!
- *“Legends of the Outback”* by Marie Mahood (2002) by Central Queensland University Press (142 pages). These 32 interesting, historical short stories provide an insight into the pioneer efforts that conquered in their own way the distances and challenges of the Outback. Two examples are creation of the Flying Doctor Service (1928) and School of the Air (1951). These two developments continue today & make living in the remote Outback more possible!