

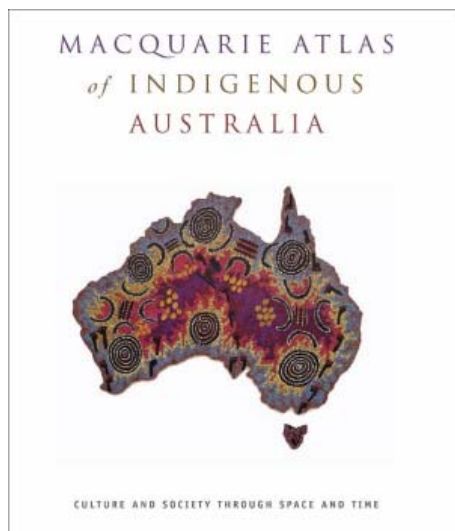
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# MACQUARIE ATLAS OF INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIA

## CULTURE AND SOCIETY THROUGH SPACE AND TIME

**Edited by Bill Arthur and Frances Morphy**

**November 2005, Macquarie, BND, \$80.00 inc GST**



*All events take place in a space, and spaces tell us a story. The distribution of our activities forms patterns which make up a human landscape, and in turn that landscape is a window on our lives. With over 250 full-colour maps, this atlas provides a unique and easily accessible introduction to Australian Indigenous life – as it was in the past, as it has changed over time, and as it is today. It encourages the reader to think about how the effects of geography and spatial relationships mould and influence human societies and cultures through space and time. We invite you to use this atlas as a starting point for further exploration.*

– **Bill Arthur & Frances Morphy, General Editors**

*By promoting understanding, it is a publication which also promotes reconciliation.*

– **Jackie Huggins, co-chair of Reconciliation Australia**

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### FEATURES:

- Over 250 full-colour maps; other graphics include illustrations, insets, charts, diagrams, photographs
- Locations Guide to places and regions mentioned
- Timeline charting key events in prehistory
- Foreword by Jackie Huggins, Co-Chair, Reconciliation Australia
- Extensive cross-referencing with references highlighted in blue
- Glossary items appear in brown on the first occasion they appear in a chapter
- Suggested references for further reading listed at the end of each chapter
- Index

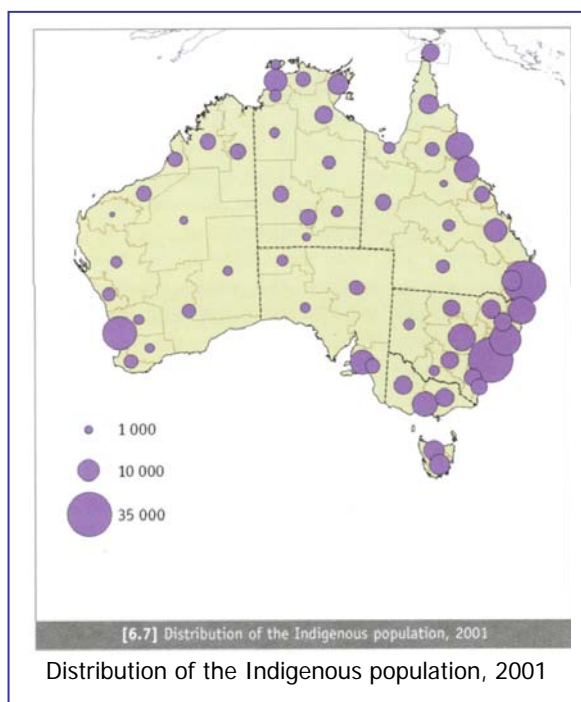


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Follow the tracks of the ancestors and admire the stars of Tagai in the night sky. Understand the meaning of a homeland and the origins of placenames. Remember the Stolen Generation. From rock art to contemporary art, mapping languages and embracing new technology, the *Macquarie Atlas of Indigenous Australia* is an innovative and inspiring introduction to Indigenous Australia.

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The *Macquarie Atlas of Indigenous Australia* represents, in graphic form, the human landscape of Indigenous Australia – a pattern of human activities in space and time. Its prime focus is Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, and their lives on this continent from 60,000 years ago to the present time.

It is the first atlas of its kind in the world. As a compendium work on Indigenous Australia, it is a comprehensive survey of cultural, social, political and economic traits as they were and are now distributed across the whole Australian continent. Thematic and choropleth maps are supplemented by diagrams and graphs, and by numerous illustrations including photographs and Indigenous artworks.

The *Macquarie Atlas of Indigenous Australia* is not a comparative atlas; it is concerned with Australian Indigenous life in its own terms, and reference to later settlers is kept to a minimum. It presents a unique picture of aspects of Indigenous life including social, cultural, economic and political patterns, interaction with the environment, technology, land ownership and use, the visual and performing arts, sport, education and health.

Each chapter has been compiled by one or more expert authors under the general editorship of Bill Arthur and Frances Morphy of the Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research at the Australian National University. These detailed analyses of particular topics are supplemented with extensive cross-referencing, allowing the reader to explore associations with topics covered in other chapters and highlighting changes over time. Key dates for significant events and policies are included.

Data has been drawn from the work of anthropologists, archaeologists, prehistorians and historians as well as from statistical sources such as the 2001 Census, the National Aboriginal Torres Strait Islander Survey (1994), and the Community Housing and Infrastructure Needs Survey (2001). Some information was also sourced from the former Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission and other government agencies.

Instantly readable, *The Macquarie Atlas of Indigenous Australia* is a ground-breaking encyclopaedic atlas. It will enhance our understanding of the historical and contemporary circumstances of Indigenous Australians and stimulate continuing inquiry about where and why events have occurred.

An electronic version of a selection of the maps, allowing interactive use, will be available at the MacquarieNet online reference site: [www.macquarienet.com.au](http://www.macquarienet.com.au) early in 2006.



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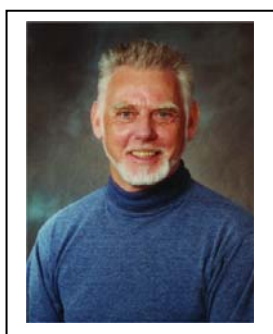
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### BILL ARTHUR and FRANCES MORPHY

### GENERAL EDITORS

Since work began on the *Macquarie Atlas of Indigenous Australia* in September 2001 it has evolved as a complex, multi-sited project with the general editors situated at ANU, the publishers at Macquarie, mapping at Sydney University and contributing authors from Melbourne, Canberra, Sydney, Brisbane and Darwin.



**Bill Arthur** began researching Indigenous affairs in the early 1980s. Much of his initial work was land-related, and was carried out for Indigenous organisations such as the Kimberley Land Council and the Marra Worra Worra Aboriginal Corporation in Fitzroy Crossing. Since 1990 his research has focused more on issues of economic development for Torres Strait Islanders about which he has published a number of papers and reports. During the preparation of this atlas he was a Research Fellow in the Centre for Aboriginal Policy Research at the Australian National University.

**Frances Morphy** is a Research Fellow at the Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research at the Australian National University. An anthropologist and linguist, she was also for a time a commissioning editor at Oxford University Press, Oxford. Her research with Yolngu people in north-east Arnhem Land began in 1974, and has continued, with some breaks, ever since. She is the author of 'Djapu: a Yolngu dialect' (*Handbook of Australian languages*, vol. 3, R. M. W Dixon and B. J. Blake (eds), ANU Press, Canberra, 1983), and recently worked on a native title claim for the Yolngu clans of the Blue Mud Bay area.



The editing of *Macquarie Atlas of Indigenous Australia* was a true team effort, in which the complementary skills of the editors merged harmoniously (well, most of the time). Bill, who first conceived of the atlas, and who had a clear vision of its spatial dimensions, concentrated on the maps and on keeping the meticulous records essential to such a complex project. Frances brought her previous experience as an editor to the task of whipping the words into shape, and linking them to the visual materials.

### BILL ARTHUR and FRANCES MORPHY

### ARE AVAILABLE FOR INTERVIEW

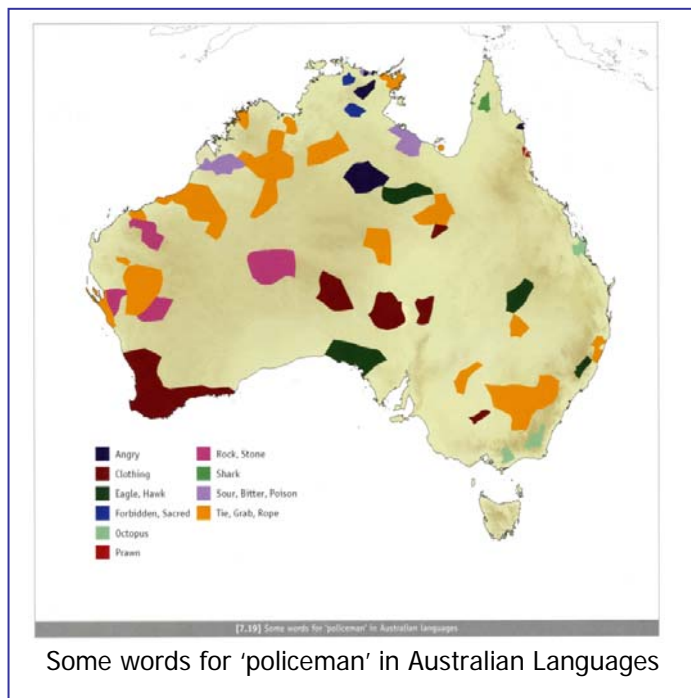


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FOREWORD by  
Dr JACKIE HUGGINS  
Co-Chair of Reconciliation Australia

People look at an atlas for all sorts of reasons – to plan holidays, check distances or brush up on capital cities for a quiz night.

But most of all, an atlas is a tool with which to explore our own environment and the wide world beyond. It widens our horizons, both by what we see on the maps and the pictures they conjure.

The *Macquarie Atlas of Indigenous Australia* opens a window onto Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander life. It is about the past and the present, portraying the living cultures of Indigenous peoples. By promoting understanding, it is a publication which also promotes reconciliation.

This is because reconciliation hinges on relationships which allow us to step into each other's shoes, to recognise common ground and to appreciate difference. Visually and with words, this atlas encourages readers to do all three.

For Indigenous students, it cannot help but strengthen a sense of heritage and identity. For non-Indigenous students, it provides a whole new way of looking at this treasured land and how to share it.

Most of all, it is a publication about belonging and, for this reason, it is a rich resource for young Australians who must use every tool at their disposal to shape a reconciled nation for the future.

Jackie Huggins