

Stage 3 (Year 6) Australia as a Nation

The development of Australia as a nation, particularly after 1901. Students explore the factors that led to Federation and experiences of democracy and citizenship over time. Students understand the significance of Australia's British heritage, the Westminster system and other models that influenced the development of Australia's system of government. Students learn about the way of life of people who migrated to Australia and their contributions to Australia's economic and social development.

Topic: Significant Individuals - Frank Hurley

Key inquiry question: What contribution have significant individuals and groups made to the development of Australian society?

Content

The contribution of individuals and groups, including Aboriginal people and/or Torres Strait Islanders and migrants, to the development of Australian society, for example in areas such as the economy, education, science, the arts, sport. (ACHHK116)

Student learning activity

Students examine images from the State Library of NSW to investigate the role and contributions of a particular man, woman or group to the development of Australia as a nation.

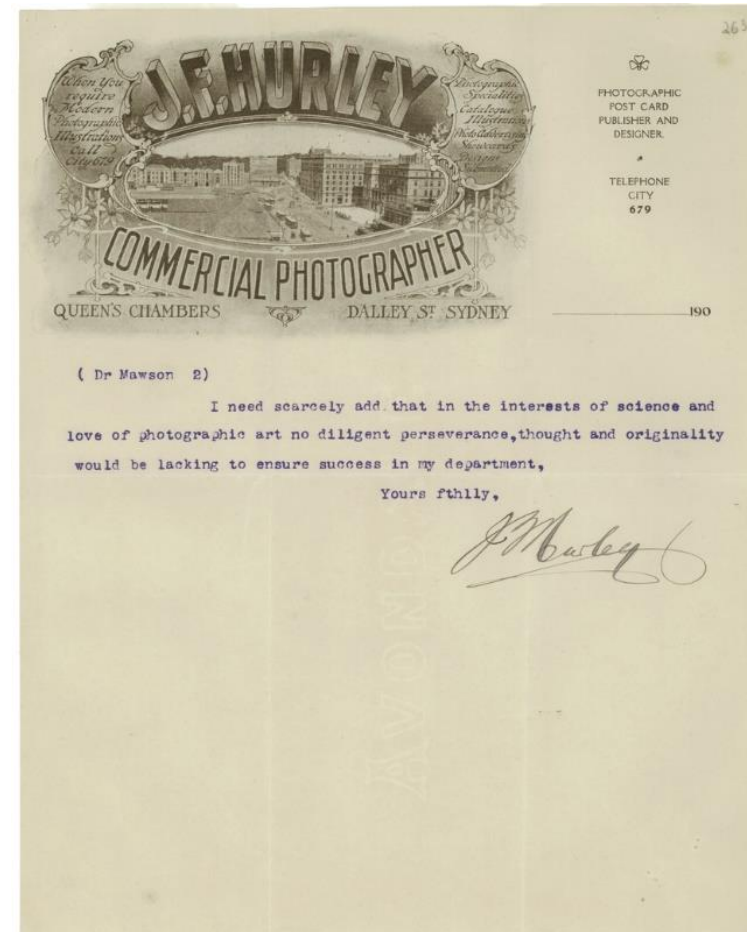
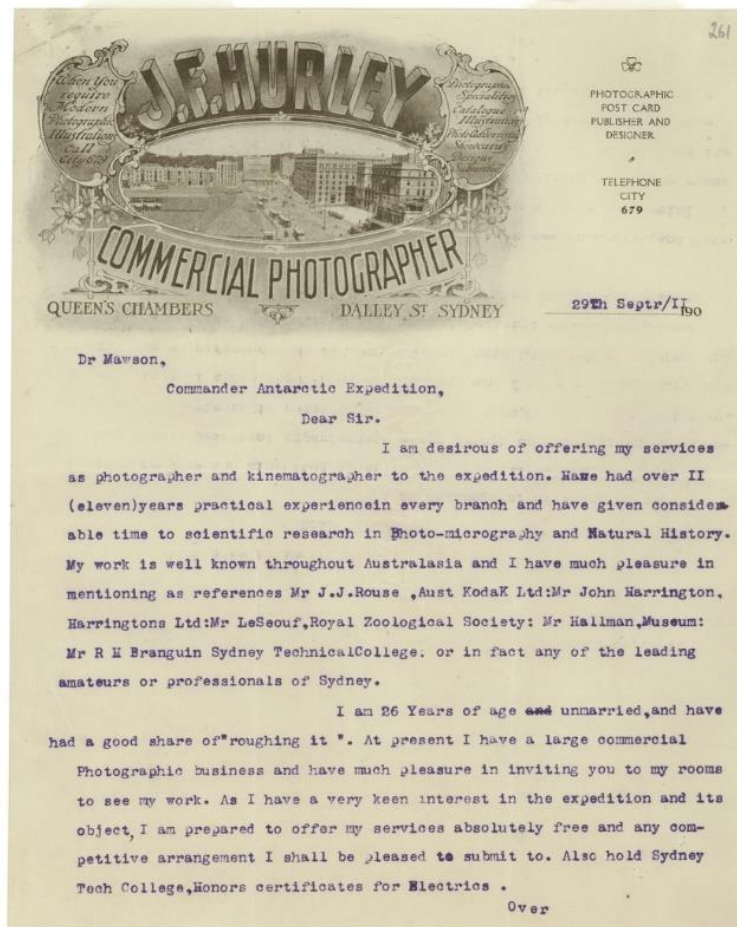
What do sources tell us about the contribution of Frank Hurley to the development of Australia as a nation?

Activity:

- Examine Sources 1 to 14 on the life of Frank Hurley.
- Work with a partner to present a role play on the life and achievements of Frank Hurley to the class.

Source 1: Frank Hurley's letter to Douglas Mawson requesting the job of photographer on the Australasian Antarctic Expedition 1911-1914.

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<http://www.acmssearch.sl.nsw.gov.au/search/itemLarge.cgi?itemID=864994&size=full&album=1&collection=866826>

Source 2: A member of Mawson's expedition views an ice floe, 1911-13



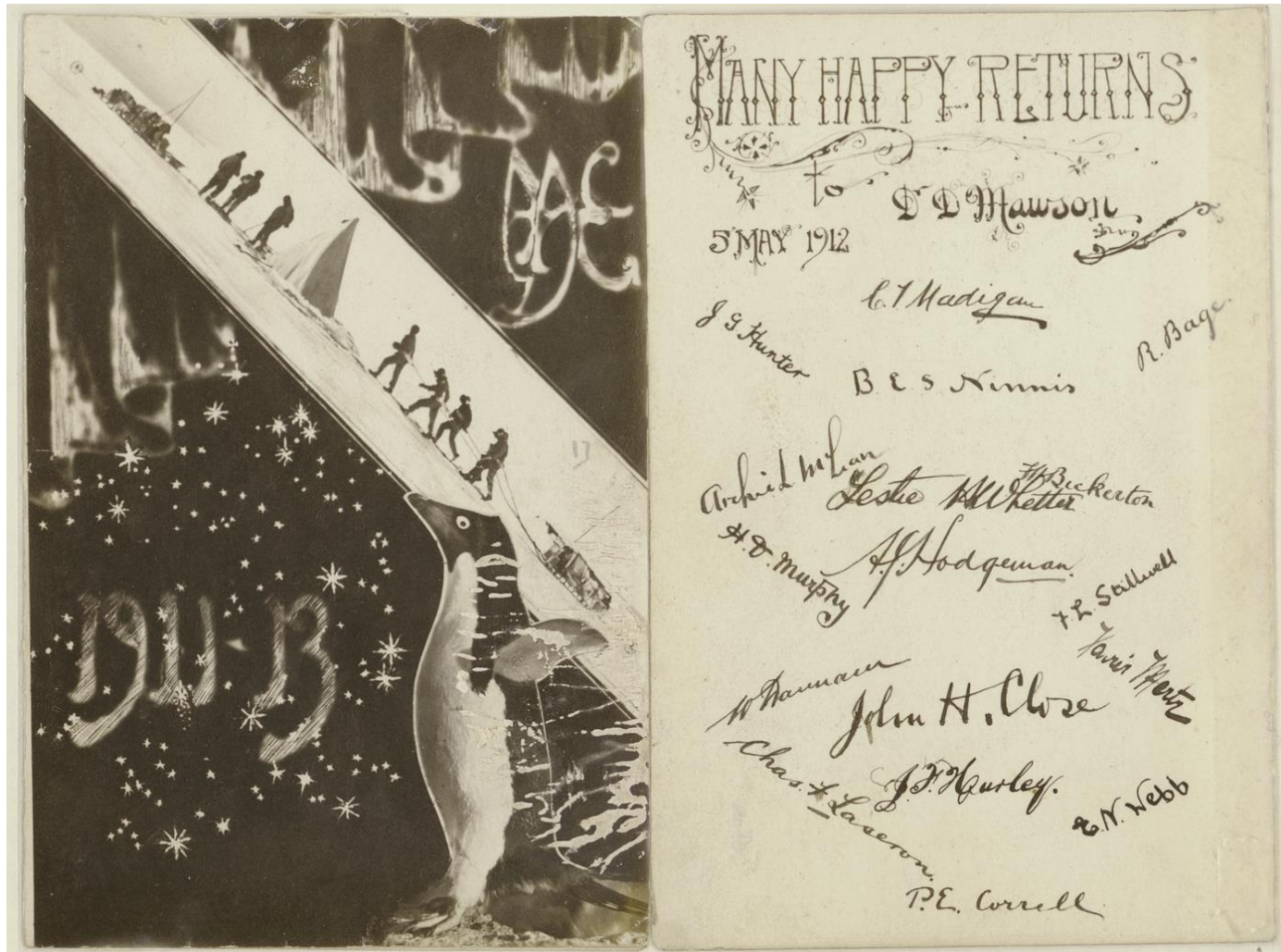
<http://www.acmssearch.sl.nsw.gov.au/search/itemDetailPaged.cgi?itemID=17795>

Source 3: Hurley washes newly developed film in the sea off the side of their ship, Aurora, 1911-13



<http://www.acmssearch.sl.nsw.gov.au/search/itemDetailPaged.cgi?itemID=53717>

Source 4: Douglas Mawson's birthday card signed by Hurley and other members of the expedition, 1911-13



<http://www.acmssearch.sl.nsw.gov.au/search/itemLarge.cgi?itemID=868593&size=full&album=1&collection=879149>

Source 5: Wind sculptured shore ice and the Aurora, 1911-13



<http://www.acmssearch.sl.nsw.gov.au/search/itemDetailPaged.cgi?itemID=60234>

Source 6: Giant water lilies in Java, 1913



<http://www.acmssearch.sl.nsw.gov.au/search/itemLarge.cgi?itemID=828736&size=full&album=1&collection=832438>

Source 7: Cover of diary kept by Hurley on Shackleton's Imperial Trans-Antarctic Expedition, 1914-1917



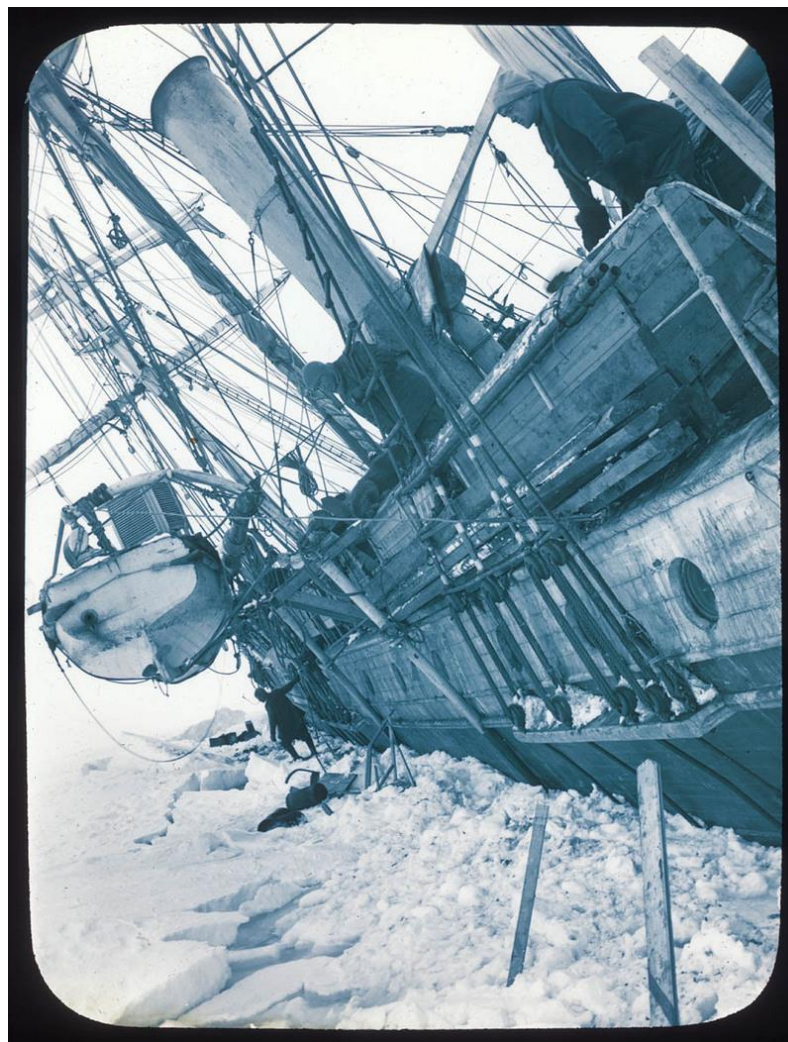
<http://www.acmssearch.sl.nsw.gov.au/search/itemLarge.cgi?itemID=851043&size=full&album=1&collection=852749>

Source 8: Winter 1915, night photo of the Endurance stuck in ice



<http://www.acmssearch.sl.nsw.gov.au/search/itemLarge.cgi?itemID=800697&size=full&album=1&collection=823884>

Source 9: Pushed up by ice the ship is very slowly being rolled and crushed. Shackleton is on deck observing



<http://www.acmssearch.sl.nsw.gov.au/search/itemLarge.cgi?itemID=803271&size=full&album=1&collection=823977>

Source 10: A windy outpost on Westhoek Ridge. Near Menin Road, Belgium, 1917



<http://www.acmssearch.sl.nsw.gov.au/search/itemDetailPaged.cgi?itemID=423850>

Source 11: A controversial composite photo



<http://www.acmssearch.sl.nsw.gov.au/search/itemLarge.cgi?itemID=804065&size=full&album=1&collection=824019>

Described as 'An episode after the Battle of Zonnebeke. Australian Infantry moving forward to resist a counter attack.

On the-extreme right a machine brought down in flames is burning fiercely.

Our advance is supported by bombing planes, whilst the enemy is supporting his attack with a heavy barrage'.

See a recreation of how this photo was made http://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/services/learning_at_the_Library/videos/hurley_video.html

Source 12: The 1st Brigade Australian Light Horse passing through Bethlehem on their way to Jericho



<http://www.acmssearch.sl.nsw.gov.au/search/itemLarge.cgi?itemID=804100&size=full&album=1&collection=824019>

Source 13: Self-portrait of Hurley on board the Discovery as photographer on another Mawson Antarctic expedition in 1929



<http://www.acmssearch.sl.nsw.gov.au/search/itemDetailPaged.cgi?itemID=421274>

Source 14: A still from the film *A Nation is Built* directed by Frank Hurley in 1937 for the 150th anniversary of the arrival of the First Fleet.



<http://www.acmssearch.sl.nsw.gov.au/search/itemDetailPaged.cgi?itemID=36276>

Activity 1:

Imagine you are a researcher for a TV program called 'Famous Australians'. Your task is to research the life of Frank Hurley in preparation for an interview. What questions would you ask Frank Hurley about his life and achievements? What answers might he have given? Use the sources and the research planner on the following page to help you.

Activity 2:

Work with a partner to develop a role play on the life of Frank Hurley: one person assumes the role of the interviewer; the other assumes the role of Frank Hurley. Use the questions and answers from your research to develop a script for the interview.

RESEARCH PLANNER - FRANK HURLEY		
Questions for Hurley	Sources of evidence	Hurley's answers

Background notes for teachers

James Francis 'Frank' Hurley could probably be called an 'extreme' photographer nowadays. He went to extremes of environment and danger to obtain his famous images.

Born in Glebe in 1883, by the early 1900s he was a talented amateur photographer and by 1910 a reputable professional. He had built his experience and demonstrated his talent with various Studio employers before his daredevil nature led him to stand on train tracks in the path of oncoming steam engines and take a series of risky photos that brought him to prominence.

In 1911 the great Australian Antarctic explorer, Douglas Mawson, was preparing a major expedition to the frozen continent. A photographer was considered essential to record the exploration and Hurley put his name forward and was accepted. The expedition departed Hobart and did not return until March 1913. Two members of the expedition lost their lives and Mawson himself was left stranded in Antarctica. Hurley distinguished himself by recording numerous remarkable still photographs and thousands of feet of film. Again his fearless nature meant he was willing to obtain his photos, even if perched in rigging or standing on treacherous sea ice.

When Hurley returned to Sydney he was a man of much greater experience and confidence and much in demand. He went to Java in 1913 to take promotional tourist photos and then in 1914 he accompanied the adventurer Francis Birtles on a 6,000 mile trek by car into the outback and produced a film of their various encounters along the way.

Later that year, as World War I broke out, he joined the ill-fated expedition of the British explorer Ernest Shackleton to Antarctica. Their ship, *Endurance*, became stuck in the ice and eventually crushed, leading to some of Hurley's most striking photographs. At great risk he rescued his glass negatives and other photographic materials from the ship before its final moments. Living in boats and on drifting ice floes, the expedition reached barren Elephant Island. After much hardship they were rescued in August 1916.

His next, and perhaps most significant contribution to both photography and history, was when he was appointed the first official Australian war photographer in 1917. Hurley produced many classic images of the conflict on the Western Front and in the Middle East, as well as making a number of controversial 'composite' pictures when he thought reality could be better shown by a dramatic

montage of photos. He would go on to work on various feature and documentary films and be appointed an official war photographer in the Second World War as well.

A remarkably talented man, Hurley was also a relentless self-promoter and energetic adventurer who always seemed destined to place himself and his camera in the right place at the right moment in history.

NSW Syllabus for the Australian Curriculum History K - 10

Outcomes	Historical Skills	Historical concepts
<p>HT3-3 identifies change and continuity and describes the causes and effects of change on Australian society</p> <p>HT3-5 applies a variety of skills of historical inquiry and communication</p>	<p>Research</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> identify questions to inform an historical inquiry(ACHHS100, ACHHS119) identify and locate a range of relevant sources to support an historical inquiry (ACHHS101, ACHHS120) <p>Analysis and use of sources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> locate information related to inquiry questions in a range of sources. (ACHHS102, ACHHS121) <p>Perspectives and interpretations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> identify points of view in the past and present (ACHHS124, ACHHS123) 	<p>Significance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the importance of an event, development or individual/group

	<p>Explanation and communication</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • develop historical texts, particularly narratives and descriptions, which incorporate source materials. (ACHHS105, ACHHS124) • use a range of communication forms (oral, written, graphic) and digital technologies (ACHHS106, ACHHS125) 	
<p>Learning across the curriculum</p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Literacy • Work and enterprise • Personal and social capability 		
<p>Resources</p>		
<p>Additional resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Australian Dictionary of Biography (online). A. F. Pike, 'Hurley, James Francis (Frank) (1885–1962)', Australian Dictionary of Biography, National Centre of Biography, Australian National University, http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/hurley-james-francis-frank-6774/text11715 • State Library of New South Wales 'Discover' Collections http://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/discover_collections/natural_world/antarctica/hurley/index.html • Recreation of how Hurley's Zonnebeke composite photo was made http://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/services/learning_at_the_Library/videos/hurley_video.html 		