Southern Highlands

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Abstract

The tour of the Highlands and Islands, made famous by Dr Johnson, became a regular feature of writing in British Literature and a number of Highland Journals were written and read. Journeying into the Highlands was seen as the crossing of a major geographical and cultural divide. In Australia and the Pacific writers and explorers were able to deploy the idea of the Highland journey in describing and naming the new landscapes and peoples they encountered. In this paper I would like to discuss some of the manifestations of this willingness to see Australian and South Pacific landscapes in terms of the Scottish Highlands.