





Ninety books for ninety years! As part of Denali's 90th anniversary celebration, the National Park Service wants you to be aware of the ongoing celebration of Denali represented in the park's literary heritage. We encourage you to read some or all of these works to learn about the park and be inspired by the words of authors who are intimately familiar with the park's wildlife, wilderness, mountains, ecology, history, and opportunities for adventure and exploration.

The list is not comprehensive. Each work was chosen for inclusion by the following somewhat arbitrary criteria: it must (1) be a stand-alone book (not journal

or magazine articles), except for a few documents critical for understanding the park, (2) be specific to Denali or the immediate Denali region, or have a distinctive section or chapter devoted to Denali, and (3) offer some notable information or insight about Denali and its environs, or have historical importance because it was a significant work at its time of publication.

Let us know if you have a favorite book that is not on the list. In another decade, we will need 10 more titles for our centennial!









Wildlife

#	Author	Title	Date	Comment
1	Joseph S. Dixon	Birds and Mammals of Mount McKinley National Park	1938	Original wildlife study by Joseph Dixon and George Wright (1926) and by Dixon (1932)
2	Rick McIntyre	Grizzly Cub	1990	Writer-photographer and long-time Denali naturalist Rick McIntyre provides an unforgettable, tragic tale that illustrates the dangers of habituation for Denali's bears
3	Carol McIntyre et al.	Birds of Denali	2002	Denali's ornithologists and birders compiled this narrative about the park's must-see bird species, with illustrations by renowned bird illustrator David Allen Sibley
4	David Mech et al.	Wolves of Denali	1998, 2003	North America's best-known wolf researcher and colleagues detail the ecology of Denali's wolves from the first nine years of extensive study
5	Adolph Murie	A Naturalist in Alaska	1961	Murie's favorite vignettes of his wildlife encounters in Mount McKinley National Park may inspire readers to spend time outdoors in hopes of like experiences
6	Adolph Murie	Mammals of Mount McKinley/Denali	1962, 1994 1999	All of Denali's mammals from bears and moose to shrews and voles are depicted in this timeless work by Murie. Later editions are photo-illustrated.
7	Adolph Murie	The Grizzlies of Mount McKinley	1981	Published after Murie's death, this work reports his research on grizzly bears
8	Adolph Murie	Wolves of Mount McKinley	1944	Murie's classic work reports his research on wolves and their prey in Mount McKinley National Park and supports a new approach to predator-prey management in parks
9	Victor Van Ballenberghe	In the Company of Moose	2004	A wildlife biologist tells stories about the interesting behavior and ecology of moose accumulated over his decades of research and study at Denali and elsewhere
10	Tom Walker	Denali Journal	1992	A local naturalist shares his notes about his most memorable days at Denali

Natural History and Science

#	Author	Title	Date	Comment
11	National Park Service	Alaska Park Science: Scientific Studies in Denali	2006	Contemporary researchers at Denali cover topics of general interest
12	Michael Collier	Geology of Denali	1989, 1997	This guide makes faults and rocks and other interesting aspects of park geology accessible and interesting to the general reader
13	Scott Elias	The Ice Age History of Alaska National Parks	1995	This book explains how the geology, ecology, animals, plants in Alaska (and specifically Denali) changed at the end of the last Ice Age and how we know
14	Wyatt Gilbert	A Geologic Guide to Mount McKinley National Park	1979	An older geologic guide but with some interesting basic material, a guide keyed to the park road, and 10 geologic hikes
15	Louise Potter	Wild Flowers Along Mt. McKinley Park Road	1969, 1979	An older flower guide with still-useful black-and-white drawings
16	Verna Pratt	Wildflowers of Denali National Park	1993	The indispensable guide to Denali's flowering plants







Mountaineering

#	Author	Title	Date	Comment
17	Fred Beckey	Mount McKinley: The Icy Crown of North America	1993	An excellent review of the climbing history of Mount McKinley, written by a climber with information of particular interest to other mountaineers
18	Belmore Browne	The Conquest of Mount McKinley	1913	Browne's account of his epic near-success at the first summit of the south peak in 1912
19	Robert Bryce	Cook and Peary: The Polar Controversy Resolved	1997	As a prelude to resolving the polar controversy Bryce explores the controversy over Cook's disputed claim to summiting Mount McKinley
20	Colby Coombs	Denali's West Buttress	1997	The best single resource for preparing to climb the most popular route on Mount McKinley
21	Art Davidson	Minus 148	1969	A temperature reading (with wind chill). Adventure during the first winter ascent of McKinley.
22	Terris Moore	Mount McKinley: The Pioneer Climbs	1967, 1981	An enjoyable history of the earliest climbs of Mount McKinley from the earliest explorations through first mountaineering deaths on McKinley in 1932; includes the transcript of an interview with Billy Taylor (1910 Sourdough expedition)
23	David Roberts	The Early Climbs: Deborah and The Mountain of My Fear	1991	Alaska Range climbing adventures on Mounts Deborah and Huntington there are exciting peaks other than Mount McKinley!
24	Frances S. Randall	Denali Diary	1987	Day-by-day accounts of life at Kahiltna Base Camp by a long-time base camp manager
25	Bill Sherwonit	To the Top of Denali	1990, 2000	Written by a journalist who has climbed Denali, this is an excellent historical overview of mountaineering on McKinley for a general audience
26	Howard H. Snyder	The Hall of the Mountain King	1973	A first person account of the most controversial tragedy in McKinley climbing history
27	Hudson Stuck	The Ascent of Denali	1914	One of the leaders of the first expedition to successfully summit Mount McKinley (in 1913) recounts all of the preparation, personalities, high points, and tragedies of this epic adventure
28	Bradford Washburn	Mount McKinley's West Buttress	2003	Washburn's log of his 1951 ascent of the West Buttress with equipment lists and photographs
29	Bradford Washburn, David Roberts	Mount McKinley: The Conquest of Denali	1991	Washburn's history of climbing on Mount McKinley in a large format book that also beautifully displays many of his photographs of the mountain
30	Bradford Washburn, Peter Cherici	The Dishonorable Dr. Cook: Debunking the Notorious McKinley Hoax	2001	The authors assemble the evidence to disprove Frederick Cook's claim to the first summit of Mount McKinley in 1906
31	Jonathan Waterman	High Alaska	1988, 1996	Ostensibly a route guide to many of the climbing routes on Denali, Foraker, and Hunter, this book also contains historical descriptions of the first ascents of many little-known routes
32	Jonathan Waterman	In the Shadow of Denali	1998	Vignettes of challenge, survival, and death on Mount McKinley (and nearby). Also a glimpse of the culture of the McKinley mountaineers, rangers, and those who live in Denali's shadow.
33	Jonathan Waterman	Surviving Denali	1991	A former climbing ranger explain how to avoid all the common ways that fatalities occur
34	Joe Wilcox	White Winds	1981	A different interpretation of the greatest tragedy in Mount McKinley climbing history



The History of People and Place

#	Author	Title	Date	Comment
35	William E. Brown	Denali: Symbol of the Alaskan Wild	1993	The history of Mount McKinley National Park through the passage of ANILCA
36	Theodore Catton	Inhabited Wilderness	1997	Two chapters on Denali discuss the problems and ultimate failure of the new Mount McKinley National Park to allow for ongoing hunting by local miners in the decade following the park's establishment
37	Karen Fortier	Sled Dogs of Denali	2003	Discover the basics of Denali's sled dog patrol program and how Denali's loveable dogs help protect the park's wilderness character. [Also look for the earlier edition by Sandy Kogl with illustrations by local artist Donna Gates King, and the first version Malamutes of Mount McKinley by Roy Sanborn.]
38	Kenneth L. Marsh	The River Between Us: The Upper Susitna Valley, A Historical Story Collection	2002	Trapper Creek's local historian tells the collected stories of the upper Susitna valley communities which border Denali on the south
39	Bruce McAllister	Wings Over Denali	2004	Documents the influence of aviation on Denali National Park and includes historical and contemporary photographs of many aviation firsts
40	Frank Norris	Alaska Subsistence - A National Park Service Management History	2002	The essential explanation of subsistence management in national park units in Alaska, including Denali
41	Frank Norris	Crown Jewel of the North: An Administrative History of Denali National Park and Preserve	2006	Volume 1 of a new administrative history of Denali explains the evolution of the park and its management up to the time of ANILCA
42	Grant Pearson	A History of Mount McKinley National Park	1953	An early history of the original park written by one of the earliest park rangers and superintendents
43	Timothy Rawson	Changing Tracks	2001	The story of predator control at Mount McKinley National Park illustrates historical changes in the understanding of ecology and the role of parks
44	William Schneider et al.	Land Use in the Northern Additions of Denali National Park & Preserve: A Historical Perspective	1984	An anthropological and historical account of land use in the park's northern additions
45	Roberta Sheldon	The Heritage of Talkeetna	1995	A locally-written history with insight into the park's best known southern gateway community
46	Tom Walker	Kantishna: Miners, Mushers, and Mountaineers	2006	The most complete history of Kantishna during its early days as a gold rush boom town and as home to a small number of determined settlers who stayed when the rush ended
47	Frederick H West	American Beginnings	1996	This comprehensive reference provides essential descriptive information for key archaeological sites for Alaska. It places the Denali area sites such as Dry Creek, Teklanika West, Owl Ridge, and Walker Road in the context of the larger story of human migration to North America.









Foundation Documents for the Park

#	Author	Title	Date	Comment
48	United States Congress	Mount McKinley National Park Act	1917	The enabling legislation for Mount McKinley National Park; explains the vision of Congress in establishing the park
49	United States Congress	Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act	1980	The enabling legislation for Denali National Park and Preserve; explains the purpose for the park and preserve additions, and the vision Congress had for establishing vast national parks in Alaska
50	United States Congress	Wilderness Act	1964	The Wilderness Act explains the Congressional purpose in establishing wilderness areas and the principles for their management
51	National Park Service	Denali National Park and Preserve General Management Plan	1986, 1997 2006	The park's four planning documents (to be consolidated in 2007) provide a look at past developments and future directions—1986 GMP, 1997 Entrance Area/Road Corridor Development Concept Plan, 1997 South Side Denali DCP, 2006 Backcountry Management Plan. A wealth of research not readily accessible elsewhere.

Stories of the Park's Special Characters

#	Author	Title	Date	Comment
52	Clay Cunningham	Yellowstone to Denali	2005	The memoirs of Denali's 1980s-era superintendent
53	Cyrus Peter Francisco	The Man and the Mountain: Sydney Laurence's Mt. McKinley	1990	Sydney Laurence is one of Alaska's best known artists, and this short book – text written in the 1930s – illuminates his special relationship with Mount McKinley
54	James Greiner	Wager with the Wind: The Don Sheldon Story	1974, 1982	Stories of Don Sheldon, one of Talkeetna's most legendary bush pilots who spear-headed the common use of air taxis to land mountaineering parties on glaciers in the Alaska Range
55	Jane Haigh	Searching for Fannie Quigley	2007	The long-awaited biography of one of Denali's most entertaining and industrious characters
56	James Kari et al.	Shem Pete's Alaska	2003	Stories and travel narratives of Shem Pete, a Dena'ina Indian from the Susitna Valley, provide an unparalleled glimpse into Dena'ina lifeway and cultural geography in the 20th century
57	Grant Pearson	My Life of High Adventure	1962	Highly entertaining autobiographical stories about the life of a 1920s-era park ranger and later superintendent of Mount McKinley National Park
58	Jim Reardon	Alaska's Wolf Man	1998	The story of Frank Glaser, a wolf control agent, who lived along the lower Savage River in the 1920s
59	Mike Sfraga	Bradford Washburn: A Life of Exploration	2004	The essential biography of Washburn, a figure of critical importance to mountaineering on Mount McKinley and an influential figure at Denali
60	Bradford Washburn Lew Freedman	Bradford Washburn: An Extraordinary Life	2005	Memoirs of the renowned mountaineer, mapmaker, and aerial photographer
61	Barbara Washburn	The Accidental Adventurer	2001	The inspiring autobiography of the first woman to summit Mount McKinley









Tales of Adventure

(narratives about living and traveling in the Denali region)

#	Author	Title	Date	Comment
62	William N. Beach	In the Shadow of Mount McKinley	1931	A very early account of a visitor (and famous outdoor writer and film-maker) to Mount McKinley National Park
63	Alfred H. Brooks	The Mount McKinley Region, Alaska	1911	The USGS report of Brooks' 1902 exploration of Mount McKinley region, which included the earliest recorded expedition along the northern flank of the Alaska Range inside of what became Mount McKinley National Park
64	Martin Cole	Journey to Caribou Land	1983	First-hand account of working on the Mount McKinley park road for the Alaska Road Commission during the 1930s
65	Miki and Julie Collins	Trapline Twins	1989, 1994	The Collins twins' entertaining stories of dog mushing, trapping, and otherwise making a subsistence livelihood in the Alaska Bush
66	Miki and Julie Collins	Riding the Wild Side of Denali	1998	The sequel to Trapline Twins, the Collins sisters once again provide illuminating and entertaining stories about the lives of subsistence users in Denali.
67	Frederick Cook	To the Top of the Continent	1908	Cook's personal account of his disputed 1906 ascent to Mount McKinley's summit: read and decide for yourself whether he made it up.
68	Robert Dunn	The Shameless Diary of an Explorer	1907	Dunn accompanied Cook on his first expedition in the Denali region in 1903, and reports on the day-to-day struggles and human interactions characteristic of turn of the century Alaskan exploration
69	Joseph S. Herron	Explorations in Alaska	1901	An account of Herron's near-disastrous 1899 expedition which crossed the Alaska Range at Simpson Pass and then foundered in the upper lowlands of the Kuskokwim River, to be rescued by Chief Sesui of Telida
70	Jon Kraukauer	Into the Wild	1996	Although locally controversial, Krakauer's tale of Chris McCandless's fate along the Sushana River inspired legions of urban Americans to journey to the wilderness
71	Charles Sheldon	Wilderness of Denali	1930	The published notes of Charles Sheldon, the founding visionary of the park, made during his time in the Denali region in 1906-1908
72	James Wickersham	Old Yukon: Tales, Trails, and Trials	1938	Stories by James Wickersham, territorial judge and first territorial delegate to Congress. He was the first to make an expedition with the express intent of climbing Mount McKinley and the first to locate gold in the Kantishna Hills.









Books for the Young and Inquisitive

#	Author	Title	Date	Comment
73	William Berry	Deneki: An Alaskan Moose	1965	A delightful children's book about a moose living on the edge of Mount McKinley National Park, written and illustrated by one of Alaska's foremost artists
74	Shelly Gill	Up on Denali: Alaska's Wild Mountain	2006	A natural history of Denali for young readers with a focus on Mount McKinley; illustrations by Shannon Cartwright that include detailed depictions of tracks, scat, and other useful information for young naturalists
75	Debbie S. Miller	Disappearing Lake	1997	A child's best chance to become inspired by a micro-habitat, this exploration of a Denali vernal pond is illustrated by Alaskan artist Jon Van Zyle
76	Elma and Alfred Milotte	Toklat: The Story of an Alaskan Grizzly Bear	1987	A children's tale illuminates the typical life of grizzly bear in Denali
77	Mary Palmer	Denali: Climbing America's Highest Peak	1996	Developed as a curriculum for school kids, this activity book is also loaded with fascinating information on climbing Mount McKinley that adults will like as well
78	Lori Yanuchi, Wendy Brown	Denali is My Backyard: Living and Learning in Healy, Alaska	2005	First and second graders in Healy describe what it's like to live and grow up near Denali National Park
79	Lori Yanuchi, Wendy Brown	Running with the Big Dogs	1998	This delightfully illustrated book introduces young children to the life of a sled dog puppy in Denali National Park's kennel







A Lens on the Landscape (photography that captures the soul of Denali)

#	Author	Title	Date	Comment
80	Antony Decaneas	Bradford Washburn: Mountain Photography	1999	One hundred of Washburn's large format photos from around the world, including Denali, plus an interview with him about his photography.
81	Laurent Dick	Climb Denali	2004	Unlike most narrative accounts of climbing Denali, this book offers an essay in photos of a climber's experience on the West Buttress.
82	Jane Haigh	Denali: Early Photographs of Our National Parks	2000	A collection of photographs of Athabascan inhabitants, explorers, mountaineers, miners, and early park rangers and visitors accompanied by useful captions and text.
83	Kim Heacox	In Denali	1992	More than a coffee table book, Heacox's powerful photography and prose capture the spirit of Denali.

Planning and Remembering a Park Visit (general park information, guidebooks, and one harlequin)

#	Author	Title	Date	Comment
84	Ramona Bradly	Hot Arctic Nights	1992	This book is factually impaired from the title onward and useless for understanding the park, but it is distinguished as being the only Harlequin romance set in Denali
85	William E. Brown	This Last Treasure	1982, 2005	This award-winning celebration of the new ANILCA national parks was re-published in 2005 to celebrate the 25 th anniversary of ANILCA
86	Kris Capps	Denali Road Guide	2006	The current version of the classic guide to the Denali park road's sights and experiences
87	Rick McIntyre	Denali National Park - An Island in Time	1986, 2nd ed. 1992	In photographs and words McIntyre provides one of the best overviews of the park, its history, environment, and wildlife
88	Bill Sherwonit	Denali: A Literary Anthology	2000	This book contains excerpts from many of the other 89 books on the list, but also reprints of some hard-to-find historic articles and other documents
89	Bill Sherwonit	Denali: The Complete Guide	2002	This is the first Denali guidebook to fully integrate the park's southern additions and Denali State Park to give a complete guide to the Denali experience
90	Bradford Washburn	A Tourist Guide to Mount McKinley	1971, 1974 1976	An early guidebook to the park with an emphasis on Mount McKinley and climbing history, but also featuring a guide to the Mount McKinley park road which gives a sense for what the road was like in the early 1970s