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The 1705 van Delft expedition to northern Australia: a toponymic perspective

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ABSTRACT

During the 17th and 18th centuries the Dutch were quite active in exploring the western and northern coastlines of the Great Southland. Of one of these expeditions, conducted by Maerten van Delft in 1705, intelligence is limited and it is infrequently mentioned in the canon of Australia's exploration. The only extant documents of the expedition are an anonymous manuscript chart and a report of the voyage by two Councillors of the VOC in Batavia. This article provides a brief outline of the voyage, then examines the toponyms and appellations in the report and those on the manuscript chart, endeavours to reconcile the differences between the two, and finally attempts to provide motivations for the names as well as to pinpoint their locations and present-day names.

RÉSUMÉ

Aux 17ème et 18ème siècles les Néerlandais exploraient activement les littoraux nord et ouest de la Terre australie. Dans le cas d'une de ces expéditions, dirigée par Maerten van Delft en 1705, les informations en sont limitées et elle est rarement mentionnée dans le cadre des explorations de l'Australie. Les seuls documents existants de cette expédition sont une carte manuscrite anonyme et un rapport du voyage rédigé par deux conseillers de la Compagnie néerlandaise des Indes orientales à Batavia. Le présent article commence par un aperçu du voyage, suivi d'un examen des toponymes et des appellations du rapport ainsi que ceux de la carte manuscrite et une tentative de réconcilier les différences entre les deux, et enfin, nous proposons des motivations pour l'attribution des noms, un effort de cerner les lieux précis et de trouver leur nom d'aujourd'hui.

SAMENVATTING

Tijdens de 17^e en 18^e eeuw waren de Nederlanders behoorlijk actief in het verkennen van de westelijke en noordelijke kusten van Nieuw Holland. Voor een van deze expedities, uitgevoerd door Maerten van Delft in 1705, zijn de gegevens beperkt en worden niet vaak vermeld in de geschiedenis van de exploratie van Australië. De enige bestaande documenten van deze onderzoekingstocht zijn een anonieme kaart en een verslag van de reis door twee Raden van de VOC in Batavia. Dit artikel geeft een korte schets van de ontdekkingstocht, onderzoekt de toponiemen en aanduidingen in het rapport en die op de kaart, tracht de divergenties tussen de

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twee te verzoenen, probeert om motivaties te geven voor de namen, en allerlaatst hun locaties en huidige namen te onthullen.

1. Introduction and background to van Delft's voyage

Relatively little is known about the 1705 exploratory expedition led by Maerten van Delft to the west and north coasts of Bathurst Island, the north coasts of Melville Island and Cobourg Peninsula, and the west coast of Croker Island (Northern Territory, Australia). All the documentary evidence that remains of the expedition are the detailed anonymous manuscript chart presumably made during the voyage (Figure 1), and the report of 6 October, 1705 by the VOC Councillors-Extraordinary, H. Swaardecroon and C. Chastelijn (Leupe, 1868, pp. 189–203; Swaardecroon & Chastelijn, 1856 [1705]; van Dijk, 1859, §7, pp. 48–52).¹ This report was compiled for the Governor-General, Joan van Hoorn and the Council of India, from two written journals and verbal accounts of the officers who survived the expedition. Van Delft's journal of the voyage, as well as those of the other officers are no longer extant.²

Very little is known of van Delft himself. What is known is that he came from Middelburg (province of Zeeland, Netherlands), that he joined the Zeeland chapter of the VOC (*Vereenigde Oostindische Compagnie* 'United Dutch East India Company') on 14 June, 1703 as an

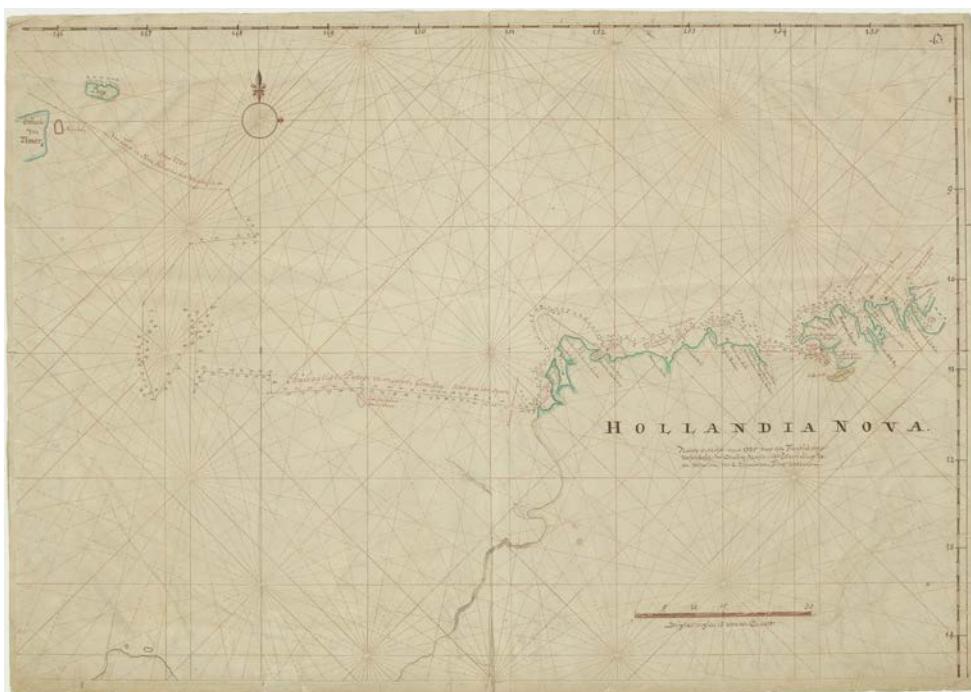


Figure 1. Anon. (1705). Kaart van Hollandia-Nova, nader ontdeckt, Anno 1705, door het fluitschip Vos-senbosch, de chialoup Wajer en de Phantialling Nova-Hollandia, den 2 Maart van Timor vertrocken. Kaartcollectie Buitenland Leupe. The Hague: National Archief, MS Kaart N°. 500. Manuscript Groot 1.00 - 0.73 EL. [<http://proxy.handle.net/10648/af997cf0-d0b4-102d-bcf8-003048976d84>].

upper steersman (first mate), departed on 14 June aboard the *Kattendijk* bound for Batavia, where he arrived on 29 February, 1704. He died on 8 August, 1705 ([Openarchives](#)).

The publication of William Dampier's *A New Voyage Round the World* (1697) prompted the British Admiralty to send Dampier two years later on a mission, via Cape Horn, to explore the east coast of New Holland. However, when the expedition left, it was too late in the season to attempt a passage via this route, so Dampier went around the Cape of Good Hope instead. This resulted in his reaching the west coast of the continent and the subsequent exploration of part of its western coastline from Dirk Hartog Island (Shark Bay) to Roebuck Bay (named after his ship). His account of the expedition was published as *A Voyage to New Holland* (1703). Although the result of expedition was disappointing, the publication of the book made the managers of the VOC apprehensive that the British Government would send out further exploratory expeditions to the region. The VOC therefore resolved to send out an expedition to survey the north coast of New Holland and the Bay of Hollandia Nova (i.e. the Gulf of Carpentaria) to try and forestall possible British competition or colonisation. To this end, they sent out three ships, the fluyt *Vossenbosch*,³ the phantialang~patsjalling *Nova Hollandia*,⁴ and the chaloupe (sloop) *Waijer~Wajer~Waaier*, under the overall command of van Delft. They were to sail from Batavia to Van Diemensland (so named by Pieter Pieterszoon in 1636) and thence follow the north coast eastwards to Arnhem Land and into the Bay of Nova Hollandia. He was to follow the coastline surveyed by Tasman in 1644, and up the west coast of what was then known as Carpentaria, then skirting the western extreme of Torres Strait up to the south coast of New Guinea, which he was to follow all the way to its western extremity, before heading back to Batavia. All the while van Delft was instructed to make an accurate survey of the coasts, islands, their inhabitants and products (see Leupe, 1868, pp. 186–189; Heeres, 1899, pp. 87–88; and Robert, 1973, pp. 134–137). The expedition never ventured further east than the west coast of Croker Island due to overwhelming sickness suffered by the ships' crews because of the lack of adequate water and food supplies. Many men died, including van Delft who perished on the homeward journey.

2. The Swaardcroon & Chastelijn report

The Swaardcroon and Chastelijn report outlines the discoveries made and notable occurrences during the expedition. It notes the three vessels weighed anchor from Batavia on the 23 January 1705, and arrived on 12 February at Kupang (Timor) where, due to inclement weather they were forced to remain for 20 days, until 2 March.

A month later, on 2 April, they arrived off the west coast of present-day Bathurst Island and explored the same. Until 12 July the bays, headlands, islands, rivers, etc., were explored according to instructions. However, when many men began to die from sickness, principally fever and dropsy (i.e. oedema), the expedition was abandoned and the ships headed to Banda and Makassar.

According to accounts of the surviving officers they were only able to explore and chart about sixty miles of coastline, including a small portion of a great bay. Daily courses, winds, currents, depth soundings, reefs, and variations of the compass readings, etc., were recorded in the journals of the officers. The rest of the report principally follows the logbooks of van Delft and that of the under steersman Andries Rooseboom of the *Waijer*.

Table 1. Placenames cited in the Swaardecroon and Chastelijn (1856 [1705]) report.

| Item | Placenames in report | Translations |
|------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| a. | Noordhoek | 'North Point' |
| b. | Roosebooms-baij | 'Roosebooms Bay' |
| c. | Casuaris[hoek] | 'Casuaris Point' |
| d. | Varckenskoek | 'Pig/Hogs Point' |
| e. | [Eijland] de Goede Hoop | 'Good Hope [Island] |
| f. | het Vuijle Eijland | ('the) Foul Island' |
| g. | Tijgers-[hoek] | 'Tiger(s) [Point]' |
| h. | Wolven-hoek | 'Wolf/Wolves Point' |
| i. | Bessia-rivier | 'Bessia River' |
| j. | Kaaimans-[hoek] | 'Caimans [Point]' |
| k. | Oranjes-hoek | 'Orange Point' |
| l. | van Delfs-baij | 'van Delfts Bay' |
| m. | Rustenburg | 'Rustenburg' |
| n. | hoek van Lonton | 'Lonton Point' |
| o. | hoek van Callemoore | 'Callemoore Point' |
| p. | Schildpads-eiland | 'Turtle Island' |
| q. | Vossenbosch-baij | 'Vossenbosch Bay' |
| r. | hoek van Calien | 'Calien Point' |

The report chronologically follows the tracks of the three vessels, detailing encounters with the Indigenous people, reporting on bays, headlands, islands and rivers, along with names bestowed on some of them.⁵ Descriptions of the Indigenous people were characteristically Eurocentric and unflattering—not unusual for the times (cf. Dampier's infamous damning description of the people of the Dampier Peninsula in his 1697 journal *A New Voyage Around The World*). Table 1, lists, in chronological order, the names bestowed on 18 geographic features as reported in the verbal reports of returned officers and the journals of van Delft and Rooseboom (Leupe, 1868, pp. 196–210; Swaardecroon & Chastelijn, 1856 [1705]; van Dijk, 1859, §7, pp. 48–52).

It is interesting to note that only eight of the 18 toponyms appear on the 1705 manuscript chart. They are: *Noordhoek van Van Diemensland*, *de Goede Hoop* and *Vuijle Eijland* (appearing on the chart as *Hoek van Goede Hoop* and *Vuijl Eijlant*, but see below), *Oranjes-hoek* (appearing as *Orangie Hoek*), *van Delfs-baij* (appearing as *Marten Van Delfts Baij*), *Rustenburg*, *hoek van Callemoore* (appearing as *Hoek Van Calmoerie*) and *Schildpads-eiland* (appearing as *Schilpads Eijlant*). The other 10 names (*Roosebooms-baij*, *Casuaris-hoek*, *Varckenshoek*, *Tijgers-[hoek]*, *Wolven-hoek*, *Bessia-rivier*, *Kaaimans-[hoek]*, *hoek van Lonton*, *Vossenbosch-baij*, and *hoek van Calien*) do not appear on this chart (but see below).

3. The anonymous 1705 manuscript chart

The anonymous manuscript chart of 1705 showing van Delft's track along the north coasts of Bathurst and Melville Islands and the Cobourg Peninsula (Figure 2), was not made public until 1868, or shortly before. A book published in the same year by the historical geographer and functionary at the Dutch National Archives in The Hague, Pieter Arend Leupe, on the voyages of the Dutch to the Southland during the 17th and 18th centuries, explains (Leupe, 1868, p. 198):

Up until now it has not been possible to find the journals of this voyage, but the National Archive is in possession of the map of the coast of New-Holland, which was sailed by these ships, with the title: 'Hollandia-Nova discovered in 1705, by the little Fluyt Vossenbosch, the

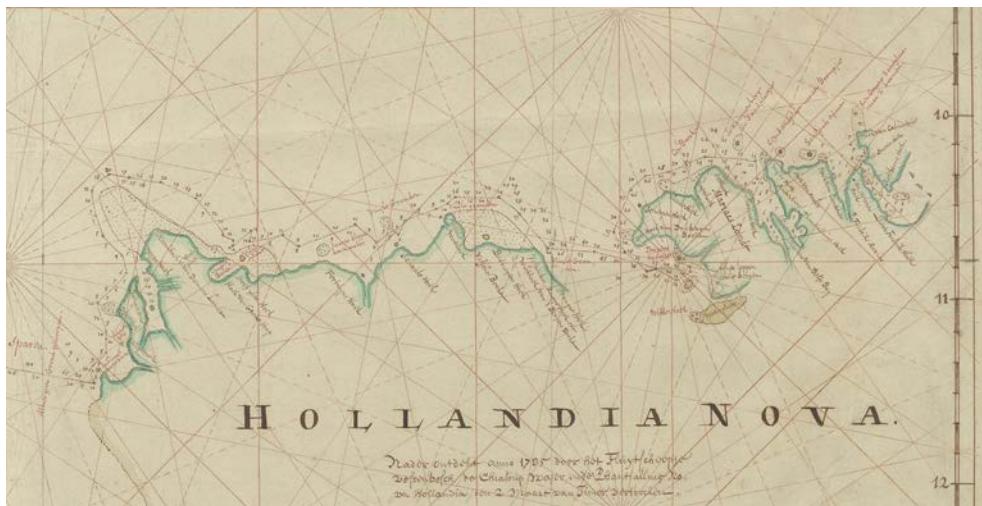


Figure 2. Section of the anonymous manuscript chart of 1705 (refer to [Figure 1.](#)) showing van Delft's track, depth soundings, toponyms and appellations along the north coasts of Melville Island and Cobourg Peninsula.

sloop *Waijer* and the pantchiallang *Nova Hollandia*, which departed from Timor on the 2nd March.' Since this most important map—as far as we know—is now being published for the first time, [...].⁶

The chart shows 51 placenames and appellations (or 'topographic descriptors') bestowed along the coastlines explored.⁷ These are itemised in [Table 2](#) in approximate order of appearance on the chart from west to east.

Some initial comments on the names in this Table are in order here:

- Item (6) is presumably the *Rooden-hoek* ['Red-point'] so named by Pieterszoon in 1636.
- Items (20) and (21) refer to the same geographic feature (of being the Dutch conjunction *or*).
- Item (33), *Mariaes Landt* is included for the sake of completeness, even though this toponym was bestowed Pieterszoon.

Topographic descriptors are also included in this list because they provide clues to the meanings and designations of some toponyms. For instance, the topographic descriptor *Alhier liggen drie Bergen* (item 26) provides an explanation for the toponyms *West hoek van 3 Bergens Bocht* and *Oost hoek van Driebergens Bocht* (items 21 & 27). These two toponyms imply that the bight between these two points is named *Driebergens Bocht* ['Three Mountains Bight'], this this name does not appear on the chart nor is it mentioned in the report.

In a footnote Heeres (1899, p. viii, f.n. 6), 'subjoins the names of localities that are found in this chart, [...]. Going from west to east they are the following:

Kliphoek, Duivelsklip, Droge Hoek, Boompjeshoek, Witte Hoek, Noordhoek van Van Diemens Land, Waterplaets, Vuyle Bocht, Vuijl Eiland, Hoek van Goede Hoop, Hoefyzer Hoek, Fortuyns Hoek, Schrale Hoek, Valsche Westhoek, Valsche Bocht, Bedriegers Hoek, Westhoek van 3

Table 2. Toponyms and appellations appearing roughly in order from west to east on the anonymous manuscript chart of 1705 (highlighted items are here considered 'topographic descriptors').

| Item | Names on the 1705 manuscript chart | Translations |
|------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. | Kliphoek | 'Cliff/Rocky Point' |
| 2. | duyvels klip | 'devils rock' |
| 3. | Droge Hoek | 'Dry/Shallow Point' |
| 4. | Boompjes Hoek | 'Little Trees Point' |
| 5. | Witte Hoek | 'White Point' |
| 6. | Noord Hoek van Van Diemens Landt | 'North Point of Van Diemens Land' |
| 7. | Waterplaets | 'Watering place' |
| 8. | Vuyle Bocht | 'Treacherous Bight' |
| 9. | Hoek van Goede Hoop | 'Good Hope Point' |
| 10. | Hoefyser Hoek | 'Horseshoe Point' |
| 11. | Vuijl Eylandt | 'Treacherous Island' |
| 12. | Fortuijns Hoek | 'Fortuijns Point' |
| 13. | Swarte klippen boven water | 'Black rocks above water' |
| 14. | Vuyle Gronden | 'Treacherous Bottoms' |
| 15. | Schrall Hoek | 'Barren Point' |
| 16. | Valsche Westhoek | 'False/Treacherous West Point' |
| 17. | Vuijle gronden | 'Treacherous bottoms' |
| 18. | Valsche Bocht | 'False/Treacherous Bight' |
| 19. | Bedriegers Hoek | 'Deceivers Point' |
| 20. | Vossenbos Ruyge Hoek of | 'Vossenbos Rugged Point' or |
| 21. | Westhoek van 3 Bergens Bocht | 'West Point of 3 Mountains Bight' |
| 22. | Orangie Hoek | 'Orange Point' |
| 23. | Vuijle Gronden | 'Treacherous Bottoms' |
| 24. | Witte Hoek | 'White Point' |
| 25. | Waterplaets | 'Watering-place' |
| 26. | Alhier liggen drie bergen | 'Here lie three mountains' |
| 27. | Oost Hoek van Driebergens Bocht | 'East Point of Three Mountains Bight' |
| 28. | Toppershoetje | 'Small Top-hat' |
| 29. | Scherpen Hoek | 'Sharp Point/Pointed Head' |
| 30. | Vlacke Hoek | 'Flat/Level Point' |
| 31. | Een Bankje | 'A small (sand)Bank' |
| 32. | West Hoek | 'West Point' |
| 33. | [Mariaes Landt] | ['Maria's Land'] |
| 34. | Oost Hoek | 'East Point' |
| 35. | Marias Hoek | 'Marias Point' |
| 36. | de Konijnenberg een Sandplaetje | 'the Rabbit Mound a small Sandbank' |
| 37. | Marten Van Delfts Bajj | 'Marten van Delfts Bay' |
| 38. | Phantillings Hoek | 'Pantjallings Point' |
| 39. | Rustenburg | 'Rustenburg' |
| 40. | Wajers Hoek | 'Wajers Point' |
| 41. | Een Sandplaet met een Boompje | 'A Sandbank with a small Tree' |
| 42. | Hoek van Onder | 'Point (from) Under' |
| 43. | Schilpads Eylant | 'Turtle Island' |
| 44. | Hoek van Canthier | 'Canthier Point' |
| 45. | P. Frederiks Rivier | 'P[ieter] Frederiks River' |
| 46. | Jan Melchers Hoek | 'Jan Melchers Point' |
| 47. | Pieter Frederiks Hoek | 'Pieter Fredericks Point' |
| 48. | Rosebooms Hoek | 'Rosebooms Point' |
| 49. | W[est]. Sweers Hoek | 'W[est] Sweers Point' |
| 50. | Hoek van Calmoerie | 'Calmoerie Point' |
| 51. | Een Groote Sandplaet met 2 boomen | 'A Large Sandbank with 2 trees' |

Bergen's bocht of Vossenbos Ruyge Hoek, Orangie Hoek, Witte Hoek, Waterplaets, Alhier liggen drie bergen, Toppershoedje, Oosthoek van Drie Bergens bocht, Scherpen Hoek, Vlacke Hoek, Westhoek en Oosthoek (van) Mariaes Land, Maria's Hoek, de Konijnenberg, Marten Van Delft's baai, Pantjallingshoek, Rustenburg, Wajershoek, Hoek van Onier, Hoek van Canthier, P. Frederiksrivier, Jan Melchers Hoek, Pieter Frederiks Hoek, Roseboomshoek, W. Sweershoek, and Hoek van Calmoorie.

It is interesting that Heeres should include the topographic descriptors *Waterplaets* (twice) and *Alhier liggen drie bergen* while ignoring the others that appear on the chart. Certainly, *Alhier liggen drie Bergen* cannot be deemed a name of a locality, since it is clearly a sentential description, which cannot function as a placename. At a pinch one could consider *Waterplaets* to be a name of a locality (i.e. a toponym), but it seems a little odd to do so because an identical name-form is not normally given to localities so close to one another. Moreover, from a toponymic point of view, *waterplaets* ['watering place'] (a common noun) would normally be considered a toponym generic, not a toponym specific (a proper name).⁸ To count *Waterplaets* as a toponym would be akin to counting **Basin*, **River*, **Creek*, **Waterhole* etc. as stand-alone toponyms.⁹ Nevertheless, it is not unusual for topographic descriptors such as *Waterplaets* and *sout rivier* ['salt(water) river'], often found on other Dutch explorers' charts, to be counted toponyms by historians and other researchers (see for example Robert, 1973; Schilder, 1976). The other topographic descriptors Heeres excludes comprise, in part, those containing the indefinite article *een* ['a/an'] (for obvious reasons), and the repeated *Vuijle Gronden* and *Swarte klippen boven water*, probably because they refer to marine features (see Blair, 2014 [2008]).

4. The report's placenames and appellations cartographically considered

As mentioned above, the Swaardecroon and Chastelijn report lists 18 names, 10 of which are distinct and do not appear on the 1705 manuscript chart. If these are added to the 41 distinct toponyms transcribed on the 1705 chart (excluding the 10 topographic descriptors), 51 distinct toponyms are recorded in total for this voyage of exploration. The implied toponym, *Driebergen Bocht* ['Three mountains Bight'] should be included in this list (Item x.), thus making a total of 52. Table 3 itemises these names with their item numbers from Tables 1 and 2.

Apart from Leupe (1868, pp. 198–203) and Robert (1973, pp. 40–44), no other attempt has been made, to my knowledge, to reconcile the differences between the names recorded in the Swaardecroon and Chastelijn report and those transcribed on the manuscript chart. After careful comparison of the report and the chart, but with the exception of a few items, I largely concur with Robert's assessment and matching of the names.¹⁰

Since the report is largely a second-hand account, it is sometimes unclear as to which geographic feature is being referred. Added to this, although the chart is detailed and relatively accurate in depicting the topography, it is by modern standards still quite rudimentary and crude. These factors make it difficult at times to reconcile the naming differences between the two sources. Nevertheless, I feel that Robert has by and large been accurate in reconciling the two sources.

Each of the named features in the report that do not appear on the manuscript chart is considered below (please refer to Table 3 and Figure 2):

- Item (a.), *Roosebooms-baij* ['Rooseboom's-bay'], is reported as being the first bay visited. The report states that it is the first bay 'inside' the *Noordhoek* [*van Van Diemensland*], and that it 'runs dead'. In addition it states that two points in front of the western entrance to the bay present themselves as islands, and were named *de Goede Hoop* and *Vuijle Eiland*. *Roosebooms-baij* seems in all likelihood to be the *Vuijle Bocht* (8) on the chart. Leupe (1868, p. 200) comes to the same conclusion.

Table 3. All distinct toponyms recorded on the van Delft expedition.

| Item | Recorded names of the expedition |
|--------|--|
| a. | Roosebooms-baij |
| 1. | Kliphoek |
| 2. | duyvels klip |
| 3. | Droge Hoek |
| 4. | Boompjes Hoek |
| 5. | Witte Hoek |
| 6./b. | Noord Hoek van Van Diemens Landt~Noordhoek |
| c. | Casuaris[hoek] |
| 8. | Vuijle Bocht |
| 9. | Hoek van Goede Hoop |
| e. | [Eijland] de Goede Hoop |
| 10. | Hoefysjer Hoek |
| d. | Varckenshoek |
| 11./f. | Vuijl Eiland~het Vuijle Eijland |
| 12. | Fortuijns Hoek |
| g. | Tijgers-[hoek] |
| 15. | Schrale Hoek |
| h. | Wolven-hoek |
| i. | Bessia-rivier |
| 16. | Valsche Westhoek |
| 18. | Valsche Bocht |
| 19. | Bedriegers Hoek |
| j. | Kaaimans-[hoek] |
| 20. | Vossenbos Ruyge Hoek of |
| 21. | Westhoek van 3 Bergens Bocht |
| 22./k. | Oranje Hoek~Oranjes-hoek |
| 24. | Witte Hoek |
| 27. | Oost Hoek van Driebergens Bocht |
| 28. | Toppershoetje |
| 29. | Scherpen Hoek |
| 30. | Vlacke Hoek |
| 32. | West Hoek |
| 33. | [Marias Landt] |
| 34. | Oost Hoek |
| 35. | Marias Hoek |
| 36. | de Konijnenberg |
| 37./l. | Marten Van Delfts Baij~van Delfs-baij |
| 38. | Phantallings Hoek |
| 39./m. | Rustenburg |
| n. | hoek van Lonton |
| 40. | Wajers Hoek |
| 42. | Hoek van Onder |
| 43./p. | Schilpads Eylant~Schildpads-eiland |
| 44. | Hoek van Canthier |
| 45. | P. Frederiks Rivier |
| 46. | Jan Melchers Hoek |
| 47. | Pieter Frederiks Hoek |
| 48. | Rosebooms Hoek |
| 49. | W[est]. Sweers Hoek |
| 50./o. | Hoek van Calmoerie~hoek van Callemoore |
| q. | Vossenbosch-baij |
| r. | hoek van Calien |
| x. | Driebergens Bocht |

- Item (b.), *Noordhoek* ['Northpoint'], is without a doubt the *Noord Hoek van Van Diemens Landt* on the chart. The report states:

It is to be pointed out that our men already from the beginning of the exploration of van Diemensland, noticed on the beach and various places signs of people, smoke and the like. The first bay inside the Noordhoek of the said land visited by our men [...] ¹¹

- Item (c.), *Casuarishoek* ['Cassowary point'], is the declared name of the east point of *Roosebooms-baij* in the report, which is named *Hoek van Goede Hoop* on the chart (9.) (refer to Item e.).
- Item (d.), *Varckenshoek* ['Pig(s)/Hog(s) Point'], is the declared name of the west point of *Roosebooms-baij* in the report, which is named *Hoefyser Hoek* on the chart (10.) (refer to Item e.).
- Item (e.), [*Eijland*] *de Goede Hoop* ['Good Hope [Island]'], is described in the report in the following way:

The country here is low and the points eastwards and westwards of this bay received the names *Casuaris* and *Varckenshoek*; except another two prominent points that presented themselves on the western side of the bay as islands, of which the one is named *de Goede Hoop* and the other the *Vuijle Eijland*; [...]¹²

The report is somewhat inaccurate here because *Vuijle Eijlant* on the chart appears at the entrance to the bay, and on a modern map it (the present-day Karslake Island) is situated off the eastern cape of the bay (present-day Cape Lavery).

In addition, Robert (1973, p. 41) states the following:

In the 'Written details' one finds the name *Casuaris hoek* for a point east of Shark Bay [i.e. *Roosebooms-baij*~*Vuijle Bocht*] and *Varckens-hoek* for a point west of the same. Two other points, on both sides of the bay looking like islands, were called *Hoek van Goede Hoop* and *Vuyle Eijland*. The *Hoek van Goede Hoop* is perhaps Cook Reef, and *Vuyle* or *Vuyl Eijland* as said before is Karslake Island.

It is clear that *Casuarishoek* and *Varckenshoek* refer to *Hoek de Goede Hoop* and *Hoefyser Hoek* respectively; therefore Robert's suggestion that *Hoek van Goede Hoop* refers to an island (*viz.* Cook Reef) does not add up. In all likelihood some confusion had arisen between what appears on the chart and the accounts given to *Swaardecroon* and *Chastelijn*. In the latter, *de Goede Hoop* refers to an island, whereas on the chart *van Goede Hoop* refers to *Casuarishoek*. The chart shows no island off the western entrance to *Vuijle Bocht*, only three small cross marks which indicate rocks or a shoal (B, [Figure 3](#)) (present-day Cook Reef). The chart also does not directly make clear to which headland *Hoek de Goede Hoop* refers, since the wording appears below the southern extremity of *Vuijle Bocht* (A, [Figure 3](#)). However, a closer inspection of the chart shows that there is not adequate space for the name to be transcribed on its designated peninsula, and the label therefore appears below it (C, [Figure 3](#)).

- Items (g. & h.), *Tijgers-[hoek]* and *Wolven-hoek* ['Tiger(s)-[point]' & 'Wolf/Wolves-point'], are both described in the report as being the points between the second bay/inlet visited. The report describes it as a wide river, which coincides with the depiction of the inlet between *Fortuijs Hoek* (12) and *Schrale Hoek* (15) on the chart.
- Item (i.), *Bessia-rivier* ['Bessia-river'] is described in the report as the river leading inland from *Tijgers-[hoek]* and *Wolven-hoek*, and was so named by the skipper of the chaloupe *Waijer*, Andries Rooseboom. This river remains unnamed on the chart (see [Figure 2](#) and discussion below).
- Item (j.), *Kaaimans-[hoek]* ['Cayman(s)-[point]'], according to the report is the name given to point on the eastern extremity of the third bay visited, which remains

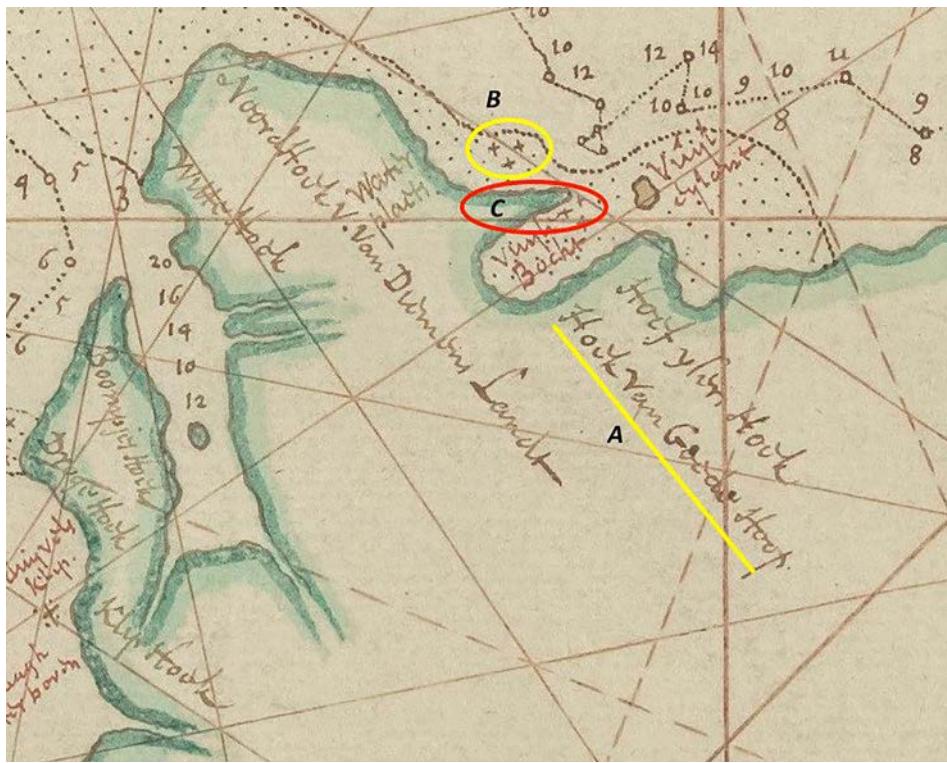


Figure 3. Section of the anonymous manuscript chart of 1705 (refer to Figure 1.) showing the north-western corner of Melville Island.

unnamed on the chart. The western point was named *Oranjes-hoek~Orangies Hoek* (Items k. & 22) in the report and chart respectively.

- Item (n.), hoek van *Lonton* ['Lonton Point'], the report states the following:

The fifth or last bay/inlet eastwards that was visited by our men, has on one side the point of *Lonton*, and on the other side the point of *Callemoore*, which are names given to them by our men; [...]¹³

The 'point of *Callemoore*' appears on the chart as *Hoek van Calmoerie*, the point opposite on the chart (to the west) bears the name *Hoek van Canthier*, which must be the *hoek van Lonton* in the report.

- Item (q.), *Vossenbosch-baij* ['Vossenbosch-bay'], remains unidentified on the chart.
- Item (r.), *hoek van Calien* ['Calien point'], remains unidentified on the chart.

Table 4 represents the reconciliation of the toponyms on the 1705 manuscript chart and those recorded in the *Swaardecroon* and *Chastelijn* report.

The question arises as to why there should be discrepancies between the *Swaardecroon* and *Chastelijn* report and the manuscript chart. This can be explained on several grounds. The first is that, as noted above, the report is based in part on accounts of officers who survived the voyage. Discrepancies with diverse accounts will naturally

Table 4. Toponyms on the 1705 chart with counterpart toponyms in the Swaardcroon & Chastelijn report.

| Item | 1705 chart toponyms | Swaardcroon and Chastelijn toponyms |
|------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. | Kliphoek | |
| 2. | duyvels klip | |
| 3. | Droge Hoek | |
| 4. | Boompjes Hoek | |
| 5. | Witte Hoek | |
| 6. | Noord Hoek van Van Diemens Landt | b. Noordhoek |
| 8. | Vuijle Bocht | a. Roosebooms-baij |
| — | UNNAMED | e. [Eijland] de Goede Hoop |
| 9. | Hoek van Goede Hoop | c. Casuaris[hoek] |
| 10. | Hoeifyser Hoek | d. Varckenshoek |
| 11. | Vuijl Eilandt | f. het Vuijle Eijland |
| 12. | Fortuijns Hoek | g. Tijgers-[hoek] |
| 15. | Schrake Hoek | h. Wolven-hoek |
| — | UNNAMED | i. Bessia-rivier |
| 16. | Valsche Westhoek | |
| 18. | Valsche Bocht | |
| 19. | Bedriegers Hoek | |
| 20. | Vossenbos Ruyge Hoek of | |
| 21. | West hoek van 3 Bergens Bocht | |
| 22. | Orangie Hoek | k. Oranjes-hoek |
| 24. | Witte Hoek | |
| 27. | Oost hoek van Driebergens Bocht | |
| 28. | Toppershoetje | j. Kaaimans-[hoek] |
| 29. | Scherpen Hoek | |
| 30. | Vlacke Hoek | |
| 32. | West Hoek | |
| 33. | [Mariaes Landt] | |
| 34. | Oost Hoek | |
| 35. | Marias Hoek | |
| 36. | de Konijnenberg | |
| 37. | Marten Van Delfts Baij | I. van Delfs-baij |
| 38. | Phantiallings Hoek | |
| 39. | Rustenburg | m. Rustenburg |
| 40. | Wajers Hoek | |
| 42. | Hoek van Onder | |
| 43. | Schilpads Eylant | p. Schildpads-eiland |
| 44. | Hoek van Canthier | n. hoek van Lonton |
| 45. | P. Frederiks Rivier | |
| 46. | Jan Melchers Hoek | |
| 47. | Pieter Frederiks Hoek | |
| 48. | Rosebooms Hoek | |
| 49. | W[est]. Sweers Hoek | |
| 50. | Hoek van Calmoerie | |
| — | UNNAMED | o. hoek van Callemoore |
| — | UNNAMED | q. Vossenbosch-baij |
| | | r. hoek van Calien |

exist given different interpretations and perceptions. Secondly, the report was also partly based on the charts made on the *Waijer* and *Nova Hollandia*, assuming the 1705 chart was made on van Delft's vessel, the *Vossenbosch*. These charts would have varied. For instance, the report mentions that the commander of the *Waijer* bestowed the name *Bessia-rivier* to the second bay visited:

The second bay after *Roosebooms-baij* [...], presents itself as a wide river, but salty; and since nothing of importance was met here only the journal of the Skipper on 12 May will speak, being in the journal of the Master of the chaloupe *Waijer* known under the name of *Bessia-rivier*.¹⁴

The report also states that the ' [...] point of *Lonton*, and on the other side the point of *Callemoore*, which are names given to them by our men [...]'. The chart maker who drew up the 1705 chart was obviously not aware of the names *Bessia-rivier* and *hoek van Lonton*, or indeed of some of the other names bestowed. Such parallel or independent naming of new features discovered by European explorers is not uncommon. For instance, Tasman's crew on his 1642–43 voyage to Tasmania and the South Pacific dubbed the Tongan outlier island '*Ata, Vrouwe Borsten* ['Woman's Breasts'] because when viewed from east-by-north from a distance of 6 miles, this is what the island resembled. However, in Tasman's official log and chart, the island was named ('t hooge) *Pijlstaerten Eijlandt* [lit. '(the high) Arrow-tail Island', i.e. Tropic-Bird Island]. Another example is that of *Charco Harbour*, the name James Cook's men initially gave to Endeavour River.¹⁵

5. Naming motivations

When toponyms are bestowed, it is done so with specific motivations, the overriding one of which is of course to label a feature in order to identify it for future reference or wayfinding. That is, after all, the primary function of toponyms. The 'mechanism' (for want of a better term) employed for naming a geographic feature may encompass:

- a name that describes the geographic feature in question (e.g. *Point Perpendicular, Green Island*)
- a name that designates something always, or often, associated with the feature (e.g. *Shark Bay, Booby Island*)
- a name that records an event, incident or occasion connected with the feature (e.g. *Cape Catastrophe, Easter Island*)
- an evaluative name that makes either positive or negative judgement of the feature (e.g. *Pretty Beach, Forlorn Hope Ridge*)
- a name copied from another location (e.g. *Perth, Lakemba*), or
- a name that commemorates or honours a person or other named entity (e.g. *Flinders Island, Endeavour Strait*)

These mechanisms (there are others, but not relevant here) are discussed at length in Tent and Blair (2014 [2009]) and Tent and Blair (2011). A modified classification schema of this is employed here (Table 5).

Table 6 itemises the reconciled toponyms from Table 4 showing toponym categories (by code number from Table 5), feature type (as per Blair, 2014 [2008]; Blair & Tent, 2015), and comments on the naming motivation/mechanism for each, as can be best ascertained. Explorers often note in their journals the motivation and/or the meaning of the toponyms they bestow. However, since none such for the van Delft expedition exist, I can only speculate or hazard an educated guess as to the motivation and meaning of many toponyms. The classification of some toponyms seem quite straightforward, whilst others are quite enigmatic. It is hoped that my comments and ratiocinations prove to be credible.

Of the 52 toponyms bestowed 31 (60%) are points or headlands, six islands (seven, if the sandbank *de Konijnenberg* is included), five bays, two rivers, two regions and a

Table 5. Australian National Placenames Survey (ANPS) toponym typology (Tent & Blair, 2014 [2009], 2011), abridged and modified.

| Toponym class | Category | Definition |
|------------------------|----------|---|
| Topographic descriptor | 0 | A sentential description, or a descriptive phrase/term, used to describe a geographic feature. |
| Descriptive | 1 | A proper name indicating an inherent characteristic of the feature. |
| Associative | 2 | A proper name indicating something which is always or often associated with the feature or its physical context. |
| Occurrent | 3 | A proper name recording an event, incident, occasion (or date), or action associated with the feature. |
| Evaluative | 4 | A proper name reflecting the emotional reaction of the namer, or a strong connotation associated with the feature (Commendatory, 4.1 or Condemnatory, 4.2). |
| Copy | 5 | Use of a toponym, in whole or part, copied from another location or feature. |
| Eponymous | 6 | A proper name commemorating or honouring a person or other named entity by using a proper name, title, or eponym substitute as a toponym. |

range of three mountains/hills. It is somewhat surprising that more bays and inlets were not named given the large number of headlands and points that were charted. However, when the chart is more carefully examined a possible reason reveals itself: it shows numerous x marks dotted along the apexes of many of these headlands indicting dangerous shallows or reefs. Van Lennep (2012 [1856], p. 83) points out that headlands (and often associated shallows) posed a significant hindrance and danger to early sailing vessels because ships needed to stay ‘above’ headlands in order to retain the wind in their sails so as to safely navigate the vessel. Well-defined descriptions and cartographic depictions of headlands were therefore crucial.¹⁶ It is perhaps not so surprising then that van Delft named so many headlands.

6. Some naming issues

There are a number of matters regarding some of the names appearing on the 1705 chart and in the Swaardcroon and Chastelijn report that need to be considered in more detail at this point.

6.1. ‘Hoek van onier’ or ‘Hoek van onder’?

This toponym variant requires some further examination. The practice of remaining ‘above’ headlands to retain the wind in a vessel’s sails may explain the name variant *Hoek van onder* [‘Point (from) under’ or ‘(from) under Point’] (Table 6, Item 42).

The name does not appear in any form in the Swaardcroon and Chastelijn report, but first appears in the form *Hoek van onier* in Leupe (1868, p. 202) shortly after the rediscovery of the 1705 chart (Figure 4).¹⁷

The *onier* variant is intriguing since it does not constitute a known word in Dutch. It could be a family name, but I have not been able to find any evidence for this. I make the point that it might have been a family name because over one third of the features on van Delft’s chart were named after crew members of the various vessels. Moreover, it appears on the chart in a region where most of the toponyms bestowed were names of individuals. When one looks at an enlarged image of the 1705 chart (Figure 5), the name could certainly be interpreted as *onier*.¹⁸

**Table 6.** Specific comments on van Delft's toponym^a.

| Item | van Delft's toponyms | Toponym category | Feature type | Comments |
|---------|--|------------------|--------------|---|
| 1. | <i>Kliphoek</i> | 1 | PT | <i>Klip</i> can refer to: (a) hidden rocks or reefs below the surface; a shoal; or (b) cliffs along the coast. In this last sense it is synonymous to <i>klif</i> 'cliff'. Toponyms containing the specific <i>klip</i> can therefore be ambiguous. Hence this toponym could refer to either a clifffy point, or rocks and shoals off the point. Because a cross mark (indicating rocks or a shoal) appears on the chart just off the coastline where the name appears, in addition to the coastline appearing to be a sandy beach (GeoNames image), it is assumed the term <i>klip</i> refers to the reef/shoal. |
| 2. | <i>duivels klip</i> | 4.2 | IS | A condemnatory name, due to its perceived hazard to vessels. It refers to a small clifffy islet just off Pukitiarloo Point on the west coast of Bathurst Island. It was named <i>Clift Island</i> by P.P. King in 1818. |
| 3. | <i>Droge Hoek</i> | 1 | PT | <i>Droog(e)~Droge</i> adj. (literally) 'dry' refers to a coastal area which is dry at low tide, in other words, 'shallow'. <i>Droogte</i> n. 'shallows; sand/mudbank; shoal'. |
| 4. | <i>Boompjes hoek</i> | 2 | PT | Most likely named due to the small trees growing on this headland. |
| 5. | <i>Witte Hoek</i> | 1 | PT | Most likely named for its white colour. |
| 6. & b. | <i>Noordhoek (van Van Diemens Landt)</i> | 1 | PT | Classified as 1.3 (Descriptive – Locational) even though the second element of the name is eponymous. The name forms of Items 6, 21, 27 & 41 are NOUN (e.g. <i>Oosthoek</i>) + PREPOSITIONAL PHRASE (e.g. <i>van drie bergen bocht</i>) structures, which is a very common structure of noun phrases both in Dutch and English. The initial NOUN functions as the HEAD of the NOUN PHRASE, and the PREPOSITIONAL PHRASE as a QUALIFIER. In other words, the initial NOUN has primacy. |
| 7. | <i>Waterplaets</i> | 0 | — | A ubiquitous toponymic descriptor to be found on many Dutch charts from the 16th through to 19th centuries (see Item 25.). It is not known to what kind of geographic feature this was referring, but most likely a creek. |
| 8. | <i>Vuijle Bocht</i> | 4.2 | BAY | <i>Vuijl(e)</i> is a common adjectival specific used by the Dutch. <i>Vuijl</i> in its nautical sense, 'treacherous; shallow', can have several meanings: (a) in reference to the seafloor it means it has poor qualities for securing an anchor, such as hard rocks, coral, wreckage, or other impediments that would make securing or unsecuring an anchor difficult or impossible; (b) it can also refer to an area of water treacherous to navigation due to many shallow obstructions such as reefs, sandbars, shoals, or many rocks, etc. (see Items 11. & f.). |
| a. | <i>Roosebooms-baij</i> | 6 | PT | Clearly named after Andries Rooseboom, the skipper of the chaloupe <i>Wajer</i> . |
| 9. | <i>Hoek van Goede Hoop</i> | 4.1 | | A commendatory name often used in toponyms (see Item e.). |
| c. | <i>Casuaris[hoek]</i> | 3 | | <i>Casuaris~kazuaris</i> , Dutch for 'cassowary' (from Malay). An interesting name given cassowaries are not found in this region of Australia. Perhaps the name refers to emus? This toponym, despite its implausibility, is nevertheless, a compelling candidate for being classified as 3 (occurent). There was also a <i>Casuaris Baey</i> on Prince Eyland (Pulau Panaitan), now referred to as <i>Teluk Sarimo~Teluk Kasuaris</i> (van Keulen, [1753]). Prince Eyland is at the south-eastern entrance to the Sunda Strait. |

(Continued)

Table 6. Continued.

| Item | van Delft's toponyms | Toponym category | Feature type | Comments |
|----------|-----------------------------------|------------------|--------------|--|
| e. | [Eijland] de Goede Hoop | 4.1 | IS | A commendatory name. This toponym seems to be the result of confusion between the headland by this name and the reef off its western point (present-day Cook Reef) (see Item 9. & Fig. 3.). |
| 10. | Hoefyser Hoek | 1 | PT | Most likely named so because it is a curved peninsula forming the eastern rim of the bay (8. & a.) which has the overall shape of a horseshoe. |
| d. | Varckenshoek | 5 or 3 | | An intriguing name given there were no pigs in Australia at the time. The index of geographical names on Isaak de Graaf's maps contained in Schilder et al. (2006) lists 6 more features within the VOC sphere that bear this name. In addition, it lists 10x <i>Varkens Eylant</i> , and several <i>Varkens Rivier</i> . This <i>Varckenshoek</i> could have been named because of its resemblance to one of the other <i>Varckenshoeks</i> , or it could be named after a <i>varken~varcken</i> (a slang term in the VOC for a water barrel on a ship, used when fetching water from the shore by small boats (VOC-Glossarium, p.120. http://resources.huygens.knaw.nl/vocglossarium/index_html_en)). If the latter is correct, the toponym could be classified as 3 (occurrent) as a reminder to their having collected water from this place. |
| 11. & f. | <i>Vuijl(e) Eijland</i> | 4.2 | IS | <i>Vuijl(e)</i> is a common adjectival specific used by the Dutch (see Item 8.). |
| 12. | <i>Fortuijns Hoek</i> | 6 | PT | Literally 'Fortune(s) Point', but most likely an eponym. It is registered as a family name (Meertens Instituut https://www.cbgfamilienamen.nl/nfb/) and two soldiers in the employ of the VOC between 1704 and 1706 appear in the VOC's crewmember list (Nationale Archief, VOC: Opvarenden https://www.nationaalarchief.nl/onderzoeken/index_nt00444?searchTerm=). |
| g. | <i>Tijgers-[hoek]</i> | 3? | | This is a very enigmatic name. The motivation for it cannot in reality be put down to the men having seen a tiger on this headland. It must either have been a misidentification of some kind of animal, or a copied toponym. In support of the former scenario, the Swaardcroon & Chastelijn report declares a tiger was sighted at another location, namely in the third bay they explored, on the island marked <i>Waterplaets in Driebergens Bocht</i> (i.e. present-day Van Diemen Gulf) (see Fig. 2.). The report states: ' [...] because the Patsjallang, owing to the strength of the above mentioned currents and hollow water, did not dare proceed but was obliged to return to the Vossenbosch, having beforehand found inside this inlet an island of 5 miles in circumference, on which very good drinking water and also a tiger were found; [...]' ^b There are a number of locations in Indonesia that contain in their names the element <i>Harimau</i> or <i>Macan</i> 'tiger'. However, I have not come across any Dutch translations of these toponyms, therefore, a copied toponym does not seem likely. |
| i. | <i>Bessia-rivier</i> | 5? | STRM | Perhaps one of the most enigmatic of all the toponyms. Perchance a corruption of what appears on Dutch maps as <i>P. Besy~Bessij</i> (now Pulau Sebesi) a volcanic island in the Sunda Strait, just south of Sumatra. The Dutch had a fort on this island, so it had some strategic significance. Alternatively a corruption of <i>Nusa Besi</i> (now Palau Jaco) which appears on the 1705 chart as <i>Nussa Bessy</i> which van Delft's ships sailed passed on their way to New Holland (see Fig. 1. & additional comments below). |
| 13. | <i>Swarte klippen boven water</i> | 0 | BATH | A topographic descriptor. |
| 14. | <i>Vuyle Gronden</i> | 0 | BATH | A topographic descriptor. |



| | | | | |
|-----|---------------------------------------|--------|------|---|
| 15. | <i>Schrale Hoek</i> | 1 | PT | Most likely named because of its bareness. |
| h. | <i>Wolven Hoek</i> | 3 | | The motivation for this name cannot in reality be put down to having seen a wolf or wolves on this headland. Most likely it was a simple misidentification of a dingo or dingoes. |
| 16. | <i>Valsche Westhoek</i> | 4.2 | PT | A condemnatory name. <i>Valsch(e)</i> 'false; treacherous' is a common adjectival topographic generic used by the Dutch. |
| 17. | <i>Vuijle gronden</i> | 0 | BATH | A topographic descriptor. The second <i>Vuijle gronden</i> on the chart. |
| 18. | <i>Valsche Bocht</i> | 4.2 | PT | A condemnatory name. <i>Valsch(e)</i> 'false; treacherous' is a common adjectival topographic generic used by the Dutch. |
| 19. | <i>Bedriegers Hoek</i> | 3 | PT | This is a place where the Dutch reckoned they were deceived by the local Indigenous people. The Swaardcroon & Chastelijn reports refers several times to the apparent treacherous and deceitful nature of the people encountered. This headland's name bears witness to this perception. |
| 20. | <i>Vossenbos Ruyge Hoek</i> | 6 | PT | Named after the <i>fluyt</i> <i>Vossenbosch</i> ; <i>ruyge</i> 'rough, rugged'. |
| 21 | <i>West hoek van 3 Bergens Bocht</i> | 1 | | Classified as 1.3 (Descriptive – Locational) even though the second element of the name is eponymous. The structure of Items 6, 21, 27 & 41 is NOUN (e.g. <i>Oosthoek</i>) + PREPOSITIONAL PHRASE (e.g. <i>van drie bergens bocht</i>), which is a very common structure of noun phrases both in Dutch and English. The initial NOUN functions as the HEAD of the NOUN PHRASE, and the PREPOSITIONAL PHRASE as a QUALIFIER. In other words, the initial NOUN has primacy. |
| 22. | <i>Orangie Hoek~Oranges[hoek]</i> | 6 or 5 | PT | Ostensibly named after either William III, Prince of Orange (1650–1702) or Johan Willem Friso van Oranje-Nassau, Prince of Orange (1687–1711). Spelled by van Dijk (1859) <i>Oranjes hoek</i> . However, it could be a copied toponym given there were a number of forts in the Dutch East Indies that bore the name <i>Orangie</i> or <i>Oranje</i> (Colonialvoyage https://www.colonialvoyage.com/indonesia-list-dutch-colonial-forts-possessions/). |
| 23. | <i>Vuijle Gronden</i> | 0 | BATH | A topographic descriptor. The third <i>Vuijle Gronden</i> on the chart. |
| 24. | <i>Witte Hoek</i> | 1 | PT | Most likely named due its white colour. The second <i>Witte Hoek</i> on the chart. This could therefore be considered a topographic descriptor. |
| 25. | <i>Waterplaets</i> | 0 | IS | A topographic descriptor. The second <i>Waterplaets</i> on the chart. This appellation appears on an island now known as Greenhill Island. It is not known to what kind of geographic feature the appellation refers—perhaps a creek or waterhole? |
| 26. | <i>Alhier liggen drie Bergen</i> | 0 | RNGE | A topographic descriptor. |
| 27. | <i>Oosthoek van Driebergens Bocht</i> | 1 | PT | Classified as 1.3 (Descriptive – Locational) even though the second element of the name is eponymous. The structure of 6, 21, 27 & 41 is NOUN (e.g. <i>Oosthoek</i>) + PREPOSITIONAL PHRASE (e.g. <i>van drie bergens bocht</i>), which is a very common structure of noun phrases both in Dutch and English. The initial NOUN functions as the HEAD of the NOUN PHRASE, and the PREPOSITIONAL PHRASE as a QUALIFIER. In other words, the initial NOUN is primary. |
| 28. | <i>Toppershoedje</i> | 1 | IS | This toponym is not an uncommon appellation for small high cylindrical islands or rocks. The name derives from the term used for a high pointed hat. The index of geographical names on Isaak de Graaf's maps contained in Schilder et al. (2006) lists 9 more features within the VOC sphere that bear this name. Referring to <i>Toppershoetje</i> in the Sunda Strait between Java and Sumatra, Tasman writes on 25 March 1643: '[...], daer van noch 2 mijlen vader noort west, daer leijt mede Zoo een cleijn brockjen, als topershoetje ende het riff streckt noch verder omde noort west ½ |

(Continued)

Table 6. Continued.

| Item | Toponym category | Feature type | Comments | |
|-----------|---------------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|--|
| 29. j. | Scherpen Hoek Kaaimans-[hoek] | 1 2 | PT | mijl, [...]’ [‘ ... Two miles further north-west there is also such a small chunk like Toppershoetje and the reef extends half a mile further north-west, ... ’] (Posthumus Meyjes 1919, p. 94). Most likely named because of its acuteness or pointiness. The Woordenboek der Nederlandsche Taal ['Dictionary of the Dutch Language'] entry for <i>kaaiman</i> declares the term was ‘the usual name given by the Dutch in the East Indies for the frequently occurring species of crocodile (<i>Crocodilus biporcatus</i>)’. The toponym in all likelihood had its motivation in the crocodiles of northern Australia. (Cf. the <i>Alligator Rivers</i> in the NT, explored by P.P. King in 1818, who named them in the mistaken belief that the crocodiles in the estuaries were alligators.) |
| 30. | Vlacke Hoek | 1 | PT | Most likely named because of its flatness. |
| 31. | Een Bankje | 0 | BATH | A topographic descriptor. |
| 32. | West Hoek [van Mariaes Landt] | 1 | PT | Classified as 1.3 (Descriptive – Locational) even though the second element of the name is eponymous. The structure of 6, 21, 28 & 31 is NOUN (e.g. <i>Oosthoek</i>) + PREPOSITIONAL PHRASE (e.g. <i>van drie bergens bocht</i>), which is a very common structure of noun phrases both in Dutch and English. The initial NOUN functions as the HEAD of the NOUN PHRASE, and the PREPOSITIONAL PHRASE as a QUALIFIER. In other words, the initial NOUN is primary. |
| [33.] | [Mariaes Landt] | [6] | REGN ^c | Named by Pieter Pieterszoon in 1636 after Maria van Diemen, the wife of Antonio van Diemen, the Governor-General of the Dutch East Indies from 1636 to 1645. |
| 34. | Oosthoek [van Mariaes Landt] | 1 | PT | Classified as 1.3 (Descriptive – Locational) (see Tent & Blair, 2014 [2009]) even though the second element of the name is eponymous. The structure of 6, 21, 28 & 31 is NOUN (e.g. <i>Oosthoek</i>) + PREPOSITIONAL PHRASE (e.g. <i>van drie bergens bocht</i>), which is a very common structure of noun phrases both in Dutch and English. The initial NOUN functions as the HEAD of the NOUN PHRASE, and the PREPOSITIONAL PHRASE as a QUALIFIER. In other words, the initial NOUN is primary. |
| 35. | Marias Hoek | 5 | PT | The point's toponym specific element (<i>Marias</i>) has been copied from the peninsula named <i>Mariaes Landt</i> [33.] upon which it is located. Tent and Blair (2014 [2009], p. 16) label this, a ‘feature shift’. |
| 36. | de Konijnenberg een Sandplaatje | 1 + 0 | BATH | Most likely named due to its likeness to a rabbit mound (< Mid. Dutch <i>coninenberch</i> . ‘an artificially constructed hill for rabbits in which they can burrow and dig’); <i>een Sandplaatje</i> being a topographic descriptor. |
| 37. | Marten van Delfts Baij~van Delfs-baij | 6 | BAY | Named after Maerten van Delft, the leader of the expedition. |
| 38. | Phantiallings Hoek | 6 | PT | A <i>pantjalling</i> is the Malay name for a one or two masted sailing vessel. It is direct reference to van Delft's <i>Nova Hollandia</i> , which was classified as a <i>pantjalling</i> . |
| 39. | Rustenburg | 5 | REGN | There are two places in the Netherlands bearing the name <i>Rustenburg</i> that existed prior to the eighteenth century (van Berkel & Sampsonius, 2006). It is also a family name (Meertens Instituut https://www.cbgfamilienamen.nl/nfb/). The VOC's crewmember register (Nationale Archief, VOC: Opvarenden https://www.nationaalarchief.nl/onderzoeken/index/nt00444?searchTerm=), lists 20 men who enlisted with that name, 1 of which who served between 1700 and 1705. Given the toponym consists of a single word, it is likely to be a copy of one of the places in the Netherlands. |



| | | | | |
|----------|---|----------|------|--|
| | | | | If it were derived from a crew member's name, the toponym is likely have contained a generic element + the preposition <i>van</i> or the possessive suffix -s. |
| 40. | <i>Wajers Hoek</i> | 6 | PT | Named after van Delft's chaloupe the <i>Wajer</i> . |
| 41. | <i>Een Sandplaet met een Boompje</i> | 0 | BATH | A topographic descriptor. |
| 42. | <i>Hoek van onder~onier</i> | 1 | PT | The name form is in all likelihood <i>onder</i> rather than <i>onier</i> , which appears to be a misreading/misinterpretation. The latter is an unlikely name form. Looking at the geography of the location and the point's shape, <i>Onder</i> is the most probable name form. (See section 6.1 below). |
| 43. & p. | <i>Schilpads Eylandt~ Schildpads-eiland</i> | 2 | IS | Most likely named for the turtles seen on or near this island. |
| 44. | <i>Hoek van Canthier</i> | 6? or 5? | PT | Possibly an eponym, named after one of the crew? The family name <i>Kantier~Cantiere</i> , though rare does occur in the Netherlands (Meertens Instituut https://www.cbgfamilienamen.nl/nfb/). The VOC's crewmember register (Nationale Archief, VOC: Opvarenden https://www.nationaalarchief.nl/onderzoeken/index/nt00444?searchTerm=) does not list anyone with a name resembling this, however. Alternatively, it could be a Dutch rendition of an Indonesian toponym, <i>Gunung Kanti</i> (a mountain in West Java) or <i>Kanti</i> (a populated place in Central Java) being possible candidates. The French copy of the 1705 chart spells the name <i>Canthior</i> . (See sections 6.3 & 6.4 below). |
| n. | <i>hoek van Lonton</i> | 5? | | The phonological form of this name is also suggestive of a name from the Dutch East Indies. The only toponym I have been able to find that comes anywhere close is <i>Lontor~Lontar</i> a populated place on the island of Banda Besar, which itself is also known as <i>Lontor</i> (van Loon [1657]). Could <i>Lonton</i> have been a misspelling of <i>Lontor</i> ? (See section 6.4 below). I have not found any people registered with the VOC with the name <i>Lonton</i> |
| 45. | <i>P. Fredericks Rivier</i> | 6 | STRM | Named after the skipper of the <i>Nova Hollandia</i> , Pieter Fredericksz. |
| 46. | <i>Jan Melchers Hoek</i> | 6 | PT | Named after a crew member? The VOC's crewmember register (Nationale Archief, VOC: Opvarenden https://www.nationaalarchief.nl/onderzoeken/index/nt00444?searchTerm=) lists a Jan Melchers (ship's gunner) who joined the VOC in 1681 and a Jan Barentz Melchersz (boatswain) in their employ between 1699 and 1715, either of whom could have been the source for this toponym. |
| 47. | <i>Pieter Fredericks Hoek</i> | 6 | PT | Named after the skipper of the <i>Nova Hollandia</i> , Pieter Frederickszoon. |
| 48. | <i>Rosebooms Hoek</i> | 6 | PT | Named after Andries Rooseboom skipper of the chaloupe <i>Wajer</i> . |
| 49. | <i>W. Sweers Hoek</i> | 6 | PT | Named after a crew member? The name was common and numerous men are listed in the VOC's crewmember register (Nationale Archief, VOC: Opvarenden https://www.nationaalarchief.nl/onderzoeken/index/nt00444?searchTerm=) under this name, including an Andries Sweers who was in their employ during 1705. |

(Continued)

**Table 6.** Continued.

| Item | van Delft's toponyms | Toponym category | Feature type | Comments |
|----------|--|------------------|--------------|---|
| 50. & o. | <i>Hoek van Calmoerie~Callemoore</i> | 5 | PT | Perhaps a copied toponym from <i>Tanjung Kalimuri</i> ['Point Kalimuri'], a headland on the south-eastern tip of Ceram (Maluku Province). The neighbouring populated place is called <i>Kalmuri</i> . (See sections 6.3 and 6.4 below). |
| q. | <i>Vossenbosch-baij</i> | 6 | BAY | Named after van Delft's fluyt ship <i>Vossenbosch</i> . |
| r. | <i>hoek van Calien</i> | 6? | PT | Perhaps an eponym? It is a family name (though not common). The VOC's crewmember register (Nationale Archief, VOC: Opvarenden https://www.nationaalarchief.nl/onderzoeken/index/nt00444?searchTerm=) lists a Jan Baptist Calien, but he was in their employ between 1787 and 1790. |
| 51. | <i>Een Groote Sandplaet met 2 boomen</i> | 0 | BATH | A topographic descriptor. |
| x. | <i>Driebergens Bocht</i> | 1 | STR/GULF | Although not overtly named in the report or on the chart, it is implied by Items 21, 26 and 27. |

^aThe designated feature type in column 4 indicates the actual type of feature, not the feature implied by the generic in the toponym which is often incorrect.

^b[...] dat de Patsjallang door bevingenoemde felle stromen en hol water niet verder dorste voortvaren, maar genootsaakt was na *Vossenbosch* terug te keeren, hebbende alvorens binnen desen boezem een eiland van vijf mijlen in het rond gevonden, daar zeer goed drinkwater en ook een tijger ontdekt is; [...] (Swaardcroon & Chastellijn, 1856 [1705], p. 200).

^cThis feature code does not appear in Blair (2014 [2008]).

Legend: 'sandbank/sandbar' BATH 'bathymetric' (Any feature of marine waters which is always or usually submerged. Included terms: 'bank, bar, reef, sandbank, sandbank, shoal'); BGHT 'bight'; COVE 'narrow stretch of water reaching inland from a sea'; GULF 'gulf'; IS 'island'; PT 'point'; REGN 'a region of undetermined extent'; RNGE 'range', SHOL 'shoal, reef'; STR 'strait'; STRM 'stream' (river, creek). N.B. The dashed horizontal lines between items denotes the two named items above and below the dashed line refer to the same feature.

Op Wayers-hoek volgt op de kaart de hoek van Onier aan een weinig diepe bogt; vervolgens de hoek van Canthier, deze laatste is de Westhoek van de vijfde bogt van het Verslag, die in de kaart niet benoemd is.

Figure 4. Extract from Leupe's account of the van Delft expedition. ['From Wayers-point, the map follows the point of *Onier* at a shallow bight; then the point of *Canthier*, the latter being the Westpoint of the fifth bight of the Report, which is not named on the chart.'].

However, Volume 1 of the *Grote Atlas van de Verenigde Oost-Indische Compagnie* (Schilder, Moerman, Ormelinc, van den Brink, & Ferwerda, 2006, p. 383), lists all the chart's names (accompanied by what are reckoned to be their current names), and has the form *Hoek van Onder*. On close inspection of Figure 5, the letter *i* could well be interpreted as a *d*. The dashed rhumb (windrose) line running through the letter makes its identity ambiguous. Semantically and pragmatically, *onder* makes more sense than *onier*, because the Dutch preposition and adverb *onder* has the senses: 'under, among, beneath, underneath, between, below, lower, at the bottom' (many of which can be applied to the said promontory). Apart from these general senses the *Woordenboek der Nederlandsche Taal* ['Dictionary of the Dutch Language'] also provides a specific geographical sense: *ONDER* 'from the orientation point (landmark) beneath, below, underneath'. A Google Earth image (Figure 6) of the region represented in Figure 5, shows 'Hoek van onder' located 'below' or 'underneath' the orientation point *Hoek van Canthier*.



Figure 5. Enlarged section of the anonymous manuscript chart of 1705 (refer to Figure 1.) showing the position of *Hoek van onier~onder* in relation to *Waijers Hoek* and *Hoek van Canthier* (Danger Point) on the north coast of Cobourg Peninsula.

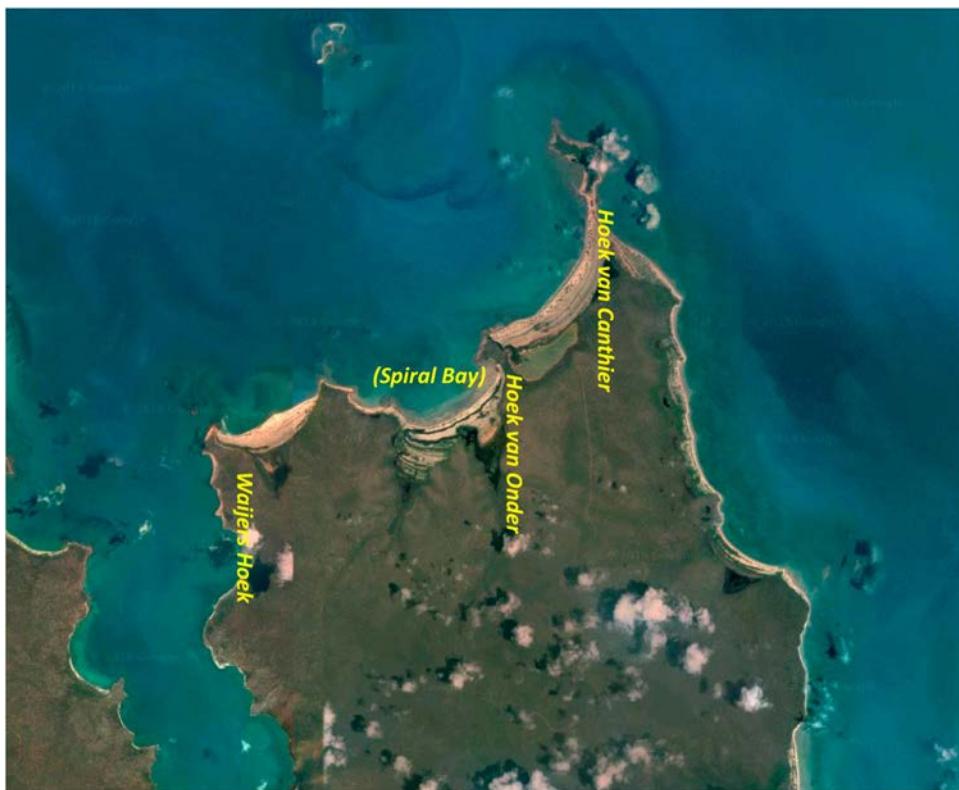


Figure 6. Google Earth aerial view of same section of coastline of Cobourg Peninsula as in Figure 4.

In addition, *Hoek van onder* appears on the eastern extremity of what is today known as Spiral Bay, which is located along a stretch of the highly crenulated northern coastline of the Cobourg Peninsula. The bay's name is decidedly descriptive in that it is known in the geographic parlance as an 'embayed beach', which is also variously referred to as: 'logarithmic spiral-shaped', 'crenulate-shaped', 'hook-shaped', 'zeta-shaped', a 'half-heart' or 'pocket' beach. Such bays and beaches are formed in the lee of headlands where erosion or littoral drift is inhibited in the face of a dominant oblique direction of onshore waves. This results in bay forms very similar to logarithmic spirals (Hurst, Barkwith, Ellis, Thomas, & Murray, 2015). Spiral Bay is a prime example of this phenomenon, and *Hoek van onder* is indeed hook-shaped.¹⁹ It is therefore also conceivable that the promontory derived its name from its curved beak-like shape facing 'under' or inwards towards the beach.

Nonetheless, the possibility that *Hoek van onder* may be an eponymous toponym cannot altogether be dismissed, given at least six (possibly eight) of van Delft's toponyms are derived from various crew members' names, particularly in this area of the chart. Although not common, *Onder* is registered as a family name by the Meertens Institute's *Nederlandse Familienamenbank* ['Dutch Family Name Database'] (<https://www.cbgfamilienamen.nl/nfb/>). The VOC's crewmember register (Nationaal Archief, VOC: Opvarenden <https://www.nationaalarchief.nl/onderzoeken/index/nt00444?searchTerm=>) lists a sailor with this family name, but he was in their employ between 1758 and 1764.

A copy of the 1705 chart was made between 1810 and 1815 and is housed in the Bibliothèque Nationale de France, in Paris. A small image of this copy is in Volume 3 of the *Grote Atlas van de Verenigde Oost-Indische Compagnie* (de Roever & Brommer, 2008, p. 397). It is much cleaner and clearer than the original manuscript chart, with toponyms more legible (being printed) and rhumb lines omitted. This copy shows the point's name as *Hoek van Ander*. This word means 'other, second, opposite' in Dutch. The latter two senses are also possible designations for the point. It is unlikely that *Ander* is an eponym given the *Nederlandse Familienamenbank* does not contain such a family name, nor are any persons with this name listed in the VOC's crewmember register. If one looks at the original manuscript chart, the initial, what appears to be a lower case letter of the toponym's specific could be interpreted as the letter *a* rather than an *o*. Once again, the ambiguity of the letter form is partially produced by a rhumb line running through it. It seems reasonable to suggest that the variation in spelling of the point can be put down to the ambiguity of the letter forms on the 1705 manuscript chart. From a purely linguistic perspective, *Onder* seems the more likely form than *Ander*, both of which seem more likely than *Onier*.

6.2. Indigenous Australian names?

In principle, it is not unreasonable to consider whether some of the enigmatic toponyms were perhaps copied from Indigenous languages of the region explored (see Tent, 2006). There are, however, several concerns that suggest this would not be a fruitful avenue for further investigation or corroboration.

If any of van Delft's names were copied, it would need to be shown from which languages they were copied so that it could be verified. This however, would be an extremely difficult task. Firstly, it is not at all clear from which language(s) any of these toponyms could have been copied. Placenames are often remnants of earlier, extinct languages, and a copied name may therefore not belong to the language at the time of contact. Therefore, any placenames van Delft may have encountered may have originated from languages that had been superseded by the ones spoken at the time he visited. Places could also have been renamed wholly or partially. A further complicating factor is that it is not known what languages were spoken in that region in 1705, and it is not certain language/clan-land affiliations were stable at that time. The historical distribution of languages and land-holding groups on Bathurst and Melville Islands and the Cobourg Peninsula was highly fluid (Mailhammer, p.c.). This is confirmed by Powell (1982, p. 91), who adds the situation prior to European occupation was highly complex and poses many problems. An additional complicating factor is the very common practice of Australian Indigenous cultures to have multiple names for a specific place, many of them undetermined, thus adding a further barrier.

Linguistic descriptions of the languages of the region are also very limited. There are a small number of nineteenth century descriptions, however these are very limited in scope and incomplete. Although copying names from local Indigenous languages cannot be completely ruled out, it is highly unlikely given there are no obvious linguistic signs for an Indigenous connection to van Delft's toponyms (Mailhammer p.c.). Evans (p.c.) affirms this stating none of van Delft's name forms appear to have plausible Australian Indigenous cognates.

Finally, the Dutch were generally not inclined to copy indigenous toponyms from places they called at. In some instances, local names were recorded but Dutch names were recorded on their maps. Tasman's visit to Tonga is a case in point. However, many names on maps and written texts of the Dutch East Indies are local, as are a fair number along the coasts of New Guinea. These are often settlement names, or of islands upon which there were discernible settlements. The Dutch generally had no or little interaction with the Indigenous people of Australia, and when they did it usually ended in violence. It is my contention therefore that no Australian Indigenous toponyms found their way onto Dutch maps; one exception being Willem Janszoon's *Moent* on the western tip of Cape York Peninsula (Tent, 2006).

6.3. Variations in spelling

Many recorded toponyms of the van Delft expedition show variations in their spelling. One contributing factor to this is that Dutch spelling had not yet become standardised in the seventeenth century. The first attempt at this was not made until the first decade of the nineteenth century (see Siegenbeek, 1804, 1805), hence different spellings of specific names and words were the norm before well into the nineteenth century.

Another conceivable contributing factor is ambiguous handwriting, perhaps best illustrated by the various forms of *onier*, *onder* and *ander*; *Calmoerie* (on the 1705 chart) vs *Callemoore* (in the Swaardcroon & Chastelijn report); and *Canthier* (on the 1705 chart) vs *Canthior* (on its 1810–15 French copy). In order to appreciate the significance of this issue, especially in relation to names and toponyms, a brief exposition on linguistic redundancy is in order here.

All languages have built into them large degrees of redundancy at various linguistic levels. This means a feature (of sound, vocabulary, or grammar etc.) is considered redundant if its presence is unnecessary in order to identify a linguistic unit. In other words, the phonological, lexical, or grammatical context in which a linguistic unit appears will aid in its identification. Redundancy is an attribute of language that aids in efficacious communication by enhancing comprehensibility, resolving ambiguity, and isolating linguistic features (e.g. a sound or letter).²⁰

Names, especially toponyms, are elements within a text that have relatively low levels of redundancy, i.e. they are more difficult to predict than other words within a sentence. This, together with the rather florid handwriting style of the the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries frequently makes it difficult to decipher what the intended name in a text is. The non-standardised spelling of the time also decreases the redundant coding of a written word, thereby decreasing its comprehensibility. Finally, names appearing on charts occur in isolation, outside any linguistic context, thereby increasing the likelihood of misinterpretation.

6.4. Dutch East Indies names?

Although there is little, if any, evidence the Dutch copied names from locations in the East Indies archipelago to other regions they explored, it should nevertheless be considered here. As suggested in Table 6 some toponyms, *viz.* *Bessia-rivier* (Item i), *Hoek van Canthier* (Item 44), *hoek van Lonton* (Item n) and *Hoek van Calmoerie* (Item 50), may be transferred

or copied. It could be argued that the motivation for the Dutch to copy an indigenous name from their possessions in Southeast Asia would be marginal at best, given their customary naming practices. However, a possible source for such names may be indigenous Indonesians who were often employed on VOC exploratory expeditions in the region as pilots and interpreters. The Swaardecroon and Chastelijn report lists the number of men who died on during and after van Delft's voyage, and it includes 24 'Inlanders' ['natives'], just short of 50% of the expedition's deceased (Leupe, 1868, p. 194). These 'Inlanders' therefor constituted a significant percentage of the three ships' crews. The question is, were these men afforded the privilege of suggesting names for places? It is unknowable, yet an interesting point to speculate on.

7. Toponym categories

If the topographic descriptors in [Table 6](#) are ignored, as well as *Mariaes Landt* which was named in 1636, we are left with the 52 distinct toponyms bestowed by van Delft or his men. [Table 7](#) enumerates the number of each category of toponym ([Table 5](#)) bestowed by van Delft, and compares the results with those obtained by Tent and Slatyer ([2009](#)).

Tent and Slatyer ([2009](#)) report that the Dutch bestowed some 138 toponyms along the coastline of the Southland.²¹ Van Delft would have bestowed some 37% of these—quite a respectable number. It would be statistically unsound and unreliable to compare the breakdown of the van Delft's naming practices with the results obtained by Tent and Slatyer for the other 17 Dutch exploratory voyages they collected and analysed. Nevertheless, some very broad comparisons can be drawn. Almost 60% of Dutch toponyms in their study were eponymous, followed by 14% descriptive, with a further 12% of toponyms being associative. The remaining three categories 3, 4 and 5 count for 5% or less. The proportions for van Delft's categories 1 and 6 are also in the majority; however, his category 2 is the smallest, with categories 3, 4, and 5 being more substantial proportionately. Very broadly, the distribution of toponym types in the two sets of data are roughly comparable.

8. Current names

[Table 8](#) itemises van Delft's toponyms and attempts to pair them with their present-day counterparts. His topographic descriptors that could possibly be identified by modern toponyms are also included. This is not such a straightforward exercise given the rudimentary nature of the 1705 chart, and the at times uncertain descriptions of named locations in the Swaardecroon and Chastelijn report. A comparison was made with modern-day maps, GoogleEarth maps and images, as well as those found on the GeoNames website (<http://geonames.org>).

Table 7. Number of toponyms in each toponym category^a.

| Toponym class | Category | Number of toponyms | Percentage | Tent & Slatyer (2009) data |
|---------------|----------|-------------------------------|------------|--|
| Descriptive | 1 | 17 | 31.5% | 14% |
| Associative | 2 | 3 | 5.5% | 12% |
| Occurrent | 3 | 5 (2 of which are uncertain) | 9.3% | 4% |
| Evaluative | 4 | 7 (4 of which are uncertain) | 13% | 5% |
| Copy | 5 | 7 (3 of which are uncertain) | 13% | 4% |
| Eponymous | 6 | 15 (2 of which are uncertain) | 27.7% | 60% |

^aIt will be noted that the number of toponyms classified in this Table add up to more than 52. This is because some toponyms have been labelled under two possible toponym categories.

Table 8. Current names by Robert's (1973), Schilder et al.'s (2006) reckonings and mine.

| Item | van Delft's Name | Robert's reckonings | Schilder et al.'s reckonings | My reckonings |
|-----------|---|--|------------------------------|---|
| 1. | Kliphoek | — (no name suggested) | — | <i>Kanunga Point</i> |
| 2. | duivels klip | <i>Clift Island</i> ^a | <i>Clift Island</i> | [concur] |
| 3. | Droge Hoek | <i>Rocky Point</i> | <i>Rocky Point</i> | [concur] |
| 4. | Boompjes hoek | <i>Point Bruce</i> ^b | <i>Brace Point</i> | <i>Brace Point~Marloo</i> ^c |
| 5. | Witte Hoek | <i>Piper Head</i> | <i>Piper Head</i> | [concur] |
| 6. & b. | Noordhoek (van Van Diemens Landt) | <i>Cape van Diemen</i> | <i>Cape van Diemen</i> | [concur] |
| 7. | Waterplaets | — | — | <i>Kilu-Impini Creek?</i> |
| e. | [Eiland] de Goede Hoop | <i>Cooks Reef?</i> | N.A. ^d | [concur] |
| 8. & a. | Vuijle Bocht~Roosebooms-baai | <i>Shark Bay</i> | <i>Shark Bay</i> | [concur] |
| 11. & f. | Vuijl Eiland~het Vuijle Eiland | <i>Karslake Island</i> | <i>Karslake Island</i> | [concur] |
| 9. | Hoek van Goede Hoop~Casuaris[hoek] | — | — | <i>Cape Lavery</i> |
| 10. & d. | Hoefyser Hoek~Varckenshoek | — | <i>Cape Lavery</i> | <i>Purumpinelli Point</i> |
| 13. | Swarte klippen boven water | — | — | <i>Madford Shoals</i> |
| 12. & g. | Fortuyns Hoek~Tijgers-[hoek] | <i>Radford Point</i> | <i>Redford/Radford Point</i> | [concur] |
| i. | Bessia-rivier | <i>Lethbridge Bay</i> | N.A. | [concur] + Jessie River |
| 15. | Schrade Hoek~Wolven-[hoek] | <i>Point Jual</i> | <i>Point Jual</i> | [concur] |
| 16. | Valsche Westhoek | <i>Point Jahleel</i> | <i>Point Jahleel</i> | [concur] |
| 18. | Valsche Bocht | — | — | <i>Yunanti Bay</i> |
| 19. | Bedriegers Hoek | <i>Cape Fleeming</i> | <i>Cape Fleeming</i> | [concur] |
| 20. & 21. | Vossenbos Ruyge Hoek~ Westhoek van 3 Bergen Bocht | — | — | Perhaps the unnamed headland between <i>Quanipiri</i> & <i>Boradi</i> Bays? |
| 22. & k. | Orangie Hoek~Oranje-hoek | <i>Soldier Point</i> | <i>Soldier Point</i> | [concur] |
| 24. | Witte Hoek | <i>Webb Point</i> | < <i>Greenhill Is</i> > | [concur with Robert] |
| 25. | Waterplaets | <i>Greenhill Island</i> | < <i>Greenhill Is</i> > | [concur] |
| 26. | Alhier liggen drie Bergen | <i>Mt Bedwell</i> (one of the 3 mountains) | — | [concur with Robert] + <i>Mt Roe</i> (it is not clear what the 3rd mountain might be) |
| 28. | Toppershoedje | — | <i>Black Rock</i> | [concur with Schilder] <i>High Black Rock</i> or <i>Black Rock</i> |
| 27. | Oost Hoek van Driebergens Bocht | <i>Cape Don</i> | <i>Cape Don</i> | [concur] |
| 29. & j. | Scherpen Hoek~Kaaimans-[hoek] | <i>Lingi Point</i> | <i>Lingi Point</i> | [concur] |
| 30. | Vlacke Hoek | — | <i>Araru Point</i> | [concur with Schilder] |
| 32. | Westhoek [van Mariaes Landt] | — | <i>Midjari Point</i> | [concur with Schilder] |
| 33. | [Mariaes Landt] | — | <i>Cobourg Peninsula</i> | Unnamed, but refers to the western half of Garig Gunak Barlu National Park, i.e. the landmass to the west of Port Essington |
| 34. | Oosthoek [van Mariaes Landt] | <i>Vashon Head</i> | <i>Vason Head</i> | [concur] |
| 35. | Marias Hoek | Turtle Point or Walfort Point | Turtle Point | [concur with Schilder] |

(Continued)

Table 8. Continued.

| Item | van Delft's Name | Robert's reckonings | Schilder et al.'s reckonings | My reckonings |
|----------|--------------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|--|
| 36. | de Konijnenberg | — | Orontes Reef | Orontes Reef |
| 41. | Een Sandplaet met een Boompje | — | Sandy Island No. 1 | Sandy Island Number 1 |
| 43. | Schilpads Eylandt | — | Sandy Island No. 2 | Sandy Island Number 2 |
| 37. & l. | Marten van Delft Baij~van Delfs-baij | Port Essington | — | [concur] |
| 38. | Phantallings Hoek | Record Point | — | [concur] |
| 39. & m. | Rustenburg | — | — | Unnamed, but refers to the coastal region east of Berkeley Bay in Port Essington |
| 40. | Wajers Hoek | Smith Point | — | [concur] |
| 42. | Hoek van Onder~Onier~Ander | Edward Point ^e | Kuper Point | Currently unnamed. Perhaps the small point on the western side of Spiral Bay? |
| 44. & n. | Hoek van Canthier~hoek van Lonton | Danger Point | Danger Point | [concur] |
| 45. | P. Fredericks Rivier | Raffles Bay | Raffles Bay | [concur] |
| 46. | Jan Melchers Hoek | High Point | High Point | [concur] |
| 47. | Pieter Fredericks Hoek | Giles Point | Gualung Point | [concur with Schilder] Giles Point is further north directly opposite Croker Island. |
| 48. | Rosebooms Hoek | Point David | Point David | [concur] |
| 49. | W. Sweers Hoek | south point of Palm Bay? | High Point / Adja Marrunga Point | [concur with Schilder] known as Adjamarugu Point |
| q. | Vossenbosch-baij | Bowen Strait | N.A. | [concur] |
| r. | hoek van Calien | — | N.A. | 'Unknown' |
| 50. & o. | Hoek van Calmoerie~Callemoore | north-west point of Croker Island or Peacock Island? | — | [concur with Robert] |
| x. | Driebergen Bocht | — | N.A. | Dundas Strait / Van Diemen Gulf |

^aIt is interesting that P.P. King should give this small island the descriptive name *Clift Island* (i.e. *Cliff Island*) after van Delft had named it *duivels klip* 'Devils Rock/Cliff' more than 100 years earlier. 'A descriptive island feature on the north end of Gordon Bay, mentioned in the original journal of P.P. King on 27 May 1818.' (NT Place Names Register <https://www.ntlis.nt.gov.au/placenames/view.jsp?id=11798>). This is a case of what I term 'parallel naming', in which a geographic feature is independently given the same (very similar or synonymous) name independently without prior knowledge of the first naming.

^bThis is obviously an error. There is no *Point Bruce* on Bathurst Island, only a *Brace Point*.

^cThe name *Marloo* has been used more often in recent times (NT Place Names Register <https://www.ntlis.nt.gov.au/placenames/view.jsp?id=11160>).

^dSince Schilder et al. (2006) only give current names for the toponyms on the 1705 chart, current names for those appearing in the Swaarddecroon and Chastelijn report are not given.

^eThere is no registered *Edward Point* in the NT. There is one on the southern coast of WA near Albany, however.

www.geonames.org), and the maps accompanying placenames in the NT Place Names Register (<https://www.ntlis.nt.gov.au/placenames/>). Robert (1973, pp. 40–44, 67–81) has also attempted to do this; however, it must be appreciated that he did not have modern technology to aid him, and therefore was unable to find the current name for some of van Delft's toponyms. Table 8 provides the reckonings of Robert (1973, pp. 40–44, 67–81) and Schilder et al. (2006, p. 383) along with my own. As will be seen, there is a large degree of consensus between all three. Where I concur with either or both Robert's and Schilder et al's reckonings, the Table shows '[concur]'.

9. Conclusions

Van Delft's chart made during his three month voyage can be considered quite detailed and accurate for its time; certainly more than any preceding chart of the Southland made by the Dutch. It compares quite favourably with the charts made by Flinders in 1803 and P.P. King in 1818. Van Delft's voyage bestowed more than twice as many toponyms on the Southland than any other Dutch explorer. From cartographic and toponymic perspectives, his expedition can be considered a success. In the eyes of the Dutch however, who were mostly interested in finding new markets, trading partners, precious metals and spices, the mission was seen as disappointing because none of these were found. Nevertheless, the report made by Swaardecroon and Chastelijn does acknowledge that: '[...] many new names will be found there [on the chart], which were impossible to acknowledge on the small dimensions of the Company's previous charts [...].'²²

As the title and text of Swaardecroon and Chastelijn's report state, it was compiled from the verbal accounts of surviving officers and the incomplete written journals of van Delft and Rooseboom:

a written detail of the discoveries and noticeable occurrences in the voyage of the fluyt *vossenbosch*, the chaloupe *the waijer* and the patsjallang *nova hollandia*, despatched by the government of india, a° 1705 from batavia by way of timor to new holland; compiled as well from the written journals, as from the verbal recitals of the returned officers, [...]²³

[...] we shall here principally follow the logbook of the skipper MARTEN VAN DELFT, of the *Vossenbosch*, and that of the under steersman ANDRIES ROOSEBOOM, of the chaloupe *Waijer*; as the journals of the captain of the Patsjallang PIETER FREDERIKS from Hamburg, and the steersmen on the *Vossenbosch*, notwithstanding their general usefulness, do not afford any additional information, as they merely describe the same subject.²⁴

More important, however, was the absence of the anonymous chart made under the direction of van Delft which had been detained at Makassar. The absence of this chart of course meant that their report was left wanting in more accurate detail.

[...] on the previously mentioned fluyt, the Skipper, the upper and under steersman with most of the petty officers and sailors already having died. Of which the incomplete journals have only come into our possession, the new maps moreover, made under the direction of the skipper MARTEN VAN DELFT, have been improperly detained at Makassar; we are not at present in a position to forward the same complete information on the subject, which the arrival of these maps would have enabled us to give, [...]²⁵

What this also implies is that the 10 toponyms in the report that do not appear on the chart, either came from Rooseboom's journal or the verbal reports of the returned



officers. It would seem that these toponyms may have been bestowed without van Delft's knowledge. Without the chart, Swaardecroon and Chastelijn were unable to compare the two and make any necessary adjustments to their report. The absence of any of the journals kept during the expedition also means it is impossible for us to determine the motivation and/or meaning of various toponyms.

Had van Delft's journal survived and had the 1705 manuscript chart been published shortly after the exploratory mission, at least before Flinders' voyage, perhaps some of his toponyms may have been preserved on the Australian map. If anything, this chronicle illustrates the tenuous and ephemeral lifespan some toponyms may experience.

Notes

1. English translations of extracts from the report can be found in: Major (2010 [1859], pp. 165–173) and Robert (1973, pp. 139–145).
2. An annotation to the Swaardecroon & Chastelijn report, lists four documents concerning the voyage that were dispatched to the Netherlands. They were: (a) the log of the *Vossenbosch* under the command of van Delft (from about 2 March to 16 July); (b) the log kept by the commander of the *Waijer*; (c) observations made by the commander of the *Nova Hollandia* regarding the scope of the coasts explored; and (d) observations on the course of the currents. Since the annotation claims these documents were dispatched to the Netherlands, it can only be assumed that they were either lost in transit or are still buried somewhere among the 1.3 kms of archives in the National Archives of the Netherlands. The latter scenario is not unreasonable given the anonymous manuscript chart of the voyage was not rediscovered in the archives and published until 1868 (Leupe, 1868, p. 198). A similar case is that of the anonymous 1670 copy of van Coolsteerdt's manuscript chart of his 1623 voyage which was not discovered until the 1920s by F.C. Wieder in the Van der Hem Atlas in the Österreichische Nationalbibliothek in Vienna (see Wieder, 1925–1933; Schilder, 1976, p. 94).
3. A *fluyt* is a type of Dutch sailing vessel originally designed as a dedicated cargo vessel intended to facilitate transoceanic delivery with the maximum of space and crew efficiency. During the 17th and 18th centuries there was a desire for a simple cargo vessel without a so-called 'spiegel' (i.e. a flat stern). The rear of the fluyt had a curved surface. The advantages of such a ship were: lower draught and low expenses of building, operated with less equipment, and had a simpler rigging than other ships. However, a disadvantage was that in the tropics the curved stern surface became stressed in the heat and started to leak. (van Beylen, 1977, pp. 28–32).
4. A *pantjalling~ pantchiallang~panjalang* is a medium-sized Malay, one or two masted sailing vessel with an enclosed continuous deck. The meaning of the term is roughly 'lookout ship' or 'pathfinder ship'.
5. Robert (1973, pp. 40–44) provides an informative narrative chronological of the voyage.
6. 'Is het tot heden nog niet gelukt de journalen van deze reis terug te vinden, het Rijks-Archief daartegen is in het bezit van de kaart van de door deze schepen bezield kust van *Nieuw-Holland*, onder den title: '*Hollandia-Nova* nader ontdekt anno 1705, door het *Fluytscheepje Vossenbosch*, de *Chialoup Wayer* en de *Phantjalang Nova-Hollandia*, den 2^e Maart van *Timor* vertrokken'. Daar deze allerbelangrijkste kaasrt — voor zoo verre ons bekend is — nu voor het eerst wordt uitgegeven, [...]'
7. A 'topographic descriptor' is defined here as 'a descriptive common noun, noun phrase or sentential description not functioning as a toponym (i.e. as a proper name)'. The four appellations containing the indefinite article *een* ['a/an'], e.g., *Een Bankje*, *een Sandplaatje*, *Een Sandplaat met een Boompje*, and *Een Groote Sandplaat met 2 boomen* are certainly 'topographic descriptors'.
8. Toponyms often have the basic structure SPECIFIC + GENERIC, where the SPECIFIC element is akin to a given name and the GENERIC element a *family name*, e.g. *Black Mountain* (ACT), *Mount*

Kosciuszko (NSW). Of course, toponyms may consist solely of a SPECIFIC, e.g. *Canberra, Adelaide*. A toponym consisting solely of a GENERIC does, in general, not occur, e.g. **Basin*, however, *The Basin* is of course possible.

9. A superscript asterisk (*) in linguistics occurring before a word or sentence can be used to indicate that a certain form or construction is anomalous and not found in natural language.
10. Leupe (1868) does not align all the toponyms in the report with those on the chart, hence his reckonings are omitted from the Table 3.
11. 'Des nu voortgaande met het sommier der voijagie, zoo valt op te merken, dat d'onse al van den beginne der ontdekkinge van *van Diemensland*, langs strand op deesse en geene plaatsen teekenen van menschen, als rook en diergelijke vernomen hebben. Den eersten inbogt binnen de Noordhoek van het gemelde land door onse gevisiteerd zijnde en met den naam van *Roosebooms-baij* geïntituleerd, [...]’ (Swaardcroon & Chastelijn, 1856 [1705], p. 196).
12. 'Het land is hier laag en de hoeken Oost- en Westwaarts van dese baij kregen den naam van de *Casuaris* en *Varckenshoek*; behalven nog twee uitsteekende punten die zich voor dese baij aan de Westzijde als eilanden vertoonden, waarven het eene *de Goede Hoop* end het andere het *Vuijle Eijland* genaamd is; [...]’ (Swaardcroon & Chastelijn, 1856 [1705], p. 197).
13. 'De vijfde of laatste inbogt dan die door de onzen nog al Oostwaarts aan wierd gevisiteerd, word aan de eene zijde gemaakt door den hoek van *Lonton*, en aan de andere kant door den hoek van *Callemoore*, almede namen zijnde, welke de onzen daaraan hebben gegeven; [...]’ (Swaardcroon & Chastelijn, 1856 [1705], pp. 200–201).
14. 'De tweede inbocht na *Roosebooms-baij* [...], vertoont zich als een wijde rivier, doch zout; en wijl daarin niets van opmerking is ontmoet, zal men daarvan alleen het journaal van den Schipper op 12 Maij laten spreken, sijnde in dat van den Gezaghebber op de chialoup *Waiger* bekent met de naam van *Bessia-rivier*. [...]’ (Swaardcroon & Chastelijn, 1856 [1705], p. 199).
15. Lt. Zachary Hicks has the entry in his journal: 'Moored in Charco Harbour' (Beaglehole, 1955, p. 366, fn. 1).
16. There is even a Dutch proverb which states: *Den hoek te boven zijn* [lit. ‘to be above the point/headland’, i.e. ‘to avoid an obstacle’] (van Lennep, 1856, p. 83).
17. It is not clear how *Onier* would have been pronounced. It could either have been with a Dutch pronunciation [ɔni:r] or with a pseudo-French pronunciation as in [ɔnjɛ:ʒ]. Many words in Dutch with a French origin largely retain their French articulation. The same dilemma applies to the specific *Canthier*: [kanti:r] ~ [kantje:ʒ].
18. Major (2010 [1859]) and Robert (1973) also both record the name with this spelling.
19. Dutch *Hoek* in this context means ‘promontory, point, headland’, not ‘hook’.
20. For an informative exposition on the concept of linguistic redundancy see Wit and Gillette (2013).
21. It must be noted here that although the Tent and Slatyer data included van Delft's toponyms, the classification of them was not as accurate or comprehensive as that in the present study. Therefore, the Tent and Slatyer data is no longer as accurate.
22. '[...], alsoo daarinne veele *nieuwe namen* zullen worden gevonden, die onmogelijk in het kleijn bestek van 's Comp^e. vorige kaarten kunnen bekent wezen; [...]’ (Swaardcroon & Chastelijn, 1856 [1705], p. 195).
23. 'Bevinding in geschrifte van het geene ontdeckt en noteerenswaardig bevonden is, op de voyagie van het fluijtken *Vossenbosch*, de chialoup *d'Waiger* en de Patsjallang *Nova-Hollandia*, door de Hooge Regering van India, A° 1705 van *Batavia* over *Timor* na *Nova-Hollandia* voormeld gedopecheert; soodanig sulcx uijt de schriftelijcke journalen, als het mondeling relaes der gereturneerde officieren is te zamengebragt en bij een gestelt, [...]’ (Swaardcroon & Chastelijn, 1856 [1705], p. 193).
24. '[...] wij ons daaraan tot zoo verre sullen gedragen en principalijk aan het dagregister van den Schipper MARTEN VAN DELFT op *Vossenbosch*, en dat van den Onderstuurman ANDRIES ROOSEBOOM op de chialoup *Waiger*; hoewel die van den Gezaghebber op de Patsjallang PIETER FEEDEKIJS van Hamburg, als die der stuurlieden op *Vossenbosch* al mede niet en zijn e repudiëren, maar egter ook geen meer licht aan de zaken sullen kunnen geven, dan de twee journalen soo even geciteert, als verhandelende een en het selve.’ (Swaardcroon & Chastelijn, 1856 [1705], pp. 195–196).



25. [...] op meergemelde fluijt, den Schipper, Opper- en Onderstuurman met de meeste onderofficieren en matrozen reeds zijn uijtgestorven en overleden. Waarvan alhier de onvolmaakte journalen alleen zijnde overgekomen, en de nieuwe kaarten, door bezorging van den schipper MARTEN VAN DELFT zaliger op ordre gemaakt, tot *Macassar* abusivelijk aangehouden; zoo en zal men nu soo verstanelyk niet wel kunnen spreken, dan bijaldien voorschreven kaarten nevens deeszen gevoegd waren, of nog binnen korten wilden overkomen, [...]’ (Swaardcroon & Chastelijn, 1856 [1705], p. 195).

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