
NAMING PLACES: DUTCH VOYAGERS AND TOPONYMS IN THE FIFTH PART OF THE WORLD, 1616-1722

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Abstract: Some of the first Europeans to venture into the southern Pacific Ocean were the Dutch during the 17th and early 18th centuries. The linguistic legacy of these expeditions can be found in a small number of Dutch words adopted into Polynesian languages as well as toponyms bestowed by them. The current article was inspired by Douglas (2014). In that article she investigates the expeditions of Le Maire and Tasman into the South Pacific. In response to an assessment made by her regarding their naming practices, I catalogue and quantitatively analyse the toponyms they bestowed and recorded. Included in the examination are the 13 toponyms conferred by Roggeveen. My analysis reveals that Douglas' assessment is largely correct, however, some differences are noted.

INTRODUCTION

The literature on the European history of the Southern Ocean emphasises the explorations of the British (*e.g.* Cook, and Bligh) and the French (*e.g.* de Bougainville, La Pérouse, and d'Entrecasteaux), but pays little attention to Dutch exploration. Yet, the Dutch entered the southern Pacific Ocean long before the British and French, and in many ways were pioneers in the shaping of geographical knowledge for those who followed them.

An illustration underscoring the presumed primacy of British and French influence on the South Pacific is reflected in the sociolinguist Susan Romaine's claim that the first European language the Polynesians "[...] came into contact with was English brought first by Cook, [...]" (Romaine 1991:623). Geraghty and Tent (1997a & b) and Tent and Geraghty (2001) have clearly refuted this, and indeed, as far as the current linguistic evidence shows, it was Dutch with whom the southern hemisphere Polynesians first came into contact. Indeed, the Dutch left behind, not only several loanwords for novel European items, but also a number of toponyms. Their charts depicting their sailing tracks and the islands they encountered, are dappled with Dutch names.

In footnote 65 (p. 20) in her study on European naming in Oceania, Douglas (2014) states:

Jan Tent and Helen Slatyer's typology of toponyms bestowed in New Holland by seventeenth- and eighteenth-century European voyagers shows that Dutch place names are overwhelmingly topographic, environmental, and eponymous, with only one indigenous word possibly associated with place-naming (J. Tent and H. Slatyer, Naming places on the 'Southland': European place-naming practices from 1606 to 1803, *Australian Historical Studies* 40 [2009] 26-29). My impressionistic survey is that Dutch toponyms in the Pacific Islands [*sic*] and New Guinea match that pattern.

The intention of this article is to follow up on Douglas' "impressionistic survey" and her finding that toponyms bestowed in the South Pacific and New Guinea by the Dutch match the findings of Tent and Slatyer (2009).

METHODOLOGY

Douglas' survey spans the two hundred year period from 1500 to 1700, thereby including the voyages of Jacob Le Maire and Willem Corneliszoon Schouten (1615-17), and Abel Janszoon Tasman and

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Franchoys Jacobszoon Visscher (1642-43).¹ The current survey will add 22 years to Douglas' 200-year timespan with the addition of the Jacob Roggeveen and Corneliszoon Bouman expedition of 1721-22; and like Douglas, will cover the South Pacific and New Guinea. The addition of the Roggeveen and Bouman expedition's 13 toponyms, should not compromise the overall statistical viability of the data. Moreover, as will be shown below, Roggeveen's naming practices did not vary from those of Le Maire and Tasman, despite being 106 and 80 years later respectively.

On occasion, the Dutch also recorded indigenous names or toponyms on their charts. These are also included in the dataset, although the names were of course not bestowed by the Dutch. The inclusion of such toponyms provides some insight not only into the mindset of the mariners who recorded them, but the circumstances of their contact with the inhabitants of the places they visited.

The typology used to classify the toponyms in this study is the same as that used by Tent and Slatyer (2009:22-24) and is outlined in an abridged form in **Table 1**.²

Table 1. Toponym typology employed (Tent & Slatyer 2009)³

1 Descriptive - indicating an inherent characteristic of the feature
2 Associative - indicating something which is always or often associated with the feature or its physical context
3 Occurrent - recording an event, incident, occasion (or date), or action associated with the feature
4 Evaluative - reflecting the emotional reaction of the name's bestower, or a strong connotation associated with the feature
5 Shift - use of a toponym, in whole or part, from another location or feature
6 Indigenous - importing an Indigenous toponym or word into the Introduced system
7 Eponymous - commemorating or honouring a person or other named entity by using a proper name, title, or eponym substitute as a toponym
8 Linguistic Innovation - introducing a new linguistic form, by manipulation of language. ³
9 Erroneous - introducing a new or existing form through garbled transmission, misspelling, etc. ³

The geographic range covered in this survey extends from Puerto Deseado (southern Argentina) through the Polynesian islands south of the equator, to the north coasts of New Ireland and New Guinea, and will include the west coast of New Zealand. The toponyms were gleaned from the charts drawn up of the voyages as well as the journals kept (Claeszoon 1645; Mulert 1911; Posthumus Meyjes 1919; Engelbrecht & van Herwerden 1945).

Although Le Maire's nine toponyms bestowed between Puerto Deseado and Cape Horn are not in the Southern Pacific – and perhaps should be excluded from the dataset, given that Douglas concentrates on the South Pacific – an analysis of these nine toponyms show they do not depart in any way from his naming practices elsewhere. It would also be bizarre for Le Maire to suddenly change naming practices once he entered into the Pacific.

It must be noted that on occasion a geographic feature was given two distinct names on the same voyage, e.g. Le Maire's *Vulcanus* and *Brandende Eijlandt* 'Burning Island', and Tasman's *Vrouwe Borsten* 'Women's Breasts' and (*'t hooge*) *Pijlstaerten Eijlandt* 'The high Tropicbird Island' (i.e. 'Ata, Tongatapu Group, Tonga). On other occasions, a feature was given different names by successive explorers, e.g. Le Maire's *Eijlandt sonder grondt* 'Island without bottom'⁴ is Roggeveen's *'t Schadelyk Eylant* 'The Maleficent Island' (i.e. Takapoto). Sometimes an indigenous name was recorded for an island on a Dutch chart as well as an introduced one by the same explorer, e.g. Tasman's *'t Eijlandt Rotterdam* + *Anamoka* (i.e. Nomuka). In all such cases, both names were included in the dataset since they contribute to an understanding of the place-naming practices followed at the time.

THE DUTCH IN THE SOUTHERN PACIFIC

During the sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries, European exploration of the Pacific was almost entirely undertaken by the Spanish (Mendaña 1567-1569, Mendaña and Quiros 1595-1596, Quiros 1605-1606, Torres 1606-1607). However, they mainly remained north of "the Line". The situation

changed in 1616 when Jacob Le Maire and Willem Corneliszoon Schouten entered the South Pacific Ocean by way of Cape Horn. In 1642-1643, Abel Janszoon Tasman and Franchoy Jacobszoon Visser entered the Pacific from the south-west. The next Dutch expedition to venture into the Pacific was that of Jacob Roggeveen and Corneliszoon Bouman (1721-1722) who largely followed the track of Le Maire. The aim of these expeditions was to either to circumvent the monopoly of the *VOC* (*Vereenigde Oost-Indische Compagnie*, 'United Dutch East India Company') by finding a new passage into the Pacific and to Chile and the East Indies, or to obtain more knowledge of the unknown Provinces of Beach (*i.e.* the purported 'Southland'). There were a number of other Dutch expeditions into the Pacific during this period (*viz.* Jacob Mahu and De Cordes 1598-1600, Oliver van Noort 1598-1601, Joris van Spilbergen 1614-1617, Jacob l'Hermite 1624-1625), however, none of these ventured south of the Equator.

Le Maire & Schouten (1615-1617)

The first Dutch expedition into the southern Pacific was conducted by Le Maire and Schouten during 1615-1617. Their objective was to legally circumvent the monopoly of the *VOC* by finding a new passage into the Pacific. The *VOC* had exclusive rights to trade with the East Indies by way of the Cape of Good Hope and the Straits of Magellan. Other Dutch companies and individuals were thus forbidden to send ships to the East via these routes. Finding a new route would permit them to evade this law. To circumvent the *VOC*'s monopoly, Le Maire's father, Isaac, founded the *Australische Compagnie* ('Australian Company') and financed the expedition to find a new passage into the Pacific. Schouten was the skipper of the *Eendracht* ('Concord'), a 220 ton vessel with a crew of 65. The *Hoorn* (named after the Dutch town of Hoorn) was a 110 ton vessel with a crew of 22, skippered by Jan Schouten, Willem's brother. Jacob Le Maire was the 'President' (*i.e.* in overall control) and the supercargo of the expedition.

After entering the South Pacific Ocean from the east, and having discovered and passed by Cape Horn (named in honour of their ship after she was accidentally lost during careening in the Deseado River, near Port Desire, now Puerto Deseado, Argentina), they made their way north skirting Juan Fernandez island. The expedition then headed north-west and into an unexplored section of the southern ocean, then ventured west where they encountered islands of the Tuamotu Archipelago. They continued their track westwards coming across several of the northern outliers of Tonga. Wallis (*i.e.* Alofi) and Futuna were sighted and charted next. The expedition then proceeded north-west to the north coast of New Guinea, which was charted before making their way to Batavia (see Fig. 1.).

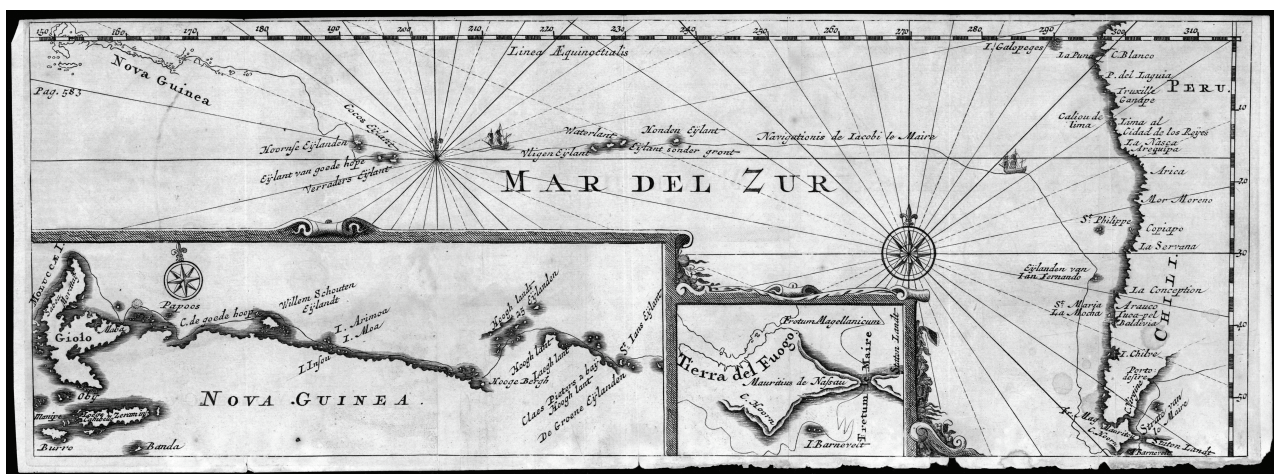


Figure 1. Jacob Le Maire (1625) *Voyage of Jacob Le Maire and Willem Cornelisz Schouten in the ship Eendracht, 1616.* London: Henrie Fetherstone. (National Library of Australia, MAP RM 533, online at <https://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-231270823>)

In all, Le Maire and Schouten spent 36 days at Puerto Deseado not making any contact with the local inhabitants. They then spent five days on various islands in Tonga, 13 days on Futuna and Alofi, and five weeks sailing along the northern coasts of New Ireland and New Guinea, stopping at various islands. Their place-naming is enumerated in **Table 2**, which provides English glosses, the category of toponym, and current name(s), where known.⁵ Le Maire also collected 296 general language items from various islands and locations visited, and which are catalogued in his *Vocabvlaer: Oft Tale van d'Eylanden* ('Vocabulary: Or the Languages of the Islands'). His journal also independently records various other local words. It is intriguing that no indigenous toponyms were recorded from Tafahi and Futuna given that Le Maire managed to record in his *Vocabvlaer* a list of 32 words from Tafahi, and another of 119 from Futuna. Nevertheless, the compilation of these word lists says something about Le Maire's linguistically inquisitive character. His vocabularies were later used by Tasman and Cook, and have been a source of linguistic enquiry up to and throughout the 20th century (Friederici 1912; Kern 1948; Lanyon-Orgill 1960; Beaumont 1972; Bolyanatz 1998).

Table 2. Catalogue of toponyms bestowed by Le Maire & Schouten (1616)⁶

Names bestowed	Translation	Toponym type	Current name
<i>Spieringcx bay</i>	'Smelt Bay'	2 Associative	<i>Bahia de los Nodales</i> (Santa Cruz, Argentina)
<i>Pinguijns Eylanden</i>	'Penguin Islands'	2 Associative	<i>Isla Pingüino</i> (Santa Cruz, Argentina)
<i>Voghels-Eylandt</i>	'Bird Island'	2 Associative	<i>Isla de los Pájaros</i> (Puerto Deseado, Argentina)
<i>Leeuwen ~ Robben Eylandt</i>	'Lion ~ Seal Island'	2 Associative	<i>Isla de los Leones</i> (Puerto Deseado, Argentina)
<i>Eylandt Barnevelt ~ Barneveltds Eylanden</i> ⁷	'Barnevelt Island ~ Barnevelts Islands'	7 Eponymous	<i>Barnevelt Island ~ Islas Barnevelt</i> (Chile)
<i>Nassau Baaij</i>	'Nassau Bay'	7 Eponymous	<i>Nassau Bay ~ Bahía Nassau</i> (Chile)
<i>Mauritius de Nassauland</i>	'Maurice of Nassauland'	7 Eponymous	<i>Tierra del Fuego</i> (Chile/Argentina)
<i>Straet Le Maire</i>	'Le Maire Strait'	7 Eponymous	<i>Le Maire Strait ~ Estrecho de Le Maire</i> (Argentina)
<i>Staeten landt</i>	'States (General) Land' ⁸	7 Eponymous	<i>Staten Id ~ Isla de los Estados</i> (Argentina)
<i>Cabo de Hoorn</i>	'Cape Horn'	5 Shift	<i>Cape Horn ~ Cabo de Hornos</i> (Chile)
<i>Honden Eylant</i>	'Dogs Island'	2 Associative	<i>Pukapuka</i> (Tuamotu Arch., Fr. Polynesia)
<i>Eylandt sonder grondt</i>	'Bottomless Island'	1 Descriptive	<i>Takapoto</i> (Tuamotu Arch., Fr. Polynesia)
<i>Waterlant</i>	'Waterland'	2 Associative	<i>Ahe & Manihi</i> (Tuamotu Arch. Fr. Polynesia)
<i>Vliegghen Eylant</i>	'Island of Flies'	2 Associative	<i>Rangiroa</i> (Tuamotu Arch., Fr. Polynesia)
<i>Cocos Eylandt ~ Cocos-bergh</i>	'Coconut (Palm) Island ~ Coconut-mountain'	2 Associative	<i>Tafahi</i> (Tonga, outlier)
<i>Verraders Eylandt</i>	'Traitors Island'	3 Occurrent	<i>Niuaatoputapu</i> ⁹ (Tonga, outlier)
<i>Eylant van Goede Hope</i>	'Good Hope Island'	4 Evaluative	<i>Niuafo'ou</i> (Tonga, outlier)
<i>Hoornsche Eilanden</i>	'Horn Islands'	5 Shift	<i>Futuna & Alofi ~ Wallis</i> (Horn Is.)
<i>Eendrachtsbaai</i>	'Unity/Concord Bay' ¹⁰	7 Eponymous	<i>Anse de Sigave</i> (Futuna)
<i>Marcken</i>	'Marken'	5 Shift	<i>Tauu Islands</i> (Bougainville, PNG)
<i>Groene Eilanden</i>	'Green Islands'	1 Descriptive	<i>Green Is. ~ Sir Charles Hardy Is.</i> (Nissan, Sirot, Pinipel, Esau) (Bougainville, PNG)
<i>Sint Jans Eylandt~Iohannes Eylandt</i> ¹¹	'St. John's Island'	3 Occurrent	<i>Ambitle Id.</i> (Fenni Is., New Ireland, PNG)
<i>Claes Pietersz. bay</i> ¹²	'Claude Pieterse's bay'	7 Eponymous	<i>Hiruan Bay ~ Borpop Harbour</i> (New Ireland, PNG) ¹³
<i>Vulcanus</i>	'Vulcan'	7 Eponymous	<i>Karkar Id. ~ Dampier Id.</i> (Madang, PNG)
<i>Brandende Bergh</i>	'Burning Mountain'	1 Descriptive	<i>Karkar Id. ~ Dampier Id.</i> (Madang, PNG)
<i>Cornelis Knierse bay</i>	'Cornelius Knierse bay'	7 Eponymous	<i>Berlin Harbour? Broken Water Bay?</i>
<i>(Eijlandt) Moyses</i>	'Moses Island'	7 Eponymous ¹⁴	<i>Tatau ~ Tabar</i> (Tabar Group, PNG)
<i>Moa</i>		6 Indigenous	<i>Pulau Insumuar</i> (Wakde Group, West Papua)
<i>Insou</i>		6 Indigenous	<i>Pulau Insumanai</i> (Wakde Group, West Papua)
<i>Arimoa ~ Artimoa</i> ¹⁵		6 Indigenous	<i>Pulau-pulau Kumamba</i> (West Papua)
<i>Willem Schouten Eylandt</i>	'Willem Schouten Island'	7 Eponymous	<i>Schouten Is. ~ Biak Group</i> (Biak, Numfor, & Supiori) (West Papua)
<i>C. van goede hoop</i>	'Cape of Good Hope'	4 Evaluative	<i>Tanjung Imbirsbari</i> (Pulau Biak, West Papua)
<i>Iacobs Eylandt</i> ¹⁶	'Jacobs Island'	3 Occurrent	<i>Pulau Bepondi ~ Mios Bepondi</i> (West Papua)

Tasman & Visscher (1642-1643)

The second Dutch voyage of discovery into the South Pacific was that Tasman and Visscher (1642-1643). They entered the Pacific from the west as Tasman was commissioned by the *VOC* to make a voyage of exploration to obtain more knowledge of the unknown Provinces of Beach, in other words, to discover the purported Great Southland. His two ships the *Heemskerck* (named after a Dutch town),¹⁷ with a crew of 60, and the *Zeehaen* (lit. ‘sea robbin’, *i.e.* ‘Gunard’, *Triglæ* sp.), with a crew of 50, left Batavia in August 1642. On 19 January 1643, after a voyage of some four months, during which they charted the south and part of the east coast of Tasmania, they proceeded east and encountered the South Island of New Zealand. They sailed northwards along the west coasts of the South and North Islands. They then ventured into the South Pacific Ocean making their way north-eastwards where they encountered the Tonga archipelago, charting some of its western islands. Thereafter they set a north-westerly course and skirted the east coast of Vanualevu (Fiji) before heading north-west to the north coast of New Guinea roughly following Le Maire and Schouten’s track to Batavia (see **Fig. 2**).

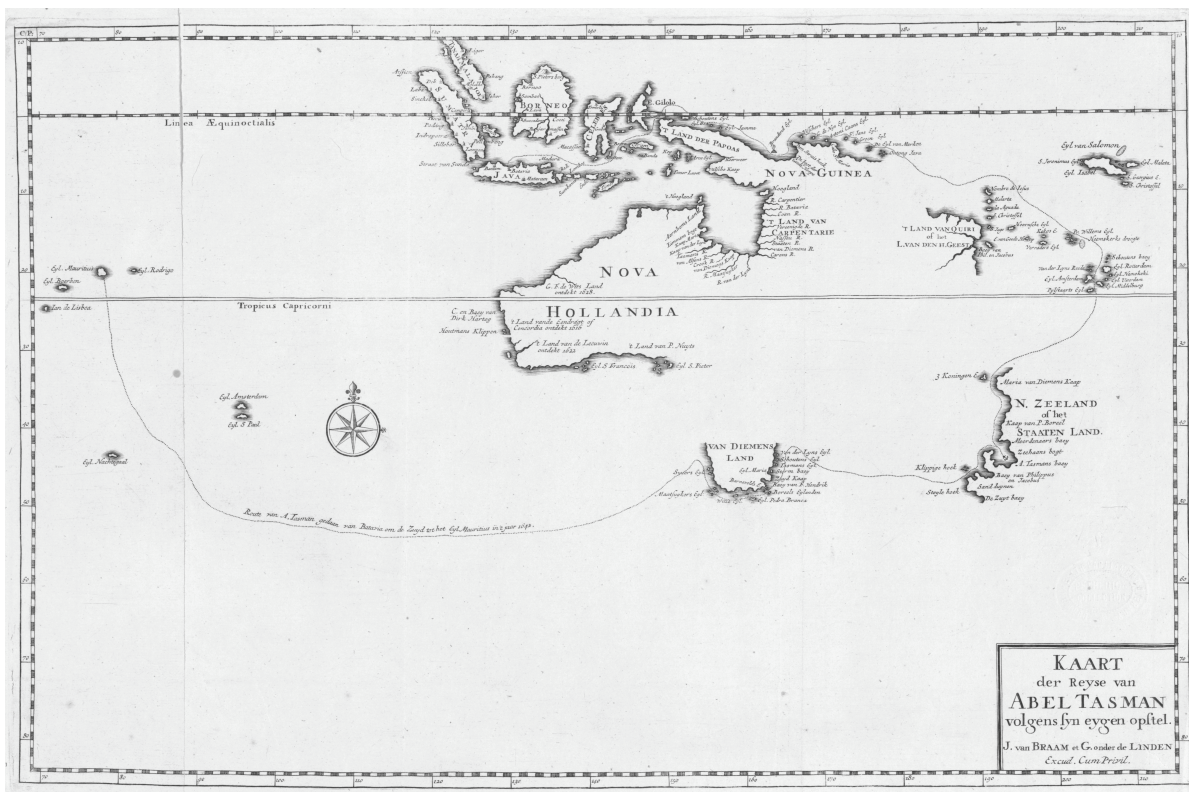


Figure 2. Jan van Braam *Kaart der Reyse van Abel Tasman volgens syn eygen opstel* / J. van Braam et G. onder de Linden, *Excud. Cum Privilegio* [Te Dordrecht: by Joannes van Braam; Amsterdam: Gerard Onder De Linden, Boekverkoopers, 1726]. (National Library of Australia, MAP RM 690, online at <https://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-231300135>)

Tasman and Visscher spent 24 days along the western coasts of New Zealand, 11 days on Tongatapu and Nomuka (in the Tonga Group), and seven weeks along the north coasts of New Ireland and New Guinea, stopping at various islands. **Table 3** lists the toponyms bestowed and recorded during the Pacific and New Guinea legs of the voyage. Like many charts of Dutch explorers of the time, the various extant charts of Tasman’s voyage on occasion include what I term ‘topographic descriptors’ – descriptions of geographic features such as *waterplaets* ‘watering place’, *Duijnich Landt* ‘Duny Country’ (Tent 2021), such descriptors have been omitted from the dataset.¹⁸

Table 3. Catalogue of toponyms bestowed by Tasman & Visscher (1643)

Names bestowed	Translation	Toponym type	Current name
<i>Chypyge Hoeck</i>	‘Rocky Point’	1 Descriptive	<i>Cape Foulwind</i> (NZ)
<i>Steijle Hoeck</i>	‘Steep Point’	1 Descriptive	<i>Steep Point</i> (NZ)
<i>Moordenaersbaai</i>	‘Murderers Bay’	3 Occurrent	<i>Golden Bay / Mohua ~ Te Tai Tapu</i> (NZ)
<i>Abel Tasmans Reede</i>	‘Abel Tasman’s Roadstead’	7 Eponymous	<i>Abel Tasman Roadstead</i> (NZ)
<i>Zeehaens Bocht</i>	‘Zeehaans Bight’	7 Eponymous	<i>Cook Strait</i> (NZ)
<i>Cabo Pieter Boreels</i> ¹⁹	‘Cape Pieter Boreels’	7 Eponymous	<i>Cape Egmont</i> (NZ)
<i>Staeten Landt</i> ²⁰	‘States (General) Land’	7 Eponymous	<i>New Zealand ~ Aotearoa</i>
<i>Abel Tasmans Baai</i>	‘Abel Tasman Bay’	7 Eponymous	<i>Tasman Bay ~ Te Tai-o-Aorere</i> (NZ)
<i>Cabo Maria van Diemens</i>	‘Cape Maria van Diemen’	7 Eponymous	<i>Cape Maria van Diemen</i> (NZ)
<i>’t Eijlant Drie Coninghen ~ Drie Coninghs Eijlandt</i>	‘Three Kings Id.’ (due to it being 6 January, Epiphany)	3 Occurrent	<i>Manawatwhi ~ Three Kings Is.</i> (NZ)
<i>Vrouwe Borsten</i> ²¹	‘Woman’s Breasts’	1 Descriptive	<i>’Ata</i> (Tonga, outlier)
<i>(’t hooge) Pijlstaerten Eijlandt</i>	lit. ‘(the high) Arrow-tail Island’ (i.e. Tropicbird Id.)	2 Associative	<i>’Ata</i> (Tonga, outlier)
<i>Hooch Eijlandt</i>	‘High Island’	1 Descriptive	<i>’Eua</i> (Tongatapu Group, Tonga)
<i>’t Eijlandt Middelburgh</i>	‘Middelburg Island’	5 Shift	<i>’Eua</i> (Tongatapu Group, Tonga)
<i>’t Eijlandt Amsterdam</i>	‘Amsterdam Island’	5 Shift	<i>Tongatapu</i> (Tongatapu Group, Tonga)
<i>Van Diemens Reede</i>	‘Van Diemens Roadstead’	7 Eponymous	<i>Tongatapu</i>
<i>Maria (van Diemen) Baai</i>	‘Maria (van Diemen) Bay’	7 Eponymous	<i>Maria Bay</i> (Tongatapu, Tonga Group)
<i>Amockakij ~ Namocaki</i>		6 Indigenous	<i>Nomukeiki ~ Nomuka Iki.</i> (lit. ‘Little Nomuka’) (Nomuka Group, Tonga)
<i>Anamoka</i> ²²	(Rotterdam Island)	6 Indigenous	<i>Nomuka</i> (Nomuka Group, Tonga)
<i>’t Eijlandt Rotterdam</i>	‘Rotterdam Island’	5 Shift	<i>Nomuka</i> (Nomuka Group, Tonga)
<i>Justus Schoutens Baij</i> ²³	‘Justus Schoutens Bay’	7 Eponymous	<i>Kotomaka, Nomuka</i> (Nomuka Group, Tonga)
<i>Cornelis Vanderlijns Rede</i> ²⁴	‘Cornelis Vanderlijns Roadstead’	7 Eponymous	<i>Nomuka & Nomuka Iki</i> (Nomuka Group, Tonga)
<i>Amango</i>		6 Indigenous	<i>Mango</i> (Nomuka Group, Tonga)
<i>Amoa</i>		6 Indigenous	<i>Tanoa</i> (Ha’apai Group, Tonga)
<i>Amo</i>		6 Indigenous	<i>Meama ~ Meamo</i> (Ha’apai Gp., Tonga)
<i>Amatou</i>	Tract on Nomuka	6 Indigenous	—
<i>Amatafoa</i>		6 Indigenous	<i>Tofua</i> (Ha’apai Group, Tonga)
<i>Kay Baij</i>	‘Kao Bay’	6 Indigenous	<i>Kao</i> (Ha’apai Group, Tonga)
<i>Hooch eijlandeken</i>	‘High (small) island’	1 Descriptive ²⁵	<i>Late ~ Bickerton Is.</i> (Vava’u Gp., Tonga)
<i>Heemskercq Droochten</i>	‘Heemskerk Shoals’	7 Eponymous	<i>Heemskercq, Nukusemanu & Nanuku Reefs</i> (Ringgold Isles, Vanualevu Group, Fiji)
<i>Prins Willems Eijlanden</i>	‘Prince Willem Islands’	7 Eponymous	<i>Vanualevu Group</i> (Fiji)
<i>Eijlanden van Onthong Java</i>	‘Onthong Java Islands’ ²⁶	5 Shift	<i>Luangiua ~ Lord Howe Atoll</i> (Solomon Is.)
<i>Anthonij Caens (Eijlandt)</i>	‘Anthony Caens (Island)’	7 Eponymous	<i>Tanga Islands</i> (PNG)
<i>Gardenijs ~ Gerrit de Nijs Eijlandt</i>	‘Gardenijs Island’	7 Eponymous	<i>Lihir ~ Gerrit Demys Island</i> (PNG)
<i>Visschers Eijland(en)</i> ²⁷	‘Fishers Island(s)’	3 Occurrent	<i>Simberi ~ Fisher Island, Tabau & Tabar</i> (Tabar Group, PNG)
<i>Salomon Sweers hoeck</i>	‘Salomon Sweer’s point’	7 Eponymous	
<i>Cornelis Witzens Reede</i>	‘Cornelis Witzens Roadstead’	7 Eponymous	
<i>Johan Maetsuykers Reede</i>	‘Johan Maetsuykers Roadstead’	7 Eponymous	<i>Arimoa & Insou</i>
<i>het brandende Eijlandt</i> ²⁸	‘The Burning Island’	1 Descriptive	<i>Karkar ~ Dampier Is.</i> (PNG)

Roggeveen & Bouman (1721-1722)

The third expedition into the Southern Pacific Ocean was conducted by Roggeveen and Bouman (1721-22). In 1721 the *WIC* (*West Indische Compagnie* 'United Dutch West India Company'), in recession and seeking new trade openings, sponsored Roggeveen in an expedition aimed at discovering the Great Southland.

The company provided and fitted out three ships: the 32 gun *Den Arend* ('The Arend', presumably named after Roggeveen's father who, between 1673 and 1675, had proposed to the *WIC* such a voyage of discovery and trade) (Mulert 1911:3). It had 111 hands and was skippered by Jan Koster. The second vessel, the *Thienhoven* (named after a Dutch town), had 24 guns and 88 hands, and was under the command of Bouman. The third was the ill-fated *Africaensche Galeij* ('African Galley'), with 33 hands, under Roelof Rosendaal's command. Roggeveen was the 'President' of the expedition. The three ships sailed from the island of Texel, off the coast of North Holland, on 1 August 1721. They crossed the Atlantic Ocean and entered the Southern Pacific Ocean from the east, via Cape Horn.

After visiting Juan Fernandez for revictualling, the expedition headed north-west. On 5 April 1722 (Easter Day), Rapanui was sighted, which Roggeveen named *Paesch Eylandt* ('Easter Island'). Roggeveen spent eight days on Rapanui where he reported friendly transactions with its residents. It is intriguing that no autochthonous placenames or other words were recorded during this stopover. Roggeveen's ships then sailed north-west towards the latitudes, roughly following Le Maire and Schouten's track, where they encountered various islands in the Tuamotu Archipelago. On Takapoto, the *Africaensche Galeij* foundered and had to be abandoned along with five expedition members who had decided to desert. After the Tuamotus, the remaining two ships came across four islands in the Samoa group. The expedition then sailed due north-west skirting the north coast of New Guinea (see **Fig. 3**). **Table 4** itemises the toponyms bestowed and recorded during the Pacific leg of this voyage. No names were conferred or recorded in New Guinea.

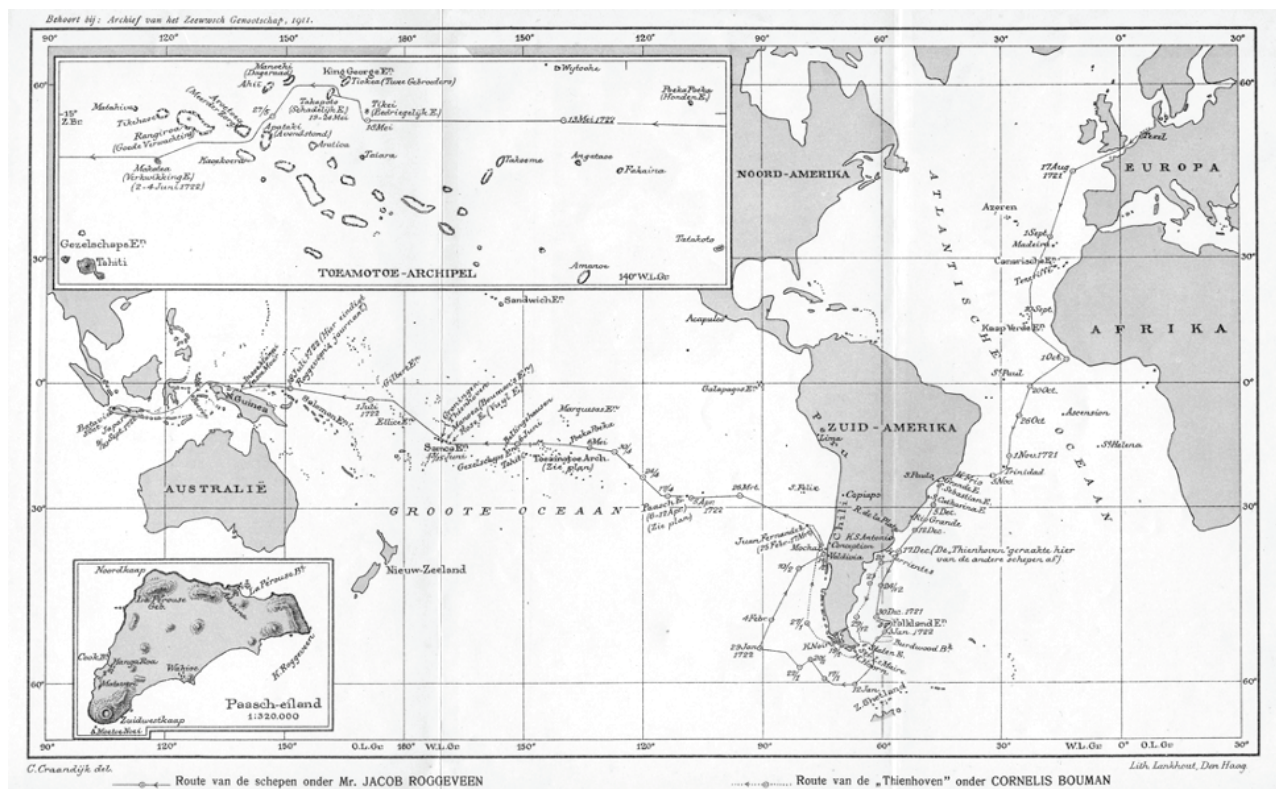


Figure 3. Chart from F.E. Baron Mulert (ed.) (1911). *De Reis van Mr. Jacob Roggeveen ter Ontdekking van het Zuidland (1721-1722)*, 's-Gravenhage: Martinus Nijhoff.

Table 4. Catalogue of toponyms bestowed by Roggeveen & Bouman (1722)

Names bestowed	Translation	Toponym type	Current name
<i>Paesch Eyland</i>	‘Easter Id.’	3 Occurrent	<i>Easter Island ~ Rapanui</i>
<i>Bedrieglyk Eyland</i>	‘Deceitful Id.’	4 Evaluative	<i>Tikei</i> (Tuamotu Arch, Fr. Polynesia)
<i>Twee Gebroeders</i>	‘Two Brothers’	1 Descriptive	<i>Takaroa</i> or <i>Tiokea</i> (Tuamotu Arch., Fr. Polynesia)
<i>Schadelyk Eyland</i>	‘Maleficent Id.’	3 Occurrent	<i>Takapoto</i> (Tuamotu Arch., Fr. Polynesia) ²⁹
<i>Eyland den Dageraad</i>	‘Dawn Id.’	3 Occurrent	<i>Manihi</i> (Tuamotu Arch., Fr. Polynesia)
<i>Eyland den Avondstond</i>	‘Evening Id.’	3 Occurrent	<i>Apataki</i> (Tuamotu Arch., Fr. Polynesia)
<i>Eyland Meerder Sorg</i>	‘Island of More Trouble/ Worry’	4 Evaluative	<i>Arutua</i> (Tuamotu Arch., Fr. Polynesia)
<i>Eyland van Goede Verwachtinge</i>	‘Island of Good Expectations’	4 Evaluative	<i>Rangiroa</i> (Tuamotu Arch., Fr. Polynesia) ³⁰
<i>Eyland van Verquikking</i>	‘Refreshment Id.’	3 Occurrent	<i>Makatea</i> (Tuamotu Arch., Fr. Polynesia)
<i>'t Vuyle Eiland</i>	‘The Foul Id.’	4 Evaluative	<i>Rose</i> (Am. Samoa)
<i>Boumans Eilanden</i>	‘Bouman Is.’	7 Eponymous	<i>Manu'a Is.</i> (Am. Samoa)
<i>Eyland Thienhoven</i>	‘Tienhoven Id.’	7 Eponymous	<i>Tutuila</i> (Am. Samoa)
<i>Eyland Groningen</i>	‘Groningen Id.’	5 Shift	<i>Upolu</i> (Samoa)

All in all, these three expeditions made significant contributions to the contemporary cartographic knowledge of the South Pacific, paving the way for later expeditions by the British, French and others. The linguistic and toponymic legacy of the Dutch in the region is less significant or enduring, however.³¹

ANALYSIS OF THE DATA

In total, 85 toponyms were conferred and recorded during these three expeditions. **Tables 5** and **6** summarise the data.

Table 5. Number of toponym types conferred by each expedition

	Le Maire & Schouten	Tasman & Visscher	Roggeveen & Bouman	Conflated	Total percentage
1 Descriptive	3 (-0.503)	6 (0.075)	1 (-0.441)	10	11.8
2 Associative	8 (0.967)	1 (-0.796)	0 (-0.953)	9	10.6
3 Occurrent	3 (-0.503)	3 (-0.448)	5 (1.609)	11	12.9
4 Evaluative	2 (-0.797)	0 (-0.97)	4 (1.096)	6	7.1
5 Shift	3 (-0.503)	4 (-0.273)	1 (-0.441)	8	9.4
6 Indigenous	3 (-0.503)	8 (0.423)	0 (-0.953)	11	12.9
7 Eponymous	11 (1.849)	17 (1.991)	2 (0.072)	30	35.3
Totals	33	39	13	85	

The figures in **Table 5** show that the expeditions bestowed and recorded a small and unequal number of placenames, making a simple comparison of naming practices somewhat meaningless. One solution is to standardise the frequency counts for each toponym type for each explorer by converting them to z-scores (shown in parentheses).³² This procedure was performed, the results of which are shown in **Fig. 4**. Unfortunately, the line chart does not show any comparable naming practices or patterns, which is most likely due to the small number of placenames bestowed by Roggeveen compared to the other two expeditions. If the dashed line representing Roggeveen's toponyms is ignored, a rough parallel can be noted for Le Maire and Tasman's names. They clearly favoured 'Eponymous' placenames above all other types—33.3% and 43.6% of their names respectively. It is only with 'Associative' names where they differ significantly. However, the placename practices of these three explorers is not the topic of this article; a comparison of their combined naming with the naming patterns on the Australian continent is. The right-hand column of **Table 5** shows the conflated numbers of toponyms bestowed by these three explorers.

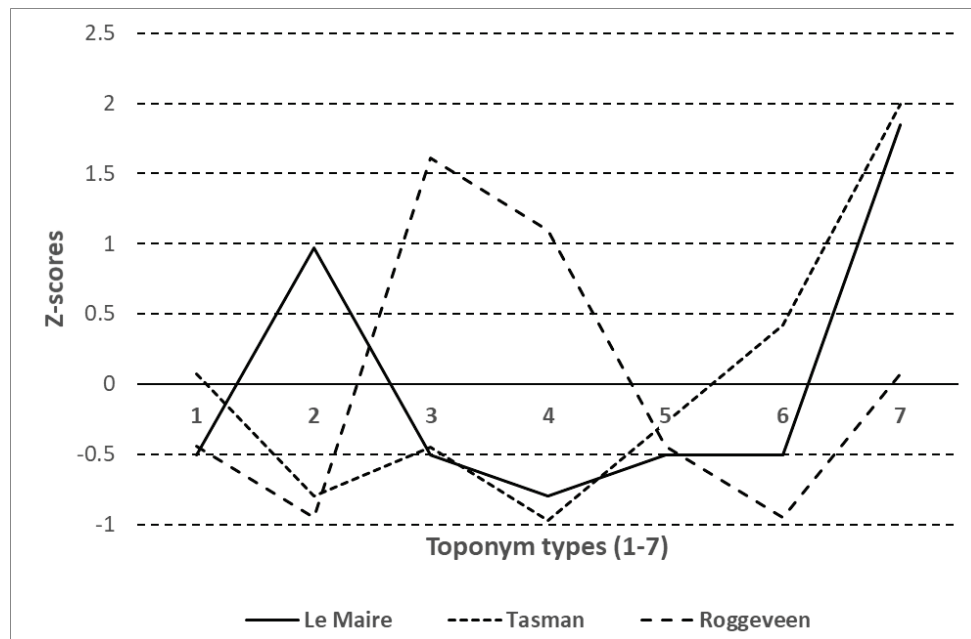


Figure 4. Distribution of z-scores across toponym types for the three Dutch expeditions into the South Pacific

In order to test Douglas’ premise that Dutch toponyms in the South Pacific/New Guinea match the naming patterns recognised by Tent and Slatyer (2009) in Australia, the data of the former were conflated (see final column **Table 5**) and compared with the latter (see **Table 6**).

Table 6. Comparison of Dutch place-naming along the coast of Australia (Tent & Slatyer 2009) and that practiced in the South Pacific/New Guinea

Toponym type	South Pacific/New Guinea		Australia (Tent & Slatyer 2009)		Conflated	
	Instances	Percent	Instances	Percent	Instances	Percent
1 Descriptive	10 (-0.265)	11.8	20 (0.005)	14.4	30	13.4
2 Associative	9 (-0.389)	10.6	17 (-0.099)	12.2	26	11.6
3 Occurrent	11 (-0.141)	12.9	5 (-0.518)	3.6	16	7.1
4 Evaluative	6 (-0.761)	7.1	7 (-0.449)	5.0	13	5.8
5 Shift	8 (-0.513)	9.4	6 (-0.484)	4.3	14	6.3
6 Indigenous	11 (-0.141)	12.9	1 (-0.658)	0.7	12	5.4
7 Eponymous	30 (2.213)	35.3	83 (2.203)	59.7	113	50.4
Totals	85		139		224	

With the exception of two toponym types (3 ‘Occurrent’ and 6 ‘Indigenous’), the two datasets show noteworthy similarities. ‘Descriptive’, ‘Associative’, and ‘Evaluative’ toponyms have approximately the same frequency of occurrence. Although ‘Shift’ toponyms in the South Pacific/New Guinea dataset comprise more than double the percentage of the Australian data, they nevertheless comprise only a small overall total of the total number of toponyms the two datasets. While there is a considerable difference in percentage between ‘Eponymous’ toponyms (35.3% vs 59.7%), this category comprises the majority of names in both datasets. The difference in ‘Indigenous’ names recorded can be explained by the overall lack of verbal communion between the Dutch and the Indigenous peoples of Australia compared to that experienced in the South Pacific and New Guinea.

Once again, the raw descriptive data makes it awkward to see any potential overall patterns in place-naming. Therefore, the frequency counts for the two datasets in **Table 6** have been converted to z-scores (shown in parentheses) and are plotted in the line graph of **Fig. 5**. This reveals a clear correspondence in overall naming patterns, confirming Douglas’ “impressionistic survey” claiming Dutch toponyms in the Pacific islands and New Guinea match the patterns discerned by Tent and Slatyer (2009).

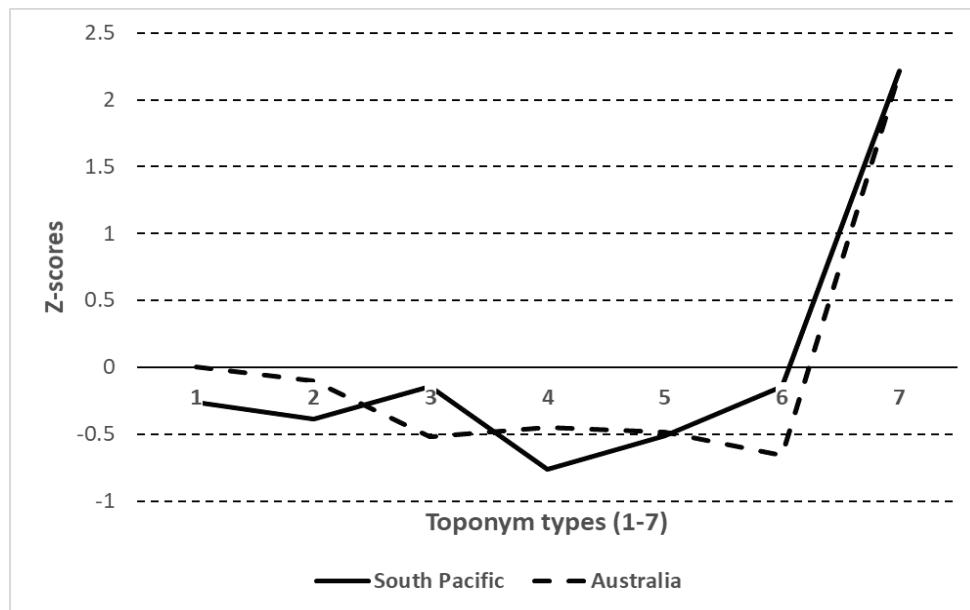


Figure 5. Distribution of z-scores across toponym types for the Australian data (Tent & Slatyer 2009) and the conflated South Pacific/New Guinea data

CONCLUSION

Douglas' (2014) footnote states: “[...] Dutch place names are overwhelmingly topographic, environmental, and eponymous, with only one indigenous word possibly associated with place-naming [...]. My impressionistic survey is that Dutch toponyms in the Pacific Islands [*sic*] and New Guinea match that pattern.” Her conclusion is largely correct because it can be seen that:

- ‘Descriptive’ toponyms (Douglas’ ‘topographic’?) — 14.4% (Australia) and 11.8% (South Pacific/New Guinea)
- ‘Associative’ toponyms (Douglas’ ‘environmental’?) — 12.2% (Australia) and 10.6% (South Pacific/New Guinea)
- ‘Eponymous’ toponyms — 59.7% (Australia) and 35.3% (South Pacific/New Guinea) (N.B. Although there is a considerable disparity in the proportion of these toponyms, they individually comprise the largest class of toponym in both surveys)

Where the Tent and Slatyer and South Pacific/New Guinea surveys differ is in the proportions of ‘Occurrent’ toponyms recorded (3.6% vs 12.9% respectively), and ‘Indigenous’ toponyms (0.7% vs 12.9% respectively). The difference in the latter may be explained by the overall absence of verbal communion between the Dutch and Indigenous peoples of Australia compared to that experienced in the South Pacific and New Guinea. It is more difficult to furnish a reasonable explanation for the differences in ‘Occurrent’ toponyms recorded, other than to say that perhaps more noteworthy events transpired during the South Pacific voyages. Alternatively, it may simply be due to idiosyncrasies of naming practices of the explorers themselves, which may also be partially explained by the difference in the number of voyages undertaken in Australia and the South Pacific—at least 17 compared to three respectively.³³

One interesting detail concerning the toponyms bestowed by the Dutch along the coasts of Australia and in the South Pacific/New Guinea that is worth noting is the number of these names that are still extant. In both cases, most have either been forgotten or replaced, whilst others have been calqued (*i.e.* literal translations into English, *e.g.* *Steyle Houck* > *Steep Point*). Approximately the same percentage of Dutch names are still found on today’s maps in one form or another—25% in Australia and 27.5% (or 24 of the 87) in the South Pacific. **Table 7** shows that in the South Pacific ten have remained unchanged, seven calqued, and seven are still used as alternative names.³⁴

Table 7. Number of Dutch toponyms bestowed by Le Maire, Tasman and Roggeveen still extant in the South Pacific/New Guinea

Explorer	Unchanged	Calqued	Used as an alternative name
Le Maire	6	4	2
Roggeveen	4	3	4
Tasman	—	—	1
Totals	10	7	7

NOTES

- ¹ Tasman's second voyage of exploration to the Southland in 1644 is not included in the South Pacific/New Guinea survey since he did not venture into the South Pacific, rather he followed the coastline from the tip of Cape York to North West Cape near where present-day Exmouth is located.
- ² A full exposition of this typology can be found in Tent & Blair (2009, 2014) and Tent & Blair (2011). This typology is the official typology used by the Australian National Placenames Survey (ANPS). Since these publications, we have revised the typology (see Blair & Tent 2020). Nevertheless, I have used the earlier version of the typology in the current analysis because (a) the revised version was not completed at the time of writing this article, and (b) the 2009-14 version was used by Tent and Slatyer (2009) and was referred to by Douglas (2014).
- ³ Items 8 'Linguistic Innovation' and 9 'Erroneous' are struck through because no toponyms of this kind were conferred by the Dutch.
- ⁴ Meaning the sea floor around the island was too deep to anchor.
- ⁵ The actual identity of some places to which the Dutch bestowed names is uncertain or unknown.
- ⁶ Toponyms in explorers' journals and charts, including subsequently published maps, often have quite disparate spellings because spelling conventions had not yet become standardised, e.g. *eilandt* ~ *eyland* ~ *eylant* ~ *eijlandt* ('island') and *hooge* ~ *hooghe* ~ *hoog* ~ *hooch* ('high') (see: Koelmans 2006 [1978]; van der Wal 1992). Spellings presented here attempt to represent the original spelling that occurred in the explorers' journals or on their charts, and therefore, may not coincide with modern or alternative spellings. Purported current names derived from Romburgh & Warnsinck-Delprat (1957), Sepp (1939), and Motteler (2006). Maori toponyms derived from Davis (1990).
- ⁷ Named after Johan van Oldenbarnevelt (1547-1619), Land's Advocate of Holland (Chairman of the States-General), who played an important role in Dutch struggle for independence from Spain. He was avid supporter of William the Silent and his son Maurice of Nassau. He was beheaded in 1619 on a trumped-up charge of treason.
- ⁸ Named after the States-General (the Dutch Government).
- ⁹ *Tafahi* and *Niuatoputapu* are adjacent islands and within clear view of one another. It is interesting to note that Le Maire named *Tafahi*, *Cocos Eylandt*, because of the abundance of coconut trees, when the neighbouring so-called *Verraders Eylandt* had the indigenous name *Niuatoputapu* which means 'Coconut Island' due to its own abundance of coconut trees.
- ¹⁰ Named after Schouten's ship the *Eendracht*.
- ¹¹ So named because it was sighted on June 24, St John's Day or Midsummer Day. *Marcken*, *Groene Eilanden* and *Sint Jan* were later named *Ontong Java* by Tasman.
- ¹² *Pietersz.* is a patronymic name (an abbreviation meaning 'Peter's son', equivalent to the English 'Peterson'). Such names are very often abbreviated in seventeenth century Dutch writing to *...sz.* (the period indicating an abbreviated form), *...sz.* or *...szⁿ*, otherwise these names seem to have been pronounced in full. The abbreviated forms should, therefore, not be perceived as the full surname, although nowadays many people retain this form or other of this kind of abbreviated patronym as their family name, e.g. *Pieters* or *Pieterse*.
- ¹³ According to Bolyanatz (1998).
- ¹⁴ Named after one of the crew who was killed on this island. Engelbrecht & van Herwerden (1945) state the indigenous name of the Island is *Napakur*, however, no record of this name seems to exist.
- ¹⁵ Referred to in the *Vocabvlaer: Ofi Tale van d'Eylanden* as *Een seecker Eylandt — Arti* 'A certain Island — Arti'.
- ¹⁶ So named because it was sighted on July 25, St Jacob's Day.
- ¹⁷ Mundle (2015: 163) claims Tasman's ship was named after the Dutch explorer and vice-admiral, Jacob van Heemskerck (1567-1607). He commanded several voyages to the East Indies, setting up trading posts on various islands. However, it is unlikely that van Heemskerck is the source for the ship's name because *VOC* ships were generally named after toponyms (including governors' country estates), personal names (usually women's names), and animal names. It was very unusual to name ships after *VOC* officials or employees. (*De VOC Site* www.vocsite.nl/schepen/index.html).
- ¹⁸ The spelling of toponyms and 'topographic descriptors' with or without initial uppercase letters does not indicate a common or proper noun. As mentioned earlier, spelling conventions were not standardised at this stage.
- ¹⁹ The Dutch sometimes used Portuguese toponymic generics or names in their placenames between the 16th and 18th centuries, e.g. *Cabo* 'cape', *Abrolhos* 'spiked obstructions', also used to refer to offshore reefs. The Dutch were greatly influenced by Portuguese cartography (see Unger 2011).
- ²⁰ *Staeten landt* appears as *Zeelandia Nova* on Joan Blaeu's *Groote Globe* of ±1648 (Geografisch Instituut Utrecht), a name which henceforth supplanted *Staeten landt*.
- ²¹ So labelled on Francoys Jacobse's map of the Tonga group [ca. 1665] because, when viewed from east by north at a

- distance of 6 miles, it looked like two women's breasts. It is labelled as *Pijlstaerten Eijlandt* on the 'Bonaparte Map' (Wieder 1942).
- ²² Tasman's spelling of the Tongan names with an initial *A-* is a common type of linguistic error made by those recording toponyms from unknown languages. Quite often languages use subject/topic/focus markers or a definite article before a proper noun. The Tongan toponyms beginning with *A-* as recorded by Tasman are examples of this phenomenon (see Shumway 1971:128; Churchward 1985:105-7). The actual Tongan focus marker is 'a, where the initial closing quotation mark ' indicates an initial glottal stop, which are generally not perceived by the untrained ear. Therefore the initial 'a of the toponyms would have been perceived by the Dutch as an integral part of the name. Other common examples of such misinterpretations include:
- Portuguese *o Porto* 'the Port' is copied into English as *Oporto*.
 Arabic *al 'the'* as in the Spanish and Portuguese *Algarve* 'The West', *Almería* 'The Watch Tower', *Algeciras* 'The Green Isle'. The nouns *algebra* and *alcohol* are also examples of this phenomenon.
 French *l'auto* 'the car' is copied into Bislama (the pidgin of Vanuatu) as *loto* 'car'.
 Fijian *na qio-* 'the shark' is copied into Fiji Hindi as *nagio* 'shark'.
 Tahitian 'o *Tahiti* 'Tahiti' was copied into English during the eighteenth century as *Otaheite*.
 Tahitian 'o *Ra'iatea* 'Ra'iatea' was copied into English during the eighteenth century as *Ulietea*.
 Maori *koRimarua* 'the Long Arm' copied by Cook and Banks via the Tahitian Tupa'ia as *Olhemarua* and *Olimarua* respectively (see Tent & Geraghty 2011).
- ²³ This bay has no current name. It is an extremely shallow indentation on the south-western coast of the island, flanking the main settlement of Kotomaka.
- ²⁴ This is a roadstead or strait between *Nomuka* and *Nomuka Iki*, and has no current name.
- ²⁵ May be considered to be a 'topographic descriptor'.
- ²⁶ Tasman records in his journal: "Deze Eijlanden hebben Wij de naem gegeuen de Eijlanden Van onthong Iava om de goede gelijckenisse die Zij daer mede hebben [...]" ('To these Islands we gave the name the Islands of onthong Java because of the good resemblance they have of it [...]'). According to Woodford (1909), Tasman was likening his discovery to *Pulau Untungjawa*, a tiny island just to the north-west of Batavia (Jakarta), aka *Eiland Amsterdam*.
- ²⁷ Not named, as many have assumed, after Tasman's Pilot Major, Franchoy's Jacobszoon Visscher, but for the canoes lying before this island which Tasman supposed were there to fish: "onder dit eijlandt lagen eenige praeuwen: Alzoo gissingh maeckten dat daer lagen en vischten, waerover hebben het de naem gegeven van Visschers eijlandt" ('before this island lay some canoes: Since we supposed that they lay there for fishing, we have given it the name of Fishers island')
- ²⁸ Previously named *Vulcanus* by Le Maire.
- ²⁹ Le Maire's *Eylandt sonder grondt*.
- ³⁰ Le Maire's *Vlieghen Eylant*.
- ³¹ See Geraghty and Tent (1997 a & b) and Tent and Geraghty (2001).
- ³² Z-scores (also referred to as 'standard scores') describe the position of a raw score (or frequency count) in terms of its distance from the mean, when measured in standard deviation units. A positive z-score indicates it lies above the mean, and negative if it lies below the mean. Z-scores allow a comparison of scores to be made on different kinds of variables by standardising the distribution. They also allow the calculation of the probability of a score occurring within a standard normal distribution; and enable the comparison of two scores that are from different samples (which may have different means and standard deviations).
- ³³ Of course, not all the voyages along the west coast of Australia were intentional. Quite a few mariners came across that coast inadvertently, e.g. the *Batavia* and the *Zuytdorp*. Few such accidental encounters resulted in naming any geographical features.
- ³⁴ Figures partially based on Motteler (2006).

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