

Placenames Australia

Newsletter of the Australian National Placenames Survey

an initiative of the Australian Academy of Humanities, supported by the Geographical Names Board of NSW



Orange -- a classic folk etymology

In our previous issue (June, 2022), I wrote about placenames which had origins of a dubious nature. Some of these background stories seemed distinctly apocryphal, and linguists usually call these *folk etymologies*. A folk etymology is a false belief about the origin or derivation of a word or name. Some time ago while researching the origin of the toponym *Kangarooby-Kangaroobie* for one of our ANPS Occasional Papers,¹ I came across an excellent example of such an apocryphal story. It came from a delightful 19-part series in the *Albury Banner and Wodonga Express* of 1906-07 narrating the life of John McGuire, recorded by a W. H. Pinkstone (maybe because McGuire himself was largely illiterate, since he left school at the age of ten). McGuire (1826-1915) was approximately 76 at the time of the publication of his story.

Early in the narrative (in Part 1) McGuire tells of his first experience of going bush and walking to Bathurst and Orange (then known as *Blackman's Swamp*) in 1836, aged ten, and relates the origin of the toponym *Orange*. Here's what he said:

I went on with the bullock team to Bathurst, then through Blackman's Swamp, now called Orange.

I smile when I think of the modern Orange, lately a strong claimant to the Federal Capital,² and the place as I saw it then. There was only a bit of a low, weatherboard, roadside inn and a blacksmith's shop. That was all.



(photo: John Miles)

How that nucleus of a town at the foot of the Canoblas [sic] came to be called Orange, is not generally known. I may say I had a letter from a recent Mayor of Orange, soliciting my explanation of the name. I have never seen it published, and perhaps no one knows but myself. I will tell you. Its origin arose through a romantic little episode. One of the teams I was with belonged to a man named Paddy Sullivan, a little squatter near the Macquarie River. Sullivan had been down to Sydney and got married to a pretty girl from the immigrant ship, 'Red Rover'. When the happy couple on their way home, arrived at the roadside inn abovementioned, the wattle trees around were in full bloom, and the happy young bride was heard to gush forth her admiration in the words, 'What beautiful orange blossoms!' One can understand how teamsters would afterwards would 'take off' the young woman by saying, 'We'll camp to-night by the "orange blossoms"'! and such like; how the landlord of the bush pub would tell his little yarn to the

continued page 3

In this issue: Orange – 1 • Artarmon – 3 • Lakeba: Placenames of Fiji (20) – 4 • Three remarkable cases of parallel naming) – 6 • Simplex toponyms – 8 • Puzzle 83: Big Icons – 10

From the Editor



Without really planning it, we've produced a follow-up issue on folk etymologies (or 'apocryphal aetiologies', as Jan Tent sometimes calls them). In June I'd promised to bring you Jan's article on *Orange*; and it triggered my memory of an old wild guess at the origin of *Artarmon* (next page).

Paul Geraghty's series on Fiji is all about etymologies too, now that I think of it—but they're all genuine linguistic analyses (like *Lakeba* on page 4), not folk etymologies!

I'm not sure whether Jan's article on 'parallel naming' (page 6) is about serendipity or about intuitive coincidence; I'll let you make the call!

Enough of the entertainment, though. We at the PA desk take our educational duties seriously—so we asked Jan to give us some of the heavy stuff. Read pages 8-9 and you'll be able to enlighten all your friends about simplex toponyms, and about how generics and specifics make the toponymic world go round.

David Blair
<editor@anps.org.au>

Thomas Florance and the islands

In our previous issue **Helen Moody** reported her difficulties in finding evidence that Thomas Florance named several islands of the NSW south coast in 1828, as he was said to have done. She has discovered that he did indeed name some, but numerous others on Mitchell's 1834 map were not named by Florance. Who else, then, she asks: Mitchell himself? Robert

Hoddle? And where in the archives should she now look?

We have ongoing correspondence on this with Helen and with Tony Dawson, who has been very helpful. If you might have advice to offer and would like to join the conversation, email her at helenmd12@gmail.com or drop a line to the Editor.

New South Wales -- really?

The indefatigable **Bill Forrest** wonders whether it's possible that the people of the Premier State might yet have reached the degree of maturity and wisdom required to consider changing its name.

We love Bill's energy and sense of optimism. And we're inclined to agree that it's a terrible name that none of us would have invented if given the task

today. After all, we don't know what the name meant to James Cook. What was 'new'? What was 'south'? And more awkwardly, there's no appropriate adjective or demonym for the denizens of NSW. 'New South Welsh' and 'New South Welshman' just don't cut it!

Want to join Bill in his campaign? Got a suggestion to offer? Email the Editor.

Puzzle answers - (from page 10)

- | | | | |
|------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Goulburn | 6. The Big Ned Kelly | 11. Bass | 16. The Big Prawn |
| 2. The Big Trout | 7. Mole Creek | 12. The Big Gold Panner | 17. Berri |
| 3. Coffs Harbour | 8. The Big Crocodile | 13. Kingston | 18. The Golden Guitar |
| 4. The Big Mango | 9. Dadsells Bridge | 14. The Big Pineapple | 19. Eucla |
| 5. Kimba | 10. The Big Penguin | 15. Wagin | 20. The Big Scotsman |

This newsletter is published quarterly by
Placenames Australia (Inc.) ABN 39 652 752 594
ISSN: 1836-7976

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bushmen congregated round his bar; and how those peculiar processes in the history of a name at last reduced and settled upon what was destined to one day be an important city in the west, the cognomen of Orange.

McGuire's narrative calls for a few comments. Firstly, he seems very erudite for a relatively uneducated person. I suspect Pinkstone's rendition of his story has something to do with that. Secondly, it is intriguing that the Mayor of Orange should write to McGuire asking for an explanation of the origin of the town's name. I am left wondering what expertise or authority McGuire had to fulfil this request. McGuire also says he knew the explorer and surveyor Major T.L. Mitchell quite well. He claims he had 'many a yarn with him', 'saw him starting out on his first expedition in '33...', and noted that 'he [Mitchell] went through Bathurst, Blackman's Swamp, Wellington, Dubbo, and down the unexplored Bogan.' It is odd, then, that McGuire didn't know that Mitchell had bestowed the name *Orange* on what was previously known as *Blackman's Swamp*. Mitchell named the parish, and subsequently the town, after his friend the Prince of Orange (later William II, King of The Netherlands). They had met at the age of nineteen when both were assigned as aides-de-camp to the Duke of Wellington during the Peninsular War.

Despite all of this, I often find folk etymologies much more interesting than the true ones. The latter seem mundane in comparison, and perhaps McGuire's romantic tale is a case in point.

Jan Tent

Endnotes

¹ Tent, J. (2020). *Kangaroo: the case of a hybrid toponym*. ANPS Occasional Paper No. 8. South Turramurra, NSW: Placenames Australia. <https://www.anps.org.au/upload/ANPSOccasionalPaper8.pdf>

² See Orange Federal Capital League (1902).

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Artarmon ~ Greek or Irish?

Visitors to Sydney are often unsure how to pronounce the name of the north shore suburb **Artarmon**. (It's the second syllable that's stressed, by the way.) The name is likely to feel quite unfamiliar, since it occurs nowhere else in the world.

That, of course, makes the word ripe for speculation about its origin. The well-known Australian predilection for 'taking a punt' was evident in 1937 when the Royal Australian Historical Society published a list of NSW railway station names compiled by C. A. Irish, in which the author speculated that *Artarmon* was 'the corruption of the name of an ancient Grecian warrior (Artemon)'. The odds were always against this origin, since there's no historical record of such a person. The closest candidates would be a 3rd century Christian theologian in Rome, and a Greek painter who lived about 300BC.

Fortunately, later commentators were not tempted, and reported correctly that the name was given by William

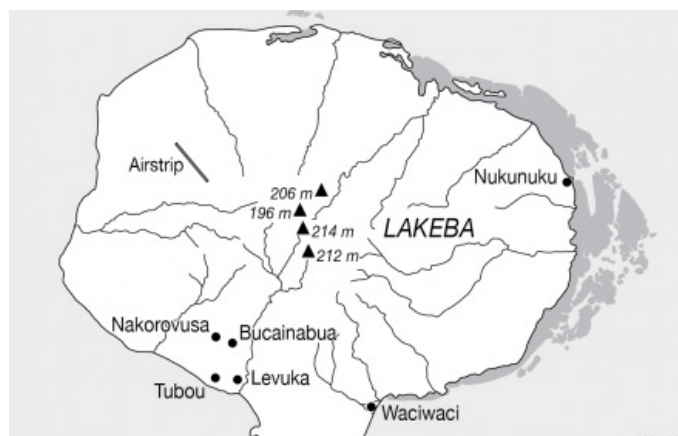
Gore, who arrived in Sydney with Governor Bligh in 1806 to take up the post of provost-marshal. Gore was given a land grant in the area, and named it after his family estate in Ireland. Those later reports, however, tend to be tentative and uncertain about the details. The Dictionary of Sydney, for instance, gives the Irish estate name as *Ardthelmon Castle*; the NSW Geographical Names Register reprints a report that 'Ardtermon Castle was built in the 17th century by Sir Nathaniel [sic] Gore.'

A search of Irish archives sets the record straight. The history of Ardtarmon Castle in County Sligo tells us that the castle was founded around 1648 by Sir Francis Gore. And a schedule of property leases drawn up in 1880 records Sir Robert Gore-Booth leasing **Ardtarmon** to a Michael Feeney in September 1805 (perhaps coincidentally, the time of William Gore's appointment to Sydney). Gore then simplified the spelling slightly in Sydney, perhaps for the benefit of the colonials!

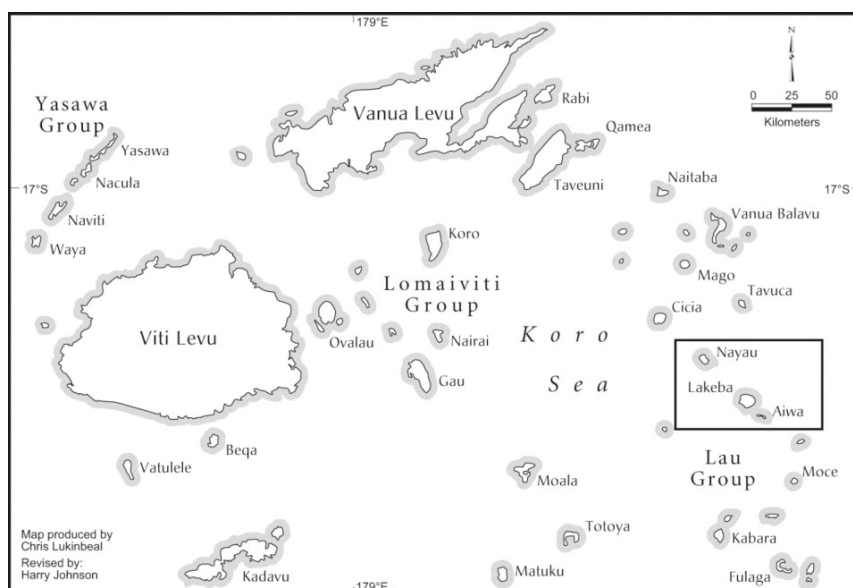
Lakeba, Lau: legendary, elusive

Followers of this series of articles will know that we have dealt with the names of the larger islands of Fiji—two very large and five middling—and that we are now rambling through the third rank, comprising those under 100km², all but one of which have fewer than ten villages. Our last topic was ‘Moala’—really *Muala*—which at 65km² is the largest island in the Lau (eastern) group. Rather curiously, the next two in line are also in the Lau group: **Lakeba** (59.5km²) and Vanuabalavu (57km²). Each represents a major division of the group: Muala in western Lau (Yasayasa Muala), Lakeba in eastern or southern Lau (Lauicake), and Vanuabalavu in northern Lau (Lauiloma).

Lakeba is historically and culturally important. It is the seat of the Tui Nayau, the high chief of Lau; the last holder of the title was Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara, Fiji’s first Prime Minister and President. It is where Christianity and literacy were introduced to Fiji in the 1830s. It also has many strong traditional ties with other Pacific islands, especially Tonga, and for much of the nineteenth century there were more Tongans on Lakeba than Fijians. Tuilakeba (‘king of Lakeba’) is a prominent personal name in Tonga (and pronounced Tu’ilakepa) as well as the title of a chief of Vava’u of Fijian descent, and is also found in Samoa (as Tuila’epa).



Map of the island of Lakeba (Source: Franklin, J., Keppel, G., & Whistler, W.A. (2008). The vegetation and flora of Lakeba, Nayau and Aiwa Islands, Central Lau Group, Fiji.)



*Map showing location of Lakeba within the Lau Group, Fiji Islands.
(Source: CartoGIS Services, College of Asia and the Pacific, ANU)*

The island of Lakeba is not the only place in Fiji bearing that name-form. There is also a district in eastern Macuata province, on the north coast of Vanualevu, and a village in the district of Saqani, also in eastern Vanualevu on the north shore of Natewa Bay. And if we go to Tonga, there are two places called *Lakepa* on the main island of Tongatapu, one in Hihifo (the west) and one in Hahake (the east), as well as a village and district with the same name-form on the island of Niue, to the east of Tonga. Whether or not these places are related in some way is a moot point. Western observers often assume that when places have the same name, one must have been named after the other—think Newcastle, Perth, Ipswich, Tamworth—but there is little evidence that Pacific Islanders followed this practice. When two Pacific islands have an identical name-form, the usual reason is simply that they are named after the same distinctive feature. So, for example, there are a number of islands in eastern Polynesia named *Motutapu* because they have in common that they are sacred (*tapu*) islands (*motu*).

Turning to the question of its etymology, we draw a blank: there is no reconstructed word ‘lakeba’. Those of you with long memories may recall that many Pacific island placenames, especially names of islands, are derived from a root word plus a suffix ending in ‘a’. For example the root *namuk*, ‘mosquito’, gives us *Namuka*, the name of a number of mosquito-ridden islands in Fiji, Tonga (appearing as *Nomuka*) and Samoa (as *Namu’a*).

...Placenames of Fiji - 20

However there is no plausible root *lakeb*, and in any case such roots cannot end in 'b' because it is a prenasalised consonant.

The most likely explanation is the one I invoked for **Rabe** (*Placenames of Fiji* 18, December 2021), which similarly has no plausible known etymology. This brings to two the total of enigmatic island names out of the ten we have investigated so far. While it is not impossible that a reconstructed word may be found that could have been the root of the place-name *Lakeba*, my preferred hypothesis is that it was not (as we might have expected) derived from Proto Central Pacific, the language of the Lapita people. The Lapita are usually said to be the first settlers of Fiji some three thousand years ago. Some prehistorians, however, believe that Fiji may have been occupied, probably sparsely, before the arrival of the Lapita people. The language that these earlier occupants spoke can only be speculated on, but it may be that **Lakeba** was named by them.

We have referred previously to the list of islands compiled in 1777 by William Anderson, the surgeon on Cook's third voyage to the Pacific. He wrote down the names of 95 islands known to the Tongans but unknown to Cook and his men, most of which are identifiable, thanks to Anderson's skilful recording. Many of them are clearly islands in Fiji. Among the Fiji islands was Muala (with its Tongan pronunciation Moala) and a number of other islands in Lau. Given its size and its cultural and historical importance, we would expect to see Lakeba in the list too. But we don't.

Why not? Because what the Tongans gave Anderson as the name of Lakeba was not the name of the island but the name of its capital—*Tupou* in Tongan, *Tubou* in Fijian. This is perhaps not surprising, because the name also appears in Tongan as the name of a dynasty of chiefs who came to rule Tonga in the nineteenth century. How they came about this name is unclear, but my guess would be that an ancestor was given it as an honorific title after a



successful military campaign. Somehow the name *Tupou* even reached eastern Polynesia, as it is recorded as the name of one of the kings of Taku in Mangareva, French Polynesia.

Tongan naming practices notwithstanding, it is clear that the name of the island has been *Lakeba* as far back as records and oral traditions go. Early nineteenth-century sources all give a version of this name: for example Dumont d'Urville's *Laguemba* (in 1827) and Wilkes's *Lakemba* (in 1840).

Finally, some readers may be wondering about the suburb of the same name in Sydney, in its anglicised spelling, *Lakemba*. The name derives from the 22-hectare property 'Lakeba' owned by Benjamin Taylor in the 1880s. He named it after the island of Lakeba in memory of his second wife's grandfather, William Cross, who had served there as a Wesleyan missionary from 1835. (Many thanks to Jan Tent for this information.)

Paul Geraghty

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Three remarkable cases~~

Recently, whilst researching a placename on the mid-north coast of NSW, I stumbled across an astonishing coincidence of naming—a feature named independently (eons apart) with the same name, albeit in two distinct languages.

The Dreamtime creation legend of the Biripi (or Birrbay) people tells of three brothers, who were killed by a witch called Widjirriejuggi and were buried where three mountains now stand. One storyline, as once related by the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage, goes as follows:

[...] there were three brothers who lived near the Camden Haven River near the sea. As part of their initiation, they were required to live alone in the bush for several months before they would be recognised as fully initiated. After being in the bush for several months they began to worry about their mother and father, so the youngest brother volunteered to go and check up on them. Just as he left the camp he saw an old witch but paid her no attention. He told his parents about her when he reached them, and his father gave him a special boomerang, and told him to quickly return to his brother's camp to warn them that the witch would try to kill them. The youngest brother headed back to his brother's camp but did not make it there by night fall, at first light he continued his journey but the witch was at the camp when he arrived. He asked the witch what she had done to his two brothers, and she replied that she had eaten them and would eat him too. Before the witch had a chance to do anything, the youngest brother hit her on the head with the boomerang and split her in half. He buried half her body in the river and half in the sea. Then returned to his brother's camp and gathered up their bones. He buried their bones where the North and Middle Brother mountains now stand, then went to where the South Brother mountain now stands and died. That night a mountain rose up where each body lay to mark the tragedy. The mountains were then named after the Three Brothers.

Another version of the story is related by Auntie Marian Holten in an [ABC News story](#) in May 2020.

Then, thousands of years later, on May 12, 1770, when James Cook was making his way up the east coast of NSW, he espied three prominent peaks south of what is now known as Port Macquarie. He named them the *Three Brothers*. Here is his journal entry for that day:¹

Saturday [May] 12th [1770] Winds southerly a gentle breeze. In the ^{PM} as we run along shore we saw several smooks a little way in land from the Sea and one upon the top of a hill which was the first we have seen upon elevated ground sence we have been upon the coast. At



Figure 1. The Three Brothers (Source: www.weekendnotes.com/great-attractions-mid-north-coast-new-south-wales)

sun set we were [^]in 23 fathom water and about a League and a half from the land, the northermost part of which we had in sight bore N 13° East and three remarkable large high hills lying contiguous to each other and not far from the shore NW bore N^{NW} As these hills bore some resemblance to each other we call'd them the Three Brothers they lay in the Latitude of 31°- 40' S° and are of a hieght sufficient to be seen 14 or 16 Leag^s We steer'd NEBN all night having from 27 to 67 fathom water from 2 to 5 or 6 Leagues from the land - At day light we steer'd north for the northermost land we had in sight. at noon we were 4 Leagues from the Land and by observation in the Latitude of 31° 128' S° which was 15 miles to the southrd of that given by the Log. our Course and distance made good sence yesterday noon was N 24° E' 48 Miles. Long^{de} in 206° 58' West — Several smooks seen a little way in land

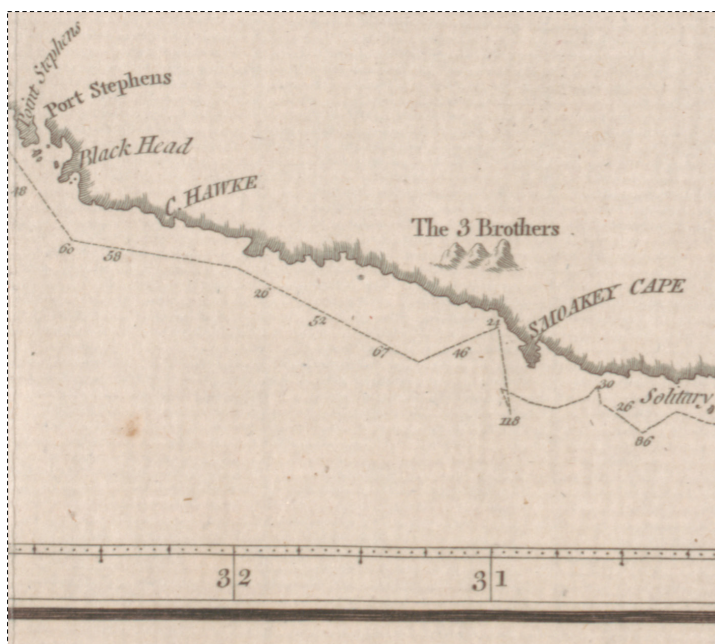


Figure 2. Detail of Cook's chart of the east coast of Australia

One can only wonder how often has the independent naming of a feature resulted in the same name. Well, I know of two others. The first involves the Dutch explorers Jacob Le Maire and Willem Schouten when in 1616, whilst traversing the South Pacific Ocean after being the first to chart Cape Horn, they came across two small adjacent islands in the Tonga archipelago, Tafahi and Niuatoputapu. They stayed for several days trading trinkets for greens and water with the inhabitants. The two islands are within clear view of each another (see Figure 3). It is interesting to note that Le Maire bestowed upon Tafahi the associative name *Cocos Eylandt* ‘Coconut Island’ because of the abundance of coconut trees. Niuatoputapu was given an occurrent name, *Verraders Eylandt* ‘Traitors Island’, due to discord between the Dutch and its inhabitants. Now it so happens Niuatoputapu also has an abundance of coconut palms and the Tongans had given it the name ‘Coconut Tree Island’ themselves. This I would regard as close enough to another case of parallel naming.

The second involves another Dutch explorer, Maerten van Delft, who in 1705 explored the west and north coasts of Bathurst Island, and the north coasts of Melville Island and Cobourg Peninsula (NT). Early on, after having reached the west coast of Bathurst Island, he came across a rocky islet and named it *Duivelsklip* ‘Devils Rock/Cliff’. More than 100 years later, Phillip Parker King named the island *Clift Island* (‘clift’ being a now rare alteration of *cliff*) during his exploratory voyage aboard the cutter *HMS Mermaid* in May 1818. The NT Place Names Register notes: *Clift Island* ‘A descriptive island feature on the north end of Gordon Bay, mentioned in the original journal of P.P. King on 27 May 1818.’ The island’s traditional name is *Yipinuwurra*. King could not have known of van Delft’s *Duivelsklip* because the anonymous chart made during van Delft’s voyage (upon which it appears) did not come to light until 1868 (Tent, 2021).

Parallel naming of a geographic feature does not occur often, but when it does occur it usually involves distinct languages, as seen in our three examples. What they also show is that people, even when they come from totally distinct cultures, can view the world in the same way and use the same naming mechanisms. It shows that we are not so very different after all.

Jan Tent

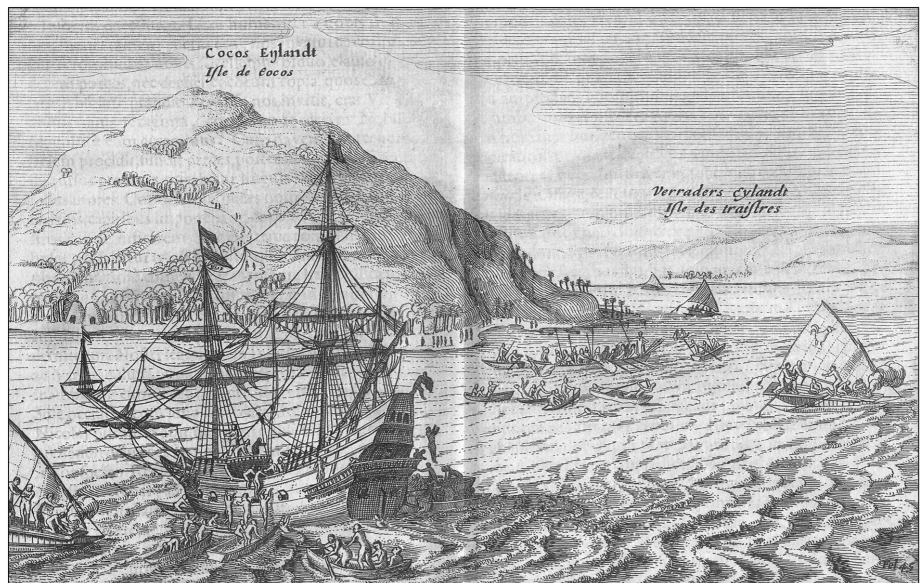


Figure 3. *Le Maire & Schouten's Cocos Eylandt and Niuatoputapu.* (source: Claeszoon, 1646)

Endnote

¹ The text is from Turnbull, (2004). This transcription of Cook's journal for that day is accessible at:

<http://southseas.nla.gov.au/journals/cook/17700512.html>

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Simplex toponyms~~

As many of you would know, placenames as they appear in English often have the structure SPECIFIC + GENERIC. The **specific element** is akin to a given name (functioning as the ‘identifier’), whereas the **generic element** is analogous to a family name, indicating to which ‘family’ the named place belongs (e.g. **Botany Bay**, **River Thames**, **Rocky Mountains**). The generics are common nouns designating geographic features, and function as part of the proper name. We call these name elements ‘geographic feature terms’ (GFTs).

A very large proportion of toponyms are descriptive in nature. That is, they describe: (a) an inherent characteristic of the geographic feature (i.e. its physical appearance either qualitatively or metaphorically), e.g. *Sandy Creek*, *Mount Dromedary*; (b) something associated with the feature or its physical context, e.g. *Shark Bay*, *Powerline Creek*; or (c) an event, incident, occasion or action associated with the feature, e.g. *Cape Catastrophe*, *Easter Island*, *Fishermans Bend*. The descriptive constituent of the toponym will naturally form its specific element. But sometimes a toponym may contain a ‘false generic element’ where the GFT may not designate a natural geographic feature, e.g. *Watsons Bay*, *Lake Cargelligo*, *Castle Hill*—as well as natural geographic features, they are all populated places.¹

They in fact belong to a class of toponyms that have a specific element alone, perhaps best termed ‘**simplex specific toponyms**’ or SSTs.² As with out three examples, the vast majority of these are names of populated places (e.g. *Darwin*, *Perth*, *Sydney*, *New York*) where the generic element (such as *Town* or *City*) is ‘understood’.

In contrast, there are toponyms that comprise a GFT preceded by the definite article, e.g. *The Basin*, *The Bight*, *The Fell*, *The Gap*, *The Grove*, *The Spit*. The grammatical (and pragmatic)

function of the definite article in a common noun phrase is to give exclusivity and identifiability to nouns (cf. *the dog is barking* vs *a dog is barking*). This identifiability comes from speakers’ and listeners’ shared encyclopedic and contextual knowledge. The same applies to toponyms bearing the definite article. So when someone refers to *The Rocks* or *The Gap*, their referent can be immediately identified because it refers to a specific feature to the exclusion of others; in other words, it refers uniquely to a particular feature. This structure makes the definite article act as the specific element of the placename: the definite article has a grammatical and pragmatic function in converting the GFT into a proper name. Any absence of the definite article renders these toponyms as unusual—indeed, rather odd.

Since a toponym must refer to a specific and unique location, the addition of the definite article to GFTs would seem to be mandatory. Ignoring for the moment the issue of capitalising the initial letter of the definite article, unattached GFTs such as *basin*, *breadknife* or *waterhole* should not be able to form toponyms, because they would simply be seen as common nouns, not proper names. Neither grammatically nor pragmatically would they identify any particular geographic feature. Considered from this perspective, then, it would seem counterintuitive to propose names like *Bluff* and *Sugarloaf* as toponyms. So, are there actually toponyms that consist solely of a GFT? Well, yes, they do exist, though they are quite rare. I shall refer to them as ‘**simplex generic toponyms**’ (SGTs).

Of the approximately 370,000 toponyms registered in the Composite Gazetteer of Australia, only about 0.14% (or 524) can be counted as apparent SGTs. Similar numbers are found in the US, Canada and New Zealand.³ However, 85% (445) of these apparent SGTs are actually false generics. Most of these (424) are instances of an apparent natural generic being used as the specific for a habitation feature (e.g. *Boulder* as a ‘populated place’). The remainder (21) turn out to be using a non-literal or transferred meaning of a natural feature term (e.g. *Sugarloaf* as a LAKE). Only 80 of the original 524 apparent examples designate a feature through its literal meaning (e.g. *Sugarloaf* as HILL or MT). Just 0.0002% of toponyms in the Composite Gazetteer, in other words, are genuine SGTs.

That seems to have our simplex toponyms sorted. Nearly all of them have the **specific** element rather than the **generic** as their sole component: SSTs are the winners and SGTs lose!

Some placenames, though, are rather hard to classify at first sight. Two that I know of are particularly intriguing. *Loading Ramp* is a microtoponym that designates a location



Figure 1. *Loading Ramp* (photo: the author)

~~all about specifics and generics

on the Alpine Way in Kosciuszko National Park between Thredbo and Leatherbarrel Creek. It's a parking bay at a site where once there was a loading ramp utilised during the construction of the Snowy Hydro Scheme. Is this the standard SPECIFIC + GENERIC structure? Hardly: it's a parking bay, not a ramp. So the generic element is missing, and on inspection we have to classify it as consisting only of the specific (in this case, a two-word specific).

Then there is the small township along the Warburton Highway between Woori Yallock and Yarra Junction, 54km east of Melbourne's CBD, which is named after the spot on the Yarra River where logs were 'launched' and floated down the river to be milled in Melbourne. Its name, logically enough, is *Launching Place*. It's tempting once again to interpret this as the standard SPECIFIC + GENERIC structure. After all, 'place' looks to be an archetypal generic, and 'launching' specifies it nicely. But in fact the toponym is an historical associative name for a current habitation feature, and can be seen as an abbreviated version of 'Launching Place Village'; in other words, an SST.

There are other intriguing toponyms in the Gazetteer that await interpretation. Whether they end up being classified as SSTs or SGTs will depend on a determination of their actual feature category and an investigation of their naming history. *Licking Place*, *Boat Ramp* and *Punt Landing* (all designated LOCUs, 'unbounded locality') look good candidates for SST status. *Log Landing* (PIER & HBR), on the other hand, would be favoured to be an SGT. As for *Lambing Yard*, *Cattle Yard*, *Holding Yard* and *Loading Yard* (YARDS), the answer will depend on whether the four 'yards' are judged to be all sub-types of the feature YARD, or whether they are actually specific elements within the toponyms. Our current inclination is to go with the former and say that SSTs win again!

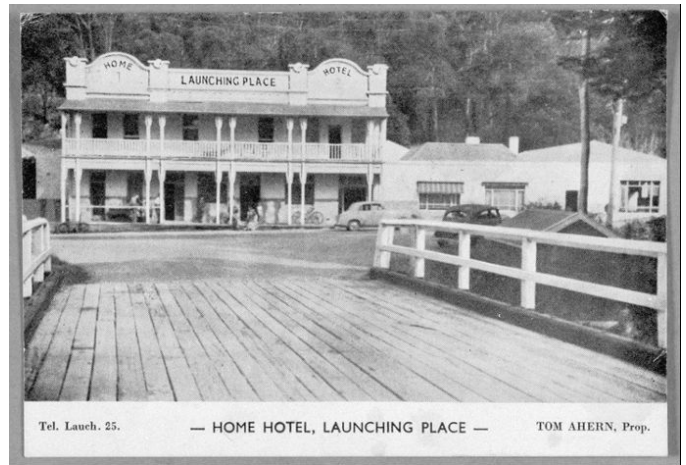


Figure 2. Home Hotel, Launching Place, ca. late 1940s
(Source: Pinterest)

Jan Tent

Endnotes

- ¹ In most such cases, the 'false generic element' of the toponym is the result of a 'feature shift'. In other words, it has been copied from an adjacent feature of a different type of feature, e.g. from a BAY to a POPL.
- ² 'Simplex' means the placename consists of only **one** of the two elements, *specific* and *generic*.
- ³ Because GFTs referring to non-natural geographic features were found to designate just civic and constructed features, only terms for natural geographic features were included in this count.

Queensland historical research

Our Queensland readers will be interested to know that Land Queensland has made available over 10,000 historical maps for general access, and they're now being progressively georeferenced. You can search for cadastral and topographic historical maps for any QLD location.

Like to see what's there? See instructions on how to access them [here](#) or at <https://qldglobe.information.qld.gov.au>

While we have your attention, Queenslanders—we're very keen to see more information about your State's placenames being added to our ANPS records. Would

you like to help by digging into the history of your local placenames? We can help you get started, and give you support as you find useful information and submit it to the Survey. Send an email to the Editor, or to one of our two local experts on the Placenames Australia committee: our President (Susan Birtles, pa@anps.org.au) or our QLD Representative (Dale Lehner, qld@anps.org.au).



Placenames Puzzle Number 83

Big Icons & their homes

Are these tourist attractions folk art or are they just kitsch? We can tell you that some have been heritage listed! The odd-numbered clues name a structure—see if you can remember the place. For the even-numbered clues, it's the other way round.

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| 1. (NSW) The Big Merino | 13. (SA) 'Larry' The Big Lobster |
| 2. (NSW) <i>Adaminaby</i> | 14. (Qld, Sunshine Coast) <i>Woombye</i> |
| 3. (NSW) The Big Banana | 15. (WA) The Giant Ram |
| 4. (Qld) <i>Bowen</i> | 16. (NSW) <i>Ballina</i> |
| 5. (SA) The Big Galah | 17. (SA) The Big Orange |
| 6. (Vic) <i>Glenrowan</i> | 18. (NSW) <i>Tamworth</i> |
| 7. (Tas) The Big Tasmanian Devil | 19. (WA) Leeuwin Way Whale |
| 8. (WA) <i>Wyndham</i> | 20. (SA, Adelaide) <i>Medindie</i> |
| 9. (Vic) The Giant Koala | |
| 10. (Tas) <i>Penguin</i> | |
| 11. (Vic) The Giant Worm | |
| 12. (NSW) <i>Bathurst</i> | |

[Compiled by **Jan Tent**
Answers on page 2]

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We realise that not everyone who wishes to support the Australian National Placenames Survey can do so by carrying out toponymic research and supplying information for our database. There *is* another way — become a supporting member of Placenames Australia! In doing so, you'll help the Survey and its volunteer researchers by providing infrastructure support. In return, you'll have the assurance that you'll be helping ensure the continued existence of this prestige national project, and we'll guarantee to keep you in touch with our progress.

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Material for publication in *Placenames Australia* is always welcome. Please send all contributions to the Editor, David Blair, by email: <editor@anps.org.au>

Supporting photographs or other illustrations are greatly appreciated.

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June Issue: 15 April

September Issue: 15 July

December Issue: 15 October