

TOPONYM TYPES

a revised typology of placenaming

ANPS TECHNICAL PAPER

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 *The Function of a Toponym Typology*

As with many fields of research, the study of placenames may be conducted through either an examination of a case or a cluster analysis of cases. This contrast in research paradigms is most commonly expressed in the generic terms ‘qualitative’ vs ‘quantitative’ research. These terms, however, focus on the type of data gathered and analysed, not on the actual process and practice of the kind of research conducted. ANPS has, therefore, adopted the terms ‘intensive’ and ‘extensive’ toponymy respectively to reflect more precisely the two research approaches (Tent 2015). We use ‘intensive’ in the sense of ‘relating, or pertaining to intensity, or degree of intrinsic strength, depth, or fullness, as distinguished from external spatial extent or amount.’ ‘Extensive’, on the other hand, is used in the sense of ‘pertaining to extension; denoting a large number of objects [...], [which] has the effect of extending or enlarging in scope,’ or of ‘extending over or occupying a large surface or space; having a wide extent, widely extended; [...] far-reaching, large in comprehension or scope; wide in application or operation; comprehensive; [...] denoting a large number of objects’ (*Oxford English Dictionary*).

Thus, intensive toponymy aims to gather an in-depth understanding of a particular toponym by closely investigating the history and nature of a single toponym or of small focused sample of toponyms. The conclusions drawn from such a study cannot be easily generalised, and only propositions of the nature of informed assertions or hypotheses may be made. In contrast, an extensive study empirically investigates toponymic data through cluster analysis, and asks specific questions to discover underlying patterns of relationships, such as:

- temporal or spatial placenaming practices and patterns (e.g. Tent & Slatyer, 2009)
- regional distributions of certain types of toponym, or geographic features (e.g. Tent, 2017, forthcoming)
- temporal or spatial settlement patterns
- the geomorphology or topography of a region (by concentrating on feature terms/sets)¹
- regional distribution of name types (e.g. Tent, 2017, forthcoming)

For an extensive study of name types to have any practical value, it must be based on a comprehensive typology. This was the underlying principle for the development of the ANPS toponym typology.

1.2 *The Whys and Wherefores of Naming*

Toponymic research has classically attempted to answer the WH- questions for each placename: *what* is it? *where* is it? *who* named it? *when* was it named? and *why* was it given that name?

The *what/where/who/when* questions relate to the toponymic form as a whole—that is, to both the specific and the generic elements of the placename—and answers to those questions respond to historical and linguistic research methods.

The final question—the *why* question—focuses on the specific element of the toponym, and can be the most difficult to answer, since the reason for the choice of the particular specific element is not often documented and the namer’s intention at the point of naming is a matter for speculation.

¹ The distribution of various generic feature terms (e.g. *river, creek, gully*) or feature sets (e.g. STREAM) as used in a region may be used to establish the location of watercourses. Areas with few or no watercourse names may be inferred to be arid.

The classification of this specific element and its relationship to the namer's intention has long been the subject of consideration by toponymists and other linguists. The various previous attempts to provide a typology have suffered from an apparently *ad hoc* approach which produced gaps in the classification, ambiguous definitions, and overlapping categories.

In a previous Technical Paper² we surveyed those previous attempts and set out the contrasting approach of the Australian National Placenames Survey. This approach did not claim to provide a universal typology for international use; rather, its aim was to enable the Survey to categorise Australian toponyms while recognising that the scope of the Survey did not extend to every placename in Australia. The brief of ANPS is to answer the WH- questions for the continent's geographic features and inhabited localities. The scope of the Survey does not extend to what may be called 'points of interest' or to streets and roads, and the recording of community infrastructure features is restricted. In order to produce a systematic record of the answers to the 'why' question in particular, we developed a taxonomic approach designed to generate labels which were clear, unambiguous, distinct and intuitive.

Since that version was developed, we have continued to apply the typology to our description of Australian placename origins; and throughout the ongoing research process it has become clear that certain refinements to the system were necessary if we were to deal most effectively with the data. We have benefited also from the work of toponymists in other regions (notably Jenkins, 2018) who have applied this typology and noted possible improvements.

1.3 *Motivation, Mechanism or Method?*

One key aspect of the attempt to categorise possible answers to the *why* question relates to the focus of that interrogation. Are we asking 'why did the namer do that? Or are we asking 'why did the feature get that name?'

It has become clear that the latter is the intent behind the *why* question. As we analyse an interpretation (that is, a purported explanation for the origin of a toponym's specific element), we are attempting to identify what it was in the nature of the feature or in the occasion of its naming that might have generated its toponymic form. That is, the focus is on *the feature and its setting*, rather than on any suggested interior monologue of *the person responsible* for the act of naming. It is, after all, impossible to enter into the namer's mind after the event, with any certainty.

Characterising our task as identifying 'motivations' for naming (as earlier versions of this typology did) seems to focus on the namer rather than on the feature and its context. Alternative terms such as 'mechanisms' or 'methods' might seem, on the one hand, to have the advantage of shifting the focus away from psychology; on the other hand, they may make the process of naming seem to be more deliberative than is often the case.

For these reasons we have stepped away from the choice between 'motivation' and 'mechanism' as a way of characterising the naming process. Developing an intuitive conceptual framework for placenaming requires a more extensive basis than that simple contrastive relationship, even though the notion of 'motivation for naming' is not by any means irrelevant. Indeed, that is where our analysis of the process begins.

² Jan Tent and David Blair, 'Motivations for naming: a toponymic typology.' *ANPS Technical Paper No. 2* (2009; revised edition, 2014). See also Jan Tent and David Blair, 'Motivations for naming: the development of a toponymic typology for Australian placenames.' *Names* 59 (2), 2011, 67-89.

1.4 *The Why, the How, and the What*

The primary **motivation** for all naming of places is the answer to the question *Why do we do it?* And the answer is always the same: it is ‘to distinguish’—that is, to distinguish *this* place from *that* place. When a space is named it *becomes* a place which is linguistically and conceptually distinguished from all other places. The process is, in other words, a contrastive one.

The second-stage of the analysis narrows down the motivation to the **intention**: *How shall we do it?* Shall we commemorate something or someone by naming the feature? Shall we foreground a physical characteristic of the feature? Or shall we reflect our feelings on the occasion of the naming?

The third-stage is the **expression** of the intention: *What kind of name will do?* By using an eponym to commemorate someone? By using a descriptive word to foreground a characteristic aspect of the feature? Or by inventing a new placename that seems pleasingly appropriate to the place?

The definitions of the various **Intentions** indicate how each may lead to a particular **Expression**.

- a. To characterise/portray a feature by noting a physical characteristic
...or an associated characteristic
...or by recording the namer’s subjective response to the feature
- b. To commemorate an event at the time of naming or the occasion of the naming
To honour another place or an adjacent feature by re-using its name
...or by using the name of a person or other entity
- c. To be creative in naming by introducing a new pleasing or otherwise appropriate form

The theoretical choices may be more clearly displayed in Table 1 below.

Table 1. The relationship between Motivation, Intention and Expression

Motivation Why do we do this?	Intention How shall we do this?	Expression What kind of name will do?
To distinguish a place by ...	a. ... characterising it through ...	1 ... a Description
		2 ... noting an Association
		3 ... an Evaluation
	b. ... commemorating or honouring it through ..	4 ... noting an Occasion
		5 ... a Copy
		6 ... an Eponym
	c. ... creating a new linguistic form through ...	7 ... an appropriate Innovation

1.5 Expressing the ‘Why’

The analysis of toponym types that we are establishing, then, is based on the possible answers to the question ‘Why did the feature get that name?’ And those answers lead to the various expressions of the naming intention in Table 1 (defined in Table 4 below, and exemplified in the Appendix). Our previous characterisation of the analysis as a ‘typology of motivations for naming’ can now be more clearly seen to be a ‘typology of expressions of the naming intention’—that is, a categorisation of the kinds of names that can be generated to distinguish one place feature from another.

The remainder of this paper provides an explanation of the taxonomy and how it applies to (or generates) the various expressions of the naming intention.³ This Technical Paper also outlines the developments in the typology since the earlier version was released and explains the reasons for the changes that have been made.

2 INTERPRETATIONS

In some cases, the available documentation for a toponym might not tell us anything about the *why*; the information might pertain only to the other WH- questions. More usually, however, the background story as revealed in the documents allows us to include within an interpretation an assessment of the *why*; and this typology is applied to such interpretations (or ‘stories of origin’). The application of a typology tag to these interpretations enables interrogation of the ANPS Database for such questions as ‘How many toponyms are said to be attributed to members of exploration parties or their patrons?’ and ‘What is the proportion of placenames that is based on the topography of the feature?’ ‘What were the naming practices of X as revealed by the types of toponyms bestowed?’⁴

2.1 The ANPS approach to toponymy

The methodology of ANPS is based on a progression through the three key elements of each placename: *identification, documentation, interpretation*. The identification of a toponym is obtained by establishing its linguistic form, its feature type and its location. Once that is done, the major research effort of the Survey is directed at finding the historical and cultural information which will establish the ‘story’ of the placename. This information forms the Documentation module of the ANPS Database. From the recorded documentation for each toponym, the Survey attempts to write a ‘biography’ of that name, answering the WH- questions associated with its origin.⁵

³ We do not claim to be representing any psychological or linguistic processes of the namer when a feature is being named. Our task is to present a system for toponymists to use when classifying placenames according to their type (that is, according to the way in which they express the naming intention).

⁴ It should be noted that not all interpretations will be judged to be reliable or valid. The interrogation of the Interpretation Table in the Database will, therefore, produce results which reflect the collected documentation rather than the final judgment of the toponymist on each placename. The current Database design does not allow for typology tags to be allocated to the completed entry (that is, in the Discussion field).

⁵ A full statement of the ANPS research method may be found in ANPS Technical Paper No. 4 (2017), *The Australian National Placenames Survey: principles and practice*.

2.2 Reporting interpretations

Once a toponym has at least one item of documentation lodged against its Identification code, an interpretation may be formed from that information. Because it is common for the available documentation to support more than one possible interpretation, the Database provides for a probability rank to be recorded for each interpretation. The probability status may be tagged as

- Confirmed
- High
- Probable
- Possible
- Unlikely

Further, in line with the procedure described in this paper, the interpretation may be tagged with a code that represents the documents' answer to the *why* question, if the documentary evidence is relevant to that question. To be clear, by no means will all interpretations have anything to say about the *why* question—much of the documentation in the ANPS Database has been collected to establish answers to the other WH- issues: the *what*, *where*, *who* and *when* questions. As a result, many interpretations are partial, and have nothing to say about the *why*.

Many of the interpretations in the Database, though, do contain an answer to the *why* question, and these interpretations generally receive a single typology tag. There are some exceptions to this: there are toponyms which have a complex interpretation that seems to require more than one tag. The name of the Sydney suburb *Belrose*, for example, can be interpreted both as associative and as an innovation—it is a placename freshly-constructed because of the flora *Christmas bell* and *bush rose* endemic to the area. Occasionally there is an apparent exception which on closer inspection turns out to be not so: *Mount Hopeless* is a name form that appears twice in the examples listed in the Appendix to this paper (page 17). One applies to a feature in New South Wales, the other in South Australia, and both names were bestowed by explorers on first sighting the mountain. The latter is classified as a **condemnatory** name reflecting the explorer's attitude at his first view of the mountain; the former is classed as the result of a particular occasion or **incident** when he realised that the mountain itself was not the feature he had believed it to be.

3 REVISIONS TO THE CATEGORIES

The original classification has been used and responded to by several researchers since it was published (inter alia, Bölling, 2013; Klugah, 2013; Amenyedzi, 2015; Jenkins, 2018; Laaboudi & Marouane, 2018). And within the Australian National Placenames Survey, continued collection and analysis of toponymic data has revealed that some of the original categories are unnecessary and can be removed from the schema, while for others various modifications have been revealed to be useful. (For ease of reference, the original taxonomy tree and explanatory table are reproduced below.)

Figure 1. Taxonomy of Australian toponym specifics, 2014

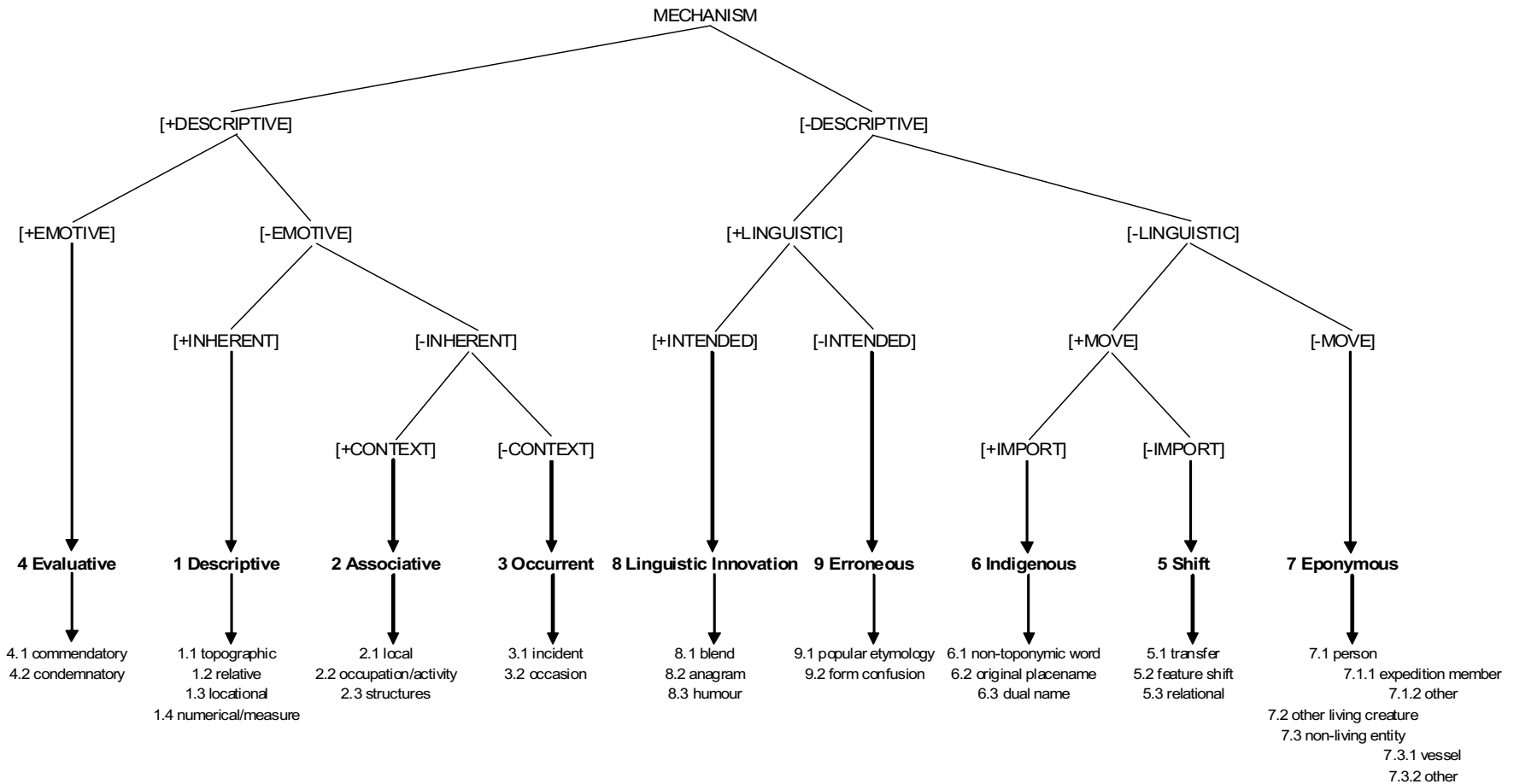


Table 2. Typology 2009-2014

0	Unknown – where the meaning, reference, referent, or origin of the toponym is unknown
1	<p>Descriptive – indicating an inherent characteristic of the feature</p> <p>1.1 Topographic – describing the physical appearance of a feature either qualitatively or metaphorically</p> <p>1.2 Relative – indicating position of a feature relative to another, either chronologically or spatially</p> <p>1.3 Locational – indicating the location or orientation of a feature</p> <p>1.4 Numerical/Measurement – measuring or counting elements of a named feature</p>
2	<p>Associative – indicating something which is always or often associated with the feature or its physical context</p> <p>2.1 Local – indicating something of a topographical, environmental or biological nature seen with or associated with the feature</p> <p>2.2 Occupation/Activity – indicating an occupation or habitual activity associated with the feature</p> <p>2.3 Structures – indicating a manufactured structure associated with the feature</p>
3	<p>Occurrent – recording an event, incident, occasion (or date), or action associated with the feature</p> <p>3.1 Incident – recording an event, incident or action associated with the feature</p> <p>3.2 Occasion – recognising a time or date associated with the feature</p>
4	<p>Evaluative – reflecting the emotional reaction of the namer, or a strong connotation associated with the feature</p> <p>4.1 Commendatory – reflecting/propounding a positive response to the feature</p> <p>4.2 Condemnatory – reflecting/propounding a negative response to the feature</p>
5	<p>Shift – use of a toponym, in whole or part, from another location or feature</p> <p>5.1 Transfer – transferred from another place</p> <p>5.2 Feature Shift – copied from an adjacent feature of a different type</p> <p>5.3 Relational – using a qualifier within the toponym to indicate orientation from an adjacent toponym of the same feature type</p>

<p>6</p> <p>6.1</p> <p>6.2</p> <p>6.3</p>	<p>Indigenous – importing an Indigenous toponym or word into the Introduced system</p> <p>Non-toponymic word – importing an Indigenous word, not being a toponym</p> <p>Original placename – importing the Indigenous toponym already used for that location or feature</p> <p>Dual name – restoring an original Indigenous toponym as part of a dual-naming process</p>
<p>7</p> <p>7.1</p> <p>7.1.1</p> <p>7.1.2</p> <p>7.2</p> <p>7.3</p> <p>7.3.1</p> <p>7.3.2</p>	<p>Eponymous – commemorating or honouring a person or other named entity by using a proper name, title, or eponym substitute as a toponym</p> <p>Person(s) – using the proper name of a person or group to name a feature</p> <p>Expedition member – where the named person is a member of the expedition</p> <p>Other – where feature is named after an eminent person, patron, official, noble, politician, family member or friend etc.</p> <p>Other Living Entity – using the proper name of a non-human living entity to name a feature</p> <p>Non-Living Entity – using the proper name of a non-living entity to name a feature.</p> <p>Vessel – named after a vessel, usually one associated with the ‘discovery’</p> <p>Other – named after a named non-living entity</p>
<p>8</p> <p>8.1</p> <p>8.2</p> <p>8.3</p>	<p>Linguistic Innovation – introducing a new linguistic form, by manipulation of language</p> <p>Blend – blending of two toponyms, words or morphemes</p> <p>Anagram – using the letters of another toponym to create a new anagrammatic form</p> <p>Humour – using language play with humorous intent to create a new toponym</p>
<p>9</p> <p>9.1</p> <p>9.2</p>	<p>Erroneous – introducing a new form through garbled transmission, misspelling, mistaken meaning etc.</p> <p>Popular etymology – mistaken interpretation of the origin of a toponym, leading to a corruption of the linguistic form</p> <p>Form confusion – alteration of the linguistic form, from a misunderstanding or bad transmission of the original</p>

3.1 Deleted categories

Three categories have been removed from the schema because further work on classifying interpretations made it clear that their original inclusion was misconceived.

0 Unknown

This code was included in previous versions of the typology table, but not in the taxonomic display. Although such a code is used in certain statistical procedures to indicate a NULL result, it is now seen as unnecessary within our typology. As we noted in section 2.2 above, if the available documentation for a placename reveals no information about the *why* aspect of its origin (as opposed to the other WH- questions), then categorisation of the way the naming intent is expressed is neither necessary nor possible.⁶

6 Indigenous

It has become clear that marking a placename as having its origin in an Australian Indigenous language is a matter of etymology, and is not an element in this typology. Indicating the language of origin for a placename is a valid part of a toponymic database, but any system designed to record

⁶ The ‘zero’ code may appear in the Database as a tag on some interpretations, but only to indicate that the interpretation is irrelevant to questions of Expression.

it must be distinct from this typology. This is not to say, of course, that placenames which have a non-English etymology have no interpretation recorded and no typology category tagged: they will be listed against such categories as **Copied** or **Innovative**.

9 Erroneous

The category is now recognised as being an invalid tag, because the model does not include our judgment on the validity of interpretations—that is a separate issue, and the procedure by which it is recorded is noted in section 2.2 above. *Folk etymology*, one of the original subcategories, entails a judgment of a naïve and false belief about a toponym’s origin and would produce a low probability rating within the appropriate typology set. The second original subcategory, *Form confusion*, has undergone more than one stage of reassessment during this revision process. Our first response was to move it to **Innovative**, on the grounds that the misunderstanding of the linguistic form resulted in the creation of a new toponymic element. Further consideration made it clear that the move was misconceived: in terms of the choices that lead to an Innovative expression (Table 1, above), there is no ‘motivation to name’ or ‘intention to create’ involved when form confusion produces a new toponym. The subcategory, therefore, has been deleted from the schema.

3.2 Other revisions

Continued application of the classification to toponymic data has indicated that four of the original categories required revision. (A minor change, to reflect the order of Expressions in Table 1 above, is the renumbering of the Evaluative and Occurrent categories.)

1 Descriptive

- The former subcategory *Numerical/Measurement* has been deleted, since all relevant examples can be covered by *1.1 topographic* (e.g. Cape Three Points, where the shape of the feature is the key aspect) or by *1.3 locational* (e.g. Three Mile Creek, where distance from an identified location is the defining characteristic). The simple occurrence of a number or numeral within the toponymic form does not define the nature of the expression.
- The subcategory *Relative* has been renamed and redefined. In earlier versions of the classification, it stood in opposition to category *5.3 Relational*, and a footnote offered the explanation that *1.2 Relative* referred to features while *5.3 Relational* referred to toponyms. The former had the definition ‘indicating position of a feature relative to another, either chronologically or spatially’; the latter was defined as ‘using a qualifier within the toponym to indicate orientation from an adjacent toponym of the same feature type’. It is now clear that the distinction was misconceived, as Jenkins (2018) pointed out. Both have been replaced by *1.2 relational* ‘denoting a relationship between a feature and another feature nearby, either in time, space or dimensions’.
- A new subcategory *1.4 functional* has been introduced, to allow for features such as ‘Australian Capital Territory’, where the specific element has an administrative or instrumental aspect, for example.

5 Shift

- The category has been renamed as **Copied**, because ‘shift’ was seen to imply replacement or removal of a toponym rather than its re-use. In the taxonomic display it is now dominated by the nodes [+onomastic, +toponymic] rather than the former [-linguistic, +move].
- As noted above, *5.3 Relational* could not be sustained as a subclass in opposition to *1.2 Relative*. A feature such as *East Sydney* was no more ‘relational’ and no less ‘locational’ than *North Head* or *South West Cape*. The subclass was therefore deleted from the classification.

Toponym types

- The subcategory *5.1 Transfer* has now been expanded to distinguish between locational and linguistic duplication, to allow for the distinction between copying the name from another place or from another language. It has been replaced by the two subcategories *5.1 locational* and *5.2 linguistic*.
- The formerly separate subcategory *5.2 Feature shift* ‘copied from an adjacent feature of a different type’ has been subsumed within the new *5.1 locational* ‘using the name of a feature from another place’.

7 Eponymous

- The category has been renumbered as **6**, as a result of the deletion of the **Indigenous** class.
- A number of other minor additions and renamings have been implemented.
 - Within the subcategory *6.1 human* (formerly *7.1 Persons*) the two original divisions of *Expedition member* and *Other* have been replaced by
 - 6.1.1 namer*
 - 6.1.2 notable person*
 - 6.1.3 colleague*
 - 6.1.4 family member or friend*
 - 6.1.5 associated person*
 - Within the subcategory *6.3 non-animate entity* (formerly *7.3 Non-living entity*) the two original divisions of *Vessel* and *Other* have been replaced by
 - 6.3.1 notable abstract entity*
 - 6.3.2 named concrete entity*
 - 6.3.3 expedition vessel*
- A new subcategory *6.4 literary and mythical entities* has been added

8 Linguistic Innovation

- The category has been renumbered as **7 Innovative**, as a result of the deletion of an earlier class in the schema.
 - The subcategory *8.1 Blend* has been deleted. Its presence in the classification created an overlap of categories, since all available examples are blends of eponyms or existing toponyms; they are best treated as **6 Eponymous** or as **5 Copied**
 - The subcategory *8.2 Anagram* has been deleted, and is now treated as merely an expression of the subcategory *8.3 humour* (now numbered 7.1)
 - The subcategory *aptness* has been added to the classification, to cover euphonious or ameliorative creativity.
- The category now consists of the following two subclasses: *humour* and *aptness*.

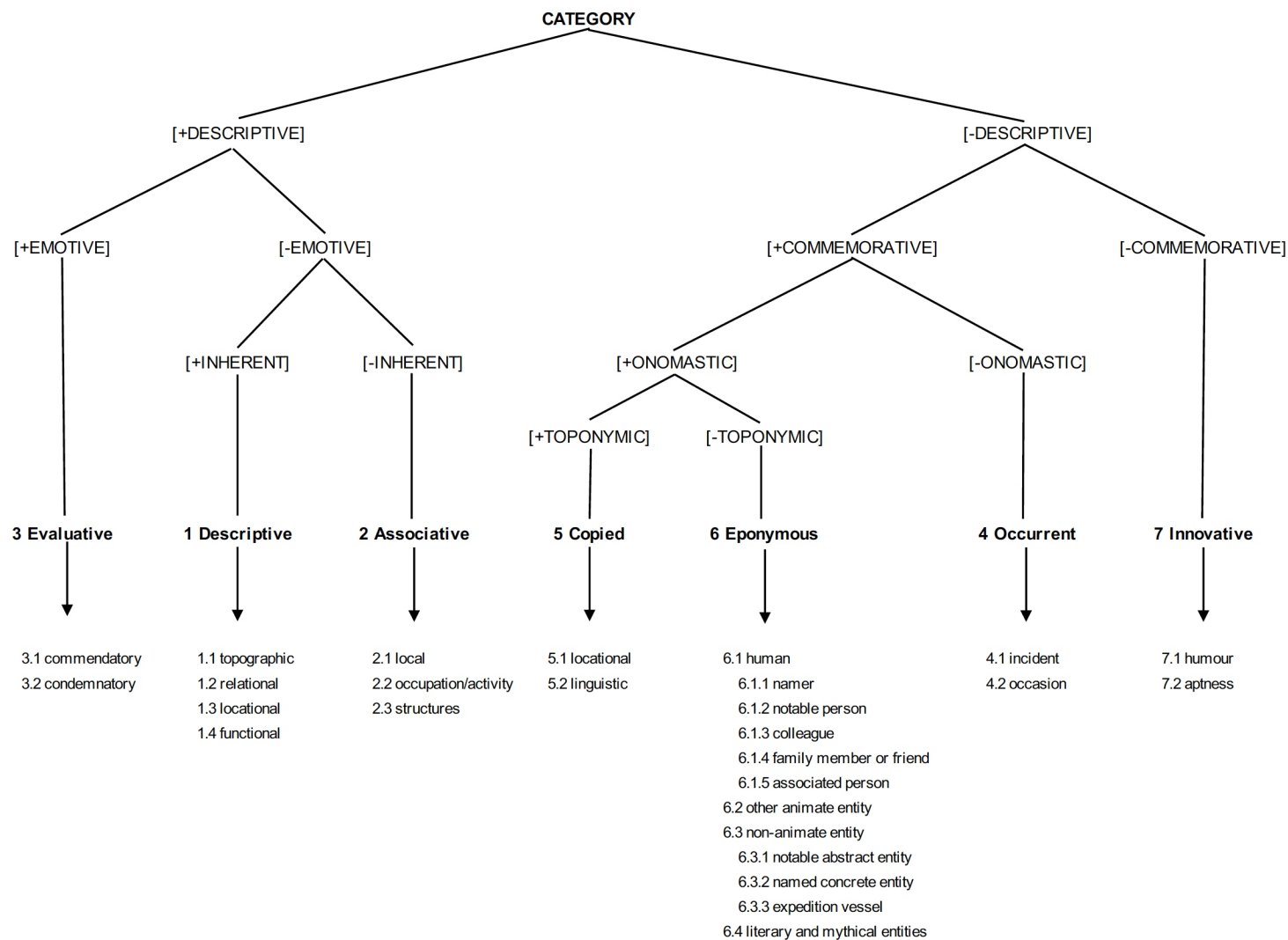
4 THE REVISED CLASSIFICATION

4.3 The Current Model

The modifications outlined above have resulted in a classification which is a little simpler, with the number of main categories reduced from nine to seven. The category **Eponymous** is still the most complex in its substructure, with the greatest number of subclasses.

The taxonomic representation is displayed in Figure 2 below.

Figure 2. Taxonomy of Australian toponym specifics, 2020



Toponym types

The eight semantic components used within the structure of the previous taxonomy were defined as in Table 3a below.

Table 3a Semantic component definitions, 2014

Semantic Component	Definition
[+DESCRIPTIVE]	Reflects a characteristic of the feature or its environment.
[+EMOTIVE]	Reflects a subjective response by the namer to the feature.
[+INHERENT]	Characteristic of the feature itself, rather than of its surrounds or context.
[+CONTEXT]	Characteristic of the physical surrounds of the feature, rather than of any event associated with the naming.
[+LINGUISTIC]	Relates to the linguistic form of the name.
[+INTENDED]	Deliberately constructed as an innovative linguistic form.
[+MOVE]	Indicates the toponym has been reapplied from another location, another feature-type, or another language system.
[+IMPORT]	Indicates the toponym has been reapplied from an Australian Indigenous language.

Figure 2 reveals that they are now reduced to the six components shown in Table 3b below.

Table 3b Semantic component definitions, 2020

Semantic Component	Definition
[+DESCRIPTIVE]	Reflects a characteristic of the feature or its environment
[+EMOTIVE]	Reflects a subjective response by the namer to the feature
[+COMMEMORATIVE]	Honours a person or a significant event or occasion
[+INHERENT]	Characteristic of the feature itself, rather than of its surrounds or context
[+ONOMASTIC]	Re-applies an existing name
[+TOPONYMIC]	Re-applies an existing placename

The semantic components are believed to be intuitive and to provide a heuristic approach to the classification of toponym specifics. Their application not only generates the taxonomy of Table 2 but reflects to some degree the way in which *Motivation* and *Intention* lead to *Expression*, as presented in Table 1.

The categories of the current classification are listed below in Table 4, with their definitions. Typical examples for each category, together with an explanatory interpretation, may be found in the Appendix to this Technical Paper.

Table 4. Toponym Typology 2020

1	<p>Descriptive – using a name denoting an inherent characteristic of the feature</p> <p>1.1 topographic – denoting the physical appearance of a feature either literally or metaphorically</p> <p>1.2 relational – denoting a relationship between a feature and another feature nearby, either in time, space or dimensions</p> <p>1.3 locational – denoting the location or orientation of a feature</p> <p>1.4 functional – denoting the function of a feature</p>
2	<p>Associative – using a name denoting something associated with the feature or its context</p> <p>2.1 environment – denoting something in the local natural environment which is seen with or associated with the feature</p> <p>2.2 occupation/activity – denoting an occupation or habitual activity associated with the feature</p> <p>2.3 structure – denoting a manufactured structure associated with the feature</p>
3	<p>Evaluative – using a name reflecting the emotive reaction of the namer, or a strong connotation associated with the feature</p> <p>3.1 Commendatory – reflecting/propounding a positive response to the feature</p> <p>3.2 Condemnatory – reflecting/propounding a negative response to the feature</p>
4	<p>Occurrent – using a name recording an event, incident, occasion or date when the feature was named</p> <p>4.1 incident – recording an event or incident which led to the naming of the feature</p> <p>4.2 occasion – recognising a time or date when the feature was named</p>
5	<p>Copied – copying the name-form from another place or from another language</p> <p>5.1 locational – using the name of a feature from another place</p> <p>5.2 linguistic – using the name-form (or its calque) which the feature has in another language</p>
6	<p>Eponymous – using the name of a person or other named entity by using a proper name, title, or eponym substitute as a toponym</p> <p>6.1 human – using the name of a person or of a group of people.</p> <p>6.1.1 namer – using the namer’s own name as the toponym</p> <p>6.1.2 notable person – using the name of an eminent person, patron, official, noble, politician etc., or the name of a group of such people</p> <p>6.1.3 colleague – using the name of a member of an expedition or survey involved in the discovery or naming of the feature, or the name of the group so involved</p> <p>6.1.4 family member or friend – using the name of a family member or friend of the namer</p> <p>6.1.5 associated person – using the name of a person or a group connected to the feature as, for example, a founder, builder, owner or local inhabitant</p> <p>6.2 other animate entity – using the proper name of a non-human animate entity</p> <p>6.3 non-animate entity – using the proper name of a non-animate entity</p> <p>6.3.1 notable abstract entity – using the name of a notable occasion, entity or concept, such as a battle, a political association or other abstract category</p> <p>6.3.2 named concrete entity – using the name of an entity such as (a class of) a ship, train or plane</p> <p>6.3.3 expedition vessel – using the name of a vessel involved in the ‘discovery’ or naming of the feature</p> <p>6.4 literary and mythical entities – using the name of a figure or place from literature or mythology</p>
7	<p>Innovative – introducing a new linguistic form as a toponym</p> <p>7.1 humour – using language play with humorous intent to create a new toponym</p> <p>7.2 aptness – creating a new linguistic form or importing a word from another language to produce a toponym of pleasing sound, positive connotation or appropriate meaning</p>

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APPENDIX

Typology categories—typical interpretations

ID reference numbers for each example feature relate to the following registers and databases

ACT	Environment Planning & Sustainable Development Directorate, Australian Capital Territory. ACT Place Names Committee Register
AHO	Maritime Gazetteer of Australia, Australian Hydrographic Office
ANPS	Australian National Placenames Survey Database
NSW	Department of Customer Service, New South Wales. Geographical Names Board Register
NT	Department of Infrastructure, Planning & Logistics, Northern Territory. Place Names Committee Register
QLD	Department of Natural Resources, Mines & Energy, Queensland. Place Names Register
SA	Department for Transport, Energy & Infrastructure, South Australia. Place Names Register
TAS	Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water & Environment, Tasmania. Place Names Advisory Panel Register
VIC	Department of Environment, Land, Water & Planning, Victoria. Register of Geographic Names.
WA	Landgate, Western Australia. Geographic Names Dataset

1 Descriptive

1.1 topographic

Cape Manifold [QLD 20804 ANPS 92287]

Named by James Cook in the *Endeavour* on the 27th May 1770, because of ‘the number of high hills over it’.

Broken Bay [NSW 10761 ANPS 9430]

Named by James Cook in the *Endeavour* on the 7th May 1770, because of ‘some broken land that appear’d to form a Bay’.

Mount Dromedary [NSW 69188 ANPS 48356]

Named by James Cook in the *Endeavour* on the 21st April 1770, ‘on account of its figure’.

Pigeon House [NSW 46038 ANPS 56307]

Named by James Cook in the *Endeavour* on the 22nd April 1770, because he observed ‘a remarkable peaked hill laying inland which look’d like a Pigeon house and occasioned my giving it that name’.

1.2 relational

Old Adaminaby [NSW 43912 ANPS 54021]

The current name for the original town of Adaminaby, most of which is now submerged under Lake Eucumbene, south west of the new township of Adaminaby.

East Peak [NSW 74870 ANPS 24659; QLD 8558 ANPS 154685]

This feature near the NSW/Queensland border is the easternmost of the two peaks of Mt Cougal.

Little Swamp [NSW 33912 ANPS 41472]

This area near Gunnedah NSW is near the larger Lake Goran, formerly known as ‘The Great Swamp’.

East Gosford [NSW 71324 ANPS 24606]

This neighbourhood lies to the east of the town of Gosford. See also 6.1.2.

Toponym types

1.3 locational

Cape Capricorn [QLD 6160 ANPS 92643]

Named by James Cook in the *Endeavour* on the 25th May 1770, because he found it 'to lay directly under the Tropick of Capricorn'.

1.4 functional

Australian Capital Territory [ACT 1291 ANPS 285810]

The Territory was transferred from NSW to the Australian federal government in 1911 to provide the site for Australia's capital city, Canberra; the name is descriptive of the function.

Memorial Park [NSW 37125 ANPS 85997]

The reserve in the town of Casino was established as a memorial to the servicemen who fought in the Great War 1914-1918.

2 Associative

2.1 environment

Lizard Island [QLD 19800 ANPS 161147]

Named by James Cook in the *Endeavour* on the 12th August 1770, because 'the only land animals we saw here were lizards'.

Belrose [NSW 3953 ANPS 5151]

The name of this Sydney suburb is a construction reflecting the flora endemic to the area, the Christmas bell and the bush rose. See also 7.2.

2.2 occupation / activity

Observatory Hill [NSW 43819 ANPS 53958]

The site of Sydney's original observatory, from 1849.

Smoko [VIC 25879 ANPS 139106]

The locality gained its name in the 1850s when prospectors habitually stopped there for a smoke and a rest on their way to the Victorian goldfields.

Landing Place [NSW ---- ANPS 454588]

This former name for a location on Lord Howe Island, in use before a public jetty was constructed there; the spot also went by the name *Wilson's Landing*.

2.3 structure

Telephone Gap [NSW 57533 ANPS 68780]

A saddle over which a telephone line used to pass.

Loading Ramp [NSW ---- ANPS 460631]

A location on the Alpine Way in Kosciuszko National Park; it is now marked by a lay-by, but was formerly the site of a loading ramp used during the construction of the Snowy Hydro Scheme.

3 Occurrent

3.1 incident

Indian Head [QLD 16659 ANPS 162575]

Named by James Cook in the *Endeavour* on the 19th May 1770: 'a black bluf head or point of land on which a number of the natives were assembled, which occasioned my naming it Indian Head'.

Cape Tribulation [QLD 35179 ANPS 92658]

Named by James Cook in the *Endeavour* on the 10th June 1770: ‘a large but not very deep Bay which I named Trinity Bay after the day on which it was discovered - the north point Cape Tribulation, because here begun all our troubles.’

Mount Disappointment [VIC 14403 ANPS 92613]

Named by the Hume & Hovell expedition in 1824: ‘They were ascending a mountain, (part of the same range they had ascended yesterday) which from the repulse they subsequently experienced, they afterwards named "Mount Disappointment".’

Mount Hopeless [NSW 24080 ANPS 44011]

Named by Sir Thomas Mitchell in 1835: ‘From the highest, which is the southern hill, I looked in vain for New-Year's range; the horizon, in that direction, being quite unbroken; hence I concluded that this could not be the "Twins", and I named it Mount Hopeless.’

3.2 occasion

Whitsunday Passage [QLD 37382 ANPS 182370]

Named by James Cook in the *Endeavour* on the 4th June 1770: ‘This passage I have named Whitsunday's Passage, as it was discovered on the day the Church commemorates that Festival.’

Trinity Bay [QLD 35192 ANPS 180336]

Named by James Cook in the *Endeavour* on the 10th June 1770: ‘a large but not very deep Bay which I named Trinity Bay after the day on which it was discovered.’

4 Evaluative

4.1 commendatory

Hope Islands [QLD 16113 ANPS 92652]

Named by James Cook in the *Endeavour* on the 13th June 1770: ‘I have named them Hope Islands because we were always in hopes of being able to reach these Islands.’

Australia Felix [VIC --- ANPS 92819]

Named by Sir Thomas Mitchell in 1836: ‘I named this region Australia Felix, the better to distinguish it from the parched deserts of the interior country, where we had wandered so unprofitably and so long.’

4.2 condemnatory

Mount Hopeless [SA 31102 ANPS 418981]

Named by Edward John Eyre in 1840: ‘Eyre climbed a peak which he named Mount Hopeless. Here he found “a new and still more disheartening feature” - brine springs, which poisoned pools at their source.’

Worlds End [NSW 68447 ANPS 160]

This locality on Lord Howe Island is said to be so named as a deprecatory reference to the lonely or desolate nature of the area.

5 Copied

5.1 locational

The Grampians [VIC 7770 ANPS 92769]

Named by Sir Thomas Mitchell in 1835: 'it was not without some pride, as a Briton, that I, "more majorum", gave the name of the Grampians, to these extreme summits of the southern hemisphere.'

Epping [NSW 17690 ANPS 22704]

'The name Epping [for this Sydney suburb] was adopted in 1899 on the recommendation of William Midson, a well known resident whose father was born in the English village of that name.'

River Derwent [TAS 470L ANPS 106097]

'Lieut John Hayes, commander of two small ships sent out in 1793 by the British East India Company... entered a beautiful river which he named the Derwent, after the stream near his birthplace in Cumberland, England.'

Ashbury [NSW 705 ANPS 2360]

The Sydney suburb's name is the combination of the names of the two adjacent suburbs, Ashfield and Canterbury.

Cape Dromedary [NSW 71139 ANPS 14887]

From Mount Dromedary. Named by James Cook in the *Endeavour* on the 21st April 1770: having named Mount Dromedary, he noted that 'the shore under the foot of the Mountain forms a point, which I have named Cape Dromedary.'

Mitre Lake [VIC 5257 ANPS 92775]

From Mitre Rock. Named by Sir Thomas Mitchell on 23rd July 1836: '...the lake to the northward, which I named Mitre Lake after the little hill [Mitre Rock], its neighbour.'

Zeehan [TAS 1327N ANPS 110571]

The Tasmanian town was proclaimed in 1891, with its name derived from Mount Zeehan, which had been named by explorers George Bass and Matthew Flinders after Abel Tasman's brig *Zeehaen*.

Howlong [NSW 24370 ANPS 34953]

The NSW township took its name from the name of the property leased by Matthew Pearce in 1840.

5.2 linguistic

Uluru [NT 10532 ANPS 286530]

This Pitjantjatjara word is now the common form for the monolith previously known as *Ayers Rock*; the assigned name is the dual form *Uluru / Ayers Rock*.

Groote Eylandt [NT 13307 ANPS 289313]

An island in the Gulf of Carpentaria, identified by that name on 17th century Dutch charts; Matthew Flinders later retained the name and its Dutch spelling on his own charts.

Steep Point [WA 100034393 ANPS 255144]

This WA feature, originally named 'Steyle Houck' by the 17th century Dutch explorer Willem de Vlamingh, now bears the calqued (translated) name *Steep Point*.

6 Eponymous

6.1 human

6.1.1 namer

Forster [NSW 19191 ANPS 27413]

This town has been said to have been named by William Forster, who was briefly Premier of NSW from 1859-1860.

Balls Pyramid [AHO 42120 NSW 79226 ANPS 3583]

This high pyramid-shaped rock near Lord Howe Island, according to Judge David Collins in his *Account of the English colony in NSW* (1798), received its name because ‘from its shape Lieutenant Ball has named Ball Pyramid’.

6.1.2 notable person

Tasmania [TAS 2447C ANPS 108416]

The name of this Australian island (and state) honours the Dutch navigator Abel Tasman; it entered use informally from 1825, and officially from 1885, to replace Tasman’s choice of *Van Diemen’s Land*.

Cape Byron [NSW 70880 ANPS14883]

Named by James Cook in the *Endeavour* on the 15th May 1770, after one of Cook’s predecessors in exploration—Captain John Byron, who sailed around the world in HMS *Dolphin*, 1764-1766.

Prince of Wales Island [QLD 27515 ANPS 172750]

Named by James Cook in the *Endeavour* on the 23rd August 1770: ‘...a Congeries of Islands to the NW which I Named Prince of Wales’s Islands.’

Port Macquarie [NSW 47160 ANPS 57480]

Named by the explorer John Oxley in 1818 in honour of Lachlan Macquarie, Governor of NSW.

Orange [NSW 44261 ANPS 49499]

Named by Sir Thomas Mitchell, Surveyor-General, in 1833, in honour of Prince William of Orange (later King William I of the Netherlands).

Explorers Tree [NSW 18104 ANPS 26009]

This historic site near Katoomba in the Blue Mountains is the stump of a tree on which it is said that the explorers Blaxland, Lawson and Wentworth carved their initials in 1813.

Gosford [NSW 21300 ANPS 30135]

Gosford was most likely named at the suggestion of Governor Gipps to honour his friend the Earl of Gosford.

Lidcombe [NSW 32910 ANSP 40557]

The Sydney suburb’s name is the combination of the names of two former mayors, Lidbury and Larcombe. See also 7.2.

6.1.3 colleague

Point Hicks [VIC 17439 ANPS 135498]

This name of this cape on the Victorian coast, formerly Cape Everard, derives from James Cook’s first sighting of the Australian coast on 19 April 1770. The feature, now thought most likely to have been a mistaken view of an offshore cloudbank, was named for crewmember Lieutenant Hicks because he ‘was the first who discover’d this land’.

6.1.4 family member or friend

Mount Eliza [NSW 17393 ANPS 139]

This hill on Lord Howe Island was named by the early settler Captain Middleton (1841-1855) after his wife Eliza.

Mount Lidgbird [NSW 32921 ANPS 164]

This mountain on Lord Howe Island was named by Lieutenant Henry Lidgbird Ball on 13 March 1788 while returning from Norfolk Island to Port Jackson; it is assumed that he named it after a family member rather than after himself.

6.1.5 associated person

Pearces Corner [NSW 45388 ANPS 55557]

This Sydney suburban location bears the name of Aaron Pearce, transported for life in 1810, who built a slab hut there which later became a shop that served the local community.

Cobbys Corner [NSW 12198 ANPS91]

Frank (Cobby) Robbins had his residence at this location on Lord Howe Island and established the local golf links there.

6.2 other animate entity

Norseman [WA 100027307 ANPS 250787]

Prospector Laurie Sinclair tethered his horse, Hardy Norseman, overnight and in the morning discovered that it had pawed up a gold nugget. The reef and the resulting settlement were named after the horse.

Banana [QLD 1469 ANPS 147896]

The town is said to be named after a dun-coloured working bullock, Banana, which was well known as a lead bullock in the cattle yards.

6.3 non-animate entity

6.3.1 notable abstract entity

Admiralty Islands [AHO 42036 NSW 1459 ANPS 228]

Named after the British Admiralty by Lieutenant Henry Lidgbird Ball on 13 March 1788, on his return voyage from Norfolk Island to Port Jackson.

6.3.2 named concrete entity

Catalina Bay [NSW 82650 ANPS 82033]

The bay in Lake Macquarie was the base for Catalina Flying Boats during World War II.

Coolangatta Creek [QLD 8079 ANPS 154277]

This Queensland creek was named after the schooner *Coolangatta*, which was wrecked off the mouth of the creek in 1846.

Spitfire Point [NT 24008 ANPS 459192]

This Northern Territory feature commemorates the Spitfire fighter aircraft which were stationed in Darwin in World War II.

6.3.3 expedition vessel

Endeavour River [QLD 11749 ANPS 92559]

Named by James Cook in the *Endeavour* on the 4th August 1770: ‘...the harbour or River we have been in which I have named after the Ship *Endeavour River*.’

Mount Zeehan [TAS 19017W ANPS 92515]

Named by Matthew Flinders in 1798 to commemorate one of the two ships of Abel Tasman's expedition: 'A peaked hill... seen by TASMANN to the north-east, on his discovering of this land Nov. 24, 1642; and I have therefore named [it] *Mount Zeehan*.'

6.4 literary and mythical entities

Ivanhoe [NSW 24984 ANPS 35704] [VIC 17988 ANPS 124997]

Both of these settlements were named after the main character in Sir Walter Scott's novel *Ivanhoe*.

Oberon [NSW 43773 ANPS 53924]

Named after Oberon, King of the Fairies, in Shakespeare's *Midsummer Night's Dream*.

Avalon Beach [NSW 619 ANPS 2538]

This Sydney suburb and its beach were named after the legendary island featured in Arthurian legend.

Artarmon [NSW 891 ANPS 1399]

The name of this Sydney suburb was at one time supposed to be a corruption of the name of an ancient Greek warrior Artemon.

7 Innovative

7.1 humour

Nangiloc [VIC 56643 ANPS 92243]

Nangiloc's name is that of its neighbouring town, Colignan, spelt backwards.

Doo Town [TAS 12075L ANPS 97314]

The houses in this Tasmanian holiday town all have house-names containing 'Doo', such as 'Doo-little', and the town's humorous name arose from that naming practice.

Terrible Billy [NSW 57816 ANPS 69317]

Surveyor Thomas Mitchell noted that the Indigenous name for this NSW mountain was 'Carrabobbila'; the name however was corrupted (probably deliberately and facetiously) by expedition members to *Terrible Billy*.

7.2 aptness

Orana [NSW ---- ANPS 455125] [WA 100161209 ANPS 276289]

'Orana' is a Polynesian word, and although its use in Australia has been given impetus because of a false belief that it was an Aboriginal word for 'welcome', its euphonious sound and positive connotation have made it a popular toponym. It is in use, for example, for a region in New South Wales and for a suburb of Albany, Western Australia.

Gwandalan [NSW 22686 ANPS 32220]

The name of this NSW locality is a word of Aboriginal origin, said to mean 'peace'.

Muogamarra (Nature Reserve) [NSW 40677 ANPS 50695]

The name is claimed to be an Aboriginal word meaning 'to preserve for the future'.

Belrose [NSW 3953 ANPS 5151]

The name of this Sydney suburb is a construction reflecting the flora endemic to the area, the Christmas bell and the bush rose. See also 2.1.

Howlong [NSW 24370 ANPS 34953]

The name of this rural property was derived from a Wiradjuri word with a pronunciation similar to *oolong* and with the possible meaning 'many brolgas'.

Toponym types

Glenhaven [NSW 20645 ANPS 29298]

When the name of this suburb of Sydney was being determined in 1894, the southern part of the existing settlement was known as ‘The Haven’; the area was in a valley or ‘glen’, so the two elements were combined to form a pleasing new toponym that seemed appropriate to the area.

Lidcombe [NSW 32910 ANSP 40557]

The Sydney suburb’s name is the combination of the names of two former mayors, Lidbury and Larcombe. See also 6.1.2.

