

State Library of New South Wales www.atmitchell.com







The Picture Gallery presents highlights from the State Library's collections. The State Library acknowledges the generous support of the Nelson Meers Foundation, and the assistance of the volunteer guides in the Picture Gallery.

A free exhibition from 6 March to 4 June 2006

State Library of New South Wales Macquarie Street Sydney NSW 2000 Telephone (02) 9273 1414 Facsimile (02) 9273 1255 TTY (02) 9273 1541 Email library@sl.nsw.gov.au www.atmitchell.com

Exhibition opening hours: 9 am to 5 pm weekdays, 11 am to 5 pm weekends

Curator: Paul Brunton Project manager: Lisa Loader Editor: Amanda Burdon Graphic designer: Rosie Handley Exhibition designer: Elin Thomas Preservation project leader: Agata Rostek–Robak Photography/imaging: Charles Gordon, State Library Imaging Services Printer: S Direct Paper: Sovereign Offset Print run: 5000

P&D-1897-03/2006 ISSN 1448-2622 ISBN 0 7313 7160 7



Grateful acknowledgement is made to the Royal Netherlands Embassy, Canberra, to Ambassador Niek van Zutphen and former Ambassador Dr Hans Sondaal for assistance with this exhibition.



© State Library of New South Wales, March 2006

I mage from previous page: Hendrik Hondius, *India quae Orientalis dicitur* ... Amsterdam [1641?], hand-coloured engraving DL Ca63/1



FOREWORD

Dutchman Willem Janszoon was the first European to sight Australia when he sailed down the west coast of Cape York on *Duyfken* (little dove) in March 1606. We celebrate the 400th anniversary of that historic journey this year. This was the first in a succession of Dutch voyages during the seventeenth century that would culminate in the charting of almost two-thirds of the Australian coastline.

Since opening in 1910, the Mitchell Library has endeavoured to collect materials documenting these voyages and to share information about them. It was, in fact, one of the Library's former Trustees, Tom Mutch, who in 1942 published the first detailed account in English of Janszoon's voyage.

The Library recognised the significance of the Dutch contribution to the charting of our country by reproducing, in marble, the Bonaparte Tasman map on the floor of the vestibule of the new Library building when it was built in 1942.

The map was at that time the Library's most recent acquisition relating to Dutch discoveries. Previously (in 1926) we had purchased the handwritten journal of Tasman's 1642–1643 voyage, which joined an unrivalled collection of Dutch maps of the seventeenth century bequeathed to us by our great benefactor, David Scott Mitchell. Sir William Dixson's bequest in 1952 added to these valuable resources. In 1963, the Library published a bibliography of books, maps, manuscripts and pictures held worldwide relating to Tasman and his voyages. Today, our innovative online service <www.atmitchell.com> brings these treasures into your home or office.

First Sight: the Dutch mapping of Australia 1606–1697 displays some of these treasures. They join three crucial items borrowed from the Netherlands. The Hartog pewter plate, left on the Western Australian coast by Dirk Hartog in 1616, is the oldest European artefact relating to Australia and has been lent by the Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam. The 1623 journal of Jan Carstenszoon, which includes the earliest written description of any part of Australia, and the map by Arent Martenszoon de Leeuw recording that expedition along Cape York, have been lent by the Nationaal Archief, The Hague. I wish to express the Library's appreciation for this generosity and KLM Royal Dutch Airlines for its sponsorship. We are also very grateful to the Royal Netherlands Embassy, Canberra, to Ambassador Niek van Zutphen and to former Ambassador Dr Hans Sondaal for their invaluable assistance and support for this exhibition.

Dagmar Schmidmaier AM State Librarian & Chief Executive

March 2006

WELCOME

Dear visitor

Welcome to the excellent exhibition *First Sight: the Dutch mapping* of Australia 1606–1697.

In March 1606 a little Dutch ship called the *Duyfken* from the Vereenigde Oost-Indische Compagnie (the Dutch East India Company) landed on the coast of Cape York. Captain Willem Janszoon sent his men ashore to explore the area. They concluded that there was little prospect of trade and therefore that the area was of little interest for the company.

This was the first recorded contact between Europeans and the Indigenous inhabitants of Australia. Between 1606 and 1770 many other Dutch ships, such as the *Eendracht, Leeuwin, Zuytdorp, Batavia* and *Gulden Zeepaert*, explored and mapped the north, west and south coasts of Australia. Dozens of shipwrecks along the coast, including the famous *Batavia*, serve as reminders of the early presence of the Dutch, as do Australian placenames like Cape Keerweer, Rottnest Island and Duyfken Point.

This exhibition covers the charting of the Australian coasts by the Dutch in the seventeenth century: the north, south and west coasts and Tasmania. You will discover the world-famous Dirk Hartog pewter plate from the Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam. In 1616 Hartog left this plate behind on an island off the West Australian coast now known as Dirk Hartog Island. Also, the journal of Jan Carstenszoon has been brought in from the Netherlands National Archives for this exhibition. Other items of special interest are the first chart of New Zealand, Pelsaert's illustrated account of the wreck of the *Batavia* and the first printed map of part of the coast of Australia, published in 1626.

This exhibition is part of a whole year of celebrations to commemorate that the friendly relationship between Australia and the Netherlands already started in 1606. Please visit <www.netherlands-australia2006.com> for more information on the program.

Enjoy your visit.

Kind regards

Niek van Zutphen Ambassador of the Netherlands to Australia

Septentrio Arcipelago di S DCCL 6 L S. Perry Lazaro Illas de Salamon. 12 Guinea i bits, gin Tropic. Capricon Meridies NOVÆ GVINER Torma, & Situs.

Cornelis de Jode, *Novae Guineae* ... Antwerp, 1593. This map shows New Guinea and the Solomon Islands with an imaginary land to the south where a hunter with a bow and arrow is attacking a griffin, a lion and a snake. The Dutch would gradually unveil the real southern continent throughout the 17th century. ML X912/13

INTRODUCTION

Wherever profit leads us, to every sea & shore, For love of gain the wide world's harbours we explore.

During the late sixteenth century the enterprising Dutch were the pre-eminent traders of Europe. The exotic products that the Portuguese brought back from the East were dispersed largely from Lisbon in Dutch ships.

In 1581 the United Provinces of the Netherlands formally rejected the sovereignty of the King of Spain, Philip II, and began a long struggle for independence that was not achieved until 1648. The union of the crowns of Portugal and Spain in 1580 and the Dutch revolt against Spanish sovereignty the following year meant that Lisbon was closed to Dutch ships. So the Dutch sailed out to the East Indies themselves, first in 1595, and rapidly proceeded to erode the Portuguese monopoly.

In 1602 the various Dutch trading companies were amalgamated into one Stateowned organisation, the United East India Company (Vereenigde Oost-Indische Compagnie, known by its acronym VOC). The VOC would grow to become the world's largest trading enterprise of the seventeenth century – the first true multinational.

Quote: Dutch poet Joost van den Vondel (1587–1679), on the occasion of the State visit of Marie de Medici to the East India House, Amsterdam, 1639.

THE FIRST SIGHTING: CAPE YORK, MARCH 1606

The first European sighting of Australia came about as a result of the VOC's quest to boost its profits by developing new trading opportunities.

New Guinea was reputed to be a source of gold and Willem Janszoon (c. 1570 – c. 1638) was sent out from Bantam (now known as Banten, just west of Jakarta) 'to discover the great land Nova Guinea and other unknown east and south lands'.

Janszoon sailed in late 1605 on *Duyfken* (little dove), a vessel about 20 metres long, with a crew of around 20. He charted parts of New Guinea's south coast and then sailed south-east, past the entrance to Torres Strait (without realising it was a strait), and down the west coast of Cape York in March 1606. Janszoon sailed as far as Cape Keerweer (turnabout), which is precisely what he did and headed back home. This remains the oldest placename given by the Europeans to any part of Australia.

Two other names that Janszoon placed on his map are of interest. R. met het Bosch (river with the bush) was his name for what is now the Pennefather River, just north of Weipa. The Dutch *bosch* is the source of our word bush, used to mean an unsettled area. It came to us from the Dutch in South Africa via the American colonies. Fitting, then, that it should be one of the first words inscribed on our map.

Towards the top of Cape York, Janszoon placed the word Moent, the meaning of which remains a mystery. It is not a Dutch word and recent research suggests that it may, in fact, be a Dutch transcription of an Aboriginal word meaning 'coals, charcoal, cremation ground'. So Janszoon might be credited with placing the first Aboriginal name on our map as well. Tragically, the first fatal encounter between Aboriginal people and Europeans also occurred on this voyage, at Port Musgrave.

Janszoon did not realise he was the first to see the Great South Land and thought that Cape York was a continuation of New Guinea. But he found nothing of value and further exploration was put on hold.

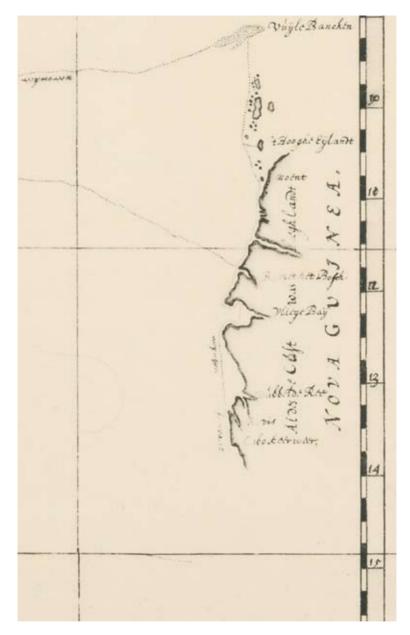
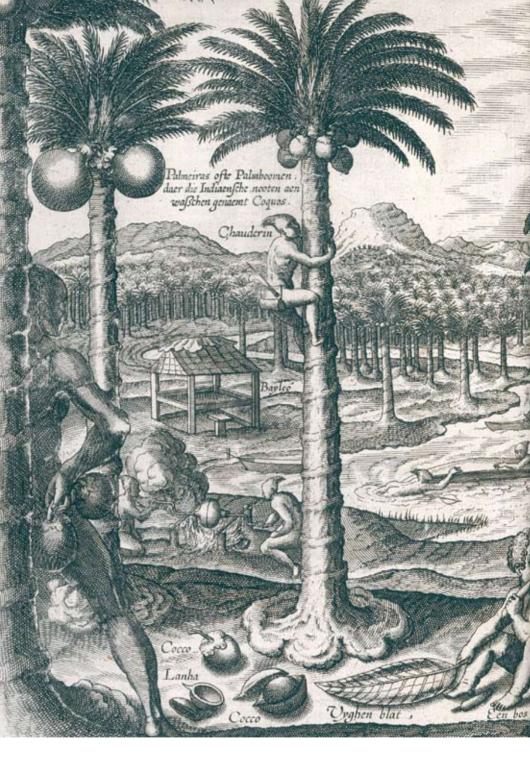


Chart of the *Duyfken* voyage (detail). The original chart has not survived; only this late 17th century copy. Nova Guinea is Cape York. At the bottom can be seen Cabo Keerweer (Cape Keerweer). Further north is Vliege Baij (Fly Bay), which is today's Albatross Bay (Weipa). Above Fly Bay is R. met het Bosch and near the top Moent. The chart is held in the Atlas Blaeu-Van der Hem, Austrian National Library, Vienna. ML XX/15 v. 5, plate 125



an Huygen van Linschoten, *Itinerario voyage ... naer Oost ofte Portugaels Indien ...* [Account of voyages into the East Indies ...], Amsterdam, 1596 ML ZQ910.8/11A1

4



Linschoten (c. 1563–1611) spent five years as secretary to the Archbishop of Portuguese Goa, India, in the 1580s and had access to much detailed information about the Portuguese trading empire in the East. This illustrated book with maps, sailing routes and descriptions of the spice-growing areas revealed this information to the Dutch and played a vital role in their supplanting the Portuguese.

Waer in Degant sche Historie, so wel haer weder paren, als de ghelegenehert der Landen ende des Volckx, fo in woorden als in Figuren voor gestelt wordt. DET 5 11 Meridie. MNSTELREDAM, 2311 Heffel Gerrit fa entre Lacob Pieterfa Wachtert Tar 1020. Caert van't Landt vand LANDT uvt de Iournalen ende affi TANDT VAN DE opgliedaea by Dirck Hartogs and in October A* 1636 der Stierluvden tfame Å. 1627. By Hiffel Gerrit, Mot Octrop vanda H. M. H. de Staten Gene mer i Schip d'Eendracht EENDRA rereenjebde Nederlan

A bove: The first printed map to show any part of Australia, 1626. On the left can be seen Land Eendracht, a reference to Dirk Hartog's ship, which charted this part of the Western Australian coast in 1616. ML C608

Below: Hessel Gerritsz, *Caert van't Landt van d'Eendracht …* [Amsterdam], 1627 (detail). This map of the Western Australian coast includes the discoveries of Dirk Hartog (lower right) and Willem Janszoon's discovery of the Willems River (top left). ML ZM2 850/1627/1

ENCOUNTERS WITH THE WEST COAST FROM 1616

Janszoon's journey had been a deliberate voyage of discovery. What followed was a number of accidental encounters with Australia's west coast. Ships sailing from the Netherlands to the East Indies around the Cape of Good Hope and across the Indian Ocean were often forced off course by strong westerly winds and, failing to turn north soon enough, sometimes found themselves on this dangerous coast.

In this way, Dirk Hartog (1580-1621) arrived at Shark Bay in October 1616. On the island that today bears his name he left a pewter plate recording his visit. The plate would remain, exposed to the elements for 81 years, until 1697, when it was removed by another Dutch voyager, Willem de Vlamingh (b. 1640). Hartog was on the Eendracht (concord) and for many years this part of the coast was shown on Dutch maps as Eendracht Land.

Most of the maps produced by the VOC were in manuscript to limit their circulation, lest they fell into the hands of competitors. The earliest printed map of Eendracht Land appears in a book published in Amsterdam in 1626 by the VOC's cartographer Hessel Gerritsz. It is the first printed map to represent any part of Australia.

Hartog's major discovery posed two key questions: was this coast connected to Janszoon's New Guinea or was it part of a separate South Land? Further accidental sightings saw much of this west coast charted, but still the questions lingered.

In July 1618 Willem Janszoon made another sighting of the Australian coast, this time the west coast, at a place he named Willemsrivier, probably after Prince William, Head of State of the Netherlands. This was near North West Cape (Exmouth). On the same ship, though serving as a humble young soldier, was Anthony van Diemen, who had his first sighting of the land with which his name would be linked years later through his support for the voyages of Abel Tasman.

Perhaps the most famous, but certainly most notorious encounter with the west coast is that of the *Batavia*, which struck Morning Reef, Houtman Abrolhos (off Geraldton), on 4 June 1629. The subsequent story of mutiny, murder, trial and execution proves that fact is stranger than fiction.

Batavia left Texel, Holland, on 29 October 1628 as flagship in a convoy of eight VOC ships. Francisco Pelsaert (c. 1591–1630) was fleet commander and *Batavia*'s captain was Adriaan Jacobsz. *Batavia* separated from the rest of the fleet and the captain, miscalculating longitude, struck the reef.

Most of the crew and passengers scrambled to safety on the islands and Pelsaert and Jacobsz took the ship's sloop to search for water. Finding none, they headed for the mainland, some 60 kilometres away. A landing was made but in the absence of sufficient water they decided to sail for Batavia (Jakarta), which they reached on 3 July. Pelsaert was sent back to Morning Reef on the vessel *Sardam* to rescue the survivors and arrived on 13 September.

In Pelsaert's absence, upper merchant Jeronimus Cornelisz and a small group of supporters had waged a reign of terror characterised by murder, rape and torture. About 125 people were murdered. A group of 50 men, led by Wiebbe Hayes, had isolated themselves on an island and built themselves a coral enclosure for protection. Cornelisz tried to negotiate with them but was captured and some of his followers executed. Pelsaert dealt with the remaining mutineers upon his return; a formal trial was held on the island and on 2 October Cornelisz and eight of his supporters were hanged. For their crimes Wouter Loos and Jan Pelgrom de Bye were left behind on the mainland — Australia's first European settlers! They were never heard of again and Sardam reached Batavia on 5 December with 74 survivors on board.

Pelsaert's journal was published in 1647 and contains a number of woodcuts recording these dramatic events. These are the earliest printed views of any part of Australia and the book includes the first published description of a kangaroo.

As for the *Batavia*, the wreck lay undiscovered until 1963.



A bove: The *Batavia* Centre: The mutineers attacking the other survivors of the *Batavia* wreck

Below: The executions

All images from Francisco Pelsaert, *Ongeluckige Voyagie* ... [Disastrous voyage], Amsterdam, 1647. ML C530

JAN CARSTENSZOON ON CAPE YORK, 1623

In January 1623 another deliberate voyage of discovery was mounted. Jan Carstenszoon was dispatched from Ambon (an island in the Moluccas, Indonesia) by the head of the VOC, Pieter de Carpentier (from whom the Gulf of Carpentaria takes its name). Carstenszoon had two ships, the *Pera* and the *Arnhem*.

Carstenszoon took a similar route to Janszoon. He, too, failed to find Torres Strait, noting instead a *drooge bocht* (dry bight), and from 12 April sailed down the west coast of Cape York.

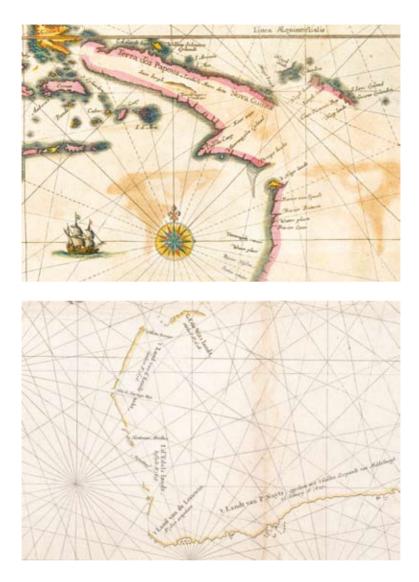
But he travelled further south than Janszoon and reached a river on 24 April that he named Staten, after the States-General of the United Provinces of the Netherlands. It is thought that this may actually have been what is now known as the Gilbert River and not the present-day Staaten River, which is a little to the north. They nailed a wooden board to a tree to record their arrival but this board has not survived.

On the night of 27/28 April the Pera and the Arnhem separated. The Arnhem sailed across the Gulf of Carpentaria and reached the east coast of what was later called Arnhem Land (probably at Cape Grey). It then sailed along the north coast, north to the Wessel Islands and on to the Indonesian island of Banda, arriving there on 14 May 1623. The Pera backtracked up Cape York, making numerous landings that aided in the preparation of a detailed chart of the coast.

Carstenszoon's account is the earliest surviving journal of a Dutch explorer and gives us the first European description of any part of Australia.

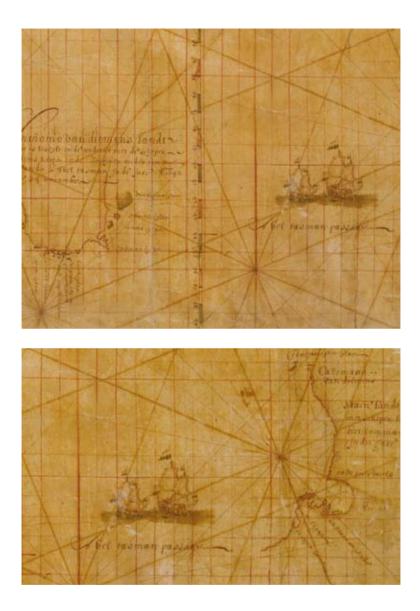
THE SOUTH COAST, 1627

The Gulden Zeepaert (golden seahorse) under François Thijssen sailed from Zeeland in May 1626 and met the Australian coast at Point Nuyts (just south of Walpole, on the south coast of Western Australia), probably on 26 January 1627. Thijssen sailed along that coast to the Great Australian Bight as far as the islands of St Peter and



A bove: Hendrik Hondius, *India quae Orientalis dicitur* ... Amsterdam [1641?] hand-coloured engraved chart (detail). This shows New Guinea and the west coast of Cape York, which were believed to be one land. Drooge bocht (dry bight) at the centre is Torres Strait. 't Hoge landt (high land) is thought to be Prince of Wales Island; Rivier Batavia is the site of Weipa; Staten rivier at the bottom is the furthest point reached by Carstenszoon in 1623. The inside cover has a reproduction of this map. DL Ca63/1

Below: Hessel Gerritsz [Chart of the Malay Archipelago ...], Amsterdam, c. 1628, hand-coloured engraved chart (detail). This chart shows the Dutch discoveries on the west and south coasts. ML S1/72



A bove: The *Heemskerck* and *Zeehaen* sailing east from Tasmania, December 1642 Below: The *Heemskerck* and *Zeehaen* sailing towards the west coast of New Zealand, December 1642.

Details from the Bonaparte Tasman map, 1640s. See the inside back cover for a detail of the map showing Tasman's voyage of 1644. ML 863

St Francis (in the Nuyts Archipelago, opposite present-day Ceduna, in South Australia). It is assumed these islands took their names from the Christian names of Thijssen and Pieter Nuyts (1598–1655), a VOC official on board. The coast became known as Pieter Nuyts' Land.

THE VOYAGES OF ABEL TASMAN, 1642–1644

The voyages of Abel Tasman, 1642–1644, were the apogee of the Dutch contribution to the charting of Australia and a testimony to the seamanship of their commander.

Abel Janszoon Tasman was born in about 1603 at Lutjegast, Groningen, and joined the VOC in his early thirties. He sailed out to Batavia and made a number of voyages for the company, including trips to Japan and Taiwan, so that by 1642 he was a very experienced sailor.

The 1642–1644 voyages were initiated by the then head of the VOC in Batavia, Anthony van Diemen (1593–1645) — a man driven by the profit motive but also a desire to establish whether the discoveries on the north, west and south coasts were linked — a jigsaw puzzle the Dutch had begun assembling. Tasman was given two vessels, the Heemskerck and the Zeehaen, and a crew of 110 to resolve this question in 1642. His instructions were ambitious. He was to sail south from Mauritius. If he had not encountered land by the time he reached the latitude of 54 degrees south, he was to sail east to the longitude of the easternmost point of New Guinea or even further east, thereby establishing a route from the Indian Ocean to the Pacific that could be useful for mounting voyages to Chile. Van Diemen had plans to upset the Spanish monopoly there.

Tasman was then to sail north, around the top of New Guinea, and then south-east to investigate Carstenszoon's *drooge bocht*. Van Diemen believed that this was not a strait and so Tasman was to follow the coast of Cape York to determine whether this land was connected to the discoveries on the west coast. The *Heemskerck* and the *Zeehaen* sailed from Batavia on 14 August 1642, arrived at Mauritius on 5 September and departed for the south on 8 October. By the time they reached about 49 degrees on 6 November they were experiencing gales, hailstorms and snow squalls and decided to sail back up to 44 degrees and then east from that position.

On 24 November 1642 they saw mountains in what was the first European sighting of Tasmania, on the west coast at Macquarie Harbour. Tasman named this land after van Diemen, a name retained until 1855, when it was officially renamed Tasmania.

Sailing down the west coast and along the south coast, Tasman passed the Maatsuyker islands (which he named individually Wits, Sweers and Maetsuijcker, after members of the Council of the Indies). He rounded South East Cape, named The Friars and Bruny islands after Pieter Boreel, another councillor, and tried unsuccessfully to enter Storm Bay. Sailing around Cape Pillar, he anchored in North Bay, at the top of the Forestier Peninsula, on 1 December.

The following day crew members were sent around to what Tasman named Frederick Henry Bay (now Blackman Bay), after the Head of State of the United Provinces of the Netherlands. They did not see any Aboriginal people but heard 'playing almost like a horn or small gong'. They also saw marks of animals on the ground, which resembled the paws of a tiger, and tall trees 'carved into with flints and the bark was peeled off in the form of steps, each one some five feet from the next, so that the party concluded that the natives must be very tall or have a peculiar technique to climb those trees'.

On 3 December Tasman took possession of the new country for the Netherlands. It was too rough to make a landing in North Bay so he ordered the carpenter, Pieter Jacobszoon, to swim ashore with the flag and flagpole to stake the formal claim. This was done at what is now called Tasman Bay. Once again, no Aboriginal people were seen 'although we surmise some were not far from there and were with watching eyes on our proceedings'.

On 4 December they rounded Maria Island (named after van Diemen's wife), to the north, and passed Schouten Island and what they named Vanderlin's Island (both also named after councillors), although the latter was actually part of the Freycinet Peninsula. They had failed to find any gold, minerals, spices or other tradable items and doubted whether this really was the Great South Land. They decided not to follow the coast any further and instead turned east to see what may be there.

On 13 December they sighted New Zealand and Tasman charted part of the west coast of the South Island and the entire west coast of the North Island, without investigating Cook Strait. He sailed on to Tonga and Fiji and then back, via the north of New Guinea, to Batavia, arriving on 15 June 1643. The threat of monsoons saw them abandon their search for Torres Strait and any further exploration.

For its extent, duration and dangers this was a remarkable voyage for the time, but van Diemen was not amused. Tasman had found nothing that would turn a profit. Further, he had not investigated the situation and nature of the lands and peoples he had discovered. Although he had claimed Van Diemen's Land for the Netherlands. he had not himself set foot on Tasmanian soil and he had not followed its coasts to see whether it was an island or part of the Great South Land. Nor had he investigated Cook Strait or Torres Strait. But, in his defence, Tasman was using extremely primitive navigational equipment; had considerable experience as a sea captain, was well aware of the dangers and mindful of the need to be cautious if he and his crew were to return safely. He crossed perilous, largely unknown seas and added considerably to the map of the south.

In spite of van Diemen's criticisms, Tasman was awarded a consolation prize. Less than a year later he was permitted an opportunity to complete that part of his orders that he had failed to fulfil to investigate the *drooge bocht* and to trace the coast from Cape York to the west. If there were a strait, he was instructed to sail through it and south to Van Diemen's Land, establishing the precise relationship of it to other discoveries. On 29 January 1644 Tasman left Batavia with three vessels, the *Limmen, Zeemeeuw* and *Bracq*, and 111 men. He did not locate Torres Strait, however he did chart the coast from western Cape York, around the Gulf of Carpentaria, the north coast, and the north-west coast of Australia to just south of North West Cape, landing on at least 10 occasions before returning to Batavia in August 1644.

For van Diemen and his council, however, this was again not enough: 'They have found nothing profitable, but only poor naked beachrunners, without rice, or any noteworthy fruits, very poor, and in many places evil natured people'. Tasman was criticised a second time for not having investigated the new lands sufficiently. There was disbelief that a land as extensive (as Tasman's two voyages had demonstrated) should be so unyielding of anything profitable: 'God grant but one rich silver and gold mine ... to the solace of the general shareholders and honour of the finder'. The VOC was very modern in its concern for shareholder value.

Tasman continued his service with the VOC but undertook no further expeditions. He rose to the rank of commander and retired in 1653. After becoming a merchant, he died a wealthy man in Batavia in 1659 — an unusual fate for an explorer of Australia!

By 1644 the Dutch had charted the north, west, and half the south coasts of the continent and the southern half of Tasmania. The great Dutch map publisher Joan Blaeu attached the name *Hollandia Nova* (New Holland) to the western part of the continent in 1645.

122 a sur to 161 1) and las 7.00/64 der 2 . いかちのころ 124 -Sec. 16.32 ä 4 the la R.Co TEARS, STATE ILS INDIS

A bove: Isaac Gilsemans, Tasmanian coastal profiles, 1642. Gilsemans completed these pen and ink drawings while on Tasman's voyage of 1642–43. Maria Island on the left was named by Tasman after van Diemen's wife. ML S1/72

Below: The first printed map of the Australian continent, 1663. Published in M. Thévenot, *Relations de divers voyages* ... Paris, 1663. Following Tasman's voyage, the map of Australia was not significantly added to until Cook in 1770. ML F910.8/T

WILLEM DE VLAMINGH, 1696-97

It was an interest in science that inspired VOC director Nicolaas Witsen to sponsor the expedition of Willem de Vlamingh (b. 1640) along the west coast of Australia. Vlamingh was to investigate whether any people or remains could be located from recently wrecked Dutch ships and to further explore the coast and inland. His three ships, the Geelvinck, Nijptangh and Weseltje, departed the Netherlands on 3 May 1696 with a crew of 198. In late December they reached the Western Australian coast and anchored off what was called Rottenest Island, so named for the resident quokkas that resembled large rats.

In early January 1697 Vlamingh explored a river that was named after the numerous black swans there, some of which he took back alive to Batavia.

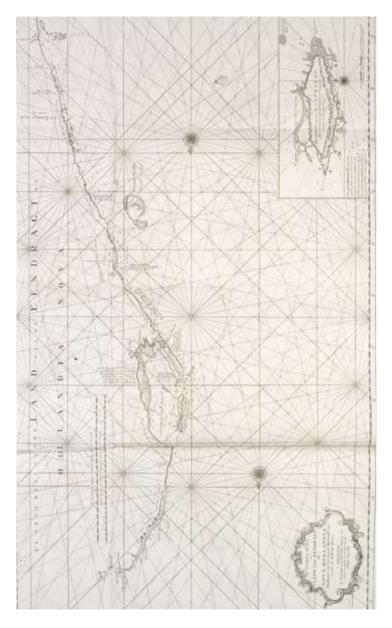
On 13 January the expedition sailed north, making a careful survey of the coast. They found Dirk Hartog's plate on Dirk Hartog Island in early February, removed it and replaced it with one recording both Hartog's voyage and their own. So disillusioned were they by this land that they fired a salute of guns 'in farewell of the miserable South Land' as they left the coast near North West Cape on 21 February. Less than a month later they had reached Batavia.

The surgeon on board the *Nijptangh*, Mandrop Torst, published a brief report of the voyage in 1701. But such was the lack of interest in this land that the detailed chart was not published until 1753.

The map of Australia would remain substantially as the Dutch left it until James Cook sailed up the east coast in 1770.

Paul Brunton

Senior Curator, Mitchell Library



A bove: *De West Kust van het Land van de Endracht of Hollandia Nova* [West Coast of the Land of the Eendracht or New Holland], 1753

Such was the lack of interest in Vlamingh's voyage, the chart was not published until 1753. It was based on Victor Victorszoon's manuscript chart and published in *Nieuwe groote lichtende zee-fakkel* [New great shining sea torch], Amsterdam, 1753. ML X912/11

ITEM LIST

All items are held by the State Library of New South Wales, unless otherwise stated.

Introduction

Cornelis de Jode, *Speculum orbis terrae*, Antwerp, 1593 ML X912/13

Jan Huygen van Linschoten, *Itinerario* ... Amsterdam, 1596 Bequest of David Scott Mitchell, 1907 ML ZQ910.8/11A1

Willem Janszoon, 1606

FC Wieder, *Monumenta cartographica* ... The Hague, 1933 ML XX/15 v.5, plate 125

Samuel Purchas, *Purchas his Pilgrimes* ... London, 1625 Bequest of David Scott Mitchell, 1907 DSMQ910.8/P Set v1 c2

Dirk Hartog, 1616

Pewter plate left by Dirk Hartog, Dirk Hartog Island, Western Australia, 1616 Kindly lent by the Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam N.M 825, 363 mm

Jacques l'Hermite, *Journael vande Nassausche Vloote* ... Amsterdam, 1626 ML C608

Hessel Gerritsz, *Caert van't Landt van d'Eendracht* ... [Amsterdam], 1627, engraving ML ZM2 850/1627/1

Jan Carstenszoon, 1623

Jan Carstenszoon, journal kept on the *Pera*, 1623 Original manuscript Kindly lent by the Nationaal Archief, The Hague 1.04.02 inventory nr. 1080 Arent Martenszoon de Leeuw, chart of voyage of the *Pera*, 1623 Original manuscript kindly lent by the Nationaal Archief, The Hague 4. VEL inventory nr. 493

Hendrik Hondius, *India quae Orientalis dicitur* ... Amsterdam [1641?], hand-coloured engraving Bequest of Sir William Dixson, 1952 DL Ca 63/1

François Thijssen, 1627

Hessel Gerritsz, chart of the Malay Archipelago, Amsterdam, c. 1628 engraving acquired from Martinus Nijhoff, 1926 ML S1/72

Jacob Colom, *Oost-Indisch Pas-Caart* ... [Amsterdam], [1633?] hand-coloured engraving on vellum ML ZMB3 400/1633/1

Wreck of the Batavia, 1629

Francisco Pelsaert, *Ongeluckige Voyagie, van't Schip Batavia* ... Amsterdam, 1647 Bequest of David Scott Mitchell, 1907 ML C530

Abel Tasman, 1642–1644

Abel Tasman, extract journal, 1642–43 Original manuscript Acquired from Martinus Nijhoff, 1926 ML S1/72

Bonaparte Tasman map, 1640s Original manuscript Presented by the Princess George of Greece, 1933 ML 863 Melchisedech Thévenot, *Relations de divers voyages curieux* ... Paris, 1663 Bequest of David Scott Mitchell, 1907 ML F910.8/T

Willem de Vlamingh, 1696-97

Mandrop Torst, *Journaal wegens een voyagie* ... Amsterdam, 1701 Bequest of David Scott Mitchell, 1907 ML DSM/988.1/D Johannes van Keulen, *Nieuwe groote lichtende zee-fakkel* ... Amsterdam, 1753 ML X912/11

New Holland

Joan Blaeu, *Nova et accuratissima totius terrarum orbis tabula*, [Amsterdam], [1664?], engraving ZM2 100/1664/1

FURTHER READING

Anderson, Grahame, 2001 The merchant of the Zeehaen: Isaac Gilsemans and the voyages of Abel Tasman, Te Papa Press, Wellington.

Dash, Mike, 2002 *Batavia's graveyard*, Weidenfeld & Nicolson, London.

Drake-Brockman, Henrietta, 1995, *Voyage to disaster* University of Western Australia Press, Nedlands.

Estensen, Miriam, 1998 Discovery: the quest for the Great South Land, Allen & Unwin, Sydney.

Heath, Byron, 2005 Discovering the Great South Land, Rosenberg Publishing, Dural. Henderson, James, 1999 Sent forth a dove: discovery of the Duyfken, University of Western Australia Press, Nedlands.

Schilder, Günter, 1976 Australia unveiled: the share of the Dutch navigators in the discovery of Australia, Theatrum Orbis Terrarum, Amsterdam.

Schilder, Günter (ed.), 1985 Voyage to the Great South Land, Willem de Vlamingh, 1696–1697 Royal Australian Historical Society in association with The Australian Bank, Sydney.

Sharp, Andrew, 1968 *The voyages of Abel Janszoon Tasman*, Clarendon Press, London.

Tent, Jan, 2005 'The Enigma of Moent', *Placenames Australia*, March and June.

Image over page: The Bonaparte Tasman map (detail), 1640s. This map is one of the rare sources for details of Tasman's 1644 voyage, during which he charted the coast from Cape York to North West Cape. It was acquired by the Mitchell Library in 1933 and is reproduced in mosaic on the floor of the vestibule. ML 863



V. NEDERLANDY

As man passagun

Southing the second

is nade and

unca mer het brote besiende suit ien matsanderen vase ats is die de sei unernisse End het guet d'Braca

Ster Our met

nur Si.

