



THE BAUDIN LEGACY

NEWSLETTER NO.4

JUNE 2008

THE BAUDIN LEGACY: A NEW HISTORY OF THE FRENCH
SCIENTIFIC VOYAGE TO AUSTRALIA (1800-1804)

The Baudin Legacy Project is an interdisciplinary project funded by the Australian Research Council (ARC) and the National Funds for Scientific Research (Fonds National de la Recherche Scientifique [FNRS]) in Belgium. The project participants are: Professor Margaret Sankey at the University of Sydney, Associate Professor Jean Fornasiero and Associate Professor John West-Sooby at the University of Adelaide, and Professor Michel Jangoux at the Université Libre in Brussels.

In our first issue for 2008 we bring you up to date on the work of the Project. Whilst the intensive task of checking the transcriptions and translations of the journals continues, with the ongoing aim of beginning the transfer to the website towards the end of this year, project members have also been busy writing and speaking about the Baudin expedition both in France and in Australia.

This issue includes a report on the Le Havre conference in December last year, publications, public lectures and seminars, and upcoming conferences for this year and 2009. We welcome contributions from Mark Gilbert, President of the publishing arm of the Friends of the State Library of South Australia, and the surveyor Gregory Eccleston on his work for 'The Early Navigators of Bass Strait' map for Victorian secondary schools.

Project News

◆ Le Havre Conference Report

Margaret Sankey, Jean Fornasiero, John West-Sooby and Nicole Starbuck were in Le Havre from the 6-8 December last year to participate in the opening of the new exhibition room for the Lesueur Collection, recently completed at the Museum of Natural History, and to present papers at the Conference organised by the museum and the University of Le Havre, *A la conquête des Terres Australes (1800-1804): de la découverte à la collecte*, celebrating the achievements of the Baudin expedition.

The project presented the following papers:

Margaret Sankey & Jennifer Génion: *Miroirs de la documentation française: l'historiographie australienne à la recherche de l'exploration française de notre continent*

Jean Fornasiero: *Jacques-Felix-Emmanuel Hamelin ou les limites de la fidélité*

John West-Sooby: *François Péron: un collectionneur hors normes*, and

Nicole Starbuck: *La Collection scientifique de Port Jackson*

The project members report here on different aspects of their visit to the Museum of Natural History, along with the conference and associated activities. Firstly Nicole Starbuck discusses some of the other papers presented over the three days of the conference, and their contribution to understanding the legacy of the Baudin expedition:

"The conference reminded us all of the significant and enduring legacy of the Baudin expedition. The various papers examined the history of the events that took place, the key figures and their interactions, the scientific work carried out during the voyage and its legacy, and finally the historiography of the expedition. Those that focused on the scientific work of the expedition highlighted the unique contribution that was made by Baudin's team of savants to our understanding of Australia's native peoples, of its flora and fauna, but also of the composition of the land itself.

On this latter subject, Wolf Mayer (Australian National University) highlighted the fact that Depuch and Bailly, members of the expedition, were the first geologists to study the features of the land, including in Port Jackson, the geological make-up of which the English, due to the unavailability of any specialist expertise, had been unable to study to that

point. The work of Depuch and Bailly was carried out not just with the consent of the local authorities, but indeed to a large extent for their benefit. Wolf Mayer's paper therefore served to remind us of the pioneering nature of that work. Diana Jones (Western Australian Museum) gave an informative and richly illustrated presentation of the work being conducted by a team of scientists in Western Australia on the identification of marine species in locations visited by the Baudin expedition (such as Shark Bay). As a member of that team, she was able to report that the detailed records kept by the members of the expedition regarding the location of the species they had found were proving invaluable in helping the modern scientists in their work.

Danielle Clode (University of Melbourne) and Carol Harrison (University of South Carolina) presented the findings of their research into the impact of the scientific work of the Baudin expedition on modern scientists. Given the scientific convention of always referring to the person who first named a particular species, they were able to conduct a statistical survey of citations by modern scientists of members of Baudin's team. While it is no surprise to note that Péron's work in the field of anthropology has had a lasting legacy, the results for other scientific fields, and the relative weightings between these and the anthropological citations, were less predictable. What these papers clearly demonstrated was that, in terms of its scientific work, the Baudin expedition was in so many respects ground-breaking and continues to contribute to our understanding and appreciation of the Australian environment today."

Margaret Sankey reports on the special award to Jacqueline Bonnemains, the former curator of the Lesueur collection:

"At a reception on 10 December, hosted by the Ville du Havre at the Musée Malraux, the Mayor, Monsieur Antoine Rufenacht, presented Madame Jacqueline Bonnemains with the *Chevalier de l'Ordre National du Mérite* awarded to her by the French government on May 14 2004, in recognition of her invaluable work as the curator of the Lesueur Archive at the Musée d'Histoire Naturelle du Havre.



Images courtesy of Ritsert Rinsma

Madame Bonnemains began working at the Musée in November 1977, and, realising the potential of the many documents and drawings contained in the Archives, set about cataloguing, classifying and transcribing a good number of them – a process which occupied her until her retirement. Madame Bonnemains also played an invaluable role in publicising the importance of the collection both in France and overseas, and in generously arranging for loans of precious drawings to exhibitions in Australian museums, such as *Terre Napoléon: Australia through French Eyes 1800-1804*, at the Museum of Sydney in 1999. She made several trips to Australia to accompany the drawings, the first of these being her visit to Sydney in 1988 on the occasion of the Bicentennial exhibition in the State Library of NSW, when she brought several drawings which introduced the perspective of the early French explorers to an Australian audience. In recognition of her contribution to Australian history she was made an Honorary Member in the General Division of the Order of Australia in 2002.

Madame Bonnemains' work is one of the foundation stones for present-day researchers on the Baudin expedition and we all owe her an immense debt of gratitude for making such important Baudin expedition material so readily accessible. During her time as curator she was always most generous to researchers with her time and advice, helping everyone individually with their precise needs. We members of the Baudin Legacy project are all delighted that Madame Bonnemains has received this prestigious and well-deserved award."

Jean Fornasiero reports on a guided tour of the Lesueur Exhibition room and the public lecture given by the project members:

"A highlight of the conference was a guided tour of the exhibition of the works of Charles-Alexandre Lesueur that was on display at the newly renovated Musée d'Histoire Naturelle du Havre. The theme of the display was the *Voyage of Discovery to the Southern Lands*, which had been carefully planned to coincide with the subject of the conference and which featured many of the works of the artists of the Baudin expedition, C.A. Lesueur and Nicolas-Martin Petit. The tour was conducted by Gabrielle Baglione, curator of the Lesueur Collection, who explained to conference delegates the rationale behind the construction of the new dedicated display space for the Lesueur Collection, the project to rotate collection items for future displays, and the continuing renovations planned for the Museum. Although the new space enabled optimal viewing conditions for the collection, it was also a pleasure to note that one of the fine traditions relating to Lesueur's works had been retained: visitors to the exhibition are able to use small magnifying glasses to study the painter's exquisite brushwork.

During the conference, a lecture on the Baudin expedition, followed by discussion, was organized for the general public at the Université du Havre

on the evening of 7 December 2007. Margaret Sankey, Jean Fornasiero and John West-Sooby combined forces to present the lecture entitled “Nouveaux regards sur l’expédition Baudin”. The illustrated lecture commenced with a general introduction to the history of the Baudin expedition, and its controversies, presented by John, followed by a discussion of the principal scientific contributions of the expedition, in which Jean presented its claims to recognition in the domains of cartography, the natural sciences and anthropology. After an analysis of the different types of documentation related to the Baudin expedition which have been preserved in archival collections, Margaret then presented the work currently being undertaken by the Baudin Legacy team on the transcription and translation of the expedition journals. An animated discussion then followed, after which the second part of the evening was devoted to the presentation of several new works related to the Baudin expedition, namely Martine Marin’s translation of Frank Horner’s *French Reconnaissance* and the first volume of the cartoon series dedicated to the life and works of Charles-Alexandre Lesueur, *Alex l’explorateur*, by Yves Boistelle, Hervé Chabannes and Ritsert Rinsma. If the public interest displayed in these works, both at this presentation and at the signing organized the following day in a local bookshop, are any indication, then the Baudin expedition seems destined to become far better known to the French reading public. "

◆Public Lectures and Seminars

Whilst in France last year, Jean and John also delivered a lecture on December 14 to a postgraduate seminar at the Université de Paris 7-Denis Diderot, *Pratiques du voyage, constructions savantes du monde, XVIe-XXe siècles* organised by M.-N. Bourguet and I. Surun. Their lecture was entitled “Nicolas Baudin, Matthew Flinders et le voyage scientifique aux Terres australes”. On April 19 this year Jean and John gave the invited lecture *L’expédition aux Terres australes de Nicolas Baudin: un voyage en eaux troubles*, at the Annual General Meeting of the Australian Federation of Alliances françaises, Canberra. On June 10 they will present a lecture to the Adelaide Club entitled “Doing it by the Book: The Lost Reputation of Nicolas Baudin”.

◆Recent Publication

Jean Fornasiero, Peter Monteath & John West-Sooby, “Old Quarrels and New Approaches: Matthew Flinders and Nicolas Baudin” (2006 Brock Lecture), *South Australian Geographical Journal*, 106, 2007, pp. 1-15.

◆Forthcoming Conferences

In June and July the project members are presenting papers at conferences in Australia and in London, which reflect the diverse nature of their research interests:

◆Margaret Sankey will be presenting a paper at the XVIth conference of the Australian Society of French Studies at the University of Melbourne 14-16 July 2008, whose theme is "The 'Minor' Genres: kinds of documents, kinds of documentary discourse". Her paper is entitled *Sea-logs and journals: the typology of the "journals" of the Baudin expedition (1800-1804)*. More information on this conference is to be found at:

http://www.languages.unimelb.edu.au/research/conferences/asfs_2008/index.html

Margaret has also been invited to present a paper at the State Library of Queensland in Brisbane, 17-19 July. The conference, *Notebooks and Note-takers: da Vinci to Darwin* examines "the changing function of personal notebooks" from the late 1600s onwards and Margaret Sankey examines the journals and logbooks of the Baudin expedition in her paper, *Writing the Voyage of Scientific Exploration: the notes and journals of the Baudin expedition (1800-1804)*.

Further information on this conference, which is sponsored by the *Network for Early European Research (NEER)* and hosted by the Centre for Public Culture and Ideas, Griffith University, can be found on their website:

www.neer.arts.uwa.edu.au/theme_symposium_2008

◆Jean Fornasiero and John West-Sooby have been invited to participate in the Winter Symposium of the Centre for Colonialism and Its Aftermath (CAIA), at the University of Tasmania, to be held on Bruny Island from 25-27 June 2008, and entitled *Travelling the Colonies: Images, Representations, Writings*. Information on the symposium, including the draft programme, can be found at the following site:

<http://colonial.arts.utas.edu.au/wintersymposium2008.html>

Jean and John will be participating in the panel "Travelling between Empires", in which they will be discussing their current work on François Péron's *Memoir on the English Settlements at Port Jackson*.

They have also been invited to participate in a Seminar organised by Professor Simon Schaffer of the University of Cambridge, in conjunction with the Greenwich National Maritime Museum, and the Royal Society of London. Entitled “Scientific Voyaging: Histories and Comparisons”, the conference will be take place from 8-10 July 2008. Further information, including the programme, can be found at the following website:

<http://www.nmm.ac.uk/server/show/ConWebDoc.22463>

Jean will present a paper on “Nicolas Baudin, François Péron and the Sciences of Discovery (1800-1803)” and John’s paper is entitled “Port Jackson: a Periphery for Multiple Centres”.

From 15-18 July 2008, they will be attending the *Borders & Crossings / Seuils et Traverses* Conference on travel writing at the University of Melbourne, where they will present a joint paper entitled “From Then to Now: Constructing Historical Time in the Narratives of the Baudin Expedition”. Further information on the conference is available at the following site:

http://www.languages.unimelb.edu.au/research/conferences/borders_crossings/index.html

◆Nicole Starbuck, who is completing a PhD with the project, is presenting a paper entitled *Sir Joseph Banks and the Baudin Expedition: exploring the politics of the Republic of Letters*, at the sixteenth *George Rudé Seminar in French History and Civilisation*, to be held in Brisbane from 9 to 11 July. This conference is hosted by the Centre for the History of European Discourses at the University of Queensland.

◆Professor Michel Jangoux is organising an international conference on the life and voyages of Nicolas Baudin to be held in Brussels from 2 to 5 September 2009 under the auspices of the *Académie Royale de Belgique* and the *Université Libre de Bruxelles*. The announcement, which details the aims and scope of the conference, is on the following page.

PREMIERE ANNONCE

Sous l'égide de l'Académie Royale de Belgique et de l'Université Libre de Bruxelles le
colloque

'PORTÉS PAR L'AIR DU TEMPS: LA VIE ET LES VOYAGES DU CAPITAINE BAUDIN'
se tiendra à Bruxelles, au Palais des Académies, du 2 au 5 septembre 2009

Les voyages de découvertes de Nicolas Baudin, l'un aux Antilles (1796-1798) l'autre aux Terres australes (1800-1804), marquèrent profondément les esprits à la charnière des XVIII^e et XIX^e siècles. Les périples du capitaine Baudin et de ses compagnons étaient hors du commun et les défis soulevés enflammaient l'imagination : préciser les contours de terres inconnues, étudier les mœurs de leurs habitants, ramener vivants des plantes et animaux encore ignorés il ne s'agissait rien moins que d'achever l'inventaire géographique de la planète et d'approcher scientifiquement la diversité des ressources qu'elle offre. L'heure était à la conquête: celle de la connaissance du monde !

Le colloque de Bruxelles sera dédié à Baudin lui-même, à ses voyages et à ceux qui l'accompagnèrent. Il s'intéressera aussi à ce qui, dans la société d'alors, permit l'avènement de ces expéditions naturalistes.

Les communications porteront sur :

- la personne de Baudin, sa formation (de marin et de naturaliste) et son parcours avant les voyages ;
- le déroulement des voyages, les principaux protagonistes et leurs relations, les activités lors des relâches ;
- la contribution des voyages aux 'sciences naturelles'.

Elles concerneront aussi :

- les hommes de sciences et les hommes politiques impliqués dans la conception/préparation des voyages ou qui ont interféré avec elles (en France ou lors des relâches) ;
- les institutions et sociétés savantes associées à leurs genèses ;
- d'une façon générale, les idées et événements qui en ont favorisé la concrétisation.

Organisateur : Michel Jangoux (Universités de Bruxelles et de Mons)

Comité d'organisation : Jean Fornasiero (Université d'Adélaïde), José Frade (Université de La Laguna, Ténériffe), Hervé Hasquin (Académie royale de Belgique), François Moureau (Université de Paris-Sorbonne), Margaret Sankey (Université de Sydney), John West-Sooby (Université d'Adélaïde).

Le colloque sera public (communications sur invitation, ou sur proposition agréée par le Comité). Les exposés se feront de préférence en français. Les Actes paraîtront dans la série *Études sur le XVIII^e siècle* (n° 38, 2010).

Informations : Prof. M. Jangoux, Biologie marine (160/15), Université Libre de Bruxelles, 50 avenue F.D. Roosevelt, B 1050-Bruxelles (Michel.jangoux@chello.be).

◆Publishing Baudin: the Friends of the State Library of South Australia

*In the December 2007 issue of the newsletter we published an interview with Christine Cornell, the translator of Baudin's *Journal de Mer* and also of the official account of the voyage by François Péron and Louis Freycinet, published by the Friends of the State Library of South Australia. Mark Gilbert, a consultant engineer who has a great interest in the "book arts", is a vice-President of the Friends and has been a member for over 30 years. He is also Convenor of the Australiana Publications Sub-Committee which has published over 30 titles since 1995. The committee's aim is to "make out-of-print pieces of Australian history available to a new audience", and their titles are published in limited editions, hand-bound in leather or cloth, often with scholarly introductions and beautifully reproduced illustrations and maps. Mark Gilbert completes the story of how Christine Cornell's translation came to be published by the Libraries Board of South Australia and how the Friends continued this important work, in publishing Cornell's English translation of the official account of the voyage and other related titles. On June 19 this year the Friends will launch their publication of the Atlas which accompanied the official account. It has not been republished since 1824.*

"Many Australian readers will know of the Libraries Board of SA's great publishing initiative in the early 1960's when Hedley Brideson, Principal Librarian at the time, saw the potential of the new xerographic technology to make rare and important historical works accessible to the average reader. Their "Facsimiles" program began at a hectic pace; they produced 16 titles in the first year, 1962, and, although the pace slowed after that, several hundred titles were published from 1962 to its eventual close in 1979. One of the program's greatest publications, alongside Flinders' *A Voyage to Terra Australis*, was Christine Cornell's translation of Baudin's *Journal de Mer* in 1974.

The story of how the Friends of the State Library of SA came to publish a number of related documents (unofficially referred to as the 'Encounter' series) is one of both luck and opportunity, and, as in the 1960s, related to the evolution of new technologies. The 1990's saw the emergence of a new generation of digital copying and printing technology. Once again, here was an opportunity to faithfully reproduce in small quantities, and at economical prices, rare or fragile published works. The new copying machines could print out complete books on demand.

Prompted by local book-dealer George Lieschke, I took the idea to the Friends' Committee and they agreed that we could resume the Library of SA's "Facsimiles" program. In 1995 the first title, *Exploring in the Seventies*

by Alfred Giles, was printed on a Docutec Xerographic machine. We are now working on our 26th title. The Docutec, although quite “clunky” by today’s standards, could scan, impose, edit and print any number of collated books at the press of a button.



The 1997 Committee, from left Valmai Hankel, Mark Gilbert, Alan Brissenden, George Lieschke & Helen Williams.

While all the original members of that subcommittee are still actively involved, some new ones have also joined us. One of these was Elizabeth Hambly who brought to our attention the existence of Christine Cornell’s translation of the latter half of Péron’s *Voyage of Discovery to the Southern Lands* (completed by Freycinet). This section had never been published in English. She and her husband Peter Hambly, well-known French scholar, argued so persuasively and passionately the merits of this as a project – it represented something of a change for us, as it was a new work, not a facsimile – that we couldn’t resist. With the SA Museum’s permission (they had commissioned the original translation in the early 80’s), we set to work. One of the hardest things was finding a computer which could read the ancient word processing software. Christine Cornell kindly offered to review and revise the entire work. Peter Hambly assisted with references, footnotes, and generally provided a second pair of eyes. Alan Brissenden and Valmai Hankel provided their usual editorial overlay. John Ling, the original commissioner of the translation was also pressed into service for scientific advice.

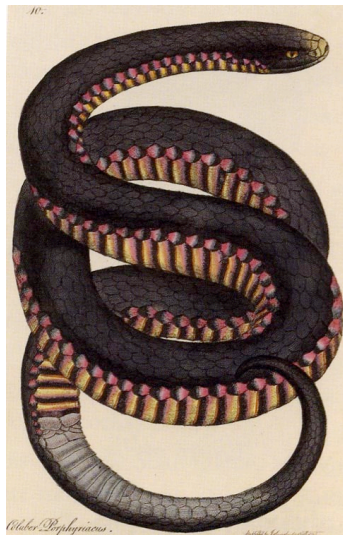


Nicolas Petit. Timor *Canda*, *Jeune fille Malaise*, illustration from François Péron, *Voyage of Discovery to the Southern Lands*, Book IV, Transl. Christine Cornell, 2003

While it had once been hoped to produce this for the anniversary of the ‘Encounter’ between Flinders and Baudin (in 2002), it soon became clear that it was too big and too important a project to rush. It finally appeared in 2003 for the opening of the Library Redevelopment, and it was an immediate success.

The Hamblys’ energy and enthusiasm had spread to the whole committee. Soon we were planning a list of associated titles all from the voyages of Flinders and Baudin:

- We learnt that the original English translation of the first part of the *Voyage of Discovery* was grossly inadequate, and Christine offered to translate that one, with the same support team. This was published in 2007.
- *Matthew Flinders Private Journal* – the transcription was offered to us by Anthony Brown and it was published in 2005.
- Baudin's *Journal de Mer* was re-published in a more manageable octavo format in 2004.
- A Limited Edition of Freycinet's chart of *Nouvelle Hollande*, each hand-coloured, was published in 2004.
- The *Atlas* which accompanied Péron's *Voyage of Discovery*. One of the most important and beautiful works of the period depicting Australian aborigines, fauna and flora by Petit and Lesueur as well as some of Freycinet's charts, this had never been republished since 1824. This is due for publication in June 2008.
- Péron's, *Mémoire sur les établissements anglais à la Nouvelle Hollande*, presently being translated by Jean Fornasiero and John West-Sooby is due in late 2008.



- "Coluber porphyriacus, the crimson-sided snake", *Zoology of New Holland* by George Shaw.

While the principal focus of our publishing program will remain South Australian land exploration, we are immensely grateful to Elizabeth and Peter Hambly for bringing us this wonderful opportunity, and for taking us into a whole new publishing area. It has also raised the awareness amongst our readers of the importance of the Baudin expedition."

For more information about the work and publications of the Friends of the State Library of South Australia, contact the Executive Officer Carolyn Potts.

Email: Potts.Carolyn@slsa.sa.gov.au

◆ Celebrating the Baudin Expedition in Tasmania: the *from France to Freycinet* Festival

From May 15 to May 18 the small town of Swansea on the East coast of Tasmania was the centre of a community celebration of the Baudin expedition's voyage in 1802, bringing alive the French historical connection to this coastline. The *from France to Freycinet* Festival was founded by Jennifer Lathwell and her husband David whose love of the region was enhanced by a deepening interest in the Baudin expedition's links to the area. Earlier travel to France included a visit to the Museum of Natural History in Le Havre where they met Jacqueline Bonnemains, whose advice and assistance inspired the first festival in 2002. The small population of 500-600 people who live in this area of Tasmania initially had little or no knowledge of Nicolas Baudin nor of the history that binds their coastline to France. The first festival included a special ceremony on Maria Island where one of Nicolas Baudin's closest friends on the expedition, the zoologist René Maugé was buried on February 21 1802, and an exhibition on the Baudin expedition that is now housed permanently in the Bark Hill Museum in Swansea.



In the six years since the first festival, local support has grown, with the whole community now actively involved in what has become a celebration not only of French/Australian history but also of French culture. This year's festival, opened by the French mayor, Bertrand Cadart, was filled with activities celebrating French food, music and history, including the music of Versailles performed by Jennifer Erikkson and Catherine Tabrett from the Marais Project, and supported by the students of Swansea Public school who sang French songs, the Bruny Island New Orleans Jazz Band, the Ensemble de Freycinet Orchestra and a performance by Silkweed, "Maria Island of Dreams". There was a boules

tournament, the Baudin Ball and the *Tour de Freycinet* cycle race. The French history of the east coast of Tasmania is also celebrated in a booklet on the French place names found along the coast, compiled by Jennifer Lathwell and the committee which runs the festival with assistance from Jacqueline

Bonnemains and Noelene Bloomfield. Proceeds from this year's festival are going towards reprinting, *From France to Freycinet The Background to the French Names on the East Coast of Tasmania*, which is currently out of print.

The next *from France to Freycinet Festival* will be held in May 2010. For more information, the festival website is:

<http://www.fromfrancetofreycinet.com.au/>

Jennifer and David Lathwell can be contacted on: kennedia@tassie.net.au

◆ **Baudin's Manuscript Coastal Charts: a valuable resource in preparing a map of 'The Early Navigators of Bass Strait'**

Greg Eccleston, a qualified surveyor, is a past president of The Australian Map Circle and editor of its journal, The Globe. He describes his involvement with the Australia on the Map 1606-2006 project and how this led to his search for the original coastal charts of Nicolas Baudin. This quest also led him to the Baudin Legacy project whose members were able to assist with the sometimes difficult task of deciphering and understanding Baudin's place names, making a small contribution to a new map, 'The Early Navigators of Bass Strait', which will be distributed to Victorian secondary schools.

"In 2004 I was approached to join the Victorian Steering Committee of *Australia on the Map 1606-2006* (AOTM) to help organise events related to the charting of the Victorian coastline, as part of a wider thrust to celebrate the charting of the whole of Australia's coastline by Europeans, commencing with the charting of part of the western coastline of Cape York Peninsula by Willem Janszoon in the *Duyfken* in 1606. The Victorian Steering Committee assisted with the planning and execution of the visit to a number of Victorian ports of the replica *Duyfken* vessel during 2006, and this was a great public success.

Secondly, and with the approval of the Victorian Steering Committee, I prepared, between 2004 and 2006, a narrative on the early charting of Victoria's coastline (including those islands in Bass Strait belonging to Victoria) for the AOTM website. The narrative was entitled 'The Early Charting of Victoria's Coastline', and was based, where possible, on primary sources. For this, late in 2007, the Australasian Hydrographic Society presented me with an award, recognising my achievement in Hydrographic Literature. The descriptions on this website of the accomplishments of the Baudin expedition in Victorian waters were based on the well-known works by Péron and Freycinet, but unfortunately, at that time, we had only scant

information about Baudin's charts, and by the end of the year of AOTM celebrations in 2006, time had run out to pursue the matter. The Australia on the Map 1606-2006 (AOTM) website has since been dismantled and the abbreviated name 'Australia on the Map' has become a division of The Australasian Hydrographic Society – see

<http://www.australiaonthemap.org.au/> for further details.

The third major achievement of the Victorian Steering Committee of AOTM was to obtain an agreement from the Surveyor-General of Victoria, Mr John Tulloch, to provide a cartographer to prepare a map at a reasonably large scale (1:500 000) entitled 'The Early Navigators of Bass Strait', for distribution to secondary schools and for sale to the general public. It is anticipated that this map will be published towards the end of 2008, with notification of its availability being promulgated on the official website of the Victorian Surveyor-General.

As the advisor for this project, which will show all the routes through Bass Strait of navigators up to 1803, and will include the placement of hundreds of aboriginal placenames of the contiguous land masses of northern Tasmania and southern Victoria, it became evident to me that there was a need to locate the manuscript coastal charts of Baudin. The only clue I had to their existence came from Christine Cornell's translation of Baudin's Journal, on pages xx and xxi. By chance I acquired a copy of a book by H. M. Cooper, *The Unknown Coast (A Supplement)*, Adelaide, 1955, which gives a whole chapter on Captain Nicolas Baudin's Preliminary Compilation Charts. Cooper's emphasis was on the South Australian coastline, but his insights into Baudin's original nomenclature and their English meanings were invaluable. I also consulted the chapter that Christine Cornell devoted to French Place Names in South Australia in her book *Questions Relating to Nicolas Baudin's Australian Expedition, 1800-1804*, Libraries Board of South Australia, 1965, but these appear to be names assigned by Péron and/or Freycinet, not by Baudin.

At this point, the work of Brian Baldwin in 1963 (mentioned in Newsletter No. 3) came to my attention, and this information led me to the microfilmed images of Baudin's manuscripts coastal charts held at the State Library of Victoria. Only a portion, perhaps 10%, of the microfilms of the Baudin Expedition material held at the State Library of Victoria, (the original charts being held in the Archives Nationales in Paris), concern the Victorian coastline. The choicest Victorian pieces seem to be Baudin's manuscript plans and views, but there are lots of other items, including the Western Port manuscripts prepared under the direction of Hamelin, which deserve the eyes of a hydrographer or surveyor to view at close range and to interpret.

In scientific disciplines, such as zoology and botany, there are strict internationally-recognised principles for the naming of a taxon (family, genus, species, etc). An important and long-established principle within the International Code of each discipline is the Law of Priority: 'The valid name of a taxon is the oldest name applied to it.' Equally, Baudin's original names, now revealed, should be regarded by place names authorities as having priority over those given by Péron and Freycinet. Where Baudin named identifiable features before the English, his onomastic choices should be restored and respected.

Baudin's names will be included on the map of Bass Strait. In order to better understand the reasons for Baudin's nomenclature, I have translated into English all of his names along the Victorian coastline, which of course pre-date all those replaced by Péron and subsequently drawn on charts by Freycinet. (The reasons for the antagonism between Péron and Baudin have been well-documented and need not be repeated here.)

I continue to be amazed that, with some notable exceptions provided by pioneer historians of the Baudin expedition, such as H. M. Cooper, G.C. Ingleton, Leslie Marchant and Frank Horner, so little effort seems to have been made in the past, by historians and authors of books on the charting of Australia's coastline, to study Baudin's manuscript charts. Too much reliance has been placed on Freycinet's published charts, to the neglect of Baudin's charts which lie in the Archives Nationales in Paris. Worse still, the latest newsletter of the Australian National Placenames Survey (ANPS) ignores the contributions of even the entire Baudin expedition to the naming of places along the Tasmanian, Victorian and South Australian coastlines! (See Table 1, Chronicle of Dutch, British and French place-naming on the Southland 1606-1803, on page 3, March 2008 newsletter, The Australian National Placenames Survey.)

It is to be hoped that the forthcoming map of 'The Early Navigators of Bass Strait' will contribute to changing this neglect and restoring to Nicolas Baudin, in particular, the credit that is his due.

Postscript

I am also preparing a paper for submission to *The Globe* on Baudin's manuscript coastal charts of Victoria and Bass Strait. In passing, I will demonstrate the connection between Cap du Maréchal and Cap Maringo (Baudin's spelling of Marengo), explain why the point named Pointe de L'Avant Garde by Baudin was changed to Pointe Céré, and give the reason for naming an island in Bass Strait, Le Coin de Mire. "

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