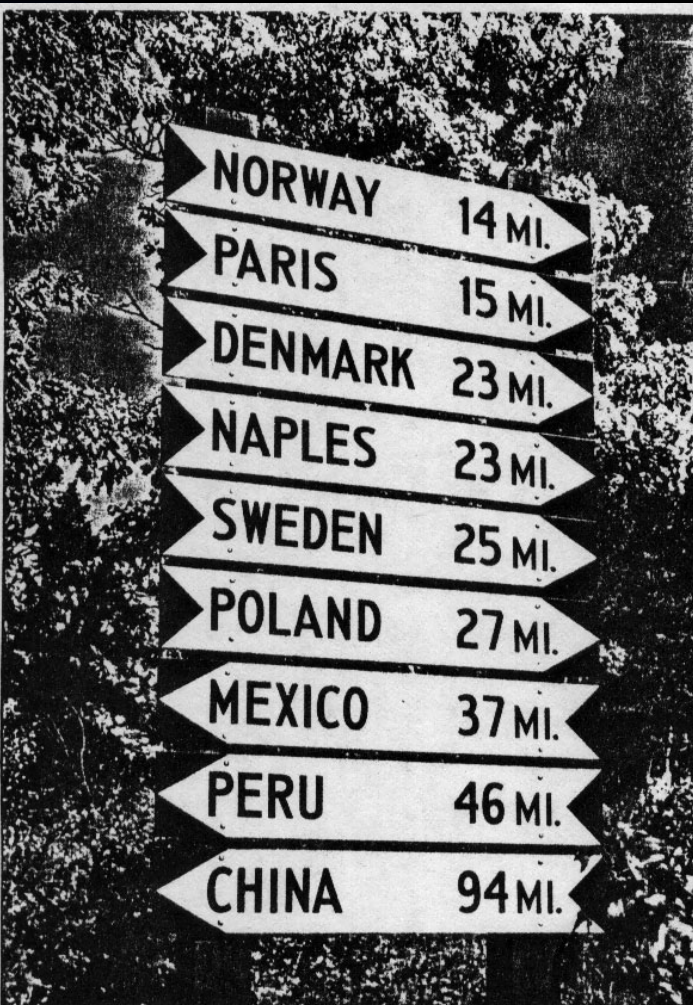
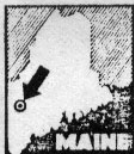


Toponymy course: Introduction and naming Process



Maine's Famous Signpost, Lynchville, Oxford County.

From an original color-photo



LYNCHVILLE, MAINE, in Oxford County, at the junction of State routes 5 and 35, is the site of the sign which many consider to be a trademark of Maine. Once 'kidnapped' it even found its way to Grand Central Station in New York City. Maine abounds in towns having names similar to foreign countries or cities. There is a Moscow and a Stockholm, as well as a Belfast and a Limerick with, we are sure, many friendly connections with the Emerald Isle.

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Training Course on Toponymy,
Vienna 16-27 March 2006



Confusion because of different name variants (allonyms)

- ЕРЕВАН
- Erevan (Fr)
- Yerevan (UK)
- Jerevan (It)
- Jerewan (W.Ger)
- Jerewan (E.Ger)
- КУЫБЫШЕВ
- Kouibychév (Fr)
- Kuybyshev (UK)
- Kujbyšev (It)
- Kuibyschew (WG)
- Kuibišew (E.Ger)
- Now: Samara

Confusion because of same name for different locations (homonyms)

- Stratford upon Avon (UK)
- Stratford upon Avon (Australia)
- Stratford upon Avon (New Zealand)
- Birmingham (UK)
- Birmingham (Alabama)
- Birmingham (Iowa)
- Birmingham (Michigan)
- Birmingham (Ohio)
- Batavia (historical name for Jakarta)
- Batavia (Argentina)
- Batavia (California)
- Batavia (Illinois)
- Batavia (Ohio)
- Batavia (New York)

Standardization of geographical names

National
standardisation:

Establishing on a national basis for each geographical object one single name version as the official version

International
standardisation:

Establishing, on a national basis for each geographical object one single name version **in each script** as the official version

Standardization of geographical names

Major aim: avoiding ambiguity and confusion, and therefore gaining time

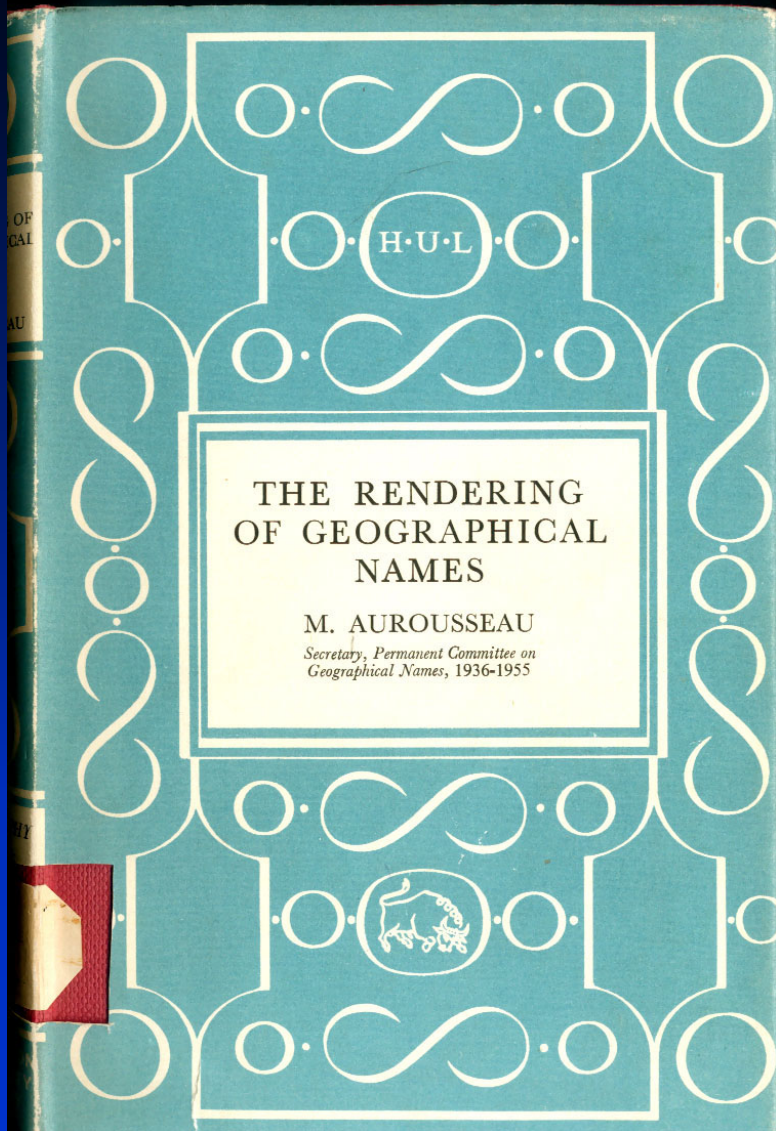
Subsidiary aims: avoiding political conflict, cf:

Macedonia

Arabian/Persian Gulf

East Sea/Sea of Japan

First awareness of toponymical problems: books



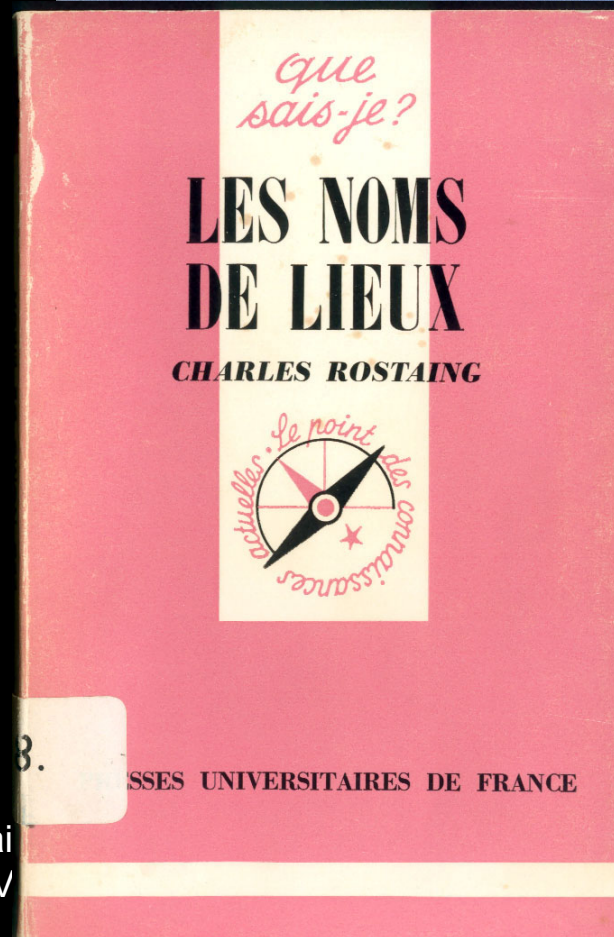
H·U·L

THE RENDERING
OF GEOGRAPHICAL
NAMES

M. AUROUSSEAU
*Secretary, Permanent Committee on
Geographical Names, 1936-1955*

Kartographische Ortsnamenkunde

Helmut Weygandt



*que
sais-je?*

LES NOMS
DE LIEUX

CHARLES ROSTAING



3.
SSES UNIVERSITAIRES DE FRANCE

Trai
v

First awareness of toponymical problems: geographical and cartographical congresses

First International Geographical Congress:
Antwerp 1871: Local names policy

Third International Geographical Congress,
Berlin 1899 International Map of the World
1:1 million

Bonn IMW 1963

Bangkok 3rd UNRCCAFAE

UNCSGN

- 1967 London (First) United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names: every country should have a names authority to draft a standardized list of geographical names on its territory; submit it to UN, and then all other UN member states would adhere to it.

Policies for standardization

- Owner-controlled policy: person/institution in charge of a geographical object decides on the spelling of its name
- Conservationist policy: the name version as it has come down to us should be preserved (even if that causes discrepancies between spelling and pronunciation). Results:
 - Worcestershire – Woostershire
 - Leicester - Lester
 - Northamptonshire - Northants
 - Norwich - Norrich

Attitudes towards geographical names:

- Geographical names as linguistic reference tools, so they can be streamlined, spelled as they sound
- Geographical names as proper names, part of our cultural heritage. As proper names do not change, so geographical names should not be altered but be preserved.

International standardization policies

Starting from the local names policy: 1) the source country decides on a conversion system from one script to another, or 2) the receiver country decides, or 3) both source country and receiver countries try to work out one joint standard for each writing system

International standardization policies

- 1) But the source country might not have the means to produce a standard
- 2) But there are > 160 receiver countries and we do not want 160 versions of each geographical name
- 3) cooperation of source country and receiver countries might work out best

Counter-argument against standardization:

language	Pronunciation of letter –c–	Spelling of sound –sh–
Spanish	k or th	ch
Italian	k or ch	sci
French	k or s	ch
Czech	ts	š
Turkish	j or dzj	ş
German	s	sch
Dutch	k or s	sj

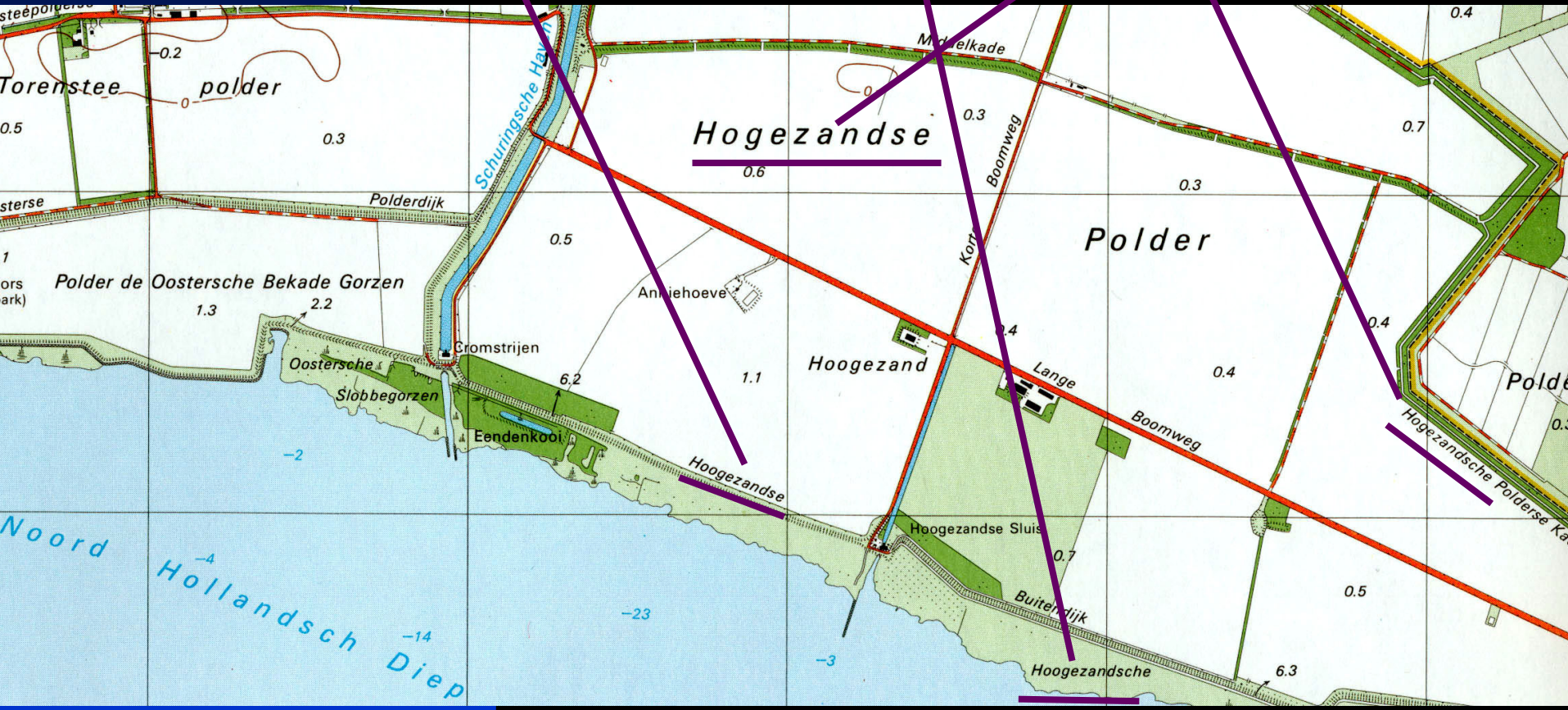
So in order to pronounce a name we need to know in which language it is spelled

Issues in names standardization:

- 1) Following UN Recommendations or not
- 2) Modern names versus traditional names
- 3) Generally accepted names or local dialect names
- 4) Should place names be affected by spelling rules?
- 5) What procedure to be selected for multilingual areas?
- 6) Can countries speaking the same language cooperate in standardization?
- 7) Should diacritical signs be used integrally? (RAR)
- 8) Should we differentiate name spellings for different age groups or cartographical products?
- 9) Should we transliterate or transcribe names from foreign scripts?

Use of names should be predictable

Hoogezand: Hoogezandse—Hoogezandsche—Hogezandsche—Hogezandse



Whom is a toponymy course intended for?

- Topographers that collect geographical names
- Staff of geographical names branches
- Cartographers that have to select names for their maps
- Map and atlas editors

Course objectives

- Provide basic knowledge to deal with geographical names: collect, edit and standardize them and process them for further use

Course structure

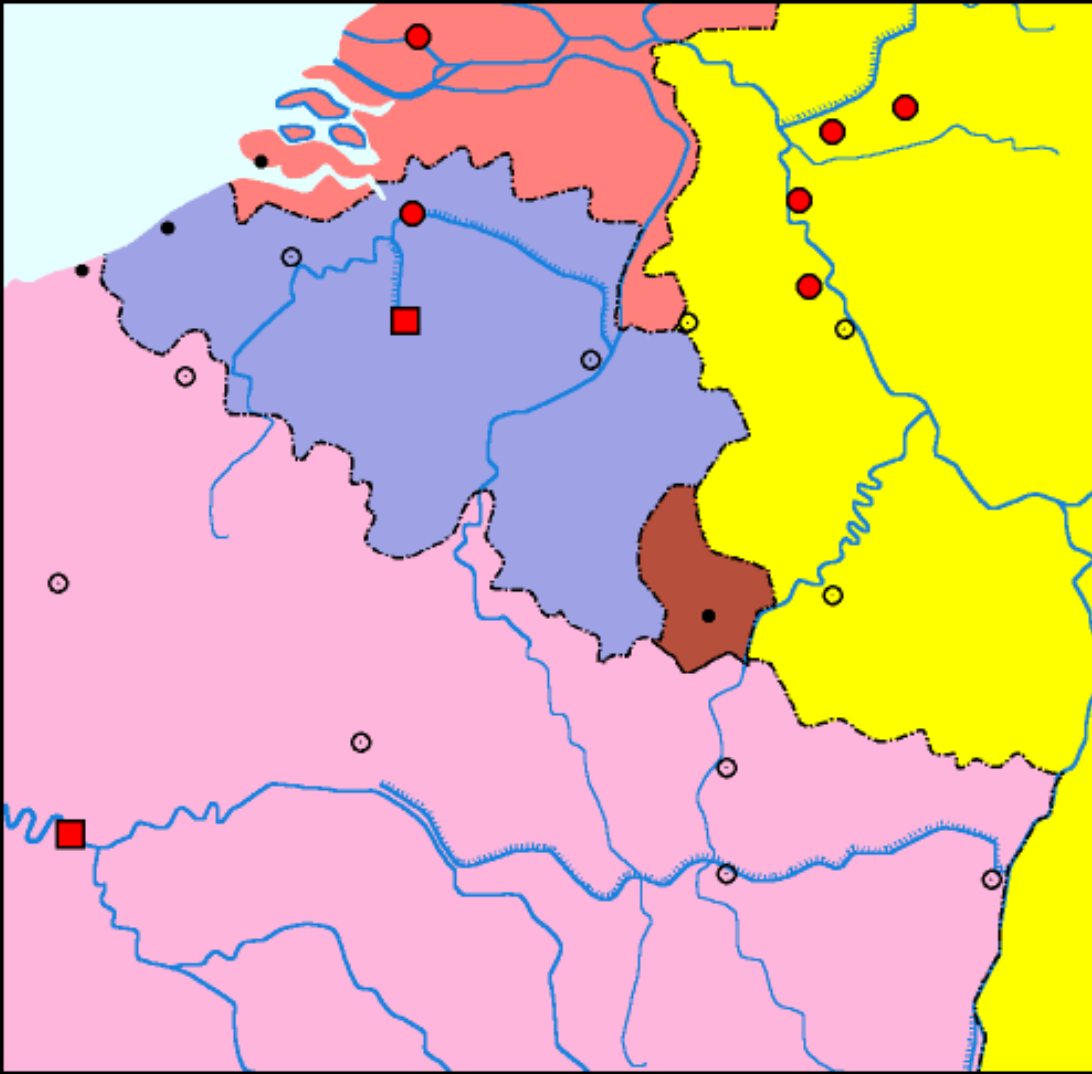
- National framework: Follow names 'production' process: collection, processing, standardizing, visualization
- International framework: how to deal with different languages, scripts, conversion systems
- Institutional aspects: UNGEGN
- Products: gazetteers

LLANFAIRPWLLGWYNGYLLGOGERYCHWYRNDROBWL LLANTYSILIOGOGOGOCH

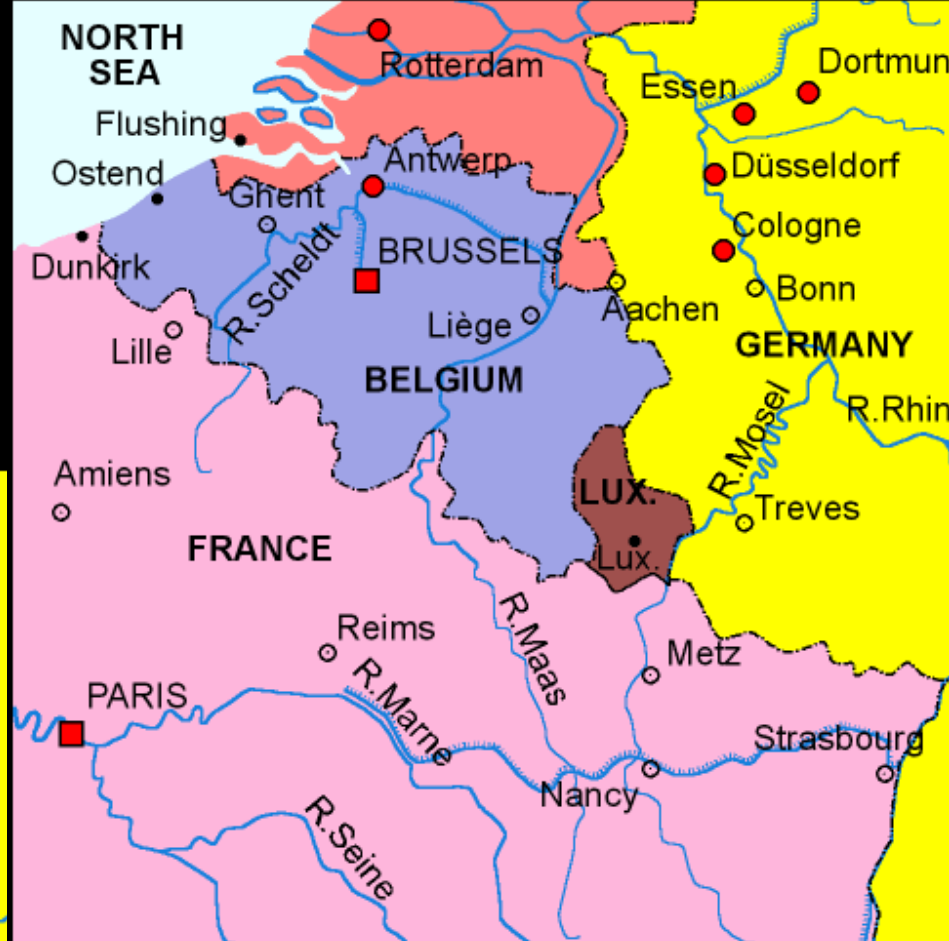
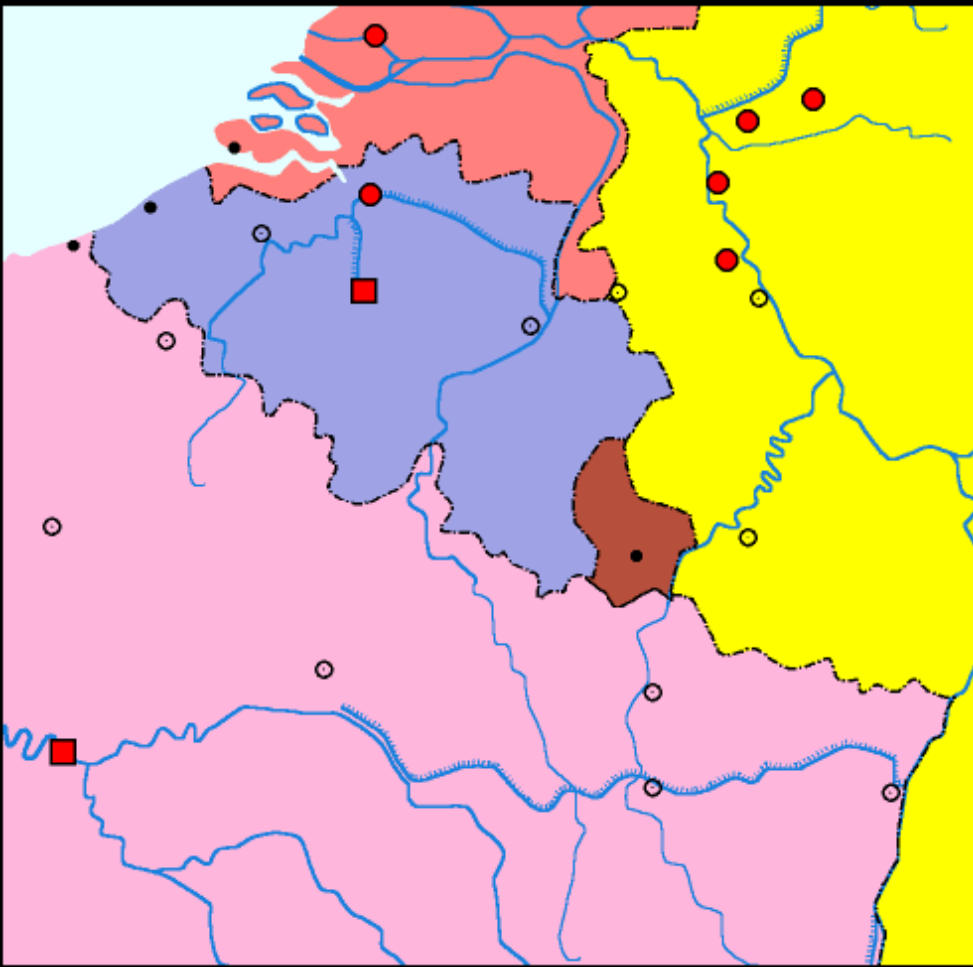
You are now at -
LLAN FAIR PWLL GWYNGYLL
CHURCH MARY A HILLON WHITE RATES
GOGERY Y CHWYRN DROBWLL
NEAR TO THE RAPID WHIRLPOOL
LLAN TYSILIO GOGO GOCH
CHURCH SAINTS CAVE RED

Place names are tools and have to be handy!

The naming Process



Why do we name?



**In order to be able to
refer to geographical
objects**

course on Toponymy,
6-27 March 2006



**We give names in
order to have
labels for
geographical
objects**

We give names

- In order to be able to have labels for geographical objects.
- That is much more important than the semantic meaning of the names
- We give names to point, linear, area- and 3D-objects on the Earth's surface

What do we name:

- Rivers and lakes
- Mountains
- Settlements
- Roads, bridges, etc
- Bays, gulfs, capes
- Polders
- Estates
- Administrative areas
- Regions
- Islands
- Fields
- Houses, farms

What do we name them for?

- Attribute names
- Names of cardinal directions
- Names of soil or vegetation characteristics
- Names to commemorate events
- Names that commemorate other places
- Names to commemorate people
- Names with religious overtones
- Names to stake claims



Dward in de weg
Salib Riff





NOVA BELGICA sive NIEUW NEDERLANDT

NOVA ANGLIA

NIEUW ENGLANDT

TRIONALIS

Modus muniendi apud Mahikanenses
Manere vna Woodlactifera ofte Dorsen der Mahicans
eade andra Nation haur pehoran



MARE DEL NORT

NOVI BELGII
NOVEQUE ANGLIE NEC NON
PARTIS
VIRGINIE TABULA
multis in locis emendata a
Nicolao Joannis Visscero.



NIEUW AMSTERDAM

Millaria Germanica communia

A. Ste Fort B. de Kerck C. de Wintmolen D. de Wierge werck op gehaelt als daer Schepen in de Haven komen. E. de Jersingens huys F. de Z. Generaels huys G. de Gerecht H. de Raack I. Compagnias Pastoors K. Scaatskerk

Names mostly start as descriptive names

- So first names mostly are transparent.
- Later, because knowledge of the (initial) language disappears, they may become opaque

Nature of the name:

- specifics
- generics
- Possible transfer to other objects (false generics)
- Relationship between specific and generic may denote:
 - nature
 - property
 - purpose
 - events

False generics

- Bloemfontein
- Rio de Janeiro
- Blackpool
- Montevideo
- Tel Aviv

What is expressed in geographical name? Relationships between x and y

- X with/of y: Thabazimbi (mountain with iron)
- X resembles y: Vaal River (river like the colour grey)
- X belongs to y: Simon's Town (Town of Simon)
- X at y Barkley East (Barkley in the East)
- X for y: Signal Hill (hill for signalling)
- X where y happened: Rustenburg (town where they rested)

(after Meiring, 1993)

These relationships might be expressed in place names because specific events happened there:

- Physical
- Physiological
- Sensory
- Emotive
- Intellectual
- communicative
- Social
- Controlling
- Movement
- Impact
- Transfer
- complex

Names might be

- Simplex: Hawaii, Oslo, Pretoria, Enschede
- Complex: Port Elizabeth, al-Qahira, New York, Frankfurt am Main

Apart from establishing relationships or memorizing events, names do more:

- They have/provide connotations! (descriptive backing):

What do you think of when you hear the name Hawaii, New York, Gaza Strip?

Place names research:

- Synchronous approach to place names study
- Diachronous approach to place names study

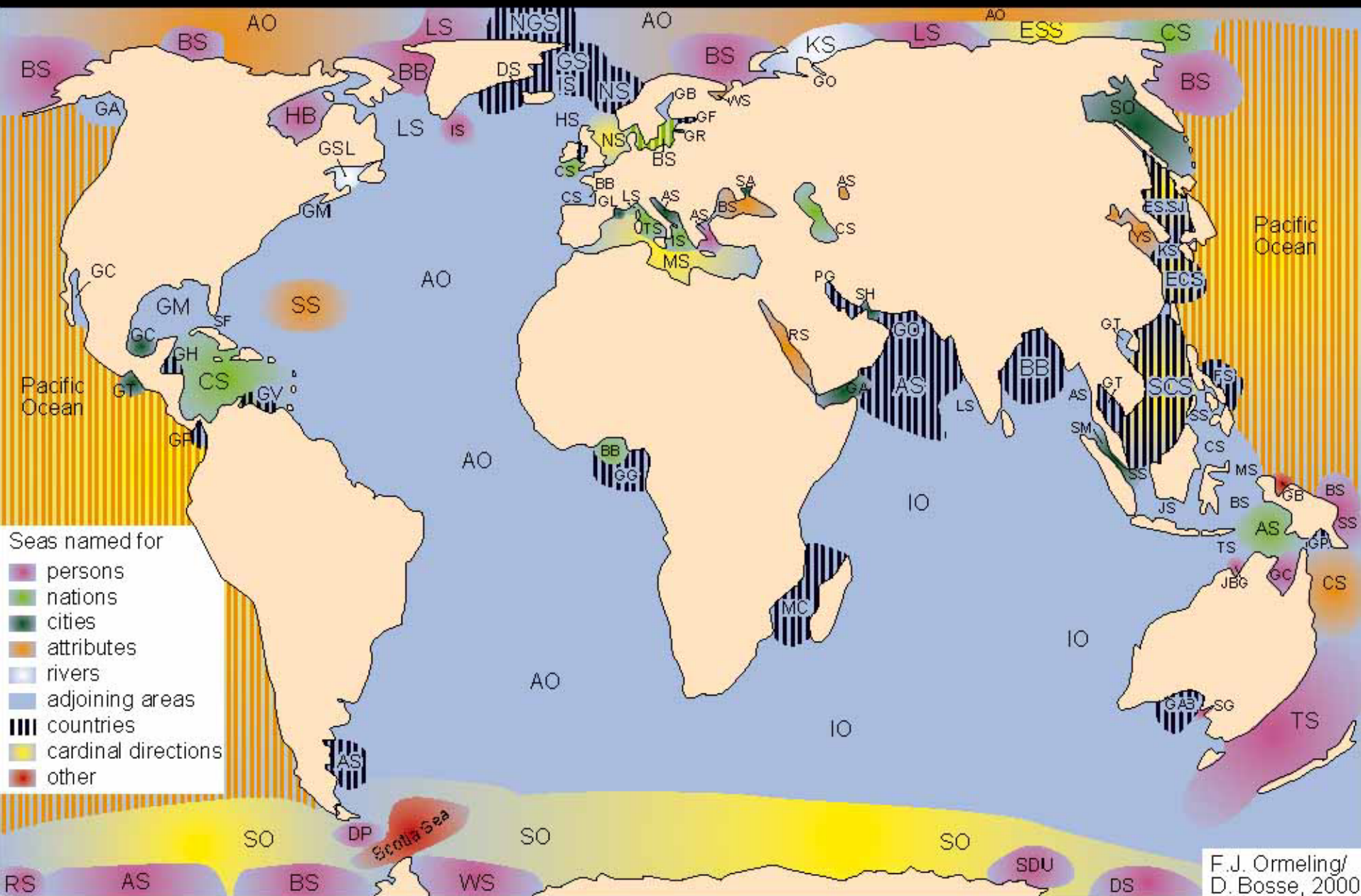
Historical aspect:

Names tell us something about:

- The nature of the entity named when the name was given
- The nature of the society that provided the name: their attitude versus nature

The way in which man names geographical objects (environmental entities) reflects how he thinks and lives and what his psychological disposition and subconscious mind produces in his daily contact with universal semantic domains like entities, events, abstract concepts and the relationships between these domains (Meiring 1993)

Sea name categories



Sea naming period



Relationship between name categories and naming period?

