

FIG. 1 — Locality Map, modified after Lovett (1886) showing West Coast Range mountains discussed in text; Mount Murchison named in Gould's first expedition orange background, peaks named during second expedition gold background; Mount Ramsay, not shown, is approximately 50 km NNW of Mount Murchison.

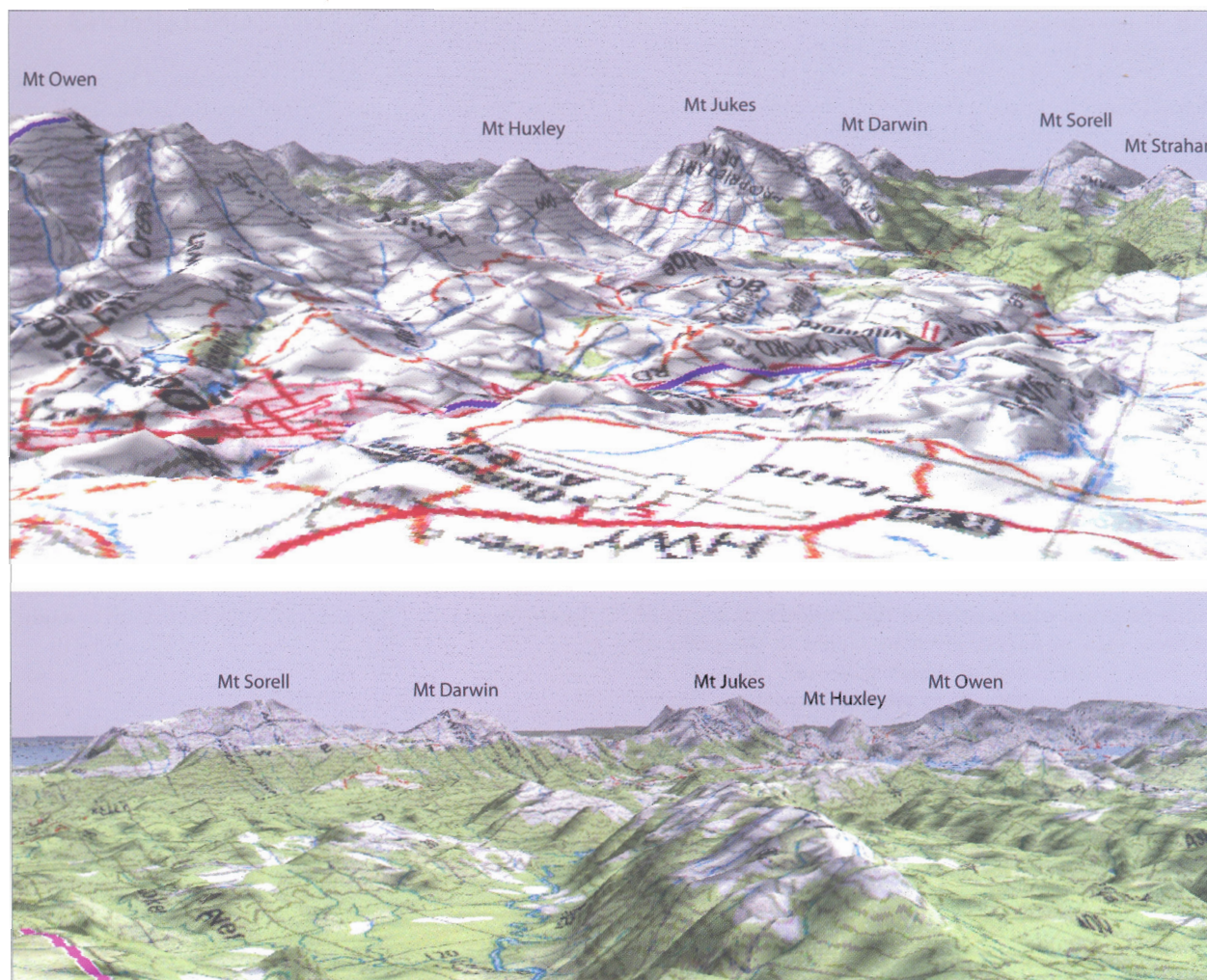


FIG. 4 — Digital views of West Coast Range from (a) near Howard's Plain and (b) near the southern end of the Engineer Range; it should be noted that Gould's observations were from the ground whereas these models were made at low altitude. Figure constructed using Memory-Map software (*Interactive Topographical Maps, Tas-T1 Tasmania, version 5.1.3*).

would have contained sketches of landscapes through which he passed (his mentor Sir Roderick Murchison drew wonderful sketches to record his own meticulous observations).

Given the condition of the Tasmanian public service during the period 1870–1875 it is perhaps not surprising that records of the naming of obscure mountains in the (then) uneconomic and remote west of the island have been lost. Following a long period of low economic growth, the Government had cut the public service to a minimum by 1870. J.E. Calder had been removed as Surveyor-General (with his duties performed by a single clerk) and by 1880 a grossly inefficient Lands Department could not handle the volume of ordinary land transactions and a rapidly increasing number of mining leases (Roberts 2007).

J.R. SCOTT, T.B. MOORE AND GOULD'S TRADITION

James Reid Scott (1839–1877) was born in Scotland and arrived in Tasmania at the age of 17 to live with his uncle James, who taught him surveying. He served in the House of Assembly during 1866–72, the Legislative Council from

1872–77 and held the portfolio of Colonial Secretary in 1872–73. In 1873, Scott and his friend William Charles Pigenit (then a draughtsman with the Lands Department, remembered today as one of Australia's greatest colonial artists) spent a month at Lake St Clair and investigated the Murchison and Eldon valleys (Binks 1980, Harper 2007). Scott most certainly knew Charles Gould well and had explored the area south of Mount Bischoff with him in 1873, finding tin and bismuth at Mount Ramsay (Roberts 2007).

Thomas Bather Moore (1851–1919) was born at New Norfolk. After elementary schooling in the colony he completed his education at Windermere College in the English Lake District under the guardianship of an uncle and returned to Tasmania in 1868 (McShane 1986). His father, surgeon John Anthony Moore of New Norfolk, was a member of The Royal Society of Tasmania and it is likely that Moore grew up in an environment where the scientific method and discussion was encouraged.

Moore was a heroic figure and the “last of the true explorers” of western Tasmania (Binks 1980, McShane 1986). Charles Whitham's book on Western Tasmania (1949, but written in 1923) was dedicated to Moore, a “botanist, geographer, geologist and master of bushcraft” with “unsurpassed” knowledge of western Tasmania.