

Coochie Mudlo Island Historical Society AGM 2013

some thoughts on
Landscape Character, Heritage and
Historical Landscape Values



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at the Old Museum Gardens











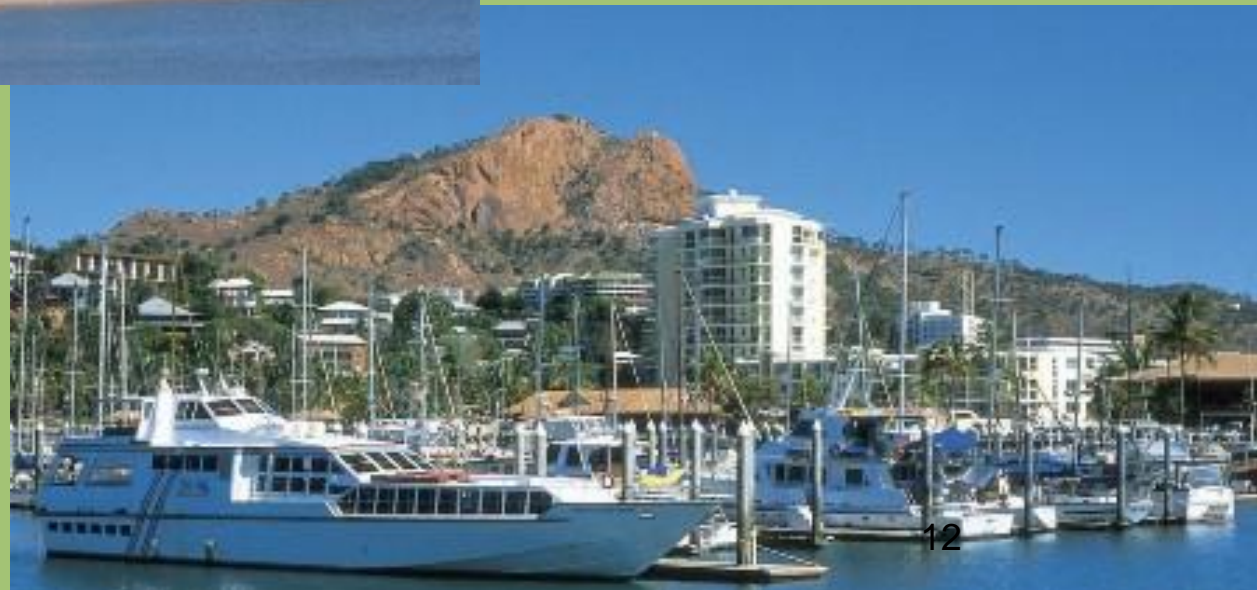
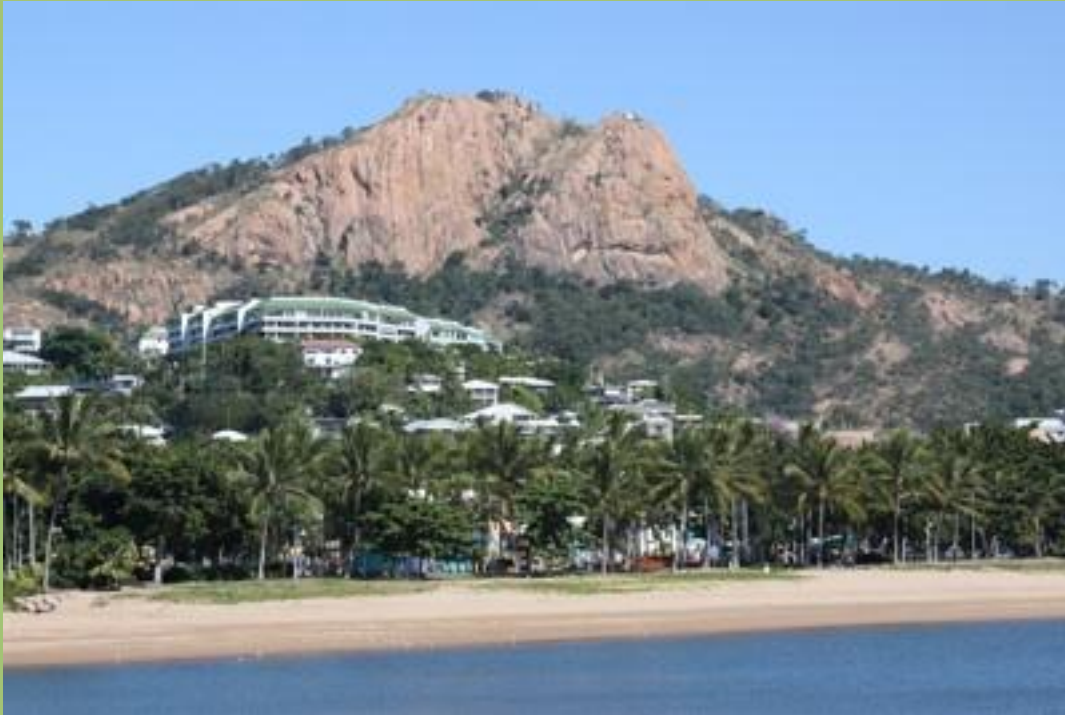




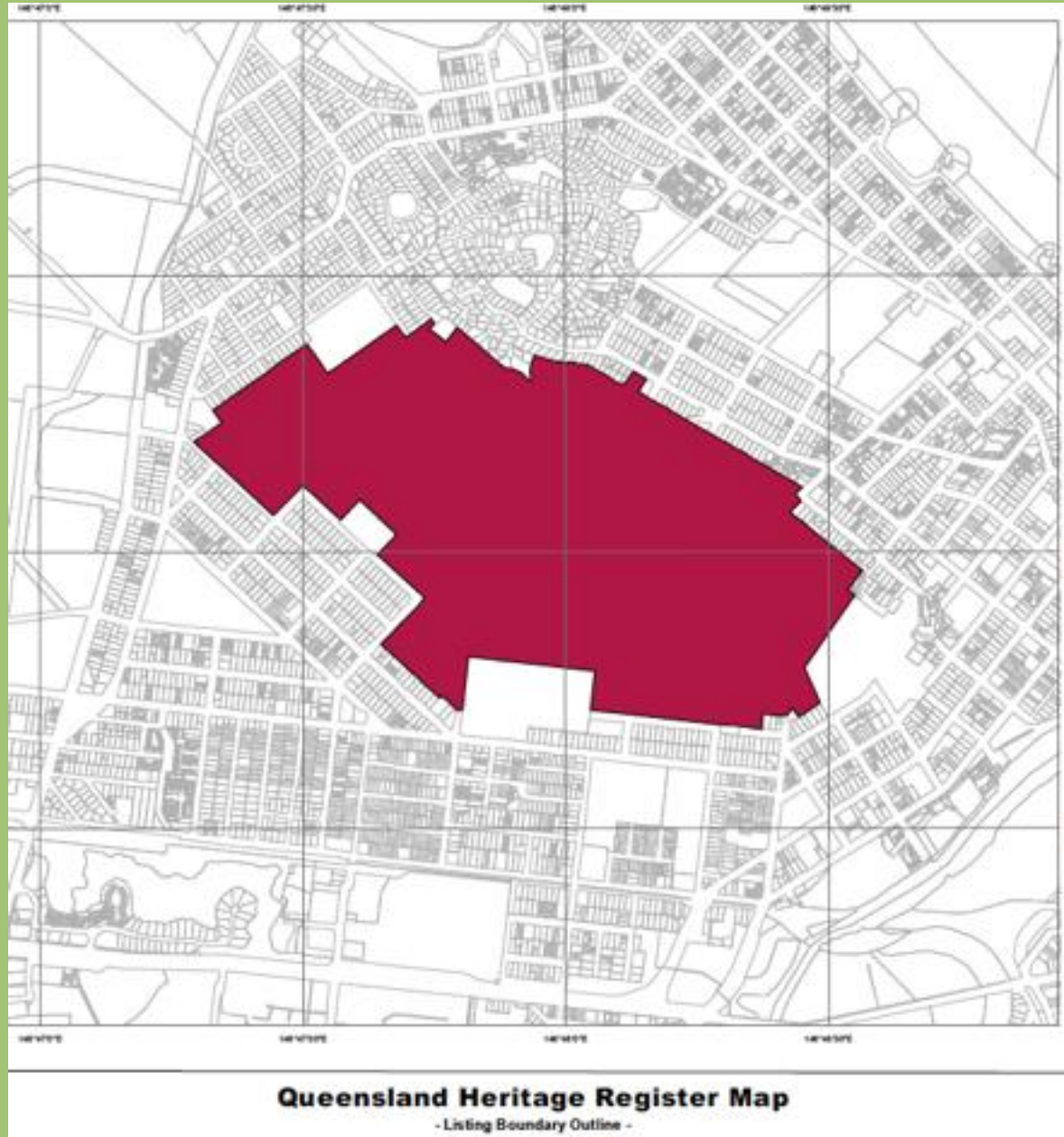


Castle Hill Townsville

QHR Place ID 601218

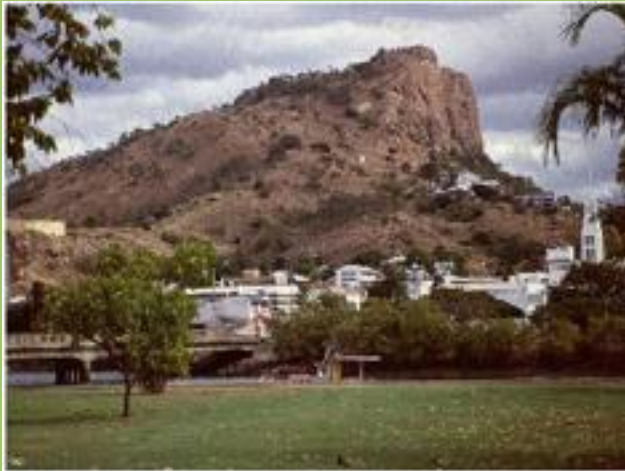
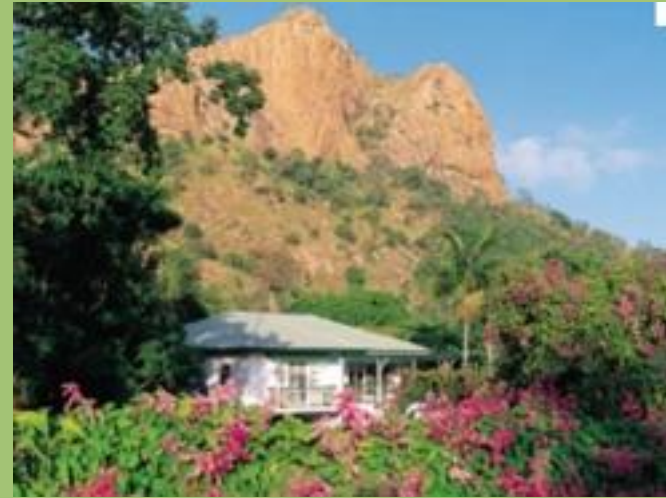


Castle Hill Townsville



Castle Hill

It is important in demonstrating the evolution of Queensland's history as an early example of rapid environmental degradation and consequent conservation measures initiated by the local community.



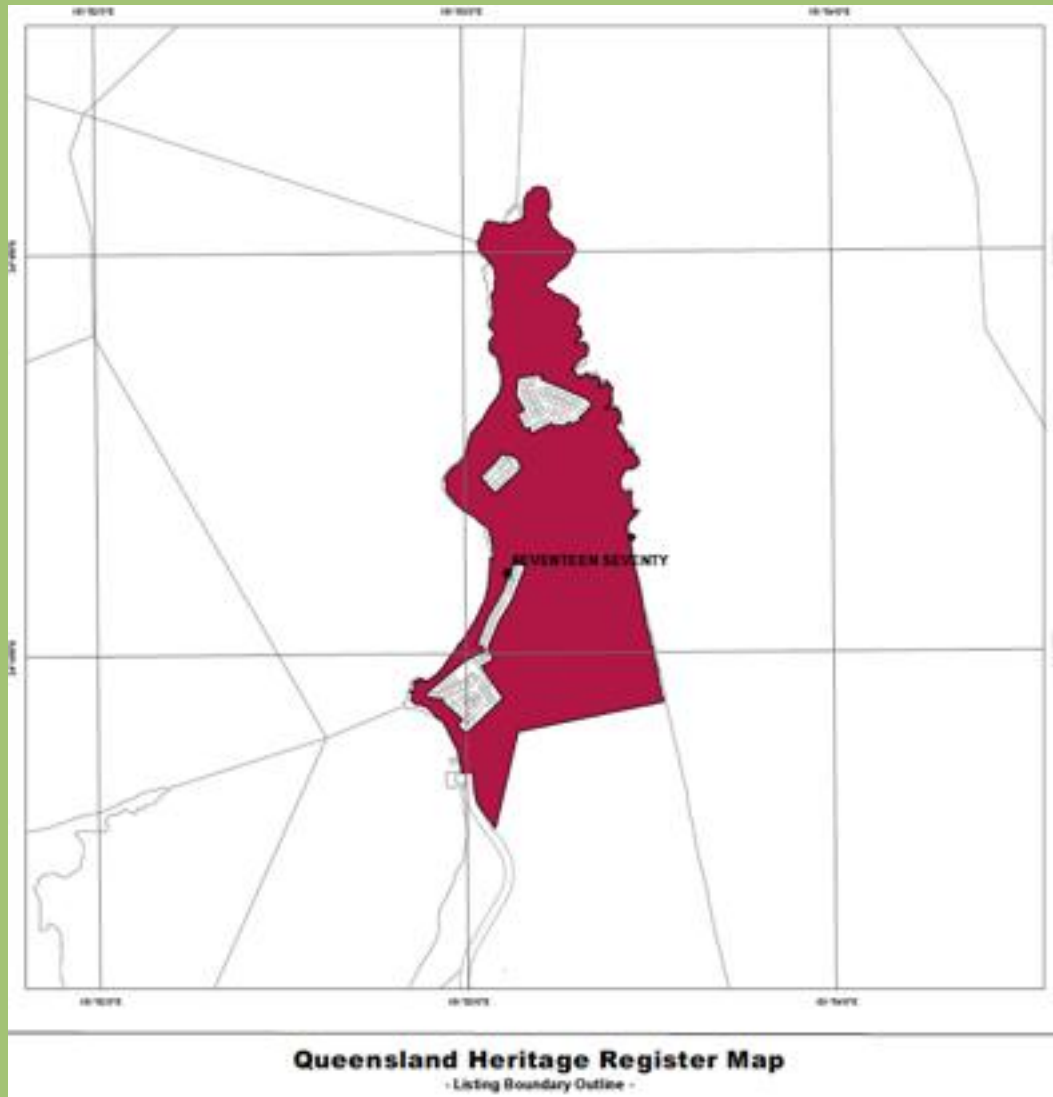
The site exhibits a landmark quality and natural aesthetic appeal valued by the Townsville community.

Town of Seventeen Seventy

QHR Place ID 601614



Town of Seventeen Seventy



Town of 1770





Town of 1770



on Coochie Mudlo Island

Town of 1770



on Coochie Mudlo Island

1770 foreshore park



on Coochie Mudlo Island

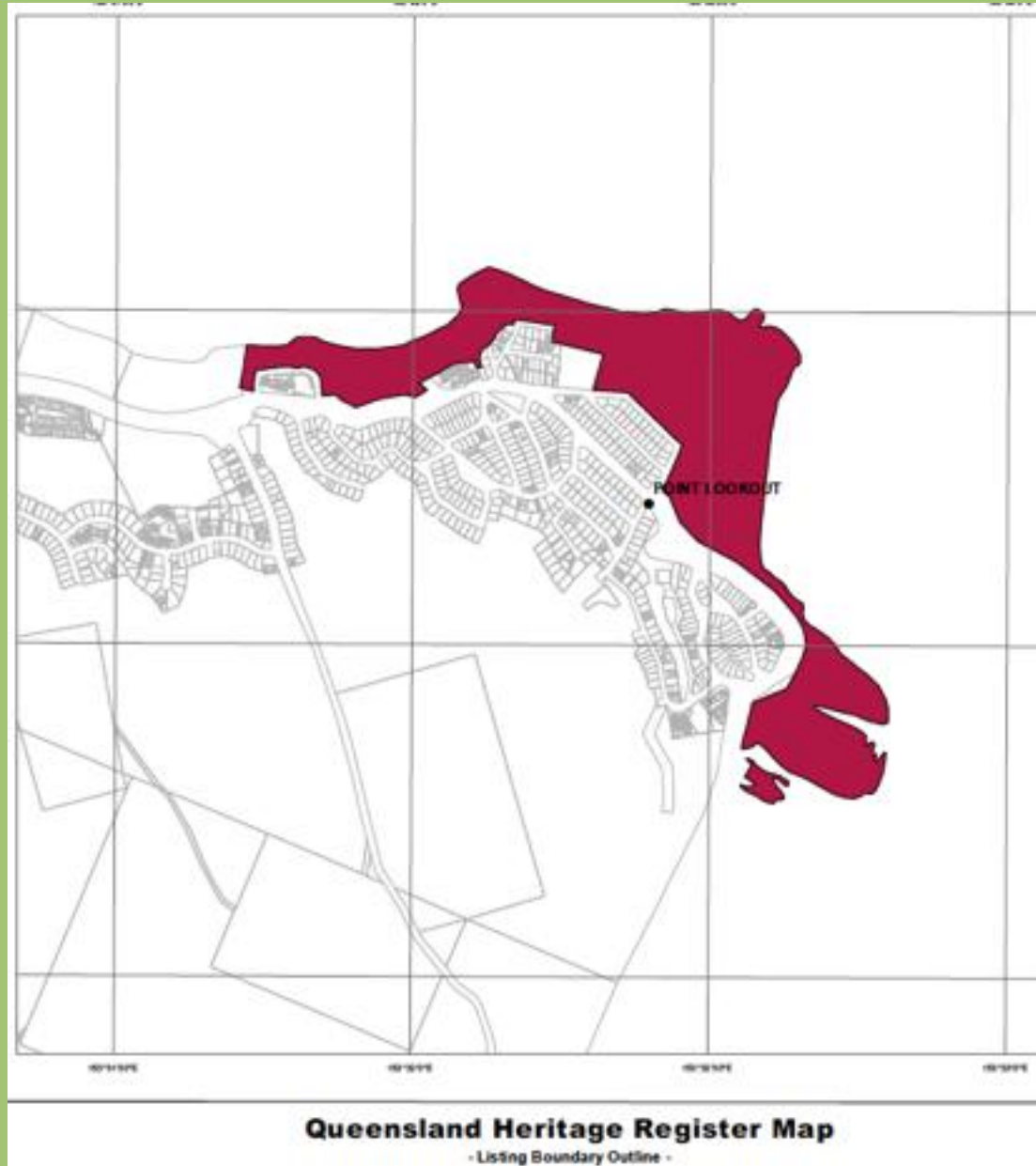


Point Lookout Foreshore

QHR Place ID 602261



Point Lookout Foreshore



Point Lookout Foreshore Reserve



Setting means:

the area around a place,
which may include the visual catchment.

Conservation requires the retention of an appropriate visual setting and other relationships that contribute to the cultural significance of the place.

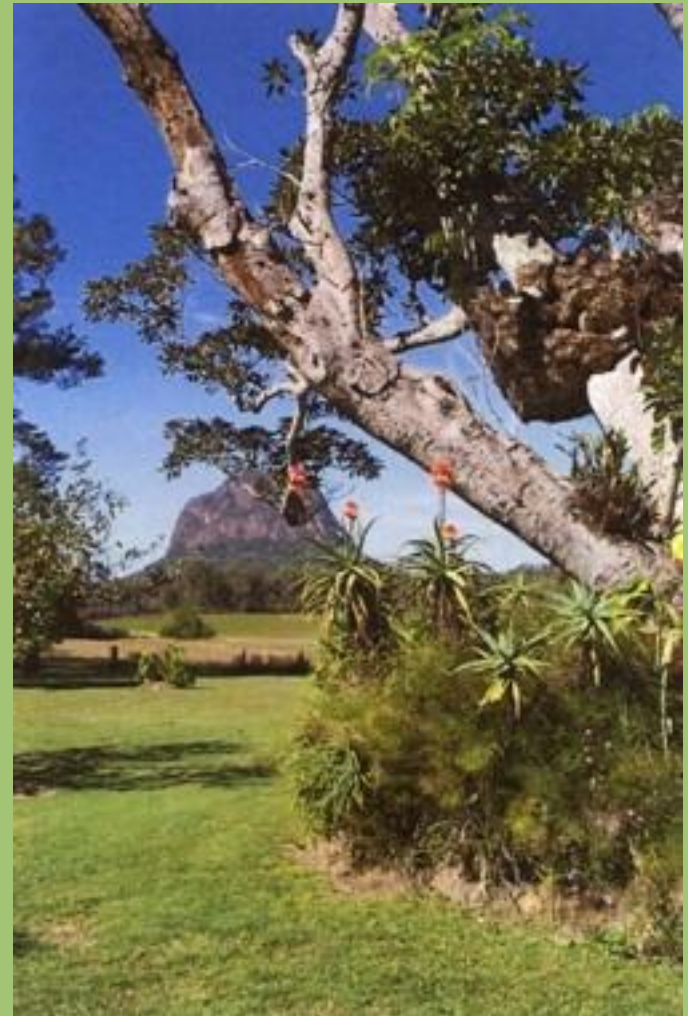
New construction, demolition, intrusion or other changes which would adversely affect the setting or relationship are not appropriate.

Bankfoot House Grounds

a Glasshouse Mountain in the setting



- living with a glass house mountain in the back yard



the setting along Gympie Road



Southern approach



View south to Coonowrin Creek
from road at Bankfoot House

Gold Coast Historical Landscapes

part of a landscape character and landscape heritage study 2013

a selected snapshot



Houses along the Currumbin Beach foreshore and along parts of the ridge. – c. 1928

(Ref. 1, p. 25)

"By 1910 some Brisbane and Ipswich families had, however, taken a fancy to Currumbin beach as a quiet camping site, away from the holiday bustle of Tweed Heads and Coolangatta. They were an intrepid lot, given the lack of a decent road to the beach and the total absence of any camping facilities. Each Christmas and Easter a small settlement of canvas tents would appear at the headland, with most campers forced to carry all their supplies from the rail siding and crossing the rail bridge over the Currumbin to cut down swamp ti-trees for tent poles."

"The Government's decision in the early 1920s to construct a coastal highway from Southport to Coolangatta led to further property speculation and development, for example the 'Beach Slopes Estate' . . . advertised as containing 'the pick positions of the most beautiful Queensland Ocean Frontage'."

a selected snapshot



Naumann Bros. Sand Mining

In the 1930s and 1940s extensive sand mining was conducted in the Gold Coast area, by the likes of Southport Minerals and the Naumann Brothers.

Mining at the dunes behind Broadbeach demonstrated the malleability of this previously undeveloped landscape and in 1956 the Savoy Corporation created the Florida Gardens estate on former dairying country near the mouth of the Little Tallebudgera Creek, inspired by canal developments seen in Florida, USA. Miami Keys, south of Florida Gardens, developed soon after and was the Gold Coast's first canal development.

(Ref. 2, Ma73)

a selected snapshot



Alex Griffiths feeding lorikeets

(Ref. 1, P.39)

Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary was established by beekeeper and flower grower Alex Griffiths in 1947, who began feeding the region's wild lorikeets as an added attraction at his parents' Currumbin Tea Gardens. The feeding of the colourful lorikeets soon developed from a local curiosity to a popular tourist attraction.

In 1976, Alex Griffiths gifted the Sanctuary to the National Trust of Queensland. Originally known as Currumbin Bird Sanctuary, the park's name was changed to Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary in 1995 to better reflect the diverse range of Australian wildlife on display.



Elanora Pines



a selected snapshot



Elanora State School Logo

(Ref. 2)

Elanora State School opened in 1983 at K.P.McGrath Drive. The pine trees are part of the school logo as they are symbolic of the area. The school is located close to the sea and the forest, hence the sun rising over the water and the trees.



Aerial Photo 1946 showing the extensive Stephens Swamp



Historical Landscape Interpretation

C 3 The remnant wetlands with melaleuca woodland present a part of the historical landscape of the region.

C 2 The Gold Coast – Burleigh Golf Course is one of the oldest golf courses on the Coast. The 1962 map shows the *links* at the western edge of the residential area beyond which is Stephens Swamp.

C 1 The canal of the western edge of the Rio Vista canal estate bordered undeveloped lands in 1962. The riparian vegetation corridor seen there (photo above) presents an old naturalistic landscape.

Robina Burleigh



The park on Goodwin Terrace

The pines at Burleigh



selected snapshots



Peter Drouyn surfing Burleigh c.1967

Burleigh Headland is a world famous surf break.

The Stubbies Surfing Contest was held at Burleigh Headland from 1977 to 1988. Peter Drouyn was involved in these contests and is credited for developing the man-on-man contest format (two person heats) that was first used at the Stubbies contests and still used throughout the world.

Frederick Walker established a holiday home at Burleigh in 1901, The Rudd family from Mudgeeereba was another family that established a holiday house at Burleigh in the early 1900s.

(Ref. 2)



Burleigh Knoll Conservation Park

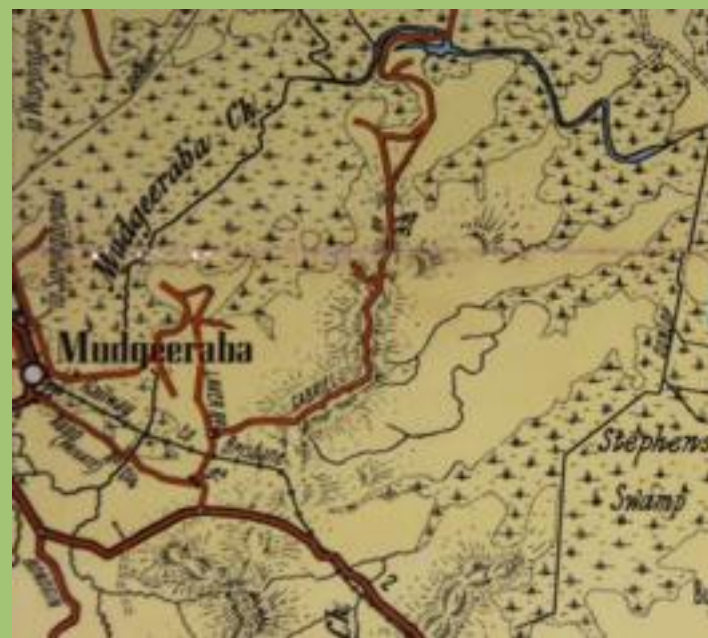
Historical Landscape Interpretation

This reserved patch of Melaleuca coastal woodland presents an historical landscape.

The parkland adjacent extends that open space area and together they have become a long standing local landscape of strong value and attachment for the local community.



View to the trees along Robina Parkway south of Cottesloe Dr.



Gabriel Road following a natural ridgeline rising from upper Stephens Swamp, is now Robina Parkway

Historical Landscape Interpretation

This ridge has long been a north – south route through the extensive wetlands and connected to a crossing of Mudgeeraba Creek.

The treed ridge is prominent, not only from the sports fields as shown in the contemporary photo, but also from the west and Robina centre.

The trees present a long standing historical remnant landscape.

Green Heart



View north east from the stadium road

a selected snapshot



The Great Swamp covered much of the landscape west of the relatively narrow north south strip of low dunes along the coast, and included 'Stephens Swamp' and 'Merrimac Swamp'.

Camp Creek, Reedy Creek and Stony Creek flow east and north into this part of the coastal flood plain or wetlands. North of this HL additional, extensive wetlands on the coastal flood plain used to drain north into the Nerang River.

Much of this land was once used for farming activities and is now largely developed into canal estates as well as residential and commercial developments. (Ref. MA & CB) photo Ref. 1, 1572C5

This HL includes the Merrimac Drains Historic Landscape LHR 0048.

"The landscape has a special association with Thomas Blacket Stephens (1819 -1878) and his son William 'Billy' Stephens (1857 – 1925), who through their early development of the drains made a notable contribution to the development of the physical environment in Merrimac." LHR

"The Merrimac Drains Historic Landscape, with selection beginning in 1852, is historically significant in demonstrating the early success of the pastoral and dairying industry on land that was the site of the first large scale land reclamation on the Gold Coast. The landscape retains its late 1800s historic pastoral setting." LHR

Historical Land Uses

- ~~short~~ gold rush at mouth ~~Flatrock~~ Creek 1904 - 05
- ~~surf~~ and swimming beaches with SLSC (c.1919)
- By 1910 Brisbane & Ipswich families use Currumbin Beach as quiet camping site (Easter and Christmas turned into small settlements)
- ~~holiday~~ camping along the foreshore
- ~~holiday~~ residences along the foreshore

Historical Evidence / Features

- Beaches and foreshore
- Flat Rock & Elephant Rock

Historical Routes – through or associated with

- ~~beach~~ as road
- ~~Duringa~~ Road
- Pacific Parade

Intangible / Invisible History

- Surf events
- Sandmining

Assessment Parameters

Cultural Landscape Type

- ~~organically~~ evolved evolved cultural
- ~~defined~~ cultural (designed) associative / meaningful

Landscape Scale of Influence

- ~~broad~~, regional historical narrative
- local level or particular
- ~~sub~~-regional or serial

GC Geographic Historical Framework / Historical Themes

B ~~~~~ The Beaches & Foreshores – A Recreation Landscape

Detractions & Discontinuity / Breaks

- N/A

Time Depth Levels

- ~~pre~~ 1890s 1890's – 1910s 1920's – WW2
- 1946 – ~~1969~~ 1970 – mid 1980s mid 1980s -

Information Confidence Level

- certain
- probable
- possible

Key Experience / Interpretation Places

- Beaches & esplanade to Elephant Rock

Heritage Assessment

Predominant Heritage Criteria & Thresholds &/or Relative Contribution to Gold Coast Historical Landscape Settings

Historical

- Integrity / Intactness
- Earliness & / or Representativeness
- Rarity / Uncommonness
- Distinctiveness

Aesthetic

- Integrity / Intactness
- Representativeness
- Landmark quality
- Distinctiveness

Social & Spiritual

- Degree of community association
- Importance of person / group in GC history
- Length of association
- Significant former association

Contribution: Very high for whole of city and locality

GC Identity / Iconic

- Intactness / integrity
- Community identification / attachment
- Aesthetic quality (in Type Context)
- Prominence / Recognition
- Symbolism

Contribution / Role: High

Statement of Significance of the Heritage Landscape / Guides for Planning - Management

- The landscape has a continuum of use as a beach holiday / relaxation destination since the early 20th century, and is one of the prominent and favoured Gold Coast beaches.
- The modest development scale, distinct rocky points, steep hillside close to the beach and village style developments along the esplanade roads form an attractive unique landscape setting, as they have over its history.
- There is a very strong attachment to the place and longstanding family and community memories held by individuals and families, residents and visitors.

a Bribie Island parallel





