North Stradbroke Island Historical Museum
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Further information:
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www.redland.qld.gov.au
www.more2redlands.com.au/explore
About North Stradbroke Island

Minjerribah, the Aboriginal name for North Stradbroke Island today, means 'place of mosquitoes'. Archaeological evidence tells us that people have lived on the Island for at least 20,000 years. Many tribes mingled on Minjerribah and local people identify the Nunukul and Gorenpu as the traditional owners of the island and adjoining areas. The Koobenaal lived on the mainland coastal strip. The three tribes were members of the Yuggera language group that stretched from Moreton Bay to the Bremer River and Lockyer Creek.

The sea has always been an important food source for the people of Stradbroke and there are many huge and ancient shell middens on the Island (middens are mounds of refuse left behind at favourite camping and feasting sites). Today, some islanders continue to fish professionally as well as for recreation.

The sea also brought some of the earliest explorers to the Island. Chinese, Spanish, Portuguese and Dutch ships are known to have travelled up and down the coast of Australia over many centuries and the whereabouts of a Spanish galleon said to be on the island has intrigued residents and visitors for decades.

In 1770 James Cook sailed past Stradbroke Island and gave the name Point Lookout to a rocky outcrop on the north-eastern tip.

The first recorded contact between Europeans and Aborigines on Stradbroke Island occurred in 1803 when Matthew Flinders was on his way to Sydney to organise the rescue of shipwrecked passengers and crew from the Porpoise. Flinders' crew came in to the Cylinder Beach/Home Beach area and some Nunukul people helped the sailors to find fresh water.

The next known contact occurred in 1823 when three timber getters, Pamphlett, Finnegan and Parsons, were blown off course in their small boat near Sydney and landed on Moreton Island. They crossed to Stradbroke Island and spent some time with the Nunukul people.

The island was named Stradbroke Island in 1827 after the Earl of Stradbroke. His son, Captain the Honourable John Henry Rous, was commander of HMS Rainbow, the first ship of war to enter Moreton Bay.

Dunwich was named after Captain Rous' older brother, Viscount Dunwich. Amity Point was named, also in the 1820s, after John Oxley's ship Amity.

During Moreton Bay's convict period (1824-1842) the island's first non-indigenous settlements were established. As the main route for ships between Sydney and Moreton Bay was via the dangerous South Passage between Moreton and Stradbroke Islands, a pilot station was set up at Amity Point in 1825. It continued operating until the wreck of the Sovereign in 1847 led to its relocation to Moreton Island. From 1827-1831 a military/store depot was set up at Dunwich. Both places – at Amity and Dunwich – were staffed by convicts.

When the Moreton Bay convict settlement was disbanded, free settlers, especially farmers, began to move to the Moreton Bay district. Stradbroke continued to attract fishermen, including those seeking dugong. Stradbroke also became an institutional base for Brisbane and surrounds. Dunwich became the site of a government-run quarantine station (1850-1864) and, later, a benevolent asylum for Queensland's old and infirm (1866-1946), including paupers, inebriates and returned soldiers from WW I. Later on, an Aboriginal mission was set up at Moongalba (Myora) (1893-1943). Amity Point remained a fishing community.

After the Aboriginal mission and the benevolent asylum closed in the 1940s, the island lost its institutional base. Since then, tourism and sand mining have been the main industries.
**Dunwich**

The Dunwich township is listed on the Register of the National Trust of Queensland.

The Dunwich area was called Goompee or Coompee, from a word meaning pearl oyster. It has always been home to a sizeable indigenous population, as well as a seasonal visiting place for tribes from other areas. For the past 180 years it has also been the site of various European settlements, including a military/stores depot and convict outstation (1827-1831), a Catholic mission (1843-1846), quarantine station (1850-1864), and benevolent asylum (1866-1946).

In typical 19th-20th century fashion, many structures on the island were recycled. The stores depot buildings were re-used by the Catholic mission, and the Dunwich Benevolent Asylum structures that remained on the island when the asylum moved to Sandgate in 1946 have assumed new uses and can be found scattered around Dunwich and elsewhere on the island.

**1 Convict causeway**

Listed on the Queensland Heritage Register and the Register of the National Trust of Queensland.

The first structure most visitors see as they arrive at Dunwich is a jetty and barge landing area that includes a causeway built by convicts in 1827. The causeway was part of the military/stores depot (1827-1831). A sandbar at the mouth of the Brisbane River meant it was impossible for large vessels to carry goods into Brisbane so ships unloaded cargoes at Dunwich and smaller cutters carried the goods over the bar and on to the settlement. The causeway’s southern wall has been covered up by subsequent developments so the best place to view it is from the small park just north of the landing area.

**2 Park with privy pit**

Listed on the Queensland Heritage Register and the Register of the National Trust of Queensland.

This small park was the site of the military/stores depot (1827-1831). The park still contains what is thought to be a privy (toilet) pit under the store and barracks. It was built so that the high tides cleaned the pit, but reclamation work in front of the sea entrance now prevents this.

Nearby is a memorial to the Passionist Fathers’ Roman Catholic Mission to the Aborigines, which operated from 1843-1846. The missionaries took over the depot buildings. In June 1844 two of the earliest recorded baptisms in what is now Queensland took place at Dunwich. Two sons of Irishman Dick Smith and Aboriginal Neli were baptised by Father Joseph Snell, one of the four Passionist missionaries.

**3 Junner Street Park**

This park contains foundations, trees and structures erected during the Benevolent Asylum years (1866-1946).

**Draughts boards:** The oversized concrete draughts boards were built for the inmates of the Benevolent Asylum. The pieces were moved by hooking a steel rod into a loop on the top of each playing piece. Listed on the Register of the National Trust of Queensland.

**Camphor laurels, fig and other trees:** These trees are some of the remnants of progressive plantings by the asylum inmates and staff and their families. At one stage there were other exotic trees in the park, including an English oak tree, an elephant apple, sausage tree, black bean or Moreton Bay Chestnut, a Norfolk pine, stands of bamboo and one known locally as the snottie gobble tree.

**Foundations and footings:**

The park contains the foundations of the Benevolent Asylum’s main hall, the Victoria Hall (c.1896), and a toilet block built in the late-1940s that serviced the hall. Also clearly visible is the foundation of the road that originally ran from the jetty to the men’s mess hall. This road had a horse-drawn tram track that allowed goods to be carried to and from the main asylum and other buildings.
4 Dunwich public hall
Junner Street

Listed on the Register of the National Trust of Queensland.

This hall was built in 1913 as the Benevolent Asylum's men's mess hall. It was located centrally within the asylum along with the kitchen, laundry and stores. Goods received from the mainland were transported to the mess hall and other buildings by a horse-drawn trolley system along the roadway still visible in Junner Park.

This system was also used to transport food in huge pots from the kitchen, approximately 200 yards away, to the mess hall. Consequently, food was often served cold, which was a point of much debate amongst the inmates.

The hall seated 400 single men and had a scullery at one end. The walls were partially lined with tiles for hygiene purposes. After 1913 the building was extended to include a boiler room that provided hot water to the kitchen wash up troughs. During WWII an air raid shelter was dug into the floor.

The mess hall was one of the few buildings that remained on the island after the asylum closed in 1946 and has since been used as the Dunwich Public Hall.

5 Dormitory building, now CRL training room
8 Mallon Street, Dunwich – No public access

Sandminer Consolidated Rutile Limited’s training centre is half of Ward 13 of the former Benevolent Asylum. The building was restored by the company. Before restoration, the building served as a kitchen and later a lab for the mining companies and, subsequently, as the base for the Dunwich pottery/ceramic group.

6 St Mark’s Church
Ballow Road

Listed on the Queensland Heritage Register and the Register of the National Trust of Queensland.

Built in 1907, St Mark’s Anglican Church was another integral structure of the Benevolent Asylum. Before St Mark’s was built, church services for inmates were held in Victoria Hall, the main assembly facility.

Lady Cheilmsford, the wife of the Governor of Queensland at the time, is reported to have donated the money for the construction of the church after she visited the Benevolent Asylum. She was shocked to find that the inmates had no place of worship and so gave the money to build a church, which was designed by prominent architect Robin Dods.

The first chaplain of the church was Reverend W Richner. After the Benevolent Asylum closed, the church continued to be used by local residents. In 1973 the building was condemned by the Redland Shire Council as it was considered structurally unsound. However the Stradbroke residents successfully united to raise funds to carry out emergency repair works and save the church from demolition.

7 Anzac Park
Welsby Street

Many war memorials have been erected since WW I to commemorate those who have served in war. Many island residents served in both World Wars, and some are buried in the Dunwich Cemetery. The Dunwich war memorial was renovated in 2005.

8 North Stradbroke Island Historical Museum
Welsby Street

The North Stradbroke Island Historical Museum was officially opened on 22 October 1988 by the Sixth Earl of Stradbroke and his Countess Rosie at Point Lookout Hall. It is now housed in a combination of original and replica Benevolent Asylum buildings.

The main museum building, the front section, was built by mineral sands mining company TAZI using materials from a dismantled Benevolent Asylum ward. The building housed two flats for the company's employees.
When the mining company no longer needed the building, the Museum committee, then in a cramped annexe to the Pt Lookout Public Hall, proposed it be moved to Point Lookout. When relocation proved impossible, the museum moved itself from Point Lookout to the building instead.

The back extension, designed by architect Chris Hills, was opened on 8 April 2006.

The replica fouls ward was built with the help of a Centenary of Federation Grant. The single-skinned building, with a fire place, was built from Andrew Petrie's plan, held in the Queensland State Archives. The construction followed the building practices of the era. Where possible, no nail guns were used.

The herdsman's hut was part of the old Benevolent Asylum dairy at the corner of Mitchell Crescent and Welsby Street. The cows grazed freely in Dunwich. When the asylum closed, the herdsman's hut served at one stage as a home for a long-time island family and as a Redland Shire Council depot. It was destined for demolition but volunteers dismantled it and re-erected it on the museum site.

The museum is open on Wednesday, Friday and Saturday from 10am-2pm. For more information phone 3409 9699.

Dunwich State School
Bingle Road

North Stradbroke Island has had seven schools over the years. The island's first school, the Dunwich Provisional School for Aboriginal Children, opened for business on 7 January 1889 at an unknown location. Two years later it moved to Bribie Island and in 1893 it moved back to Stradbroke Island as the Myora Special Provisional School at the Myora/Moongalba Mission.

This left Dunwich without a school, but in 1904 lobbying by staff at the Dunwich Benevolent Asylum resulted in the second Dunwich school being set up for their children. This school was built at the Benevolent Asylum and was moved to its current site in 1922.

Benevolent Asylum cottages
Bingle Road - No public access

Listed on the Register of the National Trust of Queensland.

These two cottages provided accommodation for Benevolent Asylum staff. They are now privately owned.

Polka Point Midden
Flinders Avenue

Listed on the Register of the National Trust of Queensland.

The Polka Point midden is one of the largest on the Island and has been dated at more than 3,000 years old. It contains shells of oysters, whelks, cockles and periwinkles, typical of middens found on the bay side of the island.

Polka Point draughts board
Oxley Parade

Polka Point was the site of the Benevolent Asylum's consumptives (tuberculosis) camp and also the female division. The consumptives camp inmates lived in tents that were burnt when the occupant died. This draughts board was built for the entertainment of the consumptives and the female inmates.

Learning Centre Building
East Coast Road

This building was erected during WW II. When the Japanese forces were advancing in the Pacific c.1943 the Queensland Government decided to move patients in Brisbane's Diamantina Hospital to the safety of the Dunwich Benevolent Asylum. The Government established this building to house the staff needed for the proposed influx. The building was never used for this purpose.

In 1949 the building was moved to the Moreton Bay Research Station where it accommodated scientific researchers and students. A new building for the MBRS was built c.1999 and this building was moved to its present site where it is used as a learning centre.
Dunwich Cemetery
cnr Bingle Road and Yabby Street

Listed on the Queensland Heritage Register and the Register of the National Trust of Queensland.

Three cemeteries have operated on Stradbroke Island. The Myora/Moongalba Aboriginal cemetery is north of Dunwich, the burial place of people from the Mission, the Lazaret or Leper's Cemetery, is south of Dunwich and was set up in the late 19th century, and the Dunwich Cemetery is in the township itself.

The first of the Dunwich Cemetery’s estimated 10,000 burials is believed to date from 1847 when a victim of the shipwrecked Sovereign was interred, which makes it one of the earliest surviving cemeteries in Queensland.

Also among the early burials were the victims of one of Queensland’s immigration tragedies: A typhus epidemic in 1850 on the ship Emigrant, which claimed about 27 lives. Dunwich had just been proclaimed the quarantine station for Moreton Bay and the Emigrant was the first ship to arrive at the new station.

The bunya pines are believed to date from the time when visiting mainland Aborigines brought the nuts as gifts to the people of Stradbroke. It is believed that the Stradbroke Aborigines buried some nuts to preserve them. The ones that escaped being eaten grew into the trees that are there today.

More than 8,000 inmates from the Benevolent Asylum are buried in the Dunwich Cemetery. As most are in unmarked graves, a memorial has been erected to them. Descendants of many Aboriginal families are also buried here.

See separate trail for the Dunwich Cemetery.

Water pump, Yerrol Creek
East Coast Road

Listed on the Register of the National Trust of Queensland.

Yerrol Creek is one of many fresh water sources on the island. It has been used as a water supply from at least 1885, when a reservoir was built to hold water from the creek for the Benevolent Asylum. A pump powered by a gas combustion engine drove three plunger water pumps that filled the tanks on the hill behind Dunwich, which supplied the asylum.

Yerrol Creek also marks the end of what is known locally as Petticoat Lane, an old road that ran from Dunwich to the creek. This road was made from cinders and crushed oyster shells discarded from the pump station.

Former Aboriginal Mission/
Terra Bulla Leumeah Conservation area
East Coast Road – Limited public access

In 1893 the former Bribie Island Aboriginal Mission was moved to Myora. The Bribie Island Mission had been set up in 1890. Many Stradbroke Islanders had been sent to Bribie Island, and the move meant they returned home, along with people from many other parts of Queensland.

The Stradbroke Islanders knew the area as Moongalba and preferred to call the new Mission by this name, which means 'sitting down place', rather than Myora, which means 'mission'.

In 1943 the mission closed and most residents – and their houses – moved to One Mile. The mission families weren’t allowed to live in Dunwich. The northern section of the old mission site is now occupied by Terra Bulla Leumeah.

Just south of Terra Bulla Leumeah is the former home of poet Oodgeroo Nunuccal (Kath Walker). Oodgeroo set up a round house and learning centre. She is buried on the site (no public access).

Myora Springs/Capembah
East Coast Road

More correctly called Capembah, this is the site of a fresh water spring that flows out through the mangroves to the bay. Large middens near the mouth tell us the creek was a favourite Aboriginal camping spot.

Oysters have long been cultivated in Moreton Bay and the Moreton Bay Oyster Company, formed in 1874, bought land near the creek. It then passed into the hands of an oystering family, the Levinges, and the land next to the spring was donated for a reserve.

Many years later a chute was built further up the creek so that visiting boaties could replenish their fresh water supplies. The chute is no longer there.
Amity Point

Originally known as Pulan by the Nunukul people, Amity Point was home to an Aboriginal population of over 100 at the time of settlement. In 1825 a pilot station was established there to guide ships travelling to the Moreton Bay penal settlement via the South Passage. This was Stradbroke Island’s first non-indigenous settlement. The pilot station closed in the 1840s.

Amity Point has long been the home of local fishermen and in the 1880s it was formally declared a fishing village. As fishing is highly seasonal, the population fluctuated over the years, and with it the services available to the community.

For many years Amity Point was the main landing place for people visiting the island. It also was the destination of Hayles Cruises, which operated boats between the island and Brisbane. Amity lost this role in 1964 when the vehicular ferries Myora and The Lookout began services to Dunwich, although Hayles Cruises continued operating until the 1970s.

Erosion by the Rainbow Channel has claimed many historic sites at Amity Point, including the pilot station, a racecourse and the original site of noted yachtsman and historian Thomas Welsby’s cottage. Welsby published seven books on Moreton Bay and its history in the late 19th-early 20th centuries. He built a cottage at Amity Point from which he explored the bay islands, getting to know them and their inhabitants intimately. His cottage, threatened with erosion, was moved several times and finally dismantled. Some of the timber was used to build Cabarita.

In 1847 the Sovereign sank and 44 lives were lost in the South Passage between Moreton and North Stradbroke Island, which was still the most commonly used entry to Moreton Bay. A group of Moreton Island and Stradbroke Island Aborigines rescued 10 of the passengers and were rewarded for their efforts with a boat and breast plates. As a result of the accident, a pilot station was opened on northern Moreton Island and the North Passage became the main entry. This plaque was unveiled in 2002.

Cabarita

2 Ballow Street – No public access

Listed on the Register of the National Trust of Queensland.

In the 1930s Hayles Cruises built a wooden jetty just north of the Amity Swing Basin, when they started a launch service between Brisbane and North Stradbroke. In 1935 Hayles built a log kiosk next to the jetty to serve fish luncheons. By 1947 the sea had destroyed the jetty and kiosk. Hayles built a second jetty and kiosk just north of the original kiosk. Hayles continued their boat service until the 1970s. Hayles’ jetty was demolished and the kiosk was sold as a private dwelling.

Public Hall

16 Ballow Street

The Amity Point Public Hall was built in early 1950 by the Amity Point Progress Association. The association members dismantled and moved a former ward – sometimes referred to as the Chinamen’s Ward – from the Dunwich Benevolent Asylum to Amity Point. Apart from social activities, such as dances and community meetings, the hall was the site of a provisional school from February 1951 until November 1954 when the Amity Point State School was built. Students from the provisional school remember having to move the school furniture at the end of the week so that community functions could be held during the weekend.

Lighting was provided by pressure lamps until a 32-volt lighting plant was installed which, in turn, was replaced by mains electricity in 1966.

In the mid-1960s the hall was placed under the control of a trust committee. About 1985 the Redland Shire Council established a small library in the hall.
When the Redland Shire Council threatened to demolish the hall in the late 1980s the Amity Point community protested and instead funds were provided for its upgrade.

**Amity Point School Park**  
*Ballow Street*

Amity Point has had three schools over the years. The first operated for about 18 months from 1919 and the second opened in late 1937 when a school for children of men working on a road between Amity and Point Lookout was moved temporarily to Amity Point. The third and longest lasting one opened in 1954 after spending the previous three years in the Amity Point Public Hall. This school closed in 1961 due to falling enrolments and in 1965 the building was moved to the Dunwich State School, where it is still in use.

**Point Lookout**

The Point Lookout foreshore is listed on the Queensland Heritage Register.

Point Lookout was originally known as Mooloomba or Moodloomba and, with its surrounding beaches, was well used by the Stradbroke Aborigines. An archaeological study in the 1960s recorded 86 midden sites on the ocean side of Stradbroke Island alone. Most have since been destroyed by activities such as sandmining.

The rocky point has long been a landmark for sea travellers and in 1770 Lieutenant James Cook named it Point Lookout. In the 1820s it was proposed as the site for a lighthouse and signal station, but none eventuated until 1932 when the Point Lookout Lighthouse was built.

In 1895 an occupational licence for one year of 10 square miles around Point Lookout was let to Bill North to run cattle.

The Point Lookout Lighthouse was built in 1932 and in 1934 Bert Clayton set up a bus service from Amity to Point Lookout along the beach to serve the guest house he was building on the present site of Samannda. A design for a proposed township was drawn up the same year.

Point Lookout was the site of an American radar station during WW II. The headland area was fenced off and in 1942 a radio direction finder was constructed at Point Lookout at what is now Tramican Street by the American armed forces. Later the RAAF took over the operation, which was moved to Point Lookout headland.

For many years the Point Lookout township was a modest fishing/holiday village with small fibro structures typical of those found in similar villages up and down the coast. Today, such villages are increasingly rare. Since the 1980s Point Lookout has been under enormous pressure from development.

**Bill North’s cattle dip and well**  
*East Coast Road/Dickson Way, near Adder Rock*

Listed on the Register of the National Trust of Queensland.

The cattle dip built by Bill North at Adder Rock about 1895 is believed to be the oldest known surviving European structure at Point Lookout.

In February 1894 North applied for a 10 sq mile occupational grazing lease at Point Lookout. He paid one year's rent and as he never renewed the lease, he was a squatter for the rest of his time at Point Lookout.

It is believed he brought his cattle to the island by swimming them across from Southport to Stradbroke. North then walked the cattle to the northern point of the island. This was possible because Stradbroke Island had not yet separated into its north and south sections.
Over the years North established camps in different locations. One at the head of South Gorge was a more permanent camp for his stockmen. Long-term residents of Point Lookout believe North dug the Mooloomba Road well to supply his early camps with water. It is known that his South Gorge camp was established by 1902 when North’s stockmen assisted sailors from the wrecked Prosperity.

In 1903 North contracted to provide beef for the Benevolent Asylum. North retired in 1930 and left the island, returning some time later as an inmate of the Benevolent Asylum. He died in the asylum in 1936 and is buried in an unmarked grave in the Dunwich Cemetery.

Hope plaque, Cylinder Beach carpark

Cylinder Beach is listed on the Register of the National Trust of Queensland.

Hope plaque: In 1803 Matthew Flinders was on his way to Sydney to organise a rescue of shipwrecked passengers from the Porpoise. Flinders and his small crew stopped in the Cylinder Beach/Home Beach area and some Nunukul people helped the sailors to find fresh water. This was the first recorded European/Aboriginal contact on the island and is commemorated on the plaque on the edge of the Cylinder Beach car park. See Point Lookout Lighthouse for more information about Cylinder Beach.

Cook’s seat

Mooloomba Road – Access via walking track

Listed on the Register of the National Trust of Queensland.

The seat was built to commemorate the 200th anniversary of Lieutenant James Cook’s sighting of Point Lookout. The seat contains a time capsule. A scenic headland walk commences from here.

Prosperity and midden

South Headland – Access via walking track

South Gorge is listed on the Register of the National Trust of Queensland.

In 1902 the Prosperity sank off Point Lookout on its way from Sydney with sugar machinery for Mourilyan Harbour in North Queensland. Portions of the brigantine came to rest in South Gorge. Rusted pieces of the cargo can be seen wedged into the rocks. Billy North, who had built a stockman’s hut at the head of South Gorge, provided food, shelter and clothing for the survivors. The remnants of a large midden lie under the grassed South Headland roundabout. Many large middens lay along the ocean beach but they were destroyed by early sandmining activities.

The Point Lookout Hall and the 1974 floods

Mooloomba Road

The Point Lookout Hall was a recycled fibro cottage moved by the local community in 1950-1951 to a site overlooking the North Gorge. In 1974, the cyclone that caused the massive Brisbane floods also claimed the hall. When the rain and winds hit, campers near the hall were washed out and sought shelter in the hall. During that night, the campers sensed something was wrong — the hall was cracking in two. Everybody managed to escape from the front door as the back section slid into the gorge. The collapse occurred because the stormwater drain from the main road running under the hall couldn’t cope with the deluge and overflowed, washing out the foundations.

Deadman’s Beach

In 1956 a skeleton and boat were uncovered in the sand on this beach, and it is believed they were the remains of the Prosperity’s mate or cook. The finding gave the beach its name.

Frenchman’s Beach

In the 19th century four men sailed west from the French-speaking South Pacific islands. They landed on this beach, which was named after them. The four men, Jack Newfong, John Lifu, George Fenoeh and Richard Martin, were taken to the Myora/Moongalba Mission, where they ended up settling. Descendants of these four men still live on North Stradbroke Island.

Norfolk pines, Point Lookout

The trees were planted in the late 1940s-early 1950s by members of the Progress Association as a community project to beautify the point.

Tree plantings have occurred for many years in the Redlands. Trees were recognised as offering the potential to beautify areas and to offer picnickers and others shade and protection. Many such plantings were conducted by community groups, including the Point Lookout Progress Association. Sometimes trees were supplied and planted by the local Shire Council. Many such plantings still remain in the Shire.
**Point Lookout lighthouse**

As early as 1825 Point Lookout was seen as a potential site for a lighthouse. However, a lighthouse was not built until 1932. Construction material and acetylene cylinders for the flame were ferried to a temporary jetty on what is now known as Cylinder Beach. A hut to store the cylinders was constructed in the eastern corner of the bay. After the lighthouse was built, the cylinders were replaced every 12 months, with 12 required each year to supply the light. By 1942 the cylinders were unloaded at Amity Point rather than Cylinder Beach and transported across the island. The storage hut at Cylinder Beach was no longer needed and was dismantled. The cement base of the hut remains on site in the eastern corner of the beach.

![The lighthouse under construction, 1932. Courtesy NSI Historical Museum.](image)

When the liberty ship Rufus King ran aground in 1942 on the South Passage Bar, the captain claimed he mistook the red and white Point Lookout lighthouse for the Cape Moreton lighthouse, which was also painted red and white. To avoid future confusion, the Point Lookout lighthouse was painted white and the Moreton lighthouse was painted with alternate red and white bands.

In 1988 electricity replaced acetylene to power the light and the outside steel ladder and galvanised iron wall were removed. The dome and prism were also removed, and the lens can now be seen at the North Stradbroke Island Historical Museum in Dunwich.

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**Dunwich Cemetery trail**

This trail starts and finishes at the entry gate on Flinders Avenue. The gate was erected by the Shire Council and contains a columbarium wall. While most headstones are concentrated on the western side of the cemetery, survey work in recent years has confirmed that burials occurred everywhere in the cemetery, so much so that the cemetery was extended in the north-eastern corner in 2005. The depressions in the ground all over the cemetery provide further evidence of burials in the unmarked sections.

The cemetery contains the graves of many island residents, Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal. However, by far the majority of burials are of inmates of the Dunwich Benevolent Asylum. Many inmates were paupers who did not have money or family to erect lasting monuments. The Benevolent Asylum’s death register, a copy of which is held by the North Stradbroke Island Historical Museum, shows 8426 inmates were buried in the cemetery during the asylum’s 80-year history.

When inmates died they were allotted a small numbered trefoil (three leaf clover) grave marker. After the asylum moved to Sandgate in 1946 the cemetery fell into disrepair and many of the markers were lost. Many people can trace relatives to the Dunwich Benevolent Asylum and the cemetery, but it is extremely difficult to determine exactly where they are buried.

A memorial to all inmates has been erected out of bricks from the asylum’s laundry. Most plaques on the memorial have been placed there at the request of descendants.

One inmate in an unmarked grave was Elizabeth Smith, who travelled to Australia on the *Emigrant*, the first ship quarantined at Dunwich. She survived the typhus epidemic that killed many of her fellow passengers, only to join them in the Dunwich Cemetery later in her life when she was buried there as an asylum inmate.

There are 15 asylum inmate headstones not marked on this trail, but they can be found as you explore:
- Bethia Dunlop (1907)
- Anton Christensen (1926)
- Bridget Finn (1923)
- George Book Lawrence (1940)
- Harry Beardoe Leith-Adams (1892)
- James Anderson McLean (1887) Nairn Scotland
- John James Morrill (1667?) Tyrone Ireland
- Edward Murtagh (1943)
- John Jennings Sewell (1908)
- Arthur Jackson Steele (1924)
- David Watters (1943)
- Thomas Mitchell Whyte (1903).
1. Asylum inmate Edward Power died in 1908. His headstone reflects the comradeship between inmates: Edward Power...by his comrades in the Consumption Camp.

2. Asylum inmate and WW I veteran Rutland Manners died in 1937.

3. Asylum inmate Patrick Francis Quinlan (1945) served in the 1st Light Horse Regiment from WW I.

4. Fernandez King (1914) was the grandson of Fernandez Gonzales, who came to Stradbroke Island and married an Aboriginal woman in the late 1800s. One of their daughters married a man named King, beginning a line of King Aboriginal descendants.

5. Charles Andras of Rotumah (1885) came from the South Pacific Island of Rotumah.

6. Edward Ruska (1976) and Eric Ruska (1978) were privates in the 2/26 Infantry Battalion and became prisoners of war during WW II. They were Oodgeroo Nunukul's (Kath Walker) brothers.

7. Albert Levinge (1952) was the manager of the Moreton Bay Oyster Company founded in the 1870s. His ancestors had been harvesting oysters in Moreton Bay for thousands of years.

8. Anastasia Tripcony (1991) was well known for retaining her people's culture. Several of her relatives are buried at the Myora/Moongalba Aboriginal Cemetery.

9. Asylum doctor Patrick Smith (1900) is buried here with his first and second wives, who were sisters and members of the Jardine family. Dr Smith was the first medical superintendent of the asylum, serving from 1885 to 1900.

10. Frederick Stiller (1883). His headstone remains the source of great debate as it records that he was the founder of the Moreton Bay dugong fisheries. This is hotly contested. However, FK Stiller was awarded medals for his dugong oil in 1877, 1878 and 1897.

11. Nathaniel Levitt (1884), ship's surgeon, whose headstone records that he was killed by the bursting of a gun.

12. Quarantine station doctor David Keith Ballow (1850) was the resident surgeon of Brisbane. When the Emigrant arrived with typhus victims, no doctor could be found to go to the quarantine station so Dr Ballow went himself. He contracted the disease and died within five weeks. His headstone was restored using a contribution from the doctors of Ballow Chambers in Wickham Terrace, Brisbane. A plaque to his memory is in St John's Cathedral in Brisbane.

13. Quarantine station doctor George Mitchell (1850) was the Emigrant's Surgeon Superintendent and also fell victim to typhus. During this epidemic, 26 immigrants and two doctors died.

The obelisk that marks Dr Mitchell's grave also acknowledges the 26 immigrants. Simple trefoil grave markers also commemorate the 26 immigrants.

14. Asylum staff member Emma Agnew (1926) was the postmaster's wife. She spent time with her husband entertaining the bed-ridden inmates.

Their son contracted leprosy while living at the asylum and was sent to the Peel Island lazaret where he spent his time recording in detail the bird life of the Island.

15. Dr Booth-Clarkson (1927) was the asylum's medical superintendent from 1919-1927.

16. Campbell graves. The Campbell family is another branch descended from Fernandez Gonzales and his Stradbroke Island wife.

Some other Aboriginal family names found throughout the cemetery include the following and their descendants:
- Martin
- Close
- Costelloe
- Bulsey
- Brown
- Carr
- Perry
- Coolwell
- Moreton
- Delaney
- Queary
- Iselin
- Newfong
- Kina
- Parsons
- Lifu
- Enoch

17. John Hamlyn (1865) has the only known headstone of an immigrant quarantined at Dunwich. Such headstones are rare because many new immigrants were not well off and were a long way from family and friends.

Hamlyn, a passenger aboard the Young Australia, was one of five people who died of scarlet fever while in quarantine at the Dunwich Quarantine Station. As he was one of few who was accompanied by his family, they were able to erect this headstone.

18. Asylum staff member William McDevitt (1899) is described on his headstone as 'a wardsman for many years and modestly, faithfully and kindly nursed and cheered those who lie near'.

19. Frederick Macomber (1901) was an asylum inmate who fought in the American Civil War. His headstone was erected by the American Embassy. Near Macomber's headstone is a small iron grave believed to be that of a young child.
This heritage trail was produced in 2006 by Redland Shire Council with the help of the North Stradbroke Island Historical Museum Inc. It is based on a trail originally developed by the NSI Museum. The information was sourced from Council’s Local History Collection and the collection of the NSI Museum. The text was written by Council historian Tracy Ryan and members of the NSI Museum committee.

Redland Shire became a City in 2008.

It is a companion publication to the Cleveland and Ormiston Heritage Trail first published by Redland Shire Council in 2005.

Dunwich Cemetery trail...

Follow the trail...

1. Convict causeway
2. Park with privy pit
3. Junner Street Park
4. Dunwich public hall
5. Dormitory building, now CRL training room
6. St Mark’s Church
7. Anzac Park
8. North Stradbroke Island Historical Museum
9. Dunwich State School
10. Benevolent Asylum cottages
11. Polka Point Midden
12. Polka Point draughts board
13. Learning Centre Building
14. Dunwich Cemetery
15. Water pump, Yerrol Creek
16. Former Aboriginal Mission/Terra Bulla Leumeah Conservation area
17. Myora Springs/Capembah
18. Plaque commemorating the wreck of the Sovereign
19. Cabarita
20. Public Hall
21. Amity Point School Park
22. Bill North’s cattle dip and well
23. Hope plaque, Cylinder Beach carpark
24. Cook’s seat
25. Prosperity and Midden
26. The Point Lookout Hall and the 1974 floods
27. Deadman’s Beach
28. Frenchman’s beach
29. Norfolk pines, Point Lookout
30. Point Lookout Lighthouse