

# Historical Cultural Heritage of Noosa Shire - Report



**NOOSA COUNCIL  
STRATEGIC PLANNING  
SEPTEMBER 2002**

*The Noosa Plan  
Choosing Futures*

This document comprises a Planning Study prepared as part of the supporting documentation for The Noosa Plan: Choosing Futures process. It is intended to support a planning scheme that is consistent with the requirements of the *Integrated Planning Act*.

Project: Historical Cultural Heritage

Project Type: Cultural

*Historical Cultural Heritage of Noosa Shire:*

Report Authors: Raul Weychardt, Director Environment & Planning (5449 5266)  
Dr Ruth Kerr  
Peta Terry

Citation Authors: Dr Ruth Kerr  
Dr David Hugo  
Rod Adams  
Aline Gillespie  
Irene Christie

Source Documentation:

Report: h:\planning scheme\planning studies\cultural heritage\historical report.doc

Mapping: [Citations](#)  
[Principal Themes](#)

At various scales prepared by Ian Lewis.

Mapping prepared by Noosa Council for strategic planning purposes, with original mapping held in Noosa Council's GIS. Accurate representation of boundaries over individual allotments cannot be guaranteed.

Edited and reviewed by: Paul Summers, Manager Strategic Planning  
Rebecca Leyshan, Senior Strategic Planner

Coordination & Final Documentation: Noosa Council Strategic Planning Section (07 5447 1553)

Completion Date: September 2002

Status of Report:: Final endorsed by Council on 05/9/2002; Citations Edited October 2003

**Acknowledgements:**

The project was commissioned by Noosa Council and co-ordinated by planning staff. Consultant historians led by Dr Ruth S. Kerr undertook the major work supporting the project. Dr Kerr managed the project for the period of investigation and compilation of material. Dr Kerr also prepared the Shire Overview and the thematic assessment.

Local historians who focused on the citations were-

Rod Adams  
Irene Christie  
Aline Gillespie  
Dr David Hugo

Desley Armstrong of the Noosa Shire Library also gave valued assistance to the historians.

This report was carried out with close attention to the *Guidelines for Cultural Heritage Management* produced by the Environmental Protection Agency 2001. Acknowledgement is given to the assistance of that document and Agency staff.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Noosa Shire Council is undertaking a new Planning Scheme for the Shire in accordance with the requirements of the *Integrated Planning Act 1997*. In the implementation of such a Scheme, Council is obliged to-

- Achieve ecological sustainability with development
- Address the Shire's valuable features, and
- Establish measures that bring about desired environmental outcomes.

All of the above extend to identification and protection of significant cultural heritage features. Therefore the next Noosa Planning Scheme will recognise and afford appropriate protection to significant items and areas of historical cultural heritage.

The aim of this project is to:

*Identify, record and assess the significance of places, events and people contributing to the Shire's historical cultural heritage.*

The principal outcomes will be:

- a. A written and mapped record of early European settlement patterns across the Shire.
- b. Identification of significant individuals and pioneer families.
- c. Identification of historically significant buildings and building elements that contribute to the character of particular localities.
- d. Identification of sites, buildings, features and routes that may require protection.
- e. Documentation for the project should contribute to any development of a history of the Shire.

The authors of this planning study recognise there are many existing publications and information sources about the historical development of Noosa Shire. The report therefore is not intended to serve as a complete account of the Shire's history. However this report has been developed in a manner that assembles information about significant cultural heritage features in a way that assists with their future recognition and protection when the particular sites are proposed for development.

The Queensland Government through the Environmental Protection Agency published *Guidelines for Cultural Heritage Management* in February 2001. This project has been undertaken in accordance with the guidelines and has produced outcomes presented in a document format recommended by the guidelines.

The principal elements of this project report are:-

- An historical overview of the Shire

- Identification of historical themes that predominate the Shire's history with the themes being the range identified by the EPA guidelines
- Themes and typologies of associated places of potential cultural heritage significance
- Citations of individual sites and features
- Historic precincts
- Case studies
- Map of heritage precincts, sites and features

Cultural heritage within the Shire is defined under the following historical themes taken from the EPA Guidelines:-

**Theme 1** *Surveying and exploring the landscape*

**Theme 2** *Developing rural economies*

**Theme 3** *Developing transport and communication networks and infrastructure*

**Theme 4** *Establishing and developing towns*

**Theme 5** *Developing secondary and tertiary industry*

**Theme 6** *Maintaining order*

**Theme 7** *Educating a rural community*

**Theme 8** *Providing health and welfare services*

**Theme 9** *Developing social and cultural institutions*

The individual citations cover approximately 182 sites or features distributed into 14 localities. For each of the sites the citations provide information including-

- The location
- Tenure
- Date of establishment
- A description and brief history of the particular feature
- A description of the historical themes and integrity.

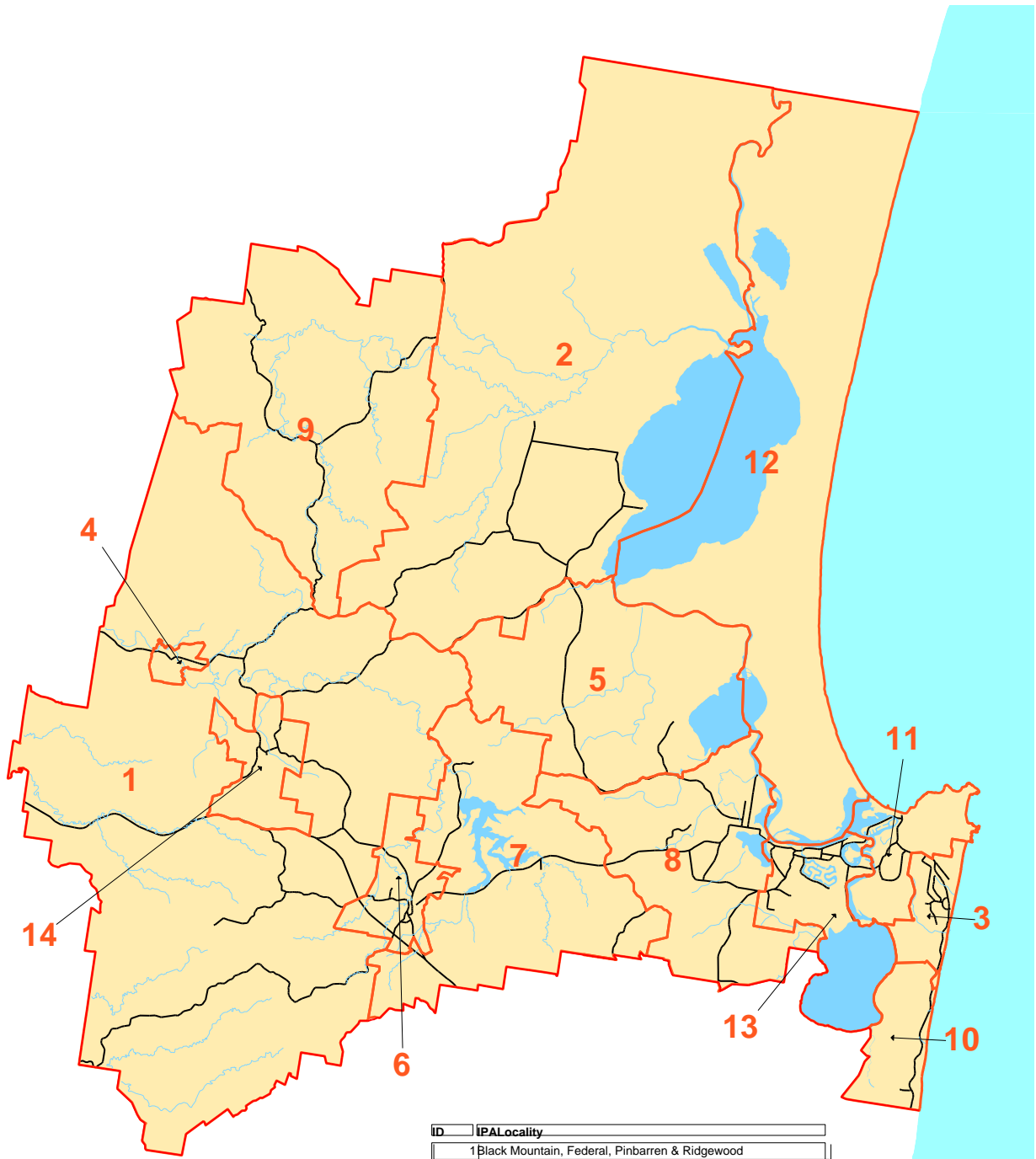
Citations usually also contain a photograph of the site or feature. A level of significance may be assigned to each citation that will assist in formulating a suitable strategy for the assessment of development proposals that may affect values held by the particular feature.

The information contained in this report will facilitate the formulation of an appropriate code and related development assessment material under the new Noosa Planning Scheme.

This report also contains recommendations on:-

- Modern and future cultural heritage; and
- Further study of significant buildings to better document their history and attributes.

This report does not purport to identify all historic cultural heritage features and attributes of the Noosa Shire nor does it fully specify all aspects of the features that are acknowledged. In addition valuable cultural heritage is continuing to be established by modern architecture and other community endeavour that will be recognised in the future for the values they add to our existing social fabric. Therefore the information contained in this project particularly within the citations and the mapping is capable of enhancement by further information over time.



ID	IPALocality
1	Black Mountain, Federal, Pinbarren & Ridgewood
2	Boreen Point, Como & Cootharaba
3	Castaways Beach, Sunrise Beach & Sunshine Beach
4	Cooran
5	Cooribah
6	Cooroy
7	Cooroy Mountain, Lake Macdonald & Tinbeerwah
8	Doonan & Tewantin
9	Kin Kin
10	Marcus Beach & Peregian Beach
11	Noosa Heads
12	Noosa North Shore
13	Noosaville
14	Pomona

**CONTENTS**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY ..... I**

**CONTENTS ..... IV**

**1. INTRODUCTION ..... 1**

1.1 ABOUT THIS REPORT ..... 1

1.2 HISTORICAL CULTURAL HERITAGE DEFINED ..... 1

1.3 METHODOLOGY ..... 2

**2. NOOSA SHIRE OVERVIEW ..... 3**

2.1 BRIEF HISTORICAL INTRODUCTION ..... 3

2.2 HISTORICAL THEMES AND TYPOLOGY ..... 5

2.2.1 Theme 1: Surveying & Exploring the Landscape: Looking for land with pastoral, agricultural and extractive material: ..... 10

2.2.2 Theme 2: Developing Rural Economies: Establishing Pastoral Empires: ..... 10

2.2.3 Theme 2: Developing Rural Economies: Exploiting Natural Resources: Timber ..... 11

2.2.4 Theme 2: Developing Rural Economies: Exploiting Natural Resources: Fishing ..... 12

2.2.5 Theme 2: Developing Rural Economies: Developing Agriculture and Agriculture Related Industries: Dairying ..... 13

2.2.6 Theme 3: Developing Transport and Communication Networks and Infrastructure: Establishing roads and road transport services & Creating Rail Links ..... 14

**3. INDIVIDUAL CITATIONS ..... 19**

**4. CHARACTER PRECINCTS ..... 20**

**5. CASE STUDY OF CHARACTER PRECINCTS - COORAN ..... 21**

5.1 COORAN - KING STREET COMMERCIAL PRECINCT ..... 21

5.1.1 Description ..... 21

5.1.2 Brief History ..... 21

5.1.3 Historical Themes ..... 22

5.1.4 Potential Significance ..... 22

5.1.5 Visual Integration of Character Area ..... 22

5.1.6 Proposed Protection Measures & Principles ..... 22

5.1.7 Possible Planning Controls ..... 23

**6. MAPPING ..... 24**

**7. INFORMING THE PLANNING SCHEME ..... 39**

**8. RECOMMENDATIONS ..... 41**

**9. APPENDIX A - REFERENCES ..... 42**

**10. APPENDIX B - PROJECT BRIEF ..... 43**

10.1 INTRODUCTION ..... 43

10.2 AIMS & OUTCOMES ..... 43

10.2.1 Aim ..... 43

10.2.2 Outcomes ..... 43

10.3 COMPONENTS OF THE PROJECT ..... 43

10.3.1 Methodology ..... 43

10.3.2 Stage 1 ..... 43

10.3.3 Stage 2 ..... 43

10.3.4 Recommendations ..... 44

10.4 DOCUMENTATION ..... 44

10.5 CONSULTATION ..... 44

10.5.1 Environment Protection Agency ..... 44

10.5.2 Register of the National Estate ..... 44

10.5.3 National Trust ..... 44

10.5.4 Local Historical Associations ..... 44

10.5.5 General Community Consultation ..... 44

10.6 INFORMATION SOURCES & ASSISTANCE ..... 44

10.6.1 SEQRWQMS ..... 44

10.6.2 Research Inventory of Historical Places ..... 44

10.6.3 Noosa Library ..... 44

10.6.4 Cooroora Historical Society ..... 44

10.6.5 The Cooroy-Noosa Genealogical and Historical Research Group ..... 44

10.6.6 Tewantin Heritage and Historical Society ..... 44

10.6.7 EIS ..... 45

10.7 PROJECT MANAGEMENT ..... 45

10.8 BUDGETARY CONSIDERATIONS ..... 45

**11. APPENDIX C - SIGNIFICANCE RATING NOT FOR PUBLIC RELEASE ..... 46**

**TABLES, MAPS & FIGURES**

TABLE 4.1 HISTORICAL THEMES & TYPOLOGY ..... 6

TABLE 9.1 ASSESSMENT CLASSIFICATIONS ..... 39

MAP 6.1 BLACK MOUNTAIN, FEDERAL PINBARREN & RIDGEWOOD ..... 25

MAP 6.2 BOREEN POINT, COMO & COOTHARABA ..... 26

MAP 6.3 CASTAWAYS BEACH, SUNRISE BEACH & SUNSHINE BEACH ..... 27

MAP 6.4 COORAN ..... 28

MAP 6.5 COOROIBAH ..... 29

MAP 6.6 COOROY MOUNTAIN, LAKE MACDONALD & TINBEERWAH ..... 30

MAP 6.7 COOROY ..... 31

MAP 6.8 DOONAN & TEWANTIN ..... 32

MAP 6.9 KIN KIN ..... 33

MAP 6.10 MARCUS BEACH & PEREGIAN BEACH ..... 34

MAP 6.11 NOOSA HEADS ..... 35

MAP 6.12 NOOSA NORTH SHORE ..... 36

MAP 6.13 NOOSAVILLE ..... 37

MAP 6.14 POMONA ..... 38

## 1. INTRODUCTION

It is the natural landscape that attracts visitors to Noosa Shire. The coastal landform of shallow lakes, river system and coastal escarpment provide a structured backdrop to society. In this report the surviving cultural heritage is identified within the determining context of the natural heritage. The economic impact of change to the coastal strip has actually created a new cultural landscape. Some of this has been identified here as the regional architectural style. Similarly the theme of recreation - sport, cultural activities and relaxation activities - is identified as of particular relevance to Noosa Shire in the selection of cultural heritage sites of potential significance. A key observation is that many buildings are significant for their former use, not their current use. Examples are the reuse of schools, police lock-ups, churches and hotels for community group purposes and for residences.

This report is intended to provide useful information to Noosa Council and the community about cultural heritage values created since non-indigenous occupation of the Noosa area in significant numbers from around 1860 onwards. It will also assist Council with the preparation of a Planning Scheme for the Shire in accordance with the *Integrated Planning Act 1997*.

There are many detailed and comprehensive accounts of the settlement of the Noosa district. The overview of Noosa contained in this report was to provide a reference work for the cultural heritage precincts and for the individual sites referred to in the citations. In this way it also defines the themes and typology evident in the Shire's history. This is an approach developed by the Queensland Government for the assessment of the cultural heritage significance of an area using the set of Australian historical themes developed by the Australian Heritage Commission and assessment criteria contained in the *Queensland Heritage Act 1992*.

### 1.1 ABOUT THIS REPORT

This report presents a comprehensive outline of a high number of cultural heritage sites within Noosa Shire. The format of the report has been set out with a particular purpose in mind and that is to provide information on cultural heritage sites for the new Planning Scheme. This will then enable the scheme to require special assessment of those development proposals that might affect the significance of places and features having cultural heritage values, which may then involve further investigation and additional information about the values of a property prior to a decision being made on the particular development application.

Information about individual sites and features is enhanced by additional information that provides a context for that intrinsic cultural heritage. The significance of intrinsic cultural heritage can come from a number of reasons as set out further in the next section. These values will have a context related to one or more themes that have been derived from the broader cultural heritage history of the Shire. Therefore it is important that the value of a site is not derived from information contained within the citations alone but is also elevated to the theme or themes that are relevant to the site or features. Those themes are important in defining and setting the context and a link between an individual site or feature and the broader Shire history.

This report also recognises the contributions made by groupings of sites into cultural heritage precincts.

A case study of the Cooran commercial precinct is presented in Chapter 5 that further illustrates particular aspects of some areas of cultural heritage significance but in a way that further elaborates on information contained in the citations and leads to a potential assessment approach for development proposals under a new Planning Scheme.

### 1.2 HISTORICAL CULTURAL HERITAGE DEFINED

The local historians whose work has been documented in the citations undertook the identification of those places in Noosa Shire with cultural heritage significance. Although the citations are presented on a locality basis there is appropriate recognition to the historical themes of each of the features being described. The Environmental Protection Agency Guidelines explain the preferred approach towards the assessment of the cultural heritage significance of particular places or features. *The Queensland Heritage Act 1992* is the primary reference tool as it defines eight criteria for assessment of a particular place. The place needs only to meet one or more of the criteria in order to be considered as having historical significance. The Environmental Protection Authority has adapted the criteria under *The Heritage Act* and recommends the following broad assessment approach:-

*A place may be of historical cultural heritage significance if it satisfies one or more of the following criteria:-*

- a. *The place has **HISTORICAL** significance*
- b. *The place has **RARITY** values*
- c. *The place has **POTENTIAL** significance*
- d. *The place is a good **EXAMPLE** of its type*
- e. *The place has **AESTHETIC** significance*
- f. *The place has **CREATIVE** or **TECHNICAL** significance*
- g. *The place has **SOCIAL** significance*
- h. *The place is important because of its **SPECIAL ASSOCIATION/S**.*

*Note: Cultural heritage significance may be further qualified by the degree of intactness, integrity, rarity, distinctiveness, exceptionality, representativeness, or some other quality of the place.*

The Guidelines continue to provide more specific explanation as to the meanings of the eight criteria.

### 1.3 METHODOLOGY

This project has been prepared in accordance with the *Guidelines for Cultural Heritage Management* produced by the Environmental Protection Agency in February 2001. To undertake that work Noosa Council commissioned a group of historians to act as a consultant team to write the Shire Overview, to further develop the historical themes and typology and to compile the individual citations.

This project was carried out with a systematic and consistent approach to the greatest extent possible. There are however likely to be some particular descriptions arising from the individual historian's understanding of the sites or features being assessed.

The Guidelines propose that *The most effective surveys of local historical cultural heritage adopt a three-stage process:*

1. *Preparation of an historical context report*
2. *Identification of places of potential cultural heritage significance, and*
3. *Assessment of cultural heritage significance.*

The Historical Context report is the development of a story of the local history of a particular place. But in an effort to have wider coverage than the typical review of a chronological history of people and events and a focus on key families, the Environmental Protection Agency Guidelines recommend use of the historical themes established by the Australian Heritage Commission as a preferred approach. These themes have been adapted to particularly suit the Queensland circumstances and are enhanced by a series of sub-themes to further define the particular area of investigation. The Guidelines also envisage further sub-themes being developed in addition to those within the Guidelines depending on the circumstances of the area under investigation.

This report has used the historical themes and sub-themes established by the Guidelines and adapted those to suit the Noosa circumstances. These specific themes are set out in Chapter 2 of this report.

This project has been conducted in accordance with the assessment criteria a) - h) outlined in the previous section. It also attempts a further qualification of the significance of the places or features by a ratings system. The classifications within that ratings system are intended to give guidance to the level of protection to be offered to the cultural heritage values.

This then would enable the Planning Scheme to frame the appropriate development assessment mechanism that would enable sufficient investigation and appropriate information being offered about the cultural heritage values attaching to a site prior to a decision being made on a development proposal.

Further details of the system for classifying significance is set out in Chapter 7.



## 2. NOOSA SHIRE OVERVIEW

The essential purposes of this Overview are:

*to assist Council in interpreting whether particular buildings and sites being considered as part of an approval process under the Integrated Planning Act 1997 are of cultural heritage value; and*

*to present an historical overview of the Noosa Shire covering the following key themes (developed by Queensland's Environmental Protection Agency) which specifically apply to the shire.*

The following historical themes predominate:

**Theme 1:** *Surveying & Exploring the Landscape: Looking for land with pastoral, agricultural and extractive material,*

**Theme 2:** *Developing Rural Economies: Establishing Pastoral Empires, Exploiting Natural Resources: Timber, Exploiting Natural Resources: Fishing Developing Agriculture and Agriculture Related Industries: Dairying,*

**Theme 3:** *Developing Transport and Communication Networks and Infrastructure: Establishing roads and road transport services & Creating Rail Links,*

**Theme 7:** *Educating a Rural Community, and*

**Theme 9:** *Developing Social and Cultural Institutions.*

The themes of marine service structures (3c), towns (4), law and order (6), education (7), and health and welfare (8) feature where they survive in small numbers in each town.

The predominance of sites described in the citations relate to rural activities and buildings (houses and public buildings of all types).

Whilst this Overview analyses the early exploration of the Shire area, there are no surviving remnants or sites indicating this activity. The establishment of the first roads are assessed and a hotel site along one of them, the Robin Hood hotel site on the Old Tewantin Road is identified.

The predominant cultural heritage rural sites of the Shire are of the timber and dairying industries. These are accompanied by the complementary built environment comprising the social, cultural and religious institutions, sporting and recreational activities, and government infrastructure.

The **theme of Communications** illustrates aptly the growth of the shire and the evidence of surviving cultural heritage place. Roads, rail and boats all figure as a spider web of inter-relationships in the Noosa region.

The only surviving **railway station** in use in the Shire is Cooroy's which dates from the early twentieth century. Cooran's has been sold and removed. Pomona's has been incorporated in a cultural precinct. Nandroya's building including signal cabin and two residences have all been sold and removed. Pomona's station master's residence survives as the Landcare Community building, in its original position.

The Kin Kin Creek **Tramways** and the Elanda Point sawmill site are a highly important surviving element of the timber industry in southeast Queensland. This network of tramways dating from 1870 to 1892 extends from Lake Cootharaba to the Wahpunga area. Nearby on the late Sir Earle Page's property is a road and drainage system which has been utilised later by the timber plantation owners of the property. There were a number of State Forest operations in the Shire - at Yarrol and to the north of Tewantin and on the Cooroy - Tewantin Range in the Tinbeerwah area. There are few observable remains of those works. A particular block (Portion 32, Parish of Tewantin) has been included to illustrate the effect of land selection and selective hardwood logging on the forest.

The **road system** dating from 1869 first served Tewantin, the Tuchekei area and the Skyring Creek areas near the Mary River. The road to Brisbane from the 1880s came east of Cooroy and west of Tinbeerwah Bluff where there were land selections to join the Tewantin - Gympie Road. Today the Cooroy - Tewantin Road Range, the Old Tewantin Road through the Ringtail area, and the Cooroy - Pomona Road demonstrate the form of the road construction of the relevant period and the first two have been included in citations (and a citation of the Cooroy - Pomona Road could be compiled when desired).

The **jetties and boat slipways** constructed by the Massoud, Parkyn and McKenna families have been included. These serviced the fishing and holiday clientele at Tewantin and Noosaville.

There are few **police** buildings surviving *in situ* in the Shire - only Tewantin and Cooroy. Cooran's Lock-Up is now in the Gympie and District Historical Society Museum at Gympie. Tewantin's Lock-Up has been removed to the District Sports Complex, via Butler Street, Tewantin, and has a new use.

Appendices are included dividing the places included in citations into listings according to the themes and place categories and place sub-categories.

### 2.1 BRIEF HISTORICAL INTRODUCTION

The majority of the surviving cultural heritage sites are actually in the towns. Accordingly, the following introduction assesses the rapid initial growth of the towns and the significance today.

Noosa Shire development has come full circle. Tewantin and Noosa began as ports to serve the Gympie goldfield. Water was the first access point to the Shire and the essential stimulant for the growth of the timber industry in the area. With the coming of the railway the focus changed to the hinterland. As tourism has developed the focus has turned again to the coast and is now the centre of the Shire. Until the 1960s Tewantin and Noosa were only holiday and fishing centres. The industries - dairying, agriculture and timber - were all in the hinterland, centred on Cooroy, Pomona, Cooran, Kin Kin and Cootharaba.

Just as the Aboriginals saw their lifestyle overturned, the country people have too. Rural people struggled to settle and change the landscape, prospered, retired and sold the land, for newcomers to revitalise. Tewantin and Noosa, once a timbergetters' port, a fishing village, and holiday centre for Gympie, have become a mecca for globe trotting trendsetters, retirement opportunities and a business centre.

Tewantin is now the headquarters of the Shire. Pomona, once the centre, concentrates on its rural residential aspects. By comparison Cooroy has always maintained its comparative prosperity, and its areas of wealthy residential areas at Cooroy Mountain and adjacent Sunrise Hills. Cooroy's proximity to the beach has energised the town's economy and social and cultural context.

Tewantin was the first town in the Shire from the late 1860s. Cooran began as a coach stop in 1869 on the road to Tewantin, and was a focal point for decades, hosting first at Appelby's, then Casey's and then Martin's Hotel the coach travellers on the Tewantin and Brisbane routes. Cooroy settlement arose as a timber, railway and dairying settlement from the 1890s. Pomona railway siding was opened in 1894. Kin Kin was a timber and dairying town which has now converted to tourist outcomes.

Pomona arose as a railway siding to service remnant settlers from the failed Protestant Unity Group commune which began in the area of what is now Gardiner's Road in 1894. Settlers selected land under various *Land Acts* in the surrounding areas. By the turn of the century there were also selectors from New South Wales moving to the whole Sunshine Coast area.

Until the opening of the railway through to Brisbane in 1891, settlement was from Gympie. The railway opened from Gympie to Brisbane on 17 July 1891, having first opened south to Cooran on 10 June 1889 and south to Cooroy on 1 April 1891. The railway construction stimulated further timber exploitation and land settlement movements from the Brisbane direction. Immigrants selected land, aiming to develop farms after selling the timber. The advent and accessibility of the railway permitted operators to harvest timber as a resource and renewable asset. This resulted in the Brisbane sawmills profiting handsomely.

Thus, the land around Cooroy had been selected and some freeholded by 1885. The Queensland government resumed much of this land and allocated 5 507 acres as an estate in 1885 to sawmillers, Dath Henderson Bartholomew & Co. They took up the opportunity and systematically felled the softwood forest country around Cooroy. Managers worked the coops, establishing tracks for bullock wagons. The tracks or roads were pitiful, self-selected routes.

The Government terminated the timber concession in 1907 at a cost of £7 000 and re-opened the land for selection. Numbers of people came from the south to the Cooroy area - from the Northern Rivers and the Illawarra district of New South Wales where young men saw themselves as landlocked. They established themselves and brought their families. They continued to log timber. J.L. Boden established a store on the railway reserve at Cooroy in 1906. A town slowly developed after survey and quickly burgeoned after sale of allotments. In 1911 - 1912 the commercial, cultural and administrative structures of Cooroy blossomed -

- a. opening of the Post office,
- b. extension of the top hotel,
- c. renovation of Goodrich's shop buildings,
- d. formation of the committee to establish the butter factory,
- e. appointment of a permanent station master,
- f. opening of a police station,
- g. start-up of two sawmills,
- h. opening of a permanent boarding house,
- i. opening a hospital by a female doctor,
- j. construction and opening of several churches,
- k. re-articulation of the arguments for road improvements,
- l. commencement of motorised transport between Cooroy and Tewantin,
- m. introduction of milking machines to the district,
- n. opening of a real estate office and the holding of clearing-out auction sales on farms,
- o. extension of the school building, and
- p. establishment of the Masonic Lodge, the cricket and tennis clubs, the Rifle Society, and the choral society.

Cooroy had matured and consolidated as a town.

Pomona had achieved several of these developments earlier - in 1905 - for several reasons:

- a. families from the failed commune moved close to the railway,
- b. new land was opened for selection ahead of Cooroy, as the timber concession still existed around Cooroy,
- c. shops and cultural organisations developed immediately in response,

- d. population increased in the area because the government had focussed on alienation of farming land there through its land-opening policy.

Cooran had contracted as a town after the railway was opened south to Brisbane and Cooroy became the centre for the co-ordinated service to Tewantin. The Kin Kin scrubs were not opened then for felling or selection, though Traveston and Woondum had. Farmers at Ringtail and Cootharaba struggled into destitution through the 1890s. Farmers on Skyring Creek and Black Mountain either used the road to Gympie or travelled to Cooran and Pomona as their towns.

## 2.2 HISTORICAL THEMES AND TYPOLOGY

This section provides a detailed historical account of Noosa Shire expressed within the contexts of the relevant Themes. In the first instance Table 2.1 Historical Themes & Typology below has been developed for Noosa Shire based on the various themes assessed as being relevant. The Table presents the various types of facilities and features that may contribute to each particular theme.

TABLE 2.1 HISTORICAL THEMES & TYPOLOGY

<b>THEME 1: Surveying and exploring the landscape</b>		
<b>Sub-theme</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Sub-category</b>
<b>looking for land with economic potential</b>	camp sites distinctive features of the landscape associated with survey and exploration	mountains, hills, passes, rock formations, caves, rivers, creeks, waterfalls, lagoons, swamps
<b>THEME 2: Developing rural economies</b>		
<b>Sub-theme</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Sub-category</b>
<b>a. establishing pastoral empires</b>	homestead  waterhole dam	main residence, kitchen house, dairy, manager's residence, staff quarters; outbuildings: shed, barn, harness room, pumping shed, generator shed, garage, cow-bail, stables, dip; grounds: trees, garden, orchard, vegetable plot, fernery, apiary, aviary, yards, fencing, carriage drive
<b>b. displacing Aboriginal people/frontier conflict</b>	conflict site camp site reserve	creek, pathway waterhole, lagoon, lake, river, creek reservation
<b>c. developing extractive industries (timber, clay, sand, gravel, rock, fishing)</b>	logged forest sawpit sawmill quarry sand/ gravel/clay pit kaolin clay pit fished lake, river & sea waters	machinery, shed, hut, tramway, road/track, tree stump, rafting place, raft, landmark tree machinery, boiler, road/track, tramway, camp site, hut, mill manager's residence, township excavation excavation kiln, excavation house, boat shed, slipway, market
<b>d. encouraging closer settlement and immigration</b>	township agricultural reserve group settlement	town reserve selection, homestead selection, grazing farm selection, farm
<b>e. encouraging agricultural expansion</b>	farm: dairy/grain/grazing/mixed/stud/cane  orchard horticulture/market garden plantation apiary factory	dairy, shed, barn, yard, fence, stables, cow-bail, machinery shed, mustering yard, garage, generator shed, dip, dam, drainage canal, residence orchard, sheds, residence garden, sheds, residence plantation, sheds, residence hives, shed, residence butter factory
<b>f. managing and conserving land, water, flora and fauna</b>	national park conservation park state forest  timber reserve fish habitat wetland reserve	fire tower, barracks, track, firebreak, water reservoir, forest station, nursery, experimental plot, apiary, beauty spot, hiking trail forestry plot, landmark tree
<b>g. encouraging the growth of tourism</b>	natural tourist attraction tourist attraction camping ground/caravan park tourist accommodation tourist information centre picnic facilities rest stop scenic view water transport facilities	beach, lake, river private collection (objects, memorabilia), theatre camping ground, store, office, ablution block boarding house, guesthouse, flats, hotel, motel, apartments bar-b-cue, shelter shed, seating roadhouse, hut track, board walk, lookout, amphitheatre, landmark tree jetty, boat and canoe hire

<b>THEME 3: developing transport and communication networks</b>		
<b>Sub-theme</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Sub-category</b>
<b>a. establishing roads and developing road transport services</b>	road	corduroy road, cutting, sideling, kerbing, guttering, benched road, range road, macadamised road
	bridge	ford, bridge
	river crossing	vehicular ferry
	coach stop	hotel or inn, coach terminal, waiting room, watering place
	garage	roadhouse
	bus stop	terminus, bus shelter
	public car park	
<b>b. establishing ports</b>	government reserve	Ports and Harbours reserve
	port and harbour infrastructure	wharf, jetty, dock, holding yard, buoy, light, boat shed, slipway, groyne, retaining wall, reclaimed site, marina, boat parking area
<b>c. developing shipping services</b>	navigational aid	channel light, river light, harbour light, buoy
	marine services centre	pilot and rescue centre, radio tower, jetty, boathouse
<b>d. establishing and developing post, telegraph and telephone services</b>	office	post or receiving office, telegraph office, post & telegraph office
	telephone exchange	
	telegraph/telephone post/line	
	postal route	post box
<b>e. providing a railway service</b>	railway	track, cutting, bridge
	railway station	platform, station building, waiting room, siding, goods shed, water tower, dam or lagoon, pump house, signal box, switching system, turntable, repair shed, residence, post or telegraph office
<b>f. establishing air services and facilities</b>	airfield/helipad	runway, hangar, control tower
<b>g. communicating information</b>	newspaper office	
	broadcast facility	radio station, transmission aerial
	mobile phone tower	
	internet cafe	
<b>THEME 4: establishing and developing towns</b>		
<b>Sub-theme</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Sub-category</b>
<b>a. selecting township sites</b>	port	
	cross-road	
	ford	
	watering place	street grid, cleared site, ruin
	rail siding	
	abandoned town site	
<b>b. establishing local government</b>	shire chambers	town hall, administration centre/office
	shire clerk's residence	residence

<b>c. providing services</b>	<b>public</b>	electricity supply/street lighting water supply stormwater management sewerage system nightsoil cart access way waste management system roadbuilding services bridge beach protection public garden  ambulance station fire station weather station library art gallery cultural centre arts and crafts centre community centre sports facilities public toilets	substation, lamp post dam, waterworks, pipeline, water reservoir, pumping station kerbing, channelling, stormwater drains sewerage pipes, sewerage farm, pumping station laneway landfill, depot, recycling centre depot, garage, machinery store, office road bridge, pedestrian bridge seawall park, garden, street plantings, median strip, roundabout, clock tower, botanical garden, amphitheatre  studio, gallery, pottery kiln swimming pool, playing fields, courts, etc showers
<b>d. planning environments</b>	<b>urban</b>	land subdivision town planning scheme	planned or garden suburb, rural residential estate, canal estate, gated estate, streetscape, plantings industrial estate
<b>e. housing populations</b>	<b>urban</b>	dwelling / residence	tent, hut, cottage, house, mansion, flat, apartment, unit, townhouse, caravan, boarding house
<b>f. developing a regional style of architecture</b>		dwelling/residence public building commercial building community care accommodation centre	house, apartment building  hostel/nursing home
<b>THEME 5: developing secondary and tertiary industry</b>			
<b>Sub-theme</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Sub-category</b>	
<b>a. developing manufacturing and heavy industry</b>	factory works	food processing factory (eg bakery), joinery, furniture factory forge, brickworks, pottery, boat building yard	
<b>b. encouraging the building and construction industry</b>	dwelling	hut, cottage, house, mansion, duplex, flat/s, apartment, unit, townhouse	
<b>c. providing services - professional, commercial, entertainment, etc</b>	commercial and office premises warehouse, bulk storage facilities hotel, motel place of public entertainment	shop, shop-house, store, kiosk, cafe, restaurant, office/s, bank, bank manager's residence  theatre/picture theatre, dance hall, outdoor theatre, billiard room, bowling alley, skating rink	
<b>THEME 6: maintaining order</b>			
<b>Sub-theme</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Sub-category</b>	
<b>a. policing &amp; maintaining law and order</b>	police station court house	station, lock-up, residence	
<b>b. developing government and public administration</b>	government office	Shire office, Council chambers	

<b>c. defending the country</b>	military installation  encampment	airfield, firing range, amphibious craft landing site, explosives magazine, unexploded ordnance, prefabricated building  barracks, camp site, training ground
<b>THEME 7: educating a rural community</b>		
<b>Sub-theme</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Sub-category</b>
<b>a. establishing schools</b>	government school [provisional school, state school, state high school, rural school] private school denominational school	schoolhouse, schoolroom, teacher's residence, classroom block, auditorium, gymnasium, playshed, playing field, swimming pool, garden, former school site
<b>b. encouraging adult self-education</b>	school of arts university of the third age	
<b>THEME 8: providing health and welfare services</b>		
<b>Sub-theme</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Sub-category</b>
<b>a. developing health services</b>	hospital doctor's surgery ambulance station	private, general, maternity doctor's surgery, residence ambulance station, residence
<b>b. caring for the elderly and the needy</b>	community care/accommodation centre	refuge, safe house, women's centre, daycare centre, hostel, nursing home, aged person's home, respite centre, meals-on-wheels centre, adult training centre, animal refuge
<b>c. caring for the young</b>	child care	creche, pre-school, kindergarten, playground
<b>d. providing for the dead</b>	cemetery/crematorium	headstone, grave marker, monument, memorial, lychgate, fence, gate, path, garden
<b>THEME 9: developing social and cultural institutions and ways of life</b>		
<b>Sub-theme</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Sub-category</b>
<b>a. establishing places of worship</b>	place of worship accommodation meeting place	church rectory, presbytery, convent hall
<b>b. forming secular associations, institutions, organisations and societies</b>	meeting place  showground sporting facility  indoor recreation facility theatre arts and crafts centre museum	hall, meeting room, masonic hall, auditorium, youth centre, outdoor meeting space, shed, environment centre  pavilion, sheds, holding yards clubhouse, sports ground, playing field, jetty, boat house, tennis court, golf course, bowling green, swimming pool, horse racing track, pony club, storage shed  indoor sports centre, card hall, billiard room studio, gallery, pottery kiln museum
<b>c. recreating (going to the beach, holidaying, eating &amp; drinking)</b>	beachside facilities fishing spot tourist resort restaurant	lifesaving tower, changing rooms, surf break, nude beach  jetty, bridge, hut
<b>d. commemorating important events or people</b>	memorial memorabilia name	stone cairn, plaque, arboretum, park, tree war munitions street, house, hut, park
<b>e. remembering the fallen</b>	memorial	obelisk, cairn, statue, honour board, plaque, hall, forestry plot, flagstaff, park

### 2.2.1 Theme 1: Surveying & Exploring the Landscape: Looking for land with pastoral, agricultural and extractive material:

The human occupation of the Noosa Shire landscape has always alternated between the water and the hinterland.<sup>1</sup> Six Mile Creek traverses the Shire from its sources at Cooroy Mountain at the southern end to its confluence with the Mary River at Keefton beyond the northern end of the Shire.<sup>2</sup> The low range, the watershed between Six Mile Creek and the Noosa River and its lakes system, accentuated most in Tinbeerwah Bluff, has been crossed by paths for thousands of years.

Following Cook's trip in 1770 and Flinders' in 1799 and 1802, there were three official expeditions into the Shire area by sea and land before any European settlement in the Noosa Shire area. The first was in March 1822 when John Bingle in the colonial cutter, *Sally*, and William Edwardson in the colonial cutter, *Snapper*, in July 1822, sailed north as far as Hervey Bay. Bingle identified Double Island Point, and Edwardson hastily sketched the areas of Double Island Point, Rainbow Beach, Wolf Rock, Hook Point and Tin Can Bay Inlet.<sup>3</sup> Neither landed in the Shire.

The second trip was that of Andrew Petrie and Henry Stuart Russell and party in May 1842. They were travelling in a 'mongrel' of a boat and ventured mainly along the coast seeking timber and any good pastoral country. Petrie kept a diary and accounts of the trip were published widely at the time.

Andrew Petrie set out for Wide Bay on Wednesday 4 May 1842 with Henry Russell, Joliffe, Hon. Wrottesley, five boat crew including Joseph Russell and two Aborigines. On Thursday they landed at Noosa. Petrie sent a letter with the Aborigines to Bracefield, a convict escapee, who came to see him. They named the low bluff, 'Bracefield Head'. Bracefield listed the named of the row of mountains in the hinterland (many of them volcanic plugs) as Caroorra, Coolum, Coora, Yuro-Yuro, Eirange and Boppol.<sup>4</sup>

The settlement of the Wide Bay and Burnett bypassed the Near North Coast. Pastoralists had moved up the rivers behind the D'Aigular and Coast Ranges from the Darling Downs from 1841. Burnett Inn was opened in Nanango in 1846 to service the Brisbane Road. Maryborough was opened as a port servicing Gayndah

and Russell's *Burrandowan* run on the Upper Burnett. The Archers of *Durundur* near Kilcoy and Frederick Bigge of *Mount Brisbane* had been across into the Upper Mary (probably around Imbil and Brooloo) in 1841 and found the dense forests and steep slopes unsuitable for sheep.

The Upper Mary, Maroochy and Mooloolah Rivers were effectively 'locked up' by the declaration of the Bunya pine resources as an exclusive area. The road to the Kilcoy runs from the North Pine also led people west. Furthermore, the Aborigines' reaction to the intrusion of settlers with cattle and sheep was known to be fiercer on the coast, and the effects of the poisoning of Aborigines on the Kilcoy run in 1841 inhibited and soured Aboriginal - settler relations in the whole of south east Queensland.

Expansion of the population of Moreton Bay settlement in the late 1840s increased interest. Commissioner for Crown Lands for the Wide Bay and Burnett District, John Carne Bidwell, a botanist and horticulturalist based at Tinana near present day Maryborough, was instructed in 1851 to mark a route to Brisbane. In riding south he became hopelessly lost amongst the volcanic plugs - Cooran, Cooroora, Cooroy, Coondoo, Coolum, Eerwah and Ninderry believing them to be the Glass House Mountains. He was lost without food for eight days, bewildered, confused and eventually found his way to Brisbane with the aid of a personal pocket hook (or knife). He never recovered and died on 16 March 1851.<sup>5</sup>

### 2.2.2 Theme 2: Developing Rural Economies: Establishing Pastoral Empires:

The initial settlers within the Noosa Shire were the Skyring family in 1853.<sup>6</sup> Zachariah and Daniel Skyring took up four runs - *Whildka Whildka* (later known as *Tuchekoi*) bounded on the north by the creek that became known as Skyring Creek, *Canando* and *Yandina* to the south along the Maroochy River and bounded on the west by the Coast Range, and *Pooreema* east of *Whildka Whildka* and across to the coast (the only one within current Noosa Shire). Their tenders for the 90 850 acres were accepted on 30 May 1857 in Sydney.<sup>7</sup> Each were said to be capable of running 600 cattle. It is unclear whether they actually settled on the land. Skyring family history tradition records they did.<sup>8</sup> Their future settlement under the *Crown Lands Alienation Act 1868* on Skyring Creek on Portion 1, Parish of Tuchekoi, County of March, 98 acres, initially, in 1869,<sup>9</sup> is just outside the current western boundary of Noosa Shire. In effect these shopkeepers from Brisbane tried to settle the Noosa

<sup>1</sup> Indigenous history is not covered in this overview as it is addressed as a separate Indigenous Cultural Heritage Study of Noosa Shire.

<sup>2</sup> The town water supplies are now harnessed in Lake McDonald on Six Mile Creek east of Cooroy. (Ian McDonald was a Noosa Shire Councillor from 1962 to 1979. He was Shire Chairman from 1964 to 1979. His private occupation was as a veterinarian in Cooroy from 1954. He was 55 years old when he died in 1980. {*Noosa News* 17 May 1979 and 19 Sep. 1980}.)

<sup>3</sup> Gill, J.C.H. (Connal), 'In Search of a River: Two Little Known Voyages to Moreton Bay', *Queensland Heritage*, vol.1 no.8 pp.16-25.

<sup>4</sup> Russell, Henry Stuart, *The Genesis of Queensland: an account of the first exploring journeys to and over the Darling Downs: the earliest days of their occupation; social life; the course of the discovery, northward and westward; and a resume of the causes which led to separation from New South Wales with portrait and fac-similes [sic] of maps, log etc., Toowoomba, Vintage Books, facsimile, 1989, pp.251-256.*

<sup>5</sup> For an assessment of Bidwell's career see, 'John Carne Bidwill' by D.A. Herbert in *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, Melbourne, Melbourne University press, 1966, 1977, vol. 1, pp.98-99, and *Australian Encyclopedia*, Sydney, Angus and Robertson, 1958, p.500.

<sup>6</sup> 'They Paved the Way' by Claire Tuck, *Gympie Times*, 22 Jul. 1994 p.7. It is the private records of the family which record that original settlement. Official records do not record their presence on the land until 1857.

<sup>7</sup> *New South Wales Government Gazette* 1857 p.1254.

<sup>8</sup> Claire Tuck, *Gympie Times*, op.cit.

<sup>9</sup> LAN/P22 fol. 2, QSA; Daniel Skyring subsequently took up Portions 500 in 1874 and 565 in 1875, and others lands under the 1884 Act.



region too early. Within 18 months of their officially obtaining the runs they were declared forfeited for non-payment of rent.<sup>10</sup> The same four runs were opened to public competition by tender closing on 15 August 1859.<sup>11</sup>

John Bergin took up the *Whildka Whildka*, *Canando* and *Yandina* runs in mid 1859.<sup>12</sup> Control of the runs went to Edward Lande, lessee of Mooloolah run to the south within a year, to Walter Scott in 1861, and to Scott and James Kingsford in 1863.<sup>13</sup> *Pooreema* was not advertised for lease again. Instead, in accordance with colonial government policy, a reserve of 12 miles was maintained along the coast at that time. Two runs of 16 000 acres each were subsequently applied for over part of the *Pooreema* country - *Coutharaba* [sic] by Walter Hay of *Tahiti* run on Tinana Creek in September 1860; and *Caroora* [sic] in November 1860 by John O'Connell Bligh, an officer of the Native Mounted Police at Yabba and Maryborough, and a descendent of Captain Bligh of the *Bounty*.<sup>14</sup> Hay's run was bounded by Kin Kin Creek to the south, Lake Cootharaba down to Cooloolthin Creek and westerly back to the commencement point at the head of Kin Kin Creek. *Caroora* was less definite in description and covered the land 12 miles north of Cootharaba run to the Tagigan and Como Scarp areas.<sup>15</sup>

The Skyring Brothers appeared to have left the area, and in their travels came full circle, Daniel taking up Portion 1 in the Parish of Tuchekeoi in 1869, and the family expanded their landholdings just outside of Noosa Shire until 2001. Zac went to Brisbane, then Nanango, found gold and ultimately went to Gympie when gold was discovered there in 1867.

Bligh maintained his connection with the region through *Caroora* and then as Police Magistrate in Gympie, and in 1869 he blazed the road to Lake Coorobah as the port for the burgeoning timber industry in the Kin Kin Creek area.

Walter Hay who pioneered Noosa Heads and Tewantin located the route from Gympie following the eastern watershed of Six Mile Creek as far as possible and crossing down from the escarpment immediately north of Tinbeerwah Bluff, parallelling Ringtail Creek and turning south along the flats to Tewantin. Hay did this informally for the government in 1873 and it is retained to this day as Old Tewantin Road.<sup>16</sup> The Robin Hood Hotel site at the Five Mile on this road has been included in this study as a site worth preserving. The historic road is also significant to Shire settlement patterns and offers the Council the opportunity of an eco-tourism heritage route through the Shire for horse riders and bushwalkers.

Bligh had been in the area in 1853 - 1854 in the course of his work with the Native Police when he had blazed the track from Traveston to Lake Coorobah. An imperfectly described report of the area appeared in the *Moreton Bay Courier* on 11 October 1860<sup>17</sup> and J.B.<sup>18</sup> followed it up with a similar article in the *Wide Bay and Burnett Times*. This article set the landscape in simple perspective - showing the difference between the water people - the Aborigines around the lakes - and the drier land above the escarpment. A key element was his assessment that the kauri pine stands were better than those in the Mary River Valley. That offered new opportunities for Brisbane sawmillers.

### 2.2.3 Theme 2: Developing Rural Economies: Exploiting Natural Resources: Timber

Newspaper reports and the promotional character of colonial immigration campaigner, John Dunmore Lang's book, *Queensland*<sup>19</sup>, attracted timbergetters to the area. For the next four decades this country rang to the sounds of axes, the bells of bullock teams, the hiss of steam from sawmill boilers, the horses' hooves on the gravel base of the tramways, the squeal of the iron surfaces of the timber jinkers grinding together, the laughter of the social events and the school children at Cootharaba and Tewantin, hammers driving the nails of the sawn timber houses at Elanda Point<sup>20</sup>, the lapping of the tidal water on the lake against the log loading bank at Elanda Point Mill, the chuffing the *Gneering*, *Adonis* and *Culgoa* paddle steamers that plied the Noosa River<sup>21</sup>, the splashing, dumping sound of the kauri logs hitting the water when rolled in to be rafted down to Dath Henderson's mill. Sawn timber was transported by boat down to Colloy loading wharf on the North Shore close to the river mouth, together with the markers of a growing consolidating rural region of sparse settlement of selectors carving out a lifestyle based on selling timber, building a house, growing fruit and vegetables, enclosing their land in post and rail fencing and the vegetable patches with palings.

The lifestyle of the timbergetters was similar to that of miners in the loneliness and danger of their daily work. There were unforgiving hours in the long arduous apprenticeship and through the workforce. They were legendary for their vivid vocabulary. Often they were farmers earning cash to pay for their land. They changed the landscape with their on-the-spot road construction.<sup>22</sup> Portable sawmills were often used. They also constructed tramways with wooden rails, three four inch sections of hardwood wedged or nailed to the sleepers. The tramway wagons were iron with steel axles carrying steel flanged wheels, operating on gentle gradients.

<sup>10</sup> *New South Wales Government Gazette* 12 November 1858 p.1872.

<sup>11</sup> *New South Wales Government Gazette* 13 June 1859 p.1315.

<sup>12</sup> *New South Wales Government Gazette* 13 June 1859 p.1315 and CLO/13 fols. 9 & 147, QSA.

<sup>13</sup> CLO/13 fols. 9 and 147, QSA.

<sup>14</sup> *Gympie Times*, 10 Jan. 1970; He was the son of Captain Bligh's daughter, Elizabeth, and her cousin, Richard Bligh.

<sup>15</sup> CCL 3/2 fols. 32, 110 & 145, QSA.

<sup>16</sup> QSA

<sup>17</sup> "The Freshwater Lake".

<sup>18</sup> Possibly John O'Connell Bligh.

<sup>19</sup> Lang, John Dunmore, *Queensland, Australia: highly eligible for emigration, and the future cottonfield of Great Britain: with a discussion on the origin and manners and customs of the Aborigines* (London, Stanford, 1861).

<sup>20</sup> Formerly called Ilandra, the Aboriginal name of the lake.

<sup>21</sup> The Aboriginal name was Weiba.

<sup>22</sup> *Gympie Times*, 24 Jan. 1907.

As the timber was removed from the land selections<sup>23</sup>, the timber industry contracted to the rougher ridgy country and the 5 507 acre timber concession around Cooroy and W. Ferguson's large land selection at Ridgewood.

The 1893 flood had a profound effect on the economy of south east Queensland and the Noosa region. Sawmills in Brisbane were flooded, the Elanda Point Mill was already closed when the timber resources ran out, the water rose at Tewantin damaging the houses of Goodchap and Dukes and Walter Hay.<sup>24</sup> Six Mile Creek cut off Cooroy for over a week. The Tuchekei settlers on the Mary River at Carter's Ridge<sup>25</sup> who had land selections with both a small farm of 40 acres or so on the river alluvial flats and a house block in the village area<sup>26</sup> were completely devastated. Their livelihood was washed away down the Mary River and their settlement never recovered.

As the timber industry at Cootharaba declined, the settlement concentrated more around land selections in the Tewantin, Cootharaba and Ringtail areas, the Skyring family's community at Skyring Creek, Asher Cole's to the east, Cooran and Pinbarren lands (from May 1905), Cooroy Mountain area timber settlement of bullockies carting the cutters' timber, the Community Settlement around Cootharaba set up by McGhie Luya & Co on subdivisions of part of their original Portion 1 and around Ringtail Creek lands, and two more major Co-operative Community settlements - the Woolloongabba Exemplars at Lake Weyba, and the Protestant Unity Group on Gardiner's Road near Cooroora Mountain west of Pomona. Both communes failed as the parameters of settlement were flawed. Their story is told in this report separately in the Woolloongabba Exemplars and the Federal Character Area citations. The outcome was that selectors took up the opportunities of dairying as the Travelling Dairy visited the area and a Dairy and Ice-Making plant was erected at Gympie in 1897.<sup>27</sup> Dairy factories opened progressively - Kin Kin on 1 January 1914<sup>28</sup>, Cooroy in April 1915<sup>29</sup> and Pomona on 1 October 1919.

As timber declined people around Tewantin turned to fishing. An ice works was installed near the Royal Mail Hotel in 1912. They also concentrated more on tourism. Nevertheless, the timber industry survived in various ways throughout the shire until the 1950s. Several sawmills are recorded in citations in this Report - Straker's at Cooroy, Kildey's at Kin Kin and case mills are referred to in this Overview and in the citations on public halls around which social life was centred, eg. Ridgewood, Ringtail.

## 2.2.4 Theme 2: Developing Rural Economies: Exploiting Natural Resources: Fishing

Europeans immediately appreciated the abundant marine resources of the Cooloola Coast. Readily available fish, crabs and oysters became a tasty adjunct to the diet of flour, sugar, tea and red meat that the settlers brought with them. From the time of first contact, Aborigines traded in seafood with the newcomers.

For the settlers the problems of exploiting perishable marine resources commercially in a (remote) area were not quickly or easily overcome. Some preservation of fish by salting and smoking was carried out during the nineteenth century, but it was not until the introduction of such twentieth century advances as iceworks, refrigeration and motor-boats that fishermen could reliably deliver large quantities of fresh marine products onto distant markets and make fishing an important local industry.

The men who fished for a living at Tewantin during the nineteenth century sold their catches chiefly to the hotels and boarding houses that catered for holiday-makers. A local legend describes how, in the early 1870's, a poor fisherman named Joseph Keyser doggedly wheeled barrow-loads of smoked fish along the Noosa road to sell at the Gympie diggings. During the depressed 1890's a number of families at Tewantin relied for at least part of their income on fishing.<sup>30</sup>

Fish catches were taken by horse and cart to Cooroy, where they were packed in ice and then railed to Brisbane. Some families, especially around Exhibition time, took their fish to Brisbane by boat.<sup>31</sup> In the early 1900's, a fish and iceworks established at Tewantin<sup>32</sup> near the jetty below the present day RSL Park, helped boost the commercial fishing industry.

Before the second world war, about ten commercial outfits fished the lakes in single-engine motor boats, catching mackerel all year round, mainly by netting, and mullet in winter when they came up the river to spawn.<sup>33</sup>

The Fish Supply Management Act of 1935 gave the Queensland Fish Board power to establish branch markets in declared fish supply districts. Fishermen then had to direct their entire catches to the Fish Board's depot,<sup>34</sup> which had its own jetty and packing shed at Hilton Terrace, Noosaville.

<sup>23</sup> *Gympie Times*, 19 and 21 Aug. 1897.

<sup>24</sup> *Gympie Times*, 4 Feb. 1893.

<sup>25</sup> Just outside the western boundary of the Noosa Shire.

<sup>26</sup> This area was utilised in the 1930s depression as a residential area for unemployed people and was known as 'Bag Town' because of the flimsy house construction methods. It is just outside the western boundary of the Noosa Shire today.

<sup>27</sup> *Gympie Times*, 4 May 1897.

<sup>28</sup> *Gympie Times*, 14 January 1914.

<sup>29</sup> *Nambour Chronicle*, 9 April 1915 p.4.

<sup>30</sup> Browne, Elaine *Cooloola Coast – Noosa to Fraser Island (the Aboriginal and settler histories of a unique environment)*, University of Queensland Press, St Lucia, 2000, p.169.

<sup>31</sup> Edwards, Denise *Country and Coast – A history of the development of the Noosa Shire*, Denise Edwards, Noosa Heads, 2001, p.56.

<sup>32</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>33</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>34</sup> *ibid.*

### Oystering

The large shell middens of the lower Noosa River (for example near Lake Weyba)<sup>35</sup> showed that oysters had long been a favourite food of the Aborigines. In the late nineteenth century, a new local industry exploited the oyster, native to south-east Queensland's coastal inlets, to supply the Sydney and Melbourne markets.<sup>36</sup>

Activity in south-east Queensland's oyster industry peaked around the turn of the century and then began to decline, slowly at first, more rapidly after 1920 due to a combination of economic and environmental factors. At Noosa, where the Moreton Bay Oyster Company once employed men to dredge the river bed for culture and sent it by the steamer *Adonis* to Moreton Bay for fattening, environmental changes created by increasing urbanisation and farming activities upstream eventually destroyed the oysters and brought about an end to the trade.<sup>37</sup>

From the 1930's up to the 1960's, the Parkyn brothers regularly scraped a generous feed of oysters from the jetties of their boating business on the site of the present day Noosa River Harbour at Tewantin until increasing water pollution from sewage deterred this practice.<sup>38</sup>

### Prawning

Prawning was for bait only until the advent of beam trawling after the Second World War when a separate industry developed, exploiting the coastal lakes up to the 1990's.<sup>39</sup> George Parkyn apparently adapted machinery left by the American services after the Second World War to initiate the industrial fishing techniques that he and his brother Howard used.<sup>40</sup>

#### 2.2.5 Theme 2: Developing Rural Economies: Developing Agriculture and Agriculture Related Industries: Dairying

With the opening of railways cream depots and travelling dairies could operate efficiently. As travelling dairies entered the districts in the 1890s selectors could transfer to dairying and start supplying creameries established in the area. Much of the local economy was a subsistence one.

The establishment of the Noosa Shire Council in 1910 confirmed the State Government's confidence in the maturity of the new towns in the area and the timber and dairying industries. Landholders and town storekeepers became quite aggressive in advancing their arguments for opening and building new roads, focussing on the towns. They did this through the formation of Progress Associations and in sending deputations to Shire Council Meetings. Farmers also participated proactively in road construction to their

properties. This assisted the Council's Roads Foreman and construction teams.

As many of the land selectors had migrated to south east Queensland from other settled areas of eastern Australia, they already had experience in developing towns, butter factories and opening up roads and railways. They were often the sons of families who had established farms on the Northern Rivers and South Coast of New South Wales and Gippsland, Victoria and who were then land-locked. Consequently, these young men and the commercial interests often had the measure of older timbermen on the early Councils. They quickly had themselves elected to Council, subsequently, the Shire Council was always oriented to construction and development and increased population.

The dairying industry became the backbone of the Shire. Butter factories opened at Kin Kin on 1 January 1914, Cooroy in April 1915 and Pomona in 1919 – the Silverwood Association Company at Kin Kin, Wide Bay Co-operative Dairy Association at Cooroy, Caboolture Assoc at Pomona. Prior to that farmers railed their cans of cream in louvred vans from Cooroy, Pomona and Cooran railway stations. Trafficable roads for cream lorries were essential to the dairy industry.

The family farm became a critical element of the Noosa hinterland society. Milking machines were introduced on the larger farms from 1911 but it was the children who provided the substantial labour for milking cows and feeding pigs and calves and herding cattle. Dairying is a 364 day a year task. Social life, weddings, meetings and church services were all timed to accord with available time between milking. Farmers wives formed social grouping – CWAs, Church Guilds – to raise funds for country comforts, social welfare and building programs.

The 1920s were boom years. The Shire roared ahead then. The population of the shire almost doubled 1921 and 1927<sup>41</sup> and another 30.7% to 1933.<sup>42</sup> Land selections were subdivided or sub-leased in the early seventies. Returned Servicemen from the Great War sought new land to settle on. New infrastructure developments offered new employment – upgrading the Cooroy - Tewantin Road under the Main Roads Act, town housing, railway deviations and school and public hall buildings, together with new shops as fires swept away the old.

<sup>35</sup> Monks, Colin *Noosa – the way it was, the way it is now*, Tewantin, 2000, p.16.

<sup>36</sup> Browne, op. cit., p's. 172-3.

<sup>37</sup> Ibid, p's 174-5

<sup>38</sup> Interview with Howard Parkyn, taped by Elaine Green for the SEQRWQMS *Historical and Cultural Heritage Study of the Noosa, Maroochy and Mooloolah Rivers*, September 2000.

<sup>39</sup> Edwards, Denise, op cit, p.56.

<sup>40</sup> Parkyn interview, op cit.

<sup>41</sup> 84.9% increase (Australian Bureau of Statistics).

<sup>42</sup> *ibid*.

### ***The Banana Boom, the Sawmills: and Life of the Farmers***

Bananas were the boom crop. The first bananas were grown in an experimental way by selectors in 1911-12 beside their orchard crops. Growers were able to prosper quickly using acreages as small as five acres of fertile soils for the first time. Increasing population and improved rail transport to southern markets via Wallangarra offered profitable returns. Banana growers needed far less capital to start banana growing compared to dairy farming. Case mills sprang up in all the banana growing districts to service the industry. They came at the end of the long sawmilling industry boom. There was no requirements for sawmills to be licensed so they were erected in rudimentary fashion on freehold and leasehold farms often where stands of good softwood timber were available. Kin Kin and Pinbarren were prolific producing areas.<sup>43</sup> Cooran farmers quickly joined in an enterprising way. Cooroy farmers railed 1 375 cases of bananas in early October 1917.<sup>44</sup> The tonnages escalated through the 1920s with 14 924 cases for 1925 railed through Pomona<sup>45</sup> from 445 acres. 1928 was the peak year with 1.5 million bunches grown in the Gympie District.<sup>46</sup> Between 1918 and 1933 banana plantings in the Noosa and Widgee Shires rose from 887 acres or 12.9% of Queensland's banana production in 1918, through to a maximum of 10 018 acres or 50.4% of Queensland's production in 1928, and declined to 934 acres or 10.3% of Queensland production in 1935.<sup>47</sup> The decline was rapid because of falling prices after the Tweed River district recovered its pride of position after the bunchy top disease was overcome.

What were the banana growers to do then, when they were effectively decimated by disease in Queensland and recovery south the Queensland border? In the face of an enveloping world-wide economic depression they turned to four options – return to dairying; join the depression construction works and the railway deviation work on the Blackall Range; join the ranks of the unemployed; or turn to pineapples and beans and peas. Butter prices also dropped during the depression to seven pence (seven cents) per pound. However, the Empire Agreement of 1932 for the firm supply of butter to Great Britain provided certainty for the industry in the region.

Those dairymen throughout the Shire who owned their farms as freehold or who had substantially paid off their leases were protected from the brunt of the force of economic depression. Those who couldn't pay their rental to the government could barely survive by subsistence farming after having their rent garnisheed from their cream cheques by the butter factory company. Generally the children of dairy farmers stayed home to work the farm and then married within the district. The teenagers/children of the rural townsmen often went to work in the sawmill or obtained

apprenticeships with the local garage, the tailor, the carpenter, plumber, or went to work in a café, hotel, shop, as a nurse or on a farm.

### **2.2.6 Theme 3: Developing Transport and Communication Networks and Infrastructure: Establishing roads and road transport services & Creating Rail Links**

The initial entry to the shire was by sea. After exploration by Petrie, land settlement was directed along the upper Caboolture, Upper Maroochy and Upper Mary River watersheds. The discovery of gold at Gympie in 1867 accelerated this trend and communication routes fanned out from Gympie including the Tewartin area as the nearest port. However, the opening of the railway to Brisbane in 1891 facilitated marketing of the log timber to Brisbane; the opening of more land to dairying as around Pomona and Cooran after the Protestant Unity Group folded; and marketing of fruit and vegetables to Gympie and Brisbane.

Land transport routes changed markedly as the population ebbed and flowed across the region. From the opening of the Gympie goldfield there was a passable road from Brisbane to *Durundur* Station in the Kilcoy area. Parliament debated the expenditure of £1 000 on the Gympie Road on 9 January 1868<sup>48</sup> but there was no support. Miners and coachmen then opened a route via Lander's at Mooloolah River, Lowe's at Maroochy River, Tuchekeoi Pocket (the watershed between the Brisbane and Mary Rivers, west of Cooroy), Mulligan's Flat near the junction of Skyring Creek with the Mary River and on to Gympie.<sup>49</sup> An alternative in 1869 was: Petrie's, Stony Creek (Zillman and Franz) 11 miles, Narangba 11, Crookneck 15, Mellum Creek 9, Middle Camp 12, Maroochy 14, Yandina 4 (Johnson's), Cooroy 12, Six Mile Creek (old road) 25, and Diggings 6.<sup>50</sup> It was Lowe who had cut this road north of Mooloolah through dense scrub and putting logs over the bad pinches.<sup>51</sup> It was this road west of North Arm skirting the Obi, up Newspaper Hill to Carter's Ridge which became the mail and coach route and the main road to Gympie until the early 1950s.<sup>52</sup>

The opening of the Gympie - Tewartin Road followed McGhie Luya & Co's opening of the Cootharaba Sawmill and the use of the Noosa River for transporting logs downstream for loading on Brisbane bound boats. The position of a small population on the banks of Lake Cootharaba set the scene of a structured commercial and social relationship necessitating connection with Gympie and Cooroy railway stations.

<sup>43</sup> *Noosa Advocate*, 28 Sep. 1917 p.2.

<sup>44</sup> *Noosa Advocate*, 3 Oct. 1917 p.3.

<sup>45</sup> *Noosa Advocate*, 2 Jan. 1926 p.2.

<sup>46</sup> Defined as the Court of Petty Sessions District (D Edwards, *Country and Coast*, op.cit., p.49.

<sup>47</sup> *Annual Reports* of the Department of Agriculture and Stock.

<sup>48</sup> *Queensland Parliamentary Debates*, vol. VI, pp.839-844.

<sup>49</sup> Letter No. 69/8583, LAN/AF 1131, QSA.

<sup>50</sup> *Pugh's Almanac* 1870.

<sup>51</sup> *Nashville Times*, 20 May 1868.

<sup>52</sup> See Survey Plans. (Although this road is outside the shire it is important to understand the key roads network in context.)

The timber industry evolved from that of the remote axemen of the 1850s to the sophisticated sawmillers of the twentieth century in the towns. The transformation of Straker's mill at Cooroy into Wilco's mill and then Boral Limited is set out in the separate citation in this study.<sup>53</sup>

Brisbane sawmiller, Scotsman, William Pettigrew, trail blazing opportunist in the region<sup>54</sup> explored and mapped the Noosa River area in September 1863<sup>55</sup> and saw the stands of pine trees as far as the eye could see in the vicinity of Cooroy, Tinbeerwah and Cooroora Mountains. When he came back in 1865 there were already cedar getters there but he did not record whether he saw them.<sup>56</sup> They were living and working along Kin Kin Creek using timber licences gazetted by Government. Ebenezer Thorne knew of Henry Blakesley and John Kinmond. Blakesley and his wife, son and daughter actually resided in the Tewantin area then. Kinmond was an employee of Pettigrew sent north to explore and secure timber resources, and he ultimately stayed, taking up his own selection at Cootharaba in 1879.<sup>57</sup> The Kinmonds married into James Duke's family (already referred to). Duke had worked as a timbergetter ~~and bullocky~~ at Laidley and Fraser Island before coming south to the Tewantin

area and working for Dath Henderson Bartholomew and Co at Doonan and the Cooroy Timber Concession.<sup>58</sup>

Brisbane storekeeper, George Harris had come from Brisbane via Ipswich and Conondale Ranges to Tewantin in 1864-5<sup>59</sup> and extracted 400 000 super feet of cedar logs out of Kin Kin Creek area for Brisbane timber merchants, Webb Brothers. Harris's trip into the Noosa Shire from the west was very likely the first serious project exploiting the region's economic resources by land. The next serious extraction of timber south was Pettigrew's *Gneering* drawing Thorne's timber out of Kin Creek back to Brisbane in 1866 and his *Taldora Radjah* which took logs to Pettigrew's northern mill at Dundathu (Tin Can Bay {and outside the Noosa Shire}) at the same time. Thorne sought to select the Kin Kin Creek land in 1865 but was prevented by Government. On receipt of a promise from A. C. Gregory, Chief Commissioner for Crown Lands and Surveyor General<sup>60</sup> then, that he would be given priority on opening of the land to selection he grazed cattle there and erected cattle yards and a house and established a vegetable garden on the site what became Cootharaba Station later.<sup>61</sup>

<sup>53</sup> The history of the timber industry in the Cooloola area is amply described in Elaine Brown's book, *Cooloola Coast*, op.cit.

I have relied on this book for the period 1860s and 1870s. Beyond that I have done substantial research on the timber industry from the following sources: Reading:

1. *Gympie Times* from 1868 to 1880, 1890 to 1898, 1911-1914 and specific feature articles thereafter;
2. *Gympie Miner* 1878-1888;
3. *Queenslander* 1872-1885;
4. Brisbane *Courier* - specific selected articles 1866, 1867, 1885;
5. Historical articles in *Noosa News* in 1970s by St John Carter and E M Long;
6. Cooroy Repurchased Estate file at QSA - LAN/154 and LAN/AZ110; Q
7. All Land Selection Registers for Gympie Land Agent's District at QSA, LAN/P22 > , ; Selected Land Selection and Deed Farm Files in Parishes of Tewantin, Noosa, Laguna, Weyba, Tuchekoi;
8. *Annual Reports of the Railway Department in Queensland Parliamentary Papers* 1891-1900; and as recorded in published articles:
  - (i) Kerr, J.D. & R.S., 'More on Cootharaba', *Light Railways*, Autumn 1976, pp.11-15.
  - (ii) Kerr, J.D. & R.S., 'Notes on the Gauge of Cootharaba Tramway', *Light Railways*, Apr. 1989, no. 104, p.21.
  - (iii) Kerr, Ruth S., 'A Timber Selection - Portion 32, Parish of Tewantin', *Missing Links*, Journal of the Cooroy-Noosa Genealogical & Historical Research Group Inc, no.2, May 1998, pp.10-12.

<sup>54</sup> While the word "opportunist" with its late 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century negative connotations may seem disturbing or overdrew the scene, I feel it is relevant to Pettigrew for its meaning. Pettigrew was a leader, always ahead of competitors in exploration, proving of resources and in technology.

<sup>55</sup> Pettigrew Diaries held by Royal Historical Society of Queensland, 1963; *Queensland Daily Guardian*, 1 Oct. 1863, quoted in E. Brown, op.cit.

<sup>56</sup> Thorne, Ebenezer, *The Queen of the Colonies or Queensland I know it by an eight years' resident*, London, Sampson, Low, Marston, Searle, Rivington, 1876.

<sup>57</sup> Land Selection No. 1231, Portion 1231, Parish of Noosa, County of March, and freeholded on 27 April 1885. LAN/P22, QSA.

<sup>58</sup> James Duke was born in Liverpool on 25 March 1841 and arrived in Australia on the *Everton* in 1863. He married Jane Maker at Laidley on 18 October 1864. He was a carrier at Helidon. They moved to Maryborough in 1867 with their young son, Alfred. Two sons who made significant contributions to the life of Cooroy and Tewantin, were born at Maryborough - Henry George in 1871 and William Hunt in 1874. They moved to Fraser Island where James carted logs to the west coast for transport to Maryborough sawmills. Two daughters, Elizabeth and Charlotte, were born in Maryborough in 1877 and 1880 respectively. James moved to Tewantin in 1883 where he started carting to Gympie, aided by his sons. Two more daughters, Emma and Myra were born at Tewantin and they lived opposite the school. In 1897 James and the family moved to Dath Henderson's manager's house on the north shore after the mill closed. He bought the property and later he built another house further upstream in 1913. He established dairy farms at Eumundi and Doonan. He was elected the first Chairman of the Noosa Shire Council in 1910. (See Betty Sutton, 'James Duke' in *Missing Link* Journal of the Cooroy-Noosa Genealogical and Historical Research Group Inc, issue 1, November 1997, p.23; and Betty Sutton, 'Noosa Shire 90th Anniversary', *Missing Link* Journal of the Cooroy-Noosa Genealogical and Historical Research Group Inc, issue 6, May 2000, pp.23-25, including photo of James Duke at p.25)

<sup>59</sup> Brown, op.cit., pp.135-6.

<sup>60</sup> For details of his career see Cohen, Kay, 'Augustus Gregory - "A Biased Civil Servant?"', Royal Historical Society of Queensland *Journal*, vol. XIV, no. 10, Feb. 1992, pp.393-402.

<sup>61</sup> Land Selection File for Portion 1, Parish of Noosa, County of March, LAN/P22, fol.1, QSA.

Pettigrew maintained his timber interests in the area using his employees. One of them, James Low later became a major land owner and public figure at Yandina.<sup>62</sup> William Grigor of the Landsborough - Caboolture area came to collect cedar from Scott at Noosa in July 1867. Pettigrew established a wharf site at Tewantin from 1868 to 1872. In 1871 selector G.F. St John Carter sold kauri pine from his selection No. 181 on Cooloothin Creek<sup>63</sup> – the first kauri pine to be exported from the Noosa area.

As stated above, the road into Tewantin from the Brisbane direction came east of Tinbeerwah Bluff having come up from Maroochy River crossing, very likely Doonan and certainly unlikely to have been up over the Blackall Range near Cooroy, or Sunrise or Cooroy Mountain area. The road joined the blazed track which was known as the Gympie road to the Port via Ringtail, Coloothin Creek and up to Wahpunga Range.<sup>64</sup>

Pettigrew's influence centred on Dundathu on the Mary River near Maryborough where he established his sawmill in August 1863.<sup>65</sup> It was McGhie Luya & Co who controlled and developed the Cootharaba area, under the *Crown Lands Alienation Act 1868*. Pettigrew lost out to McGhie Luya & Co whose agent Charles Russell beat him to select Portion 1 of 6 000 acres on 2 March 1869.<sup>66</sup> Russell joined with James McGhie, Abraham Fleetwood Luya, George Goodchap and John Woodburn in the land selection – all wealthy miners. They erected their sawmill at Elanda Point<sup>67</sup> in 1870. A detailed description of the sawmill is outlined in Elaine Brown's book, *Cooloola Country* at pages 158 to 159.

Transport was an expensive problem to the company. The road to Gympie was boggy and slow, and the Lake and Noosa River were shallow. In 1873 the company mortgaged their property to the new Queensland National Bank (QNB) to buy flat bottomed paddle wheel boats to tow punts of sawn timber downstream to Colloy, their loading station opposite Tewantin. They also purchased the *Culgoa* paddle wheel steamer to carry passengers goods and 35 000 super feet of sawn timber to Brisbane. The mill experienced a severe setback and sadness when the steam boiler blew up killing five men in July 1873. The Governor visited the area in May 1873 en route to Tewantin for return to Brisbane from Gympie. His party travelled along Walter Hay's new road from Gympie.

The timber industry was the foundation of the Noosa Shire economy and settlement patterns. Clearing of land and sale of the timber continued as standard practice on the majority of land selections until World War I. The income enabled capital improvements, i.e. house and fencing to be done to fulfil the conditions of the Land Selection Acts. The land could then be stocked and maize and cane crops grown. The selectors also tended to work in the timber industry outside of their own selection as bullock drivers, timber cutters, sniggers, and in the bush sawmills.

#### ***Rural Economy: Changes from the 1960s***

The 1960s were a key formative period in the Shire's development. The pioneers had died and their children were leaving. The farmers were retiring by selling out to inland graziers who desired to use the land as cattle agistment country or to real estate companies for land subdivision. Sawmills were closing because of decreasing production. There are few remains of any of the portable or case mills. Recent rehabilitation of town mill sites at Pomona and Cooran has also diluted the evidence of these major industrial sites.

The individual country town economics were evolving from that of close-knit self-sufficient communities into more regional groupings as affordable access to motor vehicles and realigned, improved and bituminised roads allowed almost universal transportation. New farmers bought the land and converted it to agriculture, particularly bean crops. The advent of bulldozers and tractors allowed contractors to plough whole hillsides in preparation for planting beans. The shire was producing 19% of Queensland's beans in 1964-5. Townswomen were the pickers, often providing their own transport to the farms. As the price of butter had steadily declined in real terms since 1951 with inflation and rising wages, the remaining ageing farmers converted to beef or sold out. Those who persevered, invested in improved pastures. When they couldn't they replanted beans or bananas etc, but the noxious weeds (groundsel and lantana) intruded and engulfed the hillsides and creek banks. The only way farmers could pay day-to-day expenses was by taking an outside job – in the sawmills, sandmining, bean picking, chipping, sleeper cutting, Page's furniture factory, Cooroy brickworks or the Council 's outside-labour force. Consequently, the majority of farms were heavily mortgaged to the banks, and storekeepers and garages often carried huge debt lists. Clearing-out sales were common. Pig and calf sales at the railway yards declined. Cream supplies to the butter factories plummeted affecting town economics severely. Carriers concentrated on cattle transport. Meanwhile enterprising younger farmers converted to milk supplies, buying quotas and installing refrigerated vats at considerable capital cost. This impacted severely on unformed country roads.

<sup>62</sup> For details of his career see: *Yandina: 125 Years 1871 - 1996*, Yandina Historical Research Project Group.

<sup>63</sup> LAN/P22, fol. 23, QSA.

<sup>64</sup> G.F. St John Carter, 'The Early Days of Tewantin and Noosa River', *Noosa Advocate*, Christmas 1912.

<sup>65</sup> This is outside of the Noosa Shire, and therefore is neither studied nor analysed here.

<sup>66</sup> LAN/P22, fol.1, QSA.

<sup>67</sup> Known as Ilandra by Aborigines.

### 2.2.7 Theme 7, 8 & 9: Educating a Rural Community; Providing Health and Welfare Services, & Developing Social and Cultural Institutions

Each town except Tewantin and Noosa had a hospital. Only Cooroy's has survived and the original home has been remodelled totally. Cooran's and Pomona's hospitals were closed in the 1940s and eventually sold as private residences. Both Cooran's and Pomona's are included in the citations. In 2000 a new hospital was opened at Noosaville to service the coast. Social welfare centres which feature among the citations in this report are the RSPCA at Doonan and St Vincent's Aged Care Centre at Noosa Heads.

Schools were always considered of paramount importance for the next generation – petitions, working bees and deputations were all organised to lobby for new schools in each farming district by 1920. Schools of Arts provided technical and general education and were opened at Cooroy, Pomona, Cooran and Kin Kin. One teacher schools multiplied across Queensland and this shire in response to the influx of population. They closed in the 1950s with the advent of school bus transport.

Higher education commenced in the shire in 1936 when Pomona Rural School was opened. Cooroy State High School was opened in 1961 and the Senior School in 1964, the year that Pomona Senior School closed and the first time Cooroy had won an administrative decision over Pomona – a sign of further changes to come.

Public Halls were the social hub – often adjacent to hotels – useful for all meetings. They were cheaply constructed – of local timber and local labour. In the farming and timber districts they were the venue for dances, socials, meetings, family gatherings until the 1960s when the motor car centred social life at the beach and the central towns. The halls which survive have been refurbished through government grants revitalized through young women's groups for Child Care and public education, landcare and environmental matters. The others have been moved or demolished.

The School Picnics and Annual Agricultural Shows provided outlets for social activities. The annual show provided so much opportunity for showing the cattle and agricultural produce. Farmers vied with each other over the quality of their favourite breeds – AIS, Jersey and Ayrshire predominated – often bred from pedigreed champions brought at the Brisbane Exhibition. Families competed with each other over the butterfat production of their cattle, measured through the testing of cream through the butter factories.

Side shows attracted all. The pavilions with District Exhibits, Junior Farmers' displays, cooking, needlework and school work were arrayed and judged by efficient regional people.

The woodchops exhibited the skills of the timbermen. The butchers brought their bullock for "guess the weight" competition and the horsemen hacks etc took control of the arena all day except for the grand parade and Show Queen.

The Masonic Lodges and the Churches moulded families, districts and the towns together. They were often formed immediately after the opening of the town's shops and school and were built substantially to last. The Pomona Lodge and building is arrayed with numerous murals of mythological figures telling the stories of our cultural and spiritual ancestors. Cooroy's lodge was opened in 1911 and a photo of the interior was published in the *Gympie Times* at opening. The Tewantin, Pomona and Cooran Masonic Lodge buildings are included in the citations. Cooroy's is not included as the original building was sold for removal as a house at Belli and a new one moved there from Helidon in 1996.<sup>68</sup> Although the closed nature of lodges is the perception that prevails about their purpose and activities, welfare remains their aim.

Meanwhile active sporting teams – cricket, football, tennis, rifle shooting flourished continuously. Tennis courts were established in most small districts centred on the public hall, the school. Some of the major families also formed tennis courts on the farms which attracted the young men and women of surrounding families. Community Golf Clubs in the Shire have only been established at Cooroy in the 1930s and Tewantin (stimulated by G Adams) in the 1950s. Several private company gold clubs have been constructed in the Noosaville area. Horse racing has never been a focus, perhaps because of the proximity to Brisbane and Gympie and because horses were used on farms as working horses.

The Sailing Club began at Noosaville in the 1950s. There were regular sailing competitions on the river. The Surf Club at Noosa in the 1930s. The Noosa Shire Council gave strong financial support to the Surf Club in the early years and in erecting bathing sheds at Noosa, Noosaville and Tewantin. The surf club building survives at Tewantin and a citation has been written on it for this report. In the 1960s, in the era of full employment, increased opportunity to privately owned motor vehicles stimulated the beach culture and weekend travel. Noosa Heads with its northeast-facing beach became a 'mecca'. At the same time fishing clubs flourished.

The improvement of roads – using Main Roads funding on the highway and the Cooroy -Tewantin Range Road in the 1920s and 1930s, 1950s and 1960s provided easy access for residents to travel to the beach and parks. Polley's Bus Company at Gympie provided a bus to take day-trippers without cars to Noosa. The cream carriers in the hinterland towns also provided trucks for Sunday School Picnickers to the beach and a bus service<sup>69</sup> to and from country dances.

<sup>68</sup> *Gympie Times*, 27 Sep. 1994 p.36 and 23 Apr. 1996 p.12.

Easter, Christmas and New Year holidays were highly popular times when hinterland residents, Gympie and Brisbane people visited. Since the 1870s there have been holiday cottages homes available at Noosa Heads and Tewantin. The Royal Mail Hotel at Tewantin has hosted governors, high society and workers on holiday. Laguna House built in the 1890s and Halse Lodge became the fashionable holiday centres until the 1960s when Laguna House was demolished. Halse Lodge has revitalized in the 1980s. Meanwhile lingerie millionaire, Bernard Dowd's house at Sunshine Beach hosted Royalty and international celebrities. The house was sold and demolished in the 1970s.

All of these holiday venues prospered according to the standard of transport access. The beaches could only be reached easily by road after the bridges over Doonella and Weyba Lakes were built. Likewise the state of the road from Weyba Lake over Noosa Hill was critical. From the 1920s the Parkyns and Massouds ran a boat across to Noosa Woods for day trippers and holiday makers. Their river heritage survives in various ways and their hut, jetties and slipways have been recorded in citations in this study.

In the 1920s families began the practice of camping at the beach for holidays. There were camping areas at Tewantin near the bathing area, at Munna Point and at Noosa Heads. Tents were packed in "cheek by jowl", the ropes coming right up to the next tent. Citations of several sites have been prepared on the Noosa and Tewantin camping areas in this report. The camps were vulnerable in cyclones and storms. Fortunately there were few misadventures, except for the unforecasted New Year's Eve storm at sea in 1962 which caused havoc.

The establishment of motels and private holiday houses and subsequently resorts followed with the greater affluence of holiday-makers from the 1960s. Salter's was the first motel, in 1962 some freehold land at Munna Point just at the junction of the Munna Point Lake Weyba heads and eastern side of the Gympie Terrace and Weyba Road corner. It has now been replaced by resort type housing. The Lakes Motel near Doonella Bridge was the second motel followed by Bailey's and Shannon's on Noosa Hill, and the first hotel at Noosa Heads was the Reef Hotel on the hill. Only the Reef Hotel survive with any remnants of the original buildings.

The developments of the 1970s and 1980s projected Hastings Street as a mecca to the world. The introduction of southern capital after the Queensland Government had abolished death duties in 1975 gave the Gold and Sunshine Coast economies an enormous financial boost on a broad scale. Not only were tourist and holiday accommodation built on the coast at Noosa, there was a land subdivision and building boom. The farmers families who had visited the beach at Christmas and Easter for decades now saw their friends' sell at premium prices and quickly subdivided for housing blocks e.g. Ross's butcher's property that went into the St Andrew's Drive Subdivision known as Noosa Outlook.

People who had camped at Noosa Woods, Munna Point, Moorindal Street, and the Tewantin Camping Grounds were returning as permanent retirees to experience the quiet lifestyle and the mountains and lakes scenery. At the beginning of this phase the infrastructure – roads, hospital at Cooroy, entertainment, bowls and golf clubs were sufficient. The professional and trade services expanded, particularly the Cooroy Hospital and High School to service the Tewantin-Noosa areas. Pomona retained its hinterland view and industry through Page's furniture factory and motor vehicle outlet.

The next major demographic change has been the influx of younger people and families in the 1980s and 1990s accepting the cheaper cost of living and seeking trade and service industry employment.

Education made possible new alternative options for young people, and this has been the determinant of the vast changes in Noosa Shire communities and social structures and formation of organisations. That has been seen throughout the Shire and is most pronounced on the coast. The wealth has followed and tourism and cultural activities have blossomed, and their manifestation in significant places and sites are shown in the citations which follow. The shire history has come full circle - to Noosa and the southern end of the Shire where the timbergetters first entered in the 1850s.



### 3. INDIVIDUAL CITATIONS

This study reviews the history of Noosa Shire and also investigates those particular sites or features that have contributed in some significant way to that history. Although many of the physical buildings, tracks, structures and the like have long since disappeared, the sites of these are still of interest. Therefore the citations record many sites where the cultural heritage values are physically removed by past action such as fire or demolition following deterioration.

The citations are individual assessments by the historians and collectively provide a wealth of information about the history of Noosa. Although the citations are detailed it is quite likely that much more information can be related to the many sites and features recorded.

There are also many additional sites and features that are not included in the citation for reason that the information sourced was not sufficiently rigorous or the remaining values were marginal.

The 182 citations are published separately, due to their size.

#### 4. CHARACTER PRECINCTS

The citations also contain information about character precincts. These are particular localities that contain a number of sites and features that collectively make a significant contribution to the local cultural heritage values. Sometimes an individual site does not alone represent a significant contribution but its association with the others is where its significance lies. The citations make it clear where these circumstances apply.

Character precincts have been identified in-

- The Federal area
- Maple Street and Tewantin Road in Cooroy
- The main street of Cooran
- The main street of Kin Kin

The character of Factory Street in Pomona is illustrated in a variety of citations in that street - Uniting Church, Page's Factory and the Garage Driveway, the various remains of the old Railway Hotel and the Majestic Theatre.

## 5. CASE STUDY OF CHARACTER PRECINCTS - COORAN

### 5.1 COORAN - KING STREET COMMERCIAL PRECINCT

#### 5.1.1 Description

Travelling up King Street, from east to west, the places of interest are:

- Former general store, c.1900, 2 King St (cnr Prince St)
- site of former Railway Hotel, c.1889, public park/playground
- Memorial School of Arts c.1906, 14 King St
- Former Commercial Bank c.1906, 16 King St (Country Kitchen)
- Former butcher's shop c.1905, 18 King St (private house)
- Former bakery c.1935-40, 24A King St (private house)
- Former Alfredson's Joinery c.1934, 28 King St (Trading Post)
- Former railway goods shed c.1890, 30 King St
- Former Alfredson's Joinery office/garage c.1962 30 King St (Mill Studio)

#### 5.1.2 Brief History

The King Street commercial precinct illustrates Cooran's economic and social development for more than a century, from its early beginnings as a scenic stopover and watering place on the first coach route, established in 1878 between the Gympie goldfields and Tewantin's coastal shipping, to a thriving rural town and railhead, exporting the district's timber and agricultural produce (sugar cane, bananas, other fruits, vegetables, milk).

Cooran had the Shire's earliest and most important railway station, which opened in 1889 from Gympie. Cooran was also a popular early tourist destination. Most of this precinct's culturally important, remaining buildings recall Cooran's appearance at the beginning of the twentieth century.

In the second half of the century, the former Alfredson's joinery at the top end of King Street established an innovative business based on local timber and shipped pre-cut homes throughout Australasia. Cooran's economy severely contracted when the railway station closed in 1986.

The Memorial School of Arts, Alfredson's Joinery complex and former railway goods shed are separately mentioned. Further research is needed to fill our details on the other places whose history and contribution to the precinct's visual character are sketched below.

#### Former General Store

The single storey building, on the corner of Prince Street, at King Street commercial precinct's eastern end, is thought to be the "general store at the railway gates" owned by Rohan and Booth.<sup>69</sup> It was formerly a general store known as Bish's store. Mr Alf Lister was named as storekeeper in 1901.<sup>70</sup>

This building's history is incompletely known. In 1905, the *Gympie Times* reported that "A great drawback is the want of a general store, as many visitors who came with the intention of camping out found on arrival that no rations could be procured locally, and consequently were compelled to go on to Gympie, at considerable inconvenience and expense."<sup>71</sup>

The building (vacant at the time of writing) was an antique store during the late 1990's. It is a modest weatherboard shop in generally good condition.

It has a prominent location at the precinct's lower entry, facing the railway crossing. The simple timber construction, deep pavement awning, plain glassed shopfront and stepped parapet link it visually to other buildings in the precinct. Its scale, dark colours and parapet are similar features to those of the more modern Alfredson buildings at King Street's top end.

#### Site of the Railway Hotel

Taking advantage of the new railway station, the Railway Hotel was built in 1889 by district pioneer, William Martin, after demolishing the first coach inn (the Half-Way House).<sup>72</sup> However, it still had stables out the back near the fence and behind that - horse yards.

The hotel was seen as the epitome of modernity at a time when a hundred people visited Cooran for Sunday picnics and sporting events. In 1905, the *Gympie Times* reported that:

*'Mr W Martin has decided to have the Kitson Hydro Light installed throughout his hotel, and Mr E J Curtin, the representative, yesterday made arrangements for the work to be carried out. The illuminations will reach nearly a thousand candle power. The additions to the hotel are still progressing, the ten rooms and large hallway are completed and the balcony will now be commenced.'*<sup>73</sup>

Successive Licensees of the Railway Hotel have been the founder's son and original licensee of the Tewantin Hotel, Dan Martin, his son-in-law, J. McIlwraith, Peter Cummins, and Bill Bycroft.

<sup>69</sup> Judith Smoothy Guran. *Cooran State School 100 Years of Education* (Cooran State School, 1990), p 36.

<sup>70</sup> *Gympie Times* 12 December 1901.

<sup>71</sup> *Gympie Times* 6 June 1905.

<sup>72</sup> *Historical Tales of Noosa Shire* (Cooroora Historical Society), p 3.

<sup>73</sup> *Gympie Times* 6 June 1909.

The Railway Hotel burnt down around 1965. Its site is now a public park and playground. None of Cooran's several early hotels, which also included the Cooran Inn (formerly Premier Hotel) built in 1911 near Arthy's Road on the other side of town, survive.

#### **Former Commercial Bank of Australia**

This building, now the "Country Kitchen" cafe, was completed shortly after July 1906. (*Gympie Times*, 28 July 1906).

Further research is needed to see whether the shopfront has been substantially altered. However, visually it relates well to the adjacent Memorial Hall, with a gabled roof of similar pitch. The deep pavement awning and glassed shopfront are like the former General Store at the precinct's entry.

#### **Former Butcher Shop**

This simple timber building, now used as a dwelling, is believed to be a former butcher's shop. It may date from around the same decade as the adjacent former bank building, though the narrower verandah facing the street is infilled with narrow casements. It has attractive metal hoods over its side windows and its painted timber facade tones in colour with the Memorial Hall, former bank and old bakery a few doors away.

#### **Old Bakery**

This timber cottage-like building has two doors opening towards the street, one at the side apparently leading to a small projecting shop front. Though it is collapsing, the brick baker's oven attached to the back of the premises, appears to be more modern.

At the time of writing, the building looked unoccupied. The timber structure appears to be in good condition and probably was painted within last few years despite fig trees growing over the outside walls.

This building is thought to have been used by Len Howard, a baker, in the 1950s. Originally, it may have been premises other than a bakery. It has apparently also housed a doll doctor's shop and a (knife) sharpening business.

Visually, this is a transitional building between the earlier buildings to the east and the adjacent alfredson joinery complex. Its timber painted walls and gable harmonise with earlier buildings. The roof pitch is not as steep as the older buildings but sharper than the original alfredson's joinery building. Like the nearby joinery buildings, its front facade is oddly angled to follow the street boundary.

#### **Former Alfredson's Joinery Complex**

(including the former Railway Goods Shed)

Visually, compared with the older buildings in the streetscape, the more recent buildings in this complex have rougher, plainer features, flatter rooflines and darker coloured timber facades, except for some contrasting white trim, e.g. to window frames.

The tiny white painted goods shed is much older: it has a steep pitched roof like the Memorial Hall, while its small short awning over the entry door is like the awnings on the Alfredson's joinery complex buildings on either side.

The parapet on the very end (former garage) building echoes the stepped parapet on the old general store at King Street's opposite end, like (almost) matching bookends.

#### **5.1.3 Historical Themes**

This place illustrates the following historical themes in Noosa Shire based on the Environmental Protection Agency's *Guidelines for Historical and Indigenous Cultural Heritage Management*, dated 2001:

2(d) - Developing rural economies - encouraging selection, closer settlement and immigration: township;

5(b) - Developing secondary and tertiary industry - providing professional, financial, commercial, hospitality, entertainment services: hotel, shops, offices and bank;

3(e) - Developing transport and communication networks and infrastructure - creating rail links: railhead and railway station;

2(g) - Developing rural economies - encouraging the growth of tourism: tourist attraction;

9(b) - Developing social and cultural institutions and ways of life - forming secular associations, institutions, organisations and societies: meeting place; and

5(a) - Developing secondary and tertiary industry - developing manufacturing: joinery.

#### **5.1.4 Potential Significance**

As well as being a character area of considerable historic significance, this precinct is worth including on a Heritage Trail.

#### **5.1.5 Visual Integration of Character Area**

Historically important elements of the streetscape are visually integrated by common materials (timber and iron), repetition and groupings of similar building forms, rooflines and setbacks.

The flanking and supporting buildings are modest in scale and design, compared with the street's centrepiece - the Memorial School of Arts Hall. This is the largest, most imposing, decorative and articulated building as well as the most significant remaining place.

#### **5.1.6 Proposed Protection Measures & Principles**

- a. Keep the original built forms and essential external features of the character buildings;
- b. Maintain original and/or continuous uses of the nominated places or allow adaptive reuse;

- c. Control external additions and alterations and all new development in the precinct to respect the form, scale, materials, textures, colours, setbacks and massing of the nominated character places.

**5.1.7 Possible Planning Controls**

The following activities have the potential to be damaging to the values of the precinct and ought to be classified as assessable development under a future Planning Scheme:

- a. demolition (including removal) of the nominated character buildings - impact assessable;
- b. major additions and alterations to the external appearance of the character buildings as seen from the street - impact assessable;
- c. material change of use of premises or reconfiguring a lot where, the proposed use or new subdivision pattern would significantly affect the historic fabric or appearance of the character building and the precinct - impact assessable;
- d. material change of use of premises, combined with demolition or new building work, on infill/redevelopment sites - impact assessable;
- e. material change of use of premises or reconfiguration of a lot, where the proposed use or new subdivision pattern would not detract from the character of the building or precinct - code assessable;
- f. following approved redevelopment of infill sites, material change of use of premises on such sites - code assessable;
- g. minor alterations, additions and maintenance to character buildings, as seen from the street - code assessable;

The following activities would not be detrimental to the values of the precinct and need not be classified as assessable development from a cultural heritage perspective:

- a. minor alterations, additions and maintenance to either character buildings, not visible from the street, or to other existing buildings in the precinct - self assessable;
- b. material change of use of premises, involving the re-establishment of a previously approved, lawful use, which, in the opinion of Council, does not involve substantial alterations to the external appearance of a character building - self-assessable.

## 6. MAPPING

The individual citations refer to locations of cultural heritage significance that are generally capable of being mapped.

Two A1 maps have been prepared to support this report which illustrate the location of the citations:

- on the basis of the Principal Theme that each citation is associated with, and
- on the basis of their reference number.

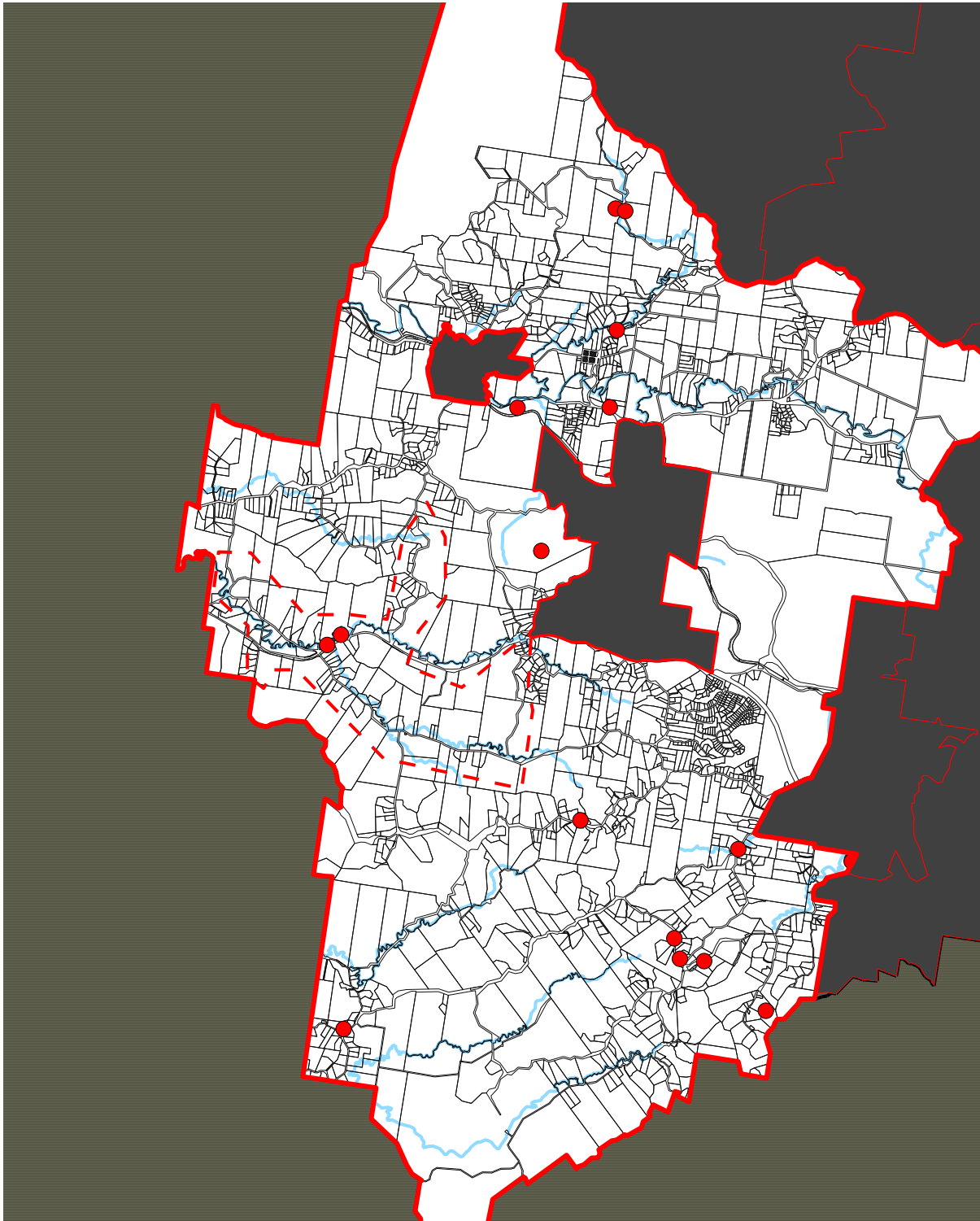
The map of the Principal Themes uses icons that reflect the nature of the theme. This map enables interpretation of the location and clustering of cultural heritage values and their principal purpose. Just a quick glance over the map confirms the earlier comment that most values are found in the towns and urban areas. Tewantin, Noosaville, Noosa Heads and Cooroy in particular, feature most of the citations.

The map of the citation numbers allows a useful link between the individual citations and a reference source for their location. Being able to identify citations in the particular area assists studies of a locality.

For ease of reference the following Map 6.1 to Map 6.14 give an illustrative overview of the distribution of cultural heritage values found in each of the localities.

A mapping base enables a future Planning Scheme to apply in a practical manner, the measures adopted by Council to protect cultural heritage values. A property owner or prospective property owner can readily check if Council has recorded cultural heritage significance for any individual property. The assessment of development applications by Council is also facilitated by access to this type of information available for any locality.

**MAP 6.1 BLACK MOUNTAIN, FEDERAL PINBARREN &  
RIDGEWOOD**



MAP 6.2 BOREEN POINT, COMO & COOTHARABA





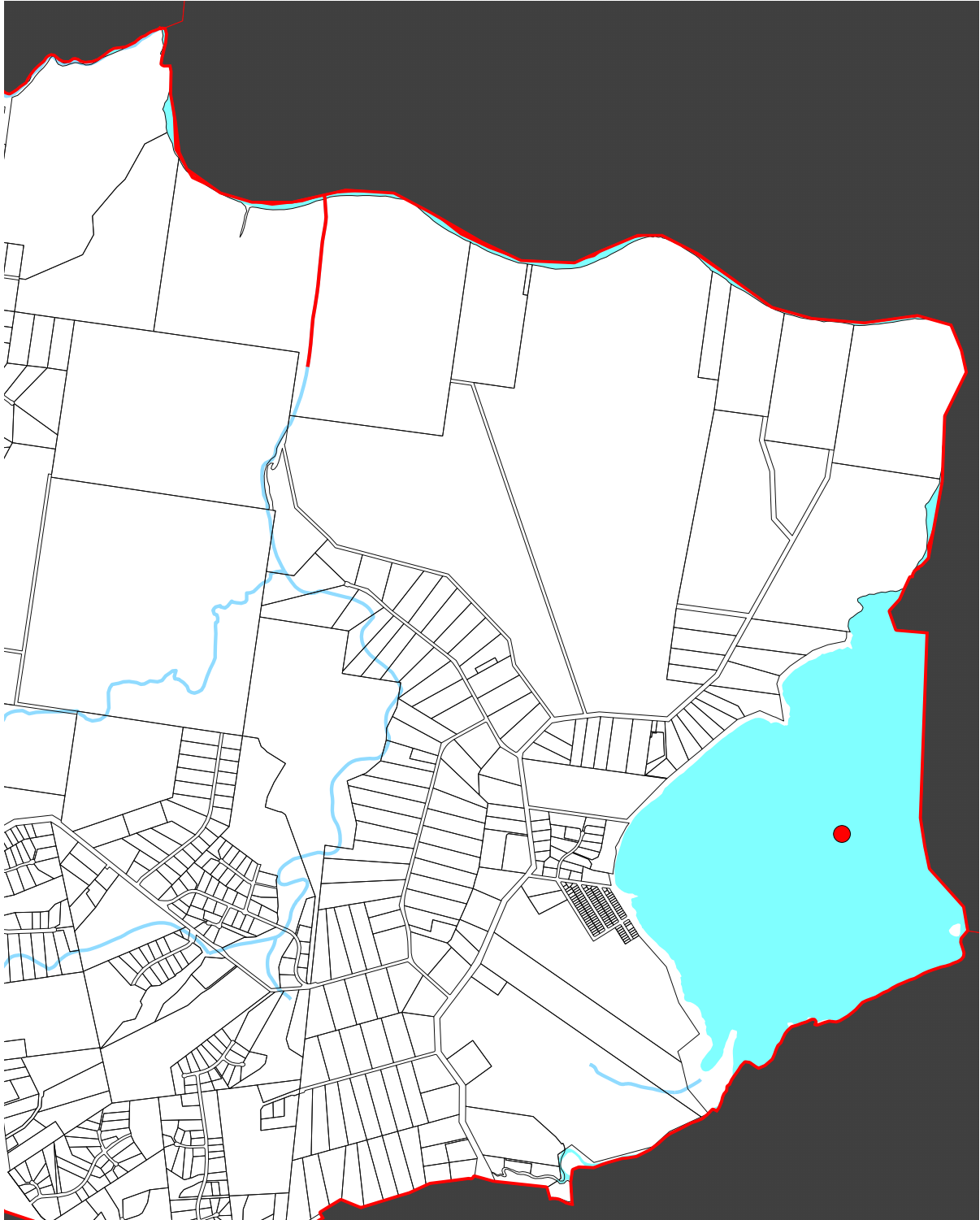
**MAP 6.3 CASTAWAYS BEACH, SUNRISE BEACH & SUNSHINE BEACH**



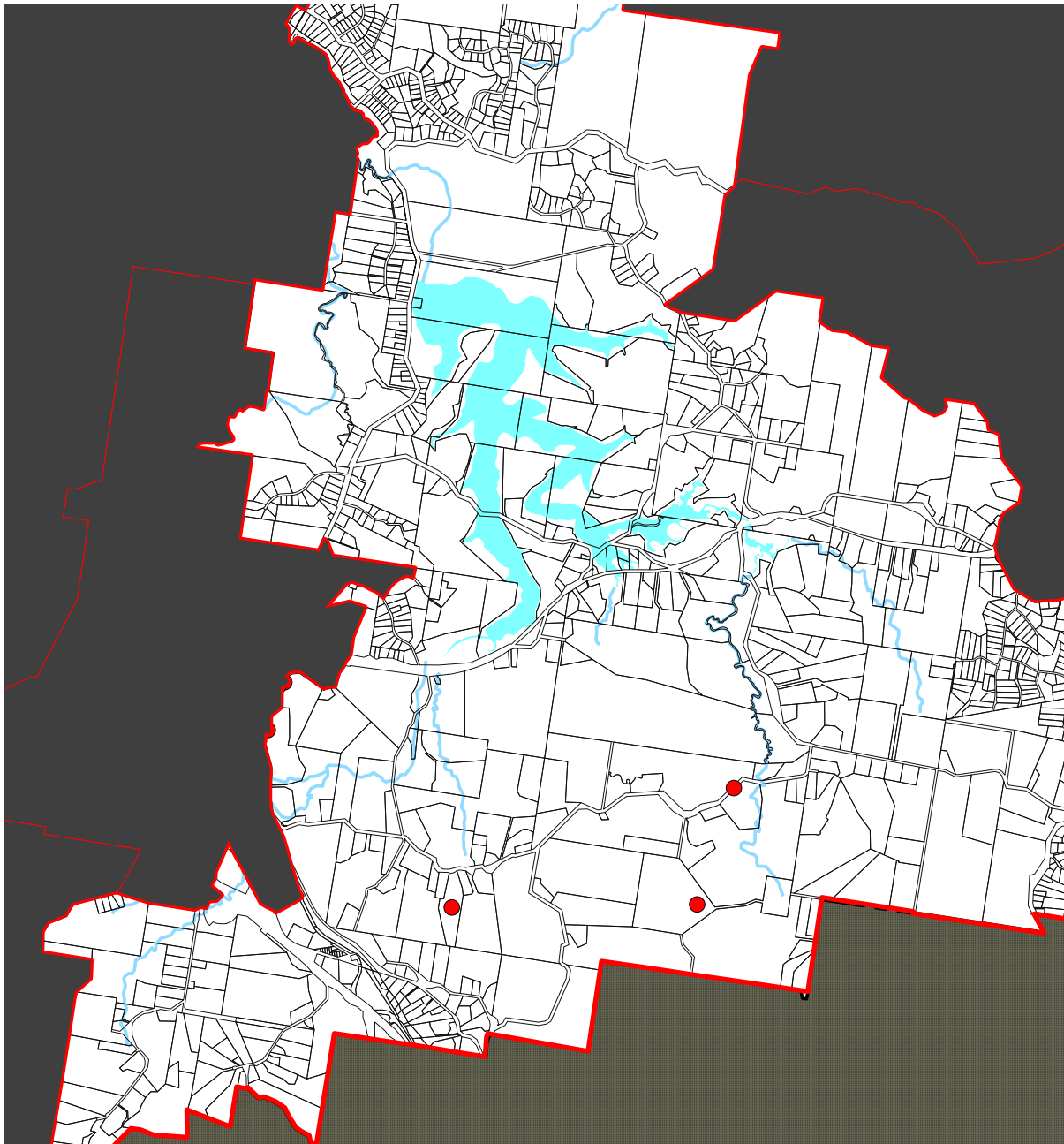
MAP 6.4 COORAN



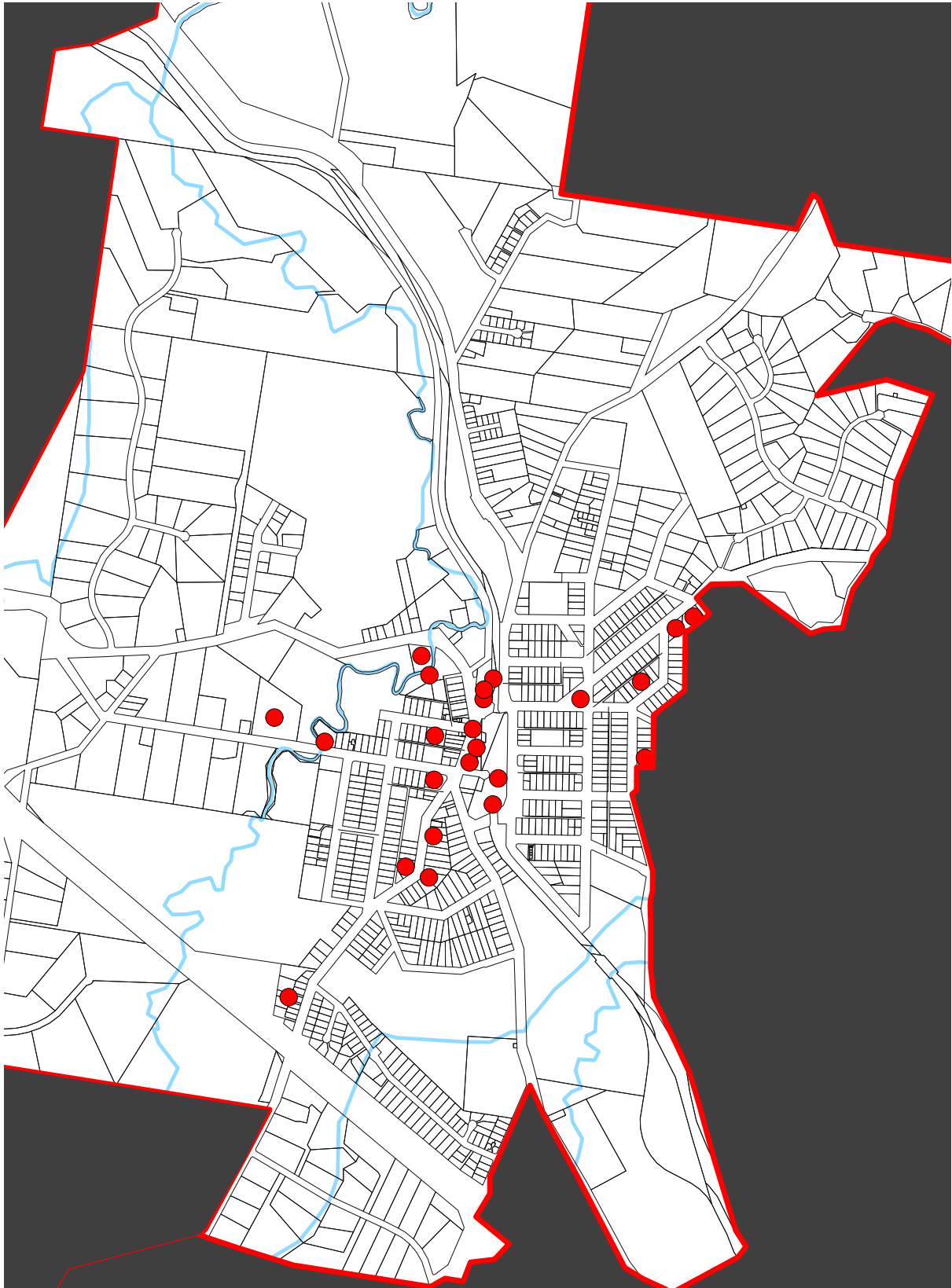
MAP 6.5 COOROIBAH



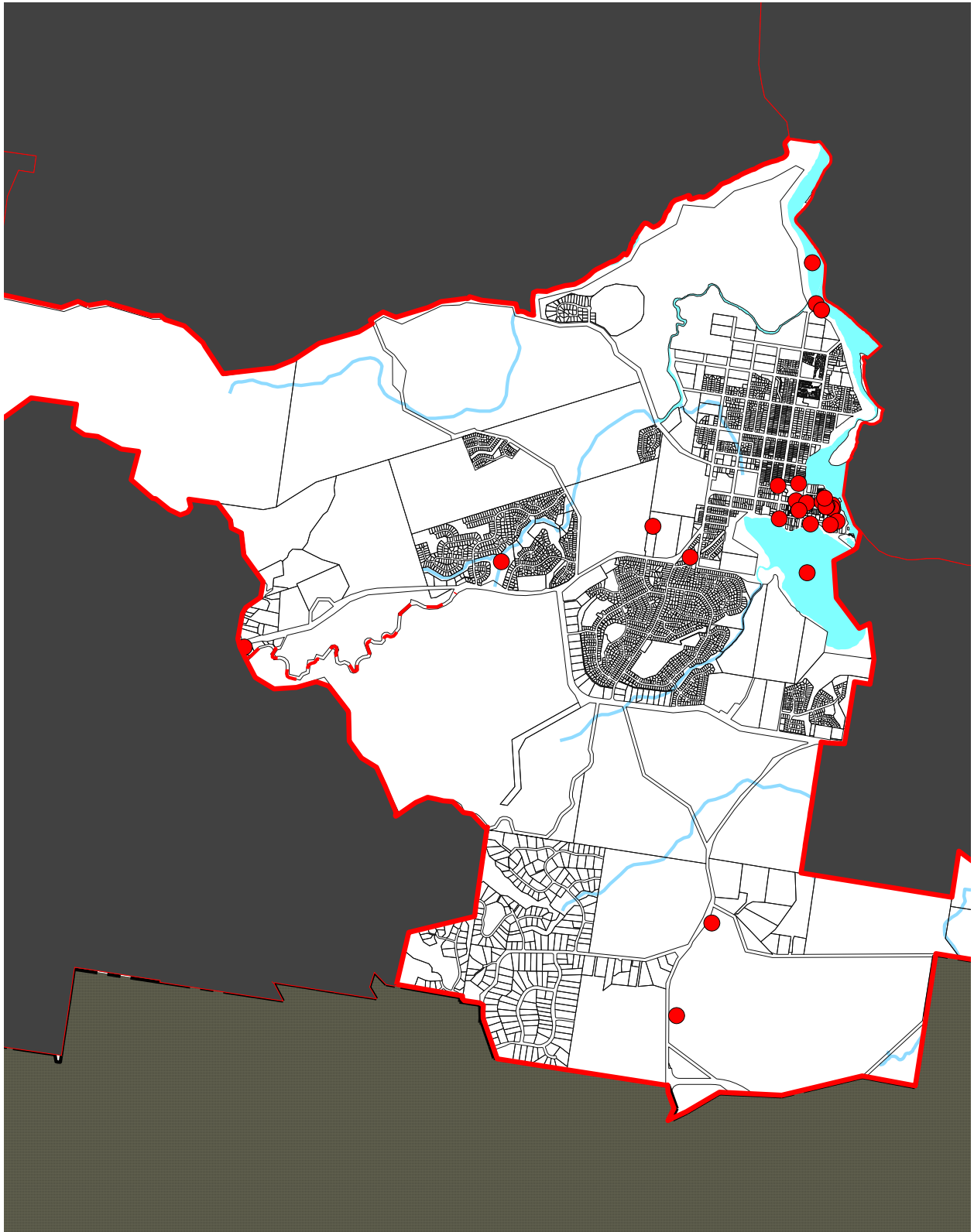
**MAP 6.6 COOROY MOUNTAIN, LAKE MACDONALD & TINBERWAH**



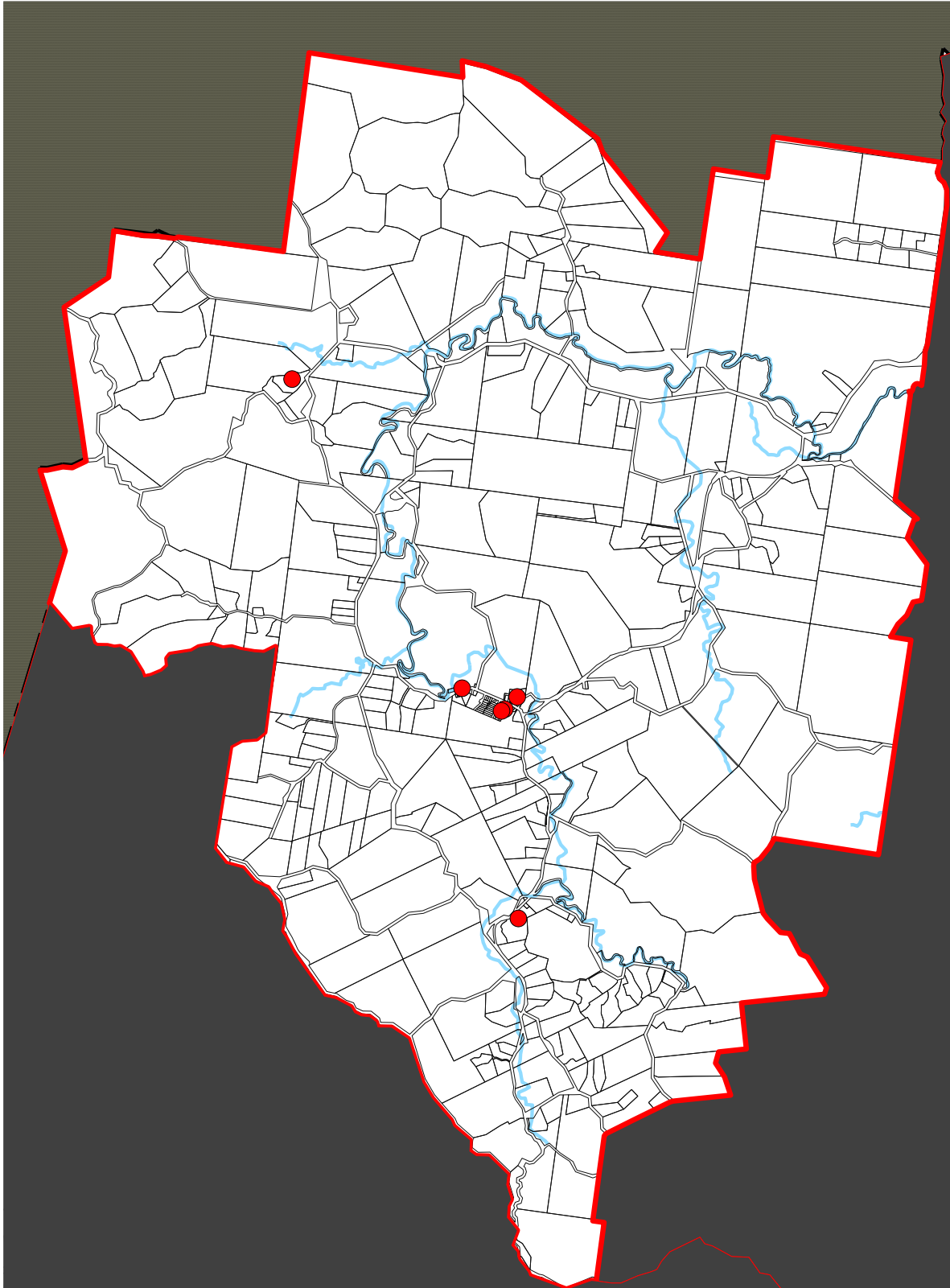
MAP 6.7 COOROY



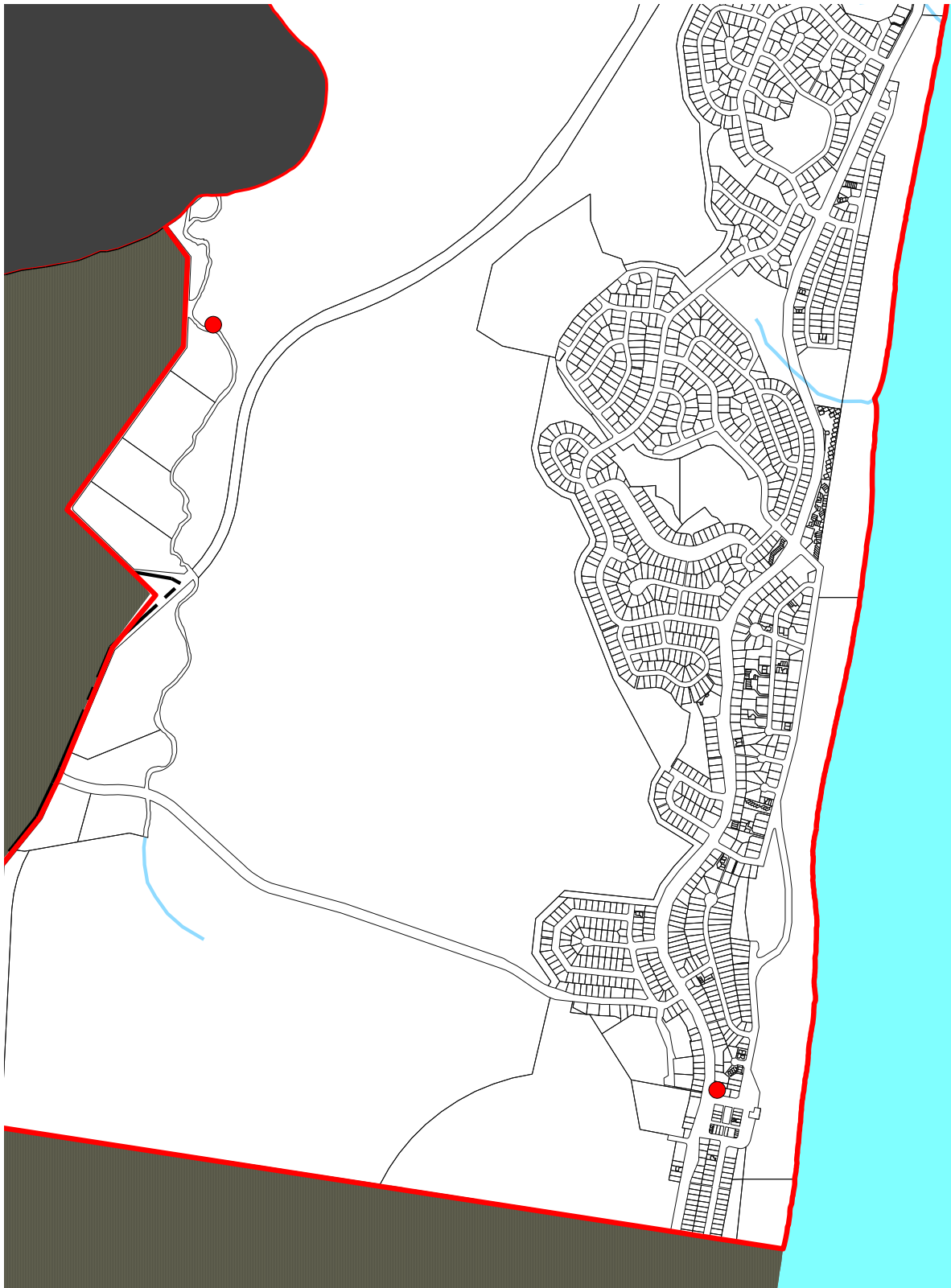
MAP 6.8 DOONAN & TEWANTIN



MAP 6.9 KIN KIN



MAP 6.10 MARCUS BEACH & PEREGIAN BEACH

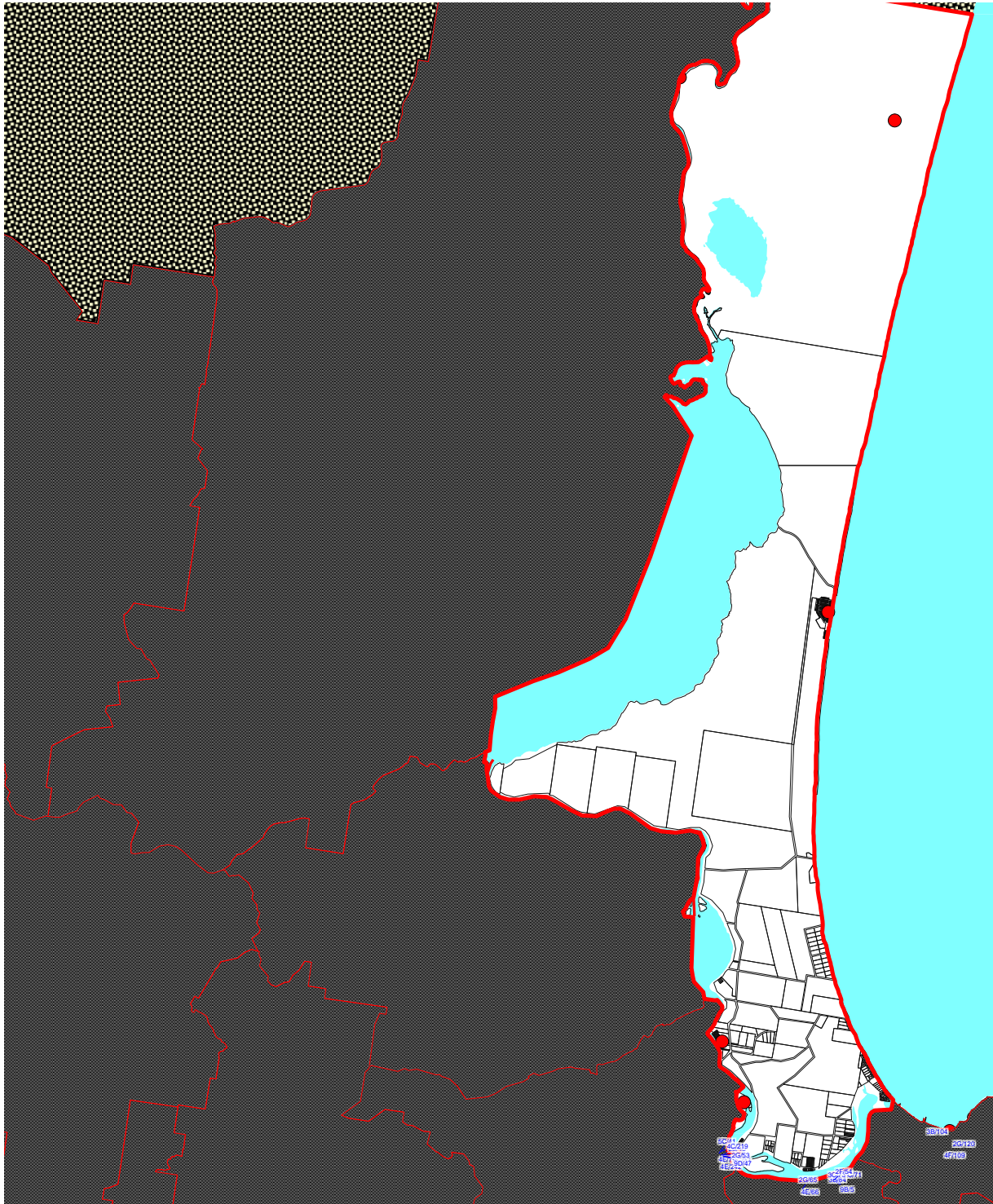




MAP 6.11 NOOSA HEADS



MAP 6.12 NOOSA NORTH SHORE



MAP 6.13 NOOSAVILLE



MAP 6.14 POMONA



**7. INFORMING THE PLANNING SCHEME**

This report has been produced to firstly collate information about cultural heritage values within the Shire and secondly to order that information in a manner that enables the new Planning Scheme to apply appropriate levels of protection to the more significant values.

The values identified by this project range greatly in significance. Some citations refer to sites that are historically important but for which there is no lasting physical feature related to the site's history. At the other end of the range are buildings such as Halse Lodge in Noosa Heads that is listed on the State Register under the *Queensland Heritage Act 1992* and on the Register of the National Estate under the *Australian Heritage Commission Act 1975*.

On this basis, each of the citations have been assigned a Significance Rating to assist with interpreting their cultural heritage values. The Significance Rating for each of the citations has been published as Appendix C. This allows for an appropriate level of assessment to be applied to proposals that may remove or impair these values. Table 7.1 nominates a possible assessment approach for cultural heritage values based on the Significance Ratings.

For those sites where the cultural heritage values are of significance due to the sites' rarity, important historical associations or the standard of fabric, then recognition of those values may be achieved through a degree of control under the Planning Scheme. This could result in any proposal for a development that would remove the intactness or otherwise detract from the significance, being required to undergo close examination under an Impact Assessment procedure.

Development proposals that might trigger impact assessment under the future Planning Scheme ought to include:

- demolition (including removal) of the heritage building;
- major additions and alterations to the external appearance of the heritage building;
- material change of use of premises or reconfiguration a lot where the proposed use or new subdivision pattern would affect the historical fabric or appearance of a heritage building, its setting or a Character Precinct;
- Material change of use of premises, combined with demolition or new building work on infill/redevelopment sites.

TABLE 7.1 ASSESSMENT CLASSIFICATIONS

Significance Rating	Criteria	Level of Assessment
1. State Significance	Principal criterion is rarity but can be combined with important historical associations and/or continuity of use. Fabric is variable.	Impact assessment
2. High Local and Intact Significance	Important historical associations combined with intact fabric	Impact assessment
3. High Local Significance	Important historical associations but with lesser standard of fabric	Impact assessment
4. Important Local Significance	Important to local communities	Impact assessment
5. Local Significance	Significance to local communities with variable fabric	Code assessment
6. Local Significance - Precincts	Significance to local communities arises through association within a precinct	Code assessment
7. Local Significance - Removed	Significance to local community arises from former use but values are largely removed or location not identified.	Self assessment (but interpretation, recording and recognition)

Cultural heritage values that have significance to local communities but have variable fabric or have significance through their association within a Character Precinct, may be dealt with through a Code Assessment process. This would involve the preparation of a Heritage Code which sets out the criteria for the assessment of development proposals that would modify the character or otherwise detract from the significance of the cultural heritage values. Alternatively, regulatory measures may be provided for each of the localities that are tailored more specifically to the heritage characteristics and values of the particular area. The intent here would be that the heritage controls required for areas where existing heritage values predominate, such as at Pomona, would be different than for those at Tewantin. Cultural heritage values could then be mapped within each locality plan with corresponding controls prescribed to protect those values.

The following activities have the potential to have some impact on heritage values of a site or Character Precinct and ought to be classified as Code Assessable under the new Planning Scheme:

- material change of use of premises or reconfiguration of a lot, where the proposed use or new subdivision pattern would not detract from the character of the building or precinct;
- following approved redevelopment of infill sites, material change of use of premises on such sites;
- minor alterations, additions and maintenance works to heritage buildings visible from the street.

There would be no need to apply any degree of control over sites with no vestige of their cultural heritage, such as where the values are largely removed or the location cannot be specifically identified (i.e. Noosa Woods). Accordingly, proposals for development on such sites could undergo a Self Assessment process under the Planning Scheme, subject to other assessment triggers. Part of the Self Assessment process would include the interpretation, recording and recognition of the cultural heritage values of the site prior to development. The proposal would also need to comply with the provision within any heritage code.

The following activities would not be detrimental to the values of the precinct and need not be classified as assessable development from a cultural heritage perspective:

- minor alterations, additions and maintenance to heritage buildings or buildings within a Character Precinct, not visible from the street;
- material change of use of premises, involving the re-establishment of a previously approved, lawful use, which in the opinion of Council, does not involve substantial alterations to the existing appearance of a heritage building.

## 8. RECOMMENDATIONS

This project establishes an outline of the Shire's history and provides a wealth of detail. However the task of capturing relevant information about the cultural heritage values of the Shire is ongoing - both for the past events and the contemporary works and actions that become the heritage of the future.

To advance the work recorded in this project report the following recommendations are made to Council:

1. Adopt a flexible approach to this report so that the information within is updated over time as more facts come to light about past events.
2. Further research is commissioned on the architectural styles and features of the periods for the historic buildings recorded in the citations.
3. Further work be conducted on the heritage precincts of the towns to better record the values made by the contributory buildings and so that sympathetic design is applied to new developments.
4. Contemporary architectural styles are further documented to record modern heritage particularly as recorded in the Council Design Awards.
5. The historical cultural heritage of the coastal parts of the Shire be further documented to recognise the significant events, places, and features of the area's history.
6. A Heritage Code is developed as part of the new Planning Scheme or if Locality Plans are adopted then heritage provisions should be incorporated.

**9. APPENDIX A - REFERENCES**

Browne Elaine, *Cooloola Coast - Noosa to Fraser Island (the Aboriginal and Settler Histories of a Unique Environment)*, University of Queensland Press, St Lucia 2000.

Edwards Denise, *Country and Coast - A history of the development of the Noosa Shire*, Noosa Heads, 2001.

Gill, JCH (Connal), *In Search of a River: Two Little Known Voyagers to Moreton Bay*, Queensland Heritage, Vol 1, no. 8

Herbert DA, 'John Carne Bidwill' in *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, Melbourne, Melbourne University Press, 1966, 1977 Volume One.

Lang John Dunmore, *Queensland Australia: a highly eligible for emigration and the future cottonfield of Great Britain: with a discussion on the origin and manners and customers of the Aborigines*, London, Stanford, 1861.

Monks Colin, *Noosa - The way it was, the way it is now*, Tewantin, 2000.

Russell, Henry Stuart, *The Genesis of Queensland: an account of the first exploring journeys to and over the Darling Downs: the earliest days of their occupation; social life; the course of the discovery, northward, and westward; and a resume of the causes which led to separation from New South Wales with portrait and fac-similes [sic] of maps, logs, etc*, Toowoomba, Vintage Books, facsimile, 1989

Thorne Ebenezer, *The Queen of the Colonies or Queensland I Know it by an eight years' resident*, London, Sampson, Low, Marston, Searle, Rivington, 1876

Tuck Claire, *They Paved the Way*, Gympie Times 22 July 1994.

*Gympie Times*, 10 January 1970, 24 January 1907, 19 & 21 August 1897, 4 February 1893, 4 May 1897, 14 January 1914

*Nambour Chronicle*, 9 April 1915

New South Wales, *Government Gazette*, 1857, 1858, 1859.

*Noosa Advocate*, 28 September 1917, 3 October 1917, 2 January 1926, Christmas 1912



## 10. APPENDIX B - PROJECT BRIEF

### 10.1 INTRODUCTION

Conservation of historical, archaeological or Aboriginal items, sites or places of National, State or local cultural heritage value is an aim of the 1997 Strategic Plan. This project is intended to advance recognition and management of the Shire's historical cultural heritage.

A prior project brief was developed for the Shire's cultural heritage as a whole. In practical terms, the entire project will still advance, however, the circumstances on which the original brief were based have changed. These circumstances include:

- Reduced capability for students to assist with the project.
- Consultant responses to the project brief requiring further tailoring of the approach to be taken.
- Funding sought from the State for assistance with the project was not readily forthcoming.
- State Government-commissioned studies potentially providing information.

It is now preferable to advance separate projects dealing with individual components of the original brief, of which the main strands are studies of indigenous and historical cultural heritage. This brief deals with the historical component of Noosa's cultural heritage.

A key purpose of the project is to inform the development of an IPA-based planning scheme for Noosa Shire, particularly in respect of the IPA's requirement for address of the Shire's *valuable features*.

### 10.2 AIMS & OUTCOMES

#### 10.2.1 Aim

The aim of this project is to:

***Identify, record and assess the significance of places, events and people contributing to the Shire's historical cultural heritage.***

#### 10.2.2 Outcomes

##### ***Principal outcomes***

The principal outcomes will be:

- f. A written and mapped record of early European settlement patterns across the Shire.
- g. Identification of significant individuals and pioneer families.
- h. Identification of historically significant buildings and building elements that contribute to the character of particular localities.
- i. Identification of sites, buildings, features and routes that may require protection.
- j. Documentation for the project should contribute to any development of a history of the Shire.

### ***Subsidiary outcomes***

The focus of this study is the Shire's historical cultural heritage: however, information on indigenous cultural heritage, that may be already known to the historians or which arises in the course of this study, should also be recorded.

Such information may, for example, relate to places with potential for shared significance. This information may also assist the study of indigenous cultural heritage, but it would only be regarded as preliminary until examined by the Indigenous Cultural Heritage Study.

### 10.3 COMPONENTS OF THE PROJECT

#### 10.3.1 Methodology

For the purposes of this project brief, Section 1.3.2 of the Environment Protection Agency (EPA) draft *Guidelines for Historical & Indigenous Cultural Heritage Management*, (the Guidelines), dated June 2000 provides the project's methodology. Based on the Guidelines, the project falls into two overall stages.

#### 10.3.2 Stage 1

The first stage essentially covers items (i) to (iv) in Section 1.3.2 of the Guidelines, together with some fieldwork, collection of oral histories and consultation with the bodies mentioned in Section 7 of this brief. The outputs of the first stage will include:

- a. A contextual history that identifies the principal historical themes applying to the Shire [See pages 4-7 of the Guidelines].
- b. An indicative list or draft typology of places that illustrate the principal themes and are classified according to their potential cultural heritage significance [See pages 8-12 of the Guidelines].

Gatton and Beaudesert Shires have studies prepared by Helen Bennett that provide useful examples of thematic histories. Similar approaches are to be used for this project.

The principal themes on pages 7 -12 of the Guidelines are a framework to be generally but not rigidly applied. These will be adapted and expanded to delineate Noosa's unique heritage.

*Milestone Date: December 2000*

#### 10.3.3 Stage 2

Items (v) to (viii) of Section 1.3.2 of the Guidelines outline the elements of the work program for the second stage. The focus will be the assessment of the cultural heritage significance of places identified by the first stage. These places will be investigated in more detail with a view to recommending how they might be recognised, maintained or managed.

In classifying places for cultural heritage significance, the consultants will evaluate how these places illustrate key themes and satisfy the criteria set down in the Queensland Heritage Act 1992. Section 1.2.7 of the Guidelines sets out the assessment criteria. The inventory notification in the Guideline suggests how the information on individual places should be organised.

The outputs of the second stage will include:

- a. Identifying the most significant places of cultural heritage, including maps, photos and diagrams.
- b. Compiling inventory listings, organised as per Item (vii) of Section 1.3.2 of the Guidelines.
- c. Identifying character areas.
- d. Suggesting possible planning and management mechanisms with reference to Item (viii) of Section 1.3.2 of the Guidelines.

*Milestone Date: March 2001*

#### 10.3.4 Recommendations

The recommendations brought forward as part of this project are to be related directly to, or capable of direct relationship with, the IPA planning scheme. Therefore, the recommendations must clearly indicate how the aim and project outcomes are to be achieved.

### 10.4 DOCUMENTATION

The direct product from the project is expected to be a single report, produced in stages as necessary for to meet the objectives.

All written material should be structured in a way that allows later integration to a single document on the Shire's cultural heritage.

The consultant will be responsible for the production of the report, however Noosa Council will be responsible for its final collation and publication. Noosa Council will also prepare any mapping needed for the project.

### 10.5 CONSULTATION

#### 10.5.1 Environment Protection Agency

The relevant State Agency for assistance and advice with this project is the Cultural Heritage Branch of the EPA. Ongoing consultation with this agency should ensure state interests are met.

In-kind support from the EPA has been requested, particularly for the second stage, to assist in assessing significance, identifying character areas, tailoring consultation procedures and suggesting possible planning and management mechanisms. Such input should be allowed for in devising a work program for the second stage.

#### 10.5.2 Register of the National Estate

Any listings on the Register of the National Estate should be recorded.

#### 10.5.3 National Trust

The Sunshine Coast Branch of the National Trust has a valuable collection of information on historically significant sites, and should be consulted at an early stage.

#### 10.5.4 Local Historical Associations

There are three local historical associations with expertise in this area that should be consulted.

#### 10.5.5 General Community Consultation

General community consultation may be carried out as necessary.

### 10.6 INFORMATION SOURCES & ASSISTANCE

There are many sources of information in relation to cultural heritage.

Listings in heritage registers and databases, such as the State Register and National Trust of Queensland and important primary collections, such as those held by the John Oxley Library should be reviewed.

#### 10.6.1 SEQRWQMS

The findings of the history projects now underway under the auspices of the South East Queensland Regional Water Quality Management Strategy should be consulted to avoid duplicating work on the Noosa River catchment, especially in the initial bibliographical and scoping phase of the study.

#### 10.6.2 Research Inventory of Historical Places

A protocol for accessing the EPA's Research Inventory of Historical Places must be observed as per pages 45-47 of the Guidelines.

#### 10.6.3 Noosa Library

The Noosa Library Local Studies Collection includes an extensive amount of resource material on the history of the Sunshine and Cooloola Coasts with some specific references to the Noosa region. Through its networks, the library also has access to resources of other libraries upon request.

#### 10.6.4 Cooroora Historical Society

The Cooroora Historical Society, maintaining the museum of historical artefacts and photographs at Pomona, carries out extensive research on the history of Noosa Shire. It holds a significant collection of resource material.

#### 10.6.5 The Cooroy-Noosa Genealogical and Historical Research Group

The Cooroy-Noosa Genealogical and Historical Research Group researches family histories and holds a collection of photographic, oral and written heritage and history of the Shire, with particular reference to pioneer families. Its reading room at Cooroy contains a substantial amount of relevant information.

#### 10.6.6 Tewantin Heritage and Historical Society

The Tewantin Heritage and Historical Society researches and collates the history of Tewantin, and has also established a notable collection of reference material.

**10.6.7 EIS**

The Strategic Planning Section maintains a library of volumes that include copies of environmental impacts statements that have accompanied development applications. Many of these contain reports on cultural heritage and significance.

**10.7 PROJECT MANAGEMENT**

Consultants will be engaged to carry out the work and manage the project. Brief progress reports and copies of findings should be submitted at monthly intervals to Council’s Project Officer: these will be tied to progress payments.

Internally, Noosa’s Strategic Planning Section will be responsible for project management, provide mapping assistance and help organise public consultations.

Work on the project will also be needed from:

WHO	ROLE
Strategic Planner	Internal project manager
Noosa Library	Data collection, publicity, consultation and review
Museum Resource Centre	Consultation, publicity, co-ordination of reference groups, review and final report
Technical Officer Strategic Planning	Assistance with mapping products
Administration Officer Strategic Planning	Assistance with databases and final reporting

**10.8 BUDGETARY CONSIDERATIONS**

A maximum sum of \$25,000 is set aside for the completion of the work.



**11. APPENDIX C - SIGNIFICANCE RATING  
NOT FOR PUBLIC RELEASE**