

Item name: Foreshore Reserves and Norfolk Island Pine Cultural Plantings

Location: Memorial, Banner, Terrace and Terrace Holiday Park Reserves Parks Brunswick Heads 2 Byron

Address: Memorial, Banner, Terrace and Terrace Holiday Park Reserves Parks **Planning:** Northern

Suburb/nearest town: Brunswick Heads 2483

Local govt area: Byron

State: NSW

Parish:

County:

Other/former names:

Area/group/complex:

Group ID:

Aboriginal area:

Curtilage/boundary: Foreshore reserves adjoining Simpsons Creek

Item type: Landscape

Group: Parks, Gardens and Trees

Category: Reserve

Owner: State Government

Admin codes:

Code 2:

Code 3:

Current use: Public foreshore reserves

Former uses:

Assessed significance: Local

Endorsed significance: Local

Statement of significance: The foreshore spaces of Memorial Park, Banner Park, Terrace Park and Terrace Holiday Park which wrap around the original village are historically, aesthetically and socially significant and highly valued by the community. They provide unique identity and a sense of place to Brunswick Heads. The Norfolk Island Pine plantings in Memorial and Banner Parks have aesthetic landmark qualities on the reserve and are historically and aesthetically significant to the precinct. They were planted in the early 1940s and hold historic significance in the development of the township as a coastal holiday destination. They define the edge of the original Davidson rock walled foreshore creating shade and amenity to the reserve foreshores.

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Historical notes Local Background

of provenance: Brunswick Heads is a significant Aboriginal place and part of lands of the Bundjalung people and the place of the earliest European settlement in Byron Shire. The precinct is historically significant for its evolution as a settlement in response to historical, social, economic and transportation factors, having connection to early cedar getting, the fishing industry and a historical use for recreation and holiday destination.

Prior to European settlement, Brunswick Heads was part of the territory of the original inhabitants of the area, the Bundjalung people. As Europeans moved to the district, Brunswick Heads became one of the earliest ports in what is now Byron Shire, and by the 1850's, some raw materials (timber, tallow, whale oil) were being shipped to state (Sydney), national and international markets, and many new settlers, foodstuffs and necessities found their way into the district via Brunswick Heads. Dairying provided the greatest impetus to the settlement by Europeans of the region, and in the 1890's, when Brunswick Heads was bypassed by the Casino to Murwillumbah railway line, the town as a major port was eclipsed by the port of Byron Bay. By the 1920's, the major industries were fishing (with a well established local fishing fleet) and tourism, with a local river transport system (drogher lighters) supporting the upriver dairy industry.

The expansion of Brunswick Heads was affected by flooding, swampland to the west and the course of the river itself. The Pacific Highway was routed through the town for more than 50 years, but now bypasses the town which has left a township with a substantially intact architectural heritage, and with an atmosphere and charm unique in the Shire.

This Item

In 1923, James Davidson (1860-1928) a prominent citizen of the Brunswick was contracted by Byron Shire Council to build a retaining wall to save Brunswick Heads from being eroded away. The wall is still in place although modified by recent upgrades. He also constructed a log groyne on the opposite bank of the South Arm. In 1941 the New Hotel Brunswick brick hotel was completed and photos in 1942 show early plantings of the Norfolk Pines on the reserve. In 1958-59, construction of rock break walls commenced to build a safe boat harbour. Prior to that a sandy foreshore extended from the kiosk (now the Housie building) to the river which was once the main bathing area at Brunswick.

Themes: National theme

4. Settlement

8. Culture

State theme

Towns, suburbs and villages

Leisure

Local theme

Designer:

Builder:

Year started: 1940

Year completed:

Circa: Yes

Physical description: Memorial, Banner, Terrace and Terrace Holiday Park Reserves on the southern and western side of Simpsons Creek extending from the northern end of Tweed Street to The Terrace, The reserves are grassed with established trees, pathways, seating, shelters and provide access, views and vistas of the river, South Beach area and North Head. The Memorial Park and Banner Park reserves are fringed by the Norfolk Pine plantings established in the early 1940s and a rock wall constructed originally in 1923 by James Davidson, recently upgraded by civil works. The place has high amenity and is used widely by locals and visitors alike.

Physical condition Excellent

level:

Physical condition: Well maintained.

Archaeological

potential level:

Archaeological

potential Detail:

Modification dates:

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Recommended management: Carefully conserve the foreshore reserves and Norfolk Island Pine plantings to maintain the significance and unique identity of the place. Brunswick Heads Foreshore Public Reserves Plan of Management applies to the land and should be updated with associated heritage listings and Heritage Conservation Area policies as applicable.

Management: **Management category** **Management name**

Further comments:

Criteria a): The foreshore reserves and Norfolk Island Pine plantings are historically significant as part of the development of Brunswick Heads as a township and holiday destination .
[Historical significance]

Criteria b): The rock walls which defined the edge of the reserve have associative significance with James Davidson.
[Historical association significance]

Criteria c): The foreshore reserves have high aesthetic significance and the mature trees have landmark qualities, creating a place with a unique sense of place.
[Aesthetic/ Technical significance]

Criteria d): The foreshore reserves are highly valued by the community and visitors and have been for generations for providing a unique sense of place and setting to the town of Brunswick Heads.
[Social/Cultural significance]

Criteria e):
[Research significance]

Criteria f): The foreshore reserves and plantings are rare locally.
[Rarity]

Criteria g): The plantings are representative of the 1940s fashion and are found in other seaside locations.
[Representative]

Intactness/Integrity: High

References:	Author	Title	Year
	Jim Brokenshire	The Brunswick- Another River and its People. 1988. ISBN 0 71	1988
	Brunswick Valley Historical Society	Brunswick Heads In Focus 1885-2015	2015
	Integrated Site Design Pty Ltd	Brunswick Heads Foreshore Reserve Plan of Management 2014	2014

Studies:	Author	Title	Number	Year
	Donald Ellsmore and Ian J	Byron Shire Community Based Heritage Study		2005
	Clarence Heritage	Historic Heritage Assessment Brunswick Heads		2021

Parcels:	Parcel code	Lot number	Section number	Plan code	Plan number
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Latitude:

Longitude:

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Location: Memorial, Banner, Terrace and Terrace Holiday Park Reserves Parks Brunswick Heads 2 Byron

Location validity:

Spatial accuracy:

Map name:

Map scale:

AMG zone:

Easting:

Northing:

Listing: Name

Title

Number

ListingDate

Potential Heritage Item

Data entry: Data first entered: 22/01/2022

Data updated: 22/01/2022

Status: Basic

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Image:



Caption: Boxing Day at Brunswick Heads 1928 (showing James Davidson's rock wall construction built in 1923).

Copy right:

Image by: Brunswick Valley Historical Society

Image date:

Image number:

Image url: <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAPP/345a8fab9dd17e4499d92641e714e57f98f.png>

Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAPP/Tumb_test345a8fab9dd17e4499d92641e714e57f98f.png

Image:

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Caption: Newly rooted Norfolk Pine trees on reserve 1942 opposite Hotel Brunswick.

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Image by: Brunswick Valley Historical Society

Image date:

Image number:

Image url: <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAPP/34540087a4489b042fabd105cb4d04b7680.png>

Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAPP/Tumb_test34540087a4489b042fabd105cb4d04b7680.png

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Caption: Norfolk Island Pines along the edge of the foreshore at Memorial Park

Copy right:

Image by: D. Wray

Image date: 15/06/2021

Image number:

Image url: <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAPP/34536de2df9f38b425caba55ada79ce6c44.jpg>

Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAPP/Tumb_test34536de2df9f38b425caba55ada79ce6c44.jpg

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Caption: Norfolk Pines, Foreshore Reserves

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Image date: 15/06/2021

Image number:

Image url: <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAPP/345c874e6fb53b244d9b2421983822bc668.jpg>

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