

*A report to inform the proposed  
Barcaldine Region Planning Scheme*

ON

**POTENTIAL ADDITIONAL PLACES OF  
LOCAL HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE  
IN THE BARCOLDINE REGION**

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# Contents

Executive Summary.....	1
Context.....	2
Plan making context.....	4
Project context.....	5
Assessment criteria and statements of cultural heritage significance .....	6
Potential Places – Description and Statement of Significance .....	7
Alice River Date Palm Reserve .....	7
Alpha Railway Guards Room, Tivoli Theatre and Beta Railway Hut .....	9
Back Creek Bore .....	11
Barcaldine Court House .....	13
Barcaldine Grandstand (Ted Seaby Grandstand).....	16
Barcaldine Railway Complex .....	18
Barcaldine State School (former).....	20
Barcaldine Water Tower .....	22
Bowen Downs Grave Site #1 .....	25
Bowen Downs Ruins.....	26
Cassimatis Store and Cottage .....	27
Gray Rock Historical Reserve .....	29
Horsetailers’ Gorge .....	32
Lagoon Creek Bush Camps and Kate Doonan’s Grave Site .....	33
Lands Office (Barcaldine) .....	35
Muttaborra Hospital (former).....	38
Potential Pine Hill Station Building (Alpha Rail Shed) .....	43
Queensland National Bank (former) .....	46
Radio Theatre.....	48
Recommendations .....	53
Conclusion.....	53
Appendix A – Research references and place images .....	55
Alice River Date Palm Reserve .....	55
Alpha Railway Guards Room, Tivoli Theatre and Beta Railway Hut .....	59
Back Creek Bore .....	61
Barcaldine Court House .....	63
Barcaldine Grandstand (Ted Seaby Grandstand).....	67
Barcaldine Railway Complex .....	73
Barcaldine State School (former).....	77
Barcaldine Water Tower .....	79
Bowen Downs Grave Site #1 .....	81
Bowen Downs Ruins.....	81

Cassimatis Store and Cottage .....	85
Gray Rock Historical Reserve .....	88
Horsetailers Gorge .....	93
Lagoon Creek Bush Camps and Kate Doonan’s Grave Site .....	95
Lands Office (Barcaldine) .....	102
Muttaburra Hospital (former).....	105
Potential Pine Hill Station Building (Alpha Rail Shed) .....	109
Queensland National Bank (former) .....	113
Radio Theatre.....	120
Appendix B – Mapping of potential place boundaries .....	127

## Executive Summary

The *Queensland Heritage Act 1992* (Heritage Act) requires local governments to identify places of cultural heritage significance within their local government areas.

Local heritage places can be identified by a local government in a planning scheme. A planning scheme can also be used as the regulatory instrument by which a council can exert a degree of management over the future development of local heritage places, in order to protect the cultural heritage values of places.

Barcaldine Regional Council (Council) has commenced the process of preparing and proposing a new planning scheme, which provides an opportunity to review the six local heritage places presently identified in the Barcaldine Region and improve the extent of protection of cultural heritage significant to the local area.

In November 2019, GBA Consulting Engineers prepared a report titled 'Barcaldine Regional Council Local Heritage Register Statement of Local Cultural Heritage Significance' for Council to inform its new planning scheme. This report identified nine local heritage places (the six existing local heritage places, plus three new places proposed for listing in the new planning scheme).

In the process of undertaking the State interest review of the draft planning scheme and by email dated 24 June 2021, the Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning, on the advice of the Department of Environment and Science (DES) encouraged Council to consider identifying additional places of local heritage in its new planning scheme. A list of 70 potential places which had come to the attention of DES over the years, but had not been made Queensland Heritage Places, was provided for review and consideration.

The process of surveying, researching and identifying local government places has time and resource implications for local governments. In the current circumstances, Council is cognisant of the need to balance the benefits of adopting a contemporary new planning scheme to address planning matters across the whole of its local government area (which is presently subject to three separate planning schemes made in 2006 under the thoroughly superseded *Integrated Planning Act 1997*) with the needs, costs and risks associated of identifying additional local heritage places at this point in the plan-making process.

Having regard to the time, resource and risk constraints of the planning scheme project, a desktop investigation together with consideration of internal local knowledge of the 70 potential places advised by DES has been undertaken. In addition to the nine local heritage places previously identified, this report has investigated and recommends a further 19 places for inclusion as local heritage places in Council's proposed new planning scheme. This report proposes place descriptions and statements of significance for inclusion in the proposed new planning scheme. This report also identifies some information which requires review or updating with respect to the six local heritage places identified in the existing planning schemes.

Some potential local heritage places considered in the process of preparing this report are subject to private property interest. Council appropriately and directly engaged with individuals and entities having an interest in eight potential places between 21 March and 4 May 2022. Six of these places are included in this report and the proposed new planning scheme.

The outcomes of this report and plan-making process do not prevent or restrict future investigation, assessment or consideration of other potential places of cultural heritage significance from being identified. Consistent with Council's strategic planning objectives, this does represent a progressive improvement through the planning framework, for the protection and preservation of the cultural heritage of the Barcaldine Region.

A separate consultative process will be undertaken with First Nations people of the Barcaldine Region to determine the extent to which and when, places of Aboriginal cultural heritage significance may be included in the planning scheme and identified as local heritage places.



## Context

On 15 November 2017, Council resolved to make a new planning scheme for its local government area under section 18 of the *Planning Act 2016* (Planning Act). The process for making a new planning scheme is prescribed in the letter issued under section 18(3) of the Planning Act, by its chief executive to Council on 11 April 2018. On 22 January 2020, Council resolved to request a change to the process for making a new planning scheme and requested an amended section 18(3) notice be issued. On 14 February 2020, the chief executive of the Planning Act issued an amended section 18(3) notice to Council.

Section 112 of the Heritage Act requires local governments to identify places of cultural heritage significance within their local government areas, either in a planning scheme or in a local heritage register. Once identified, a place is referred to as a “local heritage place” for the purpose of the interpreting and applying the Heritage Act and the Planning Act.

Council does not presently have or maintain a local heritage register. Three planning schemes remain in effect across the Barcaldine Region local government area: the Aramac Shire Planning Scheme 2006, the Barcaldine Shire Planning Scheme 2006 and the Jericho Shire Planning Scheme 2006. These planning schemes were made prior the amalgamation of shires to form the Barcaldine Regional Council in 2008.

Each of the three planning schemes presently in effect, identify and provide a degree of regulatory protection to the following local heritage places:

Place	Planning scheme	Real property description	Location	Author's Notes
Aramac Cemetery	Aramac Shire Planning Scheme 2006	Lot 55 on A1843	Aramac	This lot contains a cemetery. The lot has Reserve tenure and is located adjacent to Muttaborra Aramac Road, Aramac. <b>The north-western part of the freehold lot immediately to the south (Lot 4 on A1841) also appears like it may be used in association with the cemetery use and warrants future investigation for potential inclusion within the boundary of the local heritage place.</b> Lot 4 on A1841 appears to also include other local government infrastructure.
Muttaborra Cemetery	Aramac Shire Planning Scheme 2006	Lot 57 on C8148	Muttaborra	This is a cemetery located at Cemetery Road, off Nev Bullen Drive, Muttaborra. This lot has Reserve tenure.
Barcaldine Cemetery	Barcaldine Shire Planning Scheme 2006	Lot 228 on RY38	Capricorn Highway, Barcaldine	This is cemetery located on the eastern outskirts of Barcaldine adjacent the Capricorn Highway (between Whitewood and Redwood Drives). This lot is 8.094ha in area and has Reserve tenure. This lot is included within a s29 (Tenement) Future Act Notice (Tribunal ref QS2010/0188).
Alpha Cemetery	Jericho Shire Planning Scheme 2006	Lot 57 on A3017	Alpha	<b>This lot and plan reference is now outdated. Lot 57 on SP175997 is now the real property description applying to the cemetery located at Alpha Cemetery Road, off Clermont Road, Alpha. The description of the local heritage place should be updated accordingly.</b> This Lot 57 on SP175997 has reserve tenure. The updated lot and plan reference

				has been used in the 2019 report prepared by GBA Consulting Engineers. It is noted that this report identified that within the land now described as Lot 57 on SP175997 there is a historic cemetery and the Alpha cemetery referred to in the Jericho Shire Planning Scheme 2006.
Jericho Cemetery	Jericho Shire Planning Scheme 2006	Lot 1 on C8257	Jericho	This is a cemetery located at Lyon Street, Jericho. This lot has reserve tenure.
Pine Hill Cemetery	Jericho Shire Planning Scheme 2006	Lot 12 on P2781	Pine Hill	This is a historical cemetery located approximately 25km east of Alpha on Pine Hill Road, off the Capricorn Highway. This lot is 2.023ha and has reserve tenure. Graves date back to 1883. Pine Hill was historically a railway construction camp and terminus location.

In addition to the above, the following further three places have been proposed for identification in the report titled 'Barcaldine Regional Council Local Heritage Register Statement of Local Cultural Heritage Significance', prepared by GBA Consulting Engineers and dated November 2019:

Place	Real property description	Location	Author's Notes
Barcaldine Old Eight Mile Weir	Within watercourse adjacent to Lot 1 on YN93, Lot 8 on YN103 and Lot 3 on YN107	Barcaldine	Inclusion in proposed new planning scheme supported.  Commencement of construction of the later weir: 1951 'BARCaldine', <i>The Central Queensland Herald (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1930 - 1956)</i> , 18 January, p. 23. , viewed 09 Mar 2022, <a href="http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article75571934">http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article75571934</a>  Information about Charles Lloyd-Jones: 1953 'BARCaldine', <i>Morning Bulletin (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1878 - 1954)</i> , 11 July, p. 6. , viewed 09 Mar 2022, <a href="http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article57261268">http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article57261268</a>
Original Muttaborra Cemetery	Lot 40 on CM152	Muttaborra	Inclusion in proposed new planning scheme supported. <b>Lot description has been updated and this place is now within part of Lot 40 on SP309924.</b>
Original Alpha Cemetery	Lot 57 on SP175997	Capricorn Highway, Barcaldine	<b>Given this is on the same lot as the current Alpha Cemetery, in the proposed new planning scheme, the entire Lot 57 on SP175997 could be identified to capture both areas of significance under a single listing. Refer also to Author's Notes in above table for Alpha Cemetery.</b>

The current project to prepare and propose a new planning scheme provides an opportunity for Council to review and reconsider the identification of local heritage places.

The Council's strategic vision to be reflected in the proposed new planning scheme includes:

*Development protects, promotes and enhances the rich history and culture of the Barcardine region through:*

- (a) protecting cultural heritage in the form of sites of sacred or cultural significance to First Nations Peoples, landmarks, artefacts and historically significant built structures.*
- (b) promoting architectural, cultural or historic qualities of places and artefacts and their contribution to the character of the region.*
- (c) recognising the connection that First Nations People have to Country within the Barcardine region, including the Iningai, Bidjara and Wangan Jagalingou people.*
- (d) promoting the history and heritage of the region as an important source of tourism, where doing so is compatible with the protection of cultural values and matters of cultural heritage significance.*  
*Note – In some instances it may not be appropriate for matters of cultural or heritage significance to form the basis for tourism activities.*
- (e) supporting ongoing use and adaptation of buildings that are of heritage significance, where the heritage values of the site and building are maintained.*
- (f) protecting local cemeteries in each town, as an important part of the history of the region.*

## **Plan making context**

Section 121 of the Heritage Act and Part 8, Schedule 10 of the *Planning Regulation 2017* read together with relevant provisions of the Planning Act mean that where a local government uses a planning scheme to identify local heritage places, the planning scheme should also include relevant provisions for the assessment of proposed development on a local heritage place.

It should be noted that regardless of a local heritage place being identified in a local government's planning scheme, development on a local heritage place will not be assessable development if it is:

- Building work carried out by or for the State or a public sector entity;
- Carried out by the State and the place is included in premises designated for development of infrastructure under section 35 of the Planning Act 2016; or
- Carried out under an exemption certificate given by the chief executive officer of the local government under the Heritage Act.

The process for making the new planning scheme, includes a State interest review of the draft planning scheme by the chief executive of the Planning Act and approval of the Planning Minister for Council to ultimately adopt the new planning scheme. A consideration of the chief executive of the Planning Act and the Planning Minister in deciding to give their respective approvals, is whether the planning scheme appropriately integrates the State interest policies. These are stated in the State Planning Policy July 2017 (SPP). The SPP includes a headline statement on cultural heritage:

*The cultural heritage significance of heritage places and heritage areas, including places of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural heritage, is conserved for the benefit of the community and future generations.*

The SPP then lists 6 state interest policies required to be integrated in planning and development outcomes. In relation to local heritage places these are:

### SPP—Cultural heritage, Policy 4

*Local heritage places and local heritage areas important to the history of the local government area are identified, including a statement of the local cultural heritage significance of the place or area.*

### SPP—Cultural heritage, Policy 5

*Development of local heritage places or local heritage areas does not compromise the cultural heritage significance of the place or area by:*

- (a) avoiding adverse impacts on the cultural heritage significance of the place or area; or*
- (b) minimising and mitigating unavoidable adverse impacts on the cultural heritage significance of the place or area.*

## SPP—Cultural heritage, Policy 6

*The conservation and adaptive reuse of local heritage places and local heritage areas are facilitated so that the cultural heritage significance is retained.*

### **Project context**

It is widely accepted that the planning schemes presently in effect across the Barcaldine Region Council are due to be superseded by a new, improved and contemporary planning scheme in order to appropriately reflect current policy, respond to current and emerging risks and opportunities and realise improved planning outcomes.

The State commenced a process of assisting Council to prepare a new planning scheme in 2017. Without being completed, the project management of the planning scheme project was handed back to Council in 2020. Council is progressing the project with the assistance of consultants engaged by Council.

The draft planning scheme packaged has been submitted to the chief executive of the Planning Act for State interest review and approval for Council to commence public consultation of the proposed planning scheme. The Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning has paused the State interest review process and provided Council with comments and feedback on amendment and improvements to the draft planning scheme prior to the State interest review being further progressed and completed.

This report has been prepared to address and respond to the State interest review comments provided.

The identification of local heritage places in a planning scheme is within the jurisdiction of a local government, however a local government's decision-making powers in this regard may be subject to:

- Under the Heritage Act, the Heritage Minister can give a local government a notice recommending it take action to consider the cultural heritage significance of a place (s112A of the Heritage Act). If the Heritage Minister gives such a notice, it must include enough information to identify the location and boundaries of the place, a statement about the cultural heritage significance of the place, and information to support the statement.
- Under the Planning Act and the applicable plan-making process the chief executive of the Planning Act and the Planning Minister may impose conditions on their respective approvals with respect to compliance with regulated requirements and appropriate integration of State interests. The Planning Minister also has other general powers to give local governments directions with regard to planning matters, but only if the matter involves, or is likely to involve, a State interest.

It should also be noted, that the identification of local heritage places in a planning scheme, may constitute an 'adverse planning change' (a planning change that reduces the value of an interest in premises (s30 of the Planning Act)) potentially giving rise to compensation for an affected owner if they are to follow the statutory process for claiming compensation.

This report has been produced in good faith, in order to improve the draft new planning scheme within the time, resource and risk constraints of this project, having regard to:

- the State interest review comments and feedback provided by Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning
- the list of potential places and unverified information (some of which is out of date and/or incomplete) provided in spreadsheet form by DES
- the State Planning Policy
- the [Guideline: Assessing cultural heritage significance – Using the cultural heritage criteria](#) (2013) published by DES.

The internal and external officers involved in drafting this document have relevant local knowledge and are familiar with the identification of local heritage places in planning schemes, but are not qualified cultural heritage experts

and do not purport to have undertaken any detailed on-site cultural heritage or archaeological surveys of any potential places in the preparation of this report.

It is reiterated that this document has been prepared to inform the drafting of a new planning scheme in the context of a low budget, low resource project for an area considered to bare low planning risks from potential development.

It is intended that the outcomes of this report will deliver an improvement in the recognition and preservation of places of local cultural heritage significance for the Barcaldine Region, compared to that afforded by the existing three planning schemes in effect.

It is not intended that the outcomes of this report are exhaustive or mitigate the potential for further investigation, consideration and identification of additional local heritage places in the future. It is acknowledged that sites of sacred or cultural significance to First Nations People have not been specifically addressed in this report. It is recommended that this occurs through a separate consultation process appropriate to the context, to determine the extent to which including any such site in the local heritage register in the planning scheme, would best recognise and protect the site. There may be alternate ways that particular sites could be better recognised and protected.

## **Assessment criteria and statements of cultural heritage significance**

When assessing places of local cultural heritage significance, the definition of “cultural heritage significance” in the Heritage Act should be considered:

***cultural heritage significance**, of a place or feature of a place, means its aesthetic, architectural, historical, scientific, social or other significance to the present generation or past or future generations.*

It is also appropriate to establish a criteria by which cultural heritage significance can be measured. Drawing on the criteria prescribed in the Heritage Act for assessing places for inclusion in the Queensland Heritage Register as a State heritage place and adopting the guidance for local governments identifying local heritage places in the DES publication [Guideline: Assessing cultural heritage significance – Using the cultural heritage criteria](#) (2013), it is recommended that Council apply the following:

### Criteria for assessing local cultural heritage significance of a place

- A. The place or area is important in demonstrating the evolution or pattern of the local government area’s history.
- B. The place or area demonstrates rare, uncommon or endangered aspects of the local government area’s cultural heritage.
- C. The place or area has potential to yield information that will contribute to the knowledge and understanding of the local government area’s history.
- D. The place or area is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a particular class or classes of cultural places.
- E. The place or area is important because of its aesthetic significance to the local community.
- F. The place or area is important in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technological achievement at a particular period.
- G. The place or area has a strong or special association with the life or work of a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons.
- H. The place or area has special association with the life or work of a particular person, group or organisation of importance in the local area’s history.

When identifying a local heritage place, the following relevant matters about the place should be described:

- enough information to identify the location and boundaries of the place
- a statement about the cultural heritage significance of the place.

The criteria above, which are satisfied by a place identified as a local heritage place in the new planning scheme, can then be used to inform the statement about the cultural heritage significance of the place.

## Potential Places – Description and Statement of Significance

The following provides a description and proposed statement of significance for each of the potential places of local cultural heritage significance which have been short-listed for more detailed consideration from the list of 70 potential places advised by DES. This information has been prepared within the time, resource and risk constraints of the project and based on a collation of local input and text and desktop research results. The potential places are addressed in alphabetical order of place name.

### Alice River Date Palm Reserve

**Location description/address:** Waterloo Road, Barcaldine

**Real property description:** Lot 107 on RY66

**Tenure:** Reserve for local government purposes (Barcaldine Regional Council)

#### History:

From the early 1900s, people including Mr. Albert H. Benson, who held the position of Director of Fruit Culture in Queensland, had recognised the potential suitability of the Barcaldine area for, among other things, date growing due to its sandy soils, climate and water supply. Local residents Mr and Mrs W. Ogden had grown date palms at their property in Fir Street, Barcaldine from or about 1901 and had notable success growing and selling dates. Barcaldine was referred to as the “Garden of the West” and it was often claimed up to the 1940s, to be the only town in Australia where dates were grown commercially.

During this period, the State Government through its Department of Agriculture, was setting aside reserves and establishing experimental farms across the State to trial and test the suitability and commercial viability of various imported crops and farming methods. Two such experimental farms were eventually established on the Alice River outside of Barcaldine; a date farm at the Four-Mile and another where crops such as tobacco were grown at the Eight-Mile.

The date farm at the Four-Mile on the Alice River was established during 1936. It was “set aside...as an experimental farm” by the then Minister for Agriculture Mr F. W. Bulcock. Unemployment was a concern in the Barcaldine region around this time, and the development and promotion of date-growing industry was reportedly a potential means of stimulating employment opportunities in the area. In 1936, Mr. H.J.C Freeman, Senior Instructor in Fruit Culture, was charged with making arrangements for the “permanent employment of a man” for the date farm.

The layout and location of the reserve, set back from the Alice River and surrounded on all sides by a road and stock route reserve is the result of negotiations between the State Government and the then Barcaldine Shire Council. The council successfully advocated for the preservation of a three-chain road between fence of the date farm and the bank of the river for river access and convenience of the public and for stock facilities. In exchange, the State Government sought the protection of the irrigation pipeline that ran across the road reserve between the river and the date farm.

In February 1937, it was reported in the Longreach Leader that:

*“On this plot at present there are 186 palms on 2 acres, spaced 20 feet apart, attended by a caretaker, and watered by a mill and plant from the Alice River. The caretaker expects some of these palms to bear fruit next year. Several varieties are planted, and one of the Department’s etymologists is abroad investigating suitable plants for sowing in Central Queensland. So far the flying fox menace has not troubled growers, but doubtless when the cultivation expands, this pest will increase.*”

These original date palms at the experimental farm were sourced from Palestine and the United States of America, with Department of Agriculture officers making tours to these countries and selecting the approved varieties to trial. These dates were thought to have a potential productive life of 100-150 years.

In 1939, Barcaldine Shire Council erected a weir on the Alice River at the junction with Cedar Creek, adjacent to the date farm, which improved water security for date farm, surrounding farms and travelling stock using the stock route. The weir also resulted in improved amenity of the area for picnicking by the river.

There were a number of setbacks experienced at the date farm, including a storm event in 1937 which dislodged the 3000 and 5000 gallon tanks from their stands, a grasshopper infestation which stripped the leaves off the date palms in February 1938, flying foxes and drought in 1939-40. In January 1940, the Morning Bulletin reported that the water at the experimental tobacco farm at the Eight-Mile had dried up and there was only enough water for one watering at the experimental date farm at the Four-Mile.

In 1944, the then Department of Agriculture and Stock decided to close the experimental farms at Barcaldine, due to water supply hindering production at both sites. Mr W. Walker, who had been in charge of the farms was to be transferred to Brisbane. At the request of the department, the Barcaldine Shire Council took over the date farm at the Four-Mile in or about January 1945.

In March 1946, at the Lands Office, Barcaldine, the property described as “portion 107, area eight acres, 36 perches, about three and three-quarter miles from Barcaldine Railway Station, known as the Date Farm” and including the 2 acres planted with date palms, was selected by Albert Thomas French. At that time, the annual rental was reported to be £5 and the provisional improvements were valued at £155. The French family (comprising in 1949 of Mr and Mrs A French, five daughters (one being Jean), three sons, a brother-in-law and a grandchild Ian) then lived at the Date Farm. In February 1950, the French family achieved record yields of dates at the Date Farm. According to The Courier-Mail reports “Average yield of each palm was 12 bunches, each weighing up to 60lb. of fruit of good quality. ... The market for the dates grown in the district is mainly local, but some small quantities have been send (sic) away. Prices this year ranged from 4d. to 1/ per lb. In all cases irrigation is unnecessary and there is sufficient water to the surface of the ground.” In March 1950, the date crop was spoiled by rain. The French family were then displaced by the record flooding of the Alice River in November 1950. Mrs French and six of her children were notably rescued by police from the Date Farm during the flood event.

The flood was reported to have almost completely submerged the house on the Date Farm, rising to ceiling height, damaged its contents, wiped out the tomato and watermelon crops and caused that season’s date crop to be lost. Following the flood, the French family did not return to live at the Date Farm, residing temporarily at a “wool shed nine miles out of town” with a view to building a house in Barcaldine.

The site of the Date Farm had earlier in history also been the site of a shearers’ camp and then the Alice River Co-operative Settlement. The Alice River Co-operative Settlement consisted of a group of approximately 70 unionists who settled the shearers’ camp at the Cedar Creek waterhole on the Alice River. Arriving on 29 June 1891 from the “strike camp”, the group arrived with a view to establishing a collective market garden. They were offered food in exchange for light duties to stay rather than be sent to the asylum for derelicts at Dunwich on Stradbroke Island. Five square miles were gazetted for the co-op in June 1892, however with the prevailing dry conditions most had drifted away by mid-1893. When just three original settlers were left (Evans, Atthews and Quantril) in 1907, they converted the co-op to the Barcaldine Farming and Grazing Company.

**Description/Current status:**

The original 2 acre experimental farm plot area remains clearly distinguishable within the 3.33ha (~8 acre) reserve lot. Approximately 50-60 of the date palms continue to survive, with remnants of others remaining in routine alignment and spacing. There are no built structures remaining on the lot.

**Statement of significance:**

This place has local cultural heritage significance based on the following:

- A. The place or area is important in demonstrating the evolution or pattern of the local government area’s history:**

The remnant date palms demonstrate an aspect of agricultural, scientific and commercial enquiry of interest to both the State and Barcaldine community and the region's contribution to the agricultural, scientific and commercial knowledgebase developed across the early twentieth century.

The remaining date palms have potential to yield comparative botanical and genetic information and provide insights into the impacts of changing climatic and environmental conditions on the plants.

The date farm provided an impetus for early water infrastructure on the Alice River and the reserve location and boundaries reflect the significance with which the Barcaldine community valued preserving public access to the river for recreation and stock purposes.

The abandonment of the Alice River Date Palm Reserve by residents and the lack of remaining built structures and infrastructure on the sites demonstrates the impact of river flooding and flood hazard knowledge on development and settlement patterns in the Barcaldine area.

## **Alpha Railway Guards Room, Tivoli Theatre and Beta Railway Hut**

**Location description/address:** The Rowley Roberts Tourist Information Centre, 43 Shakespeare Street, Alpha

**Real property description:** Lot 1 on RP608842 and Lot 1 on RP614123

**Tenure:**

### **History:**

Alpha, situated on Alpha Creek, developed as a railway and service township with the arrival of the Central Line railway which opened to Alpha on 22 September 1884.

Mrs Mary Ann Klein established the first permanent picture theatre in Alpha with the proceeds from the family's sale of 'Mount Beauford' and 'Sandown' pastoral holdings. Constructed in late 1915-early 1916, the first pictures (by Lyric Pictures and including "The Heart of Midlothian") were shown in Mrs Klein's theatre hall on Saturday 8 January 1916. Prior to this, pictures had been shown in Alpha at the Town Hall. At this time, Mr Stewart Hawthorne managed the programming and showings for Lyric Pictures.

On 31 January 1928, a fire broke out in the business section of Alpha destroying 10 business premises, 2 hotels and partially destroying Mrs Klein's picture theatre. As the fire burned, part of the open-air picture theatre was also demolished with a view to stopping the spread of the fire to the adjoining residential area.

The theatre was subsequently repaired and in 1932 was being leased and operated as the Tivoli Theatre by picture show proprietor, Mr Ernest Fletcher of Jericho. On the night of 17 December 1932, a fire started beneath the projector machine during the screening of "The Sin of Madelon Claudet", just the third showing on the new projector. The fire was brought under control but with damage to film, equipment and the operating room. A similar incident occurred again in September 1934 when film jammed in the projector and caught fire.

Mrs Klein passed away aged 61 on 24 March 1933. Later in 1933, land described as Allotments 17 and 18 of section 1, town of Alpha were transmitted to Mrs Mary Elsie Cronin, daughter of Mrs Klein and wife of Mr Patrick Cronin. Through the late 1930s to 1950s the theatre was referred to as Cronin's Tivoli Theatre (or Tivoli Hall), Alpha. Mrs Cronin's son Michael later assisted her with her theatre interests.

The theatre comprised of canvas and wooden seating and with the roof covering approximately a third of the theatre seating area. Films were often shown on a Saturday evening. The theatre was also used regularly, since its establishment by Mrs Klein, for holding many and various public meetings, balls, concerts, dances and other social and community events. Both the Klein and Cronin families were active members of many local organisations and volunteers within the community.



The steel framed and corrugated iron clad structure which was the picture theatre is now used as the Tivoli Theatre Museum and houses a collection of early settlers' gear including saddlery, railway and stock wear. It also bears one of the 28-odd murals to be found around the township of Alpha.

In 1999, the Rowley Roberts Tourist Information Centre was established on the theatre site. The information centre is operated from an old railway guards' room, which was relocated from the Alpha Railway Station complex on the opposite side of Shakespeare Street and placed adjacent to the footpath between the theatre and the street. The guards' room is a standard Edwardian style building of two rooms with gable roof and platform shade supported on lattice brackets with fretted struts.

Beta, located approximately 30 kilometres west of Alpha, was a small railway settlement during the construction of the Central Line. The Central Line opened to Beta on 12 January 1885 and it served as the terminus for approximately five months. By June 1885, Beta it has been largely abandoned, but the Beta Railway Station and some huts remained. Beta was renowned for being the first main line location in Queensland where trains could pass each other without any railway station staff in attendance.

A slab hut from Beta has been relocated and restored on the site behind the Tivoli Theatre Museum and houses a collection of memorabilia and interpretive information about the history of the Central Line railway.

**Description/Current status:**

The Rowley Roberts Tourist Information Centre operating from the relocated Alpha railway guards' room, the Tivoli Theatre Museum and the Beta Hut are all housed across two lots of land at 43 Shakespeare Street, Alpha. The complex is open to the public and is well maintained. In early 2019, the guards' room was repainted in a yellow tone and the awning over the footpath was replaced. The corrugated iron roofing used for the awning is green, the same as is used on the main part of the guards' room structure. Five solar panels have also been added to the roof of the guards' room facing Shakespeare Street.

**Statement of significance:**

This place has local cultural heritage significance based on the following:

**A. The place or area is important in demonstrating the evolution or pattern of the local government area's history:**

The Tivoli Theatre is important in demonstrating the evolution of picture theatres across Queensland, Central Western Queensland and the Barcardine Region during the early 20<sup>th</sup> century and the part they played in social and community life. Picture theatres enjoyed widespread popularity, especially in rural areas, as they provided not only a venue for entertainment, but also for social engagement, and counteracted isolation by providing a window to the wider world.

The Alpha railway guards' room and Beta Hut, which have been included on the Tivoli Theatre site, demonstrate the evolution and pattern of development of the Alpha township and surrounding area, which was largely influenced by the Central Line Railway.

**D. The place or area is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a particular class or classes of cultural places.:**

These three structures on the site, the Alpha railway guards' room, Tivoli Theatre and Beta Railway Hut, each demonstrate the principal characteristics of the class of place they respectively represent. The Alpha railway guards' room retains many of the typical features of an Edwardian style guards room included in a railway complex in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. Similarly, the Beta Railway Hut is a retained example of a typical wooden hut that formed part of the settlements which sprang up to support the construction of Central Line railway in the 1880s. Some of these settlements formed the basis of townships we know today, such as Alpha, but others were abandoned once construction progressed, such as was the case with Beta.

The Tivoli Theatre building remains as a good example of the type of modest picture theatre once common in rural towns. It is simple in plan and has exposed K-braced steel frame supports internally to support the expanse of roof without impeding lines of site. It is clad in corrugated iron.

**G. The place or area has a strong or special association with the life or work of a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons:**

The Alpha railway guards' room, Tivoli Theatre and Beta Railway Hut have important associations with the community of Alpha and surrounding area, with its connection to the significant railway history of the area and as a venue for social interaction and entertainment. As a tourist information centre and museum, this site now facilitates the sharing of Alpha's history with visitors.

**H. The place or area has special association with the life or work of a particular person, group or organisation of importance in the local area's history:**

The Tivoli Theatre has a special association with the life, work and community involvement of Mrs Mary Ann Klein and her daughter Mrs Mary Elsie Cronin.

## Back Creek Bore

**Location description/address:** Portion of road reserve and rail reserve (261 on SP121558) between Capricorn Highway and Central Western System Rail Line and between Richmond Hills Road and Locknagar Parkgate Road, approximately 38km from Barcaldine. Adjacent to Lot 12 on CP815699.

**Real property description:** Portion of road reserve and rail reserve Lot 261 on SP121558, adjacent to Lot 12 on CP815699

**Tenure:** Road reserve

**Historical information:**

Artesian water was discovered in Australia in 1878 and by around 1990 the bounds of the Great Artesian Basin had been established. Government Geologist, R. Logan Jack, in 1881 speculated and then in 1885 together with J. B. Henderson, Hydraulic Engineer and head of the Water Supply Department formally advised on the favourable prospects of encountering artesian water in inland Queensland.

Back Creek Bore is the site of the first free flowing (artesian) bore in Queensland. The bore is located approximately 38km east of Barcaldine and 538km west of Rockhampton (originally described as 334 miles and 15 chains from Rockhampton on the Central Railway). The bore was drilled in 1886 in the search for water for advancing the Central Railway, with the current site marker noting 8 May 1886.

In June 1886, *The Telegraph* and *The Week* newspapers, described the drilling of the bore and reported that water now rises 12 feet above the surface. The 2-inch bore was drilled through loamy surface soil to 12 ft, from 12 to 94 ft through white pipe-clay, from 94 to 160 ft through very hard blue shale and then from approximately 160 to 180-185 ft of stratum of coarse sandstone with layers of fine loose sand. It was at this depth that the fine stream of water was obtained. This was the second attempt at boring at this location. The galvanised iron casing was insufficient strong and bent on the first bore attempt at this location which was drilled to 105 ft. It also followed earlier unsuccessful attempts by the Railway Department to drill bores at Spring Creek and Alice River. The total cost of this exercise to drill a bore and obtain water was £348 7s 6d, with £127 4s 5d attributed to the successful Back Creek Bore. In 1886, the Railway Department applied to the Lands Department for a reserve of 640 acres including the Back Creek Bore.

One of the intended purposes of installing a series of bores along the Central Railway was to provide for the watering of locomotive engines. In a report published as a supplement to the 4 September 1888 edition of the *Western Champion* newspaper, it describes "an artesian well, which, although only about 250 ft deep, gives a never-failing supply of water. During the early months of Barcaldine, when no local supply is available, the water from this

bore was all the inhabitants had to depend upon, and it was equal to the demand. The railway engines still draw their supplies from Back Creek bore, the water from which is pumped into large tanks by means of an Althouse windmill." According to advertisements dated from 1887, Scott & Yong, Atlas Company of Engineers, Latrobe and Queen Sts, Melbourne were the patentees and sole manufacturers of Althouse Windmills. Further in a report on his visit to No. 2 Bore dated 25 October 1888 and published in the 30 October 1888 edition of the *Western Champion* newspaper, Roland Quiz describes how there are "three lengthsmen's cottages" located at the 6-mile out of Barcaldine and as the nearest water is at the 7-mile, "the goods engine runs up occasionally and fills several iron tanks with water brought from Back Creek, 31 miles away".

The water pressure from the Back Creek Bore was low and by about 1895-1896 required pumping to an elevated tank. In 1905, Messrs Tichborne Brothers were contracted to sink a 4-inch bore at the site, to a depth of 1000 ft in the hope of improving water supply from the bore. At the depth of 200 ft, water in the newly drilled Back Creek Bore came to within 6 ft of the surface. On 28 January 1906, drilling had progressed to 1000 ft and water rose and flowed over the top of the casing temporarily. Drilling continued to 1050 ft and approval was sought to go to 1100 ft. Restoring free flow was not successful however the bore remained a notable water source.

Though 1932 and 1933, a local Mr James Forrest raised a suggestion with the Barcaldine District Improvement Board and advocated for water to be made available for travelling sheep at Back Creek Bore for a small charge. The board acknowledged the suggestion and took it up with the Railway Department. Negotiations for the provision of watering facility at Back Creek were ongoing for some years, particularly in relation to provision of infrastructure and charging, with Jericho Shire Council even offering to fund the infrastructure in return for a portion of charges. By October 1935, the watering facilities for travelling stock, consisting of a 10,000 gallon tank and 150 ft of troughing had been installed by Barcaldine Shire Council at Back Creek with the agreement of the Railway Department and watering charges were imposed by way of by-law. In 1937, the tank and troughs at Back Creek Bore were concreted. In 1940, Mr H. Hansen was the caretaker of the Back Creek Bore and troughing.

In the 1980s, the windmill then standing at Back Creek Bore was replaced with an electric pump. The windmill was disassembled and erected on Oak Street in Barcaldine (next to the Tourist Information Centre and between the Capricorn Highway and the railway line) as a symbol of the importance of artesian water in the daily life of people of the outback. This Comet Windmill was manufactured in Rockhampton in September 1917 by the Sidney Williams Company and originally erected on the site of the "first flowing bore in Queensland".

The discovery of free-flowing water at Back Creek Bore provided confidence in the notion that there was an artesian source of water that would be valuable to the development of inland Queensland. On 17 December 1887, the now infamous and much celebrated Barcaldine Town Bore on Ash Street was successfully drilled to a depth of 690 ft (ie. 210 metres) striking a substantial flow of a then estimated 140,000 to 200,000 gallons per day (ie. 640,000 to 900,000 litres per day) by Canadian drilling contractor, J.S. Loughead, engaged by J.B. Henderson, the Hydraulic Engineer and head of the Water Supply Department for Queensland. The free-flowing artesian town bore in Barcaldine provided the township with water for over a century.

Following the discovery of free-flowing water at Back Creek Bore by the Railway Department, deep bore drilling commenced with the support of the Queensland Government. W.H. Williamson, in his writing 'The history of hydrogeology in Australia' (2013), records that "By 1889, 34 artesian bores had been completed [in Queensland], with 524 by 1899. In 1888, the drilling of 13 more bores for town water supply was approved, and their water markedly improved the living conditions and health of the western communities."

According to the plaque on the Artesian Memorial unveiled by Mr B.J. Green, President of the Artesian Festival Association on 26 August 1978 and located at Oak Street, Barcaldine, the memorial is:

*"Erected in commemoration of the explorative work undertaken by the pioneers of the Great Artesian Basin of Australia and to the sinking of the first commercial artesian bore in Australia at Back Creek, 38km east of Barcaldine in 1886.*

*Barcaldine became the first town in Australia to use artesian water for town reticulation from the town borehead completed in 1887."*

A photograph taken in October 1982 of the site and shared by Chris Burns on flickr shows a 'Back Creek' railway siding sign, a corrugated iron tank on ground, a telegraph or power pole and lines between the sign and tank and beside the tank on elevated ground is a large Comet Windmill. There is a timber post and wire fencing between the sign and tank, which then turns a right angle and runs between the tank and windmill.

**Description/Current status:**

The site of the Back Creek Bore consists of a water pondage surrounded by trees, shrubs and grasses and encircled by a vehicular track adjacent to the railway line. Nailed to a mature tree beside the pond is a metal plate bearing the following inscription in black on a white background:

*HISTORIC  
BACK CREEK BORE  
First Artesian Water  
In Australia 8.5.1886*

- *Depth 250 ft or 76 metres*
- *Flow 50,000 gallons or 321,728 Litres per day (sic – conversion)*
- *Contractor JAS. S. Loughead*

**Statement of significance:**

This place has local cultural heritage significance based on the following:

**A. The place or area is important in demonstrating the evolution or pattern of the local government area's history:**

The Back Creek Bore is important in demonstrating the pattern and evolution of the Barcaldine region, and Central Western Queensland more broadly, during the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Back Creek Bore supported the spread of the Central Railway, provided a source of water for residents in the vicinity and later travelling stock (in particular sheep and especially during dry periods). Back Creek Bore reinforced the prospect of, and enthusiasm of the time for, the discovery of the artesian water which was so vital to the development and growth of the Barcaldine region and inland Australia.

**F. The place or area is important in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technological achievement at a particular period:**

The Back Creek Bore, drilled in 1886, is recognised as being the first free flowing artesian water discovered in Queensland and the first commercial artesian bore in Australia. It was commissioned by the Railway Department of Queensland with a primary intent to provide an efficient source of water for engine watering along the Central Railway which was to open up central and western Queensland. Discoveries of artesian water and the Great Artesian Basin during the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century is credited with triggering hydrogeology to become a distinct recognised discipline in Australia.

## **Barcaldine Court House**

**Location description/address:** 65 Ash Street, Barcaldine Q 4725

**Real property description:** NW portion of the larger reserve, Lot 603 on RY184

**Tenure:** Reserve (PT Reserve 64) (Queensland Police Service)

**History:**

In May 1908, plans for the new court house were made publicly available for inspection in Rockhampton and Emerald. The new building was to occupy the centre of the allotment. The contract for construction of new Barcaldine Court House awarded to Messres. Meacham & Leyland in June 1908. The contract price was £966 with a five-month completion requirement. The painter engaged was Mr B. H. Hannaford. Mr. W. H. Atkins, Central District Inspector of Works oversaw the contract and received the keys on Monday 25 January 1909. Mr J. Macalister was

appointed the first Police Magistrate to work from the new Barcaldine Court House from which he would also visit Jericho, Alpha and Aramac to conduct Petty Sessions

Upon completion, the building was described in *The Western Champion and General Advertiser* as “severely plain”, of “Egyptian character” and built using “heavy timbers”. The Barcaldine Court House is a low-set, single story, timber framed building which is ‘T’ shaped in plan. It was constructed of hardwood, Maryborough pine and kauri pine and stood on 4 ft blocks with hardwood timber flooring throughout. The roof is bungalow style and over-hangs the building, observed to give the “edifice the squatty appearance so often conspicuous in this class of building”. The original structure is 25 ft wide and 40 ft long. The exterior of the building was first painting in four coats of a deep chocolate brown with contrasting white window borders, verandah posts and an oval *fleche* ventilator and was adorned with an entablature with “Court House” written in block letters and bordered in French grey. The court room area was surrounded by 7-foot ceiled verandahs. The interior layout consisted of the court room area and then various offices in the cross portion of its ‘T’ shape. The court room area included a comparatively small area of 8 ft provided for the public gallery behind the bar and 7ft between the bar and dock, a jury bench, press box, witness stand, bench and C.P.S. desk. The court room area included four outward opening windows of frosted green-light glass on each side and a pair of French lights for ventilation. All fittings were made of brass. At the eastern and western corners of the cross portion of the ‘T’ circular tanks were installed. Additional details of the building at the time of its completion are described in the Saturday 30 January 1909 edition of *The Western Champion and General Advertiser*.

The construction of the Barcaldine Court House came after persistent local advocacy for a new court house and resident Police Magistrate from late 1899 to 1908 lead by the Barcaldine Divisional Board (council), a Chamber of Commerce established during this period and the Barcaldine Progress Association. The old court house has been reportedly condemned by the Government Inspector of Works in about 1896 but continued to be used and subjected to modest repairs. White ant damage to the old court house and the dangerous state of its front steps to the verandah were commonly raised, together with increasing population of the Barcaldine area and inadequacy of the size of the existing structure. The Government often cited a lack of need for a resident Police Magistrate in Barcaldine given existing services provided out of Longreach and lack of available funds to justify a new court house. While the site for the new court house was identified and subdivided for the purpose in May 1899, it took another 9 years for the building to be realised. The coincidental timing of the local member of parliament, Mr George Kerr, becoming Minister of Works and the project finally proceeding was noted by *The Western Champion and General Advertiser* at the time.

In 1914, a single car garage was erected on the Court House grounds. It was described as “elaborate and substantial” at the time, including glass side windows and louvres and costing £110.

In the years following the construction of the new Barcaldine Court House, there was local advocacy for the replacement of the post and netting fence that stood out the front of it. The Council Office and Lands Office, neighbouring on each side had white picket fences. In 1910, the wicket gate was moved from the old court house site to in front of the new Barcaldine Court House. During October 1915, the new fence was constructed by Messrs. O’Brien and Southgate.

The Barcaldine Court House was used for a range of court criminal, civil and administrative sittings, as well as a venue for official and public meetings and a polling location for elections and referendums. Various public inspectors were accommodated in the offices within the court house.

The first person to appear before Mr J. Macalister, Police Magistrate, in the new Barcaldine Court House was a local Mr Wallace Yooll for drunkenness. He was cautioned and discharged.

In 1919-1920, the fire station was relocated from the old council bore yards in Ash Street to a site on the western side of the Barcaldine Court House. Messrs Meacham & Leyland were awarded the contract for removal and also subsequently for repainting of the fire station at the new location. The paint colour selection for the Fire Station was determined by reference to and to be in keeping with the nearby Barcaldine Court House. This fire station was subsequently dismantled and replaced in 1927 and the fire brigade again relocated in 1963.

Messrs Meacham & Leyland was founded by partners James Meacham and James Leyland, in 1884 at Pine Hill and came to Barcaldine in 1886. The business involved hardware and furniture sales, as well as providing building contract and ironmongering services. The business subsequently expanded to Longreach in 1892 and in 1953 became a publicly listed company on the Brisbane Stock Exchange and further expanding with stores in Blackall and Aramac before the company was bought out in 1978. A portion of the Barcaldine store still stands on Oak Street, Barcaldine and over the years has continued to house hardware, trade and furniture businesses.

**Description/Current status:**

The Barcaldine Court House remains generally intact and in good repair on the site. This building continues to be used as the Barcaldine Magistrates Court. The timber building remains painted in chocolate brown with contrasting white trimmings including the verandah posts, window frames and vent. The façade with four steps and block letter signage remains consistent with the building as originally constructed. There has been some modern upgrades and modifications, notably from the outside restumping on metal posts in concrete, the addition of air-conditioning, an access ramp on the eastern side. There is now a water tank on the eastern side adjacent the cross of the 'T' shape, but there is no longer any tank on the western side.

A heritage trail marker has been installed in front of the building with the inscription:

*COURT HOUSE  
Court house built in 1908.  
Site also occupied by the  
Police Mounted Infantry  
Corps during the 1891  
Shearers' Strike.*

While a photograph of the Barcaldine Court House dated 1923 shows a white picket fence, as locals had advocated for. In the intervening years the fencing has been reverted to a steel post and wire mesh construction, typical of that seen around many government facilities particularly where installed in the late 20<sup>th</sup> and early 21<sup>st</sup> century.

**Statement of significance:**

This place has local cultural heritage significance based on the following:

**A. The place or area is important in demonstrating the evolution or pattern of the local government area's history:**

Constructed in 1908 on a new site, to replace the small timber court house dating from the mid-late 1800s which had fallen into disrepair, the Barcaldine Court House survives as an important illustration of the pattern of Barcaldine's development as an official and commercial centre for the Barcaldine region and central western Queensland more broadly. The prominent location of the Barcaldine Court House within the government and administrative precinct of Barcaldine also demonstrates its importance and connection with the other public and administrative functions within the town.

**D. The place or area is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a particular class or classes of cultural places:**

The Barcaldine Court House remains generally intact and in good repair as an important example of a timber court house in a regional centre. It reflects the style and standard of government buildings designed and built in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Of particular note in this regard is its overhanging, bungalow-style corrugated iron roof and clear building signage. It also maintains an external paint colour scheme consistent with its original, which influenced that of other public buildings in the precinct.

**E. The place or area is important because of its aesthetic significance to the local community:**

Through form, scale and materials, the Barcaldine Court House contributes to the Ash Street streetscape and Barcaldine townscape.

**G. The place or area has a strong or special association with the life or work of a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons:**

The prominent central location of the building in Barcaldine, demonstrates its importance within the town. The continuous use as a Barcaldine Court House and for accommodating associated public officers, ensures the building has a strong connection with past, present and aspiring future members of the community engaged in law enforcement, public administration and professional legal work.

**H. The place or area has special association with the life or work of a particular person, group or organisation of importance in the local area's history:**

The Barcaldine Court House is a good and generally intact example of the form and nature of building work undertaken by the local firm Messrs Meacham & Leyland, which serviced the town and broader region for 70 years in private ownership and under that name for a further 20-25 years after becoming a publicly listed company.

## **Barcaldine Grandstand (Ted Seaby Grandstand)**

**Location description/address:** Barcaldine Showgrounds, cnr Wilga and Pine Streets, Barcaldine Q 4725

**Real property description:** Within Lot 42 on SP243970

**Tenure:** Reserve (Barcaldine Regional Council)

### **Historical information:**

In June 1892, the Minister for Lands proclaimed a reserve for recreation purposes on the northern side of the railway line at Barcaldine. This land had previously been used by the Amalgamated Friendly Societies' Sports and Ball Committee (which held its final meeting in June 1890 and transferred the balance of its accounts on trust to be applied to a sports and recreation reserve when the time comes) and continued to be used by the Athletic Club which advocated for its reserve status to secure it from sale and expand its use for cricket and football.

The Barcaldine Pastoral, Agricultural and Horticultural Society was formed during a meeting on 16 July 1913, with the aspiration of establishing a pavilion and grandstand capable of holding 800 people and conducting an annual agricultural show. In August 1913, the State Government's Land Department gave permission for the Barcaldine Shire Council to grant a 21-year lease over the recreation reserve to the society. The society held its first agricultural show in 1914 but only secured funding, by way of debentures, to construct a grandstand at the Barcaldine Showgrounds in 1921.

The plans and specifications for the grandstand were prepared by the architect, Mr Tim J. Hannay (brother of Mr Tom J. Hannay, builder and a founding member of the society). Tim Hannay, had garnered notoriety for having recently designed three of the largest woolsheds in Australia (Maranoa (NSW), Tinnenburra (Qld) and Meteor Downs (Qld)), with Tinnenburra "admitted to be the largest in the world" at the time. He ended up gifting the plans and specifications to the society. A description of the design was published in the 12 April 1921 edition of *The Morning Bulletin* newspaper.

In October 2021, tenders were called for the erection of the grandstand and of the six received, Messrs O'Brien & Co of Barcaldine were contracted to undertake the work, having quoted £919 19d 6s including spouting. Tom Hannay, by that time President of the society, supervised the work. Tom Hannay, R. Park and J. Meacham determined the final siting of the grandstand.

Construction of the grandstand was undertaken from January to May 1922, after which time the society attended to obtaining building certification for the grandstand, erecting fencing at each end of the grandstand and planting four shade trees around the grandstand.

The grandstand was completed and available for use for the society's ninth annual agricultural show which opened on 25 July 1922. The grandstand was reportedly poorly patronised during the show however, due to an additional admission charge of 2s. 3d. being applied to access it.

The grandstand had been used earlier in 1922, prior to the show, and thereafter by the Barcaldine Rugby League Club and the cricket club, both of which regularly used the showgrounds for their matches. The rugby league club had negotiated reduced fees for ladies to access the grandstand during Sunday fixtures.

The grandstand was named the 'Ted Seaby Stand' in honour of Edward "Ted" Seaby (1856-16 Nov 1923). Mr Seaby was a pioneer carrier who serviced the district in advance of the Central Railway, eventually settling with his family at 'North Side', Barcaldine. His family were heavily involved in the Barcaldine community, including the rugby league club and the Australian Labor Party movement, in particular his Ted Seaby jnr.

Around the agricultural show schedule, the showgrounds and grandstand were regularly used for holding sporting events, including inter-school sports carnivals, and in 1930 the society gave permission to the Basket Ball Club to lay a pitch at the rear of the grandstand.

The original 21-year lease of the recreation reserve to the society expired in 1935 and its assets, including the grandstand, were transferred to the Barcaldine Shire Council in April 1935 after the parties arrived at a mutual valuation.

Through July to September 1951, the Barcaldine Shire Council called for tenders for repairs and alternations to be made to the grandstand including the addition of a stove recess for the kitchen. Mr C. W. T Fulton, architect from Brisbane, prepared the plans and specifications for the work. In 1954, the council and society entered into negotiated about the installation of a septic system and dressing rooms for footballers at the showgrounds. Between 1951-1954, significant grandstand upgrades were being planned and undertaken at the Longreach showgrounds with the support of the State's Department of Local Government and as a nation, Australia was also in the throes of preparing for the 1956 Melbourne Olympics during this period.

The pre-1963 Barcaldine fire station building was moved to the showgrounds in 1965, repurposed for use as dressing rooms and became part of what was called the Vince Mather Pavilion.

In more recent times, the grandstand has undergone further upgrades and modifications. The area beneath the grandstand seating has now been enclosed with brick and built-in to include a kitchen, dining room, bar, cold room, toilets, air-conditioning and disabled access.

#### **Description/Current status:**

The grandstand structure remains standing in good repair at the Barcaldine Showgrounds. The general external appearance for the grandstand, its siting and context in the landscape and the grandstand seating area remain generally intact. The stand-out architectural features of the grandstand remain its dimensions, the seven-platform main floor, two flights of access steps (4ft wide and 20ft long) to the seating area, balustrading and hardwood posts (10 evenly spaced hardwood posts with prominent corner brackets), high-pitched iron roof with eaves overhanging the main wall and a gable at each end. Aside from the iron roof, the original structure was constructed entirely of hardwood.

#### **Statement of significance:**

This place has local cultural heritage significance based on the following:

#### **A. The place or area is important in demonstrating the evolution or pattern of the local government area's history:**

Constructed in 1921, the Barcaldine Grandstand (Ted Seaby Grandstand) survives as an important illustration of the development of and investment in agricultural shows and sporting ground facilities in the Barcaldine district, which reflects a recurrent theme across most communities throughout the State. Grandstands reflect



the significance and culture of spectator involvement in sport for which Australia communities, Queensland communities and rural communities are often renowned.

**D. The place or area is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a particular class or classes of cultural places:**

The Barcaldine Grandstand (Ted Seaby Grandstand) remains generally intact, in use and in good repair as an important example of a timber construction grandstand, erected in a regional town servicing a broader rural district, in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century.

**E. The place or area is important because of its aesthetic significance to the local community:**

The scale, setting and architectural features of the Barcaldine Grandstand (Ted Seaby Grandstand) contributes to its aesthetic and landmark qualities. The Barcaldine Grandstand (Ted Seaby Grandstand) contributes significantly and positively to the atmosphere and landscape of the Barcaldine Showgrounds and the broader recreation precinct in the north of Barcaldine.

**G. The place or area has a strong or special association with the life or work of a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons:**

The Barcaldine Grandstand (Ted Seaby Grandstand) has an important social significance for the generations of families from Barcaldine and across Central Western Queensland who have attended annual agricultural shows, sporting events, milestone celebrations, trade exhibitions and other events at the Barcaldine Showgrounds. It remains an important venue and facility for major regional community, sporting and entertainment events, as well as for hosting private functions.

**H. The place or area has special association with the life or work of a particular person, group or organisation of importance in the local area's history:**

The Barcaldine Grandstand (Ted Seaby Grandstand) is important for its association with the Barcaldine Pastoral, Agricultural and Horticultural Society founded in 1913 with the aspiration to establish the showgrounds and erect such a grandstand.

It also has particular importance to the Barcaldine Rugby League and Barcaldine Cricket clubs which have utilised and contributed to the upkeep and development of the grandstand over the course of its life.

The Barcaldine Grandstand (Ted Seaby Grandstand) has a special association with the family of Mr Edward 'Ted' Seaby (1856-1923) as a place which recognises his significant contribution as a pioneer carrier and settler of Barcaldine. Many of his family members have continued to be directly involved with the use and development of the grandstand, particularly in relation to their involvement in rugby league in Barcaldine.

The Barcaldine Grandstand (Ted Seaby Grandstand) has a special association with the work of Mr Tim. J. Hannay, architect, who prepared and donated the plans and specifications for the grandstand and his brother Mr Thomas J. Hannay, builder, who was a founding member and subsequently President of the Barcaldine Pastoral, Agricultural and Horticultural Society. He oversaw and contributed to the construction of the grandstand and provided the building certification upon its completion. The building contractors were Messrs O'Brien & Co of Barcaldine.

## **Barcaldine Railway Complex**

**Location description/address:** Oak Street, Barcaldine Q 4725

At Barcaldine on Central Line Railway approximately 579km W of Rockhampton

**Real property description:** Lot 133 on SP123567

**Tenure:** Railway Reserve (Queensland Rail)

**Historical information:**

The Central Line Railway was opened to Barcaldine (originally referred to as Lagoon Creek), in the vicinity of Barcaldine Downs, on 8 November 1886. Most of the goods shed from Pine Hill was relocated to Barcaldine, along with the station master's house and guard's quarters. The goods shed stood on the southern side of the railway line. In 1887, the other station buildings were erected on the northern side of the line. The station building with its ventilated roof and carriage shade was similar in design to the Clermont station. Sheep and cattle yards were also established within the complex.

The township of Barcaldine owes its existence to the arrival of the Central Line Railway. The timing of its establishment, its location at what became the intersection of various transport routes across Central Western Queensland (particularly its proximity to the established wool towns of Aramac and Blackall) and the discovery of an artesian water supply allowed it to survive and develop where many other railheads had vanished. The westward expansion of the Central Rail Line stalled after reaching Barcaldine and did not resume until September 1889. It took until February 1892 for the line to Longreach to be declared open and to 1928 before reaching its final terminus at Winton.

The Barcaldine Railway Complex and the Tree of Knowledge (Ghost Gum or *Eucalyptus papuana*) which stood between Oak Street and the railway line, became synonymous with the Great Shearers' Strike of 1891. The platform along the side of the railway goods shed was used as a staging post for meetings that took place during the strike.

In 1913, the Aramac Shire opened its tramway to Barcaldine, which arrived at the Barcaldine railway station from the north. The tramway provided an all-weather connection between Aramac and Barcaldine until 1976 when it was replaced by a sealed road.

On 18 June 1933, the Barcaldine railway station building burned down and its replacement was constructed on the southern side of the railway line, to the west of the goods shed in 1934. The new station included a pre-cast concrete structure, modern at the time and similar to the new stations being built at Dalby, Roma and Cunnamulla. Around this time, the goods shed was also moved approximately 50m eastward along the line. Now when alighting, passengers no longer needed to cross the track to get to Oak Street and the commercial precinct of Barcaldine.

By 1964 the complex consisted of the station building, loading banks, the goods shed and 1 ton crane, 8,000 and 10,000 gallon tanks, stationmaster's house, guards quarters, inspector's quarters and 3 other houses with a large laundry. There were sidings to the trucking yards, Shell depot, Mobil depot and Barcaldine Electricity Supply Co. powerhouse.

The goods shed was a medium-sized timber framed, corrugated iron clad building, with 3 sliding doors to both side elevation and with end walls sheeted over. The ridgeline of the roof was curved. In May 1999, the goods shed was dismantled and relocated to the Barcaldine Showgrounds complex where it is used as a storage shed.

The station building is a large gable roofed symmetrical precast concrete building with projecting wings to the roadside either side of a verandah which gives access to the lobby. Exposed gable ends accentuate the vestibule in the manner of a chalet. There is a standard cantilevered awning to the platform. Architectural enrichment is limited and includes plain brackets with ladder frames and verandah posts decorated in the fashionable Arts and Crafts manner. Inside, alterations are general and the old refreshment rooms had in more recent times been converted to the Engineer's Offices.

**Description/Current status:**

The Barcaldine Railway Complex remains in operation for passenger and freight railway purposes, within the land now described as Lot 133 on SP123567. It presently includes the main station building constructed in 1934, a brick building with corrugated iron roof and bullnosed awning along the façade consisting of rest room facilities and bus ticketing office to the west, two smaller timber clad and corrugated iron rooved buildings immediately adjacent the station building on its eastern side, an opened-sided roofed work area adjacent to the main running line, as well as some works/storage sheds along the shunting neck/siding line extending north of the station.

**Statement of significance:**

This place has local cultural heritage significance based on the following:

**A. The place or area is important in demonstrating the evolution or pattern of the local government area's history:**

The Barcaldine Railway Complex, including the replacement station building constructed in 1934, assists in demonstrating the pattern of history and development of Central Western Queensland and the Barcaldine Region. The construction of the Central Line railway and the railhead at Barcaldine is the basis for the township's existence and subsequent prosperity. The Barcaldine Railway Complex has been central to the fabric and layout of Barcaldine since its settlement.

**D. The place or area is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a particular class or classes of cultural places:**

The 1934 station building, within the Barcaldine Railway Complex, remains intact, in use and in good repair as an example of the precast concrete railway station construction methods adopted in Queensland in the interwar period. It also demonstrates the cantilevered platform awning standard for that period and the Arts and Craft style of architectural adornment.

**Barcaldine State School (former)**

**Location description/address:** 91 Ash Street, Barcaldine Q 4725

**Real property description:** Within Lot 16 on CP843148

**Tenure:** Freehold

**Historical information:**

In January 1887, it was reported that the Department of Public Instruction had decided to build a State school in Barcaldine, which at that time was the terminus of the Central Railway. Messrs Moir, Cousin and Co were contracted to construct the original school building for a price of £684. The site for the new State school was a 3-acre reserve gazetted to the western side of broader area of government reserves already containing the court house, police quarters and lock-up, post office and land for a future telegraph office and School of Arts.

The first State school at Barcaldine was opened on 4 July 1887 with Mr P. J. McDermott appointed as Headmaster with a mistress. He was transferred from the Albert State School where his position had been first assistant. Approximately 160 students were enrolled in the second week of opening with 140 in regular attendance. Mrs Granville and Miss Cook were appointed to assist.

By October 1887, the school had exceeded its capacity with 225 students enrolled (of which 205 sat examinations that month) and a wing of the Bogantungan school was to be relocated to Barcaldine to alleviate the problem. At that time the school had six teachers. The State school was regularly subjected to repairs, upgrades and expansions over the following years. Upgrades in 1891, saw the school's reported capacity reach 300 students.

Throughout the early 1940s, there was community advocacy for the school to be replaced. What followed was a post-war period of government and institutional rebuilding. In June 1944, the school classes were temporarily moved to the Barcaldine Shire Hall to make way for the demolition and replacement of the Barcaldine State School buildings. The headmaster at this time was Mr J. L. Hogan. The then Attorney-General, Mr D. Gledson visited in July 1944 and explained that the government was experiencing materials and labour constraints, which were slowing progress on the construction of the new school. In particular, iron supplies were limited and alternatives such as sourcing fibro cement for roofing were being investigated.

The building was designed having regard to the prevailing tropical conditions. The foreman who oversaw construction on site was Mr W. Webber. The new high set school building was constructed of hardwood timbers, corrugated sheet metal roof, fibro-cement ceilings, concrete flooring on the ground level. The building featured a symmetrical façade with a staircase and two-storey built-in open gabled section protruding on each side from a

verandah which extended the length of the façade. Each gabled section included a set of four panel windows on the top and bottom levels. The top windows were adorned with a corrugated iron and timber braced window hood. The verandah and two perpendicular staircases featured timber picket balustrading. The exterior of the building was original unpainted but finished with oil. The new Barcaldine State School building was officially opened by Mr J. Larcombe, Minister for Public Instructions on 16 June 1945. At the time of the opening, the old school building remained standing on temporary blocks beside the new building and the school grounds included the school's citrus orchard (established in 1940 under the instruction of headmaster Mr J. L. Hogan).

In 1946, the old school building and headmaster office building were removed following a public sale by tender process and a new headmaster, Mr W. Schilt of Dulacca, commenced in July with Mr J. L. Hogan having been transferred to Townsville.

In March 1954, it was reported that painting of all buildings at the Barcaldine State School had commenced, noting that this would be the first time the exterior of the building constructed in 1944-45 had been painted.

Between 1956 (to Grade 9) and into the 1960s (to Grade 12), a secondary department was added and expanded at the state school. When insufficient classroom space was available at the school for attending students, classes would also be held in the St Peters parish hall. Some students attending the state school from out of town would board at the nearby convent. In 1961 the private Barcaldine Student's Hostel was established by Mrs A.M. Pumpa to house boarding students from out of town. The hostel operated until 1975.

Photographs show that by the mid-1980s some alterations had been made to the building, including for instance:

- an extension to the above floor of the gable section on the left of the building which overhang to provide an undercroft surrounded by posts below; however a similar window configuration and window hood had been installed into the extended façade
- the picket balustrading around the verandah had been replaced with a solid panel style barrier and double timber handrails had been installed in the place of the pickets on the stairs
- a roof vent had been installed in the centre of the main roof ridge.

In 1987, the centenary year of the Barcaldine State School, construction commenced on a new P-12 school complex, on a 43.5 acre (17.62ha) parcel of land on the southern side of Barcaldine fronting Gidyea Street. Primary schooling transferred to the new site in 1988, followed by the secondary school. In 1989, The Australian Workers Heritage Centre acquired the five acre, former Barcaldine State School site on Ash Street. Officially opening as The Australian Workers Heritage Centre in 1991, the site has been transformed into a museum-style interpretive visitor attraction.

#### **Description/Current status:**

The former Barcaldine State School site is now the Australian Workers Heritage Centre. Existing structures on the site, including the former Barcaldine State School building constructed in 1945, have been retained, maintained and re-purposed as exhibition and function spaces. Other heritage buildings from the area, no longer required for their original uses, have been relocated to the site to create a heritage village around a constructed billabong. The site also includes gardens, lawned areas and other playground and landscaping features.

The local heritage place is identified as the former Barcaldine State School building originally constructed in 1945, not the site as a whole. The building is high set, of hardwood timber frame construction, with weatherboard clad walls, internal timber flooring and corrugated iron roofing. The main structure features a Dutch gable or gablet style roof with two distinct, perpendicular, open gable protrusions which contribute to the generally symmetrical front profile of the building, noting the later extension to the left gabled section. Beneath each open gable is a set of 4 casement windows adorned with a corrugated iron and timber framed and braced window hood. The building includes two staircases extending perpendicular to the verandah in the original locations, however they are modern replacements with metal rail and balustrading. The verandah remains surrounded by solid panelling to the height of the top rail. The building retains timber French doors opening onto the verandah.

#### **Statement of significance:**

This place has local cultural heritage significance based on the following:

**A. The place or area is important in demonstrating the evolution or pattern of the local government area's history:**

The former Barcaldine State School building, originally constructed in 1944-45 is important in demonstrating the evolution of state education and its associated post-war architecture in western Queensland. It is an example of an attempt of the era to respond to the tropical climatic conditions and population of the area, while providing adequate light, ventilation, separate classroom spaces and undercover areas for learning. In some respects, safety and maintenance considerations have since prevailed, such as the solid panel balustrading on the verandah which now potentially acts to impede airflow to an extent.

**D. The place or area is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a particular class or classes of cultural places:**

The former Barcaldine State School building is an excellent, intact, accessible example of a post-war timber school constructed in a regional service township.

**G. The place or area has a strong or special association with the life or work of a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons:**

The former Barcaldine State School building has important associations with the local community, including former students, teachers and staff, parents and supporters and now also those involved with the Australian Workers Heritage Centre.

## **Barcaldine Water Tower**

**Location description/address:** 25 Pine Street (corner Yew Street), Barcaldine Q 4725

**Real property description:** Within Lot 9 on RY182

**Tenure:** Reserve for water purposes (Barcaldine Regional Council)

### **Historical information:**

The original water reserve for the Barcaldine township, allocated in December 1898, was on Oak Street near the railway station, at the site of the earliest town bore. That bore was accidentally sunk in November 1887, while digging the foundations for a goods shed for the railway. This site is marked today by the large Comet windmill which was relocated there from the Back Creek Bore in the 1980s.

In 1902, Mr Timothy Joseph Hannay proposed a tank on stand pressurised water supply for Barcaldine. Like his proposal, others were subsequently raised, debated and rejected, often on the basis of cost.

On 10 August 1909, a fire broke out in the commercial precinct of Barcaldine, destroying 18 business premises (including 4 of the towns then 11 hotels: the Welcome Home, Commercial, Carriers' Arms and Springsure hotels were destroyed by the fire while the Shakespear, Royal, Union, West End, The Exchange, Half-way House and Railway hotels were spared) with damages estimated in the vicinity of £15-25,000. Insufficient water supply, and lack of a fire brigade and firefighting equipment, were cited as contributing factors in the spread of the fire. The circumstances of the fire provided the impetus for the formation of a Barcaldine Fire Brigade to be declared under the Fire Brigades Act by mid October 1909 and renewed calls for a pressurised water supply for the town.

A reserve for water for firefighting purposes was designated. In 1912, John Baillie Hendersen, Government Hydraulic Engineer, designed the Barcaldine Water Tower. In February 1913, the Queensland Governor in Council approved a loan of £3,000 for the erection of a water tower and tank for the supply of reticulated water in Barcaldine. By May 1913, Barbat and Sons of Ipswich were contracted at a price of £3,495 5s. 4d. and had commenced erecting the 45,000 gallon (204,000 litre) tank with conical bottom (incorporating scour pipe and valve for cleaning-out), 25 ft in diameter and 17 ft high, standing on a 100 ft (30m) tower made of mild steel. The legs of the tower were sunk in

concrete footings to a depth of 7ft 6in. The supervising engineer for the project was Campbell Fairley, of the Hydraulic Department. Mr Fairley undertook the first test filling of the tank in November 1914.

From November 1914 to May 1915, a second 10,000 gallon reinforced concrete supply tank, 16ft in diameter and 10 ft in depth, with walls and base of 1 ft thickness was constructed in the ground beside the water tower. This supply tank received water from the nearby town bore, which was then pumped using a Hawthorn Davey triple throw pump through a 6 inch pipe to the tank on the water tower. The pump was driven by a National suction gas plant. It was estimated that the concrete supply tank could provide 5 hours of continuous water supply. The total cost of the water supply project exceed budget and ended up nearer £6,000.

Between 1915 and 1918, engines were installed in connection with the water tower to provide an electrical power supply for Barcaldine, referred to as the Barcaldine power house. Mr Gordon Faine of Brisbane was involved in the drawing up of plans and cost estimates for an electric lighting scheme and later E.L. Wilson, Engineer was involved in the procurement of a large Hornsby engine. On 24 February 1919, the electrical installation system for the Barcaldine Electric Lighting Scheme was officially opened by Councillor T. J. Hannay.

In April 1919, following the installation of a 600-candle power electric light on the front of the Shire Hall which illuminated the street, Council decided to install a similar electric light on the top of the water tower as a “beacon for outside travellers and be observable, it is considered, at Tara Station and for miles in several directions.” (*The Capricornian*, 26 April 1919 edition).

By 1943 the Council determined it had no further use for the water tower and considered offering the steel and ironwork from the tower for sale. Upgrades to the water and electricity systems, and reuse of the tank and tower, were investigated over subsequent years. It continued to be used for holding a reserve supply of water for firefighting purposes until 2006 when the then Barcaldine Shire Council decided to decommissioned the tank and tower for water storage purposes, but retain it as a telecommunications tower. Together with addition of radio, television antennae and communications equipment and infrastructure, other recent modifications include the installation of new enclosed ladders up the side of the tower to meet contemporary workplace health and safety requirements. As part of the use conversion, the original roof of the water tank has also been removed.

#### **Description/Current status:**

The Barcaldine Water Tower remains generally intact and in place, but is now used as a communications tower.

On Saturday 23 June 2012, Engineers Australia (Queensland Division) (Central Western Group) together with Engineering Heritage Australia (Queensland) and Barcaldine Regional Council convened a ceremony on-site to announce that under the Heritage Recognition Program the Barcaldine Water Tower constructed in 1914 was to be recognised with a National Engineering Heritage Landmark Award. During the ceremony Her Excellency Ms Penelope Wensley AC, then Governor of Queensland unveiled the Engineering Heritage Marker and interpretive panel that had been installed at the site, visible from the Yew Street footpath.

Text on the interpretive panel includes the following regarding the engineering of the Barcaldine Water Tower: *“The water tank is fabricated from 1/4” (~6.4mm) mild plate steel joined by 3/4” (~19mm) hot-driven rivets. The elegant hemispherical base is of 16ft. 4in. (~5.0m) radius. Steel for the tower structure was rolled in and imported from Glengarnock Steel, Scotland. A float and pulley system indicated the water level in the tank, for all to see from the ground. After over 90 years of water storage service, the maximum corrosion measured was only 20% of the overall steel thickness – indicated of the dry climate of Barcaldine. The tower is similar in design to those erected in the same era at Goodna and Sandy Gallop (Ipswich) mental asylums, to carry 60,000 gallon tanks. The Barcaldine tower is the only one of the three still standing.”*

Text on the interpretive panel includes the following regarding the present condition of the Barcaldine Water Tower: *“In November 2006, the Barcaldine Shire Council decided to retire the tower from water storage service and adapt it for use as a communications tower. A condition audit to assess the structural suitability of the tower for its proposed new use showed the tower structure to be in good condition with little adherent rust, and the holding down bolts passed a full scale load test indicating that they have sufficient capacity to carry the design loads.”*

A copy of the interpretive panel is accessible online at:

[https://portal.engineersaustralia.org.au/system/files/engineering-heritage-australia/panel-title/Barcaldine\\_Water\\_Tower\\_Panel.pdf](https://portal.engineersaustralia.org.au/system/files/engineering-heritage-australia/panel-title/Barcaldine_Water_Tower_Panel.pdf)

**Statement of significance:**

This place has local cultural heritage significance based on the following:

**A. The place or area is important in demonstrating the evolution or pattern of the local government area's history:**

The Barcaldine Water Tower is important in demonstrating a phase in the history of Barcaldine's water supply and the challenges associated with providing pressurised water for reticulation and firefighting purposes. The Barcaldine Water Tower is also inextricably linked to the history of electricity supply and electric lighting in Barcaldine, and now the provision of contemporary communications services for the town.

**D. The place or area is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a particular class or classes of cultural places:**

The Barcaldine Water Tower is a good intact example of this form of early 20<sup>th</sup> century technology, being designed to pressurise water to allow a reticulated water supply system to operate effectively in generally flat and expansive terrain. The tower is similar in design to those erected in the same era at Goodna and Sandy Gallop (Ipswich) mental asylums, to carry 60,000 gallon tanks. The Barcaldine tower carried a 45,000 gallon tank, but is the only one of the three towers still standing.

**E. The place or area is important because of its aesthetic significance to the local community:**

The Barcaldine Water Tower is important for its distinctive aesthetic qualities as a readily recognisable landmark. It is one of Barcaldine's prominent landmarks, having a strong visual presence in a generally flat townscape. As in 1919 when the first electric light was installed atop of it, it remains a 'beacon for travellers' by day and night.

**G. The place or area has a strong or special association with the life or work of a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons:**

The Barcaldine Water Tower has a strong association with the work of engineering professionals in Central Western Queensland and Queensland, as indicated by the engineering heritage recognition given to the place by Engineers Australia (Queensland Division) and Engineering Heritage Australia (Queensland). It also has a special association with the local resident community of Barcaldine, for whom it has contributed significantly in terms of improved standard and conditions of living and with the work of the local public works officers of Barcaldine over the course of its service for firefighting, water supply, electricity and lighting supply and now communications purposes.

**H. The place or area has special association with the life or work of a particular person, group or organisation of importance in the local area's history:**

The Barcaldine Water Tower has a strong connection with the work and progressive local advocacy of former Barcaldine councillor Mr Timothy Joseph Hannay, as well as the life and work of James Baillie Henderson, the first government hydraulic engineer in Queensland. It is also representative of the range and geographic spread of fabrication and construction work undertaken by Barbat and Sons of Ipswich in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century.

## Bowen Downs Grave Site #1

**Location description/address:** Aramac–Torrens Creek Road (corner Muttaborra–Bowen Downs Road), Aramac Q 4725 at Cornish Creek (north-western side of intersection)

**Real property description:** Within road reserve between Lot 1 on SP232664 and Lot 16 on PL84

**Tenure:** Road reserve (State controlled road)

### Historical information:

The grave site lies on the north-western side of the intersection of the Aramac-Torrens Creek and the Muttaborra-Bowen Downs Road near the Cornish Creek crossing. It is understood to be the grave of Andrew John Phillips (aka Phillipp), head stockman of Bowen Downs, who was accidentally drowned on horseback on 27 April 1920.

The grave is surrounded by a fence that consists of timber posts with a single metal railing. There is no visible headstone. The site is often subject to becoming overgrown with vegetation. It is also subject to inundation when the nearby Cornish Creek is in flood.

During upgrade works on Aramac-Torrens Creek Road at Cornish Creek during the 2010s, an exclusion zone was maintained around the grave site so as to prevent damage from vehicles during and after the road works and Barcaldine Regional Council erected a marker to improve awareness of the site.

The grave and surrounds is in poor condition having sustained years of deterioration from water, weather, plant root intrusion and insect and animal disturbance.

### Description/Current status:

The grave site remains identifiable, on the north-western side of the intersection of the Aramac-Torrens Creek and the Muttaborra-Bowen Downs Road, with its timber post and single metal rail surrounds.

### Statement of significance:

This place has local cultural heritage significance based on the following:

**A. The place or area is important in demonstrating the evolution or pattern of the local government area's history:**

This grave site is an example of the many lone grave sites, located outside of recognised cemeteries, found across rural and remote areas of Australia from the 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> century. Due to the remote or isolated locations in which people passed away and logistical challenges such as limited means of transportation, weather and land conditions, it was often not possible to take the body of a deceased person to a recognised cemetery. Those who were with or came upon the deceased, would out of locational and circumstantial necessity, choose an appropriate nearby location to perform a burial and the site would be demarcated with available resources. This grave site demonstrates the evolution of this aspect of life, for people on remote pastoral holdings subject to isolation particularly during rain events, in the Barcaldine Region.

**D. The place or area is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a particular class or classes of cultural places:**

This grave site is an example of the many lone grave sites, located outside of recognised cemeteries, found across rural and remote areas of Australia from the 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> century. Due to the remote or isolated locations in which people passed away and logistical challenges such as limited means of transportation, weather and land conditions, it was often not possible to take the body of a deceased person to a recognised cemetery. This grave site demonstrates the characteristics of such lone graves, as out of locational and circumstantial necessity, the deceased who is understood to have died by drowning while crossing the nearby Cornish Creek was buried on a nearby, slightly elevated location beyond the bank of the watercourse, adjacent to a travelling route and the site was demarcated with available timber and a simple single metal rail surround.



## Bowen Downs Ruins

**Location description/address:** Aramac-Torrens Creek Road south of Cornish Creek Bridge

**Real property description:** Road Reserve

**Tenure:** Road reserve (State controlled road)

### Historical information:

Bowen Downs was an early Queensland pastoral holding and significant to the history of Queensland's pastoral industry, and white occupation and settlement of Central Western Queensland.

In 1859, William Landsborough set out to explore the central west of Queensland – the colony newly separated from New South Wales that same year. Nathaniel Buchanan was a member of Landsborough's travelling party. On this journey they discovered the open downs country traversed by watercourses to the south-west of the hill they climbed and Landsborough named 'Tower Hill'. In 1861, Landsborough and Buchanan applied for the lease of this area together with Robert Morehead and Matthew Young of the Scottish Australian Investment Company and Edward Cornish who provided financial support for the venture and named it 'Bowen Downs' after the coastal Queensland town and the first Governor of Queensland.

The station consisted of 26 runs including Bowen Downs, Betawong, Crossmoor, Horsedale, Bramville, Bangall, Balang, Pickwick, Goshen, Budgeragar, Gemini, Rayban, Dunculla, Oatway, Cornwall, Coreena, Corinda, Emu Plains, Rainsby and Acacia Downs and covered 1,500 square miles. Bowen Downs run, being centrally situated, was appointed the head station. Bowen Downs was originally stocked with over 3,000 cattle from Fort Cooper in 1862 and in 1864 the first flock of sheep arrived. Given its impractical expanse, some of the outstations were subsequently divided off (for instance 'Mount Cornish' station in 1872).

After heavy rain in June 1863, it was found that the Bowen Downs homestead was too close to the channels and potentially subject to flooding, so was moved to a site adjacent to Cornish Creek.

Bowen Downs station was for a considerable time the last post where early settlers and travelling stock parties heading further inland could purchase supplies and rations.

In 1898, *The Capricornian* newspaper (12 November 1898 edition on page 21) records the location of the Bowen Downs homestead as being "Forty miles north-west of Aramac, in lat. 22 deg. 30 min. S., long. 145 deg. E." and notes "It was here that the discoverers, Messrs. Landsborough, Cornish and Buchanan pitched their first camp."

During site investigations and a heritage assessment undertaken for the Queensland Transport and Main Roads, in the course of the Cornish Creek Bridge replacement project on Aramac-Torrens Creek Road, various building footings and large scatters of artefacts were observed. Advice from the Queensland Department of Environment and Science provides that the heritage assessment included:

*The area of high cultural heritage value was identified in Zone A extends through the eastern side of the property fence to the western edge of the bitumen surface of the Aramac-Torrens Creek Road. In this area, a series of sites were found, including the footings of buildings, and large scatters of artefacts including domestic porcelain, glassware and cast-iron nails, which may indicate the presence of the cottages and the blacksmith's shop in this area. Mrs Cowper believes that the original cottage that served as the home of Nat Buchanan and Catherine Gordon may have stood in this area. The area has been severely degraded by road construction and maintenance activities, with road construction material deposited on the site. But it continues to have significant cultural heritage value for technological, historical and social reasons and must be protected during construction of the alignment and truck turning area and during future maintenance of the road and property fence. A number of historical sites, including building footings and artefact scatters were located in the area between the eastern side of the road and the adjacent property boundary fence. The density of material in this area, which is lower lying than the rise to the west where the greatest concentration of artefacts was found, was much less. The area has been significantly disturbed by road construction and maintenance, with a number of cultural heritage sites have either been graded over, or have had construction material deposited on them. The*

*alignment of an old road passes through this area and its construction and maintenance has significantly degraded heritage values in the area. Thick vegetation cover in this area reduced ground visibility and a lack of time prevented a more extensive survey being carried out. Sites obscured from view by vegetation and/or buried beneath the ground surface may lie within the route of the new alignment. These sites may hold technological, historical and social significance. An area to the west of the existing bridge was also investigated. Two stone creek crossings are located a short distance upstream of the bridge. ...*

#### **Description/Current status:**

No subsequent archaeological investigation of this site of potential significance is known to have occurred. The Cornish Creek Bridge replacement project has been completed and alignment and surface upgrades to Ararmac-Torrens Creek Road have been undertaken by the Queensland Department of Transport and Main Roads. There remains potential for the history of this site to be further investigated and for it to yield information that will contribute to the knowledge and understanding of the local government area's history. It is considered prudent to offer precautionary local heritage protection to this site in the meantime.

#### **Statement of significance:**

This place has local cultural heritage significance based on the following:

#### **C. The place or area has potential to yield information that will contribute to the knowledge and understanding of the local government area's history:**

This site has been observed to include the footings of buildings, and large scatters of artefacts. While the site has been subject to significant disturbance over time, its location adjacent a travelling route and water source within the historic pastoral holding of Bowen Downs and its proximity to the Bowen Downs homestead indicate that there are potentially items within this site which may contribute to the knowledge and understanding of the history of Bowen Downs, the Barcaldine Region and the early settler occupation of Central Western Queensland.

## **Cassimatis Store and Cottage**

**Location description/address:** 22-24 Bruford Street, Muttaborra

**Real property description:** Southern frontage of Lot 202 on CM162 (store) and Lot 2 on RP607974 (cottage)

**Tenure:** Freehold

#### **Historical information:**

Mr Andrew Andrew Cassimatis emigrated from the island of Kythera (Greece), arriving in Sydney (Australia) in 1912. He subsequently made his way to Queensland, arriving in Muttaborra in 1914 where he established himself as a greengrocer and ran a cafeteria from a leased premises. His son George Andrew Cassimatis (at the time aged 16 years) accompanied him to Australia, while his wife (dec. 1921) and other son and daughter remained in Greece.

In 1918, Mr AA Cassimatis had a general store erected in Bruford Street, Muttaborra and expanded his product offering. The store, built by Jack Reisene, is a timber stumped and framed building, with timber floorboards throughout the general store section and is clad predominantly in corrugated iron. It also included an area for the storage and sale of motor products and living quarters in the rear. There is some weatherboard cladding around the windowed front and doorway to the general store section. Upgrades to the front of the store were likely made around 1926, after Mr AA Cassimatis obtained permission from the local council to erect the verandah over the Bruford Street footpath.

The store offered fruit and vegetable, grocery, drapery, clothing, hardware and motor products. Cassimatis' enterprise expanded further with the addition of an ice works in late 1925 and soft drink manufacturing, and later stocking batteries, refrigerators and other appliances. The Cassimatis family were one of the oldest agents for Vacuum Oil products, which later became Mobil Oil.

Mr AA Cassimatis passed away in 1942 and is buried at the Muttaborra Cemetery. In addition to his business interests he was also an active member of the local community, including for instance as a foundation member of the Muttaborra Rugby League Club. His son GA Cassimatis and family continued the family's commercial enterprises.

Mr GA Cassimatis was by this time married and had five children, three girls and two boys. Having outgrown the living quarters at the store, they had moved into the drover's cottage, also fronting Burford Street, on the eastern side of the store. The cottage was built in approximately 1903 as the home of drover Claudis Augusta Dickson, and was purchased by Mr GA Cassimatis around 1934.

In addition to his commercial enterprises, Mr GA Cassimatis played a significant role in the development of Muttaborra and the Aramac Shire, particularly throughout the 1930s and 1940s. During this period he served on various committees, including as Councillor on the Aramac Shire Council representing Muttaborra, as Treasurer of the Muttaborra and District Progress Association and on the Muttaborra Hospital Committee. At the council meeting held on 26 May 1949, a minute of appreciation was placed on the record to thank Mr GA Cassimatis for his services and noted that he had never missed a council meeting during his term (*The Longreach Leader*, 10 June 1949 edition, p7).

The store was closed in 1978 and Mr GA Cassimatis relocated to Brisbane in 1982. The Aramac Shire Council (since amalgamated in the formation the Barcaldine Regional Council) purchased the general store and cottage in 1998. Both premises have now been restored and are maintained by the Dr. Arratta Memorial Museum Association Inc. as a local historical attraction.

**Description/Current status:**

The Cassimatis store and cottage remain intact and in restored state on Bruford Street, Muttaborra. The buildings are now maintained and opened to the public as a museum and tourist attraction.

Within the Cassimatis store, a range of items are on display including the cash register from the old Klugh and Samuels Emporium of Muttaborra (which was acquired by the Cassimatis family prior to its demolition), scales, lolly jars, soft drink machines, vintage signs and other items associated with the enterprise.

Within the cottage original furnishings and personal possessions are on display, showing the typical living conditions of a resident family in the early 1900s, including Crown oven, dining setting, piano, iron bed and bedding, clothing, Singer sewing machine, vintage irons and assorted period homewares.

On the Bruford Street frontage, interpretive signage has been installed (with the support of Aramac Shire Council and Queensland Centenary of Federation grant funding), noting the local cultural heritage significance of the site.

**Statement of significance:**

This place has local cultural heritage significance based on the following:

**A. The place or area is important in demonstrating the evolution or pattern of the local government area's history:**

The Cassimatis Store, constructed by Jack Reisene in 1918, and the neighbouring cottage constructed in about 1903, are important in demonstrating the evolution of development and commercial enterprises in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, including commercial opportunities which arose to support motorised transport and with the evolution of domestic appliances. The living quarters of the store and the cottage demonstrate living conditions of the early 1900s. The Cassimatis Store and cottage also demonstrate the role that immigrant families, such as those arriving from Greece during the period of political instability around the Balkan Wars and WW1, played in the evolution of communities, commercial enterprises and township development throughout Queensland and Australia, including within the Barcaldine region.

**D. The place or area is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a particular class or classes of cultural places:**

The Cassimatis Store and cottage are important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a general store in the early 1900s, which evolved to meet the demands and amenity of its customers, including for instance with the later addition of the footpath awning. The buildings are predominantly constructed of hardwood framing and corrugated iron cladding and roofing. The store includes display windows, advertising content painted on the frontage, a single-step elevated timber floored general store and counter area, an on-ground area which was used for storage and sale of motor products and living quarters in the rear. The cottage demonstrates the characteristics of a typical town residence of its era, with its symmetrical street appearance having a central doorway and a window either side, shaded by a front verandah on four posts extending to the property boundary. There is a single gable roof over the front rooms, with the remaining rooms housed beneath a lean-to style roof. Kitchen and wet areas are at the rear of the dwelling.

**H. The place or area has special association with the life or work of a particular person, group or organisation of importance in the local area's history:**

The Cassimatis Store and cottage has a special association with the life and work of Andrew Andrew (A.A.) Cassimatis and his son George Andrew (G.A.) Cassimatis. The Cassimatis family were renowned business owners, entrepreneurs and actively engaged community members operating in Central Western Queensland and Muttaborra from 1914. G.A. Cassimatis, with his wife Stavroula and their five children made the cottage their home from or about the mid-1930s. A.A. Cassimatis also resided in the cottage beside the store at Muttaborra until his death in 1942. G.A. Cassimatis remained living in the cottage until he moved to Brisbane in 1982.

The Cassimatis Store and cottage, and the Cassimatis family, also have a special association with the Kytherian Community and broader Greek community of immigrants of the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, many of whom were fleeing political unrest and financial distress in their homeland but came to thrive in shop-keeping and introduced the Greek Café culture across Australia.

This place also has a special association with the Dr. Arratta Memorial Museum Association Inc and its members who have realised the vision to convert this place to a tourist attraction in the form of a museum and in doing so have and continue to preserve, maintain and promote the cultural heritage significance of it.

## Gray Rock Historical Reserve

**Location description/address:** Gray Rock Road, north off Aramac–Jericho Road, Aramac Q 4726  
Approximately 35km east of Aramac  
Also previously known as Wayside Hotel / Greyrock Hotel

**Real property description:** Lot 10 on CNA809205

**Tenure:** Reserve for Historical Purposes (Barcaldine Regional Council)

### Historical information:

Grey Rock Historical Reserve is a place around and including a spur of the Great Dividing Range situated approximately 35km east of the township of Aramac on the northern side of Ravensbath Creek. Within the sandstone landform swathes of grey can be seen through the orange-red sandstone. Geologically, the grey rock is considered part of the Doncaster member of the Wallumbilla formation which was laid down in the lower Cretaceous period (around 125 million years ago). Around 60 million years later, severe weather conditions cauterised large areas of inland Queensland, including this area. The Wallumbilla formation consists of grey marine mudstone and siltstone with minor interbeds of fine-grained glauconitic and calcareous sandstone.

There is evidence that this place was used and visited by Aboriginal people prior to colonial occupation in the area, as the rockfaces bare a number of faint Aboriginal petroglyphs and other markings. The Iningai People have a connection to this land. The significance of this site to First Nations people is to be considered separately from this report.

Note: In accordance with the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003* there is a duty of care to ensure that an activity does not harm Aboriginal cultural heritage.

In October 1866 Surveyor Clouett's successful trip to surveying and mark the line of a new dray road between the Belyando (from Surbiton station) and Thomson Rivers (to Aramac Creek) was reported on (*The Queenslander*, 6 October 1866 edition, p8). This new road would render occupiable, a vast land of "first-class back country" by improving its connection with the coast. A 1872 Map of Queensland created by Gordon Slater & Co, Brisbane shows a road route between Surbiton Station and Aramac Creek, including where it approaches and travels around the south of Friendly Springs Station, the run immediately adjacent to and west of Gray Rock pastoral run. Gray Rock, including its distinctively low bluff, provided a convenient place for stopping as water could be sourced from Ravensbath Creek (and later water infrastructure) and the surrounding gorges and caves offered shelter from sun, wind and weather and landscapes which could contain travelling stock and horses. As use of the road increased, hoteliers established enterprises along its way, including at Gray Rock.

The area now referred to as Gray Rock Historical Reserve, was known by settlers and teamsters as Wayside Hotel, and sometimes Gray Rock Hotel. Mr Thomas Byrnes was the first recorded licensee of Wayside Hotel from 1877 until 6 March 1881, when the licence was transferred to Mr Archibald Casey, who subsequently sold out to Mr James Ferguson on 10 February 1882.

In 1878, a dam was constructed to supply the hotel and in 1881 the government saw fit to clean and enlarge it owing to the traffic using the road.

Gray Rock was located along the regular Cobb & Co coach route from Springers (Alice River) to Winton return via Aramac, Muttaborra and either Darr River Downs or Evesham, return. The Wayside Hotel at Gray Rock served as a changing station for Cobb & Co coaches travelling between Clermont and Aramac. The regular stops on the 170-mile journey between Clermont and Aramac were Surbiton Hotel and Springers (Alice River/Speculation Hotel) one way, and Grey Rock (Wayside Hotel), Lagoon Creek (Doonan's Hotel) and Red Rock the other. Cobb & Co's role was progressively subsumed by the westward expansion of both the Central Line and Charters Towers railways, and then the opening of the Aramac Tramway to Barcaldine. Traffic on the road between Clermont and Aramac generally declined.

Syd Strutton in his article "Bush Shanties – Western Memories – Animals that Drank" describes the historic wayside hotels along the old dray roads and stock routes of Queensland:

*Among the institutions of Queensland should be included the bush hotel. Many travelling bushmen have had cause to bless the wayside hotel. Often it has been the means of saving lives, and though the drinks sold might not have been of the best the social gatherings of bushmen from near and far helped to relieve the monotony of dull lives (Sunday Mail, 10 Dec 1933 edition, p7).*

Ferguson closed the hotel in December 1885 as Cobb & Co had in the preceding year abandoned that section of the route and the Central Rail Line approached Barcaldine. At that time, he relocated the hotel and transferred the licence to Red Rock on Jericho Road. Signs of a potential township, which were emerging around the hotel at Gray Rock, also soon disappeared. The land was subsequently resumed into a pastoral lease, however the gazetted stock route which passes adjacent to it still remains in effect today.

In 1896, Gray Rock was the site of an alleged murder of a traveller, Mr Richard Ackroyd, who disappeared after leaving Aramac. The criminal trial which occurred in 1898 attracted attention and notoriety, as the man charged was acquitted on account of inconclusive forensic examination of the bones found in the remnants of a campfire.

In about 1914, a stock route bore was drilled approximately 2.5km west of the Gray Rock site and a windmill erected. In 1917, trusteeship of that 120 acres reserve for water purposes (Lot 5 on CNA42) was transferred to the local government and in 1956 this water infrastructure there was replaced and upgraded.

In 1999, the Aramac Shire Council specially annexed and purchased a 6-hectare lot of land from the Gray Rock pastoral lease – Lot 10 on CNA809205 was created and declared a Reserve for Historical purposes. The rock faces at

Gray Rock bearing Aboriginal petroglyphs, have continued to be profusely decorated with engravings, mostly names and many dating back to the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century. This area of rock faces is referred to as the “Visitors Book”. As visitors to Gray Rock continue this tradition, new markings threaten the integrity of earlier markings.

**Description/Current status:**

The 6-hectare site identified as Lot 10 on CNA809205 remains as a Reserve for Historical purposes within the trusteeship of Barcaldine Regional Council. The site is accessible via Gray Rock Road off Aramac–Jericho Road.

Within the Gray Rock Historical Reserve, interpretive signage has been installed (with the support of Aramac Shire Council and Queensland Centenary of Federation grant funding), noting the local cultural heritage significance of the site. There are two signs which read as follows:

*GRAY ROCK  
The names engraved on  
the sandstone rock could  
have been coach passengers  
prior to the turn of the century,  
together with more recently added.  
A who’s who treasure!!*

*WAYSIDE HOTEL  
& HORSE YARDS  
A logical choice for the third  
stop-over en-route from Clermont  
to Aramac before the central western  
railway line was completed.  
The Wayside Hotel was opened in 1877  
and closed in 1885.*

The existing building ruins, a broken dam wall of stone and cement, a well-worn wagon track (pedestalled) and many broken bottles remain within the Gray Rock Historical Reserve. No apparent evidence of the horse yards mentioned in historical documents have been identified.

**Statement of significance:**

This place has local cultural heritage significance based on the following:

**A. The place or area is important in demonstrating the evolution or pattern of the local government area’s history:**

Gray Rock Historical Reserve is important in demonstrating the pattern and history of visitation at this site by First Nations people and later from the 19<sup>th</sup> Century by settlers and travellers. This place illustrates the westward progression of settler populations, stock, supplies and infrastructure through Central Queensland and into the Barcaldine Region. Gray Rock was the site of the Wayside Hotel (also referred to as Grey Rock Hotel) which established and was frequented in connection with the stock route network and opening of the road between Clermont and Aramac, with the road at this location subsequently serving as the road between Aramac and Jericho. The Wayside Hotel was a changing station for Cobb & Co coaches.

**B. The place or area demonstrates rare, uncommon or endangered aspects of the local government area’s cultural heritage.**

The prolifically engraved rock faces at Gray Rock bearing faded Aboriginal petroglyphs, the etched names of numerous visitors to the site dating back to the late 1800’s (during which time when the Wayside Hotel was in operation) and continuing the tradition, the markings of visitors to the site are a rare record of visitation to the

site and movement through the region. The continuation of this tradition, however, threaten the integrity of the historic markings.

**C. The place or area has potential to yield information that will contribute to the knowledge and understanding of the local government area's history.**

This place has potential to yield information that will contribute to understanding of how the site was developed and used. Future investigation of this site may lead to discoveries which improve the understanding of use and visitation to the site, and in turn have the potential to inform research and understanding of the occupation and settlement of Central Queensland and the Barcaldine Region.

## **Horsetailers' Gorge**

**Location description/address:** Incorporating the kidney-shaped plateau and its surrounds within the road and stock route reserve of Aramac–Jericho Road encircled by Horseshoe Gorge Road  
Approximately 41km east of Aramac

**Real property description:** Within road reserve transecting Lot 3 on SP190915, adjacent to and east of Lot 1134 on SP910090, and south of Ravensbath Creek

**Tenure:** Road reserve and stock route reserve

### **Historical information:**

Horsetailers' Gorge is part of a broader sandstone formation of plateaus and escarpments into which cavernous sections have eroded. This particular place has become referred to as Horsetailers' Gorge, as it was used as a camp for drovers and horsetailers travelling with stock along to stock route on which it is located. Horsetailers were members of a droving party responsible for looking after the plant horses by moving them along, keeping them contained when camped, ensuring they were fed, watered and rested, then catching, saddling up and bringing to camp those horses to be ridden and/or loaded each day.

In October 1866 Surveyor Clouett's successful trip to surveying and mark the line of a new dray road between the Belyando (from Surbiton station) and Thomson Rivers (to Aramac Creek) was reported on (*The Queenslander*, 6 October 1866 edition, p8). This new road would render occupiable, a vast land of "first-class back country" by improving its connection with the coast. A 1872 Map of Queensland created by Gordon Slater & Co, Brisbane shows a road route between Surbiton Station and Aramac Creek, including where it approaches and travels around the south of Friendly Springs Station, the run immediately adjacent to and west of Gray Rock pastoral run.

Horsetailers' Gorge, was a convenient spot on the road and stock route to camp because the horsetailers could drive the horses into the gorge to contain them at night. There was water available nearby at Ravensbath Creek, and from 1914 the stock route bore which was later upgraded in 1956 (now identified as Lot 5 on CNA42). For a time Horsetailers Gorge was also only just over a mile from the Wayside/Greyrock Hotel (1877-1885) at Gray Rock (now identified as Lot 10 on CNA809205), which also served as a Cobb & Co exchange during that period.

This place continues to be part of the stock route network and a place which attracts travellers interested in the area's history, geography and plant biology. Since 2012, Barcaldine Regional Council has published a tourist leaflet encouraging tourists to visit Gray Rock and Horsetailers Gorge, which includes a self-guided plant identification and historical use interpretive drive around Horseshoe Road which encircles Horsetailers' Gorge.

Horsetailers' Gorge is also a site included in the Barcaldine Region's Lake Dunn Sculpture Trail, with the 'Returned Soldier' sculpture now installed on top of the prominent rock outcrop there.

### **Description/Current status:**

Horsetailers' Gorge remains located within the stock route network. It is also an attraction for outback drive tourism due to its history, geography, plant biology and now being the site of the 'Returned Soldier' installation which is one of 40 sculptures along the 200km Lake Dunn Sculpture Trail.

### **Statement of significance:**

This place has local cultural heritage significance based on the following:

**A. The place or area is important in demonstrating the evolution or pattern of the local government area's history:**

Horsetailers' Gorge is important in demonstrating the pattern, history and motivation of visitation to this place. This place played a role in the westward progression of settler populations, stock, supplies and road and stock route infrastructure through Central Queensland and into the Barcaldine Region. It now plays a contemporary role in the economic stability and diversification of the region through its connection with drive tourism.

**C. The place or area has potential to yield information that will contribute to the knowledge and understanding of the local government area's history.**

Horsetailers' Gorge has potential to yield information that will contribute to an improved understanding of the place's historical use and visitation. Some aspects of its prior use and visitation, including that which preceded white settlement, are not readily available and are potentially forgotten or unknown. Future investigation of this site may lead to discoveries which improve the understanding of use and visitation to the site, and in turn have the potential to inform research and understanding of the occupation and settlement of Central Queensland and the Barcaldine Region.

## Lagoon Creek Bush Camps and Kate Doonan's Grave Site

**Location description/address:** Within Wendouree Station, Alpha to the east of Degulla Road and adjacent to Sandy Creek, at its junctions with Lagoon Creek and Greentree Creek

**Real property description:** Within Lot 4994 on SP233100

**Tenure:** Lands Lease

### Historical information:

The Lagoon Creek Bush Camps and Kate Doonan's grave site are likely associated with Doonan's Hotel which established adjacent to Sandy Creek somewhere in the vicinity of the junctions where Lagoon and Greentree Creeks flow into Sandy Creek. This location is also where the dray road/travelling stockroute between Clermont and Aramac crossed Sandy Creek within the Surbiton Station Run (sometimes referred to as Kilgour or Kilgour & Woodhouse after Mr. Kilgour and Mr. Woodhouse, lessees of Surbiton).

Reports from as early as 1866 refer to Surbiton Station and the surveying of a dray road between the Belyando and Thomson Rivers by Surveyor Clouett (*The Queenslander*, 6 October 1866 edition, p8). A 1872 Map of Queensland created by Gordon Slater & Co, Brisbane shows a road route crossing a creek in the location of Sandy Creek, near the mark for Surbiton Station. From as early as 1877, reports can be found of travelling teams crossing "Sandy Creek, at Doonan's Hotel" and referring to "the road" (*The Queenslander*, 24 February 1877 edition, p29). Various newspaper reports from 1878 also refers to "Mr P Doonan, Sandy Creek Hotel" but in the context it is likely an alternate reference to Doonan's Hotel. The Aramac mail-coach (which also took travellings passengers) would stop and stay overnight at Doonan's Sandy Creek Hotel on the return trip to Copperfield and Clermont. An account from 1889 refers to the area as "Wild Camp country" and a "bark shanty" near Sandy Creek at Greentree (account of Mr. John Kyle Little published in *The Morning Bulletin*, 11 April 1950 edition, p6). How long Doonan's Hotel operated for and how long it remained intact are unclear. Similarly, how long camping continued in the area in connection with stock route movements is unclear (the stock route here remains part of the gazetted stock route network as at 2022). The Central Line Railway from Bogantungan to Pine Hill opened on 1 November 1883 and throughout 1884 both road and rail infrastructure was progressed from Pine Hill to beyond Alpha. On 20 November 1884, the government also proclaimed a camping reserve of 640 acres resumed from the Surbiton Run and another from the Sandy Creek No. 1 Run, on Campbell's Creek. Such developments likely had consequences for the nature, volume and flow of traffic on the dray road, crossing and camping at Sandy Creek and seeking supplies and hospitality from Doonan's Hotel.

Doonan's Hotel was run by Philip (aka. Phillip) Doonan. Philip Doonan was likely born in Ireland in or about 1830. He married Kate Daly (aka. Catherine Daly/Daley) in Rockhampton on 29 June 1869. Between 1870 and 1876 they had



five children (4 daughters, then a son). Kate died on 18 June 1885, aged 33 years. An engraved headstone marks the site of her grave and is located in the general vicinity of where Doonan's Hotel was described to have been. While weathered, the headstone together with a second slab remain and the etchings remain readable:

IN  
MEMORY OF  
KATE  
THE WIFE OF  
P. DOONAN  
DIED 18 JUNE 1885  
AGED 33 YEARS  
—  
R.I.P  
—

In 2009, Hancock Prospecting Pty Ltd obtained an Exploration Permit Coal (EPC1210) and applied for a Mineral Development Permit (MDL333) relating to a proposed coal mine project referred to as Kevin's Corner. Mining Lease applications were made for projects referred to as Kevin's Corner (ML70425) and Alpha (ML70426). Aspects of these various applications and permits overlap land which incorporates part of Wendouree Station, including the area identified for the purposes of this report as the Lagoon Creek Bush Camps and Kate Doonan's Grave Site. The Alpha Coal project was declared a significant project on 24 October 2008 and the Kevin's Corner project was declared a coordinated project on 11 September 2009 by the Coordinator-General of Queensland. Consequently, both were subject to an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process. As a part of the EIS process, the proponent prepares and publicly consulted on an EIS document. In preparing the EIS for the Alpha Coal project, the proponent engaged Converge Heritage + Community Pty. Ltd. to undertake a cultural heritage assessment of the project area and advise on the cultural heritage component of the EIS. Volume 2, Sections 18 and 19 and Volume 5, Appendix L of the EIS completed and publicly consulted on from 5 November 2010 address cultural heritage issues relating to the project and assess potential impacts (Hancock Galilee Pty Ltd, 2010, *Alpha Coal Project Environmental Impact Statement*, Vol 2, 2010 and Vol 5 2011, accessible online at <http://gvkhancockcoal.com/our-assets/alpha#alpha-coal-project-eis-2010>, accessed 22 November 2021 and 24 February 2022). These sections of the EIS identify sites referred to as Lagoon Creek Bush Camp (A-1), Kate Doonan's Grave (A-2), Bottle Dump (A-3), Old Paddock Fence line (A-4), Hotel Site (A-5) among others, as being cultural heritage sites within the study area. These sections of the EIS outline research, survey and cultural heritage assessment information relating to these sites. The EIS concludes that sites A-1, A-2, A-3 and A-5 represent High archaeological potential. In respect of the cultural heritage significance criteria in the *Queensland Heritage Act 1992*, the EIS concluded that aspects of the study area were considered to demonstrate criterion (A), (B), (C) and (D) to a State level, if not a local level due to the scatters and highly concentrated areas of artefacts observed during surveys.

The Queensland Department of Environment and Science has jurisdiction to designate places of State cultural heritage significance as Queensland Heritage Place and recording them on the Queensland Heritage Register. As at 2022, the Lagoon Creek Bush Camps and Kate Doonan's Grave Site have not been designated Queensland Heritage Places. However, in the course of the Barcaldine Regional Council's planning scheme project, the Department of Environment and Science has included these places in a list it suggested council consider identifying in its planning scheme as local heritage places.

It is further noted that Native Title applications and private Indigenous Land Use Agreements presently apply to the area identified for the proposes of this report. These places may also have Aboriginal cultural heritage significance, however that is not being addressed as part of this report.

#### **Description/Current status:**

No subsequent reported archaeological investigation or exploration of these sites are known to have occurred. There remains potential for the history of this site to be further investigated and for it to yield information that will contribute to the knowledge and understanding of the local government area's history. It is considered prudent to offer precautionary local heritage protection to this site in the meantime.

#### **Statement of significance:**

This place has local cultural heritage significance based on the following:

**A. The place or area is important in demonstrating the evolution or pattern of the local government area's history:**

The Lagoon Creek Bush Camps and Kate Doonan's Grave Site are important in demonstrating the pattern and history of the settlement and westward progression of population, stock, supplies and infrastructure through Central Queensland and into the Barcaldine Region, particularly over the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century and into the early 20<sup>th</sup> Century. The Lagoon Creek Bush Camps were used in connection with the stock route-cum-dray road-cum mail coach route between Clermont and Aramac where it crossed Sandy Creek. A hotel, possibly serving as a traveller's inn, supply store and/or mail exchange, likely existed in or near these places.

**B. The place or area demonstrates rare, uncommon or endangered aspects of the local government area's cultural heritage.**

Given the era when these places were likely to have been most highly occupied and used (circa 1870s to 1900), and the relocation of most traffic passing through the broader region away from the sites with the opening of the Central Line Railway and the road which became the Capricorn Highway to the west by the 1890s, artefacts and remnants which remain to be discovered have the potential to be rare and endangered within the Barcaldine Region.

**C. The place or area has potential to yield information that will contribute to the knowledge and understanding of the local government area's history.**

These places have considerable potential to yield information that will contribute to understanding of how the sites were developed, noting that the location of the Doonan's Hotel (also referred to as Sandy Creek Hotel) and any other establishments or areas designated for specific uses are now seemingly forgotten and unknown. Future investigation of these sites which improve understanding of how the sites were developed and used, in turn have the potential to inform research and understanding of the settlement of Central Queensland and the Barcaldine Region.

**H. The place or area has special association with the life or work of a particular person, group or organisation of importance in the local area's history.**

These places, particularly the site identified as Lagoon Bush Camp #1, within which Kate Doonan's Grave Site is located, have a special association with the life and work of Philip (Phillip) and Kate (Catherine) Doonan (nee Daly). Mr Doonan was a teamster and carrier who travelled the route which passed by these places and he established a hotel in or nearby these places. The Doonan's served and serviced the travellers to, and those who came to settle and develop, the Barcaldine Region. When his wife Kate died on 18 June 1885, he buried her there and arranged for a headstone to mark her final resting place which remains over 130 years later.

## **Lands Office (Barcaldine)**

**Location description/address:** 59 Ash Street (corner Maple Street), Barcaldine Q 4725

**Real property description:** Within Lot 2 on RY214

**Tenure:** Freehold

### **Historical information:**

Prior to 1900, the Lands Department had operated Land Agents Districts from Tambo, Blackall and Aramac in central western Queensland – all proclaimed from 8 October 1880. Land Commissioners were also appointed to hold Land Court from the Lands offices for these districts. The role of Commissioner of Crown Land and Land Commissioner (or an Acting version of such titles) were in some instances fulfilled by the same person, with the different titles reflecting decisions made under different legislative Acts.

At the turn of the century, Barcaldine fell within the Land Agent's Blackall District. Around that time the pattern of land settlement activities were progressing northward through the Barcaldine and Aramac areas and westward through the Longreach area, stimulated considerably by the opening of the Central Line Railway to Barcaldine and then Longreach in 1886 and 1892 respectively.

The first land office in Barcaldine was operational from 2 July 1888, as a sub-district of the Blackall Lands Agent's District. The Police Magistrate, Barcaldine was appointed Assistant Land Agent for Blackall.

From or before 1890, Mr Mark W. Bolton was the Land Commissioner holding Land Court in Barcaldine and also Muttaborra.

The Queensland Hansard of 2 November 1898 records the Parliamentary debate regarding whether a new central Lands Office (also used for holding Land Court) in the central west of Queensland should be built in Longreach or Barcaldine. It was ultimately decided on the recommendation of Mr Mark W. Bolton, Land Commissioner, that the new central office of the Lands Department should be built at Barcaldine because of its geographically central location for servicing the towns and surrounding districts of Blackall, Aramac, Barcaldine, Isisford and Longreach. Supplementary office accommodation in Longreach would be improved to adequately service the public needs and administrative requirements there.

The site of the new building was to be land that had been set aside for a Lands Office on the 1886 town plan for Barcaldine, at the eastern end of the government reserve/civic building precinct. The site is located on the south-western corner of Ash and Maple Streets.

By August 1899, tenders had been received for the erection of a new Lands Office and quarters at Barcaldine citing prices for cypress pine and timber as specified. Having tendered £732 for cypress pine and £773 15s for timber, Messrs Meacham and Leyland of Barcaldine secured the construction contract. Construction of the office building commenced in 1899 and was completed in March 1900.

In response to community pressure, the State's Public Works Department, arranged for the replacement of the old netting fence with a new picket fence befitting the new office and improving its street presence in February 1900. That month tenders were also sought for the erection of new stables and thereafter the supply of furniture for the Barcaldine Lands Office. In April it was announced that the contract for the supply of furniture for the new Lands Office had been awarded to Mr W. Kasch of Rockhampton at a price of £56 18s.

On 2 April 1900, Land Commissioner Mr Bolton conducted Land Court in the new Lands Office. However, delays in the delivery of furniture meant that it was a couple of months before the Lands Office was properly occupied. In the meantime, Land Court was often conducted in the nearby courthouse.

The Lands Office (Barcaldine), constructed in 1900 is a lowset timber framed, single skin building with a corrugated metal sheet roof in a Dutch gable style. The roof is adorned with a decorative tower-form vent. When originally constructed, the building was encircled by a verandah. It has four sets of french doors which open onto the front verandah and signage which protruded above the front verandah facing Ash Street, to demarcate the entrance.

Original and updated plans showing the internal office layout are accessible from the Queensland State Archives (Item ID ITM582700 and ITM582699 respectively).

On 2 April 1909, new Land Agents' Districts of Barcaldine and Longreach were proclaimed. The Barcaldine Land Agent's District was formed from parts of former districts to incorporate the towns of Aramac, Barcaldine and Isisford and surrounds. The Longreach Land Agent's District was formed from parts of former districts to incorporate the towns of Muttaborra, Longreach, Isisford and surrounds. The Land Agent's District of Aramac (alternatively referred to as Marathon) was abolished at this time.

The anticipated demand for land selection around Barcaldine and Longreach in the years following was realised. This coincided with the expiry and resumption of significant pastoral holdings across the region. It did not present

without a social tension however, between the families who had worked, grown up on and innately knew the land and the opportunity to increase the population and potential productivity of the region by subdividing these historic pastoral holdings and facilitating new settlement. Subdivision and resettlement of the land also presented an opportunity for post-war economic stimulus.

Some of the notable land ballots which attracted high numbers of applications and resulted in a hive of public interest and activity at the Lands Office (Barcaldine) included:

- November 1914 ballot for five portions at Home Creek (located south of Barcaldine and approximately halfway between Barcaldine and Blackall) overseen by Land Commissioner J.V.S. Desgrand and attracted 893 applications.
- June 1928 ballot for 12 portions at Saltern Creek overseen by Land Commissioner J.A. Arnold and attracted 616 valid applications. During proceedings Land Commissioner Arnold noted “the importance of the ballot lay in the fact that it was the first Land Court ballot held in Central Queensland for selections on any of the recently expired pastoral holdings, and also the first ballot for lands in the Central-west, which were subject to a stocking condition” (*The Queenslander*, 14 June 1928 edition, p9). This was also the first ballot in the District in which a numbered marble system was used.
- September 1929 ballot for seven portions at Coreena overseen by Land Commissioner J.A. Arnold and attracted 467, 494, 471, 253, 67, 251, 47 applications for the respective portions.
- January 1930 ballot for seven portions at Aramac/Coreena overseen by Land Commissioner J.A. Arnold and attracted 367, 344, 302, 282, 162, 324, and 37 applications for the respective portions. Approximately 60 persons were in attendance at the Lands Office for the ballot.
- November 1937 ballot for 2 portions at Home Creek attracting 1597 application (804 and 796 for the respective portions).

While notable, these ballots did not surpass the fever-pitch heights of the famous single parcel Rosedale ballot conducted by Land Commissioner J.A.H. Fraser of the neighbouring Land Agent’s District of Longreach on 8 September 1924 which attracted 6359 applications.

The Lands Office (Barcaldine) continued to be staffed and used for the administration and management of Crown land until 1991 when the *Land Act Amendment Act 1991* took effect on 31 December 1991 abolishing Land Agents (and Land Agent Districts) in favour of District Land Offices. The Queensland Government retains ownership and use of the building for general administration purposes. Over the years a number of modifications and upgrade works have been undertaken on the building. The east and west facing verandahs have been built in, the signage on the front of the building has been changed, a ramp has been added to improve public access to the building and airconditioning and other infrastructure and service upgrades have occurred. The building has also been subject to repainting and general maintenance.

**Description/Current status:**

The 1900, lowset timber framed, single skin building with a corrugated metal sheet roof in a Dutch gable style remains standing and in good repair on its original site. It retains its decorative tower roof vent and four sets of french doors which open onto the front verandah.

The place continues to house Queensland Government staff and be used for the administration of government dealings, however is no longer limited to use for land dealings.

Modifications have been made to the original structure including the enclosing of the east and west facing verandahs with weatherboard cladding to increase the useable internal office space, the updating of signage on the front of the building to reflect its current use, the addition of a ramp at the front of the building to improve public accessibility, as well as the installation and upgrade of air-conditioning and services.

**Statement of significance:**

This place has local cultural heritage significance based on the following:

**A. The place or area is important in demonstrating the evolution or pattern of the local government area's history:**

The Lands Office (Barcaldine) is important in illustrating the pattern of settlement and public service provision in the Barcaldine Region and central western Queensland more broadly. It was built in 1899-1900. The government of the day decided to locate a new Lands Office in Barcaldine, rather than Longreach or Blackall, owing to Barcaldine's geographically central location among the townships and districts of central western Queensland and the anticipated volume of land transactions, Crown land administration and Land Court proceedings to be conducted across the subsequent decades. The Land Agents and Land Commissioners that it accommodated, together with the outcomes of their ballots and decisions, also played a significant role in determining the evolution and settlement pattern of the Barcaldine Region.

**D. The place or area is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a particular class or classes of cultural places:**

The Lands Office (Barcaldine), as the main office of the Department of Lands and Land Court in the Barcaldine Region through the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, demonstrates the principal characteristics of a purpose-built Lands Office where land ballots, land dealings and Land Court proceedings could be administered. It is a good intact example of regional turn-of-the-century timber and metal roofed civic service building. It also sits within a civic precinct which includes the Queensland Heritage listed Barcaldine Shire Hall & Offices on Lot 1 RY237 at 71 Ash Street and the Barcaldine Court House in the north-western part of Lot 603 on RY184 at 65 Ash Street which is also identified as a [*potential*] local heritage place.

**E. The place or area is important because of its aesthetic significance to the local community:**

Through form, scale, materials and continued upkeep, the Lands Office (Barcaldine) contributes to the Ash Street streetscape and Barcaldine townscape, reinforcing the bounds of the original government reserve/civic precinct of Barcaldine as shown in the 1886 town plan.

## **Mttaburra Hospital (former)**

**Location description/address:** Dr Arratta Memorial Museum, 1 Neville Bullen Drive, Mtttaburra Q 4732

**Real property description:** Within Lot 44 on CM167

**Tenure:** Reserve

### **Historical information:**

Mtttaburra was proclaimed a town in 1878 and by July that year two hotels and a store had established, a government reserve had been surveyed, Mr M. McMaster was offering a weekly coach service and 46 town allotments has been disposed of by the Land Commissioner Sword via an auction conducted in the nearest town of Aramac.

On 5 November 1879, gentlemen assembled at the Mount Cornish Hotel to raise and discuss matters of public importance, including raising funds from local residence of the district "for the purpose of inducing a medical man to settle in Mtttaburra" (*Morning Bulletin*, 17 November 1879 edition, p2). The new hospital at Aramac was erected that year. Mtttaburra locals in need of medical care typically had to travel to Aramac, await visits from travelling doctors or be nursed by Mrs E. R. Edkins, wife of the manager of the nearby Mt Cornish station. Periodically, a medical man would come and reside in town a while.

In 1884, the Mtttaburra Hospital Committee sought tenders for the erection of the first hospital in Mtttaburra. The tender of Messrs McConachy, Memro and Grant for £346 12s for labour was accepted, with the Hospital Committee separately sourcing materials. Materials and carriage cost £449. A local Hospital Building Committee consisting of J. Ahern, E.R. Edkins and G.C. Maskell was formed to oversee construction of the first Mtttaburra Hospital. With funds raised by the local community, the Mtttaburra Hospital was built. It was formally established on government records from 24 July 1884.

The original hospital buildings include the male ward and a separate building consisting of a kitchen, domestic quarters, matron's quarters, storeroom, dispensary. Female patients would be accommodated in a room adjoining the matron's quarters. The hospital was located on the south-western outskirts of the township, which was consistent with the typical siting of rural and regional hospitals for quarantine and isolation purposes. This site was also convenient in terms of its proximity to the town dam (also constructed in 1884) and later the town bore (sunk in 1899), as well as the cemetery which had been in use by 1880.

While the hospital had been built in 1884, it was not permanently staffed until 1885. The first permanent superintendent at the Muttaborra Hospital was Dr Ernest Overend. The first wardsman was Mr Lawry. Mr and Mrs Sergeant then occupied the roles of wardsman and matron respectively for several years, and later Mr Timothy & Mrs Norah McCarthy during the 1890s.

The first extension of the hospital building was undertaken in 1890, to add a female ward. In 1899, the first early forms of x-ray equipment were acquired and installed. The first trained nurse to hold the role of Matron was Miss Granville (married Moffot) in 1906. In 1925, the hospital underwent a further redevelopment to include a dedicated block housing a four patient maternity ward and a second nurse was added to the staff at this time.

Until 1925, the turnover of doctors at the hospital had been high, with many moving on after about a year and a rare few remaining for up to 3 years. That was until the arrival of Dr Joseph Andrew Arratta in 1925. Dr Arratta emerged himself in the community of Muttaborra and established himself as a fixture, serving as the permanent and principal medical practitioner at the Muttaborra Hospital until 1960.

In 1930 a four-bed isolation ward was added to the hospital. The tradition of establishing wards within separate pavilions, as part of a hospital complex, is consistent with the prevailing philosophy of hospital design at this time.

Since its inception, the Muttaborra Hospital had been significantly funded and maintained through volunteer subscriptions, generous donations by members of the community and regular fundraising events. The Muttaborra Hospital was also supplemented by grants to hospitals from the proceeds of the Golden Casket lottery – for instance a grant totalling £32 was paid in 1932. Dedicated appeals, such as the Operating Theatre Building Fund appeal commencing in September 1933, were run as required.

During a visit by Mr G. Pollock MLA to Muttaborra in 1933, the hospital committee made representations regarding the need for a new and dedicated operating theatre. At that time, the existing out-patients' room was used for performing operations. Plans for the new operating theatre were prepared by the Department of Public Works with significant input from Dr Arratta. Construction of the new operating theatre commenced on 1 October 1934, with the works being undertaken by Mr George Schmidt of Longreach (formerly an employee of Meacham & Leyland). Works on the new operating theatre (which cost £387 10s), repainting of the hospital and some modifications in the maternity ward were completed by the end of 1934. Dr Arratta also oversaw the incorporation of a children's ward during his term.

In February 1935, Matron Watkins (Mabel Annie) resigned her position, owing to her upcoming marriage to Dr Arratta on Valentine's Day, 14 February, 1935.

In advance of the commencement on 1 January 1946 of Queensland being the first jurisdiction to in Australia to offer free treatment of people in public hospitals, the administrative arrangements for hospitals were restructured at the direction of the State Government throughout 1944 (*Hospitals Act 1944*). In this period, similar centralisation of the administration of public institutions was occurring in other sectors, including local governments and schools. In September 1944, the Muttaborra Hospital Committee was absorbed by the Longreach Hospitals Board.

One of the first matters of business for the Longreach Hospitals Board, with respect to the Muttaborra Hospital, was to commission a report into the state of the Muttaborra Hospital, with a view to justifying the erection of a new hospital and doctor's residence in Muttaborra. Mr L. B. Phillips of Hall and Phillips Architects, Brisbane visited Muttaborra in December 1944 and produced a report concluding that except for the maternity ward and operating theatre, the Muttaborra Hospital buildings were beyond repair and recommended the existing hospital be

decommissioned, the old buildings disposed of and a new hospital and doctor's residence be constructed on new sites respectively in Muttaborra. A proposal to construct a new 20 bed (8 male beds, 8 female beds and 4 maternity beds) hospital on a new site was progressed by the Longreach Hospital Board for State approval, however was never fully realised.

On 18 May 1951, "Residents of Muttaborra and District made the largest assembly ever seen in the district" to honour and acknowledge 26 years of "faithful and devoted service to the community" by Dr and Mrs Arratta (*The Longreach Leader*, 25 May 1951 edition, p5). A 25-year celebration had been intended in the preceding year, but had to be postponed due to significant rain events.

In November 1952, noting that no funding commitment had been made by the State government yet for the construction of a new hospital and repairs to the dilapidated buildings which comprised the hospital at that time had not been undertaken for years on the expectation that a new hospital would be built, the Longreach Hospital Board prepared and proposed a ten-year master plan of works to facilitate a transition of hospital and health services in Muttaborra from the existing hospital to a new facility. It took until February 1956 for a loan to be approved by the State government for the Longreach Hospital Board for the construction of a new hospital and nurses' quarters at Muttaborra. However, instead, a significant renovation of the Muttaborra Hospital was undertaken in 1957 to consolidate the hospital operations, then carried out in separate pavilions, effectively under a large single-roofed structure while maintaining aspects of the existing facilities intact, such as the operating theatre, maternity ward and children's ward. An upgraded separate nurses' quarters was constructed behind and perpendicular to the hospital in an east-west alignment.

Dr. Arratta was awarded an MBE (Member of the British Empire) in recognition of his outstanding devotion and medical service to the community in 1959 and retired as the Superintendent of the Muttaborra Hospital after 35-years in 1960. Born in Mount Morgan in 1899, Dr Joseph Andrew Arratta passed away at the Gold Coast in 1973. A headstone commemorating the lives of Dr Arratta and his wife (1896-1972) has been placed at the Allambe Memorial Park Cemetery and Crematorium at the Gold Coast.

Renovations to the maternity ward were undertaken in 1969. After 1971, Muttaborra was serviced by visiting doctors, rather than resident doctors, until it was closed at the end of 1989.

Queensland Cabinet Minutes from 13 November 1989, Decision No. 57934 are now available for viewing in Queensland State Archives (Item Representation ID DR50237, Disposal of Old Muttaborra Hospital (Land and Buildings) - Mr I.J. Gibbs, 13 November 1989) and online at <https://www.archivessearch.qld.gov.au/items/ITM3412354> which address:

- the opening of the Muttaborra Outpatients Centre making the Muttaborra Hospital redundant
- potential for the decommissioned hospital to be vested to the Aramac Shire Council
- potential for the decommissioned hospital to be repurposed and converted to a use which supports tourism in Muttaborra.

In 1991, the Longreach Hospitals Board was abolished when Regional Health Authorities were created. By this time the Muttaborra Hospital had been decommissioned and an outpatients centre constructed centrally within the township of Muttaborra at 31 Edkins Street (corner of Bruford Street). From 2007, this facility which is now referred to as the Muttaborra Primary Health Care Centre, provides nurse-led emergency care, visiting GP clinics on Wednesdays and houses an ambulance service, is administratively within the Central West Health Service District of Queensland Health. The nearest hospitals to Muttaborra are now the Longreach and Barcaldine Hospitals, also within the Central West Health Service District.

With the decommissioning of the Muttaborra Hospital, the land and buildings were transferred to the then Aramac Shire Council and have since been leased to the Dr. Arratta Memorial Museum Association Inc (registered in 1999). When the hospital was closed much of the fit-out, equipment and supplies from Dr Arratta's era remained in place and/or stored within the hospital building. Volunteers of the association have established and operate a highly-regarded medical museum, named the Dr. Arratta Memorial Museum in honour of the service of the selfless, accomplished and well-respected resident doctor – the longest-serving in the history of Muttaborra.

The Muttaborra Hospital (former) building and nurses' quarters remain in good repair and generally as they were following the 1957 and 1969 renovations. The hospital building is a large timber framed structure with a footprint that reflects its predecessors, beneath a large fully connected corrugated iron roof. The main section of roof has a Dutch gable or gablet style, typical of many public buildings throughout Central Western Queensland, which allows verandahs to be incorporated beneath the main ventilated roof of the building. The three secondary sections of the building have hipped-style rooflines. The front of the building includes a long hardwood floored verandah which wraps around to provide breezeways between different sections of the hospital layout. The internal and external walls are clad largely in sheeting, consistent with both the construction materials common in post-war modern style buildings and adopted to aid cleaning and infection control in hospitals at that time. The external walls of the main section have a chamfer clad feature between the verandah floorboards and the casing beneath the windows. There is a bay window section at the front of the building which includes French-doors with columns of louvered sidelites.

Internally, the emergency, isolation and maternity wards remain set up as they would have been during the operation of the hospital and are open to the public to view. Equipment, supplies and medical artifacts relevant to each section are also displayed. The oldest remaining section of the hospital, the weatherboard operating theatre built in 1934, also remains intact and set up with theatre equipment. The sterilizer and plenum ventilation system remain in place in the operating theatre, as does a Balkan Traction frame constructed by a local mechanic which was used to treat fractured femur bones. The general male ward and tearoom house displays of furnishings, including made-up hospital beds, and other vintage wares and appliances. The children's ward is now used to house the local history collection.

The nurses' quarters remain intact as a single-story timber framed building on stumps, with an encircling verandah wrapped in flyscreen, sheet clad walls and Dutch gable or gablet style corrugated iron roof. The underneath of the building, from verandah to ground, is screened with six horizontal and spaced timber boards. Four sets of steps provide access on to the quarters. An elevated gravity feed tank on stand and a small outbuilding are located between the back of the hospital and the nurses' quarters.

The Dr. Arratta Memorial Museum serves to house a collection of historic information and artefacts relating to Muttaborra, the Muttaborra Hospital, medicine and Dr Arratta, as well as be a notable attraction giving tourists reason to travel to and stop in Muttaborra.

#### **Description/Current status:**

The Muttaborra Hospital (former) remains intact in its original location at 1 Neville Bullen Drive, Muttaborra and considerably in its post-1957 renovated state. The 1934 weatherboard operating theatre also remains in good intact condition. The buildings are now maintained by volunteer members of the Dr. Arratta Memorial Museum Association Inc and opened to the public as a museum and tourist attraction. The museum houses an array of medical artefacts and historical memorabilia. This place illustrates how hospitals, medicine and health care evolved throughout the 20<sup>th</sup> Century.

At the front of the Muttaborra Hospital (former), interpretive signage has been installed (with the support of Aramac Shire Council and Queensland Centenary of Federation grant funding), noting the local cultural heritage significance of the site.

#### **Statement of significance:**

This place has local cultural heritage significance based on the following:

#### **A. The place or area is important in demonstrating the evolution or pattern of the local government area's history:**

The Muttaborra Hospital (former) is important in demonstrating the evolution of hospital design, medical practice and hospital administration within Muttaborra, Central Western Queensland and Queensland from the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century through to the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.



The use of this site as a hospital commenced in 1884 with the construction of an early timber building. The Muttaborra and surrounding community funded the construction and operation of the hospital, overseen by a committee of local residents. The hospital supported the growth and development of Muttaborra as a township in its formative years.

Reflecting local need and willingness to donate to the cause, the hospital expanded in scale and standard of health care offering over the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. Notably, in 1934, with significant input from the resident doctor, Dr Arratta, a dedicated operating theatre with contemporary equipment was added to the Muttaborra Hospital (former). In the post-war era the administrative arrangements for hospitals in Queensland, including the hospital at Muttaborra, changed with a view to facilitating state-wide free public hospital treatment. The State Government assumed a more influential role in hospital funding and administration. As the condition of the Muttaborra hospital deteriorated, so did its ability to attract and retain nursing and support staff. Dr Arratta who dutifully served as Medical Superintendent from 1925 to 1960 offered stability and continuity in health care for the Muttaborra community. In 1957, the Longreach Hospitals Board with the approval of the State government and borrowed funds, undertook a significant renovation of the Muttaborra Hospital (former), with additional upgrades carried out to the maternity ward in 1969.

In 1989, the Muttaborra Hospital (former) was made redundant by the State government with its opening of an outpatient centre (now Muttaborra Primary Health Care Centre) located centrally on the corner of Edkins and Bruford Street in Muttaborra. The land and buildings of the Muttaborra Hospital (former) were vested in the local government and its use subsequently converted to well-regarded medical museum and successful tourist attraction. Since opening as a museum, the Muttaborra Hospital (former) has been named the Dr Arratta Memorial Museum in honour of the Dr Arratta's medical service and contribution to the Muttaborra community.

**B. The place or area demonstrates rare, uncommon or endangered aspects of the local government area's cultural heritage.**

The 1934 constructed operating theatre within the weatherboard section of the Muttaborra Hospital (former) remains largely intact and in situ, retaining many of the elements and much of the equipment it had when it was in use between 1934 and 1989, including the sterilizer, plenum ventilation system and a locally manufactured Balkan Traction frame. This aspect of the Muttaborra Hospital (former) has been preserved with the repurposing of the place as a museum. To have a hospital operating theatre from this era remaining preserved intact and in situ is an uncommon and endangered within the Barcardine Region and likely Queensland more broadly. This operating theatre was purposes built with input from Dr Arratta and the first and only dedicated operating theatre room established at the Muttaborra hospital.

**C. The place or area has potential to yield information that will contribute to the knowledge and understanding of the local government area's history.**

This place, with its substantially intact buildings, as well as their fixtures, fittings and contents, has the potential to yield further information about the methods and means of medical treatment and care adopted by the remote practicing doctors, nurses, matrons and wardsmen of Muttaborra spanning the life of the hospital, including the long-serving and well-respected Dr Arratta.

**D. The place or area is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a particular class or classes of cultural places:**

In terms of the relative scale and form of buildings in Muttaborra, the Muttaborra Hospital (former) is notable for its expansive dimensions and its town fringe location nearby the town's historic water supply sources and cemetery. These characteristics are typical of hospitals established in the late 19<sup>th</sup>-early 20<sup>th</sup> Century to serve rural and remote townships and their surrounding pastoral communities.

Despite now coming under one connected and expansive roof area, the early pavilion design philosophy adopted for hospitals in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century is still evident in the layout of the Muttaborra Hospital (former), particularly with regard to those wards and sections of the building which retained their place during the 1957 renovation.

The Dutch-gable or gabled style corrugated iron roofs with roof vents on the main section of the hospital building and the nurses' quarters, which also shelter verandah areas demonstrate principal characteristics of many post-war public buildings across the Barcaldine Region. These features represent a design response to the prevailing climatic conditions of the region.

The manner in which the current museum use also presents the rooms with vintage furnishings, equipment, appliances, wares and artefacts demonstrate the principal characteristics of not just the built form of this class of place, but also the operational characteristics of remote rural hospitals and hospitals more generally of its era.

**G. The place or area has a strong or special association with the life or work of a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons:**

The Muttaborra Hospital (former) has a strong and special association with the Muttaborra community, as a hospital established and for decades operated and maintained through community subscriptions, donations, and fundraising efforts. It also has a special association with the life and work of those people who came to work at the hospital over the years and serve the health care needs of the community. The Muttaborra Hospital (former) also has a special connection with the life and wellbeing of the people who obtained emergency, medical and maternity treatment and care in this place during its 105 years of continuous operation as a hospital, particularly those people who received life-saving treatment and those who were born here.

**H. The place or area has special association with the life or work of a particular person, group or organisation of importance in the local area's history:**

The Muttaborra Hospital (former) has a special association with the Muttaborra Hospital Committee and the members of the community who served on that committee from or before 1884 until it was absorbed by the Longreach Hospitals Board in September 1944.

The Muttaborra Hospital (former) has a particularly special association with the life and work of Dr Joseph Andrew Arratta who served as the permanent resident doctor of Muttaborra and the Medical Superintendent of the Muttaborra Hospital (former) for 35 years from 1925 to 1960. Dr Arratta's services to medicine, predominantly undertaken at the Muttaborra Hospital (former) were recognised in 1959 when he was made a Member of the Order of the British Empire. His legacy is further acknowledged through the naming of the repurposed Muttaborra Hospital (former) as the Dr Arratta Memorial Museum.

The Muttaborra Hospital (former) also has a special association with the life and work of Mrs Mabel Annie Arratta, who served as Matron (nee Waktins) at the hospital until her marriage to Dr Arratta on 14 February 1935.

This place also has a special association with the Dr. Arratta Memorial Museum Association Inc and its members who have realised the vision to convert this place to a tourist attraction in the form of a museum and in doing so have and continue to preserve, maintain and promote the cultural heritage significance of it.

## **Potential Pine Hill Station Building (Alpha Rail Shed)**

**Location description/address:** Alpha Railyards, Shakespeare Street, Alpha

**Real property description:** Within Lot 11 on SP113231

**Tenure:** Railway Reserve

### Historical information:

The Central Line Railway (later known as the Central Western System line) was constructed and opened in a series of sections from Rockhampton to Winton between 1867 and 1928. The pattern of development of townships and settlements in central Queensland during this period was largely influenced by the progress of the railway line and the location of stations and interim terminus points.

On 1 September 1881, the Central Line railway had been constructed and opened to Bogantungan, 227 miles (365km) west from Rockhampton and at the base of the eastern side of the Drummond Range. The Drummond Range is a part of the Great Dividing Range system. Between 1881 and 1883, the railway line was extended westward surmounting the Drummond Range through an elevated valley at approximately 535 metres above sea level to the south of Mount Pisgah. On 1 November 1883, the railway line was opened to the new station and settlement of Pine Hill, situated two-mile (3.2km) east of the Belyando River. At the time, Pine Hill was mooted to become the main railway station for the district and the government invested significantly in the buildings and rail infrastructure there.

By 1884, the Pine Hill railway station complex consisted of a 300 feet long goods shed, a wool shed, a passenger station, station master's house, guard's houses, engine shed, engine pit, horse dock and two porter's cottages, all of which were constructed by J.R. Smith & Co. by July 1883 for a contracted amount of £7257. An additional four porter's cottages were built the following year by Upright, Doherty & Co. The station master's house from Bogantungan was also relocated to Pine Hill to be used by the postmaster.

During the course of 1884, however the decision was made to push forward with the westward expansion of the railway and settled on Alpha as the new terminus and named it accordingly, as the 'primary' station for the 'beginning' of the west. The Central Line railway opened to Alpha on 22 September 1884.

In 1887, a Mr Roland Quiz provides an account of his travels through Central Western Queensland in *The Western Champion* (23 Aug 1887 edition, p2) which includes the following description of the Alpha railway complex:

*The railway station is commodious, and the stationmaster, Mr Fisher, has quarters in the building; alongside the house is a neatly kept flower garden, and adjoining this is the large iron tanks standing nearly 20ft. off the ground, and in which the women and children were sheltered during the March floods. ...The water for the tank is pumped from an excellent well, a couple of hundred yards down the line. This well stands on a slight rise or mound, and although only 80 feet deep keeps up an apparently unlimited supply of water. ...I noticed the "mound" is being pitched all round with stone; the March flood honeycombed the bank, and seriously damage was only averted by fluke. ...The Government buildings occupy the northern side of the line, excepting the railway station, and in an iron house Mr. O'Malley boards his visitors at the Government expense-nice warm quarters. The engine shed has just been erected, and there will shortly be built a wool shed alongside the present goods shed.*

In 1896, *The Capricornian* (28 Nov 1896, p26) reports:

*Work at the railway yard is going steadily ahead, the new siding is already finished and now the carpenters are busily engaged taking down the sheds, which are to be removed to the new site.*

The relocation of the railway sheds was completed by early 1897, however the new locations of the sheds inside and close to the railway fence, with a gate installed at each end, resulted in logistical inconvenience for the teams loading and unloading at the Alpha railway. The ground inside the fence was also soft and sandy and challenging for teams to move across. By this time the dip yards in the railway complex had also been completed, although there was a legal dispute going between the Government and the contractors regarding payment for those works.

In 1899, the *Morning Bulletin* published a description of Alpha which included the following observations about the railway operations:

*Alpha is an important railway changing station for rolling stock. It being a convenient distance between Emerald and Longreach, a centre has been established for repairs to the locomotives and carriages. Trains are also marshalling here. Commodious workshops have been erected, and fitted with shaping, drilling, and turning machines. Two engine fitters are employed constantly at the shops. The whole of the works are under the charge of Mr C. F. Freeman. An ingenious method for utilising a locomotive for driving the machinery and pumping gear is noticeable.*

This report goes on to describe the ingenious method referred to above and also provides a description of the water supply arrangements associated with the railway well and tank.

In the course of research for this report, little evidence has been found to expressly confirm that the historic shed which remains stands adjacent to the southern side of the railway line in Alpha and is now adorned with one of the town's many murals, was erected from materials brought from Pine Hill, however it is definitely a possibility given that buildings and resources were dismantled and moved along with the construction of the rail head and that Alpha persisted as a railway town while others were abandoned. Advice provided by the Department of Environment and Science to inform this report suggests that the shed of potential heritage value is a "roadside shed" which is of "fair" condition, retains "high" integrity and is described as small, plain shed and with a gable roofed office of 2 rooms with original openings. Among the notable features of the building is that the original letter-receiving slot remains in situ. This description is consistent with the shed which remains adjacent to the railway line within the railway complex at Alpha.

Up to 1990, the Alpha railway complex remained in use as a locomotive depot. However, in advance of the 1991 restructure of the Railway Department to a state-owned corporate, Queensland Railways (and later Queensland Rail), the depot was decommissioned. At around the time of decommissioning the Alpha depot, Queensland Railways commissioned a large mural to be painted on the Shakespeare Street facing wall of the historic rail shed. The mural was a tribute to the role that the railway had played in the development of Alpha and the region. It depicts the navvies laying the sleepers and constructing the rail line, an early steam train and wagons and a group of navvies travelling the rail line on an old rail trolley.

Since that time, Alpha railway has been used as a station for embarking/disembarking. It remains serviced by two westbound and one eastbound passenger services on the 'Spirit of the Outback' each week. The historic rail shed is no longer in active service use, but remains standing and maintained within the rail complex.

#### **Description/Current status:**

The historic rail shed within the Alpha railway complex remain standing and maintained on the southern side of southern-most siding line. The shed is externally clad in corrugated iron. It has a gabled roof of corrugated iron. The stumps have been replaced with metal posts. The rear wall retains the two large doored openings consistent with those used in the late 1800s for loading and unloading from wagons. The rear wall is painted with the mural commissioned by Queensland Railways at about the time of decommissioning Alpha station as a locomotive depot in the early 1990s. The mural is now one of more than 20 painted around the Alpha township telling its history, and enjoyed by residents and tourists alike.

#### **Statement of significance:**

This place has local cultural heritage significance based on the following:

##### **A. The place or area is important in demonstrating the evolution or pattern of the local government area's history:**

While a comprehensive history of the Alpha Rail Shed (including where its material were sourced and who constructed it and that it had potentially been relocated to Alpha from Pine Hill) is yet to be determined, it is obviously from the design and construction materials of the building, that it formed an early part of the railyard infrastructure at Alpha.

The extension of the Central Line railway west from Pine Hill to Alpha was opened on 22 September 1884 just west of Alpha Creek. It was common practice as the extension of the railway line progressed, for rail,

government and commercial buildings to be relocated to the next terminus town. Some railway station towns, such as Alpha, persisted while others, such as Pine Hill and Beta either side of Alpha, were eventually abandoned.

The Alpha railway complex has remained in use since 1884. In about 1990 it was decommissioned as a locomotive depot. It continues in use as a passenger station. The Alpha Rail Shed is no longer in active usage; however, it is now adorned with a large mural depicting Alpha's railway heritage. The mural is one of over twenty across Alpha which are of interest to tourists.

The Alpha Rail Shed remains as an intact example of the early form of building within the Alpha railway yard.

**D. The place or area is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a particular class or classes of cultural places:**

The Alpha Rail Shed, remains intact and in a maintained state as an example of a late 1800s railway goods shed. It includes original features such as the letter-receiving slot and original openings. Its corrugated iron cladding and roofing is indicative of the typical materials used at that time.

### **Queensland National Bank (former)**

**Location description/address:** 75 Gidyea Street (corner Beech Street), Barcaldine Q 4725

**Real property description:** Within Lot 1 on RY222 (northern frontage)

**Tenure:** Freehold

**Historical information:**

Local investors established the Queensland National Bank in 1872, having noted the reliance on external capital as an impediment to the State's growth and development. In 1879 it became the official bank of the Queensland Government. By 1880, it operated 30 branches.

The Queensland National Bank was the first bank branch in Barcaldine. The original bank building came from Jericho with the arrival of the Central Line Railway and was erected in 1886 on the corner of Oak and Willow Streets.

Like many banks in Australia in mid-1893, affected by severe drought conditions in Queensland and troubled financial circumstances of the State Government, together with articles published in the London *Standard*, *Echo* and *Pall Mall Gazette*, the Queensland National Bank suspended trading and transactions in May 1893, not reopening branches until 5 August 1893.

Sometime between 1894 and 1900, the Queensland National Bank relocated to its second premises, a converted former produce store, on the north-western corner of Ash and Beech Streets. The original bank building was converted to a residence for bank officers. Following an attempted robbery in October 1904, the report in *The Western Champion and General Advertiser for the Central-Western Districts* (31 October 1904 edition) suggested a leading banking institution such as the Queensland National Bank should have a more worthy and "up-to-date" premises in a less "out-of-the-way" part of town.

Mr A.J.A. Moody who had been the Accountant in the Tambo branch of the Queensland National Bank became the first Manager of the Barcaldine branch from 1886 until 1901, before being transferred to Warwick. During that time he opened the Longreach branch in 1891. He also managed the Pine Hill and Jericho branches when they existed. He was succeeded in Barcaldine by Mr F.E. Matthews, who had previously been the long-time Manager of the Sandgate branch. Mr Matthews remained Manager of the Barcaldine branch until his death on 18 June 1919. It was under his management, that the third Queensland National Bank building, which remains in existence was designed and built in 1906.

In September 1906, tenders were called for the purchase and removal of the bank building on the corner of Ash and Beech Streets, to make way for the construction of new premises. The successful tenderer was Mr W. Vale, offering £65 to take the building.

From 11 September 1906, the business of the Queensland National Bank in Barcaldine was temporarily relocated to the Manager's residence, being the original bank buildings on the corner of Willow and Oak Streets, while new banking premises were under construction on the site on the corner of Ash and Beech Streets.

Mr J. Adams was the architect charged with designing the new bank building with input from Mr Matthews. Mr Adams at the time had also advised on the improvements to the Rockhampton branch and the bank's new building at Cunnamulla. The building was single storey, timber framed, lowset with five steps from the ground to the verandah, with a corrugated metal sheet roof. It had an entrance porch which protruded at 45 degrees where the south- and east-facing verandahs met. Signage was painted onto the cladding below the porch fascia.

The layout of the new banking premises were described in The Western Champion and General Advertiser (7 Oct 1906 edition) as:

*The building is intended for banking premises only, and one-half of the interior will be the public chamber—some 28ft. 6in. in length, and 25ft. in width, fitted with the usual counters and desks. The manager's room will be on the site opposite the post office; next to this will be a strong room, and adjoining this again a bedroom—and a small one at that. A 7ft. 6in. verandah will enclose the premises. Entrance will be effected through an ornamental porch at the corner of Ash and Beech-streets, and will give the building an ornate appearance.*

While the bank site was accused by a local newspaper as being “out-of-the-way”, it was located at the intersection of the commercial and government areas of town. Architecturally and with its place in the streetscape, the building defined this convergence.

The Queensland National Bank Ltd was absorbed by the National Bank of Australasia Ltd on 30 June 1948 pursuant to a formal merger agreement entered into on 26 March 1947. Following a number of other mergers and restructures, the National Bank of Australasia Ltd became the National Australia Bank in 1981.

The National Australia Bank closed its Barcaldine branch in 1973 and the shire council subsequently acquired the premises. The Barcaldine Historical Society, which had been established that same year by the then Principal of the State School, John St Pierre together with locals Bill Scott, Cecil Ryan and Harry Heumiller, arranged to rent the closed bank building from the shire council for a nominal fee to establish a museum.

With council seeking to free up the former bank site for redevelopment and the generous donation of three blocks of land to the Historical Society by Mrs Mary Sealy of “Lara” station via Barcaldine, it was decided to relocate the former bank building so that it may continue to house the museum. In 1976, the building had its verandahs removed and the main structure was loaded onto two trucks and transported down the road to its current location on the south-eastern corner of Beech and Gidyea Streets. There the verandahs and porch were reinstated. New “Barcaldine and District Folk Museum” signage was affixed to the front of the porch.

Council retained ownership of the building until 1988 when it was handed over to the Historical Society.

#### **Description/Current status:**

The former Queensland National Bank building constructed in 1906 is now located on the south-eastern corner of Beech and Gidyea Streets.

The structure is generally intact and maintained. Some of its ornate external features have been removed, likely during relocation, such as the decorative corner brackets at the top of the verandah posts and the lattice work on the front of the porch.

The Barcaldine and District Historical Museum (also previously referred to as Barcaldine and District Folk Museum) operates from the building and is open to the visitors from 7am to 5pm, seven days a week. It houses a collection of artefacts and records relating to the history and heritage of the Barcaldine region. Additional buildings/structures

and machinery have been acquired and are displayed in the surrounding grounds. A miniature railway has also been established in the grounds and twilight train rides/family days are hosted during the cooler peak tourism months.

**Statement of significance:**

This place has local cultural heritage significance based on the following:

**A. The place or area is important in demonstrating the evolution or pattern of the local government area's history:**

The Queensland National Bank (former) is important in demonstrating the evolution of Barcaldine as a service township and illustrating the development of purpose-built banking premises for a bank formed to serve the interests of Queensland. The Queensland National Bank was the first bank to establish a branch in Barcaldine in 1886 with the arrival of the Central Line Railway. This building, constructed in 1906, repurposed in 1973 and relocated in 1976, was the third permanent building used for the bank's operations in Barcaldine.

It was designed by Mr J. Adams, architect, with input from Mr F.E. Matthews, bank manager and erected a year after the Bank of New South Wales (the second bank to open a branch in Barcaldine) completed its new and third building in the town.

The quality of the building's design and construction demonstrates the importance and expected appearance of financial institutions in regional townships which serviced the pastoral and government sectors in the early 1900s.

Once the bank closed its Barcaldine branch in 1973, the building was acquired by the local council and has since been repurposed as a museum by the Barcaldine Historical Society and relocated to its current site at the south-eastern corner of Beech and Gidyea Streets, Barcaldine.

**D. The place or area is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a particular class or classes of cultural places:**

The Queensland National Bank (former) building is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a purpose-built regional bank designed for banking only, as opposed to earlier forms which incorporated residential Manager's accommodation/quarters, in the early 20<sup>th</sup> Century up until World War II. This is a good example of a timber structure combining a banking chamber, Manager's office, strong room and a small bedroom.

**H. The place or area has special association with the life or work of a particular person, group or organisation of importance in the local area's history:**

The Queensland National Bank (former) has a special association with the development of the Queensland National Bank, Queensland's earliest indigenous bank, and the history of its successor, the National Australia Bank.

This place also has a special association with the Barcaldine Historical Society and its members, who are now the custodians of this historic building and fittingly use it as a museum to showcase the history and heritage of the Barcaldine region. In 2023, the Barcaldine Historical Society will mark its 50<sup>th</sup> year of occupation in this building.

## Radio Theatre

**Location description/address:** 4 Beech Street, Barcaldine Q 4725

**Real property description:** Lot 4 on RP603798

**Tenure:** Freehold

**Historical information:**

From about the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, travelling picture show operators had been visiting Barcaldine to conduct showings. In December 1913, Barcaldine's first theatre, the Glideograph was opened in Ash Street at the corner with Willow Street. The Glideograph was an open-air structure with a skating rink at the front and a gallery of seats at the back. The venture was conceived of by Mr David Stibbards, who engaged Messrs J. Nash and W. Ikin of Gladstone Picture Company to manage and operate the theatre. Messrs Nash and Ikin had previously showed pictures in the town hall. Mr Stibbards undertook renovations and took over the operation of the Glideograph in 1917.

Barcaldine's second theatre, the Lyric Picture Theatre, was built in 1915 on Oak Street. The land and building were owned by Mr W.J. O'Regan and the theatre business by Mr H. A. Hawthorne. Three of Mr O'Regan's daughters ran the theatre. Opening night was held on 3 July 1915. In May 1917, Mr Stibbards acquired proprietorship of the Lyric Picture Theatre as a business and would show there on and off with the Glideograph.

Like many early picture theatres, the Lyric Picture Theatre experienced multiple fire events. It was damaged by a fire which started in an adjoining building in 1915, a fire was extinguished in the operating room in 1918, it suffered losses in a fire which broke out in Beech Street and destroyed several buildings in February 1920 and it was eventually burned out completely in a major fire which destroyed several buildings in the business centre of Barcaldine in December 1921. Mr Stibbards retained his interest in the business of the theatre and Mr O'Regan in the land and building. In 1922, Mr O'Regan erected a new theatre on the site and the projector operator of the former Lyric Picture Theatre, Mr V. Burke, oversaw the opening of the Paramount Picture Theatre. This building, now described as 111 Oak Street or Lot 1 on SP217686, was subsequently roofed and has since been used as a mini golf course, dance hall, Dalgety's agency, an automotive parts business and a video store.

Mr Stibbards however, acquired the land two lots down on Beech Street from Mr J. J. Lynch. This land was referred to locally as West End corner and had previously (from 1889-1897) been the site of the first Bank of New South Wales in Barcaldine. Mr Stibbards went about having a new modern theatre built. He engaged architect Arthur Robson, who had become a Queensland specialist in theatre design, to design and oversee construction of the new theatre which was influenced by the design of German Zeppelin hangers.

Given the history of fires and property losses in the central commercial area of townships, including Barcaldine, regulatory provisions had been introduced through the mid-1920s requiring the exterior walls of certain buildings in certain areas to be constructed of fire-resistant materials. These regulatory provisions, as well as personal experience, played a role in the design and materials used for Mr Stibbards new theatre.

Robson called for tenders for the construction of the new theatre in October 1925 and the Radio Theatre was constructed in 1926. It is a large, 135 ft long, single storey structure of concrete infill panels to the front façade, a corrugated sheet metal clad western wall and masonry end walls. The roof is corrugated sheet metal and the structure is supported by large laminated beams forming exposed arched timber trusses. It boasted a pair of towers either side of the entrance vestibule, with seven decorative buttresses along Beech Street. The building originally had a gravel floor and was ventilated with panels of metal louvres. The seating capacity of the theatre was 400-450 people.

The opening night for the Radio Theatre was held on Saturday 10 April 1926 to a full house, with 850 tickets reportedly sold at the box office. The original attendance fees were 2/4 d for canvas seats, 1/3 d for back seats, children's entry and chairs.

Internally, the foyers original features included pressed metal ceiling, cash box, double entry doors, and Art Deco style stained glass over the ticket office. A spiral staircase leads up to the projection room. The theatre equipment included a Western Electric projector and a standby generator. A large orchestra pit was located beneath the screen and the Radio Orchestra played and accompanied during shows.

During the years of the Great Depression, many still attended the pictures and it was an important part of social life. The first movies shown in the Radio Theatre were silent films, with Lewis Vale on piano and the Radio Orchestra as sound accompaniment. Talkies™ were installed in May 1931 with the first talkie and motion picture shown that year.



It appears that Mr Stibbards ceased showing pictures at the Glideograph once the Radio Theatre opened, however the Glideograph continued to be used for skating (which remained popular through the 1940s) and other events until its use was eventually abandoned in or about 1950. In the face of competition from the Radio Theatre, a jazz floor was installed in the Paramount Picture Theatre by Mr Burke.

The arrival of television into people's homes also impacted the picture theatre industry.

During the 1980s, the Radio Theatre was used for both film screenings and indoor cricket, with the floor having been concreted and netting installed which could be used during cricket games and rolled up during screenings. The Radio Theatre closed in 1991.

The then Barcaldine Shire Council acquired the Radio Theatre. With the support of the Regional Arts Development Fund and the Arts Council, the building was restored as an arts and cultural venue. The restoration and renovations included repainting, timber flooring, new seating, the installation of air conditioning and new digital audio visual equipment. Since 1995, the Radio Theatre has been used for regular film screenings and hosting arts events.

#### **Description/Current status:**

In 2022, the Radio Theatre remains generally intact and in good repair, noting the painting of the exterior and upgrading of internal installations, fixtures and fittings in the early-mid 1990s. Original internal features including the painted proscenium surrounding the screen, timber pillars, spiral staircase, exposed arched timber trusses and pressed metal ceilings in the entrance remain intact. The façade also remains intact. It is noted based on available photographs, that sometime after 1928 early upright illuminated building-mounted 'RADIO' signage was affixed to the façade above the entrance and between photos taken in 1989 and 2007, a single metal tube handrail has been installed in the centre of the four steps between the footpath and entrance vestibule. Both of these additional features remain in place.

Barcaldine Heritage Trail signage has been installed to the right of the entrance stairs providing an overview of the history of the venue and acknowledging its cultural heritage significance.

The Radio Theatre continues to be used to show new movies each weekend. Barcaldine Arts Council volunteers run the movie screenings. The current program and costing is available at <https://www.barcaldinerc.qld.gov.au/events/event/3/barcaldine-radio-theatre-program>.

#### **Statement of significance:**

This place has local cultural heritage significance based on the following:

##### **A. The place or area is important in demonstrating the evolution or pattern of the local government area's history:**

The Radio Theatre in Beech Street, Barcaldine is important in demonstrating various aspects of the evolution of Barcaldine's built and social history. As the fourth picture theatre (third picture theatre site) to be established in Barcaldine, it is the only one still intact and used for its original intended purpose. Opening in 1926, it is one of the older picture theatres still being used for its original purpose in Queensland. It illustrates the significance and popularity of 'going to the pictures' as a form of social engagement and entertainment through the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, including during the Great Depression years and particularly before the arrival of television technology. The Radio Theatre demonstrates the extent to which the picture show industry was able to attract such private investment, typical by family-owned enterprises, in townships across the Barcaldine Region, as was the case across Australia and in many parts of the world, in the early 20<sup>th</sup> Century.

The design of the building and facade are a regional representation of the evolution of architecture and emergence of Art Deco styling in the interwar period. The fireproofing considerations given in selecting the construction materials for the building have saved it from the fate of its predecessors and reflect the prevailing building regulations enforced by the council in the mid-1920s.

**B. The place or area demonstrates rare, uncommon or endangered aspects of the local government area's cultural heritage:**

The Radio Theatre was the only picture theatre to be originally designed and constructed as a large, fully roofed and enclosed, single-auditorium picture theatre in the Barcaldine Region. It provided the community with a venue of the type more commonly found across suburban metropolitan areas in the interwar period. The decoration and scale of its 1926 infill concrete façade, including a pair of towers demarking the entrance and seven decorative buttresses, remain remarkably intact and are rare in the Barcaldine Region. Having the theatre entrance via one end of the elongated elevation of the building also represents a departure from the layout more commonly found in metropolitan and urban areas where the street frontage and entrance form part of the narrower elevation.

**D. The place or area is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a particular class or classes of cultural places:**

The Radio Theatre is and always was a fine example of a 1920s picture theatre constructed in an inland regional Queensland township. Its design is a regional representation of the large 'picture palace' auditoriums built with modest private funding. It has the glamorous street façade to attract patrons, characteristic of this class and genre of building. It incorporates Art Deco decorative elements and a mix of construction and fit-out materials designed to impress and stand out in the streetscape. It has a Dutch gable roof of corrugated metal sheets supported by laminated timber arches allowing for a large internal auditorium space where audiences can enjoy unimpeded view of the screen. The Radio Theatre also has and retains a decorative painted proscenium around the screen and a spiral staircase giving access to the projection room. These features are typical characteristics of picture theatres of this era, particularly of the many designed by Brisbane architect Arthur Robson, who specialised in theatre design and construction.

**E. The place or area is important because of its aesthetic significance to the local community:**

The Radio Theatre has aesthetic value for Barcaldine with its stand-out decorated façade and presence in the central commercial part of the townscape. Internally, the place offers an imposing space with its large auditorium featuring exposed arched timber trusses and decorative features including the painted proscenium.

**G. The place or area has a strong or special association with the life or work of a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons:**

The Radio Theatre has been identified with the townscape and social activity in Barcaldine since its construction in 1926. At the time of its construction, the area of town where it was built was referred to as 'West End corner', referencing the renowned theatre and cultural district of London. Prior to its closure in 1991, the place had a dual use for approximately 5 years, also hosting indoor cricket games. However aside from the period between 1991 and 1995 when it was acquired by council, restored and renovated, the place has been and continues to be a place where locals and visitors alike can come to enjoy watching movies.

**H. The place or area has special association with the life or work of a particular person, group or organisation of importance in the local area's history:**

The Radio Theatre has a special association with the life and work of Mr David Stibbards (3 February 1872 – 7 May 1951). Mr Stibbards, who was born in Longton, England, first came to Barcaldine in or about 1883. He returned to Barcaldine after marrying and fighting in the Boer War. He became a well-known local as a butcher, businessman, volunteer, supporter of community events and eventually grazier on his property 'Hanley'. However, his contribution to the establishment and promotion of arguably that century's most popular social activities, film screenings and skating, in Barcaldine was particularly notable. He established both Barcaldine's first (Glideograph) and latest (Radio Theatre) picture theatre venues and held an interest in the Lyric Theatre, until it burned down, in between.

The Radio Theatre also has a special association with the work of renowned Queensland theatre architect, Arthur Robson. At the time of designing and overseeing the construction of the Radio Theatre, Mr Robson was already renowned for his works on many suburban picture theatres in Brisbane. In the late 1920s he designed over 23 picture halls, many incorporating concrete facades and the use of laminated timber arches influenced by the design of German Zeppelin hangers. After the Radio Theatre, he went on to also design the Queensland heritage listed Classic Cinema/Triumph Theatre in East Brisbane (1927), a new theatre for Gladstone Pictures Ltd in Gladstone (1927), the Paragon Theatre in Childers (1927-8), upgrade the Delta Theatre in Ayr (1927-8), a new theatre for Mrs J Beedham in Redcliffe (1928) to name but a few.

## Recommendations

Having regard to the context in which this report has been prepared, the following additional places are considered to satisfy the cultural heritage significance criteria necessary for Council to consider making each place a local heritage place:

1. Alice River Date Palm Reserve
2. Alpha Railway Guards' Room, Tivoli Theatre Museum and Beta Hut
3. Back Creek Bore
4. Barcaldine Court House
5. Barcaldine Grandstand
6. Barcaldine Railway Complex
7. Barcaldine State School (former)
8. Barcaldine Water Tower
9. Bowen Downs Grave Site #1
10. Bowen Downs Ruins
11. Cassimatis Store and Cottage
12. Gray Rock Historical Reserve
13. Horsetailers' Gorge
14. Lagoon Creek Bush Camps and Kate Doonan's Grave Site
15. Lands Office (Barcaldine)
16. Muttaborra Hospital (former)
17. Potential Pine Hill Station Building (Alpha Rail Shed)
18. Queensland National Bank (former)
19. Radio Theatre

It is recommended that if Council decides to recognise any of these places as a local heritage place at this time, that it do so by way of a listing in its proposed new planning scheme. This method is recommended in preference to the alternative, which would involve establishing and maintaining a Local Heritage Register under the *Queensland Heritage Act 1992*.

## Conclusion

There are presently only six local heritage places identified within the Barcaldine Region and all are cemeteries.

In the proposed new planning scheme, Council seeks to expand its protection of places of cultural heritage value across the Barcaldine Region.

It is recommended that 21 further places be considered as potential local heritage places for inclusion in the proposed new planning scheme:

- two arising from the report titled 'Barcaldine Regional Council Local Heritage Register Statement of Local Cultural Heritage Significance', prepared by GBA Consulting Engineers and dated November 2019:
  - Old Eight Mile Weir (Barcaldine)
  - Original Muttaborra Cemetery
- an additional 19 arising from the process involved in preparing this report.

In relation to the Original Alpha Cemetery recommended for inclusion by the 2019 report by GBA Consulting Engineers, it is suggested that as this site is within the same lot as the current Alpha Cemetery, that these be combined as a single listing over the whole of Lot 57 on SP175997 in the proposed new planning scheme.

A total of 27 local heritage places have been identified for potential inclusion in the new planning scheme. It is proposed this be through the inclusion of a Schedule 3 Heritage Places planning scheme. The identification and regulation of future development of local heritage places to protect heritage values will be supported by the strategic framework, overall outcomes in various codes and specific provisions in a Heritage overlay code within the

planning scheme. This represents a significant improvement on the current circumstances under the three existing planning schemes administered by Council.

It is acknowledged that a State interest review of the proposed new planning scheme is yet to be finalised and formal public consultation of the proposed new planning scheme is yet to take place. These steps will need to be undertaken prior to Council being able to proceed to adopting a new planning scheme and giving effect to the recognition of any new local heritage places.

Council maintains the discretionary head of power, in the future, to investigate and consider additional places of local cultural heritage significance for inclusion by way of a planning scheme amendment.

## Appendix A – Research references and place images

The following is a collection of research references and images to support the potential local heritage place listings in this report.

### Alice River Date Palm Reserve

**Location description/address:** Waterloo Road, Barcaldine  
6km SE of Barcaldine, at the end of Waterloo Road, close to the Alice River

**Real property description:** Lot 107 on RY66

#### Research references:

1891 'Local and General News.', *The Western Champion (Blackall/Barcaldine, Qld. : 1879 - 1891)*, 11 August, p. 2. , viewed 01 Mar 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article79707629>

Report on Alice River Settlers

1892 'Alice River.', *The Telegraph (Brisbane, Qld. : 1872 - 1947)*, 28 October, p. 5. , viewed 26 Oct 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article173499897>

Information about the Alice River Co-operative Settlement

1894 'TO-DAY, TUESDAY, JULY 31.', *Morning Bulletin (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1878 - 1954)*, 31 July, p. 5. , viewed 21 Sep 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article52485962>:

*The Department of Agriculture, says the Brisbane Telegraph, is taking steps to ascertain the names of the persons in the western portion of Central Queensland who would take an interest in the planting of date palms around artesian bores and on watercourses running from the wells. There are about eighty suckers at the Brisbane Botanic Gardens ready for distribution. If the scheme should be inaugurated, and prove successful in the Central Division, it will be extended to other parts of the country.*

1905 'The Fruit Expert at Barcaldine.', *The Western Champion and General Advertiser for the Central-Western Districts (Barcaldine, Qld. : 1892 - 1922)*, 18 December, p. 3. , viewed 21 Sep 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article75612422>:

*The Fruit Expert at Barcaldine*

*Mr A. H. Benson, the Fruit Expert, arrived in Barcaldine on Sunday morning... He believed in the date palm for a country of sandy nature such as that of Barcaldine, and he would recommend the people to go in for this kind of fruit. ... Mr Benson urged wheat-growing... An area has been set apart for an experimental farm ; he would urge the Minister for Agriculture to use it. He had the appointment of an agricultural State farm for the West some years ago, and he chose a piece of land away from Emerald, at Gindie ; he regretted having done so ; the farm should have been at Barcaldine, where an unlimited water supply could have been obtained. He still held out hope of an experimental farm being established here, a site having been already reserved for the purpose. ..."*

1936 'State News In Brief', *The Queenslander (Brisbane, Qld. : 1866 - 1939)*, 27 February, p. 47. , viewed 21 Sep 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article23381733>:

*Rural Interests...Experimental Date-Growing.–Mr. H. J. C. Freeman (senior instructor in fruit culture) is making further investigations into the possibilities of establishing a date-growing industry in the Barcaldine district. He also will make arrangements for the permanent employment of a man at the date experimental plot at the Four Mile. ...*

1936 'BARCALDINE SHIRE COUNCIL', *The Courier-Mail (Brisbane, Qld. : 1933 - 1954)*, 30 June, p. 23. , viewed 21 Sep 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article38483086>:

*Councillor C. F. Lloyd Jones presided at the June meeting of the Barcaldine Shire Council ... In reply to a letter from the Lands Department, regarding the experimental date farm on the Alice River, the council resolved to point out to this department that apparently it was intended to extend the area right to the river bank, whereas the council desired at least a three-chain road between the farm fence and the river bank for the convenience of the public and for stock facilities. ...*

1936 'BARCALDINE COUNCIL MEETING', *The Central Queensland Herald (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1930 - 1956)*, 23 July, p. 59. , viewed 21 Sep 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article70625979>:

*Writing with reference to the experimental date farm on Alice River Mr F. W. Bulcock stated the Department had no intention of closing the three-chain road between the fence and the bank of the river, and asked that the irrigation pipe line at present running across the road be protected. It was resolved to advise that every protection would be given the Department to have full use and control of the pipeline now in existence across the road.*

**1937 'BARCALDINE', *The Longreach Leader (Qld. : 1923 - 1954), 27 February, p. 20.*** , viewed 21 Sep 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article37365089>:

*Luscious Dates...The Department of Agriculture became interested in the project as a means of relieving the unemployment problem some months ago, and Mr. F. W. Bulcock (Minister for Agriculture) set aside an area on the Alice River at the Four Mile as an experimental farm. On this plot at present there are 186 palms on 2 acres, spaced 20 feet apart, attended by a caretaker, and watered by a mill and plant from the Alice River. The caretaker expects some of these palms to bear fruit next year. Several varieties are planted, and one of the Department's etymologists is abroad investigating suitable plants for sowing in Central Queensland. So far the flying fox menace has not troubled growers, but doubtless when the cultivation expands, this pest will increase. ...*

**1937 'BARCALDINE', *Morning Bulletin (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1878 - 1954), 1 July, p. 4.*** , viewed 21 Sep 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article57627434>:

*BARCALDINE...Apparently the soil at the Government experimental date farm suits the project, for out of 180 palms planted some time ago 150 are thriving, a few of them flowering. Another 50 seeds from California have just been set and in a few years time there should be abundance of the fruit. It is anticipated that with the palms in fruit the flying fox will arrive and cause trouble.*

**1937 'STORM AT BARCALDINE.', *Townsville Daily Bulletin (Qld. : 1907 - 1954), 22 November, p. 4.*** , viewed 21 Sep 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article62158132>:

*BARCALDINE, November 20. There was a cyclonic disturbance at the Government State Farm yesterday lifting 5000 and 3000 gallon tanks off the stand. Heavy rain filled the waterhole which supplies the farm.*

**1938 Australian Geographical Society & Australian National Publicity Association & Australian National Travel Association. 1 February 1938, Walkabout Australian National Travel Association, Melbourne** viewed 21 September 2021 <http://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-728662074>, page 60:

*Charleville and Barcardine are well known for their flowers and citrus fruits; in fact, Barcardine is called the Garden of the West. Here the very streets are named after trees. ...But the town has another claim. It is the only town in Australia where dates are grown commercially.*

*Luscious dates equal to the best imported are grown by Mrs. Ogden in a town orchard that is watered with bore-water. ...*

*The Queensland Agricultural Department has also taken a hand: some years ago it started an experimental farm, which has now 186 palms, some of them bearing fruit. In the rich Barcardine soil, suckers bear fruit in three years and seeds take six years to come to maturity. Seeds have been imported from Palestine and America, and it appears that the future is bright for date growing on a large scale.*

**1938 'WEATHER CONDITIONS IN COUNTRY CENTRES', *Morning Bulletin (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1878 - 1954), 23 February, p. 13.***, viewed 21 Sep 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article55952998>:

*BARCALDINE... Grasshoppers have stripped all the leaves off the date palms at the Government date farm.*

**1938 'Queensland Date-Growing', *Sydney Mail (NSW : 1912 - 1938), 20 July, p. 3.*** , viewed 21 Sep 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article166524873>:

*Queensland Date-Growing*

*Hopes that Queensland may soon have a date-growing industry were expressed by a Mr. J. I. Craig, Commissioner of Customs for the Egyptian Government, who is on visit to Queensland to observe the progress of four different varieties of seed dates sent from Egypt under arrangement with the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, and which are at present germinating at Rockhampton. This is not the first experiment made in date-cultivation in Queensland. For many years the suitability of Barcardine soil for date-growing has been recognised, and proved by small orchards, chief among which is that of Mrs. W. Ogden, of Fir Street who has been growing dates for 37 years and has 60 palms on an allotment measuring only 1 acre 20 perches. ... Besides Mrs. Ogden's orchard, the Department of Agriculture and Stock has an experimental plot consisting of two acres at the Four Mile, on the Alice*

*River, where there are at present some 200 palms, some of which are just coming in to the fruit-bearing stage. In Barcaldine date suckers will bear in three years, while palms grown from seed take six years to produce fruit. The palms grown in the experimental farm come from Palestine and the United States, a departmental officer having recently made a tour of these two date-producing countries in order to select approved varieties for trial.*

**1939 'BARCOLDINE REQUIREMENTS', *The Central Queensland Herald (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1930 - 1956)*, 16 February, p. 5. , viewed 21 Sep 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article70845048>:**

*At a conference between Mr F. W. Bulcock, M.L.A., and the town members of the Barcaldine Shire Council... CHANNEL AT CEDAR CREEK. The Chairman then brought up the matter of closing the 10ft wide channel at Cedar Creek to make more water in the Alice River at that point. It could be done for about £60. As it meant a big thing for the date farm, Mr Bulcock was very much in favour of it and promised to donate £30 towards the work. At the farm, they had a supply of approved varieties of dates, and he believed that date culture would be a big industry in the near future.*

**1939 'ELECTRIC LIGHT PIONEER', *The Longreach Leader (Qld. : 1923 - 1954)*, 6 December, p. 7. , viewed 21 Sep 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article135159537>:**

*Recently the Council erected a weir at the date farm on the Alice River and the water has been backed up for a considerable distance. It is now an ideal picnic ground as well as providing water for travelling stock and a water supply for the farms in the locality.*

**1940 'BARCOLDINE', *Morning Bulletin (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1878 - 1954)*, 19 January, p. 4. , viewed 21 Sep 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article56148122>:**

*BARCOLDINE The Barcaldine district missed the rain which fell in many western districts a week or so ago. ...Practically all the watercourses in the district are dry, and at the eight-mile, where the Government experimental farm is situated, the water has dried up. With the expectation of rain Mr W. Walker, who is in charge of the farm, recently planted some tobacco seed, and under present conditions anticipated having to cart water from town if the plants are to grow. At the Government date farm, four mile from town, in an easterly direction, there is enough water for one watering only.*

**1940 'BARCOLDINE PERSONAL', *The Longreach Leader (Qld. : 1923 - 1954)*, 15 June, p. 9. , viewed 21 Sep 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article126151772>:**

*Mr. O.L. Hassell, of the Rockhampton branch of the Agricultural Department, visited Barcaldine over the week-end and inspected the agricultural experimental farm at the eight-mile and also the date farm at the four-mile. ...*

**1941 'Peculiarities Of Date Palm', *The Central Queensland Herald (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1930 - 1956)*, 10 April, p. 9. , viewed 21 Sep 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article76253288> [and a very similarly worded article was also published in various other newspapers including 1941 'THE DATE PALM.', *Townsville Daily Bulletin (Qld. : 1907 - 1954)*, 27 March, p. 7. , viewed 21 Sep 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article61480980>]:**

*Peculiarities Of Date Palm... Four or five years ago the Queensland Government established a small experimental farm at Barcaldine to investigate the commercial possibilities of the date palm.*

*Whatever the outcome may be the work is important. .... [article then outlines global context of date growing, Queensland suitability and information about farming of dates, including that the productive life of the palms are from 100-150 years.]*

**1944 'GOVERNMENT FARMS CLOSED', *Morning Bulletin (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1878 - 1954)*, 6 December, p. 3. , viewed 21 Sep 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article56323523>:**

*GOVERNMENT FARMS CLOSED The Department of Agriculture and Stock has decided to close the experimental farm, also the date farm at Barcaldine, and Mr W Walker, who has been in charge of the projects, has been notified of his transfer to Brisbane Shortage of water has hindered production on both farms. It is a pity the Government could not sink a well in the vicinity as several families would settle there, it being proved that the soil will grow almost anything.*

**1945 'DATE FARM', *The Longreach Leader (Qld. : 1923 - 1954)*, 20 January, p. 13. , viewed 21 Sep 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article126013912>:**

*DATE FARM COUNCIL TO TAKE OVER The Barcaldine Shire Council, at Tuesday's meeting at the request of the Department of Agriculture and Stock, decided to take over the date farm at the four mile, with a view to establishing an energetic man on it.*



Mr. W. Walker, for the Department, attended the meeting and asked the Council to take over the date farm at the four-mile; or in the alternative suggest a man to do so. He stated it would be in the interests of the town for some such arrangement to eventuate.

The chairman (Cr. C. F. Lloyd-Jones) said it was a good proposition for an energetic man. There were two acres of ground solidly fenced with a large number of trees, windmill, trough and a tank holding about 8000 gallons of water. There were also another six acres set apart for the Department. The only problem was water, but it could be arranged possibly with W. D. Colman & Co. to supply water from their bore which is close handy. All the date trees are in full bearing. It would be an ideal place for a dairy and garden. It was decided to accept the offer and look into the possibilities ahead.

**1945 'BARCALDINE SHIRE COUNCIL', *Morning Bulletin (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1878 - 1954)*, 22 October, p. 2. , viewed 21 Sep 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article56391596>:**

Advice was received from the Lands Department of the closure of the road abutting the south eastern boundary of portion 107 (experimental farm reserve). This refers to the date farm.—The chairman said the road was the best part of the river frontage and the council had never been asked for an opinion on the matter. If two or three more farms were taken up in the vicinity there would be no access to the water for stock.—It was then decided to object to the closure, ...

**1946 'BARCALDINE', *The Central Queensland Herald (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1930 - 1956)*, 14 March, p. 22. , viewed 21 Sep 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article75648188>:**

Mr T. J. Costello, Land Commissioner, presided at a land sale in the Lands Office, Barcaldine... On the same day portion 107, area eight acres, 36 perches, about three and three-quarter miles from Barcaldine Railway Station, known as the Date Farm, was selected by Albert Thomas French at the annual rental of £5. The provisional improvements were valued at £155.

**1949 'CHILDRENS CORNER', *The Longreach Leader (Qld. : 1923 - 1954)*, 2 December, p. 21. , viewed 21 Sep 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article125791829>:**

*LIVES ON DATE FARM (From "Baby Rose," Barcaldine)*

Dear Aunt Joan,— Just a few lines to let you know that I am well and I hope you and all the "Cornerites" are well also. I have written to the Corner before, and my pen-name is "Baby Rose." I am now 12 years old and my birthday is on 20th February. I am 4ft. 81ns. high and weigh 6st. 91bs. I live on a date farm and I have four sisters, three brothers, one brother-in-law and a nephew. I was very pleased when the Children's Corner came out again. A Merry Xmas. to you and to all at the Corner. (Senior, 7 points)

**1950 'the state of Queensland', *The Courier-Mail (Brisbane, Qld. : 1933 - 1954)*, 23 February, p. 7. , viewed 21 Sep 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article49719137>:**

*Barcaldine's Best Harvest of Dates...*

The yield at the Agriculture Department's experimental farm on the Alice River, where 150 palms were planted about 1932 was a record.

Average yield of each palm was 12 bunches, each weighing up to 60lb. of fruit of good quality. The farm is now being cared for by Mr. French. The first large-scale planting—about 90 palms—was done by the late Mr. Ogden at his residence in Fir Street, Barcaldine, 60 years ago. These palms are now choked by dense-undergrowth, and the crop this year was poor and the dates not of good quality. ...

The market for the dates grown in the district is mainly local, but some small quantities have been sent (sic) away. Prices this year ranged from 4d. to 1/ per lb. In all cases irrigation is unnecessary and there is sufficient water to the surface of the ground.

**1950 'CHILDRENS CORNER', *The Longreach Leader (Qld. : 1923 - 1954)*, 17 March, p. 22. , viewed 21 Sep 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article125793310>:**

*RAIN SPOILT DATES (From "Baby Rose," Barcaldine)*

Dear Aunt Joan,— I hope that all at the Corner are still in the best of health. Our house is on high ground so we did not have to move when the rivers came over their banks. I did not see the photo of our date farm in the "Courier," and would you please send it to me. That was very kind of you to say you would. We lost a lot of dates this time because of all the rain. My sister Jean was 17 on 2<sup>nd</sup> March and my little brother will be 6 on the 14th. I am sending a poem and a drawing of a black hen. (Senior. 8 points)

1950 'BARCALDINE', *The Central Queensland Herald (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1930 - 1956)*, 7 December, p. 24. , viewed 21 Sep 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article75570381>:

*The Alice River reached an all-time record and was 20 ft above the decking of the bridge, on the Barcaldine-Blackall Road. The river broke its banks at Redbank and crossed the Blackall Road in two places, on the town side, the water running to a depth of 4 ft in places. Occupants of houses along the river were forced to evacuate, such places being Newhaven, Date Farm, Ah You's garden, Six-Mile and Eight-Mile. All crops in the gardens were totally destroyed. ...*

1950 'THRILL RESCUES IN ALICE RIVER FLOOD', *The Longreach Leader (Qld. : 1923 - 1954)*, 1 December, p. 17. , viewed 21 Sep 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article125578185>:

*Police had to use an improvised boat to rescue a woman and her family from flood waters when the Alice broke its banks and reached a record height. Mrs. A. French and her six children were brought from their flooded home in the early hours of Saturday morning in a bath tub to which a drum and motor car tubes had been fitted. The Frenchs live at "The Date Farm" at the junction of Cedar Creek and the Alice River. This was one of the danger spots of the flooded area and their home was almost completely submerged. Water rose to ceiling height and all furniture, including a new refrigerator was extensively damaged. A tomato and a water melon crop were wiped out. Police tried to rescue the family in two boats, but had to abandon the attempt when the boats started to leak. It was then that the bath tub, drums and motor car tubes were brought into commission. Both Cedar Creek and the Alice River were rushing torrents and rising at four inches an hour when the family was brought out. The water was lapping the floor of the home when Mrs. French got into the last boat.*

1950 'IN THE FLOOD' [Children's Corner], *The Longreach Leader (Qld. : 1923 - 1954)*, 22 December, p. 23. , viewed 21 Sep 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article125577560>:

*From "Baby Rose," Barcaldine*

*Dear Aunt Joan,— Here I am again. Did you hear about us having to move from the Date Farm? Mum's machine and the refrigerator were in ,the flood but we think they will be O.K. Mum has a port full of fancy work she saved from the flood. I lost my two dolls and so did my sister. Some kind people have given us clothes. I lost my two books and the stationary, that I won as prizes in the Corner. The water came to the roof of the house, and we could hardly see any of it. We are living with "White Rose" and her family. I received the other book prize and thank you very much. (13 years, 8 points)*

1951 'CHILDRENS CORNER', *The Longreach Leader (Qld. : 1923 - 1954)*, 19 January, p. 22. , viewed 21 Sep 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article125580769>:

*LEFT THE DATE FARM From "Baby Rose," Barcaldine*

*Dear Aunt Joan,— Here I am again. We are not going back to the Date Farm. Dad is going to build a house in town. Most of our things were spoilt in the flood. Mum got her sewing machine fixed, and it is going well. Dad gave mum a little camera for her birthday on December 28. My little nephew Ian, will be one year old on January 19. We are living at a wool shed nine miles out of town. I knitted my sister Alice a doll set. Santa gave her a big doll for Christmas. He gave my little brother a car, and my other brother a pocket knife. I got a bottle of perfume, some powder, handkerchiefs and hair clips. I do the cooking, now. (13 years, 8 points)*

Hoch, I (2008), 'The Barcaldine Story 1846-2008', Barcaldine Shire Council, pp25, 37, 39.

## Alpha Railway Guards Room, Tivoli Theatre and Beta Railway Hut

**Location description/address:** The Rowley Roberts Tourist Information Centre, 43 Shakespeare Street, Alpha

**Real property description:** Lot 1 on RP608842 and Lot 1 on RP614123

### Research references:

1916 'Alpha Memos.', *The Western Champion and General Advertiser for the Central-Western Districts (Barcaldine, Qld. : 1892 - 1922)*, 15 January, p. 6. , viewed 13 Dec 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article79754754>

1928 'DISASTROUS ALPHA FIRE.', *The Longreach Leader (Qld. : 1923 - 1954)*, 3 February, p. 13. , viewed 13 Dec 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article37213982>

1933 'Recent Alpha Fire.', *The Western Champion (Barcaldine, Qld. : 1922 - 1937)*, 21 January, p. 4. , viewed 13 Dec 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article79625367>

1934 'FILM ON FIRE', *Morning Bulletin (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1878 - 1954)*, 26 September, p. 6. , viewed 13 Dec 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article55604798>

1944 'Advertising', *The Longreach Leader (Qld. : 1923 - 1954)*, 14 October, p. 11. , viewed 13 Dec 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article126016766>

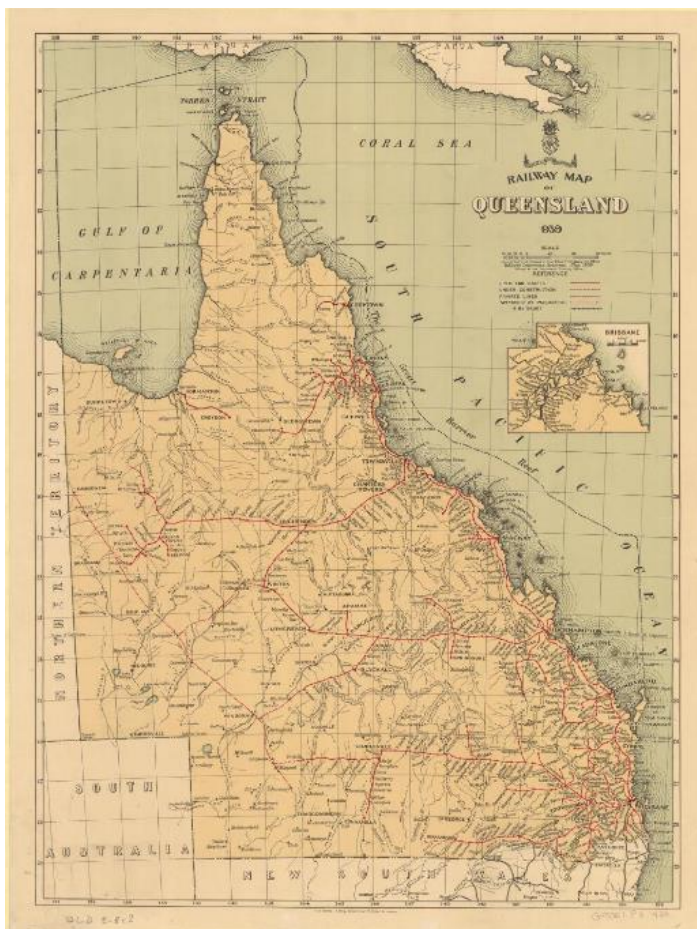
1946 '(To the Editor)', *The Longreach Leader (Qld. : 1923 - 1954)*, 15 February, p. 5. , viewed 13 Dec 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article125209662>

Hoch, I (1986), 'Barcaldine 1846-1986', Barcaldine Shire Council, p19  
Opening of Alpha and Beta

2012 'Queensland Places – Alpha', *John Oxley Library Blog, State Library of Queensland*, 10 December, viewed 13 Dec 2021, <https://www.slq.qld.gov.au/blog/queensland-places-alpha>

'Beta Hut and Railway Memorabilia: Alpha, Barcaldine Area: Attractions', Queensland Government (Tourism and Events Queensland), <https://www.queensland.com/au/en/things-to-do/attractions/p-5d8d41709d2d5c534a118961-beta-hut-and-railway-memorabilia.html>, viewed 13 December 2021

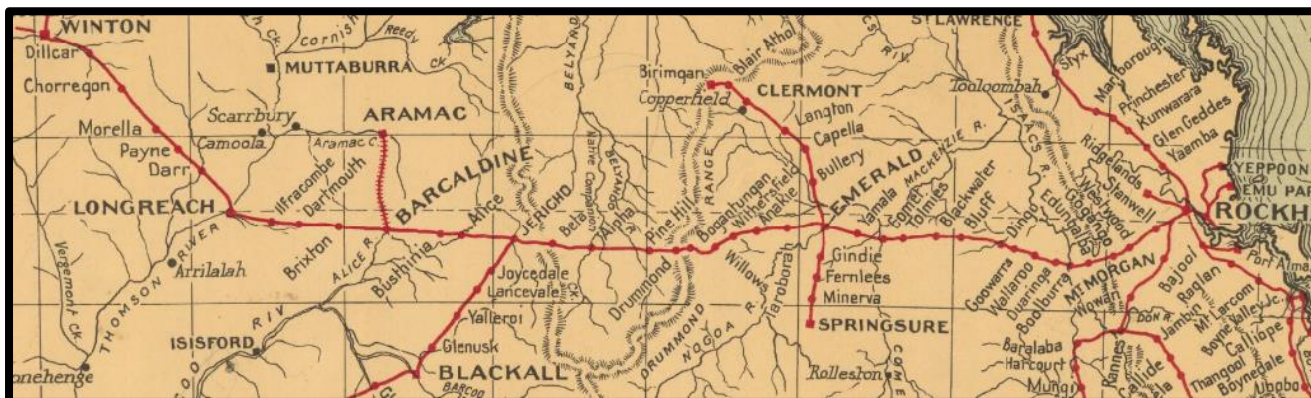
Place images:



Out of copyright, Queensland Railways. Chief Engineer's Office & Hope, T. G. 1939, *Railway map of Queensland*, 1939 Queensland Railways, Brisbane viewed 27 September 2021 <http://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-232952155>

Extract of above image





## Back Creek Bore

**Location description/address:** Portion of road reserve and rail reserve (261 on SP121558) between Capricorn Highway and Central Western System Rail Line and between Richmond Hills Road and Locknagar Parkgate Road, approximately 38km from Barcardine. Adjacent to Lot 12 on CP815699.

**Real property description:** Portion of road reserve and rail reserve Lot 261 on SP121558, adjacent to Lot 12 on CP815699

### Research references:

1886 'Artesian Well at Back Creek.', *The Week* (Brisbane, Qld. : 1876 - 1934), 26 June, p. 9. , viewed 18 Oct 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article183127065> and same article appeared in 1886 'Artesian Well at Back Creek.', *The Telegraph* (Brisbane, Qld. : 1872 - 1947), 24 June, p. 5. , viewed 18 Oct 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article174704725>.

1887 'A Grand Discovery.', *Warwick Examiner and Times (Qld. : 1867 - 1919)*, 24 December, p. 2. , viewed 21 Sep 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article82087238>  
[Note: Relates to town bore, not Back Creek bore]

1887 'THE BARCARDINE BORE.', *The Brisbane Courier (Qld. : 1864 - 1933)*, 28 December, p. 7. , viewed 21 Sep 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article3486595>:  
[Note: Relates to town bore, not Back Creek bore]

1888 'A Visit to No. 2 Bore.', *The Western Champion* (Blackall/Barcardine, Qld. : 1879 - 1891), 30 October, p. 3. , viewed 18 Oct 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article79704625>

1893 'THE BARCARDINE BORE.', *The Western Champion and General Advertiser for the Central-Western Districts (Barcardine, Qld. : 1892 - 1922)*, 17 January, p. 8. , viewed 21 Sep 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article77216926>:

1906 'THE RAILWAY BORE AT BACK CREEK.', *The Capricornian (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1875 - 1929)*, 10 February, p. 36., viewed 21 Sep 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article71977388>  
Two inch bore, flow diminished 10yrs ago, water since obtained by pumping from bore to an elevated tank, new contracted to since a 4 in. bore to depth of 1000ft to Messrs Tichborne Brothers, water struck at 200ft and came within 6ft of surface

1923 '1887. The First Barcardine Bore', *The Western Champion (Barcardine, Qld. : 1922 - 1937)*, 22 December, p. 5. , viewed 21 Sep 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article79301371>:

1932 'D.I. Board', *The Longreach Leader* (Qld. : 1923 - 1954), 18 March, p. 18. , viewed 18 Oct 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article37227520>

1935 'BARCARDINE', *The Central Queensland Herald (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1930 - 1956)*, 10 October, p. 51. , viewed 18 Oct 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article70619426>

1940 'S.R.I. (etc.) BOARD', *The Longreach Leader* (Qld. : 1923 - 1954), 21 September, p. 9. , viewed 18 Oct 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article126152661>

1941 'BARCALDINE Turn Back The Years', *The Longreach Leader* (Qld. : 1923 - 1954), 3 December, p. 72. , viewed 21 Sep 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article128611734>:

2007 Waye, Kyle, Rocks & Landscapes Notes Capricorn Highway, Rockhampton to Barcaldine, *Geographical Society of Australia Inc (Qld Division)*, viewed 18 October 2021, via [https://www.gsa.org.au/Public/Divisions/QLD\\_subpages/GSAQ\\_Publications/Rocks\\_and\\_Landscape\\_Notes.aspx](https://www.gsa.org.au/Public/Divisions/QLD_subpages/GSAQ_Publications/Rocks_and_Landscape_Notes.aspx)

2015 '17th December 1887 - a significant day for Queensland', Thom Blake - John Oxley Library Fellow and historian, John Oxley Library, *State Library of Queensland Blog*, viewed 22 September 2021 <https://www.slq.qld.gov.au/blog/17th-december-1887-significant-day-queensland>

[Note: Relates to town bore, not Back Creek bore]

*...So what is special about that day? You will not find it mentioned in any histories of Queensland, list of significant dates or in the newspaper headlines for that day or week. But in the central western town of Barcaldine, an extraordinary event occurred that forever changed Queensland.*

*A Canadian drilling contractor, J.S. Loughead, had been engaged by J.B. Henderson, the Hydraulic Engineer for the Queensland government, to drill for water in Barcaldine. Barcaldine was a newly established town on the central western railway. It appeared to have a promising future as a railway centre, but lacked access to a good supply of water. Henderson had instructed Loughead to drill, not for water a few metres below the surface, but into the depths of the earth where potentially artesian water might exit. ...*

Hoch, I (1993), 'Barcaldine Local Authority 1893-1993', Barcaldine Shire Council, pp 50 & 100  
1937 works and removal of windmill

Waye, Kyle, (2007) 'Rock and Landscape Notes: Capricorn Highway Rockhampton to Barcaldine', Geological Society of Australia Inc (Queensland Division), Field Guides and Pamphlets, accessible via [https://www.gsa.org.au/Public/Divisions/QLD\\_subpages/GSAQ\\_Publications/Rocks\\_and\\_Landscape\\_Notes.aspx](https://www.gsa.org.au/Public/Divisions/QLD_subpages/GSAQ_Publications/Rocks_and_Landscape_Notes.aspx), accessed 18 October 2021

2019, Chapter 2: The history of hydrogeology in Australia W.H.Williamson accessible via International Association of Hydrogeologists (Australian Chapter), <https://www.iah.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/Chapter-2-History-of-Hydrogeology.pdf> and reproduced on that site with the permission of publishers Howden, N. (Ed.), Mather, J. (Ed.). (2013). *History of Hydrogeology*. London: CRC Press  
Reference relevant to first sentence in History section

Item TA 214 Advertisement - Scott & Young, Atlas Company of Engineers, 'The Althouse Windmill', 1887, Museums Victoria Collections <https://collections.museumsvictoria.com.au/items/1500212>, Accessed 18 October 2021

Place images:



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Available online from State Library Queensland at: <https://hdl.handle.net/10462/BRC/deriv/40>

Title: Tree of Knowledge and the Back Creek bore windmill, Barcaldine, Queensland

Summary: The Tree of Knowledge is a ghost gum growing in Oak Street in Barcaldine. It was the original meeting place for the Shearers' Strike in 1891. The windmill in the background marks the Back Creek bore which was the first free-flowing bore in Barcaldine.

Photograph of Back Creek Bore taken in October 1982 (in copyright) is accessible at

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/67627528@N04/7991218229>

## Barcaldine Court House

**Location description/address:** 65 Ash Street, Barcaldine Q 4725

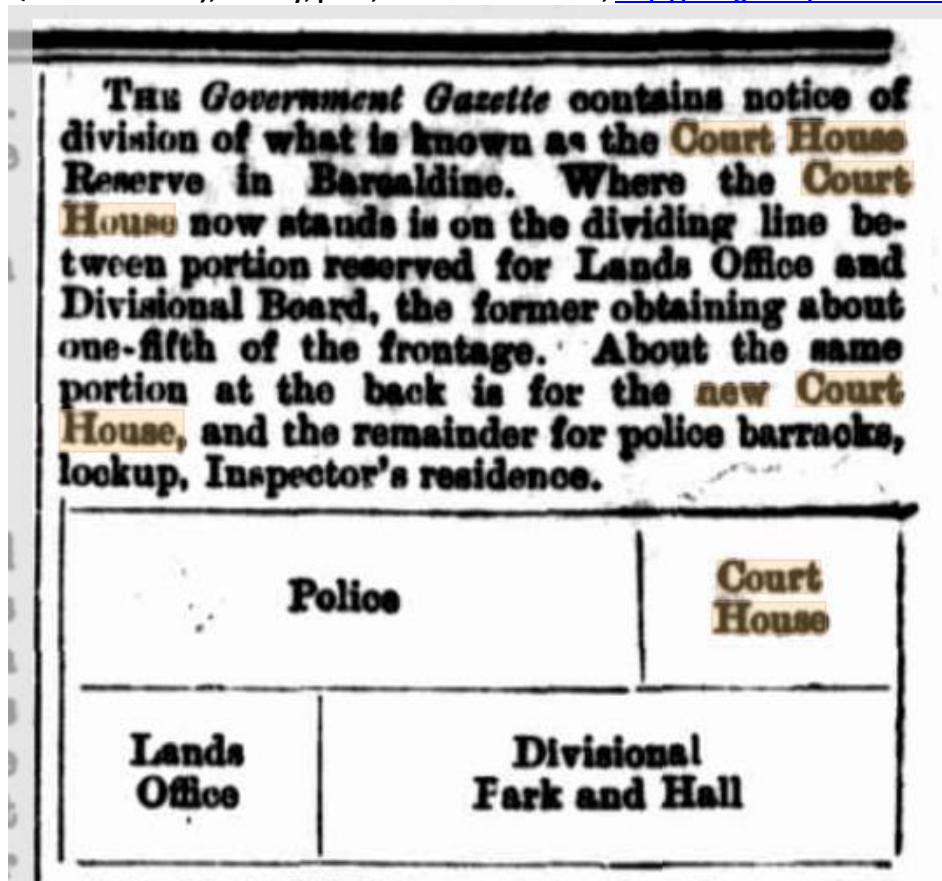
**Real property description:** NW portion of the larger reserve, Lot 603 on RY184

### Research references:

1898 'Barcaldine Government Buildings.', *The Western Champion and General Advertiser for the Central-Western Districts (Barcaldine, Qld. : 1892 - 1922)*, 13 December, p. 11. , viewed 01 Mar 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article76386945>

Existing court building condemned by Government Inspector two years ago

1899 'Barcaldine Memoranda.', *The Western Champion and General Advertiser for the Central-Western Districts (Barcaldine, Qld. : 1892 - 1922)*, 30 May, p. 6. , viewed 19 Oct 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article75672503>



1900 'BARCALDINE.', *The Capricornian (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1875 - 1929)*, 22 September, p. 25. , viewed 19 Oct 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article68245302>

In September 1900, discussions were underway between the Land Commissioner and Barcaldine Divisional Board in relation to the site for a new court house for Barcaldine and whether it would be located on the same site as the existing court house.

1901 'BARCALDINE.', *The Capricornian (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1875 - 1929)*, 2 February, p. 26. , viewed 19 Oct 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article68250514>

Court house was regularly used by the Barcaldine Debating; grazing farm applications and selections would attract large courts to the Court House; used for meetings of boards and governors. Managed by Police Magistrate. Criminal proceedings, civil proceedings, appeals, Valuation Court, Small Debts Court, distribution of the Queen's bounty of blankets for Aboriginal people.

1904 'Barcaldine Budget', *The Western Champion and General Advertiser for the Central-Western Districts (Barcaldine, Qld. : 1892 - 1922)*, 18 July, p. 3. , viewed 01 Mar 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article75606940>

Local discontent at the state and maintenance of the existing court house. White ant damage. Dangerous conditions of steps to verandah.

1904 'THE ESTIMATES.', *The Brisbane Courier (Qld. : 1864 - 1933)*, 7 December, p. 6. , viewed 01 Mar 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article19326674>

Estimates Committee debate regarding state and replacement of courthouses at Barcaldine and Longreach

1906 'BARCALDINE.', *The Capricornian (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1875 - 1929)*, 8 September, p. 32. , viewed 19 Oct 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article68878118>

The Chief Secretary (the Hon W Kidston) advised the council that a visiting Police Magistrate from Longreach is sufficient to service Barcaldine, request for resident Police Magistrate no justified and therefore no need for new court house.



1908 'BARCALDINE.', *The Capricornian (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1875 - 1929)*, 30 May, p. 39. , viewed 19 Oct 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article69165635>

Tenders called for construction of a new court house and Council had a deputation with the Attorney-General and Minister for Mins (the Hon J W Blair) as to need for resident Police Magistrate.

From late 1899 to 1908, Council advocated the Queensland Government for a new court house and a Chamber of Commerce was established in that period with one item of interest being to advocate for same. Barcaldine Progress Association also advocated.

1908 'Barcaldine & General Budget', *The Western Champion and General Advertiser for the Central-Western Districts (Barcaldine, Qld. : 1892 - 1922)*, 30 May, p. 9. , viewed 19 Oct 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article76581215>

Plans for inspection and lot pegged.

1908 'Barcaldine General Budget', *The Western Champion and General Advertiser for the Central-Western Districts (Barcaldine, Qld. : 1892 - 1922)*, 27 June, p. 11. , viewed 19 Oct 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article76581529>

Messrs Meacham & Leyland tended for construction accepted.

1908 'Barcaldine General Budget', *The Western Champion and General Advertiser for the Central-Western Districts (Barcaldine, Qld. : 1892 - 1922)*, 11 July, p. 11. , viewed 19 Oct 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article76581701>

1908 'BARCALDINE.', *The Capricornian (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1875 - 1929)*, 22 August, p. 42. , viewed 19 Oct 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article68905237>

On 15 July 1908 a new Police Magistrate arrived in Barcaldine and the new court house was in the course of erection.

1909 'The Barcaldine Court House.', *The Western Champion and General Advertiser for the Central-Western Districts (Barcaldine, Qld. : 1892 - 1922)*, 30 January, p. 7. , viewed 19 Oct 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article77627833>:

Article describing the completion of the new building.

1909 'Barcaldine & General Budget', *The Western Champion and General Advertiser for the Central-Western Districts (Barcaldine, Qld. : 1892 - 1922)*, 6 February, p. 7. , viewed 19 Oct 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article77627931>

"Wallace Yooll had the honour of opening the new Court House, he being the first drunk to appear before Mr J. Macalister P.M. Wallace was discharged with a caution, and left the Court apparently proud of the doubtful honour of being the first Bacchanalian to break in the new dock."

Court House also used as polling location for elections and referendums after construction. Various public inspectors used the offices in the Court House (ie Kerr, Inspector of Machinery)

1910 'Barcaldine General Budget', *The Western Champion and General Advertiser for the Central-Western Districts (Barcaldine, Qld. : 1892 - 1922)*, 9 April, p. 7. , viewed 19 Oct 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article77632394>

Moving of old wicket gate

1914 'BARCALDINE.', *The Capricornian (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1875 - 1929)*, 4 April, p. 47. , viewed 19 Oct 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article71937610>

Addition of car garage

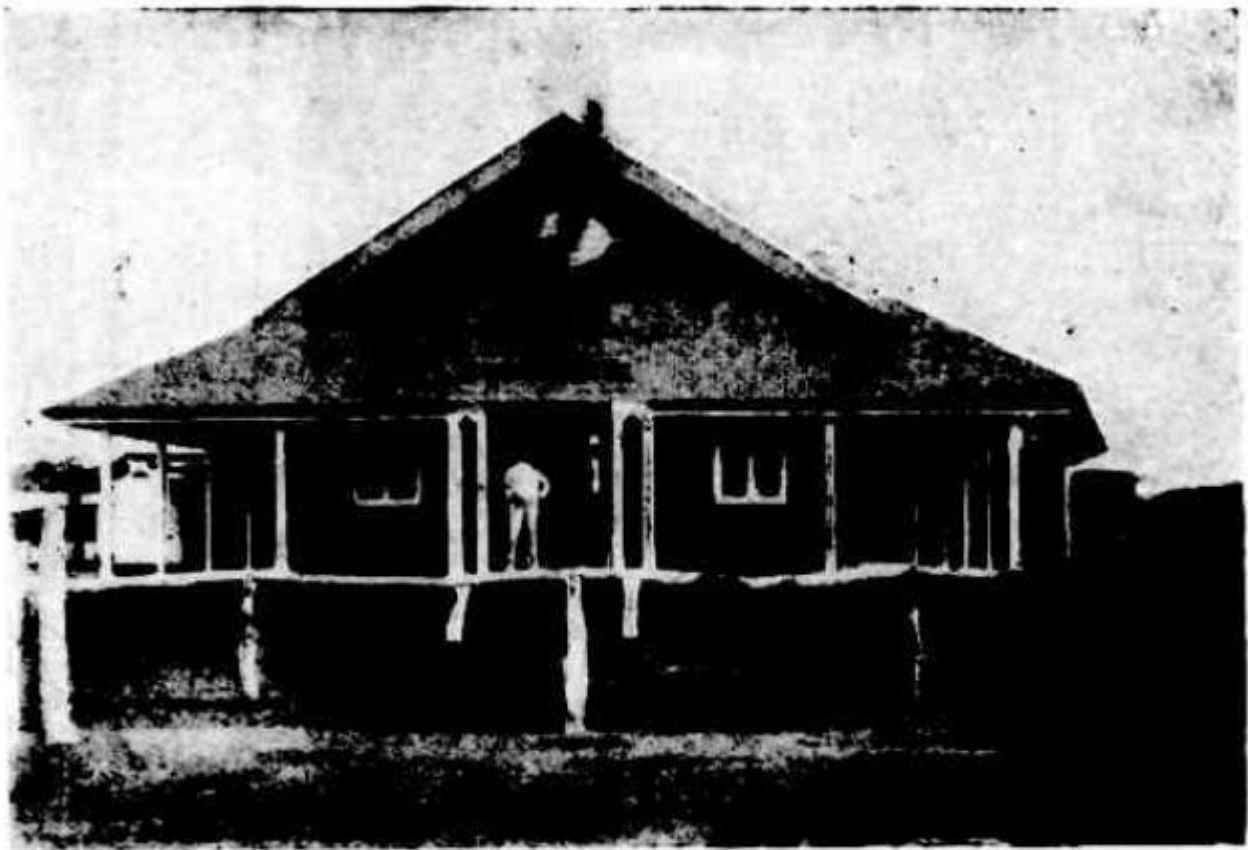
1915 'BARCALDINE.', *The Capricornian (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1875 - 1929)*, 2 October, p. 44. , viewed 19 Oct 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article69401333>

Construction of new fence

#### Place images:

One of the first photographs of the new court house





**THE NEW COURT HOUSE AT BARCALDINE.**  
(Photo. by F. James.)

1909, *The Queenslander (Brisbane, Qld. : 1866 - 1939)*, 27 February, p. 26. , viewed 19 Oct 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-page2528438>



Out of copyright, Available online from State Library Queensland at: <https://hdl.handle.net/10462/deriv/70908>  
Title: Old Court House at Barcaldine, Queensland, 1923

## Barcaldine Grandstand (Ted Seaby Grandstand)

**Location description/address:** Barcaldine Showgrounds, cnr Wilga and Pine Streets, Barcaldine Q 4725

**Real property description:** Within Lot 42 on SP243970

### Research references:

1892 'BARCOLDINE.', *The Capricornian (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1875 - 1929)*, 18 June, p. 20. , viewed 26 Oct 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article66322194>

Proclamation of recreation reserve (Athletics club – with view to expand use for football and cricket)

1913 'Barcaldine P.A. & H. Society.', *The Western Champion and General Advertiser for the Central-Western Districts (Barcaldine, Qld. : 1892 - 1922)*, 19 July, p. 8. , viewed 26 Oct 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article79746505>

Details of the inauguration of The Barcaldine Pastoral, Agricultural and Horticultural Society

1913 'Barcaldine Pastoral and Agricultural Society.', *The Brisbane Courier (Qld. : 1864 - 1933)*, 15 August, p. 6. , viewed 26 Oct 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article19898538>

Lease of recreation reserve to show society

1920 'Barcaldine P.A. & H. Society.', *The Western Champion and General Advertiser for the Central-Western Districts (Barcaldine, Qld. : 1892 - 1922)*, 18 December, p. 6. , viewed 19 Oct 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article76758445>

rates.

**THE GRAND STAND.—**

The Secretary reported having sent out 175 circulars, and replies had been received from several. One gentleman acknowledged receipt of circular, but did not intend doing anything. Another gentleman believed in the movement, but regretted he could do nothing financially. The following had notified they were prepared to take up debentures of the value of £5 each:—H. J. Pent, 20; T. Hannay, 20; J. Meacham, 18; R. J. McCullough, T. Behan, J. R. Lucas, W. C. Miller, R. Park, five of 10; Eric M. Sealy, 5; O'Brien & Co., Henry Richardson, J. H. Fraser, three of 4; L. L. Pearson, 2; J. R. Rigby, 2; Mrs. S. M. Brown, 1. Total, £655.

1921 'BARCALDINE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.', *Morning Bulletin (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1878 - 1954)*, 12 April, p. 5. , viewed 19 Oct 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article53950045>

Barcaldine Pastoral and Agricultural Society had held shows since 1914, but only secured funding by way of debentures, to construct a grandstand at the Barcaldine showgrounds in 1921. Mr T. J. Hannay (Tim J, Architect or his brother Thomas J – building inspector/certifier – assume former), was tasked with drawing up the plans and specifications. Prior to his engagement Mr Hannay was reported to have designed three of the largest woolsheds in Australia (Maranoa (NSW), Tinnenburra (Qld) and Meteor Downs (Qld)), with Tinnenburra “admitted to be the largest in the world” at the time. Mr Hannay ended up gifting the plans and specification to the committee. A description of the grandstand design is provided in this article.

Tenders called for erection of grandstand by secretary of show society 19 October 1921

1921 'Barrcaldine P.A. & H. Society.', *The Western Champion and General Advertiser for the Central-Western Districts (Barcaldine, Qld. : 1892 - 1922)*, 19 November, p. 11. , viewed 19 Oct 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article79725833>

Six tenders were received for erection of grandstand, the amounts varying from £1300 to £899. After due consideration the tender of Messrs. O'Brien & Co., Barcaldine (1919/19/6 including spouting) was accepted, subject to the approval of the architect, Mr. R. J. McCullough to be instructed to prepare the necessary agreement, and that the work be proceeded with immediately. The President agreed to supervise the work of concreting and erection of main posts. Messrs. R. Park, J. Meacham, and the President were appointed a sub-committee to finally choose the site for the grandstand.

1921 'Barcaldine P.A. & H. Society.', *The Western Champion and General Advertiser for the Central-Western Districts (Barcaldine, Qld. : 1892 - 1922)*, 17 December, p. 13. , viewed 19 Oct 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article79726089>

The secretary tabled the proposed agreement with Messrs. O'Brien & Co., the successful tenderers for the grandstand.—A sub-committee, consisting of the Chairman and Messrs. Park and McKie were elected to go through it and have it signed if approved of.

It was stated the grandstand would be commenced immediately after the New Year. the Chairman to supervise the work. A quantity of timber was already on the grounds.—Mr. Park urged that the building should be completed by the 1st May, when the football season commenced, as revenue would come in straight away.

1922 'QUEENSLAND NEWS', *Morning Bulletin (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1878 - 1954)*, 25 January, p. 9. , viewed 19 Oct 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article53996859>

January 1922 reports that construction of the grandstand at the Show Grounds is now well underway.

April 1922 reports of cricket matches on Sundays and Mondays.

May 1922 report regarding meeting of show society – building certification of grandstand, addition of fencing at each end and planting of 4 shade trees around. Rugby League club were best customers of show society – RL sought reduced fees for ladies to attend grandstand for Sunday fixtures.

New grandstand erected in time for Barcaldine's ninth annual show which opened on 25 July 1922. However, it was reportedly poorly patronised because of an additional admission charge of 2s 3d.

In 1930, the show society gives permission to Basket Ball Club to lay pitch at rear of grandstand.

1930 'BARCALDINE.', *The Central Queensland Herald (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1930 - 1956)*, 24 April, p. 41. , viewed 19 Oct 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article70269867>

The Barcaldine P.A. and H. Society have decided to at once issue the schedule for the forthcoming Show. The canvassers are to do the rounds during the coming week. A number of donations had been received and acknowledged. The Rugby League's offer to control the grandstand on the Show grounds during the coming football season for a consideration of 12½ per cent of the gross gate takings, was accepted. In the Summons Court last Tuesday.

Transfer of Show Society assets to Shire Council in April 1935.

1951 'CITY DRIFT STRESS IN BARCALDINE COMMISSION EVIDENCE', *The Longreach Leader (Qld. : 1923 - 1954)*, 2 March, p. 7. , viewed 26 Oct 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article125578469>

Engagement of Mr Fulton to prepare plans and specification for repair and alterations to grandstand.

1951 'BARCALDINE SHIRE COUNCIL', *The Longreach Leader (Qld. : 1923 - 1954)*, 27 July, p. 10. , viewed 19 Oct 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article125580581>



1951 'BARCALDINE SHIRE COUNCIL', *The Longreach Leader (Qld. : 1923 - 1954)*, 14 September, p. 8. , viewed 26 Oct 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article125577209>

New tender close date 18 Sept 1951.

1954 'BARCALDINE SHOW GROUNDS', *The Longreach Leader (Qld. : 1923 - 1954)*, 11 June, p. 7. , viewed 26 Oct 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article124403401>

1954 discussions regarding how/where to install septic system and dressing rooms for footballers.

Reference to relocation of fire station (from summary notes to photo titled 'Barcaldine Fire Brigade, 1978' available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10462/BRC/deriv/22>)

Ted Seaby and naming painted on grandstand from observation of photographs.



1923 'OBITURY.', *The Western Champion (Barcaldine, Qld. : 1922 - 1937)*, 24 November, p. 19. , viewed 27 Oct 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article79300882>

Edward (Ted) Seaby, pioneer carrier and settler of Barcaldine.

In 1946, Mrs I Seaby dies aged 81, predeceased by husband 23 yrs earlier, 5 grown sons & 6 grown daughters.

References to Ted Seaby, Patron of Barcaldine Charity Football Committee Inc.

**Place images:**



Out of copyright, Available online from State Library Queensland at: <http://hdl.handle.net/10462/deriv/80060>

Title: Barcaldine Showgrounds Pavillion, Queensland

Date: Unknown (1900-1946)



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Available online from State Library Queensland at: <https://hdl.handle.net/10462/BRC/deriv/70>

Title: Preparations for the re-enactment of the 1891 Shearers' Strike, Barcaldine, Queensland, 1982

Summary: Draught horses are harnessed to a gun carriage in front of the Ted Seaby Grandstand. Tom Lockie dressed in military uniform is mounted on a black horse. A number of men are standing by the gun carriage.

#### Research Note:

The notes provided by Queensland Department of Environment and Science suggesting consideration of Barcaldine Grandstand as a potential local heritage place seem to refer to what was the first grandstand in Barcaldine at the race track. However, that grandstand at the race track was demolished and its materials auctioned off in 1976, so no longer exists. The only historic grandstand still standing in Barcaldine is the grandstand at the show grounds. Hence, it is considered here in this report instead.

#### **Research regarding the race course grandstand:**

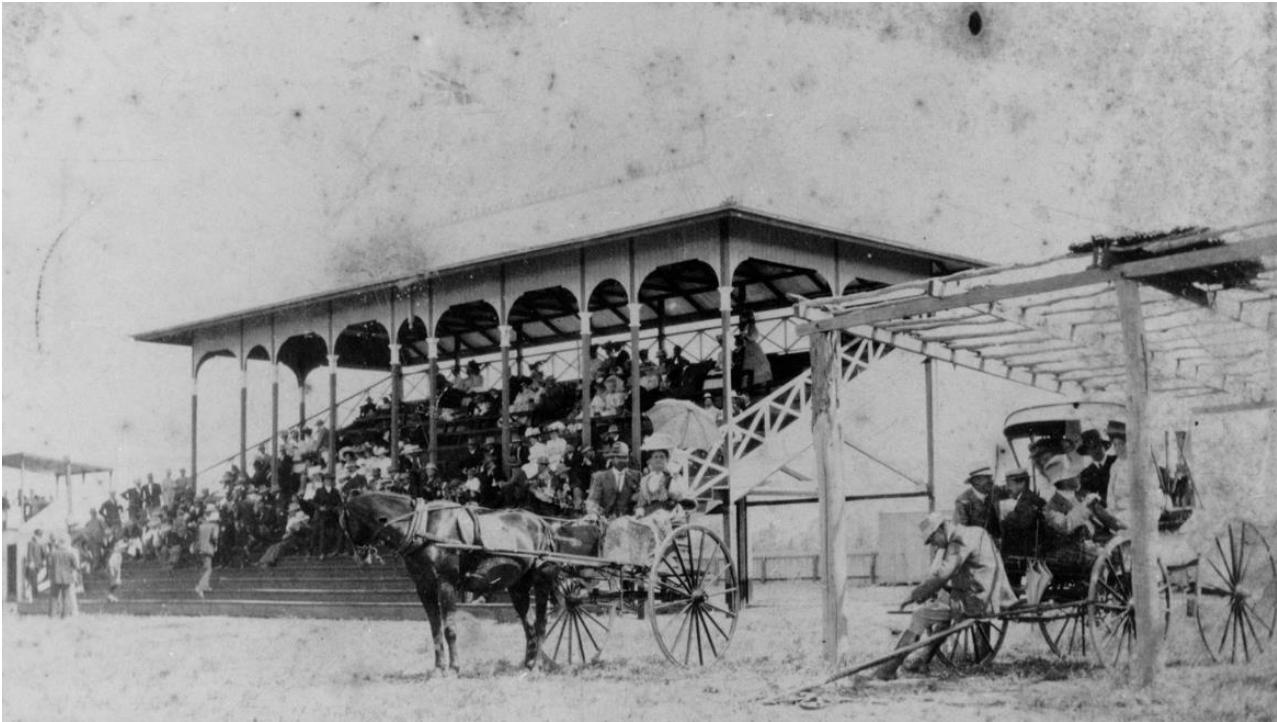
1892 'TO-DAY, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14.', *Morning Bulletin (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1878 - 1954)*, 14 October, p. 5. , viewed 26 Oct 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article52438971>

A recreation reserve of 11 acres 2 roods at Barcaldine (this potentially relates to the reserve that was used for the race course, not the sports fields and showgrounds, because additional details provided in the 18 Oct 1892 edition of the *Western Champion* include that this block is situated on the land cleared by the military and used as a parade ground and that the present paddock on which the Sheffield Handicap track is located will be cut into allotments and sold).

Barcaldine Central Racing Club had a grandstand at race track. At March 1899 meeting (*The Capricornian*, 4 March, p7), improvements to grandstand and luncheon room accommodation discussed. Sub-committee appointed to prepare designs and costings of new grandstand and improvement options. New grandstand used May/June 1905. Painting of 1905 grandstand by Messrs Walker and Peut. In 1913, decided to relocate bar to under grandstand. Grandstand enclosure at racecourse underwent some renovations and beautification in 1925-1926.



**Photographs of other former Barcaldine grandstands:**



Out of copyright, Available online from State Library Queensland at: <https://hdl.handle.net/10462/deriv/101810>  
Title: Big day at the races in Barcaldine, Queensland, ca. 1904



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Conditions of use: You are free to use this image for personal research and study. For other uses contact [barcylib@bigpond.com.au](mailto:barcylib@bigpond.com.au)  
Available online from State Library Queensland at: <https://hdl.handle.net/10462/BRC/deriv/21>  
Title: Grandstand at Old Race Course, Barcaldine, Queensland, 1976  
Summary: The Grandstand was built in 1905 by Meacham and Leyland and was sold at auction in 1976. The Grandstand is in a state of disrepair with four bougainvillea bushes lining the entrance.

## Barcaldine Railway Complex

**Location description/address:** Oak Street, Barcaldine Q 4725

At Barcaldine on Central Line Railway approximately 579km W of Rockhampton

**Real property description:** Lot 133 on SP123567

### Research references:

Queensland Rail Storyboard – Barcaldine,

[https://www.queenslandrail.com.au/History/Documents/QR014.3\\_150Storyboards\\_Barcardine\\_LR\\_0315.pdf](https://www.queenslandrail.com.au/History/Documents/QR014.3_150Storyboards_Barcardine_LR_0315.pdf), viewed 22 September 2021

*Barcaldine or Lagoon Creek as it was first known, was located on a high ridge and was selected as the closest point for both Aramac and Blackall traffic. A new station building was built in the 1930s, as the order (original) building burned down (the flames were visible some six miles away). The new station, built at a similar time to Dalby, Roma and Cunnamulla was a modern concrete construction.*

Smith, Anne, 'The Aramac Tramway', Lectures on NQ History S5, Ch5, accessible at <https://espace.library.uq.edu.au/>, accessed 22 September 2021

The Barcaldine Railway complex association with the Aramac Tramway. Aramac Shire resolved at its meeting in April 1906 to construct its own tramway between Aramac and Barcaldine after advocacy for a branch extension of the Central Line railway from Barcaldine to Muttaborra was rejected by the Minister for Railway in the late 1890s.

Theophilus P. Pugh (1896) Pugh's Queensland almanac, directory and law calendar. 1862-1866, Brisbane Queensland, p151, accessible at <https://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-2956826302/view?sectionId=nla.obj-2963996034&searchTerm=barcaldine+court&partId=nla.obj-2956918036#page/n653/mode/1up>

### Place images:



Out of copyright, Gedge Brothers; Brisbane John Oxley Library, State Library of Queensland, Available online from State Library Queensland at: <https://hdl.handle.net/10462/deriv/137733>



Title: Railway lines running parallel to Oak Street in Barcaldine, Queensland, ca. 1888

Summary: A horsedrawn dray is waiting near the tracks. To the right of the photograph several small stores and a hotel can be seen along Oak Street.



Out of copyright, Henry William Mobsby (1860-1933); Brisbane John Oxley Library, State Library of Queensland, Available online from State Library Queensland at: <https://hdl.handle.net/10462/deriv/38926>

Title: Bullock teams carrying wool bales to the railway station at Barcaldine, ca. 1906

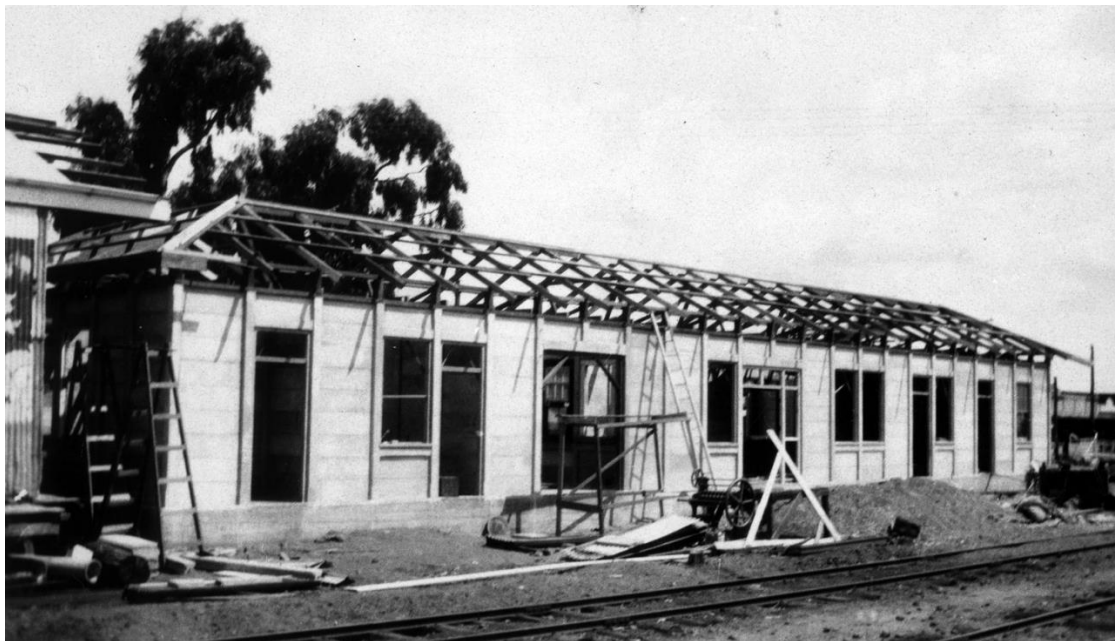
Summary: Primary production is the major industry in the Barcaldine area, being wool, sheep and cattle. Barcaldine is situated 600 kms from Rockhampton at the coast and 750 kms from Mount Isa on the Northern Territory-Queensland border. Wool would have been sent back to Brisbane by rail over 1200 kms away.



Out of copyright, Brisbane John Oxley Library, State Library of Queensland, Available online from State Library Queensland at: <https://hdl.handle.net/10462/deriv/65334>

Title: Steam train at Barcaldine Station, Queensland, ca. 1906

Summary: Passengers waiting on the platform at Barcaldine Station, where a steam train is stopped.



Out of copyright, Brisbane John Oxley Library, State Library of Queensland, Available online from State Library Queensland at: <http://hdl.handle.net/10462/deriv/138464>

Title: Construction of the Barcardine Railway Station, Queensland, ca. 1934

Summary: Construction of the waiting room and station premises at Barcardine.

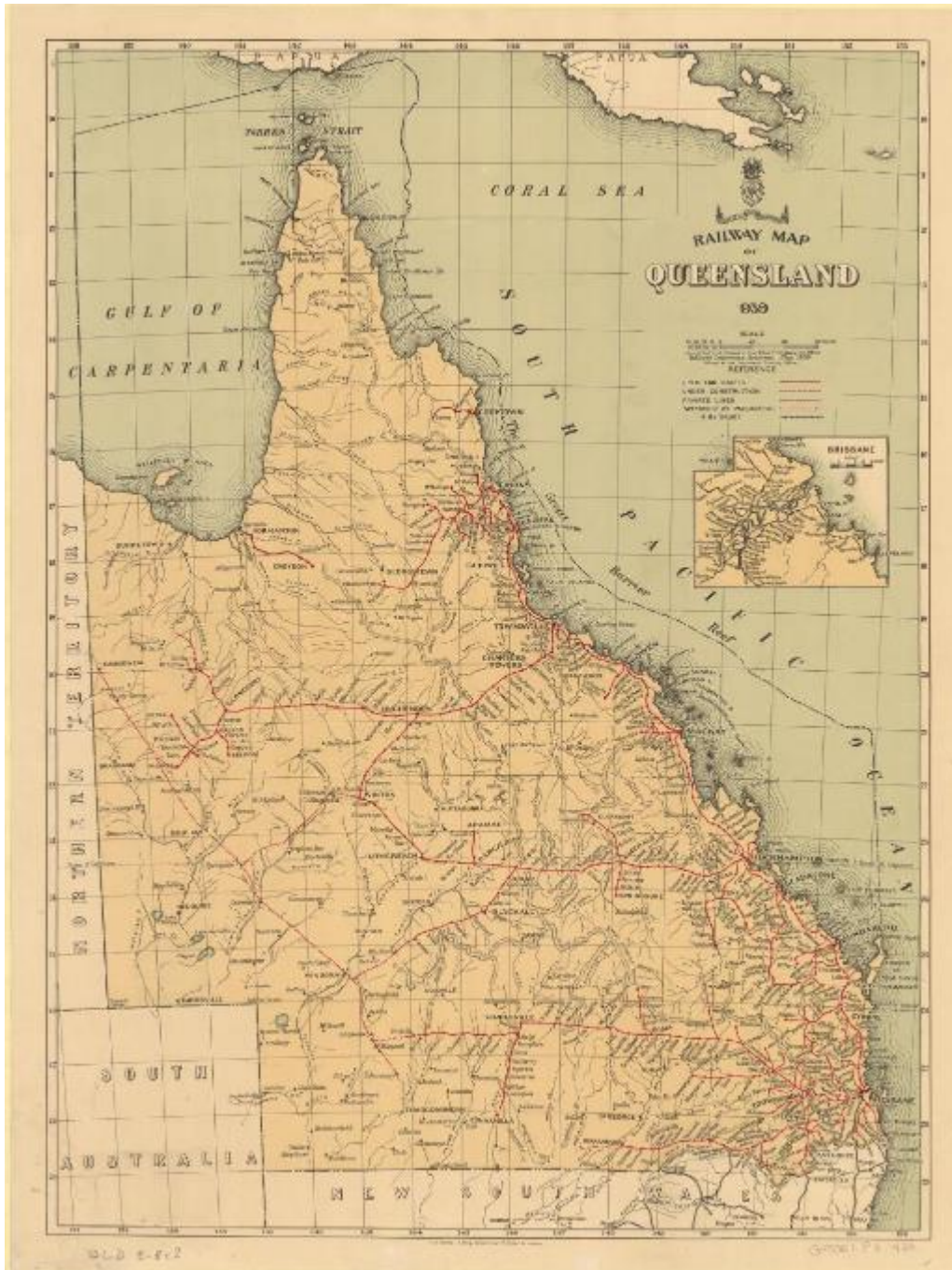


Out of copyright, Brisbane John Oxley Library, State Library of Queensland, Available online from State Library Queensland at: <http://hdl.handle.net/10462/deriv/95003>

Title: Barcardine Railway Station, Queensland, ca. 1935

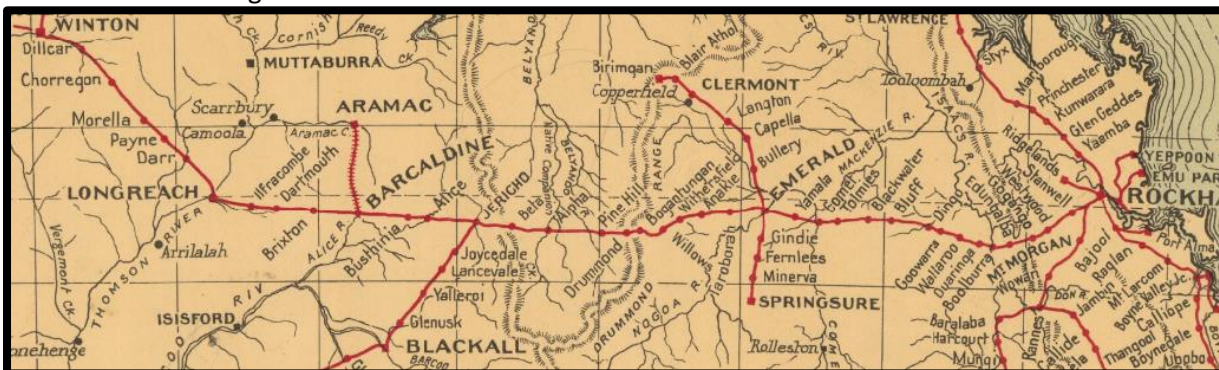
Summary: Front view, from the street, of Barcardine Railway Station, around 1935.





Out of copyright, Queensland Railways. Chief Engineer's Office & Hope, T. G. 1939, *Railway map of Queensland*, 1939 Queensland Railways, Brisbane viewed 27 September 2021 <http://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-232952155>

Extract of above image





## Barcaldine State School (former)

**Location description/address:** 91 Ash Street, Barcaldine Q 4725

**Real property description:** Within Lot 16 on CP843148

### Research references:

1887 'State School Tenders.', *The Telegraph (Brisbane, Qld. : 1872 - 1947)*, 7 January, p. 4. , viewed 20 Oct 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article175121141>

1887 'QUEENSLAND NEWS.', *Morning Bulletin (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1878 - 1954)*, 21 May, p. 5. , viewed 20 Oct 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article52009571>

Barcaldine – 3 acre reserve for school

1887 'Maryborough.', *The Week (Brisbane, Qld. : 1876 - 1934)*, 18 June, p. 25. , viewed 20 Oct 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article182627190>

PJ McDermott of Albert State School transferred

1887 'TOWN TALK.', *The Western Champion (Blackall/Barcaldine, Qld. : 1879 - 1891)*, 12 July, p. 2. , viewed 20 Oct 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article79729931> and 1887 'Country News.', *The Queenslander (Brisbane, Qld. : 1866 - 1939)*, 1 October, p. 527. , viewed 20 Oct 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article19927513>

Barcaldine State School opened last week – enrolments

1887 'THE BARCOO (Q.)', *Australian Town and Country Journal (Sydney, NSW : 1870 - 1919)*, 1 October, p. 17. , viewed 20 Oct 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article71089803>

Need for extension – Bogantungan building relocation

1887 'THE BARCOO.', *The Capricornian (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1875 - 1929)*, 26 November, p. 25. , viewed 20 Oct 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article65743374>

District inspector visit – enrolment numbers etc

1893 'STATE SCHOOL, BARCOLDINE.', *The Western Champion and General Advertiser for the Central-Western Districts (Barcaldine, Qld. : 1892 - 1922)*, 1 August, p. 6. , viewed 22 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article77218374>



**STATE SCHOOL, BARCALDINE.**

It is satisfactory to note that in these times of retrenchment the Education Department has increased the accommodation for children attending the State School. The improvements now completed consist of the addition of two large class rooms, each capable of containing 100 scholars. In place of the old and disreputable wings, which once formed a portion of the building, there are now new rooms, well lighted and well ventilated, and protected from excessive heat in summer by verandahs on both sides. There is now accommodation for from 280 to 300 children. When this number is exceeded probably the department will increase the building accommodation by making a separate school for the boys, and reserving the present building for the girls and infants. The improvements were all made by the Department on the requisition of the head master, Mr. W. J. Collins, who, it may also be said, suggested the plans and superintended the contract.

1940 'NEW STATE SCHOOL BUILDING', *The Longreach Leader (Qld. : 1923 - 1954)*, 13 January, p. 19. , viewed 20 Oct 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article135162935>

And

1941 'NEW BUILDING WANTED', *The Longreach Leader (Qld. : 1923 - 1954)*, 15 March, p. 9. , viewed 20 Oct 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article126647179>

And

1941 'Barcaldine and DISTRICT', *The Longreach Leader (Qld. : 1923 - 1954)*, 8 February, p. 6. , viewed 20 Oct 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article126648572>

Calls for new school building

1944 'New Barcaldine State School', *Morning Bulletin (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1878 - 1954)*, 8 June, p. 2. , viewed 20 Oct 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article56309703>

Students using hall whole new school building constructed

1944 'SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING', *The Longreach Leader (Qld. : 1923 - 1954)*, 17 June, p. 16. , viewed 20 Oct 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article126003683>

Request for power points in new classrooms at cost of committee

1944 'Attorney General', *The Longreach Leader (Qld. : 1923 - 1954)*, 22 July, p. 19. , viewed 20 Oct 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article126001700>

Labour and materials constraints

1944 'STATE SCHOOL', *The Longreach Leader (Qld. : 1923 - 1954)*, 21 October, p. 18. , viewed 20 Oct 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article126015425>

Construction of school progressing. Hardwood. Concrete floor. Fibro ceiling. Inspector attending. Names foreman. Represents decentralisation of govt & allowing regional input into design & planning. Suited to tropics. See screenshot for staff at the time of transfer to hall.

1945 'NEW SCHOOL OPENED AT BARCALDINE', *Morning Bulletin (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1878 - 1954)*, 22 June, p. 10. , viewed 21 Sep 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article56385106>

New school building opened

1945 'OFFICIAL OPENING', *The Longreach Leader (Qld. : 1923 - 1954)*, 23 June, p. 16. , viewed 20 Oct 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article125210598>

Additional info re opening new school

1946 'BARCALDINE', *The Central Queensland Herald (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1930 - 1956)*, 14 March, p. 21. , viewed 20 Oct 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article75648166>

Tenders called to remove old school building

Period of post-war period of government and institutional rebuilding.

1946 'BARCALDINE', *Morning Bulletin (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1878 - 1954)*, 31 May, p. 9. , viewed 21 Oct 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article56445864>

Old school building removed and new headmaster appointed.

1954 'SCHOOL PAINTING', *The Longreach Leader (Qld. : 1923 - 1954)*, 26 March, p. 7. , viewed 29 Nov 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article124403996>

Hoch, I (1986), 'Barcaldine 1846-1986', Barcaldine Shire Council, p105  
Secondary department expansion and boarding arrangements

Place images:

## Barcaldine Water Tower

**Location description/address:** 25 Pine Street (corner Yew Street), Barcaldine Q 4725

**Real property description:** Within Lot 9 on RY182

**Research references:**

1909 'BIG FIRE IN QUEENSLAND. ', *Evening News (Sydney, NSW : 1869 - 1931)*, 10 August, p. 5. , viewed 25 Oct 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article114773662>

Date and circs of fire.

1909 'BIG FIRE AT BARCALDINE.', *The Brisbane Courier (Qld. : 1864 - 1933)*, 11 August, p. 5. , viewed 25 Oct 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article19586339>

Date and circs of fire.

1909 'DISASTROUS FIRE IN BARCALDINE.', *The Western Champion and General Advertiser for the Central-Western Districts (Barcaldine, Qld. : 1892 - 1922)*, 14 August, p. 9. , viewed 25 Oct 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article77630007>

Date & circs of fire.

1909 'Barcaldine AND General Budget', *The Western Champion and General Advertiser for the Central-Western Districts (Barcaldine, Qld. : 1892 - 1922)*, 16 October, p. 10. , viewed 25 Oct 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article77630667>

Barcaldine fire brigade formed

1910 'Barcaldine Water Supply.', *The Western Champion and General Advertiser for the Central-Western Districts (Barcaldine, Qld. : 1892 - 1922)*, 27 August, p. 9. , viewed 25 Oct 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article75677863>

Letter to editor – proposing idea of water tower and pump

1911 'Barcaldine Shire Council.', *The Western Champion and General Advertiser for the Central-Western Districts (Barcaldine, Qld. : 1892 - 1922)*, 14 October, p. 12. , viewed 06 Dec 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article75683599>

Failed council vote on water scheme proposal and chairman raised alternate proposal for installation of an elevated tank

1913 'TENDER ACCEPTED.', *The Telegraph (Brisbane, Qld. : 1872 - 1947)*, 23 May, p. 2. , viewed 25 Oct 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article176110937>

Contract to Barbat and Sons

1914 'Barcaldine Shire Council.', *The Western Champion and General Advertiser for the Central-Western Districts (Barcaldine, Qld. : 1892 - 1922)*, 29 August, p. 12. , viewed 06 Dec 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article77625736>

Proposed electric lighting scheme, Gordon Faine

1914 'Barcaldine Water Supply.', *The Western Champion and General Advertiser for the Central-Western Districts (Barcaldine, Qld. : 1892 - 1922)*, 21 November, p. 10. , viewed 25 Oct 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article77627082>

Details of the tanks and pumping arrangements, supervising engineer etc.

1916 'Barcaldine Shire Council.', *The Western Champion and General Advertiser for the Central-Western Districts (Barcaldine, Qld. : 1892 - 1922)*, 15 January, p. 6. , viewed 06 Dec 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article79754756>  
The Water and Electric Lighting Schemes

1916 'Barcaldine Shire Council.', *The Western Champion and General Advertiser for the Central-Western Districts (Barcaldine, Qld. : 1892 - 1922)*, 11 March, p. 6. , viewed 06 Dec 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article79755573>  
Gordon Faine

1919 'BARCOLDINE.', *The Capricornian (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1875 - 1929)*, 26 April, p. 28. , viewed 25 Oct 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article69711760>  
Addition of light as beacon

1919 'BARCOLDINE.', *Morning Bulletin (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1878 - 1954)*, 25 April, p. 10. , viewed 06 Dec 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article53865034>  
Addition of light on water tower

1943 'Special Meeting', *The Longreach Leader (Qld. : 1923 - 1954)*, 7 August, p. 15. , viewed 25 Oct 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article125796249>  
Tower cost £6096 to erect (however a report the following week stated cost to erect as 5840 and tower was to be sold to Camooweal Shire Council)

In 1943, council convened a special meet to consider the selling of the water tower for removal as council had no further use for it and due to water wastage and issues between the local water authority and the State's electricity authority.

2021 'Barcaldine Water Tower, 1914-', *Engineering Heritage Register, Engineers Australia (including supporting documentation)* viewed 22 September 2021 <https://portal.engineersaustralia.org.au/heritage/barcaldine-water-tower-1914> and <https://www.engineersaustralia.org.au/resource-centre/resource/barcaldine-water-tower>  
Place Description

#### Place images:



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## Bowen Downs Grave Site #1

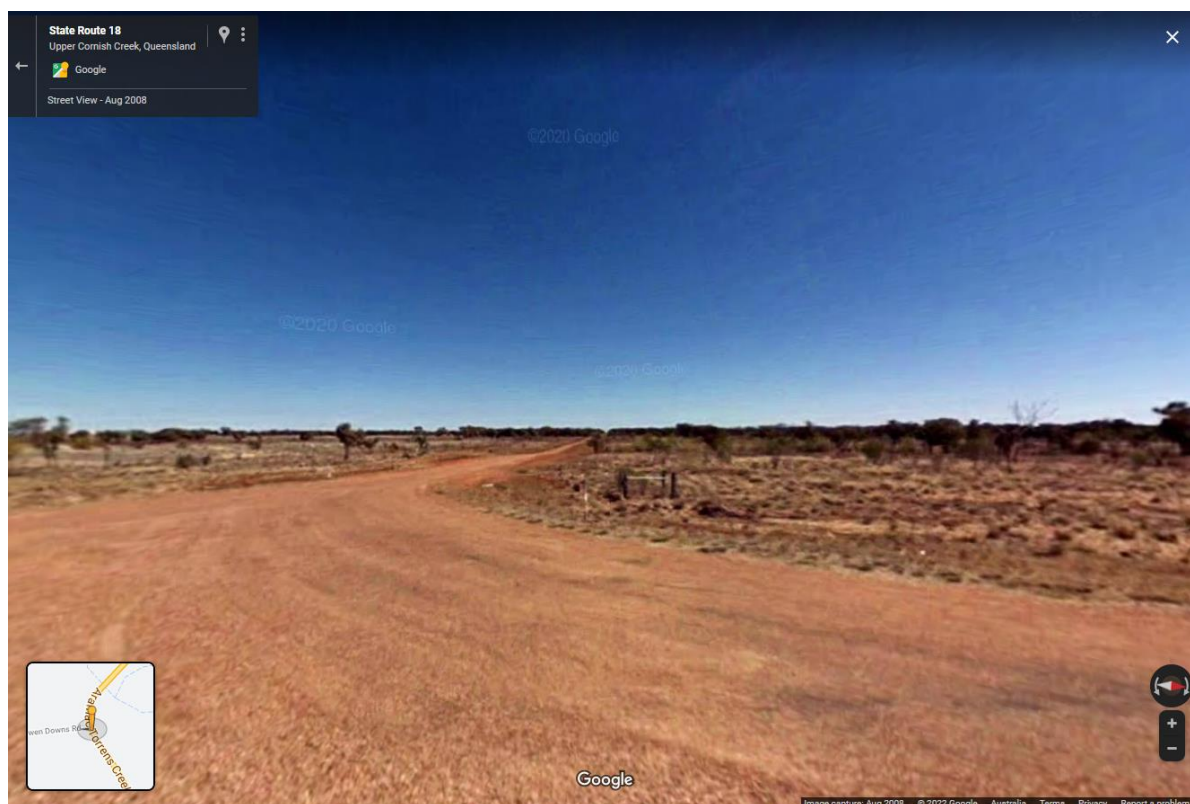
**Location description/address:** Aramac–Torrens Creek Road (corner Muttaborra–Bowen Downs Road), Aramac Q 4725 at Cornish Creek (north-western side of intersection)

**Real property description:** Within road reserve between Lot 1 on SP232664 and Lot 16 on PL84

### Research references:

Unverified notes from Department of Environment and Science for place reference *QHR Place ID 641272*: “The grave site lies on the north-western side of the intersection of the Aramac-Torrens Creek and the Muttaborra Road. It is the grave of Andrew John Phillips, head stockman of Bowen Downs, who was accidentally drowned on horseback 27 April 1920. The grave is surrounded by a fence that consists of timber posts with a single metal railing. The site is heavily overgrown with vegetation and there is no marker or headstone visible. The grave will lie within the road reserve for the Aramac-Torrens Creek road when it is reconstructed. An exclusion zone will be maintained around the site when the road is being built to prevent damage from vehicles. However the grave will be exposed to disturbance from vehicle movements during future maintenance in the road corridor. It is also subject to inundation and damage when Cornish Creek is flooded. It is understood that Barcaldine Regional Council plans to erect a marker on the grave which will indicate its significance and provide a measure of protection from accidental damage. The condition of the grave and surrounds is poor, with significant damage to the fence caused by weathering, principally by water, and from intrusion by plant roots and insects....”

### Place images:



Google Streetview

## Bowen Downs Ruins

**Location description/address:** Aramac-Torrens Creek Road south of Cornish Creek Bridge

**Real property description:** Road reserve

### Research references:



Unverified notes from DES for place reference *QHR Place ID 641273*: “The area of high cultural heritage value was identified in Zone A extends through the eastern side of the property fence to the western edge of the bitumen surface of the Aramac-Torrens Creek Road. In this area, a series of sites were found, including the footings of buildings, and large scatters of artefacts including domestic porcelain, glassware and cast-iron nails, which may indicate the presence of the cottages and the blacksmith’s shop in this area. Mrs Cowper believes that the original cottage that served as the home of Nat Buchanan and Catherine Gordon may have stood in this area. The area has been severely degraded by road construction and maintenance activities, with road construction material deposited on the site. But it continues to have significant cultural heritage value for technological, historical and social reasons and must be protected during construction of the alignment and truck turning area and during future maintenance of the road and property fence. A number of historical sites, including building footings and artefact scatters were located in the area between the eastern side of the road and the adjacent property boundary fence. The density of material in this area, which is lower lying than the rise to the west where the greatest concentration of artefacts was found, was much less. The area has been significantly disturbed by road construction and maintenance, with a number of cultural heritage sites have either been graded over, or have had construction material deposited on them. The alignment of an old road passes through this area and its construction and maintenance has significantly degraded heritage values in the area. Thick vegetation cover in this area reduced ground visibility and a lack of time prevented a more extensive survey being carried out. Sites obscured from view by vegetation and/or buried beneath the ground surface may lie within the route of the new alignment. These sites may hold technological, historical and social significance. An area to the west of the existing bridge was also investigated. Two stone creek crossings are located a short distance upstream of the bridge. These crossings consist of formations constructed of sedimentary stone formed into a roadway that extends from the southern bank of the creek some distance south up the creek bank to higher ground. The crossings also continue on the northern side of the creek. The crossings at the creek show evidence of having been constructed using timber ...”

**1962 Towner, A.C. ‘An Outline of the History of Western Queensland’, *Journal of the Royal Historical Society of Queensland* 6 (4) 779-816** viewed 22 September 2021 <https://espace.library.uq.edu.au/>:

*William Landsborough and Nat Buchanan*

*In 1859 William Landsborough with a party including Nat Buchanan struck out into the Central West of the new Colony—Queensland. ... they came to a remarkable round hill on its west side. Landsborough and Buchanan climbed to the top and were rewarded by a magnificent view. Beyond the range of vision to the south and south-west stretched the open downs covered with lush green grass and herbage. ... This hill which Landsborough named Tower Hill... Travelling south-south-west, they came to a creek flowing south which they called the Landsborough and followed it down till it became a large water course... When they returned to civilisation they applied at once for some of the country they had discovered, and called this run Bowen Downs after the town of Bowen on the coast which had been named for Queensland’s first Governor.*

*The First Mob of Cattle*

*In October 1862, the first mob of cattle, 3,500, arrived on Bowen Downs from Fort Cooper... These cattle came by way of Suttor Creek with Mr. R. Kerr in charge. Mr. Kerr had with him four white men... [and four Aboriginal people]... One of the white men, Morris Donohue, died shortly after arriving, and was doubtless the first white man buried on Bowen Downs. ... Although brands were not registered in those days, the Bowen Downs cattle carried the brand L.C. and the horses B.D., now L.C.5. ...*

*... Then heavy rain fell in June [1863] and with all the creeks in flood, it was found that both Aramac and Bowen Downs homesteads were too close to channels and likely to become flooded. Aramac merely moved to higher ground, but Bowen Downs moved to its present site on Cornish Creek... Landsborough, W. Glen Walker, N. Buchanan and another partner, Cornish, were ruined by the fall in wool prices and the impossibility of selling their cattle. Nat Buchanan and his wife were the first white manager and his wife on the Thomson River.*

...

Here I quote Mrs. Wedgwood, who was a daughter of Mr. E. R. Edkins who managed Mr. Cornish's property, Beamesbrook Station, on the Albert River in the 1860's. When the Gulf fever broke out at Burke-town, wiping out most of the residents, Mr. and Mrs. Edkins lost their two eldest children and Mr. Edkins' brother who had owned the boiling down works, Mr. Harry Edkins. Landsborough, who moved the population to Normanton, persuaded Mr. and Mrs. Edkins to join him in forming a station on the Thomson River. This was to take portion of the vast **Bowen** Downs property which had been taken up by Nat Buchanan, Boyd Morehead, Glen Walker, and Cornish. This had been found impractical to handle and was to be divided. With Mr. Edkins droving the cattle and Mrs. Edkins the wagonette, with a baby in her arms, Mt. Cornish was formed at the head of the Thomson River. They lived in a mud hut with a bark roof and for the next five or six years, seldom saw another white woman. Bowen was the nearest town and all groceries and supplies came by bullock team twice a year with a pack horse mail run every three months. With no means of shopping, sugar bags were used to make overalls; and furniture, beds and chairs were made from hides stretched over saplings or from the casks in which the station luxury, dried apples, came. These casks Mrs. Edkins would cut into bucket chairs, covering them with bagging ornamented with bright wools. Shoes were made from calf and kangaroo skins and the station was very soon able to supply its own meat, milk and vegetables. By 1876 when a new house was built, the Mt. Cornish Shorthorns, bearing the L.C. 5 brand numbered about 78,000, but much good country was resumed in 1889. This, with the 1900/2 drought, brought down the numbers to an extent that only 1,260 beasts were mustered at the end of the drought and the property was sold and became a sheep property.

815

#### Place of **Bowen** Downs in Western History

Mr. C. G. Austin described the paper as the best for many years so far as the story of the pastoral industry in Queensland was concerned. It could be said that the history of Bowen Downs was also the history of the pastoral industry. It must never be forgotten, he said, that it was the Scottish-Australian Investment Company which supplied the money that enabled Bowen Downs to be taken up by Morehead, William Landsborough, Cornish, and Nat Buchanan, as partners with the Scottish Investment Company, in the Landsborough River Company. Landsborough had gone to London and convinced the directors of the Scottish Investment Company that they should invest in Queensland. Most of the people who put capital into this pastoral undertaking were small investors in Edinburgh. They were the same people who established the first station on the Albert River in the Gulf country, in the region called the Plains of Promise. Referring to the Kalkadoons, Mr. Austin said Snider bullets were still to be found in the neighbourhood of a creek, below Gregory Downs, where the Kalkadoons fought one of their battles with the white man. This creek was adjacent to a gibber ridge where the Kalkadoons split stones for flint heads for spears. Thousands of discarded flint heads were seen, evidently caused by the stone splitting unevenly.

1868 'THE SCOTTISH AUSTRALIAN INVESTMENT COMPANY (LIMITED).', *The Sydney Morning Herald (NSW : 1842 - 1954)*, 19 October, p. 6. , viewed 11 Jan 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article13174473>

1898 'THE CENTRAL WEST.', *The Capricornian (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1875 - 1929)*, 12 November, p. 21. , viewed 11 Jan 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article68205715>

Bowen Downs Station Archive, <https://nqheritage.jcu.edu.au/465/>

Cornish Bridge project – case study,

<https://documents.parliament.qld.gov.au/TableOffice/TabledPapers/2009/5309T859.pdf>





The below is Thomson River bridge works not Cornish Creek



1121	Bridge	Thomson River Wind Channel	1121	MUTTARBURRA - ARDMAC ROAD	Single Trip	Central West	22 596519	144 943171
1122	Bridge	Thomson River East Channel	1122	MUTTARBURRA - ARDMAC ROAD	One-way	Central West	22 591519	144 937803
1123	Bridge	Cornish Creek Main Channel	1123	MUTTARBURRA - ARDMAC ROAD	Single Trip	Central West	22 591581	144 939902
1124	Bridge	Cornish Creek Side Channel	1124	MUTTARBURRA - ARDMAC ROAD	Single Trip	Central West	22 602411	144 950508
1125	Bridge	Blackall River	1125	BLACKALL ROAD	Single Trip	Central West	24 259881	144 445726

Below is coordinates provided in The Capricornian article





## Cassimatis Store and Cottage

Location description/address: 22-24 Bruford Street, Muttaborra

Real property description: Southern frontage of Lot 202 on CM162 (store) and Lot 2 on RP607974 (cottage)

### Research references:

1921 'CERTIFICATES OF NATURALIZATION.', *Commonwealth of Australia Gazette (National : 1901 - 1973)*, 24 November, p. 2230. , viewed 12 Jan 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article232183786>

Listed: Cassimatis, Andrew Andrew, Burford-street, Muttaborra, Queensland, 31<sup>st</sup> October 1921

1925 'Muttaborra.', *The Longreach Leader (Qld. : 1923 - 1954)*, 16 October, p. 15. , viewed 12 Jan 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article37337225>

**Ice Works:** The machinery for the new ice works and refrigerating plant for Mr. Cassimatis has arrived, and the work of installing will be commenced as soon as the expert is finished at Isisford. The ice will be a great boon to the town and surrounding district, as it was a long felt want, and Mr. Cassimatis is to be commended on his enterprise, which proves his faith in the future of the town.

1926 'SHIRE COUNCIL.', *Morning Bulletin (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1878 - 1954)*, 24 June, p. 3. , viewed 12 Jan 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article55262568>

paid for a year, and the premises were removed in June. It was agreed to refund the rates as from July 1st. Mr. A. A. Cassimatis wrote applying for permission to erect a verandah over the footpath in Burford-street, Muttaborra. He was granted permission subject to the usual conditions.

The Livingstone Shire Council wrote soliciting support in opposing the proposal of the Rockhampton Harbour

1926 'Advertising', *The Longreach Leader (Qld. : 1923 - 1954)*, 26 November, p. 16. , viewed 12 Jan 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article39342024>

## **NATURALISATION NOTICE.**

I. hereby give notice that I, George Andrew Cassimatis, Storekeeper of Bruford Street, Muttaborra, of Greek nationality, intend to apply to the Home and Territories Department for Naturalisation. I am 30 years of age, was born in the Island of Cythera, Greece, and have lived in Australia continuously for 14 years.

Government Gazette Notices - Commonwealth of Australia Gazette (National: 1901 - 1973) Thursday 23 June 1927 - Page 1407  
– Confirmation of George Andrew's naturalisation

1928 'Muttaborra', *The Longreach Leader (Qld. : 1923 - 1954)*, 20 July, p. 28. , viewed 12 Jan 2022,  
<http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article37343585>

AA Cassimatis – foundation member of the Muttaborra Rugby League Club

1941 'Advertising', *The Longreach Leader (Qld. : 1923 - 1954)*, 3 December, p. 4. , viewed 17 Jan 2022,  
<http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article128611561>

**A. A. CASSIMATIS -- MUTTABURRA**  
(ESTABLISHED 1914)

**FOR MERCERY, DRAPERY, HARDWARE, GROCERIES  
GENERAL STORE, ICE WORKS and COLD STORAGE**

Perdriau and Goodyear Motor Tyres and Tubes.  
Petrols, Oils and Motorists' Needs.  
Accessories for Motor and Push Bicycles, Motor Cars and Wirelesses.

**Phone 22 BRUFORD STREET, MUTTABURRA. Box 4**

1942 'MR. A. CASSIMATIS', *The Longreach Leader (Qld. : 1923 - 1954)*, 7 November, p. 3. , viewed 12 Jan 2022,  
<http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article125070576>

Death of Mr Andrew Andrew Cassimatis of Muttaborra, aged 66.  
Arrived in Sydney from Greece in 1912 and arrived in Muttaborra in 1914.  
Established grocery store and first ice works in Muttaborra.  
Survived by son George.

**SYD. EMBLEM**

**BAKER**

**MUTTABURRA**

Country Clients may obtain their  
Bread through my Local Agents:  
G. Cassimatis and T. Elliott.  
Always Fresh and Prompt Delivery.

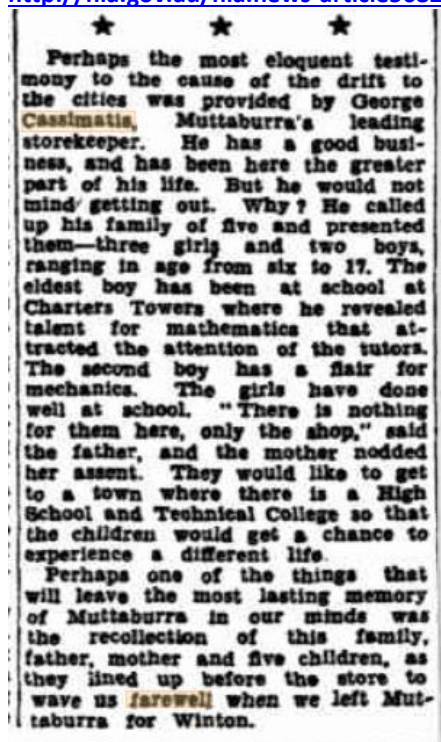
(Regular advertisement – 1946 example)

George and Stavrolla Cassimatis and their five children live (John, Maria 13yo in 1952, Miss F, Miss A, Mary G) . The Cassimatis home shows living conditions in the early 1900's and is furnished with much of the original furniture and personal possessions.

1947 'The ARAMAC-MUTTABURRA DISTRICT', *The Longreach Leader (Qld. : 1923 - 1954)*, 12 December, p. 5. , viewed 12 Jan 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article126641050>

Council debate about resuming a T-shaped park behind the store and noting other property investments of Cassimatis.

1948 'On Western Trail', *Morning Bulletin (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1878 - 1954)*, 21 September, p. 6. , viewed 12 Jan 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article56827810>



1949 'ARAMAC SHIRE COUNCIL', *The Longreach Leader (Qld. : 1923 - 1954)*, 10 June, p. 7. , viewed 12 Jan 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article125606777>

George served as Treasurer of the Muttaborra and District Progress Association and on the Muttaborra Hospital Committee in 1930s (various newspaper articles) and also a Councillor on Aramac Shire Council representing Muttaborra. At the council meeting of 26 May 1949, a minute of appreciation was placed on the record to thank Mr GA Cassimatis for his services and noting that he had never missed a council meeting during his term.

1950 'Advertising', *The Longreach Leader (Qld. : 1923 - 1954)*, 14 July, p. 6. , viewed 12 Jan 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article125601596>

**G. A. CASSIMATIS**  
GENERAL STOREKEEPER & PRODUCE AGENT  
MOTOR ACCESSORIES — DUNLOP CAR BATTERIES

AGENCY:  
ALL VACUUM OIL PRODUCTS  
BERGER'S PAINTS AND ENAMELS  
(Big Stocks Always on Hand).

SUB-AGENT FOR:  
ELECTROLUX REFRIGERATORS  
TRY US FOR YOUR NEXT ORDER

**MUTTABURRA**

PHONE 22 P.O. BOX 4

## Gray Rock Historical Reserve

**Location description/address:** Gray Rock Road, north off Aramac–Jericho Road, Aramac Q 4726  
Approximately 35km east of Aramac  
Also previously known as Wayside Hotel / Greyrock Hotel

**Real property description:** Lot 10 on CNA809205

**Tenure:** Reserve for Historical Purposes (Barcaldine Regional Council)

### Historical information:

1866 'CLERMONT.', *The Queenslander (Brisbane, Qld. : 1866 - 1939)*, 6 October, p. 8. , viewed 09 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article20309868>

Surveyor Clouett surveyed and started marking a line for a dray road from Belyando to Thompson River, commencing from "Surbiton, the most western Belyando station"

1872, *Map of Queensland 1872*, compiled from the latest official Government surveys by permission of A.C. Gregory Esqr. F.R.G.S. Surveyor General, created by Gordon Slater & Co, Brisbane, Queensland. Collection of the National Library of Australia. viewed 09 February 2022, <https://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-231416105/>

Extract of survey map showing the drawn from Surbiton to Aramac Creek. Gray Rock was the run located immediately east of and adjacent to Friendly Springs.



1874 'THE WESTERN COUNTRY.', *Dalby Herald and Western Queensland Advertiser (Qld. : 1866 - 1879)*, 14 November, p. 4. , viewed 02 Mar 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article215603959>

Report of Gray Rock being a good source of water presently and of a mob of sheep travelling from Aramac station to Surbiton.

1878 'THE ARAMAC DISTRICT.', *Morning Bulletin (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1878 - 1954)*, 9 July, p. 2. , viewed 15 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article51980672>

Report on the regular Cobb & Co route - Clermont to Aramac

1880 'A Trip to the North.', *The Queenslander (Brisbane, Qld. : 1866 - 1939)*, 24 April, p. 524. , viewed 02 Mar 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article20332596>

Context of Gray Rock, with hotel and dam, along the road travelling east from Aramac.



1885 'ARAMAC.', *Morning Bulletin (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1878 - 1954)*, 30 December, p. 5. , viewed 02 Mar 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article52045012>

James Ferguson granted provisional license for Red Rock Hotel on Jericho Road.

1890 'TO-DAY, SATURDAY, AUGUST 30.', *Morning Bulletin (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1878 - 1954)*, 30 August, p. 5. , viewed 02 Mar 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article52334194>

Resumed of part of Gray Rock run offered for grazing lease (another resumption selection offered in 1896)

1898 'The Greyrock Murder Case.', *The Western Champion and General Advertiser for the Central-Western Districts (Barcaldine, Qld. : 1892 - 1922)*, 25 January, p. 7. , viewed 02 Mar 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article76383822>

Example of reporting - interim report on the Gray Rock murder trial

1914 'Loans from the Government.', *The Brisbane Courier (Qld. : 1864 - 1933)*, 31 January, p. 4. , viewed 02 Mar 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article19948580>

Government loan to Aramac council of £500 to sink bore at Gray Rock

1933 'SOME YESTERDAYS.', *The Brisbane Courier (Qld. : 1864 - 1933)*, 23 August, p. 12. , viewed 02 Mar 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article22208359>

Recount of the Cobb & Co coach route

1933 'BUSH SHANTIES.', *Sunday Mail (Brisbane, Qld. : 1926 - 1954)*, 10 December, p. 7. , viewed 02 Mar 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article97703532>

Article by Syd Strutton

1934 'PROPERTY SALE', *The Longreach Leader (Qld. : 1923 - 1954)*, 22 September, p. 14., viewed 22 Sep 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article39314523>:

*Property Sale Dalgety & Co. Ltd., Longreach reported the same of Greyrock (Aramac) to Messres. Hatte Bros. (Ballygar, Aramac). The property was sold unstocked.*

1935 'So They Say', *The Queenslander (Brisbane, Qld. : 1866 - 1939)*, 18 July, p. 2. , viewed 28 February 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article27509894>

An account of a traveller that stopped at Grey Rock.

1950 'Historical Society ROCKHAMPTON'S CENTENARY', *Morning Bulletin (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1878 - 1954)*, 11 April, p. 6. , viewed 09 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article56939231>

The republishing of an account of the "Wild Camp Country" encountered by travelling teamsters before the completion of the Central Line Railway to Longreach by Mr. John Kyle Little of Numinbah Valley, Nerang. Refers to Greyrock (sic) as "the last shabeen on the track", "an ampitheatre of caves and the home of outsize wallaroos". Refers to history and tragedy of the various wayside places, noting "the ghost that walked" at Gray Rock.

Barcaldine Regional Council, (2012), Gray Rock & Horsetailers Gorge [tourist attraction pamphlet],

<https://www.barcaldinerc.qld.gov.au/downloads/file/562/2012-attractions-aramac-gray-rock-and-horsetailers-gorge-leaflet>

Most recently Gray Rock (surrounding Lot 10 on CNA809205) and Ivy Leave pastoral holdings sold on 7 November 2013.

Australian Government (Geoscience Australia), Australian Stratigraphic Units Database: Wallumbilla Formation, <https://asud.ga.gov.au/search-stratigraphic-units/results/19323>, accessed 28 February 2022

Place images:





Out of copyright, Queensland. Lands Department Survey Branch, 1881, *Sketch map of the Mitchell District : showing the surveyed & unsurveyed runs, 1881*, accessible at <https://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-324871118>, accessed 22 September 2021

Extract of above map showing Grey Rock run, the historic road between Aramac and Clermont used by travelling stock, Cobb & Co. and others, and Aramac township:



# Grey Rock / Horsetailers Gorge / Mailman's Gorge area

22°58'49"S 145°34'32"E

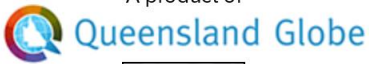
22°58'49"S 145°38'23"E



23°2'21"S 145°34'32"E

23°2'21"S 145°38'23"E

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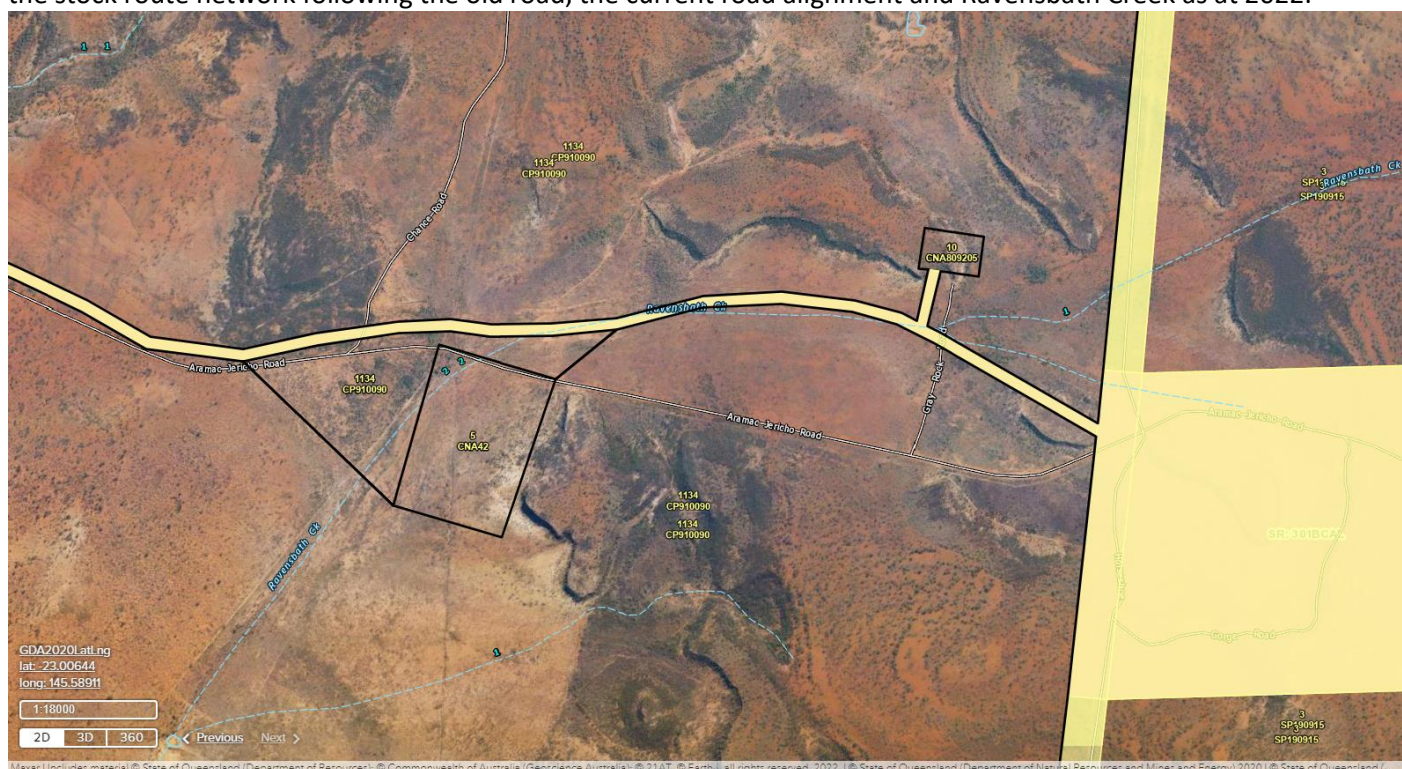
**Queensland Government**  
Department of Resources



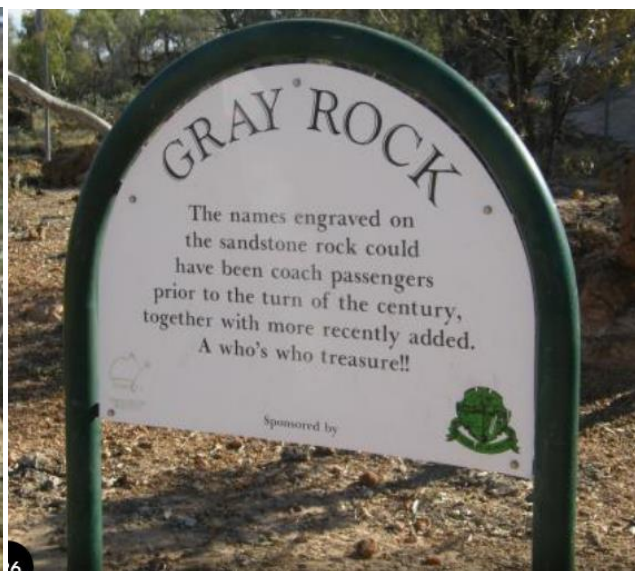
Extract from Queensland Globe showing the Gray Rock pastoral holding (Lot 1134 on CP910090), the Gray Rock Historical Reserve (10 on CNA809205) and Water Reserve where the government bore was sunk (Lot 5 on CNA42), as well as the surrounding stock route network as at 2022:



Extract from Queensland Globe showing the Gray Rock pastoral holding (Lot 1134 on CP910090), the Gray Rock Historical Reserve (10 on CNA809205) and Water Reserve where the government bore was sunk (Lot 5 on CNA42), the stock route network following the old road, the current road alignment and Ravensbath Creek as at 2022:







## Horsetailers Gorge

**Location description/address:** Incorporating the kidney-shaped plateau and its surrounds within the road and stock route reserve of Aramac–Jericho Road encircled by Horseshoe Gorge Road  
Approximately 41km east of Aramac

**Real property description:** Within road reserve transecting Lot 3 on SP190915, adjacent to and east of Lot 1134 on SP910090, and south of Ravensbath Creek

**Tenure:** Road reserve and stock route reserve

### Research references:

1866 'CLERMONT.', *The Queenslander (Brisbane, Qld. : 1866 - 1939)*, 6 October, p. 8. , viewed 09 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article20309868>

Surveyor Clouett surveyed and started marking a line for a dray road from Belyando to Thompson River, commencing from "Surbiton, the most western Belyando station"

1872, *Map of Queensland 1872*, compiled from the latest official Government surveys by permission of A.C. Gregory Esqr. F.R.G.S. Surveyor General, created by Gordon Slater & Co, Brisbane, Queensland. Collection of the National Library of Australia. viewed 09 February 2022, <https://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-231416105/>

Extract of survey map showing the drawn from Surbiton to Aramac Creek. Gray Rock was the run located immediately east of and adjacent to Friendly Springs.

Barcaldine Regional Council, (2012), 'Gray Rock & Horsetailers Gorge' [tourist attraction pamphlet], <https://www.barcaldinerc.qld.gov.au/downloads/file/562/2012-attractions-aramac-gray-rock-and-horsetailers-gorge-leaflet>

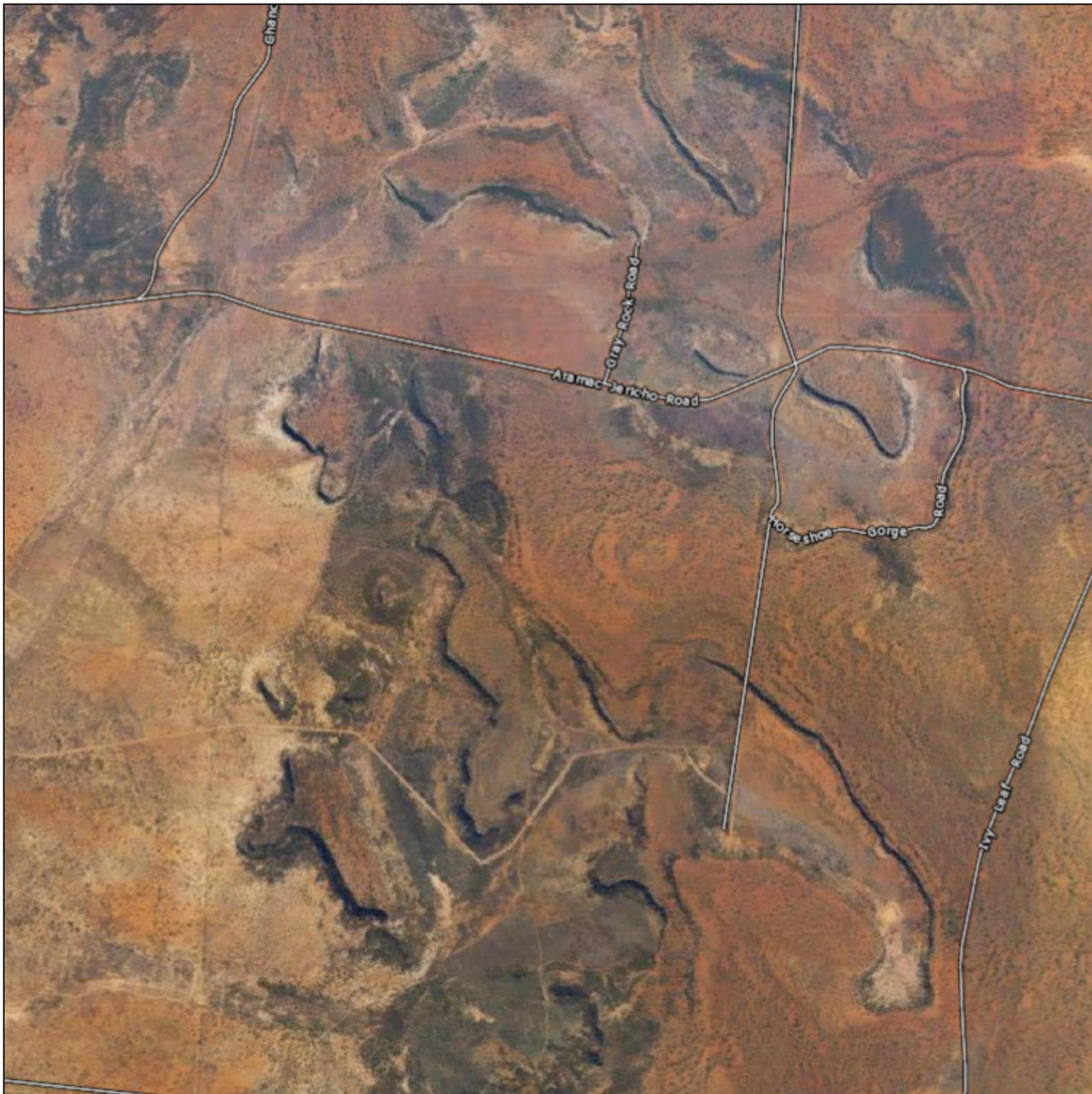
Barcaldine Regional Council, 'Lake Dunn Sculpture Trail' [Artesian Country tourist attraction pamphlet], <https://www.barcaldinerc.qld.gov.au/downloads/file/1365/lake-dunn-sculpture-trail-brochure>

### Place images:

# Grey Rock / Horsetailers Gorge / Mailman's Gorge area

22°58'49"S 145°34'32"E

22°58'49"S 145°38'23"E



23°2'21"S 145°34'32"E

23°2'21"S 145°38'23"E

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**Queensland Government**  
Department of Resources



## Lagoon Creek Bush Camps and Kate Doonan's Grave Site

**Location description/address:** Within Wendouree Station, Alpha to the east of Degulla Road and adjacent to Sandy Creek, at its junction with Lagoon Creek and in the vicinity of where it is joined by Greentree Creek

**Real property description:** Within Lot 4994 on SP233100

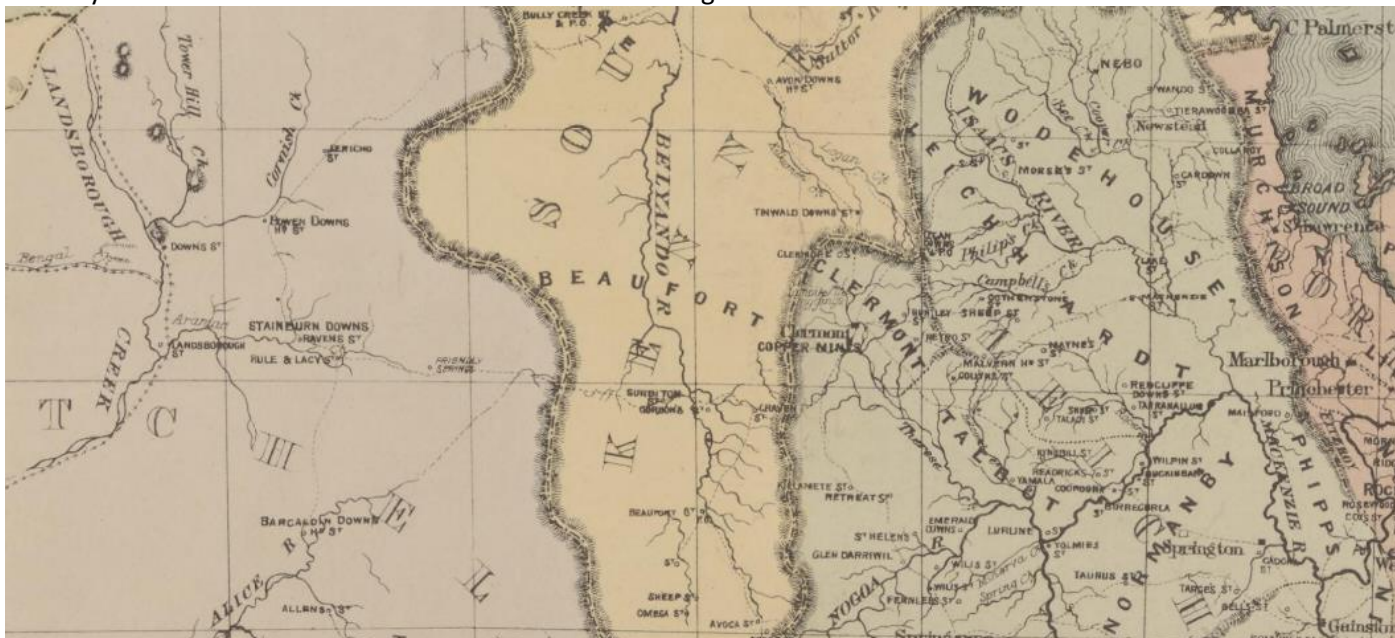
### Research references:

1866 'CLERMONT.', *The Queenslander (Brisbane, Qld. : 1866 - 1939)*, 6 October, p. 8. , viewed 09 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article20309868>

Surveyor Clouett surveyed and started marking a line for a dray road from Belyando to Thompson River, commencing from "Surbiton, the most western Belyando station"

1872, Map of Queensland 1872, compiled from the latest official Government surveys by permission of A.C. Gregory Esqr. F.R.G.S. Surveyor General, created by Gordon Slater & Co, Brisbane, Queensland. Collection of the National Library of Australia.viewed 09 February 2022, <https://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-231416105/>

Extract of survey map showing the road between Clermont and Aramac in 1872, which crosses a creek feeding into the Belyando River from the south-west. The creek crossing is located due east of Surbiton Station.



1877 'The Weather.', *The Queenslander (Brisbane, Qld. : 1866 - 1939)*, 24 February, p. 29. , viewed 08 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article19771964>



readers some particulars of the heavy floods between the Peak Downs and western country. Just before the heavy rains set in Mr. Davys and others managed to cross Sandy Creek, at Doonan's Hotel. The same night the creek came down higher than was ever known before—flooding all the flat country this side of Doonan's, and preventing the travellers leaving their camp for eight days; the rising ground at the back was a perfect bog, the horses sinking up to their girths, consequently they could not graze along the side of the road. On Tuesday week last a man named Robert De Berntrous, better known as "French Bob," essayed to cross Sandy Creek for the purpose of getting better feed for his horse. He went into the creek opposite the hotel, where the water was about six feet deep with a very strong eddy, which sucked horse and rider down. While under water they got separated, and on coming to the surface the horse swam ashore, but the unfortunate man was seen to float apparently lifeless on the water for a few moments, and sank before any assistance could be rendered. His body was found next morning, about twenty yards up stream, having been carried there by the eddy. The body was greatly decomposed, and was buried with difficulty. Companion Creek, which is

1878 'PEAK DOWNS DISTRICT.', *The Capricornian (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1875 - 1929)*, 20 April, p. 12. , viewed 09 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article65767583>

Aramac mail-coach journey plan

1878 'Feed for Winter.', *The Queenslander (Brisbane, Qld. : 1866 - 1939)*, 13 July, p. 469. , viewed 09 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article19774949>

Reference to Mr P Doonan of Sandy Creek Hotel, Aramac Road successfully "raising a bed of Hill-paddy rice" and noting he left the cultivation of his crop in the "hands of the Chinese".

1878 'The morning Bulletin, ROCKHAMPTON.', *Morning Bulletin (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1878 - 1954)*, 13 August, p. 2. , viewed 09 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article51978896>

Missing man Daly, the carrier. [Note: Kate Doonan's father was Peter Daly and she likely had brothers William and Peter]

to latest accounts, had met with no traces of the missing man, who is believed to have wandered away in a fit of *delirium tremens*. The *P. D. Advertiser* refers, we presume, to this case in its issue of last Saturday, and states that it appears the unfortunate fellow was sent into town with some goods from Mr. P. Doonan, Sandy Creek Hotel, and after delivering his loading, received some stores and a quantity of grog to be delivered at Mr. Doonan's Hotel. However, the dray and horses were found camped on the ridge some few miles on the Clermont side of the public house, and the boots of the driver under the dray.

1880 'A Trip to the North.', *The Brisbane Courier (Qld. : 1864 - 1933)*, 28 April, p. 6. , viewed 09 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article902248>

An trip account by W. G F. N. H. (of Wooroorooka, Queensland Border according to an 1887 letter to the editor) published by the Brisbane Courier

marked are few and far between. Hughenden we left on our right, or rather nearly on our back, and made for Cameron Downs, Katandra, Culloden West, Muttaborra, and the Aramac. These stages I have already given, so will now commence from the Aramac. I followed the main road as far as Mr. Doonan's hotel, eighty-four miles, passing on my way no less than five pubs: one at twenty-five miles, the Gray Rock, where there is a dam; the Dry Alice, fifteen miles; Spuiger's, fourteen miles; Green-tree, ten miles; Todd's, fifteen miles; Doonan's, five miles—five pubs in eighty-four miles. Mr. Doonan has a capital stand, all open country, well watered; and now the new line is surveyed and meets three miles from his place he should do a real good thing. Leaving Mr. Doonan's, in some three miles you come to the new marked-tree line to Beaufort, a distance of forty miles, with water in convenient stages. Half way is Companion Creek, well watered. The first part of this forty miles is all heavy travelling over sand and open country. The Beaufort side is scrub the whole way. This station belongs to the hon. A. H. Palmer. It is called 122 miles from Beaufort to Springsure. Leaving Beaufort you

1881 'THE SPINIFEX DESERT.', *The Week (Brisbane, Qld. : 1876 - 1934)*, 3 December, p. 7. , viewed 09 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article183954598>

### THE SPINIFEX DESERT.

THE Rev. W. E. Hillier, under the title of "Notes of a Western Tour," contributes to the *Peak Downs Telegram*, of November 17, the following interesting particulars of this so-called desert:—

After leaving Mr. Philip Doonan's Hotel, at Sandy Creek, we find what is known as the "Desert." Why it was called "Desert" by the explorers, I am more at a loss to understand every time I see it. It would seem that the noble men who first explored the country had but a vague idea of its richness. It is a great error to suppose that the desert on this side of the Border is dry and waterless. A slight search will show that for at least hundreds of miles, water can be obtained a few feet below the surface by digging. There is a belt of Desert Country, extending from Bowen to the Barcoo, full of fine water.

The Tableland is sandstone. Climbing a small peak, you can see the formation to perfection. At a period of general upheaval, large basins and flats were formed. The constant rains have filled up the depressions, thus causing the lakes. It is very refreshing to the eye of the weary traveller after climbing

1882 'Advertising', *The Western Champion (Blackall/Barcaldine, Qld. : 1879 - 1891)*, 29 September, p. 5. , viewed 24 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article77212809>

Central Queensland Carriers Association, based at Bogantungan includes "PHILLIP DOONAN, 1 team"

Pugh, Theophilus P. (1893), *Pugh's Queensland almanac, directory and law calendar. 1862-1866*, Brisbane, Queensland, accessible via <https://trove.nla.gov.au/search/category/magazines?keyword=Pugh%27s> and this same listing appears in various other editions of Pugh's Queensland almanac, director and law calendar including the edition published in 1883

POSTAL DIRECTORY.		265
Miles.		Miles.
ACK JACK.	CLERMONT and YACAMUNDA.	
	Clermont to Copperfield ..	4
	Thence to Native Bee ..	8
CHESTER.	Mount Eagle ..	30
m .. 1	Gregory Creek ..	50
.. 1	Lauak Downs ..	12
.. 1	Elgin Downs ..	7
.. 3	Tween Hills ..	25
VICTORIA	Avon Downs ..	33
	Yacamunda ..	169
	Total ..	169
hon .. 16	CLERMONT and ARAMAC.	
.. 24	Clermont to Copperfield ..	4
.. 40	Thence to Red Rock ..	24
.. 80	Banchory ..	13
	Surbiton ..	26
VINTON.	Doonan's Hotel ..	13
r, Vanda Sta-	Springer's Hotel, Alice River ..	28
Hill Creek, 18	Aramac ..	56
nton's station,	Total ..	164
andborough	Albro Station is about 46 miles north of Sur-	
nhill Creek.	biton. Another route is as follows:—	
COLD.	Clermont to Oakley Creek ..	84
	Thence to Long Gully ..	13
burn 55 .. 60	Springs ..	1
tel. stn.) 30	Red Rock ..	4
.. 15	Eastern River ..	3
.. 15	Banchory Station ..	8
.. 23	Sunny Hills Creek, upper camp ..	6
.. 16	Sunny Hills Creek, lower camp ..	8
.. 149	Belyando River, dry near crossing ..	8
	Surbiton, Native Companion Creek ..	7
IAH.	Sandy Creek ..	13
.. 3	Emu Creek ..	5
.. 3	Rocky Creek, poison bush ..	5
.. 3	Green Tree, poison bush ..	9
.. 5	Springer's ..	19
.. 12	Wet Alice ..	7
.. 15	Dry Alice ..	10
.. 40	Jump Up, Aramac Range ..	9
	Grey Rock ..	7
CHOOI.	Friendly Springs ..	8
.. 4	Round Waterhole ..	5
.. 4	Aramac Station ..	10
.. 8	Aramac ..	1
	Total ..	173
	CLERMONT and COPPERFIELD.	

1884 'PINE HILL POLICE COURT.', *Morning Bulletin (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1878 - 1954)*, 28 October, p. 5. , viewed 24 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article52032404> and 1884 'COUNTRY NEWS.', *The Western Champion (Blackall/Barcaldine, Qld. : 1879 - 1891)*, 14 November, p. 2. , viewed 24 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article79727470>

Details of a Pine Hill Police Court hearing where Phillip (sic) Doonan (registered brand P6D) was fined for unlawfully branding a calf which was not his arising from a charge brought by William B. Nutting, manager of Surbiton run. Registered brand of Surbiton is WK3. Mr. Kilgour and Mr. Woodhouse selected the run. The former article also mentions George Jackson, a driver engaged and in the employ of Mr Doonan.

Queensland Government Gazette, 1884, v35, accessed via UQeSpace at <https://espace.library.uq.edu.au/view/UQ:240648>  
 Ten reserves for camping proclaimed within the Unsettled District of Leichhardt on the road from Broadsound to Clermont, including one from the Surbiton Run and one from the Sandy Creek No. 1 Run. [Suspect that these are further north/east than Doonan's Hotel site]

RESERVE FOR CAMPING.

No. 9.

On the road from Broadsound to Clermont.

(Resumed from the Surbiton Run.)

640 acres.

Commencing at a point about twenty-four chains north-west of a tree marked broad-arrow over XXVIII on the right side of the Isaac's River, and bounded thence on the north by an east line eighty chains; thence on the east by a south line eighty chains; thence on the south by a west line eighty chains; and thence on the west by a north line eighty chains to the point of commencement.

RESERVE FOR CAMPING.

No. 10.

On the road from Broadsound to Clermont.

(Resumed from the Sandy Creek No. 1 Run, on Campbell's Creek.)

640 acres.

Commencing at a tree on the left bank of Campbell's Creek marked broad-arrow over T over VII, and bounded thence on the west by a north line seventy-six chains; thence on the north by an east line eighty chains; thence on the east by a south line eighty-four chains to Campbell's Creek; and thence on the south by the left bank of that creek downwards to the point of commencement.

Given under my Hand and Seal, at Government House, Brisbane, this twentieth day of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty-four, and in the forty-eighth year of Her Majesty's reign.

By Command,  
C. B. DUTTON.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN !

1901 'Traveller's Guide and Directory.', *The Western Champion and General Advertiser for the Central-Western Districts (Barcardine, Qld. : 1892 - 1922)*, 7 May, p. 10. , viewed 09 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article76566599>

This is an example found in many newspapers of a Traveller's Directory which replicates information in Pugh's Queensland almanac, directory and law calendar

1950 'Historical Society ROCKHAMPTON'S CENTENARY', *Morning Bulletin (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1878 - 1954)*, 11 April, p. 6. , viewed 09 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article56939231>

The republishing of an account of the "Wild Camp Country" encountered by travelling teamsters before the completion of the Central Line Railway to Longreach by Mr. John Kyle Little of Numinbah Valley, Nerang



"The teamsters," wrote Mr. Little, "went via Clermont through what was known as the Wild Camp Country. Twenty miles west of Clermont was a notable wayside holding, owner known as "Long Gully" George. Twenty miles farther was Redrock, a bark shabean, where passing travellers could get crude spirit and cornpone-damper. Another stopping place was on the Belyando River, and then Companionof Creek, near Surbiton station. A real patch of Wild Camp country started at Sandy Creek traversing 20 miles of bottle tree, pine scrub patches, and fine pebbly ridges (whereon the heartshape poison grew) to Greentree, site of another bark shanty.

"Some farther miles and the 'swank job,' the Speculation Hotel, came in sight. Billy Springer was there in 1889. He

Queensland Government, (2022), State Planning Policy: SPP Interactive Mapping System, accessible via <https://planning.statedevelopment.qld.gov.au/planning-framework/mapping>



**State Planning Policy**  
 Making or amending a local planning instrument and designating land for community infrastructure

Date: 24/02/2022

Disclaimer:  
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Queensland Government  
 © The State of Queensland 2022

0 1,100 2,200 3,300 4,400  
 Metres

- Legend**
- Cadastral (100k)
    - Cadastral (100k)
  - Stock route network
    - Stock route network

Hancock Galilee Pty Ltd, 2010, *Alpha Coal Project Environmental Impact Statement*, Vol 2, 2010 and Vol 5 2011, accessible online at <http://gvkhancockcoal.com/our-assets/alpha#alpha-coal-project-eis-2010>, accessed 22 November 2021 and 24 February 2022:

- <https://gvkhancockcoal.com/documents/Publications/EIS/ACPEIS2010/Vol2/Section%2019%20Non%20Indigenous%20Cultural%20Heritage.pdf>
- <https://gvkhancockcoal.com/documents/Publications/EIS/ACPEIS2010/Vol5/Appendix%20L%20Non%20Indigenous%20Cultural%20Heritage.pdf>

Queensland Government, Births Deaths Marriages and Divorces, Family history research service online search results extracts, undertaken via <https://www.familyhistory.bdm.qld.gov.au/>

**Death registration: Kate Daly Doonan**  
Death date: 18/06/1885  
Mother's name: Kate McKeagan  
Father/parent's name: Peter Daly  
Registration details: 1885/C/1019

**Marriage registration: Philip Doonan**  
Marriage date: 29/06/1869  
Spouse's name: Catherine Daley  
Registration details: 1869/C/454

**Death registration: Philip Doonan**  
Birth year: 1830 Death date: 15/06/1912  
Mother's name: Sarah Ryan  
Father/parent's name: Hugh Doonan  
Registration details: 1912/C/139

**Birth registration: Sarah Catherine Doonan**  
Birth date: 27/03/1870  
Mother's name: Catherine Daly  
Father/parent's name: Philip Doonan  
Registration details: 1870/C/2329

**Birth registration: Margaret Doonan**  
Birth date: 08/01/1872  
Mother's name: Catherine Daly  
Father/parent's name: Philip Doonan  
Registration details: 1872/C/112

**Birth registration: Mary Ann Doonan**  
Birth date: 16/10/1873  
Mother's name: Catherine Daley  
Father/parent's name: Philip Doonan  
Registration details: 1873/C/243

**Birth registration: Catherine Elizabeth Doonan**  
Birth date: 18/06/1875  
Mother's name: Catherine Daly  
Father/parent's name: Philip Doonan  
Registration details: 1875/C/168

**Birth registration: Philip Michael Doonan**  
Birth date: 02/08/1876  
Mother's name: Catherine Daly  
Father/parent's name: Philip Doonan  
Registration details: 1876/C/620

**Death registration: Phillip Doonan**  
Death date: 16/04/1938  
Mother's name: Kate Daly  
Father/parent's name: Phillip  
Registration details: 1938/C/2401

Search results are generally consistent with the family tree compiled by Dr Cyril J. Beardwood (born Johannesburg) and shared via wikitree.com at <https://www.wikitree.com/wiki/Daly-1219>

Place images:



## Lands Office (Barcaldine)

**Location description/address:** 59 Ash Street, Barcaldine Q 4725

**Real property description:** Within Lot 2 on RY214

**Tenure:** Freehold

### Research references:

1898 'The Barcaldine Land Office.', *The Western Champion and General Advertiser for the Central-Western Districts (Barcaldine, Qld. : 1892 - 1922)*, 29 November, p. 10. , viewed 09 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article76386707>  
Hansard 2 November 1998 and decision to build new Lands Office at Barcaldine

1899 'BARCALDINE.', *The Capricornian (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1875 - 1929)*, 29 April, p. 22. , viewed 09 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article68210160>  
Mr Mark Bolton – Lands Commissioner for Barcaldine

1899 'Lands Offices.', *The Telegraph (Brisbane, Qld. : 1872 - 1947)*, 9 August, p. 2. , viewed 09 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article175313185>  
Tender submissions for erection of new Lands Office and quarters

1899 'BARCALDINE.', *The Capricornian (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1875 - 1929)*, 19 August, p. 13. , viewed 09 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article68195930>  
Construction contract awarded to Messrs Meacham and Leyland

1900 'Barcaldine Memoranda.', *The Western Champion and General Advertiser for the Central-Western Districts (Barcaldine, Qld. : 1892 - 1922)*, 6 February, p. 10. , viewed 09 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article75675324>  
Addition of picket fence

1900 'WORKS DEPARTMENT TENDERS', *The Brisbane Courier (Qld. : 1864 - 1933)*, 09 February, p. 2. , viewed 09 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article19048337> and 1900 'WORKS DEPARTMENT ADDITIONS.', *The Brisbane Courier (Qld. : 1864 - 1933)*, 26 February, p. 4. , viewed 09 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article19067688>  
Stables tender and Meacham and Leylands tender price

1900 'Barcaldine Memoranda.', *The Western Champion and General Advertiser for the Central-Western Districts (Barcaldine, Qld. : 1892 - 1922)*, 13 March, p. 9. , viewed 15 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article75675680>  
Office construction completed, delay in furniture arrival, fencing in progress and stables commenced

1900 'BARCALDINE.', *The Capricornian (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1875 - 1929)*, 7 April, p. 27. , viewed 09 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article68200084>  
Land Court conducted in new building

1900 'QUEENSLAND NEWS.', *Morning Bulletin (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1878 - 1954)*, 7 April, p. 5. , viewed 09 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article52569010>  
Furniture supply contract awarded to Mr W. Kasch

1900 'Barcaldine Memoranda.', *The Western Champion and General Advertiser for the Central-Western Districts (Barcaldine, Qld. : 1892 - 1922)*, 8 May, p. 10. , viewed 09 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article75676301>  
Building completed, but Court House still being used by Mr Bolton until furniture arrives

1914 'Home Creek Ballot.', *The Sydney Stock and Station Journal (NSW : 1896 - 1924)*, 13 November, p. 13. , viewed 15 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article126218101>  
Home Creek ballot

1924 'Queensland Topics.', *Daily Mercury (Mackay, Qld. : 1906 - 1954)*, 9 September, p. 5. , viewed 15 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article168131778> and 1924 'The Rosedale Ballot Finality Reached.', *The Western Champion (Barcaldine, Qld. : 1922 - 1937)*, 13 September, p. 14. , viewed 15 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article79306342>  
Rosedale ballot

1928 'Longreach Leader', *The Longreach Leader (Qld. : 1923 - 1954)*, 15 June, p. 18. , viewed 15 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article37342471> and 1928 'SALTERN CREEK.', *The Queenslander (Brisbane, Qld. : 1866 - 1939)*, 14 June, p. 9. , viewed 15 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article22949293>  
Saltarn Creek ballot

1929 'COREENA HOMESTEAD.', *The Northern Miner (Charters Towers, Qld. : 1874 - 1954)*, 4 September, p. 4. , viewed 15 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article80577937>  
Coreena ballot

1930 'ARAMAC RESUMPTIONS.', *The Brisbane Courier (Qld. : 1864 - 1933)*, 10 January, p. 17. , viewed 15 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article21501146>  
Aramac/Coreena ballot

1937 'HOME CREEK BALLOT.', *The Charleville Times (Brisbane, Qld. : 1896 - 1954)*, 12 November, p. 6. , viewed 15 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article76695665>  
Home Creek ballot

Queensland Government (Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy (2020), *Land 101: Historical land research in Queensland*, February 2020, viewed 15 February 2022, [https://www.resources.qld.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0005/1475888/land101-historical-land-research.pdf](https://www.resources.qld.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0005/1475888/land101-historical-land-research.pdf)

Architectural plans for New Lands Office, Barcaldine dated 07/07/1899 are available from Queensland State Archives, Item ID ITM582700

Plans for Lands Office, Barcaldine - Plan of New Kitchen, etc, 01/01/1909 - 16/05/1946 are available from the Queensland State Archives, Item ID ITM582699

Various Agency Descriptions available via <https://www.archivessearch.qld.gov.au/>, accessed 14 February 2022

#### Place images:



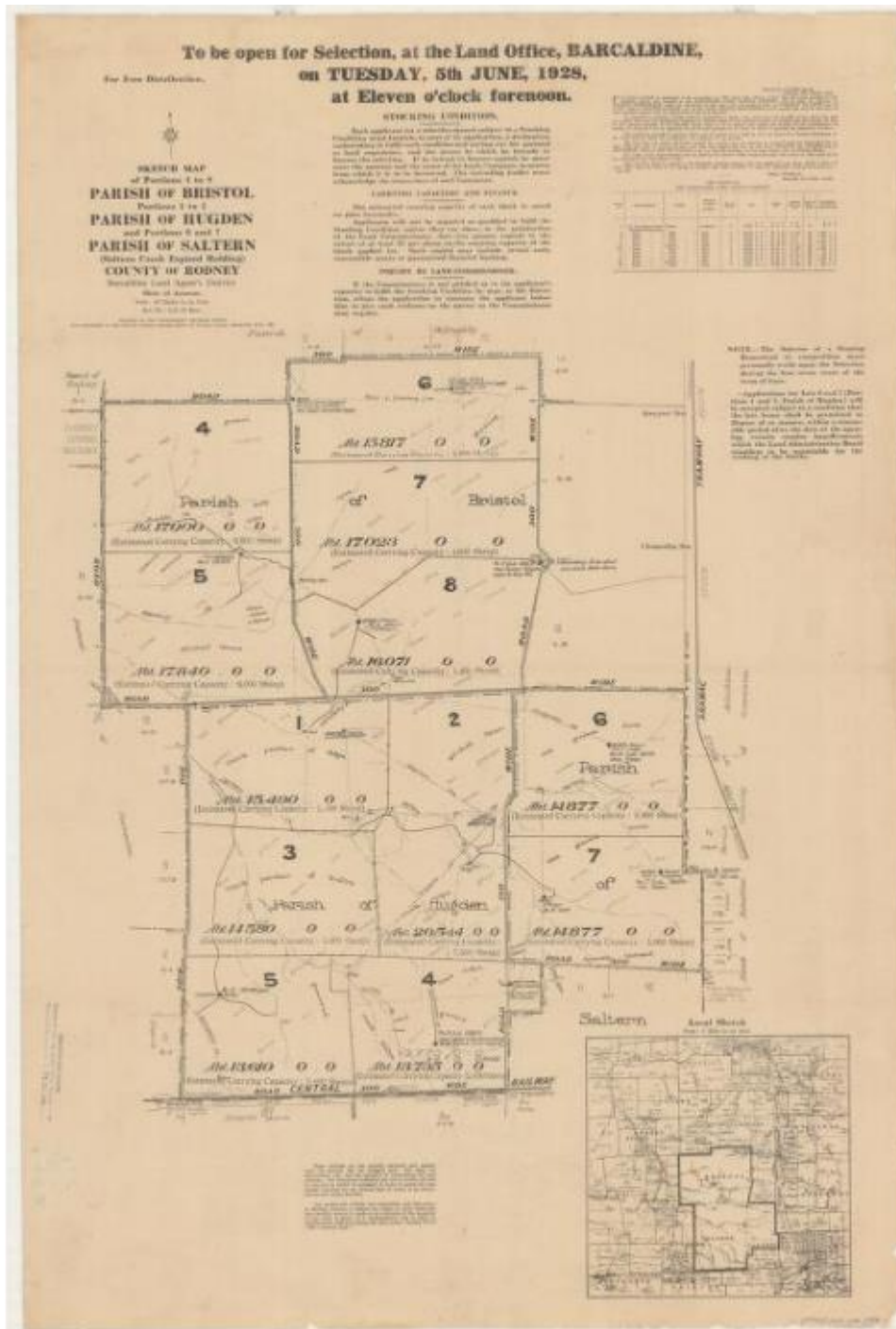
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Available online from State Library Queensland at: <https://hdl.handle.net/10462/BRC/deriv/16>

Title: Lands Office at Barcaldine, Queensland

Summary: The Land Court opened in 1900. Ballots were drawn for sub-divided lots from stations. Queensland Government Offices in Barcaldine include: QBuild; Natural Resources and Mines; Primary Industries; and the Rural Fire Services.



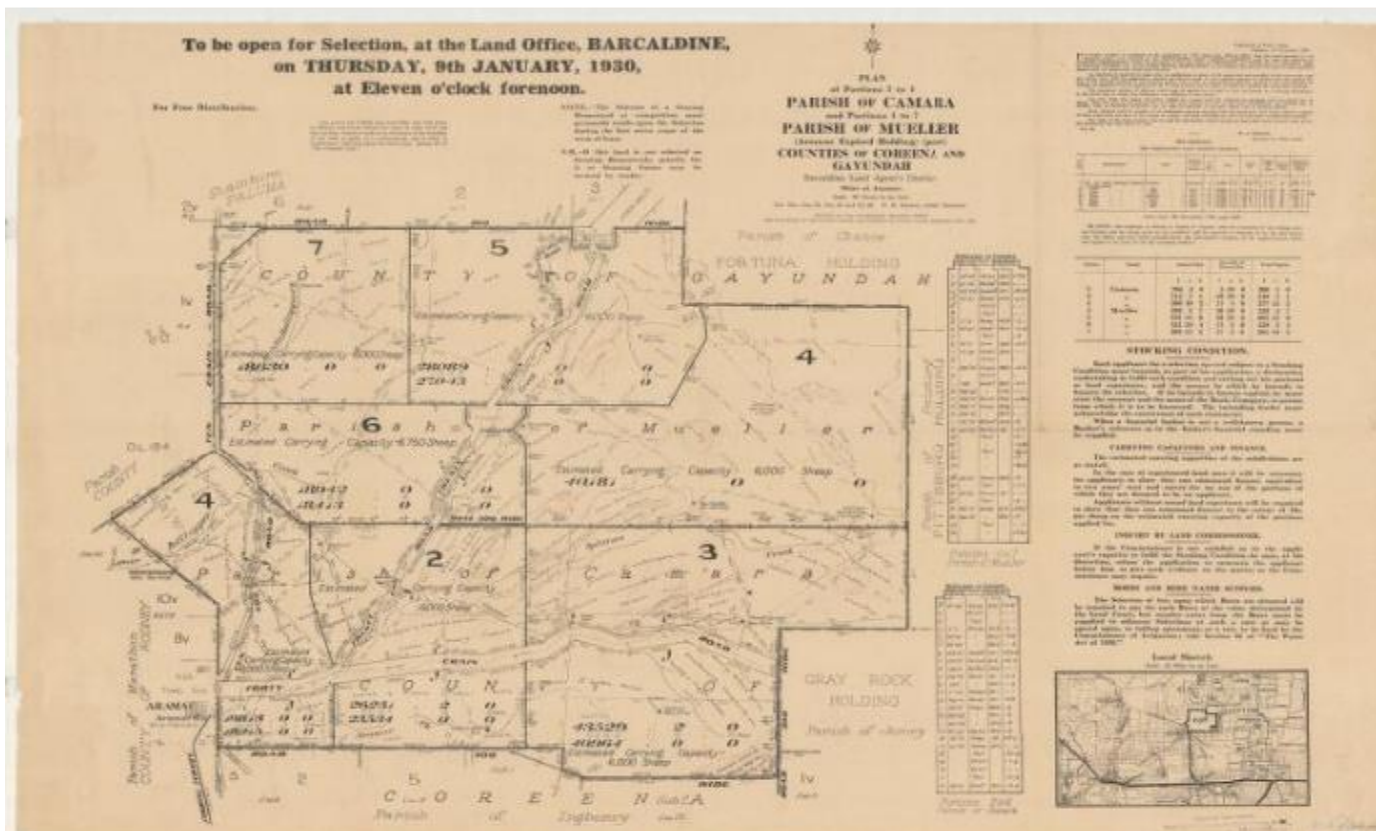
Out of copyright, Queensland Survey Office, Queensland Government

Title: Selection plans: to be open for selection at the Land Office, Barcaldine, on Tuesday, 5th June, 1928: Sketch map of portions 4 to 8, Parish of Bristol, portions 1 to 5, Parish of Hugden, and portions 6 and 7, Parish of Saltern (Saltern Creek expired holding), County of Rodney

1928 'BALLOTING FOR SALTERN CREEK BLOCKS AT BARCALDINE.', *The Capricornian (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1875 - 1929)*, 5 July, p. 10. (CAPRICORNIAN PICTORIAL), viewed 09 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article72012173>

Photographs of the balloting for Saltern Creek at Barcaldine Lands Office





Out of copyright, Queensland Survey Office, Queensland Government  
 Title: Selection plans: to be open for selection at the Land Office, Barcaldine, on Thursday, 9th January, 1930: Plan of portions 2 to 4, Parish of Camara and portions 4 to 7, Parish of Mueller (Aramac expired holding) (part), Counties of Coreena and Gayundah

## Muttaborra Hospital (former)

**Location description/address:** Dr Arratta Museum, 1 Neville Bullen Drive, Muttaborra Q 4732

**Real property description:** Within Lot 44 on CM167

### Research references:

<https://www.outbackqueensland.com.au/attractions/dr-arratta-museum/>

Queensland State Archives – Muttaborra Hospital agency description,

<https://www.archivessearch.qld.gov.au/agencies/A1438>

1878 'Classified Advertising', *The Queenslander (Brisbane, Qld. : 1866 - 1939)*, 25 May, p. 226. , viewed 16 Feb 2022,

<http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article19766525>

First lots of land in the newly proclaimed Town of Muttaborra advertised for sale by auction on 18 June 1878

1878 'THE ARAMAC DISTRICT.', *Morning Bulletin (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1878 - 1954)*, 9 July, p. 3. , viewed 16 Feb 2022,

<http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article51980672>

July 1878 report on emerging town of Muttaborra

1884 'Advertising', *The Australasian (Melbourne, Vic. : 1864 - 1946)*, 26 January, p. 28. , viewed 16 Feb 2022,

<http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article138649326>

**M**UTTABURRA, Queensland.—The attention of **MEDICAL MEN** is called to the fact that a hospital is about to be erected in Muttaborra, and that at present there is no doctor resident in that town. The district is a large and rich one, with no medical man within 55 miles. Naturally, any capable man resident there would have the best chance of election as surgeon on completion of hospital.

Any further information can be obtained from the honorary secretary, F. HOLLIS, Muttaborra.

1884 'MUTTABURRA.', *The Capricornian (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1875 - 1929)*, 6 September, p. 21. , viewed 16 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article67863687>

Hospital committees and construction costs

1884 'Advertising', *Morning Bulletin (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1878 - 1954)*, 15 November, p. 1. , viewed 16 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article52032940>

**MUTTABURRA HOSPITAL.**

**M**ARRIED COUPLE REQUIRED as Wardsman and Matron to the Muttaborra Hospital; Salary, £100 per annum. Any further information can be obtained from the Secretary, in whose hands applications, enclosing references, must be not later than 29th DECEMBER NEXT.

J. F. HOLLIS,  
Hon. Secretary.

1887 'Muttaborra Mems.', *The Western Champion (Blackall/Barcardine, Qld. : 1879 - 1891)*, 13 September, p. 2. , viewed 14 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article79730258>

Dr Overend's departure south and successor Dr Herbert

1925 'ON THE TRACK.', *Morning Bulletin (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1878 - 1954)*, 31 October, p. 10. , viewed 12 Jan 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article54318962>

side of the street. At the Mount Cornish Hotel an extensive room has been erected for dancing, skating, or picture shows. It is said that Cassinatis is also going in extensively in catering for the public. Harry Hawthorne has a well-stocked saddler's shop and finds the life quieter than hotel-keeping. Dr. Arrata, a Rockhampton boy, is in charge of the hospital.

1932 'MUTTABURRA HOSPITAL', *The Central Queensland Herald (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1930 - 1956)*, 8 December, p. 42. , viewed 15 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article70304142>

Patient statistics, reliance on donations and grants (including Golden Casket grants)



1933 'OPERATING THEATRE', *The Central Queensland Herald (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1930 - 1956)*, 29 June, p. 11. , viewed 21 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article70366370>  
State's conditions on funding new operating theatre

1933 'MUTTABURRA HOSPITAL', *The Central Queensland Herald (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1930 - 1956)*, 31 August, p. 50. , viewed 15 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article70370635> and 1933 'The ARAMAC-MUTTABURRA DISTRICT', *The Longreach Leader (Qld. : 1923 - 1954)*, 30 September, p. 6. , viewed 21 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article37238281>  
Committee meeting minutes regarding nurses room on isolation ward and Operating Theatre Building Fund

1934 'Muttaborra', *The Longreach Leader (Qld. : 1923 - 1954)*, 6 October, p. 7. , viewed 21 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article37248207>  
Construction of operating theatre commenced

1935 'MUTTABURRA HOSPITAL', *The Central Queensland Herald (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1930 - 1956)*, 31 January, p. 58. , viewed 21 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article72381098>  
Committee AGM and cost of new operating theatre

1939 'Going Abroad', *The Longreach Leader (Qld. : 1923 - 1954)*, 22 April, p. 10. , viewed 21 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article127288954>  
Dr Arratta leave of absence for study granted

1942 'Muttaborra hospital', *The Longreach Leader (Qld. : 1923 - 1954)*, 9 December, p. 51. , viewed 16 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article125794861>  
History of Muttaborra Hospital – 1870 to 1942

1944 'Monthly Meeting', *The Longreach Leader (Qld. : 1923 - 1954)*, 26 August, p. 4. , viewed 21 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article126005747> and 1944 'The CENTRAL WEST', *The Longreach Leader (Qld. : 1923 - 1954)*, 7 October, p. 14. , viewed 21 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article126014327>  
Restructuring of hospital control – Longreach Hospital Board succeeds Muttaborra Hospital Committee

1944 'NEW MUTTABURRA HOSPITAL', *Morning Bulletin (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1878 - 1954)*, 14 December, p. 3. , viewed 21 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article56324059> and 1945 'NEW MUTTABURRA HOSPITAL', *Morning Bulletin (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1878 - 1954)*, 3 January, p. 5. , viewed 15 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article56377113> and 1945 'NEW MUTTABURRA HOSPITAL', *Morning Bulletin (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1878 - 1954)*, 28 February, p. 8. , viewed 21 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article56381183>  
With exception of maternity ward – current hospital beyond repair and proposed replacement

1946 'Free Hospital Treatment', *Worker (Brisbane, Qld. : 1890 - 1955)*, 7 January, p. 10. , viewed 21 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article71426103>  
Commencement of free treatment in public hospitals

1948 'MUTTABURRA—IT'S FOUNDATIONS, HISTORY, FUTURE AIMS', *The Longreach Leader (Qld. : 1923 - 1954)*, 8 December, p. 26. , viewed 17 Jan 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article125607375>

1951 'Aramac and Muttaborra', *The Longreach Leader (Qld. : 1923 - 1954)*, 25 May, p. 5. , viewed 21 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article125579616>  
26 years of service by Dr & Mrs Arratta celebrated

1956 'NEW HOSPITAL FOR MUTTABURRA', *The Central Queensland Herald (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1930 - 1956)*, 1 March, p. 13. , viewed 21 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article79261014>  
Borrowing by Longreach Hospital Board for new Muttaborra hospital approved

1962 Towner, A.C. 'An Outline of the History of Western Queensland', *Journal of the Royal Historical Society of Queensland 6 (4) 779-816*, viewed 22 September 2021 <https://espace.library.uq.edu.au/> at 810:  
*Doctors in the Outback*

*Strange as it may seem to-day, most of the outback townships in the early times had doctors and many of the squatters were M.D.s. Nearly all the Western hospitals were started by public subscriptions and, while the equipment was at times crude, those pioneers were tough and the service seemed adequate. Six outstanding men come to mind for their selfless work for the people of the Inland: Dr. Harvison of Blackall, Dr. Arratta, O.B.E. , of Muttaborra, Dr. Hill of Isisford, Dr. Wallace, Dr. Watson Brown of Longreach, and the late Dr. Fox of Charleville. ...*

**Place images:**



Out of copyright, Available online from State Library Queensland at: <https://hdl.handle.net/10462/deriv/246282>

Title: Doctor Arratta outside the Muttaborra Hospital, ca. 1948

Summary: Dr Arratta was the Government Medical Officer in Muttaborra for 35 years beginning his career there in 1925. (Description supplied with photograph)



Out of copyright, Available online from State Library Queensland at: <https://hdl.handle.net/10462/deriv/246282>

Title: Timothy and Norah McCarthy

Summary: Timothy John McCarthy (1864 - 1954) married Norah Cuneen (1868 - 1936) in 1889 - worked at the Muttaborra Hospital. Later held the licence for the Australian Hotel at Muttaborra and then built the Exchange Hotel in 1898. (Description supplied with photograph.)

## Potential Pine Hill Station Building (Alpha Rail Shed)

**Location description/address:** Potentially relocated to Shakespeare Street, Alpha from Pine Hill (between Emerald and Alpha on the Central Line Railway approximately 405km from Rockhampton)

**Real property description:** Potentially Alpha railway complex

**Tenure:**

### Historical information:

Unverified notes from DES provided for place reference *QHR Place ID 612559*:

"History - The Line to Pine Hill was opened on the 1st of November 1883 and extended to Alpha on the 22nd of September 1884. W. Scott signed a contract on the 17th of October 1883 to sink a well here and upright, Doherty and Co. signed a contract on the 22nd November 1883 to erect 4 cottages. A township was laid out by Willoughby Hannan and allotments were sold on the 23rd of August 1883 in Bogantungan. Pine Hill opened on the 1st of November 1883 as the railhead to the west. The Department also erected a 300' long goods shed, wool shed, station master's house, guard's houses, engine shed, horse dock and 2 porter's cottages, all of which were constructed by J.R. Smith & Co. by July 1883 for the sum of 7257 pounds. An additional 4 porter's cottages followed later in the year. Isabel Hoch describes the level of railway expenditure as unprecedented and a substantial township soon supported it. Nevertheless, with the movement of the railhead westward, Pine Hill was in a state of decline by 1886. The station Mistress was withdrawn and the station closed from the 12th of August 1888.... Description - Station building - 10Other - roadside shed Closet The Station building is a small, plain, gable roofed office of 2 rooms with original openings, later internal linings, quirk beaded timber originally, and having a level ceiling with sloping sides. The roof is ventilated and the shade with galvanised steel posts has been partly reconstructed. The letter-receiving slot is in situ. The Roadside shed and closet are representative structures of their type. Condition: Fair Integrity: High..."

1883 'RAILWAYS.', *The Queenslander (Brisbane, Qld. : 1866 - 1939)*, 3 November, p. 721. , viewed 24 Feb 2022,

<http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article19794463>

Central Line Railway opened from Bogantungan to Pine Hill on 1 November 1883

1884 'THE RAILWAY REPORT.', *Morning Bulletin (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1878 - 1954)*, 9 August, p. 6. , viewed 24 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article52034517>

Appendix of the 1883 Annual Report of the Commissioner for Railways. Describes infrastructure built at Pine Hill.

1884 'Up the Line from Pine Hill.', *The Western Champion (Blackall/Barcaldine, Qld. : 1879 - 1891)*, 26 September, p. 4. , viewed 08 Mar 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article79727325>

Description of the early layout of Alpha immediately prior to its establishment of a township. Marking of the railway reserve, navvies employed on construction are camped at the location in approximately 100 tents. No government buildings have yet been erected but the likely site of the station building to come is marked by "a few sticks thrown up to represent a fence

1884 'The Western Champion.', *The Western Champion (Blackall/Barcaldine, Qld. : 1879 - 1891)*, 17 October, p. 2. , viewed 24 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article79727385>

Rail line being laid beyond Alpha and branches of Pine Hill establishments being moved along for public houses.

1884 'PINE HILL.', *The Capricornian (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1875 - 1929)*, 18 October, p. 21. , viewed 23 Mar 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article67865825>

Many private business premises have been relocated from Pine Hill to Alpha

1884 'CENTRAL RAILWAY.', *Morning Bulletin (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1878 - 1954)*, 18 December, p. 5. , viewed 08 Mar 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article52031965>

Central Line Railway opened to Alpha 22 September 1884. Construction contractors being O'Rourke and Co., which employed an average of 200 men during the year.

1886 'PINE HILL.', *The Capricornian (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1875 - 1929)*, 13 November, p. 25. , viewed 23 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article66317787>

Mr. Witherspoon contracted to pull down Pine Hill Railway Shed and relocate and re-erect it at Barcaldine.

[Author's Note: The Pine Hill Railway Shed was reportedly 300 feet long. Consider possibility that 200 feet was relocated to Barcaldine and possibly that 100 feet of the shed was used at Alpha – no documentation found to confirm if this may have occurred, other than some references to the dimensions of the sheds at each of those locations].

1887 'A RUN DOWN TO ALPHA.', *The Western Champion (Blackall/Barcaldine, Qld. : 1879 - 1891)*, 23 August, p. 2. , viewed 23 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article79730122>

Mr Roland Quz's description of the Alpha railway complex

1896 'ALPHA.', *The Capricornian (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1875 - 1929)*, 28 November, p. 26. , viewed 23 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article70637938>

Description of siting of sheds at Alpha railway complex

1897 'ALPHA.', *The Capricornian (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1875 - 1929)*, 23 January, p. 28. , viewed 23 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article68181109>

Relocation of sheds completed but logistical challenges (well described in article) with siting and dip yards completed.

1899 'ALPHA.', *Morning Bulletin (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1878 - 1954)*, 28 July, p. 7. , viewed 23 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article52554240>

Description of the Alpha railway operations

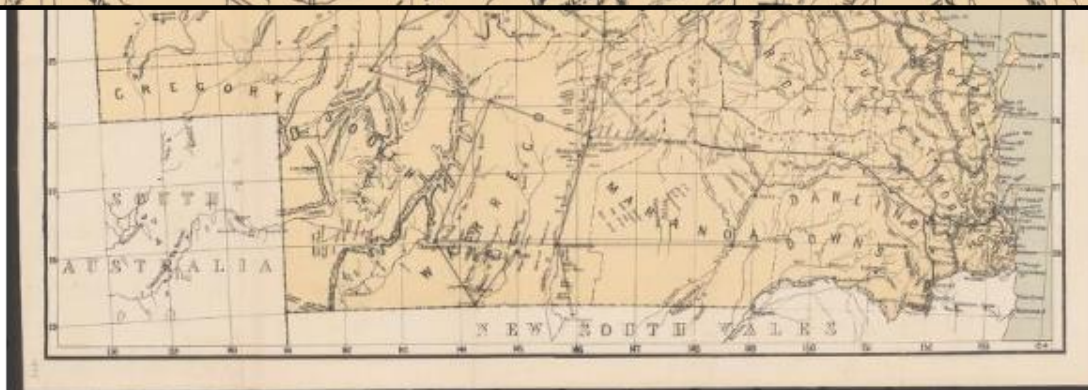
1926 'Progress of Alpha.', *The Western Champion (Barcaldine, Qld. : 1922 - 1937)*, 31 July, p. 17. , viewed 23 Mar 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article79633196>

Context of Alpha as a railway township which has persisted along the Central Rail Line and its role as a "suitable location for railway shops and a depot, with a good back suitable for dairying quite a large population".

Alpha District Tourism & Development Assoc. Inc., 'About the Murals' [tourism pamphlet], available at <https://www.barcaldinerc.qld.gov.au/downloads/file/558/information-on-alpha-murals-pdf>

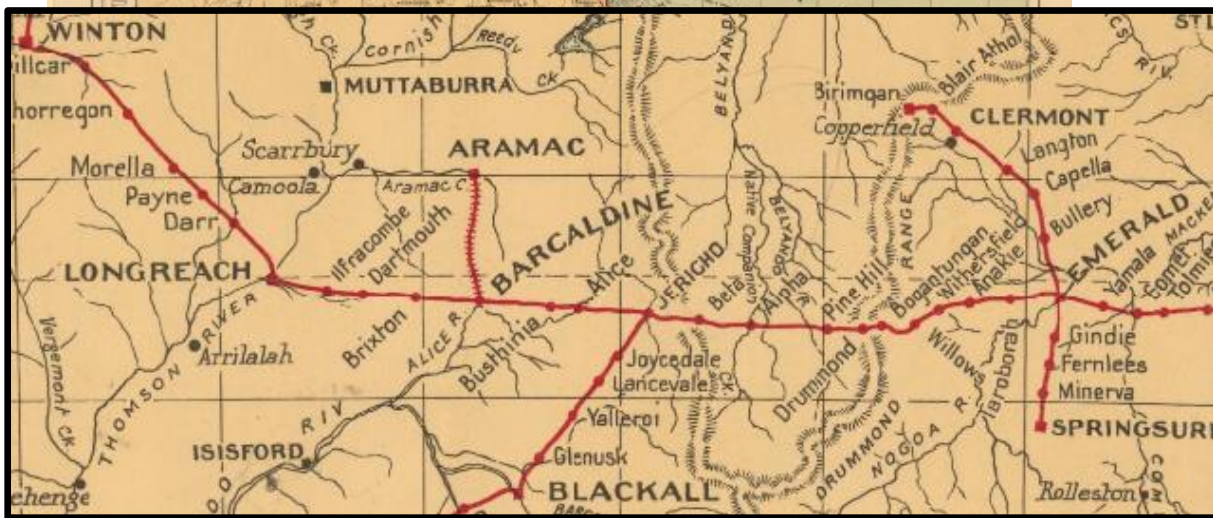
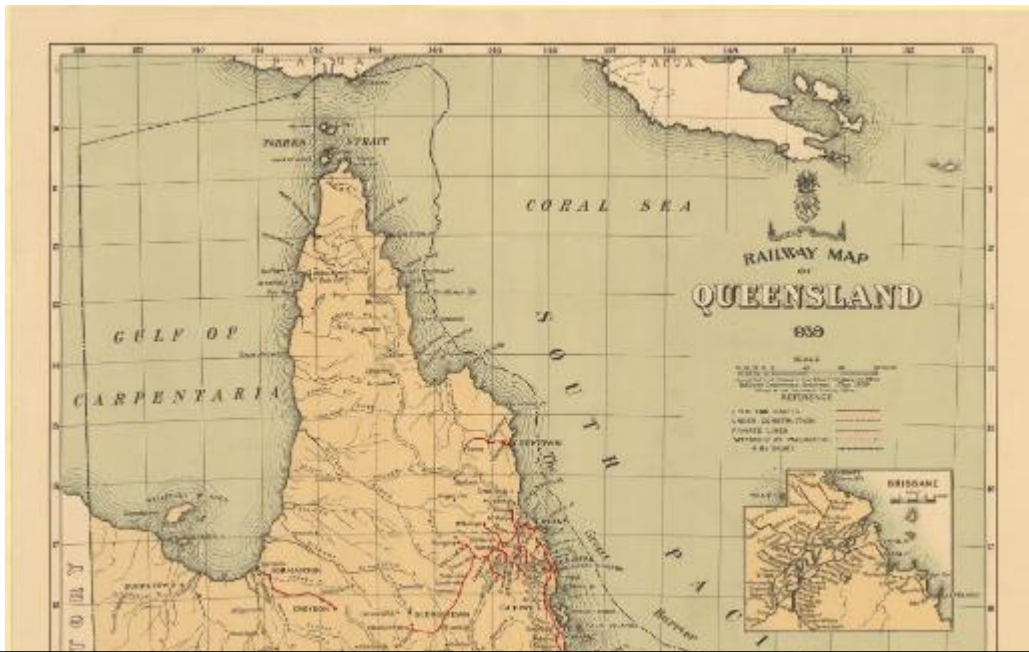
Queensland Rail commissioning of the largest mural in Alpha on the historic Railway Goods Shed at Alpha





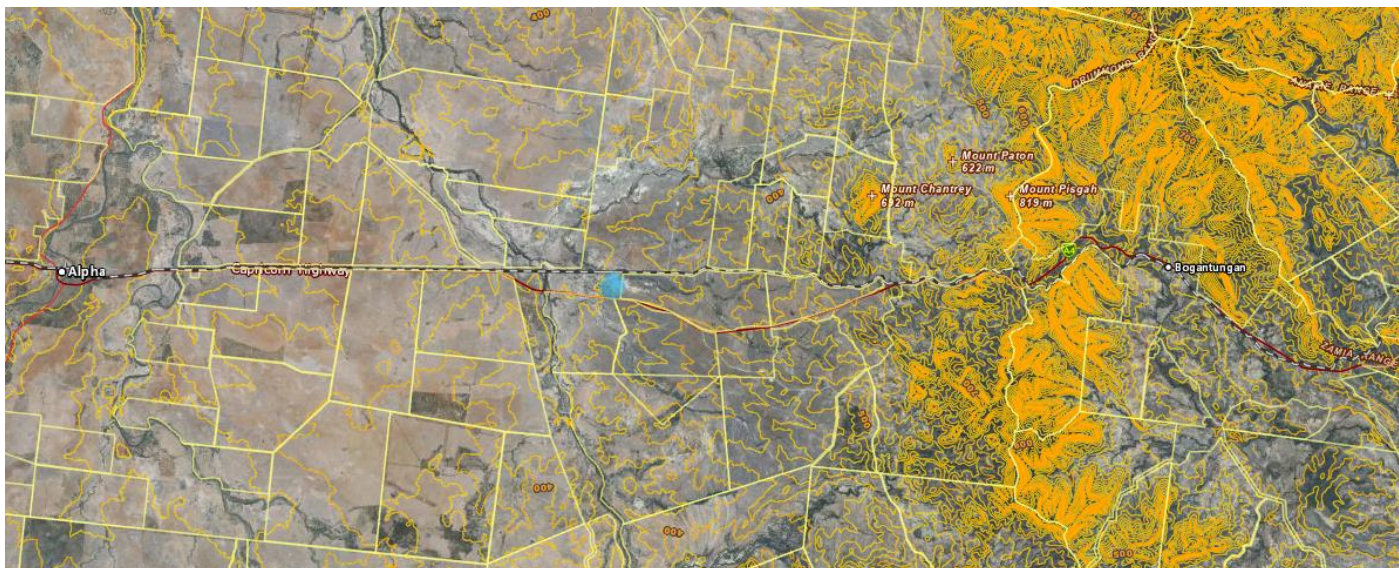
Out of copyright. Map of Queensland, Compiled & Lithographed from Official Maps, Brisbane, 1885. Collection of the National Library of Australia. viewed 09 February 2022, <https://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-231417815/>



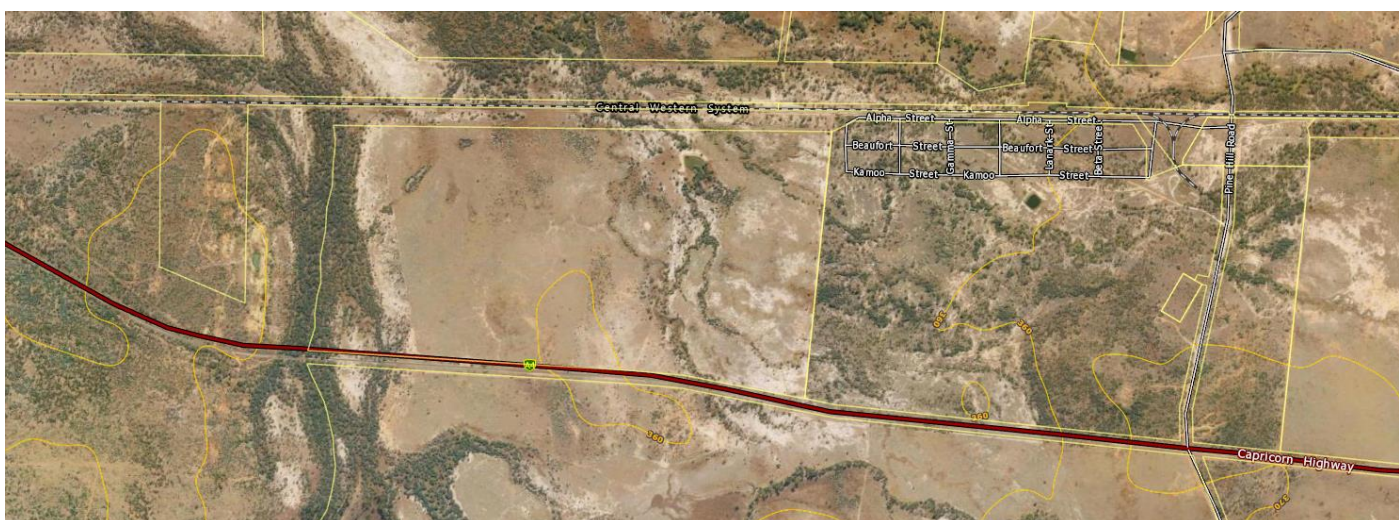


Out of copyright, Queensland Railways. Chief Engineer's Office & Hope, T. G. 1939, *Railway map of Queensland, 1939* Queensland Railways, Brisbane viewed 27 September 2021 <http://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-232952155>





Queensland Globe, 2022 (Bogantungan to Alpha – blue dot is approximately location of Pine Hill)



Queensland Globe, 2022 (Remnants of Pine Hill railway settlement)

## Queensland National Bank (former)

**Location description/address:** 75 Gidyea Street (corner Beech Street), Barcardine Q 4725

**Real property description:** Within Lot 1 on RY222

### Research references:

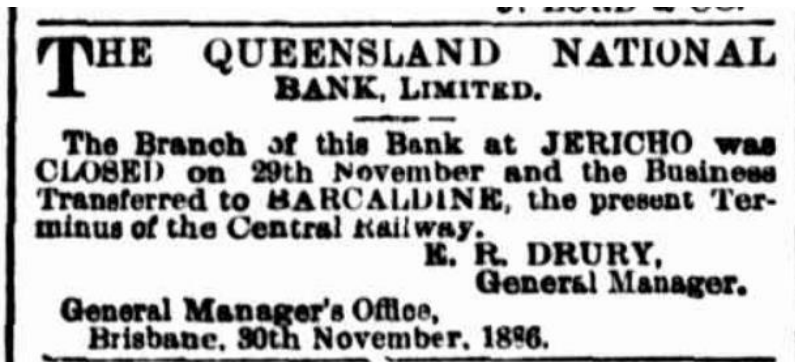
1881 'Advertising', *The Western Champion (Blackall/Barcardine, Qld. : 1879 - 1891)*, 14 January, p. 3. , viewed 09 Feb 2022,

<http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article77210901>

A.J.A. Moody – Tambo branch accountant

1886 'Classified Advertising', *The Brisbane Courier (Qld. : 1864 - 1933)*, 4 December, p. 7. , viewed 09 Feb 2022,

<http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article4485628>



1890 'BARCALDINE.', *Morning Bulletin (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1878 - 1954)*, 10 June, p. 5. , viewed 09 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article52334237>

Rumoured plans to build 3 cottages behind bank fronting Willow St

1893 'THE QUEENSLAND NATIONAL BANK.', *Australian Town and Country Journal (Sydney, NSW : 1870 - 1919)*, 20 May, p. 15. , viewed 09 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article71199369>

List of current QNB branches and trading suspension

1893 'BARCALDINE.', *The Capricornian (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1875 - 1929)*, 20 May, p. 27. , viewed 09 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article65754792>

Impact of trading suspension in Barcardine

1893 'THE PAST HISTORY OF THE Q.N. BANK', *The Northern Miner (Charters Towers, Qld. : 1874 - 1954)*, 16 May, p. 3. , viewed 09 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article76701448>

10 year history of QNB

1893 'QUEENSLAND NEWS.', *The Capricornian (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1875 - 1929)*, 5 August, p. 23. , viewed 09 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article65761943>

QNB reopening

1896 'The Queensland National Bank.', *The Western Champion and General Advertiser for the Central-Western Districts (Barcardine, Qld. : 1892 - 1922)*, 11 February, p. 14. , viewed 09 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article79763265>

Half-yearly report delivered by Mr A.J.A. Moody

1901 'QUEENSLAND NEWS.', *Morning Bulletin (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1878 - 1954)*, 8 November, p. 5. , viewed 09 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article52746306>

Mr A.J.A. Moody's farewell and transfer

1904 'Attempted Bank Robbery.', *The Western Champion and General Advertiser for the Central-Western Districts (Barcardine, Qld. : 1892 - 1922)*, 31 October, p. 3. , viewed 09 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article75607941>

Attempted robbery and description of second building

1906 'Barcardine & District Budget', *The Western Champion and General Advertiser for the Central-Western Districts (Barcardine, Qld. : 1892 - 1922)*, 7 October, p. 3. , viewed 09 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article76375391>



Mr. Adam, architect for the Q.N. Bank, arrived in town during the week, and at once laid out the ground for the new premises. The building is intended for banking premises only, and one-half of the interior will be the public chamber—some 28ft. 6in. in length, and 25ft. in width, fitted with the usual counters and desks. The manager's room will be on the side opposite the post office; next to this will be a strong room, and adjoining this again a bedroom—and a small one at that. A 7ft. 6in. verandah will encircle the premises. Entrance will be effected through an ornamental porch at the corner of Ash and Beech-streets, and will give the building an ornate appearance. Mr. Adam has just completed some improvements at the Rockhampton branch and erected new premises at Cunnamulla.

1906 'Barcaldine AND District Budget', *The Western Champion and General Advertiser for the Central-Western Districts (Barcaldine, Qld. : 1892 - 1922)*, 16 September, p. 8. , viewed 09 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article76375130>  
Tender result

1906 'BARCALDINE.', *The Capricornian (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1875 - 1929)*, 3 November, p. 31. , viewed 09 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article68875410>

New building progress – skeleton form. When completed it will compare favourably with the buildings on the other three corners of Ash and Beech Streets, which are occupied by the Post Office, Shire Hall and Messrs J. Stewarts and Co. premises respectively.

1906 'The Queensland National Bank Limited.', *The Western Champion and General Advertiser for the Central-Western Districts (Barcaldine, Qld. : 1892 - 1922)*, 4 November, p. 3. , viewed 09 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article76375936>

And 1906 'Barcaldine [?] District Budget', *The Western Champion and General Advertiser for the Central-Western Districts (Barcaldine, Qld. : 1892 - 1922)*, 9 September, p. 5. , viewed 09 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article76375028>

On and after the 11th September, 1906, the business of the above Bank will be carried on temporarily at the MANAGER'S RESIDENCE, corner of Oak and Willow streets, pending erection of new premises. F. E. MATTHEWS, Manager

1907 'The Queensland National Bank.', *The Western Champion and General Advertiser for the Central-Western Districts (Barcaldine, Qld. : 1892 - 1922)*, 27 January, p. 6. , viewed 09 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article76376989>

New Queensland National Bank premises occupied

1919 'INFLUENZA EPIDEMIC.', *Morning Bulletin (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1878 - 1954)*, 20 June, p. 8. , viewed 09 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article53864394>

Death of Mr Matthews

1919 'OBITUARY.', *The Western Champion and General Advertiser for the Central-Western Districts (Barcaldine, Qld. : 1892 - 1922)*, 21 June, p. 11. , viewed 09 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article76753241>

Obituary of Mr Matthews

1962 Towner, A.C. 'An Outline of the History of Western Queensland', *Journal of the Royal Historical Society of Queensland* 6 (4) 779-816 viewed 22 September 2021 <https://espace.library.uq.edu.au/> at 803:

Hometown of "Waltzing Matilda"

Winton... In 1876... Shortly afterwards W. H. Corfield and Fitzmaurice arrived with teams intending to start a store.

...The nearest bank to Winton then was at Aramac 250 miles away. When the store had done £600 worth of business,

*Corfield headed for Aramac... He passed through Muttaborra... [Government then marked out a track which lead to traffic between Hughenden and Winton]. ... [The Q.N. Bank established in Longreach after the rail line and Longreach was decided to be the railhead].*

**The National Bank of Australasia Ltd. v. Federal Commissioner of Taxation.** 69 ATC 4042, High Court of Australia, 28 March 1969

**National Australia Bank (1996), Annual Report 1996,**

<https://www.nab.com.au/content/dam/nabrwd/documents/reports/corporate/annual-report-1996.pdf>

**Hoch, I (1986), 'Barcaldine 1846-1986', Barcaldine Shire Council, pp10-11**

**Hoch, I (2008), 'The Barcaldine Story 1846-2008', Barcaldine Shire Council, pp43, 53, 124**

New Queensland National Bank building constructed in 1905 and opened in 1906 on the corner of Ash and Beech Streets. The internal layout consisted of a large public chamber, a manager's room, a strong room and small bedroom. On the exterior it had an 'ornamental porch'.

First manager in new building was A. J. A Moody. In 1947 the Queensland National Bank merged and was subsequently known as the National Bank of Australia.

The Barcaldine branch closed in 1973 after which the building was obtained by the Barcaldine Shire Council.

**Broughton, Sharon (2017), 'Barcaldine Historical Society', *Barcaldine: A Small Town In Queensland, Australia*, 16 May, viewed 09 Feb 2022, <https://barcaldine-peopleplacesthings.org/barcaldine-historical-society/>**

**2021 'Queensland Business Leaders Hall of Fame, 2011 Inductee, Queensland National Bank', State Library of Queensland viewed 22 September 2021 <http://leaders.slq.qld.gov.au/inductees/queensland-national-bank/>:**

*Queensland's reliance on external capital, often unsympathetic to the State's development opportunities, lead to local investors establishing the Queensland National Bank in 1872. ... It became the official bank of the Queensland Government in 1879 and remained so for more than 40 years... The first general manager, Edward Drury... By 1880, the Queensland National Bank operated 30 branches... With the financial depression of the 1890s, the bank's future was threatened... The widely acclaimed Walter Ralsotom replaced Drury... The National Bank of Australia, in taking over the Queensland National Bank in 1948, acquired nearly 90 branches throughout the State...*

**Place images:**





Out of copyright, Available online from State Library Queensland at: <https://hdl.handle.net/10462/deriv/109166>

Title: Queensland National Bank in Barcardine about 1887

Summary: The Barcardine branch opened in November, 1886. (Description supplied with photograph)



Out of copyright, Available online from State Library Queensland at: <https://hdl.handle.net/10462/deriv/74894>

Title: Queensland National Bank, Barcardine, 1905



Out of copyright, Available online from State Library Queensland at: <https://hdl.handle.net/10462/deriv/123984>

Title: Queensland National Bank in Barcaldine, ca. 1910

Summary: A man poses in front of the Queensland National Bank which opened in 1906. It contained a large public chamber, a manager's room, a strong room and an ornamental porch. The Bank closed in 1973 and the building became an historical museum. (Information taken by State Library of Queensland from Hoch, I. Barcaldine 1846-1986, 1990.)



Out of copyright, Available online from State Library Queensland at: <https://hdl.handle.net/10462/deriv/117306>

Title: Queensland National Bank in Barcaldine, ca. 1905





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Available online from State Library Queensland at: <https://hdl.handle.net/10462/BRC/deriv/66>

Title: Removal of the Barcaldine Museum to new site, Barcaldine, Queensland, 1976

Summary: This Queensland National Bank was built on the corner of Oak and Willow streets in 1906. The Queensland National Bank amalgamated with the National Bank of Australia in 1947-48. The branch was closed in September 1973. In 1974 the Barcaldine Historical Society rented the building from the Barcaldine Shire Council for displaying historical items until a museum site was developed. The Society was formed by John St. Pierre, Bill Scott, Cecil Ryan and Harry Heumiller. In 1975 the Barcaldine Shire Council moved the museum to its permanent site on the corner of Gidyea and Beech Streets.



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Available online from State Library Queensland at: <https://hdl.handle.net/10462/BRC/deriv/27>

Title: Barcaldine and District Folk Museum, Queensland, 2001

Summary: The Museum is housed in what was previously the National Bank building, built in 1906.

## Radio Theatre

Location description/address: 4 Beech Street, Barcaldine Q 4725

Real property description: Lot 4 on RP603798

### Research references:

1899 'The Heller Mahatma Co.', *The Western Champion and General Advertiser for the Central-Western Districts (Barcaldine, Qld. : 1892 - 1922)*, 26 September, p. 7. , viewed 18 Jan 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article75673898>

The Heller Mahatma Co. travelling show included a selection of moving pictures as part of each evening's performance.

1901 'Barcaldine Memoranda.', *The Western Champion and General Advertiser for the Central-Western Districts (Barcaldine, Qld. : 1892 - 1922)*, 1 October, p. 12. , viewed 18 Jan 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article76569244>

Harry Salmon Warograph and Specialty Company showed moving pictures of the Boer war, as well as other biographs.

1903 'Bargading Budget', *The Western Champion and General Advertiser for the Central-Western Districts (Barcaldine, Qld. : 1892 - 1922)*, 2 August, p. 10. , viewed 18 Jan 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article76370017>

London Bioscope Co paid a visit to Barcaldine on its second annual visit of principal Queensland towns to provide two evenings of entertainment.

1911 'Barcaldine Shire Council.', *The Western Champion and General Advertiser for the Central-Western Districts (Barcaldine, Qld. : 1892 - 1922)*, 15 July, p. 9. , viewed 18 Jan 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article75682232>

Mr A.T. Richards wrote to council with a proposition of showing pictures regularly in the Town Hall, noting "the days of profitable touring picture shows were past" and that "He had visited Barcaldine every year for ten years".

1913 'Barcaldine & General Budget', *The Western Champion and General Advertiser for the Central-Western Districts (Barcaldine, Qld. : 1892 - 1922)*, 6 December, p. 13. , viewed 18 Jan 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article79749050>

"Work is progressing satisfactorily at Mr D. Stibbards' open-air venture in Ash St" and explained the context and appropriateness of the name "The Glideograph".

1913, *The Western Champion and General Advertiser for the Central-Western Districts (Barcaldine, Qld. : 1892 - 1922)*, 13 December, p. 15. , viewed 18 Jan 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-page7739988>

THE WESTERN CHAMPION, SATURDAY MORNIN

**At the Glideograph**

NEXT FIRE STATION.

**Grand - Opening - Night,**  
**VICTORIA HOSPITAL BENEFIT,**  
**Thursday, Dec. 18th, 1913**

Under the Management of the  
**GLADSTONE PICTURE COMPANY.**

**SPECIAL PROGRAMME.**

Star (Drama—The Black Lily Gang, 2500ft.  
Pictures (Scenic—Scutari after the Siege.  
See handbills for particulars.

**Million Prices, 2s. and 1s. Band in attendance.**

W. J. P. CHAMBERS, Sec. Hospital.

1913 'Barcaldine And General Budget', *The Western Champion and General Advertiser for the Central-Western Districts (Barcaldine, Qld. : 1892 - 1922)*, 20 December, p. 13. , viewed 18 Jan 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article79749368>

Report on the opening night at the Glideograph

1914 'BARCALDINE.', *The Capricornian (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1875 - 1929)*, 3 January, p. 8. , viewed 18 Jan 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article71936678>

Messrs Nash and Ikin, had showed pictures in the hot town hall. The open-air new building would be less oppressive than the hall.

1915 'Advertising', *The Western Champion and General Advertiser for the Central-Western Districts (Barcaldine, Qld. : 1892 - 1922)*, 3 July, p. 7. , viewed 18 Jan 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article79751972>

**Lyric Picture Theatre.**  
Proprietor ... .. H. A. HAWTHORNE.

**SATURDAY, 3rd JULY.**  
**At 8.45.**  
**Grand Opening Night**  
With a Colossal and Magnificent Gallery of  
the World's Latest Photo Plays  
headed by  
An Extremely Powerful Three Reel Feature  
**Texas Bill's Last Ride.**  
Which for excitement and thrilling incidents  
has never been surpassed. A story of the  
wild and lawless west. Admittedly the  
biggest thing in the way of acting and sen-  
sational denouements ever taken before the  
cinematograph. Supported by a 8000ft. pro-  
gramme of exceptional merit including the  
**Latest War Gazette.**  
(Exclusive to this Theatre.)  
The Scout's Motto : **Be Prepared.**  
A one reel drama depicting the bravery of a  
body of scouts, and how they brought to  
book a gang of desperate thieves.  
**Pimple's Trousers, 1000ft. Comedy.**  
It's a laugh, a scream, a yell.  
**Heart of the Law, S. and A. Drama.**  
**It's a Long Job, Ecco Comic.**  
**Who was the Thief, Detective Drama**  
**In the Hoss Country, Comedy.**  
And the latest Keystone Comedy  
**Mabel's Awful Mistake.**

Special arrangements have been made with  
the Clement Mason Cinematograph Company  
of Australia for the supply of exclusive pro-  
grammes to this theatre, which will provide  
the public of Barcaldine with Photoplays  
equal to those screened in the leading cities.  
As the very latest plant for cinematography  
has been installed and only the best of  
pictures screened, and by thus catering for  
the amusement-loving public in a well-con-  
ducted and up-to-date manner trust they will  
meet with favor throughout.

1915 'THE BARCALDINE FIRE.', *Morning Bulletin (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1878 - 1954)*, 23 October, p. 8. , viewed 18 Jan 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article53409239>



Butler's Auction Mart fully destroyed by fire and flames spread to nearby buildings including the Lyric Picture Theatre but it was expected to reopen soon after.

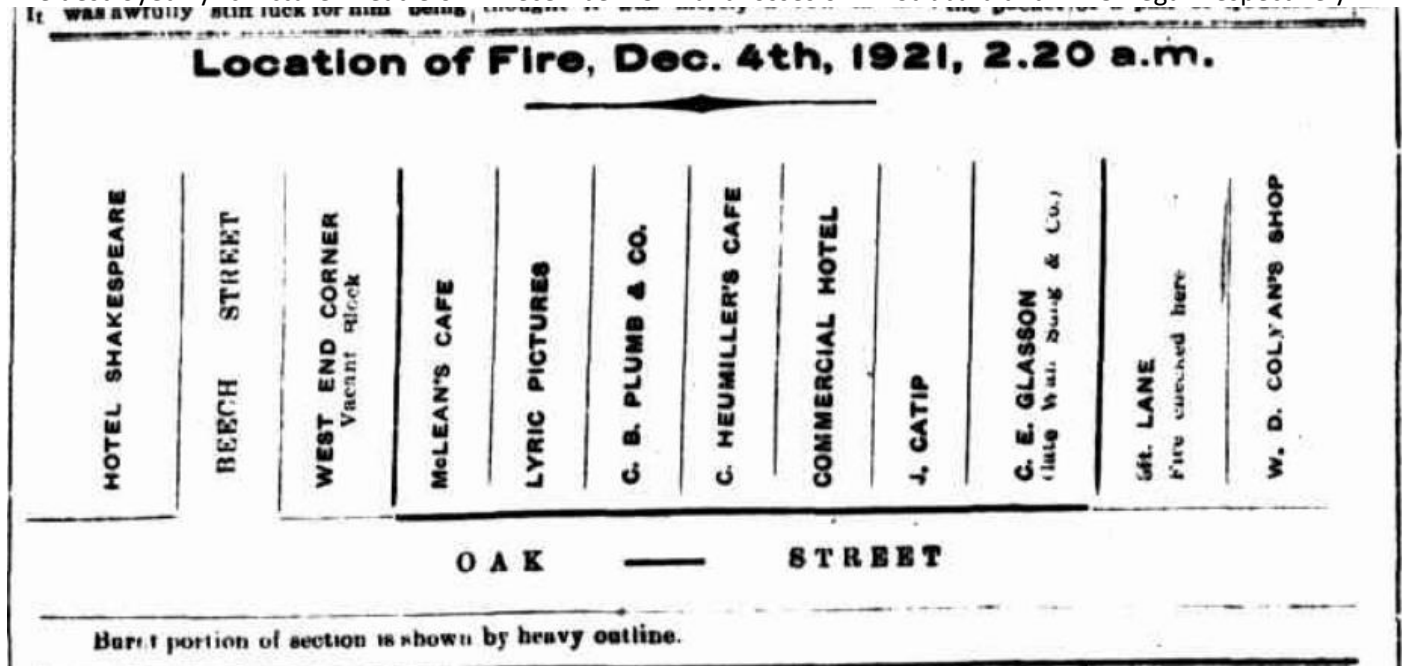
1917 'BARCALDINE.', *The Capricornian (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1875 - 1929)*, 19 May, p. 48. , viewed 18 Jan 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article69410296>

and  
1917 'The Barcaldine Carnival.', *The Western Champion and General Advertiser for the Central-Western Districts (Barcaldine, Qld. : 1892 - 1922)*, 21 July, p. 9. , viewed 18 Jan 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article77790149>  
D Stibbard had taken over the Lyric Picture Theatre.

1918 'PICTURE FILM AFIRE.', *The Capricornian (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1875 - 1929)*, 21 December, p. 27. , viewed 18 Jan 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article69729735>  
Fire in operating room of Lyric Picture Theatre.

1920 'FIRE AT BARCALDINE.', *Morning Bulletin (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1878 - 1954)*, 17 February, p. 10. , viewed 18 Jan 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article53886788>  
Losses to Lyric Theatre in fire of February 1920

1921 'BIG FIRE IN BARCALDINE.', *The Western Champion and General Advertiser for the Central-Western Districts (Barcaldine, Qld. : 1892 - 1922)*, 10 December, p. 10. , viewed 18 Jan 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article79726069>  
Fire destroyed Lyric Picture Theatre on 4 December 1921 and losses of Mr Stibbard and Mr O'Regan respectively.



1922 'Barcaldine&General Budget', *The Western Champion (Barcaldine, Qld. : 1922 - 1937)*, 25 March, p. 14. , viewed 18 Jan 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article79290975>  
Mr V Burke preparing for opening on Paramount Theatre

1922 'The Paramount Picture Theatre.', *The Western Champion (Barcaldine, Qld. : 1922 - 1937)*, 20 May, p. 3. , viewed 18 Jan 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article79291654>  
Report on the opening of the Paramount Picture Theatre

1925, *The Western Champion (Barcaldine, Qld. : 1922 - 1937)*, 26 September, p. 16. , viewed 08 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-page7682846>  
Stibbards acquisition of site, Robson engagement as architect and the design influences and council considerations of project plans.

1926, *The Western Champion (Barcaldine, Qld. : 1922 - 1937)*, 17 April, p. 17. , viewed 08 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-page7683539>

Successful opening of the Radio Theatre – building not yet entirely complete

1927 'LOWER BURDEKIN NOTES.', *Townsville Daily Bulletin (Qld. : 1907 - 1954)*, 17 May, p. 5. , viewed 09 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article60804382>

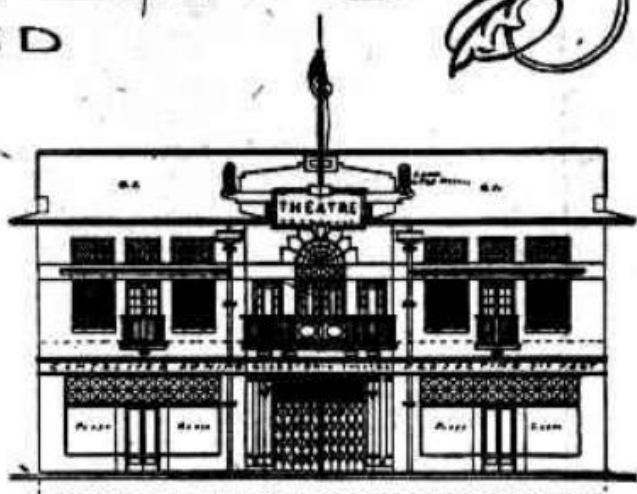
Theatres presently under design or construction by Arthur Robson

1927 'BUILDING AND REAL ESTATE', *The Brisbane Courier (Qld. : 1864 - 1933)*, 12 April, p. 8. , viewed 09 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article21113013>

THE BRISBANE COURIER.

# BUILDING AND REAL ESTATE

THEATRE AND HALL FOR GLADSTONE—TENDERS AND SALES.



A company, known as Gladstone Picture Palace, Ltd., proposes to erect a modern theatre, a dance hall, and shops in Gladstone at an early date. Plans have been prepared by Messrs. A. Robson and R. Ceutis and Sons, of Brisbane, associate architects, and it is expected that an early start will be made with the construction of the building. The scheme includes two large shops, each 21ft. dia. wide, with a main entrance vestibule leading to the theatre at the rear, and a gallery and a dance hall above. The front of the building will be two stories, in brick, rough-cast, with ornamental collapsible entrance gates, and show windows, extending on either side of the main entrance.

tion yesterday for the erection of work are dwellings:—  
For G. G. Goward, Upper Paddington; F. S. Petri, builder;  
A. G. Gardner, Yeronga; W. Smith; L. J. Connor, Kelvin Grove; W. Allford;  
E. J. S. F. Nolan, additions, Hendra; B. Sorenz;  
T. K. Paxson, Greenalope; W. Clarr; H. G. Atkinson, Geesville; W. H. Huett;  
R. V. Low, Chateworth Heights, E-stater; H. W. Brooks;  
C. A. Jenner, additions, Corinda; A. D. H. Smith;  
A. G. Gostisch, Odeon; H. Stoll.

Shops, dance hall, and theatre which a company proposes to erect at Gladstone. Messrs. A. Robson and R. Ceutis and Sons are the associate architects. -

1928 'Scarborough Progress Assn.', *Humpybong Weekly and Advertiser (Redcliffe, Qld. : 1927 - 1932)*, 30 August, p. 2., viewed 09 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article163730395>

1931, *Morning Bulletin (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1878 - 1954)*, 27 May, p. 4. , viewed 08 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-page5358575>

Talkies installed in the Radio Theatre

1951 'DAVID STIBBARDS PASSES', *The Longreach Leader (Qld. : 1923 - 1954)*, 25 May, p. 11. , viewed 09 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article125579649>

Life of David Stibbards

Hoch, I (1986), 'Barcaldine 1846-1986', Barcaldine Shire Council, p83

2020 'Art Culture and Heritage / Long Reads / Our local treasure – the Barcaldine Picture Theatre', *NewsUp Barcaldine*, 27 August, <https://newsupbarcaldine.com/radio-theatre-treasure/>, viewed 26 October 2021

Additional information and photographs available using this link

Place images:



Out of copyright, Available online from State Library Queensland at: <https://hdl.handle.net/10462/deriv/120478>  
Title: View from the corner of Beech and Oak Streets, Barcaldine, ca. 1928



General research resources:

Garran, Andrew (ed), (1888), Picturesque atlas of Australasia, Volume 2, p368-369, accessible at <https://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-1759110935>:

Extract from General Map of Queensland in above publication:





1895 'The Railway Commissioner's Report.', *The Western Champion and General Advertiser for the Central-Western Districts (Barcaldine, Qld. : 1892 - 1922)*, 3 September, p. 14. , viewed 08 Mar 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article79760068>  
Overview of opening dates of sections of Central Line Railway

1899 'BARCALDINE.', *The Capricornian (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1875 - 1929)*, 29 April, p. 23. , viewed 09 Feb 2022, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article68210160>  
Overview of Barcaldine 1899

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1970 Bolton, G.C. *A Thousand Miles Away: A History of North Queensland to 1920*, Australian National University Press, accessible via <https://openresearch-repository.anu.edu.au/bitstream/1885/114900/2/b11190851.pdf>, viewed 10 October 2021

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Hoch, I (2008), 'The Barcaldine Story 1846-2008', Barcaldine Shire Council

Government of Queensland (2012) *Our First Half-Century: A Review of Queensland Progress Based Upon Official Information*, released 21 April 2012, viewed 22 September 2021, <https://www.gutenberg.org/files/39495/39495-h/39495-h.htm>

## **Appendix B – Mapping of potential place boundaries**

The following maps have been prepared to support the identification of place boundaries for the potential local heritage place recommended in this report.