

Cultural Heritage – Moreton Bay Ramsar Site

Sites of significant Aboriginal cultural heritage are located throughout the site including on Bribie, North Stradbroke (Minjerriba), Peel (Turkrooar), St Helena (Noogoon), Macleay, Lamb (Ngudooroo), Karragarra and Russell (Canaipa) Islands as well as Toorbul Point, Caboolture River and Victoria Point. Types of sites include middens, fish traps, artefact scatters, quarries and scarred trees

Tangible evidence of past occupation is found in many forms throughout the site. The archaeological heritage of the Moreton Bay Islands is an extensive, rich and diverse cultural record. It comprises over 1000 known sites, including shell middens, stone artefact scatters, stone artefact quarries, burials, scarred trees, earthen ceremonial rings, story places, pathways, and stone fish traps. Archaeological sites are found on all the Moreton Bay islands, although the type and character of the evidence varies according to a range of factors including the resource availability, accessibility, seasonal use and social factors.

Contemporary cultural knowledge relating to these sites and landscapes remains strong, and is tangibly associated with living traditions, ideas and beliefs. Although there have been significant impacts on parts of the islands, much of the cultural landscape is intact and remains associated with living traditions and beliefs. There is abundant evidence of traditional human settlement, land and sea use.

Within the Quandamooka state, traditional management practices are being progressively introduced through collaboration between the Department of Environment and Science and the Quandamooka Aboriginal traditional owners, who have consented to the formal declaration of National Parks over their Aboriginal Land Act land.