

1. Introduction & Map. Details of the Heritage Trail are on the signs in the grounds of the Stratford Library, 11 Kamerunga Rd.

2. Post Office. Mrs Vera Clacherty ran the one-roomed Post-Office at the end of Clacherty Street.

3. Boyd's Hall. This popular Dance Hall became Ned Diamond's Picture Theatre.

4. St Augustine's Church. Services were held in St Vincent's Hall before the Church was built in 1951.

5. Lily Bank Farm, 110 acres. Samuel Cochrane bought land here in 1878. The original house burnt down in 1927.

6. Jalarra Park. Originally a School Reserve, the park was declared in 1993.

7. Billy Jagar, King of Barron, 1870-1930. Yirrganydji elder, Jagar was presented with two king-plates.

8. Barron River trade. The Barron River was an important trade route in the 1870s.

9. Constable Michael Dwyer's grave. The oldest marked European grave, 1877.

10. Mrs Elizabeth Marett's ferry. The ferry service started in 1890 and Stratford developed as a crossing point on the river.

11. Farmers' Bridge. The first bridge in Stratford was built by the local farmers in 1921. It washed away in a flood in 1929.

12. Relocated grave. In 2003 Dwyer's grave was exhumed and moved here.

13. Bowls Club. The Club formed in 1952 and the Club House was built in 1953.

14. Central Rice Mill. Government surveyor Thomas Behan opened a Rice Mill on the banks of the river in 1888.

15. Stratford Bridge. This bridge over the Barron carried the Cook Highway and opened in 1934. It closed in 1978.

16. USAT General MacArthur, 1942. During WWII, Johnston's Timber Mill built a wooden supply boat for the US Military.

17. Martin's Sawmill. Edward Martin built the first sawmill on the Barron River, the *Union Saw & Planing Mill*, in 1885.

18. Bar-Lun Sui-Yee Wui. A memorial held by the Chinese community to commemorate the drowning of two men in 1890.

19. Naming the Barron. Yirrganydji call the river Bana-bidagarra. In 1876 Johnstone named it after the Chief Clerk of Police.

20. Barron River tourism. Ike Askew ran river cruises to Barron Beach and picnic parties were popular in the 1920s and 30s.

STRATFORD HERITAGE TRAIL



21. Acacia Bank Farm, 160 acres. In 1882 W W Mason was the first settler to take up land on the north side of the Barron.

22. Stratford Football Club. *Plavi Jadran Soccer Club* moved to East Stratford Sports Reserve in 1963.

23. Smart's Joinery. Jim Smart had a Sawmill and Joinery Factory here from 1930.

24. Government Reserve & Suicide Bend. In 1886 this area was designated a Cemetery Reserve.

25. Mt Whitfield & Lumley Hill. Mt Whitfield (364m) and Lumley Hill (325m) are part of a reserve that was declared in 1885.

26. Explosives Magazine & Detonator Store. These heritage listed buildings were built in 1901.

27. J M Johnston's Timber Mill. There has been a timber mill on this site since 1886.

28. Tully's Stratford Hotel. Boden's Hotel opened here in 1887. The Tully's opened this hotel in 1926.

29. Cairns Range Railway. The railway was completed as far as Jungara in 1887 and the Stratford Siding was built here in 1892.

A circular walk taking in all the sites is approximately 5 kilometres long. Most sites are accessible by car, but not all are wheelchair accessible. Please take care when crossing roads and do not walk on the train tracks.



The Stratford Heritage Trail is an initiative of the **Stratford & Freshwater Community Association** and was established with assistance from

Cairns Regional Council, Q150, local businesses and residents.



Stratford Heritage Trail

For more information go to www.stratfordhistory.org.au

A self-guided walk through Stratford's history

The Stratford Heritage Trail



There are 29 historical sites on the Stratford Heritage Trail. Along the way you will find the oldest marked European grave in the Cairns area, the State Heritage Listed powder magazine, the first crossing places on the lower Barron River, the story of Chinese festivals and Billy Jagar's king-plate as well as information about the various industries and people that helped to shape the suburb of Stratford.

Nowadays 1,200 people call Stratford home. The suburb has a village atmosphere and has retained much of its charm. In addition to the sites on the Heritage Trail, the surrounding streets in Stratford have many traditional wooden Queenslander houses dating back almost 100 years.



A Brief History of Stratford

The area along the coastal Barron River was the traditional home of the Yirrganydji people, rainforest dwellers and seafarers who traded with their neighbours along the coast and over the ranges. In 1898 Yirrganydji elder, Billy Jagar, was declared 'King of Barron'.

In 1876 the discovery of gold on the Hodgkinson River resulted in the settlement of Cairns and old Smithfield town. A road was cut through the scrub around the base of Mount Whitfield, and the Barron River developed into an important trade route. Sampans piled high with bananas and produce from Chinese market gardens worked the tides up and down the river.



Cedar cutters harvested the ancient trees of the tropical forests and a timber mill was built on the river bank in 1885. Stratford developed into a timber town and the timber industry supported the area for many decades.

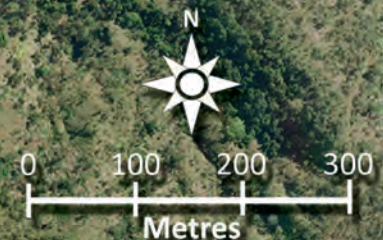
The railway, built in 1888 to service the Herberton tin mines, encouraged further residential and agricultural growth. Stratford became a crossing point on the Barron when the ferry service started in 1890, and by 1921 a bridge spanned the river. A second bridge was built in 1933 to accommodate the new Captain Cook Highway which ran through the town.



SACRED
TO THE MEMORY OF
MICHAEL DWYER
CONSTABLE OF ESCORT
DIED 19 JULY 1877
AGED 26 YEARS

SACRED TO THE MEMORY OF
MICHAEL DWYER
CONSTABLE OF ESCORT
ACCIDENTLY SHOT BY HIS OWN HAND
ON THE 19TH JULY 1877
ERECTED BEFORE THE ORIGINAL HEADSTONE
BY THE MURRAYVILLE SHIRE COUNCIL MARCH 1961

1. Introduction & Map.
2. Clacherty's Post Office, 1930s.
3. Boyd's Hall, 1930s.
4. St Augustine's Church, 1951.
5. Cochran's Lily Bank, 1878.
6. Jalarra Park.
7. Billy Jagar, 1870-1930.
8. Barron River trade, 1876.
9. Dwyer's grave, 1877.
10. Marett's ferry, 1890.
11. Farmer's bridge, 1921.
12. Relocated grave, 2003.
13. Stratford Bowls Club, 1952.
14. Behan's Ricemill, 1888.
15. Stratford Bridge, 1934.
16. USAT MacArthur, 1942.
17. Martin's Sawmill, 1885.
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25. Mount Whitfield.
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28. Tully's Hotel, 1926.
29. Railway siding, 1892.



Stratford Heritage Trail

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