

HISTORY

Murdering Creek - Commonly known as Murdering Creek, and in the past Kirrin Kirrin Creek, this creek is officially named Mayal Creek. These days, the only thing upsetting its peaceful existence is the tide but this was not always so. Amongst the first cedar getters who arrived on the Tweed in 1844 were Hugh Feeney and John Collins. They worked about 3 miles from Tweed Heads on a mountain, named "Moyvin" by the local Aborigines. Both men got along well with the Aborigines who lived in the vicinity of the river. Later the men moved to Kirrin Kirrin Creek to cut timber, (the locality was called Nay-Le, now east Murwillumbah.) On the north arm of this creek, lived a tribe of approx. 200 Aborigines called Tul-gi-gin. Apparently Feeney and Collins had no work for the Aborigines and would not lend them their boat, so the Aborigines decided to kill them, take their boat, guns and rations. This is how Murdering Creek got its name.

Youth Hostel/Back Packers - formerly the home of Captain Lowe, who ran the river boat ferry. In 1980 the house was converted into the current Youth Hostel. This colourful building, with its prime location, overlooking the Tweed River, has seen many international and Aussie backpackers pass through its doors.

Coolamon Cultural Centre - a Federation building, with large wooden verandahs which was originally the home of the Proudfoot family. In 1986, the Doug Moran National Portrait prize was launched in the Tweed. As a result, donations were received to enable Council to begin work converting this building into the Tweed Regional Art Gallery. It was opened in 1988 (Bicentennial year), and for the occasion, special fire bricks were decorated by local people to form the walkway entrance to the former Art Gallery.

In 2006, the new Tweed River Art Gallery was built just south of the town on land donated by the Anthony family. The former Art Gallery was renamed the Coolamon Cultural Centre and now houses Community and Cultural Services for the Tweed Shire Council.

The Murwillumbah Ferry - crossed the Tweed River near what is now the Coolamon Cultural Centre. The ferry, which was hand operated, soon became too small as it was only able to transport two horses and carts at once. In 1895, a public meeting was called to improve communications between south and north Murwillumbah. Some people nominated that a steam ferry be introduced, others wanted a bridge, arguing that the ferry was inappropriate in flood times. It was decided that a bridge be built. A punt was in operation until 1901, when a lift-span bridge was built allowing shipping to continue to go further upstream. This bridge was replaced in 1968.

Canefields - Sugar cane was first imported to Australia in 1817 from Tahiti and was first grown on the Tweed at Cudgen in 1865. The Condong Mill was built in 1879 and crushing began in 1880. The mill produces one third of NSW sugar.

Sugar cane growing is the single largest agricultural industry in the district.

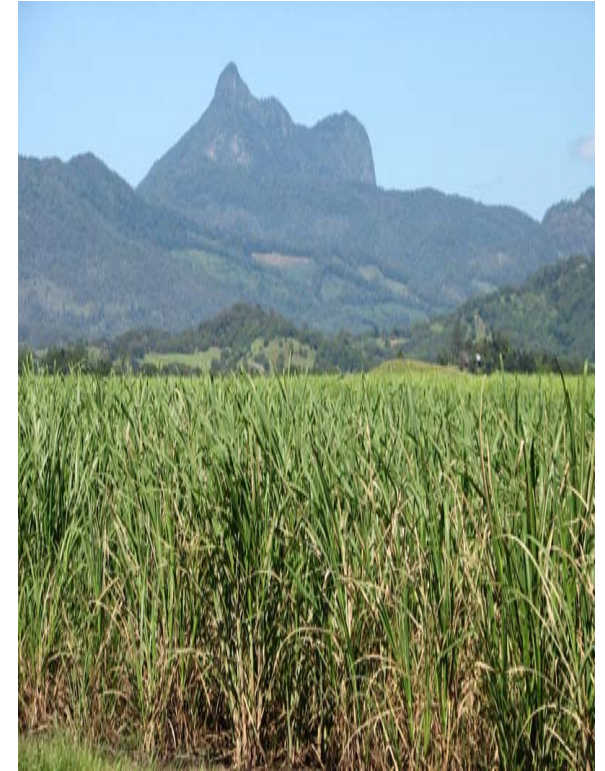
Seventh Day Adventist Church - In the early 1920's the Seventh Day Adventists lived in tents on Queen Street, Broadway, near the town clock. The church is now located on Race Course Road.

Produced with financial assistance of Tweed Shire Council and North Coast Area Health Service, as part of "The Murwillumbah on the Move" initiative 2007. Research and Design - Marguerite Buckley



Every effort has been made to ensure the information contained herein is correct. In the case of any errors noted please contact 02 6674 9500

Murdering Creek Walk



"MURWILLUMBAH ON THE MOVE"

STAY TRIM AND KEPP FIT WITH EASY EXERCISE

The series of brochures on Historic Walks of Tweed Shire are for information purposes only. Please consult your doctor or health professional before undertaking any historical walk to ensure the activity is appropriate for you.

MURDERING CREEK WALK

Grade: Easy. Distance: 5.7km (return)

DIRECTIONS

1. Start at Knox Park Rotunda. Cross Brisbane Street and walk to King Street.
2. Turn left into King Street. Walk past old Queenslander homes to Commercial Road and enter levee bank through the gates.
3. Turn left, walk towards Bridge.
4. Continue under bridge. Tweed Shire Council is on left and the Riverside/Backbackers Youth Hostel on the right. Look closely to your left after passing the Youth Hostel to see the old hospital staircase embedded in the side of the bank.
5. Walk through Nicholl Park. Continue along Tumbulgum Road, past Coolamon Cultural Centre (Old Regional Art Gallery) and the Rowing Club on your right.
6. Continue over the Bridge at Mayal Creek.
7. Turn left into Racecourse Road. View the cane fields.
8. Walk to Seventh Day Adventist Church.
9. Turn around at the church gates and walk back. Mt Warning/ Wollumbin and hospital can be viewed.

