

45 - COOCHIEMUDLO ISLAND: Community Hall, Jetty and Steps

Street Address	346 Victoria Parade West & 326-344 Victoria Parade South, Coochiemudlo Island
GPS/RPD	Community Hall: L137 SP144276. Steps and jetty: Part of L22 SP144276
Place Type	Built



Red-e-map (RCC, 2016).



Community Hall, Jetty, Steps, Coochiemudlo Isl (AHS, 2017).

Condition	Fair	Integrity	Good
Statutory Listings	Local Heritage Place		
Non-Statutory Listings	No current listing		
Inspection Date	24/04/2017		

Historical Context

Community Hall:

Coochiemudlo Community Hall located at 346 Victoria Parade South was originally built in 1973. During the 1960s, Coochiemudlo's population increased to twenty families which saw the need for a public hall to facilitate community meetings and events.[1] The Coochie Island Reserve Club, now known as the Coochiemudlo Island Progress Association, assisted with funding for the hall by sending letters of appeal to the island residents and holding fundraising events.[2] The Redland Shire Council also contributed by donating \$3500 to the project. The hall came to a total cost of \$8000.[3] The first stage of the hall, named Elliot Hall, was a single-storey building made of concrete blocks and was officially opened 15 September 1973.[4] Elliot Hall was named after Mr Gerald Elliot who was a farmer on Coochiemudlo and was the former President of the Progress Association.

The second stage of the Coochiemudlo Community Hall was built 1990-1991 and opened on 9 February 1991 by Councillor Bill McIntyre.[5] It was constructed on the base of the former Elliot Hall and is a two-storey building with a stage, kitchen and covered verandahs.[6] The hall can seat up to 150 people and is used as a meeting place, dance hall, church space and other community functions.

Jetty and Steps:

The limited information available for the jetty and steps located near the Coochiemudlo Community Hall suggests that Doug Morton, local farmer and entrepreneur, built the jetty and steps.[7] Morton also built many other jetties on Coochiemudlo Island.

Physical Description

The remnant steps lead from the rebuilt community hall at 346 Victoria Pde West to the stone staircase at the beach. There appear to be two different phases of steps perhaps reflecting different building periods or differing ways of accessing the beach and jetty. One set are concrete block style while the other have been worn into the soft natural rocks. It is on the site of the original jetty (remnants of the original jetty remain).

Statement of Significance

The Coochiemudlo Community Hall has historic and social significance to the local community. The hall has been used by the public since 1973 as a popular meeting place and for entertainment. The construction of the hall was driven by the population increase at Coochiemudlo during the 1960s, and the subsequent renovations to the building is reflective of its continuous use by the local community.

The remnant steps and jetty are locally significant and embody historical and rarity values. They are an example of the infrastructure used in the movement of people and goods to and from the island. The simple construction methods used and their exposure to the forces of sea and weather have resulted in few examples of this type of infrastructure remaining. The remnant steps show adaptive use of the soft red stone with footholds worn into the rock.

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Criteria A	The place is important in demonstrating the evolution or pattern of the region's history.
The community hall was established by local residents to facilitate the growing populace on Coochiemudlo. The building has been in continuous use since its construction and demonstrates the evolution and development of the island from that period. The remnant steps and jetty demonstrate the importance of marine transport to the settlement and development of Coochiemudlo Island.	
Criteria B	The place demonstrates rare, uncommon or endangered aspects of the region's cultural heritage.
The remnant steps and jetty demonstrate an early aspect of marine transport infrastructure in the Redlands area.	
Criteria G	The place has a strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons important to the region.
The Coochiemudlo Community Hall has a strong association with the local community as a popular meeting place. This is illustrated by community efforts in constructing the building, the community support for the continued maintenance and renovation of the place, and the ongoing use of the place as a community hall for social and religious purposes.	

Primary Themes	
8.0 Creating Social and Cultural Institutions	8.02 Cultural activities

References
<p>[1] John Pearn (ed.), <i>Chronicles of Coochiemudlo: Selected Vignettes of the Social and Natural History of Coochiemudlo Island, Moreton Bay Queensland</i>, Brisbane: Amphion Press, 1993, p. 192.</p> <p>[2] Ibid.</p> <p>[3] Ibid, p. 179.</p> <p>[4] Ibid, p. 192.</p> <p>[5] "A Short History of Coochiemudlo Island," Coochiemudlo Island Historical Society, 2014, https://www.communityheritage.net.au/coochiemudlo-island.</p> <p>[6] Pearn, <i>Chronicles of Coochiemudlo</i>, p. 193.</p> <p>[7] "A Short History of Coochiemudlo Island".</p>



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