

Street Address	56 Hilliard Street, Ormiston
GPS/RPD	Lot 7 on RP807476 and western end of Hilliard Street road reserve adjacent to Hilliards Creek.
Place Type	Archaeological



Red-e-map (RCC, 2017).



Hilliards Creek, Ormiston (RCC, 2013).

Condition	Fair	Integrity	Good
Statutory Listings	Local Heritage Place		
Non-Statutory Listings	No current listing		
Inspection Date	20/01/2017		

Historical Context

The old bridge at Hilliards Creek is the remnants of a bridge crossing linking Ormiston with Wellington Point. It was likely built by indentured South Sea Islander labour between 1865 and 1875, during the period of Louis Hope's Ormiston sugar plantation.[1] The bridge connected the estates on both sides of Hilliards Creek where sugar was being grown, with the sugar mill located at the end of Wellington Street in Ormiston.[2] Gilbert Burnett leased the Wellington Point side of the bridge in c.1874, and it was likely used to transport sugar and related equipment over the creek, as well as for plantation workers going between estates.[3] Local residents also used the bridge to reach Wellington Point, including records of children attending Wellington Point School, which was closer than the Ormiston School for students who lived at the northern end of Ormiston when the crossing was established.[4]

Physical Description

This site includes the remains of a narrow bridge crossing constructed of rough sawn logs. There are bearers and cross members remaining on both sides of the creek. Portions of the bridge are on the creek bed below. The raised roadway section remains evident within the reserve on the eastern side of the crossing. It is unknown if any evidence of a roadway exists on the western side of the crossing.

Statement of Significance

The old bridge and associated roadway is a locally significant place which embodies historical and rarity values and has archaeological potential. The structure and raised roadway section is closely associated with the establishment of Ormiston as a European settlement and a rare surviving evidence of an early bridge from the 1860-70s. The site is also significant as it may yield further information about the early settlement of the Ormiston / Wellington Point area and the use of South Sea Islander labour during this time.

Criteria A	The place is important in demonstrating the evolution or pattern of the region's history.
	The place is important as it is closely associated with the establishment of European settlement at Ormiston and in particular the formation of a local sugar industry in the 1860s.
Criteria B	The place demonstrates rare, uncommon or endangered aspects of the region's cultural heritage.
	The old bridge and associated raised roadway section is significant as surviving evidence in the Redland's district, and is demonstrative of early bridge construction in the area.
Criteria C	The place has potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of the region's history.
	The old bridge and associated raised roadway section has the potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of Redland's history, specifically the settlement patterns in Ormiston and Wellington Point, and the use of the site for early industry, and its associated South Sea Island labour.

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Primary Themes

2.0 Exploiting, Utilising and Transforming the Land	2.04 Agricultural activities
5.0 Moving Goods, People and Information	5.01 Utilising human movement

References

- [1] Tracy Ryan, "Places of the Redlands: Ormiston," Redland Shire Council, 2005, p. 6.
- [2] Mary Howells, "Wellington Point – History," Redland City Council, n.d., p. 2.
- [3] RPS, Redland City Council – Heritage Citation, "56 Hilliard Street, Ormiston," 2012.
- [4] Tracy Ryan, "Places of the Redlands: Ormiston," Redland Shire Council, 2005, p. 6.