

CLUMP POINT

Traditional Land & Sea Country
of the Djiru People



Welcome to Djiru country

Winjay nginda baniny

We, the Djiru people are the Aboriginal traditional owners of the land and sea country of Clump Point and greater Mission Beach area.

We welcome you to our traditional country and ask that you respect this special place.

Djiru people have lived as part of this area since time immemorial. Our traditional rainforest and coastal country has provided us with food, medicine, materials and resources. Our language, stories, songs, dances and cultural traditions reflect our coastal rainforest environment and lifestyle.

The Clump Point area has always been a significant place for our people for its cultural, spiritual, social, educational and recreational values. It is a place where our ancestors have met with other groups, held ceremonies, fished, hunted, camped and collected resources for thousands of years. To us, our culture, spirituality and country are one, our identity is connected to this place.

Clump Point is an important part of our tribal country that includes story places, hunting and fishing grounds, waterholes, ceremonial, camp and burial sites. These sites remain today as reminders of the long term occupation of the area by our people.

There are a number of cultural sites in the Clump Point and Mission Beach area. All of these sites are protected under the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act (Qld) 2004. Heavy fines may apply for interfering, disturbing or damaging aboriginal-cultural sites. Please respect these sites and their value to the heritage of our people and country.

The plants and animals of our country also hold great cultural and spiritual significance for our people. The Kangaroo grassland (*Themeda triandra*) at the lookout is a very significant cultural site. This site continues to be an important lookout point for us over our traditional country. The grassland community is also considered significant for its environmental values. Clump Point is the only place in the Wet Tropics where kangaroo grasslands are found on basalt soils, and the only place where basalt soils reach the sea.

Clump Point also supports a unique vine forest (complex mesophyll vine forest), the only example of this type of forest on basalt soils in the Wet Tropical coast area. Due to its rarity, it is considered to be 'Of Concern Regional Ecosystem 7.8.1' and having high conservation significance. This forest also supports many vulnerable species including the Arenga Palm (*Arenga australasica*) and the Double-eyed Fig Parrot.

The waters and bay of Clump Point are part of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park World Heritage Area. These waters support a number of endangered, vulnerable and migratory species including dugongs, two species of turtle and Irrawaddy dolphins. The mangrove communities of the bay are important nurseries for many fish and crustacean species, many of which are important food sources for our people.

Today, we continue to have strong cultural and spiritual connections to the Clump Point and Mission Beach area through the maintenance of our traditional cultural and spiritual practices. We have rights and responsibilities passed down to us from our ancestors to care for this, our traditional country.

Remains of a traditional fish trap

Mangrove habitat

We hope you enjoy your visit to Clump Point,
a part of traditional Djiru country.



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Artwork by Leonard Andy and Lily Hart © 2005. Historical photograph courtesy of The John Oxley Library, Brisbane.

Djiru man with a traditional shield (c.1900)

