

13. Police Station – Court House

- a. *Senior Constable Portley took charge of Mossman and Daintree Rivers Native Patrol in 1883. Part of the Port Douglas police barracks was moved here in 1904.*
- b. *There was no court in Mossman until February 1899 when a Court of Petty Sessions opened to process minor matters without a jury.*

14. Ambulance Station – Mossman Q.A.T.B.

- a. *In 1927 the disused Port Douglas Queensland National Bank was moved to Mossman to become the Queensland Ambulance Transport Brigade building.*
- b. *Before the hospital was built in Mossman in 1930, patients were taken to Port Douglas Hospital on a flat-top carriage drawn by a Mill locomotive.*

15. Chinese Influence – A Chinese Family

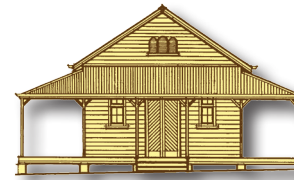
- a. *In the 1900s there were small Chinese general stores along Front Street. Sun Wo Lee's store was here. He and George Ah Queen were shopkeepers in the 1930s.*
- b. *Tommy Kum Yuen became the largest Chinese sugar cane planter in the district. With his wife Lum See, he ran a store in Mossman between 1914 and 1923.*

16. Jones Family Cemetery (2 km north of Mossman)

This cemetery illustrates the need for home burials in the early days because of the climate. It was part of 'The Cedars' selected in 1878 by Welshman Richard Owen Jones.

The original 1,280 acre (two square mile) property has since been divided into smaller cane farms.

The Court House Museum is a project of the Douglas Shire Historical Society and features the story of Ellen Thomson, the only woman to be hanged in Queensland.



Port Douglas Court House 1879

Located in Wharf Street Port Douglas next to the police station, it is open Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Our photoposts were generously sponsored by:

- The Phillips-Turner Family of 'Drumsara' Plantation (1882)
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- Mossman Chamber of Commerce
- Ron & Maree Crees
- The Family of Charlie McCracken
- Doug, Anthea, Ethan, Reagan & Tyson Crees
- Bolt Burchill Tranter Lawyers
- The Family of the late Antun & Ema Anich
- John & Jocelyn White
- Stephen Baker
- Ross & Jewel Cavallaro & Family
- NAB Mossman
- The Family of Pat Andersen
- Bruno & Deirdre Scomazzon
- The Cairns Regional Council
- Bertoncini, McKeown & Pringle Families
- The Hinspeter & Rex Family

The traditional Aboriginal people of this area are the Kubirri Warra clan within the wider boundaries of the Kuku Yalanji.

At a leisurely pace, this walking tour should take about one hour with the exception of driving to the Jones Cemetery 2 km north.

The walking distance starting and finishing at the same location is less than two kilometres. It is recommended that water be carried.

Useful telephone numbers:

Mossman Taxi ☎ 07 4098 1538 or 0419 650 292

Emergency ☎ 000

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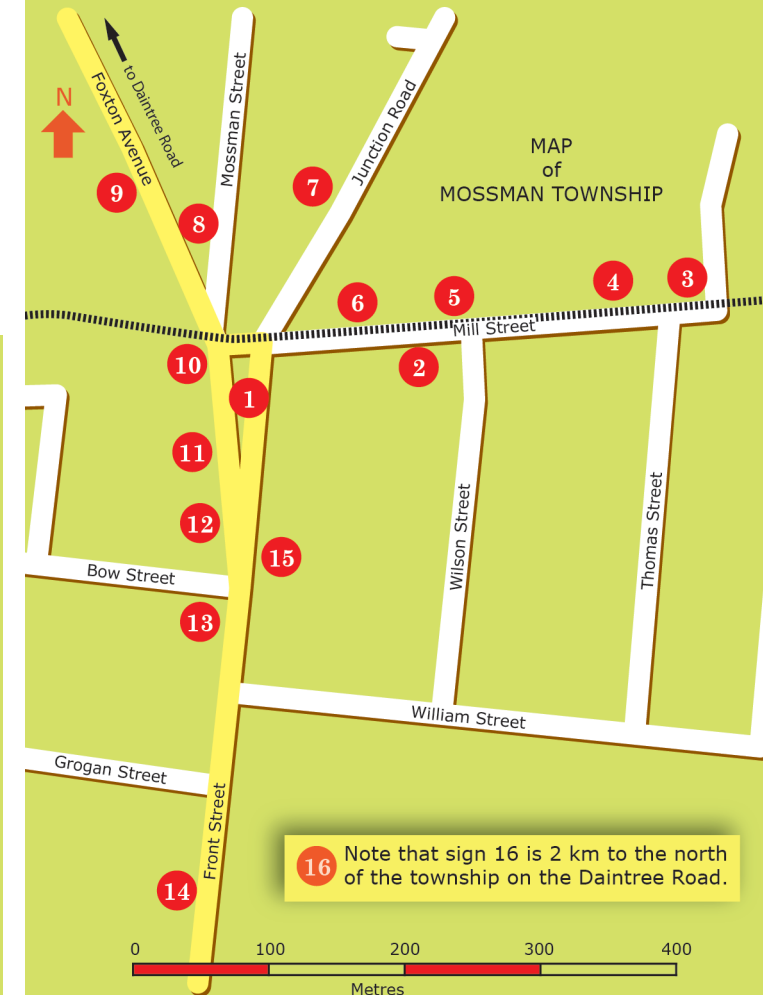
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DOUGLAS SHIRE COUNCIL

Stroll Back through Time in the Mossman Township with the Douglas Shire Historical Society



We suggest that you start your tour here and carry some water.

1. Mossman Triangle – Exchange Hotel

- a. *The green patch between Front Street, Mill Street and Junction Road has always been a place of public use.*
- b. *The Exchange Hotel has seen many building changes brought about by successive cyclones but has remained throughout as a part of the social scene.*

2. National Bank of Australasia

This is as an example of adding an impressive Classical temple facade to a simple timber building to portray an important image for the bank. The building is listed on the Heritage Registers of the National Estate and the Queensland Heritage Register.

Mossman's only bank holdup took place here in 1983.

3. Mossman Central Mill – School of Arts

- a. *The Mossman Central Mill Company Limited was established in 1894 and after mill construction, the first sugar cane was crushed on the 23rd August 1897.*
- b. *A School of Arts was the cultural heart of many country towns and Mossman had one as early as 1902. In 1921 the Mill financed a public library in this building.*

4. Photo Play Theatre, Lunn's Garage – Post Office Hotel

- a. *Extensively damaged by the devastating cyclone of March 1911, the Coronation Hall was rebuilt to eventually become the Photo Play Theatre.*
- b. *Dick Lunn opened Mossman's first garage in front of the picture show and established the Post Office Hotel next door in 1909, formerly Tattersalls Hotel.*

5. Post Office – Queensland National Bank

- a. *A post office at this settlement known as Mossman River was opened in 1896. The name was shortened to Mossman in 1899 when it became linked by telegraph.*
- b. *Mossman residents pleaded with the Q.N. Bank for autonomy from the Port Douglas branch when the Mill was built. In 1923 that branch was transferred here.*

6. Railway Station – Tramway Network

- a. *The station was the base for the Mill's passenger service to South Mossman. When the line reached Port Douglas the service grew to three return trips a day.*
- b. *In 1925 the trams carried 156,850 passengers and the line ran for 32 km from Saltwater (north) to Mowbray (south) with many branches to cane farms in between.*

7. St. Augustine's Church – Mossman Butchers

- a. *St. Augustine's Catholic Church was built in 1905. Destroyed in the 1911 cyclone, it was quickly rebuilt and opened by Bishop John Murray in 1912.*
- b. *The Mossman Co-operative Butchering Company was formed in 1904. Later their factory provided butchering, baking and ice-making.*

8. Daniel Hart (Coolshade) – St. David's Church

- a. *Dan Hart was the first settler in Mossman having arrived in 1874 to exploit the native stands of timber including red cedar, a softwood then in high demand.*
- b. *St. David's Church of England was originally built here in 1899. A victim of the 1911, cyclone it was finally replaced by the present stone church in 1952.*

9. Blacksmiths – Foxtan Bridge

- a. *Mossman smithies included John Thygessen from 1897, William Lematy in 1915 and R.T. Sorrensen from 1931. It was hot and dirty work in the tropics.*
- b. *In 1897, State Lands Minister, Mr. J.F.G. Foxtan used his position to facilitate a bridge over the Mossman River to access his potential sugar farm.*

10. Jack & Newell – Queens Hotel

- a. *William Jack and John Newell established general stores throughout the north and began trading in Mossman in 1901, 'grub-staking' many farmers.*
- b. *The Queens Hotel was built by F.W. Barnard in 1896 for Mick Tyrell, who had a bullock team on the 'Bump' Track leading to the hinterland mining fields.*

11. Mossman Hotel

- a. *Traffic over the 'Bump' Track was declining so George Kearsley brought Ryan's Hotel from Craiglie and opened it as the Mossman Hotel.*
- b. *This was a pub whose patrons mostly worked in the sugar industry and it is now the oldest continuously licensed premises in Mossman.*

12. Royal Hotel – Jensen's Cordials

- a. *The Royal Hotel, originally Mullavey's Hotel in Mowbray, was transported to Mossman about 1894 after Fred Jensen bought it. Licensed in 1898, the hotel burned down for the second time in 2011.*
- b. *Fred Jensen manufactured eight different flavours of fizzy non-alcoholic fruit drinks here from about 1905.*