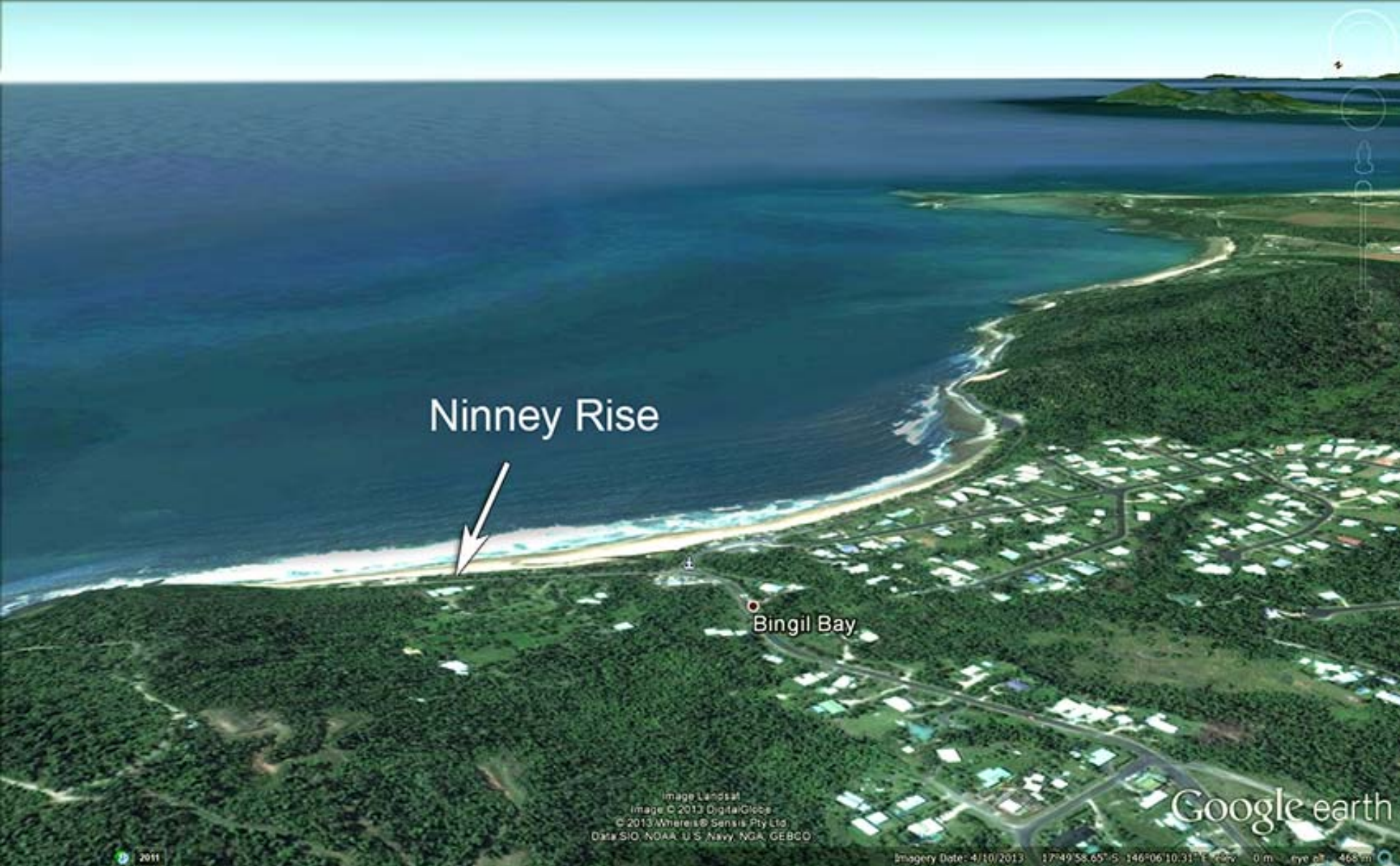


Ninney Rise – the future?





Ninney Rise is at the Northern headland of Bingil Bay

Ninney Rise





Ninney Rise is a 2 hectare property with a big solid house. Verandahs overlook the Coral Sea. It was gifted to National Parks in 1990.

Queensland Government
 Department of Environment and Heritage Protection
 ...strong environmental management supporting sustainable economic development.

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Great state. Great opportunity.

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Ninney Rise and John Busst Memorial

Place Details	
Place ID	602499
Registration Type	State Heritage
Place Name	Ninney Rise and John Busst Memorial
Alternative Name	John and Alison Busst's Residence
Place Classification	Built
Place Category	Political Parks / Gardens / Trees
Place Type	Memorial/Monument Housing
Themes	2 Exploiting, utilising and transforming the land / 2.9 Valuing and appreciating the environment and landscapes 2 Exploiting, utilising and transforming the land / 2.8 Protecting and conserving the environment
Register Entry Date	06/08/2010

Location	
Address	405 Alexander Drive and Esplanade
Town / Suburb	BINGIL BAY
Post Code	4854
LGA	CASSOWARY COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Cultural Heritage Significance	
Principal Period of Significance	1960s onwards
Criterion A	Ninney Rise is significant as the base from which the artist and environmentalist John Busst organized the 'Save the Reef' and other important environmental campaigns during the 1960s and early 1970s. Set within the landscape being fought for, it was a meeting place for the

Heritage Search Options

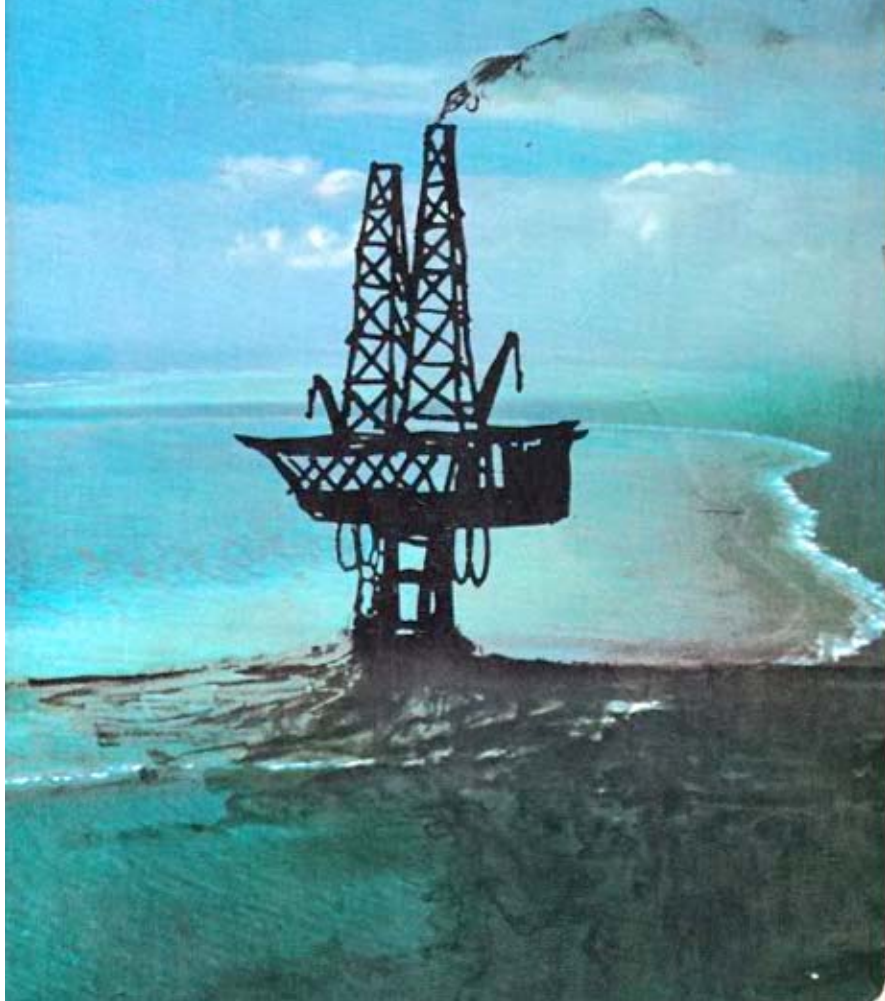
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The Busst family and Mrs Tode all wished for the house and property to remain protected by QPWS and continue to provide a base for the community's use as a centre for conservation, science, history and education.

Because it met three heritage listing criteria it was entered on Qld Heritage Register in 2010.

THE CORAL BATTLEGROUND

JUDITH WRIGHT



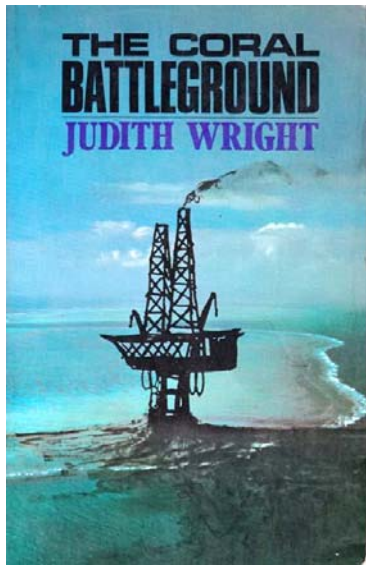
- Demonstrating the evolution or pattern of Queensland's history



- Aesthetic significance



- Special association with the life or work of a particular person, group or organisation of importance in Queensland's history



Ninney Rise is the base from which John Büssst organized the 'Save the Reef' and rainforest campaigns during the 1960s and early 1970s.

Set within the landscape being fought for, it was a meeting place for the campaigners and scientists involved; his friends, scientists Len Webb and Geoff Tracey and the then Prime Minister Harold Holt.



The campaigns led to the declaration of the world's largest marine park (Great Barrier Reef Marine Park), the formation of GBRMPA, and the eventual declaration of the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area.



These campaigns demonstrate the history of Queensland's environmental conservation movement with Büssst's home at Bingil Bay a key place associated with this activism.



The building, the park-like grounds, the coastal lowland rainforest and the views to the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area have great aesthetic significance.

The outlook from the place takes in the marine environment, which is now recognised for the outstanding natural universal values that John Büsst fought to protect during the 1960s before these values had been widely recognised and appreciated.



Ninney Rise was designed and built by the Save The Reef leader John Busst, here with Wife Alison at Ninney Rise.



In 1957, artist John Busst and his wife Alison moved from Bedarra Island to Bingil Bay and built Ninney Rise, overlooking the Coral Sea, using local materials and doing much of the work themselves.

It became a focal point for the early environmental conservation movement in Queensland.

John Busst was a key member of the Queensland Littoral Society and the Wildlife Preservation Society of Queensland and these groups met with scientists and politicians at Ninney Rise to run the campaigns to protect the reef and the rainforest.

“ Without...John Busst’s leadership, inspiration and great generosity with time and money, we would never have succeeded in either stopping limestone mining on Ellison Reef or halting oil exploration on the reef itself.” Judith Wright

John Busst died in 1971, survived by wife Alison.

Following his death in 1971, John Busst's wife Alison donated some of the property to the State as Lot 115NPW502 and sold the house to Kate Tode in 1979.

Kate was an American born in 1905.




Kate and husband Arthur have been described as great 20th century world travellers active in environmental concerns.




At her death in 1990 Mrs Tode bequeathed the remainder of the property including the house on 2 hectares of parkland to QPWS.


Ninney Rise is currently vacant.



MISSION BEACH
BUSINESS & TOURISM

Turning the Tide Project

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The History of the Great Barrier Reef

Samples from our comprehensive Great Barrier Reef resource database

"TURNING THE TIDE" About the project


The Cassowary Coast and surrounding regions have suffered the effects of 2 major tropical cyclones (TC Larry and TC Yasi) within 6 years, severely impacting the local communities and particularly the tourism industry.

Mission Beach Tourism is re-developing the tourism product through the Turning of the Tide project, utilising the Wet Tropics Visitor Centre as a regional hub to showcase the location's significance as the birthplace of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park and the role of tropical foods in communities in the Far North Queensland. This project aims to preserve and share these stories. The avenue will be through Mission Beach Tourism's establishment of a quality interpretative centre using leading edge technology, a website hosting the digital library, and a state of the art visitor-attracting experience.

Mission Beach: Birthplace of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park

In the 1960's, John Busst (artist and resident of "Ninney Rise" at Bingil Bay), Judith Wright (Australian poet) and Len Webb (scientist and ecologist) teamed up with the aim of protecting the Great Barrier Reef. One of their first battles (of many to come) happened at the Mining Warden's court in Innisfail where their case against mining Ellison Reef (NE of Mission Beach) was fought and won in 1967. This became the catalyst in the long history of protecting the Great Barrier Reef which included the creation of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park, and the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority in the 1970's.


Prior to these events, the reef had evolved naturally over the millennia. Human contact added to the colourful history of the reef with hunting, fishing, shipping, coastal development, tourism, conservation, politics, and more. Indigenous, South Sea Islanders, Europeans were among many who interacted with the Great Barrier Reef and contributed many stories and characters to its history.



Alana (ship) in the Torres Strait, 1940

Media type: Photograph
Authors: Unknown
Publisher: John Oxley Library, State Library of Queensland, 1935
Year: 1940


A pearling ship, Torres Strait



Eco-warrior of the Great Barrier Reef

Media type: Article
Authors: Roger Bradbury
Publisher: Oceanguard Society
Year: 1997

Article about Robert Endean - marine biologist, crown of thorns starfish expert



Wendy Craik, Biography

Media type: Biography
Publisher: National Library of Australia

“Mission Beach as the birthplace of the GBR Marine Park” is a key theme of Mission Beach Tourism’s “Turning The Tide” project.



Wet Tropics Environment & Visitor Information Centre

Ninney Rise provides a unique & authentic story and experience; a reason for visitors to come to Mission Beach and stay longer; its good for business and conservation.

It is a key part of a proposed trail from the Visitor Information Centre/C4 to Ninney Rise.



The trail starts at the VIC/C4

An aerial photograph of a coastal region. The land is green and hilly, with some buildings and roads visible. The water is a deep blue-green. A white arrow points from the text 'Volcanic headland' to a specific point on the coastline. The coastline is irregular, with a small peninsula or headland. The water is deep blue-green, and the land is green with some buildings and roads. The text 'Volcanic headland' is in white, bold, sans-serif font. The arrow is white and points from the text to the headland. The background is an aerial photograph of a coastal area.

Volcanic headland

Past the only volcanic headland in the Wet Tropics.



Distinctive basalt boulders

An aerial photograph of a coastal region. The image shows a mix of green land, sandy beaches, and blue-green water. A white arrow points from the text 'Cutten Bros walking track' to a specific location on the coast. The water is a deep teal color, while the land is a mix of dark green (forests) and lighter green (fields). A sandy beach is visible in the bottom left corner. The overall scene is a coastal landscape.

Cutten Bros walking track

Along Cutten Brothers walking track





An aerial photograph of a coastal region. The image shows a mix of land and water. On the left, there's a coastline with some buildings, a road, and a small patch of dense forest. A white arrow points from the text 'Littoral Rainforest' to this forested area. The water is a deep green color, and there are some smaller islands or peninsulas visible. The overall scene is a mix of natural and developed land.

Littoral Rainforest

This rainforest is actually “critically endangered littoral rainforest”...



...another great selling point to attract visitors.



Rainforest meets reef



Where two World Heritage Areas (the Wet Tropics and the GBR) actually meet between Narragon Beach and Bingil Bay.



Cassowaries can still be seen accessing the rainforest that grows down to the sea



Ninney Rise



To Ninney Rise



Ninney Rise has great value to tourism, the community and reef and rainforest conservation.

It's one of our key long term assets.

It's important to maintain our assets and develop them into experiences.

Qld government has been looking at options to sell Ninney Rise because of maintenance costs.

The building was built by Busst "to last 1000 years" but all buildings need maintenance and even mowing the 2 ha grounds adds up.

It's vacant so it's bringing in no return.





But tourism, conservation and heritage groups and individuals are trying hard to help protect and realise the potential of Ninney Rise. They have recently formed the group, Friends of Ninney Rise.



Organisations trying to find a solution include WPSQ, C4, CCA, MB Tourism, Terrain, National Parks, Environment & Heritage Protection, GBRMPA, Qld Museums, Djiru, Australian Marine Conservation Society, Australian Conservation Foundation, etc.



This slide shows Australian Conservation Foundation CEO Don Henry at Ninney Rise for the 45th Anniversary of saving Ellison Reef from mining.



72 yo June Norman (centre of photo) recently camped at Ninney Rise (with QPWS approval) when walking from Cairns to Gladstone to raise reef conservation awareness as part of ReefWalk 2013.



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Lizard Island Research Station

The Lizard Island Research Station is a world-leading supplier of on-reef facilities for coral reef research and education. Located on the northern Great Barrier Reef (270 km north of Cairns, Queensland).

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IMAGE GALLERY



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IMAGE GALLERY

So what are potential uses for Ninney Rise that would protect the heritage, tell the story of reef and rainforest conservation, enable community and visitor access (not necessarily on a daily basis), and not be a maintenance cost for government?

Possible uses include facilities for visiting reef and rainforest scientists, such as at Lizard Island Research Station.

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- Funerals
- Photography, Film & TV shoots
- Photos
- Support Montsalvat
- Employment



RICK AMOR Self



7 Hillcrest Ave.

Montsalvat in Victoria is another model.

John Busst helped build Montsalvat in the 1930s and 40s, so there is a special connection with Ninney Rise.

Today Montsalvat features artists in residence, functions, etc.

Other ideas include a reef & rainforest conservation museum with bed & breakfast.

Paronella Park Mena Creek, Johnstone Shire

CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT PLAN
FOR MARK AND JUDY EVANS



When developing a new use for a heritage property, a Conservation Management Plan is prepared to help identify uses that protect heritage.

Nearby Paronella Park has a Conservation Management Plan.



Subject to Qld govt approval, we could raise funds for a Conservation Management Plan to help identify and realise future uses that protect Ninney Rise's heritage.

This would include talking with community about their ideas for future uses and will help streamline approval for a future use.

A Conservation Management Plan costs approx \$30,000.

We are looking into grant applications and are currently running a raffle so it won't be a cost to government.



We are raising awareness of the asset and opportunity by presentations such as this.

We hope you will support our request to Qld Ministers for National Parks, Tourism & Heritage for all of us to work together to realise and fulfil the great potential of Ninney Rise.



Margaret Thorsborne AO with John Busst self portrait at the heritage listed plaque placed by Judith Wright on the rocks at Ninney Point in memory of John Busst.



