

Significant sites on Mulgumpin

Learn about the shell midden sites located on Mulgumpin (Moreton Island) and the significance of these sites for the local Aboriginal peoples of Mulgumpin. The Quandamooka Yoolooburrabee Aboriginal Corporation has directly provided all information for this factsheet, learn more [here](#).

Mulgumpin (Moreton Island) Shell Midden

The shell midden found on the Western coast of Mulgumpin primarily consists of Eugarie, commonly known as Papis. These small, edible shellfish hold great cultural and nutritional significance for the Aboriginal people of Mulgumpin, who are part of the Quandamooka People, specifically the Ngugi Tribe.

The name 'Ngugi' translates to 'people of the Yuguri-place of sandhills', reflecting the tribe's deep connection to the sandy landscapes of the region and the shell resources of the island. The Quandamooka People traditionally harvested Eugaries along the beach, carefully collecting and transporting them to designated campsites.

This practice was not only a means of sustenance but also a social and cultural activity, illustrating their profound understanding of sustainable resource management and their strong ties to the land and sea.



The exposed shell midden on Mulgumpin (Moreton Island) offer a glimpse into the cultural and ecological history of the region. The image reveals the distinct stratification of the midden, a layered accumulation of shells, bones, and other remnants left behind by the Quandamooka People, specifically the Ngugi Tribe.

Each layer tells a story, representing generations of sustainable harvesting and communal feasting, primarily centred around Eugarie (Pipis), which were a staple food source. The stratification serves as a tangible record of their deep connection to the land and sea, illustrating how they live in harmony with their environment over countless generations.



Thank you to the Quandamooka Yoolooburrabee Aboriginal Corporation for consulting and collaborating with Cool.org and the Everick Foundation to create this resource.