

Can you Find?



Parking: Blackman Park, Lloyd Rees Drive.

Time: Approximately 1 hour casual stroll

Grade: Medium grade. Sturdy shoes advisable.

For further information please contact the
Aboriginal Heritage Manager:

David Watts

Aboriginal Heritage Manager

Phone: (02)9936 8262

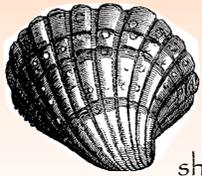


Walk around the Mana Badangai Track and explore the cultural remains and mysteries of the Aboriginal people once living here. The occupants of this region were the Guringai Tribe. The sites you may discover tell their story even though the people themselves have been displaced from this land.



A lesson in Aboriginal Site Awareness: There are many different types of Aboriginal Sites you can find in Lane Cove. This brochure shall briefly outline some of the main site types that you may come across: -

Shell Middens



Middens are shell mounds built up over hundreds of years as a result of countless meals of shellfish. They primarily contain mature specimens of edible shellfish species. However, they may also contain pieces of clay, bird, fish, animal teeth and bones, human remains, stone tools and campfire charcoal. Middens differ immensely in shape and size, from a few shells scattered on the surface, to deposits that are metres thick. Middens are the most common and visible site along the Australian coast.

Axe Grinding Grooves

These are grooves resulting from the production or sharpening and maintenance of an edge ground tool. These sites are generally located near creeks or rock pools. There are a number of grinding grooves located throughout Lane Cove and the general Sydney area.



Art work



Stencilling objects is a common form of Aboriginal artwork found throughout Australia. The stencils are created by mixing ochre in the mouth with a water and spit, then spraying it over the hand or any object that was to be stencilled (including human and animal feet, boomerangs, axes, woomeras, kangaroo tails and shields). Other forms of artwork include ochre paintings, as well as charcoal drawings and etchings. The most common elements used for creating Aboriginal artwork include red and yellow ochre, white pipeclay, gypsum and charcoal.

Rock Engraving

Rock engravings are usually located on highly elevated, smooth, flat surfaces, but in some instances can be found on large vertical rocks. Drilling a series of holes, which were then connected to form a line, made them. In the local area, designs include fish, animals, humans and mythological beings. The precise meanings behind the engravings are not known, due to the genocide of the Cammeraygal people.

Rock Shelter with Deposit

In this area sandstone is the predominate material from which rock shelters are formed. They are found in overhangs that form hollows which allow good protection from the elements. Deposits may include midden materials, stone artefacts and tools, fireplaces, and sometimes burials. Rock shelters with deposit are most commonly found facing away from the south, due to weather patterns coming from that direction. North and west facing shelters often hold good deposit.

Now you know what to look for we can test your skills - can you find any sites?

