

site means to you.

This type of engraving is not very common, being on a vertical rock face. Most engravings are on flat horizontal surfaces. The best time to look at this engraving is after rain or in the early morning or evening with a flash light held at right angles to the grooves.

The Great North Walk has many engravings along its path. It holds abundant evidence of the people who lived here. Take along your Sites Guide leaflets (No's 1-3) and try to see how many different site types you can find.

When walking near or on rock platforms remember that engravings and art works cannot be replaced. Your shoes can damage these sites so take your shoes off or don't walk directly on the sandstone rock. If you are looking at an

engraving, remember you are viewing just one engraving of the largest outdoor rockart gallery in the world.

If you discover a site or know of the location of a site you can use the form within this kit to record and register all the information about your new discovery. Perhaps you are aware of some damage or disturbance being caused to an Aboriginal site by either vandals or developments. Please contact your nearest National Parks and Wildlife Service office or the Hornsby Shire Council.

MORE INFORMATION

More sites are open to the public in many of the National Parks around Sydney. In Kuring-gai Chase National Park a number of sites can be visited and regular guided tours are also available. For more information about these sites and tours contact the Parks Information Centre on 9457-9853.

For further information please contact

Hornsby Shire Council
Heritage Planner
PO Box 37
Hornsby NSW 1630



WALKING INTO HISTORY

ABORIGINAL SITES

BROCHURE No. 1 of 2

- ◇ **Washtub Gully, Berowra Waters**
- ◇ **Berowra Waters**

Easy reading guide to visit these engravings and viewing advantages.

Washtub Gully, Berowra Waters.

How to get there:

This site is found along the Great North Walk where a small creek crosses the trail, approximately 400 metres south of the Tea House and car ferry, at the end of Berowra Waters Road.

UBD Reference- page # 94 grid A/4

Here you will find more than 30 grinding grooves and engravings of fish, birds and other animals. Also nearby (15m below) is a small cave that contains two red fish drawn with ochre.

There are many ochre paintings in the Hornsby area. Some you will find have been made from white, red or yellow ochre. The reason for the difference in colour is not known. Other areas around Australia have special meaning to colour difference.

One such belief is red is a spiritual place and white is a colour used to acknowledge that this place is an ideal area for living.

Behind the cave is an extensive midden with deep shell deposit. Unfortunately much of this site has been vandalised in the past. This is an example of what can happen to our cultural heritage if care is not taken.

You can see that this midden was a very popular place to collect shell fish. Refer to your Site Type Leaflet No.1 and try to see, without touching or disturbing the site, how many different types of shells you can find.

As you walk along the Great North Walk you can see evidence of middens throughout the length of the route. This walk has been used for trading by the Aboriginal people of the Sydney area for thousands of years.

Berowra Waters.

How to get there:

This site is found on a small boulder on the high side of the road approximately 400 metres north of the car ferry on Berowra Waters Road.

UBD Reference- page # 94 grid A/1

These engravings are interesting in their composition. One figure has been described as a man wearing a head-dress. Two other figures appear to represent koalas.

Like so many other sites throughout the Sydney area, the engravings cannot be interpreted without speculation.

In looking at these sites, you should be mindful of what you read about these sites and use your imagination to determine what this

Mount Ku-ring-gai Footprints.

How to get there:

On the eastern side of the Pacific Highway, 500 metres north of Mount Ku-ring-gai railway station.

UBD Reference- *page #114 grid -G/9*

A very large male figure (with equally large feet), with his two "wives" on either side. Fish, boomerangs and animal tracks are also found alongside.

These types of engravings are very common around the Sydney region. Many sites you find in the Hornsby area depict hunting scenes.

Also at this site is an impressive series of footprints or "mundoes", which approach the main group of engravings along the rockshelf from the north. The footprints may be hard to find because they are widespread along the rockshelf, but if

you are patient and observant you will find them.

It is said the word "Mundoes" is a French word that the Aboriginal people adopted. Mundoes lead you to a site. The sites at Mt Ku-ring-gai are very special and have spiritual connections, like so many Aboriginal sites. When looking at these sites, it is easy to see them when the sun is low in the sky and the shadows are drawn across the engraving.

Quarter Sessions Road, Westleigh.

How to get there:

This site is located near the north end of Quarter Sessions Road.

UBD Reference- *page # 132 grid P/15*

This site was nearly destroyed by residential sub-division until intervention by the National Parks and

Wildlife Service ensured that a large section of rock containing the engravings, was removed and relocated in a nearby reserve. This type of disturbance is very common in Sydney because of the demand for land and space for the ever increasing population.

The engravings depict a fine pair of leaping kangaroos, which is another very common type of engraving. A viewing platform beside the site gives easy access and stops any further disturbance of this site. A good time to see engravings is after a rain storm. The water brings out the contrast in the depth of the engraving in the rock. Another great time to see engravings is at night with a flash light. Place the light on the ground away from the engraving and look for the shadow which is in the depth of the engraving area.

Currawong Road, Berowra Heights.

How to get there:

This site is found in a small reserve on Currawong Road, near the intersection with Berowra Waters Road.

UBD Reference- page # 94 grid D/8

The site has five engravings including, near the centre of the rockshelf, a very impressive "culture hero" figure, clearly visible and holding an axe. Also at the site are two male figures and another indeterminate engraving. One of the men has been described as having two heads, although this figure is now very faint.

Cultural figures in the Aboriginal culture are seen throughout the Hornsby Shire and are very common throughout New South Wales.

Look for more engravings around this site after a rain storm or late in the evening as they may become visible.

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WALKING INTO HISTORY

ABORIGINAL SITES

BROCHURE No. 2 of 2

- ◇ Mount Ku-ring-gai Footprints
- ◇ Quarter Sessions Road, Westliegh
- ◇ Currawong Road, Berowra Heights

Easy reading guide to get to these engravings and viewing advantages.