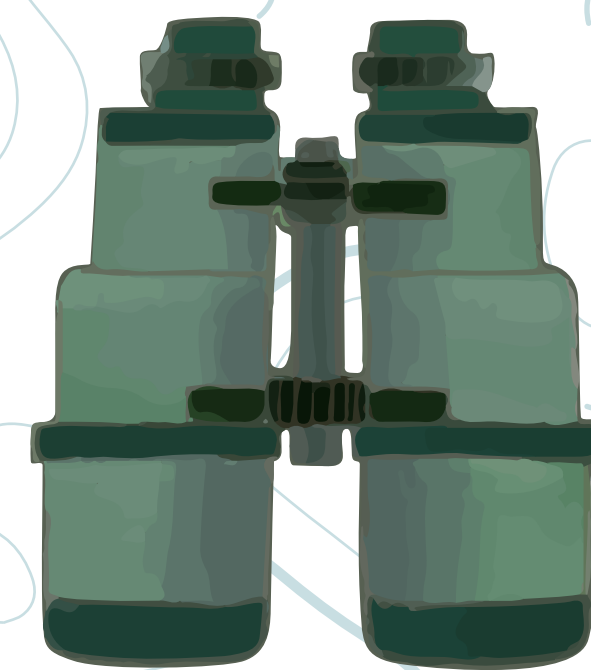


About this Conservation Area



Denmark Hill Conservation Reserve is an important nature refuge in the heart of the city.

The 11 hectare site was established as a reserve in the 1880s, and more recently consolidated into Ipswich City Council's Enviroplan conservation network.

Visitors can enjoy bushwalk loops, with picnic facilities and nature-based playground available at the Quarry Street entrance.



CULTURAL HERITAGE

One of the site's cultural uses was as a location for communication via smoke signals. The messages could include arranging meetings, ceremonies, trade and marriage, or from others signalling their intent and to seek permission to enter or traverse through their Traditional Lands.

The totem landscape art feature at the Quarry Street entrance recognises the connection and cultural significance of this site to Traditional Owners.



MODERN HISTORY

In the 1890s Denmark Hill gained international fame when Triassic period insect and plant fossils were found. This discovery led to groups of fossil hunters visiting the hill.

In 1912 a good coal seam was found. Mining on Denmark Hill lasting until about 1950. The reserve sits above closed-off mine tunnels, with part of the walking trails following the former coal-skip tramway.

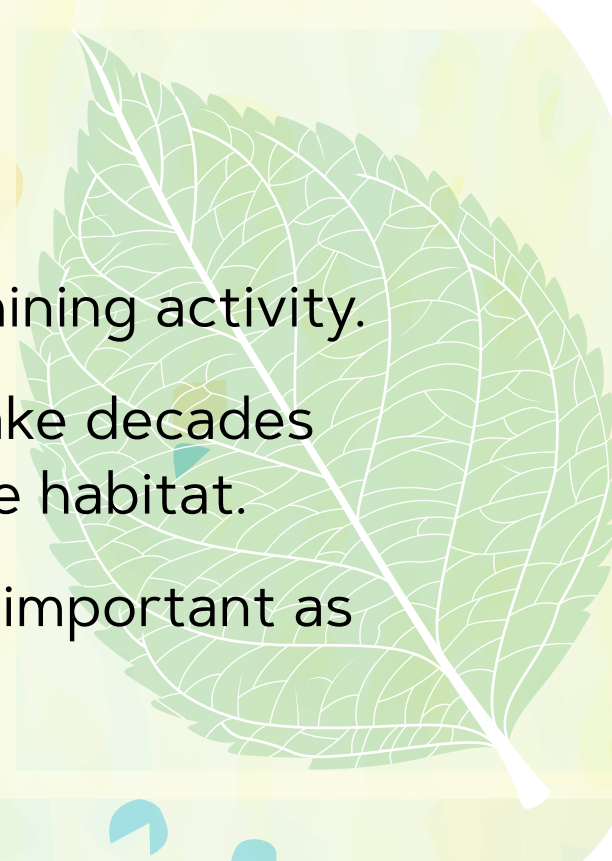


ECOLOGICAL IMPORTANCE

The area was extensively cleared of trees from around 1919 during mining activity.

Hence most of the trees are about the same age and height. It will take decades for a natural habitat to form with mature and hollow trees for wildlife habitat.

The area is mainly dry, open eucalyptus forest. This urban reserve is important as a wildlife 'stepping stone' in the broader landscape.



GEOLOGY

Denmark Hill has different soil features. A shale and coal outcrop can be found near Moffatt Street. Near the pond, conglomerate is contrasted with sandstone and shale.

The shale beds where fossils were once located were also quarried. Mining on the hill covered these fossil beds to unknown depth with spoil heaps.

