

# My Father Put Them Up There: Anthropogenically caused Environmental Change Associated with Vessel Discard Practices in the Clarence River, NSW, Australia

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## Abstract

The Clarence River (New South Wales, Australia) was the main transport corridor for the sugar cane industry operating in the area from the 1860s to the 1970s. Using archaeological, documentary and oral historical resources we explore some of the anthropogenic impacts of this industry upon river channels and hydrology, in particular through the deliberate abandonment of obsolete vessels. These deliberately discarded former cane barges have been used as erosion control devices in several areas around the Harwood Island sugar mill, resulting in the accumulation of sediments and the establishment of mangrove environments in what were degraded areas.

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Duncan and Gibbs River wrecks Dec 2022 final .docx available at <https://authorea.com/users/570709/articles/616309-my-father-put-them-up-there-anthropogenically-caused-environmental-change-associated-with-vessel-discard-practices-in-the-clarence-river-nsw-australia>



















