



Abel Archaeology

**GLNG CULTURAL HERITAGE SURVEY
Case Study**

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Project Outline

Santos Ltd and its joint-venture partners Petronas, Total and Kogas (GLNG Joint Venture) are in the process of constructing an infrastructure network designed to access coal seam gas (CSG) resources located in the Bowen and Surat basins of central Queensland. The Gladstone liquefied natural gas (GLNG) project, as it is known, will harvest coal seam gas (CSG) from the central Queensland gas fields and pipe it to Curtis Island off the coast at Gladstone, south of Rockhampton. On Curtis Island the CSG will be processed into liquefied natural gas (LNG).

Figure 1 – View along the route, near Injune.



Project Aim and Objective

There are many and significant challenges to the GLNG Project, the identification and management of cultural heritage (CH) resources along the pipeline route being one. Abel Archaeology was asked to assist in the survey of a section of the corridor in the Injune district, north of Roma in association with the *Bidjara* People, the traditional owners (TOs) for the country in question. The aim and objective of the CH project was to identify archaeological material and other cultural items and/or places along the proposed pipeline corridor and to then report back to the proponent on outcomes and recommendations based upon the results of the field assessment. Along with *Bidjara*, Abel Archaeology worked in concert with Heritage Consulting Australia Ltd (HCA) to complete this heritage project.



Project Outcomes

With the assistance of the *Bidjara*, Abel's field archaeologist located a range of archaeological material within the pipeline corridor including individual artefacts, small artefact scatters and a scarred tree. A complete grinding base plate and top stone were found by the *Bidjara* field officers and a number of artefacts identified by Abel's archaeologist as falling within the stone industry referred to [by archaeologists] as the 'small tool tradition'. Concerning management of the archaeological resources identified, salvage was one option employed as part of the mitigation program, other options are being discussed between *Bidjara* and Santos and implemented. Options including exploratory test excavations.

Figure 2 – Some items identified along the route.