

Tingalpa Creek - the salt water section below the dam



a kilometre or so upstream from the canoe ramp at Chadwell Street, West Capalaba

Tingalpa Creek runs for 11.5 kilometres from below the Tingalpa Reservoir, down to Moreton Bay. Canoeists are fortunate that there are launch sites at the upper section, the middle, and down at the Bay. In the upper section, there is a choice of an informal launch site at the rocky bar at Capalaba West Park, or another informal site at the small park opposite Killarney Crescent and Erin Streets.

Perhaps the best option is to launch at the Chadwell Street ramp and paddle with the rising tide (mid tide on) up to the road bridge on Old Cleveland Road. This is a 6.5 kilometre paddle one way. The concrete ramp can be a little muddy at lower water. The creek passes through very pleasant country, and the tall creekside vegetation means that it is possible to be paddling in shadow, out of the sun, for at least half of the time.

At the 4.6 kilometre mark, Coolnwynpin Creek can be seen on the eastern bank, as a side channel under close overhead vegetation. Within the next kilometre, is a small island, and the eastern channel offers the deepest, and clearest passage. The rocky bar just downstream from the highway, at 6.5 kms, is clean flat rock, on a sand and gravel creekbed, with no mud to be seen. The water flows clear and clean over a few rocks here, just deep enough to paddle over, or easy to portage at lower or falling tides.

From the bar, it is 1.5 km up to the dam wall, with an optional informal exit point 300 metres short of the wall at the Killarney Crescent Park..



above: informal launch Killarney Crescent park



above: a small path to the water on the right



above: upstream view



above: downstream view



On this page are several photographs of the park at the Killarney Crescent and Erin Street intersection, with views of the informal launch site, and Tingalpa Creek upstream and downstream views.



above: John Fredricks Park, near the Old Cleveland Road bridge. The rocky bar is down the bank between the two trees.

As Tingalpa Creek approaches the rocky bar next to the Old Cleveland Road bridge, the creek narrows down and shallows out. Canoe paddlers may find that at low tide, there is obstruction from vegetation, as the creekside vegetation joins overhead across the creek.

Paddling against the tide can make for slow progress. Expect to meet power boats exploring a long way up the creek. A windy day is not recommended for a long paddle on the creek, as the tall vegetation seems to funnel the wind down the water, good when with you, trying when contrary.

below: the rocky bar



below: a little local history



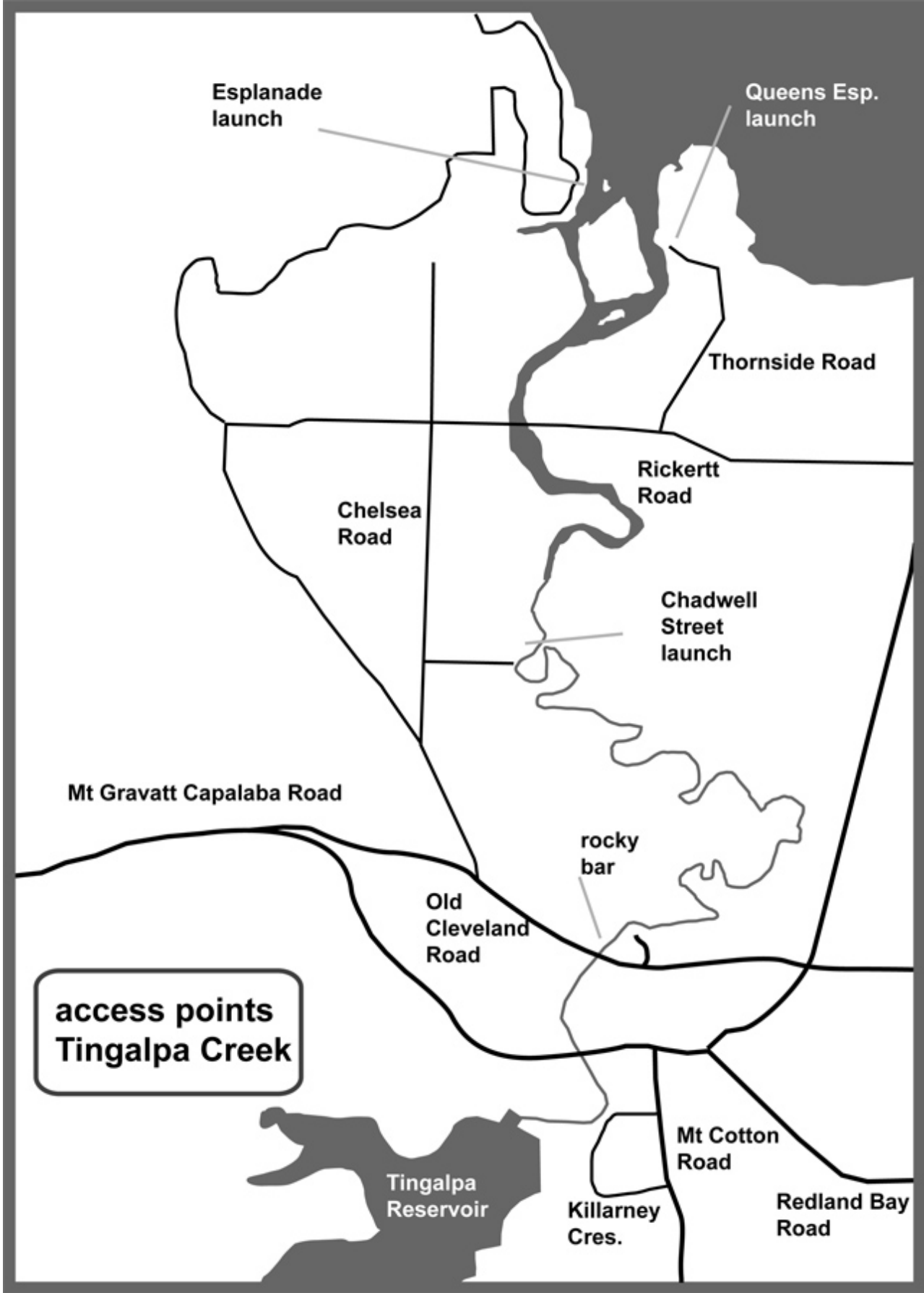


John Fredricks Park, near the Old Cleveland Road bridge.

below: Old Cleveland Road bridge from the bar

two fishermen on sit-on-top kayaks





Esplanade launch

Queens Esp. launch

Thornsidge Road

Rickertt Road

Chelsea Road

Chadwell Street launch

Mt Gravatt Capalaba Road

rocky bar

Old Cleveland Road

access points
Tingalpa Creek

Tingalpa Reservoir

Mt Cotton Road

Killarney Cres.

Redland Bay Road



above: Chadwell Street ramp



above: Chadwell Street ramp from the creek



above: Queens Esplanade ramp, at Thornside



above: low water, The Esplanade ramp, Lota



Down at the Bay, canoeists can launch on the southern side of Tingalpa Creek at Queens Esplanade ramp, or across the water at The Esplanade, in Lota.

The view to the left is of the mouth of Tingalpa Creek to the right, and Wellington Point in the distance, as seen from Lota.



an egret watches a fisherman near Chadwell St. ramp, Tingalpa Creek. Note that the bird is not in the net, lower photograph!

