

Dr Stephen Long

Stephen Long is a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the Aboriginal Environments Research Centre (AERC), School of Geography Planning and Architecture, University of Queensland. Stephen was awarded the University of Queensland's Dean's Commendation for his PhD which examined Aboriginal constructs of place and cultural heritage in northwest Queensland. Working with the Aboriginal community of Dajarra the thesis reveals that cultural heritage lies not just in the physical environment but also in the diverse everyday people-environment interactions of a community. The thesis illustrates that cultural heritage is found in ongoing people-environment interactions as well as those of the past, it also illustrates the importance of understanding how individual places are interrelated to form place complexes.

Beyond his PhD Stephen has experience working with Aboriginal groups to record places and cultural heritage. Over the past two years he has worked with the Waluwarra Aboriginal Corporation to develop and conduct an ongoing cultural heritage program called *Walking and Talking Country*. Between 2003 and 2005 he worked with seven Native Title Claimant Groups to map and record over 500 places for the Carpentaria Land Council Aboriginal Corporation's *Greater Mt Isa Region Anthropological Project*. Stephen has a keen interest in architectural design and he has worked with Indigenous communities on architectural projects. One of his current projects is a study of Indigenous architectural traditions in northwest Queensland, the Torres Straits and Papua New Guinea.