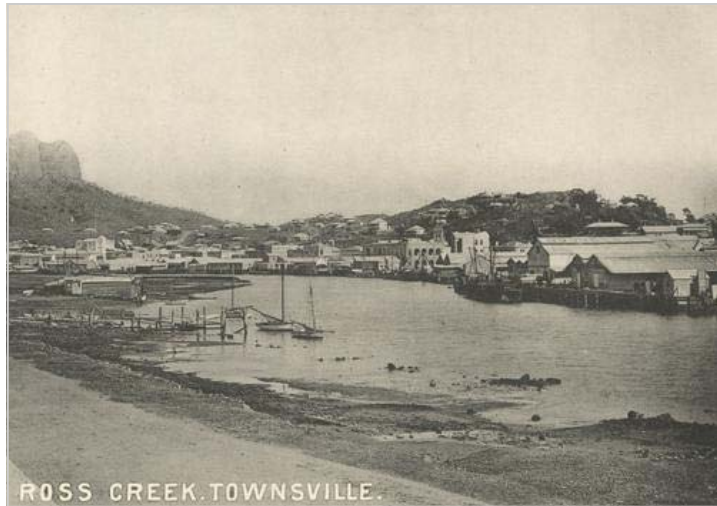


ACTIVITY: Bathing
CASE: GSAF 1907.02.03
DATE: Sunday February 3, 1907
LOCATION: Ross Creek,
Townsville, Queensland, Australia

NAME: William Williams
DESCRIPTION: He was an 18-year-old male and a member of the Naval Cadets.

BACKGROUND
MOON PHASE: Third Quarter,
February 6, 1907
TIME: Morning



Ross Creek, ca 1900

NARRATIVE: See press clippings

INJURY: Fatal. His remains were recovered on Tuesday and he was buried in the New Cemetery with naval honors.

SPECIES: Not identified. The shark was 12 or 13 feet in length.

SOURCES: The Morning Post (Cairns), February 8, 2007, page 2; Queenslander (Brisbane), Saturday February 9, 1907, page 10;

February 3.

While a number of boys were bathing at Ross Creek this morning the cry of "shark" was raised. All reached the bank safely, except a lad of 18, named William Williams, who was taken by a shark which was 12ft. or 13ft. long. Williams was taken so suddenly that no scream was heard, but the crimsoned water showed the terrible nature of the fatality. The shark was not seen afterwards. Attempts were made to catch it with a small kid as bait, but without effect. Dragging operations were continued all day for the remains of Williams, but met with no success.

THE ROSS CREEK FATALITY.

Between 5 and 6 o'clock on Tuesday morning (says the Townsville "Bulletin") Constable Volkman, acting on information conveyed to him by a lady, proceeded to Ross Creek, at a spot opposite Messrs Johnson and Castling's buildings, just above the Victoria Bridge, where he found the remains of a human body consisting of the legs and loins. They were conveyed to the morgue, where they were identified by Mrs. Williams as those of her son William Williams, who was seized by a shark in Ross Creek on Sunday morning last. In the afternoon the remains were buried in the New Cemetery, and were accorded naval honors, the Naval Cadets, of which deceased was a member, firing three volleys over the grave. The Commandant was also present. The chaplain, Canon Williams, officiated at the graveside.

The Morning Post (Cairns), February 8, 2007