

YEAR 5, ACTIVITY 1

VISUALISING TOWNSVILLE

Look at the five images which were all taken from roughly the same place in different years.

	What are some of the most significant features within this image?	What changes can you see occurring in these images?
1867		
1875		
1884		
1889		
1906		

In 1873, Robert Towns died but his death coincided with an important shift in Townsville's history. Townsville, along with Bowen and Cardwell, was one of three northern coastal townships struggling for supremacy. Townsville had established and survived its early years of settlement largely thanks to Towns' money and pastoralists. In 1871, however, something important happened. Late in 1871, three prospectors (Hugh Mosman, George Clark and James Fraser) along with an eleven year old Aboriginal boy named Jupiter Mosman had travelled out to the present day Charters Towers when their horses fled. Jupiter found the horses but also found a large nugget at the base of Towers Hill. A gold rush to Charters Towers and other nearby gold fields was on.

However, for the gold in the hinterlands behind Townsville to be worth anything, it needed to be shipped to buyers. Two ports in North Queensland presented the best options, Townsville and Bowen. Whichever of these two towns received the rail-link to Charters Towers and the westward settlements would become the major town, and potential capital of North Queensland. Townsville emerged as the preferred candidate, and the city prospered.

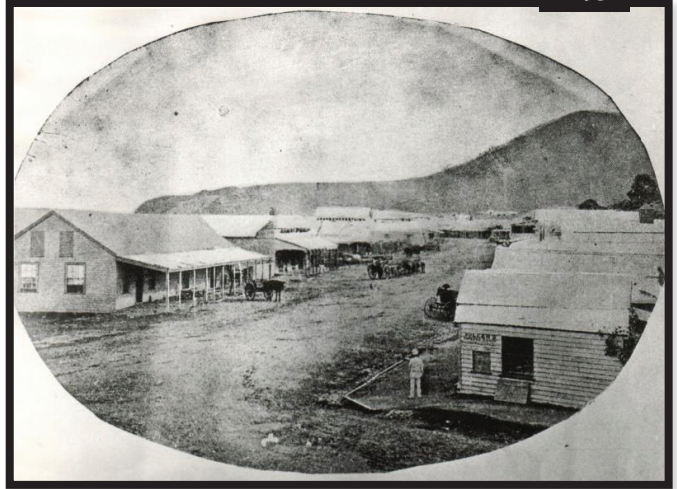
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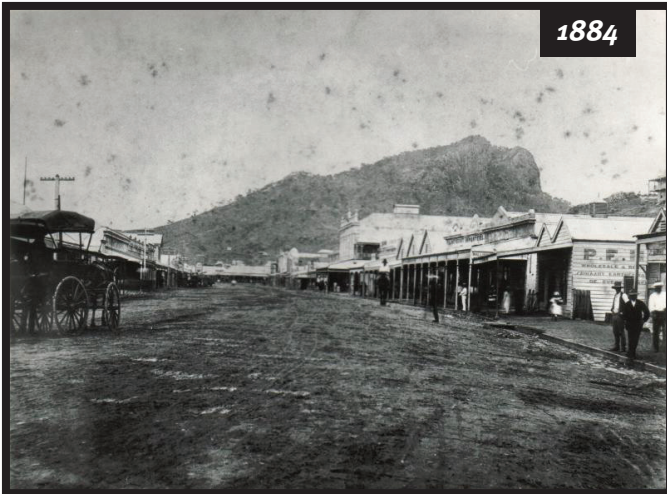
1867



1875



1884



1889



1906

