

Kayes Rocks

Glenny Street, Toowong

Kayes Rocks is a park reserve comprising 5 terraces and stone retaining walls that cascade to the river edge. It was once an area of road reserve with a steep rocky bank but in 1933 Brisbane City Engineer's Office drew plans for its beautification. The original plans included circular paths to the first and second terraces, but these were replaced in the final design with a central path. Beautification works were undertaken in the 1920s as part of a Queensland Government relief work scheme to provide unemployment during the Great Depression.

Navigational hint: just as the CityCat rounds the riverbend between Guyatt Park and Regatta ferry terminals, look for the distinctive stone walls, terracing and mature fig of Kayes Rocks.

The beautification scheme by the Queensland Government for Kayes Rocks was probably undertaken using intermittent relief work labour. Relief funds enabled Brisbane City Council to proceed with many civic beautification schemes that otherwise would have been achieved by sacrificing elements of larger infrastructure projects, like the upgrading and extending of the sewerage system.

The Kayes Rocks reserve is thought to be named after Samuel Kaye, a professor of music, dealer in musical instruments, and Toowong resident who lived adjacent to the reserve. Kaye arrived in Queensland in 1876 and died at his home in 1896. It is thought that his residence was known as "Kaye's Rocks".