

Looking for Blue Arrow, 2009, video

The video, *Looking for Blue Arrow*, focuses on the *absence* of cassowaries, particularly those who once lived in the vestiges of rainforest of the Mt. Whitfield Conservation Park which is near the Flecker Botanic Gardens in north Cairns. This area is a small island of rainforest cut off from other rainforest areas by housing developments and roads. The last cassowary of a population of cassowaries to live on Mt. Whitfield, who was popularly called Blue Arrow after the Blue Arrow walking path, was attacked and killed by two pet dogs in late 1996. In time, Blue Arrow found her way to the base of the mountain to where there were houses and more people willing to feed her. She was attacked and killed by two pet dogs in late 1996. It was found that she had pieces of apple in her stomach at the time of her death.

Now, there are no more cassowaries on Mt Whitfield; however the park's signage alerting visitors that this area is the habitat of cassowaries still stands, twelve years after Blue Arrow's death. These notices remain as an ironic but also a tragic sign of plight of these animals.