Connecting Kin

Guide to Records
A guide to help people separated from their families search for their records.
Connecting Kin - Guide to Records:
A guide to help people separated from their families search for their records.

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Everyone’s identity is special to them.

An essential part of that identity lies in who their parents, grandparents and siblings are and in simple information like when they were born.
Foreword

In recent years, there has been a push to set up an index of records that would help people separated from their families find them once again.

Two years ago, a report called Origins and Identity, commissioned by the NSW Attorney General’s Department and the Department of Community Services (DOCS), examined the need for search services for people separated by adoption and other circumstances. It recommended that DOCS establish a project to locate all NSW records relating to children separated from their families since 1900.

The recommendations of the Bringing Them Home report from the National Inquiry into the Separation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children from their Families, and the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody, also identified the need to index and preserve records of Indigenous children removed from their homes.

The Department of Community Services took up the challenge in October 1997 and set up the Connecting Kin project to help people affected by separation find their families.

That project has produced the Guide to Records, the first NSW listing of records relating to all people, both Aboriginal and non–Aboriginal, separated from their families. It provides information about where records are kept and how to access them.

DOCS is embracing its responsibility to help people separated from their families retrace their personal histories and find their kin. This guide is evidence of that commitment.

I am pleased to present the Connecting Kin Guide to Records to the thousands of people affected by separation.

The Hon Faye Lo Po’ MP
Minister for Community Services
Minister for Ageing
Minister for Disability Services
Minister for Women
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Kristy Thinee and Tracy Bradford
31 July 1998
Special Introduction

The stories of the stolen children show us the heartbreak of being separated from your home and family and then the trauma of the search for them years later.

In New South Wales, more than 100 000 children, both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal, have been made wards of the State since 1924. Thousands more have been placed with other families under adoption or other arrangements.

Many former wards wanted to find their natural families but hit stumbling blocks. Some didn’t know where to turn for information. Others simply didn’t know they could access their personal records, to give them vital clues to their past.

The Connecting Kin Guide to Records is our first attempt to give everyone who was separated from their family a head start in locating records that will help track them down. It is an important tool to help reunite potentially thousands of families by showing them where records are and how to access them.

We would like to thank the Government agencies and our community partners whose help made this guide possible. It is through working in partnerships like this that we can help people put the pieces of their family puzzles together.

We dedicate the Guide to Records to the generations of children separated from their families, and to their mothers, fathers and other kin. We hope they will find the connections they are searching for.

Carmel Niland
Director–General
Department of Community Services
Carol Kendall’s story

Mary Kondek had not seen her daughter, Carol Kendall, at birth

I thought of her. Well all the time you do it, it just comes through your mind. You’d be sitting round a table having a meal. Sometimes it’d flash through your mind that it would be nice if she were there. If you’re out at picnics, and I used to think a lot about her when I was out in the bush on my walks. On special days like Christmas and her birthday and Mother’s Day and all those times when children seem more special.

Carol Kendall recalls her decision to search:

I used to picture my natural mother as this wonderful person who’d be waiting with outstretched arms, waiting for me. This person, being there for me.

Some people would say, ‘Gee you look like so-and-so’ and my immediate reaction would be, ‘That could be my mother’, and I’d dwell on that for days: ‘This could be the big breakthrough’.

The need to find my family was strongest when I was pregnant with my first child. I’d thought about it before but I felt really strongly about it when I was carrying my first baby. I think it’s a maternal instinct, this is mine and somewhere [else] there was something that was mine too. [I was worried] whether I was doing the right thing for my children and for myself and for my natural mother and her family.

I was in real crisis for quite a few years, deciding what to do. I felt there was someone there with a loving family. You dream and you dwell on these things, but in the back of my mind I was thinking about the rejection side of it and I wasn’t sure whether I would be able to cope with that.

Mary Kondek, Carol’s natural mother remembers:

Anyone who has adopted a child out, don’t wait for it to happen on your child’s side ‘cause I was going to do it that way. Don’t waste time, try and meet them somehow. ‘Cause you don’t know what they’ve been told. You only know your own side. You don’t know what she’s been led to believe all her life. I’m so glad she had the sense to do it.

I’m very grateful to her adopting parents, but I do feel bitter about all those lost years.

Link-Up (NSW) Aboriginal Corporation

3
Barbara McMullen’s search

During my years of mothering I was awakened to the need to do my search for my origins by the questions my children would ask me. “Where is your mother and father Mum?” I struggled to answer as I did not know. I desperately wanted to appear O.K. because after all, here I am, a mother. Many, many more questions were asked and I had no answers to give my children. They had grandparents, aunts and uncles from their Dad’s family and I had none.

The feeling of not being linked to anyone was very painful.

This is my story...

I was born at Coolambooka Private Hospital located at Scone, in the Hunter region of New South Wales on 17 April, 1936. My birth information states:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Information</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name:</td>
<td>Mary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mother’s Name:</td>
<td>Agnes Moore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Father’s Name:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mother’s Age:</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mother’s Birth Place:</td>
<td>Manilla (north of Tamworth) New South Wales</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Usual Residence of Mother:</td>
<td>Werris Creek New South Wales</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Informant:</td>
<td>Agnes Moore (mother)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Witness to Informant:</td>
<td>Agnes Moore (mother)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

My birth was registered at Scone on 9 June, 1936. I was baptised Mary Barbara Moore at St Fiacre’s Catholic Church in Leichhardt in Sydney’s inner west on 7 June, 1936. My sponsor’s name was Maureen O’Brien.

Immediately after my birth or sometime during my first four years of life, I was cared for by Mrs Henrietta Patchett at 20 Edna Street, Leichhardt, and in 1939 at Glenroy, 51 Queens Road, Hurstville. This information was recorded on a Notification of Reception document completed when I was four and a half years old. I have since learnt that Mrs Henrietta Patchett nursed and cared for other infants and boarded out children for 30 years. She worked privately and for Child Welfare.

In July, 1940, I was placed at St Joseph’s Home for Children on Liverpool Road, Croydon, in Sydney’s inner west. I remained in the care of the Sisters of St Joseph until I was seven years old. Soon after, in 1943, I was taken to St Joseph’s Home for Girls at 316 Pacific Highway, Lane Cove, on Sydney’s lower north shore. This was routine once a girl in care turned seven years old. I remained in the care of the Sisters of St Joseph until December, 1951, and then taken to live with Mr and Mrs Landers when I was sixteen. They were members of the Orphanage Committee.
and I lived with them until I was married in 1958 at age twenty-two. My husband, John, and I had seven children, five daughters and two sons, between 1960 and 1974.

In December, 1974, at the age of 38, I applied for my birth certificate. When I received it I clung to it passionately. This simple piece of paper gave me the drive to keep searching.

I frequently contacted both orphanages to seek information about my beginnings and my time in the homes. In 1982, I received a phone call from a social worker who found some of my personal documents. I was so excited that at last something had been found belonging to me. I immediately made copies of these documents and I treasured them. Unfortunately, there was not a great deal of information on them, but something was certainly better than nothing at all. On these brief documents my mother’s name was noted as Joan Moore, whereas on my birth and baptismal certificates she was noted as Agnes Moore.

During my years of searching I have sought information from many organisations such as State libraries, historical societies, the Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages, hospitals, universities, churches and I have even had a DNA blood test. How do I ever find out anything further?

I have looked at people in the street thousands of times and thought, “You could be my mother or father ... or certainly I could be related to some of you”.

I know now after much pain and growth, frustration is a waste of energy and time. In its place live put hope and trust.

John and our seven children have been an enormous comfort through my pain and bewilderment. They have allowed and encouraged me to explore my history which has been tucked well away from me. Nothing was ever told to me, and there’s been no one to tell it to me. Nor have I ever met a relative of mine.

As I look back on my history, an unfortunate part has been the few records that were kept in the days of my childhood. Hopefully my story will help correct this and help people in their search today.

by Barbara McMullen  
(Mary Barbara Moore)

If anyone can assist Barbara McMullen with information about her early childhood or her time in Mrs Patchett’s care, would they please contact the Department of Community Services on (02) 9716 2222.
Using this Guide

Arrangement of the Guide

This Guide has been divided into four major sections:

- NSW Government welfare agencies;
- non–government welfare agencies (e.g. churches);
- hospitals; and
- NSW Government non–welfare agencies.

Within each section, the records are grouped under the name of the home, institution or program they relate to, and then are listed in ‘series’. A series is a collection of records which usually have the same format (e.g. files, photographs, registers) and which were created for a particular function or purpose.

The appendices list a number of additional sources of information, including interstate sources, which may assist people in their searching. A number of counselling and support services are also listed.

The index, which appears after the appendices, is a key element of the Guide. It indexes all the records in the Guide by place name (e.g. town or suburb name), name of agency (e.g. Department of Community Services) and name of home or program (e.g. Parramatta Training School for Girls) with extensive cross referencing. It also indexes the appendices which appear in the Guide.

Most of the entries in this Guide include the following information:

Title and date range of records

This is, simply, the name of the records held, and the date range that those records cover. The records may be admission registers, client files, etc. The date range that a particular set of records covers may not necessarily coincide with the dates that a home was in operation, or that an agency existed. This can be due to a number of factors: the records may be incomplete because some have not survived; or records may not always have been created.

When the exact date range is unknown, an approximate date is given (e.g. c.1980). If an approximate date is not known the word [unknown] appears.

Access

Simply because records are listed in the Guide it does not mean they are automatically available for people to access. Some organisations have
restrictions on their records and conditions relating to the release of information. Where possible, the conditions and restrictions are set out in the Guide. **Always contact the agency to check what their access conditions and procedures are.**

Many of the records are available to the person to whom they relate with no, or few, restrictions. If you want to look at, or get copies of, information about yourself, you will generally need to produce some form of identification when you make your application. Once you have done this, the agency concerned will endeavour to supply you with the information you request. If you want to access information about another person, you will need to produce some identification and show evidence of your connection to that person. Most agencies will not give you access to information about another person unless you can prove you are connected to them in some way. Even then, you may need permission from that person (if they are still alive) before you can access the information about them.

Being able to gain access to information does not necessarily mean that you will be able to look at the actual record. Physical access to original records may be restricted to protect them from damage and to protect the privacy of other people who may be mentioned in the records. Copies of information will generally be provided.

At the time of printing, the access conditions and procedures were current. However, they may change at any time, so you should always check with the agency concerned for the most up-to-date information on access conditions and procedures.

**Contact**

This section gives the contact details of the person you should direct your request for information to. Most organisations prefer written requests, but some are happy for you to telephone them. **Always contact this person in the first place to discuss your request before contacting or visiting the place where the records are held.**

**Location**

This tells you where the records are currently physically stored. This is not always the same as where they were created, as many records have been transferred to other places for storage purposes. If a home or program has ceased to operate, the records may be located elsewhere within the agency which was responsible for the operation of that home or program, such as in the Archives. In some cases, the records are held by an entirely different organisation.

**You should not go to the place where the records are located expecting to be able to look at them or get access to information from them without**
making some prior arrangements to do so. Not all of these places are
able to cater for personal visits from people seeking information. In
addition, they are often only responsible for the physical storage of the
records, and may not have the authority to grant access to the records.
You should always write to, or telephone, the contact person who is
responsible for access and direct your enquiry to them. They will then
advise you on the course of action you need to take.

Reference no.

This is the reference number allocated to the records by the organisation
which physically stores them. These numbers are allocated to make
identification and retrieval of the records from the storage area easier. If you
wish to access information in a particular set of records, it would not hurt to
quote the reference number when making your request.

Not all records have a reference number.

Quantity

This part of the entry tells you what quantity of records is available (for
example how many boxes, how many volumes etc.). Not all agencies have
been able to supply this information, so in some entries it is left blank. This
information has been included in the Guide to give you an idea of the
amount of records that are available.

Some of the quantities are qualified by the word ‘(part)’ after them, for
example ‘8 boxes (part)’. This means that the entire holdings for that home,
program or organisation amount to 8 boxes, but that the particular record to
which the entry relates only comprises part of those 8 boxes. These types of
entries appear in cases where it has been difficult, from the information
supplied by the agency, to be specific about quantities.

Description

This part of the entry describes the contents of the records, so you can see
what information you can expect to find. You should keep in mind, however,
that not all of the information described here is necessarily available in all of
the records. The amount and type of information available about individuals
may vary from case to case depending on the circumstances and the
thoroughness of the record keeping at the time the information was
recorded.

It is important to remember that older records tend to be less
comprehensive than more recent records. Also, in the case of many
agencies, their primary goal was the provision of care not the keeping of
records, so there may be gaps and inconsistencies in the records.
It is also important to remember that the language used in the records may not be language that would be used today. It may be what we would think of as offensive, inappropriate or politically incorrect. The use of such language in describing the records listed in this Guide is not intended to cause offence or distress. Such language is reproduced in the Guide where it has been used to describe a particular series or to reflect the attitudes of the period in which the records were created.

**Related records**

This part of the entry indicates whether there are records, generally listed elsewhere in the Guide, which are related to this particular set of records. This may be something like an index to client records, photographs or scrapbooks. In some cases, the related records may not be listed in this Guide, but information is given about their whereabouts so you can find out more about them if you wish.

**Access to records**

Most of the records listed in this Guide are restricted in some way. This does not mean that they cannot be accessed at all, but means there are conditions governing who can access them and procedures which must be followed. These restrictions are in place because many of the records contain sensitive personal information about individuals. The restrictions ensure that the privacy of these individuals is protected and that information is not used in an inappropriate manner.

Access conditions and procedures vary from agency to agency, particularly in the case of non–government agencies. While they often follow the principles of the *Freedom of Information Act 1989*, non–government agencies are not bound by the Act. Government agencies are affected by this legislation. The Act requires information concerning documents held by the Government to be made available to the public, to enable a member of the public to gain access to documents held by the government and to enable a member of the public to ensure that records held by the government concerning his or her personal affairs are not incomplete, incorrect, out of date or misleading. The Act provides a person with a legally enforceable right to be given access to an agency’s records in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

Access to records relating to adoption is governed by the provisions of the *Adoption Information Act 1990*. This Act applies to the records of government and non–government agencies. Adopted people over the age of eighteen and their birth parents have the right to gain access to identifying information about each other. For people who do not wish to be contacted there is a provision to lodge a contact veto at no cost. The veto is against contact only and not against the release of information.
Brief History of Child Welfare in New South Wales

The period following white settlement of Australia in 1788 was difficult. The new settlement had problems in every area affecting human life. There were major economic, housing, health, mental health, penal and social control issues. There was also another social issue, the ‘Aboriginal problem’, which was largely ‘solved’ by killing Aborigines and dispossessing them of their land.1

As a consequence of these social problems, children without parents and with no visible means of support have been a feature of Australian society and over many years thousands of children have been cared for outside their immediate families.

In this early experimental stage of child welfare in New South Wales the only form of alternative care for children was provided in institutional settings. Orphan and destitute children of the colony were placed into orphans’ schools or destitute asylums, whereas Aboriginal children were placed in schools designed to distance them from their families and communities and provide them with the ‘benefit’ of a European ‘education’. The development of these institutions was the government’s response to the child welfare problem. It assumed full responsibility for child welfare and voluntary charitable models were consequently developed. They became responsible for running institutions with substantial government subsidies.2 This pattern of joint government and private control of charitable institutions was to persist with various modifications for over a century.

The first orphanage for children was opened in 1802 for girls and in 1817 for boys. They were poorly managed, provided inadequate care, provided too few spaces and were indiscriminate in who they cared for.3 By 1886, five Catholic–run orphanages had opened and by 1899 another five had opened in or near Sydney.4 The Anglican Church also opened homes for girls. The government of the day recognised these bodies in the Orphan Schools Act 1826. In addition, Aboriginal reserves and missions were created in 1878

References

4 History of the New South Wales Department of Youth and Community Services, Information and Communication Unit, Parramatta, p.2.
to ‘educate’, care and ‘protect’ Aboriginal peoples, and in 1881 a Protector of Aborigines was appointed to control the lives of those Aboriginal people living on them.

In the early nineteenth century government funding was generally restricted to public works. It was not until the discovery of gold in 1851 with its accompanying social problems that the government developed social welfare programs.\(^5\)

Towards the end of this era it was generally accepted that the government had a responsibility not only to clothe, feed and educate children but also a moral obligation to provide them with an appropriate background for becoming respectable, useful and independent members of society. In 1866, the *Reformatory Schools Act* provided for the establishment of reformatory schools.\(^6\) In the same year, public and private industrial schools were provided for in the *Destrstitute Children Act 1866*. This Act was also referred to as the *Industrial Schools Act 1866* and legislated that vagrant and destitute children under eighteen could be sent by justices to work as apprentices or placed in industrial or reformatory schools.\(^7\) These Acts provided confirmation of the government’s commitment to the ‘barrack’ system of collecting and caring for dependent children in institutions until the age of twelve, and then apprenticing them out.\(^8\)

Institutional care of children, however, has not always been seen as the obvious solution to white Australia’s child welfare problems. On April 5, 1881, the *State Children’s Relief Act* established ‘boarding out’ or foster care as the official method of care for dependent children.\(^9\) This was the result of increasing concern about conditions in institutions and the fact that children living in them were deprived of family life.\(^10\) The motivation for these moves could also have been a result of the alarm at the numbers of abandoned, destitute and delinquent children in the colonies, partly caused by population increases and the selective policies of the orphanages.\(^11\)

Boarding out was therefore promoted as the recommended and preferred response to the needs of children who required substitute care and was essentially a change in the policy of institutionalisation. This system provided alternative care arrangements for children who otherwise would have been placed in asylums or reformatory schools. In addition, it provided

\(^5\) ibid  
\(^6\) *Reformatory Schools Act 1866*  
\(^7\) *Destrstitute Children Act 1866*  
\(^8\) *History of the New South Wales Department of Youth and Community Services*, Information and Communication Unit, Parramatta, p.3.  
\(^9\) *State Children’s Relief Act 1881*  
\(^11\) ibid
for the boarding out of children to approved carers and also for the responsibility of care of a child to be granted to his or her parent or guardian in an attempt to restore the child’s family life.

In 1939, the *State Children Relief Act 1901* was repealed by the *Child Welfare Act*.

During this developing stage of child welfare in New South Wales, more and more emphasis was placed on safeguarding children by working through the family, supporting existing families, rather than simply removing their children to an institution. In 1896, governments subsidised mothers to look after their own children which provided children with a natural family environment. Child endowment was not introduced until 1927 and was subject to a means test. In 1941, the Federal Government made this benefit generally available and the payroll tax was developed to provide the required revenue.\(^\text{12}\)

In 1892, the *Children’s Protection Act* was enacted and provided for a stipendiary or police magistrate to commit to prison any child under fourteen convicted of an offence or place a child in an industrial institution for destitute and neglected children.\(^\text{13}\) As a result of this legislation, an institutionalised child could also have been adopted out or apprenticed. This was repealed by the *Children’s Protection Act 1902*.

This period saw the gradual standstill of the transportation of convicts but also the beginning of the phenomenon of child migration. This was the importing of large groups of children mainly from Britain.\(^\text{14}\) As part of the official policy to encourage immigration, many schemes were established to bring children to Australia. Most children were either orphans or those whose parents presumably had relinquished responsibility. The typical child migrant was an ‘institutional kid’ in care before and after migration.\(^\text{15}\) These children were targeted as an attractive category of migrant because they were seen to ‘assimilate more easily, were more adaptable, had a long–working life ahead and could be cheaply housed in dormitory style accommodation’\(^\text{16}\).

Many thousands of children migrated to Australia under these schemes supported by the Commonwealth and State Governments. Children also arrived from Malta. Some 35 charities were involved in the care of these children such as Barnardo’s, The Salvation Army and the


\(^{13}\) *Children’s Protection Act 1892*


\(^{16}\) *Fact Sheet 124: Child migration to Australia*, December (1997), National Archives of Australia, Sydney, p.1.
Fairbridge Society. The year 1967 marked the last group of children shipped to Australia and the abolition of child migration from England.\textsuperscript{17}

Children in New South Wales have also been placed in institutions for reasons other than being an orphan or destitute. Many children were removed from their families for merely having ‘non–white’ parents or for being cared for under non–European methods of childrearing, family structures and value systems. In relation to the white population, the child welfare system relied heavily on the cooperation of parents, relatives, neighbours and civic–minded citizens. For Aboriginal families, however, children were removed almost entirely against the will of their parents, to be brought up in white families and apprenticed to white employers. Far greater care was taken to ensure that Aboriginal children never saw their parents or family again. They were often given new names, and the greater distances involved in rural areas made it easier for the government to prevent parents and children on separate missions from tracing each other. All Aboriginal families were by definition regarded as ‘inappropriate’ and ‘improper’ \textsuperscript{18}.

The legislation introduced in New South Wales around the turn of the century was intended to give enormous powers to the state in simply removing children from their parents against their consent. At first, the legislation only covered neglected or illegitimate children, but given that marriage, for example, was a white Christian social institution, clearly many Aboriginal children fell into this category. Similarly, children could be defined as neglected if there was evidence of no visible means of support or a permanent residence. Again, this was likely to include all Aboriginal children in rural areas.

The establishment of the Aborigines Protection Board in 1883 emerged from a growing perception of the damage done to Aboriginal people by European occupation, and from an unquestioning sense of the superiority of the British culture and Christian religion.\textsuperscript{19} This led to more formal government intervention and to the establishment of a separate system of Aboriginal child welfare and the management and stringent control of reserves.

The Board did not have a legislative mandate to deal with Aboriginal children until 1910 with the enactment of the \textit{Aborigines Protection Act 1909}. The legislation empowered the Board to remove children who were deemed to be ‘neglected’ or any child with an ‘admixture of Aboriginal blood’ to be apprenticed.\textsuperscript{20} A child’s skin colour often determined the type of placement

\textsuperscript{20} \textit{Aborigines Protection Act 1909}.
made by the Board. Lighter coloured children were sent to institutions for non-Indigenous children or fostered by non-Indigenous families.

The resultant strategies included the apprehension of Aboriginal adolescents to Europeans; the appointment of inspectors empowered to apprehend and remove children viewed as neglected or in moral danger; and the appointment of a ‘home finder’ whose role was to place Indigenous girls in European homes.\(^{21}\) The major thrust of the policy was to remove children from their Aboriginal environment.\(^{22}\) The Board reasoned that if the Aboriginal population, and children in particular, were to be de-socialised as Aborigines and re-socialised as whites, they would somehow have to be removed from their families.

Under the 1915 *Aborigines Protection Amending Act*, it was provided that a child who refused to go to an apprenticeship might be removed to a home or institution arranged by the Board. Is was also provided that:

> The Board my assume full control and custody of the child of any Aborigines, if after due inquiry, it is satisfied that such a course is in the interest of the moral or physical welfare of such a child.\(^{23}\)

In 1940, the *Aborigines Protection Amending Act 1915* was again amended and provisions were put in place for ‘neglected or uncontrollable’ children. It legislated that the Children’s Court could commit an Aboriginal child (found to be neglected or uncontrollable) to the care of the Aboriginal Welfare Board.\(^{24}\) The 1940 Act was repealed by the *Aborigines Protection Acts of 1943 and 1963*. The Aborigines Protection Acts which purported to ‘protect’ Aborigines in New South Wales were finally replaced by the *Aborigines Act 1969* and all children under the care of the Aborigines Welfare Board at that time became wards of the state.\(^{25}\) In pursuing a policy of assimilation, this legislation can be seen to have been repressive and a deliberate attempt to intervene into the rearing of Aboriginal children.

Aboriginal children living in New South Wales were also subject to the provisions contained in ‘mainstream’ legislation as it applied to all children. In other words they were subject to two systems of law which operated concurrently.

Aboriginal, non-European and single-parent family structures were the portion of the New South Wales population which bore the brunt of state moralism. They could be clearly regarded as being subject to control,\(^{21}\) Morris, B. (1989) *Domesticating Resistance: The Dhan–Gadi Aborigines and the Australian State*, Oxford, p.109.\(^{22}\) ibid \(^{23}\) *Aborigines Protection Act 1909* \(^{24}\) *Aborigines Protection Amending Act 1940* \(^{25}\) *Aborigines Protection Act 1969*
surveillance and discipline involving the imposition of alien or conservative
sets of norms and values.\textsuperscript{26}

In 1901, a series of Acts commenced which marked a shift towards the
intervention of the Children’s Court in determining the placement of children
in substitute care. The introduction of a probation system and the extension
of the boarding–out scheme to young offenders marked a change in
attitudes to the problem of juvenile offenders. By the turn of the century
severe measures had been replaced by more charitable, social and judicial
responses to child welfare.

The \textit{Reformatory and Industrial Schools Act 1901} re–enacted the 1866
provisions for offenders under sixteen, and for vagrant and destitute
children. The Court was empowered to commit a child to the care of a
relative, a named person, the State Children’s Relief Board or to a public
industrial school.\textsuperscript{27} Following this, the \textit{Infant Convicts Adoption Act 1901}
permitted the Court to assign the care or custody of any infant (under
nineteen) convicted of a felony or misdemeanour to any applicant willing to
provide care, maintenance and education.\textsuperscript{28} The \textit{Neglected Children and
Juvenile Offenders Act 1905} also provided for the care or custody of a child
deemed to be neglected, uncontrollable, or charged with an offence.\textsuperscript{29} In
1923, the jurisdiction of the Children’s Court was extended to boys and girls
under eighteen years of age.

World War I had an even more traumatic effect on Australian society than the
gold rush era. Hundreds of children lost their fathers, and thousands more
found themselves impoverished. The result was an increased demand for
government welfare services. In 1923, the New South Wales Child Welfare
Department came into existence and so too did the \textit{Child Welfare Act}. The
Act amended previous Acts relating to child welfare and consolidated them
into a single body of legislation. It contained new provisions relating to care
establishments, mentally disabled children, maintenance of children by
their relatives, discipline in institutions and the transfer of children from
prison to an institution. Soon after in 1939, the \textit{Child Welfare Act 1923} was
substantially revised by the amended \textit{Child Welfare Act}. The definition of a
‘neglected child’ was expanded to include children not attending school
regularly.\textsuperscript{30}

In 1923, the increasing number of adoptions led to the need for government
control of the processes leading to an adoption. It also became necessary
to prevent abuses such as ‘baby selling’ and the widespread and unofficial
traffic in fostering and adoption of Aboriginal children by white families. As a

\textsuperscript{26} van Krieken, R. (1991) \textit{Children and the state: Social control and the formation of
Australian child welfare}, North Sydney, Allen & Unwin.
\textsuperscript{27} \textit{Reformatory and Industrial Schools Act 1901}
\textsuperscript{28} \textit{Infant Convicts Adoption Act 1901}
\textsuperscript{29} \textit{Neglected Children and Juvenile Offenders Act 1905}
\textsuperscript{30} \textit{Child Welfare Act 1923} as amended in 1939
result, provisions were put into place in child welfare legislation, which are still current, to regulate adoption. Eventually in 1965, legislation based on a wider understanding of the subject of adoption was enacted in the form of the Adoption of Children Act 1965. The 1980 amendment to that Act created an Adoption Tribunal.

The period from 1935 to 1972 marked a relative lack of attention to child welfare issues as it was not until the 1960s that the government once again indicated its responsibility for child welfare and welfare generally. In 1966, a welfare department was established at state level in New South Wales.

In 1969 the Aborigines Protection Board was abolished, signifying a very gradual end to policies of assimilation which were introduced in 1936 by the Federal and State Governments. The policy of assimilation was the polite phrase for the practice of routinely removing Aboriginal children from their families. The formal end of the White Australia Policy shortly followed this in 1973. The Senate Standing Committee on Social Welfare in 1985 added that the formal end of the policy of removing Aboriginal children from their families had not removed all the problems:

A major problem has been the reluctance of welfare authorities to accept the basic differences between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal societies in terms of family concepts and child care practices, particularly the concept of the extended Aboriginal family and the complex system of kinship relationships and obligations that are of fundamental importance to the Aboriginal childrearing process.31

Reliance upon substitute care for children has resulted in the removal of many children from their families, communities, and often their cultural heritage. Over the last twenty years, in particular, it has been noted that ‘problems created by prolonged separation from families were often deeper and more permanent then those that led to placement’.32

Child welfare policy and practice in the 1980s increasingly reflected the view that, where substitute care is required, a child’s needs are best met in a small group or family setting. There was increasing pressure to advocate shorter stays in care, or to provide additional family support to enable the child to remain at home. Small group or ‘family group’ homes for children needing to live away from home were consequently developed. These changes were promoted under a range of policy concepts such as ‘deinstitutionalisation’. As part of these changes, the decision-making processes were expanded to include the family, interested community

31 Senate Standing Committee on Social Welfare (1985), Children in Institutional and Other Forms of Care: A National Perspective, Canberra, AGPS, p. 17.
members and the child. Placement in a family setting is almost always preferable to placement in some form of residential care. This view is still current and reflects the continuing commitment to the important role of the family in a child’s development.

Despite this commitment to the concept of family preservation, children are still too often dislocated from their own families. For example, Aboriginal children are greatly over represented in substitute care populations both nationally and in all states and territories of Australia.

A reaction to this over-representation was the development of Aboriginal Child Care Agencies in 1977. They held the view that Aboriginal children should be placed with their families or members of their own community where possible. They also saw the need to involve Aborigines in decision-making processes affecting their children. The development of these agencies has been a significant factor in improving policy and practice in the placement of Aboriginal children into substitute care. Later, in 1987, the Aboriginal Child Placement Principle was developed and outlined a preference of placing Aboriginal children with Aboriginal people when they are placed outside their families. This development was a response to the concerns of Aboriginal people which were voiced at the First Australian Conference on Adoption in 1976.

In New South Wales children have been separated from their biological families through the provisions of legislation and also through voluntary placements through churches, other charitable institutions or private families. In most cases of the placement of children into substitute care and the forcible removal of children from their families, government officials and agents were responsible under legislation or regulations. However, there were early cases of removal of children by missionaries without the consent of parents. The churches share some responsibility for forcible removals because of their involvement in providing accommodation, education, training and work placement for the children.

Throughout the history of child welfare, voluntary (non-government) child welfare agencies have had to adapt to significant changes in society and the family. This sector of care providers has traditionally responded to unmet needs, emerging needs and gaps in government or privately provided services. They have also had to adapt to continually changing community expectations, developing professionalisation of the child welfare field, demands for increased accountability to government and escalating service costs in an environment of diminishing resources. Voluntary child welfare agencies have become increasingly reliant on government funding and have been forced to develop more formal working relationships with the government.

The 1980s signified a change in child welfare policy and practice by redefining the concept of ‘neglect’ and of Court and parental control of children. The powers of the court consisted of the committal of a child to the custody of a willing person, the making of a supervision order, or a declaration of wardship. The parental right of control of a child was broadened and emphasised in the legislation of this time. One of the most significant developments in child welfare at this time was the tabling in State Parliament on December 13, 1978 of the Green Paper. It was a report on the proposed child and community welfare legislation and a vital step between the abolition of the *Child Welfare Act 1939* and the introduction of a new Community Welfare Bill. The Green Paper represented the first comprehensive review of child and community welfare laws since 1939.

The Community Welfare Bill 1981 very clearly distinguished ‘care proceedings’ from ‘criminal proceedings’ but nevertheless provided that any fact which would tend to prove that a child was in need of care must be proved beyond reasonable doubt. The Bill defined the ‘need for care’ as being where:

- Adequate provision is not being, or is likely not to be, made for the child’s proper care
- The child is being, or is likely to be, abused
- The child is being, or likely to be harmed as a consequence of his/her behaviour or the conduct of any person with whom he or she is residing or the conditions in which he or she is residing
- there is substantial breakdown in the relationship between the child and the person having the care of the child

In 1988, the *Children (Care and Protection) Amendment Act* repealed provisions relating to services for children in need of care, temporary custody and temporary refuge. It was provided that temporary care arrangements for children under sixteen could only be made if a parent consents or cannot be located. The definition of ‘need of care’ was widened to include an infant of less than six months who has been the subject of unauthorised fostering. This was a provision designed to prevent ‘back door’ adoptions.

Following this, was the enactment of the *Children (Community Service Orders) Amendment Act 1988* which repealed provisions requiring the consent of a child to the making of a community service order and restricting

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34 *History of the New South Wales Department of Youth and Community Services*, Information and Communication Unit, Parramatta, p.3.
35 *ibid*, p.4.
36 *Community Welfare Bill 1981*
37 *ibid*
38 *Children (Care and Protection) Amendment Act 1988*
orders to children aged fourteen and above. The Children (Care and Protection) Further Amendment Act 1988 was passed enabling the Director–General to place children in foster care and requiring children to be informed of the reasons for removal and the likely consequences.

Australian society, through its social policy, has traditionally affirmed the value of the home and family as its basic institution. In practice, however, there has been a tendency to judge and replace the family with out-of-home care, rather than to support, protect and ensure future development.

The numbers of children placed voluntarily or through court orders with churches or charitable institutions or with private families are not known, nor are the numbers of Aboriginal children separated from their families by state intervention. From 1865 however, there is ample evidence to support the proposition that the legislation and policy of the day in its design, implementation and enforcement resulted in separation and even worse consequences.

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39 Children (Community Service Orders) Amendment Act 1988
Chronology of key events in New South Wales child welfare

1814  Governor Macquarie founds the Native Institution for Aboriginal children at Parramatta. Children were taken from families to be educated and ‘civilised’.

1866  *Reformatory Schools Act 1866*

1866  *Destitute Children Act 1866* (Also referred to as the *Industrial Schools Act 1866*).

1870  Missionaries successfully lobbied the government to reserve lands for their use and appealed for public support.

1878  Creation of first Aboriginal reserves and missions in New South Wales. This was the beginning of containment and control.

1881  A Protector of Aborigines was appointed recommending that reserves be set aside throughout the state to which Aboriginal people should be encouraged to move.

1881  *State Children Relief Act 1881*

1883  The Aborigines Protection Board was established to manage reserves and control the lives of the estimated 9000 Aboriginal people in New South Wales at that time. Mass dislocation of Aboriginal people from their traditional lands to reserves and stations.

1892  *Children’s Protection Act 1892*

1893  First Aboriginal children’s home, Warangesda, Aboriginal School for girls established by the Aborigines Protection Board to train Aboriginal girls for domestic service. Parents were encouraged with threats and promises to send their daughters.

1901  *Infant Convicts Adoption Act 1901*

1901  *State Children Relief Act 1901*

1901  *Reformatory and Industrial Schools Act 1901*

1902  *Children’s Protection Act 1902*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Act Name</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1904</td>
<td>Infant Protection Act 1904</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1905</td>
<td>Neglected Children and Juvenile Offenders Act 1905</td>
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<tr>
<td>1909</td>
<td>Aborigines Protection Act 1909</td>
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<tr>
<td>1914</td>
<td>The Aborigines Protection Board instructed all station managers that all mixed descent boys fourteen years and older must leave the stations to find employment and all girls fourteen and over must go into service or to the Cootamundra Training Home for girls which had opened in 1911.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1915</td>
<td>Aborigines Protection Amending Act 1915</td>
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<tr>
<td>1918</td>
<td>Amendment to the Aborigines Protection Amending Act 1915</td>
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<tr>
<td>1923</td>
<td>Child Welfare Act 1923</td>
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<tr>
<td>1925</td>
<td>The Australian Aborigines Progressive Association (AAPA) was formed in New South Wales and immediately called for an end to forcible removal of Aboriginal children from their families.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1936</td>
<td>Aborigines Protection (Amendment) Act 1936</td>
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<tr>
<td>1937</td>
<td>Federal and state policy of assimilation introduced. All Aboriginal people were expected to live like European Australians.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1939</td>
<td>Child Welfare Act 1939</td>
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<tr>
<td>1940</td>
<td>The Aborigines Welfare Board replaced the Aborigines Protection Board. Focus on assimilation with removal of 'light-skinned' children from their families.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1940</td>
<td>Aborigines Protection (Amendment) Act 1940</td>
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<tr>
<td>1943</td>
<td>Aborigines Protection (Amendment) Act 1943</td>
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<tr>
<td>1963</td>
<td>Aborigines Protection (Amendment) Act 1963</td>
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<tr>
<td>1965</td>
<td>Adoption of Children Act 1965</td>
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<tr>
<td>1967</td>
<td>Marked the last group of children shipped to Australia and the abolition of child migration from England.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1969</td>
<td>Aborigines Act 1969</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
1973  Community Welfare and Social Welfare Department becomes Department of Youth and Community Services (YACS).

1973  **Commonwealth Self-Determination Policy** announced. Self-determination empowered Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to make decisions regarding the welfare of their children within their own communities and organisations.

mid 1970s  The New South Wales Department of Youth and Community Services began involving Aboriginal workers in the process of placing Indigenous children.

1981  **Community Welfare Bill 1981**

1983  A conference of Aboriginal Community Workers proposed changes to the adoption process to ensure that Aboriginal mothers were advised of alternatives.

1985–86  Departmental policy changed with the development of policies for adoption and fostering that recognised that Aboriginal children who have been removed should be placed with Aboriginal families whenever possible.

1987  **Children (Care and Protection) Act 1987**

1987  The **Aboriginal Child Placement Principle** was introduced and outlined a preference of placing Aboriginal children with Aboriginal people when they are placed outside their families.

1987  **Community Welfare Act 1987**

1988  **Children (Community Service Orders) Amendment Act 1988**

1988  **Children (Community Service Orders) Further Amendment Act 1988**

1990  **Child (Care and Protection) Amendment Act 1990**
LISTING OF RECORDS
NSW Government Welfare Agencies
Department of Community Services (formerly known as the Department of Child Welfare, the Department of Child Welfare and Social Welfare, the Department of Youth and Community Services, the Department of Youth, Ethnic and Community Affairs, and the Department of Family and Community Services), 1939 – present

The State Children’s Relief Board, established by the State Children’s Relief Act 1881, was the immediate forerunner of the Child Welfare Department which later evolved into the Department of Community Services. The Board was subject to the direction of the Colonial Secretary until 1906, when it came under the direction of the Minister for Public Instruction. It had powers to remove children from charitable institutions, admit them to wardship, restore them to parents or guardians, and approve adoptions of wards.

The Child Welfare Act 1923 amended and consolidated the principal laws relating to the welfare of children in New South Wales. The State Children’s Relief Board was dissolved by this Act and its powers were transferred to the Minister for Public Instruction, later known as the Minister for Education.

A consolidating Act proclaimed in 1939 provided for the appointment of a Director of the Child Welfare Department, as well as for the care and maintenance of State wards, the assistance of children of needy parents, the supervision of children in foster homes and in institutions, and the protection of children from ill treatment and neglect. The Act also prevented the employment of children in dangerous occupations, regulated their employment in public performances and street trading, and governed the adoption of children. The Department also supervised immigrant children in New South Wales not under the care of their parents or relatives.

In 1956 the Social Welfare Division, previously attached to the Department of Labour and Industry, was incorporated to form the Department of Child Welfare and Social Welfare. In February 1974, the Department was renamed the Department of Youth and Community Services. The Department was responsible for administering the Child Welfare Act, the Adoption of Children Act, the Maintenance Act, the Aborigines Act and the Public Instruction Act. In January 1975, the Department was renamed the Department of Youth, Ethnic and Community Affairs. It was subsequently retitled as the Department of Youth and Community Services. In 1988 the Department was retitled Family and Community Services, and, in 1990, Community Services.

(Source: Archives Authority of NSW. Concise Guide to the State Archives, 1992.)
Records relating to State wards

**Substitute care (State ward ‘B’) files, 1955–present**

**Access:** Access to these records is restricted.

**Contact:** People wishing to access restricted records can contact their nearest NSW Department of Community Services Centre (listed as ‘Community Services Department of’ in the NSW White Pages) and complete a ‘Person Enquiry Form’. There are more than 70 centres throughout NSW. People living interstate can contact the Department’s Service Improvement Unit on (02) 9716 2222. Reverse charge calls are accepted. The address is: Service Improvement Unit, Department of Community Services, Locked Bag 28, Ashfield NSW 1800.

**Location:** Department of Community Services and the Archives Authority of New South Wales.

**Quantity:** over 53 000 files (at the time this Guide was compiled).

**Description:** These files relate to children and young persons up to eighteen years of age admitted or committed to the care of the Minister to be dealt with as State wards. These children and young people were placed in departmental establishments, residential or foster care programs, or with non-government agencies. Although the information on each file varies, orders of court, reports on wards and foster homes, correspondence concerning name changes and requests for adoption are included. If a ward is put up for adoption the file is then discontinued; otherwise files on State wards are discontinued at the age of eighteen years.

**Substitute care (Institutional ‘B’) files, 1936–present**

**Access:** Access to these records is restricted.

**Contact:** People wishing to access restricted records can contact their nearest NSW Department of Community Services Centre (listed as ‘Community Services Department of’ in the NSW White Pages) and complete a ‘Person Enquiry Form’. There are more than 70 centres throughout NSW. People living interstate can contact the Department’s Service Improvement Unit on (02) 9716 2222. Reverse charge calls are accepted. The address is: Service
Improvement Unit, Department of Community Services, Locked Bag 28, Ashfield NSW 1800.

Location: Archives Authority of New South Wales.

Description: These are files relating to children who were committed to an institution because they had been sentenced by the court or were uncontrollable, truants or neglected children. These files represent a random ten per cent sample and relate to children who were born in 1961 or 1962 and have been discharged from care.

**Family casework (‘C’) files, 1965–present**

Access: Access to these records is restricted.

Contact: People wishing to access restricted records can contact their nearest NSW Department of Community Services Centre (listed as ‘Community Services Department’ of in the NSW White Pages) and complete a ‘Person Enquiry Form’. There are more than 70 centres throughout NSW. People living interstate can contact the Department’s Service Improvement Unit on (02) 9716 2222. Reverse charge calls are accepted. The address is: Service Improvement Unit, Department of Community Services, Locked Bag 28, Ashfield NSW 1800.

Location: Department of Community Services and the Archives Authority of New South Wales.

Quantity: approx. 30 000 files (at the time this Guide was compiled).

Description: These files relate to the welfare of children and young persons up to eighteen years of age of families experiencing child care related problems. Although the information on each file varies, they include brief histories of family background, reports on natural parents, children admitted or committed to the care of the Minister as State wards or committed to departmental institutions, and on foster home placements. Also included is correspondence concerning meeting of natural parents and their children, name changes and requests for adoptions. If a ward is reunited with the natural family, put up for adoption or marries (by applying to the courts) the file is discontinued; otherwise, files on State wards are discontinued at the age of eighteen years.
Related records: State ward (‘B’) files.

**Foster Parent (‘W’) files, 1941–present**

**Access:** Access to these records is restricted.

**Contact:** People wishing to access restricted records can contact their nearest NSW Department of Community Services Centre (listed as ‘Community Services Department of’ in the NSW White Pages) and complete a ‘Person Enquiry Form’. There are more than 70 centres throughout NSW. People living interstate can contact the Department’s Service Improvement Unit on (02) 9716 2222. Reverse charge calls are accepted. The address is: Service Improvement Unit, Department of Community Services, Locked Bag 28, Ashfield NSW 1800.

**Location:** Department of Community Services and the Archives Authority of New South Wales.

**Quantity:** approx. 30 000 files (at the time this Guide was compiled).

**Description:** These files relate to enquiries made on application by prospective foster parents to care for State wards.

**Dependent children boarding out registers (ward registers), 1 Aug. 1923–31 Dec. 1936**

**Access:** Access to these records is restricted.

**Contact:** People wishing to access restricted records can contact their nearest NSW Department of Community Services Centre (listed as ‘Community Services Department of’ in the NSW White Pages) and complete a ‘Person Enquiry Form’. There are more than 70 centres throughout NSW. People living interstate can contact the Department’s Service Improvement Unit on (02) 9716 2222. Reverse charge calls are accepted. The address is: Service Improvement Unit, Department of Community Services, Locked Bag 28, Ashfield NSW 1800.

**Location:** Archives Authority of New South Wales.

**Reference no:** 7/16428–57.

**Quantity:** 30 volumes.
Description: These registers give: name of child; place of birth; date of birth; religion; name and known address of parents; number of papers; particulars of foster parents or guardians (i.e. names, addresses); dates when received and how placed; and Boarding Out Register number. They also note how the child was eventually disposed of (e.g. by return to parent or relative, by adoption, by attaining maturity).


**Dependent children register cards, c. 1945–72**

Access: Access to these records is restricted.

Contact: People wishing to access restricted records can contact their nearest NSW Department of Community Services Centre (listed as ‘Community Services Department of’ in the NSW White Pages) and complete a ‘Person Enquiry Form’. There are more than 70 centres throughout NSW. People living interstate can contact the Department’s Service Improvement Unit on (02) 9716 2222. Reverse charge calls are accepted. The address is: Service Improvement Unit, Department of Community Services, Locked Bag 28, Ashfield NSW 1800.

Location: Archives Authority of New South Wales.

Reference no: 11/16197–221.

Quantity: 25 boxes.

Description: These cards, which are arranged alphabetically by surname, relate to children born between 1945 and 1972 who were admitted to State care (there are some exceptions). They record the name of the child, registration number (State ward ‘B’ file number), date and place of birth, religion, parent's name and address, allowance rate and particulars of movement, name and address of guardian, admission and transfer date and classification. Children were discharged from State care when they turned eighteen, or were adopted or were re-united with their natural family.

Related records: State ward ('B') files.
Ward maintenance (‘M’) files, 1942–60

Access: Access to these records is restricted.

Contact: People wishing to access restricted records can contact their nearest NSW Department of Community Services Centre (listed as ‘Community Services Department of’ in the NSW White Pages) and complete a ‘Person Enquiry Form’. There are more than 70 centres throughout NSW. People living interstate can contact the Department’s Service Improvement Unit on (02) 9716 2222. Reverse charge calls are accepted. The address is: Service Improvement Unit, Department of Community Services, Locked Bag 28, Ashfield NSW 1800.

Location: Archives Authority of New South Wales.

Reference no: 19/7666, 10/26337–86.

Quantity: 51 boxes.

Description: These files relate to action taken to obtain maintenance by agreement, or court proceedings, in respect of children and young persons up to eighteen years of age admitted or committed to the care of the Minister to be dealt with as State wards or committed to departmental institutions. The files are not indexed. In order to access them, the relevant file number has to be obtained from another source such as the State ward (‘B’) file.

Related records: State ward (‘B’) files.

Affiliation files, c. 1963–75

Access: Access to these records is restricted.

Contact: People wishing to access restricted records can contact their nearest NSW Department of Community Services Centre (listed as ‘Community Services Department of’ in the NSW White Pages) and complete a ‘Person Enquiry Form’. There are more than 70 centres throughout NSW. People living interstate can contact the Department’s Service Improvement Unit on (02) 9716 2222. Reverse charge calls are accepted. The address is: Service Improvement Unit, Department of Community Services, Locked Bag 28, Ashfield NSW 1800.

Location: Archives Authority of New South Wales.

Quantity: 72 boxes.

Description: These files relate to action taken to obtain maintenance from the fathers of ex-nuptial children. The files are not indexed. In order to access them, the relevant file number has to be obtained from another source.

Records relating to adoptions

In addition to Departmental records relating to adoptions, the Department of Community Services holds the records of some private adoption agencies which closed down in the 1970s. These are for adoptions arranged by the Benevolent Society, the Presbyterian Adoption Agency, the Methodist Adoption Agency, and the Sydney Rescue Work Society. In addition, the files relating to adoptions arranged by the Seventh Day Adventist Adoption Agency, which ceased operating in 1993, are held by the Department’s Family Information Service.

The Department also maintains the Reunion and Information Register and the Contact Veto Register. For further information about the records held and the services offered by the Family Information Service, contact:

Family Information Service
Adoption Services Branch
Department of Community Services
PO Box 3485
Parramatta NSW 2124

The telephone number is: (02) 9865 5934 or (02) 9865 5992. There is a toll free number for people ringing from outside the Sydney metropolitan area, but with New South Wales. It is 1800 049 956.

The Department has also published the Adoption Search Guide which is available from the Family Information Service.

Applications and adoptions files for State wards, c. 1940–61

Access: Access to these records is restricted in accordance with the Adoption Information Act 1990.

Contact: People wishing to access restricted records can contact their nearest NSW Department of Community Services Centre (listed as ‘Community Services Department of’ in the NSW White Pages) and complete a ‘Person Enquiry Form’. There are more than 70 centres throughout NSW.
People living interstate can contact the Department’s Service Improvement Unit on (02) 9716 2222. Reverse charge calls are accepted. The address is: Service Improvement Unit, Department of Community Services, Locked Bag 28, Ashfield NSW 1800.

**Location:** Archives Authority of New South Wales.

**Reference no:** 7/2055A–2080C.

**Quantity:** 78 boxes.

**Description:** These are files comprising correspondence and reports relating to the application for the adoption and boarding out of State wards, mainly between the Department and private individuals.

**Adoption files, 1947, 1951–57, 1973–74**

**Access:** Access to these records is restricted in accordance with the *Adoption Information Act 1990*.

**Contact:** People wishing to access restricted records can contact their nearest NSW Department of Community Services Centre (listed as ‘Community Services Department of’ in the NSW White Pages) and complete a ‘Person Enquiry Form’. There are more than 70 centres throughout NSW. People living interstate can contact the Department’s Service Improvement Unit on (02) 9716 2222. Reverse charge calls are accepted. The address is: Service Improvement Unit, Department of Community Services, Locked Bag 28, Ashfield NSW 1800.

**Location:** Archives Authority of New South Wales.


**Quantity:** 489 boxes.

**Description:** These files relate to the adoption of children in cases where the Department has acted as the intermediary between the natural and adopting parents. The files contain: applications and related correspondence from prospective adopting parents; consents on the part of either or both of the natural parents, and sometimes of the child or person proposed to be adopted where such child or person is over the age of twelve years; District
Officer's report on the adopting parents showing names and addresses of adopting parents, reasons of prospective foster parents for desiring a child, attitudes and outlooks, interests, experience with children, physical appearance including nationality, employment and income, other inmates of the home, religion, when and where married, suitability of home locality, educational and recreational facilities for the child, description of home type, and opinion and recommendation of District Officer. The registers and indexes have been retained by the Department.

Related records: Registers and indexes are retained by the Department of Community Services.

**Private adoption files, 1956–67**

**Access:** Access to these records is restricted in accordance with the Adoption Information Act 1990.

**Contact:** People wishing to access restricted records can contact their nearest NSW Department of Community Services Centre (listed as ‘Community Services Department of’ in the NSW White Pages) and complete a ‘Person Enquiry Form’. There are more than 70 centres throughout NSW. People living interstate can contact the Department’s Service Improvement Unit on (02) 9716 2222. Reverse charge calls are accepted. The address is: Service Improvement Unit, Department of Community Services, Locked Bag 28, Ashfield NSW 1800.

**Location:** Archives Authority of New South Wales.

**Reference no:** 7/2356A–65B, 7/3607A–10C, 7/5691–99B.

**Quantity:** 45 boxes.

**Description:** These files relate to private applications to the Supreme Court for the adoption of children referred to the Department for report. The files contain copies of reports on applicants by the Department sent to the Chief Justice in Equity. Each report shows: names of applicants, name and date of birth of the child which the applicants wish to adopt, education of applicants, comment on their interest in children, a statement as to whether they have children of their own, and, if so, whether the children are well cared for, description of the home in which the applicants live, occupations of
applicants, ages, salaries, etc. Reports are based on District Officer’s reports which include additional information such as: applicants' religion, physical appearance, details of previous marriages of applicants, educational and recreational facilities for the child, and the recommendation of the District Officer. The registers and indexes have been retained by the Department.

Related records: Registers and indexes are retained by the Department of Community Services.

**Private adoption agency contact files, 1950–75**

**Access:** Access to these records is restricted in accordance with the Adoption Information Act 1990.

**Contact:** People wishing to access restricted records can contact their nearest NSW Department of Community Services Centre (listed as ‘Community Services Department of’ in the NSW White Pages) and complete a ‘Person Enquiry Form’. There are more than 70 centres throughout NSW. People living interstate can contact the Department’s Service Improvement Unit on (02) 9716 2222. Reverse charge calls are accepted. The address is: Service Improvement Unit, Department of Community Services, Locked Bag 28, Ashfield NSW 1800.

**Location:** Archives Authority of New South Wales.

**Reference no:** 14/833–968.

**Quantity:** 136 boxes.

**Description:** These files assist in providing biographical details for people seeking information about private agency adoptions under the Adopted Persons Contact Register Scheme. Two different types of files containing differing information have been brought together. Most files are private agency adoption files containing a wide range of information including transcripts of interviews with prospective adoption parents, applications, reports and other correspondence before and after the adoption occurs. The information on the natural parents and child varies in detail. The other type of file is the one originally created by hospital social workers when a natural mother indicates her intention to relinquish her child for adoption. These files, almost exclusively from the
Queen Victoria Hospital for Women, include the mother's social history and information on the father, medical reports on the child and signed forms for the adoption. In some cases both types of files have been created for the one adoption and the Department has combined the two. Many files include correspondence in answer to recent enquiries from the child, natural or adoptive parents about the adoption or child's background.

**Benevolent Society adoption register, 23 May 1969–1 Sep. 1975**

**Access:** Access to these records is restricted in accordance with the Adoption Information Act 1990.

**Contact:** People wishing to access restricted records can contact their nearest NSW Department of Community Services Centre (listed as ‘Community Services Department of’ in the NSW White Pages) and complete a ‘Person Enquiry Form’. There are more than 70 centres throughout NSW. People living interstate can contact the Department’s Service Improvement Unit on (02) 9716 2222. Reverse charge calls are accepted. The address is: Service Improvement Unit, Department of Community Services, Locked Bag 28, Ashfield NSW 1800.

**Location:** Archives Authority of New South Wales.

**Reference no:** 11/16549.

**Quantity:** 1 volume.

**Description:** This volume is divided into two sections. The first concerns adoptive parents and contains the following information: the names of prospective parents; their address, dates of birth and religion; the date the application forms were forwarded to the Child Welfare Department; the dates of the interview and home visit; the date of birth and sex of the child (where the application has proceeded); the date of placement; the name of the solicitor and the court serial number. The second section concerns the natural mother and includes the following information: mother's name, address, date of birth, marital status and religion; the natural father's age and marital status; the child's ethnic origin, legal status (i.e. illegitimate or otherwise), date of birth and sex; the date consent was given; date of
placement and the child's age at that time; and the adoptive parent's religion. Both sections include a reference number for each entry. The number of a particular woman corresponds to the number of the couple her child was placed with.

**Presbyterian Adoption Agency adoption registers, c. 1966–75**

**Access:** Access to these records is restricted in accordance with the Adoption Information Act 1990.

**Contact:** People wishing to access restricted records can contact their nearest NSW Department of Community Services Centre (listed as ‘Community Services Department of’ in the NSW White Pages) and complete a ‘Person Enquiry Form’. There are more than 70 centres throughout NSW. People living interstate can contact the Department’s Service Improvement Unit on (02) 9716 2222. Reverse charge calls are accepted. The address is: Service Improvement Unit, Department of Community Services, Locked Bag 28, Ashfield NSW 1800.

**Location:** Archives Authority of New South Wales.

**Reference no:** 11/16550–51.

**Quantity:** 2 volumes.

**Description:** The first of these two volumes concerns adoptive parents and contains the following information for each entry: prospective parents' names, address, religion and dates of birth; the date references were received; the date of birth and sex of the child (where the application has proceeded); date of placement of the child and its age at that time; the name of the solicitor; the court serial number; and the agency's serial number. The second volume concerns the natural mother and includes the following information: name, address, marital status, religion and ethnic origin of the mother; age, marital status and ethnic origin of the natural father; the child's date of birth, sex and legal status at that time; the court serial number; and the agency's serial number. The agency serial number for an entry in the natural mother's volume corresponds with the agency serial number of the couple the child was placed with.
Records of Departmental residential care units

The Department was responsible for a number of institutions and establishments throughout New South Wales. These included: ‘Allanville’ receiving home for children (wards), Wellington; ‘Anglewood’ special school for truants, Burradoo via Bowral; ‘Berry Recreation Centre’ for intellectually handicapped wards, Berry; ‘Bidura’, Glebe; ‘Broken Hill Shelter’ remand home for delinquent children, Broken Hill; ‘Brougham’ receiving home for children, Woollahra; ‘Brush Farm’ home for intellectually handicapped wards and home for infants, Eastwood; ‘Castle Hill House’ for school aged boys, Castle Hill; ‘Clairvaux’ home for intellectually handicapped wards, Katoomba; ‘Daruk’ training school for delinquent boys, Windsor; ‘Endeavour House’ training school for delinquent boys, Tamworth; ‘Faulds House’ for school aged girls, Guildford; ‘Grafton Shelter’ remand home for delinquent children, South Grafton; ‘Hargrave House’ for school aged girls, Bathurst; ‘Kamballa’ training school for delinquent girls, Parramatta; ‘Karril Cottage’ home for school aged boys (wards), Kellyville; ‘Keelong’ remand home for delinquent children, Unanderra; ‘King Edward Home’ for school aged girls, Newcastle; ‘Lark Hill’ home for children (wards), Campbelltown; ‘Lynwood Hall’ receiving home for girls, Guildford; ‘McCredie Cottage’ for pre-school aged children (wards), Guildford; ‘May Villa Home’ for school aged boys (wards), Dundas; ‘Metropolitan Boys’ Shelter’ remand home for boys, Surry Hills; ‘Minda Remand Centre’ for delinquent children, Lidcombe; ‘Minali Receiving Home’, Lidcombe; ‘Mount Penang Training School for Boys’, Gosford; ‘Phillip Cottage’ home for boys (wards), Gosford; ‘Raith’ home for children (wards), Campbelltown; ‘Reiby Training School’ for delinquent girls, Campbelltown; ‘Renwick’ home for school aged boys, Mittagong; ‘Royston Depot’ receiving home for boys, Glebe; ‘St. Heliers’ home for children (wards), Muswellbrook; ‘Tallimba Home’ training school for delinquent boys, Camden; ‘Taldree’ training school for delinquent girls, Parramatta; ‘Thornbury Lodge’, Baulkham Hills; ‘Weroona Home’ for boys (wards), Woodford; ‘Werrington Park’ for intellectually handicapped boys, St Marys; ‘Worimi Shelter’ for the reception of children from the courts, Broadmeadow; ‘Yarra Bay House’ for intellectually handicapped wards, Phillip Bay; ‘Yasmar Shelter’ remand home for boys, Haberfield; and ‘Yawarra Training School’ for young men transferred from Corrective Services, Kurri Kurri.

In addition, the Department cared for children in hostels and group homes, of which there were too many to list in this Guide.

The Department holds records of admissions and discharges for some of these institutions and establishments. In the absence of admission and discharge records, this information may also be found on a State ward (‘B’) file.
**Index cards relating to institutional inmates, 1958–86**

**Access:** Access to these records is restricted.

**Contact:** People wishing to access restricted records can contact their nearest NSW Department of Community Services Centre (listed as ‘Community Services Department of’ in the NSW White Pages) and complete a ‘Person Enquiry Form’. There are more than 70 centres throughout NSW. People living interstate can contact the Department’s Service Improvement Unit on (02) 9716 2222. Reverse charge calls are accepted. The address is: Service Improvement Unit, Department of Community Services, Locked Bag 28, Ashfield NSW 1800.

**Location:** Archives Authority of New South Wales.

**Reference no:** 11/15670–83.

**Quantity:** 14 boxes.

**Description:** These are index cards relating to children who were inmates of various institutions. They contain the following information: name, address, date of birth, offence, place of court committal, place of birth, parents’ names, physical description and discharge dates.

**Related records:** Cards were replaced in 1987 by a computerised system.

**Minda Remand Centre, Lidcombe**

The Minda Remand Centre was opened in May 1966, and serves as one of the Department's remand homes (or shelters), where juveniles appearing before the courts may be held in custody. In general, children or young persons are detained in shelters while awaiting transfer to an institution. Metropolitan shelters are also used to accommodate any institution inmates who are brought to Sydney for medical or psychological treatment. ‘Minda’ comprises a court and child guidance clinic, senior and junior boys' sections, a girls' remand section, boys' and girls' schools, manual training rooms and a medical section for girls.

**Admission cards (Boys' Section), c. 1972–75**

**Access:** Access to these records is restricted.
Contact: People wishing to access restricted records can contact their nearest NSW Department of Community Services Centre (listed as ‘Community Services Department of’ in the NSW White Pages) and complete a ‘Person Enquiry Form’. There are more than 70 centres throughout NSW. People living interstate can contact the Department’s Service Improvement Unit on (02) 9716 2222. Reverse charge calls are accepted. The address is: Service Improvement Unit, Department of Community Services, Locked Bag 28, Ashfield NSW 1800.

Location: Archives Authority of New South Wales.

Reference no: 7/11485.

Quantity: 1 box.

Description: These cards relate to boys with surnames A–F and whose dates of birth fall between 1 December 1957 and 31 May 1958. The details given include date and place of birth, religious denomination, parents' names and address, boy's occupation, date of admission, from whom received, offence, how disposed of, notes on court appearances, and physical description.

Admission registers (Boys’ Section), 5 Jun. 1966–5 Apr. 1971

Access: Access to these records is restricted.

Contact: People wishing to access restricted records can contact their nearest NSW Department of Community Services Centre (listed as ‘Community Services Department of’ in the NSW White Pages) and complete a ‘Person Enquiry Form’. There are more than 70 centres throughout NSW. People living interstate can contact the Department’s Service Improvement Unit on (02) 9716 2222. Reverse charge calls are accepted. The address is: Service Improvement Unit, Department of Community Services, Locked Bag 28, Ashfield NSW 1800.

Location: Archives Authority of New South Wales.

Reference no: 7/13247–52.

Quantity: 6 volumes.

Description: These volumes give details of the date of admission, full name, age, religious denomination and by whom
committed. The nature of the offence together with information as to under whose jurisdiction the boys were discharged, on what date this occurred, and details of any appeals are also noted. Whether the boys were checked by a doctor and/or psychiatrist, and further remarks of a personal kind are also included.

_Admision registers (Girls' Section), 26 May 1966–20 Jun. 1969_

**Access:** Access to these records is restricted.

**Contact:** People wishing to access restricted records can contact their nearest NSW Department of Community Services Centre (listed as ‘Community Services Department of’ in the NSW White Pages) and complete a ‘Person Enquiry Form’. There are more than 70 centres throughout NSW. People living interstate can contact the Department’s Service Improvement Unit on (02) 9716 2222. Reverse charge calls are accepted. The address is: Service Improvement Unit, Department of Community Services, Locked Bag 28, Ashfield NSW 1800.

**Location:** Archives Authority of New South Wales.

**Reference no:** 7/13245–46.

**Quantity:** 2 volumes.

**Description:** These volumes give details of the date of admission, full name, age, religious denomination and by whom committed. The nature of the offence together with information as to under whose jurisdiction the girls were discharged, on what date this occurred, and details of any appeals are also noted. Whether the girls were checked by a doctor and/or psychiatrist, and further remarks of a personal kind are also included.

_Daily log of admissions, discharges and occurrences (Girls' Section), 1968–76_

**Access:** Access to these records is restricted.

**Contact:** People wishing to access restricted records can contact their nearest NSW Department of Community Services Centre (listed as ‘Community Services Department of’ in the NSW White Pages) and complete a ‘Person Enquiry Form’.
Form’. There are more than 70 centres throughout NSW. People living interstate can contact the Department’s Service Improvement Unit on (02) 9716 2222. Reverse charge calls are accepted. The address is: Service Improvement Unit, Department of Community Services, Locked Bag 28, Ashfield NSW 1800.

Location: Archives Authority of New South Wales.


Quantity: 23 volumes.

Description: Entries for each day include the following information: admissions and discharges (surnames and initials only), statistics on total number of girls in the Centre at midnight, the number of admissions and discharges, together with morning, afternoon and night reports (giving names of officers on duty, names of girls with best made beds, best behaved girls and best workers, number of girls in the section, general behaviour, and notes on any unusual occurrences).

Daily log of admissions, discharges and occurrences (Boys’ Section), 1970–76

Access: Access to these records is restricted.

Contact: People wishing to access restricted records can contact their nearest NSW Department of Community Services Centre (listed as ‘Community Services Department of’ in the NSW White Pages) and complete a ‘Person Enquiry Form’. There are more than 70 centres throughout NSW. People living interstate can contact the Department’s Service Improvement Unit on (02) 9716 2222. Reverse charge calls are accepted. The address is: Service Improvement Unit, Department of Community Services, Locked Bag 28, Ashfield NSW 1800.

Location: Archives Authority of New South Wales.

Reference no: 7/13234, 7/11454–64.

Quantity: 12 volumes.

Description: Entries for each day include the following information: admissions and discharges (surnames and initials only), statistics on total number of boys in the Centre at
midnight, the number of admissions and discharges, together with morning, afternoon and night reports from both senior and junior sections (giving names of officers on duty, number of boys in each section, general behaviour, and notes on any unusual occurrences).

**Court diaries, 1966–76**

Access: Access to these records is restricted.

Contact: People wishing to access restricted records can contact their nearest NSW Department of Community Services Centre (listed as ‘Community Services Department of’ in the NSW White Pages) and complete a ‘Person Enquiry Form’. There are more than 70 centres throughout NSW. People living interstate can contact the Department’s Service Improvement Unit on (02) 9716 2222. Reverse charge calls are accepted. The address is: Service Improvement Unit, Department of Community Services, Locked Bag 28, Ashfield NSW 1800.

Location: Archives Authority of New South Wales.


Quantity: 11 volumes.

Description: These volumes provide a daily record of the court attendances of Minda inmates. The following details are given: name of court, name of inmate, date of birth, offence, whether escorted, time and notes.

**Parramatta Training School for Girls**

The Parramatta Training School for Girls operated from May 1887. Prior to that date, the Industrial School for Girls operated in Newcastle from August 1867 to March 1871, after which time the school transferred to Biloela until May 1887.

**Copies of letters sent by the Superintendent, Feb. 1899–Feb. 1909**

Access: Access to these records is restricted.

Contact: People wishing to access restricted records can contact their nearest NSW Department of Community Services
Centre (listed as ‘Community Services Department of’ in the NSW White Pages) and complete a ‘Person Enquiry Form’. There are more than 70 centres throughout NSW. People living interstate can contact the Department’s Service Improvement Unit on (02) 9716 2222. Reverse charge calls are accepted. The address is: Service Improvement Unit, Department of Community Services, Locked Bag 28, Ashfield NSW 1800.

Location: Archives Authority of New South Wales.
Reference no: 5/3434.
Quantity: 1 volume.
Description: These are either weekly reports on the girls' health, behaviour and number; or reports on particular people or events, such as a girl about to be apprenticed or an outbreak of a disease. Letters to other officials are also included and range from furniture requisitions to complaints about the treatment of apprentices. At the front of the volume is a series of letters of advice to girls apprenticed out.

 Registers of warrants received, Aug. 1867–1942

Access: Access to these records is restricted.
Contact: People wishing to access restricted records can contact their nearest NSW Department of Community Services Centre (listed as ‘Community Services Department of’ in the NSW White Pages) and complete a ‘Person Enquiry Form’. There are more than 70 centres throughout NSW. People living interstate can contact the Department’s Service Improvement Unit on (02) 9716 2222. Reverse charge calls are accepted. The address is: Service Improvement Unit, Department of Community Services, Locked Bag 28, Ashfield NSW 1800.

Location: Archives Authority of New South Wales.
Reference no: 5/3428, 5/4857.
Quantity: 2 volumes.
Description: These registers record the name of each child, her age, education and religion; the name of her parents and of the court at which she was sentenced. Entries start from
the School’s inception. There are no entries surviving for the period October 1869 to November 1876.

**Register of committals, 1906–18**

**Access:**  
Access to these records is restricted.

**Contact:**  
People wishing to access restricted records can contact their nearest NSW Department of Community Services Centre (listed as ‘Community Services Department of’ in the NSW White Pages) and complete a ‘Person Enquiry Form’. There are more than 70 centres throughout NSW. People living interstate can contact the Department’s Service Improvement Unit on (02) 9716 2222. Reverse charge calls are accepted. The address is: Service Improvement Unit, Department of Community Services, Locked Bag 28, Ashfield NSW 1800.

**Location:**  
Archives Authority of New South Wales.

**Reference no:**  
8/1758.

**Quantity:**  
1 volume.

**Description:**  
This register records the name of the child, age at date of committal, date of committal, offence, name of parent or guardian, character of parents and home surroundings, maintenance orders and remarks. The volume also includes a list of girls as at 1 January 1918.


**Access:**  
Access to these records is restricted.

**Contact:**  
People wishing to access restricted records can contact their nearest NSW Department of Community Services Centre (listed as ‘Community Services Department of’ in the NSW White Pages) and complete a ‘Person Enquiry Form’. There are more than 70 centres throughout NSW. People living interstate can contact the Department’s Service Improvement Unit on (02) 9716 2222. Reverse charge calls are accepted. The address is: Service Improvement Unit, Department of Community Services, Locked Bag 28, Ashfield NSW 1800.

**Location:**  
Archives Authority of New South Wales.

Quantity: 3 volumes.

Description: These registers show the number of girls present in the school for each day with details of any alterations, such as which courts or homes new girls came from, and to whom old girls were discharged or apprenticed. The day and date of such alterations and the authority by which they were made is also shown.


Access: Access to these records is restricted.

Contact: People wishing to access restricted records can contact their nearest NSW Department of Community Services Centre (listed as ‘Community Services Department of’ in the NSW White Pages) and complete a ‘Person Enquiry Form’. There are more than 70 centres throughout NSW. People living interstate can contact the Department’s Service Improvement Unit on (02) 9716 2222. Reverse charge calls are accepted. The address is: Service Improvement Unit, Department of Community Services, Locked Bag 28, Ashfield NSW 1800.

Location: Archives Authority of New South Wales.


Quantity: 4 volumes.

Description: These volumes contain details of the inmates' behaviour and appearances at the morning and afternoon musters held at the institution. An alphabetical list of all inmates is included at the beginning of each volume. There is a daily account of the behaviour of certain inmates who were deserving of either plus or minus marks in accordance with the marking system which was adopted by the school. The marking system encompassed all facets of life in the institution from dormitory and meal behaviour to behaviour in the laundry and in activities classes.

Access: Access to these records is restricted.

Contact: People wishing to access restricted records can contact their nearest NSW Department of Community Services Centre (listed as ‘Community Services Department of’ in the NSW White Pages) and complete a ‘Person Enquiry Form’. There are more than 70 centres throughout NSW. People living interstate can contact the Department’s Service Improvement Unit on (02) 9716 2222. Reverse charge calls are accepted. The address is: Service Improvement Unit, Department of Community Services, Locked Bag 28, Ashfield NSW 1800.

Location: Archives Authority of New South Wales.

Reference no: 3/9070.

Quantity: 1 box.

Description: These returns, which are copies of the returns forwarded to the Child Welfare Department, are primarily lists of inmates in the following categories: inmates sentenced to isolated detention; new arrivals; inmates remanded; mental hospital patients; absconders and absentees from ‘Myee’; girls discharged. In some cases handwritten reports on the general health, general conduct and recreational activities of the inmates are included.

Institution inmates’ files, c. 1964–72

Access: Access to these records is restricted.

Contact: People wishing to access restricted records can contact their nearest NSW Department of Community Services Centre (listed as ‘Community Services Department of’ in the NSW White Pages) and complete a ‘Person Enquiry Form’. There are more than 70 centres throughout NSW. People living interstate can contact the Department’s Service Improvement Unit on (02) 9716 2222. Reverse charge calls are accepted. The address is: Service Improvement Unit, Department of Community Services, Locked Bag 28, Ashfield NSW 1800.

Location: Archives Authority of New South Wales.
Reference no: 3/9072–9142.
Quantity: 71 boxes.
Description: These files relate to girls committed to the Training School during the period 1964–72 and to those inmates who are now over the age of 21. The majority of the inmates are second offenders. Each file comprises the following: personal history cards which relate to the background of the inmate; copies of medical reports, both physical and psychological; orders of the court which relate to the offence of the inmate; copies of letters sent to the Department and parents concerning the inmate; progress reports; shelter reports; and the suitability of the inmate for discharge. In some cases, personal letters received by the inmate, photographs, and letters written to the Superintendent from the inmate after discharge are included.

Admission, discharge and after career register, 14 May 1887–21 Dec. 1925
Access: Access to these records is restricted.
Contact: People wishing to access restricted records can contact their nearest NSW Department of Community Services Centre (listed as ‘Community Services Department of’ in the NSW White Pages) and complete a ‘Person Enquiry Form’. There are more than 70 centres throughout NSW. People living interstate can contact the Department’s Service Improvement Unit on (02) 9716 2222. Reverse charge calls are accepted. The address is: Service Improvement Unit, Department of Community Services, Locked Bag 28, Ashfield NSW 1800.
Location: Archives Authority of New South Wales.
Reference no: 5/4838.
Quantity: 1 volume.
Description: The register, which commences on page 461, gives: register number; name; age on admission; date of admission; date of discharge; period of detention; remarks on apprenticeships/conditional discharge (if any); and general remarks. The volume also contains statistical information, some in tabular form, showing ages and numbers of those in detention.
**Admission and discharge register, 1941–43**

**Access:** Access to these records is restricted.

**Contact:** People wishing to access restricted records can contact their nearest NSW Department of Community Services Centre (listed as ‘Community Services Department of’ in the NSW White Pages) and complete a ‘Person Enquiry Form’. There are more than 70 centres throughout NSW. People living interstate can contact the Department’s Service Improvement Unit on (02) 9716 2222. Reverse charge calls are accepted. The address is: Service Improvement Unit, Department of Community Services, Locked Bag 28, Ashfield NSW 1800.

**Location:** Archives Authority of New South Wales.

**Reference no:** 5/4839.

**Quantity:** 1 volume.

**Description:** This register contains the following information: date of admission; name; age (in years and months); religion; from whom received; address; remarks; date of discharge; to whom discharged; address; and how placed. The register is arranged chronologically by date of admission in part, and alphabetically by surname in part.

**Reports on conditional discharges, 1908–25**

**Access:** Access to these records is restricted.

**Contact:** People wishing to access restricted records can contact their nearest NSW Department of Community Services Centre (listed as ‘Community Services Department of’ in the NSW White Pages) and complete a ‘Person Enquiry Form’. There are more than 70 centres throughout NSW. People living interstate can contact the Department’s Service Improvement Unit on (02) 9716 2222. Reverse charge calls are accepted. The address is: Service Improvement Unit, Department of Community Services, Locked Bag 28, Ashfield NSW 1800.

**Location:** Archives Authority of New South Wales.

**Reference no:** 5/4841.
Quantity: 1 volume.

Description: These are summaries of reports received from local authorities, the girls themselves and their guardians on their behaviour.


Access: Access to these records is restricted.

Contact: People wishing to access restricted records can contact their nearest NSW Department of Community Services Centre (listed as ‘Community Services Department of’ in the NSW White Pages) and complete a ‘Person Enquiry Form’. There are more than 70 centres throughout NSW. People living interstate can contact the Department’s Service Improvement Unit on (02) 9716 2222. Reverse charge calls are accepted. The address is: Service Improvement Unit, Department of Community Services, Locked Bag 28, Ashfield NSW 1800.

Location: Archives Authority of New South Wales.

Reference no: 3/9065.2.

Quantity: 1 bundle.

Description: These records comprise copies of schedules, relating to children and young persons committed to various institutions, which were forwarded to the Superintendent, Parramatta Training School for Girls. The schedules provide the following details: name of person; date of birth; offence; court at which tried; date of committal and, where applicable, the period of committal; and name of institution recommended for placement.

**Copies of recommendations for discharge from institutions, Sep. 1964–73**

Access: Access to these records is restricted.

Contact: People wishing to access restricted records can contact their nearest NSW Department of Community Services Centre (listed as ‘Community Services Department of’ in the NSW White Pages) and complete a ‘Person Enquiry
Form’. There are more than 70 centres throughout NSW. People living interstate can contact the Department’s Service Improvement Unit on (02) 9716 2222. Reverse charge calls are accepted. The address is: Service Improvement Unit, Department of Community Services, Locked Bag 28, Ashfield NSW 1800.

Location: Archives Authority of New South Wales.

Reference no: 3/9061.

Quantity: 1 box.

Description: Copies of schedules which list those inmates who have been recommended for discharge from various institutions. The following details are given: name of inmate and training school from which inmate is to be discharged; date of birth; date of committal; name and address of person into whose custody the inmate will be discharged; and relationship of that person to the inmate.

Registers of apprenticeships, Nov. 1895–Oct. 1904; 1905–10

Access: Access to these records is restricted.

Contact: People wishing to access restricted records can contact their nearest NSW Department of Community Services Centre (listed as ‘Community Services Department of’ in the NSW White Pages) and complete a ‘Person Enquiry Form’. There are more than 70 centres throughout NSW. People living interstate can contact the Department’s Service Improvement Unit on (02) 9716 2222. Reverse charge calls are accepted. The address is: Service Improvement Unit, Department of Community Services, Locked Bag 28, Ashfield NSW 1800.

Location: Archives Authority of New South Wales.

Reference no: 5/4842–43.

Quantity: 2 volumes.

Description: Record arranged by name of girl, showing to whom apprenticed; wages to be paid into the savings bank; dates of leaving institution; expiry of indentures; advice re money in the bank; amount of wages actually paid; and remarks concerning behaviour, etc.
Taldree Remand Centre

Admission and discharge register, 10 Dec. 1974–18 Nov. 1976

Access: Access to these records is restricted.

Contact: People wishing to access restricted records can contact their nearest NSW Department of Community Services Centre (listed as ‘Community Services Department of’ in the NSW White Pages) and complete a ‘Person Enquiry Form’. There are more than 70 centres throughout NSW. People living interstate can contact the Department’s Service Improvement Unit on (02) 9716 2222. Reverse charge calls are accepted. The address is: Service Improvement Unit, Department of Community Services, Locked Bag 28, Ashfield NSW 1800.

Location: Archives Authority of New South Wales.

Reference no: 11/5843.

Quantity: 1 volume.

Description: This register records date of admission, name, age (or date of birth), religion, address of inmate and from whom received, date of discharge and to whom discharged.

Admission registers, 8 Nov. 1976–13 May 1980

Access: Access to these records is restricted.

Contact: People wishing to access restricted records can contact their nearest NSW Department of Community Services Centre (listed as ‘Community Services Department of’ in the NSW White Pages) and complete a ‘Person Enquiry Form’. There are more than 70 centres throughout NSW. People living interstate can contact the Department’s Service Improvement Unit on (02) 9716 2222. Reverse charge calls are accepted. The address is: Service Improvement Unit, Department of Community Services, Locked Bag 28, Ashfield NSW 1800.

Location: Archives Authority of New South Wales.

Reference no: 11/5844–46.
Quantity: 3 volumes.

Description: These volumes record date and time of admission, name, date of birth, age, religion and address of inmate, reason for admission and nature of new inmate’s offence or complaint, and from whom received.

Admission cards, 1975–80

Access: Access to these records is restricted.

Contact: People wishing to access restricted records can contact their nearest NSW Department of Community Services Centre (listed as ‘Community Services Department of’ in the NSW White Pages) and complete a ‘Person Enquiry Form’. There are more than 70 centres throughout NSW. People living interstate can contact the Department’s Service Improvement Unit on (02) 9716 2222. Reverse charge calls are accepted. The address is: Service Improvement Unit, Department of Community Services, Locked Bag 28, Ashfield NSW 1800.

Location: Archives Authority of New South Wales.


Quantity: 6 boxes.

Description: These cards register the admission of inmates and note name and admission date, date and place of birth, religion, IQ, name and occupation of father, mother’s name, address of parents, phone number and boy’s occupation. They also include: from whom received; offence; how disposed of and date. In addition they give physical descriptions of the inmates and include notes on health and condition on admission, medical reports, and details of legal action faced by the inmate. An envelope attached to the back of the card holds other papers relating to the inmate. Though the cards cover the period 1975–80, they are arranged by the year of birth of the inmate and then alphabetically by name. Years of birth range from 1961 to 1971.

Discharge registers, 9 Nov. 1976–24 Apr. 1980

Access: Access to these records is restricted.
Contact: People wishing to access restricted records can contact their nearest NSW Department of Community Services Centre (listed as ‘Community Services Department of’ in the NSW White Pages) and complete a ‘Person Enquiry Form’. There are more than 70 centres throughout NSW. People living interstate can contact the Department’s Service Improvement Unit on (02) 9716 2222. Reverse charge calls are accepted. The address is: Service Improvement Unit, Department of Community Services, Locked Bag 28, Ashfield NSW 1800.

Location: Archives Authority of New South Wales.

Reference no: 11/5847–49.

Quantity: 3 volumes.

Description: These volumes record date of discharge, name, date of birth, and age of the inmate discharged, reason for discharge, to whom discharged and relationship to inmate, and address discharged to.


Access: Access to these records is restricted.

Contact: People wishing to access restricted records can contact their nearest NSW Department of Community Services Centre (listed as ‘Community Services Department of’ in the NSW White Pages) and complete a ‘Person Enquiry Form’. There are more than 70 centres throughout NSW. People living interstate can contact the Department’s Service Improvement Unit on (02) 9716 2222. Reverse charge calls are accepted. The address is: Service Improvement Unit, Department of Community Services, Locked Bag 28, Ashfield NSW 1800.

Location: Archives Authority of New South Wales.

Reference no: 11/5877.

Quantity: 1 volume.

Description: This volume is a record of inmates of Taldree committed for trial. Information provided includes: name; age; religion and address; court and date of committal; offence; court order; age at committal; whether medical and psychological examinations were given, and date;
proposed institution and details of transfer to that institution.

Yawarra Training School for Boys, Kurri Kurri

Yawarra Training School provided facilities to train boys under the age of eighteen years in a craft or trade.

**Admission and discharge registers, 30 Mar. 1969–14 Sep. 1980**

Access: Access to these records is restricted.

Contact: People wishing to access restricted records can contact their nearest NSW Department of Community Services Centre (listed as ‘Community Services Department of’ in the NSW White Pages) and complete a ‘Person Enquiry Form’. There are more than 70 centres throughout NSW. People living interstate can contact the Department’s Service Improvement Unit on (02) 9716 2222. Reverse charge calls are accepted. The address is: Service Improvement Unit, Department of Community Services, Locked Bag 28, Ashfield NSW 1800.

Location: Archives Authority of New South Wales.


Quantity: 3 volumes.

Description: These volumes are combined weekly admission/discharge registers. For admissions they record: time and date; name; age; religion; from whom received and remarks. For discharges they record: to whom discharged; address and how placed.

**Senior Officer’s log books, 9 Jun. 1980–2 Nov. 1984**

Access: Access to these records is restricted.

Contact: People wishing to access restricted records can contact their nearest NSW Department of Community Services Centre (listed as ‘Community Services Department of’ in the NSW White Pages) and complete a ‘Person Enquiry Form’. There are more than 70 centres throughout NSW. People living interstate can contact the Department’s Service Improvement Unit on (02) 9716 2222. Reverse charge calls are accepted. The address is: Service Improvement Unit, Department of Community Services, Locked Bag 28, Ashfield NSW 1800.
charge calls are accepted. The address is: Service Improvement Unit, Department of Community Services, Locked Bag 28, Ashfield NSW 1800.

Location: Archives Authority of New South Wales.

Reference no: 14/3064–70.

Quantity: 7 volumes.

Description: These books include information on admissions and discharges (names only); statistics on numbers of admissions/discharges and inmates present; and daily reports with particular references to breaches of conduct and other disciplinary matters.

Records about child migrants

*Immigrant children’s files, 1947–76*

Access: Access to these records is restricted.

Contact: People wishing to access restricted records can contact their nearest NSW Department of Community Services Centre (listed as ‘Community Services Department of’ in the NSW White Pages) and complete a ‘Person Enquiry Form’. There are more than 70 centres throughout NSW. People living interstate can contact the Department’s Service Improvement Unit on (02) 9716 2222. Reverse charge calls are accepted. The address is: Service Improvement Unit, Department of Community Services, Locked Bag 28, Ashfield NSW 1800.

Location: Archives Authority of New South Wales.


Quantity: 22 cartons, 44 boxes (part).

Description: These files relate to young people entering the country who are under 21 years of age and have no parent or blood relative responsible for them in Australia. These migrants, sponsored by organisations such as the Big Brother Movement and Dr Barnardo’s Homes, were supervised by Child Welfare Officers when they were placed in the community. The files include medical
reports, reports on the immigrant child and correspondence relating to the placement of the person in question. The files are arranged by file number.


Access: Access to these records is restricted.

Contact: People wishing to access restricted records can contact their nearest NSW Department of Community Services Centre (listed as ‘Community Services Department of’ in the NSW White Pages) and complete a ‘Person Enquiry Form’. There are more than 70 centres throughout NSW. People living interstate can contact the Department’s Service Improvement Unit on (02) 9716 2222. Reverse charge calls are accepted. The address is: Service Improvement Unit, Department of Community Services, Locked Bag 28, Ashfield NSW 1800.

Location: Archives Authority of New South Wales.

Reference no: 18/1238.1.

Quantity: 2 volumes.

Description: These registers have entries recording monthly arrivals and discharges of immigrant children. The arrival entries generally give name, ages and whether the child was nominated by an individual or sponsored by an organisation, such as Fairbridge, Big Brother or Dr Barnardo. The discharge entries give name, age, type of nomination, reason for discharge from guardianship. Statistics separated into three age groups of boys and girls are included.

Related records: Immigrant children's files, 1947–76

 Files concerning the arrival of immigrant children sponsored by the Big Brother scheme, 1965–73

Access: Access to these records is restricted.
Contact: People wishing to access restricted records can contact their nearest NSW Department of Community Services Centre (listed as ‘Community Services Department of’ in the NSW White Pages) and complete a ‘Person Enquiry Form’. There are more than 70 centres throughout NSW. People living interstate can contact the Department’s Service Improvement Unit on (02) 9716 2222. Reverse charge calls are accepted. The address is: Service Improvement Unit, Department of Community Services, Locked Bag 28, Ashfield NSW 1800.

Location: Archives Authority of New South Wales.

Reference no: 18/1238.4–40.

Quantity: 3 boxes (part).

Description: These files relate to the arrival of 'Little Brothers' in New South Wales. The Big Brother scheme was established in 1925 by prominent individuals in Australia and Great Britain to help British youths settle successfully in Australia. These youths are known as 'Little Brothers' and, through a special exemption, leave the guardianship of the Minister at eighteen years. The files contain a notification from the New South Wales Immigration Division of the boys' impending arrival, giving date, flight number or ship's name, and names and ages of the boys. The results of later medical examinations are included, as well as a signed declaration from the Executive Director of Big Brother accepting custody of the boys.

*Returns of employment changes made by young persons sponsored by the Fairbridge Farm Scheme, 1968–69*

Access: Access to these records is restricted.

Contact: People wishing to access restricted records can contact their nearest NSW Department of Community Services Centre (listed as ‘Community Services Department of’ in the NSW White Pages) and complete a ‘Person Enquiry Form’. There are more than 70 centres throughout NSW. People living interstate can contact the Department’s Service Improvement Unit on (02) 9716 2222. Reverse charge calls are accepted. The address is: Service Improvement Unit, Department of Community Services, Locked Bag 28, Ashfield NSW 1800.
Location: Archives Authority of New South Wales.

Reference no: 18/1238.3.

Quantity: 1 bundle.

Description: These weekly returns were sent by the Principal of the Fairbridge Farm School to the Department. The information given includes name; date of new employment; category of wages and home address. The returns are signed by the Principal and include the children’s Departmental file numbers.

**Immigrant children's index, [no date]**

Access: Access to these records is restricted.

Contact: People wishing to access restricted records can contact their nearest NSW Department of Community Services Centre (listed as ‘Community Services Department of’ in the NSW White Pages) and complete a ‘Person Enquiry Form’. There are more than 70 centres throughout NSW. People living interstate can contact the Department’s Service Improvement Unit on (02) 9716 2222. Reverse charge calls are accepted. The address is: Service Improvement Unit, Department of Community Services, Locked Bag 28, Ashfield NSW 1800.

Location: Archives Authority of New South Wales.

Reference no: 19/14974–77.

Quantity: 4 cartons.

Description: This index, arranged alphabetically, records the name of child, place and date of birth, religion, date and means of arrival in Australia, sponsor, details of parents, and particulars of placements and movements.

**Immigration nomination (Minor ‘E’) files, 1962–76**

Access: Access to these records is restricted.

Contact: People wishing to access restricted records can contact their nearest NSW Department of Community Services Centre (listed as ‘Community Services Department of’ in the NSW White Pages) and complete a ‘Person Enquiry Form’. There are more than 70 centres throughout NSW.
People living interstate can contact the Department’s Service Improvement Unit on (02) 9716 2222. Reverse charge calls are accepted. The address is: Service Improvement Unit, Department of Community Services, Locked Bag 28, Ashfield NSW 1800.

Location: Archives Authority of New South Wales.


Quantity: 14 boxes (part), 51 cartons.

Description: These files relate to the nomination of immigrants, who are under 21 years of age, by sponsors who were resident in New South Wales. The files refer to such matters as the accommodation provided by the sponsor and the general welfare of the immigrant after arrival.

Records about Aboriginal reserves


Access: These records are not restricted.

Contact: People wishing to look at records held by the Authority should telephone (02) 9237 0254 or (02) 9673 1788, or email clientl@records.nsw.gov.au for details of hours of opening and the actual location of the records they wish to inspect.

Location: Archives Authority of New South Wales. The Authority operates in two locations in Sydney. (From September 1998, the Authority will be known as the State Record Authority of NSW).

Reference no: 4/10592.

Quantity: 1 volume.

Description: This register contains standard forms giving the property or reserve name and location, details of dwelling(s) erected such as contractor's name, date, cost, correspondence, file number ('C' file). Some forms give tenant's name, occupation, year of birth, monthly payment or rental and period of repayment. There is an
alphabetical index in the front of the volume, arranged by town name.

**Property cards, 1961–76**

**Access:** These records are not restricted.

**Contact:** People wishing to look at records held by the Authority should telephone (02) 9237 0254 or (02) 9673 1788, or email clientl@records.nsw.gov.au for details of hours of opening and the actual location of the records they wish to inspect.

**Location:** Archives Authority of New South Wales. The Authority operates in two locations in Sydney. (From September 1998, the Authority will be known as the State Record Authority of NSW).

**Reference no:** 4/10587–88.

**Quantity:** 2 boxes.

**Description:** These cards are arranged alphabetically by the name of the town in which the Aboriginal reserve is located. In cases where there are individual dwellings involved there is a card for each one. Side one of the cards is headed rates and charges, and records: property name; site details such as address and dimensions; Aboriginal reserve number with gazetted date of notification and/or revocation; valuations received from the Valuer General; improvements such as the date of construction, kerb and guttering; lettings and disposal (e.g. date, tenant’s name and rental).

**Other departmental records**

**Central Juvenile Court Index, c. 1957–c. 1980**

**Access:** Access to these records is restricted.

**Contact:** People wishing to access restricted records can contact their nearest NSW Department of Community Services Centre (listed as ‘Community Services Department of’ in the NSW White Pages) and complete a ‘Person Enquiry Form’. There are more than 70 centres throughout NSW. People living interstate can contact the Department’s
Service Improvement Unit on (02) 9716 2222. Reverse charge calls are accepted. The address is: Service Improvement Unit, Department of Community Services, Locked Bag 28, Ashfield NSW 1800.

Location: Archives Authority of New South Wales.


Quantity: 48 boxes.

Description: This card index was compiled from statistical report forms on juveniles who appeared before the Children's Court and were born between July 1957 and May 1960 and between July 1964 and June 1965. The following information is provided: name of juvenile; address; birth date; prior and final court appearance; date of court appearance; charge or complaint; and results.

Related records: Children’s Court information, c. 1980–present held by the Department of Juvenile Justice.
State Children's Relief Board

The State Children’s Relief Board was established by the *State Children Relief Act 1881*, and was the immediate forerunner of the Child Welfare Department. The Board consisted of nine members who were appointed by the Governor, and was originally subject to the direction of the Colonial Secretary. From 1906 to 1923 the Board came under the direction of the Minister for Public Instruction (later the Minister of Education). In 1923, the Board was dissolved and its powers transferred to that Minister.

(Source: Archives Authority of NSW. *Concise Guide to the State Archives*, 1992.)

**Inspectors' diaries, 1916–22**

**Access:** These records are not restricted.

**Contact:** People wishing to look at records held by the Authority should telephone (02) 9237 0254 or (02) 9673 1788, or email clientl@records.nsw.gov.au for details of hours of opening and the actual location of the records they wish to inspect.

**Location:** Archives Authority of New South Wales. The Authority operates in two locations in Sydney. (From September 1998, the Authority will be known as the State Record Authority of NSW).

**Reference no:** 1/2111–13.

**Quantity:** 3 volumes.

**Description:** These are the registers and diaries of the daily routine of the Inspector, School Attendance Officer and Probation Officer, *Neglected Children and Juvenile Offenders Act*, in the State Children Relief Branch of the Department of Public Instruction. The diary is a daily record of the cases of non-attendance, neglected children, etc. examined by the Inspector, and his recommendations and remarks on each case. Each entry gives the date, details of any previous work in respect to the case, notes and directions, the name of the child visited, his or her guardian and residence, classification of the case, the case file number, and whether State relief is to be given. The expenses incurred by the Inspector, and the time taken visiting each case are also given.
**Dependent children registers, 1883–1923**

**Access:** Access to these records is restricted.

**Contact:** People wishing to access restricted records can contact their nearest NSW Department of Community Services Centre (listed as ‘Community Services Department of’ in the NSW White Pages) and complete a ‘Person Enquiry Form’. There are more than 70 centres throughout NSW. People living interstate can contact the Department’s Service Improvement Unit on (02) 9716 2222. Reverse charge calls are accepted. The address is: Service Improvement Unit, Department of Community Services, Locked Bag 28, Ashfield NSW 1800.

**Location:** Archives Authority of New South Wales.

**Reference no:** 11/22094–130 (copy at AO Fiche 7003–7317).

**Quantity:** 37 volumes.

**Description:** These records relate to children who were admitted to State care. They record where the dependent children were placed (whether with foster parents or guardians). Some of the children were eventually adopted. The registers give: name of child; age; religion; where received; name and known address of parents and remarks; particulars of foster parents and guardians, i.e. names, addresses, dates when received and when transferred, and how placed; and how eventually disposed of and date (this may be by adoption, back to custody of one or both parents, or the child may have attained the age of eighteen).

**Related records:** Department of Community Services: *Dependent children boarding out registers*, 1 Aug. 1923–31 Dec. 1936.

**Renwick Farm Home for Boys, Mittagong**

**Registers of committals, 1907–21**

**Access:** Access to these records is restricted.

**Contact:** People wishing to access restricted records can contact their nearest NSW Department of Community Services Centre (listed as ‘Community Services Department of’ in
the NSW White Pages) and complete a ‘Person Enquiry Form’. There are more than 70 centres throughout NSW. People living interstate can contact the Department’s Service Improvement Unit on (02) 9716 2222. Reverse charge calls are accepted. The address is: Service Improvement Unit, Department of Community Services, Locked Bag 28, Ashfield NSW 1800.

Location: Archives Authority of New South Wales.

Reference no: 8/1755–56.

Quantity: 2 volumes.

Description: The registers record name of child, age at date of committal, date of committal, offence, name of parent or guardian, character of parents and home surroundings, maintenance orders and remarks. Also included is a list of boys transferred from the training ship ‘Sobraon’ in June 1911.

Randwick Asylum for Destitute Children

Registers of inmates, Jun. 1852–Aug. 1915

Access: These records are not restricted.

Contact: People wishing to look at records held by the Authority should telephone (02) 9237 0254 or (02) 9673 1788, or email clientl@records.nsw.gov.au for details of hours of opening and the actual location of the records they wish to inspect.

Location: Archives Authority of New South Wales. The Authority operates in two locations in Sydney. (From September 1998, the Authority will be known as the State Record Authority of NSW).

Reference no: 7/3796–800.

Quantity: 5 volumes.

Description: These volumes are indexed. Copies of the indexes are available in the search rooms of the Archives Office of New South Wales and should be consulted before using the registers.
The information in the registers varies. The earlier entries, from the 19th century, record: name and age of child; date of admission; religion of parents; reason for admission; and discharge details including date, child’s age, and to whom discharged (e.g. parents, apprenticed out, deceased, etc). The entries for the 20th century record: name, age and religion of child; date of admission and discharge; whether vaccinated or not; whether baptised or not; and details of discharge (e.g. where and to whom discharged, age, etc.).
Aborigines Welfare Board

A Board for the protection of Aborigines was established on 2 June 1883, comprising six members appointed by the Governor, with the Inspector General of Police as chairman. The Board held weekly meetings at which recommendations concerning the general protection of the State’s Aboriginal population were considered.

The Board functioned without any statutory power until 1909, when the *Aborigines Protection Act* was passed. Throughout practically the whole of this period the chairmanship of the Board was in the hands of the Inspector General of Police, other members consisting of members of the Legislative Council and private citizens. The Board’s principal expenditure was for rations, clothing and huts for the accommodation of Aborigines.

Under the *Aborigines Protection Act 1909*, which took effect on 1 June 1910, the Board was reconstituted, with the Inspector General of Police as *ex officio* chairman and not more than ten other members appointed by the Governor. Their duty was to ‘exercise a general supervision and care over all matters affecting the interest and welfare of Aborigines and to protect them against injustice, imposition and fraud’.

The Board was again reconstituted under the *Aborigines Protection (Amendment) Act 1940*, its name being altered to the Aborigines Welfare Board. The Under Secretary of the Colonial Secretary’s Department was appointed chairman and provision was made for ten other members of whom one was to be full-blooded Aborigine and one either a full-blooded Aborigine or having an admixture of blood, to represent their people.

The policy of the Board was to encourage the assimilation of Aborigines into the general community. The Board sponsored the erection of houses for leasing and provided housing loans to the Aborigines. It exercised general supervision over matters affecting the welfare of Aborigines, managed the Aboriginal stations and reserves, provided for the custody and maintenance of Aboriginal children whose parents were unable to care for them and provided scholarships, travelling expenses, uniforms, textbooks, etc. for children of necessitous Aboriginal families.

The Board held its final meeting on 29 April 1969 and was replaced by the Aborigines Welfare Directorate, Department of Child Welfare and Social Welfare (later the Aborigines Services Branch, Youth and Community Services).

Further, and more detailed information, about the records of the Board, and other records relating to Aboriginal people in New South Wales may be found in *A guide to New South Wales archives relating to Aboriginal people* published in 1998 by the Archives Authority of New South Wales.
Correspondence files, 1949–69

Access: These records are restricted. Written permission is required from the Department of Aboriginal Affairs.

Contact: People wishing to gain access to information in these records must contact the Department of Aboriginal Affairs, Level 5, 83 Clarence Street, Sydney, NSW, 2000. The telephone number is (02) 9290 8700.

Location: Archives Authority of New South Wales.


Quantity: 292 boxes, 1 document.

Description: These files pertain to such matters as: reports on conditions of reserves; case histories of ex-wards of the Board; acquisitions of land; purchase and construction of houses; repair and maintenance of properties; tenancies; home loans; education grants; exemption applications (permits to drink); and social and financial aid to Aborigines. Files relating to general administrative matters are also included. Many files contain maps and plans from the Government Architect's Office; other files include black and white prints. The exemption applications usually contain photographs of the applicants.

Related records: An index to the Correspondence files, 1945–69 was compiled by Ken Brindle in 1987. A copy of this index is held by the Archives Authority of NSW and also by the Department of Aboriginal Affairs. The index, like the files, is restricted.


Access: These records are restricted. Written permission is required from the Department of Aboriginal Affairs.

Contact: People wishing to gain access to information in these records must contact the Department of Aboriginal Affairs, Level 5, 83 Clarence Street, Sydney, NSW, 2000. The telephone number is (02) 9290 8700.

Location: Archives Authority of New South Wales.
Reference no: 4/8553–54 (microfilm copy AO Reel 2793).

Quantity: 2 volumes.

Description: The Board could assume full control and custody of the child of any Aborigine if, after due inquiry, the Board was satisfied that it was in the interest of the moral or physical welfare of the child. These registers comprise consecutively numbered forms which were filled in when each child was made a ward. Each form records: the date; name of child; date and place of birth; religion; reason for assuming control; father's name, occupation and address; mother's name and address; particulars of other relatives, including brothers and sisters; other situations; further particulars (where living during childhood and in whose care); to what Home sent; certificate of admission; disposal (i.e. the late history of the child); and signature and office (although the forms were usually unsigned, some are signed by either police, or managers of stations or reserves). There are usually some later annotations giving further details. Occasionally correspondence is attached to the form.


Indexes to ward registers, 1916–c. 1938

Access: These records are restricted. Written permission is required from the Department of Aboriginal Affairs.

Contact: People wishing to gain access to information in these records must contact the Department of Aboriginal Affairs, Level 5, 83 Clarence Street, Sydney, NSW, 2000. The telephone number is (02) 9290 8700.

Location: Archives Authority of New South Wales.


Quantity: 2 volumes.

Description: These volumes titled ‘Index to Histories of Aborigines’ Children’ index the Ward registers. The volumes are arranged alphabetically in two columns, girls and boys, and record the name and relevant entry in the registers.

Volume 4/8555 includes a list of children at Bomaderry dated 4 October 1935 and lists of boys at the Aboriginal
Boys’ Training Home, Kinchela dated 27 July 1934, 31 October 1935 and 31 January 1936. These lists usually include the name of the child, age and from where transferred. 4/8555 also includes the names of some girls in suburban situations and in hospitals and institutions at the back of the volume. There are a few notes included in each volume of names and addresses and references to births, marriages, deaths and transfers.

**Histories of girls and boys unattached and for whom forms have not been prepared, c. 1930–38**

**Access:** These records are restricted. Written permission is required from the Department of Aboriginal Affairs.

**Contact:** People wishing to gain access to information in these records must contact the Department of Aboriginal Affairs, Level 5, 83 Clarence Street, Sydney, NSW, 2000. The telephone number is (02) 9290 8700.

**Location:** Archives Authority of New South Wales.

**Reference no:** 4/8557.

**Quantity:** 1 volume.

**Description:** This volume comprises histories of boys and girls for whom forms had not been prepared and who were living independently of the Board or who had been placed in mental hospitals. Most of the information relates to marriages, listing the names of the parties and the date. It is arranged alphabetically and includes correspondence with relevant annotations.

**Record cards of Aboriginal children, 1953–66**

**Access:** These records are restricted. Written permission is required from the Department of Aboriginal Affairs.

**Contact:** People wishing to gain access to information in these records must contact the Department of Aboriginal Affairs, Level 5, 83 Clarence Street, Sydney, NSW, 2000. The telephone number is (02) 9290 8700.

**Location:** Archives Authority of New South Wales.

**Reference no:** 8/3275.3.
Description: This series is incomplete; there are cards for only six people. There are two separate types of cards. The first, the Aboriginal child record card, details: surname; Christian names; if Board assumed control including date and reason; admission and discharge dates; education and training; health; conduct and character; training and progress; and, if apprenticed, date of first appointment. The reverse of these cards details: date and movement (e.g. to homes); date and inspection; observations; and general remarks. The second type of card, the Aborigines’ record card, details: surname; Christian names; caste; colour shade; sex; date of birth; religion; father’s surname and Christian names; mother’s maiden surname and Christian names; details of marriage; details of children; family endowment; character and general habits. The reverse of these cards details: occupation and movements; and details of employment. These cards appear to be the Board’s set as some are marked as having copies sent to Kinchela or Cootamundra.

Aboriginal Boys’ Training Home, Kinchela. Case papers, 1944–67

Access: These records are restricted. Written permission is required from the Department of Aboriginal Affairs.

Contact: People wishing to gain access to information in these records must contact the Department of Aboriginal Affairs, Level 5, 83 Clarence Street, Sydney, NSW, 2000. The telephone number is (02) 9290 8700.

Location: Archives Authority of New South Wales.

Reference no: 8/3273–74.

Quantity: 2 boxes.

Description: Each of these files relates to a child who was resident at the Home. The children ranged in age from approximately seven to seventeen years. The files vary in size and content. Many contain correspondence from the Superintendent of Aborigines Welfare dealing with matters such as work placement, requests for holiday leave, the health of wards who had been ill and letters giving praise or criticism about school reports. Some
files also contain letters from parents, relatives and former guardians. As well, many of the files contain: medical cards which list medical history and treatment; Aborigines record cards that provide details of family history; and Aboriginal child record cards that list date and reason admitted to homes, level of education and training, health, conduct and character. Most of the files also hold progress reports that were compiled by the Home manager at the end of each school term. The files are in alphabetical order by surname.

**Photographs, c. 1924–61**

**Access:** These photographs are not restricted, however written permission is required from the Department of Aboriginal Affairs to publish or reproduce them.

**Contact:** People wishing to look at records held by the Authority should telephone (02) 9237 0254 or (02) 9673 1788, or email clientl@records.nsw.gov.au for details of hours of opening and the actual location of the records they wish to inspect.

People wishing to reproduce the photographs must contact the Department of Aboriginal Affairs, Level 5, 83 Clarence Street, Sydney, NSW, 2000. The telephone number is (02) 9290 8700.

**Location:** Archives Authority of New South Wales. The Authority operates in two locations in Sydney. (From September 1998, the Authority will be known as the State Record Authority of NSW).

**Reference no:** 4/8566–78 (microfilm copy AO Reels 2796–97; also COD423).

**Quantity:** 1 volume, 12 boxes.

**Description:** These comprise a mixture of official and non–official photographs. Photographs of an official nature show: reserves, stations, homes and schools with interior and exterior views of accommodation and housing projects; pupils and teachers, station managers, and matrons; and record the visits of government officials. The non–official photographs are of people and range from formal studio portraits (mainly female wards in the 1920s) through to candid snapshots in the 1950s and 1960s. They show Aboriginal children and adults
participating in many and varied activities: playing football, basketball, cricket, swimming, gardening, attending school, christenings, first communions, weddings, birthday and Christmas parties, excursions, gatherings with families and friends, Luna Park and more. The female wards are often photographed in their domestic service uniforms, sometimes with their employers or employers' children; some are photographed in their good clothes in stylised studio portraits. The photographs were taken all over New South Wales, at many stations and reserves, such as Purfleet, Walgett, Caroona (Quirindi), Condobolin, Burra Bee Dee, Namina (Wellington), Tingha, Boggabilla, Bomaderry Children's Home, Bimbadeen Girls' Home at Cootamundra and Kinchela Boys' Training Home. A small number of photographs taken at locations in Queensland are also included. Many of the photographs are undated and unidentified.

**Applications for certificates of exemption, c. 1948–59**

**Access:** These records are restricted. Written permission is required from the Department of Aboriginal Affairs.

**Contact:** People wishing to gain access to information in these records must contact the Department of Aboriginal Affairs, Level 5, 83 Clarence Street, Sydney, NSW, 2000. The telephone number is (02) 9290 8700.

**Location:** Archives Authority of New South Wales.

**Reference no:** 8/3089–98.

**Quantity:** 10 boxes.

**Description:** Certificates of exemption were applied for under the provisions of the *Aborigines Protection Act* and Regulations 1909–43, section 18c (regulation 56). A certificate of exemption was granted to each applicant who, in the opinion of the Aborigines Welfare Board, ought no longer be subject to the provisions of the *Aborigines Protection Act* and Regulations. Upon being issued with a certificate, a recipient was no longer eligible to receive any benefit, assistance or relief from the Board, and had to undertake to provide a proper home for themselves and their family.
Ledgers (trust account), c. 1897–1922

Access: These records are restricted. Written permission is required from the Department of Aboriginal Affairs.

Contact: People wishing to gain access to information in these records must contact the Department of Aboriginal Affairs, Level 5, 83 Clarence Street, Sydney, NSW, 2000. The telephone number is (02) 9290 8700.

Location: Archives Authority of New South Wales.


Quantity: 2 volumes.

Description: These volumes record monies held in trust by the Board for Aborigines, apparently those under apprenticeship. Arranged under the names of individual Aborigines, the name of the person to whom apprenticed is frequently noted.

Salary registers (trust accounts), c. 1922–34

Access: These records are restricted. Written permission is required from the Department of Aboriginal Affairs.

Contact: People wishing to gain access to information in these records must contact the Department of Aboriginal Affairs, Level 5, 83 Clarence Street, Sydney, NSW, 2000. The telephone number is (02) 9290 8700.

Location: Archives Authority of New South Wales.


Quantity: 2 volumes.

Description: These volumes record payments into and out of employers’ accounts and employees’ trust accounts. They record the employment history of Aboriginal people working for people other than the Board. Employee and particulars of employment (including name and address of employer) are given. The second volume (4/8561) includes payments to the Board for advances of money, rental of cottages and leases of reserves.

Access: These records are restricted. Written permission is required from the Department of Aboriginal Affairs.

Contact: People wishing to gain access to information in these records must contact the Department of Aboriginal Affairs, Level 5, 83 Clarence Street, Sydney, NSW, 2000. The telephone number is (02) 9290 8700.

Location: Archives Authority of New South Wales.


Quantity: 25 volumes (copied onto 7 microfilm reels).

Description: These volumes comprise minutes of meetings of the Aborigines Welfare Board. They note members present and record the decisions of the Board. Up until 21 May 1946 there are indexes in each volume. They do not give great detail about individuals. However, the mention of an individual may be the only reference to that person in official records. Careful checking of these records may, therefore, prove worthwhile to researchers.

Related records: *Indexes to minute books*, 1946–69

**Indexes to minute books**, 21 May 1946–29 Apr. 1969

Access: These records are restricted. Written permission is required from the Department of Aboriginal Affairs.

Contact: People wishing to gain access to information in these records must contact the Department of Aboriginal Affairs, Level 5, 83 Clarence Street, Sydney, NSW, 2000. The telephone number is (02) 9290 8700.

Location: Archives Authority of New South Wales.


Quantity: 3 volumes.

Description: These volumes are an alphabetical index to the *Minute books*, 1890–1969. Prior to 21 May 1946, indexes can be found in each of the Minute books.


**Access:** These records are restricted. Written permission is required from the Department of Aboriginal Affairs.

**Contact:** People wishing to gain access to information in these records must contact the Department of Aboriginal Affairs, Level 5, 83 Clarence Street, Sydney, NSW, 2000. The telephone number is (02) 9290 8700.

**Location:** Archives Authority of New South Wales.

**Reference no:** 4/8552.

**Quantity:** 1 volume.

**Description:** This volume comprises copies of circulars sent by the Board to Area Welfare Officers, station managers, reserve supervisors, and officers-in-charge of police stations. They include listings of names of people granted Certificates of Exemption from the provisions of the *Aborigines Protection Act* and Regulations. An index, arranged in rough alphabetical order, is located at the front of the volume.

**Special bundles, 1920–57**

**Access:** These records are restricted. Written permission is required from the Department of Aboriginal Affairs.

**Contact:** People wishing to gain access to information in these records must contact the Department of Aboriginal Affairs, Level 5, 83 Clarence Street, Sydney, NSW, 2000. The telephone number is (02) 9290 8700.

**Location:** Archives Authority of New South Wales.

**Reference no:** 9/2406.

**Quantity:** 1 box.

**Description:** These comprise seven registered files, which may be from the Chief Secretary’s Department correspondence. They relate to such matters as the management of reserves, appointments to the Board, and wards. A full listing is available from the Archives Authority of NSW.
Non Government Agencies
Anglican Church (formerly the Church of England)

Anglicare Welfare Services (formerly Care Force)

Anglicare Welfare Services is the welfare division of Anglicare New South Wales (formerly the Anglican Home Mission Society) which in turn is the welfare arm of the Anglican Church, formerly known as the Church of England.

Anglicare Child and Family Services holds the known surviving records of a number of the Church of England children’s homes, from 1930 to the present. When homes closed, the records were sent to Anglicare Child and Family Services, formerly known as Care Force. As the style of care changed from large institutional style homes to smaller family group homes, the keeping of records of children in care was centralised to Child and Family Services.

The following were Church of England homes, operated by the Diocese of Sydney: Church of England Boys’ Home, Carlingford; Church of England Girls’ Home, Carlingford; Havilah Little Children’s Home, Carlingford (formerly at Normanhurst); Cornwell Group Home, Epping; Orana Group Home, Wahroonga; Kingsleigh Group Home, St Ives; Buckland Group Home, St Marys; Crecy Group Home, Eastwood; Tress Manning Temporary Care, Carlingford; and Field Cottage, Carlingford. In addition, the Diocese became responsible for the Marella Aboriginal Program. The New South Wales Protestant Federation Children’s Home at Dulwich Hill and Cooinoo Children’s Home at Enfield were incorporated into the services of Church of England Homes.

Church of England Children’s Homes: Admission and day books, 1930–present

Access: Access to information contained in these records is restricted to ex-clients, or to a member of an ex-client’s family providing they have the written permission of that person. Before information is given out it is checked for anything which may cause distress and if necessary a counsellor is called in. People applying to get access to information must provide proof of identity.

Contact: Requests for access should be directed to Anglicare Child and Family Services, 19A Gibbons Street, Telopea NSW 2117.

Location: Anglicare Child and Family Services Offices, 19A Gibbons Street, Telopea NSW 2117.

Quantity: minimal.
The records include the following: name of child; dates of admission and discharge; information about the transfer of a child to or from another home or agency; reports of incidents; any money received from the parents towards the care of the child; details of any visits by parents, siblings or other family members; and general notes.

These records relate to a number of the Church of England homes, but are incomplete.

Church of England Children’s Homes: Admission cards, 1930–50

Access: Access to information contained in these records is restricted to ex-clients, or to a member of an ex-client’s family providing they have the written permission of that person. Before information is given out it is checked for anything which may cause distress and if necessary a counsellor is called in. People applying to get access to information must provide proof of identity.

Contact: Requests for access should be directed to Anglicare Child and Family Services, 19A Gibbons Street, Telopea NSW 2117.

Location: Anglicare Child and Family Services Offices, 19A Gibbons Street, Telopea NSW 2117.

Description: Cards are arranged alphabetically by the surname of the child. They usually record: child’s name and date of birth; guardian’s name and address; names of parents; admission date; name of home or institution the child was placed in; and length of stay.

These records are incomplete.

Foster care and group home personal files, 1930–present

Access: Access to information contained in these records is restricted to ex-clients, or to a member of an ex-client’s family providing they have the written permission of that person. Before information is given out it is checked for anything which may cause distress and if necessary a counsellor is called in. People applying to get access to information must provide proof of identity.
Contact: Requests for access should be directed to Anglicare Child and Family Services, 19A Gibbons Street, Telopea NSW 2117.

Location: Anglicare Child and Family Services Offices, 19A Gibbons Street, Telopea NSW 2117.

Quantity: There is a large number of files.

Description: These files are arranged alphabetically by surname of the child in care. The type and amount of information available on the files may vary from case to case. In general, the files contain personal information about the child and the parents and foster parents, health forms and medical reports, psychiatric reports, school reports, file notes and correspondence.

**Foster care personal record cards, 1979–81**

Access: Access to information contained in these records is restricted to ex-clients, or to a member of an ex-client’s family providing they have the written permission of that person. Before information is given out it is checked for anything which may cause distress and if necessary a counsellor is called in. People applying to get access to information must provide proof of identity.

Contact: Requests for access should be directed to Anglicare Child and Family Services, 19A Gibbons Street, Telopea NSW 2117.

Location: Anglicare Child and Family Services Offices, 19A Gibbons Street, Telopea NSW 2117.

Quantity: minimal.

Description: These cards, which are arranged alphabetically by the surname of the child, contain the following information: child’s name and place and date of birth; mother’s name (including, sometimes, maiden name); father’s name; parents’ religion; names and ages of siblings; names and addresses of significant relatives; dates and frequency of contact between parents and the child; and post placement information such as reports and consents.
**Foster parent files, [unknown]–1990**

**Access:**
Access to information contained in these records is restricted to the foster parents, who must produce proof of identity before information is released to them.

**Contact:**
Requests for access should be directed to Anglicare Child and Family Services, 19A Gibbons Street, Telopea NSW 2117.

**Location:**
Anglicare Child and Family Services Offices, 19A Gibbons Street, Telopea NSW 2117.

**Description:**
These files are arranged alphabetically by the surname of the foster parents, and contain the following information: admission form; incident reports; and the child’s name and date of birth, etc.

**Marella Aboriginal Temporary Care: Photographs, 1978–?**

**Access:**
Access to these photographs is restricted to ex-clients, or to a member of an ex-client’s family providing they have the written permission of that person.

**Contact:**
Requests for access should be directed to Anglicare Child and Family Services, 19A Gibbons Street, Telopea NSW 2117.

**Location:**
Anglicare Child and Family Services Offices, 19A Gibbons Street, Telopea NSW 2117.

**Quantity:**
1 box.

**Description:**
These are photographs and slides of children, staff and buildings. None of the photographs are identified.

**Photographs (unidentified), 1930–98**

**Access:**
Access to these photographs is restricted to ex-clients, or to a member of an ex-client’s family providing they have the written permission of that person.

**Contact:**
Requests for access should be directed to Anglicare Child and Family Services, 19A Gibbons Street, Telopea NSW 2117.
Location: Anglicare Child and Family Services Offices, 19A Gibbons Street, Telopea NSW 2117.

Quantity: 1 box.

Description: These photographs are of children and buildings and include photographs from the Havilah Little Children’s Home at Carlingford (formerly at Normanhurst).

**Cooinoo Children’s Home, Enfield: Personal files, [dates unknown]**

Access: Access to information contained in these records is restricted to ex-clients, or to a member of an ex-client’s family providing they have the written permission of that person. Before information is given out it is checked for anything which may cause distress and if necessary a counsellor is called in. People applying to get access to information must provide proof of identity.

Contact: Requests for access should be directed to Anglicare Child and Family Services, 19A Gibbons Street, Telopea NSW 2117.

Location: Anglicare Child and Family Services Offices, 19A Gibbons Street, Telopea NSW 2117.

Quantity: 2 boxes.

Description: These files are incomplete and are not arranged in any particular order. They contain varying amounts and types of information, including: child’s name and date of birth; parents’ names and address; date of admission and discharge; and some correspondence.

**Charlton Youth Services (formerly Charlton Boys’ Home), 1950s–present**

Charlton Youth Services is part of Anglicare Welfare Services. This service provides care for older boys, many of whom are referred by the courts. A database is being developed which will enable staff to conduct searches to determine if a person was in the care of Charlton. The database will include: child or youth’s name; date of admission and discharge; and which home the boy was admitted to. These homes were: ‘Trigg’ at Granville; ‘Lisgar’ at Oatley; ‘Carramar’ at Granville; and ‘Robinson’ at Campbelltown.
**Client files, 1950s–present**

**Access:** Access to information in these records is restricted to ex-clients and family members.

**Contact:** Requests for information should be directed to the Coordinator, Counselling Service, Charlton Youth Services, 45 Hunter Street, Parramatta, NSW 2150. The telephone number is (02) 9635 1023.

**Location:** Charlton Youth Services, Parramatta, NSW.

**Quantity:** 22 filing cabinet drawers and boxes.

**Description:** These records include residential and counselling records from the 1950s to the present. The amount and type of information varies from client to client. In most cases there is at least an admission form which records name, age, date of birth, family details, and reason for applying for admission. In some, but not all cases, there may also be counselling reports, court papers, Department of Community Services reports, and correspondence.

**Anglicare Adoption Services (formerly Carramar Adoption Agency, Church of England Adoption Agency and Anglican Adoption Agency), 1961–present**

The agency now known as Anglicare Adoption Services was originally known as Carramar Adoption Agency. It was established in 1961, and was known by that name until 1965, when it became the Church of England Adoption Agency. In 1978 the name was again changed, to Anglican Adoption Agency. Since 1997, the service has been known as Anglicare Adoption Services.

**Adoption files, 1961–present**

**Access:** Access to information relating to adoptions is restricted in accordance with the provisions of the Adoption Information Act 1990.

**Contact:** Applications should be addressed to Anglicare Adoption Services, 19A Gibbons Street, Telopea NSW 2117.

**Location:** Anglicare Offices, 19A Gibbons Street, Telopea NSW 2117.
Quantity: Over 2 000 files (in 27 filing cabinet drawers).

Description: Adoption files are very comprehensive in the information they contain. They comprise a front sheet which records: the surname and given names of the adopting parents and the birth parents; the birth name of the baby; the date of placement; the date of the adoption; and racial background. The files also contain medical documents and references relating to the adopting parents, together with home assessment reports. Also in the files is social history and family background information about the birth family, including information about education and hobbies. There are also social worker’s reports, medical reports on the birth mother, legal documents relating to the adoption order and post adoption information (including letters exchanged between the parties, and records of phone calls).

The files are arranged alphabetically by the surname of the adoptive parents. Files relating to the placement of children with disabilities are kept separate from the other files. At the time of writing, the files were in the process of being sorted and scanned onto CD-ROM.

Related records: Anglicare also holds a small number of files for children who were restored to their birth mothers or who died before placement for adoption.

**Files of Carramar residents who kept their children, 1961–65**

Access: Access to information relating to adoptions is restricted in accordance with the provisions of the Adoption Information Act 1990.

Contact: Applications should be addressed to Anglicare Adoption Services, 19A Gibbons Street, Telopea NSW 2117.

Location: Anglicare Offices, 19A Gibbons Street, Telopea NSW 2117.

Quantity: minimal.

Description: These records relate to the period of the Carramar Adoption Agency. They are incomplete as very few applications have been kept by the agency. These few surviving records are filed alphabetically under the surname of the child’s birth parents. The files relate to
birth mothers who chose not to relinquish their child or children for adoption. The information contained on the files includes the name of the mother and child or children, date of birth, and address at the time of the application.

Register of adoptive and birth parents, 1961–present

Access: Access to information relating to adoptions is restricted in accordance with the provisions of the Adoption Information Act 1990.

Contact: Applications should be addressed to Anglicare Adoption Services, 19A Gibbons Street, Telopea NSW 2117.

Location: Anglicare Offices, 19A Gibbons Street, Telopea NSW 2117.

Description: This register records information such as: the name of the birth mother; the date of birth and sex of the child; and the names of the adoptive parents. The register is arranged chronologically according to the child’s date of birth.

Adoption special needs files, 1985–present

Access: Access to information relating to adoptions is restricted in accordance with the provisions of the Adoption Information Act 1990.

Contact: Applications should be addressed to Anglicare Adoption Services, 19A Gibbons Street, Telopea NSW 2117.

Location: Anglicare Offices, 19A Gibbons Street, Telopea NSW 2117.

Quantity: minimal.

Description: These records are arranged alphabetically by surname of the adoptive parents. They relate to children with disabilities or special care needs and include medical and psychiatric reports, information on birth and foster parents, and details of the home or institution the child has been placed in.
Anglican Diocese of Newcastle, Homes for Children

The Anglican Diocese of Newcastle was responsible for the operation of several children’s homes in the Hunter and Manning River areas of New South Wales. The records listed in this Guide include those created by the Diocesan Registry as well as those created by the individual homes.

Diocesan Registry

Children’s homes applications, 5 Oct. 1920–c. 1960

Access: Access to information is available to the person to whom the information relates. An applicant who is not the subject of the information sought will need to state their reason for requesting information. Each application will be assessed individually and access will be granted at the discretion of The Director, The Samaritan Foundation. Preference will be given if the third party applicant has obtained the consent of the person about whom the information is sought.

Contact: All requests for access should be made in the first instance to: The Director, The Samaritan Foundation, Diocese of Newcastle, PO Box 5190, Newcastle NSW 2303. The telephone number is (02) 4969 0000, and the fax number is (02) 4962 2572. The email address is samaritans@hunterlink.net.au. Requests may be made in writing or by telephone.

Location: University of Newcastle Archives, University Library, University Drive, Callaghan NSW 2308.

Reference no: AB7185–AB7190.

Quantity: 6 volumes.

Description: These are bound volumes of applications for admission to children’s homes located in the Newcastle Diocese. The forms give details of the child or children and are signed by the parent or guardian. There is often a ‘Parent’s Consent and Declaration’ attached, on which the parent or guardian agrees to abide by the rules of the home. For some children there is more information than for others. Later forms contain more personal information about the child, including: name and date and place of birth of the child; parents’ names, address and occupation; names, dates of birth and addresses of
siblings; whether temporary or permanent care; and circumstances leading to the child’s admission.

**Children on probation, 1928–31**

**Access:** Access to information is available to the person to whom the information relates. An applicant who is not the subject of the information sought will need to state their reason for requesting information. Each application will be assessed individually and access will be granted at the discretion of The Director, The Samaritan Foundation. Preference will be given if the third party applicant has obtained the consent of the person about whom the information is sought.

**Contact:** All requests for access should be made in the first instance to: The Director, The Samaritan Foundation, Diocese of Newcastle, PO Box 5190, Newcastle NSW 2303. The telephone number is (02) 4969 0000, and the fax number is (02) 4962 2572. The email address is samaritans@hunterlink.net.au. Requests may be made in writing or by telephone.

**Location:** University of Newcastle Archives, University Library, University Drive, Callaghan NSW 2308.

**Reference no:** A5267.

**Quantity:** 1 bundle.

**Description:** This file contains letters from the Child Welfare Department to the Newcastle Diocese advising them of children whom the courts have released on probation. The letters record the name of the child; the name and address of their guardian; their age and religion; the date of release and the date their probation expires.

**Children’s files, c. 1960–c. 1980**

**Access:** Access to information is available to the person to whom the information relates. An applicant who is not the subject of the information sought will need to state their reason for requesting information. Each application will be assessed individually and access will be granted at the discretion of The Director, The Samaritan Foundation. Preference will be given if the third party applicant has obtained the consent of the person about whom the information is sought.
Contact: All requests for access should be made in the first instance to: The Director, The Samaritan Foundation, Diocese of Newcastle, PO Box 5190, Newcastle NSW 2303. The telephone number is (02) 4969 0000, and the fax number is (02) 4962 2572. The email address is samaritans@hunterlink.net.au. Requests may be made in writing or by telephone.

Location: University of Newcastle Archives, University Library, University Drive, Callaghan NSW 2308.

Reference no: A6011A–D; A6012.

Quantity: 5 cartons.

Description: These files relate to children who were admitted to St Alban’s, St Elizabeth’s Girls’ Home, Singleton and St Christopher’s Home for Little Children, Taree. The files are colour coded according to the home: St Alban’s files are blue; St Elizabeth’s files are pink, and St Christopher’s files are yellow. The files may, but not necessarily, include: child’s record card; application for admission; court mandates and copies of court reports; copies of maintenance agreements; correspondence about the child, including letters to or from the parent or guardian. Information on the file about the child includes: name; age; date and place of birth; name and address of parent or guardian; date and place of admission; date of discharge; details of any absences (e.g. holiday care, etc.); and other details.


Access: Access to information is available to the person to whom the information relates. An applicant who is not the subject of the information sought will need to state their reason for requesting information. Each application will be assessed individually and access will be granted at the discretion of The Director, The Samaritan Foundation. Preference will be given if the third party applicant has obtained the consent of the person about whom the information is sought.

Contact: All requests for access should be made in the first instance to: The Director, The Samaritan Foundation, Diocese of Newcastle, PO Box 5190, Newcastle NSW 2303. The telephone number is (02) 4969 0000, and the
fax number is (02) 4962 2572. The email address is samaritans@hunterlink.net.au. Requests may be made in writing or by telephone.

Location: University of Newcastle Archives, University Library, University Drive, Callaghan NSW 2308.

Reference no: A5267.

Quantity: 1 bundle.

Description: This file contains copies of letters from the Child Welfare Department to the Newcastle Anglican Department of Social Work, from the Diocesan Registry to the Child Welfare Department, and from the Diocesan Registry to the parents or guardians of children in care. The letters are usually about specific children, and generally some details of the child are given (e.g. name, date of birth, in which home the child was resident). The amount of information varies from letter to letter. The letters are arranged chronologically.

Morpeth Home for Children, Bishopscourt, Morpeth (later known as St Alban’s Home for Boys, Morpeth and St Alban’s Home for Boys, Cessnock)

A boys’ home was opened in the old Bishopscourt, Morpeth (now occupied by the St John’s Ministry Centre) on 9 October 1920. The official opening was performed by Mrs Crotty, wife of the Dean of Newcastle. The boys’ home remained at Morpeth until 1942, when it was relocated to a property at Murrurundi. This property proved inadequate for the needs of the Home, which was moved in 1952 to ‘Winncourt’, Mayfield which had previously been occupied by the girls’ home.

St Alban’s was relocated to Aberdare, near Cessnock, in 1964. This new facility was purpose built as a boys’ home and was designed to accommodate 32 boys aged between eight to fourteen. It was officially opened on Sunday, 7 February 1965. The Home continued to operate at Aberdare until 1980.

From 1920 to 1935 the Home was managed by the Sisters of the Community of the Holy Name, Melbourne. From 1935 until 1948, the Church Army was responsible for the management of the Home, after which time it was run by staff directly appointed by the Diocesan Council.

(Source: ‘Brief History of Children’s Homes in the Diocese of Newcastle’ supplied by Mr T. Mawson, Diocesan Secretary.)
General correspondence files, 2 May 1919–21 Jun. 1973

**Access:**
Access to information is available to the person to whom the information relates. An applicant who is not the subject of the information sought will need to state their reason for requesting information. Each application will be assessed individually and access will be granted at the discretion of The Director, The Samaritan Foundation. Preference will be given if the third party applicant has obtained the consent of the person about whom the information is sought.

**Contact:**
All requests for access should be made in the first instance to: The Director, The Samaritan Foundation, Diocese of Newcastle, PO Box 5190, Newcastle NSW 2303. The telephone number is (02) 4969 0000, and the fax number is (02) 4962 2572. The email address is samaritans@hunterlink.net.au. Requests may be made in writing or by telephone.

**Location:**
University of Newcastle Archives, University Library, University Drive, Callaghan NSW 2308.

**Reference no:**
AB7203–AB7215.

**Quantity:**
13 volumes.

**Description:**
These are bound volumes of general correspondence relating to the day to day administration of the home. They include letters from parents seeking admission for their child or children and sending money to cover some of the costs incurred by the home in caring for their child or children. The letters often contain details of the child and their circumstances.

Register, 11 Sep. 1920–28 Sep. 1929

**Access:**
Access to information is available to the person to whom the information relates. An applicant who is not the subject of the information sought will need to state their reason for requesting information. Each application will be assessed individually and access will be granted at the discretion of The Director, The Samaritan Foundation. Preference will be given if the third party applicant has obtained the consent of the person about whom the information is sought.
Contact: All requests for access should be made in the first instance to: The Director, The Samaritan Foundation, Diocese of Newcastle, PO Box 5190, Newcastle NSW 2303. The telephone number is (02) 4969 0000, and the fax number is (02) 4962 2572. The email address is samaritans@hunterlink.net.au. Requests may be made in writing or by telephone.

Location: University of Newcastle Archives, University Library, University Drive, Callaghan NSW 2308.

Reference no: AB9651.

Quantity: 1 volume.

Description: This volume has an alphabetical index at the front. It also has a listing of admissions in chronological order, which includes entries not contained in this volume, suggesting there is or was a subsequent volume. It is not clear where this other volume might be. All of the children admitted are boys. For each boy the following information is given: name; age (including date of birth); religion; date admitted; reason for admission; names and addresses of parents or guardians; and discharge details. Not all entries have the same detail of information.

Lists of children’s names and miscellanea, 1926–27

Access: Access to information is available to the person to whom the information relates. An applicant who is not the subject of the information sought will need to state their reason for requesting information. Each application will be assessed individually and access will be granted at the discretion of The Director, The Samaritan Foundation. Preference will be given if the third party applicant has obtained the consent of the person about whom the information is sought.

Contact: All requests for access should be made in the first instance to: The Director, The Samaritan Foundation, Diocese of Newcastle, PO Box 5190, Newcastle NSW 2303. The telephone number is (02) 4969 0000, and the fax number is (02) 4962 2572. The email address is samaritans@hunterlink.net.au. Requests may be made in writing or by telephone.

Location: University of Newcastle Archives, University Library, University Drive, Callaghan NSW 2308.
Reference no: A5269 (i).

Quantity: 1 folder.

Description: This folder includes a number of lists of boys resident in St Alban’s for the period 1926–27. These lists include: boy’s name and date of birth; name of parent or guardian; date of admission and remarks.

**Register of names, 1962–66**

Access: Access to information is available to the person to whom the information relates. An applicant who is not the subject of the information sought will need to state their reason for requesting information. Each application will be assessed individually and access will be granted at the discretion of The Director, The Samaritan Foundation. Preference will be given if the third party applicant has obtained the consent of the person about whom the information is sought.

Contact: All requests for access should be made in the first instance to: The Director, The Samaritan Foundation, Diocese of Newcastle, PO Box 5190, Newcastle NSW 2303. The telephone number is (02) 4969 0000, and the fax number is (02) 4962 2572. The email address is samaritans@hunterlink.net.au. Requests may be made in writing or by telephone.

Location: University of Newcastle Archives, University Library, University Drive, Callaghan NSW 2308.

Reference No: A5269.

Quantity: 1 volume.

Description: This register lists the name of each boy who lived in the home in the period 1962–66.


Access: Access to information is available to the person to whom the information relates. An applicant who is not the subject of the information sought will need to state their reason for requesting information. Each application will be assessed individually and access will be granted at the discretion of The Director, The Samaritan Foundation. Preference will be given if the
third party applicant has obtained the consent of the person about whom the information is sought.

**Contact:**
All requests for access should be made in the first instance to: The Director, The Samaritan Foundation, Diocese of Newcastle, PO Box 5190, Newcastle NSW 2303. The telephone number is (02) 4969 0000, and the fax number is (02) 4962 2572. The email address is samaritans@hunterlink.net.au. Requests may be made in writing or by telephone.

**Location:**
University of Newcastle Archives, University Library, University Drive, Callaghan NSW 2308.

**Reference no:**
AB9652.

**Quantity:**
1 volume.

**Description:**
This register records: name of child; date of admission; date and place of birth; date and place of baptism; father’s name and if deceased date of death; mother’s maiden name and if deceased date of death; name and address of guardian; reason why admitted; amount promised towards support of child and by whom; any illnesses or injections the child has had; and date of discharge. Each entry is signed by the matron.

**St Christopher’s Home for Little Children, Lochinvar (later Taree), 1928–78**

St Christopher’s Home for Little Children was originally located at Lochinvar in the Hunter Valley, New South Wales in a residence called ‘Clifton’. This property was given to the Newcastle Diocese in 1927 by Mr Ernest Clift for use in connection with the work for children, together with an endowment of £300 per annum. The Home was officially opened on 1 December 1928, but was open to receive children from 1 September of that year. It was relocated to new premises at Taree, which were officially opened on 18 March 1956. The Home closed on 31 December 1978.

From 1928 to 1937 the Home was managed by the Sisters of the Community of the Holy Name, Melbourne. From 1937 until 1978, the Church Army was responsible for the management of the Home.

(Source: letter 17 Dec 1927 from Diocesan Registrar to Mr Clift, A5269, University of Newcastle Archives; ‘Brief History of Children’s Homes in the Diocese of Newcastle’ supplied by Mr T. Mawson, Diocesan Secretary.)
Correspondence, 1928–31

Access: Access to information is available to the person to whom the information relates. An applicant who is not the subject of the information sought will need to state their reason for requesting information. Each application will be assessed individually and access will be granted at the discretion of The Director, The Samaritan Foundation. Preference will be given if the third party applicant has obtained the consent of the person about whom the information is sought.

Contact: All requests for access should be made in the first instance to: The Director, The Samaritan Foundation, Diocese of Newcastle, PO Box 5190, Newcastle NSW 2303. The telephone number is (02) 4969 0000, and the fax number is (02) 4962 2572. The email address is samaritans@hunterlink.net.au. Requests may be made in writing or by telephone.

Location: University of Newcastle Archives, University Library, University Drive, Callaghan NSW 2308.

Reference no: A5269 (iv).

Quantity: 1 bundle.

Description: This bundle includes correspondence between the Diocesan Registrar, the Child Welfare Department, contractors carrying out work on the home, and parents or guardians of children resident or seeking residence. It also includes returns of children living in the home for the period 1928–31.


Access: Access to information is available to the person to whom the information relates. An applicant who is not the subject of the information sought will need to state their reason for requesting information. Each application will be assessed individually and access will be granted at the discretion of The Director, The Samaritan Foundation. Preference will be given if the third party applicant has obtained the consent of the person about whom the information is sought.

Contact: All requests for access should be made in the first instance to: The Director, The Samaritan Foundation,
Diocese of Newcastle, PO Box 5190, Newcastle NSW 2303. The telephone number is (02) 4969 0000, and the fax number is (02) 4962 2572. The email address is samaritans@hunterlink.net.au. Requests may be made in writing or by telephone.

Location: University of Newcastle Archives, University Library, University Drive, Callaghan NSW 2308.

Reference no: AB7216–AB7226; A6014 (xviii).

Quantity: 11 volumes and 1 bundle.

Description: These are bound volumes of general correspondence relating to the day-to-day administration of the home. They include letters from parents seeking admission for their child or children and sending money to cover some of the costs incurred by the Home in caring for their child or children. The letters often contain details of the child and their circumstances.


Access: Access to information is available to the person to whom the information relates. An applicant who is not the subject of the information sought will need to state their reason for requesting information. Each application will be assessed individually and access will be granted at the discretion of The Director, The Samaritan Foundation. Preference will be given if the third party applicant has obtained the consent of the person about whom the information is sought.

Contact: All requests for access should be made in the first instance to: The Director, The Samaritan Foundation, Diocese of Newcastle, PO Box 5190, Newcastle NSW 2303. The telephone number is (02) 4969 0000, and the fax number is (02) 4962 2572. The email address is samaritans@hunterlink.net.au. Requests may be made in writing or by telephone.

Location: University of Newcastle Archives, University Library, University Drive, Callaghan NSW 2308.

Reference no: A6013.

Quantity: 11 volumes.
Description: These volumes contain carbon copies of Returns of Particulars to be Registered Pursuant to section 34 of the Child Welfare Act 1939, regulation 42 (Child Welfare Department Form 14).

The information includes: full name of child; date and place of birth; religion of child; name, marital status, address and occupation of parents; name and address of person from whom child was received into the home; date child was received; particulars of arrangements made by parent for clothing and medical attendance; and amount of money paid and by whom.


Access: Access to information is available to the person to whom the information relates. An applicant who is not the subject of the information sought will need to state their reason for requesting information. Each application will be assessed individually and access will be granted at the discretion of The Director, The Samaritan Foundation. Preference will be given if the third party applicant has obtained the consent of the person about whom the information is sought.

Contact: All requests for access should be made in the first instance to: The Director, The Samaritan Foundation, Diocese of Newcastle, PO Box 5190, Newcastle NSW 2303. The telephone number is (02) 4969 0000, and the fax number is (02) 4962 2572. The email address is samaritans@hunterlink.net.au. Requests may be made in writing or by telephone.

Location: University of Newcastle Archives, University Library, University Drive, Callaghan NSW 2308.

Reference No: A6014 (i)–(x).

Quantity: 10 volumes.

Description: These forms are declarations by the custodian (ie. the Matron of the home) to the Director of the Child Welfare Department that custody of the child is being relinquished. The forms record: the name of the child; the address of the custodian; to whom the child was discharged (e.g. parent) and their address; the
relationship of the future custodian to the child; and the date of discharge.

**Register, 1958–69**

**Access:** Access to information is available to the person to whom the information relates. An applicant who is not the subject of the information sought will need to state their reason for requesting information. Each application will be assessed individually and access will be granted at the discretion of The Director, The Samaritan Foundation. Preference will be given if the third party applicant has obtained the consent of the person about whom the information is sought.

**Contact:** All requests for access should be made in the first instance to: The Director, The Samaritan Foundation, Diocese of Newcastle, PO Box 5190, Newcastle NSW 2303. The telephone number is (02) 4969 0000, and the fax number is (02) 4962 2572. The email address is samaritans@hunterlink.net.au. Requests may be made in writing or by telephone.

**Location:** University of Newcastle Archives, University Library, University Drive, Callaghan NSW 2308.

**Reference no:** A6014 (xvii).

**Quantity:** 1 volume.

**Description:** This register records: the name, date of birth and religion of the child; the name, address, occupation and description of the parents; the name, address, occupation and description of any person other than the parents from whom or to whom the child was received or delivered over; date child was received; date child was handed over; particulars of arrangements made by the mother for the care of the infant; amount agreed to be paid per week for the child’s maintenance and by whom.

**Register of admissions, 1967–69**

**Access:** Access to information is available to the person to whom the information relates. An applicant who is not the subject of the information sought will need to state their reason for requesting information. Each application will be assessed individually and access will be granted at the discretion of The Director, The
Samaritan Foundation. Preference will be given if the third party applicant has obtained the consent of the person about whom the information is sought.

Contact: All requests for access should be made in the first instance to: The Director, The Samaritan Foundation, Diocese of Newcastle, PO Box 5190, Newcastle NSW 2303. The telephone number is (02) 4969 0000, and the fax number is (02) 4962 2572. The email address is samaritans@hunterlink.net.au. Requests may be made in writing or by telephone.

Location: University of Newcastle Archives, University Library, University Drive, Callaghan NSW 2308.

Reference no: A6013.

Quantity: 1 ring binder.

Description: This ring binder contains a number of admission forms which record: name of child; date of admission; date and place of birth; date and place of baptism; parents’ names; guardian’s name and address; reason for admission; details of support promised for the child; and child’s medical history. The date of discharge is also recorded.

Scrapbooks of newspaper clippings, 1970–77

Access: Access to information is available to the person to whom the information relates. An applicant who is not the subject of the information sought will need to state their reason for requesting information. Each application will be assessed individually and access will be granted at the discretion of The Director, The Samaritan Foundation. Preference will be given if the third party applicant has obtained the consent of the person about whom the information is sought.

Contact: All requests for access should be made in the first instance to: The Director, The Samaritan Foundation, Diocese of Newcastle, PO Box 5190, Newcastle NSW 2303. The telephone number is (02) 4969 0000, and the fax number is (02) 4962 2572. The email address is samaritans@hunterlink.net.au. Requests may be made in writing or by telephone.

Location: University of Newcastle Archives, University Library, University Drive, Callaghan NSW 2308.

Quantity: 3 scrapbooks.

Description: The scrapbooks contain clippings from local newspapers with articles and pictures of children from St Christopher’s. The names and ages of the children are usually given.

Photographs, c. 1960–79

Access: Access to information is available to the person to whom the information relates. An applicant who is not the subject of the information sought will need to state their reason for requesting information. Each application will be assessed individually and access will be granted at the discretion of The Director, The Samaritan Foundation. Preference will be given if the third party applicant has obtained the consent of the person about whom the information is sought.

Contact: All requests for access should be made in the first instance to: The Director, The Samaritan Foundation, Diocese of Newcastle, PO Box 5190, Newcastle NSW 2303. The telephone number is (02) 4969 0000, and the fax number is (02) 4962 2572. The email address is samaritans@hunterlink.net.au. Requests may be made in writing or by telephone.

Location: University of Newcastle Archives, University Library, University Drive, Callaghan NSW 2308.

Reference No: A6014 (xxii–xxiv).

Quantity: 3 boxes.

Description: These boxes contain photographic slides of children and buildings from a number of homes, including St Christopher’s.

St Elizabeth’s Girls’ Home, Mayfield (later Singleton), 1923–77

In 1922, the Church of England purchased a property called ‘Winncourt’, situated in Section Street, Mayfield. Taking possession in March 1923, the property was used as a hostel for girls. In 1926 it was converted into a home
for orphan and destitute girls by the Newcastle Diocese and reopened as St Elizabeth’s Girls’ Home on 16 August of that year. In 1942, the Home was relocated to Singleton. It closed on 31 December 1977.

From 1928 to 1937 the Home was managed by the Sisters of the Community of the Holy Name, Melbourne. From 1937 until 1977, the Church Army was responsible for the management of the Home.

(Source: ‘Brief History of Children’s Homes in the Diocese of Newcastle’ supplied by Mr T. Mawson, Diocesan Secretary.)

**Correspondence, 1923–30**

**Access:** Access to information is available to the person to whom the information relates. An applicant who is not the subject of the information sought will need to state their reason for requesting information. Each application will be assessed individually and access will be granted at the discretion of The Director, The Samaritan Foundation. Preference will be given if the third party applicant has obtained the consent of the person about whom the information is sought.

**Contact:** All requests for access should be made in the first instance to: The Director, The Samaritan Foundation, Diocese of Newcastle, PO Box 5190, Newcastle NSW 2303. The telephone number is (02) 4969 0000, and the fax number is (02) 4962 2572. The email address is samaritans@hunterlink.net.au. Requests may be made in writing or by telephone.

**Location:** University of Newcastle Archives, University Library, University Drive, Callaghan NSW 2308.

**Reference no:** A5269 (v).

**Quantity:** 3 bundles.

**Description:** This correspondence is mostly between the Diocesan Registrar, the matron, the parents or guardians, and the Church of England Committee for Homes and Hostels for Children. The correspondence deals with administrative matters, including fundraising for the home, applications for admission to the home, and the furnishing of returns for the home. It contains lists of residents, and some details of their admission.
**General correspondence files, Aug. 1930–May 1973**

**Access:**
Access to information is available to the person to whom the information relates. An applicant who is not the subject of the information sought will need to state their reason for requesting information. Each application will be assessed individually and access will be granted at the discretion of The Director, The Samaritan Foundation. Preference will be given if the third party applicant has obtained the consent of the person about whom the information is sought.

**Contact:**
All requests for access should be made in the first instance to: The Director, The Samaritan Foundation, Diocese of Newcastle, PO Box 5190, Newcastle NSW 2303. The telephone number is (02) 4969 0000, and the fax number is (02) 4962 2572. The email address is samaritans@hunterlink.net.au. Requests may be made in writing or by telephone.

**Location:**
University of Newcastle Archives, University Library, University Drive, Callaghan NSW 2308.

**Reference no:**
AB7227–AB7240.

**Quantity:**
14 volumes.

**Description:**
These are bound volumes of general correspondence relating to the day-to-day administration of the Home. They include letters from parents seeking admission for their child or children and sending money to cover some of the costs incurred by the Home in caring for their child or children. The letters often contain details of the child and their circumstances.

**Application forms, 1926–30**

**Access:**
Access to information is available to the person to whom the information relates. An applicant who is not the subject of the information sought will need to state their reason for requesting information. Each application will be assessed individually and access will be granted at the discretion of The Director, The Samaritan Foundation. Preference will be given if the third party applicant has obtained the consent of the person about whom the information is sought.
Contact: All requests for access should be made in the first instance to: The Director, The Samaritan Foundation, Diocese of Newcastle, PO Box 5190, Newcastle NSW 2303. The telephone number is (02) 4969 0000, and the fax number is (02) 4962 2572. The email address is samaritans@hunterlink.net.au. Requests may be made in writing or by telephone.

Location: University of Newcastle Archives, University Library, University Drive, Callaghan NSW 2308.

Reference No: A5269.

Quantity: 1 bundle.

Description: These forms are a record of parents’ requests for admission of their child or children into a home. The forms give the admission date, the child’s name and date of birth, religion and often note whether the child was baptised. There is also a section for comments where the following may be recorded: who the child was adopted to, whether the child is an orphan, the reason for admission in the home, the school the child has been attending, details of siblings, financial support from the father, parents’ occupations and address. The current location or address of the parents is often recorded.

Parents’ consent and declaration certificates, 1926–30

Access: Access to information is available to the person to whom the information relates. An applicant who is not the subject of the information sought will need to state their reason for requesting information. Each application will be assessed individually and access will be granted at the discretion of The Director, The Samaritan Foundation. Preference will be given if the third party applicant has obtained the consent of the person about whom the information is sought.

Contact: All requests for access should be made in the first instance to: The Director, The Samaritan Foundation, Diocese of Newcastle, PO Box 5190, Newcastle NSW 2303. The telephone number is (02) 4969 0000, and the fax number is (02) 4962 2572. The email address is samaritans@hunterlink.net.au. Requests may be made in writing or by telephone.
Certificates of Declaration and Consent authorised the admission of a child into care. They recorded the parent’s and child’s names, the date of admission, amount to be paid by parent for maintenance of the child whilst he or she was in care and the parent’s address. Memorandums of receipt of payments from the parent are also included. These memorandums contained similar information to the admission forms, and also listed the amount of money paid by parents for the maintenance of their child or children. Often comments were made on the records as to the parent’s change of address, marital status, and reasons for missing quarterly payments, such as the birth of another child.

**Admission forms, 1926–30**

**Access:**
Access to information is available to the person to whom the information relates. An applicant who is not the subject of the information sought will need to state their reason for requesting information. Each application will be assessed individually and access will be granted at the discretion of The Director, The Samaritan Foundation. Preference will be given if the third party applicant has obtained the consent of the person about whom the information is sought.

**Contact:**
All requests for access should be made in the first instance to: The Director, The Samaritan Foundation, Diocese of Newcastle, PO Box 5190, Newcastle NSW 2303. The telephone number is (02) 4969 0000, and the fax number is (02) 4962 2572. The email address is samaritans@hunterlink.net.au. Requests may be made in writing or by telephone.
Description: These forms record: the name and age of the child; the
dates of admission and discharge; the amount of time
the child has spent in care; the parent's name and
address and the amount promised by the parent to be
paid each quarter to the institution.

St George’s Training Farm Home for Boys, West
Maitland, 1927–30

St George’s Training Farm Home was established to provide guidance and
training of boys over the age of twelve years. The property, a 32 acre farm at
Oakhampton, West Maitland, was opened as a training farm for boys on 1
June 1927. The Home experienced financial difficulties from its inception,
and was closed in 1930. The boys were relocated, and the farm rented
before being sold in 1939.

(Source: ‘Brief History of Children’s Homes in the Diocese of Newcastle’ supplied by Mr
T. Mawson, Diocesan Secretary.)

General correspondence files, 1929

Access: Access to information is available to the person to
whom the information relates. An applicant who is not
the subject of the information sought will need to state
their reason for requesting information. Each
application will be assessed individually and access
will be granted at the discretion of The Director, The
Samaritan Foundation. Preference will be given if the
third party applicant has obtained the consent of the
person about whom the information is sought.

Contact: All requests for access should be made in the first
instance to: The Director, The Samaritan Foundation,
Diocese of Newcastle, PO Box 5190, Newcastle NSW
2303. The telephone number is (02) 4969 0000, and the
fax number is (02) 4962 2572. The email address is
samaritans@hunterlink.net.au. Requests may be made
in writing or by telephone.

Location: University of Newcastle Archives, University Library,
University Drive, Callaghan NSW 2308.

Reference No: A5270.

Description: The general correspondence files contain letters from
parents requesting that their children be returned to their
care. Information includes the name of parent, a return
address, names of children and the date of the request. There are also letters from parents to institutions seeking information about the transfer of their children to another institution.

**Register of children, 1928–29**

**Access:** Access to information is available to the person to whom the information relates. An applicant who is not the subject of the information sought will need to state their reason for requesting information. Each application will be assessed individually and access will be granted at the discretion of The Director, The Samaritan Foundation. Preference will be given if the third party applicant has obtained the consent of the person about whom the information is sought.

**Contact:** All requests for access should be made in the first instance to: The Director, The Samaritan Foundation, Diocese of Newcastle, PO Box 5190, Newcastle NSW 2303. The telephone number is (02) 4969 0000, and the fax number is (02) 4962 2572. The email address is samaritans@hunterlink.net.au. Requests may be made in writing or by telephone.

**Location:** University of Newcastle Archives, University Library, University Drive, Callaghan NSW 2308.

**Reference No:** A5270.

**Quantity:** 1 volume.

**Description:** This register records information about boys who were cared for at St George’s. There are several different listings within the register, such as: Register of children with parents, Apr.–30 Jun. 1928; Register of orphans, Apr.–Jun. 1928; List other than orphans, Apr.–Jun. 1928; Register of parent’s support payment, 31 Dec. 1928–24 Jan. 1929; Register of orphan children, 31 Dec. 1928–11 Feb. 1929; and List of children in residence, 1 Apr.–30 Sep. 1929. These lists record such information as name of child; date of admission; length of stay; reason for admission and family details.
**Applications for admission, 1921–29**

**Access:**
Access to information is available to the person to whom the information relates. An applicant who is not the subject of the information sought will need to state their reason for requesting information. Each application will be assessed individually and access will be granted at the discretion of The Director, The Samaritan Foundation. Preference will be given if the third party applicant has obtained the consent of the person about whom the information is sought.

**Contact:**
All requests for access should be made in the first instance to: The Director, The Samaritan Foundation, Diocese of Newcastle, PO Box 5190, Newcastle NSW 2303. The telephone number is (02) 4969 0000, and the fax number is (02) 4962 2572. The email address is samaritans@hunterlink.net.au. Requests may be made in writing or by telephone.

**Location:**
University of Newcastle Archives, University Library, University Drive, Callaghan NSW 2308.

**Reference No:**
A5270.

**Description:**
These records list the child’s name; parent’s name and address at the time of application; the reason for application; date of application and the institution or person the parent wishes to care for the child.

**Bungarimbil Adolescent and Family Care Program**

The Bungarimbil Adolescent and Family Care Program operates as part of the Anglicare Services of the Anglican Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn. It is based in Wagga Wagga. Among the services and programs it operates are a temporary foster care program, Care Force Youth Support Program, a community placement program, a children’s centre, a community centre and a counselling service.

The agency commenced in 1957 as Bungarimbil Boys’ Home after a Mrs Jean McLeod left her homestead at Tumbarumba, New South Wales to the Anglican Church. The home, which later became known as Bungarimbil Children’s Home, operated until 1983.
From 1989 to 1996, Bungarimbil Adolescent and Family Care Program operated a residential care unit. Since 1997, the Program has focused on the provision of short term foster care. The Program is based in Wagga Wagga.

The objectives of the agency are to restore and reconcile children and adolescents to their families wherever possible, to provide a quality residential program as necessary, and to maintain and enhance the family unit.

Bungarimbil Boys’/Children’s Home: *Client files and admission register, 1957–83*

**Access:** Access to information is available to former clients of Bungarimbil. Information may be released to immediate family members if they can show proof of identity and, where possible, have consent from the client.

**Contact:** Clients and/or family members wishing to access information should contact the Director of Bungarimbil, PO Box 5381, Wagga Wagga NSW 2650 or telephone (02) 6925 5669.

**Location:** Bungarimbil Adolescent and Family Care Program, 72 Docker Street, Wagga Wagga NSW 2650.

**Description:** The information contained in these records includes: child’s name and date of birth; admission date; discharge date and details of discharge; parents’ names and address; child’s medical history; child’s legal status; reason for admission; school attended and school reports; particulars of siblings; and place of birth.

Residential Care Unit: *Client files, 1989–96*

**Access:** Access to information is available to former clients of Bungarimbil. Information may be released to immediate family members if they can show proof of identity and, where possible, have consent from the client.

**Contact:** Clients and/or family members wishing to access information should contact the Director of Bungarimbil, PO Box 5381, Wagga Wagga NSW 2650 or telephone (02) 6925 5669.

**Location:** Bungarimbil Adolescent and Family Care Program, 72 Docker Street, Wagga Wagga NSW 2650.
Description: The information in these files includes: referral notice; assessment details; admission forms and details; parent and adolescent contracts; case plans; case consultations; quality reports; daily reports and after care plans.

**Temporary Foster Care: Client files and referral records, 1997–present**

**Access:** Access to information is available to former clients of Bungarimbil. Information may be released to immediate family members if they can show proof of identity and, where possible, have consent from the client.

**Contact:** Clients and/or family members wishing to access information should contact the Director of Bungarimbil, PO Box 5381, Wagga Wagga NSW 2650 or telephone (02) 6925 5669.

**Location:** Bungarimbil Adolescent and Family Care Program, 72 Docker Street, Wagga Wagga NSW 2650.

**Description:** The information contained in these records includes: child’s name and date of birth; legal status; discharge date and details; case plans; file notes; parents’ name and address; and sibling details and status.

**Church of England Children’s Homes, Burwood (The Weldon Centre), 1893–present**

The welfare work now being carried out among children by the Weldon Centre had its origins in 1893. It began with work carried out by Sisters of the Church of England in a rented cottage in Burwood in Sydney’s inner west. After its establishment, the home operated for a number of years under the name ‘Church of England Orphanage’. In 1927 the Homes were incorporated under the *Companies Act*, with limited liability, as The Church of England Children’s Homes, Burwood.

In 1939, in order to honour the founder of the Homes, the late Bishop Stone–Wigg, and to distinguish them from other Church of England homes, the words ‘Bishop Stone–Wigg Memorial’ were added to the title. A new complex, the Katie Julia Thompson Memorial Home was opened in May 1968. Reflecting a change in attitudes towards child care, the home evolved into a family group home in the late 1970s. This closed in 1993 due to a lack of government funding. The residential care unit, ‘Wyatt Lodge’, which still operates today, was established in the early 1980s.
In addition to the residential care unit, the agency also operates Before, After and Vacation Care Programs, a Helping Early Leaver’s Program, a Family Support Program, a Youth Development Officer and Occasional Care.

**Client files and admission and discharge records, 1893–present**

**Access:**
As some of the information is of a delicate nature, access may be restricted at the discretion of the Centre staff.

**Contact:**
Anyone wishing to access information contained in these records should write to the Weldon Centre, 23 Weldon Street, Burwood NSW 2134, or telephone (02) 9747 4577.

**Location:**
‘Weldon Centre’, 23 Weldon Street, Burwood NSW 2134.

**Quantity:**
8 boxes.

**Description:**
The amount and type of information available varies, as the records are incomplete. The agency holds some birth certificates dating back to the early 1900s. Generally, the information available includes: name and date of birth of child; and dates of admission and discharge. Some of the files contain letters to the child from their parents; photographs; and some school reports.

The agency staff have compiled a list of all children for whom records are held.

**North Coast Children’s Home Inc., 1922–present**

The North Coast Children’s Home was established in 1922 by the Church of England in Lismore to care for children and young people unable to live at home. It is still in operation. Lismore is on the New South Wales far north coast.

**Admission records, 1922–present**

**Access:**
Former residents of the Home may access their own information. A person wishing to access information about someone else should get that person’s permission to do so. In the case of a person wishing to access information about someone who is deceased,
they should provide information which indicates their relationship to the deceased person and their right to access information about them.

**Contact:**
People wishing to access information should ring the Home on (02) 6621 5446 or write to 17 Keen Street, Lismore NSW 2480 to make an appointment or request.

**Location:**
North Coast Children’s Home, 17 Keen Street Lismore NSW 2480.

**Quantity:**
2 volumes and a small number of cards.

**Description:**
These records contain information about the admission of children or youths to the North Coast Children’s Home, including: name; date of birth; parents names and addresses; date of admission and date of discharge. Up until 1950 there are some admission cards annotated with information about the child. From 1950 to 1989, the admissions and discharges are recorded in a small note book with some brief notes. From 1989 the information is recorded in an admission register which includes information about parents as well as the children.

**St Saviour’s Neighbourhood Centre Goulburn (formerly known as St Saviour’s Children’s Home), 1929–present**

In the Anglican Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn in 1929, the Cathedral Parish of St Saviour’s Goulburn initiated the establishment of a residential children’s home. The home was operated by the Sisters of the Holy Cross, an Anglican order who came from Nyngan, New South Wales. In 1933 the Sisters of the Community of the Holy Name were invited to take over the Goulburn Home. The Sisters were an order of Anglican nuns whose headquarters was in Melbourne.

The home in Goulburn began in a large house in Verner Street and grew to the extent that the Sisters approached the Bishop seeking larger accommodation. It was timely that the home adjoining Bishopthorpe in Cowper Street was given to the Church by the Executors of the late Laura G. Bell in her memory. Mr H.C. Manfred was the architect for its reconstruction and adaptation as a Home for 40 children.

The work of the Sisters, the support of concerned people through donations and bequests, and the move of the Bishop from the Bishopthorpe building to Canberra saw the development of a number of residential institutions on a site enlarged by the acquisition of several neighbouring properties. The
services included a home for babies and a hostel for girls needing accommodation to attend secondary school.

In 1969 the Sisters of the Community of the Holy Name indicated their wish to withdraw from the Goulburn Home and suggested to the Diocese that there were other and better ways to care for children. This resulted in a committee being formed to develop a proposal for a family group home to be built in Wagga Wagga. The Sisters withdrew from Goulburn and were replaced with house parents. This transition led to increased demands being placed on the resources of the Diocese, as it assumed the roles and responsibilities previously fulfilled by the Sisters. In the mid-1970s, the church reviewed its child care work and identified the need for services aimed at supporting the family unit and preventing the placement of children in residential children’s homes.

In 1980, St Saviour’s Neighbourhood Centre was established. Substitute care continued in the St Saviour’s Children’s Home on a reduced scale until 1982. In 1982 funding was provided by the State Government through the Department of Community Services’ Alternate Care and Accommodation funding. The service became known as the St Saviour’s Cottage Home. In time, this became known as the Adolescent Program which operated at 134 Cowper Street until 1994. This service implemented individual care programs for children and young people with a goal of restoration and reconciliation with families as the option of first choice. The Program changed from a residential model in 1995 and continues as a flexible community placement model.

Since 1994, St Saviour’s has been contracted by the New South Wales Department of Community Services to provide long term care for up to twelve State wards with high support needs. The model of care is the provision of individualised placement.

St Saviour’s Neighbourhood Centre is an agency of the Anglicare Council, an incorporated body and part of the Anglican Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn. It currently offers an extensive range of child care and welfare services.

**Admission and discharge registers, 1929–51**

**Access:** Information may be made available to people seeking family information. Requests for information should be accompanied by proof of identity.

**Contact:** Applications should be made in writing to The Director of Services, St Saviour’s Neighbourhood Centre, 130 Cowper Street, Goulburn NSW 2580.

**Location:** St Saviour’s Neighbourhood Centre, 130 Cowper Street, Goulburn NSW 2580.
Quantity: 3 volumes.

Description: These volumes contain the following information: name of child; date of birth; date of admission and date of discharge. In addition some of the entries have the following information: place of birth; whether baptised; religion; parents' names and occupation; why admitted; illnesses; and some information about discharges.

Related records: There are Diocesan archives held at Jamieson House, 43 Constitution Ave., Reid ACT 2612, which include: Alphabetical list of children, 1929–30; Duplicate book of admissions, 1943–48; Letters of approval to admit children, 1962–64; List of names of wards of State and names of foster carers to whom they went on holidays, 1961–64; General correspondence files; and Register of illnesses, 1941–52.

Notification of reception, 1950–64

Access: Information may be made available to people seeking family information. Requests for information should be accompanied by proof of identity.

Contact: Applications should be made in writing to The Director of Services, St Saviour's Neighbourhood Centre, 130 Cowper Street, Goulburn NSW 2580.

Location: St Saviour's Neighbourhood Centre, 130 Cowper Street, Goulburn NSW 2580.

Quantity: 1 volume.

Description: This register contains the following information: name of child; date and place of birth; dates of admission and discharge; religion; why admitted; condition of mother and if able to support child; and the amount of maintenance paid.

Related records: There are diocesan archives held at Jamieson House, 43 Constitution Ave., Reid ACT 2612, which include: Alphabetical list of children, 1929–30; Duplicate book of admissions, 1943–48; Letters of approval to admit children, 1962–64; List of names of wards of State and names of foster carers to whom they went on holidays, 1961–64; and General correspondence files.
**Individual case files, 1970–94**

**Access:** Information may be made available to people seeking family information. Requests for information should be accompanied by proof of identity.

**Contact:** Applications should be made in writing to The Director of Services, St Saviour’s Neighbourhood Centre, 130 Cowper Street, Goulburn NSW 2580.

**Location:** St Saviour’s Neighbourhood Centre, 130 Cowper Street, Goulburn NSW 2580.

**Quantity:** 4 filing cabinet drawers.

**Description:** These are the individual case files for the Children’s Home, 1970–81, the Cottage Home, 1981–86, and the Adolescent Program, 1986–94. The content of the files varies in type and detail, and may include: referral information; parent placement agreement; case conference records; information sheets; and case history reports. The later files, from 1986–94 may also include: admission and discharge reports; court reports; psychological reports and after care reports.

**Related records:** There is also a set of *Personal record cards* for children admitted 1974–75.
Baptist Community Services—NSW and ACT

Baptist Community Services was established in 1944 as the New South Wales Baptist Homes Trust. It is a non-profit corporation limited by guarantee and operates as an agency of the Baptist Union of New South Wales. Baptist Community Services has operated a number of programs since 1956 including Karingal, Ruhamah, Thorington, Carisbrook, Kings Langley and Pathways (see below for details of these programs).

Karingal, 1956–86

Karingal Children’s Home was officially opened on 24 November 1956 by the Hon. F.H. Hawkins, MLA, Minister for Child Welfare and Social Services. The home provided accommodation for boys under the age of seven, and girls. The Home was located at 46 Pariwi Road Mosman on Sydney’s north shore. On 24 April 1986 the home transferred to 27 Alan Avenue, Seaforth (near Manly).

Client files, 1956–86 (incomplete)

Access: Former clients are entitled to access their own files and personal information. All other requests for information will be handled on a case-by-case basis.

Contact: All requests for access to information should be directed in writing to the Chief Executive, Baptist Community Services—NSW & ACT, Private Mail Bag 5, Eastwood NSW 2122.

Location: All surviving records are held at Baptist Community Services, Corporate Services at Marsfield in Sydney.

Quantity: 2 boxes (13 files).

Description: The information contained on these files varies from file to file. All files comprise basic personal information about the child, while some also have school reports, photographs and medical information.

Ruhamah, 1959–85

Ruhamah was established in May 1959 to accommodate boys over the age of seven. Boys under the age of seven were accommodated at Karingal, which also housed girls. The home was opened on 15 August 1959 and was located at 830 King Georges Road, South Hurstville in Sydney’s south.
In November 1975, the home was relocated to 14 Woronora Parade, Oatley. It remained a home for boys until 1980 when it was changed to a home for adolescent girls aged from fifteen to eighteen years. Ruhamah closed in 1985.

**Client files, 1959–85 (incomplete)**

Access: Former clients are entitled to access their own files and personal information. All other requests for information will be handled on a case-by-case basis.

Contact: All requests for access to information should be directed in writing to the Chief Executive, Baptist Community Services–NSW & ACT, Private Mail Bag 5, Eastwood NSW 2122.

Location: All surviving records are held at Baptist Community Services, Corporate Services at Marsfield in Sydney.

Quantity: 2 boxes (22 files).

Description: The information contained on these files varies from file to file. All files comprise basic personal information about the child, while some also have school reports, photographs and medical information.


Access: Former clients are entitled to access their own files and personal information. All other requests for information will be handled on a case-by-case basis.

Contact: All requests for access to information should be directed in writing to the Chief Executive, Baptist Community Services–NSW & ACT, Private Mail Bag 5, Eastwood NSW 2122.

Location: All surviving records are held at Baptist Community Services, Corporate Services at Marsfield in Sydney.

Quantity: 1 book.

Description: The accommodation book lists admission and discharge dates of the girls who entered the Ruhamah program between 2 July 1981 and 5 March 1984. It
appears that files survive for only five of the girls admitted in this period.

Related records: Ruhamah *Client files*, 1959–85 (incomplete).

**Thorington, 1973–81**

Thorington, the first of the A.S. White homes for children was located at 16 Cottage Grove, Corrimal near the New South Wales city of Wollongong. It was opened on 26 May 1973 by Mr W.C. Langshaw, Under Secretary of the New South Wales Department of Child Welfare and Social Services. Thorington ceased to function as a children’s home in December 1981.

*Client files, 1973–81 (incomplete)*

**Access:** Former clients are entitled to access their own files and personal information. All other requests for information will be handled on a case-by-case basis.

**Contact:** All requests for access to information should be directed in writing to the Chief Executive, Baptist Community Services—NSW & ACT, Private Mail Bag 5, Eastwood NSW 2122.

**Location:** All surviving records are held at Baptist Community Services, Corporate Services at Marsfield in Sydney.

**Quantity:** 2 boxes (23 files).

**Description:** The information contained on these files varies from file to file. All files comprise basic personal information about the child, while some also have school reports, photographs and medical information.

**Carisbrook, 1975–89**

Carisbrook, the second A.S. White Children’s Home was officially opened on 7 December 1975 by Miss Dorothy White. Carisbrook was located at 159 Harrow Road Auburn (in Sydney’s west) and functioned as a children’s home until 1989. At this time, the child care programs were reassessed and Carisbrook became a home for young people aged twelve to eighteen who experienced difficulties living in the normal home situation. The program closed in 1995.
**Client files, 1975–95 (incomplete)**

**Access:** Former clients are entitled to access their own files and personal information. All other requests for information will be handled on a case-by-case basis.

**Contact:** All requests for access to information should be directed in writing to the Chief Executive, Baptist Community Services–NSW & ACT, Private Mail Bag 5, Eastwood NSW 2122.

**Location:** All surviving records are held at Baptist Community Services, Corporate Services at Marsfield in Sydney.

**Quantity:** 3 boxes (87 files).

**Description:** The information contained on these files varies from file to file. All files comprise basic personal information about the child, while some also have school reports, photographs and medical information.

**Kings Langley Substitute Care for Adolescents, Nov. 1994–present**

The Substitute Care for Adolescents program, situated at 58 Anderson Road, Kings Langley (near Blacktown in Sydney’s west), commenced in November 1994 and the first resident arrived in December 1994.

**Client files, 1994–present**

**Access:** Former clients are entitled to access their own files and personal information. All other requests for information will be handled on a case-by-case basis.

**Contact:** All requests for access to information should be directed in writing to the Chief Executive, Baptist Community Services–NSW & ACT, Private Mail Bag 5, Eastwood NSW 2122.

**Location:** All existing records are held at Kings Langley.

**Description:** These files include the following: referral sheets; initial client assessment forms; admission forms; medical history (including medication given and medical consultations); client daily information files; school information; living skills information; client case notes;
family case notes; other reports pertaining to the family and the client; and Alternate Care Committee data collection forms.

Pathways Adolescent Unit, 1991–present

The Pathways Adolescent Unit is located at 187 Pollock Avenue, Wyong on the New South Wales Central Coast. Pathways runs an Intervention Support Program for residential care and support clients living in the community. Pathways commenced in February 1991 with the first resident arriving in April of the same year.

Client files, 1991–present

Access: Former clients are entitled to access their own files and personal information. All other requests for information will be handled on a case-by-case basis.

Contact: All requests for access to information should be directed in writing to the Chief Executive, Baptist Community Services–NSW & ACT, Private Mail Bag 5, Eastwood NSW 2122.

Location: All existing records are held at Pathways.

Description: These files include the following: referral sheets; initial client assessment forms; admission forms; medical history (including medication given and medical consultations); client daily information files; behavioural charts; school information; living skills information; client case notes; family case notes; other reports pertaining to the family and the client; and Alternate Care Committee data collection forms.
Catholic Church

Centacare Catholic Community Services, c. 1947–present

Centacare Catholic Community Services is the welfare agency of the Catholic Church. Formerly called the Catholic Family Welfare Bureau, it was established in the 1940s with its initial aims to provide marriage counselling and children’s services. The service has now evolved to include family services, children’s and youth services, employment services and aged and disability services, together with adoption services.

There are a number of Centacare offices throughout New South Wales, which are generally aligned with a Catholic Diocese. There are, for example, Centacare offices in Croydon (Sydney), Parramatta, Newcastle, Wollongong, Wagga Wagga, Bathurst, Canberra, Taree, Port Macquarie, Lismore, and Forbes/Wilcannia.

Centacare Adoption Services (formerly the Catholic Adoption Agency), 1967–present

Centacare Adoption Services was established in 1990, replacing the Catholic Adoption Agency which had been established in 1967. The Catholic Adoption Agency had been established under the auspices of the Society of St Vincent de Paul.

Adoption files, 1967–present

Access: Access to information contained on the adoption files is restricted according to the provisions of the Adoption Information Act 1990.

Contact: Applications for access to information should be directed to the Adoption Worker, Centacare Adoption Services, 9 Alexandra Avenue, Croydon NSW 2132. The telephone number is (02) 9744 7055.

Location: Centacare Adoption Services, 9 Alexandra Avenue, Croydon NSW 2132.

Description: These files contain all information relating to the adoption of each child, from the birth to post adoption contacts. Biographical information about the birth parents is attached, along with counselling records and interview notes. Details of the adoptive parents are
given, along with their application to adopt, and assessment of their application. In some cases, post adoption contact information, such as correspondence, is attached.

Centacare Catholic Children’s Homes Enquiry Service, 1994–present

Since the 1800s, the Catholic Church has cared for many dependent children in a wide variety of homes. These homes, while auspiced under the Catholic Church, were conducted by a number of different Catholic Orders. As the homes closed, the records were moved making it difficult for ex-residents to locate information.

In 1994 Centacare (Sydney) undertook to set up the Catholic Children’s Home Enquiry Service to provide a centralised information, counselling and referral service for those people previously in Homes or looking for relatives who had been in a Catholic Children’s Home. Centacare presently receives enquiries from people looking for information about their family or their own past history in an attempt to reconstruct their past. In a significant number of cases, the enquirers do not recall which home they were in.

Centacare has seen the need to establish a central register of the names of all the people who were residents of Catholic Children’s Homes. This register, in the form of a computerised database, is gradually being developed, and the information will initially include: the name of the child; date of birth; date of admission and discharge; and the name and locality of the Children’s Home where the child was placed. There will also be a cross reference to the original records of that Home. In addition, a directory of all the Catholic Children’s Homes established in New South Wales since 1900 is being established. The directory will show the name and address of the Children’s Home; the dates it commenced and closed; the age and gender of children cared for; any changes in function which occurred during the period of operation; the name of the order or auspiced body responsible for the operation of the home; information about the location of any surviving records; and contact details.

Registers (either originals or copies) from the following homes are held by Centacare: St Anne’s, Liverpool, 1888–1987 (run by the Sisters of Charity); Roman Catholic Orphan School, 1877–84 (jointly run by the NSW Colonial Government and the Good Samaritans); Mater Dei Orphanage, Narellan, 1910–57 (Good Samaritans); St Joseph’s, Kenmore, 1905–32; 1960–70 (Sisters of Mercy); St Joseph’s, Goulburn, 1948–62 (Sisters of Mercy); St John’s, Goulburn, 1945–66 (Sisters of Mercy); St Brigid’s, Ryde, 1898–1965 (Convent of Mercy); St Magdalen’s Retreat, Tempe, 1887–1947 (Good Samaritans); Good Samaritan Training Centre, Arncliffe, 1947–86 (Good
Samaritans); Holy Family Children’s Home, Marayong, 1956–86 (Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth); St Catherine’s, Brooklyn, 1961–90 (Sisters of Mercy); and St Anthony’s, Croydon, (Sisters of St Joseph). These records are listed in more detail elsewhere in this guide.

**Centacare, Newcastle, 1965–present**

Centacare Newcastle was established in 1965. It is an office of Catholic Community Services, the welfare arm of the Catholic Church. As with other Centacare offices, such as Centacare Sydney, it offers a variety of services including foster care; counselling (marriage, bereavement and sexual assault); employment programs; and youth accommodation and support programs. Centacare Newcastle is headed by a director who reports to the Bishop of the Diocese of Newcastle. Centacare Newcastle was previously an adoption agency in its own right, but now manages adoptions on behalf of Centacare Adoption Services (the Catholic adoption agency) and Anglicare Adoption Services (the Anglican adoption agency).

Centacare Newcastle also holds the known surviving records of several Catholic children’s homes and orphanages, namely the Bishop Murray Memorial Home at Campbell’s Hill which became the Monte Pio Orphanage, and the Murray Dwyer Boys’ Home, Merewether. Murray Dwyer Boys’ Home was operated by the Daughters of Charity, and at the time it was taken over by Centacare in the late 1960s had evolved into a series of small group homes. The records are incomplete. In order to facilitate access to this information, Centacare Newcastle has developed a database which lists the name of the child in care, their date of admission and discharge, and a cross reference to the surviving original records.

**Residential care client files, c. 1960–present**

**Access:** Any former child client of the Alternate Care programs for which Centacare Newcastle currently holds records may contact Centacare by telephone or mail and, providing proof of identification can be presented, may view their file in the presence of a social worker from the Foster Care Team.

**Contact:** All requests for access/information should be directed to Centacare Newcastle, PO Box 775 Newcastle NSW 2300. The telephone number is (02) 4979 1330.

**Location:** Centacare, 845 Hunter Street, Newcastle West, NSW 2300.

**Quantity:** 7 filing cabinet drawers.
These files relate to children and young people who were part of the residential care program operated by Centacare Newcastle. The content of these files varies from child to child and over time; some are more comprehensive than others. The files contain information about the child in care and their family. Information as to why the child is in care is often included. Some files contain school reports, medical reports, psychological profiles, social worker’s case notes, and letters between the social worker and the family, and the agency and the Department of Youth and Community Services. There are sometimes reports of case conferences, and copies of court orders and mandates.

**Adoption files, c. 1960–present**

**Access:** Access to information in adoption records is restricted by the provisions of the *Adoption Information Act 1990*.

**Contact:** All requests should be addressed to the Director, Centacare, PO Box 775 Newcastle 2300. The telephone number is (02) 4979 1330.

**Location:** Centacare, 845 Hunter Street, Newcastle West, NSW 2300.

**Quantity:** 8 filing cabinet drawers.

**Description:** These adoption files are filed alphabetically by the adoptive parents’ surname. They contain information on a number of forms.

Case Front Information is a record of the parents’ request for their child’s adoption. It contains the parents’ names, contact details, their date of birth and the date of the request for adoption. The parents’ religion, marital status and other children are also recorded.

A case summary records the parents’ personal details and contains more detailed information such as the reason for the adoption of the child or children; key issues involved; and the parents’ situation which may include physical, psychological or economic issues.

The files may contain a photograph of either the relinquishing parent or the child at birth. Correspondence may include letters from the parent to
the child or the adoption agency, or letters from the child requesting information about their birth parents or requesting contact. Usually a copy of the original birth certificate is also filed.

In many cases a medical report is attached to the file. This provides details about the birth of the child and perhaps any family sickness which may be hereditary. Personal details about the father, such as occupation and physical description, may be recorded on this form.

The files relate to local, overseas or relative adoptions. A 'relative' adoption is an adoption by a step-parent or a member of the child’s family.

**Short term foster care program: Client files, 1997–present**

**Access:** Any former child client of the Alternate Care programs for which Centacare Newcastle currently holds records may contact Centacare by telephone or mail and, providing proof of identification can be presented, may view their file in the presence of a social worker from the Foster Care Team.

**Contact:** All requests for access/information should be directed to Centacare Newcastle, PO Box 775 Newcastle NSW 2300. The telephone number is (02) 4979 1330.

**Location:** Centacare, 845 Hunter Street, Newcastle West, NSW 2300.

**Quantity:** 2 filing cabinet drawers.

**Description:** The short term foster care program commenced when the residential care program closed. The files consist of case notes, including information about the application for care, the reason for care, details of the placement of the child or young person, and after care notes.

**Orphanage records, c. 1911–77 (incomplete)**

**Access:** Any former child client of the Alternate Care programs for which Centacare Newcastle currently holds records may contact Centacare by telephone or mail and, providing proof of identification can be presented, may view their file in the presence of a social worker from the Foster Care Team.
Contact: All requests for access/information should be directed to Centacare Newcastle, PO Box 775 Newcastle NSW 2300. The telephone number is (02) 4979 1330.

Location: Centacare, 845 Hunter Street, Newcastle West, NSW 2300.

Quantity: 11 lever arch folders.

Description: These folders contain the known surviving records of several of the Catholic orphanages and children’s homes in the Hunter region, including Murray Dwyer Home, Mayfield; Bishop Murray Memorial Girls Home, Maitland; and the Monte Pio Home. The information is accessed via a database which has been created by Centacare staff. The database allows a surname search to be conducted and, if there are any surviving records for that name, it provides the cross reference to the original records.

The records include: Catholic Welfare Bureau Admission Forms (which give particulars of child, particulars of parents, and reason for admission), applications for migration to Australia; notification of reception forms (Child Welfare Department Form 14); personal record cards (which include name, date and place of birth, parents’ names, health and immunisation record, date of admission and discharge and reason for admission); baptism and confirmation certificates; Commonwealth Department of Social Security ‘Advice of discharge of child from institution’ and ‘Advice of admission of child to institution’ forms.

It must be remembered that these records are incomplete, not all of the information listed above survives for every child and records do not necessarily survive for all children.

Centacare, Broken Bay, 1988–present

This agency was established in May 1988 following a restructuring of the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney, which resulted in the creation of the Diocese of Broken Bay. The role of Centacare Broken Bay is to provide a range of professional community services within the Diocese, including the provision of extended and crisis care programs for children and young people.
The Sherbrook Residential Care Unit provides supported accommodation for children aged twelve to eighteen years. It initially operated at 24 Sherbrook Road, Hornsby (in Sydney’s north) from July 1991 to August 1992. Since August 1992 it has been located at 8 Royston Parade, Asquith.

**Sherbrook Residential Care Unit: Client files, Jul. 1991–present**

**Access:** Access to information is given to those who can demonstrate they have a legitimate and genuine reason for requesting information.

**Contact:** Requests for access to information should be made in writing to the Manager, Children and Family Services, Centacare Broken Bay, 27 Yardley Avenue, Waitara NSW 2077. The telephone number is (02) 9489 7677.

**Location:** The records are held at the Sherbrook Residential Care Unit, 8 Royston Parade Asquith NSW 2077.

**Quantity:** approximately 130 files.

**Description:** The amount and type of information contained on these files varies from file to file. All files contain basic personal and family information, including: name of child; age; parents’ names; and addresses. More comprehensive information which may appear on some files includes court assessments and reports.

**Brothers of St John of God**

**Kendall Grange, Morisset, 1948–present**

Kendall Grange, Morisset was established by the Brothers of St John of God in 1948. The order of St John of God is over 500 years old and was founded in Spain. It operates in 55 countries and works with marginalised families and came to Australia in 1948. Kendall Grange was opened as a residential school for intellectually disabled boys. In 1980 it changed to a residential school for boys with behavioural disorders, and in 1994 a residential school for primary school aged boys and girls with behavioural disorders.

**Client files, 1949–present**

**Access:** Access to information in these records is available to former residents of Kendall Grange or family members.
Proof of identity must be provided to establish legitimacy of the request for information.

**Contact:**
All requests for information should be directed to The Chief Executive Officer, Brothers of St John of God, PO Box 304, Morisset NSW 2264.

**Location:**
The records are held by the Brothers of St John of God, at Kendall Grange, 1 Henry Road, Morisset NSW 2264.

**Quantity:**
over 1400 files.

**Description:**
These files contain general information about the children who have been enrolled at St John of God Kendall Grange. Information about the child includes: name; date of birth; admission and discharge dates; reason for admission; medical history; information about the child's family and information about any previous placements. The files are arranged in alphabetical order by child’s surname.

**Daughters of Charity of St Vincent de Paul**

Members of the Daughters of Charity first arrived in Australia in December 1926 when four Sisters came from the British Province to Orange in central western New South Wales. Four more Sisters arrived in November 1927. They lived in a cottage in William Street Orange (now Ensleigh Street), and taught at the nearby St Mary’s School.

**Croagh Patrick Orphanage, Orange, 1928–82**

The Croagh Patrick Orphanage was located in Orange, in central western New South Wales. The building was erected in 1883 and was the private home of Edwin Hurst Lane. The building was occupied by members of the Lane family until 1914 when it was purchased by the Catholic Diocese of Bathurst. From May 1914 until 1928 the building, which was renamed Croagh Patrick, was a novitiate conducted by the Patrician Brothers.

In September 1928 Bishop Norton of Bathurst decided to establish an orphanage for boys at Croagh Patrick, and requested that the daughters of Charity take on the responsibility of caring for the boys. On 12 November eight Sisters took up residence, and the building was blessed by the Apostolic Delegate, Archbishop Cattaneo, on 6 December. The first boys, four brothers, arrived at the Home on 1 January 1929. The Home cared for boys up to about twelve years old. Upon completion of primary school, many
of the boys were transferred to St Vincent’s Westmead. A few went to Kendall Grange at Morisset.

The Daughters of Charity left Croagh Patrick in 1969 and the Sisters of Mercy assumed responsibility for the Home. From this time the Home also cared for girls aged three to sixteen years as well as boys aged three to twelve years. The home continued to operate until 1982.

It appears that the records for the period 1928 to 1969 have not survived, as they are not in the Archives of the Daughters of Charity or the Archives of the Sisters of Mercy, Bathurst, nor are they in the Diocesan Office at Bathurst.

The records for the period 1969–82 are listed elsewhere in this Guide, under the section for the Sisters of Mercy, Bathurst Congregation.

Daughters of our Lady of Compassion

St Anne’s Home of Compassion, Broken Hill 1941–84

St Anne’s Home of Compassion, Broken Hill operated from 1941 to 1984, having been established at the request of Rev. T.M. Fox, Bishop of Wilcannia-Forbes. It was operated by the Daughters of our Lady of Compassion (Sisters of Compassion), and took over the role of caring for orphans formerly cared for by the Sisters of Mercy. Twenty-six children were transferred to the care of the Daughters of our Lady of Compassion on 11 February 1941. The home was un-denominational and cared for girls aged two to sixteen years. No fee was charged and the upkeep and running expenses were met wholly by public donations.

In the 1970s, as social changes occurred, there were fewer applications for the care of children. As numbers dwindled it was decided that the need for care of children in an institutional setting was no longer necessary. In June 1984 the Sisters withdrew from the Home.

Admission register, 1941–62

Access: Access to information contained in these records is restricted to former residents of the Home, and their family members. Proof of identity must be provided when requesting information.

Contact: People wishing to access information in these records should write to the Archivist, Home of Compassion, off Murray Street, Island Bay, Wellington, 6002 New Zealand.
Location: Archives of the Sisters of Compassion, off Murray Street, Island Bay, Wellington, New Zealand.

Quantity: 1 volume.

Description: The register records the following information: name of child; date of birth; date of admission; parents’ names and occupations; and remarks.

Related records: The Congregational Archives also holds some photographs from St Anne’s Home of Compassion.

Eddy’s Adolescent and Support Services

Eddy’s Place, Wollongong 1989–present

Eddy’s Place Supported Accommodation Unit is located at 116 Mt Keira Road, Wollongong on the New South Wales south coast. It is part of Eddy’s Adolescent and Support Services, a private charity, and was established in 1989 to provide supported residential care for twelve to eighteen year olds. Eddy’s Adolescent and Support Services also operates Eddy’s Annexe, a non-residential alternate education project for twelve to fifteen year olds excluded from all other educational options.

Residents’ files, 1989–present

Access: Former residents may access information in their files. Before any information is given out, the person seeking information will be required to have an interview with the Director.

Contact: People seeking access should contact the Director, Eddy’s Place, Locked Mail Bag 10, Wollongong NSW 2500, or telephone (02) 4226 3131.

Location: The records are located at the office of Eddy’s Place, 116 Mt Keira Road, Wollongong NSW 2500.

Quantity: 223 files (at the time of printing).

Description: These files record family and personal details of the young person, including: name; date of birth; and admission and discharge details. Some files contain psychological reports and information from the Department of Community Services and Department of Juvenile Justice.
Admission and discharge information is sent to the Department of Community Services’ Research and Data Analysis Branch for inclusion in their admission and discharge database.

Files are retained for fifteen years and are then destroyed.

Franciscan Missionaries of Mary

Marymead Child and Family Centre, 1967–present

Marymead is a child and family service agency which was established under the auspices of the Franciscan Missionaries of Mary in early 1967. The Centre was operated by the Sisters of that order for some twenty years. When the Sisters withdrew from their activities in Canberra in 1986, Marymead was accepted as a responsibility of the Catholic Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn.

Personal files, 1966–present

Access: Access to information contained in these records is restricted to the person to whom that information relates. The principles of the Freedom of Information Act apply.

Contact: People who wish to access information should contact the Manager, Substitute Care Services, Locked Bag 3000, Woden ACT 2606. The telephone number is (02) 6207 1080.

Location: These records are held by ACT Family Services which is part of the Australian Capital Territory’s Department of Education and Community Services.

Description: These files contain the following information: name of child; date of admission; address; age; parents’ names and addresses; and case notes. The amount of information varies from one child to the next.

Marist Brothers

The Marist Brothers were founded in the rural area of Southern France in the early years of the nineteenth century when France was recovering from the disastrous effects of the Napoleonic wars. As the rural areas struggled to
re-establish their farming industries they were also faced with the crippling
effects of a generation of young people growing up without the benefit of an
education. Marcellin Champagnat, a simple curate, set about remedying the
situation by establishing an order of Brothers who began to conduct
elementary schools where the children of the peasants could receive basic
schooling.

Brought up on a farm himself, Marcellin was used to hard work and an
extremely simple lifestyle. The Order he founded bore these same
characteristics, and chose to carry on their work only in the rural areas
among the disadvantaged rather than set up foundations in the cities.

In 1872, the Marists responded to a call from the Catholic Archbishop of
Sydney to come and open schools in Sydney. Their schools were mainly in
the poorer inner city areas. The Brothers did not generally own their schools,
preferring to go where the local church authorities invited them. Their
earliest school was at St Patrick’s in The Rocks area, which was soon
followed by elementary schools in the Haymarket, Broadway and Parramatta
areas. They soon had a request to set up schools in distant country towns,
but seeing this as impractical they established a boarding school in Sydney.

**St Vincent's Boys Home, Westmead, 1896–present**

From its very earliest days Sydney had experienced a severe problem with
homeless children. In 1891, in the midst of a severe depression, the St
Vincent de Paul Society set up a house in Surry Hills as a refuge for some of
these children. The refuge moved to Redfern then to Five Dock to larger
premises, and finally to Westmead in 1896. The foundation at Westmead,
then a sparsely populated farming area in Sydney’s west, was in response
to a move by the Society to set up a large Home where boys could not only
be sheltered but could also learn a trade and the basics of farming.
Following a recommendation by the Cardinal Archbishop, the Society invited
the Marists to take over the operation of the new venture.

For the next 70 years, until 1968, the Home at Westmead was a joint venture
of the Society and the Marists. The Society was responsible not only for the
financing of the work, but also for controlling the admission of the boys,
most of whom were referred by the local branches of the Society. The affairs
of the Home were controlled by a Management Committee made up of men
from the Society who met on a monthly basis at Westmead to oversee the
operation and to decide on admissions.

The Home continued to operate on an industrial school model until the
Second World War. By this time, the model was seen as no longer
appropriate. The gradual winding down of the trade aspect of the Home, and
the growing emphasis on schooling, gained momentum in the 1950s. By
the mid–1950s, St Vincent’s was operating as a boarding school for
disadvantaged boys. In the early 1960s there was further change when the
internal schooling of the boys at Westmead began to be phased out, with the boys first attending local Catholic schools and eventually a wide range of schools in the area.

By the 1970s, Australia was a very different society from Australia in the days when the Home was founded. Attitudes to social welfare had changed considerably, and the 1970s was a period in which the older models of institutional out–of–home care gave way to foster care and smaller residential units. St Vincent’s went through a process which saw the reduction of numbers and a change of program on the Westmead site. Eventually, in 1985, the old Home was vacated in favour of smaller group homes.

The changes at St Vincent’s took place over an extended period and reflect changes not only in social welfare policy but in the wider community and the church as well.

The Home was founded at a time when Australia saw its future in material growth and rural expansion. The vision of the men of the Society in founding a Home on the industrial school model was seen as way of giving boys from disadvantaged backgrounds an opportunity to be part of the Australian dream. The gradual change to the boarding school model was seen as a means of allowing orphaned boys and those whose families could not support them to gain the education which was a life ticket in the Australia of the immediate post–war period. Later, however, as social welfare policy came to emphasise the maintenance of the family unit wherever possible, and Government funding arrangements supported this approach, the model which removed children from their families fell from favour.

By the time it moved from the Westmead site, St Vincent’s was seen as just one of a range of services in Western Sydney working in close liaison with Government departments to serve the needs of a small number of boys who could not live with their families for whatever reason.

**Register of residents, 1905–present**

**Access:** Information contained in these records is available to former residents and family members. Others seeking to access information must show good reason for wishing to do so.

**Contact:** All requests for information should be directed to the Director or Aftercare Worker, St Vincent’s, PO Box 49, Westmead NSW 2145.

**Location:** St Vincent’s Adolescent Care, Marist Community Services, 31 Darcy Road, Westmead NSW 2145.

**Quantity:** 3 registers.
These registers contain approximately 8000 entries relating to boys who have been resident at St Vincent’s Boys’ Home, Westmead. They record: name; date of birth; date of admission; mother’s name; father’s name; home address; school attended before admission; discharge date; and discharge information (to whom, address, etc). The entries are in the process of being entered onto a computer database.

Related records: Some school records and admission forms dating from after the 1960s are available.

Salesians of Don Bosco

Boys’ Town, Engadine, 1939–present

Boys’ Town, Engadine was founded by Fr Thomas Dunlea in August 1939. This priest, who had previously worked in Surry Hills, had been involved in the children’s courts and was the curate of Hurstville parish. Fr Dunlea was touched by the plight of the young. Upon his move to Sutherland in the Depression of the 1930s, he found many people living in humpies and caves around the Sutherland/Woronora River area, and he used to visit them on horseback. Following several appeals from distraught families, he took some boys into his presbytery at Sutherland. When it became overcrowded, difficulties with the local council forced him out into temporary quarters under tents in the Royal National Park. His cause attracted public attention and support and enabled him to secure a seven acre site at Engadine (in Sydney’s south), where Boys’ Town is today.

For 60 years, Boys’ Town has built up a tradition and reputation for being able to work with adolescent boys and their families whose negative experiences have caused disruption and difficulties at home, in the community and at school.

In the 1990s, Boys’ Town’s approach to dealing with adolescent boys follows the lead of St John Bosco, founder and inspiration of the Salesians, an international Catholic society of priests and brothers whose specific charter is to work with disadvantaged youth. The Salesian philosophy engages with the positive aspects of young people and their life situations.

Client records, 1940–present

Access: Details of name, year/s attended Boys’ Town, reason for requesting information, proof of authorisation to access
records and any other information should form part of any request for information. Information will then be accessed by Boys’ Town staff and made available to the applicant.

Contact: Anyone wishing to access the records should contact the Director, Fr Peter Monaghan on (02) 9520 8555, or by writing to PO Box 99 Engadine NSW 2233.

Location: The records are kept at the offices of Boys’ Town, Engadine, in a secure archives storage room.

Quantity: 32 boxes of cards and files.

Description: The information contained in the early records is very basic: name, date of birth and address. Some records contain referral information. The more recent records, dating from the 1970s, for example, have more information in the form of reports, referrals, etc.

Related records: Other than the information contained in an individual file, there are some related records such as photo albums for more recent years. This additional information is limited, and the albums are indexed or filed. These albums are also kept at Boys’ Town’s offices at Engadine.

Sisters of Charity of Australia

The Sisters of Charity were founded by Mary Aikenhead in Dublin Ireland in 1815. Mary Aikenhead’s dream was to work with the poor, and in addition to vows of poverty, chastity and obedience, members of the institute take a fourth vow of service to the poor.

In 1834, Dr John Polding, then Vicar-Apostolic of New Holland and later Archbishop of Sydney, requested from Mother Mary Aikenhead a community of Sisters to care for the convicts at the Female Factory in Parramatta, the children at the Parramatta Orphan School, and other poor people in the colony. In 1838, five Sisters were selected to take part in the Australian mission. These five pioneers left Ireland in August 1838, arriving in Sydney on 31 December of that year. The Sisters of Charity were the first Religious Institute of women to arrive in Australia.

St Anne’s Orphanage, George Street, Liverpool (later Medley Street, Liverpool, then St Anne’s Children’s (Emergency) Centre, Loloma Street, Cabramatta), 1888–1985
The Orphanage, initially located on George Street, Liverpool was opened in 1888 by the Sisters of Charity. It was dedicated principally to the care of girls, although young boys were occasionally admitted. Children could be admitted for short term or long term care, in a variety of circumstances. Usually, the children returned to their relatives, although sometimes they may have been discharged to foster or adoptive parents, unless they remained in the institution until the age of sixteen (usual maximum age) when they then moved on to independent living.

The Orphanage was relocated to smaller premises at 17 Medley Street Liverpool in 1970 and continued to receive children until the end of 1977. In addition, and as a result of the trend against institutionalised care, children admitted to St Anne’s were often placed into ‘group homes’ in West Ryde, Dundas, Liverpool and Cabramatta, in the care of a House Mother or Cottage Parents (from the late 1960s until 1977), but still under the conduct of St Anne’s.

No children were taken into care in 1978 whilst the Sisters of Charity were evaluating their future involvement in this area of ministry in Liverpool. In the meantime, the St Vincent de Paul Society took possession of the 17 Medley Avenue property and apparently set up a Youth Crisis Accommodation Centre there, called St Anne’s; this was not related to the child care ministry of the Sisters of Charity in any way.

Early in 1979, the property at 9 Loloma Street, Cabramatta, which had been one of the group homes conducted by St Anne’s Orphanage as of 1971, was set up by the Sisters of Charity as an Emergency Centre. It became known as the St Anne’s Children’s (Emergency) Centre, Cabramatta, and continued to offer emergency care for children until 1985 when the Sisters of Charity withdrew entirely from this area of ministry. The Loloma Street property was purchased by the Department of Youth and Community Services in 1986.

**Admission records (applications, notifications, files), 1892–1985**

**Access:** Application for access must be made, in writing, to the Archivist-in-Charge, providing personal identification and establishing the right to access information. Physical access to the records is not permitted due to their fragility and the need to protect the confidentiality of information concerning other persons. Information will be forwarded by mail.

**Contact:** The address is Archivist-in-Charge, Sisters of Charity of Australia, PO Box 21, Potts Point, NSW 2011. The telephone number is (02) 9356 3294, and the fax number is (02) 9358 6830.
Location: Archives of the Sisters of Charity of Australia, Potts Point.

Reference no: 43.01.

Quantity: 8 boxes (part).

Description: These records contain: child's name, date and place of birth, date and place of baptism, vaccination record; father's name, occupation, date and place of death and religion; mother's maiden name, date and place of death and religion; parents' date and place of marriage; names and addresses of surviving parent, near relative or guardian, clergyman or person recommending the child; maintenance agreement if any; date of admission; signature of person receiving the child; and signature of person having the child admitted. Additional information is available for more recent admissions (from 1974) as forms become files including correspondence and court orders referring to expected length of placement, social worker contact, sacraments, schooling, medical history, particulars of children in the family (surname, first names, dates and places of birth, religion, address), details of reason for placement, and progress reports.

Admission registers, 1888–1971

Access: Application for access must be made, in writing, to the Archivist-in-Charge, providing personal identification and establishing the right to access information. Physical access to the records is not permitted due to their fragility and the need to protect the confidentiality of information concerning other persons. Information will be forwarded by mail.

Contact: The address is Archivist-in-Charge, Sisters of Charity of Australia, PO Box 21, Potts Point, NSW 2011. The telephone number is (02) 9356 3294, and the fax number is (02) 9358 6830.

Location: Archives of the Sisters of Charity of Australia, Potts Point.

Reference no: 43.02.

Quantity: 8 boxes (part).

Description: These registers record: date of admission; child's name, age at time of admission; residence; native place; by whom recommended; date of discharge; to
whom discharged; surviving parent; religion; parents' and guardians' names and child's date of birth. From 1948 onwards, the following information is also recorded: parents' occupation; name, address and occupation of other person to whom child was delivered; and particulars of arrangements made by mother for care of the child.

**Notifications of discharge, 1943–46; 1950–67**

**Access:** Application for access must be made, in writing, to the Archivist-in-Charge, providing personal identification and establishing the right to access information. Physical access to the records is not permitted due to their fragility and the need to protect the confidentiality of information concerning other persons. Information will be forwarded by mail.

**Contact:** The address is Archivist-in-Charge, Sisters of Charity of Australia, PO Box 21, Potts Point, NSW 2011. The telephone number is (02) 9356 3294, and the fax number is (02) 9358 6830.

**Location:** Archives of the Sisters of Charity of Australia, Potts Point.

**Reference no:** 43.04.

**Quantity:** 8 boxes (part).

**Description:** This register records: infant's name, date of birth, date of admission and date of discharge; name, address and occupation of person to whom discharged or by whom adopted. From the 1950s, additional information is recorded including: name and occupation of person who will care for the child, and name and occupation of husband of carer.

**Notifications of reception, 1921–45; 1954–67**

**Access:** Application for access must be made, in writing, to the Archivist-in-Charge, providing personal identification and establishing the right to access information. Physical access to the records is not permitted due to their fragility and the need to protect the confidentiality of information concerning other persons. Information will be forwarded by mail.
Contact: The address is Archivist-in-Charge, Sisters of Charity of Australia, PO Box 21, Potts Point, NSW 2011. The telephone number is (02) 9356 3294, and the fax number is (02) 9358 6830.

Location: Archives of the Sisters of Charity of Australia, Potts Point.

Reference no: 43.03.

Quantity: 8 boxes (part).

Description: This register records: date of reception; mother's name, address and condition; child's name, date and place of birth; reason for admission; maintenance agreement; if placed with person for nursing before reception; and child's religion. From 1954 onwards, additional information includes: mother's occupation and marital status; father's name and occupation; name and address of person from whom the child was received; and arrangements made by parent as to clothing and medical attendance.

Admission and discharge record book, 1979–85

Access: Application for access must be made, in writing, to the Archivist-in-Charge, providing personal identification and establishing the right to access information. Physical access to the records is not permitted due to their fragility and the need to protect the confidentiality of information concerning other persons. Information will be forwarded by mail.

Contact: The address is Archivist-in-Charge, Sisters of Charity of Australia, PO Box 21, Potts Point, NSW 2011. The telephone number is (02) 9356 3294, and the fax number is (02) 9358 6830.

Location: Archives of the Sisters of Charity of Australia, Potts Point.

Reference no: 43.05.

Quantity: 8 boxes (part).

Description: This register records: child's name and date of birth; parents' names and home address; date of admission; date of discharge and to whom discharged; Medibank number; social worker contact and period in care.
**Children's personal record cards, 1962–77**

**Access:** Application for access must be made, in writing, to the Archivist-in-Charge, providing personal identification and establishing the right to access information. Physical access to the records is not permitted due to their fragility and the need to protect the confidentiality of information concerning other persons. Information will be forwarded by mail.

**Contact:** The address is Archivist-in-Charge, Sisters of Charity of Australia, PO Box 21, Potts Point, NSW 2011. The telephone number is (02) 9356 3294, and the fax number is (02) 9358 6830.

**Location:** Archives of the Sisters of Charity of Australia, Potts Point.

**Reference no:** 43.06.

**Quantity:** 8 boxes (part).

**Description:** These cards record: child's surname, Christian names, date and place of birth, religion, date and place of baptism; father's name and address; mother's name, maiden name and address; details of step parents, if any; name of person and organisation arranging admission; date and circumstances of admission; maintenance order or agreement; date of discharge; to whom discharged and at what address; and medical information.

**Doctor's Book, 1945–63**

**Access:** Application for access must be made, in writing, to the Archivist-in-Charge, providing personal identification and establishing the right to access information. Physical access to the records is not permitted due to their fragility and the need to protect the confidentiality of information concerning other persons. Information will be forwarded by mail.

**Contact:** The address is Archivist-in-Charge, Sisters of Charity of Australia, PO Box 21, Potts Point, NSW 2011. The telephone number is (02) 9356 3294, and the fax number is (02) 9358 6830.

**Location:** Archives of the Sisters of Charity of Australia, Potts Point.

**Reference no:** 43.08.
Record of children’s baptism, first communion and confirmation, 1929–66

Access: Application for access must be made, in writing, to the Archivist-in-Charge, providing personal identification and establishing the right to access information. Physical access to the records is not permitted due to their fragility and the need to protect the confidentiality of information concerning other persons. Information will be forwarded by mail.

Contact: The address is Archivist-in-Charge, Sisters of Charity of Australia, PO Box 21, Potts Point, NSW 2011. The telephone number is (02) 9356 3294, and the fax number is (02) 9358 6830.

Location: Archives of the Sisters of Charity of Australia, Potts Point.

Reference no: 43.10.

Theresian Emergency Centre, Monte Oliveto, Edgecliff

The Theresian Emergency Centre was opened in 1966 by the Sisters of Charity, on the initiative of the Theresian Club, an organisation of Catholic women closely associated with the Sisters of Charity. The Centre was located at Monte Oliveto Convent, Edgecliff. It was dedicated to short-term, ‘crisis’ accommodation for children. The Centre closed in January 1983 when the Sisters withdrew from this area of ministry in Edgecliff.

Admission forms, 1966–73

Access: Application for access must be made, in writing, to the Archivist-in-Charge, providing personal identification and establishing the right to access information. Physical access to the records is not permitted due to their fragility and the need to protect the confidentiality of
information concerning other persons. Information will be forwarded by mail.

Contact: The address is Archivist-in-Charge, Sisters of Charity of Australia, PO Box 21, Potts Point, NSW 2011. The telephone number is (02) 9356 3294, and the fax number is (02) 9358 6830.

Location: Archives of the Sisters of Charity of Australia, Potts Point.


Quantity: 2 boxes (part).

Description: These forms show: particulars of all children (surname, name, date and place of birth, religion and address); expected length of placement; social worker contact; details of sacraments; schooling and medical history; parent's name, address, occupation, religion, date of birth; remarks; and reasons for placement in some detail. Some forms have correspondence attached providing additional information about the placement.

Notification of reception, 1966–69

Access: Application for access must be made, in writing, to the Archivist-in-Charge, providing personal identification and establishing the right to access information. Physical access to the records is not permitted due to their fragility and the need to protect the confidentiality of information concerning other persons. Information will be forwarded by mail.

Contact: The address is Archivist-in-Charge, Sisters of Charity of Australia, PO Box 21, Potts Point, NSW 2011. The telephone number is (02) 9356 3294, and the fax number is (02) 9358 6830.

Location: Archives of the Sisters of Charity of Australia, Potts Point.

Reference no: PB745/1–2.

Quantity: 2 boxes (part).

Description: These records show: child's name, date and place of birth, religion; mother's name, marital status, occupation and address; father's name, address and occupation; name and address of the person from whom the child
was received; date when child was received; particulars of arrangements made by the parent for clothing and medical attendance; and maintenance agreement.

Sisters of the Good Samaritan, 1857–present

The Institute of the Sisters of the Good Samaritan of the Order of St Benedict was founded by Archbishop Polding at Pitt Street, Sydney on 2 February 1857. It was the first institute of religious women founded in Australia. Until 1866 the Sisters were called Good Shepherd Sisters but the title was changed to avoid confusion with an older Order of the same name.

The Archbishop’s special concern in colonial Sydney was the care of needy women and permission had been obtained from the Government to set up a women’s refuge in the old Debtor’s Prison at Carters’ Barracks in Pitt Street. The House of the Good Shepherd, as it was called, was opened in 1848 and staffed by the Irish Sisters of Charity with the help of charitable ladies. The ability of the Sisters of Charity to continue this work was seriously jeopardised when several of their number died. In order that the work of the House of the Good Shepherd would continue, Archbishop Polding set about establishing his own foundation. The first members of the Order began their religious training at Pitt Street under the guidance of a Sister of Charity.

As their numbers grew, the Good Samaritans extended their work to education and visiting the sick and the poor. They devoted themselves to the care of orphans and neglected children at the Parramatta Roman Catholic Orphan School, at the Industrial School and Orphanage at Manly and later at Narellan, near Camden. Sisters taught at a number of denominational schools in Sydney, as well as country towns such as Wollongong, Windsor, Braidwood, Queanbeyan, Moruya and Campbelltown.

In 1901, the resumption of land for the construction of Central Railway Station saw the Order move to Toxteth House at Glebe, where St Scholastica’s Convent was established as their new mother house. The work of the Good Samaritans has spread interstate and overseas, and their work continues to the present. Their undertakings include education, liturgical and retreat centres, hospital chaplaincy, parish ministry and ministry to the aged, the sick and the dying, to young migrants, the handicapped, prisoners, homeless young people, Aboriginal Australians and outback families.

Pitt Street House of the Good Shepherd, 1857–1901

The House of the Good Shepherd, Pitt Street provided accommodation for females over the age of fourteen years. When this institution closed down in 1901, following the resumption of the site by the Government for the
purpose of building Central Railway Station, the residents were transferred to the St Magdalen’s Retreat at Tempe.

**Admission register, 1879–1901**

**Access:** Access is restricted to former clients or residents, who are able to access information about themselves. Family members may access information about a relative if they can prove their relationship to that person.

**Contact:** All applications to access information should be put in writing and sent to The Archivist, Good Samaritan Archives, 2 Avenue Road, Glebe NSW 2037.

**Location:** Good Samaritan Archives, 2 Avenue Road, Glebe NSW 2037.

**Reference no:** 109/5/5.

**Quantity:** 1 volume.

**Description:** The basic information contained in these registers includes: name of child or resident; date of admission; date of birth; and age at admission. In some cases, but not all, additional information may be given such as: parents’ names; discharge date and details of to whom child or resident was discharged.

**Related records:** St Magdalen’s Retreat, Tempe 1887–1947, which became the Good Samaritan Training Centre, 1948–82.

**St Magdalen’s Refuge Buckingham Street, 1903–36**

The Buckingham Street Women’s Refuge accommodated females over the age of twelve years. The property was acquired in 1903, and opened by Cardinal Moran on 20 March 1904. The aims of St Magdalen’s were to provide women with a place of refuge in the city and eventually restore them to friends or obtain suitable employment for them. After 1933 the Buckingham Street Refuge functioned as an Old People’s Home.

**Admission register, 1903–37**

**Access:** Access is restricted to former clients or residents, who are able to access information about themselves. Family members may access information about a relative if they can prove their relationship to that person.
Contact: All applications to access information should be put in writing and sent to The Archivist, Good Samaritan Archives, 2 Avenue Road, Glebe NSW 2037.

Location: Good Samaritan Archives, 2 Avenue Road, Glebe NSW 2037.


Quantity: 2 volumes.

Description: The basic information contained in these registers includes: name of child or resident; date of admission; date of birth; and age at admission. In some cases, but not all, additional information may be given such as: parents’ names; discharge date and details of to whom child was discharged.


**St Magdalen's Retreat, Tempe, 1887–1947 (later known as The Good Samaritan Training Centre, 1948–82)**

St Magdalen’s Retreat provided accommodation for females over the age of twelve years. The foundation stone was laid by Cardinal Moran in 1885, and the home was opened in November 1887. The objects of the Retreat were to ‘provide a home for unfortunate women and girls of all creeds and classes; to help them reform their lives; and after a period of probation to restore them to their friends or to provide them with clothes; and to find suitable situations for them’.

By the 1940s, the government social welfare policy no longer favoured institutional rehabilitation and from 1947 until 1970, the Sisters of the Good Samaritan cared mainly for girls committed by the courts. St Magdalen’s Retreat became known as the Good Samaritan Training Centre. Eventually self-contained home units were established, with a staff member in charge of eight girls.

**Admission registers, 1887–1983**

Access: Access is restricted to former clients or residents, who are able to access information about themselves. Family members may access information about a relative if they can prove their relationship to that person.
Contact: All applications to access information should be put in writing and sent to The Archivist, Good Samaritan Archives, 2 Avenue Road, Glebe NSW 2037.

Location: Good Samaritan Archives, 2 Avenue Road, Glebe NSW 2037.

Reference no: 109/1–3.

Quantity: 3 volumes.

Description: The basic information contained in these registers includes: name of child or resident; date of admission; date of birth; and age at admission. In some cases, but not all, additional information may be given such as: parents’ names; discharge date and details of to whom child was discharged.


Manly Industrial School and Orphanage, 1881–1910

The Industrial School at Manly was at first intended for girls whose parents were unable to look after them. The property was purchased by the Trustees of the Sisters of the Good Samaritan in 1880, and the home opened on 20 July 1881. It accommodated girls up to eighteen years of age, from 1881–1910, and boys up to the age of ten years from 1883–91. When the Roman Catholic Orphan School at Parramatta closed in 1886, the remaining orphans from that institution were transferred to Manly.

The orphans and destitute children were admitted from two years of age and attended school until they were fourteen. Many were trained for domestic service and were taught cooking and laundry work. Some were employed in dress making, shirt making, sewing, knitting and machine work. Situations in domestic service and business establishments were procured for them before they left school. When the orphanage closed the children were transferred to Mater Dei Orphanage at Narellan and the Balmain Industrial School.

Admission registers, 1881–1910

Access: Access is restricted to former clients or residents, who are able to access information about themselves. Family members may access information about a relative if they can prove their relationship to that person.
Contact: All applications to access information should be put in writing and sent to The Archivist, Good Samaritan Archives, 2 Avenue Road, Glebe NSW 2037.

Location: Good Samaritan Archives, 2 Avenue Road, Glebe NSW 2037.


Quantity: 1 volume.

Description: The basic information contained in these registers includes: name of child; date of admission; child’s date of birth; and age at admission. In some cases, but not all, additional information may be given such as: parents’ names; discharge date and details of to whom child was discharged.

Related records: Roman Catholic Orphan School Parramatta, 1877–86; Mater Dei Orphanage Narellan, 1910–57.

Mater Dei Orphanage, Narellan, 1910–57

This property, known as 'Wivenhoe' was purchased by the Trustees of the Sisters of the Good Samaritan in 1910 and became the Mater Dei Orphanage. When the Manly Industrial School and Orphanage closed in 1910, the girls aged up to sixteen years were transferred to Mater Dei which was at Narellan on Sydney’s south western outskirts. Boys up to twelve years were admitted between 1910 and 1928.

Since 1957, Mater Dei has operated as a special school for handicapped children, and the records for that period are held at the school.

Admission registers, 1910–57

Access: Access is restricted to former clients or residents, who are able to access information about themselves. Family members may access information about a relative if they can prove their relationship to that person.

Contact: All applications to access information should be put in writing and sent to The Archivist, Good Samaritan Archives, 2 Avenue Road, Glebe NSW 2037.

Location: Good Samaritan Archives, 2 Avenue Road, Glebe NSW 2037.
Reference no: 109/2/1–2.

Quantity: 2 volumes.

Description: The basic information contained in these registers includes: name of child; date of admission; child’s date of birth; and age at admission. In some cases, but not all, additional information may be given such as: parents’ names; discharge date and details of to whom child was discharged. The register entries for boys cover the period 1910–28, and for girls 1910–57.

Related records: Manly Industrial School/Orphanage, 1881–1910; Mater Dei Special School Narellan, 1957–present.

**Balmain Industrial School, 1910–24**

The Sisters of the Good Samaritan made a foundation at Balmain in 1864 and were engaged in primary and secondary teaching. They also conducted a boarding school for young ladies. In 1910, when the Manly Industrial School and Orphanage closed, permission was sought from Cardinal Moran to use the Balmain Convent for a Domestic Training School for the older orphans from Manly. The younger orphans were transferred to Mater Dei Orphanage at Narellan. The School closed in 1924.

**Admission register, 1910–24**

Access: Access is restricted to former clients or residents, who are able to access information about themselves. Family members may access information about a relative if they can prove their relationship to that person.

Contact: All applications to access information should be put in writing and sent to The Archivist, Good Samaritan Archives, 2 Avenue Road, Glebe NSW 2037.

Location: Good Samaritan Archives, 2 Avenue Road, Glebe NSW 2037.

Reference no: 109/5/4 (Admissions are recorded in the same volume as the admissions to Manly Industrial School/Orphanage, 1881–1910).

Quantity: 1 volume.
Description: The basic information contained in this register includes: name of child; date of admission; child’s date of birth; and age at admission. In some cases, but not all, additional information may be given such as: parents’ names; discharge date and details of to whom child was discharged.

Related records: Manly Industrial School/Orphanage, 1881–1910

Sisters of the Good Shepherd

Home of the Good Shepherd, Ashfield

The Home of the Good Shepherd was located in Victoria Street Ashfield in Sydney’s inner west, and cared for women and girls mainly referred from the courts.

Admission and discharge registers, 1913–69

Access: Access is restricted to former residents, or family members.

Contact: Requests for access to information must be made in writing to The Provincial Leader, Good Shepherd Sisters, PO Box 182, Abbotsford, Victoria 3067.

Location: At the time of publication, these records were held at the Good Shepherd Convent, Victoria Street, Ashfield (in Sydney NSW). In the future, however, they will be located in Melbourne.

Quantity: 4 volumes.

Description: The information in these registers includes: dates of admission and discharge; name, age and date of birth of the child; names of parents or guardian; and the reason for admission.

Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth

Holy Family Children’s Home, Marayong, 1956–85

The Holy Family Children’s Home was located at 116–132 Quakers Road, Marayong in Sydney’s west. It cared for boys and girls, and was run by the

**Notification of reception, 1956–67**

**Access:** Access to information is generally restricted to the person to whom the information relates. People seeking access are required to provide proof of identity before information is released.

**Contact:** Requests for information should be directed to: The Administrator, 116–132 Quakers Road, Marayong NSW 2148. The telephone number is (02) 9626 3113.

**Location:** The original records are held by the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth, 116–132 Quakers Road, Marayong NSW 2148. Copies are also held by Centacare Adoption Services, 9 Alexandra Avenue, Croydon NSW 2132.

**Quantity:** 6 boxes in total (including the other series of records held).

**Description:** These volumes contain carbon copies of Returns of Particulars to be Registered Pursuant to section 34 of the Child Welfare Act 1939, regulation 42 (Child Welfare Department Form 14).

The information includes: full name of child; date and place of birth; religion of child; name, marital status, address and occupation of parents; name and address of person from whom child was received into the home; date child was received; particulars of arrangements made by parent for clothing and medical attendance; and amount of monies paid and by whom.

**Notifications of discharge, 1958–70**

**Access:** Access to information is generally restricted to the person to whom the information relates. People seeking access are required to provide proof of identity before information is released.

**Contact:** Requests for information should be directed to: The Administrator, 116–132 Quakers Road, Marayong NSW 2148. The telephone number is (02) 9626 3113.

**Location:** The original records are held by the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth, 116–132 Quakers Road, Marayong
NSW 2148. Copies are also held by Centacare Adoption Services, 9 Alexandra Avenue, Croydon NSW 2132.

Quantity: 6 boxes in total (including the other series of records held).

Description: These forms are declarations by the custodian (i.e. the Matron of the home) to the Director of the Child Welfare Department that custody of the child is being relinquished. The forms record: the name of the child; the address of the custodian; to whom the child was discharged (e.g. parent) and their address; the relationship of the future custodian to the child; and the date of discharge.

Notice of reception, discharge, death or admission to hospital, 1965–83

Access: Access to information is generally restricted to the person to whom the information relates. People seeking access are required to provide proof of identity before information is released.

Contact: Requests for information should be directed to: The Administrator, 116–132 Quakers Road, Marayong NSW 2148. The telephone number is (02) 9626 3113.

Location: The original records are held by the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth, 116–132 Quakers Road, Marayong NSW 2148. Copies are also held by Centacare Adoption Services, 9 Alexandra Avenue, Croydon NSW 2132.

Quantity: 6 boxes in total (including the other series of records held).

Description: This volume contains duplicates of notices relating to discharges of children to someone or somewhere other than the parents, in accordance with regulations 47A(w) and 47B(g) of the Child Welfare Act 1939.

The forms include the following information: name of children’s depot/home/hostel/private foster home; child’s details (surname, Christian names, date of birth, sex); reception details (previous address, date admitted); discharge details (date, to whom discharged, address of person to whom discharged, relationship of that person to the child, whether child was discharged
with view to adoption); death (date, place, cause, illness, medical practitioner); and admission to hospital (nature of illness, name of hospital, date of admission).

**Record of admission, 1967–86**

**Access:** Access to information is generally restricted to the person to whom the information relates. People seeking access are required to provide proof of identity before information is released.

**Contact:** Requests for information should be directed to: The Administrator, 116–132 Quakers Road, Marayong NSW 2148. The telephone number is (02) 9626 3113.

**Location:** The original records are held by the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth, 116–132 Quakers Road, Marayong NSW 2148. Copies are also held by Centacare Adoption Services, 9 Alexandra Avenue, Croydon NSW 2132.

**Quantity:** 6 boxes in total (including the other series of records held).

**Description:** The information contained in these records includes: name of child; date of birth; date of admission; parents’ names and addresses; and reason for admission.

**Sisters of Mercy, Bathurst Congregation**

The Sisters of Mercy, Bathurst were responsible for the administration of two children’s homes owned by the Catholic Diocese of Bathurst: St Joseph’s Orphanage, Bathurst which operated from 1867 to 1975; and Croagh Patrick Orphanage, Orange which they were responsible for from 1969 to 1982.

**St Joseph's Orphanage, Bathurst, 1867–1975**

This home was operated by the Sisters of Mercy, from 1867 to 1975 and cared for girls.

**Admission registers, 1867–1975 (incomplete)**

**Access:** All requests for information will be assessed on a case by case basis, though information is generally only given out for family history purposes.

**Contact:** All requests for access to information should be directed to the Congregational Leader, Sisters of Mercy
Bathurst Congregation, St Joseph’s Mount, PO Box 81, Bathurst NSW 2795. The telephone number is (02) 6331 4611.

Location: These records are held in the Congregational Archives, St Joseph’s Mount, PO Box 81, Bathurst NSW 2795.

Quantity: approx. 2 metres in total (including the records of Croagh Patrick, Orange).

Description: The registers record the following information: name of child; date of birth; date of admission; parents’ names and occupations; and remarks. The records are incomplete and the amount of information for each child may vary.

Croagh Patrick Orphanage, Orange, 1969–82

This home was operated from 1928 to 1969 as a boys’ home by the Daughters of Charity of St Vincent de Paul. In 1969, the operation of the orphanage was taken over by the Sisters of Mercy, Bathurst Congregation. It then cared for girls aged three to sixteen years and boys three to twelve years. The older boys were transferred to St Vincent’s Boys’ Home, Westmead.

Admission registers, 1969–82

Access: All requests for information will be assessed on a case by case basis, though information is generally only given out for family history purposes.

Contact: All requests for access to information should be directed to the Congregational Leader, Sisters of Mercy Bathurst Congregation, St Joseph’s Mount, PO Box 81, Bathurst NSW 2795. The telephone number is (02) 6331 4611.

Location: These records are held in the Congregational Archives, St Joseph’s Mount, PO Box 81, Bathurst NSW 2795.

Quantity: approx. 2 metres in total (including the records of St Joseph’s Bathurst).

Description: The registers record the following information: name of child; date of birth; date of admission; parents’ names and occupations; and remarks. The records are incomplete and the amount of information for each child may vary.
Sisters of Mercy, Goulburn Congregation

St Joseph's Orphanage (later called St Joseph’s Girls’ Home) Kenmore via Goulburn, 1864–1975

St Joseph’s Orphanage was located in Clinton Street, Goulburn from 1864 until 1905 when the children were moved to Kenmore. It provided care for girls aged five to sixteen years. In 1976 the Home amalgamated with St John’s Home, and the children were moved to two cottages and to St John’s Home. St John’s Home closed in 1984 and the cottages closed in 1987.

**Admission registers, 1919–75**

**Access:** Information in the records is available to the individual to whom it relates, or a family member provided they can prove their relationship to the person. Information is not available to third parties about a person who is still alive.

**Contact:** All requests for access to information should be directed to the Congregational Leader, Sisters of Mercy Congregational Centre, PO Box 221, Goulburn NSW 2580. The telephone number is (02) 4822 2296. The email address is: mercyglb@ozemail.com.au.

**Location:** These records are held in the offices of Centacare, Canberra Avenue, Manuka ACT 2603. Copies of the registers are also available at Centacare Adoption Services, 9 Alexandra Avenue, Croydon NSW 2132.

**Quantity:** 1 box and 1 filing cabinet (including the records of St John’s Home, Goulburn).

**Description:** In most cases these registers contain the following: name of child; date of birth; dates of admission and discharge; former address (sometimes only the name of a town); and religion. The name of at least one parent appears. If siblings came into care their details are also recorded. It is not always possible to determine the exact reason for admission.

**Related records:** Personal record cards and some baptismal certificates.
St John's Home, Goulburn, 1905–75

This home was established in Clinton Street, Goulburn New South Wales in 1905, and moved to Mundy Street in 1907. It cared for boys aged five to sixteen years. In 1976 it amalgamated with St Joseph’s, Goulburn.

Admission registers, 1919–75

Access: Information in the records is available to the individual to whom it relates, or a family member provided they can prove their relationship to the person. Information is not available to third parties about a person who is still alive.

Contact: All requests for access to information should be directed to the Congregational Leader, Sisters of Mercy Congregational Centre, PO Box 221, Goulburn NSW 2580. The telephone number is (02) 4822 2296. The email address is: mercyglb@ozemail.com.au.

Location: These records are held in the offices of Centacare, Canberra Avenue, Manuka ACT 2603. Copies of the registers are also available at Centacare Adoption Services, 9 Alexandra Avenue, Croydon NSW 2132.

Quantity: 1 box and 1 filing cabinet (including the records of St Joseph’s Orphanage, Goulburn).

Description: In most cases these registers contain the following: name of child; date of birth; dates of admission and discharge; former address (sometimes only the name of a town); and religion. The name of at least one parent appears. If siblings came into care their details are also recorded. It is not always possible to determine the exact reason for admission.

Related records: Personal record cards and some baptismal certificates.

St John's Home, Auburn Street, Goulburn, 1976–87

This home provided care for girls and boys and was established in 1976 when St John’s Home, Goulburn and St Joseph’s, Goulburn were amalgamated.

Admission registers, 1976–87

Access: Information in the records is available to the individual to whom it relates, or a family member provided they can
prove their relationship to the person. Information is not available to third parties about a person who is still alive.

Contact: All requests for access to information should be directed to the Congregational Leader, Sisters of Mercy Congregational Centre, PO Box 221, Goulburn NSW 2580. The telephone number is (02) 4822 2296. The email address is: mercyglb@ozemail.com.au.

Location: These records are held in the offices of Centacare, Canberra Avenue, Manuka ACT 2603. Copies of the registers are also available at Centacare Adoption Services, 9 Alexandra Avenue, Croydon NSW 2132.

Quantity: 1 box and 1 filing cabinet (including the records of St Joseph’s Orphanage, Goulburn).

Description: In most cases these registers contain the following: name of child; date of birth; dates of admission and discharge; former address (sometimes only the name of a town); and religion. The name of at least one parent appears. If siblings came into care their details are also recorded. It is not always possible to determine the exact reason for admission.

Related records: Personal record cards and some baptismal certificates.

St John's Orphanage, Albury, 1882–present

St John’s Orphanage was founded by the Sisters of Mercy in 1882 and was located at Thurgoona on the outskirts of Albury on the New South Wales-Victoria border. It was also known as St John’s Home, Wirlinga. With changes in the welfare system the large institution was closed and in 1976 opened as group homes for children. These homes are still operating today. The orphanage initially provided care for girls aged five to sixteen years. It later provided accommodation and care for 30 British war orphans. In later years it cared for both boys and girls.

Admission register, 1882–1995

Access: Information in these records is available to the individual to whom it relates, or a family member provided they can prove their relationship to the person. Information is not available to third parties about a person who is still alive.
Contact: Forms are available from the Sisters of Mercy Congregational Centre, PO Box 221, Goulburn NSW 2580 for those seeking information. The telephone number is (02) 4822 2296. All applications must be directed to the Congregational Centre and the request will then be forwarded to the appropriate venue for reply.

Location: The records for St John’s Orphanage, Albury are held at the Congregational Centre, Goulburn and the Mercy Centre, Lavington.

Quantity: 1 volume.

Description: This volume lists: name, religion and date of birth of the child; the date of admission; and the date of discharge. There is no information regarding the families.

List of names for orphanage endowment claim, 1932–59

Access: Information in these records is available to the individual to whom it relates, or a family member provided they can prove their relationship to the person. Information is not available to third parties about a person who is still alive.

Contact: Forms are available from the Sisters of Mercy Congregational Centre, PO Box 221, Goulburn NSW 2580 for those seeking information. The telephone number is (02) 4822 2296. All applications must be directed to the Congregational Centre and the request will then be forwarded to the appropriate venue for reply.

Location: The records for St John’s Orphanage, Albury are held at the Congregational Centre, Goulburn and the Mercy Centre, Lavington.

Quantity: 1 volume.

Description: Information in this volume includes the following: name of child; date of admission; date and place of birth; father’s name; mother’s maiden name; and date of discharge.

Related records: List of children’s names, 1938–57.
Sisters of Mercy, Grafton Congregation

St Joseph’s Cowper Incorporated, Grafton (formerly known as Cowper Orphanage, St Joseph’s Cowper Children’s Home, and often referred to as Cowper)

St Joseph’s Cowper Incorporated began its operation in substitute care on 18 January 1914. The original clients were ‘poor and destitute’ children. The first children’s facility was located in the village of Cowper, outside Grafton, on the North Coast of New South Wales, on a property owned by the Sisters of Mercy. Its mission was to care for those suffering from poverty and destitution brought about by the economic downturn and parent loss during World War I.

St Joseph’s Orphanage, as it was then known, continued its operation in these premises until January 1972. During this period of time it catered for 2125 clients. For this time, the service was financed by a dairy farm on farmland purchased by the Sisters of Mercy and later by the building of an egg production plant. Orchards were also planted for fruit. Around 1930 child endowment was received as the first public money supporting the service.

Following the efforts of Mr Pollock of a Grafton firm of solicitors to obtain the above endowment, the Church and civil community became involved in the support of St Joseph’s for its running expenses. To the present time the financial support of the local community through donation is significant in the running of the service.

In 1972, the agency relocated to a site in North Street, Grafton and became known as St Joseph’s Cowper Children’s Homes. This change was to replace dormitory style accommodation with family group homes and to have an easier access to education, medical and leisure opportunities for those in residential care. The land was part of a bequest while the new accommodation was provided for out of the sale of the farmland at Cowper and public donations.

By then the financial needs of the agency were being partly provided for by the State Government. In the late 1970s the Dalton Report called for, among other things, an upgrading of the quality of care provided for children and young people in group homes and the provision of greater financial support by the Government for recurrent spending in residential care. St Joseph’s changed to Alternate Care and Accommodation funding in 1985. While this funding was based on a percentage of the previous year’s expenses, it nevertheless provided increased finance for St Joseph’s to embark on the creative innovations that have brought it to its present form.

The service became known as St Joseph’s Cowper in 1993. Now known as St Joseph’s Cowper Incorporated, the service provided could be
summarised as planning and implementing individual care programs for children and young people whose emotional and/or behavioural needs are not able to be met within the family. It remains a service provided under the auspice of the Sisters of Mercy, Grafton, Diocese of Lismore.

**Original admission register; admission cards; photographs; case files, 1914–present.**

**Access:** Ex-residents are welcome to visit, to access files, to view photographs, etc. All visitors are made very welcome.

**Contact:** Contact the Administrator at PO Box 418, Grafton, NSW 2460, or telephone: (02) 6642 3022, fax: (02) 6642 6731, email: sjcowp@hotkey.net.au.

**Location:** St Joseph’s Cowper Incorporated, North Street, Grafton NSW.

**Quantity:** 20 boxes.

**Description:** The records for the period 1914–80 give: name of child; date of birth; place of birth; parents’ names; admission date; departure date; where went to after departure. The records for the period 1980–92 give the same information, as well as some brief information as to why out-of-home care was required. Some brief notes on family contact are included, and in some cases there are school reports. The records from 1992–present give this information, as well as education, health and psychological information, details of assessments, case conference material, family contact, details of host families, aftercare contact, and photographic and video records of time in care.

**Sisters of Mercy, Gunnedah Congregation**

**St Patrick’s Orphanage (later called St Patrick’s Home and St Patrick’s Homes) Armidale, 1919–84**

St Patrick’s Orphanage, later called St Patrick’s Home, was located at the end of O’Connor Road, Armidale (on the Northern Tablelands of New South Wales) from 1919 until 1976, when the remaining children were moved to two cottages in Armidale which were known as St Patrick’s Homes. The cottages closed in 1984.
**Admission registers, 1919–84**

**Access:** Information in the records is available to the individual to whom it relates or a family member, provided they can prove their relationship to the person. Information is not available to third parties about a person who is still alive.

**Contact:** Requests for information should be in writing and addressed to the Sisters of Mercy, Bloomfield Street, Gunnedah NSW 2380.

**Location:** The records of St Patrick’s are held in the Archives of the Gunnedah Congregation of the Sisters of Mercy, Bloomfield Street, Gunnedah NSW 2380. Copies of the registers are also available at Centacare Adoption Services, 9 Alexandra Avenue, Croydon NSW 2132.

**Quantity:** 5 volumes.

**Description:** In most cases these registers contain the following information: name of child; date of birth; dates of admission and discharge; former address (sometimes only a town); and religion. The name of at least one parent usually appears. If siblings came into care, their details are also recorded. It is not always possible to deduce the exact reason for admission.

**Personal record cards, c. 1960s**

**Access:** Information in the records is available to the individual to whom it relates or a family member, provided they can prove their relationship to the person. Information is not available to third parties about a person who is still alive.

**Contact:** Requests for information should be in writing and addressed to the Sisters of Mercy, Bloomfield Street, Gunnedah NSW 2380.

**Location:** The records of St Patrick’s are held in the Archives of the Gunnedah Congregation of the Sisters of Mercy, Bloomfield Street, Gunnedah NSW 2380.

**Quantity:** 1 box.

**Description:** These cards were filled out for each child, under regulations 47A (w)(i) and 47B (g)(i) of the Child Welfare
Act 1939. They record the following: name; date and place of birth; religion; where baptised; father’s name and address; mother’s name and address, including maiden name; details of any step-parents; by whom the child’s admission to the home was arranged; the date and circumstances surrounding the child’s admission, including details of any court order; particulars of any maintenance order and details of any maintenance agreement.

On the reverse of the card the following information is recorded: date of discharge; to whom discharged and address on discharge. There is also a medical record for the child: physical condition of child on admission; if parent’s consent is held for anaesthetics, operations, blood transfusions, immunisations and vaccinations; an immunisation record; and any other pertinent medical information.

The cards are filed alphabetically by child’s surname.

Sisters of Mercy, North Sydney Congregation

St Catherine's, Brooklyn, 1931–Aug. 1990

St Catherine’s Home was located at Brooklyn on the Hawkesbury River, north of Sydney. The Home was in operation from 1931 to 1990, but there are no records surviving prior to 1961.


Access: Personal information is only made available to ex-residents under the supervision of the Social Worker of the Sisters of Mercy.

Contact: All requests for information should be directed to the Sisters of Mercy Archives, 29 McLaren Street, North Sydney NSW 2060. The telephone number is (02) 9955 6253.

Location: These records are located at the Sisters of Mercy Archives, 29 McLaren Street, North Sydney NSW 2060.

Description: This index is alphabetical by the surname of the residents, and includes the following information: name; date of birth; date of admission; and names of siblings.
**Personal files, 1970–Aug. 1990**

**Access:** Personal information is only made available to ex-residents under the supervision of the Social Worker of the Sisters of Mercy.

**Contact:** All requests for information should be directed to the Sisters of Mercy Archives, 29 McLaren Street, North Sydney NSW 2060. The telephone number is (02) 9955 6253.

**Location:** These records are located at the Sisters of Mercy Archives, 29 McLaren Street, North Sydney NSW 2060.

**Description:** These personal files contain such information as social workers’ reports; medical reports; school reports; and personal information including date of birth and dates of admission and discharge.


**Access:** Personal information is only made available to ex-residents under the supervision of the Social Worker of the Sisters of Mercy.

**Contact:** All requests for information should be directed to the Sisters of Mercy Archives, 29 McLaren Street, North Sydney NSW 2060. The telephone number is (02) 9955 6253.

**Location:** These records are located at the Sisters of Mercy Archives, 29 McLaren Street, North Sydney NSW 2060.

**Description:** These are carbon copies of forms completed for the Commonwealth Department of Social Services advising that a child has been admitted to a home. The forms include: name of child; date of birth; date of admission and name of home being admitted to.

**‘Advice of Discharge’ forms, 2 Feb. 1971–2 Apr. 1989**

**Access:** Personal information is only made available to ex-residents under the supervision of the Social Worker of the Sisters of Mercy.

**Contact:** All requests for information should be directed to the Sisters of Mercy Archives, 29 McLaren Street, North
Sydney NSW 2060. The telephone number is (02) 9955 6253.

Location: These records are located at the Sisters of Mercy Archives, 29 McLaren Street, North Sydney NSW 2060.

Description: These are carbon copies of forms completed for the Commonwealth Department of Social Services advising that a child has been discharged from the care of the home. The forms include: name of child; date of birth; date of discharge; and discharge details.

Waitara Foundling Home (later known as Our Lady of Mercy Home and Mercy Family Centre), 1898–1977

The Waitara Foundling Home was established in 1898 at the behest of Cardinal Moran out of concern for the welfare of foundlings and destitute children. The Home was run by the Sisters of Mercy, who moved to Waitara from North Sydney. This Foundling Home was the first Catholic Home of its kind in Australia and gave shelter to twenty women and up to 100 children. In 1902, a two–storey brick home for mothers and babies was built, providing accommodation for mothers and their babies from hospitals and private homes throughout the eastern states of Australia.

In 1925 a pre–school kindergarten was opened within the Home for the children in residential care. From 1940 onwards, the Sisters began to take into care girls awaiting the birth of a child. There was a home at Waitara for 40 pregnant girls, who received medical help and social assistance. During this period, the Home also had accommodation for twenty babies awaiting adoption. Care was also available for children up to seven years of age whose families had been disrupted temporarily by illness or separation.

As society’s awareness of people’s needs changed, approaches to child care also changed. To meet these changing needs, the Sisters and their associates responded by developing self-contained homes for small groups of children, and moved away from the large institutional model of child care. The next step in the evolution of services saw the development of programs aimed at building up family life, preventing family break-up and helping people lead more satisfying lives. Since the late 1970s, the Mercy Family Life Centre has evolved as a three stage project, providing counselling, welfare, emergency accommodation, educational services to families, child care services and aged care services.

Register of admissions and discharges, 1896–1921

Access: Access to information is restricted to the person to whom the information relates, or to an immediate
relative who can prove their relationship to that person. Access to information about adoptions is restricted to the adopted person, birth parents, and adoptive parents within the provisions of the Adoption Information Act 1990. People seeking information about an adoption will undergo an interview with a member of the Adoption Support Team as part of the process of obtaining information.

Contact: All requests for information should be directed to the Mercy Family Centre, PO Box 2118, Hornsby, NSW 2077. The telephone number is (02) 9487 3022.

Location: Mercy Family Centre, McAuley Place, Waitara NSW 2077.

Description: This is a register of babies and children cared for at the Waitara Foundling Home. The register contains: the baby or child’s date of birth; date of admission; parents’ names; and discharge arrangements.

**Card index of babies and children admitted, 1921–75**

Access: Access to information is restricted to the person to whom the information relates, or to an immediate relative who can prove their relationship to that person. Access to information about adoptions is restricted to the adopted person, birth parents, and adoptive parents within the provisions of the Adoption Information Act 1990. People seeking information about an adoption will undergo an interview with a member of the Adoption Support Team as part of the process of obtaining information.

Contact: All requests for information should be directed to the Mercy Family Centre, PO Box 2118, Hornsby, NSW 2077. The telephone number is (02) 9487 3022.

Location: Mercy Family Centre, McAuley Place, Waitara NSW 2077.

Description: These index cards contain: the name of the baby or child; the date of birth; the mother’s name; and the name of the person to whom the baby was discharged. Some of these babies or children were adopted.

**Statements of surrender and adoption, 1921–39**

Access: Access to information is restricted to the person to whom the information relates, or to an immediate
relative who can prove their relationship to that person. Access to information about adoptions is restricted to the adopted person, birth parents, and adoptive parents within the provisions of the Adoption Information Act 1990. People seeking information about an adoption will undergo an interview with a member of the Adoption Support Team as part of the process of obtaining information.

Contact: All requests for information should be directed to the Mercy Family Centre, PO Box 2118, Hornsby, NSW 2077. The telephone number is (02) 9487 3022.

Location: Mercy Family Centre, McAuley Place, Waitara NSW 2077.

Description: These are original references and statements signed by adoption parents. These babies are usually indexed in the Card index, 1921–75.

Related records: Card index, 1921–75.

**Register of admission and discharges of children in care, 1938–66**

Access: Access to information is restricted to the person to whom the information relates, or to an immediate relative who can prove their relationship to that person. Access to information about adoptions is restricted to the adopted person, birth parents, and adoptive parents within the provisions of the Adoption Information Act 1990. People seeking information about an adoption will undergo an interview with a member of the Adoption Support Team as part of the process of obtaining information.

Contact: All requests for information should be directed to the Mercy Family Centre, PO Box 2118, Hornsby, NSW 2077. The telephone number is (02) 9487 3022.

Location: Mercy Family Centre, McAuley Place, Waitara NSW 2077.

Description: This register contains: names; date of birth; parents’ names and name of person to whom child was discharged. Many of these children were discharged into the care of their parents, some to other institutions and others into foster homes. These children are indexed in the Card index, 1921–75.
Related records:  *Card index*, 1921–75.

**Children’s case files, 1966–74**

**Access:**
Access to information is restricted to the person to whom the information relates, or to an immediate relative who can prove their relationship to that person. Access to information about adoptions is restricted to the adopted person, birth parents, and adoptive parents within the provisions of the *Adoption Information Act 1990*. People seeking information about an adoption will undergo an interview with a member of the Adoption Support Team as part of the process of obtaining information.

**Contact:**
All requests for information should be directed to the Mercy Family Centre, PO Box 2118, Hornsby, NSW 2077. The telephone number is (02) 9487 3022.

**Location:**
Mercy Family Centre, McAuley Place, Waitara NSW 2077.

**Description:**
These files contain referral information from the Catholic Welfare Bureau and the State Welfare Department, together with information on the child’s progress and discharge. These children are usually indexed in the *Card index*, 1921–75, and the files are arranged chronologically under the date of discharge as given on the *Card index*.

Related records:  *Card index*, 1921–75.

**Alphabetical index of birth mothers, 1948–75**

**Access:**
Access to information is restricted to the person to whom the information relates, or to an immediate relative who can prove their relationship to that person. Access to information about adoptions is restricted to the adopted person, birth parents, and adoptive parents within the provisions of the *Adoption Information Act 1990*. People seeking information about an adoption will undergo an interview with a member of the Adoption Support Team as part of the process of obtaining information.

**Contact:**
All requests for information should be directed to the Mercy Family Centre, PO Box 2118, Hornsby, NSW 2077. The telephone number is (02) 9487 3022.
Location: Mercy Family Centre, McAuley Place, Waitara NSW 2077.

Description: This index is of all birth mothers admitted to the Mercy Home in the period 1948 to 1975. It is arranged alphabetically by surname.

**Sister Patrick’s work books, 1948–62**

Access: Access to information is restricted to the person to whom the information relates, or to an immediate relative who can prove their relationship to that person. Access to information about adoptions is restricted to the adopted person, birth parents, and adoptive parents within the provisions of the *Adoption Information Act 1990*. People seeking information about an adoption will undergo an interview with a member of the Adoption Support Team as part of the process of obtaining information.

Contact: All requests for information should be directed to the Mercy Family Centre, PO Box 2118, Hornsby, NSW 2077. The telephone number is (02) 9487 3022.

Location: Mercy Family Centre, McAuley Place, Waitara NSW 2077.

Description: These records contain: the name of the birth mother; the name and address of the next of kin; and the date and place of the confinement.

**Admission forms and case notes of birth mothers, 1962–75**

Access: Access to information is restricted to the person to whom the information relates, or to an immediate relative who can prove their relationship to that person. Access to information about adoptions is restricted to the adopted person, birth parents, and adoptive parents within the provisions of the *Adoption Information Act 1990*. People seeking information about an adoption will undergo an interview with a member of the Adoption Support Team as part of the process of obtaining information.

Contact: All requests for information should be directed to the Mercy Family Centre, PO Box 2118, Hornsby, NSW 2077. The telephone number is (02) 9487 3022.

Location: Mercy Family Centre, McAuley Place, Waitara NSW 2077.
Description: These forms contain: the birth mother’s name; next of kin; address at the time of admission; and some details on educational background. Occasionally, family letters are attached. The files are arranged chronologically by admission date.

Register of adopting parents, 1921–74

Access: Access to information is restricted to the person to whom the information relates, or to an immediate relative who can prove their relationship to that person. Access to information about adoptions is restricted to the adopted person, birth parents, and adoptive parents within the provisions of the Adoption Information Act 1990. People seeking information about an adoption will undergo an interview with a member of the Adoption Support Team as part of the process of obtaining information.

Contact: All requests for information should be directed to the Mercy Family Centre, PO Box 2118, Hornsby, NSW 2077. The telephone number is (02) 9487 3022.

Location: Mercy Family Centre, McAuley Place, Waitara NSW 2077.

Description: This register contains: the name and address of the adopting parents; and the name of the child or baby being adopted. This register is cross referenced to the Card index, 1921–75 and the Admission forms and case notes of birth mothers, 1962–75. This is not a complete list, especially for the period after 1964–65 when the Catholic Adoption Agency arranged adoptions directly from the Mater Hospital.

Related records: Card index, 1921–75; and Admission forms and case notes of birth mothers, 1962–75.

Sisters of Mercy, Parramatta Congregation

St Brigid's Girls’ Home, Ryde, 1898–1978

St Brigid's Girls’ Home was located on Victoria Road at Ryde in Sydney’s north and cared for girls aged five to fifteen years. It was opened, under the patronage of Cardinal Moran, on 17 June 1898 and closed on 16 March 1978. The first child was admitted in July 1898.
Admission registers, 1898–1978

Access: Access to information is generally restricted to the person to whom the information relates, or family members. Access to the original records is generally not permitted. Information is extracted from the records by the Archivist and passed on to the enquirer.

Contact: All requests for information should be directed to the Convent of Mercy, PO Box 2012, North Parramatta NSW 2151. The telephone number is (02) 9630 1106.

Location: These records are held in the Convent of Mercy Archives, 6 Victoria Road, Parramatta NSW 2150. Copies are held by Centacare Adoption Services at Croydon.

Quantity: 3 volumes.

Description: These registers record: date of admission; name of child; date of birth; address of parents or guardians; parents’ names; place of birth; reason for admission; place of baptism; date of discharge; to whom discharged; and remarks.

St Michael’s Home, Baulkham Hills, 1902–83

St Michael’s Orphanage was opened in 1902 to care for boys aged five to twelve years. Older boys were transferred to St Vincent’s Westmead. It later became known as St Michael’s Boys’ Home. The home later became St Michael’s Children’s Home and cared for boys and girls aged five to fifteen years. In the late 1960s and early 1970s, the home evolved into three cottages each with house parents. These cottages now provide accommodation for homeless women and children, and the centre is now known as St Michael’s Family Centre. The centre also provides long day care facilities.

Admission register, 1902–30 May 1982

Access: Access to information is generally restricted to the person to whom the information relates, or family members. Access to the original records is generally not permitted. Information is extracted from the records by the Archivist and passed on to the enquirer.

Contact: All requests for information should be directed to The Administrator, St Michael’s Family Centre, 522 Windsor
Road, Baulkham Hills NSW 2153. The telephone number is (02) 9639 0763.

Location: The original register is held in the Convent of Mercy Archives, 6 Victoria Road, Parramatta NSW 2150. A copy is held at St Michael’s Family Centre, 522 Windsor Road, Baulkham Hills NSW 2153.

Quantity: 1 volume.

Description: The register records the following information: date of admission; date of birth; child’s name; place of birth; place of baptism; father’s name; mother’s name; address of parents; discharge date and details; and remarks.

Sisters of Mercy, Singleton Congregation

Monte Pio Home, Campbell’s Hill

Very few records survive for this home. Those records that do exist are held at the office of Centacare Newcastle, 845 Hunter Street, Newcastle, NSW 2300. Information about these records is listed under ‘Centacare Newcastle’ elsewhere in this Guide.

Sisters of Mercy, Wilcannia–Forbes Congregation

St Anne’s Home, Broken Hill, 1898–1941

St Anne’s Home, Broken Hill was run by the Sisters of Mercy until 1941 when the Daughters of our Lady of Compassion took charge. All records were transferred to that order by the Sisters of Mercy.

Information about the records of St Anne’s Home, Broken Hill is listed elsewhere in this guide under the entry for the Daughters of our Lady of Compassion.

Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart

St Anthony’s, Croydon (formerly St Anthony’s, Petersham), 1922–present

St Anthony’s, Petersham operated from 1922 to 1925, providing accommodation and care for mothers and babies. It was run by the St
Vincent de Paul Society. In 1925, the home moved to Alexandra Avenue Croydon and became known as St Anthony's Croydon. It continued as a home for mothers and babies, as well as older children, under the direction of the St Vincent de Paul Society until 1952 when it was taken over by the Sisters of St Joseph. Unfortunately there do not appear to be any records surviving for the years before 1952.

In 1980, cottages opened, providing care for boys and girls aged two to sixteen years. Emergency care is still provided by the St Anthony’s and St Joseph’s Centre of Care Limited at Croydon.

**Personal record cards, c. 1950s–c. 1970s**

**Access:** Applications for access must be made in writing to the Archivist-in-Charge, providing personal identification and establishing the right to information. Physical access to the records is not permitted due to their fragility and the need to protect the confidentiality of information concerning other persons mentioned in the records.

**Contact:** The Archivist-in-Charge, Sisters of St Joseph, Congregational Administration Centre, PO Box 1508, North Sydney NSW 2059.

**Location:** Archives of the Sisters of St Joseph, North Sydney.

**Description:** These cards relate to children who were not adopted and young children under the age of three years who were placed in long or short term care. The cards include information about the child, such as name, date of birth, parents’ names together with information as to why the child was being placed in care.

**Adoption records, c. 1920s–80s**

**Access:** Access to information contained in these records is restricted in accordance with the provisions of the *Adoption Information Act 1990*.

**Contact:** People wishing to access information from these records should contact the Catholic Children’s Home Enquiry Service, Centacare Adoption Services, Level 1, 9 Alexandra Avenue, Croydon NSW 2132. The telephone number is (02) 9744 7055.

**Location:** The records are held by Centacare Adoption Services, Level 1, 9 Alexandra Avenue, Croydon NSW 2132.
Quantity: 2 filing cabinet drawers.

Description: These records are on cards and contain information about the birth mother, the baby and the adopting parents. The amount and type of information varies from case to case. The cards may include the following information: name, address, physical description, educational background and family details of the birth mother; the birth mother’s date of admission and discharge; the baby’s date of birth, length and weight; the date the baby was discharged to the adopting parents; and the names, address, physical description and family details of the adopting parents.

St Joseph’s Girls’ Home, Gore Hill (also known as Lane Cove) 1900–79

The Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart operated a home in Cumberland Street in The Rocks area of Sydney called The Providence from 1880 to 1900. This home cared for children, both boys and girls, and homeless women. In 1887 the boys were moved to a new residence at Kincumber South on the New South Wales central coast. Later the women were cared for by the Little Sisters of the Poor at Randwick in Sydney’s eastern suburbs.

In August 1900 the money received by the Congregation when the Government resumed the land on which The Providence stood was used as a deposit on a property on the Pacific Highway (then known as Lane Cove Road) at Gore Hill, in Sydney’s north.

Girls were received for short or long term care, in a variety of circumstances. Sometimes girls came from homes which catered for younger children. Most girls returned to their families, though some were discharged to foster or adoptive parents. Girls who remained at the Home until leaving school were often placed with families for a couple of years. In later years these girls were set up in independent living.

In the 1970s the Home was divided into units for small group accommodation. By 1977 the residents were all teenagers who lived in groups of four or five in the units.

At the end of 1979 the Home was closed. Any girls who still required accommodation after this time moved to Croydon, where a cottage had been purchased for them to live in.
Admission forms, [dates uncertain]

Access: Applications for access must be made in writing to the Archivist-in-Charge, providing personal identification and establishing the right to information. Physical access to the records is not permitted due to their fragility and the need to protect the confidentiality of information concerning other persons mentioned in the records.

Contact: The Archivist-in-Charge, Sisters of St Joseph, Congregational Administration Centre, PO Box 1508, North Sydney NSW 2059.

Location: Archives of the Sisters of St Joseph, North Sydney.

Quantity: 3 boxes.

Description: These records contain: child’s name; date and place of birth; religion; date and place of baptism; vaccination record; father’s name, address, occupation, date and place of death and religion; mother’s maiden name, address, occupation, date and place of death and religion; name, address, relationship to child and signature of person seeking to have child admitted; reasons for seeking admission; and maintenance agreement.

Admission registers, 1880–1979

Access: Applications for access must be made in writing to the Archivist-in-Charge, providing personal identification and establishing the right to information. Physical access to the records is not permitted due to their fragility and the need to protect the confidentiality of information concerning other persons mentioned in the records.

Contact: The Archivist-in-Charge, Sisters of St Joseph, Congregational Administration Centre, PO Box 1508, North Sydney NSW 2059.

Location: Archives of the Sisters of St Joseph, North Sydney.

Quantity: 3 volumes.

Description: The amount and detail of the information contained in these volumes varies. The first volume (1880–June 1964) records: child’s name; date of birth; date of admission; religion and date of removal. The second volume (April 1959–January 1970) records: child’s
name; date of birth; date of admission; last school attended and class enrolled. The third volume (1971–79) records: child’s name; date of birth; date of admission; name of person or institution seeking admission; last school attended; date of discharge and name of person to whom discharged.

**St Joseph's Home, Croydon 1926–79**

This Home was established in 1926 for the care of boys and girls between the ages of three and seven. It was founded specifically to keep members of families together. This Home amalgamated with St Anthony's Croydon at the end of 1979.

**Admission registers, Nov. 1940–Sep. 1969**

**Access:** Applications for access must be made in writing to the Archivist-in-Charge, providing personal identification and establishing the right to information. Physical access to the records is not permitted due to their fragility and the need to protect the confidentiality of information concerning other persons mentioned in the records.

**Contact:** The Archivist-in-Charge, Sisters of St Joseph, Congregational Administration Centre, PO Box 1508, North Sydney NSW 2059.

**Location:** Archives of the Sisters of St Joseph, North Sydney.

**Quantity:** 4 volumes.

**Description:** These registers record: child’s name, date and place of birth; date received and date discharged; to whom discharged; religion; and parents’ names, addresses and occupations.


**Access:** Applications for access must be made in writing to the Archivist-in-Charge, providing personal identification and establishing the right to information. Physical access to the records is not permitted due to their fragility and the need to protect the confidentiality of information concerning other persons mentioned in the records.
Contact: The Archivist-in-Charge, Sisters of St Joseph, Congregational Administration Centre, PO Box 1508, North Sydney NSW 2059.

Location: Archives of the Sisters of St Joseph, North Sydney.

Description: These volumes contain carbon copies of Returns of Particulars to be Registered Pursuant to section 34 of the Child Welfare Act 1939, regulation 42 (Child Welfare Department Form 14).

The information includes: full name of child; date and place of birth; religion of child; name, marital status, address and occupation of parents; name and address of person from whom child was received into the home; date child was received; particulars of arrangements made by parent for clothing and medical attendance; and amount of monies paid and by whom.

Notifications of discharge, Mar. 1931–1979 (incomplete)

Access: Applications for access must be made in writing to the Archivist-in-Charge, providing personal identification and establishing the right to information. Physical access to the records is not permitted due to their fragility and the need to protect the confidentiality of information concerning other persons mentioned in the records.

Contact: The Archivist-in-Charge, Sisters of St Joseph, Congregational Administration Centre, PO Box 1508, North Sydney NSW 2059.

Location: Archives of the Sisters of St Joseph, North Sydney.

Description: These carbon copy forms are declarations by the custodian to the Director of the Child Welfare Department that custody of the child is being relinquished. The forms record: the name of the child; the address of the custodian; to whom the child was discharged (e.g. parent) and their address; the relationship of the future custodian to the child; and the date of discharge.

Personal record cards, [dates uncertain]

Access: Applications for access must be made in writing to the Archivist-in-Charge, providing personal identification
and establishing the right to information. Physical access to the records is not permitted due to their fragility and the need to protect the confidentiality of information concerning other persons mentioned in the records.

Contact: The Archivist-in-Charge, Sisters of St Joseph, Congregational Administration Centre, PO Box 1508, North Sydney NSW 2059.

Location: Archives of the Sisters of St Joseph, North Sydney.

Description: These cards were filled out for each child, under regulations 47A (w)(i) and 47B (g)(i) of the Child Welfare Act 1939. They record the following: name; date and place of birth; religion; where baptised; father’s name and address; mother’s name and address, including maiden name; details of any step-parents; by whom the child’s admission to the home was arranged; the date and circumstances surrounding the child’s admission, including details of any court order; particulars of any maintenance order and details of any maintenance agreement.

On the reverse of the card the following information is recorded: date of discharge; to whom discharged and address on discharge. There is also a medical record for the child: physical condition of child on admission; if parent’s consent is held for anaesthetics, operations, blood transfusions, immunisations and vaccinations; an immunisation record; and any other pertinent medical information.

These records have not been fully listed or catalogued, so the date range is unknown.

St Joseph’s Orphanage, Kincumber 1887–1979

This orphanage was situated at Kincumber on the NSW central coast, and operated from 1887 to 1979. It initially cared for boys aged seven to fifteen, but in the 1970s provided care for both boys and girls.

Register of children, 1887–1976

Access: Applications for access must be made in writing to the Archivist-in-Charge, providing personal identification and establishing the right to information. Physical access to the records is not permitted due to their
fragility and the need to protect the confidentiality of information concerning other persons mentioned in the records.

Contact: The Archivist-in-Charge, Sisters of St Joseph, Congregational Administration Centre, PO Box 1508, North Sydney NSW 2059.

Location: Archives of the Sisters of St Joseph, North Sydney.

Quantity: 1 volume.

Description: The information in this register includes: child’s name, date and place of birth; date received and date discharged; to whom discharged; religion; and parent’s name, address and occupation.
Presbyterian Social Services Child and Family Program—Sydney, 1988–present

Presbyterian Social Services auspices three medium to long term youth accommodation programs in Sydney which have been operational since 1988. These are ‘Kyle Williams’ home at 52 Waratah Street, Blakehurst, ‘New Anchor’ home at 79 Sutherland Road, Jannali, and ‘Cornerstone’ at 20 Wrentmore Street, Fairfield.

‘Kyle Williams’ is a Family Group Home with accommodation available for six young people aged eleven to fifteen. ‘New Anchor’ is a supported family home with places available for six twelve to sixteen year olds. ‘Cornerstone’ provides supported semi-independent living for six youths aged sixteen to eighteen.

Previously the Presbyterian Church auspiced a number of homes and programs which were absorbed into the Uniting Church in 1977. This included Burnside. **Information about these records is listing under the ‘Uniting Church’ section of this Guide.** Additionally, the Presbyterian Adoption Agency, which had also arranged many adoption services through the Queen Victoria Hospital at Annandale and the Pittwood Homes at Ashfield was devolved, and all files and relevant records regarding adoptions were transferred to the Department of Community Services. **Information about the adoption files of the Presbyterian Adoption Agency is listed in the ‘Department of Community Services’ section of this Guide. Information about the medical and confinement records of the Queen Victoria Hospital is listed under ‘Public Hospitals’ in this Guide.**

**Casework files, 1988–present**

**Access:** Access to information contained in these records is restricted to the person to whom the information relates. As many of the residents have been wards placed by the Department of Community Services, access is usually granted after consultation with the Department. Access is generally supervised, and the client provided with some preparatory counselling.

**Contact:** All enquiries and requests for information should be directed to The Coordinator, Child and Family Services, Presbyterian Social Services, GPO Box 100, Sydney NSW 2000. The telephone number is (02) 9310 3511 and the fax number is (02) 9310 3131.

**Location:** These records are kept at Presbyterian Social Services, Head Office, 420–422 Elizabeth Street, Sydney NSW 2000.
Description: These are casework files for all youths who have resided at ‘Kyle Williams’, ‘New Anchor’ and ‘Cornerstone’ since 1988. The files contain information about the youth including: name; date of birth; names of parents and siblings; family background information; reason for entering the residential unit; referral details; counselling information; case conference notes; etc.

Related records: Presbyterian Social Services also maintains a comprehensive computerised database containing key information on all youths who have resided in the three units since 1988.
The Salvation Army

The Salvation Army is an international religious and humanitarian organisation which was founded in London in 1865 by William Booth and his wife Catherine. The work of the Salvation Army officially began in Australia in September 1880 in Adelaide. In December 1882, the Army’s work in Sydney officially began.

The Salvation Army is well known for its work with the poor, the homeless and the underprivileged. The blueprint for much of its social work was Booth’s study of poverty *In Darkest England and the Way Out*, first published in 1890. The publication of Booth’s book coincided with the Depression of the 1890s in the Australian colonies, and led to the development of a series of strategies and programs to combat poverty. This, and the arrival in Australia in 1896 of the energetic Commandant Herbert Booth, saw the real commencement of the Army’s social work in Australia. This included, among other things, the establishment of maternity and rescue homes which later evolved into maternity hospitals, and the children’s homes.

Bathurst Maternity and Rescue Home, c. 1890s–1919

This Home, also known as the Ebenezer Maternity and Rescue Home, was located in Piper Street, Bathurst which is in central western New South Wales. The Home appears to have been established in the late 1890s. In 1904, it appears that it was relocated to 202 Durham Street Bathurst. From the surviving records and limited information available it appears that the Home closed in 1919. The Home apparently served several functions: it provided accommodation and care for homeless girls and women; and it operated as a maternity home. Other maternity and rescue homes were operated by the Salvation Army at Newtown, Burwood, Marrickville, Broken Hill, and Newcastle.

Women’s career statement, 1897–1917

Access: Former residents and clients can access information about themselves after providing proof of identity. Access to information may be given to a third party providing they have written permission from the person to whom the information relates, can prove a connection with that person, or show evidence that the person is deceased. All other applications for access will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Access to information about adoptions is subject to the provisions of the *Adoption Information Act 1990*.
Contact: People wishing to access these records should contact the Social Services Secretary, Social Services Department, The Salvation Army, PO Box A435, Sydney South NSW 1232, or by telephoning (02) 9266 9829. Appointments are necessary for people intending to visit in person.

Location: Salvation Army Social Services Department, 140 Elizabeth Street, Sydney.

Quantity: 1 volume.

Description: This volume records very similar information to that contained in the Register (listed below). It includes biographical information such as name, where born, age, marital status, parents’ names and addresses, religion, whether the woman had been in prison, hospital or any other homes, employment history, literacy, from where and by whom sent to the Home, and when the baby was due. The information about the baby includes name, date and place of birth, name and address of father, how the child was supported, and, in cases where the baby was adopted, the name and address of the adopting parents.

This volume is indexed alphabetically by surname at the front of the volume.


Register, 9 Jan. 1904–20 Nov. 1919

Access: Former residents and clients can access information about themselves after providing proof of identity. Access to information may be given to a third party providing they have written permission from the person to whom the information relates, can prove a connection with that person, or show evidence that the person is deceased. All other applications for access will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Access to information about adoptions is subject to the provisions of the Adoption Information Act 1990.

Contact: People wishing to access these records should contact the Social Services Secretary, Social Services Department, The Salvation Army, PO Box A435, Sydney South NSW 1232, or by telephoning (02) 9266 9829.
Appointments are necessary for people intending to visit in person.

Location: Salvation Army Social Services Department, 140 Elizabeth Street, Sydney.

Quantity: 1 volume.

Description: This volume records quite a lot of information for each woman admitted to the Home. It includes biographical information such as name, where born, age, marital status, parents’ names and addresses, religion, whether the woman had been in prison, hospital or any other homes, employment history, literacy, from where and by whom sent to the Home, and when the baby was due. The information about the baby includes name, date and place of birth, name and address of father, how the child was supported, and, in cases where the baby was adopted, the name and address of the adopting parents. There is also information about the mother’s discharge from the Home, including a general summary of her ‘career’ and any reports after leaving.

This volume is indexed alphabetically by surname at the front of the volume.

**Inmates’ Register, 5 Jul. 1897–28 May 1906**

Access: Former residents and clients can access information about themselves after providing proof of identity. Access to information may be given to a third party providing they have written permission from the person to whom the information relates, can prove a connection with that person, or show evidence that the person is deceased. All other applications for access will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Access to information about adoptions is subject to the provisions of the *Adoption Information Act 1990*.

Contact: People wishing to access these records should contact the Social Services Secretary, Social Services Department, The Salvation Army, PO Box A435, Sydney South NSW 1232, or by telephoning (02) 9266 9829. Appointments are necessary for people intending to visit in person.

Location: Salvation Army Social Services Department, 140 Elizabeth Street, Sydney.
Quantity: 1 volume (part).

Description: This register contains biographical information about the woman who has been admitted, including: name; age; where from; marital status; physical and spiritual condition; whether the woman had been in prison or other homes and, if so, for what reason; ‘capabilities’ (i.e. occupational skills); date and details of discharge (e.g. if sent to employment, whether returned home, etc.); and any remarks.

The volume has been indexed retrospectively by staff of the Social Services Department.

The volume has been used as the Inmates’ register for several other Homes, including Newtown Rescue Home and Newcastle Rescue Home. Each Home is listed in a separate part of the volume.

Bethesda Maternity Hospital, 1956–73

Bethesda Maternity Hospital was located at 80 Victoria Road, Marrickville (in Sydney’s inner west). It opened in 1956 and closed in 1973.

Case notes, 1956–73

Access: Former residents and clients can access information about themselves after providing proof of identity. Access to information may be given to a third party providing they have written permission from the person to whom the information relates, can prove a connection with that person, or show evidence that the person is deceased. All other applications for access will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Access to information about adoptions is subject to the provisions of the Adoption Information Act 1990.

Contact: People wishing to access these records should contact the Social Services Secretary, Social Services Department, The Salvation Army, PO Box A435, Sydney South NSW 1232, or by telephoning (02) 9266 9829. Appointments are necessary for people intending to visit in person.

Location: Salvation Army Social Services Department, 140 Elizabeth Street, Sydney.
These case notes relate to each woman who was admitted and gave birth in the hospital. For each woman the information includes: name; date admitted; address; age; family (parents and address); occupation; who referred by; religion; nature of referral (e.g. admission to Bethesda Hospital); details of subsequent contacts; and which Salvation Army home/hostel the woman stayed in prior to admission to hospital.

The amount of additional information attached to the folder varies for each woman. In most cases, there is information about the woman’s background; details of the birth of the baby; information about the baby’s adoption (if relevant), including name and address of adopting parents; biographical information about the birth parents including height, hair and eye colouring, complexion, age, religion, occupation, education, interests; and father’s name. In the case of adoptions, a medical report on the child may be attached.

Often there is also correspondence attached from the woman seeking help from the Salvation Army (e.g. accommodation for the duration of her pregnancy, assistance in organising an adoption, etc.), along with a reply from the Social Department. There is often a letter of reference from the Social Department to the home/hostel where the woman was going to stay prior to her admission to hospital.

**Register of patients, 18 Dec. 1966–3 Aug. 1973**

**Access:**

Former residents and clients can access information about themselves after providing proof of identity. Access to information may be given to a third party providing they have written permission from the person to whom the information relates, can prove a connection with that person, or show evidence that the person is deceased. All other applications for access will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Access to information about adoptions is subject to the provisions of the *Adoption Information Act 1990*.

**Contact:**

People wishing to access these records should contact the Social Services Secretary, Social Services Department, The Salvation Army, PO Box A435, Sydney South NSW 1232, or by telephoning (02) 9266 9829.
Appointments are necessary for people intending to visit in person.

**Location:** Salvation Army Social Services Department, 140 Elizabeth Street, Sydney.

**Quantity:** 24 volumes.

**Description:** These registers record the following information: name, age, marital status and usual place of abode of patient; time and date of reception into hospital; name of medical practitioner attending; date of leaving hospital; death of patient (date and time); any diseases on admission or discharge; operations performed; name of operators; names of other persons present; short case history (clinical notes); date of confinement; result of the confinement (e.g. living full term, still born, etc.); sex of infant; condition of infant at delivery and during stay in hospital. Each entry is signed by the Resident Manager.


**Access:** Former residents and clients can access information about themselves after providing proof of identity. Access to information may be given to a third party providing they have written permission from the person to whom the information relates, can prove a connection with that person, or show evidence that the person is deceased. All other applications for access will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Access to information about adoptions is subject to the provisions of the *Adoption Information Act 1990*.

**Contact:** People wishing to access these records should contact the Social Services Secretary, Social Services Department, The Salvation Army, PO Box A435, Sydney South NSW 1232, or by telephoning (02) 9266 9829. Appointments are necessary for people intending to visit in person.

**Location:** Salvation Army Social Services Department, 140 Elizabeth Street, Sydney.

**Quantity:** 1 volume.

**Description:** This volume records the name of the expectant mother; date of first interview; where and when she was in care (which home or hostel and hospital she was in);
whether an adoption was requested by the mother; whether an adoption request was withdrawn; the date the child was placed; and whether that placement was arranged by the Salvation Army or the Child Welfare Department.

**Adoption request registers, 1963–73**

**Access:**
Access to information about adoptions is restricted to the adopted person and the birth parents under the provisions of the *Adoption Information Act 1990*.

**Contact:**
People wishing to access these records should contact the Social Services Secretary, Social Services Department, The Salvation Army, PO Box A435, Sydney South NSW 1232, or by telephoning (02) 9266 9829. Appointments are necessary for people intending to visit in person.

**Location:**
Salvation Army Social Services Department, 140 Elizabeth Street, Sydney.

**Quantity:**
7 volumes.

**Description:**
These registers, which are arranged chronologically, are a record of applications to adopt babies. The information includes: name and address of applicants; whether there are already any children in the family; the applicants' religion; the number and sex of children requested; the date of the application and the result of the application.

**Adoption register (completed adoptions), 30 Nov. 1967–2 Apr. 1974**

**Access:**
Access to information about adoptions is restricted to the adopted person and the birth parents under the provisions of the *Adoption Information Act 1990*.

**Contact:**
People wishing to access these records should contact the Social Services Secretary, Social Services Department, The Salvation Army, PO Box A435, Sydney South NSW 1232, or by telephoning (02) 9266 9829. Appointments are necessary for people intending to visit in person.

**Location:**
Salvation Army Social Services Department, 140 Elizabeth Street, Sydney.
Quantity: 1 volume.

Description: This register contains information relating to completed adoptions. It contains the following information: name, age, occupation, educational standard, religion and marital status of the mother; father’s age, occupation, educational standard and marital status; the baby’s date of birth and sex; and the name, address, ages, occupation, educational standard and religion of the adoptive parents. It also gives the adoption order number and date.


Access: Access to information about adoptions is restricted to the adopted person and the birth parents under the provisions of the Adoption Information Act 1990.

Contact: People wishing to access these records should contact the Social Services Secretary, Social Services Department, The Salvation Army, PO Box A435, Sydney South NSW 1232, or by telephoning (02) 9266 9829. Appointments are necessary for people intending to visit in person.

Location: Salvation Army Social Services Department, 140 Elizabeth Street, Sydney.

Quantity: 1 volume.

Description: This volume records: the name of the child; mother’s name and address; date of birth; admission date; discharge date and the name of the person to whom the baby was discharged.

Burwood Maternity Home (also known as Clythe Maternity Home and The Retreat Maternity Home), 1898–[unknown]

This Home appears to have been located in Lucas Road Burwood (near Strathfield in Sydney’s west), having commenced at that address in October 1898. Although it is difficult to say conclusively, it is possible that the Home had previously been located in Newtown from 1892–98. The Home apparently served several functions: it provided accommodation and care for homeless girls and women; and it operated as a maternity home. Other
maternity and rescue homes were operated by the Salvation Army at Bathurst, Broken Hill, Marrickville, Newtown and Newcastle.

**Women’s career statement, 13 Nov. 1896–13 Mar. 1905**

**Access:** Former residents and clients can access information about themselves after providing proof of identity. Access to information may be given to a third party providing they have written permission from the person to whom the information relates, can prove a connection with that person, or show evidence that the person is deceased. All other applications for access will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Access to information about adoptions is subject to the provisions of the *Adoption Information Act 1990*.

**Contact:** People wishing to access these records should contact the Social Services Secretary, Social Services Department, The Salvation Army, PO Box A435, Sydney South NSW 1232, or by telephoning (02) 9266 9829. Appointments are necessary for people intending to visit in person.

**Location:** Salvation Army Social Services Department, 140 Elizabeth Street, Sydney.

**Quantity:** 1 volume.

**Description:** This volume records quite a lot of information for each woman admitted to the Home. It includes biographical information such as name, where born, age, marital status, parents’ names and addresses, religion, whether the woman had been in prison, hospital or any other homes, employment history, literacy, from where and by whom sent to the Home, and when the baby was due. The information about the baby includes name, date and place of birth, name and address of father, how the child was supported, and, in cases where the baby was adopted, the name and address of the adopting parents.

This volume is indexed alphabetically by surname at the front of the volume.

**Related records:** Newtown Maternity Home records.
Girl’s statement on admission, final statement and after career, 6 Jul. 1897–23 Apr. 1906

Access: Former residents and clients can access information about themselves after providing proof of identity. Access to information may be given to a third party providing they have written permission from the person to whom the information relates, can prove a connection with that person, or show evidence that the person is deceased. All other applications for access will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Access to information about adoptions is subject to the provisions of the Adoption Information Act 1990.

Contact: People wishing to access these records should contact the Social Services Secretary, Social Services Department, The Salvation Army, PO Box A435, Sydney South NSW 1232, or by telephoning (02) 9266 9829. Appointments are necessary for people intending to visit in person.

Location: Salvation Army Social Services Department, 140 Elizabeth Street, Sydney.

Quantity: 2 volumes.

Description: The information in these volumes is the same as that given in the Women’s career statement volume. It includes biographical information such as name, where born, age, marital status, parents’ names and addresses, religion, whether the woman had been in prison, hospital or any other homes, employment history, literacy, from where and by whom sent to the Home, and when the baby was due. The information about the baby includes name, date and place of birth, name and address of father, how the child was supported, and, in cases where the baby was adopted, the name and address of the adopting parents.

The volumes are indexed alphabetically by surname at the front of the volume.

Related records: Newtown Maternity Home records.
**Record book, 26 Apr. 1906–11 Aug. 1917**

**Access:** Former residents and clients can access information about themselves after providing proof of identity. Access to information may be given to a third party providing they have written permission from the person to whom the information relates, can prove a connection with that person, or show evidence that the person is deceased. All other applications for access will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Access to information about adoptions is subject to the provisions of the *Adoption Information Act 1990*.

**Contact:** People wishing to access these records should contact the Social Services Secretary, Social Services Department, The Salvation Army, PO Box A435, Sydney South NSW 1232, or by telephoning (02) 9266 9829. Appointments are necessary for people intending to visit in person.

**Location:** Salvation Army Social Services Department, 140 Elizabeth Street, Sydney.

**Quantity:** 1 volume.

**Description:** This volume records quite a lot of information for each woman admitted to the Home. It includes biographical information such as name, where born, age, marital status, parents' names and addresses, religion, whether the woman had been in prison, hospital or any other homes, employment history, literacy, from where and by whom sent to the Home, and when the baby was due. The information about the baby includes name, date and place of birth, name and address of father, how the child was supported, and, in cases where the baby was adopted, the name and address of the adopting parents. There is also information about the mother's discharge from the Home, including a general summary of her 'career' and any reports after leaving.

**Related records:** Newtown Maternity Home records.
Marrickville Maternity Home (also known as Hopeleigh Maternity Home), Oct. 1910–[unknown]

It is difficult to say conclusively when this Home commenced. It may have originally been located at Newtown, then moved to Burwood, before moving to 80 Victoria Road Marrickville in October 1910. Other maternity and rescue homes were operated by the Salvation Army at Bathurst, Broken Hill, Burwood, Newtown and Newcastle.

Record books, 18 Mar. 1905–22 Mar. 1928

Access: Former residents and clients can access information about themselves after providing proof of identity. Access to information may be given to a third party providing they have written permission from the person to whom the information relates, can prove a connection with that person, or show evidence that the person is deceased. All other applications for access will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Access to information about adoptions is subject to the provisions of the Adoption Information Act 1990.

Contact: People wishing to access these records should contact the Social Services Secretary, Social Services Department, The Salvation Army, PO Box A435, Sydney South NSW 1232, or by telephoning (02) 9266 9829. Appointments are necessary for people intending to visit in person.

Location: Salvation Army Social Services Department, 140 Elizabeth Street, Sydney.

Quantity: 7 volumes.

Description: These volumes record quite a lot of information for each woman admitted to the Home. They include biographical information such as name, where born, age, marital status, parents’ names and addresses, religion, whether the woman had been in prison, hospital or any other homes, employment history, literacy, from where and by whom sent to the Home, and when the baby was due. The information about the baby includes name, date and place of birth, name and address of father, how the child was supported, and, in cases where the baby was adopted, the name and address of the adopting parents. There is also information about the mother’s discharge from the
Home, including a general summary of her ‘career’ and any reports after leaving.

Newcastle Maternity and Rescue Home (later known as Maryville Mothers’ Hospital and Hillcrest Mothers’ Hospital), 1897–1977(?)

Available information suggests that this Home, located in Albert Street, Islington (in Newcastle) was opened in July 1897 and was known as ‘The Lighthouse’. The Home apparently served several functions: it provided accommodation and care for homeless girls and women; and it operated as a maternity home. Other maternity and rescue homes were operated by the Salvation Army at Newtown, Burwood, Marrickville, Broken Hill, and Bathurst.

In May 1924 it moved to 22 Curry Street Merewether, at which time it became known as Maryville Mothers’ Hospital, which suggests that it had become solely a maternity hospital. From January 1933 it appears to have been known as the Hillcrest Mothers’ Hospital. Later information suggests it was located at 40 Curry Street in 1949; whether the hospital actually moved or there was a change in the street numbering is not clear.

It appears the hospital closed in 1977. **There are no records surviving after 1927 for this hospital.**

**Girl’s statement on admission, final statement and after career, 16 Jul. 1897–1 May 1906**

**Access:** Former residents and clients can access information about themselves after providing proof of identity. Access to information may be given to a third party providing they have written permission from the person to whom the information relates, can prove a connection with that person, or show evidence that the person is deceased. All other applications for access will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Access to information about adoptions is subject to the provisions of the Adoption Information Act 1990.

**Contact:** People wishing to access these records should contact the Social Services Secretary, Social Services Department, The Salvation Army, PO Box A435, Sydney South NSW 1232, or by telephoning (02) 9266 9829. Appointments are necessary for people intending to visit in person.
Location: Salvation Army Social Services Department, 140 Elizabeth Street, Sydney.

Quantity: 1 volume.

Description: The information in this volume is the same as that given in the Women’s career statement volume. It includes biographical information such as name, where born, age, marital status, parents’ names and addresses, religion, whether the woman had been in prison, hospital or any other homes, employment history, literacy, from where and by whom sent to the Home, and when the baby was due. The information about the baby includes name, date and place of birth, name and address of father, how the child was supported, and, in cases where the baby was adopted, the name and address of the adopting parents.

The volume is indexed alphabetically by surname at the front of the volume.

Women’s career statement, 16 Jul. 1897–26 Feb. 1914

Access: Former residents and clients can access information about themselves after providing proof of identity. Access to information may be given to a third party providing they have written permission from the person to whom the information relates, can prove a connection with that person, or show evidence that the person is deceased. All other applications for access will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Access to information about adoptions is subject to the provisions of the Adoption Information Act 1990.

Contact: People wishing to access these records should contact the Social Services Secretary, Social Services Department, The Salvation Army, PO Box A435, Sydney South NSW 1232, or by telephoning (02) 9266 9829. Appointments are necessary for people intending to visit in person.

Location: Salvation Army Social Services Department, 140 Elizabeth Street, Sydney.

Quantity: 1 volume.

Description: This volume records quite a lot of information for each woman admitted to the Home. It includes biographical information such as name, where born, age, marital
status, parents’ names and addresses, religion, whether the woman had been in prison, hospital or any other homes, employment history, literacy, from where and by whom sent to the Home, and when the baby was due. The information about the baby includes name, date and place of birth, name and address of father, how the child was supported, and, in cases where the baby was adopted, the name and address of the adopting parents.

This volume is indexed alphabetically by surname at the front of the volume.

**Record books, 25 May 1906–23 Apr. 1927**

**Access:** Former residents and clients can access information about themselves after providing proof of identity. Access to information may be given to a third party providing they have written permission from the person to whom the information relates, can prove a connection with that person, or show evidence that the person is deceased. All other applications for access will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Access to information about adoptions is subject to the provisions of the *Adoption Information Act 1990*.

**Contact:** People wishing to access these records should contact the Social Services Secretary, Social Services Department, The Salvation Army, PO Box A435, Sydney South NSW 1232, or by telephoning (02) 9266 9829. Appointments are necessary for people intending to visit in person.

**Location:** Salvation Army Social Services Department, 140 Elizabeth Street, Sydney.

**Quantity:** 3 volumes.

**Description:** These volumes record quite a lot of information for each woman admitted to the Home. They include biographical information such as name, where born, age, marital status, parents’ names and addresses, religion, whether the woman had been in prison, hospital or any other homes, employment history, literacy, from where and by whom sent to the Home, and when the baby was due. The information about the baby includes name, date and place of birth, name and address of father, how the child was supported, and, in
cases where the baby was adopted, the name and address of the adopting parents. There is also information about the mother’s discharge from the Home, including a general summary of her ‘career’ and any reports after leaving.

**Inmates’ register, 16 Jul. 1897–11 Jun. 1906**

**Access:** Former residents and clients can access information about themselves after providing proof of identity. Access to information may be given to a third party providing they have written permission from the person to whom the information relates, can prove a connection with that person, or show evidence that the person is deceased. All other applications for access will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Access to information about adoptions is subject to the provisions of the *Adoption Information Act 1990*.

**Contact:** People wishing to access these records should contact the Social Services Secretary, Social Services Department, The Salvation Army, PO Box A435, Sydney South NSW 1232, or by telephoning (02) 9266 9829. Appointments are necessary for people intending to visit in person.

**Location:** Salvation Army Social Services Department, 140 Elizabeth Street, Sydney.

**Quantity:** 1 volume (part).

**Description:** This register contains biographical information about the woman who has been admitted, including: name; age; where from; marital status; physical and spiritual condition; whether they had been in prison or other homes and, if so, for what reason; ‘capabilities’ (i.e. occupational skills); date and details of discharge (e.g. if sent to employment, whether returned home, etc.); and any remarks.

The volume has been indexed retrospectively by staff of the Social Services Department.

The volume has been used as the *Inmates’ register* for several other homes, including Newtown Rescue Home and Newcastle Rescue Home. Each home is listed in a separate part of the volume.
Newtown Maternity and Rescue Home, Mar. 1892–[unknown]

As with a number of the other maternity homes operated by the Salvation Army in Sydney’s inner suburbs, it is difficult to ascertain precisely when this Home opened. It appears to have opened in March 1892 in King Street Newtown, before moving to an address in Wilson Street then Brown Street Newtown. It then appears that the Home was relocated to Lucas Road Burwood in October 1898.

Inmates’ register, 22 Mar. 1892–3 Jun. 1906

Access: Former residents and clients can access information about themselves after providing proof of identity. Access to information may be given to a third party providing they have written permission from the person to whom the information relates, can prove a connection with that person, or show evidence that the person is deceased. All other applications for access will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Access to information about adoptions is subject to the provisions of the Adoption Information Act 1990.

Contact: People wishing to access these records should contact the Social Services Secretary, Social Services Department, The Salvation Army, PO Box A435, Sydney South NSW 1232, or by telephoning (02) 9266 9829. Appointments are necessary for people intending to visit in person.

Location: Salvation Army Social Services Department, 140 Elizabeth Street, Sydney.

Quantity: 1 volume (part).

Description: This register contains biographical information about the woman who has been admitted, including: name; age; where from; marital status; physical and spiritual condition; whether they had been in prison or other homes and, if so, for what reason; ‘capabilities’ (i.e. occupational skills); date and details of discharge (e.g. if sent to employment, whether returned home, etc.); and any remarks.

The volume has been indexed retrospectively by staff of the Social Services Department.
Inmates’ register, 1 Jun. 1891–28 May 1906

Access:
Former residents and clients can access information about themselves after providing proof of identity. Access to information may be given to a third party providing they have written permission from the person to whom the information relates, can prove a connection with that person, or show evidence that the person is deceased. All other applications for access will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Access to information about adoptions is subject to the provisions of the Adoption Information Act 1990.

Contact:
People wishing to access these records should contact the Social Services Secretary, Social Services Department, The Salvation Army, PO Box A435, Sydney South NSW 1232, or by telephoning (02) 9266 9829. Appointments are necessary for people intending to visit in person.

Location:
Salvation Army Social Services Department, 140 Elizabeth Street, Sydney.

Quantity:
1 volume (part).

Description:
This register contains biographical information about the woman who has been admitted, including: name; age; where from; marital status; physical and spiritual condition; whether they had been in prison or other homes and, if so, for what reason; ‘capabilities’ (i.e. occupational skills); date and details of discharge (e.g. if sent to employment, whether returned home, etc.); and any remarks.

The volume has been indexed retrospectively by staff of the Social Services Department.

The volume has been used as the inmates’ register for several other homes, including Bathurst Rescue Home and Newcastle Rescue Home. Each home is listed in a separate part of the volume.

Stanmore Rescue Home, 1896–[unknown]

Due to the lack of supporting documentation, it is difficult to give a definitive history of this Home. It appears to have been established in 1896 to provide accommodation and care for women who were expecting babies (usually
single mothers) and those who had no other place to live. The Home was located in Cambridge Street, Stanmore in Sydney’s inner western suburbs. This building later became the Stanmore Children’s Home.

**Women’s career statement, 25 Nov. 1896–9 Mar. 1903**

**Access:** Former residents and clients can access information about themselves after providing proof of identity. Access to information may be given to a third party providing they have written permission from the person to whom the information relates, can prove a connection with that person, or show evidence that the person is deceased. All other applications for access will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Access to information about adoptions is subject to the provisions of the *Adoption Information Act 1990*.

**Contact:** People wishing to access these records should contact the Social Services Secretary, Social Services Department, The Salvation Army, PO Box A435, Sydney South NSW 1232, or by telephoning (02) 9266 9829. Appointments are necessary for people intending to visit in person.

**Location:** Salvation Army Social Services Department, 140 Elizabeth Street, Sydney.

**Quantity:** 1 volume.

**Description:** This volume records quite a lot of information for each woman admitted to the Home. It includes biographical information such as name, where born, age, marital status, parents’ names and addresses, religion, whether the woman had been in prison, hospital or any other homes, employment history, literacy, from where and by whom sent to the Home, and when the baby was due. The information about the baby includes name, date and place of birth, name and address of father, how the child was supported, and, in cases where the baby was adopted, the name and address of the adopting parents.

This volume is indexed alphabetically by surname at the front of the volume.
**Girl’s statement on admission, final statement and after career, 9 Jun. 1900–5 Jul. 1906**

**Access:**
Former residents and clients can access information about themselves after providing proof of identity. Access to information may be given to a third party providing they have written permission from the person to whom the information relates, can prove a connection with that person, or show evidence that the person is deceased. All other applications for access will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Access to information about adoptions is subject to the provisions of the *Adoption Information Act 1990*.

**Contact:**
People wishing to access these records should contact the Social Services Secretary, Social Services Department, The Salvation Army, PO Box A435, Sydney South NSW 1232, or by telephoning (02) 9266 9829. Appointments are necessary for people intending to visit in person.

**Location:**
Salvation Army Social Services Department, 140 Elizabeth Street, Sydney.

**Quantity:**
3 volumes.

**Description:**
The information in these volumes includes biographical information such as name, where born, age, marital status, parents’ names and address, religion, whether the woman had been in prison, hospital or any other homes, employment history, literacy, where from and by whom sent to the Home, and when the baby was due. The information about the baby includes name, date and place of birth, name and address of father, how the child was supported, and, in cases where the baby was adopted, the name and address of the adopting parents. The volume is indexed alphabetically by surname at the front of the volume.

**Record books, 4 Aug. 1905–13 Jan. 1928**

**Access:**
Former residents and clients can access information about themselves after providing proof of identity. Access to information may be given to a third party providing they have written permission from the person to whom the information relates, can prove a connection with that person, or show evidence that the person is deceased. All other applications for access will be
considered on a case-by-case basis. Access to information about adoptions is subject to the provisions of the Adoption Information Act 1990.

Contact: People wishing to access these records should contact the Social Services Secretary, Social Services Department, The Salvation Army, PO Box A435, Sydney South NSW 1232, or by telephoning (02) 9266 9829. Appointments are necessary for people intending to visit in person.

Location: Salvation Army Social Services Department, 140 Elizabeth Street, Sydney.

Quantity: 5 volumes.

Description: These volumes record quite a lot of information for each woman admitted to the Home. They include biographical information such as name, where born, age, marital status, parents’ names and addresses, religion, whether the woman had been in prison, hospital or any other homes, employment history, literacy, from where and by whom sent to the Home, and when the baby was due. The information about the baby includes name, date and place of birth, name and address of father, how the child was supported, and, in cases where the baby was adopted, the name and address of the adopting parents. There is also information about the mother’s discharge from the Home, including a general summary of her ‘career’ and any reports after leaving.

These volumes, and the information contained in them, are very similar to the Girl’s statement on admission, final statement and after career.


Stanmore Children’s Home was located at 97 Cambridge Street Stanmore in Sydney’s inner west. It operated in the building formerly used as the Stanmore Rescue Home and the Girl’s Industrial School. In the 1940s the building was used as a Young Women’s Hostel, and was known as ‘The Lodge’. Even during the time it operated as a children’s home, Stanmore continued to provide some accommodation for female students. The last of the children left the home in late 1987, and were placed in a Family Group Home. The Stanmore site was then converted into a continuing education facility for Salvation Army Officers.
**Client files, 1970s–80s**

**Access:** Former residents and clients can access information about themselves after providing proof of identity. Access to information may be given to a third party providing they have written permission from the person to whom the information relates, can prove a connection with that person, or show evidence that the person is deceased. All other applications for access will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

**Contact:** People wishing to access these records should contact the Social Services Secretary, Social Services Department, The Salvation Army, PO Box A435, Sydney South NSW 1232, or by telephoning (02) 9266 9829. Appointments are necessary for people intending to visit in person.

**Location:** Salvation Army Social Services Department, 140 Elizabeth Street, Sydney.

**Quantity:** 3 cartons.

**Description:** These files contain information relating to the child’s admission including an admission form which records personal and family details (i.e. name, date of birth, parents’ details, etc.). The files may also, but not necessarily, contain copies of Children’s Court orders and court reports, correspondence to and from the Department of Youth and Community Services, school reports, reports by social workers, medical reports, case notes, interview notes and case plan recommendations.

Some of the children admitted to Stanmore Children’s Home were later transferred to one of the Family Group Homes (e.g. Dulwich Hill, Earlwood, Narwee), and there are also files for those children in the relevant group home’s records.


**Access:** Former residents and clients can access information about themselves after providing proof of identity. Access to information may be given to a third party providing they have written permission from the person to whom the information relates, can prove a connection with that person, or show evidence that the person is
deceased. All other applications for access will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

**Contact:**
People wishing to access these records should contact the Social Services Secretary, Social Services Department, The Salvation Army, PO Box A435, Sydney South NSW 1232, or by telephoning (02) 9266 9829. Appointments are necessary for people intending to visit in person.

**Location:**
Salvation Army Social Services Department, 140 Elizabeth Street, Sydney.

**Quantity:**
1 volume.

**Description:**
This volume records: name, age and date of birth of each child; date and reason for admission; name and address of parent or guardian; date of discharge; health condition of child; address of future placement; name and address of future guardian; and any other remarks.


‘The Fold’ was opened in Stanmore on 27 July 1920 by Commissioner James Hay of the Salvation Army. On 11 December 1925 it relocated to 27 George Street Marrickville. These new premises were opened by Miss Preston Stanley MLA. The home closed on 24 March 1942, and the girls were transferred to ‘Lyndon House’ at Canowindra.

(Sources: ‘List of Australian Eastern Territory Managers, Matrons, Administrators and Superintendents of Social Institutions’ compiled by Major Tom Hubbard; Canowindra Girls’ Home History Book, entry for March 1942; ‘The Fold’ History Book, entries for Jul. 1920 and 11 Dec 1925. These sources are held by the Salvation Army Social Services Department.)

**Admission register, 18 Apr. 1924–27 Mar. 1942**

**Access:**
Former residents and clients can access information about themselves after providing proof of identity. Access to information may be given to a third party providing they have written permission from the person to whom the information relates, can prove a connection with that person, or show evidence that the person is deceased. All other applications for access will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

**Contact:**
People wishing to access these records should contact the Social Services Secretary, Social Services...
Department, The Salvation Army, PO Box A435, Sydney South NSW 1232, or by telephoning (02) 9266 9829. Appointments are necessary for people intending to visit in person.

**Location:** Salvation Army Social Services Department, 140 Elizabeth Street, Sydney.

**Quantity:** 1 volume (part).

**Description:** This register includes the following information: date of admission; name and date of birth; name and address of parent or guardian; whether the child was handed over by the State; date of discharge; condition of health; where sent; if employment was found, nature of work and wages received; name and address of future guardian; and remarks.


**Canowindra Girls’ Home, 1942–77**

The Canowindra Girls’ Home (also known as ‘Lyndon House’) was officially opened on 7 October 1942 by Lieutenant Commissioner E.J. Harewood of the Salvation Army. The first girls were, however, admitted in March 1942, having been transferred in three groups from Sydney on 25, 26 and 27 March. Thirty girls were transferred from ‘The Nest’ Girls’ Home at Arncliffe and 44 from ‘The Fold’ at Marrickville. In addition, two young boys and a girl were transferred from Bethesda Hospital. Prior to its purchase by the Salvation Army, the property had been a private home belonging to the Purcell family. The Salvation Army closed both ‘The Fold’ and ‘The Nest’ in 1942 in response to the wartime situation, and transferred the girls to Canowindra. The home closed on 13 January 1977.

(Sources: ‘List of Australian Eastern Territory Managers, Matrons, Administrators and Superintendents of Social Institutions’ compiled by Major Tom Hubbard; Canowindra Girls’ Home History Book, entry for March 1942; Letter dated 6 Dec. 1944 from Winifred Ramage, Women’s Social Secretary, Territorial Headquarters to Major Clulow, Matron, Canowindra; Letter dated 24 Jan. 1945 from Major Clulow, Matron, Canowindra to Adjutant Woodland, Arncliffe. These sources are held by the Salvation Army Social Services Department.)

Access: Former residents and clients can access information about themselves after providing proof of identity. Access to information may be given to a third party providing they have written permission from the person to whom the information relates, can prove a connection with that person, or show evidence that the person is deceased. All other applications for access will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Contact: People wishing to access these records should contact the Social Services Secretary, Social Services Department, The Salvation Army, PO Box A435, Sydney South NSW 1232, or by telephoning (02) 9266 9829. Appointments are necessary for people intending to visit in person.

Location: Salvation Army Social Services Department, 140 Elizabeth Street, Sydney.

Quantity: 1 volume (part).

Description: This register includes the following information: date of admission; name and date of birth; name and address of parent or guardian; whether the child was handed over by the State; date of discharge; condition of health; where sent; if employment was found, nature of work and wages received; name and address of future guardian; and remarks.


Access: Former residents and clients can access information about themselves after providing proof of identity. Access to information may be given to a third party providing they have written permission from the person to whom the information relates, can prove a connection with that person, or show evidence that the person is deceased. All other applications for access will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
Contact: People wishing to access these records should contact the Social Services Secretary, Social Services Department, The Salvation Army, PO Box A435, Sydney South NSW 1232, or by telephoning (02) 9266 9829. Appointments are necessary for people intending to visit in person.

Location: Salvation Army Social Services Department, 140 Elizabeth Street, Sydney.

Quantity: 1 volume.

Description: This register records the name of each child; when and where they were seen by the doctor; the nature of their illness; and remarks by the doctor.

Client’s records, 1942–77

Access: Former residents and clients can access information about themselves after providing proof of identity. Access to information may be given to a third party providing they have written permission from the person to whom the information relates, can prove a connection with that person, or show evidence that the person is deceased. All other applications for access will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Contact: People wishing to access these records should contact the Social Services Secretary, Social Services Department, The Salvation Army, PO Box A435, Sydney South NSW 1232, or by telephoning (02) 9266 9829. Appointments are necessary for people intending to visit in person.

Location: Salvation Army Social Services Department, 140 Elizabeth Street, Sydney.

Quantity: 3 cartons.

Description: These records give the following information: name of child; date of admission; address; age; parents’ names and address; occupation; religion; by whom referred; nature of referral; subsequent contacts; and case notes. Additional information may be attached in the form of: medical reports; children’s home application form; correspondence; personal record card; court mandates; committal papers and advice of discharge forms. Not all
of these attachments appear on all of the files; the amount of information varies from one child to the next.


Access: Former residents and clients can access information about themselves after providing proof of identity. Access to information may be given to a third party providing they have written permission from the person to whom the information relates, can prove a connection with that person, or show evidence that the person is deceased. All other applications for access will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Contact: People wishing to access these records should contact the Social Services Secretary, Social Services Department, The Salvation Army, PO Box A435, Sydney South NSW 1232, or by telephoning (02) 9266 9829. Appointments are necessary for people intending to visit in person.

Location: Salvation Army Social Services Department, 140 Elizabeth Street, Sydney.

Quantity: 2 volumes.

Description: These forms are declarations by the custodian (i.e. the Matron of the Home) to the Director of the Child Welfare Department that custody of the child is being relinquished by the Salvation Army. The forms record: the name of the child; the address of the custodian; to whom the child was discharged (e.g. parent) and their address; the relationship of the future custodian to the child; and the date of discharge.


Access: Former residents and clients can access information about themselves after providing proof of identity. Access to information may be given to a third party providing they have written permission from the person to whom the information relates, can prove a connection with that person, or show evidence that the person is deceased. All other applications for access will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
Contact: People wishing to access these records should contact the Social Services Secretary, Social Services Department, The Salvation Army, PO Box A435, Sydney South NSW 1232, or by telephoning (02) 9266 9829. Appointments are necessary for people intending to visit in person.

Location: Salvation Army Social Services Department, 140 Elizabeth Street, Sydney.

Quantity: 2 volumes.

Description: These volumes contain carbon copies of Returns of Particulars to be Registered Pursuant to section 34 of the Child Welfare Act 1939, regulation 42 (Child Welfare Department Form 14).

The information includes: full name of child; date and place of birth; religion of child; name, marital status, address and occupation of parents; name and address of person from whom child was received into the home; date child was received; particulars of arrangements made by parent for clothing and medical attendance; and amount of monies paid and by whom.


Access: Former residents and clients can access information about themselves after providing proof of identity. Access to information may be given to a third party providing they have written permission from the person to whom the information relates, can prove a connection with that person, or show evidence that the person is deceased. All other applications for access will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Contact: People wishing to access these records should contact the Social Services Secretary, Social Services Department, The Salvation Army, PO Box A435, Sydney South NSW 1232, or by telephoning (02) 9266 9829. Appointments are necessary for people intending to visit in person.

Location: Salvation Army Social Services Department, 140 Elizabeth Street, Sydney.

Quantity: 1 volume.
Description: This volume contains duplicates of notices relating to discharges of children to someone other than the parents, in accordance with regulations 47A(w) and 47B(g) of the Child Welfare Act 1939.

The forms include the following information: name of children’s depot/home/hostel/private foster home; child’s details (surname, Christian names, date of birth, sex); reception details (previous address, date admitted); discharge details (date, to whom discharged, address of person to whom discharged, relationship of that person to the child, whether child was discharged with view to adoption); death (date, place, cause, illness, medical practitioner); and admission to hospital (nature of illness, name of hospital, date of admission).

Register, 10 May 1955–6 Feb. 1968

Access: Former residents and clients can access information about themselves after providing proof of identity. Access to information may be given to a third party providing they have written permission from the person to whom the information relates, can prove a connection with that person, or show evidence that the person is deceased. All other applications for access will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Contact: People wishing to access these records should contact the Social Services Secretary, Social Services Department, The Salvation Army, PO Box A435, Sydney South NSW 1232, or by telephoning (02) 9266 9829. Appointments are necessary for people intending to visit in person.

Location: Salvation Army Social Services Department, 140 Elizabeth Street, Sydney.

Quantity: 1 volume.

Description: This register records: the name, date of birth and religion of the child; the name, address, occupation and description of the parents; the name, address, occupation and description of any person other than parents from whom or to whom the child was received or delivered over; date child was received; date child was handed over; particulars of arrangements made by the mother for the care of the infant; amount agreed to be paid per week for the child’s maintenance and by whom.
Arncliffe Girls’ Home (‘The Nest’), 1916–69

Arncliffe Girls’ Home was originally established in May 1916 as the Arncliffe Girls’ Industrial Home. It became known as ‘The Nest’ Children’s Home in January 1930. From January 1941 to January 1969 it was known as ‘The Nest’ Girls’ Home, although commonly referred to as Arncliffe Girls’ Home. The home was located at 171 Wollongong Road, Arncliffe in Sydney’s south.

The Home closed temporarily during World War II. On 25, 26 and 27 March 1942, 30 girls from ‘The Nest’, together with 44 girls from ‘The Fold’, Marrickville and three children from Bethesda Hospital, were transferred to Canowindra Girls’ Home (‘Lyndon House’). In January 1945 the Home re-opened, and sixteen girls were transferred from Canowindra to Arncliffe. Arncliffe Girls’ Home closed in January 1969 and the girls were transferred to the Stanmore Children’s Home, 97 Cambridge Street, Stanmore.

(Source: ‘List of Australian Eastern Territory Managers, Matrons, Administrators and Superintendents of Social Institutions’ compiled by Major Tom Hubbard; Canowindra Girls’ Home History Book, entry for March 1942; Letter dated 6 Dec. 1944 from Winifred Ramage, Women’s Social Secretary, Territorial Headquarters to Major Clulow, Matron, Canowindra; Letter dated 24 Jan. 1945 from Major Clulow, Matron, Canowindra to Adjutant Woodland, Arncliffe. These sources are held by the Salvation Army Social Services Department.)

Admission register, 26 Sep. 1918–19 Jul. 1968

Access: Former residents and clients can access information about themselves after providing proof of identity. Access to information may be given to a third party providing they have written permission from the person to whom the information relates, can prove a connection with that person, or show evidence that the person is deceased. All other applications for access will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Contact: People wishing to access these records should contact the Social Services Secretary, Social Services Department, The Salvation Army, PO Box A435, Sydney South NSW 1232, or by telephoning (02) 9266 9829. Appointments are necessary for people intending to visit in person.

Location: Salvation Army Social Services Department, 140 Elizabeth Street, Sydney.

Quantity: 1 volume (part).

Description: This register includes the following information: date of admission; name and date of birth; name and address...
of parent or guardian; whether the child was handed over by the State; date of discharge; condition of health; where sent; if employment was found, nature of work and wages received; name and address of future guardian; and remarks.


Access: Former residents and clients can access information about themselves after providing proof of identity. Access to information may be given to a third party providing they have written permission from the person to whom the information relates, can prove a connection with that person, or show evidence that the person is deceased. All other applications for access will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Contact: People wishing to access these records should contact the Social Services Secretary, Social Services Department, The Salvation Army, PO Box A435, Sydney South NSW 1232, or by telephoning (02) 9266 9829. Appointments are necessary for people intending to visit in person.

Location: Salvation Army Social Services Department, 140 Elizabeth Street, Sydney.

Quantity: 2 volumes.

Description: These volumes contain carbon copies of Returns of Particulars to be Registered Pursuant to section 34 of the Child Welfare Act 1939, regulation 42 (Child Welfare Department Form 14).

The information includes: full name of child; date and place of birth; religion of child; name, marital status, address and occupation of parents; name and address of person from whom child was received into the home; date child was received; particulars of arrangements made by parent for clothing and medical attendance; and amount of monies paid and by whom.

Notifications of discharge, 15 Feb. 1946–9 Jul. 1959

Access: Former residents and clients can access information about themselves after providing proof of identity. Access to information may be given to a third party
providing they have written permission from the person to whom the information relates, can prove a connection with that person, or show evidence that the person is deceased. All other applications for access will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Contact: People wishing to access these records should contact the Social Services Secretary, Social Services Department, The Salvation Army, PO Box A435, Sydney South NSW 1232, or by telephoning (02) 9266 9829. Appointments are necessary for people intending to visit in person.

Location: Salvation Army Social Services Department, 140 Elizabeth Street, Sydney.

Quantity: 1 volume.

Description: These forms are declarations by the custodian (i.e. the Matron of the Home) to the Director of the Child Welfare Department that custody of the child is being relinquished by the Salvation Army. The forms record: the name of the child; the address of the custodian; to whom the child was discharged (e.g. parent) and their address; the relationship of the future custodian to the child; and the date of discharge.

Dee Why Home for Boys (formerly Paradise Boys’ Industrial Colony and Manly Boys’ Probationary Home), 1897–Oct. 1936

It is difficult to say from the information available when this home opened. Secondary source material suggests that the Paradise Boys’ Industrial Colony opened in Dee Why in 1897, and was succeeded by the Manly Boys’ Probationary Home in 1903. It is known that the Dee Why Home for Boys was closed on 10 October 1936 and the boys were transferred to Bexley and Goulburn Boys’ Homes.

Register, 1 Dec. 1919 – 27 Feb. 1932

Access: Former residents and clients can access information about themselves after providing proof of identity. Access to information may be given to a third party providing they have written permission from the person to whom the information relates, can prove a connection with that person, or show evidence that the person is
deceased. All other applications for access will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Contact: People wishing to access these records should contact the Social Services Secretary, Social Services Department, The Salvation Army, PO Box A435, Sydney South NSW 1232, or by telephoning (02) 9266 9829. Appointments are necessary for people intending to visit in person.

Location: Salvation Army Social Services Department, 140 Elizabeth Street, Sydney.

Quantity: 1 volume.

Description: This volume records the following information: the name of the home or institution; the child’s name and date of birth; the admission and discharge dates; and (if applicable) date of death.

The volume is Marked ‘Goulburn’ on the front cover, but is in fact for the Dee Why Home for Boys.

_Inmates’ register, 16 Jul. 1928–9 Oct. 1936_

Access: Former residents and clients can access information about themselves after providing proof of identity. Access to information may be given to a third party providing they have written permission from the person to whom the information relates, can prove a connection with that person, or show evidence that the person is deceased. All other applications for access will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Contact: People wishing to access these records should contact the Social Services Secretary, Social Services Department, The Salvation Army, PO Box A435, Sydney South NSW 1232, or by telephoning (02) 9266 9829. Appointments are necessary for people intending to visit in person.

Location: Salvation Army Social Services Department, 140 Elizabeth Street, Sydney.

Quantity: 1 volume (part).
Description: For each boy admitted to the Home, the register records the following: date of admission; name in full; date and place of birth; religion; reason for admission; name and address of parent or guardian; if handed over by the State; discharge date; condition of health; where sent (upon discharge); nature of employment and weekly wages if sent to a job; and name and address of future guardian.


**Gill Memorial Home for Boys, Goulburn (later the Gill Memorial Family Group Home), 1936–29 Dec. 1995**

The Gill Memorial Boys’ Home commenced operation at Auburn Street, Goulburn in September 1936 following the closure of the Salvation Army’s Dee Why Boys’ Home. In 1969, it appears that the Home relocated to 38 Eldon Street, Goulburn. In 1980, the Home was restructured to become the Gill Memorial Family Group Home, and in 1983 it moved to 2 Mary Street, Goulburn. The home closed on 29 December 1995.

**Inmates’ register, 10 Sep. 1936–18 Oct. 1993**

Access: Former residents and clients can access information about themselves after providing proof of identity. Access to information may be given to a third party providing they have written permission from the person to whom the information relates, can prove a connection with that person, or show evidence that the person is deceased. All other applications for access will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Contact: People wishing to access these records should contact the Social Services Secretary, Social Services Department, The Salvation Army, PO Box A435, Sydney South NSW 1232, or by telephoning (02) 9266 9829. Appointments are necessary for people intending to visit in person.
Location: Salvation Army Social Services Department, 140 Elizabeth Street, Sydney.

Quantity: 1 volume (part).

Description: For each boy admitted to the Home, the register records the following: date of admission; name in full; date and place of birth; religion; reason for admission; name and address of parent or guardian; if handed over by the State; discharge date; condition of health; where sent (upon discharge); nature of employment and weekly wages if sent to a job; and name and address of future guardian.

The volume also contains the *Inmates’ register* for the Dee Why Home for Boys’, 16 Jul. 1928–9 Oct. 1936. When the Dee Why Home closed in October 1936, some of the boys were transferred to Goulburn; others were transferred to Bexley Boys’ Home.


Access: Former residents and clients can access information about themselves after providing proof of identity. Access to information may be given to a third party providing they have written permission from the person to whom the information relates, can prove a connection with that person, or show evidence that the person is deceased. All other applications for access will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Contact: People wishing to access these records should contact the Social Services Secretary, Social Services Department, The Salvation Army, PO Box A435, Sydney South NSW 1232, or by telephoning (02) 9266 9829. Appointments are necessary for people intending to visit in person.

Location: Salvation Army Social Services Department, 140 Elizabeth Street, Sydney.

Quantity: 1 volume.

Description: This volume contains carbon copies of Returns of Particulars to be Registered Pursuant to section 34 of
the Child Welfare Act 1939, regulation 42 (Child Welfare Department Form 14).

The information includes: full name of child; date and place of birth; religion of child; name, marital status, address and occupation of parents; name and address of person from whom child was received into the home; date child was received; particulars of arrangements made by parent for clothing and medical attendance; and amount of monies paid and by whom.


Access: Former residents and clients can access information about themselves after providing proof of identity. Access to information may be given to a third party providing they have written permission from the person to whom the information relates, can prove a connection with that person, or show evidence that the person is deceased. All other applications for access will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Contact: People wishing to access these records should contact the Social Services Secretary, Social Services Department, The Salvation Army, PO Box A435, Sydney South NSW 1232, or by telephoning (02) 9266 9829. Appointments are necessary for people intending to visit in person.

Location: Salvation Army Social Services Department, 140 Elizabeth Street, Sydney.

Quantity: 1 volume.

Description: This volume contains duplicates of notices relating to discharges of children to someone other than the parents, in accordance with regulations 47A(w) and 47B(g) of the Child Welfare Act 1939.

The forms include the following information: name of children’s depot/home/hostel/private foster home; child’s details (surname, Christian names, date of birth, sex); reception details (previous address, date admitted); discharge details (date, to whom discharged, address of person to whom discharged, relationship of that person to the child, whether child was discharged with view to adoption); death (date, place, cause, illness,
medical practitioner); and admission to hospital (nature of illness, name of hospital, date of admission).

There are only three entries in the book.

**Client files, 1933–c. 1983**

**Access:** Former residents and clients can access information about themselves after providing proof of identity. Access to information may be given to a third party providing they have written permission from the person to whom the information relates, can prove a connection with that person, or show evidence that the person is deceased. All other applications for access will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

**Contact:** People wishing to access these records should contact the Social Services Secretary, Social Services Department, The Salvation Army, PO Box A435, Sydney South NSW 1232, or by telephoning (02) 9266 9829. Appointments are necessary for people intending to visit in person.

**Location:** Salvation Army Social Services Department, 140 Elizabeth Street, Sydney.

**Quantity:** $3^{1/2}$ cartons.

**Description:** The bulk of these files date from the 1950s to the early 1980s. These files may, but don’t always, include: application for admission (which records such information as date of application; name and address of child; date and place of birth; parents’ names and addresses; whether child has been resident in another institution and, if so, the name of that institution; names and ages of any brothers and sisters; reason for child being placed and anticipated length of placement; and any undertaking by the parent or guardian to contribute to the upkeep of the child); school reports; medical reports; immunisation record; court orders or mandates; personal record cards; reports by District Officers of the Child Welfare Department; and correspondence regarding the child.

The amount of information available varies from file to file, depending on the circumstances of each case.

There are also a small number of files from the 1930s and 1940s, which contain an application form, and
correspondence about the child. In a number of instances the correspondence is from the parent or guardian to the manager of the Home, conveying money or clothes for their child. The earliest of these files pre-date the opening of the Gill Memorial Home; they relate to boys who were initially admitted to Bexley Boys’ Home and subsequently transferred to Goulburn.

**Bexley Boys’ Home, 1915–82**

This Home was located at Kingsland Road, Bexley North (in Sydney). It commenced as a Probationary Home for Boys in 1915, and continued to operate as a Boys’ Home until its closure in 1982. Upon closure, the remaining boys were transferred to the Marrickville Children’s Residence, 27 George Street, Marrickville. The site has been redeveloped by the Salvation Army as its Officer Training College.

**Inmates’ register, 7 Jan. 1927–13 Nov. 1985**

**Access:** Former residents and clients can access information about themselves after providing proof of identity. Access to information may be given to a third party providing they have written permission from the person to whom the information relates, can prove a connection with that person, or show evidence that the person is deceased. All other applications for access will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

**Contact:** People wishing to access these records should contact the Social Services Secretary, Social Services Department, The Salvation Army, PO Box A435, Sydney South NSW 1232, or by telephoning (02) 9266 9829. Appointments are necessary for people intending to visit in person.

**Location:** Salvation Army Social Services Department, 140 Elizabeth Street, Sydney.

**Quantity:** 1 volume.

**Description:** For each boy admitted to the Home, the register records the following: date of admission; name in full; date and place of birth; religion; reason for admission; name and address of parent or guardian; if handed over by the State; discharge date; condition of health; where sent (upon discharge); nature of employment and weekly
wages if sent to a job; and name and address of future guardian.

**Personal record cards, 1960s–80s**

**Access:** Former residents and clients can access information about themselves after providing proof of identity. Access to information may be given to a third party providing they have written permission from the person to whom the information relates, can prove a connection with that person, or show evidence that the person is deceased. All other applications for access will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

**Contact:** People wishing to access these records should contact the Social Services Secretary, Social Services Department, The Salvation Army, PO Box A435, Sydney South NSW 1232, or by telephoning (02) 9266 9829. Appointments are necessary for people intending to visit in person.

**Location:** Salvation Army Social Services Department, 140 Elizabeth Street, Sydney.

**Quantity:** 1 card drawer.

**Description:** These cards were filled out for each boy, under regulations 47A (w)(i) and 47B (g)(i) of the Child Welfare Act 1939. They record the following: name; date and place of birth; religion; where baptised; father’s name and address; mother’s name and address, including maiden name; details of any step-parents; by whom the child’s admission to the home was arranged; the date and circumstances surrounding the child’s admission, including details of any court order; particulars of any maintenance order and details of any maintenance agreement.

On the reverse of the card the following information is recorded: date of discharge; to whom discharged and address on discharge. There is also a medical record for the child: physical condition of child on admission; if parent’s consent is held for anaesthetics, operations, blood transfusions, immunisations and vaccinations; an immunisation record; and any other pertinent medical information.
**Client files, 1970s–80s**

**Access:** Former residents and clients can access information about themselves after providing proof of identity. Access to information may be given to a third party providing they have written permission from the person to whom the information relates, can prove a connection with that person, or show evidence that the person is deceased. All other applications for access will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

**Contact:** People wishing to access these records should contact the Social Services Secretary, Social Services Department, The Salvation Army, PO Box A435, Sydney South NSW 1232, or by telephoning (02) 9266 9829. Appointments are necessary for people intending to visit in person.

**Location:** Salvation Army Social Services Department, 140 Elizabeth Street, Sydney.

**Quantity:** 3 cartons.

**Description:** These files contain information relating to the boy’s admission including an admission form which records personal and family details (i.e. name, date of birth, parents’ details, etc.). The files may also, but not necessarily, contain copies of Children’s Court orders and court reports, correspondence to and from the Department of Youth and Community Services, school reports, reports by social workers, and medical reports.

**Notice of reception, discharge, death or admission to hospital of a child, 9 Apr. 1974–11 Jan. 1980**

**Access:** Former residents and clients can access information about themselves after providing proof of identity. Access to information may be given to a third party providing they have written permission from the person to whom the information relates, can prove a connection with that person, or show evidence that the person is deceased. All other applications for access will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

**Contact:** People wishing to access these records should contact the Social Services Secretary, Social Services Department, The Salvation Army, PO Box A435, Sydney South NSW 1232, or by telephoning (02) 9266 9829.
Appointments are necessary for people intending to visit in person.

**Location:** Salvation Army Social Services Department, 140 Elizabeth Street, Sydney.

**Quantity:** 1 volume.

**Description:** This volume contains duplicates of notices relating to discharges of children to someone or somewhere other than the parents, in accordance with regulations 47A(w) and 47B(g) of the *Child Welfare Act 1939*.

The forms include the following information: name of children’s depot/home/hostel/private foster home; child’s details (surname, Christian names, date of birth, sex); reception details (previous address, date admitted); discharge details (date, to whom discharged, address of person to whom discharged, relationship of that person to the child, whether child was discharged with view to adoption); death (date, place, cause, illness, medical practitioner); and admission to hospital (nature of illness, name of hospital, date of admission).

**Marrickville Children’s Residence, 1979–85(?)**

There is very little information available about the Children’s Residence at Marrickville. It was located at 27 George Street, Marrickville. It is known that when the Bexley Boy’s Home closed, the boys were transferred to this Home at Marrickville.

Any records relating to children who were in care at Marrickville Children’s Residence are probably interfiled with the records of Bexley Boys’ Home, and perhaps the Dulwich Hill Family Group Home, to where the boys were transferred from George Street.


Algate House was located at 633 Lane Street, Broken Hill and was opened as a boys’ home. It was later converted to a family group home, consisting of three residences each supervised by a house parent. The home closed on 30 June 1996.
**Register, 26 Oct. 1968–11 Apr. 1995**

**Access:** Former residents and clients can access information about themselves after providing proof of identity. Access to information may be given to a third party providing they have written permission from the person to whom the information relates, can prove a connection with that person, or show evidence that the person is deceased. All other applications for access will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

**Contact:** People wishing to access these records should contact the Social Services Secretary, Social Services Department, The Salvation Army, PO Box A435, Sydney South NSW 1232, or by telephoning (02) 9266 9829. Appointments are necessary for people intending to visit in person.

**Location:** Salvation Army Social Services Department, 140 Elizabeth Street, Sydney.

**Quantity:** 2 volumes.

**Description:** These registers record: the name, date of birth and religion of the child; the name, address, occupation and description of the parents; the name, address, occupation and description of any person other than parents from whom or to whom the child was received or delivered over; date child was received; date child was handed over; particulars of arrangements made by the mother for the care of the infant; amount agreed to be paid per week for the child’s maintenance and by whom.

**Client files, 1970s–80s**

**Access:** Former residents and clients can access information about themselves after providing proof of identity. Access to information may be given to a third party providing they have written permission from the person to whom the information relates, can prove a connection with that person, or show evidence that the person is deceased. All other applications for access will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

**Contact:** People wishing to access these records should contact the Social Services Secretary, Social Services Department, The Salvation Army, PO Box A435, Sydney.

The Salvation Army operated several family group homes in Sydney, as well as one in Broken Hill and one in Goulburn. Located at 101 Wardell Road, Dulwich Hill this Family Group Home was opened in 1989. The first residents were boys who were transferred from the Marrickville Children’s Residence. A number of the children who lived here also spent some time in care at the Stanmore Children’s Home and/or the Earlwood Family Group Home.

Client files, 1980s–90s

Access: Former residents and clients can access information about themselves after providing proof of identity. Access to information may be given to a third party providing they have written permission from the person to whom the information relates, can prove a connection with that person, or show evidence that the person is deceased. All other applications for access will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Contact: People wishing to access these records should contact the Social Services Secretary, Social Services Department, The Salvation Army, PO Box A435, Sydney South NSW 1232, or by telephoning (02) 9266 9829. Appointments are necessary for people intending to visit in person.
Location: Salvation Army Social Services Department, 140 Elizabeth Street, Sydney.

Description: These files include case notes, social worker’s notes, admission forms, school correspondence, etc. for each child or youth living in the Group Home. Occasionally there are school reports, medical reports, copies of court orders and mandates, case conference minutes, and photographs.

A number of the files pre-date the opening of the home, as they relate to children who had previously been in another of the Salvation Army’s homes.

Related records: Earlwood Family Group Home Client files.


Located at 9 Sutton Avenue, Earlwood (in Sydney’s south) Earlwood Family Group Home was opened in 1989 and closed on 30 June 1995. Most of the residents were only short-term, and a number of them were transferred to one of the other family group homes which the Salvation Army operated in Sydney (Dulwich Hill or Narwee), or to the foster care program.

Client Files, 1980s–90s

Access: Former residents and clients can access information about themselves after providing proof of identity. Access to information may be given to a third party providing they have written permission from the person to whom the information relates, can prove a connection with that person, or show evidence that the person is deceased. All other applications for access will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Contact: People wishing to access these records should contact the Social Services Secretary, Social Services Department, The Salvation Army, PO Box A435, Sydney South NSW 1232, or by telephoning (02) 9266 9829. Appointments are necessary for people intending to visit in person.

Location: Salvation Army Social Services Department, 140 Elizabeth Street, Sydney.
Description: These files include case notes, social worker’s notes, admission forms, school correspondence, etc. for each child or youth living in the Group Home. Occasionally there are school reports, medical reports, copies of court orders and mandates, case conference minutes, and photographs.

A number of the files pre-date the opening of the home, as they relate to children who had previously been in another of the Salvation Army’s homes.

Related records: Dulwich Hill Family Group Home Client files and Narwee Family Group Home Client files.


Located at 59 Grove Avenue, Narwee in Sydney’s south west, this Family Group Home was opened in 1987 and closed in January 1996. The first residents were girls transferred from Stanmore Children’s Home.

Client files, 1980s–90s

Access: Former residents and clients can access information about themselves after providing proof of identity. Access to information may be given to a third party providing they have written permission from the person to whom the information relates, can prove a connection with that person, or show evidence that the person is deceased. All other applications for access will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Contact: People wishing to access these records should contact the Social Services Secretary, Social Services Department, The Salvation Army, PO Box A435, Sydney South NSW 1232, or by telephoning (02) 9266 9829. Appointments are necessary for people intending to visit in person.

Location: Salvation Army Social Services Department, 140 Elizabeth Street, Sydney.

Description: These files include case notes, social worker’s notes, admission forms, school correspondence, etc. for each child or youth living in the Group Home. Occasionally there are school reports, medical reports, copies of court orders and mandates, case conference minutes, and photographs.
A number of the files pre-date the opening of the home, as they relate to children who had previously been in another of the Salvation Army’s homes.

Related records: Earlwood Family Group Home *Client files*.

**Foster Care Program, c. 1984–c. 1994**

The Salvation Army’s Foster Care Program was originally established to place long-term residents from the Stanmore Children’s Home. The program eventually evolved to become a short-term crisis foster care program.

**Case files, c. 1984–c. 1994**

**Access:** Former residents and clients can access information about themselves after providing proof of identity. Access to information may be given to a third party providing they have written permission from the person to whom the information relates, can prove a connection with that person, or show evidence that the person is deceased. All other applications for access will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

**Contact:** People wishing to access these records should contact the Social Services Secretary, Social Services Department, The Salvation Army, PO Box A435, Sydney South NSW 1232, or by telephoning (02) 9266 9829. Appointments are necessary for people intending to visit in person.

**Location:** Salvation Army Social Services Department, 140 Elizabeth Street, Sydney.

**Description:** These files include case notes, social worker’s notes, admission forms, school correspondence, etc. for each child or youth admitted to the foster care program. Occasionally there are school reports, medical reports, copies of court orders and mandates, case conference minutes, and photographs.
Uniting Church in Australia

The Uniting Church in Australia was inaugurated in 1977, following the union of the Methodist Church, the Congregational Church and some congregations of the Presbyterian Church.

The records listed here relate to homes and facilities operated by the Methodist, Congregational and Presbyterian Churches before union, and which continued under the auspices of the Uniting Church. Records relating to St Andrew’s Leppington are maintained by the Burnside Archives and are included in the records of Burnside Homes which are listed elsewhere in this Guide.

Tahmoor Children’s Home, 1941–c. 1979

The Tahmoor Children’s Home was located on acreage in Fraser Street, Tahmoor some 80 km south of Sydney between Camden and Mittagong. The Home was established through the initiative of a number of members of the Vaucluse Congregational Church in 1941. Management of the facility was by an independent Committee of Management supported primarily by Congregational Churches in New South Wales.

Established initially as a holiday home, it was later converted to provide permanent or temporary care for up to twenty boys and girls from five to fifteen years of age unable to live with their families for any reason. Special consideration was given to the admission of children referred by the Children’s Court as being in need of care and protection for reasons of neglect or abuse. The first long-term admissions took place in 1959.

In 1977, the Congregational Church, Methodist Church and some Presbyterian Church congregations united to form the Uniting Church in Australia. The Tahmoor Children’s Home was transferred to the Uniting Church New South Wales Synod Board of Social Responsibility at the time of inauguration of the Uniting Church in 1977.

Changing attitudes to child care and family support, and the development of foster care programs as the preferred out-of-home care resulted in a review of the Tahmoor facility, which was closed at the end of the 1970s.

(Source: Tahmoor Committee of Management/Congregational Home Trust Executive and Committee Minutes and Reports; and Uniting Church Board of Social Responsibility Reports. These records are held in the Uniting Church Archives, North Parramatta.)

Former residents’ files, 1941–79 (incomplete)

Access: Access is available to former residents only, who may access their own files. Proof of identity must be
produced by the person seeking access. Requests for access from children or siblings of former residents will be considered and information may be released subject to privacy considerations. A research fee may be charged. Access is supervised by a social worker or other suitably qualified person.

Contact: All requests for access should be directed to the Librarian/Archivist, PO Box 2395, North Parramatta NSW 1750, or telephone (02) 9683 3147.

Location: Uniting Church Records and Historical Society, ‘Eskdale’, 3 Blackwood Place, North Parramatta NSW 2151.

Quantity: Very few records survive.

Description: These records are, in the main, partial files consisting of a few single sheets. The records are not standardised, but may include medical and school reports, family background reports for court and other purposes, and progress reports on residents.

The records are not complete for any individual or any time period.

St Andrew’s Home, Leppington

This facility was originally a Presbyterian Boys’ Home, operated by the Social Services Department of that church.

Originally located in the Manly area, in Sydney, the Home was transferred to a 400 acre farm property at Leppington, on the Hume Highway south of Liverpool. It catered for twenty boys aged ten to fifteen years. Residents were generally referred following an appearance before the Children’s Court on a care and protection application or in respect of some offence. Admissions followed assessment by a professional social worker, and a feature of the program was its strong community links, with residents attending local schools and participating in community activities.

Following the inauguration of the Uniting Church in Australia in 1977, the Home came under the auspice of the Uniting Church, together with Burnside Homes, with St Andrew’s being administered under the Burnside program.

The records for St Andrew’s Leppington are held by Burnside.

(Source: Uniting Church Board of Social Responsibility Reports to NSW Synod. These records are held in the Uniting Church Archives, North Parramatta.)
Heighway House, 1960–[unknown]

Heighway House was a project consisting of two cottages conducted by the Methodist Church through the Department of Social Responsibility (later known as the Department of Christian Citizenship), and named after Miss Dorothy Heighway, a Methodist deaconess closely involved with the Children’s Courts.

Heighway House was located initially at 30 Alexandra Street, Drummoyne and provided accommodation for seven girls aged fifteen to eighteen. The Drummoyne facility was opened in 1960 with support and funding from the Methodist Women’s Christian Citizenship Council. The need for larger premises resulted in the sale of the Drummoyne property and the purchase of new premises at 15–17 Duffy Avenue, Thornleigh, in Sydney’s north west. The Thornleigh property provided hostel-style accommodation for twelve working age girls.

In 1969, the Heighway House project was further extended to premises at 39 Carr Street, Coogee which accommodated nine girls in need of intensive counselling and guidance, the majority being wards of the State. The Coogee cottage was provided by the Youth Welfare Association and was named Bailey Cottage after the founder of that Association. Following the opening of Bailey Cottage, the Thornleigh house was renamed Elsie Cook Cottage in recognition of Mrs Cook’s long service to the project, which retained the overall name of the Heighway House Project. Elsie Cook Cottage accepted girls who had previously resided at Bailey Cottage and also from Westwood at Bowral.

The Heighway House Project facilities came under the control of the Uniting Church in New South Wales in 1977 at the time of the union between the Methodist, Congregational and some Presbyterian Churches. The use of the facilities for residential care of young people was later terminated in favour of programs for adults with mild intellectual disabilities.

(Source: The Heighway Story, published by Epworth Press; Reports and Minutes NSW Methodist Conferences; Reports and Minutes, Uniting Church Synod; Minutes and papers of the Methodist and Uniting Church Departments and Boards of Social Responsibility and Christian Citizenship. These records are held in the Uniting Church Archives, North Parramatta.)

Former residents’ files, [no date]

Access: Access is available to former residents only, who may access their own files. Proof of identity must be produced by the person seeking access. Requests for access from children or siblings of former residents will be considered and information may be released subject to privacy considerations. A research fee may be
charged. Access is supervised by a social worker or other suitably qualified person.

Contact: All requests for access should be directed to the Librarian/Archivist, PO Box 2395, North Parramatta NSW 1750, or telephone (02) 9683 3147.

Location: Uniting Church Records and Historical Society, ‘Eskdale’, 3 Blackwood Place, North Parramatta NSW 2151.

Quantity: Very few records survive.

Description: These records are, in the main, partial files consisting of a few single sheets. The records are not standardised, but may include medical and school reports, family background reports for court and other purposes, and progress reports on residents.

The records are not complete for any individual or any time period.

**Westwood, Bowral, Apr. 1965–Mar. 1979**

Westwood was developed as a residential education centre for girls over sixteen years old with mild intellectual disabilities. It functioned under the auspice of the Methodist Department of Christian Citizenship, and commenced operation in April 1965 with an initial intake of nine girls. A day program was also available to girls who lived within reasonable travelling distance of the facility.

The aim of Westwood was to prepare each resident for independent living by training them for appropriate employment and in relevant life skills. A significant decline in the numbers of girls seeking residence at Westwood in the late 1970s and increasing costs led to a decision to close the facility as a residential centre in March 1979. Prior to closure, residents of Westwood assessed as capable of independent or supported independent living in Sydney were transferred to the Heighway House Project at Thornleigh.

(Source: Reports and Minutes, NSW Methodist Conferences; Reports and Minutes Uniting Church NSW Synod; Minutes and papers, Methodist and UCA Departments and Boards of Social Responsibility and Christian Citizenship. These records are held in the Uniting Church Archives, North Parramatta.)
**Former residents’ files, 1965–79 (incomplete)**

**Access:** Access is available to former residents only, who may access their own files. Proof of identity must be produced by the person seeking access. Requests for access from children or siblings of former residents will be considered and information may be released subject to privacy considerations. A research fee may be charged. Access is supervised by a social worker or other suitably qualified person.

**Contact:** All requests for access should be directed to the Librarian/Archivist, PO Box 2395, North Parramatta NSW 1750, or telephone (02) 9683 3147.

**Location:** Uniting Church Records and Historical Society, ‘Eskdale’, 3 Blackwood Place, North Parramatta NSW 2151.

**Quantity:** Very few records survive.

**Description:** These records are, in the main, partial files consisting of a few single sheets. The records are not standardised, but may include medical and school reports, family background reports for court and other purposes, and progress reports on residents.

The records are not complete for any individual or any time period.

**Iandra Methodist Rural Centre, Greenthorpe, 1956–74**

The Iandra Methodist Rural Centre was located on a historic farm at Young Road, Greenthorpe, about 370 km from Sydney. The facility first opened in 1956, and over 50 young men resided there in its first five years of operation. The facility was conducted under the auspice of the Methodist Church of New South Wales in conjunction with the Department of Christian Citizenship in Sydney, through which referrals were made.

The object of Iandra was to provide a home and mixed farm training for boys aged fifteen to eighteen years, who were from underprivileged homes or who had appeared before the Children’s Court for whatever reason, and who showed an interest in a farming career.

Following the closure of the Rural Centre in 1974, former residents were transferred to Sydney to the new Iandra Lodge in Burwood.
Former residents’ files, 1956–74 (incomplete)

Access: Access is available to former residents only, who may access their own files. Proof of identity must be produced by the person seeking access. Requests for access from children or siblings of former residents will be considered and information may be released subject to privacy considerations. A research fee may be charged. Access is supervised by a social worker or other suitably qualified person.

Contact: All requests for access should be directed to the Librarian/Archivist, PO Box 2395, North Parramatta NSW 1750, or telephone (02) 9683 3147.

Location: Uniting Church Records and Historical Society, ‘Eskdale’, 3 Blackwood Place, North Parramatta NSW 2151.

Quantity: Very few records survive.

Description: These records are, in the main, partial files consisting of a few single sheets. The records are not standardised, but may include medical and school reports, family background reports for court and other purposes, and progress reports on residents.

The records are not complete for any individual or any time period.

Letter Books, c. 1960s

Access: Access is available to former residents only, who may access their own files. Proof of identity must be produced by the person seeking access. Requests for access from children or siblings of former residents will be considered, and information may be released subject to privacy considerations. A research fee may be charged. Access is supervised by a social worker or other suitably qualified person.

Contact: All requests for access should be directed to the Librarian/Archivist, PO Box 2395, North Parramatta NSW 1750, or telephone (02) 9683 3147.
Location: Uniting Church Records and Historical Society, ‘Eskdale’, 3 Blackwood Place, North Parramatta NSW 2151.

Quantity: 6 volumes.

Description: These volumes contain copies of letters sent from Iandra, Greenthorpe to Methodist circuits (similar to parishes) regarding children from Iandra who were sponsored by families under an ‘adopt a resident’ scheme. These children may have been hosted by families on weekends or for school holidays. The letters name the children and link them with the families who cared for them.

Iandra Lodge, Burwood 1975–[unknown]

Iandra Lodge was established at 306 Burwood Rd, Burwood in the inner western suburbs of Sydney in 1975, following the closure and sale of the Iandra Methodist Rural Centre, Greenthorpe. It was licensed as a boarding house by the local council. This hostel facility was administered by the Methodist Department of Christian Citizenship, and catered for nine residents. The first residents were admitted in June 1975.

The facility accepted boys on referral from a range of sources, including church agencies, statutory authorities and Children’s Courts, the majority being young people suffering significant disadvantage or deprivation.

Iandra Lodge continued under the auspice of the Uniting Church Board of Social Responsibility following the inauguration of the Uniting Church in Australia in 1977, but has since been converted into a facility for adults.

(Source: Reports and Minutes, NSW Methodist Conferences; Minutes and papers of the Methodist and Uniting Church Boards and Departments of Social Responsibility and Christian Citizenship. These records are held in the Uniting Church Archives, North Parramatta.)

Former residents’ files, 1975–[unknown] (incomplete)

Access: Access is available to former residents only, who may access their own files. Proof of identity must be produced by the person seeking access. Requests for access from children or siblings of former residents will be considered and information may be released subject to privacy considerations. A research fee may be charged. Access is supervised by a social worker or other suitably qualified person.
Contact: All requests for access should be directed to the Librarian/Archivist, PO Box 2395, North Parramatta NSW 1750, or telephone (02) 9683 3147.

Location: Uniting Church Records and Historical Society, ‘Eskdale’, 3 Blackwood Place, North Parramatta NSW 2151.

Quantity: Very few records survive.

Description: These records are, in the main, partial files consisting of a few single sheets. The records are not standardised, but may include medical and school reports, family background reports for court and other purposes, and progress reports on residents.

The records are not complete for any individual or any time period.

**Burnside, 1911–present**

The Burnside Homes were founded in 1911 by businessman, shipowner and philanthropist Sir James Burns, who was also the co–founder of the trading firm Burns Philp and Co. Ltd. Burns, born in Scotland in 1846, moved to Sydney in 1876 and purchased land in North Parramatta. A member of the Presbyterian faith, Burns became aware of that Church’s desire to establish a home for orphaned and destitute children, and in 1909 he offered to purchase 45 acres of land in North Parramatta and transfer it to the Church for that purpose together with a donation of £500. The offer was accepted by the Church and plans were laid for the establishment of The Burnside Presbyterian Orphan Homes.

The first home, ‘Blairgowrie’ was opened on 17 June 1911 by Lady Dudley, wife of the Governor General. Within twelve years, there were fourteen homes on the North Parramatta site, caring for more than 500 children. The cottage homes established at Burnside were unique in the early part of the twentieth century. They were far removed from the large barrack–style orphanages, such as the Randwick Asylum for Destitute Children. The cottages were designed to care for around 30 children in each home, and the Board of Directors were receptive to other innovations in child care.

In addition to the fourteen cottage homes, the Burnside site included its own school with a gymnasium and swimming pool, a hall, a hospital, playing fields, and a farm, dairy and vegetable garden. There was also staff accommodation. The Burnside Homes were established and maintained entirely by private donations.

The way children are cared for by Burnside has changed considerably over the years reflecting changes in child care theories. For example, in the
1960s the capacity of the homes, originally designed to accommodate 30 children, was reduced to house twelve to fifteen. Also in the 1960s, Burnside began to establish group homes in the suburbs which were designed to care for around six children at a time. In the 1970s, a comprehensive and successful system of foster care was established by Burnside social workers.

The Burnside Homes and their dates of commencement were: ‘Blairgowrie’ (17 June 1911); ‘Cumbrae’ (21 September 1912); ‘Dunkeld’ (10 May 1913); ‘Airlie’ (31 December 1914); ‘Eskdale’ (20 November 1915); ‘Novar’ (29 April 1916); ‘Glencoe’ (completed 1918); ‘Robertson’ and ‘Ivanhoe’ (both opened on 11 January 1919); ‘Son of the Rock’ (10 April 1920); ‘Blackwood’ (6 August 1921); ‘War Memorial Home’ (21 April 1922); ‘Reid Home’ (September 1922); ‘Ritchie Home’ (28 November 1928); ‘Lincluden’ (16 February 1931); ‘Troup’ (October 1933); ‘Ross’ (1935); ‘Christina Campbell Farm Home’ (6 March 1941); ‘Montrose’ Family Group Home (1965); ‘Gordon’ Family Group Home (1967); ‘Minnamurra’ Family Group Home (1975); ‘Byrnes’ Family Group Home (1983); and ‘Ritchie’ Family Group Home (1984). In addition, Burnside became responsible for St Andrew’s Boys’ Home at Leppington in 1971 following consultation with the Trustees of the Presbyterian Church.

In 1977, the Uniting Church of Australia was formed comprising the Congregational, Methodist and Presbyterian Churches of Australia and the decision was made that the Burnside Homes should pass to the Uniting Church. The policy of Burnside however remains as it has always been: caring for children and families in need regardless of their religious affiliation.

Since its foundation in 1911, Burnside has undergone several name changes. From 1911–53 it was known as The Burnside Presbyterian Orphan Homes; from 1954–75 Burnside Presbyterian Homes for Children; from 1976–86 Burnside Homes for Children; and since 1987 Burnside.

(Source: Susan Keen, *Burnside: 75 years of caring*, published in 1986 by Burnside Homes for Children.)

**Client files, 1911–present**

**Access:**

Burnside is committed to an open file policy with as few restrictions as possible. Access by a client to their file will be given as readily as possible and in a manner which takes into account the needs and best interests of the client.

Files will only be available to the client whose name appears on the front of the file, except where a client is deceased. Where a client is deceased, the file will be shown to the next of kin when such an applicant supplies a death certificate of the deceased and evidence of next of kin relationship.
In the case of adopted persons who are past or present clients, the provisions of the Adoption Information Act 1990 apply. In the case of current substitute care clients, access to files is supervised by the appropriate unit coordinator or foster care caseworker. In the case of past clients, access to files is through the Aftercare Coordinator or Aftercare Secretary. Requests for access should be accompanied by an identification document (e.g. birth certificate, driver’s licence). As a file may be stored off site or on microfilm, clients will need to allow for some delay in gaining access. The way in which access is given will be determined by the Aftercare Coordinator.

A copy of Burnside’s ‘Substitute Care Files Policy and Procedures’, together with a copy of the Adoption Information Act 1990 is available in the Aftercare Coordinator’s office.

Contact: Requests should be made in writing and addressed to the Aftercare Coordinator, Burnside, PO Box 6866, Parramatta NSW 2150.

Location: Files up to 1990 have been microfilmed. The original microfilm is held at the Government Records Repository, and a copy is kept at Burnside with the Aftercare Secretary. Files that have not been microfilmed are stored at their respective regional centre for two years after the client’s discharge. After these two years, the files are sent to Burnside’s North Parramatta office where they are boxed and transferred to the Government Records Repository for storage.

Quantity: 150 microfilm reels & 198 boxes of files (at the time of compilation of this Guide).

Description: The amount and type of information contained on these files varies depending on the circumstances of the individual case and the time period in which the client was in care. Files mostly contain identifying information, such as name and date of birth of the child, names and addresses of parents or guardians, names, ages and location of siblings, as well as information about the reason for the child’s placement. Files may also, but not necessarily, contain school reports, medical reports, photographs, letters from family members, court reports (if relevant) and case notes including placement history.
In the past, many of the children in Burnside’s care were placed there voluntarily. However, in the last ten years clients have been primarily State wards.

**Related records:** In addition to *Client files*, other related records which do not expand on the information in the *Client files* but which may be of academic interest for research projects, such as *Admission registers*, are held in the Burnside Archives.

**Admission committee records, 3 Oct. 1911–13 Dec. 1962**

**Access:** All requests for access to any of these records must be finally authorised by the Burnside Chief Executive Officer, or delegated Senior Manager.

**Contact:** Initial requests for access to material held in the Archives should be addressed to The Aftercare Coordinator, Burnside, PO Box 6866, Parramatta NSW 2150.

**Location:** Burnside Archives.

**Reference no:** BRG1/10–BRG 1/12; BRG 1/40; BRG 1/45.

**Quantity:** 5 volumes.

**Description:** Each application for admission was reviewed by the Admission Committee whose recommendation was forwarded to the Board. Each application was summarised, noting a child’s name, age and siblings, the applicant’s name, whether any maintenance was promised, the religious denomination and the circumstances surrounding the request for admission.

**Admission register, 20 Mar. 1930–1 Apr. 1947**

**Access:** All requests for access to any of these records must be finally authorised by the Burnside Chief Executive Officer, or delegated Senior Manager.

**Contact:** Initial requests for access to material held in the Archives should be addressed to The Aftercare Coordinator, Burnside, PO Box 6866, Parramatta NSW 2150.

**Location:** Burnside Archives.

**Reference no:** BRG1/14.
Quantity: 1 volume.

Description: The entries in the register are under the name of each Home and note the child’s name, date of birth, date of admission and whether the child left the Home or was transferred to another Home. The register is in two sections: the first compiled about October 1941 notes admissions up to January/February 1942; and the second, admissions thereafter. A typescript alphabetical index is inserted in the register.


Access: All requests for access to any of these records must be finally authorised by the Burnside Chief Executive Officer, or delegated Senior Manager.

Contact: Initial requests for access to material held in the Archives should be addressed to The Aftercare Coordinator, Burnside, PO Box 6866, Parramatta NSW 2150.

Location: Burnside Archives.

Reference no: BRG1/20–BRG1/25.

Quantity: 6 volumes.

Description: These record chronologically the admission or discharge of a child. Apart from noting the child’s name, they seem to serve as a checklist, ensuring that a child’s particulars had been noted in other administrative files, as well as noting the Home to which the child had been allocated.


Access: All requests for access to any of these records must be finally authorised by the Burnside Chief Executive Officer, or delegated Senior Manager.
Contact: Initial requests for access to material held in the Archives should be addressed to The Aftercare Coordinator, Burnside, PO Box 6866, Parramatta NSW 2150.

Location: Burnside Archives.

Reference no: BRG1/26.

Quantity: 1 volume.

Description: This record was compiled at the time of discharge and notes: the child’s name; age at admission; date of admission; length of stay; whether parents are alive; and whether child is illegitimate.


Access: All requests for access to any of these records must be finally authorised by the Burnside Chief Executive Officer, or delegated Senior Manager.

Contact: Initial requests for access to material held in the Archives should be addressed to The Aftercare Coordinator, Burnside, PO Box 6866, Parramatta NSW 2150.

Location: Burnside Archives.

Reference no: BRG1/27.

Quantity: 1 volume.

Description: This record was compiled at the time of discharge and notes: the child’s name; age at admission; date of admission; length of stay; whether parents are alive; and whether child is illegitimate.

Dalmar Child and Family Care is a program within the Wesley Mission. Wesley Dalmar offers a number of residential, foster and community care programs for children and young people.

Dalmar has a long association with, and involvement in, the provision of child care. It had its beginnings in the Central Mission Home for Neglected Children which opened at 104 Woolloomooloo Street, Woolloomooloo (in east Sydney) on 31 October 1893. The Home was supported by the Ladies’ Committee of the Sydney Central Methodist Mission and was situated in a house given for that purpose by businessman and philanthropist Ebenezer Vickery. The school-aged children attended Drummoyne Public School. Many of the children admitted to the Home were not orphans and were admitted due to a variety of circumstances. A number of children were returned to their families, while others where ‘adopted’ out, although formal legal adoptions as we now know them did not exist at the time.

By 1898 the Home in Woolloomooloo had become too small and in the following year the House Committee located a suitable property in Dalmar Street, Croydon (in Sydney’s inner west). In January 1900, the children moved into the new premises, and not long afterwards, the name ‘Dalmar’ was chosen for the children’s work. Whilst at Croydon, the children attended school at Five Dock. In 1917, the Mission’s superintendent hinted that he wanted to see the children’s work develop along the lines of the Burnside Presbyterian Homes model, with a number of cottages rather than one large building. For a number of years, however, nothing further was done along these lines and the home continued to operate at Croydon until 1923.

In April 1923, the children were relocated from Croydon to the new Dalmar site at Carlingford on fifteen acres of land in a purpose-built residence and one cottage. Dalmar grew to consist of a number of cottages, together with a hospital, an orchard and vegetable gardens. The new complex included the provision that between sixteen and twenty children would be accommodated in each cottage. The school-aged children attended Carlingford Public School.

The reasons why children were admitted to Dalmar were many and varied. Some required only short-term accommodation due to temporary disruptions to their normal family life. Others were admitted as long-term residents. Some children were placed voluntarily by their parents or guardians, while others were found abandoned and yet others were referred by the courts.

In the early years of its history, Dalmar’s aim was, as stated in the Annual Report of 1895/96, ‘the rescuing, body and soul, of those little street Arabs who are commonly known as nobody’s children’ and was later expressed in terms of ‘rescuing the little waifs and strays from scenes of poverty, cruelty
and neglect’. However, as attitudes towards child welfare have changed over time, so have the methods employed by Dalmar. To meet changing needs and objectives, family group homes and a foster care program were established, together with emergency accommodation facilities. Dalmar now seeks to help the family as a whole, providing preventative counselling and support services. Caring for children away from their families occurs only as a last resort.

In 1986 Dalmar Child and Family Services began a process of regionalisation. Since that time, records have been kept at the relevant regional offices, although the general administration for the overall supervision of Dalmar Child and Family Care is located at Carlingford. A number of programs are operated in cooperation with local Uniting Church parishes.


**Client files, 1893–present**

**Access:** Access to information held by Dalmar is generally limited to the person to whom that information relates. In order to access information about himself or herself, a person must be able to prove their identity before information is released. This may mean having to produce a birth certificate, driver’s licence or other such form of identification. A person may access information about another person provided the person who is the subject of the information gives their permission to the person seeking access. In the event that the person to whom the information relates is deceased, the person seeking access must provide proof of that person’s death, and of their relationship to that person.

**Contact:** All requests for access should be made in writing to Wesley Mission, Dalmar Child and Family Care, PO Box 42, Carlingford NSW 2118. Initial enquiries can be made by telephoning (02) 9804 5111.

**Location:** The records of all children who left the care of Dalmar before 1986 are held at Dalmar’s Carlingford site, 225 Marsden Road, Carlingford. Since 1986, when regional centres were established, the records of children and young people in care have been kept at the respective regional office.

**Quantity:** approx. 6 filing cabinets.
Description: The type and amount of information contained within these files varies, with the earlier files being less comprehensive than the later ones. On the earlier files (e.g. 1893–c.1940s), there might only be an admission sheet which records the child’s name, date of birth, and reason for admission. Occasionally there might be an adoption agreement form on the file. Later files may contain information about parents and other family members, schooling and medical reports, case notes and correspondence about the child.

**Admission and discharge register, 1893–c. 1940s**

Access: Access to information held by Dalmar is generally limited to the person to whom that information relates. In order to access information about himself or herself, a person must be able to prove their identity before information is released. This may mean having to produce a birth certificate, driver’s licence or other such form of identification. A person may access information about another person provided the person who is the subject of the information gives their permission to the person seeking access. In the event that the person to whom the information relates is deceased, the person seeking access must provide proof of that person’s death, and of their relationship to that person.

Contact: All requests for access should be made in writing to Wesley Mission, Dalmar Child and Family Care, PO Box 42, Carlingford NSW 2118.

Location: Dalmar Child and Family Care, 225 Marsden Road, Carlingford NSW 2118.

Description: These registers record very basic information such as the date of admission and discharge, and the name of the child.

**Notification of reception, 1 Mar. 1926–May 1965**

Access: Access to information held by Dalmar is generally limited to the person to whom that information relates. In order to access information about himself or herself, a person must be able to prove their identity before information is released. This may mean having to produce a birth certificate, driver’s licence or other such form of identification. A person may access information about another person provided the person who is the
subject of the information gives their permission to the person seeking access. In the event that the person to whom the information relates is deceased, the person seeking access must provide proof of that person’s death, and of their relationship to that person.

Contact: All requests for access should be made in writing to Wesley Mission, Dalmar Child and Family Care, PO Box 42, Carlingford NSW 2118.

Location: Dalmar Child and Family Care, 225 Marsden Road, Carlingford NSW 2118.

Reference no: Box G, items 78–93; Box E, item 61.

Quantity: 21 volumes.

Description: These volumes contain carbon copies of Returns of Particulars to be Registered Pursuant to section 34 of the Child Welfare Act 1939, regulation 42 (Child Welfare Department Form 14).

The information includes: full name of child; date and place of birth; religion of child; name, marital status, address and occupation of parents; name and address of person from whom child was received into the home; date child was received; particulars of arrangements made by parent for clothing and medical attendance; and amount of monies paid and by whom.


Access: Access to information held by Dalmar is generally limited to the person to whom that information relates. In order to access information about himself or herself, a person must be able to prove their identity before information is released. This may mean having to produce a birth certificate, driver’s licence or other such form of identification. A person may access information about another person provided the person who is the subject of the information gives their permission to the person seeking access. In the event that the person to whom the information relates is deceased, the person seeking access must provide proof of that person’s death, and of their relationship to that person.
Contact: All requests for access should be made in writing to Wesley Mission, Dalmar Child and Family Care, PO Box 42, Carlingford NSW 2118.

Location: Dalmar Child and Family Care, 225 Marsden Road, Carlingford NSW 2118.

Reference no: Box G, items 101–117.

Quantity: 17 volumes.

Description: These forms are declarations by the custodian (i.e. the Matron of the home) to the Director of the Child Welfare Department that custody of the child is being relinquished. The forms record: the name of the child; the address of the custodian; to whom the child was discharged (e.g. parent) and their address; the relationship of the future custodian to the child; and the date of discharge.

Register, 1942–30 Jan. 1974

Access: Access to information held by Dalmar is generally limited to the person to whom that information relates. In order to access information about himself or herself, a person must be able to prove their identity before information is released. This may mean having to produce a birth certificate, driver’s licence or other such form of identification. A person may access information about another person provided the person who is the subject of the information gives their permission to the person seeking access. In the event that the person to whom the information relates is deceased, the person seeking access must provide proof of that person’s death, and of their relationship to that person.

Contact: All requests for access should be made in writing to Wesley Mission, Dalmar Child and Family Care, PO Box 42, Carlingford NSW 2118.

Location: Dalmar Child and Family Care, 225 Marsden Road, Carlingford NSW 2118.

Reference no: Box G, items 94–100.

Quantity: 7 volumes.
Description: This register records: the name, date of birth and religion of the child; the name, address, occupation and description of the parents; the name, address, occupation and description of any person other than the parents from whom or to whom the child was received or delivered over; date child was received; date child was handed over; particulars of arrangements made by the mother for the care of the child; amount agreed to be paid per week for the child’s maintenance and by whom.
New South Wales Aboriginal Children’s Services

Since the mid 1970s, Aboriginal groups around Australia have been involved in establishing their own agencies to deal with the welfare of Aboriginal children. The roles of these community controlled agencies have extended well beyond substitute care to encompass the whole spectrum of child welfare and family support.

The first Aboriginal Children’s Service (ACS) was established in Sydney in 1975. It is a community-based, Aboriginal controlled, Aboriginal staffed, child care agency. It operates on a State-wide basis. The aims of the agency are to cease the practice of fostering and adoption of Aboriginal children to non-Aboriginal families; and to offer an alternative option to the courts for the institutionalisation of Aboriginal children.

The objectives of the ACS are to: use the natural family and extended family as the alternative to institutionalisation; provide a service that is identifiable to the Aboriginal community and used as such; help re-link or re-trace family members separated by welfare practices and policies of the past; and provide assistance wherever applicable to ensure that all Aboriginal children and families who come to the attention of the authorities are adequately represented.

The ACS was originally funded by Australian Catholic Relief, but now operates on a mixture of Commonwealth and New South Wales Government funding. The ACS runs, among other services, a foster placement service for children in need of short-term alternative care. The ACS is also a member of the Secretariat of National Aboriginal and Islander Child Care (SNAICC). There are now nine Aboriginal organisations providing services for Aboriginal children throughout New South Wales.

The New South Wales Department of Community Services funds a number of ACS organisations which provide alternative care (both through foster care and group homes) for Aboriginal children. These include: Cowra ACS; Wagga Wagga ACS; St Mary’s ACS; Hunter ACS; Koolyangarra Fostering Agency (Nowra); Nunya Aboriginal Fostering Agency (Dareton); and Great Lakes/Manning ACS.

The contact details for these organisations are:

**Cowra ACS**
Manager  
PO Box 610  
COWRA NSW 2794  
Telephone: (02) 6342 4448  
Fax: (02) 6342 3970

**Wagga Wagga ACS**
Manager  
PO Box 50  
WAGGA WAGGA NSW 2706  
Telephone: (02) 6921 6369  
Fax: (02) 6921 6694
Under the provisions of the Children (Care and Protection) Regulation 1996, centres are required to maintain two forms of information on children in the centre. The first is referred to as the *record* which is the child’s file. The second is the *register* of children at the centre which may be in book or card form. The information may also be maintained on computer provided it can be readily accessed as required.

The following information should be kept on the child’s file (*record*): name, sex, date of birth and religion of child; ethnicity and language spoken; name, addresses and telephone numbers of the parents; name of the person requesting the admission of the child; a record of each acceptance and placement, including name, address and telephone numbers of each foster parent; medical report summaries; the date and summaries of each interview with the child, and with the foster parents; the date or dates a child ceased to be under the care of the centre; the name, address and telephone number of the child’s doctor; particulars of any injuries or illnesses suffered by the child whilst in care; particulars of any consents in relation to medical and dental treatment; particulars of any court orders affecting the custody or guardianship of the child; and particulars of any previous occasions on which the child has been placed in foster care or been resident at any centre.

The *register* which is to be maintained should include particulars of the child, court orders affecting custody, and details in relation to admission to and discharge of the child from care. In addition, agencies are required to maintain a register of foster parents, in which the following information should be recorded: name and address of the foster parent; the name of
each child placed with the foster parent; and the dates upon which the placement commenced and ceased.

Agencies are required to keep the **records** and **registers** for not less than seven years after they are made. **Records** and **registers** are able to be inspected by a parent of the child to whom the information relates.

In the event that a centre or agency ceases to operate, its **records** and **registers** must be forwarded to the Director General of the Department of Community Services.
Barnardos Australia

Barnardos Australia takes its values and direction from the work of its founder, Dr Thomas Barnardo. Although incorporated locally in Australia, Barnardos Australia maintains links to Barnardos United Kingdom.

Barnardos Australia has been operating in this country since 1883 when a party of eight boys left Dr Barnardo’s Stepney Home to start a new life in Australia. Barnardo’s ‘official’ immigration scheme began in 1920, with the first party of 47 boys leaving the United Kingdom for Australia in 1921. The first hostel for the reception of children in New South Wales was a former Red Cross Hospital at Botany Bay. This building was not, however, suitable and a home was eventually purchased in Ashfield. Housing up to 60 boys, this house was used as a place of temporary residence and as a convalescent home.

The first party of girls arrived in 1924. They were allowed to come to Australia on the condition they worked as domestic staff for at least two years after their arrival. In 1929, the Barnardo’s farm training school at ‘Mowbray Park’, Picton was opened. The school was initially for boys and girls aged six to fifteen years, but was later used entirely for boys. It closed in 1959, and was replaced by a smaller farm school at Scone on the Upper Hunter River, which trained boys aged fifteen to sixteen years in farming skills. The school took migrant children, and later admitted Australian children. It closed in 1982.

By 1938, 2,340 children had arrived in Australia. No children arrived during the World War II years (1939–45). In 1944, the first Australian girl was admitted to Barnardo’s care. After the war, Barnardos continued to send children to Australia on a diminishing scale. Child migration ceased in 1964.

In 1955, foster care was introduced followed by a Holiday Home Scheme which allowed children in homes to be boarded with families during the school holidays. In 1964, Barnardo’s House in Canberra was opened. This was the first residential children’s home for permanent care to be opened in the Australian Capital Territory. The Boarding Out Family Grant Scheme was also introduced to help widowed or deserted mothers.

The post-war years saw a number of family group homes opened: Greenwood opened in 1951 at Wahroonga and accommodated 44 boys and 22 girls (closed 1968); Tarana opened in 1960 at Belmont South (closed 1977); Hartwell House opened in 1960 at Kiama (closed 1970); Atherstone House opened in 1962 at Cronulla (closed 1977); Rickard House opened in 1962 at West Ryde (closed 1978); Illawong opened in 1963 at Wollongong (closed 1974); and Ladd House and Fairfax House (Greenwood) opened in 1968 at Normanhurst to accommodate brothers and sisters (closed 1976). Since 1974 Barnardos has also placed an
emphasis on family–based placements. It has also been instrumental in developing Temporary Family Care, a crisis and respite foster program; this program began in 1978 at the Waverley Centre, 1984 in Auburn, 1989 in Penrith and 1990 in Canberra and Illawarra. In 1975 Barnardos established a professional care and adoption program in Sydney called Find-A-Family. In 1993 this was followed by a similar program in Canberra called Specialist Fostering. Since the late 1980s, there has been an increased emphasis on Barnardos adolescent programs. Kingston House (catering for Indo-Chinese refugees) was opened in 1987, Hohnen House was opened in 1988, and a street work program commenced in 1990.

In 1966 the name of the agency changed from Dr Barnardo’s Homes (Australia Branch) to Dr Barnardos in Australia. It is now known as Barnardos Australia.

(Source: History of Barnardos Australia prepared by Sue Tregeagle; and notes prepared by Bill Hoyles, Director, Youth Services, Barnardos Australia.)

Client files, 1925–present

Access: Barnardos has an open file policy for clients and ex-clients, which enables them to obtain a full copy of their personal file.

Contact: Applications for access should be made to the Director of After Care, 60–64 Bay Street Ultimo NSW 2007. The telephone number is (02) 9281 7933.

Location: The records are held for a period in the individual programs then transferred to the Barnardos Bay Street offices before being transferred to a closed storage section of the Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW.

Quantity: Over 6000 files (approximately half these relate to child migrants, while the remainder relate to Australian children).

Description: The files provide a comprehensive view of all aspects of the client’s time in care, including admission histories (when and why admitted), school reports, post–school activities, health details, etc.

Related records: Barnardos Australia has shipping lists and a card index of all child migrants. It also has an archive of photographs, films and memorabilia. Barnardos Australia can also access the records of Barnardos UK relating to former child clients of Barnardos in the United Kingdom.
Benevolent Society of New South Wales

The Benevolent Society of New South Wales was established on 5 June 1818. Its first residential institution was the Benevolent Society Asylum which was opened in 1821 by Governor Macquarie. The Asylum was located on the corner of Pitt and Devonshire Streets, Sydney on a site now occupied by Central Railway Station. With the compensation it received from the State Government when this site was resumed, the Society purchased several properties including an estate in Paddington for its women’s hospital (a more detailed history of the Royal Hospital for Women appears elsewhere in this Guide, together with a listing of its records). At the same time, the Society was able to purchase land on the corner of Thomas Street and Quay Street, Sydney on which it built its new Asylum.

The Thomas Street Asylum was the only hospital in the city for destitute and homeless mothers nursing their infants. The majority of women were young, unmarried mothers. The Asylum also admitted and cared for orphans and foundlings who were usually discharged to the care of the State Children’s Relief Department. In 1911, the Asylum underwent alterations and wards providing for the treatment of sick infants were added. This new hospital was named the Renwick Hospital for Infants and was opened on 3 July 1911.

In 1917, pre-maternity patients waiting at Thomas Street were transferred to a newly established pre-maternity department at the Royal Hospital for Women. In the same year the Society leased ‘Scarba’ in Wellington Street Bondi to which all women and children were moved. The Scarba Welfare House for Women and Children was officially opened on 26 September 1917. In 1920, the Board of the Society decided to devote Scarba entirely to the care of young children and the name was changed to Scarba Welfare House for Children. In 1965, the name changed to Scarba House for Children.

In 1919 the Society acquired two properties in Summer Hill for the relocation of the Renwick Hospital. Patients were transferred to the new hospital in October 1921 and it was officially opened on 7 November of that year. The Thomas Street wards continued to be used as the hospital’s outpatients department until its closure in December 1957. In 1964, the Society accepted an offer from the State Government to acquire the Renwick Hospital, which resulted in the closure of the hospital at the beginning of 1965.

In 1968 the Benevolent Society became a registered adoption agency. Although it established a reputation for personal service and short waiting periods for adoptive parents, declining numbers of babies available for adoption and the rising costs of administering the service saw the agency close in 1975.

In 1991, following the introduction of the Adoption Information Act 1990 the Benevolent Society opened the Post Adoption Resource Centre (PARC) at
its administrative offices in Hardwick House at Paddington. The Centre provides information, advice, support and counselling to adopted people, birth parents and adoptive parents.


**Index to admissions and discharges, 1852–1913**

**Access:** Access to information is generally restricted to the person to whom the information relates. Information may be released to a third party if they can prove their relationship to the person to whom the information refers. Records which are fragile or contain information of a sensitive nature may only be accessed by authorised members of the Society’s staff. The information will then be passed on to the person making the request.

**Contact:** People wishing to access Benevolent Society records must put their request in writing to the Chief Executive Officer, Benevolent Society of NSW, PO Box 171, Paddington, NSW, 2021. A fee applies.

**Location:** Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW, Macquarie Street Sydney.

**Reference no:** ML. Z D562–Z D 573.

**Quantity:** 12 volumes.

**Description:** Arranged alphabetically by date of admission, these volumes record name, age, religion, date of admission and discharge (e.g. to boarding out officer, to family, to another institution, to billet, with permission, absconded, expelled or deceased). The volumes index admissions and discharges at Sydney Asylum (Jan. 1852–May 1904), Liverpool Asylum (1851–62), Hospital for Women, Paddington (Oct. 1901–May 1903), as well as a general index Mar. 1904–Aug. 1913.

**Index to admissions and discharges, 1932–37**

**Access:** Access to information is generally restricted to the person to whom the information relates. Information may be released to a third party if they can prove their relationship to the person to whom the information refers. Records which are fragile or contain information
of a sensitive nature may only be accessed by authorised members of the Society’s staff. The information will then be passed on to the person making the request.

Contact: People wishing to access Benevolent Society records must put their request in writing to the Chief Executive Officer, Benevolent Society of NSW, PO Box 171, Paddington, NSW, 2021. A fee applies.

Location: Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW, Macquarie Street Sydney.

Reference no: ML. MSS 6091/35.

Quantity: 2 volumes.

Description: Arranged alphabetically by date of admission. The index records name of patients (and births), name of institution to which admitted (i.e. Royal Hospital for Women, Renwick Hospital for Infants, Scarba House), date of admission and discharge, how discharged (e.g. home, another institution, deceased). This index ceases to record admissions to the Royal Hospital for Women (and births) at the end of 1932. From January 1932 to April 1936 the index is a general index; from April 1936 to May 1937 it indexes admissions and discharges for Renwick Hospital for Infants and Scarba House.

Registers of admissions and discharges, 1857–1905

Access: Access to information is generally restricted to the person to whom the information relates. Information may be released to a third party if they can prove their relationship to the person to whom the information refers. Records which are fragile or contain information of a sensitive nature may only be accessed by authorised members of the Society’s staff. The information will then be passed on to the person making the request.

Contact: People wishing to access Benevolent Society records must put their request in writing to the Chief Executive Officer, Benevolent Society of NSW, PO Box 171, Paddington, NSW, 2021. A fee applies.

Location: Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW, Macquarie Street Sydney.

Reference no: ML. Z D574–Z D582.
Quantity: 9 volumes.

Description: These printed volumes are arranged chronologically and are a daily register of the admission and discharge of inmates. They record name, age, ship and year of arrival in NSW, condition (general medical condition), trade (occupation), religion, referee for admission, how discharged (e.g. with permission, to another institution, to family, absconded, expelled, deceased). From 1887 onward, the register includes remarks (reason for admission, marital status, etc.).

Inmates journals, 1852–1913

Access: Access to information is generally restricted to the person to whom the information relates. Information may be released to a third party if they can prove their relationship to the person to whom the information refers. Records which are fragile or contain information of a sensitive nature may only be accessed by authorised members of the Society’s staff. The information will then be passed on to the person making the request.

Contact: People wishing to access Benevolent Society records must put their request in writing to the Chief Executive Officer, Benevolent Society of NSW, PO Box 171, Paddington, NSW, 2021. A fee applies.

Location: Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW, Macquarie Street Sydney.

Reference no: ML. ZA7227–ZA7253.

Quantity: 27 volumes.

Description: These volumes are arranged chronologically, and are a daily journal showing the admission and discharge of inmates at the Sydney Benevolent Asylum, Royal Hospital for Women and Renwick Hospital for Infants. Includes name, age, religion, place of origin, marital status, ship and year of arrival, next of kin, brief case history and medical remarks, stores issued and received, name of referee, monthly summary of admissions, discharges, transfers and births (particulars recorded and the level of detail varies considerably across this series of journals).
**Obstetrics journals: form for admission of waiting patients, 1909–14**

**Access:**
Access to information is generally restricted to the person to whom the information relates. Information may be released to a third party if they can prove their relationship to the person to whom the information refers. Records which are fragile or contain information of a sensitive nature may only be accessed by authorised members of the Society’s staff. The information will then be passed on to the person making the request.

**Contact:**
People wishing to access Benevolent Society records must put their request in writing to the Chief Executive Officer, Benevolent Society of NSW, PO Box 171, Paddington, NSW, 2021. A fee applies.

**Location:**
Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW, Macquarie Street, Sydney.

**Reference no:**
ML. MSS 6091/37.

**Quantity:**
2 volumes.

**Description:**
Thomas Street Asylum for Women and Children Obstetrics Journals: ‘Form for admission of waiting patients’. These include name of applicant, marital status, occupation, address, native place (origin), length of residence in the State, religion, next of kin (including name and occupation of husband), details of financial circumstances and capacity to meet account payments, brief case history and medical remarks, name of referee, and date of admission.

**Register of baptisms, 1902–64**

**Access:**
Access to information is generally restricted to the person to whom the information relates. Information may be released to a third party if they can prove their relationship to the person to whom the information refers. Records which are fragile or contain information of a sensitive nature may only be accessed by authorised members of the Society’s staff. The information will then be passed on to the person making the request.
Contact: People wishing to access Benevolent Society records must put their request in writing to the Chief Executive Officer, Benevolent Society of NSW, PO Box 171, Paddington, NSW, 2021. A fee applies.

Location: Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW, Macquarie Street Sydney.

Reference no: ML. MSS 6091/36.

Quantity: 2 volumes.

Description: Arranged chronologically, these registers show date of baptism, name of child, name of mother, minister ‘baptised by’, and religion. They occasionally show the date of birth or age of the child. The first register, commencing in 1902, most likely includes baptisms from the temporary Asylum at Valentine lane, Ultimo and the Thomas Street Asylum, City.

Infants’ Hospital history book c. Feb. 1911

Access: Access to information is generally restricted to the person to whom the information relates. Information may be released to a third party if they can prove their relationship to the person to whom the information refers. Records which are fragile or contain information of a sensitive nature may only be accessed by authorised members of the Society’s staff. The information will then be passed on to the person making the request.

Contact: People wishing to access Benevolent Society records must put their request in writing to the Chief Executive Officer, Benevolent Society of NSW, PO Box 171, Paddington, NSW, 2021. A fee applies.

Location: Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW, Macquarie Street Sydney.

Reference no: ML. MSS 6091/41.

Quantity: 1 volume.

Description: Arranged alphabetically, the patient history book records name and age of child, date of admission, weight, date discharged, patient history notes and remarks.
Patients' medical records, 1937; 1955–56

Access: Access to information is generally restricted to the person to whom the information relates. Information may be released to a third party if they can prove their relationship to the person to whom the information refers. Records which are fragile or contain information of a sensitive nature may only be accessed by authorised members of the Society’s staff. The information will then be passed on to the person making the request.

Contact: People wishing to access Benevolent Society records must put their request in writing to the Chief Executive Officer, Benevolent Society of NSW, PO Box 171, Paddington, NSW, 2021. A fee applies.

Location: Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW, Macquarie Street Sydney.

Reference no: ML. MSS 6091/41.

Quantity: 2 volumes.

Description: Arranged alphabetically, these medical records include patient's history sheet, temperature and weight charts, consent form, pathological or post mortem report, X-ray reports, and notes. This is an incomplete series.

Matron’s diary, Mar. 1964–Apr. 1969

Access: Access to information is generally restricted to the person to whom the information relates. Information may be released to a third party if they can prove their relationship to the person to whom the information refers. Records which are fragile or contain information of a sensitive nature may only be accessed by authorised members of the Society’s staff. The information will then be passed on to the person making the request.

Contact: People wishing to access Benevolent Society records must put their request in writing to the Chief Executive Officer, Benevolent Society of NSW, PO Box 171, Paddington, NSW, 2021. A fee applies.

Location: Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW, Macquarie Street Sydney.

Reference no: ML. MSS 6091/45.
Quantity: 1 volume.

Description: Arranged chronologically, this volume is a record of the daily administration of Scarba House. It includes children and staff matters, reports on the state of the House, reports on the health of the children, staff reports, building repairs and improvements, record of transfer of children, donations received, special events, extraordinary incidents and occurrences.

**Sister's day and night report books, 1966–71**

Access: Access to information is generally restricted to the person to whom the information relates. Information may be released to a third party if they can prove their relationship to the person to whom the information refers. Records which are fragile or contain information of a sensitive nature may only be accessed by authorised members of the Society’s staff. The information will then be passed on to the person making the request.

Contact: People wishing to access Benevolent Society records must put their request in writing to the Chief Executive Officer, Benevolent Society of NSW, PO Box 171, Paddington, NSW, 2021. A fee applies.

Location: Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW, Macquarie Street Sydney.


Quantity: 16 volumes.

Description: Arranged chronologically, these are day and night shift report books. They record admissions and discharges, name of child, general medical condition and symptoms, medication and treatment and instructions to nursing staff.

**Scarba House: Index, 1965–68; 1972–74**

Access: Access to information is generally restricted to the person to whom the information relates. Information may be released to a third party if they can prove their relationship to the person to whom the information refers. Records which are fragile or contain information of a sensitive nature may only be accessed by
authorised members of the Society’s staff. The information will then be passed on to the person making the request.

Contact: People wishing to access Benevolent Society records must put their request in writing to the Chief Executive Officer, Benevolent Society of NSW, PO Box 171, Paddington, NSW, 2021. A fee applies.

Location: Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW, Macquarie Street Sydney.

Reference no: ML. MSS 6091/43–44.

Quantity: 2 volumes.

Description: These index cards are arranged alphabetically with members of the same family grouped together. They record: surname; first name; registration number; gender; date of birth; age; religion; birthplace; address on admission; address on discharge; date admitted; date discharged; number of days in Scarba; father’s name, address, occupation, wages and rent; mother’s maiden name and address; details of legal action; why recommended for admission; by whom brought in and remarks.


Access: Access to information is generally restricted to the person to whom the information relates. Information may be released to a third party if they can prove their relationship to the person to whom the information refers. Records which are fragile or contain information of a sensitive nature may only be accessed by authorised members of the Society’s staff. The information will then be passed on to the person making the request.

Contact: People wishing to access Benevolent Society records must put their request in writing to the Chief Executive Officer, Benevolent Society of NSW, PO Box 171, Paddington, NSW, 2021. A fee applies.

Location: Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW, Macquarie Street Sydney.

Reference no: ML. MSS 6091/42.

Quantity: 1 volume.
Description: The register is arranged chronologically and records name and gender of child, and the total number of children admitted and discharged for each month.

**Scarba House: Client records, 1974–87**

Access: Access to information is generally restricted to the person to whom the information relates. Information may be released to a third party if they can prove their relationship to the person to whom the information refers. Records which are fragile or contain information of a sensitive nature may only be accessed by authorised members of the Society’s staff. The information will then be passed on to the person making the request.

Contact: People wishing to access these records must put their request in writing to the Director, Centre for Children, Benevolent Society of NSW, PO Box 171, Paddington, NSW, 2021.

Location: Benevolent Society.

Description: These files contain case notes for families who were involved in programs operated by Scarba. The information relates to the children and their parents and may include medical and psychological reports. There is also information about the admission and discharge of children into care.


Access: Access to information is generally restricted to the person to whom the information relates. Information may be released to a third party if they can prove their relationship to the person to whom the information refers. Records which are fragile or contain information of a sensitive nature may only be accessed by authorised members of the Society’s staff. The information will then be passed on to the person making the request.

Contact: People wishing to access Benevolent Society records must put their request in writing to the Chief Executive Officer, Benevolent Society of NSW, PO Box 171, Paddington, NSW, 2021. A fee applies.

Location: Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW, Macquarie Street Sydney.
Reference no: ML. MSS 6091/42.

Quantity: 1 folder.

Description: This register is arranged chronologically and records admission number, name, date and time of admission, ward admitted to, age group of child, and signature of admitting officer.


Access: Access to information is generally restricted to the person to whom the information relates. Information may be released to a third party if they can prove their relationship to the person to whom the information refers. Records which are fragile or contain information of a sensitive nature may only be accessed by authorised members of the Society's staff. The information will then be passed on to the person making the request.

Contact: People wishing to access Benevolent Society records must put their request in writing to the Chief Executive Officer, Benevolent Society of NSW, PO Box 171, Paddington, NSW, 2021. A fee applies.

Location: Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW, Macquarie Street Sydney.

Reference no: ML. MSS 6091/42.

Quantity: 1 volume.

Description: Arranged chronologically, this book records date, name, age, gender, name of referee to Scarba House, reason for refusal, action taken (including the name of the institution referred to). From January to September 1972, this volume includes a record of the age group of children admitted.

Visitors’ book, 1969–72

Access: Access to information is generally restricted to the person to whom the information relates. Information may be released to a third party if they can prove their relationship to the person to whom the information refers. Records which are fragile or contain information of a sensitive nature may only be accessed by
authorised members of the Society's staff. The information will then be passed on to the person making the request.

**Contact:** People wishing to access Benevolent Society records must put their request in writing to the Chief Executive Officer, Benevolent Society of NSW, PO Box 171, Paddington, NSW, 2021. A fee applies.

**Location:** Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW, Macquarie Street Sydney.

**Reference no:** ML. MSS 6091/42.

**Quantity:** 2 volumes.

**Description:** These volumes are registers of children's visitors and record date, name of visitor, address, child's name, time of attendance and departure, and relationship of visitor to the child.

**Social workers' case files (closed cases), 1968–71**

**Access:** Access to information is generally restricted to the person to whom the information relates. Information may be released to a third party if they can prove their relationship to the person to whom the information refers. Records which are fragile or contain information of a sensitive nature may only be accessed by authorised members of the Society's staff. The information will then be passed on to the person making the request.

**Contact:** People wishing to access Benevolent Society records must put their request in writing to the Chief Executive Officer, Benevolent Society of NSW, PO Box 171, Paddington, NSW, 2021. A fee applies.

**Location:** Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW, Macquarie Street Sydney.

**Reference no:** ML. MSS 6091/51–53.

**Quantity:** 3 boxes.

**Description:** These files, which are arranged alphabetically, include client history data sheets, record of 'presenting problem', assistance provided, correspondence and case notes.
Bomaderry Aboriginal Children’s Home, 1908–[?]

Bomaderry Aboriginal Children’s Home was established in 1908 to receive seven Aboriginal children, six orphans and one baby rescued by Miss Thompson, a missionary working with the Aborigines. A cottage was provided by Colebrook, the editor of the Bomaderry Mission’s paper. The home developed until it had four cottages, the last of which was opened on 29 May, 1924. Up to 47 children were resident at the Home at any one time. In 1929, M.F. Morton, M.L.A. gave five acres of land to the home, bringing the total area of the property to nine acres.

(Source: Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies, Canberra).

Very few records survive for this Home.

**Personal records (incomplete), c. 1960s–80**

**Access:**

Access to these records is restricted to those people to whom the records relate. The person applying for access must fill in a request form for personal information contained in the records, stating the reason for requesting access. If the application is approved, the Archives Officer at the United Aborigines Mission (UAM) will extract the information from the files on behalf of the applicant. Historians may also access records under certain conditions and must also complete a request form stating the reason for requesting access and the purpose of research.

**Contact:**

Applications to access records should be directed to:
The Archives Officer, United Aborigines Mission, PO Box 1071, East Doncaster Victoria 3107.

**Location:**

The records are held in the offices of the United Aborigines Mission, 23 Pine Way, East Doncaster Victoria 3107.

**Quantity:**

1 archives box.

**Description:**

These are the only known surviving records of the Bomaderry Children’s Home. They are very incomplete and the information contained in them is sparse. Very basic information about the child includes: name; date of admission and discharge; and names of parents and siblings. In a few cases, some family background information may also be given.
Coomballa Youth Development Aboriginal Corporation – Nunya Foster Care, 1984–present

The Coomballa Youth Development Aboriginal Corporation was initially opened in 1984. In 1987 the organisation was incorporated as the Dareton Aboriginal Youth Development Association Inc. The name changed to the Dareton Youth Development Aboriginal Corporation in 1990, and it is now known as the Coomballa Youth Development Aboriginal Corporation.

One of the objectives of the Corporation is to provide alternate temporary care for Aboriginal and other children through a foster care program. In 1987 a Family Support Service was established, followed in 1988 by the Foster Care Program. The Foster Care Program cares for up to twelve children at any one time. The Corporation also strives to promote a unified community in which all members live in harmony together regardless of race.

Foster care files, 1988–present

Access: Access to information contained in these files is restricted to the person to whom the file relates.

Contact: People wishing to access information contained in these files should contact Nunya Foster Care Agency, PO Box 100, Dareton NSW 2717. The telephone number is (03) 5027 4698, and the fax number is (03) 5027 4597.

Location: Nunya Foster Care, 55 Mitchell Street, Dareton NSW 2717.

Description: These case files contain information about the placement of children in the Nunya Foster Care Program. Children who enter this program are generally placed for three to six months, and are usually returned to their parents. The information includes: name and age of child; date of birth; parents’ names and address; reason for admission to the program; details of the placement of the child, including name and address of foster parents; case assessment notes; and details of the child’s return to his or her parents.
Fairbridge Farm School, Molong, 1938–73

The Fairbridge Farm Schools of New South Wales, in association with the Fairbridge Society, London, was involved in the emigration of children from the United Kingdom and their care and schooling at the Fairbridge Farm School, Molong New South Wales, between 1938 and the early 1970s. The actual emigration arrangements were made by the Fairbridge Society, London, while the provision of care and schooling after the children arrived in Australia was the responsibility of the Fairbridge Farm Schools of New South Wales.

The Fairbridge Society, London was involved in similar schemes in other places including the Farm School at Pinjarra in Western Australia and others in Canada and Rhodesia (Zimbabwe). The difference between the Molong Farm School and the other Fairbridge Farm Schools is that, while all the others were established and operated with monies largely from the United Kingdom, the Molong Farm School was established and operated with monies largely from Australian sources.

In all the Fairbridge sponsored child emigration schemes, there was no forcible separation of children from their families. In the case of the Molong Farm School, for example, a child only came with parental approval to do so or, if there was no parent, approval of a close relative or guardian. While at Molong, the child was encouraged to maintain constant correspondence with his or her parents, relatives or former guardians in the United Kingdom.

The Fairbridge Farm School, Molong closed in 1973. The men and women who passed through the Farm School as children have formed and administer a strong Old Fairbridgians’ Association, which itself has evolved from the original Fairbridge Farm Schools of NSW. The Foundation administers the money derived from the sale of the farm and has the responsibility of distributing its revenues, as donations, to charitable institutions in NSW which care for the well-being of underprivileged children. The Foundation also has responsibility for the custody of the personal files of the children who passed through the Fairbridge Farm School at Molong.

Children’s files, 1938–73

Access: Access to information in the individual children’s files is limited to the Old Fairbridgian himself or herself. After the death of an Old Fairbridgian, his or her spouse and children can have access to genealogical and medical papers on his or her file.

Contact: An individual seeking access should write to the Council Secretary, Fairbridge Foundation, 809 Trust Building, 155 King Street, Sydney NSW 2000.
Location: Fairbridge Foundation offices, 809 Trust Building, 155 King Street, Sydney NSW 2000.

Quantity: approx. 900 files.

Description: The following information is contained on the files: name of child; child’s date of birth, and in some cases a Certificate of Birth; religion; education and scholastic ability; character; illnesses; name of mother (if known); name of father (if known); and where child came from. Following the child’s arrival at the Fairbridge Farm School, the information kept on the file would include: school records; an index to letters to and from the child; and medical and dental records. In some cases there is information about employment placements.
Hopewood House, Bowral, 1944–[?]

Hopewood House was part of a social experiment embarked upon during World War II by Sydney businessman Leslie Owen Bailey. Bailey gathered and reared 86 male and female babies born to unwed mothers during the war years (1939–45).

Bailey rented a property ‘Belhaven’ in Bellevue Hill situated on the foreshores of Sydney Harbour and established the ‘Belhaven Home for Mothers and Babies’. Expectant single mothers were referred to ‘Belhaven’ by Macquarie Street doctors. During this era, those women had very few options available to them. Unless there was a marriage planned, most women were faced with either placing their babies in State institutions, or trying to arrange a private adoption. Bailey offered an alternative to this. Mothers could leave their babies in the care of ‘Belhaven’ where they would be raised in accordance with Bailey’s methodologies.

By 1944, there were 61 babies at ‘Belhaven’. Bailey purchased ‘Hopewood House’, a rural property at Bowral. The House was officially opened in November of that year as a home for expectant mothers and babies.

Leslie Owen Bailey was the founder of the Youth Welfare Association of Australia which still exists as the Australian Youth Foundation. He died in 1964.

(Source: ‘An Objective Illusion – The Hopewood Experiment’, thesis by Deborah Ambery submitted as a partial requirement for the award of Bachelor of Science (Honours), Department of Sociology, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, University of Western Sydney, Macarthur, 31 Oct. 1995.)

People seeking further information about Hopewood House should contact The Australian Youth Foundation, Suite 302, 134 William Street, East Sydney NSW 2011. The telephone number is (02) 9357 2344, and the fax number is (02) 9358 5635. The email address is youth@ayf.org.au. The Foundation also has a web site at http://www.ayf.org.au/~ayouthf.)
Hunter Mission, 1992–present

The Hunter Mission is part of Mission Australia which is a national Christian human services organisation. The Hunter Mission commenced its operations in Newcastle in 1992.


Access: Access to information will generally only be given to the person to whom the information relates. Enquirers should be aware that the Hunter Mission has a policy of only keeping files for seven years.

Contact: All requests for access should be directed to the Hunter Mission, Level 3, 2 Market Street, Newcastle NSW 2300, stating reasons for wanting to gain access to information.

Location: Files are kept at the Mission’s regional office, Level 3, 2 Market Street, Newcastle NSW 2300, and at the Newcastle Employment Office in the Hunter Street Mall, Newcastle.

Quantity: 6–8 boxes.

Description: These files, arranged alphabetically by surname, are the personal files of young people involved in the Mission’s substitute care program. Information contained in the files includes: dates of admission and exit; some details about parents; and case plans for each young person. All young people who go through this program are wards of the State.
‘Inasmuch’ Children’s Home, Falls Creek, 1968–[unknown]

The ‘Inasmuch’ Children’s Home was established by Major Myrtle Townsend. Major Townsend had retired as a Salvation Army Officer in 1956. During her work for the Salvation Army, Major Townsend became well known for her compassion for needy children. After her retirement, she established the home at Falls Creek on her own initiative. It was officially opened on 15 November 1958 by Captain Smith of HMAS Albatross.

The ‘Inasmuch’ Children’s Home at Falls Creek won admiration as a fine attempt to provide for children in difficult circumstances. Major Townsend was well supported by the generosity of the local community, including the Bomaderry Social Club, the Shoalhaven Shire Council, local service clubs, and the navy personnel and their wives at HMAS Albatross Naval Air Station.

Major Townsend died in 1972 as a result of a motor vehicle accident. Following an appeal launched by the Shoalhaven Shire Council, the work was continued by Miss Pam Mooney, a trained mothercraft nurse from Kiama. The children were moved from the property at Falls Creek to premises, given by a benefactor, at Sussex Inlet.

(Source: Shoalhaven by W.A. Bailey, available at the Kiama Family History Centre; obituary for Major Townsend in the ‘War Cry’, the newspaper of the Salvation Army, August 1972.)

Little else is known about ‘Inasmuch’, including the location of any records. Anyone with any information about this Home is invited to contact Enid Hurst at PO Box 131, Sussex Inlet, NSW 2540, who is attempting to write the history of ‘Inasmuch’.
The Infants’ Home, Ashfield 1874–present

The Infants’ Home, Ashfield had its beginnings in 1874, when the Sydney Foundling Institution was established at 112 Victoria Street, Darlinghurst in inner Sydney. The name changed to the Sydney Foundling Hospital. In 1875, the hospital moved to Port View House, Stewart Street, Paddington. The following year, a property, ‘Gorton’, was purchased in Henry Street, Ashfield in Sydney’s inner west. The name changed again, in 1877, to The Infants’ Home, Ashfield.

In 1924, The Infants’ Home was incorporated by an Act of Parliament. It operated as a residential care facility, funded by donations and some government grants. In 1972, it became the first organisation in New South Wales to move from residential care to long day care for children aged zero to five years. In the same year it established short-term and emergency fostering.

The Infants’ Home, Ashfield continues to operate a number of programs, including Family Day Care, and a Family Centre.

(Source: ‘Chronological Calendar’ of The Infants’ Home Ashfield, available from the Home, 17 Henry Street, Ashfield NSW 2131).

Records about inmates, 1874–77; 1902–10

Access: Access to information is restricted to former residents of The Infants’ Home, Ashfield or members of their family. Proof of identity must be produced before information is supplied. Access to the original records is not permitted. A research fee applies.

Contact: All requests for information from the records of The Infants’ Home, Ashfield should be directed to The Executive Officer, The Infants’ Home, 17 Henry Street, Ashfield NSW 2131.

Location: State Library of NSW (Mitchell Library), Macquarie Street, Sydney NSW 2000.


Quantity: 2 volumes.

Description: These volumes are very similar in content to admission books and contain information such as: name; age; date of admission; circumstances of parents; and reason for admission.
**Admission book, 1924–29**

**Access:**
Access to information is restricted to former residents of The Infants’ Home, Ashfield or members of their family. Proof of identity must be produced before information is supplied. Access to the original records is not permitted. A research fee applies.

**Contact:**
All requests for information from the records of The Infants’ Home, Ashfield should be directed to The Executive Officer, The Infants’ Home, 17 Henry Street, Ashfield NSW 2131.

**Location:**
State Library of NSW (Mitchell Library), Macquarie Street, Sydney NSW 2000.

**Reference no:**
ML. MSS.2983 (vol. 47).

**Quantity:**
1 volume.

**Description:**
These volumes contain information such as: name; age; date of admission; circumstances of parents; and reason for admission.

**Register of children in the home, 1947–53**

**Access:**
Access to information is restricted to former residents of The Infants’ Home, Ashfield or members of their family. Proof of identity must be produced before information is supplied. Access to the original records is not permitted. A research fee applies.

**Contact:**
All requests for information from the records of The Infants’ Home, Ashfield should be directed to The Executive Officer, The Infants’ Home, 17 Henry Street, Ashfield NSW 2131.

**Location:**
State Library of NSW (Mitchell Library), Macquarie Street, Sydney NSW 2000.

**Reference no:**
ML. MSS.2983 (vol. 48).

**Quantity:**
1 volume.

**Description:**
These volumes are very similar in content to admission books and contain information such as: name; age; date of admission; circumstances of parents; and reason for admission.
Daily record of children admitted and discharged, 1959–64

Access: Access to information is restricted to former residents of The Infants’ Home, Ashfield or members of their family. Proof of identity must be produced before information is supplied. Access to the original records is not permitted. A research fee applies.

Contact: All requests for information from the records of The Infants’ Home, Ashfield should be directed to The Executive Officer, The Infants’ Home, 17 Henry Street, Ashfield NSW 2131.

Location: State Library of NSW (Mitchell Library), Macquarie Street, Sydney NSW 2000.

Reference no: ML. MSS.2983 (vol. 49).

Quantity: 1 volume.

Description: This register records the names of children admitted to and discharged from the home, and the date and reason for admission and discharge. In some cases, details are given such as by whom admitted and to whom discharged.

Minute books, 1874–1965

Access: Access to information is restricted to former residents of The Infants’ Home, Ashfield or members of their family. Proof of identity must be produced before information is supplied. Access to the original records is not permitted. A research fee applies.

Contact: All requests for information from the records of The Infants’ Home, Ashfield should be directed to The Executive Officer, The Infants’ Home, 17 Henry Street, Ashfield NSW 2131.

Location: State Library of NSW (Mitchell Library), Macquarie Street, Sydney NSW 2000.


Quantity: 41 volumes.

Description: These are the minute books of the Committee of the Home. They include monthly reports to the Committee
by the Matron, with lists of the names of children admitted and discharged, and any children who have been ill or who have died. In the absence of other records, these are an important source of information about residents of the Home.
Kemblawarra Child and Family Centre Inc., 1980–present

Kemblawarra Child and Family Centre Inc. was officially opened in 1980, following a community meeting convened by the Matron of Port Kembla Hospital. The meeting expressed concern over the need to prevent child abuse and neglect, and resulted in the formation of a community committee. From this grew the Kemblawarra Child and Family Centre Inc., whose aims included the provision of 24 hour preventative emergency care for children aged zero to twelve years. Due to a lack of government funding, the emergency care program ceased to operate on 31 December 1997. The Centre still exists, but now provides day care and specialist family counselling and support services.


Access: Access to information is limited to past clients and their families on a ‘need to know’ basis.

Contact: All requests for access should be directed to the Centre Director/Social Worker, Kemblawarra Child and Family Centre Inc., 30 Hoskins Avenue, Kemblawarra NSW 2505, telephone (02) 4274 1988.

Location: Kemblawarra Child and Family Centre Inc., 30 Hoskins Avenue, Kemblawarra NSW 2505.

Quantity: 8 filing cabinet drawers (part).

Description: These forms contain the request for care and assessment. The records are arranged alphabetically by surname.


Access: Access to information is limited to past clients and their families on a ‘need to know’ basis.

Contact: All requests for access should be directed to the Centre Director/Social Worker, Kemblawarra Child and Family Centre Inc., 30 Hoskins Avenue, Kemblawarra NSW 2505, telephone (02) 4274 1988.
Location: Kemblawarra Child and Family Centre Inc., 30 Hoskins Avenue, Kemblawarra NSW 2505.

Quantity: 8 filing cabinet drawers (part).

Description: These registers record: the date and time of a child’s admission; the child’s name, age, date of birth, sex and cultural background; whether the child was a ward; emergency contact details and the relationship of that contact to the child; the child’s address and phone number; the referral source; the reason for care; the type of care required; any special needs the child has; the date and time of discharge; to whom discharged; and the length of stay. The entries are signed by the admitting and discharging staff members.

The records are arranged chronologically.


Access: Access to information is limited to past clients and their families on a ‘need to know’ basis.

Contact: All requests for access should be directed to the Centre Director/Social Worker, Kemblawarra Child and Family Centre Inc., 30 Hoskins Avenue, Kemblawarra NSW 2505, telephone (02) 4274 1988.

Location: Kemblawarra Child and Family Centre Inc., 30 Hoskins Avenue, Kemblawarra NSW 2505.

Quantity: 8 filing cabinet drawers (part).

Description: These forms record: the type of care provided; the interview date; the commencement and discharge dates; the reason for care; the child’s name and date of birth; the address and telephone number of the family; the child’s cultural background, language and religion; emergency contact details; names of other family members; other contacts; court orders and details of any access conditions; health and special needs of the child; and signed agreement forms.
The records are arranged alphabetically by surname of the child.

Related records:  

**Case work records, 1980–31 Dec. 1997**

**Access:**  
Access to information is limited to past clients and their families on a ‘need to know’ basis.

**Contact:**  
All requests for access should be directed to the Centre Director/Social Worker, Kemblawarra Child and Family Centre Inc., 30 Hoskins Avenue, Kemblawarra NSW 2505, telephone (02) 4274 1988.

**Location:**  
Kemblawarra Child and Family Centre Inc., 30 Hoskins Avenue, Kemblawarra NSW 2505.

**Quantity:**  
8 filing cabinet drawers (part).

**Description:**  
These records include all information about the case, including case notes and reports. They are number coded and arranged numerically.

**Related records:**  
Lutanda Children’s Home, 1930–present

Lutanda Children’s Home was established in 1930 by Miss Florence Dalwood who had worked in the George Muller Homes in Bristol in the United Kingdom. Miss Dalwood saw the need for a Christian home for needy children and opened the first Lutanda Children’s Home in Wilson Street, Wentworth Falls (in the Blue Mountains). The Home was run on the principle of faith in God’s supply. The children were adequately supplied even during the Depression and the war years. After Miss Dalwood’s death in 1949, Lutanda moved into a large purpose-built orphanage in Pennant Hills which later housed around 50-60 children in separate buildings for boys and girls.

In the 1970s, Lutanda moved into the community and established four family group homes, one of which still operates. This home is partially funded by the Department of Community Services although most money comes from donations and Lutanda investments.

Lutanda also owns and operates Camp Toukley which was originally built as a holiday camp for children in care of Lutanda. Today it provides quality camping for hundreds of children throughout the year.

Lutanda is currently expanding into Independent Living Training for Adolescents and into short–term care for sibling groups. Long–term care is still provided for seven children. A respite care service also operates for small numbers of children.

Lutanda is a registered company managed by a Board of Directors. Its head office is in Cherrybrook. Residential programs operate in Castle Hill, Hornsby and West Pennant Hills.

Client files, 1930–present (incomplete)

Access: Former residents of Lutanda are entitled to access their own records. Anyone wishing to access information about another person may only do so with the written permission of that person. In the case where a person wishes to access information about a person who is deceased, they will need to prove their relationship to that person (i.e. birth certificate, marriage certificate, etc.).

Contact: People wishing to access Lutanda records must first contact the Lutanda Social Worker by writing to: Lutanda, PO Box 515, Pennant Hills NSW 2120, or telephoning on (02) 9481 9855, or by email: afield@jigsaw.net.au
Location: Lutanda Head Office, Cherrybrook; Lutanda Castle Hill (some records are temporarily held by the NSW Crown Solicitor’s Office).

Quantity: unknown (as many files are at present with the Crown Solicitor’s Office).

Description: The records are arranged alphabetically by name and include admission and medical information for each person, along with case files documenting the person’s stay in Lutanda.

The records held by Lutanda are incomplete, and some of the gaps in the records can be attributed to the fact that many files are being held by the Crown Solicitor’s Office.
The Society for Providing Homes for Neglected Children (now known as the Society for Providing Services for Needy and Neglected Children), 1887–present

The Society for Providing Homes for Neglected Children was established in October 1887 when Mr K. F. Oliver donated a house and land at Liverpool for use as a home for orphaned or neglected children. The Society was founded by George Edward Ardill who was later to found the Sydney Rescue Work Society. The Society for Providing Homes for Neglected Children was undenominational, but distinctly Christian in character, and was founded on the principles and teaching of the New Testament.

In 1918 the property at Liverpool was sold and a property acquired at 132 Davidson Avenue, North Strathfield. The Society also operated a Home at Camden, south west of Sydney, about which nothing is known. Now known as the Society for Providing Services for Needy and Neglected Children, the Society is still operational and provides long day care and before and after school care services to over two hundred families.

Our Children’s Home, Concord (now known as Ardill House), 1918–82

Our Children’s Home at Concord, now known as Ardill House, was one of three children’s homes to be operated by the Society for Providing Homes for Neglected Children. The children cared for were orphaned, abandoned, or unable to be cared for by their parents. Parents were encouraged to contribute maintenance and visit their children as often as possible.

During the 1970s and 1980s the care of children gradually became de-institutionalised and the movement towards simulating the environment of the home gained pace. Our Children’s Home closed in September 1982, and a long day care centre was opened. In 1989, before and after school care was introduced. This service is now provided to over two hundred families.

Records about residents, [dates unknown]

Access: Former clients may access personal information about themselves. Requests from other people, such as family members of former clients, will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Contact: Requests for access should be made in writing and addressed to Our Children’s Home, Ardill House, 132 Davidson Avenue, North Strathfield, NSW 2137.
Location: The records are held at 132 Davidson Avenue, North Strathfield, NSW 2137.

Quantity: Unknown at the time of publication of this Guide.

Description: At the time of publishing this Guide, the records of Our Children’s Home were unsorted and their exact nature and content unknown. There are some photographs held in the Archives, along with some records containing details of the admission and discharge of children.

Further information about the records may be obtained by writing to the Home at the address given above.
Stretch–A–Family Inc., 1976–present

Stretch-A-Family Incorporated had its origins in the ‘Young People’s Refuge’ (YPR) which was opened in Chippendale as a youth crisis centre on 24 February 1976. It was established as an alternative to the services offered by the State Government and traditional care providers, such as the churches. Initially viewed as a radical alternative, the refuge struggled to obtain funding for its operations. Within a short time of opening, the refuge moved to North Sydney, and also operated in Manly for a while.

To combat concerns that the needs of children under sixteen years who were coming to the refuge were not being met, the Stretch-A-Family (SAF) scheme began operating with the placement of some under sixteen year olds in voluntary foster families.

At the end of 1984, SAF and YPR agreed to a mutual separation. YPR moved to separate premises and still operates as a crisis refuge for young women. SAF continued to operate as a professional fostering agency for adolescents. In 1991, the agency broadened its criteria to include young people with case plans other than fostering. The agency has also developed its skills in working with young people and their families with the eventual goal of family restoration where this is in the best interests of the young person. SAF also continues to offer residential care for homeless youth aged twelve to sixteen in the medium-term house at Stanmore. Since 1994, a program called On Track has operated under SAF’s auspice, working with young people aged fifteen to eighteen to provide residential care and preparation for independent living.

Client files, 1977–present

Access: Former clients may access personal information about themselves.

Contact: Requests for access should be made in writing and addressed to The Director, Stretch-A-Family Inc., 12 Bruce Street, Stanmore NSW 2048. The telephone number is (02) 9569 6933.

Location: The files are located at Stretch-A-Family’s office, 12 Bruce Street, Stanmore NSW 2048.

Quantity: approximately 500 files.

Description: These files contain a brief history of the young person and the issues that led to their referral to Stretch-A-Family. They also contain a record of Stretch-A-Family’s involvement with the young person. The following information may be found on a file: name; address at
time of admission; date of birth; date of admission; legal status of young person; name and address of guardian; health issues; history of Stretch-A-Family’s involvement; date of placement in foster care (if relevant); name of foster carers; education records; and records of involvement with significant people.
Sydney City Mission, 1862–present

The Sydney City Mission was founded in 1862 by Benjamin Short who had arrived in New South Wales from England in 1860. Short's aim was to improve the lives of Sydney's poor. Since that time, the Sydney City Mission has moved from its original aim of evangelism into the provision of welfare services. The Mission has worked with the homeless, the elderly, the young, the unemployed, as well as alcoholics, addicts, prostitutes and the poor.

Between 1916 and 1976, the Sydney City Mission operated a number of children's homes: ‘Cowley House’ at Cronulla (1916–76); ‘Lawson Cottage’ at Lawson (1927–30), ‘Stonehaven’ at Springwood (1929–49); ‘Haddon Hall’ at Woodford (1950–67); and ‘Mt Gibraltar’ at Bowral (1930–74). In the 1980s, the Mission established a series of family group homes: ‘Clifton Lodge’ in the city; ‘Lemon Grove Lodge’ in Penrith; ‘Harold Lodge’ in Ingleburn; and ‘Drummoyne Lodge’ in Drummoyne.

‘Cowley House’ Cronulla, 1916–76

From 1916 to 1946, the Sydney City Mission operated the Cronulla Children’s Home as a holiday home except for the period 1942–45 when it was used as a Boys’ Home while ‘Stonehaven’ at Springwood was being used by the Defence Forces. Following the conclusion of World War II, the Home’s role changed to the provision of accommodation and care of children whose home life had become temporarily or permanently disrupted.

The Home was renamed ‘Cowley House’ in honour of Mr Octavius Cowley who had served for many years as Chairman of the Mission’s Homes Committee. Due to a decrease in demand as the State Government became more involved in providing temporary accommodation for children in need of care, ‘Cowley House’ was closed and sold off in 1976.

‘Lawson Cottage’, Lawson 1927–30

‘Lawson Cottage’ was originally used by the Mission as a Missionaries Rest Home. It was located at Lawson the Blue Mountains, west of Sydney. In the years after World War I, the cottage was rarely used. After an unsuccessful attempt to sell the property, the Mission’s Council decided to use it for the care of children. Begun as something of an experiment, the ‘Lawson Cottage’ proved very successful and led to the establishment of much larger and grander children’s homes for long-term care.

The first residents, seven young girls, arrived in April 1927 and stayed for three months. They were followed by a group of boys and a pattern of caring for girls and boys alternately developed. In 1929 ‘Stonehaven’ at Springwood was opened as a Girls’ Home, while boys remained at
Lawson. This arrangement was soon reversed, and the girls returned to Lawson until the home at Bowral was opened.

‘Stonehaven’, Springwood, 1929–49

‘Stonehaven’ was located at Springwood in the Blue Mountains, west of Sydney, and was opened in 1929. Initially occupied by girls from ‘Lawson Cottage’, it became a home for undernourished boys. It operated until 1949, with the exception of the period 1942–45 when the building was occupied by the Defence Forces. During this time, the children were cared for at the Cronulla Children’s Home (later ‘Cowley House’). In 1950, the boys at ‘Stonehaven’ were relocated to a new home at Woodford, ‘Haddon Hall’.

‘Haddon Hall’, Woodford, 1950–67

‘Haddon Hall’ at Woodford, in the Blue Mountains, west of Sydney, was opened by the Governor of New South Wales, Sir John Northcott, in November 1950 to house undernourished boys. The boys had previously been cared for at the Mission’s home ‘Stonehaven’ at Springwood (also in the Blue Mountains). In 1951, the boys were relocated to ‘Mt Gibraltar’ at Bowral, and the girls from that home moved into ‘Haddon Hall’. In 1967, the home closed and the remaining girls were transferred to ‘Cowley House’ at Cronulla.

‘Mt Gibraltar’, Bowral, 1930–74

‘Mt Gibraltar’ at Bowral, in the New South Wales Southern Highlands, opened in November 1930, on land acquired by the Sydney City Mission from the Beer family. The first residents were girls who had previously been cared for at ‘Lawson Cottage’ in the Blue Mountains. primarily, but not exclusively, for the care of undernourished girls, the home housed girls under twelve years of age until 1936, after which time older girls were also taken into care. The average stay was thirteen to eighteen weeks. In 1951 the girls were moved to the Mission’s home at Woodford, ‘Haddon Hall’, and the boys who had been cared for at ‘Haddon Hall’ since 1950 were moved to ‘Mt Gibraltar’. The home closed in 1974.

(Source: June Owen: The Heart of the City: the first 125 years of the Sydney City Mission, published by Kangaroo Press, 1987.)

It appears that the Mission’s records relating to these homes have not survived.
Sydney Rescue Work Society, 1890–present

The Sydney Rescue Work Society was formed in 1890 to ‘take over, continue and strengthen the Rescue Work for seven years usefully and beneficially carried on by Mr G.E. Ardill and his philanthropic co–workers’. George Edward Ardill was a printer and Gospel preacher who, in 1882, opened a Women’s Refuge known as the ‘Home of Hope’. Following this, Ardill commenced the Blue Ribbon Gospel Army, a discharged prisoners’ mission, an Open All Night Refuge (mainly for women and children), a Society for Providing Homes for Neglected Children, Our Children’s Home at Liverpool, and the South Sydney Women’s Hospital with a training school for nurses and the Bethesda Home for waiting mothers.

The Sydney Rescue Work Society was established as an undenominational body with a distinctly Christian character, and was founded on the principles and teachings of the New Testament. By 1911, the following agencies were actively serving the community under the Society’s control: South Sydney Women’s Hospital; Bethesda Home for Waiting Mothers; Training School for Midwifery Nurses; Adoption Agency; ‘Home of Hope’ for friendless and fallen women; a day nursery and creche in the City; Open All Night Refuge for Women; Jubilee Home for working and unemployed women; Roslyn Hall Babies Home, Rockdale; the Society for Providing Homes for Neglected Children, with homes at Camden and Liverpool; and a general relief agency that dispensed money and clothes to the needy.

By the 1970s, the principal activities of the Society were: the Commonwealth Street Mission, providing food, shelter and clothing for homeless and destitute men and women; Roslyn Hall Children’s Home, providing residential care for twenty children; Bethesda Home for Unmarried Mothers, providing accommodation and support for single pregnant girls; South Sydney Women’s Hospital, which placed special emphasis on the care of unmarried mothers; an Adoption Agency; a hostel for business girls; and a Department of Evangelism.

The Sydney Rescue Work Society, trading as Communicare Sydney, is still operating and has sixteen child care services, including long day care centres, pre-schools, family day care and OOSH centres.

The records of the Sydney Rescue Work Society Adoption Agency are now held by the Department of Community Services, Family Information Service, and the records of South Sydney Women’s Hospital are held by the Royal Hospital for Women, Randwick. These records are listed elsewhere in this Guide.

(Source: Sydney Rescue Work Society centenary brochure.)
Rockdale Babies Home (later known as Roslyn Hall Children’s Home), Rockdale

Rockdale Babies Home, located at 89 Cameron Street, Rockdale, had its beginnings in November 1894 when the Sydney Rescue Work Society took in foundling children. Later the name was changed to Roslyn Hall Children’s Home. In addition to taking in children, assistance was given to single parent families.

In 1976 the Children’s Home was closed as a residential facility. The Sydney Rescue Work Society, trading as Communicare Sydney, is still operating and has sixteen child care services, including long day care centres, pre schools, family day care and OOSH centres.

Admission books, Nov. 1894–Jul. 1973

Access: Access to information is generally restricted to former residents and family members who can prove their relationship with the former resident.

Contact: All requests for information should be made in writing to: The Chief Executive Officer, Sydney Rescue Work Society, PO Box 260, Burwood NSW 2134.

Location: Head Office of the Sydney Rescue Work Society, trading as Communicare Sydney, 2nd floor, 23 Belmore Street, Burwood NSW 2134.

Quantity: 4 volumes.

Description: The admission books contain the following information: date of admission; name of child; child’s date and place of birth; child’s health on admission; reason for admission and other details; name, occupation and address of mother; name and address of father; whether father was paying maintenance; subsequent information; discharge date; and details of to whom discharged.
United Protestant Association of New South Wales Ltd.

The United Protestant Association of New South Wales Ltd. is a Christian welfare organisation established with the commitment to caring for disadvantaged children as well as to the provision of care and accommodation for elderly people. The UPA was founded at Grafton in 1938 by the late Thomas Agst, B.E.M., J.P., when he took several small children into his care. From this small beginning, the UPA was to gain an impetus which has since seen expanded services to both young and old at more than twenty centres throughout New South Wales. The emphasis of the UPA, as a united Christian welfare organisation, ensures acceptance of people from any denominational affiliation or social background.

By 1953, the UPA had established thirteen children’s homes throughout New South Wales. These homes offered care for children who could not, for one reason or another, live at home with their families. Some children stayed for a few days, while others stayed for years. Children came to the homes as babies, young children and teenagers. The UPA cared for more than 3,000 children in these homes. The homes were: ‘Melrose’ (Pendle Hill); ‘Sunnylands’ (Wollongbar); ‘Adelaide Walker’ (Strathfield); ‘Woodlands’ (Newcastle); ‘Rathgar’ (Grafton); ‘Rathmore’ (Grafton); ‘Ellimatta’ (East Maitland); ‘Glen Eden’ (Glen Innes); ‘Buena Vista’ (Orange); ‘Gumleigh’ (Wagga Wagga); ‘Lillimur’ (Dubbo); ‘The Laurels’ (Kogarah); and ‘Murray Vale’ (Albury).

At the time of compiling this guide, the UPA was in the process of collating all of the surviving records into a single database. This database will list: name (including aliases); age; date of birth; gender; parents; siblings; admission and discharge dates; and a cross reference to the child’s personal file.

Access: Although often limited in content, UPA will make records available to people which relate to their time in care. Requests for copies of file information must be made in writing. Information will only be supplied directly to the person concerned. UPA will provide support by way of a qualified counsellor when the initial review takes place, and ongoing support is available through Relationships Australia.

Contact: All requests for access to information should be directed to: The General Manager, United Protestant Association of NSW Ltd., PO Box 273, Wahroonga NSW 2076. The telephone number is (02) 9487 1337 and the fax number is (02) 9489 1703.
William Thompson Masonic School, 1922–93

The William Thompson Masonic School was founded in 1922 at Baulkham Hills (in Sydney’s north west) for the care and education of the children of deceased Freemasons. The school was the brainchild of William Thompson who was the Liberal Party member for Ryde from 1913–20, and Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of New South Wales of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons from 1914–24. Thompson’s aim was to establish cottage homes for orphans. Land was purchased at Baulkham Hills in 1921 and the first stage of what was originally known as ‘The Masonic Orphan Schools’ was opened on 11 November 1922. In recognition of Thompson’s leadership and service to the project, the school was later renamed ‘William Thompson Masonic Schools’.

In the 1970s, the Masons began to wind the school down, as changing attitudes to child care took hold. In 1976, a property at Castle Hill was purchased for use as a family group home. Called ‘Boronia’, this home was reserved for girls only. At around the same time, the old hospital at the school was converted into a family group home for boys, called ‘Wybalena’. The children moved into their new accommodation on 27 November 1976. A third family group home, ‘Orana’ was opened in Baulkham Hills in 1978, and a new ‘Wybalena’ was built to replace the old hospital building. These family group homes closed in the 1980s and 1990s, with the last closing at the end of 1993.


Admission register, 1922–90

Access: Access to information is generally restricted to the person to whom the information relates. A third party may apply for access to information if they can prove their relationship to the person to whom the information relates. Access to the actual registers is restricted to prevent damage to them and to protect the privacy of others.

Contact: All requests for access to information contained in these records should be made in writing, and addressed to: The Administrative Officer, William Thompson Masonic School, PO Box A259, Sydney South NSW 1235.

Location: Masonic Centre, 279 Castlereagh Street, Sydney NSW 2000.

Quantity: 2 volumes.
Description: These registers record the following information about the children who entered the school: entrance date; name; date of birth; age; sex; religion; name of parent or guardian; address; leaving date and remarks.
Public Hospitals
Public hospital records

Hospital records, particularly obstetric records and birth registers, may be of assistance to people searching for information about their birth mothers or babies given up for adoption. The records listed in this section of the Guide represent a small proportion of relevant public hospital records in New South Wales. People seeking further information about public hospital records should contact the Records Manager, NSW Health Department, Locked Mail Bag 961, North Sydney NSW 2059. The Department’s telephone number is (02) 9391 9000.

The records of private hospitals may also be of interest to people searching for information about their birth families. These records, however, are not listed in this Guide.

Crown Street Women’s Hospital

Birth registers, 1 Jul. 1953–1983

Access: Access to information relating to adoption cases is restricted to the adoptee and the birth parents. Requests for information relating to adoption cases are handled in accordance with the Adoption Information Act 1990. Requests must be made in writing, and the applicant must include certain information with their application before it can be processed. Details of what information is required can be obtained from the Medical Records Manager at the Hospital. Other requests for information will be treated in accordance with principles of the Freedom of Information Act 1989. Information will only be released to the person to whom it relates.

Contact: All requests for information should be directed to: The Medical Records Manager, Royal Hospital for Women, Locked Bag 2000, Randwick NSW 2031. The telephone number is (02) 9382 6550.

Location: Royal Hospital for Women, Barker Street, Randwick NSW 2031.

Description: Birth registers list all the births, including still births, at the Hospital. They record the mother’s name, date and time of birth, length and weight of the baby.
Medical records, 1950–83

Access: Access to information relating to adoption cases is restricted to the adoptee and the birth parents. Requests for information relating to adoption cases are handled in accordance with the Adoption Information Act 1990. Requests must be made in writing, and the applicant must include certain information with their application before it can be processed. Details of what information is required can be obtained from the Medical Records Manager at the Hospital. Other requests for information will be treated in accordance with principles of the Freedom of Information Act 1989. Information will only be released to the person to whom it relates.

Contact: All requests for information should be directed to: The Medical Records Manager, Royal Hospital for Women, Locked Bag 2000, Randwick NSW 2031. The telephone number is (02) 9382 6550.

Location: Royal Hospital for Women, Barker Street, Randwick NSW 2031.

Description: The amount of information available in these records varies depending on the time period. Earlier records are less comprehensive than records dating from the 1960s. Information given may include mother’s name, address, where transferred from, age, occupation, and religion. Later records also include the mother’s date of birth and, occasionally, details of next of kin. The records also include clinical information such as treatment given, etc.

Confinement books, 1904–33

Access: Access to information relating to adoption cases is restricted to the adoptee and the birth parents. Requests for information relating to adoption cases are handled in accordance with the Adoption Information Act 1990. Requests must be made in writing, and the applicant must include certain information with their application before it can be processed. Details of what information is required can be obtained from the Medical Records Manager at the Hospital. Other requests for information will be treated in accordance with principles of the Freedom of Information Act 1989.
Information will only be released to the person to whom it relates.

Contact: All requests for information should be directed to: The Medical Records Manager, Royal Hospital for Women, Locked Bag 2000, Randwick NSW 2031. The telephone number is (02) 9382 6550.

Location: Royal Hospital for Women, Barker Street, Randwick NSW 2031.

Description: These books record: name, age, occupation, religion and address of the patient; and the name of the doctor under whom the patient was admitted.

**Admission books, 1916–83**

Access: Access to information relating to adoption cases is restricted to the adoptee and the birth parents. Requests for information relating to adoption cases are handled in accordance with the *Adoption Information Act 1990*. Requests must be made in writing, and the applicant must include certain information with their application before it can be processed. Details of what information is required can be obtained from the Medical Records Manager at the Hospital. Other requests for information will be treated in accordance with principles of the *Freedom of Information Act 1989*. Information will only be released to the person to whom it relates.

Contact: All requests for information should be directed to: The Medical Records Manager, Royal Hospital for Women, Locked Bag 2000, Randwick NSW 2031. The telephone number is (02) 9382 6550.

Location: Royal Hospital for Women, Barker Street, Randwick NSW 2031.

Description: These books record: name, age, occupation, religion and address of the patient; and the name of the doctor under whom the patient was admitted.

**Labour ward registers, 1 Nov. 1943–Mar. 1983**

Access: Access to information relating to adoption cases is restricted to the adoptee and the birth parents. Requests for information relating to adoption cases are
handled in accordance with the Adoption Information Act 1990. Requests must be made in writing, and the applicant must include certain information with their application before it can be processed. Details of what information is required can be obtained from the Medical Records Manager at the Hospital. Other requests for information will be treated in accordance with principles of the Freedom of Information Act 1989. Information will only be released to the person to whom it relates.

Contact: All requests for information should be directed to: The Medical Records Manager, Royal Hospital for Women, Locked Bag 2000, Randwick NSW 2031. The telephone number is (02) 9382 6550.

Location: Royal Hospital for Women, Barker Street, Randwick NSW 2031.

Description: Labour ward registers record the name and details of the stages of labour for each patient, including birth details (e.g. date, time, baby’s length and weight).

The Mater Misericordiae Hospital, North Sydney

The Mater Misericordiae Hospital, North Sydney was closed in 1982. Responsibility for storing the Mater Hospital medical records rests with the Royal North Shore Hospital, St Leonards.

Obstetric medical records, 1952–82

Access: Access to information relating to adoption cases is restricted to the adoptee and the birth parents. Requests for information relating to adoption cases are handled in accordance with the Adoption Information Act 1990. Requests must be made in writing, and the applicant must include certain information with their application before it can be processed. Details of what information is required can be obtained from the Assistant Medical Records Manager at the Hospital. Other requests for information will be treated in accordance with principles of the Freedom of Information Act 1989. Information will only be released to the person to whom it relates.

Contact: Initial enquiries can be made by telephone, in person, or in writing, however applications for information under
the Adoption Information Act 1990 must be made in writing. All requests for information should be directed to the Assistant Medical Records Manager, Royal North Shore Hospital, St Leonards NSW 2065. The hospital’s telephone number is (02) 9926 7111.

Location: Royal North Shore Hospital, St Leonards NSW 2065.

Quantity: Approximately 28 360 records.

Description: These records give information about the birth mother and the baby, including biographical information such as name, date of birth and address of mother; father’s name, if known; baby’s birth details; and clinical information such as treatment given, etc. For the years 1952–77, the mother and baby notes are kept in the same folder, while from 1977–82 they are kept as separate records.

Whilst the records held include those for babies who were adopted, they are not indexed or filed separately.

Many of the young women from Our Lady of Mercy Home, Waitara gave birth at the Mater Hospital. In these cases, their address is generally given as Our Lady of Mercy Home, Waitara.

Related records: The Mercy Family Centre holds records relating to Our Lady of Mercy Home, Waitara (formerly known as the Waitara Foundling Home, and now known as the Mercy Family Centre).

Queen Victoria Hospital for Women and Babies

The Queen Victoria Hospital for Women and Babies was located at Annandale, in Sydney’s inner west, and closed in 1976. The social work records for the hospital are held by the Department of Community Services Family Information Service.

Medical Records, 1957–76

Access: Access to information relating to adoption cases is restricted to the adoptee and the birth parents. Requests for information relating to adoption cases are handled in accordance with the Adoption Information Act 1990. Requests must be made in writing, and the applicant must include certain information with their application before it can be processed. Details of what
information is required can be obtained from the Medical Records Manager at the Hospital. Other requests for information will be treated in accordance with principles of the Freedom of Information Act 1989. Information will only be released to the person to whom it relates.

Contact: All requests for information should be directed to: The Medical Records Manager, Royal Hospital for Women, Locked Bag 2000, Randwick NSW 2031. The telephone number is (02) 9382 6550.

Location: Royal Hospital for Women, Barker Street, Randwick NSW 2031.

Description: The amount of information available in these records varies depending on the time period. Earlier records are less comprehensive than records dating from the 1960s. Information given may include mother’s name, address, where transferred from, age, occupation, and religion. Later records also include the mother’s date of birth and, occasionally, details of next of kin. In addition, records include clinical information such as treatment given, etc.


Access: Access to information relating to adoption cases is restricted to the adoptee and the birth parents. Requests for information relating to adoption cases are handled in accordance with the Adoption Information Act 1990. Requests must be made in writing, and the applicant must include certain information with their application before it can be processed. Details of what information is required can be obtained from the Medical Records Manager at the Hospital. Other requests for information will be treated in accordance with principles of the Freedom of Information Act 1989. Information will only be released to the person to whom it relates.

Contact: All requests for information should be directed to: The Medical Records Manager, Royal Hospital for Women, Locked Bag 2000, Randwick NSW 2031. The telephone number is (02) 9382 6550.
Location: Royal Hospital for Women, Barker Street, Randwick NSW 2031.

Description: These books are similar to birth registers. They record the mother’s name, date and time of birth, length and weight of the baby. (The following Confinement books are missing: 1925–Sep. 1928; Apr. 1931–Aug. 1953; and Oct. 1970–Aug. 1974).

Royal Hospital for Women

Following the resumption of its site in Pitt Street, Sydney, in 1901, the Benevolent Society of New South Wales acquired a property in Paddington for its women’s hospital. A temporary maternity hospital commenced operations on 1 October 1901. In 1903 the Board of the Benevolent Society and the Board of the Crown Street Women’s Hospital initiated proceedings for the amalgamation of the two institutions. However, this plan was never carried through. The Society had plans drawn up for the construction of a permanent Hospital for Women on their site at Paddington. In 1904 the new hospital was granted the title ‘Royal’, and, on 3 May 1905, Lady Northcote, the wife of the Governor-General, officially opened the Royal Hospital for Women.

The Royal Hospital for Women has long been a centre for excellence in women’s health care. Despite this, its viability came under question in the 1980s and 1990s when funding cuts and rationalisation of health services created a series of crises in the New South Wales health system. On 1 July 1992, management of the Royal Hospital for Women was transferred to the New South Wales State Government. In 1997, the hospital moved to its new location adjacent to the Prince of Wales Hospital at Randwick.


Medical records, 1905–present

Access: Access to information relating to adoption cases is restricted to the adoptee and the birth parents. Requests for information relating to adoption cases are handled in accordance with the Adoption Information Act 1990. Requests must be made in writing, and the applicant must include certain information with their application before it can be processed. Details of what information is required can be obtained from the Medical Records Manager at the Hospital. Other requests for information will be treated in accordance with principles of the Freedom of Information Act 1989.)
Information will only be released to the person to whom it relates.

**Contact:**
All requests for information should be directed to: The Medical Records Manager, Royal Hospital for Women, Locked Bag 2000, Randwick NSW 2031. The telephone number is (02) 9382 6550.

**Location:**
Royal Hospital for Women, Barker Street, Randwick NSW 2031.

**Description:**
The amount of information available in these records varies depending on the time period. Earlier records are less comprehensive than records dating from the 1960s. Information given may include mother’s name, address, where transferred from, age, occupation, and religion. Later records also include the mother’s date of birth and, occasionally, details of next of kin. The records also include clinical information such as treatment given, etc.

**Birth registers, 1903–present**

**Access:**
Access to information relating to adoption cases is restricted to the adoptee and the birth parents. Requests for information relating to adoption cases are handled in accordance with the *Adoption Information Act 1990*. Requests must be made in writing, and the applicant must include certain information with their application before it can be processed. Details of what information is required can be obtained from the Medical Records Manager at the Hospital. Other requests for information will be treated in accordance with principles of the *Freedom of Information Act 1989*. Information will only be released to the person to whom it relates.

**Contact:**
All requests for information should be directed to: The Medical Records Manager, Royal Hospital for Women, Locked Bag 2000, Randwick NSW 2031. The telephone number is (02) 9382 6550.

**Location:**
Royal Hospital for Women, Barker Street, Randwick NSW 2031.

**Description:**
Birth registers list all the births, including still births, at the Hospital. They record the mother’s name, date and time of birth, length and weight of the baby.
**Admission books, 1950–present**

**Access:** Access to information relating to adoption cases is restricted to the adoptee and the birth parents. Requests for information relating to adoption cases are handled in accordance with the Adoption Information Act 1990. Requests must be made in writing, and the applicant must include certain information with their application before it can be processed. Details of what information is required can be obtained from the Medical Records Manager at the Hospital. Other requests for information will be treated in accordance with principles of the Freedom of Information Act 1989. Information will only be released to the person to whom it relates.

**Contact:** All requests for information should be directed to: The Medical Records Manager, Royal Hospital for Women, Locked Bag 2000, Randwick NSW 2031. The telephone number is (02) 9382 6550.

**Location:** Royal Hospital for Women, Barker Street, Randwick NSW 2031.

**Description:** These books record: name, age, occupation, religion and address of the patient; and the name of the doctor under whom the patient was admitted.

**Royal North Shore Hospital**

**Obstetric records, 1943–63**

**Access:** Access to information relating to adoption cases is restricted to the adoptee and the birth parents. Requests for information relating to adoption cases are handled in accordance with the Adoption Information Act 1990. Requests must be made in writing, and the applicant must include certain information with their application before it can be processed. Details of what information is required can be obtained from the Assistant Medical Records Manager at the Hospital. Other requests for information will be treated in accordance with principles of the Freedom of Information Act 1989. Information will only be released to the person to whom it relates.
**Contact:**  
Initial enquiries can be made by telephone, in person, or in writing, however applications for information under the *Adoption Information Act 1990* must be made in writing. All requests for information should be directed to the Assistant Medical Records Manager, Royal North Shore Hospital, St Leonards NSW 2065. The hospital’s telephone number is (02) 9926 7111.

**Location:**  
Royal North Shore Hospital, St Leonards.

**Description:**  
These records are in bound volumes according to diagnosis. Not all of the records have been retained.

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**Medical records, 1963–present**

**Access:**  
Access to information relating to adoption cases is restricted to the adoptee and the birth parents. Requests for information relating to adoption cases are handled in accordance with the *Adoption Information Act 1990*. Requests must be made in writing, and the applicant must include certain information with their application before it can be processed. Details of what information is required can be obtained from the Assistant Medical Records Manager at the Hospital. Other requests for information will be treated in accordance with principles of the *Freedom of Information Act 1989*. Information will only be released to the person to whom it relates.

**Contact:**  
Initial enquiries can be made by telephone, in person, or in writing, however applications for information under the *Adoption Information Act 1990* must be made in writing. All requests for information should be directed to the Assistant Medical Records Manager, Royal North Shore Hospital, St Leonards NSW 2065. The hospital’s telephone number is (02) 9926 7111.

**Location:**  
Royal North Shore Hospital, St Leonards.

**Description:**  
Since 1963, separate obstetric medical records have not been kept. The centralised unit record may contain obstetric and general admissions. It is difficult to determine the exact number of obstetric records there would be and impossible to identify the records of adoptees. All obstetric medical records are retained indefinitely.
South Sydney Women’s Hospital

South Sydney Women’s Hospital was established by George Edward Ardill in the 1880s, and was subsequently taken over by the Sydney Rescue Work Society, which was incorporated in 1890. The hospital closed in 1976.

Confinement books, 1947–49

Access: Access to information relating to adoption cases is restricted to the adoptee and the birth parents. Requests for information relating to adoption cases are handled in accordance with the Adoption Information Act 1990. Requests must be made in writing, and the applicant must include certain information with their application before it can be processed. Details of what information is required can be obtained from the Medical Records Manager at the Hospital. Other requests for information will be treated in accordance with principles of the Freedom of Information Act 1989. Information will only be released to the person to whom it relates.

Contact: All requests for information should be directed to: The Medical Records Manager, Royal Hospital for Women, Locked Bag 2000, Randwick NSW 2031. The telephone number is (02) 9382 6550.

Location: Royal Hospital for Women, Barker Street, Randwick NSW 2031.

Description: These books are similar to birth registers. They record the mother’s name, date and time of birth, length and weight of the baby. (The records for the following dates are missing: 25 Jul.–Dec. 1948.)

Medical records, 1950–59; 1960–76

Access: Access to information relating to adoption cases is restricted to the adoptee and the birth parents. Requests for information relating to adoption cases are handled in accordance with the Adoption Information Act 1990. Requests must be made in writing, and the applicant must include certain information with their application before it can be processed. Details of what information is required can be obtained from the Medical Records Manager at the Hospital. Other requests for information will be treated in accordance
with principles of the *Freedom of Information Act 1989*. Information will only be released to the person to whom it relates.

**Contact:** All requests for information should be directed to: The Medical Records Manager, Royal Hospital for Women, Locked Bag 2000, Randwick NSW 2031. The telephone number is (02) 9382 6550.

**Location:** Royal Hospital for Women, Barker Street, Randwick NSW 2031.

**Description:** The amount of information available in these records varies depending on the time period. Earlier records are less comprehensive than records dating from the 1960s. Information given may include mother’s name, address, where transferred from, age, occupation, and religion. Later records also include the mother’s date of birth and, occasionally, details of next of kin. The records also include clinical information such as treatment given, etc.

**St Margaret’s Hospital, Darlinghurst (Public Section)**

**Birth registers, Apr. 1948–Jun. 1993**

**Access:** Access to information relating to adoption cases is restricted to the adoptee and the birth parents. Requests for information relating to adoption cases are handled in accordance with the *Adoption Information Act 1990*. Requests must be made in writing, and the applicant must include certain information with their application before it can be processed. Details of what information is required can be obtained from the Medical Records Manager at the Hospital. Other requests for information will be treated in accordance with principles of the *Freedom of Information Act 1989*. Information will only be released to the person to whom it relates.

**Contact:** All requests for information should be directed to: The Medical Records Manager, Royal Hospital for Women, Locked Bag 2000, Randwick NSW 2031. The telephone number is (02) 9382 6550.

**Location:** Royal Hospital for Women, Barker Street, Randwick NSW 2031.
Description: Birth registers list all the births, including still births, at the Hospital. They record the mother’s name, date and time of birth, length and weight of the baby.

**Medical records, 1960–Jun. 1993**

Access: Access to information relating to adoption cases is restricted to the adoptee and the birth parents. Requests for information relating to adoption cases are handled in accordance with the *Adoption Information Act 1990*. Requests must be made in writing, and the applicant must include certain information with their application before it can be processed. Details of what information is required can be obtained from the Medical Records Manager at the Hospital. Other requests for information will be treated in accordance with principles of the *Freedom of Information Act 1989*. Information will only be released to the person to whom it relates.

Contact: All requests for information should be directed to: The Medical Records Manager, Royal Hospital for Women, Locked Bag 2000, Randwick NSW 2031. The telephone number is (02) 9382 6550.

Location: Royal Hospital for Women, Barker Street, Randwick NSW 2031.

Description: The amount of information available in these records varies depending on the time period. Earlier records are less comprehensive than records dating from the 1960s. Information given may include mother’s name, address, where transferred from, age, occupation, and religion. Later records also include the mother’s date of birth and, occasionally, details of next of kin. The records also include clinical information such as treatment given, etc.
NSW Government Non-Welfare Agencies
Department of Education and Training

The Department of Education and Training is responsible for public primary, secondary and post–school technical education in New South Wales.

In New South Wales the State dominated all formal education in the early years of settlement though supervision was mainly exercised through the Clergy. By the 1920s the Churches became organised and the State withdrew to a considerable degree until 1848 when state elementary schools were established. In 1848 education was placed under the control of two boards: the Board of National Education and the Denominational School Board. These two boards functioned concurrently until 1866 when the Public Schools Act replaced them with the Council of Education.

The Department of Justice and Public Instruction was created in 1873. With the passing of the Public Instruction Act all business of an educational nature was transferred to the control of the Department of Public Instruction. The Public Instruction Act repealed the Public Schools Act 1866, dissolved the Council of Education and provided for the cessation of all aid to Denominational Schools from 31 December 1882.

In 1889, technical education was transferred to the control of the Minister for Public Instruction, being administered through the Technical Education Branch of the Department. Under the Technical Education and New South Wales University of Technology Act, 1949 a separate Department of Technical Education was established.

In 1957 the Department was renamed the Department of Education. In 1990, the name changed to the Department of School Education. In 1998, the Department was amalgamated with the Department of Technical and Further Education to become the Department of Education and Training.

(Source: Archives Authority of NSW. Concise Guide to the State Archives, 1992.)

‘Sobraon’ Training Ship: Entrance books, 1897–1911

Access: These records are not restricted.

Contact: People wishing to look at records held by the Authority should telephone (02) 9237 0254 or (02) 9673 1788, or email clientl@records.nsw.gov.au for details of hours of opening and the actual location of the records they wish to inspect.

Location: Archives Authority of New South Wales. The Authority operates in two locations in Sydney. (From September 1998, the Authority will be known as the State Record Authority of NSW).

Quantity: 5 volumes.

Description: These volumes record details of apprehension and committal of boys to the Training Ship. The information they record includes: the boy’s name; reason for committal to the Training Ship; and length of committal. The volumes are indexed.

‘Sobraon’ Training Ship: Correspondence and documents relating to committals, 1898–1903

Access: These records are not restricted.

Contact: People wishing to look at records held by the Authority should telephone (02) 9237 0254 or (02) 9673 1788, or email clientl@records.nsw.gov.au for details of hours of opening and the actual location of the records they wish to inspect.

Location: Archives Authority of New South Wales. The Authority operates in two locations in Sydney. (From September 1998, the Authority will be known as the State Record Authority of NSW).

Reference no: 8/1753.2.

Quantity: 1 bundle.

Description: This bundle of documents includes: letters from parents about their sons who were on the Training Ship; letters to and from police regarding boys who had absconded; letters to and from employers about boys apprenticed to them; leave of absence forms authorising boys to be absent from the ship; apprenticeship indentures; court depositions; and warrants.


Access: These records are not restricted.

Contact: People wishing to look at records held by the Authority should telephone (02) 9237 0254 or (02) 9673 1788, or email clientl@records.nsw.gov.au for details of hours of opening and the actual location of the records they wish to inspect.
Location: Archives Authority of New South Wales. The Authority operates in two locations in Sydney. (From September 1998, the Authority will be known as the State Record Authority of NSW).

Reference no: 8/1752 (microfilm copy AO Reel 2890).

Quantity: 1 volume.

Description: This is a record of the apprenticeship of boys from the Training Ship. The information recorded includes: boy’s name and age; to whom apprenticed; and details of the apprenticeship. There is an index in the front of the volume.

‘Sobraon’ Training Ship: Miscellaneous photographs, news cuttings and invitations relating to NSS ‘Sobraon’, 1906–25

Access: These records are not restricted.

Contact: People wishing to look at records held by the Authority should telephone (02) 9237 0254 or (02) 9673 1788, or email clientl@records.nsw.gov.au for details of hours of opening and the actual location of the records they wish to inspect.

Location: Archives Authority of New South Wales. The Authority operates in two locations in Sydney. (From September 1998, the Authority will be known as the State Record Authority of NSW).

Reference no: 8/1753.1.

Quantity: 1 bundle.

Description: This bundle includes news cuttings, sporting programs and photographs of ‘Sobraon’ boys.

School files, 1876–1979

Access: Files for the period 1876–1939 are not restricted and may be viewed in the search room of the Archives Authority of NSW. The files for the period 1940–79 are currently restricted.

Contact: People wishing to look at records in the period 1940–79 should write to The Historical Information Officer, Department of Education and Training, GPO Box 33,
Sydney NSW 2001, stating their reason for wanting access.

**Location:** Archives Authority of New South Wales. The Authority operates in two locations in Sydney. Anyone wishing to look at records held by the Authority should telephone (02) 9237 0254 or (02) 9673 1788, or email clientl@records.nsw.gov.au for details of hours of opening and the actual location of the records they wish to inspect. (From September 1998, the Authority will be known as the State Records Authority of NSW).

**Reference no:** 5/14592–18301 (1876–1939); 14/7241–7962 (1940–79).

**Quantity:** 4432 boxes.

**Description:** These files are arranged alphabetically by name of school. They deal with matters relating to the administration and operation of the school and may include correspondence about pupils.

These files, together with the school records listed below, may be a vital source of information about children who were residents of children’s homes, or cared for under a substitute care program, particularly where no other records of that home or program survive. For example, the records of Carlingford Public School may contain information about children from Dalmar at Carlingford.

The files for 1876–1939 are listed in detail in *Information Leaflet No.10*, a publication of the Archives Authority of NSW and which is available in the search rooms of the Authority. In addition, the Authority’s newly published *A guide to New South Wales State archives relating to Aboriginal people* lists the records of Aboriginal schools which were run by the Department. This guide is also available in the search rooms of the Authority.

**School records, 1881–present**

**Access:** All school records are restricted for 30 years with the exception of visitors books, staff meeting records and observation books.

**Contact:** Applications to access records which fall within the 30 year restriction period should be directed in the first instance to the Principal of the school which created the
records. In the event that the school has closed, applications for access should be addressed to the Historical Information Officer, Department of Education and Training, GPO Box 33, Sydney NSW 2001, stating the reason for wanting access.

Location: Archives Authority of New South Wales. The Authority operates in two locations in Sydney. Anyone wishing to look at records held by the Authority should telephone (02) 9237 0254 or (02) 9673 1788, or email clientl@records.nsw.gov.au for details of hours of opening and the actual location of the records they wish to inspect. (From September 1998, the Authority will be known as the State Records Authority of NSW).

Description: These are records originating from individual schools. They include admission registers, punishment books, examination books, stock books, visitors books, staff meeting records and observation books. Of these records, the admission registers are probably of most relevance to people tracing their origins. They record: name and age of child; religion; date of leaving last school; name, residence and occupation of parent or guardian; date of admission to each division; and date of leaving school.

A card index to those records which are held by the Archives Authority is available in the Authority’s City Search Room, with a microfilm copy of the index available at Kingswood. A number of records relating to schools in the Hunter and Riverina regions are on loan to the University of Newcastle Archives and the Charles Sturt University Archives, Wagga Wagga respectively. A full listing of these records is available from the Archives Authority. In addition, the Authority’s newly published A guide to New South Wales State archives relating to Aboriginal people lists the records of Aboriginal schools which were run by the Department. This guide is available in the search rooms of the Authority.

These records, together with the school files listed above, may be a vital source of information about children who were residents of children’s homes, or cared for under a substitute care program, particularly where no other records of that home or program survive. For example, the records of Carlingford Public School may contain information about children from Dalmar at Carlingford.
If the Archives Authority does not hold the records of a particular school, it is possible that the school itself still holds them. In these cases, enquiries should be directed to the Principal of the school.

**Student counselling files, 1964–present**

**Access:** Access to these records is restricted to the person to whom the file relates, or the parents of that person. The provisions of the *Freedom of Information Act 1989* apply to these records.

**Contact:** All requests to access information contained on these files should be directed, in writing, to the Freedom of Information Officer, Department of Education and Training, 35 Bridge Street, Sydney NSW 2000.

**Location:** These files are retained by the Student Counsellor at the school where the file was created. A ten percent sample of files is kept and transferred to the Archives Authority of NSW.

**Quantity:** These records are not required to be kept permanently. In accordance with the approved disposal recommendation relating to these files, they are required to be kept until the student reaches the age of 25, or seven years after the date of the last action on the file, whichever is the greater. Once the retention period has expired, a ten percent sample is kept and the remaining files destroyed.

**Description:** These files contain the case history notes of all cases referred to the Student Counsellor. The amount and type of information contained on the files varies from case to case, depending on the individual circumstances of the case. The files may include: information about the reason for referral; the nature of the student’s problem for which counselling is sought; personal and family details of the student; test pro-formas and results; medical and psychological reports; and counsellor’s notes.
Department of Juvenile Justice

The Department of Juvenile Justice is responsible for ten juvenile justice centres in New South Wales. These are: Broken Hill Shelter (Broken Hill); Cobham (Werrington); Kariong (Kariong); Keelong (Wollongong); Minda (Lidcombe); Mt Penang (Kariong); Reiby (Campbelltown); Riverina (Wagga Wagga); Worimi (Broadmeadow); and Yasmar (Haberfield).

**Detainee files, 1985–92**

**Access:** Access to files relating to juvenile detainees can generally be obtained through the processes outlined in the *Freedom of Information Act 1989*.

**Contact:** All enquiries and requests for access should be directed to: The Manager, McCabe Cottage, Department of Juvenile Justice. The telephone number is (02) 4340 2305 and the fax number is (02) 4340 2529.

**Location:** Mt Penang, Pacific Highway, Kariong NSW 2251.

**Description:** The ‘D’ file and the Allied Health Files have been created by the Department of Juvenile Justice. Prior to this they were known as *Institutional ‘B’ files*, which were created and maintained by the Department of Community Services. The *Institutional ‘B’ files* related to individuals who were admitted to a detention centre. They recorded: admission and discharge dates; medical history, including psychological reports; personal details; background reports; court records; and reports from other institutions.

**Related records:** Psychological files and local files on juveniles.

**Detainee files, 1992–present**

**Access:** Access to files relating to juvenile detainees can generally be obtained through the processes outlined in the *Freedom of Information Act 1989*.

**Contact:** All enquiries and requests for access should be directed to: The Manager, McCabe Cottage, Department of Juvenile Justice. The telephone number is (02) 4340 2305 and the fax number is (02) 4340 2529.

**Location:** Mt Penang, Pacific Highway, Kariong NSW 2251.
Description: The ‘D’ files and the Allied Health Files were created and maintained by the Department of Juvenile Justice. The ‘D’ files relate to juveniles who have been admitted to a juvenile justice centre. They record: admission and discharge dates; personal details; casework records; court records; background reports; special incidents and authorised absences. The Allied Health Files record: medical and dental history; drug and alcohol casework; psychological reports and psychiatry notes.

**Children’s Court information, c. 1980–present**

**Access:** Access to records relating to juvenile detainees can generally be obtained through the processes outlined in the *Freedom of Information Act 1989*.

**Contact:** All enquiries and requests for access should be directed to: The Manager, Information Services, Department of Juvenile Justice. The telephone number is (02) 9289 3303.

**Location:** Department of Juvenile Justice, Roden Cutler House, Campbell Street, Sydney NSW 2000.

**Description:** This is an index of juveniles who have appeared before the Children’s Court. The following information is provided: name of juvenile; address; birth date; prior and final court appearance; date of court appearance; charge or complaint; and results of hearing.

**Related records:** *Central Juvenile Court index, c. 1957–c. 1980* held by the Department of Community Services.
Local Courts

Local Court Depositions are a record of the daily proceedings in the Court. They include witness statements, charge sheets and the Magistrate’s findings for cases brought before the Court.

Access: Local Court Depositions relating to adults brought before the Courts are restricted for 30 years after the date of the hearing.

Contact: People wishing to gain access to information contained in Local Court Depositions must write to the Clerk of the relevant Local Court. If you do not know the address of the Court, the staff at your local Court House will be able to assist. Alternatively, you could contact the Attorney-General’s Department (NSW) on (02) 9228 7777 and ask for the address of the Court you require.

Children's Courts

In many instances, especially in the case of smaller Courts, the depositions of proceedings in Children’s Courts are interfiled with the adult depositions. There are, however, several designated Children’s Courts in NSW: Bidura Children’s Court at Glebe (in Sydney’s inner west); Cobham Children’s Court at Werrington (in Sydney’s far west); Worimi Children’s Court at Broadmeadow (Newcastle); Minda Children’s Court at Lidcombe (in Sydney’s west); Campsie Children’s Court at Campsie (in Sydney’s south west); and Yasmar Children’s Court at Haberfield (in Sydney’s inner west).

The records listed below do not constitute the full extent of the records available. Those listed are the records which appear in the Concise Guide to the State Archives. Since the Guide was last updated it is possible that additional records have been deposited with the Archives Authority of New South Wales. In addition, records are still held by the Courts themselves. As all requests for information must be directed through the Clerk of the relevant Court, current information about holdings will be available from the Court.

Metropolitan Children's Court


Access: Children’s Court records are restricted.
Contact: People wishing to gain access to information contained in Children’s Court Depositions must write to the Clerk of the relevant Children’s Court. If you do not know the address of the Court, the staff at your local Court House will be able to assist. Alternatively, you could contact the New South Wales Attorney-General’s Department on (02) 9228 7777 and ask for the address of the Court you require.

Location: Archives Authority of New South Wales.


Quantity: 561 boxes.

Description: These are a record of the daily proceedings in the Metropolitan Children’s Court No.2. Frequently, agendas of each day's business and full details of each case brought before the Court are included.

Minda Children's Court


Access: Children’s Court records are restricted.

Contact: People wishing to gain access to information contained in Children’s Court Depositions must write to the Clerk of the relevant Children’s Court. If you do not know the address of the Court, the staff at your local Court House will be able to assist. Alternatively, you could contact the New South Wales Attorney-General’s Department on (02) 9228 7777 and ask for the address of the Court you require.

Location: Archives Authority of New South Wales.

Reference no: 13/10980–11160.

Quantity: 181 boxes.

Description: These are a record of the daily proceedings in the Court. Frequently, agendas of each day's business and full details of each case brought before the Court are included.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Yasmar Children's Court</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Depositions, 1950–56; 1959–75</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Access:**
Children’s Court records are restricted.

**Contact:**
People wishing to gain access to information contained in Children’s Court Depositions must write to the Clerk of the relevant Children’s Court. If you do not know the address of the Court, the staff at your local Court House will be able to assist. Alternatively, you could contact the New South Wales Attorney-General’s Department on (02) 9228 7777 and ask for the address of the Court you require.

**Location:**
Archives Authority of New South Wales.

**Reference no:**
13/262–676.

**Quantity:**
415 boxes.

**Description:**
These are a record of the daily proceedings in the Court. Frequently, agendas of each day's business and full details of each case brought before the Court are included.
Appendices
Appendix 1: Services and other sources of information

This list is not intended to be an exhaustive listing of all possible sources of information and services. It does, however, list key agencies and organisations. The information was correct at the time of publication.

Search Services in New South Wales

Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages

The Registry is responsible for the registration of all births, deaths and marriages in New South Wales. It is not equipped to manage the very sensitive levels of investigation which may be necessary on a personal level in an adoption search. However, it is in control of records which can be cross–checked to discover information which is not available from a first level certificate enquiry.

The Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages
Adoption Inquiries
GPO Box 30
SYDNEY NSW 2001
Telephone: (02) 9243 8688
Fax: (02) 9243 8689

The Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages
PO Box 894
WOLLONGONG EAST NSW 2520
Telephone: (02) 4223 3724

The Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages
Newcastle Regional Office
PO Box 494
NEWCASTLE NSW 2300
Telephone: (02) 4929 5936

Department of Community Services Family Information Service (FIS)

The role of the Family Information Service (FIS) is to assist adoptees and birth parents to access information about each other when the adoptee is over eighteen years of age. The Adoption Information Act 1990 (as amended) sets out many of the functions of the FIS. The FIS administers The Reunion and Information Register, The Contact Veto Register and The Advance Notice Register.
The Reunion and Information Register facilitates reunions and exchanges of messages between adopted persons, birth parents and other persons affected by an adoption.

The Contact Veto Register is a means by which adopted persons and birth parents can protect themselves from being contacted by the other party if they wish to do so.

The Advance Notice Register allows adopted persons, birth parents and adoptive parents to be given advance notice of identifying information being released to either an adopted person or a birth parent. This is especially valuable for adoptive parents when the adopted person is unaware of their adoption.

Prescribed Information (social and medical information) is prepared and released by the FIS. This information is taken from the original adoption file and is about the adoptee’s origins and the adoptive family into which the child was placed.

Family Information Service
Adoption Services Branch
NSW Department of Community Services
PO Box 3485
PARRAMATTA NSW 2124
Telephone: (02) 9865 5964 or (02) 9865 5973 or 1800 049 956 (toll free outside Sydney, but within NSW)

Barnardos Adoption Agency, Find—a—Family

The Principal Officer Adoptions
Barnardos Adoption Agency, Find-a-Family
Locked Bag 1 Million
BROADWAY NSW 2007
Telephone: (02) 9281 5510

Centacare Adoptions Services (CAS)

Centacare adoption staff are able to assist people seeking their origins and enquiring about adoption today, and to provide counselling and support as needed.

The Principal Officer
Centacare Adoption Services
9 Alexandra Avenue
CROYDON NSW 2132
Telephone: (02) 9744 7055
Fax: (02) 9744 0871
Historical and genealogical societies

These societies can give you advise on where else to look for information.

Society of Australian Genealogists

The Society also has specialist services for members. They include the use of their library, research advice and opportunities to participate in genealogy workshops and lectures on family history. Membership is open to anyone over the age of eighteen.

Society of Australian Genealogists
120 Kent Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000
Telephone: (02) 9247 3953
Fax: (02) 9241 4872

Royal Australian Historical Society

Royal Australian Historical Society
History House
133 Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000
Telephone: (02) 9247 8001
Fax: (02) 9247 7854

Services for Aboriginal People

Link-Up (NSW) Aboriginal Corporation

Link-Up is an Aboriginal organisation founded in 1980, based in New South Wales. It works with Aboriginal adults who were separated from their families as children and raised by non-Aboriginal people in institutions or private homes. Link-Up also works with the birth families of people who have been separated.

The organisation facilitates reunions between separated family members and provides ongoing support and help both in the short and long term.

Link-Up offers counselling to non-Aboriginal adoptive parents who have had children of Aboriginal background placed with them.

The Coordinator
Link-Up (NSW) Aboriginal Corporation
PO Box 93
LAWSON NSW 2783
Telephone: (02) 4759 1911 or free call 1800 624 332
Aboriginal Children’s Services (ACS)

Aboriginal Children’s Services provide counselling for people who have already been through white substitute care. They assist Aboriginal people to locate their families and they also assist families locate lost children. Such services are provided by: Cowra Aboriginal Children’s Service; Wagga Wagga Aboriginal Children’s Service; St Mary’s Aboriginal Children’s Service; Hunter Aboriginal Children’s Service; Koolyangarra Aboriginal Children’s Service; Nunya Aboriginal Foster Care; and Great Lakes/Manning Aboriginal Children’s Service.

Contact details for all of the above Aboriginal Children’s Services are listed elsewhere in this Guide.

Department of Aboriginal Affairs

The Department of Aboriginal Affairs is the first point of contact for people wishing to access the Aboriginal Welfare Board and Aboriginal Protection Board records.

Department of Aboriginal Affairs
Level 5
83 Clarence Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000
Telephone: (02) 9290 8700
Fax: (02) 9262 2690

International Adoption and Search Services

International Social Service Australia

The New South Wales office of the International Social Service (ISS) may be able to assist in overseas tracing, mediation, and ongoing support and counselling.

International Social Service Australia
NSW Regional Office
Suite 37
104 Bathurst Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000
Telephone: (02) 9267 3450
Fax: (02) 9267 3638

Child Migrants’ Trust

The Child Migrants’ Trust can assist in tracing the background and families of children who came to Australia as unaccompanied child migrants.
Other sources of information in New South Wales

National Archives of Australia (formerly Australian Archives)

Records held by the National Archives were created in the course of Commonwealth Government business, and result from the exercise of functions which at some time have been the responsibility of the Commonwealth. In historic terms the Commonwealth (except in wartime) has not been substantially involved in the personal affairs of individuals. Functions such as education, health and welfare, and police, which impinge on the day to day lives of individuals, are administered by the states, whereas the Commonwealth’s involvement has generally been limited to broader areas.

The two main functions for which records are held which are relevant to the Connecting Kin project are Aboriginal Affairs and Immigration. Agencies responsible for the Commonwealth’s administration of Aboriginal affairs are likely to have created records relating to the removal of children from their families. Records of the Commonwealth Department of Aboriginal Affairs, the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission, the Council and Office of Aboriginal Affairs and the Aboriginal Development Commission may contain information about the separation of children from their families.

Those agencies administering the immigration function were responsible for the immigration of children under various migration schemes under which children entered the country without their parents. Particularly after World War II, as part of official policy to encourage immigration, many schemes were established to bring children to Australia. It should be noted that some of these schemes were operating before the war. Most children were either orphans or those whose parents supposedly had relinquished responsibility. The National Archives has published Fact Sheet 124, *Child migration to Australia* which gives detailed information about records held relating to child migration.

Under the *Archives Act 1983*, only those records created more than 30 years ago are available for public access. However, records which are less than 30 years old may be requested under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982*. Further information about holdings and access is available from the National Archives.

National Archives of Australia, Sydney Office
PO Locked Bag 4
CHESTER HILL NSW 2162
Telephone: (02) 9201 3110
http://www.naa.gov.au

The National Archives of Australia home page will give you the contact details of the other State and Territory offices.

**State Library of New South Wales**

The State Library of New South Wales holds the records of a number of private organisations and individuals which may be of relevance to people tracing their origins. Some of these records are listed elsewhere in this guide. Further information about holdings can be obtained from the Library.

State Library of New South Wales  
Macquarie Street  
Sydney NSW 2000  
Telephone: (02) 9273 1414  
http://www.slnsw.gov.au

**Archives Authority of New South Wales**

The Archives Authority of New South Wales is the archival repository for the records of New South Wales State Government departments and agencies.

Archives Authority of New South Wales  
Level 3  
66 Harrington Street  
THE ROCKS NSW 2000  
Telephone: (02) 9237 0254  
http://www.records.nsw.gov.au  
email: aonsw@records.nsw.gov.au

From September 1998, the Authority will be known as the State Records Authority of New South Wales.

**New South Wales Parliamentary Archives**

The Parliamentary Archives hold records of parliamentary inquiries in New South Wales.

New South Wales Parliamentary Archives  
Parliament House  
SYDNEY NSW 2000  
Telephone: (02) 9230 2707

**Australian Museum**

The Australian Museum holds collected archives of people who have worked in anthropology at the Museum or have been associated with it. It
does not have a guide to these records although it does have guides to parts of its archaeological and anthropological collections.

Australian Museum
6 College Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000
Telephone: (02) 9320 6000

Charles Sturt University, Regional Archives
The University is one of the regional repositories of the Archives Authority of New South Wales. In this capacity it holds records of regional offices of New South Wales State Government agencies, such as court records, police records, etc. It also houses the records of the Anglican Diocese of Riverina in its regional manuscript collection.

Charles Sturt University, Regional Archives
PO Box 588
WAGGA WAGGA NSW 2650
Telephone: (02) 6633 2623

University of Sydney Archives
The University Archives holdings include the personal archives of Professor A.P. Elkin and the records for the Association for the Protection of Native Races (APNR) 1910–56. The records of the APNR include minutes, reports (including minutes from missions), circulars, papers, correspondence, manuscript material and publications. The Archives has series descriptions of the records.

University of Sydney Archives
SYDNEY NSW 2006
Telephone: (02) 9351 2684
http://www.usyd.edu.au/su/archives

Noel Butlin Archives Centre (NBAC), Australian National University
The most relevant record groups held at the NBAC are: Australian Council of Trade Unions; Australian Workers’ Union; National Farmers’ Federation; New South Wales Farmers’ Association; New South Wales Teachers’ Federation; stations and rural properties. All relevant records have series and item lists.

Noel Butlin Archives Centre, ANU
CANBERRA ACT 0200
Telephone: (02) 6249 2219
http://www.au.edu.au/nbac
The Anglican Board of Mission, Australia

The records of the Australian Board of Missions, the predecessor to the Anglican Board of Mission, Australia are held in the Mitchell Library. A descriptive list is available.

The Anglican Board of Mission, Australia
91 Bathurst Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000
Telephone: (02) 9264 1021

Anglican Diocese of Sydney Archives

The Archives hold records relating to the Anglican Church’s Aborigines Committee from c. 1972 and to the Church Missionary Society c. 1910–74 as well as personal papers of some clergy involved in work with Aboriginal people. Access to the records is available only to bona fide researchers after approval by the Archivist and Registrar.

Anglican Diocese of Sydney Archives
PO Box Q190
QUEEN VICTORIA BUILDING NSW 1230
Telephone: (02) 9265 1555

Archives of the Presbyterian Church of Australia

Registers of Baptisms, Deaths and Marriages are held at the Archives of the Presbyterian Church of Australia. The records of Presbyterian missions to Indigenous people, the Australian Inland Mission and the Australian Presbyterian Board of Missions have been deposited in the National Library of Australia.

Archives of the Presbyterian Church of Australia
GPO Box 100
SYDNEY NSW 2001
Telephone: (02) 9690 0058

Sydney Catholic Archdiocesan Archives

The Archives hold correspondence, reports and registers of baptisms, deaths and marriages.

Sydney Catholic Archdiocesan Archives
St Mary’s Cathedral
St Mary’s Road
SYDNEY NSW 2000
Telephone: (02) 9220 0433
Bathurst Catholic Diocesan Archives

Registers of baptisms, deaths and marriages are held at the Bathurst Catholic Diocesan Archives.

Bathurst Catholic Diocesan Archives
84 George Street
BATHURST NSW 2795
Telephone: (02) 6331 3611

Missionaries of the Sacred Heart Provincial Archives

The Archives hold a small amount of material relating to missions in the Northern Territory and Thursday Island 1847 to 1992. Series descriptions are available.

Missionaries of the Sacred Heart Provincial Archives
1 Roma Avenue
KENSINGTON NSW 2033
Telephone: (02) 9662 7188

Uniting Church Archives and Research Centre

Uniting Church Archives and Research Centre
PO Box 2395
NORTH PARRAMATTA NSW 2151
Telephone: (02) 9683 3147

Seventh Day Adventist Heritage Collection

This collection has material of relevance to Indigenous people throughout its holdings. There is no guide to the material but there are plans for a project to index it.

Seventh Day Adventist Heritage Collection
PO Box 19
COORANBONG NSW 2265
Telephone: (02) 4980 2222

Published Guides and Finding Aids

Archives Authority of New South Wales

Concise Guide to the State Archives. 2nd ed., Sydney, Archives Authority of New South Wales, 1992 [22 microfiche].

The Concise Guide is accessible via the Authority’s Internet home page at: http://www.records.nsw.gov.au

Archives Authority of New South Wales
Level 3
66 Harrington Street
THE ROCKS NSW 2000
Telephone: (02) 9237 0254
http://www.records.nsw.gov.au
email: aonsw@records.nsw.gov.au

From September 1998, the Authority will be known as the State Records Authority of New South Wales.

National Archives of Australia


This is being replaced by a new guide called Finding Families: A guide to the National Archives of Australia for Genealogists. It is the guide to the vast collection of the National Archives of Australia which holds millions of files, photographs and records. Finding Families is also a guide to tracing where, when, and how men and women served their country in wartime; settled in a new country; were employed on public projects; or were educated through Commonwealth agencies.

One guide to the National Archives of Australia is ANGAM II, a database accessible in the search rooms in each State Office. You can search the database by using key words.

National Archives of Australia, Sydney Office
PO Locked Bag 4
CHESTER HILL NSW 2162
Telephone: (02) 9201 3110
http://www.naa.gov.au

Counselling and support services

Benevolent Society of New South Wales

The Post-Adoption Resource Centre provides counselling, intermediary services and support.
Post Adoption Resource Centre
Benevolent Society of NSW
PO Box 239
BONDI NSW 2026
Telephone: (02) 9365 3444 or toll free (NSW regional): 1800 024 256

Mercy Family Centre

The Mercy Family Centre’s Adoption Support Program offers counselling as well as group programs for adopted persons, birth parents and adoptive parents.

Mercy Family Centre
Adoption Support Centre
PO Box 2118
HORNSBY NSW 2077
Telephone: (02) 9487 3022

The Salvation Army

Mediation and counselling are available for people needing these types of specialist services.

The Salvation Army
Post-Adoption Service
PO Box A435
SYDNEY SOUTH NSW 1232
Telephone: (02) 9266 9829

Interstate Sources of Information and Services

National Library of Australia

National Library of Australia
Parkes Place
CANBERRA ACT 2600
Telephone: (02) 6262 1111
http://www.nla.gov.au

State and Territory Libraries

Queensland State Library
PO Box 3488
SOUTH BRISBANE QLD 4101
Telephone: (07) 3840 7666

South Australian State Library
GPO Box 419
ADELAIDE SA 5001
Telephone: (08) 8207 7200
Tasmanian State Library
91 Murray Street
HOBART TAS 7000
Telephone: (03) 6233 7458

Western Australian Library and Information Service
Alexandra Library Building
Perth Cultural Centre
PERTH WA 6000
Telephone: (08) 9427 3111

Victorian State Library
328 Swanston Street
MELBOURNE VIC 3000
Telephone: (03) 9669 9824
http://www.slv.vic.gov.au

Northern Territory State Library
GPO Box 42
DARWIN NT 0801
Telephone: (08) 8999 7177

National Archives of Australia

National Archives, Canberra
PO Box 7425
CANBERRA MAIL CENTRE ACT 2610
Telephone: (02) 6212 3900
email: ref@naa.gov.au

National Archives, Darwin
PO Box 24
NIGHTCLIFF NT 0814
Telephone: (08) 8948 4622
email: refnt@naa.gov.au

National Archives, Brisbane
PO Box 552
CANNON HILL QLD 4170
Telephone: (07) 3249 4202
email: refqld@naa.gov.au

National Archives, Melbourne
PO Box 8005
BURWOOD HEIGHTS VIC 3151
Telephone: (03) 9285 7999
email: refvic@naa.gov.au

National Archives, Perth
PO Box 1144
EAST VICTORIA PARK WA 6981
Telephone: (08) 9470 7500
email: refwa@naa.gov.au

National Archives, Adelaide
PO Box 119
WALKERVILLE SA 5081
Telephone: (08) 8269 0121
email: refsa@naa.gov.au

National Archives, Hobart
4 Rosny Hill Road
ROSNY PARK TAS 7018
Telephone: (03) 6244 0101
email: reftas@naa.gov.au
State and Territory Archives

ACT Government Archives  Northern Territory Archives Service
Manager, Registry  GPO Box 874
Department of Public Administration  DARWIN NT 0801
GPO Box 158  Telephone: (08) 8924 7677
CANBERRA ACT 2601  email: nt archives@nt.gov.au
Telephone: (02) 6207 5921

Queensland State Archives  State Records, South Australia
PO Box 1397  PO Box 1056
SUNNYBANK HILLS QLD 4109  BLAIR ATHOL WEST SA 5084
Telephone: (07) 3875 8755  Telephone: (08) 8226 8000
http://www.archives.qld.gov.au

Public Records Office of Victoria  Public Records Office of WA
PO Box 1156  Alexander Library Building
SOUTH MELBOURNE VIC 3205  Perth Cultural Centre
Telephone: (03) 9285 7999  PERTH WA 6000
http://www.vicnet.net.au/~provic/
Telephone: (08) 9427 3360

Public Records Office of Victoria
PO Box 1156
SOUTH MELBOURNE VIC 3205
Telephone: (03) 9285 7999
http://www.vicnet.net.au/~provic/

Public Records Office of WA
Alexander Library Building
Perth Cultural Centre
PERTH WA 6000
Telephone: (08) 9427 3360

Archives Office of Tasmania
77 Murray Street
HOBART TAS 7000
Telephone: (03) 6233 7488

Australian War Memorial (AWM)

Australian War Memorial
GPO Box 345
CANBERRA ACT 2601
Telephone: (02) 6243 4211

Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS)

AIATSIS is located in Canberra and has the largest collection in Australia of material specially relating to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. The collection includes a general library, photographic collection, linguistics collection and film archive.

The AIATSIS has created an Aboriginal Biographical Index, which tell you whether or not there is information on a particular person with the AIATSIS collection. The AIATSIS has also published a two volume Encyclopedia of Aboriginal Australians which contains the life stories of many Aboriginal and
Torres Strait Islander people who have made great contributions to their people and their country.

Detailed guides are held for the larger manuscript collections.

*Aboriginal Studies Electronic Data Archive* is maintained on the Internet at http://coombs.anu.edu.au/SpecialProj/ASEDA/ASEDA.html

AIATSIS
GPO Box 553
CANBERRA ACT 2602
Telephone: (02) 6246 1111
http://www.aiatsis.gov.au

Queensland Department of Families, Youth and Community Care

A *guide to Queensland Government Records relating to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples*, Vols 1 & 2, Department of Families, Youth and Community Care, 1994 & 1995.

This guide is designed as a tool to assist Indigenous Australians reconstruct their history.

Community and Personal Histories Section
Department of Families, Youth and Community Care
GPO Box 806
BRISBANE QLD 4001
Telephone: (07) 3224 3622 or Freecall: 1800 650 230

Aboriginal Family History Project

Aboriginal Family History Project
Division of Anthropology
South Australian Museum
North Terrace
ADELAIDE SA 5000
Telephone: (08) 8207 7500

Aboriginal Family Information and Adoption Service

Aboriginal Family Information and Adoption Service
Department for Community Development
189 Royal Street
EAST PERTH WA 6004
Telephone: (08) 9222 2555
Karu Aboriginal and Islander Child Care Agency

Karu has a Link–Up Program which provides a similar service to Link–Up in New South Wales. They can also provide you with advice on researching family history in the Northern Territory.

Karu Aboriginal and Islander Child Care Agency
PO Box 4069
CASUARINA NT 0811
Telephone: (08) 8922 7171
Appendix 2: Chronological summary of Child welfare legislation in New South Wales

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Act</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1826</td>
<td><em>Orphan Schools Act</em> 1826</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1866</td>
<td><em>Reformatory Schools Act</em> 1866</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Provides for the establishment of reformatory schools.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1866</td>
<td><em>Destitute Children Act</em> 1866</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Legislates that vagrant and destitute children under eighteen could be sent by justices to work as apprentices or placed in industrial or reformatory schools. Also referred to as the <em>Industrial Schools Act</em> 1866.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1892</td>
<td><em>Children’s Protection Act</em> 1892</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Provides for a stipendiary or police magistrate to commit to prison any child under fourteen convicted of an offence or place a child in an industrial institution for destitute and neglected children. Repealed by the <em>Children’s Protection Act</em> 1902.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1901</td>
<td><em>Infant Convicts Adoption Act</em> 1901</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Where an infant under nineteen years is convicted of a felony or misdemeanour, the Court may assign the care or custody of the child to an applicant willing to take charge of him/her and provide for his/her maintenance if judged to be for the infant’s benefit. Repealed by the <em>Child Welfare Act</em> 1923.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1901</td>
<td><em>State Children Relief Act</em> 1901</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Establishes the State Children’s Relief Board with authority to direct the removal of State children; grant licences for the reception of State children as boarders; apprentice any child; approve persons applying to ‘adopt’ state children; and arrange terms of ‘adoption’. The boarding-out officer may remove a State child from an asylum, reformatory school and arrange for the child to be boarded out. Repealed by the <em>Child Welfare Act</em> 1939.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1901</td>
<td><em>Reformatory and Industrial Schools Act</em> 1901</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Re-enacts the 1866 provisions for offenders under sixteen, and for vagrant and destitute children. The court is empowered to</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
commit a child to the care of a relative, a named person, the State Children’s Relief Board or to a public industrial school.

1902  

*Children’s Protection Act 1902*

A child found to be ‘neglected’ may be boarded out, sent to an industrial school or committed to the care of a relative or other person. The concept of ‘neglect’ was later used by the Aborigines Protection Board as legal authority to remove children. Repealed by the *Child Welfare Act 1923*.

1904  

*Infant Protection Act 1904*

The establishment of the Children’s Court.

1905  

*Neglected Children and Juvenile Offenders Act 1905*

A ‘neglected’ or ‘uncontrollable’ child may be apprehended and brought before a Court which can release the child on probation, commit the child to an institution until the age of eighteen, or to the care of a willing person. A child in an institution may be apprenticed in accordance with the *Apprentices Act 1901*. Repealed by the *Child Welfare Act 1923*.

1909  

*Aborigines Protection Act 1909*

This gives legal sanction to the Aborigines Protection Board to separate and remove Aboriginal children from their families. Duty of the Board to provide for the custody, maintenance and education of the children of ‘aborigines’. The Board may apprentice ‘the child of any aborigine or the neglected child of any person apparently having an admixture of aboriginal blood in his veins’ subject to the *Apprentices Act 1901*. Repealed by the *Aborigines Act 1969*.

1915  

*Aborigines Protection Amending Act 1915*

This gives the Aborigines Protection Board the power to remove any child without parental consent and without a Court order. It removes the requirement that an Aboriginal child has to be found to be neglected before the Board could remove him/her. The Act provides that ‘the Board may assume full control and custody of the child of any aborigine, if after due inquiry it is satisfied that such a course is in the interest of the moral or physical welfare of such child’ and remove such child to such control and care as it thinks best. Apprenticeship of children by the Board is no longer subject to the *Apprentices Act 1901*. Repealed by the *Aborigines Act 1969*. 
1918 Amendment to the *Aborigines Protection Amending Act 1915*

The powers of the Board are expanded to specifically include "half castes". Repealed by the *Aborigines Act 1969*.

1923 *Child Welfare Act 1923*

Court is given similar power as in the 1905 Act to commit a 'neglected' or 'uncontrollable' child. All children committed to, or inmates of, an institution are under the control of the superintendent of the institution until they attain the age of eighteen or are discharged, removed, apprenticed or placed out. A child may be adopted if the child's parents or guardians consent. Consent may be dispensed with if the Court is of the opinion that the parent or guardian has deserted or abandoned the child. Amended by the *Child Welfare (Amendment) Act 1924* in which the Court may dispense with consent in any special circumstances where it deems it expedient to do so. Repealed by the *Child Welfare Act 1939*.

1936 *Aborigines Protection (Amendment) Act 1936*

Board regains control over Aboriginal people by yet another change to the definition of Aboriginality. Court may order the removal of an 'aborigine' who is 'living in insanitary or undesirable conditions' to a reserve or a place controlled by the Board or to the State from whence he or she came. Repealed by the *Aborigines Act 1969*.

1939 *Child Welfare Act 1939*

Where a court finds that a child is neglected, it may release the child on certain conditions; commit the child to the care of the minister to be dealt with as a State ward, or commit the child to the care of an institution. The Minister of Child Welfare is the guardian 'of every child ... who becomes a ward to the exclusion of the parent or other guardian'. The minister may direct the removal or transfer of any ward; remove the child from any charitable institution, depot, home or hostel and cause him or her to be apprenticed, boarded out, placed out or placed as an adopted boarder. An adoption order may be made if it promotes the welfare and interests of the child. Parents or guardian must consent to adoption but consent may be dispensed with where the Court deems it just and reasonable to do so. Amended by *Child Welfare Amendment Act 1961* in which payment of maintenance for a child who is an inmate of a charitable depot, home or hostel has not been paid for one to six months, the child may be admitted to State control and the person in charge
of the charitable depot, home or hostel deemed to be the child’s foster parent. Child Welfare (Amendment) Act 1966 in which if it appears to an officer or person in charge of a depot, home or hostel that the welfare of the child may be promoted, the child may be committed by a Court to the care of the minister to be dealt with as a ward admitted to State control; apprenticed, boarded out, placed out or placed as an adopted boarder. Repealed by the Children (Care and Protection) Act 1987.

After the Aborigines Protection (Amendment) Act 1940, Aboriginal children were removed under the Child Welfare Act 1939 and subsequent child welfare legislation.

1940 Aborigines Protection (Amendment) Act 1940

An Aboriginal child found to be neglected under the Child Welfare Act 1939 is to be committed to the Aborigines Protection Board as a ‘ward of the Board’. Duties of the Board include ‘assisting aborigines in obtaining employment’ and ‘maintaining or assisting to maintain them whilst so employed, or otherwise for the purpose of assisting aborigines to become assimilated into the general life of the community’. The Board no longer has duty of education of Aboriginal children but still has custody and maintenance. It is an offence to try to communicate with a ward in a home or enter any such home without the consent of the Board. Where the Children’s Court finds that a child is neglected or uncontrollable under the Child Welfare Act 1939, the Court may deal with the child in accordance with that Act. Except where the Court decides that the child should be admitted to state control, the child shall be committed to the care of the Board as a ward. Where the Court decides to commit the child to an institution, the child shall be committed to an institution established under the Act. Repealed by the Aborigines Act 1969.

1943 Aborigines Protection (Amendment) Act 1943

The Board may issue and cancel exemption certificates whereby an Aboriginal person ‘shall be deemed not to be an aborigine or a person apparently having an admixture of aboriginal blood’. The Board may board out children admitted to its control. Once an Aboriginal child has attained the minimum school leaving age, the child is to be apprenticed or placed in employment. The Board is the authority in relation to children admitted to its control with power over the removal and transfer of wards, apprenticing wards and approving custody of wards. Repealed by the Aborigines Act 1969.
1963  
**Aborigines Protection (Amendment) Act 1963**

Repeals provisions allowing a magistrate to send ‘mixed blood’ Aboriginal people to a place controlled by the Board; and those which made it an offence to take an adult Aboriginal person away from New South Wales and for non-Aboriginal and Aboriginal people to live together. Repealed by the **Aborigines Act 1969**.

1965  
**Adoption of Children Act 1965**

The welfare and interests of the child are the paramount consideration. In making an adoption order the Court may dispense with consent if a person cannot be found or identified; the person is not capable of properly considering the question; the person is unfit to discharge the obligations of parent or guardian having abandoned, deserted, neglected or ill treated a child; the person failed to discharge obligations of parent or guardian; or there are other special circumstances by reason of which consent may be dispensed with. Amended by **Adoption of Children Amendment 1966** in which Court power to dispense with consent due to ‘other special circumstances’ was removed. Court may dispense with consent where the interests and welfare of child are promoted by the adoption order. **Adoption of Children (Amendment) Act 1980** which established the Adoption Tribunal.

1969  
**Aborigines Act 1969**


1981  
**Community Welfare Bill 1981**

Provides that any fact which would tend to prove a child was in need of care must be proved beyond reasonable doubt.

1987  
**Children (Care and Protection) Act 1987**

A child in need of care is defined as: a situation where provision is not being made for the child’s care; the child is being or is likely to be abused; or there has been an irretrievable breakdown in the relationship between the child
and parents. Concept of ‘neglect’ replaced by ‘behaviour that harms the child’. The **Aboriginal Child Placement Principle** was introduced and outlined a preference of Aboriginal children with Aboriginal people when they are placed outside their families.

1987 **Community Welfare Act 1987**

The objects of community welfare legislation include the promotion of the welfare of Aborigines on the basis of a recognition of Aboriginal culture, identity, community structures and standards, the rights of Aborigines to raise and protect their own children and to be involved in decision-making processes that affect them and their children.

1988 **Children (Community Service Orders) Amendment Act 1988**

Requiring the consent of a child to the making of a community service order or restricting orders to children under fourteen.

1988 **Children (Community Service Orders) Further Amendment Act 1988**

Enables the Director-General to place children in foster care and requires children to be informed of reasons for removal and likely consequences.

1990 **Child (Care and Protection) Amendment Act 1990**

The amendment introduces discretionary payment to non-parents caring for children, known as the Non-Parent Care Allowance.
Appendix 3: Brief History of Missions in New South Wales

Missions were compounds established by the churches as a sanctuary to ‘protect’ the Indigenous peoples of Australia from the mistreatment that the European settlers were perpetrating on them. They were institutions that arguably had a detrimental influence on the very people they were supposed to protect. The Aborigines Protection Board controlled these missions.

Reserves differed from missions in that reserves were established by the Government. Ultimately though, they had the same purpose. Religious bodies sometimes set up schools, churches and dormitories on reserves and missions also.

It may be surprising to note that there were only ten actual missions in New South Wales:

**Lake Macquarie (Ebenezer) Aboriginal Mission**

Lake Macquarie Aboriginal Mission was managed by the London Missionary Society (later Congregational Council for World Mission, now Council for World Mission) and was operational from 1824 to 1841.

**Wellington Valley Aboriginal Mission**

Wellington Valley Aboriginal Mission was also managed by the London Missionary Society and operated as an Aboriginal mission from 1832 to 1842.

**Warangesda Aboriginal Mission**

Warangesda operated from 1879 to 1920 and was managed by the Australian Board of Missions and the Church of England. It was situated on the Murrumbidgee River and also consisted of the Warangesda Dormitory for girls.

The dormitory was established on the mission in 1893 and was a state-wide home for girls until 1909. Approximately 300 Aboriginal children were removed from their families and placed there.

**Maloga Aboriginal Mission Station**

Maloga Aboriginal Mission was established by Daniel Matthews on the Murray River in 1874 and operated until 1894. Maloga also had a Mission School on the property.
La Perouse Aboriginal Mission

La Perouse Aboriginal Mission was established in 1895 on approximately seven acres.

Bomaderry Aboriginal Mission

Bomaderry was managed by the United Aborigines Mission and operated from 1908 to 1988.

Bowraville Aboriginal Mission and School

This Aboriginal mission was managed by the Roman Catholics and operated from 1923.

Goulburn Island Mission Station

This mission station is not officially one of the ten Aboriginal missions in New South Wales. However, it is commonly referred to as a mission. Goulburn Island Mission Station operated from 1916 and was managed by the Methodists.

Parramatta Aboriginal Mission

Parramatta Aboriginal Mission was managed by the Church of England (also referred to as the Church Missionary Society and the Australian Board of Missions) and operated from 1820 to 1828.

Sydney Aboriginal Mission

(Details unknown)

Yelta Aboriginal Mission

(Details unknown)

Sources:


Appendix 4: Brief History of Aboriginal Reserves in New South Wales

In the 1870s the destitution and vulnerability of Aboriginal people moved the missionaries to renewed efforts to assist them. They successfully lobbied the Government to reserve lands for their use to ‘educate’, accommodate and care for Aboriginal people. In 1881 a Protector of Aborigines was appointed and he recommended that reserves be set aside throughout the state to which Aboriginal people should be encouraged to move.

In 1883 the Aborigines Protection Board was established to manage reserves and control the lives of the estimated 9,000 Aboriginal people in New South Wales at that time. During these early years, no legislation existed to sanction the actions of the Board, the churches, or private landholders in their attempts to centralise Aboriginal people onto missions and reserves and begin the removal of children from Aboriginal families.

By 1939 there were over 180 reserves in New South Wales. In most cases they were small with housing consisting of humpies made from iron roofing. There were two kinds. ‘Managed Reserves’, also called stations, were usually staffed by a teacher-manager and education of a sort, rations and housing were provided. ‘Unmanaged Reserves’ provided rations but no housing or education and were under the control of the police.

While a few revocations of reserves were made in the 1930s and 1940s, it was not until the 1954–64 period that there was another wave of revocations. This seems to relate to the policy of assimilation and involved in the removal of Aboriginals from traditional reserves to ‘new’ reserves set aside in nearby towns. At the same time the large areas of land formerly held were revoked. This occurred in most country towns in New South Wales and approximately 28 reserves were revoked in this period in such places as Balranald, Grenfell, Gulargambone, Guyra, Inverell, Kyogle, Manilla, Nowra, Picton and Wellington.

A brief description of Aboriginal Reserves in New South Wales

(Note: AR is an abbreviation for Aboriginal Reserve as gazetted in the Government Gazette of New South Wales).

Allgomera (AR 38625)
Allgomera Aboriginal Reserve was located near Macksville on Tom Mara’s Creek in the Parish of Allgomera, County of Raleigh. It was 20 acres in size and registered on 10/12/1904.

Arakoon (see Kempsey)
Ashby (AR 31665)
Ashby Aboriginal Reserve was located in the Maclean area on the Broadwater and Clarence Rivers in the Parish of Ashby, County of Clarence. It was 85 acres in size and registered on 3/11/1900. Ashby operated until 5/8/1927.

Ashford (see also Tarrangower)
There were several reserves in the Ashford area:

AR 17800 This Aboriginal Reserve was located in the Parish of Pindari, County of Arrawatta. It was 23 acres in size and operated from 27/5/1893 to 20/12/1957.

AR 40459 This Aboriginal Reserve may have been called Sevington and was located in the Parish of Bibonbah, County of Arrawatta via Wellingrove. It was 2 750 acres in size and operated from 2/5/1906 to 20/11/1925.

AR 85428 This Aboriginal Reserve was located in Cooke Street, Ashford, in the Parish of Ashford, County of Arrawatta. It was 3 acres and 3 roods 5 perches in size and was registered on 20/8/1965.

AR 87126 This Aboriginal Reserve was located in the Parish of Ashford, County of Arrawatta and consisted of town houses. It was registered on 28/3/1969.

Ballina (AR 5081)
Ballina Aboriginal Reserve was located in the Ballina area on Emigrant Creek in the Parish of Ballina, County of Rous. It was 28 acres in size and was registered on 14/1/1888. Also included as part of this reserve was AR 1026.

Balranald
There were three reserves in the Balranald area:

AR 16477 This Aboriginal Reserve was registered on 12/1/1910 and included AR 44736. It was located between Yanga Creek and the Murrumbidgee River in the Parish of Mamanga, County of Caira. It was 142 acres 2 roods in size and operated from 1/10/1892 to 8/8/1950.

AR 66640 This Aboriginal Reserve was located in the Parish of Mamanga, County of Caira and was 70 acres in size. Seven acres and 7 roods were revoked on 10/8/1962 leaving 62 acres and 2 roods which were later described as DP4918. This reserve was originally notified on 13/4/1892 and registered on 19/3/1937.

AR 84805 This Aboriginal Reserve was located on Piper and Sydney Streets in the Parish of Mamanga, County of Caira and described as Lot 21, Section 22. It was 2 acres in size and registered on 13/3/1964.
Barrington (AR 35673)  
This reserve was also known as Portion 21 and located north of Gloucester in the Parish of Fitzroy, County of Gloucester. It was 50 acres in size and operated from 31/1/1903 to 24/9/1957.

Barrington River  
Barrington River Reserve was located at the junction of the Talbragar and Macquarie Rivers and was 50 acres in size. It operated from 1890 to 1957.

Barwon (see Brewarrina)

Baryugil  
Baryugil Aboriginal Reserve was described as Portions 11 and 121 and located on the Clarence River in the Parish of Yulgibar, County of Drake. It was 50 acres in size and operated from 5/8/1960.

Bateman’s Bay  
There were two Aboriginal Reserves in Bateman’s Bay:

AR 112  Located on the Tomago River in the Parish of Bateman, County of St Vincent, this reserve was 40 acres is size and operated from 9/1/1882.

AR 34759  This Aboriginal Reserve was described as Portions 139, 140 and 141 and operated from 19/7/1902 to 16/9/1927. It was located in the Parish of Bateman, County of St Vincent and was 9 acres and 30 perches in size.

Beemunnel (AR 76776)  
Beemunnel Aboriginal Reserve was located in the Parish of Umangla, County of Ewenmar, and consisted of 20 acres.

Bega  
There were several Aboriginal Reserves in the Bega area:

Cohens’ Lake  This reserve was near the Bega River approximately 9 miles from Bega and 3 miles from Tathra. Cohens’ Lake Aboriginal Reserve was 55 acres in size and operated from 1893.

(Name unknown)  The name of this Aboriginal Reserve is unknown, however it was 100 acres in size and operated from 1883.

AR 85253  On 6 March 1955, this Aboriginal reserve was operational and located in the Parish of Bega, County of Auckland. It consisted of 9 acres.

Bellbrook (AR 49982)  
Initially a station situated north of Kempsey in the Parish of Nulla Nulla, County of Dudley, this reserve was 85 acres in size and began its function as an Aboriginal Reserve on 10/6/1914.
Bellingen (AR 14679)
This reserve was on an island situated at the convergence of the North Arm and South Arm of the Nambucca River in the Parish of South Bellingen, County of Raleigh. It was operational from 24/10/1891 to 17/12/1954 and was situated on 250 acres.

Bellwood (AR 73990 and AR 87256)
Bellwood Aboriginal Reserves were 2 miles from Nambucca Heads in the Parish of Nambucca, County of Raleigh. The total size of AR 73990 and AR 87256 was 42 acres 3 roods. They operated from 26/1/1951 and were expanded in 1951 and 1969.

Bellwood was also divided into Portions 359 and 506 on 4/7/1969 which included part of Portion 419.

Bermagui (AR 86062)
On 23/10/1964, AR 86062 was set up on Hill Street, Bermagui, in the Parish of Bermagee, County of Dampier, on 2 roods 26.75 perches.

Blue Mountains (see Megalong)

Bodalla
There were four Aboriginal Reserves in Bodalla (or Eurobodalla):

AR 553        This reserve was located on the bank of Tuross Lake in the Parish of Congo, County of Dampier. It operated on 32 acres from 22/11/1880 to 7/9/1917.

AR 345, AR 346 and AR 347    All three of these reserves were situated together at the mouth of the Tuross River in the Parish of Bodalla, County of Dampier. The reserve AR 345 operated from 19/10/1877 to 27/1/1922 on 40 acres. AR 346 consisted of 56 acres 3 roods and operated from 19/10/1877 to 16/12/1914. The reserve AR 347 operated for a longer period from 19/10/1877 to 23/5/1969 on approximately 40 acres.

AR 378        Details of this Aboriginal Reserve are unknown.

Boggabilla (AR 14210)
This reserve was located in the Boggabilla area in the Parish of Boggabilla, the County of Staplyton. It was situated on 457 acres and functioned as an Aboriginal reserve from 8/8/1891 to 24/5/1918.

Bokal–Ynee (AR 42950 and renotified as AR 66508/9)
Bokal–Ynee was originally registered as AR 42950 on 5/8/1908 and renotified as AR 66508/9 on 15/1/1937. It was located in the Woodenbong area in the Parish of Lindsay, County of Bullar, on 123 acres.
Boorowa
Two reserves were in the Boorowa area:

**AR 33675**  This Aboriginal Reserve was located in the Parish of Opton, County of King on 129 acres 3 roods. It was set up on 21/12/1901.

**AR 64379/80**  The second Aboriginal Reserve was also known as Portion 90. It was situated on 75 acres and operated from 2/2/1934.

Bourke
There were a number of reserves in the Bourke area:

**AR 7202/22**  Located in the Parish of Bourke, County of Cowper, this town reserve was situated on 34 acres 1 rood 18 perches and operated from 30/8/1946.

**AR 78457/8**  This was also a town reserve. It operated from 6/4/1956 on lots in Cowper and Hope Streets.

**AR 83582**  This town reserve operated from 17/11/61 and 27/9/68 on lots in Adelaide Street which consisted of 3 acres 2 roods 49.5 perches.

**AR 84544**  This reserve was located in Warrego Street and was 1 rood 5.5 perches in size. It began its function as an Aboriginal reserve on 27/9/1963.

Bowraville
There were a number of Aboriginal Reserves located in the Bowraville area in the Parish of Bowra, County of Raleigh:

**AR 168**  This was also known as O'Rourkes’ Settlement on the Taylor’s Arm of the Nambucca River. It was 20 acres in size and operational from 30/10/1912.

**AR 42775 and AR 57051**  Both Aboriginal reserves were located on Wirrimbi Island and consisted of a total of 3.6 hectares. They operated from 3/6/1908 to 9/5/1924.

**AR 62815/6**  This was on 36 acres and functioned as an Aboriginal reserve from 7/7/1931.

Box Ridge (AR 41808/9)
Box Ridge Aboriginal Reserve was in the Coraki area in the Parish of West Coraki, County of Richmond. It consisted of 10 acres and operated from 10/7/1907.

Brewarrina (known as Barwon Reserve, Old Brewarrina Station)
There were several reserves in the Brewarrina area:
AR 4 and AR 3152  These Aboriginal Reserves constituted the Old Brewarrina Station which was located in the Parishes of Goonoo and Cato, County of Narran. From 17/6/1885 AR 4 operated and AR 3152 from 5/3/1887. Both formed a total of 684 acres.

AR 77614  It was in Church Street, Brewarrina, and also in the Parish of Brewarrina, County of Clyde. It was 1 rood 21 perches in size and operated from 20/5/1955.

AR 84764  This Aboriginal Reserve operated on 15 acres in the same location as AR 77614 and began on 21/2/1964.

Brungle
AR 12489  This first Aboriginal Reserve on 3 acres, was operational from 13/9/1890 to 12/8/1955.

AR 44288  This second Reserve was located in the Parish of Brungle, County of Buccleuch on 142 acres and operated from 15/9/1909 to 12/8/1955 (except for an area of 31 acres re-registered as AR 77806).

Bugilbar Creek (AR 84957)
This included AR 69558. The two reserves formed a total area of 120 acres and were located on the Bugilbar Creek in the Grafton area. Both Aboriginal Reserves operated from 24/7/1964.

Bulgandramine
This reserve was originally situated on Goobabang Creek near the Billabong Goldfield in the Parkes area, Parish of Mungerie, County of Kennedy in 1893. It consisted of a number of Aboriginal Reserves with a total of 84 acres:

AR 41699/700  This reserve was located on 50 acres and operational from 29/5/1907 to 17/7/1959.

AR 59878/9  This Bulgandramine reserve was 34 acres in size and operational from 12/8/1927 to 19/3/1943.

Bundarra
Also known as Moredun or Clerk’s Creek (or Kelly’s Creek) in the Tingha area. It consisted of two areas on opposite sides of the creek:

AR 23595  This Aboriginal Reserve was called Bushfield and located in the Parish of New Valley, County of Hardinge on 280 acres. It was operational from 1/2/1896 to 23/2/1914.

AR 25909  This Aboriginal Reserve was located in the Parish of Chigwell also in the County of Hardinge, on 168 acres. It functioned as an Aboriginal Reserve from 24/4/1897 to 23/12/1914.
**Burnt Bridge**
Burnt Bridge Aboriginal Reserve was located in the Kempsey area on Rolland’s Plains Road in the Parish of Kalateenee, County of Dudley. This was also referred to as Burnt Bridge Aboriginal Station and made up of a number of smaller Aboriginal Reserves:

**AR 20865** Also referred to as Portion 40, this reserve was located on Euroke Creek on 172 acres and operated from 9/6/1894 to 17/7/1956.

**AR 27273** This Aboriginal Reserve consisted of Portions 91, 92 and 93 and was situated on 613 acres. It operated from 19/2/1892 to 17/7/1956.

**AR 68441/2** This Aboriginal Reserve was originally registered as AR 27279, however the dates of its operation under this name are unknown. This reserve functioned as an Aboriginal Reserve under its new name from 30/6/1939 on 106 acres.

**Buronga (AR 84994)**
This Aboriginal Reserve was in the Parish of Mourquong, County of Wentworth and operated on 1 acre 3 roods 0.5 perches from 28/8/1964.

**Burra Bee Dee**
Burra Bee Dee was located on Castlereagh River in the Coonabarabran area and consisted of a number of Aboriginal Reserves:

**AR 47521**

**AR 15156** (included also AR 40125 and AR 46876)
These Aboriginal Reserves were in the Parish of Coonabarabran, County of Gowen and occupied a total area of 623 acres 2 roods. The reserve AR 15156 operated from 21/2/1912.

**AR 35012** This Aboriginal Reserve was located in the Parish of Yarrawin, County of Gowen on 30 acres and operated from 27/9/1902 to 1952.

**Burragorang (AR 17023)**
This Aboriginal Reserve was located on the north bank of the Cox’s River (Picton) opposite the junction of the Wollondilly and Warragamba Rivers in the Parish of Cooba, County of Cook. The reserve was situated on 78 acres and operational from 23/12/1892 to 31/10/1924. Also forming part of this Aboriginal Reserve were AR 10, AR 159 and AR 14937.

**Byron Bay (AR 43074/5)**
This Aboriginal Reserve was near Tallow Creek in Byron Bay in the Parish of Byron, County of Rous. Byron Bay Aboriginal Reserve was situated on 10 acres and operational from 9/9/1908 to 10/3/1916.
Cabbage Tree Island (AR 52180/81)
This Aboriginal Reserve was an island in the Richmond River, Parish of Broadwater, County of Rous. It was 125 acres in size, however, 85 acres were revoked on 11/9/1964. Cabbage Tree Island was operational from 27/4/917.

Calino (AR 27506)
Calino Aboriginal Reserve was near Deniliquin at the junction of the Edward River and Tumudgery Creek and situated on 245 acres. It operated from 1898.

Caroona
This Aboriginal Reserve near Quirindi was originally called Caroona Station and consisted of two Aboriginal Reserves:

AR 28828  Details of this reserve are unknown.

AR 30777 (Portion 214)  These Aboriginal Reserves were in the Parish of Doona, County of Pottinger on 220 acres 2 roods 39 perches and were operational from 18/1/1899 to 7/4/1900.

Casino (AR 2950)
This Aboriginal Reserve was in the Parish of South Casino, County of Richmond on 90 acres 1 rood 20 perches and functioned as an Aboriginal Reserve from 15/1/1887 to 22/12/1915.

AR 43599  This Aboriginal Reserve was also called Pretty Gully and located in the Parish of Jenny Lind, County of Buller. It operated from 24/2/1909.

AR 72484  This Aboriginal Reserve was also known as Lot 14, Section 58, and was located on Little Street, Casino. It was in the Parish of North Casino, County of Rous on 38.5 perches and functioned as an Aboriginal Reserve from 31/10/1947.

Iron Pot Creek  This Aboriginal Reserve was located 35 miles from Casino on 3 000 acres and operational from 1888.

Back Creek  This Aboriginal Reserve was near the Richmond River on 380 acres and operated from 1891.

Runnymede  This Aboriginal Reserve was situated on 115 acres and operated from 1896.

Chinderah (AR 83787/8)
This Aboriginal Reserve was near Murwillumbah in the Parish of Cudgen, County of Rous on 1 acre 2 roods 8 perches and was operational from 6/4/1962.
Coffs Harbour
This Aboriginal Reserve was located in the Coffs Harbour area in the Parish of Coffs, County of Fitzroy and consisted of the following:

AR 74036 This Aboriginal Reserve was situated on 946 acres 36 perches. It functioned as an Aboriginal reserve from 21/5/1954.

AR 82112 Also referred to as Lot 3 Section 71, this Aboriginal Reserve was situated on 1 rood 3.5 perches and operated from 11/12/1959.

AR 83084 This reserve was referred to as Lot 11, Section 68, situated on 2 roods 22.25 perches and operated from 10/3/1961.

AR 87033 This Aboriginal Reserve was operational from 27/12/1968 and situated on 1 rood 16 perches. It was also referred to as Lot 3, Section 101 and Lot 5, Section 100.

Collarenebri
This Aboriginal Reserve was in the Collarenebri area in the Parish of Collarenebri, County of Finch, and consisted of two Aboriginal Reserves:

AR 29330 This Aboriginal Reserve was situated on 159 acres 3 roods and was operational from 13/5/1899 to 8/2/1924.

AR 86194 This Aboriginal Reserve was situated on Church, Earl and High Streets and was operational from 24/2/1967.

Condobolin
These Aboriginal Reserves were located in the Parish of Condobolin, County of Cunningham and consisted of the following:

AR 80173/4 and AR 84827 Located on Boona Road on 37 acres 3 roods, AR 80173/4 operated from 29/11/1957. The reserve AR 84827 was located on Gordon and Station Streets on 16 acres and operated from 3/4/1964.

AR 322512 This reserve was located on the Lachlan River in the Parish of South Condobolin, County of Gibbs. It operated from 13/4/1901 and was originally registered as AR 5988.

Coomaditchie (AR 83896) (also known as Portion 100)
This reserve was on Shellharbour Road at Warrawong near Port Kembla in the Parish of Wollongong, County of Camden. Coomaditchie Aboriginal Reserve was situated on 1 acre 23 perches and operational from 29/6/1962.

Coonabarabran
Coonabarabran was in the Parish of Coonabarabran, County of Gowen. A number of Aboriginal Reserves operated in the area:
AR 72169/70  This reserve operated from 14/2/1947.

AR 77160/61  This reserve was situated on 19 acres 3 roods 20 perches and operated from 8/10/1954.

AR 84539/40  This Aboriginal Reserve was situated on 3 roods 37 perches and operational from 20/9/1963.

Coonamble
AR 31713  This Aboriginal Reserve was at Wingadee (on Teridgerie Creek) in the Parish of Collinouie, County of Leichhardt. It was 65 acres in size and operated from 20/10/1900 to 28/7/1922.

AR 31811  This Aboriginal Reserve was on the Castlereagh River in the Parish of Yarragoora on 40 acres and operated from 24/11/1900 to 31/10/1941.

AR 43949  It was situated in the Parish of Yoee on 20 acres and operated from 2/6/1909 to 30/9/1921.

AR 86570  This Aboriginal Reserve was on King Street, Coonamble, in the Parish of Moorambilla. It was 2 acres 2 roods 21 perches in size and operated from 29/12/1967.

Cootamundra
This reserve was located in the Parish of Cootamundra, County of Harden and also referred to as the Cootamundra Aboriginal Station. It consisted of a number of Aboriginal Reserves:

AR 61007/8  This Aboriginal Reserve included AR 13915/6 and Cootamundra Home and was situated on 30 acres 3 roods 10 perches. It operated from 8/3/1929.

AR 83239  This Aboriginal Reserve was 1 acre 1 rood 4 perches in area and operated from 16/6/1961.

Copmanhurst (see Grafton)

Coraki (see Box Ridge)

Cowra (see Erambie)

Crookhaven
This Aboriginal Reserve was situated on 201 acres and operated from 7/1/1879.
Cubawee
Cubawee was in the Parish of South Lismore, County of Rous, and consisted of a number of Aboriginal Reserves:

AR 63335  This Aboriginal Reserve operated from 1932 on 24 acres.

AR 71667  This Aboriginal Reserve functioned from 1945.

Cumeroogunya (also Cumeragunja)
This Aboriginal reserve was in the Parish of Bama, County of Cadell on a total of 2,600 acres and operated from 1949. It consisted of a number of Aboriginal Reserves:

AR 3045  This was situated on 1,800 acres and operated from 9/4/1883 to 24/12/1964.

AR 8997/8  This Aboriginal Reserve was situated on 90 acres and operated from 18/5/1899.

AR 17180  This Aboriginal Reserve was situated on 403 acres and operated from 28/1/1893.

AR 31120  This Aboriginal Reserve was operational from 20/6/1900 and was 320 acres in size.

Curlewis (AR 81340)
This Aboriginal Reserve was in the Gunnedah area in the Parish of Curlewis, County of Pottinger, and operated from 9/1/1959.

Currawan
This Aboriginal Reserve also known as Currawong was near Nelligen on the Clyde River in the Parish of Currawan, County of St Vincent. It was situated on 60 acres and operated from 15/4/1893 to 9/5/1956.

Dandaloo (AR 30499)
This Aboriginal Reserve was located in the Parish of Yarradidgerie, County of Narromine, and was 25 acres in size. The reserve was operational from 13/1/1900.

Dareton (AR 87140)
Dareton Aboriginal Reserve was in the Parish of Mourquong, County of Wentworth, on 11 acres 28 perches and operated from 16/5/1969.

Darlington Point (AR 7304/5)
This Aboriginal Reserve was on the Murrumbidgee River in the Parish of Colaragang, County of Cooper, on 26 acres 10 perches. It was operational from 29/9/1888 and registered on 29/10/1937 as AR 67083/4.
Delegate (AR 15784)  
This Aboriginal Reserve was on the Delegate River in the Parish of Currawong, County of Wellesley on 10 acres. Delegate was operational from 11/6/1892 to 18/1/1957.

Deniliquin  
This Aboriginal Reserve was in the Parish of South Deniliquin, County of Townsend and consisted of the following:

AR 73248 Also know as Portion 5, it was 1.4 acres in size and operational from 12/8/1949.

AR 79410/1 This Aboriginal Reserve was situated on 2 acres and functional as an Aboriginal reserve from 15/3/1957.

AR 84135 This reserve was located on Macauley St, Deniliquin, on 3 roods 4 perches and operated from 11/1/1963.

AR 88048 This Aboriginal Reserve was registered as a reserve on 11/12/1970.

Dubbo (AR 15784) (see also Talbragar)  
This reserve also functioned as a hostel in Dubbo in the Parish of Dubbo, County of Lincoln, on 27 perches and operated from 22/1/1960.

Dunoon  
Dunoon Aboriginal Reserve was 6 miles north of Lismore on the Lismore-Tweed Road in the Parish of North Lismore, County of Rous. It was situated on 420 acres and operated from 25/3/1903 to 16/8/1935.

Enngonia (AR 79636)  
This Aboriginal Reserve was in the Parish of Enngonia, County of Culgoa, on 10 acres and was operational from 31/5/1957.

Erambie  
This Aboriginal Reserve was on the Boorawa Road in the Parish of Mulyan, County of Forbes and consisted of:

AR 11634 This Aboriginal Reserve was also referred to as Portions 261 to 263 and was situated on 32 acres 1 rood 9 perches. It functioned as an Aboriginal Reserve from 7/6/1890.

AR 72706 This Aboriginal Reserve operated from 21/5/1948 and was also referred to as Portions 123 and 187. The reserve was 8 acres 2 roods 31 perches in size.
Euabalong (AR 44783/4)
Euabalong Aboriginal Reserve was north of Lake Cargellico on the Lachlan River in the Parish of Gumbagunda, County of Dowling. It was situated on 35 acres and operated from 27/1/1910 to 1954.

Eugowra (AR 9386)
This Aboriginal Reserve was located 8 miles from Eugowra in the Parish of Eugowra, County of Ashburnham. It was operational from 20/7/1889 on 80 acres. On 15/9/1922, a section of the reserve called Portion 9 (Goolagong) was revoked.

Eungau (AR 39584/5)
Eungau Aboriginal Reserve was in the Macksville area in the Parish of Allgomera, County of Raleigh on 28 acres. It functioned as an Aboriginal Reserve from 26/8/1905 to 7/5/1920.

Eurabba
This Aboriginal Reserve was on Garah-Boomi Road, Eurabba, in the Parish of Tyrell, County of Benarba. Eurabba was situated on 90 acres and was operational from 24/9/1898 to 20/8/1926.

Eurobodalla (see Bodalla)

Evans Head (AR 83775)
This Aboriginal Reserve was on Heath Street, Evans Head, in the Parish of Riley, County of Richmond, on 3 roods 8 perches. Evans Head was operational as an Aboriginal Reserve from 23/3/1963.

Fattorini Island (AR 252 and AR 253) (see Gladstone)

Forbes (AR 43462/3)
This Aboriginal Reserve was on the Lachlan River in the Parish of Forbes, County of Ashburnham, on 20 acres. It was operational from 20/1/1909 to 1/12/1915.

Forster
AR 22946 This Aboriginal Reserve was situated on 19 acres and was operational from 3/5/1911.

AR 81522 This Aboriginal Reserve was on Cross Street, Forster, in the Parish of Forster, County of Gloucester, on 0.073 hectares and operational from 27/10/1959.

AR 13438 and AR 13439 Details of these reserves are unknown.

Gilgai (AR 85182)
Gilgai Aboriginal Reserve was in the Parish of Clive, County of Gough, on 0.2036 hectares and operated from 18/4/1964.
Gilgandra (AR 79198/0)
This Aboriginal Reserve was located in the Parish of Bobarah, County of Ewenmar, on 31 perches and was operational from 14/12/1956. There may have been an earlier reserve in Gilgandra registered as AR 57420 but no details are available.

Gingie
Gingie Aboriginal Reserves were on the Barwon River in the Walgett area, Parish of Gingie, County of Finch.

AR 23077  This Aboriginal Reserve was 320 acres in size and operated from 19/10/1895.

AR 69691  This Aboriginal Reserve was 20 acres in size and operated from 22/11/1940.

Glen Innes (AR 83876)
This reserve was on Mosman Street, Glen Innes, in the Parish of Glen Innes, County of Gough on 1 acre 2 roods 39.5 perches. It operated from 15/6/1962.

Glenreagh (AR 84929)
This Aboriginal Reserve was in the Parish of Tallawudjah, County of Fitzroy, on 5 acres 3 roods 3 perches. Glenreagh Aboriginal Reserve operated from 26/6/1964.

Gooroooga
Gooroooga was in the Parish of Cowra, County of Narran. It consisted of several reserves:

AR 16047/8  This reserve was situated on 42 acres 2 roods and operated from 8/8/1892.

AR 44303/4  It was on the Bokhara River and 80 acres in size. It operated as an Aboriginal Reserve from 1/9/1909 to 26/1/1945.

AR 85734  This Aboriginal Reserve was also on the Bokhara River and was 3 acres 3 roods in size. It operated from 23/3/1967.

Goolagong (see Eugowra)

Grafton (see also Baryugil, Bugilbar, Southgate, Yamba)
Grafton consisted of the following:

AR 2951, AR 14493 and AR 17794  The reserve AR 2951 was 80 acres in area and operated from 15/1/1887 to 12/6/1925. Located in Marlow, County of Clarence, near Bunyip Creek AR 14493 was on 120 acres and operated from 26/9/1891 to 12/6/1925. Situated on 105 acres, AR 17794 operated from 27/5/1893 to 12/6/1925.
This Aboriginal Reserve was in the Parish of Eaton, County of Clarence, on the north bank of Whiteman’s Creek and operated from 12/1/1887 to 17/6/1921. It was 150 acres in size.

This reserve was located in the Parish of Elland, County of Clarence, near Blaxland’s Creek. It was also a burial site and consisted of 2 acres. It functioned as an Aboriginal Reserve from 21/5/1892.

This Aboriginal Reserve was in the Parish of Cangai, County of Drake on the Mitchell River near Copmanhurst and was situated on 160 acres. It was operational from 15/1/1887 to 28/4/1888.

This Aboriginal Reserve was in the Parish of Jardine, County of Fitzroy, on the Nymboida River near Cloud’s Creek. It was situated on 150 acres and functioned as an Aboriginal Reserve from 15/1/1887 to 23/9/1921.

AR 2952 was in the Parish of Nanegai, County of Clarence, at Iluka Creek on 58 acres. It operated from 15/1/1887 to 31/3/1916.

This Aboriginal Reserve was located in the Parish of Clarence, County of Clarence, 3 miles south-east of the Clarence River. It was 50 acres in size and operated from 18/3/1908 to 13/5/1913.

Nymboida Reserve consisted of a total of 26 acres and of the Aboriginal Reserves registered as AR 45162/3 and AR 50790. These reserves operated from 20/4/1910 and 23/6/1915 respectively and were located in the Parish of Shannon, County of Fitzroy.

This reserve was located in the Parish of Lawrence, County of Clarence, near Lawrence on 5 acres and operated from 22/9/1915. It also consisted of the following Aboriginal Reserves:

Camira Reserve This reserve was located near Lawrence and situated on 85 acres. It operated from 1887.

Orara Reserve This reserve was 38 miles from Grafton and situated on 114 acres. It too operated from 1887.

Greenhills
Greenhills Aboriginal Reserve was in the Kempsey area in the Parish of Yarravel, County of Dudley. It consisted of two Aboriginal Reserves:

This reserve operated from 7/12/1956.

This reserve functioned as an Aboriginal Reserve from 30/6/1967.
Grenfell (AR 50887)
This reserve was on the Lachlan River in the Parish of Binda, County of Forbes. It was situated on 5 acres and operated from 11/8/1915 to 10/9/1965.

Griffith (AR 76685/6)
This Aboriginal Reserve was also called Three Ways and was located in the Parish of Jondaryan, County of Cooper. It was situated on 5 acres 2 roods 5.25 perches and began its function as a reserve on 7/5/1954.

Grong Grong (see also AR 130)
This reserve was near the Murrumbidgee River on 1 280 acres and become operational in 1884.

Gulargambone
AR 16640 This Aboriginal Reserve was part of the Parish of Gulargambone in the County of Gowen. It was 70 acres in size and operated from 5/11/1892 to 20/1/1913.

AR 57945/6 This reserve was in the Parish of Warrie, County of Ewenmar, on 50 acres and operated from 9/5/1924 to 13/1/1956.

AR 72180/1 This reserve was in the Parish of Warrie, County of Ewenmar, on 52 acres 2 roods. It began its function as an Aboriginal reserve on 21/2/1947.

AR 85617 This reserve was in the Parish of Gulargambone, County of Gowen, on Mendooran and Kirban Streets. It was 5 acres 1 rood 8 perches in size and operated from 14/1/1966.

Gunnedah (AR 85480)
Gunnedah Aboriginal Reserve was located on Carroll St in the Parish of Gunnedah, County of Pottinger. It was situated on 1 rood 27.5 perches and began its operation as an Aboriginal Reserve on 1/10/1965.

Guyra
There were two Aboriginal Reserves located in the Guyra area:

AR 76430 Located in the Parish of Elderbury, County of Hardinge on 11 acres, this reserve operated from 11/12/1953 to 19/4/1968.

AR 83884 This reserve was located in the Parish of Falconer, County of Sandon on Stevenson and Sandon Streets. It was 1 acre 24 perches in size and operated as an Aboriginal reserve from 29/6/1962.

Hawkesbury River (see Portland)

Hillcrest (see Maclean)
Hillston (AR 37903/4)
The Hillston Aboriginal Reserve was on the Lachlan River in the Parish of
Redbank, County of Nicholson. It was situated on 98 acres and operated
from 2/7/1904 to 1/10/1926.

Hunter Valley
Hunter Valley consisted of four Aboriginal reserves:

Maitland This reserve was located in East Maitland on 3 acres and
operated from 1896 to 1959.

Singleton Singleton was made up of the Hunter River Aboriginal Reserve
which operated from 1896 and also an unnamed Aboriginal Reserve 1.5
miles from Singleton on 320 acres which operated from 1889.

St Clare This reserve was near Bourke’s Gully on 24 acres and
operated from 1893.

Glennies Creek This reserve was on 58 acres and operated from 1890.

Ilford (AR 30112)
Ilford Aboriginal Reserve was located on Crudine Creek in the Parish of
Rylstone, County of Roxburgh. It was on 9 acres and was operational from
18/11/1899 to 27/10/1933.

Inglebar (AR 17780)
This reserve was in the Parish of Crobabald, County of Vernon, on 107
acres and operated from 27/5/1893.

Inverell
AR 18210 This first Aboriginal Reserve in Inverell was located in the
Parish of Clive, County of Gough, near Pindari Creek on 20 acres. It
operated from 15/2/1952.

AR 87943 This reserve was in the Parish of Inverell, County of Gough on
Hindmarsh Street, and was situated on 1 acre. It was operational from

Jervis Bay (AR 101)
This reserve was in the Parish of Beecroft, County of St Vincent, on 700
acres and began its function as an Aboriginal Reserve on 26/9/1881 to
18/2/1916. Jervis Bay Aboriginal Reserve was also referred to as an
Aboriginal mission.

Kahibah (AR 88398)
Kahibah Aboriginal Reserve was in the Newcastle area in the Parish of
Kahibah, County of Northumberland. It was situated on 2 acres 2 roods.
Kangaroo Valley (AR 12445)
This Aboriginal Reserve was operational from 1890 and situated on 370 acres.

Karuah (AR 27957)
Karuah Aboriginal Reserve was located at Sawer’s Point in the Parish of Tarean, County of Gloucester. It was on 48 acres 2 roods and operated from approximately 6/7/1898 to 3/8/1923.

Kempsey (see also Burnt Bridge and Greenhills)
Kempsey District contained a large number of reserves including some of the islands in the Macleay River, and the Kinchela home. This reserve was formerly referred to as Arakoon and as an Aboriginal station.

AR 174 This reserve was on the Macleay River on 2 acres 3 roods 39 perches and operated from 23/4/1883.

AR 251 AR 251 was also known as Pelican Island. It was situated on 80 acres and operated from 25/11/1885.

AR 10187 This reserve was also known as Shark Island and was situated on 360 acres. Shark Island Aboriginal Reserve operated from 23/11/1889.

AR 57397/8 This reserve was on 30 acres and was operational from 29/8/1924.

AR 82168/9 There is a possibility that this reserve was originally registered as AR 63426. It was situated on 1.5 acres and began its function as an Aboriginal reserve on 20/11/1959.

AR 88638 AR 88638 was on the Macleay River in the Parish of Clybucca, County of Dudley. It was situated on 32 acres 2 roods 18 perches and operated from 16/6/1972.

AR 17537 This reserve was in the Parish of Kinchela, County of Macquarie, and was also as the Kinchela Home. It was situated on 25 acres and operated as a home and Aboriginal reserve from 15/4/1893 to 25/4/1919.

AR 173A This Aboriginal reserve was on Dingo Creek in the Parish of Kullatine, County of Dudley. It was referred to as the ‘Sherwood Reserve’ and was situated on 11.5 acres. It operated from 28/7/1884 to 6/5/1927, however it was re-registered as AR 59962 on 10/6/1927 and ceased operation on 28/2/1929.

AR 252 This reserve was in the Parish of Beranghi, County of Macquarie. It was located in Kempsey on 14 acres and operated from 4/4/1906 to 16/9/1960.
AR 40391  This reserve was on Yarravel Street and was 10 acres in size. It began its function as an Aboriginal reserve on 22/12/1957.

AR 79442  This reserve was situated on 3 roods 3.25 perches and operated from 24/5/1968.

AR 86751, AR 82773 and AR 83090  These Aboriginal Reserves formed a total area of 1 acre 1 rood 5.5 perches and began operation on 26/8/1960.

Kiah (AR 87736)  
Kiah Aboriginal Reserve was in the Parish of Nullica, County of Auckland, on 2 acres 1 rood 7 perches and operated from 1/5/1970.

Kinchela (see Kempsey)

Kyogle (AR 27158)  
This reserve also included AR 24791 and was often referred to as Runnymede. Kyogle Aboriginal Reserve was in the Parish of Runnymede, County of Rous, on 115 acres, and operated from 22/1/1898 to 16/10/1964.

Lake Cargellico (AR 85284)  
This reserve was located in the Parish of Gurangully, County of Dowling on 1 acre and operated from 2/4/1965.

La Perouse  
La Perouse Aboriginal Reserve was situated in the Sydney area on Botany Bay. It was also in the Parish of Botany, County of Cumberland, and consisted of a number of reserves:

AR 22358  This reserve was situated on 7 acres 6.5 perches and was registered on 30/3/1895.

AR 82060  This reserve was situated on 8 acres 5 perches and operated from 2/10/1959.

Leech’s Gully (see Terania Creek, Cubawee)

Llandilo (AR 85272)  
Llandilo Aboriginal Reserve was located at Penrith in the Parish of Londonderry, County of Cumberland. It was situated on 51 acres and registered as an Aboriginal Reserve on 26/3/1956.

Macksville (see Eungau)

Maclean (AR 78401)  
This reserve was called Hillcrest and was located in the Parish of Taloumbi, County of Clarence. Hillcrest was situated on 3 acres 1 rood 36 perches and began its function as an Aboriginal reserve from 16/3/1956.
Macleay River (AR 224)
Macleay River Aboriginal Reserve was in Kempsey.

Maitland (AR 24533)
This reserve was on Broughton Creek, East Maitland, in the Parish of Shenstone, County of Durham, on 84 acres and operated from 22/8/1896 to 5/6/1959.

Mallanganee
Mallanganee was in the Parish of Sandilands, County of Drake and consisted of two Aboriginal Reserves:

AR 84119 This reserve was on 3 acres 3 roods and operated from 21/2/1962.

AR 88413 This reserve was on 3 roods 9 perches and operated from 3/12/1971.

Manilla (AR 35745)
Manilla Aboriginal Reserve was on the Darling River, downstream from Manilla in the Parish of Keepit, County of Darling. It was situated on 20 acres and registered as an Aboriginal Reserve from 23/3/1903 to 17/3/1961.

Megalong (AR 25296)
This reserve also included AR 97 and was on Burranbarrack or Pulpit Hill Creek in the Blue Mountains, Parish of Megalong, County of Cook. It was situated on 22 acres and operated from 9/11/1897 to 14/1/1916.

Menindee
This Aboriginal Reserve was formerly the Old Menindee Station, and was situated on 1 000 acres. It consisted of a number of Aboriginal reserves:

AR 64562 This reserve was re-registered as AR 89531, and located in Menindee on Maiden and Paringa Streets. It was 2 roods in size and operated from 18/7/1969.

AR 87277 Details of this reserve are unknown.

Moama
AR 86278 This reserve was in the Parish of Moama, County of Cadell, on 1 acre 24 perches and operated from 19/5/1967.

AR 86610 This reserve was originally called AR 18665 and was registered on 4/11/1914. On Martin Street, AR 86610 was situated on 1 rood. It began its function as an Aboriginal Reserve on 19/2/1968.

Moira Holding (AR 51120) Details of this reserve are unknown.
Mongarlowe (AR 51)
Mongarlowe Aboriginal Reserve was near Braidwood in the Parish of Mongarlowe, County of St Vincent. It was on 140 acres and operated from 14/2/1879 to 25/2/1916.

Minnamurra (AR 24419) (Shellharbour)
Moonacullah
Moonacullah Aboriginal Reserve was in the Parish of Colimo, County of Townsend, and consisted of:

AR 27506/7 This reserve was on 245 acres and operated from 22/12/1916.

AR 86479 This reserve was 2 roods 13 perches in size and operated from 20/10/1967. Later it was re-dedicated as a cemetery.

Moree (AR 87907) (see also Terry–Hie–Hie, Wirajaran)
This reserve was in the Parish of Moree, County of Courallie, on 3 roods 3 perches and operated from 17/7/1970.

Moruya
Moruya consisted of two Aboriginal Reserves which were located near Moruya Heads. The first was situated on 24 acres and the second on 320 acres. The reserves were operational from 1883 to 1885.

Mossgiel (AR 41386/7 and AR 41384/5)
These Aboriginal reserves were in the Parish of Carowra, County of Mossgiel, and operated from 27/2/1907 to 17/12/1937 (Note: the name Mossgiel does not appear in the Register of Reserves).

Moulamein
Moulamein Aboriginal Reserves were located in the Moulamein area in the Parish of Moulamein, County of Wakool, and were:

AR 85795 This reserve was an Aboriginal cemetery situated on 2 roods 38 perches and operated from 13/5/1966.

AR 86526 This reserve was 1 rood 7 perches in size and operated from 11/1/1967.

Mullumbimby (AR 14606)
This reserve was 7 miles from Mullumbimby in the Parish of Brunswick, County of Rous on 37 acres and operated from 10/10/1891 to 22/12/1915.

Mungindi
Mungindi Aboriginal Reserves were in the Parish of Yarouah, County of Benarba, and were:
AR 28403  This reserve was situated on 100 acres and was registered as an Aboriginal Reserve on 29/10/1898.

AR 80927/8  This reserve was situated on 5 acres and was registered on 8/8/1958.

**Murrin Bridge (AR 71163)**  
Murrin Bridge Aboriginal Reserve was on the Lachlan River in the Parish Eribendery, County of Blaxland. It was situated on 937 acres 3 roods and operated from 25/2/1944. This Aboriginal Reserve was also referred to as an Aboriginal station.

**Nambucca Heads**  
**AR 140**  This reserve was in the Parish of Nambucca, County of Raleigh and was also referred to as Stewart's Island or Brushy Island. It was 70 acres in size and operated as an Aboriginal Reserve from 14/5/1883 to 22/4/1922.

**AR 19667**  This reserve was situated on 25 acres and was registered as an Aboriginal Reserve on 17/2/1894.

**AR 31243/4**  This reserve was 40 acres in size and operated from 17/2/1894 to 4/4/1952.

**Namin**  
Namina Aboriginal Reserves were in the Wellington area in the Parish of Wellington, County of Wellington, and were:

**AR 45426/7**  This reserve also included AR 87975 and was situated on 100 acres. It operated from 29/6/1910.

**AR 80144**  AR 80144 was near Spring Flat on 20 acres and operated from 22/1/1957 to 31/8/1964.

**Narrabri**  
Narrabri Aboriginal Reserves were in the Narrabri area in the Parish of Cooma, County of White. They consisted of a number of reserves:

**AR 28093**  This reserve was 800 acres in size and operated from 3/9/1898 to 11/6/1920.

**AR 83416**  This reserve was 2 acres in size and operated from 1/9/1961. There was also an Aboriginal Reserve at Bohena Creek on 5200 acres.

**AR 3274**  This reserve was located at Baan Baa, south-east of Narrabri in the Parish of Baan Baa, County of Pottinger, on 20 acres. It operated from 25/5/1901 to 12/4/1918.

**Nelligen (see Curawan)**
Nelson Bay (AR 15750)
This reserve was located at Port Stephens.

New Angledool (AR 41025/6)
New Angledool Aboriginal Reserve was located in the Angledool area in the Parish of Birruma, County of Narran. It was 25 acres 2 roods 27 perches in size and was registered on 7/11/1906. Angledool was revoked on 8/2/1944 but appears to continue as a reserve from 22/10/1973.

Nowendoc (AR 68391)
Nowendoc Aboriginal Reserve was in the Walcha district in the Parish of Ward, County of Hawes. It was on 100 acres and operated from 9/6/1939.

Nowra
AR 31442 This reserve was located at Roseby Park.

AR 29911 This Aboriginal Reserve was also called Seven Mile and was located in the Parish of Coolangatta, County of Camden. It was 43 acres in size and registered on 23/9/1899, ceasing its function as an Aboriginal Reserve on 25/1/1953.

Nymboida (see Grafton)

Oban River
Oban River Aboriginal Reserves were on the bank of the Oban River near Ward’s Mistake, east of Guyra in the Parish of Oban, County of Clarke. They were:

AR 17553 This reserve was situated on 200 acres and operated from 15/4/1893 to 19/8/1927.

AR 44560 (Tim’s Gully) It was situated on 215 acres and operated from 17/1/1909 to 19/8/1927.

Parkes (see Bulgandramine)

Peak Hill
Peak Hill Aboriginal Reserve was in the Parish of Mingello, County of Narromine, and consisted of the following:

AR 31195 This reserve was situated on 30 acres and operated from 14/7/1900 to 3/7/1912.

AR 85081 This reserve, 1 acre 2 roods is size and registered on 6/11/1964.

AR 8678 This reserve was 1 rood in size, was registered as an Aboriginal Reserve on 28/6/1968.
Pelican Island (see Kempsey)

Picton
The Aboriginal Reserves of Picton were in the Picton/Wollondilly area in the Parish of the Peaks, County of Westmoreland. They were:

AR 26  This reserve, situated on 300 acres, was operational from 9/12/1878 to 19/4/1942.

AR 27  This reserve was 100 acres in size and operated from 9/12/1878 to 1928.

AR 14937  This reserve was situated on 50 acres and functioned as an Aboriginal reserve from 19/12/1891 to 22/9/1954.

AR 40798  This reserve was situated on 277 acres and was operational from 15/8/1906 to 24/9/1954.

Pilliga
Pilliga Aboriginal Reserves were in the Parish of Talluba, County of Baradine. They were:

AR 33753/4  This reserve was on Bubbo Creek and occupied 60 acres. It began its function as an Aboriginal Reserve on 18/1/1902 and ceased operation on 30/10/1959.

AR 42571/2  This reserve was situated on 144 acres 3 roods and operated from 25/3/1908 to 30/10/1959.

Pooncarie (AR 44656)
This reserve was on the Darling River in the Parishes of Pooncarie and Timpunga, County of Perry. It was re-registered as AR 48942 on 11/6/1913 and occupied 620 acres. Pooncarie operated from 22/12/1909 to 10/5/1946.

Portland
Portland Aboriginal Reserves were on the Sackville Reach of the Hawkesbury River in the Parish of Meehan, County of Cook. They were:

AR 23598  This reserve was on 150 acres and was operational from 25/3/1896 to 17/5/1946.

AR 28546  This reserve was 40 acres in size and was operational from 26/11/1898 to 17/5/1946.

Port Macquarie
Port Macquarie Aboriginal Reserve was located in the Parish of Killawarra, County of Macquarie, and consisted of two reserves:
AR 19681  This reserve was 112 acres 3 roods in size and operated from 17/2/1894 to 28/10/1921.

AR 40391  This reserve was situated on 10 acres and operated as an Aboriginal Reserve from 4/4/1906 to 16/9/1960.

AR 19474, AR 3167, AR 3994 and AR 2596  Details of these reserves are unknown.

Pretty Gully (see Casino)

Primbee (AR 78373)
Primbee Aboriginal Reserve was on Illowra Crescent in the Parish of Wollongong, County of Camden and was situated on 1 rood 27.25 perches. It operated from 2/3/1956.

Purfleet
Purfleet was near Taree in the Parish of Bohnock, County of Gloucester and consisted of the following:

AR 31598  This reserve was situated on 18 acres and operated as an Aboriginal Reserve from 6/8/1900.

Unknown  There is a possibility that this Aboriginal Reserve also included AR 64068/9. It was situated on 51 acres and operated from 21/7/1933.

Quambone (AR 63088)
This reserve was in the Parish of Mobal, County of Gregory, and was later registered as AR 82413. There may also be other references made to an area of 1 000 acres adjoining Bulgerara Creek near Quambone around the year of 1897. The Aboriginal Reserve was situated on 1.838 hectares and operated from 11/12/1931.

Queanbeyan
This reserve was near Nea’s Creek which is close to Queanbeyan and operated from 1895.

Quirindi (AR 84767)
This reserve was in the Parish of Quirindi, County of Buckland on 2 roods 8 perches and operated from 21/2/1964.

Rollands Plains (AR 2598)
Rollands Plains Aboriginal Reserve was in the Wauchope area in the Parish of Cogo, County of Macquarie. It was situated on 87 acres and operated from 30/10/1886 to 27/5/1960.
Roseby Park (AR 31442 and AR 42274)
These reserves were in the Parish of Wollumboola, County of St Vincent and occupied a total area of 66 acres 22 roods. They operated from 8/9/1902 and 18/12/1907 respectively.

Rylstone (see Ilford)

Sackville Reach
Sackville Reach was near Windsor and consisted of AR 23957, AR 23958 and AR 28546.

Seven Mile Beach (see Nowra)

Shark Island (see Kempsey)

Sherwood (see Kempsey)

Singleton (see also Hunter Valley)
Singleton Aboriginal Reserve was also referred to as St Clare and consisted of AR 11843, AR 24533 and AR 18034.

Southgate (AR 29829)
Near Brushgrove in the Parish of Southgate, County of Clarence, Southgate Aboriginal Reserve was situated on 2 acres 1 rood 25 perches and operated from 2/9/1899 to 13/5/1921.

South West Rocks
AR 63426/7 This reserve was on 5 acres 2 perches and operated as an Aboriginal Reserve from 8/7/1932.

AR 82168 This reserve was in the Parish of Arakoon, County of Macquarie, on 1 acre 1 rood 34 perches and operated from 20/11/1959.

Summervale (see Walcha)

Tabulam (AR 72945/6)
Tabulam was in the Tenterfield area in the Parish of Timbarr, County of Drake, on 316 acres 3 roods 23.5 perches. It operated from 7/1/1949.

Talbragar (AR 28481)
This reserve was on the Macquarie River in the Dubbo area in the Parish of Dubbo, County of Lincoln, on 18 acres 3 roods and operated from 5/11/1898.

Tarrangower (AR 69118)
This reserve was on the Seven River in the Ashford area and was situated on 18 acres 2 roods. Tarrangower Aboriginal Reserve was part of the Parish of Chapman, County of Arrawatta, and was registered on 21/3/1940.
Tatala (AR 49252/3)
Tatala was registered as an Aboriginal reserve on 17/9/1913 and operated until 5/9/1969. It was on the Culgoa River near Brewarrina in the Parish of Tatala, County of Culgoa, on 30 acres.

Telegraph Point
Telegraph Point Reserve was in the Kempsey area in the Parish of Cairncross, County of Macquarie, on a total of 30 acres. It consisted of a number of Aboriginal reserves:

AR 3994 This reserve was registered on 1/3/1890.

AR 19474 This reserve was registered on 26/5/1955.

Tenterfield (AR 86307)
This Aboriginal Reserve was also called Leech’s Gully Reserve and was located in the Parish of Tenterfield, County of Clive. It operated from 9/6/1967.

Terania Creek (AR 2959)
This Aboriginal Reserve was near Lismore in the Parish of Blakebrook, County of Rous on 39 acres 1 rood 28 perches. Terania Creek was registered as an Aboriginal Reserve on 15/1/1887 and operated until 28/8/1925.

Terry-Hie-Hie
This Aboriginal Reserve was in the Moree area, Parish of Moree, County of Courallie, and consisted of the following:

AR 22505/6 This Aboriginal Reserve was on Wee Waa Creek and occupied 102 acres. It operated as an Aboriginal Reserve from 25/5/1895.

AR 43581 This was an Aboriginal cemetery at the junction of the Terry-Hie-Hie and Wee Waa Creeks on 1 acre and was registered on 19/5/1909.

Tibooburra (AR 1993)
This Aboriginal Reserve also includes AR 66592/3, and was in the Parish of Hermitage, County of Tongowoko, on 100 acres. It was registered on 9/2/1937.

Tingha
This reserve may also include AR 64833 and was often referred to as Sutherland Waters. The Tingha Aboriginal Reserve was in the Parish of Darby, County of Hardinge, on 25 acres 2 roods 20 perches and operated from 17/9/1954.

Tomago River (see Bateman’s Bay)
Toomelah (AR 66833/4)
This reserve was in the Boggabilla area in the Parish of Merriwa, County of Stapleton, and was situated on 64 acres. It operated from 2/7/1937.

Trial Bay (AR 217)  Details of this reserve are unknown.

Turonee (AR 13011)  Details of this reserve are unknown.

Ulgundahi Island
Ulgundahi Island was near Maclean in the Parish of Harwood, County of Clarence and consisted of the following:

AR 38639  This reserve was on 8 acres 3 roods 10 perches and operated from 10/12/1904.

AR 41619  This reserve was situated on 35 acres and operated as an Aboriginal Reserve from 8/5/1907.

Uralla
Uralla was in the Parish of Uralla, County of Sandon and consisted of:

AR 25220/1  This reserve was on Kentucky Creek and occupied 100 acres. It operated as an Aboriginal Reserve from 12/12/1896 to 12/12/1924.

AR 67856/7  This part of the reserve was an Aboriginal cemetery situated on 9 acres. It was registered on 26/8/1938.

AR 85414  This Aboriginal Reserve was on 2 acres and operated from 30/7/1965.

Walcha (AR 3)
Walcha Aboriginal Reserve was also called Summervale and was re-registered as AR 81426 on 27/2/1959. It was 3 miles from Walcha in the Parish of Walcha, County of Vernon, on 282 acres and operated from 16/1/1886.

Walgett (see also Gingie)
Walgett Aboriginal Reserve was in the Parish of Walgett, County of Baradine, and consisted of a number of reserves:

AR 75350  This reserve was 106 acres in size and operated from 26/9/1952.

AR 79550/1  This reserve occupied 3 roods 8 perches and was registered on 3/5/1957.

AR 82141/2  This reserve was situated on 3 roods 8 perches and operated from 13/11/1959.
AR 83809  This reserve was situated on 3 acres 3 roods 1 perch and was operational from 19/4/1962.

AR 86741  This reserve was 2 roods in size and operated from 17/5/1968.

Wallaga Lake
AR 13939  This reserve was located in the Parish of Narooma, County of Dampier, on 341 acres and operated from 13/6/1891.

AR 40698  (Snake Island) This reserve was in the Parish of Bermagube, County of Dampier on 27 acres and operated from 4/7/1906.

AR 43648  (Merriman Island) This reserve was in the Parish of Bermagube, County of Dampier on 2.5 acres and was registered as an Aboriginal Reserve from 3/3/1909 to 31/12/1931.

Wanaaring
Wanaaring was in the Parish of Wanaaring, County of Ularara, and consisted of two Aboriginal Reserves, AR 81037 and AR 86633, which were operational from 29/8/1958 and 7/6/1968 respectively.

Wantaabedgery
This Aboriginal Reserve was near the Murrumbidgee River in the Parish of Wantaabedgery, County of Clarendon, on a total area of 40 acres. It consisted of two reserves, AR 37729 and AR 46116, which operated from 28/5/1904 and 21/2/1910 respectively. They were revoked on 9/1/1925.

Warangesda
Warangesda Aboriginal Reserve was near Darlington Point in the Parish of Waddi, County of Boyd, and was also referred to as an Aboriginal station. It consisted of the following:

AR 2684  This reserve was on 489 acres and operated as an Aboriginal reserve from 6/12/1880 to 16/4/1926.

AR 3160  This reserve was situated on 912 acres and operated from 21/12/1883 to 16/4/1926.

Warren
Warren Aboriginal Reserves were situated on the Bulgerara Creek in the Parish of Gregory, County of Ninia. They were:

AR 32752  This reserve occupied 60 acres and operated from 18/5/1901 to 18/8/1922.

AR 81167  This reserve was in the Parish of Warren, County of Oxley, and occupied 1 acre 34 perches. It operated as an Aboriginal reserve from 24/10/1958.
Wee Waa
AR 19783 This reserve was on Wee Waa Lagoon in the Parish of Wee Waa, County of White, on 24 perches and was registered on 1/9/1894 and again in 1971.

AR 37420 This Aboriginal Reserve was situated at the junction of Coghill Creek and the Namoi River in the Parish of Bulgarra, County of White, on 35 acres and operated from 12/3/1904 to 31/3/1939.

Wellington (see Namina)

Wilberforce (AR 22502) Details of this reserve are unknown.

Wilcannia
Wilcannia Aboriginal Reserves were in the Parish of Wilcannia, County of Werunda and may be referred to as the Wilcannia Aboriginal Station. They were:

AR 73514 This reserve was in the Parish of Wilcannia, County of Young.

AR 70716 This reserve operated from 23/10/1942. Both it and AR 73514 ceased operation on 5/5/1950. It was in the Parish of Wilcannia, County of Young.

AR 74952 This Aboriginal Reserve was registered as on 18/4/1952.

AR 73522 Details of this reserve are unknown.

AR 75222 This reserve may also be referred to as AR 89518 and was located in the Parish of Wilcannia, County of Werunda. It operated from 25/7/1952.

Wingham (AR 19681)

Wirajarai (AR 72574/5)
This reserve may also include AR 52431 and AR 67842. It was in the Moree area on the Gwydir River in the Parish of Moree, County of Courallie, on 208 acres and operated from 24/12/1947.

There may also be references to another reserve (AR 32730) which was also located on the Gwydir River on 226 acres and operational from 1/6/1901 to 8/12/1915.

Wirrimbi Island (see Bowraville)

Woodenbong (see Bokal –Ynee)
Yamba
This Aboriginal Reserve was in the Parish of Yamba, County of Clarence, and consisted of several reserves:

AR 2955  This reserve was in the Wooloweyah Estuary on 180 acres and operational as an Aboriginal Reserve from 15/1/1887 to 31/1/1958.

AR 85628  This Aboriginal Reserve was situated on 1 acre 18 perches and was registered on 21/6/1966.

Yass
Yass Aboriginal Reserves were located in the Parish of Opton, County of King, are were:

AR 43  This reserve became part of AR 17624 and was located near Blakney Creek on 80 acres. It operated from 15/6/1875 to 16/1/1925. The reserve AR 17623/4 formed part of this also and occupied 187 acres. It functioned as an Aboriginal Reserve from 29/4/1893 to 16/1/1925.

AR 153  This Aboriginal Reserve was in the Parish of Blakney, County of King, two miles from Blakney Creek on a total of 160 acres. It is estimated that this reserve operated from 11/7/1881 and again from 28/2/1883 until 2/8/1940.

AR 3758  This Aboriginal Reserve was situated on 80 acres and operated from 11/6/1887 to 16/5/1924. The reserve AR 8531 was also part of it and was located on Blakney Creek on 80 acres. It operated from 26/10/1895 to 10/11/1912.

AR 23106  This reserve was in the Parish of Boambolo, County of Murray, on Brickey’s Creek and occupied 100 acres. It operated from 9/2/1889 and included AR 31113.

AR 68669/70  This Aboriginal Reserve was located in the Parish of Hume, County of Murray, on 9 ares 2 roods 5 perches and operated from 22/9/1939 to 29/3/1963.

AR 73585  The reserve AR 73583 was located within this reserve. It was in the Parish of Yass, County of King, on 0.4022 hectares and operated from 30/6/1950.

AR 75320  This reserve was situated on 2 roods 2 perches and operational from 15/9/1952.

Yellow Rock Burials
AR 83153  This Aboriginal Reserve was a site set aside for the preservation of graves on 28/4/1961. It was situated in the Parish of South Bellingen, County of Raleigh on 29.75 perches.
Sources:


*Register of Aboriginal Reserves*, Aboriginal Welfare Board.
Appendix 5: Definitions and abbreviations used in this Guide

Aboriginal station A managed reserve which was staffed by a teacher-manager who provided limited education, rations and housing to Aboriginal people.

Adoption A legal process by which a person, the adoptive parent, becomes the legal guardian of a child. The birth parent ceases to then be the legal guardian of the child. There are two forms of adoption: adoption of children who have been in substitute care for some time by their foster parents; and adoption of young children surrendered by their parent/s.

Adoptive parent A parent who has legally adopted a child and becomes that child’s legal guardian.

AR (Aboriginal reserve) as registered in the Government Gazette of New South Wales. An Aboriginal reserve was land reserved by the government for the use of ‘educating’, accommodating and caring for Aboriginal people. They were small, with housing consisting of humpies made from iron roofing, and were managed by the Aborigines Protection Board.

Archive A place in which public or historical records, charters and documents are stored and preserved.

Archivist A person who is the supervisor in charge of historical records, charters and documents held in archives.

Assimilation A policy developed to assimilate Aboriginal people into the white community. This included the practice of routinely removing Aboriginal children from their families and placing them into the care of non-Indigenous people.

Birth parent A child’s biological parent.

c. An abbreviation for ‘circa’ which means approximately or close to.

Child migration A policy developed to encourage immigration to Australia of large groups of children from mainly the United Kingdom.

Clustered family group home Family group home, cottage or unit clustered on a single campus for the care of children.

Congregate care Very large group care comprising of 21 or more children per dwelling (including nursing homes and hospitals).
**Foster care** A form of family-based care, where the child is cared for in a family home where guardianship rests with the Department of Community Services or some other legal identity.

There are many types of foster care to be found:

- Short term care to cover an unforeseen emergency situation like illness or accident and where no relative or friend can offer temporary care.

- Planned short term care where placement of the child away from the family for a period of up to six months is part of a plan involving eventual reunion or adoption.

- Long term fostering for periods over six months where reunion with the family is anticipated.

- ‘Pseudo adoption’ where there is no contact with the natural family and the placement is regarded as permanent. Children in this type of placement are frequently mentally and/or physically handicapped.

- Pre-adoptive fostering, usually covering the short period before very young babies become legally available for adoption, but also including those cases where there are medical or legal queries which delay adoptive placement.

**Foster child** A child who has been placed in the care of a foster parent for the purpose of being fostered.

**Foster parent** A person in whose care a child has been placed by an agency for the purpose of the child being fostered.

**Freedom of Information** Legislation which gives you the legal right to: obtain access to information held by State Government Agencies and other public bodies; request amendments to records of a personal nature that are inaccurate; and appeal against a decision not to grant access to information or to amend personal records.

**Group home** Group care, housing eleven to twenty children per dwelling.

**Hostel** Youth hostel, adolescent unit, youth refuge or shelter located on an independent site in the community with no more than ten youths in residence.

**Industrial school** An institution providing for the care and custody of neglected and/or convicted children.

**Institution** Any hospital, reformatory, orphanage, school or home used for the benefit, protection and/or care of children or adults.
**Managed reserves** Aboriginal Reserves usually staffed by a teacher-manager. Education of a sort, rations and housing were provided. They were also called stations.

**Mission** Compounds established by churches as a sanctuary to ‘protect’ the Indigenous peoples of Australia from the mistreatment that the European settlers were perpetrating upon them. Missions were controlled by the Aborigines Protection Board.

**Orphanage** An institution providing for the care and custody of deserted, neglected or orphaned children.

**Reformatory school** An institution providing for the care and custody of neglected and/or convicted children.

**Residential child care centre** Any premises at which one or more children (disregarding any children who are related to the person in charge of the premises) reside, excluding any premises that are exempt premises such as schools or hospitals.

**Scattered family group home** Family group home, cottage or unit located on an independent site in the community with no more than ten children in residence.

**Substitute care** A form of alternate care of children by a person or agency other than a child’s usual carer/s. It serves as a ‘replacement’ for ‘normal’ care either for a short or longer period of time.

**Unmanaged reserves** Aboriginal Reserves which provided rations but no housing or education and were under the control of the police.

**Ward** A child who has been admitted or committed into care under the protective oversight of the Supreme Court; Minister for Community Services; or the Aboriginal Welfare Board.
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