

Ballarat Industrial School

1869 – c. 1879

Details

The Ballarat Industrial School was a state-run institution, which opened in August 1869. The institution housed 215 girls in 1872. In 1879, the Industrial School closed, and became a reformatory for boys.

The Ballarat Industrial School was the only institution in Victoria mentioned by the Royal Commission on Industrial and Reformatory Schools as having had a 'satisfactory realization of the objects for which industrial schools should be founded'. Despite this, the Commission called for the industrial school system to be abandoned, in favour of the boarding out system.

The Ballarat Industrial School housed 215 girls in 1872, according to the report of the Royal Commission on Industrial and Reformatory Schools.

In 1879, the Industrial School closed, and became a reformatory for boys. This reformatory closed in 1893 and the building then housed a 'lunatic asylum'.

On the closure of the reformatory, the majority of the boys were accommodated at Mr Wiseman's Farm at Lilydale, the Salvation Army Home at Heidelberg and Mr Groom's Excelsior Homes at Brighton.

More info

Chronology

- **Ballarat Industrial School (1869 – c. 1879)**
 - Reformatory for Boys (1864 - 1893)

Related Entries

Run by

- [Department of Industrial and Reformatory Schools, Colony of Victoria \(1864 - 1887\)](#)

The Department of Industrial and Reformatory Schools oversaw the administration of the Ballarat Girls' Industrial School.

Date: 1864 - 1879

Related Legislation

- [The Neglected and Criminal Children's Act 1864, Victoria \(1864 - 1888\)](#)

The Ballarat Girls' Industrial School was established under the provisions of the Neglected and Criminal Children's Act 1864.

Resources

- Victoria. Royal Commission on Penal and Prison Discipline., [*Report \(No.3\) of the Royal Commission on Penal and Prison Discipline: Industrial and Reformatory Schools*](#), 1872

Records

For more information and to access your records, follow the links below:

Records

- [Victorian Government Wardship and/or Out of Home Care Records \(1864 - current\)](#)
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