

Shaftesbury Home for Babies and Mothers

c. 1913 – 1915

Details

The Shaftesbury Home for Babies and Mothers was established by the State Children's Relief Board in the old Shaftesbury Reformatory buildings on Old South Head Road, in present-day Vacluse, around 1913 or 1914. It was a replacement for the Thirlmere Home for Babies and was one of a number of homes for infants and unmarried mothers that were intended to combat infant neglect and mortality by promoting breastfeeding and maternal care. Like Thirlmere, it had its own dairy to supply milk. It was transferred to Brush Farm, becoming the Eastwood Home for Mothers and Babies, in February 1915.

The Shaftesbury site had previously been used as an institution for 'inebriate women', and prior to that, had housed the Shaftesbury Reformatory.

Following the closure of the Shaftesbury Home for Babies and Mothers, it became the Shaftesbury Inebriate Institution for Males, which closed around 1927.

Gallery



"Shaftesbury" South Head Home for mothers and their babies

Description: This is a copy of an image that appeared in the State Children Relief Board Report for the year ended 5 April, 1914. The image shows the back of the building where Shaftesbury Home for Babies and Mothers operated.

More info

Chronology

- Thirlmere Babies' Home (1907 - 1913)
 - **Shaftesbury Home for Babies and Mothers (c. 1913 – 1915)**
 - Eastwood Home for Mothers and Babies (1915 - 1922)

Related Entries

Run by

- [State Children's Relief Board \(1881 - 1923\)](#)

Related Legislation

- [Infant Protection Act 1904, New South Wales \(1904 - 1923\)](#)

Related Organisations

- [Shaftesbury Reformatory School \(1880 - 1904\)](#)

Shaftesbury Home for Babies and Mothers was located in the old Shaftesbury Reformatory School buildings.

Resources

- Hanna, Kim, [Shaftesbury Reformatory](#), Dictionary of Sydney, 2018

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