

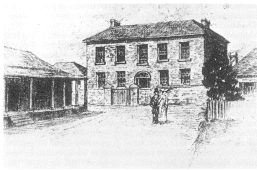
Male Orphan School

1819 – 1850

Details

The Male Orphan School was established by Governor Macquarie in 1819 to house destitute boys aged between seven and ten. It was located on George Street, Sydney, in the former premises of the Female Orphan School. The boys were given a basic education, learned trades such as carpentry, hat and shoe making, and, from 1923, farm skills. In 1823 the School relocated to Cabramatta to a farm previously used to provide the Female Orphan School with crops and a source of income. In 1850, the Male Orphan School and the Female Orphan School came together to form the Protestant Orphan School in Parramatta. The Male Orphan School closed on 30 April 1850.

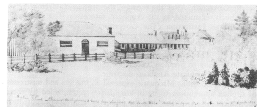
Gallery



The Female Orphan School, George Street, Sydney, 1813.
F. Chase. Drawn in Sydney August 8. Robinson, Sydney, 1968.

The Female Orphan school, George Street, Sydney, 1813

Description: This is a sketch of the Female Orphan School building on George Street, Sydney, as it was in 1813. It shows a large two-storey building with a stone wall in front of it, surrounded by smaller cottages. The building was used as the Female Orphan School until 1818, and then used as the Male Orphan School until 1823. This image was published in *Children of the Back Lanes: destitute and neglected children in colonial New South Wales* in 1986, and had previously been published in *Serenade to Sydney: Some Historical Landmarks* in 1968. The original artist and publisher is not known.



The Male Orphan School and Farm, three miles from Liverpool, April 1840. Original illustration held in Mitchell Library.

The Male Orphan School and Farm, three miles from Liverpool, April 1840

Description: This is a sketch of the Male Orphan School site at Bonnyrigg, near Liverpool and Cabramatta. The drawing shows a cottage (the school master's house) in the foreground, with a line of long, single-storey buildings (the orphanage buildings) stretching off to one side. This image was published in *Children of the Back Lanes: destitute and neglected children in colonial New South Wales* in 1986. The original image is held by the State Library of New South Wales.

More info

Chronology

- **Male Orphan School (1819 – 1850)**
 - Protestant Orphan School (1850 - 1886)

Related Entries

Run by

- [Secretary to the Governor \(26 Jan 1788 - 1 Jan 1821\)](#)
- [Colonial Secretary \(1 Jan 1821 - 1 April 1959\)](#)

Related Legislation

- [Orphan School Estates Act 1826, New South Wales \(1826 - 1881\)](#)
- [Apprenticeship Act 1844, New South Wales \(1844 - 1894\)](#)
- [Apprenticeship Act 1851, New South Wales \(1851 - 1901\)](#)

Related Organisations

- [Female Orphan School \(1801 - 1850\)](#)
The Male Orphan School moved into the buildings vacated by the Female Orphan School in 1819.
- [St Patrick's Orphan School \(1840 - 1845?\)](#)
A small number of children from the Male Orphan School were transferred to St Patrick's Orphan School, Windsor

Resources

- Ramsland, John, *Children of the back lanes: destitute and neglected children in colonial New South Wales*, 1986
- Museums of History NSW, [Child Care and Protection Guide](#), No date
- Museums of History NSW, [Child Care and Protection Index 1817-1942](#), No date
- Museums of History NSW, [School Student Records Guide](#), No date
- Bubacz, Beryl M, [The Female and Male Orphan Schools in New South Wales, 1801-1850](#), 2007
- Australian Heritage Council, [A thematic heritage study on Australia's benevolent and other care institutions](#), 2016

Records

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

Records

- [Male Orphan School records, State Archives NSW \(1819 - 1850\)](#)
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You can view this page online by visiting <https://findconnect.efront.digital/entity/male-orphan-school/>