

# Garth

1924 – 1934?

**Other Names:** • Garth Hostel

## Details

---

Garth was established by the Child Welfare Department in Willoughby in 1924. It was a home for the segregation and treatment of children, and mothers and babies, who were suffering from venereal disease. Not all children in the home carried venereal disease, as it also housed children with polio (infantile paralysis). A commission of inquiry recommended it be closed in 1935.

In 1934 a commission of inquiry led by JE McCulloch condemned the home as it was located too far from treatment centres, had too few beds, and failed to provide effective treatment or even maintain basic standards of hygiene. Children who had actually recovered from disease remained in the home for up to seven years, instead of being boarded out, and the home was not inspected for the entire four years from 1929 to 1933. McCulloch recommended the home be closed and children be transferred to specialist institutions, such as the venereal diseases clinic at Parramatta Girls Home, Newton Hospital or Rachel Forster Hospital.

## More info

---

### Related Entries

**Run by**

- [Child Welfare Department, State Government of New South Wales \(1923 - 1970\)](#)

### Resources

- [Parliament Must Act Now on Child Welfare Report](#), Truth, 7 October 1934

## Records

---

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

### Records held by other organisations

- [Departmental Records relating to State Wards, New South Wales \(1918 - current\)](#)

---

You can view this page online by visiting <https://findconnect.efront.digital/entity/garth/>