

Training Farm for Boys

1966 – 1969

Other Names: • Riverview

Details

The Training Farm for Boys, situated at 29 Riverview Road, was operated by the Salvation Army. It was previously known as the Home for Boys, Riverview. In 1969 its name was changed to Endeavour Training Farm.

A publication from 1968 described the Training Farm for Boys:

PURPOSE: To provide a home for uncontrollable and delinquent boys to 18 years of age.

ACCOMMODATION: 35 boys housed in dormitories. Clothing supplied by parents. Boys are trained in general farming.

MEDICARE CARE: Attend Ipswich General Hospital (Social Services Queensland, 1968, p.108).

The Training Farm for Boys, Riverview, was a Home that received child migrants from Britain. The Salvation Army's involvement with child migration was discussed in the National Archives of Australia publication, 'Good British Stock'.

After World War II, the Salvation Army as other religious denominations, was anxious to cooperate with the Government's mass migration policy. In 1948, Brigadier Winton took Minister for Immigration, Arthur Calwell, on a tour of the Riverview property which had become run-down during the war years. Winton hoped to make it a centre for child migrants but his understanding was that the 'child migrants' would be young men over fourteen years of age, more youth migrants for farm training. The Salvation Army was not involved with child migration, strictly defined, after the war.

Time passed; the Salvation Army organisation in Britain had cooled towards youth migration; renovations at Riverview took time; and the Big Brother Movement had become the organisation for youth migration. In the end only a few youth migrants, fewer than one hundred, passed through Riverview during the 1950s, and by the 1960s the Salvation Army was using the place for other purposes.

In 1998, former residents of Riverview Training Farm made submissions to the Commission of Inquiry into Abuse of Children in Queensland Institutions (widely known as the Forde Inquiry). The Committee reported on incidents of unsafe, improper and illegal treatment of children in Queensland institutions, including cases of sexual, physical, emotional and systems abuse. Its findings were detailed and explicit.

In January 2014, the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse commenced a public hearing into response of the Salvation Army (Eastern Territory) to child sexual abuse in children's Homes in Queensland and New South Wales, including the Riverview Training Farm. The evidence to be heard was to have a particular focus to the years 1966-1977, although the Royal Commission stated it expected to hear allegations dating back to as early as 1936.

Gallery



Entrance to Riverview Farm

Description: The Salvation Army has occupied this site since 1897. The avenue of pines was planted c.1920s.



Entrance drive Riverview

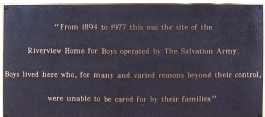


Looking towards visitor residence



Plaque on memorial plinth at Riverview

Description: This is an image of a memorial plaque at Riverview. The inscription reads: "This monument commemorates the residents of Riverview Girls Home April 1897 to June 1898 and Riverview Boys Home July 1898 to January 1977 'Never to be forgotten' Funded by The Salvation Army Australia and Mayor Paul Pisasale City of Ipswich 14th January 2012"



Plaque unveiled at Riverview on 21st April 2007

Description: The inscription reads: "From 1894 to 1977 this was the site of the Riverview Home for Boys operated by the Salvation Army. Boys lived here who, for many and varied reasons beyond their control, were unable to be cared for by their families."

More info

Chronology

- Home for Boys, Riverview (1956 - 1966)
 - **Training Farm for Boys (1966 – 1969)**
 - Endeavour Training Farm (1969 - 1973)

Related Entries

Run by

- [The Salvation Army Australia Eastern Territory \(1921 - 2018\)](#)

Related Events

- [Commission of Inquiry into Abuse of Children in Queensland Institutions \(1998 - 1999\)](#)

The Training Farm for Boys was an institution mentioned by a number of witnesses to the Commission of Inquiry into Abuse of Children in Queensland Institutions.

Resources

- Community Affairs References Committee, [*Lost Innocents: Righting the record - Report on child migration*](#), 30 August 2001
- The Salvation Army Australia Eastern Territory, [*Submission No. 46 to the Senate Inquiry into Children in Institutional Care: The Salvation Army Australia Southern Territorial Headquarters \(VIC\), Appendix B, Eastern Territory Social Centres, A list of openings, closings and function*](#), June 2003
- Forde, Leneen et. al., [*Report of the Commission of Inquiry into Child Abuse in Queensland institutions*](#), May 1999
- [*Boys home apology is a comfort*](#), Queensland Times, 1 September 2009
- Blayse, Lewis, [*Riverview Salvation Army Boys' Home \(Or: Unfinished Business\)*](#), 14 June 2013
- [*Opening Submissions of Counsel Assisting: Case Study 05: The Salvation Army boys' homes, Australian Eastern Territory, January 2014*](#), 28 January 2014
- Cleland, Sharon, [*Caring for the Children: A history of institutional care provided by The Salvation Army for Australian children and youth \(1893-1995\)*](#), August 2012
- Salvation Army, [*Riverview Farm*](#), 2017
- Blayse, Lewis, [*Some More Salvation Army Children's Homes \(Or: Ve Gaf Vays Of Making You Afraid\)*](#), lewisblayse.net, 12 January 2014
- Biddy, Paul, [*Boy's carers at Salvation Army home, 'they were cruel bastards'*](#), Sydney Morning Herald, 30 January 2014
- Oriti, Thomas, [*Child sex abuse royal commission: Victims tell of anger at Salvation Army over sexual and physical abuse at children's homes*](#), ABC News, 28 March 2014
- Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse, [*Report of Case Study No. 5: Response of The Salvation Army to child sexual abuse at its boys homes in New South Wales and Queensland*](#), January 2015

Records

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

Records held by other organisations

- [Salvation Army Australia, Records of Homes in the former Eastern Territory \(c. 1891 - 1990s\)](#)

You can view this page online by visiting <https://findconnect.efront.digital/entity/training-farm-for-boys/>