

Hope Valley Mission

c. 1896 – May 1942

Other Names: • Cape Bedford Mission

Details

The Hope Valley Mission, at Hope Valley, was run by Lutheran Church Missionaries. Previously known as the Cape Bedford Mission, it was established around 1896 and closed in May 1942. It reopened as the Hope Vale Mission in 1950.

The Hope Valley Mission was established when the administrative centre for the Mission at Elim moved to Hope Valley.

Before the second world war, the Mission consisted of a number of hamlets or settlements at Springhill, Bridge Creek, and Elim with the administrative centre located at Hope Valley. Hope Valley was known as 'the school station'. This was where the Superintendent's house, the church, the school and the dormitories were situated.

All of the Mission children of school age were sent to live in the dormitories at Hope Valley as this was where the Mission school was situated.

The Hope Valley dormitories were also used to house orphans or children whose parents were not living on the Mission. The Mission's policy in 1939 was that it was better that Mission children were institutionalised rather than be with their parents.

In 1941, 131 children were registered as inmates of the institution.

In May 1942, residents of Hope Valley Mission were removed to the Woorabinda Aboriginal Reserve, over 1,000 kilometres south. The Mission site was subsequently taken over by the Australian Army, the Royal Australian Air Force, United States Army and the Civil Construction Corps.

The mission reopened in around 1950, with the new name of Hope Vale.

More info

Chronology

- Cape Bedford Mission (1886 - c. 1896)
 - **Hope Valley Mission (c. 1896 – May 1942)**
 - Hope Vale Mission (c. 1950 - 1986)

Related Entries

Run by

- [The Lutheran Church of Australia \(1838 - current\)](#)

Date: 1896 - 1942

Related Concepts

- [Stolen Generations](#)

Records

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

Records held by other organisations

- [Records of the United Evangelical Lutheran Church in Australia: Hope Vale Mission Board \(1885 - 1975\)](#)
 - [Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs Records \(1880s - current\)](#)
 - [Miscellaneous Subject Batches \[Correspondence\] - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Files \(1886 - 1920\)](#)
 - [Correspondence Files \[Offices of the Chief Protector of Aboriginals and Director of Native Affairs\] \(1901 - 1944\)](#)
 - [Correspondence Files - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs \(1916 - 1999\)](#)
 - [Miscellaneous Items and Correspondence - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander files \(1859 - 1997\)](#)
 - [Health & Home Affairs/Education Department Batch Files \[Correspondence\] - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander files \(1884 - 1970\)](#)
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