

# Lunatic Asylum, New Norfolk

1827 – 1859

**Other Names:**

- Invalid Barracks
- New Norfolk Hospital

## Details

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The Lunatic Asylum, New Norfolk began in 1827 as the Invalid Barracks for convicts. A good proportion of the invalids were classified as 'lunatics' and as the hospital became more crowded, it increasingly specialised in 'caring' for people with this diagnosis. Over time it catered for all kinds of people, rather than just convicts. The Lunatic Asylum was the first invalid depot in Tasmania, a government run institution for people who were sick and in poverty. The Lunatic Asylum became the Hospital for the Insane in 1859.

## Gallery

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**The original Barracks at the Insane Asylum**

**Description:** The Barracks housed patients until 1952.

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## More info

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### Chronology

- **Lunatic Asylum, New Norfolk (1827 – 1859)**
  - Hospital for the Insane, New Norfolk (1859 - 1915)

## Resources

- Australian Heritage Council, [A thematic heritage study on Australia's benevolent and other care institutions](#), 2016
- [Royal Derwent Hospital records](#), Libraries Tasmania, No date
- [Willow Court Asylum Precinct, Humphrey St, New Norfolk, TAS, Australia](#), Australian Heritage Database, No date
- Tooth, John, [Royal Derwent Hospital](#), The companion to Tasmanian history, 2005
- Tooth, John, [Treatment of Mental Illness](#), The companion to Tasmanian history, 2005
- [Willow Court History Group](#), 30 April 2014

## Records

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## Records held by other organisations

- [Patient Records-Admission Register, Lunatic Asylum, Hospital for the Insane, Mental Diseases Hospital, and Lachlan Park Hospital \(1830 - 1954\)](#)
  - [Patient Files, Lunatic Asylum, Hospital for the Insane, Mental Diseases Hospital, Lachlan Park Hospital, and the Royal Derwent Hospital \(1857 - 1993\)](#)
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