

# Australian Aboriginal Evangelical Mission Hostel

1966 – 1980?

**Other Names:**

- AAEM Hostel
- Esperance Mission Home
- Pedlar's Hostel

## Details

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The Australian Aboriginal Evangelical Mission (AAEM) Hostel in Esperance, Western Australia was established in 1966. It was an Aboriginal Education and Employment Hostel, providing accommodation, supervision and full board for Aboriginal boys aged 15 years and older who were working in the district. It was open until at least 1980.

The Australian Aboriginal Evangelical Mission (AAEM) Hostel was largely independent of the Department of Native Welfare, but some financial assistance was received for particular building projects. It appears that the hostel was run by Mr John Pedler (also known as Pedlar) for some years, possibly from 1966. It is not known how long Mr Pedler ran the hostel, but it was likely to have been until at least into the 1970s, when he went up to Kalgoorlie to run the Millen Street Hostel. The AAEM Hostel continued until at least 1980.

Boys who lived at AAEM were aged over 15 years. It is possible that some boys were wards of the State.

During the 1970s, the boys were able to learn panel-beating, spray-painting, welding and mechanical skills at the Boys Training Workshop that had been established in Esperance by the superintendent of the Fairhaven Hostel. Some young men completed apprenticeships there. The young people at the Fairhaven Hostel, Condingup Hostel and the AAEM Hostel socialised regularly in Esperance.

## More info

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### Related Entries

#### Run by

- [Australian Aborigines' Evangelical Mission \(1949 - 1980s\)](#)  
Date: 1971? - 1979?

#### Related Organisations

- [Department of Native Welfare, State of Western Australia \(1955 - 1972\)](#)  
The Australian Aboriginal Evangelical Mission Hostel received financial assistance from the Department of Native Welfare.  
Date: 1966 - 1972
- [Fairhaven Hostel \(1965 - 1987\)](#)  
The superintendent of Fairhaven Hostel established a Boys Training Workshop which was attended by boys from the Australian Aboriginal Evangelical Mission Hostel, who also socialised regularly with Fairhaven

residents.

Date: 1970s -

- [Condingup Hostel \(1967? - 1976\)](#)

Young men from the Australian Aboriginal Evangelical Mission Hostel and the Condingup Hostel socialised regularly in Esperance while Condingup was managed by the Churches of Christ Federal Aborigines Mission Board (Inc.), and it is possible that some Condingup residents went to live at the AAEM Hostel in Esperance when Condingup closed.

Date: 1975 - 1976

- [Millen Street Hostel \(1970? - 1995?\)](#)

Millen Street Hostel was managed by John Pedlar, who had also managed the AAEM Hostel at Esperance from around 1966.

Date: 1966 - 1981

## Resources

- Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission, [Bringing Them Home: Report of the National Inquiry into the Separation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children from their Families](#), 1997
- Wilson, Katrin and Michael V. Robinson., *Aboriginal Hostels in Perth : A Comparative Survey*, 1971
- State Records Taskforce, Government of Western Australia, [Looking West: A Guide to Aboriginal Sources in Western Australia](#), 2004

## Other Resources



**Title:** Churches of Christ 'Fairhaven' Hostel, Esperance'

**Type:** Image

**Date:** 17 April 2014

[Details](#)

## Records

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

### Records held by other organisations

- [Department of Aboriginal Affairs \[predecessors\], Records \(1886 - 2004\)](#)
- [Files - Community Welfare \("A" Series\), State Records Office of Western Australia \(25 August 1908 - 23 December 1990\)](#)
- [Administration Files - South West District Office \[S.D. Sequence\] \(1949 - 1976\)](#)
- [Administration Files - Eastern District Office \[E.D.G. Sequence\] \(1945 - 1975\)](#)

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