

Swan Homes

1943 – 1959

Other Names: • Swan Homes (Boys and Girls)

Details

Swan Homes, in Middle Swan was created from a merger of two Anglican children's homes in 1943. The Perth Girls' Orphanage was evacuated to Swan Boys' Orphanage at Middle Swan during World War II, and the two children's homes merged into one institution. During this time, the type of accommodation changed from dormitories to large houses on the Middle Swan site. Swan Homes admitted children who were wards of the State, child migrants from Britain, and children placed privately by family or others. In 1960, Swan Homes became Swanleigh.

More info

Chronology

- Swan Boys' Orphanage (1876 - 1942)
- Perth Girls' Orphanage (1868 - 1942)
 - **Swan Homes (1943 – 1959)**
 - Swanleigh (1960 - 2010)

Related Entries

Run by

- [Anglican Orphanages Board of Management \(1940 - 1954\)](#)
- [The Anglican Homes Board \(1955 - 1970\)](#)

Related Events

- [Royal Commission appointed to Inquire into the Care and Reform of Youthful Delinquents, State of Western Australia \(1943\)](#)

Swan Homes was inspected by members of the Royal Commission appointed to Inquire into the Care and Reform of Youthful Delinquents.

Date: 1943 -
- [Investigation into the Administration of the Child Welfare Department, State of Western Australia \(1953\)](#)

The Investigation into the Administration of the Child Welfare Department of Western Australia by RH Hicks reviewed conditions at Swan Homes in 1953.

Date: 1953 -
- [Fact-Finding Mission on Child Migration \(1956\)](#)

Ross Fact-Finding Mission [British child migration] was interested in the welfare of children at Swan Homes.

Date: 1956 -

Related Legislation

- [Immigration \(Guardianship of Children\) Act 1946, Commonwealth of Australia \(1946 - 1973\)](#)

Related Organisations

- [The Children's Society, United Kingdom \(1881 - current\)](#)
The Children's Society sent child migrants from Britain to Swan Homes in Western Australia.
Date: 1949 -
- [Girls' Friendly Society \(Western Australia\) \(1888 - current\)](#)
Girls' Friendly Society was actively involved with fundraising for Swan Homes.
- [Advisory Council of Empire Settlement, United Kingdom \(1925 - 1981\)](#)
- [Seaside House, Coogee \(1931 - 1968\)](#)
Children and young people from Swan Homes came to the Seaside House at Coogee for annual summer holidays, and from 1946 it was run as a branch of Swan Homes, with children permanently placed there.
Date: 1943 - 1959
- [Padbury Boys' Farm School \(1946 - 1955\)](#)
Padbury Boys' Farm School operated as a branch of Swan Homes.
Date: 1946 - 1955

Related Concepts

- [Child Migration \(1800s - 1970s\)](#)

Resources

- Immigration Museum, [Stolen childhoods](#), 2012
- Coldrey, Barry, [Good British stock: child and youth migration to Australia](#), 1999
- [On their own: Britain's child migrants](#), Australian National Maritime Museum website, 2010
- [Ken Pound interviewed by Gwenda Davey in the Forgotten Australians and Former Child Migrants oral history project](#), 29 November 2010 - 13 December 2010
- [Child Migrants Trust \[website\]](#), 2011
- Department for Community Development, State of Western Australia, [Submission No 55 to the Senate Inquiry into Children in Institutional Care](#), July 2003
- The International Association of Former Child Migrants and Their Families, [Submission No 129 to the Senate Inquiry into Child Migration](#), 2001
- The Children's Society, [Memorandum by The Children's Society](#), Minutes of Evidence Taken Before the Health Committee on 11 June 1998, 11 June 1998
- The Children's Society, [Hidden Lives Revealed](#), No date
- Foster, Darren J, [She called her coral because it was 'a perfect pink day': The neglecting of Coral Suzanne Dickerson](#), Journal of Australian Studies, 1998
- Davis, Syd, [Submission No 414 to the Senate Inquiry into Children in Institutional Care](#), 15 July 2004
- Heritage Council of Western Australia, [Swanleigh Precinct](#), inHerit: our heritage places, 8 February 2015
- [Motion - Child Welfare Department. Maintenance of Children](#), Hansard Archive 1870 to 1995, 4 December 1940. Relevance: pp.2564-2565

Other Resources



Title: The Noisy Mansions : the story of Swanleigh 1868-1971

Type: Image

Date: 1986

[Details](#)

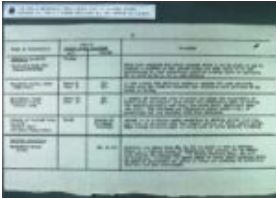


Title: Moss Report Implementation [Excerpt] - Case Histories

Type: Image

Date: 18 March 1955

[Details](#)



Title: Moss Report [Excerpt] - Pocket Money

Type: Image

Date: 23 February 1955

[Details](#)



Title: Moss Report Implementation [Excerpt] - Health Examinations

Type: Image

Date: 21 April 1955

[Details](#)



Title: Moss Report Implementation [Excerpt] - Swan Homes

Type: Image

Date: 20 April 1954

[Details](#)

Records

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

Records held by other organisations

- [Anglican Diocese of Perth, Western Australia, Records \(1880s - 2010\)](#)

The Archivist responsible for the records of Swan Homes, now held at Swanleigh has advised that: 'Most of the Swan Homes records were placed in the original kitchen for storage which is a cellar underneath Brown House. Unfortunately with the ever present damp and storage against external walls, these records were exposed to mould and so were disposed of without a list being created to detail what they were. As a result of this there are few records prior to 1960 remaining, with the exception of some student files from the 1950s.'

- [Tuart Place Historical Photos Collection](#)
- [Records of child migration to Western Australia, National Archives of Australia \(1947 - 1959\)](#)
- [Records of the Church of England Council for Empire Settlement \[Council for Overseas Settlement\] \(1925 - 1981\)](#)

The Church of England's records centre in London may contain records about people who were sent as child migrants to Swan Homes in Western Australia after World War Two.

Date: 1947 - 1959

- [John Moss C.B.E. U.K. Child Welfare Expert. Visit to Australia. Part II, National Archives of Australia \(1951 - 1952\)](#)

There is information about Swan Homes in the John Moss Visit to Australia file Part II, please see pp.30, 118, 130, 132, 139, 141

- [UK fact finding mission 1956 part 2, National Archives of Australia \(1955 - 1956\)](#)
 - [Raymond O. Davidson personal film \[motion picture\]: Swan Homes field day, official opening of Lee-Steere House Oct. 2nd., 1949 \(1949 - 1949\)](#)
 - [Canon Richard Hamilton personal film \[videorecording\]: Swanleigh Anglican Hostel: Coogee Beach, State Library of Western Australia \(1940s - 1940s\)](#)
 - [Canon Richard Hamilton personal film \[videorecording\]: Swanleigh Anglican Hostel: Hudleston House, State Library of Western Australia \(1944 - 1946\)](#)
 - [Canon Richard Hamilton personal film \[videorecording\]: Swanleigh Anglican Hostel: physical education, State Library of Western Australia \(1940s - 1940s\)](#)
 - [Canon Richard Hamilton personal film \[videorecording\]: Swanleigh Anglican Hostel: Swan Boys' Home \(1943? - 1943?\)](#)
 - [Correspondence files, multiple number series \(policy matters\) \(1922 - 1968\)](#)
 - [Files - Aborigines Departments \(1 January 1926 - 16 June 1972\)](#)
 - [Files - Child Welfare, State Records Office of Western Australia \(1 January 1917 - 16 June 1972\)](#)
 - [Indentures \(Guardianship\) \(1947 - 1960\)](#)
 - [Files - Departmental \[Education Department\] \(1 January 1885 - 31 December 2000\)](#)
 - [Former Child Migrants Referral Index \(1913 - 1968\)](#)
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You can view this page online by visiting <https://findconnect.efront.digital/entity/swan-homes/>