

Craig House

1949 – 1978

Other Names:

- Bunbury Senior High School Hostel
- Craig Hostel

Details

Craig House was run by the Country Women's Association (CWA) from 1949 as a hostel for boys going to the Bunbury High School. From 1965 it also accommodated female students. Craig House closed in 1969 due to financial issues, however was reopened in 1972 under the management of the Country High School Hostels Authority. Craig House closed in 1978.

Craig House was named after Mrs Craig, of Dardenup who had been a State President of the CWA. The National Fitness section of the Education Department intended to use Craig House as a summer camp for children from the outback.

In 1949 Craig House was located on Fraser Street, Bunbury, in premises previously owned by the Eastern Goldfields Fresh Air League (the Western Australian Heritage Council gives the address for this site as Carey Street, however in November 2021 a former resident confirmed the address for Craig House was Fraser Street). The building had been converted by the Education Department for use as a hostel. A newspaper article published in *The West Australian* in 1953, reporting on an outbreak of influenza at the hostel, states that it had accommodation for 58 boys.

Craig House remained at the Fraser street location until around 1965, when it merged with the local girls hostel and moved to newly constructed premises at the corner of Pickersgill, Acacia and Sherry Streets in Bunbury. This hostel, which was made up of four separate buildings connected by a covered patio, could accommodate up to 96 students in separate dormitories, however in 1966 it only housed 41 students. This site has been identified as a heritage listed site (Place No. 07167).

A former resident of Craig house who contacted Find & Connect in November 2021 stated that boys at the home were sometimes employed by Bunbury residents doing odd jobs around the town after school hours and on weekends.

Craig House closed in 1969 due to financial issues, and its association with the CWA ended. Craig House was then reopened in 1972 under the management of the Country High School Hostels Authority, before closing once more in 1978. The hostel was demolished around 1991.

More info

Related Entries

Run by

- [Country Women's Association of Western Australia \(1924 - current\)](#)
Date: 1949 - 1963?
- [Country High School Hostels Authority, State of Western Australia \(1960 - current\)](#)
The Country High School Hostels Authority was required by s7(1)(b) of its Act to 'supervise and maintain' this hostel.
Date: 1973 - 1978

Related Events

- [Special Inquiry into St Andrew's Hostel \[Katanning\], Western Australia \(December 2011 - August 2012\)](#)
The abuse of some students at Craig House was mentioned during the St Andrew's Hostel inquiry.
- [Country High School Hostels Ex-Gratia Scheme, Western Australia \(30 November 2012 - December 2013\)](#)
People who were at Craig House as students were eligible to apply for the Country High School Hostels Ex Gratia Scheme.

Records

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

Records held by other organisations

- [Files - Departmental \[Education Department\] \(1 January 1885 - 31 December 2000\)](#)

You can view this page online by visiting <https://findconnect.efront.digital/entity/craig-house/>