

East Perth Girls' Home

1931 – 1952

Other Names:

- East Perth Half-Caste Girls' Home
- East Perth Girls' Hostel
- Native Girls' Home, East Perth

Details

The East Perth Girls' Home was opened in 1931 by the Aborigines Department as a hostel for young women to stay and receive training in domestic service. Over time, pregnant women were sent there to await the birth of babies and it was a reception centre for 'half-caste' boys and girls before they were placed elsewhere. In 1952 it was re-named Bennett House.

The East Perth Half-Caste Girls' Home was opened in 1931 by the Aborigines Department as a hostel for young women to stay and receive training in domestic service. Over time, pregnant women were sent there to await the birth of babies and it was a reception centre for 'half-caste' boys and girls before they were placed elsewhere. Children and young people were under the guardianship of the head of the government departments responsible for Aboriginal welfare.

On 17 September 1952, the purpose of what had become known as the East Perth Girls' Home became a 'home for transient and outpatient native women and children' and it was re-named 'Bennett House'.

More info

Chronology

- **East Perth Girls' Home (1931 – 1952)**
 - Bennett House (1952 - 1981)

Related Entries

Run by

- [Aborigines Department, State of Western Australia \(1926 - 1936\)](#)
Date: 1931 - 1936
- [Department of Native Affairs, State of Western Australia \(1936 - 1954\)](#)
Date: 1936 - 1952

Related Organisations

- [Moore River Native Settlement \(1918 - 1951\)](#)
Young women from the Moore River Settlement were among the first residents of the East Perth Half-Caste Girls' Home.
Date: 1931 -

Resources

- Hillyer, Vivienne, [*Bennett House: Aboriginal Heritage as Real Estate in East Perth*](#), Urban Policy and Research, 2007
- [*Harold White interviewed by Marnie Richardson in the Bringing them home oral history project \(2000\)*](#), 24 December 2000
- [*Marie Hart interviewed by Lilly Kauler in the Bringing them home oral history project \(2001\)*](#), 22 October 2001

Records

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

Records

- [Department of Aboriginal Affairs \[predecessors\], Records \(1886 - 2004\)](#)
 - [Correspondence files, single number series with 'B' \[Child Endowment\] prefix \(1904 - 1974\)](#)
Item B112 of the Child Endowment correspondence files relates to East Perth Girls' Home
 - [Administration Files - South West District Office \[annual single number sequence\] \(1 January 1950 - 1 January 1972\)](#)
 - [Files - Aborigines Departments \(1 January 1926 - 16 June 1972\)](#)
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