

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Geraldton Residential College has an established identity within the Geraldton community and throughout Western Australia. Its credibility is reflected in the confidence shown by families who send successive generations to reside within its walls.

Over the years the College has expanded, relocated and changed names. The present College superseded Protestant Children's Home (1921) and Forrest Lodge (1939). Both were established and administered by Geraldton Protestant Church organisations to provide boarding facilities for students who had to live away from home to attend secondary school. At the time Geraldton High School was the only government high school north of Perth and there was a demand from families in rural and pastoral areas for boarding institutions.

With the development of the iron ore industry the Pilbara started to boom and the number of people in the North-West rapidly increased. As there were few High Schools in the North of Western Australia to cater for the expanding population the Colleges became overcrowded. Insufficient maintenance funds resulted in the deterioration of the original buildings.

In 1964 Dellahale House for female students was constructed to replace 'Proddy Homes' Girls Boarding House. Five years later, 1969, male students from Forrest Lodge transferred to John Frewer House. The Houses were constructed on individual sites separated by the Geraldton Senior High School grounds.

The management team of 'Proddy Home' (Geraldton Protestant Children's Homes Inc.) was asked by the Country High School Hostels Authority to form the Board of Management of the two new Houses.

Until 1981 the two Houses were operated as separate entities under the one Board of Management. That year, 1981, the Manager at Frewer House was appointed Manager of the combined College. The name Geraldton High School Residential College was adopted in 1989 and then changed to Geraldton Residential College in 1997. Currently the College continues to run under the auspices of the Country High School Hostels Authority (CHSHA).

In 2002 the two Houses were amalgamated on the Dellahale site to become the Geraldton Residential College.



PRODDY HOME 1921-1964



FORREST LODGE 1939-1968



DELLAHALE 1964-2001



JOHN FREWER 1968-2001