

# Ballarat Industrial School

1869 – 1877

## Details

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The Ballarat Industrial School was a state-run institution, which opened in August 1869. The institution housed 215 girls in 1872. In 1879, the Industrial School closed, and became a reformatory for boys.

The Ballarat Industrial School was the only institution in Victoria mentioned in the 1872 report by the Royal Commission on Penal and Prison Discipline about Victoria's Industrial and Reformatory Schools as having had a 'satisfactory realization of the objects for which industrial schools should be founded'. Despite this, the Commission called for the industrial school system to be abandoned, in favour of the boarding out system.

The Ballarat Industrial School housed 215 girls in 1872, according to the report of the Royal Commission.

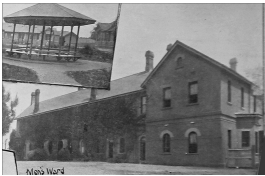
In 1877, the Industrial School closed, and was briefly used as the site for the [Ballarat Asylum](#) until 1879 when it became the [Ballarat Boys' Reformatory](#). This reformatory closed in 1893 and was returned to its former use as an asylum.

## Gallery

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**Boys' Reformatory, Ballarat**



**Ballarat Hospital for the Insane c1909 - Men's Ward**

**Description:** This is an image of the men's wards at Ballarat Hospital for the Insane, also known as Ballarat Mental Hospital. It shows a large two-storey brick building with arched windows and doorways on the ground floor. The face of the building is covered in climbing vines. This building is the same building that housed the Ballarat Girls' Industrial School and the Ballarat Boys' Reformatory. This image is part of a collage of photographs showing various aspects of the Ballarat Hospital for the Insane. Inset in the top left of this image is another photo showing a pergola within the grounds of the hospital, in front of some other hospital buildings

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## More info

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### Related Entries

### Run by

- [Department of Industrial and Reformatory Schools, Colony of Victoria \(1864 - 1887\)](#)

The Department of Industrial and Reformatory Schools oversaw the administration of the Ballarat Girls' Industrial School.

Date: 1864 - 1879

### Related Legislation

- [The Neglected and Criminal Children's Act 1864, Victoria \(1864 - 1888\)](#)

The Ballarat Girls' Industrial School was established under the provisions of the Neglected and Criminal Children's Act 1864.

### Related Organisations

- [Ballarat Boys' Reformatory \(1879 - 1893\)](#)

The Ballarat Reformatory was located on the former site of the Ballarat Industrial School

## Resources

- Victoria. Royal Commission on Penal and Prison Discipline., [Report \(No.3\) of the Royal Commission on Penal and Prison Discipline: Industrial and Reformatory Schools](#), 1872

## Records

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

### Records

- [Victorian Government Wardship and/or Out of Home Care Records \(1864 - current\)](#)
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You can view this page online by visiting <https://www.findandconnect.gov.au/entity/ballarat-industrial-school/>