

Anglewood

1943 – 1994

Other Names:

- Anglewood House
- Anglewood School
- Anglewood School for Special Purposes
- Anglewood Special School
- Anglewood Special School for Truants
- Anglewood SSP
- Burradoo
- Burradoo Truant School
- Nattai House
- Oxley
- Yean Cottage

Details

Anglewood was established by the Child Welfare Department in 1943 at Burradoo, near Bowral, as a boarding school for boys whose 'only reason for committal was school truancy'. Boys were detained in the home for up to two years. Some children were transferred from the Australian Capital Territory (ACT) and placed in this Home. Anglewood was divided into three cottage homes: Yean Cottage, Nattai and Oxley. In 1979 Anglewood became a home for state wards. It closed in 1994.

Anglewood, formerly Anglewood Grammar School, was acquired by the Child Welfare Department in 1943.

When it opened in October 1943, 15 boys to Anglewood from Turner Cottage Special School for Truants, at Mittagong. Anglewood had a one teacher school and 2 residential cottages, Nattai and Yean.

Nattai was a two-storey, modern structure, housing 30 boys, and Yean Cottage accommodated 44 boys. Yean was a three-storey, Tudor style mansion which was remodelled for the boys.

Anglewood was officially opened, on 22 August 1944. Anglewood was administered from the Mittagong Farm Home for Boys until December 1945, when a full-time principal was appointed. He took charge of the school and the residences. The staff were primarily New South Wales Education Department teachers, although the superintendent, deputy superintendent, education officers, cooks and other staff were attached to the Child Welfare Department. The schoolhouse was in a separate building within the grounds.

The boys sent to Anglewood were aged between 9 and 15 and although they ranged in ability, most were educationally disadvantaged. Staff developed individually tailored programmes for boys to improve their education. The majority of boys stayed less than 12 months, but two year terms were not uncommon. Anglewood was one of the homes children from the Australian Capital Territory who had been committed to an institution could be sent to.

Donald McLean reviewed Child Welfare Department operations in the 1950s, and likened Anglewood to 'any boarding school'. He wrote:

The training is directed towards correcting the emotional maladjustment which caused the truancy, and overcoming the educational retardation arising from it.

However, boys were detained and were unable to leave the school, even during school holidays.

In March 1965 a third cottage, Oxley, was added to the home, providing accommodation for 30 boys. On 22 November 1974 Anglewood was proclaimed 'a school for the reception, detention, maintenance, discipline, education and training of children and young persons committed to an institution', under the Child Welfare Act 1939.

In February 1975 Anglewood became coeducational – the first truant school in New South Wales to detain females. In 1977 there were 77 children living at Anglewood, ranging in age from eight to 15. Fourteen of those children were girls.

At the end of 1979 Anglewood stopped being a school for truants. Its residents were transferred to Ormond at Thornleigh. Anglewood then became a home for state wards until it closed, in May 1994.

Gallery



Mittagong

Description: The image has the title Mittagong, but the building is the Anglewood Special School at Burradoo.



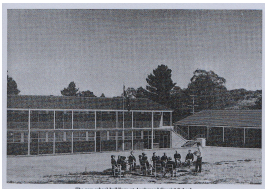
Anglewood Special School: Yean Cottage

Description: This is a digital copy of a photograph from an album collected by Child Welfare Department officers in the late 1940s. From the collection of Leonie Knapman.



Anglewood Special School - new administrative block in foreground. Yean Cottage in background.

Description: This is a copy of an image that appeared in the Child Welfare Department of New South Wales Annual Report of 1965.



The new school buildings at Anglewood Special School

Description: This is a copy of an image that appeared in the Child Welfare Department of New South Wales Annual Report of 1964.

More info

Related Entries

Run by

- [Department of Family and Community Services, State Government of New South Wales \(1988 - 1991\)](#)
- [Department of Child Welfare and Social Welfare, State Government of New South Wales \(1970 - 1973\)](#)
- [Department of Youth and Community Services, State Government of New South Wales \(1973 - 1975\)](#)
- [Child Welfare Department, State Government of New South Wales \(1923 - 1970\)](#)
- [Department of Youth and Community Services, State Government of New South Wales \(1976 - 1988\)](#)
- [Department of Youth, Ethnic and Community Affairs, State Government of New South Wales \(1975 - 1976\)](#)
- [Department of Health and Community Services, State Government of New South Wales \(1991 - 1992\)](#)
- [Department of Community Services, State Government of New South Wales \(1992 - 2009\)](#)

Related Events

- [Transfer of children from Australian Capital Territory \(ACT\) and Norfolk Island to New South Wales \(NSW\) \(1941 - 1986\)](#)

Related Organisations

- [Ormond School \(1980 - 1984\)](#)
Children from Anglewood were sent to Ormond School
Date: 1980 - 1984
- [Turner Cottage Special School for Truants \(1938 - 1946\)](#)
When Anglewood opened, boys from the Turner Cottage Special School for Truants were transferred there.
- [Mittagong Farm Home for Boys \(1906 - 1947\)](#)
Mittagong Farm Home for Boys administered Anglewood from 1943 to 1945, and boys from Turner and Suttor Cottages were transferred there in that period.
Date: 1943 - 1945

Resources

- Boyle, Brian, *The Child Welfare Schools: Recollections of these unique schools and the men and women who taught in them often under considerable difficulty*, 1996

Records

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

Records

- [Departmental Records relating to State Wards, New South Wales \(1918 - current\)](#)
- [Anglewood/ Burradoo Truant School records, State Archives NSW \(1943 - 1979\)](#)

You can view this page online by visiting <https://www.findandconnect.gov.au/entity/anglewood/>