

# Tresillian North Home

1927 –

**Other Names:**

- Tresillian Mothercraft Home, Willoughby
- Tresillian Willoughby

## Details

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Tresillian Willoughby is a Tresillian Family Care Centre. It was established as a Mothercraft Nursing Home in 1927, to support mothers and care for babies, and in 2012 continues to provide support to parents of young children.

In the 1960s Tresillian North Home could accommodate 10 mothers with breastfed babies, eight artificially fed babies and five premature babies at any one time. Over the course of the year it cared for approximately 110 mothers and 210 babies.

From the 1950s to the 1970s a number of unmarried pregnant women were sent to Tresillian Centres by social workers from Sydney hospitals. The women were paid as domestic help, and worked around the homes. At the time social workers considered this was a better option than working in private households or commercial laundries. These women were not patients, but staff, and no records of their work survives.

Tresillian North Home was mentioned in the *Commonwealth Contribution to Former Forced Adoption Policies and Practices Inquiry* (2012) as an institution that was involved in forced adoption.

## Gallery

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**Tresillian Home, Willoughby**

**Description:** This is an image of the outside of the Tresillian North Home. Nurses with prams and cots can be seen outside in the garden.



**Tresillian, Home, Willoughby - Cots in open air on lawn**

**Description:** This is a photograph taken at the Tresillian Home, Petersham. It shows a row of covered bassinets arranged in the garden in front of the house, with nurses standing beside them.



**Tresillian Home, Willoughby - Open air verandah**

**Description:** This is a photograph of the nursery on the open air verandah at the Tresillian North Home, Willoughby. It shows three bassinets with small fabric screens positioned in front of large windows in a large otherwise empty room.

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### Tresillian Home, Willoughby - A nursery

**Description:** This is a photograph of babies being bathed at the Tresillian North Home, Willoughby. It shows two babies with nurses, one being washed in a small basin, the other being dried and wrapped on a bench.

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### Tresillian Home, Willoughby

**Description:** This is a photograph of the Tresillian North Home, Willoughby. It shows two babies and two nurses standing in the front garden of the large, two-storey white-rendered house.

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## More info

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### Related Entries

#### Run by

- [Tresillian Mothercraft Homes, Royal Society for the Welfare of Mothers and Babies \(1918 - current\)](#)

Medical records for Tresillian centres at Willoughby, Wollstonecraft, Canterbury and Penrith are kept for approximately 30 years. Medical records from Petersham are kept in secondary storage and date from the 1980s to 1997.

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You can view this page online by visiting <https://www.findandconnect.gov.au/entity/tresillian-north-home/>