

St Clair Aboriginal Mission

1893 – 1923

Other Names:

- Mount Olive Reserve
- Singleton Aboriginal Mission

Details

St Clair Mission, located on the southern bank of Lake St Clair, between Muswellbrook and Singleton, was an Aboriginal mission that was established by Reverend JS White in 1893. In the late 1890s Retta Dixon, a Baptist missionary, moved to the Mission. In 1905 she formed the Aborigines Inland Mission and took formal control of St Clair. She established the Singleton Children's Home on St Clair in the same year. St Clair operated until 1918 when it was taken over by the Aborigines Protection Board and renamed Mount Olive Reserve. The missionaries were forced out in 1920 and the reserve and the Home were closed in 1923.

Gallery



Sunday school scholars, teachers, missionaries. Cherbourg AIM Church [Singleton Home]

Description: This image from the Australian Indigenous Ministries pictorial collection 1908 to circa 1960s is described by *History of Aboriginal Sydney* as being of the Singleton Aboriginal Girls' Home.



21. Group of St Clair Aborigines, near Singleton NSW. First AIM station. c. 1903.

Description: This image is included within the series 'Series 03 Box 6: Australian Indigenous Ministries pictorial material : various historical photographs, ca. 1860-1909'.

More info

Related Entries

Run by

- [Aborigines Protection Board, State Government of New South Wales \(1883 - 1940\)](#)
The Aborigines Protection Board ran St Clair Mission from 1920-1923
Date: 1920 - 1923
- [Aborigines Inland Mission \(1905 - 1998\)](#)

Related Organisations

- [Singleton Home \(1905 - 1910\)](#)
The Aborigines Inland Mission ran both Singleton Home and St Clair Aboriginal Mission, and adults from the

latter often stayed in the Singleton Home

Date: 1905 - 1923

- [Singleton Aboriginal Children's Home \(1910 - 1920\)](#)

The Aborigines Inland Mission ran both Singleton Aboriginal Children's Home and St Clair Home and adult residents of St Clair often stayed at Singleton Aboriginal Children's Home

Resources

- Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies, [Remembering the Mission Days: stories from the Aborigines' Inland Mission](#), No date
- Horton, David, *The Encyclopaedia of Aboriginal Australia: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history, society and culture*, 1994
- Miller, James, *Koori, a will to win*, 1985

Records

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

Records

- [Bartrop family slides relating to the Aborigines Inland Mission, 1909-1930s, 1945-1950, 1971 \(1909 - 1971\)](#)
 - [Australian Indigenous Ministries Aggregated Collection of Records and Pictorial Material, 1903-2003 \(1903 - 2003\)](#)
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You can view this page online by visiting <https://www.findandconnect.gov.au/entity/st-clair-aboriginal-mission/>