

Newcastle Reformatory School for Females

19 January 1869 – 20 July 1871

Other Names: • Newcastle Reformatory

Details

Newcastle Reformatory School for Females was established on 19 January 1869. The Reformatory School was located in the North Wing and grounds attached to the Newcastle Public Industrial School for Girls with the same matron serving both schools. The Reformatory was established to house girls who had committed criminal offences. The Reformatory School was closed on 20 July 1871 and relocated to Cockatoo Island becoming Biloela Reformatory School for Females.

On 19 January 1869, following the introduction of the *Reformatory Schools Act*, a reformatory was established on the same site as the Newcastle Industrial School for Girls, in the Officer's Barracks. This created twin institutions.

The Reformatory School was overseen by the same Matron as the Industrial School, Mrs Agnes King, but a new superintendent, Mr J. H. Clarke was employed.

There were many issues associated with both the Industrial School and the Reformatory School including bad conditions and frequent rioting.

Gallery



Barracks now part of Watt Street Hospital

More info

Chronology

- **Newcastle Reformatory School for Females (19 January 1869 – 20 July 1871)**
 - Biloela Reformatory School for Females (1871 - 5 February 1880)
 - Shaftesbury Reformatory School (1880 - 1904)

Related Entries

Related Legislation

- [Reformatory Schools Act 1866, New South Wales \(1869 - 1901\)](#)

The Newcastle Industrial School for Females was established under the *Reformatory Schools Act*.

Related Organisations

- [Newcastle Industrial School for Females \(6 August 1867 - 20 July 1871\)](#)

The Newcastle Industrial School for Females and the Newcastle Reformatory School for Females were located on the same grounds.

Resources

- Ramsland, John, *Children of the back lanes: destitute and neglected children in colonial New South Wales*, 1986

Records

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

Records

- [Records of Girls' Industrial and Training Schools, State Archives NSW \(1867 - 1983\)](#)
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You can view this page online by visiting <https://www.findandconnect.gov.au/entity/newcastle-reformatory-school-for-females/>