

# Poonindie Mission

1851 – 1894

**Other Names:**

- Poonindie Training Institution
- Poonindie Native Institution

## Details

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The Poonindie Mission was established at Poonindie by the Church of England in 1850. It was initially run as a training institution for young Aboriginal people from Adelaide schools. It later became a Christian community made up of Aboriginal people from various localities. The lease to Poonindie Mission was surrendered in 1894 and the majority of residents were moved to Point Pearce and Point McLeay Mission Stations. A small number of residents remained until the 1910s.

The Poonindie Mission was established by the Church of England in 1850. Situated 15 km north of Port Lincoln, adjacent to the River Tod, the Mission was run by the Archdeacon Matthew Hale and was established as a Training Institution where teenage Aboriginal people who had attended school in Adelaide could continue to be brought up as Christians. In 1852 the school for Aborigines in Adelaide closed and the Mission, in order to keep its government assistance, was forced to accept any person sent by the Protector of Aborigines. Along with the former students residents at the Mission eventually included people from Albany, Point McLeay, the Riverland and the South-east of South Australia. By 1868 the Mission had become self-supporting running cattle, sheep and pigs as well as growing crops of wheat and oats.

In the 1890s the government came under pressure to have the Mission closed and the land made available for sale. By 1894 the lease had been surrendered and the Mission officially closed. Many of the Missions resident families were moved to Point McLeay and Point Pearce Mission Stations. There was, however, a small number of Aboriginal people who remained at Poonindie until sometime in the 1910s.

## Gallery

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**Mission Station, Poonindie**

**Description:** The library description states: Entrance to Poonindie Mission Station at Poonindie.



**Aboriginal Mission, Poonindie**

## More info

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## Related Entries

### Run by

- [Anglican Diocese of Adelaide \(1847 - current\)](#)

### Related Organisations

- [Point McLeay Mission Station \(1859 - 1974\)](#)  
When the Poonindie Mission closed in 1894 some of the Aboriginal families were moved to the Point McLeay Mission Station
- [Point Pearce Mission Station \(1868 - 1915\)](#)  
When the Poonindie Mission closed in 1894 some of the Aboriginal families were moved to the Point Pearce Mission Station
- [Point Pearce Aboriginal Station \(1915 - 1972\)](#)  
Some of the residents of the Point Pearce Aboriginal Station were former residents of the Poonindie Mission.
- [Bishop Hale's Institution for Native and Half-Caste Children \(1871 - 1888\)](#)  
Both Poonindie Mission and Bishop Hale's Institution for Native and Half-Caste Children were established by Bishop Matthew Hale.

### Related Concepts

- [Stolen Generations](#)

## Resources

- Cootes, Isobel, [Poonindie Mission Granted Funding to Undergo Restoration Work](#), Port Lincoln Times, 13 May 2019
- [Aboriginal Missions in South Australia](#), State Library of South Australia - Library Guides, 2013

## Records

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

### Records

- [Poonindie Mission \[records\] \(1851 - 1890\)](#)
- [Records of the Aborigines' Office and Successor Agencies \(1866 - 2003\)](#)
- [Records of Aboriginal Missions in South Australia \(1850s - 1970s\)](#)

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