

Fitzroy Crossing Mission

1952 - 1987

Details

Fitzroy Crossing Mission was established by the United Aborigines Mission in 1952. Children at the mission were under the under the guardianship of the heads of the departments responsible for Aboriginal welfare until 1963. The mission lands and holdings were transferred to the Tjunjura Indigenous Community in 1987.

Fitzroy Crossing Mission was established by the United Aborigines Mission (UAM) on the site of a 'feeding depot' that was run by the Department of Native Affairs from September 1950. In 1951, the UAM was invited by the Department to begin a Christian mission on the site and by 1953 the mission was underway. The original residents included one child. Children at the mission were under the guardianship of the heads of the departments responsible for Aboriginal welfare until 1963.

Some children and adults from Moola Bulla were transferred to the Fitzroy Crossing Mission when Moola Bulla closed in 1955.

At first, there were only shanties for accommodation but over time a children's boarding hostel and school were built. After 1972, the responsibility for children who were 'native wards' was transferred from the Department of Native Welfare to the Department for Community Welfare. Annual reports of this and subsequent departments note grants-in-aid for various improvements to the facilities at the mission.

In 1987, the UAM transferred its lease and mission facilities to the Tjunjura Indigenous Community.

National Redress Scheme for people who have experienced institutional child sexual abuse

The Western Australian government has agreed to be a funder of last resort for this institution. This means that although the institution is now defunct, it is participating in the National Redress Scheme, and the government has agreed to pay the institution's share of costs of providing redress to a person (as long as the government is found to be equally responsible for the abuse a person experienced).

More info

Related Entries

Run by

• United Aborigines Mission (1929 - 2020)

Related Organisations

• Moola Bulla Station (1910 - 1955)

When Moola Bulla closed, some people were transferred to the Fitzroy Crossing Mission that was run by the United Aborigines Mission.

Date: 1955 -

Resources

- Allan Rees interviewed by Colleen Hattersley in the Bringing them home oral history project (2000), 25 August 2000
- State Records Taskforce, Government of Western Australia, <u>Looking West: A Guide to Aboriginal Sources in</u> Western Australia, 2004
- Western Australia. Department for Community Welfare, <u>Annual Report: Department for Community Welfare</u>, 1973 - 1984
- United Aborigines Mission, The United Aborigines messenger, 1929 1987

Records

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

Records

- Department of Aboriginal Affairs [predecessors], Records (1886 2004)
- Files Aborigines Departments (1 January 1926 16 June 1972)
- Files General [Health Department] (1899 1987)
- Administration Files Northern District Office [N.D.G Sequence] (1950 1974)
- Files Community Welfare ("A" Series), State Records Office of Western Australia (25 August 1908 23 December 1990)

You can view this page online by visiting https://www.findandconnect.gov.au/entity/fitzroy-crossing-mission/