

# Udialla Station

1944 – 1949

## Details

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Udialla Station was established south of Derby in 1944 as a government-run training facility for 'part-Aboriginal' people, including children under the guardianship of the Commissioner of Native Welfare. Udialla closed in 1949 and the residents were transferred to the La Grange Bay Feeding Depot.

Udialla Station was purchased by the Department of Native Affairs on a 'walk in – walk out basis' from Mr Darcy Ryder on 27 December 1944, according to the department's annual report in 1945 (p.8). However, the department did not immediately occupy Udialla, which continued to be worked by Mr Ryder. The purpose of Udialla as described in the 1945 annual report (pp.7-8) was to provide a 'Government institution' for the 'reception of coloured people as distinct from full-blood'. The government needed a 'modern type of institution' for the 'education and training of the Broome coloured people to other means of livelihood away from the pearling industry and its Asiatic influences'. Udialla Station was located on the south bank of the Fitzroy River, 93 kilometres from Derby and 209 kilometres from Broome. The property was around 1250 hectares in area with what the Commissioner for Native Affairs (p.8) described as 'mainly black soil of great fertility' which would be suitable for 'vegetable growing and for sheep raising' and thus 'the training of native children and natives generally'.

Udialla was closed by the government in 1949, and residents were transferred to the La Grange Bay Depot.

## More info

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### Related Entries

#### Run by

- [Department of Native Affairs, State of Western Australia \(1936 - 1954\)](#)  
Date: 1944 - 1949

#### Related Events

- [Stolen Wages Reparation Scheme WA, State of Western Australia \(6 March 2012 - 30 November 2012\)](#)  
Aboriginal people born before 1958 who earned unpaid wages at Udialla were eligible to apply for the Stolen Wages Reparation Scheme WA.

#### Related Organisations

- [La Grange Bay Feeding Depot \(1918 - 1949\)](#)  
When Udialla Station closed in 1949 people were transferred to the La Grange Bay Feeding Depot.

## Records

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

# Records

- [Department of Aboriginal Affairs \[predecessors\], Records \(1886 - 2004\)](#)
  - [Files - Aborigines Departments \(1 January 1926 - 16 June 1972\)](#)
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You can view this page online by visiting <https://www.findandconnect.gov.au/entity/udialla-station/>