

# Somerville Homes

1965 – 1981

## Details

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Somerville Homes was established in 1964 when the Methodist Overseas Mission began to discuss the closure of the Croker Island Mission and the transfer of all children to smaller group homes in the Darwin area. It had links with both the Methodist Overseas Mission and the United Church in the Northern Territory. Somerville Homes ran the Somerville Cottage Homes in Darwin from 1968 through to the 1980s. In 1981 Somerville Homes changed its name to Somerville Community Services.

Somerville Homes was established as an organisation in 1964 when the Methodist Overseas Mission began to discuss the closure of the Croker Island Mission and the transfer of all children to smaller group homes in the Darwin area. A Somerville Homes Council was created with the aims:

*(a) to carry out charitable purposes of providing total care for children and young people in the Northern Territory of Australia and elsewhere; (b) to establish and maintain homes for children and young people, provide family counselling, arrange or assist in the arranging of adoptive or foster homes, provide after care and generally provide all such services in its own capacity or in co-operation with others, constituting the total care of the child or young person*

The organisation had links with both the Methodist Overseas Mission and the United Church in the Northern Territory. It became an incorporated body with a Board in 1971. After 1977 it retained links with the Uniting Church, Northern Synod.

Somerville Homes ran the Somerville Cottage Homes in Darwin from 1968 through to the 1980s. In 1980-81 when the organisation expanded its services, it changed its name to Somerville Community Services.

## More info

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### Chronology

- **Somerville Homes (1965 – 1981)**
  - Somerville Community Services Incorporated (1982 - current)

### Related Entries

#### Ran

- [Somerville Cottage Homes \(1968 - 1980s\)](#)
- [Trower Road Cottage, Somerville Homes Inc \(1969 - 1976\)](#)
- [Chapman Road Cottage \(1969 - 1976\)](#)

- [Henry Street Cottage, Somerville Homes Inc \(1969 - 1981\)](#)
- [Luxton Street Cottage, Somerville Homes Inc \(1971 - 1981\)](#)  
Luxton Street Cottage was one of six Somerville Cottage Homes
- [Clarke Crescent Cottage, Somerville Homes Inc \(1971 - 1981\)](#)
- [Fox Crescent Cottage \(1972 - 1974\)](#)
- [Bunyip House \(1981 - 1984?\)](#)

#### **Related Organisations**

- [Methodist Overseas Mission \(c. 1930 - 1980\)](#)  
Somerville Homes Incorporated established cottage homes in Darwin for children from the Methodist Overseas Mission Home on Croker Island.
- [United Church, North Australia \(1946 - 1977\)](#)  
Somerville Homes Incorporated reported to the United Church, Northern Australia

## Resources

- Somerville Community Services Inc, [Somerville, the courage to be, FAQs](#), No date

## Records

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### Records

- [Records relating to child care, Somerville Homes, Darwin \(1964 - 1979\)](#)
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