

Lisgar Training Home for Domestic Servants

1870 – 1914

Other Names:

- Lisgar Training School
- Protestant Servant's Training School
- Female Protestant Training School for Domestic Servants

Details

Lisgar Training Home for Domestic Servants was begun in Ashfield by Captain David and Mrs Maria Scott in 1870 and became part of the Church of England Deaconess Institution in 1893. It trained young women in domestic service, including state wards aged 14, and some Aboriginal girls. From 1900 The Deaconess Children's Home was co-located with Lisgar Training School for Domestic Servants on Darling St, Balmain. In 1914 this Home officially merged with The Deaconess Children's Home and moved to Marrickville where the two institutions were known as Lisgar Children's Home.

Lisgar Training Home was intended to provide training in domestic service for women of low education. Some state wards were referred there when they reached the age of 14 and some Aboriginal girls were sent there for training.

The training home was initially called the Protestant Servant's Training School. Shortly after it's opening its location was described as a property on Upper Dowling Street, Darlinghurst. During this period the home accommodated an average of 18 girls between the ages of 10 and 14 at a given time, and had a capacity for 20 girls.

Parent's of the girls attending the school were expected to pay where possible, with fees ranging from 1s 6d to 5s per week. However, as stated in the *Sydney Mail* in 1870, the school also accepted girls from families who couldn't afford to pay fees, providing that the girls were Protestant and "respectable". Once their training was complete the girls were apprenticed out as domestic servants in private homes. The girls received 25% of their wages as "pocket money", with the remaining money being retained by the school in "credit of the child, who receives the same on completion of her apprenticeship" ('Female Protestant Training School', 1873).

In 1875 the training home officially changed its name to Lisgar Training School, moved from its premises in Darlinghurst to a slightly larger property on Liverpool street, Paddington, next door to the home of its founders Captain and Mrs. Scott. Here it had capacity for approximately 25 girls.

It appears there are no surviving records of the home.

More info

Chronology

- **Lisgar Training Home for Domestic Servants (1870 – 1914)**
 - Lisgar Children's Home (1914 - 1929)
 - Deaconess Children's Home, Strathfield (1929 - 1936)
 - Pallister Church of England Girls' Home (1936 - 1977)
 - Pallister Young People's Unit and Special School (1977 - 1981)

Related Entries

Run by

- [Church of England Deaconess Institution \(1891 - 1980s\)](#)

Related Organisations

- [Deaconess Children's Home and Domestic Training School \(1893 - 1914\)](#)

From 1900 The Deaconess Children's Home was co-located with Lisgar Training School for Domestic Servants on Darling St, Balmain.
- [Anglican Deaconess Ministries Ltd \(1980s - current\)](#)

The Church of England Deaconess Institution, which was an earlier name for Anglican Deaconess Ministries Ltd, took over the management of the Lisgar Training Home for Domestic Servants in 1893.

Resources

- Ramsland, John, *Children of the back lanes: destitute and neglected children in colonial New South Wales*, 1986
- [Deaconess Institutions](#), Evening News, 3 April 1893
- [Deaconesses' Institution: Opening of Children's Home. New Training School for Servants](#), The Daily Telegraph, 21 December 1900

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