

# Commission of Inquiry into the Farm Home for Boys Westbrook, Queensland

16 May 1961 – 27 September 1961

**Other Names:** • Schwarten Inquiry

## Details

---

The Commission of Inquiry into the Farm Home for Boys, Westbrook, was established by Order in Council 16 May 1961. The Commission was directed to look specifically at the circumstances surrounding the escape of a number of inmates on Sunday 14 May 1961. It also investigated other matters relating to the conduct of the institution and the welfare of inmates generally.

Stipendary Magistrate, Alfred Edward Schwarten, conducted the inquiry. The inquiry unearthed cases of abuse and deficient standards of food, education and hygiene.

## More info

---

### Related Entries

#### Related Organisations

- [Farm Home for Boys, Westbrook \(30 October 1919 - 26 May 1966\)](#)

The Commission of Inquiry into the Farm Home for Boys, Westbrook, was established in 1961 to investigate circumstances surrounding the escape of a number of inmates on Sunday 14 May 1961. It also investigated other matters relating to the conduct of the institution and the welfare of inmates generally.

Date: 1961 -

#### Related Archival Series

- [Commission of Inquiry Exhibits, Farm Home for Boys Westbrook \(c. 1915 - c. 1961\)](#)
- [Commission of Inquiry Papers \(9 February 1961 - 5 December 1961\)](#)
- [Commission of Inquiry Transcripts of Proceedings, Farm Home for Boys Westbrook \(22 May 1961 - 14 July 1961\)](#)

### Resources

- Swain, Shurlee, [History of Australian inquiries reviewing institutions providing care for children](#), October 2014
-