

# Wolston Park Hospital

1969 – 2001

## Details

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The Wolston Park Hospital, situated at Wacol, Queensland, was a State-run facility. Wolston Park Hospital was previously known as the Brisbane Special Hospital. It is known that children who were wards of the state were placed at Wolston Park during the 1960s-1980s.

It is estimated up to 60 wards of the state were sent to Wolston Park, usually after previously being in other placements in Homes.

Children placed at Wolston Park reported abuse of all kinds, isolation and neglect, use of chemical restraints and contact with adults with mental health issues.

In 2010, the Queensland Government issued an apology to those who, as children under the care of the state, were inappropriately placed in adult mental health facilities including Wolston Park.

In October 2017, the Queensland Government provided payouts to former state wards who had been placed in Wolston Park, in recognition of their wrongful detainment in an adult mental health facility.

Wolston Park Hospital (referred to as Goodna Mental Asylum) was mentioned in the *Commonwealth Contribution to Former Forced Adoption Policies and Practices Report (2012)* as an institution that was involved in forced adoption.

The Wolston Park Hospital Complex is listed on the Queensland Heritage Register, as a “distinctive example of a substantial public mental health institution”.

## Gallery

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### Wolston Park Hospital Complex - Bostock

**Description:** This image is included in the gallery of images for Wolston Park Hospital Complex in the Queensland Heritage Register.



### Noble 2

**Description:** This image is included in the gallery of images for Wolston Park Hospital Complex in the Queensland Heritage Register. It shows the building known as Noble House.

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# More info

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## Chronology

- Woogaroo Lunatic Asylum (1865 - c. 1880)
  - Goodna Asylum for the Insane (c. 1880 - 1898)
    - Goodna Hospital for the Insane (1898 - c. 1940)
      - Brisbane Mental Hospital (c. 1940 - 1963)
      - Brisbane Special Hospital (1963 - 1969)
- **Wolston Park Hospital (1969 – 2001)**
  - The Park Centre for Mental Health (2001 - current)

## Related Entries

### Run by

- [Health Department, State Government of Queensland \(26 September 1963 - 3 April 2012\)](#)  
Date: 1969 - 2001

### Related Events

- [Apology to children who were wards of the state placed in adult mental health facilities, Parliament of Queensland \(2010\)](#)
- [Inquiry into Commonwealth Contribution to Former Forced Adoption Policies and Practices, Commonwealth of Australia \(2011 - 2012\)](#)  
Wolston Park Hospital (referred to as Goodna Mental Asylum) was mentioned in the *Commonwealth Contribution to Former Forced Adoption Policies and Practices* Report (2012) as an institution that was involved in forced adoption.
- [Inquiry into Children in Institutional Care, Parliament of Australia \(2003 - 2005\)](#)  
Wolston Park Hospital was mentioned in Submission 228 to the Inquiry into Children in Institutional Care

## Resources

- Senate Community Affairs References Committee, [Commonwealth Contribution to Former Forced Adoption Policies and Practices](#), 29 February 2012
- Chynoweth, Adele, [Goodna Girls: A History of Children in a Queensland Mental Asylum](#), 2020
- [Sue Treweek interviewed by Frances Rush in the Forgotten Australians and Former Child Migrants oral history project \(2010\)](#), 4 December 2010 - 5 December 2010
- Carrington, Kerry, [Remembering Randall: My brother Randall was an involuntary patient in Walston Park Mental Hospital in 1970s.](#), No date
- Wolston Park Centenary Cricket Club, [Walston Park Site History: Overview](#), 2013
- Treweek, Susan, [Submission No 218 to the Senate Inquiry into the Commonwealth Contribution to Former Forced Adoption Policies and Practices](#), 2012
- Remeikis, Amy, [Recitations of 'sorry' are no help to this survivor](#), Sydney Morning Herald, 19 August 2012
- Queensland Government, [Reconciliation Plan: For children who as wards of the State were placed in adult mental health facilities](#), 2017
- Condon, Matthew, [Wolston Park hospital left to rot as former patients continue fight](#), Courier Mail, 8 March 2017
- Condon, Matthew, [Wolston Park abuse victims: "We're finally free"](#), Courier Mail, 17 October 2017
- No date
- No date
- No date

# Records

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## Records

- [Registers of Patients and Admission Books - Wolston Park / Ipswich Special Hospital / Challinor Centre, Ipswich \(23 March 1861 - 18 March 1994\)](#)
  - [Case Books - Wolston Park Hospital \(1860 - 1951\)](#)
  - [Special Batches \[Correspondence Files of the Colonial Secretary's Office and Health Departments\] \(1852 - 1975\)](#)
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