

# Benedictines, New Norcia

c. 1846 –

## Details

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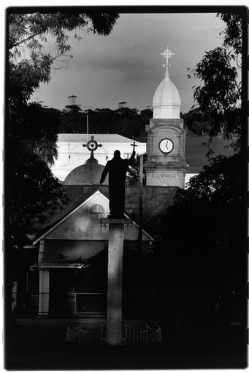
The Benedictines, New Norcia, were a group of Catholic male religious who established a settlement, mission and monastery at New Norcia in 1846. They ran the Subiaco Boys' Orphanage for a few years (1872-1876), but the main institutions they were associated with were St Joseph's Native School and Orphanage and St Mary's Mission at New Norcia, and the Drysdale River Mission and Kalumburu in the north west of Western Australia. Their association with out of home care finished in 1982. In 2014, the Benedictines continued to operate a monastery in New Norcia.

The area now known as New Norcia in Western Australia, was settled in 1846 by two exiled Spanish monks, Joseph Serra and Rudesind Salvado, from St Martin's Abbey, Compostella. They had volunteered for foreign mission work and were sent to Australia in 1846 and settled in Aboriginal lands in an area approximately seventy miles north of Perth, which they called New Norcia in honour of St Benedict's birthplace. A number of outlying mission stations were established. Dom Serra became coadjutor to the Bishop of Perth in 1848, and Dom Salvado was made Bishop of Port Victoria in 1849, in addition to remaining superior of New Norcia. New Norcia was made an abbey in 1867 with a diocese attached.

The Benedictines, New Norcia ran St Joseph's Native School and Orphanage and St Mary's Mission at New Norcia, and the Drysdale River Mission and Kalumburu in the north west of Western Australia. Their association with out of home care finished in 1982. In 2014, the Benedictines continued to operate a monastery in New Norcia.

## Gallery

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**The Benedictine Monastery at New Norcia, Western Australia [picture]**

## More info

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## Related Entries

## Ran

- [Kalumburu Mission \(1931 - 1982\)](#)  
Date: 1931 - 1981
- [St Mary's Mission, New Norcia \(1848 - 1974\)](#)
- [St Joseph's Native School and Orphanage, New Norcia \(1861 - 1974\)](#)  
Date: 1861 - 1904
- [Subiaco Boys' Orphanage \(1872 - 1901\)](#)  
The Benedictines who established New Norcia ran the Subiaco Boys' Orphanage from 1872 to 1876.  
Date: 1872 - 1876
- [Drysdale River Mission \(1908 - 1937\)](#)
- [New Norcia Mission \(1848 - 1974\)](#)

## Holds

- [New Norcia Archives \(1846 - current\)](#)

## Related Organisations

- [Benedictine Missionary Sisters \(1904 - current\)](#)

## Resources

- [Celine Kickett interviewed by Marnie Richardson in the Bringing them home oral history project \(2001\)](#), 27 November 2001
- Barry, David, *New Norcia*, Historical Encyclopedia of Western Australia, 2009
- [The Aborigines Question. Evidence Taken by Dr. Roth](#), Western Mail, 25 February 1905
- Pushong, Lyn, *Heritage Trail: A journey through the history of MercyCare*, 2008
- Aborigines Department, Western Australia, [Collection of typed copies of annual and other reports by and to the Chief Protector of Aborigines in Western Australia dated 1910 and 1911](#), 1910 - 1911
- Hodson, A. Bruce and Taylor, Ian, *New Norcia voices*, 2008
- [New Norcia Mission for Aborigines](#), Western Mail, 19 December 1908
- [New Norcia Monastery](#), Western Mail, 4 February 1916
- [No heading \[New Norcia\]](#), Western Mail, 10 June 1905
- Rijavec, Frank, *The habits of New Norcia*, 2000

## Records

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### Records

- [New Norcia, Western Australia \[videorecording\], State Library of Western Australia \(1930 - 1930\)](#)
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You can view this page online by visiting <https://www.findandconnect.gov.au/entity/benedictines-new-norcia/>