

# Adamson House

1938 – 1990

## Details

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Adamson House was established in Northam in 1938 by the Country Women's Association (CWA). It provided accommodation for girls going to Northam High School. Adamson House became co-educational in 1987, and senior students were accommodated there. It closed in 1990 and the remaining students were transferred to St Christopher's Hostel, Northam.

The CWA leased a home from 'Mrs Fred Rewell' so the hostel could open in time for the start of the 1938 school year. It was the first CWA school hostel and was later named after its founder, Mrs Mary Adamson of Haisthorpe, Beverley, who was the president of the western division of the CWA.

From 1969, management of Adamson House merged with the nearby St Christopher's Hostel, Northam, which was for boys.

Adamson House became the site for Northam Residential College in 2003.

In 2011, the *Special Inquiry into St Andrew's Hostel, Katanning* heard testimony that a female warden at the hostel was being 'investigated by police for sexual misconduct allegations' in 1987. Evidence about earlier concerns about a male staff member being near to the girls' showers was also mentioned at the Inquiry.

## More info

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### Chronology

- **Adamson House (1938 – 1990)**
  - St Christopher's Hostel, Northam (1941 - 2002)
  - Northam Residential College (2003 - current)

### Related Entries

#### Run by

- [Country High School Hostels Authority, State of Western Australia \(1960 - 2017\)](#)  
Date: 1969 - 1990
- [Country Women's Association of Western Australia \(1924 - current\)](#)  
The CWA established Adamson House in Northam to accommodate students who needed to board in town to attend high school. In 1969, control of Adamson House passed to the government.  
Date: 1938 - 1969

#### Related Organisations

- [Northam Residential College \(2003 - current\)](#)  
Northam Residential College occupies the old Adamson House site.

## Resources

- [\*Hostel for Albany High School\*](#), Albany Advertiser, 8 February 1943
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