

# Alice Springs Gaol

1933 – 1938

## Details

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The Alice Springs Gaol was the new name given to the Stuart Town Gaol in 1933 when the town of Stuart was officially renamed Alice Springs. Run by the government the Gaol housed male and female, adult and juvenile prisoners. In 1938 the Alice Springs Gaol was closed. It was replaced by HM Gaol and Labour Prison, Alice Springs.

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In March 1942, after Darwin was bombed by the Japanese and the whole of the Northern Territory administration moved to Alice Springs, the Stuart Town Gaol was taken over by the Commonwealth Bank. When the bank moved out it was used by local police as a storage facility. In the 1960s it became an unofficial police club.

In the 1970s the government decided to pull the gaol down and build a new police station and law courts where it stood. A small group of local residents, lead by Mrs Doreen Braitling, saved the building from demolition. It was then taken over by the National Trust. It is now a small museum. The gaol was placed on the Northern Territory Heritage Register in February 1994.

## Gallery

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**Stuart Town Gaol**

**Description:** The description given about the building states: The oldest stone building in Alice Springs. It has associations with many aspects of central Australian history. The size and layout of the cells reflect the attitudes of authorities to Indigenous Australians as prisoners. [edited]



**Stuart Town Gaol**

**Description:** This image shows the inside of the gaol. The description given about the building states: The oldest stone building in Alice Springs. It has associations with many aspects of central Australian history. The size and layout of the cells reflect the attitudes of authorities to Indigenous Australians as prisoners. [edited]

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# More info

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## Chronology

- Heavitree Gap Gaol (1904 - 1909)
    - Stuart Town Gaol (1909 - 1933)
  
  - **Alice Springs Gaol (1933 – 1938)**
    - Her Majesty's Gaol and Labour Prison, Alice Springs (1938 - 1996)
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