

Royal Military College, Duntroon

Originally a sheep station, Duntroon property was chosen as the site for Australia's Military College following the government's acceptance of a recommendation by Lord Kitchener, who had been commissioned in 1910 to report on the defence needs of the new Commonwealth. The Military College was granted the title 'Royal' at its opening on 27 June 1911.

Record holdings

Records held by the National Archives relating to the Royal Military College (RMC) document the transformation of a sheep station and its main buildings, including the imposing Duntroon homestead, into a centre for military education. These records include plans for the design and construction of new facilities and the alteration of existing buildings, photographs featuring the college and events with which it was associated, and a range of administrative files relating to the college's acquisition and development by the Commonwealth government. Some examples of records are listed below.

Architectural drawings for buildings at Royal Military College, Duntroon

Collection references

Title or description of record	Date range	Series, item number
Fire alarm tower	1912	A2502, AB1
RMC pavilion	circa 1916	A2502, AB2
RMC barracks	1916	A2502, AB5
Permanent officers accommodation	1916	A2502, AB7
Administrative block	1925–30	A2502, AB9
Barracks – conversion to flats	circa 1916–circa 1925	A2502, AB10
Small arms magazine	1911	A2502, AB17
Employees hospital	1912	A2502, AB21
RMC site plan	1916	A2502, AB23
Plan of commemorative plaque for first Commandant	1916	A2502, AB29

<u>Library</u>	circa 1911–circa 1920	A2502, AB31
<u>Accommodation for 30 officers</u>	circa 1916	A2502, AB37
<u>RMC mess – SS Majors and warrant officers</u>	1916	A2502, AB39
<u>RMC mess – permanent officers</u>	1916	A2502, AB44
<u>Proposed additions to Quarters No. 26.</u>	circa 1920–circa 1925	A2502, AB52
<u>Commandant's house – front detail</u>	1911	A2502, AB69
<u>Professor Barnard's house</u>	circa 1919–circa 1922	A2502, AB71
<u>Proposed adaptation of hospital to school building (AC117)</u>	1914	A2503, folder 1
<u>Gun shed (AC60)</u>	1915	A2503, folder 1
<u>Stables (AC67)</u>	1915	A2503, folder 1
<u>Cottage for NCO's (AC95)</u>	1915	A2503, folder 1
<u>Forge infirmary forage barn (AC113)</u>	1915	A2503, folder 1
<u>Married men's camp site (AC87)</u>	1916	A2503, folder 1
<u>Hospital site plan (AC119)</u>	undated	A2503, folder 1
<u>Barrack rooms for NCO's AIF Officers School (AC121)</u>	1916	A2503, folder 1

Photographs featuring Royal Military College, Duntroon

A full set of prints from the 'Mildenhall collection' (series [A3560](#)) is available in the Canberra research centre.

Collection references

Title or description of record	Date range	Series, item number
<u>Review of Duntroon for Imperial Press Conference</u>	1927	A3560, 740
<u>Review of Guard at Duntroon by delegates of Imperial Press Conference</u>	1927	A3560, 746
<u>View of the garden from the Officers' mess, Duntroon</u>	1926	A3560, 2268
<u>Grave of General WT Bridges</u>	1927	A3560, 2841
<u>HMS Renown party at grave of General WT Bridges</u>	1927	A3560, 2899
<u>Royal Visit, May 1927 – Cadets being received by the Duke of York</u>	1927	A3560, 3017
<u>Floodwaters near Duntroon from Mount Pleasant</u>	1927	A3560, 7651
<u>Presentation of decorations</u>	1929	A3560, 5255
<u>RMC, Duntroon from Mount Pleasant</u>	1929	A3560, 5540
<u>Commandant's house, Duntroon</u>	1930	A3560, 6483

Selected files relating to Royal Military College, Duntroon

Collection references

Title or description of record	Date range	Series, item number
<u>Proposal to rent Duntroon homestead for Military College</u>	1910–12	A1, 1912/9851
<u>Establishment of a school at the Royal Military College, Duntroon</u>	1914	A199, FCW1914/889
<u>Dedication of certain land – Royal Military College, Duntroon for a cemetery</u>	1915	A207, G1915/1918
<u>Royal Military College, Duntroon</u>	1917–50	A461, C337/1/7 Part 1
<u>Site for Chapel, Royal Military College, Duntroon</u>	1920–23	A361, DSG21/296
<u>Cottage sites at RMC, Duntroon</u>	1921	A364, DSS1921/82
<u>Proposed lease to the Commonwealth of Royal Military College Lands at Duntroon</u>	1929	A432, 1929/697
<u>Royal Military College – retention of the name Duntroon</u>	1930–1931	A1, 1931/25