

Randwick Barracks History

A long history

Long before European settlement, Aboriginal people lived and thrived in the area we now know as Randwick, with the Bidjigal and Gadigal clans occupying the Coogee area where Randwick Barracks is located today. The land at the Randwick Barracks site has been associated with Defence since the 1860s, and was used by the NSW Military Forces from the 1900s.

The School of Musketry Building at Randwick Barracks is historically significant for its association with the development of the Australian Army at the turn of the twentieth century and it is still in use today for administrative purposes.

Similarly, the former Officers' Mess remains in use, providing residential accommodation for Army officers. Randwick Barracks includes both these heritage assets and also a large expanse of vacant land, which has had multiple uses over time.

In 2010, 13.1 hectares of the Randwick Barracks site was handed to the Randwick City Council by Defence for use as community land. This site is now known as the Randwick Environment Park and Community Centre. It offers unique environmental experiences, educational resources and informal recreational activities for the local and wider community.

Today Randwick Barracks accommodates a number of Australian Defence Force elements including components of the Navy Systems Training Centre, Army Special Forces Command and the Army Reserve.

*Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people should be aware that this timeline may contain images of deceased persons.

Imagery sourced from: State Library of New South Wales Collection, Australian War Memorial, Randwick & District Historical Society and Lotsearch



1829 - 1890

Land was used for church and schooling.



1921-1942

End of long-range target training. Small Arms School established.



1960's-1970's

Development of housing for Defence families adjacent to Bundock Street and other areas within Randwick Barracks.



1997-mid 2000s

Demolition of naval stores and former married quarters.



2010

Randwick Environment Park and Community Centre delivered by Defence.

2021 onwards

Planning for Randwick Barracks Sydney Live-in Accommodation and Bundock Street Housing Redevelopment.

Randwick Barracks Housing and Accommodation Precinct Development

Pre-1829

Original land of the Eora nation Bidjigal & Gadigal people.

1891-1920s

Randwick Rifle Range and School of Musketry.



1943-1967

Royal Australian Navy stores and buildings constructed. Used by the Australian and Allied armed forces during WWII.



1980's-1990's

Married quarters development



Early 2000's

Randwick Barracks Master Plan and Randwick City Council's Development Control Plan



2016-2020

Navy Training Systems Centre. Joongah Street housing development for Defence families.

