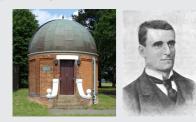
## 2.5.2 STATUTORILY LISTED BUILDINGS WITHIN WELLESLEY

## THE ALEXANDER OBSERVATORY Building No. L2, Queen's Avenue (Grade II)

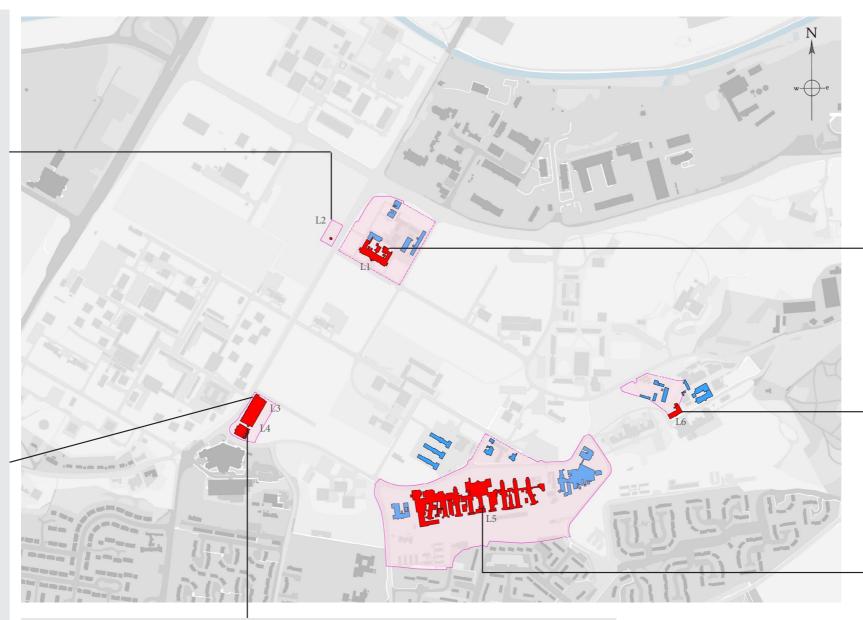
Circular brick building with stone dressings and metal hemispherical roof, containing a telescope. The telescope and observatory building were a gift from aviation pioneer Patrick Young Alexander (1867–1943) to the British Army in 1906. A metal plaque near the door commemorates the occasion, reading: 'Presented to the Aldershot Army Corps by Patrick Y Alexander Esq 1906'. Building work commenced in 1906 with the bulk of the work being carried out by local labour. On August 26, 1906 the dome was installed and over the next three months, the telescope was put in place and final construction work was completed. Both the telescope and dome were designed and built by Sir Howard Grubb of Dublin, makers of the largest and best known optical telescopes in the world at that time. The dome was originally covered in a rubberoid material but this perished and was later rebuilt with copper cladding



## MAIDA GYMNASIUM Building No. L3, Queen's Avenue (Grade II)

Maida Gymnasium, originally known as the Command Central Gymnasium, was purpose built in 1892 as an army drill hall/gymnasium by Martin Wells & Co, forming part of the larger Maida Barracks in Montgomery Lines. The building was constructed as part of a national programme following a War Office decision that the physical aspect of a soldiers education was to be improved through gymnastics, extending activity beyond just drill and weapon training. The building was modelled on Fox's gymnasium, located in North Camp along Queen's Avenue, and is a large red brick, gable ended structure. The structure has round arched, prominent brick buttresses and simple square pilasters defining the bays on exposed west flank. Internally it features an impressive clear span steel/cast iron trussed rafter roof. There was originally a shooting gallery on the east side of the building but this has since been converted to changing rooms. This building has been used for royal visits and civic functions such as the ball given by the Mayor of Aldershot for the visiting officers during the 1948 Olympic Pentathlon.





## SMITH DORRIEN HOUSE Building No. L4, Queen's Avenue (Grade II)



Constructed as the Barracks Institute in 1908 by HB Measures, the architect and director of Barracks Construction. The Institute provided rooms for reading, meetings, study and games, as well as a bar selling non-alcoholic drinks, as part of the wider late-nineteenth century effort to provide recreational space for soldiers. Internally, the main hall was located on the first floor, with an open mid-cruck timber roof truss. Elsewhere there is a variety of different sized meeting rooms and offices, now subdivided. The style of the building is more flamboyant than other Aldershot military buildings of the period showing some 'Arts and Crafts' influence. Constructed in red brick and stone in an Italianate style, the main feature is the pair of square towers on the main elevation, with glazed cupolas and copper domed roofs. Between the

towers is a large two storey high stone mullion window which was originally glazed with stained glass. The interior of the building was richly decorated with plasterwork, timber and glazed tiles, although much of this has been lost. The Institute was named after General Sir Horace Lockwood Smith Dorrien (1858–1930), commander of the British II Corps and Second Army of the British Expeditionary Force during the Great War. Smith Dorrien become GOC of Aldershot in 1907 and instituted a number of reforms including the improvement of sports and leisure facilities.





Wellesley

### HEAD QUARTERS 4<sup>TH</sup> DIVISION COMPLEX Building No. L1, Queen's Avenue & Alison's Road (Grade II)

The main headquarters building of General Officers Commanding Aldershot. The foundation stone was laid in 1894 by HRH The Duke of Connaught. An enriched example of a late-nineteenth century officer's quarters building in brick with Portland stone, rubbed brick and terracotta dressings. With the Post office, the office block forms a significant group overlooking Queen's Avenue.



## FITZWYGRAM HOUSE Building No. L6, Gallwey Road (Grade II)

Purpose built Royal Army Veterinary Corps containing a veterinary school, lecture theatre and horse theatre. Built in 1899, the Laboratory was designed by Lt. Col. W Pitt. The army veterinary service was formed in 1796 as a result of public outrage at the numbers of horses lost to poor farriery and ignorance. The school at Aldershot was founded in 1880.



## CAMBRIDGE MILITARY HOSPITAL Building No. L5, Hospital Road (Grade II)

This building is extremely important to the history and character of Wellesley. The hospital was built on a pavilion plan from 1875-79, with an extensive range of wings and wards designed to provide cross ventilation. The hospital was named after HRH the Duke of Cambridge, Commander in chief of the army from 1856-1895.



## 2.5.3 CURTILAGES OF STATUTORILY LISTED BUILDINGS

Curtilages surrounding Listed Buildings have been defined by Rushmoor Borough Council around the following buildings:

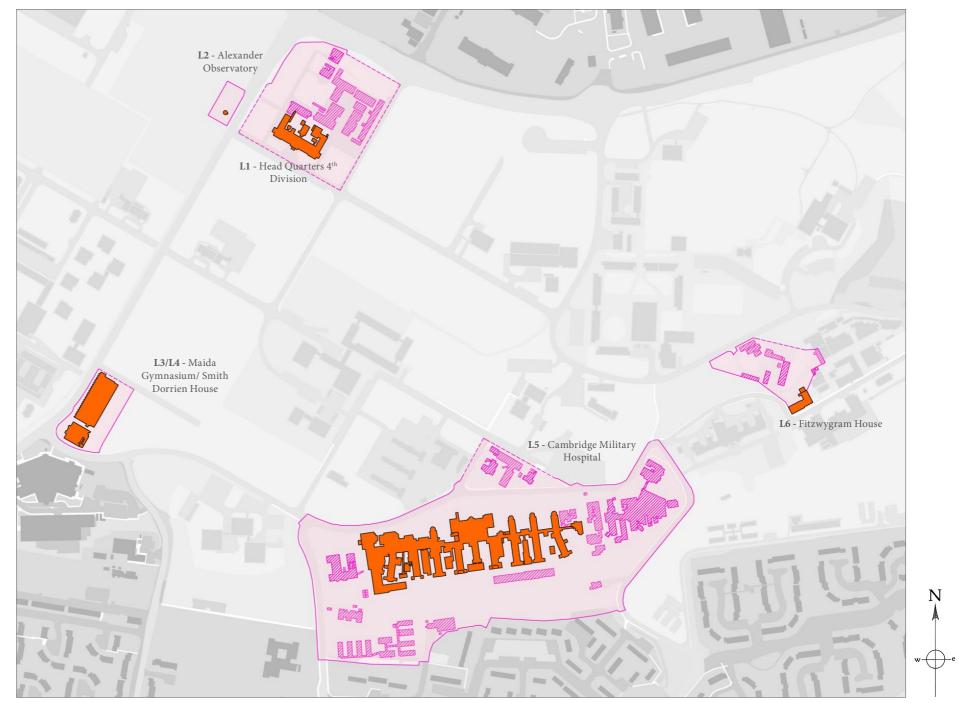
- L1 Head Quarters 4<sup>th</sup> Division
- L2 Alexander Observatory
- L3 Maida Gymnasium / L4 Smith Dorrien House
- L5 Cambridge Military Hospital
- L6 Fitzwygram House

PPS5 *Planning for the Historic Environment: Historic Environment Practice Guide* (Revised June 2012), clause 95, states the following:

'Some buildings are deemed designated as listed buildings by being fixed to the principal building or by being within its curtilage and pre-dating 1948. Whether alteration or demolition of such buildings amounts to substantial harm to the designated heritage asset (i.e. the listed building together with its curtilage and attached buildings) needs considering carefully. These buildings may on occasion be of limited individual or group value.'

Whilst PPS5 has since been abolished and no longer forms part of the planning policy framework for England, this policy still provides the best definition of explanation of a curtilage building. Structures within these curtilages generally have a historic association or contribute to the setting of the principal Listed Building. Proposals to alter extend or demolish both the exterior and interior of structures within the curtilage will therefore require Listed Building Consent.

Proposals that affect curtilage protected structures will need to be considered using the same criteria as Listed Buildings regarding the degree of harm or benefit to the historic significance. The historic significance of individual buildings described in Section 4 acts as a guide to the decision making process. Such considerations will also apply to new buildings which may affect the setting and historic significance of curtilage listed structures. The curtilages of the individual listed buildings are discussed in more detail in each of the heritage area studies.



Detailed site plan showing curtilages of listed buildings within Wellesley

 KEY

 LISTED BUILDING CURTILAGE

 BUILDINGS THAT ARE CURTILAGE LISTED

 LISTED BUILDINGS





## 2.5.4 LOCALLY LISTED BUILDINGS WITHIN WELLESLEY

## ALISON & CRANBROOK HOUSES Building No's. 12 & 13, Alison's Road

Late nineteenth century red brick construction broadly square in plan with main rectangular, hipped block to north side and quirky extensions to south side. Projecting eaves with painted timber soffit and decorative brackets. East West road bounding north of the garrison site Hipped slate roof with red clay hip/ ridge tiles. Part of the group around the Head Quarters 4<sup>th</sup> Division.



## POST OFFICE Building No. L1A, Queen's Avenue

The post office was built as part of the Head Quarters 4<sup>th</sup> Division complex in 1895 in the same style as the main office block. The building is set to the north of the headquarters building, facing onto Queen's Avenue. The building is constructed in red brick with an attractive terracotta date stone reading '1895' and the Queen's initials., 'VR'.



#### MILITARY POLICE BARRACKS & STABLES

Building No's. 14A & 14F, Maida Road

Two long, late-nineteenth century red brick buildings, built parallel to each other, to the east of the main Head Quarters 4th Division







N



LISTED BUILDING CURTILAGE



The water tower was erected in 1896 and rearranged in 1905. The Ground floor was the ambulance shed and clerks offices, the first floor was office accommodation for an officer chief clerk and two additional clerks. Located to the west of the hospital and north-east of Gunhill House, it is of Flemish bond yellow brick construction with a slate covered pyramidal roof. North half of the ground floor shows two large double entrance doors with pale yellow gauged brick heads

Wellesley ALDERSHOT



# OUTBUILDINGS NEAR FITZWYGRAM HOUSE



## SIGNALLING SCHOOL ADMIN BLOCKS, WARD & MORTUARY Building No. 29F Gallwey Road

A single storey red bricked building, with the South range, long rectangular building operating as main Admin block and a school house feel. Red brick in stretcher bond on Staffordshire blue chamfered plinth course on red brick plinth and rubbed brick curved window arches.



## MANDORA OFFICERS MESS Building No. 28B, Gallwey Road

A double storey, long rectangular building constructed in stretcher bonded red brick. The main elevation is on the south with a turning circle at the main entrance. The entrance is also denoted by a arched brick entrance porch which terminates in an open balcony at first floor level. The porch also features a timber boarded pediment projecting out of the brick wall and a mosaic pavement on the floor incorporating the name 'MANDORA'. The north elevation is the service side of the building consisting of various one and two storey extensions that create a series of courtyard areas. These extensions were originally used for a billiards room, kitchen, stores, and staff and servant accommodation. Internally, the lounge and dining room are located on the ground floor on either side of the entrance hall. The central section of the building is raised to give greater ceiling height to these rooms. The rooms providing officers accommodation were located at ground and first floor level on the south side of the building with a corridor providing access located on the north side.





ADAM URBANISM

## 2.5.4 LOCALLY LISTED BUILDINGS WITHIN WELLESLEY (Continued...)

## MCGRIGOR BARRACKS Building No's 16 B, C & D, Hospital Road

Two of these red brick barrack blocks (16B & C) were built before 1897 to house the staff of the Royal Medical Corps following the removal of the wooden hutments. 16D is a later addition of 1901 and is of lesser quality. The barracks were named after Sir James McGrigor who was Wellington's surgeon general.



**GUNHILL HOUSE** Building No. 20, Hospital Road

Gun Hill House was built in 1907 as the sisters' headquarters, to the west of the Cambridge Military Hospital. Originally, it was L-shaped with a long south façade, but was extended to the north in 1938. The building is constructed in red engineering brick with Portland stone details. The motto 'SUB CRUCE CANDIDA' implying one hundred years of army nursing, is inscribed on a panel about the north door.



## LOUISE MARGARET MATERNITY HOSPITAL Building No. 26, Louise Margaret Road

A 2-storey hospital built for the wives and children of soldiers in Aldershot in 1897 as an eastern extension to Cambridge Military Hospital. The hospital is built in yellow brick in an Italianate style. The hospital was named after Princess Louise Margaret, the Duchess of Connaught and wife of the GOC of Aldershot Command





#### KEY

STATUTORILY LISTED BUILDINGS

- LOCALLY LISTED BUILDINGS
- LISTED BUILDING CURTILAGE





## DESCRIPTION OF THE EXISTING HERITAGE ASSET



Cambridge house was built in 1901 as the medical officers quarters. The property is a two storey house of red brick with terracotta detailing, with a ground floor bay window and canopied doorway. The yard to the rear contains a stable block.



## ST MICHAELS HOUSE Building No.18A, Hospital Road

St. Michael's House is a red brick house of two storeys with a canopied door and segmental headed windows. It was constructed 1910-31.



## NURSES RESIDENCE Building No. 27, Louise Margaret Road

This 3 storey red brick house with Portland stone dressings was built as an addition to the Louise Margaret Maternity hospital in 1937. The building is roughly U shaped and linked to the hospital by a decorated covered walkway.



## 2.5.5 SUMMARY - DESIGNATED BUILDINGS WITHIN WELLESLEY



### KEY

 STATUTORILY LISTED BUILDINGS (GRADE II)

 BUILDINGS WITHIN CONSERVATION AREA BOUNDARY

 BUILDINGS WITHIN CONSERVATION AREA BOUNDARY

 & LOCALLY LISTED

 LISTED BUILDING CURTILAGE

BUILDINGS THAT ARE CURTILAGE LISTED & WITHIN THE CONSERVATION AREA BOUNDARY BUILDINGS THAT ARE CURTILAGE LISTED & OUTSIDE

THE CONSERVATION AREA BOUNDARY

BUILDINGS OUTSIDE THE CONSERVATION AREA BOUNDARY - TO BE DEMOLISHED

ALDERSHOT MILITARY TOWN CONSERVATION AREA BOUNDARY

BASINGSTOKE CANAL CONSERVATION AREA BOUNDARY









## 2.6 MONUMENTS & MEMORIALS WITHIN WELLESLEY

## 2.6.1 INTRODUCTION

The monuments and memorials located at Wellesley form an important part of the historic character of the area, serving specific reminders of the Military history of the site. They commemorate individuals and military units connected to the army camp, as well as specific events related to the site. They often provide important landmarks and give an insight into the history of the area. To varying degree they remain emotional symbols of specific historic events or people, their bravery, their brilliance or simply their passing.

The monuments and memorials provide the opportunity for the public, serving and retired members of army, together with their family and friends, to commemorate the sacrifices of individuals and past events. Such commemoration may take the form of formal ceremonies or provide a daily reminder to people working or visiting the site. Some memorials are site specific, others commemorate a more general connection or event within the wider site.

Today they are for the most part inaccessible to the public, being contained within the perimeter of the MoD Barrack sites. This makes it difficult if impossible for family or colleagues to visit and pay their respects. Many of those that are currently in public places are not overly celebrated and would benefit from an improved setting. Some monuments also continue to be used in public ceremonies, namely the British Army 8<sup>th</sup> Division World War One Memorial (M10), the British Army 2<sup>ND</sup> Division World War One Memorial (M7), the Royal Army Medical Corps Boer War Memorial (M9), the Royal Army Service Corps Memorial Arch (M11) and the Ira Bomb Victims Memorial (M6). In these cases, careful consideration needs to be given to the immediate setting of the monument and public access will remain paramount.

In the future, when the site passes into civilian use, the monuments and memorials will provide a reminder of the area's history and military past. Protection of statutorily listed monuments and memorials should be embedded within the Wellesley masterplan. The monuments also provide and generate opportunities to punctuate the new masterplan with a further layer of historical significance, character and complexity that is both appropriate and in keeping, and enhance the character of the site.

The setting of these assets is also important and has been carefully considered within the masterplan. The Army has a tradition of relocating monuments with them when they move to new locations - monuments are often considered as portable memorials to the Fallen, Battles or regiments that should travel with a regiment when they relocate. This must be considered during discussions regarding the memorials and monuments on the site.

The following pages locate and identify all statutorily listed monuments, as well as other monuments of local interest, and identifies their potential for relocation. This section also identifies any foundation stones or plaques that form an important part of individual buildings, many of these are part of a listed building but their locations are included on page 36 for completeness.

As with the historic buildings at Wellesley, all monuments, memorials and plaques have been assigned a building number. These are used on the following pages and throughout the remainder of the document.

The diagram on page 34 also identifies the potential for the relocation of the monuments and memorials at Wellesley.





## 2.6.2 STATUTORILY LISTED MONUMENTS & MEMORIALS

## BALLOON SQUARE MEMORIAL No. M1, Browning Barracks (Grade II)

Located within the barrack area of the Airborne Forces Depot and Regimental Head quarters of the Parachute Regiment. Comprises a cast iron plaque mounted on a base, recording the foundation of the School of Ballooning school, originally a branch of the Royal Engineers, in 1892 on or near the site of the modern day Balloon Square. The monument was erected in March 1972. Unfortunately, it has recently been stolen but will be replaced as part of Wellesley. The 'square' was in fact formed relatively



recently in 1972. However, it is recognised that the Balloon School was an important part of the Royal Engineer's presence on the site and this needs to be recognised in a more significant manner within the masterplan.

## CAMMELL MEMORIAL No. M3, Queen's Avenue (Grade II)



A Portland Stone obelisk erected after 1911 in memory of Lieutenant Reginald Archibald Cammell (1886-1911) of Air Battalion Royal Engineers. Cammell was involved in test flying early aircraft and was one of only 3 officers in the battalion who qualified in all forms of aircraft; balloons, man lifting kites and aeroplanes. Cammell died after crashing a new design of aircraft, the Valkyrie, in Hendon.

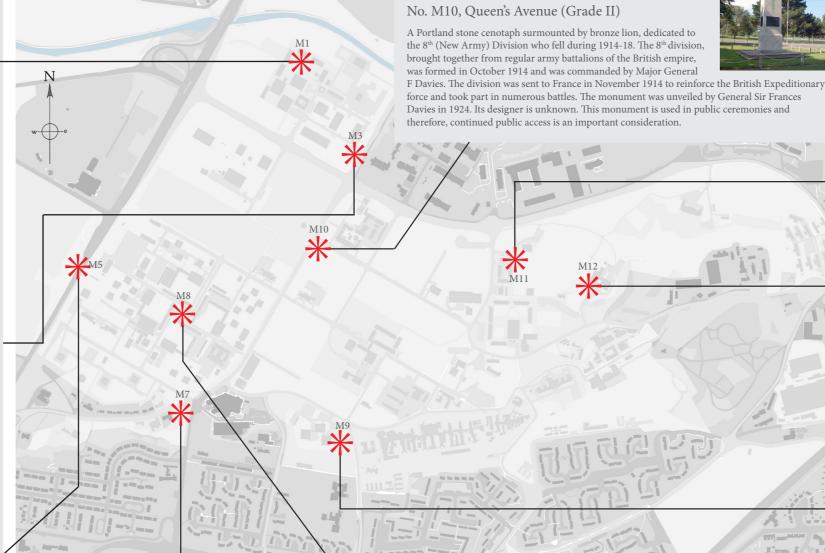
The memorial is located opposite the church of St Michael and St George and set within a publicly accessible paved area edged by cast iron bollards. This monument needs to remain publicly accessible within the masterplan.

## BERESFORD MEMORIAL No. M5, Farnborough Road (Grade II)

A stone drinking fountain, erected c.1934 in memory of Captain Charles Claudius de la Poer Beresford, Royal Engineers (1879-1910). Beresford was 'killed in a brave



attempt to stop a runaway horse' near the memorial location on 30th May 1910. The monument is now in a public location facing onto the A325 Farnborough Road. This public access should be retained within the masterplan.



## BRITISH ARMY 2<sup>ND</sup> DIVISION WORLD WAR ONE MEMORIAL

## No. M7, Hospital Hill Road (Grade II)

Located at the junction of Hospital Hill and Knollys Road on a mound and set within a paved area in the shape of a six pointed star. The monument was designed by a Captain Scott in 1923 and consists of a limestone cross on a hexagonal base and plinth. The



fluted shaft is topped by a gabled motif and the divisional sign of the crossed keys is depicted on the octagonal base. This Memorial is already publicly accessible and is used annually on Remembrance Day. Maintaining public access for ceremonial use within the masterplan is therefore important.

## RAMSDEN GARDEN WALL MEMORIAL No. M8, Montgomery Lines (Grade II)



the barracks. The inscription, in period lettering, reads 'This stone unveiled by Mr James Ramsden MP Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for War on 4th October 1962 commemorates the start of the rebuilding of barracks in Aldershot'. Ramsden also initiated the rebuilding. The wall has an irregularly stepped profile to the top, and a vertically grooved shuttered concrete finish.

A Brutalist wall, of around 24m in

concrete aggregate that was made from

the rubble of the demolished Corunna,

Barossa and Albuhera barracks. The

wall was created in-situ by the artist

Bill Mitchell and forms the southern

edge of a part-sunken garden within

length, constructed in 1962 in a

BRITISH ARMY 8TH DIVISION WORLD WAR

**ONE MEMORIAL** 

KEY

LISTED MONUMENTS



grainger plc

### ROYAL ARMY SERVICE CORPS MEMORIAL ARCH No. M11, Buller Barracks (Grade II)

Unveiled in 1923 to commemorate the members of the Royal Transport Corps who lost their lives in two World Wars. Built in Portland stone, it consists of a Baroque blind triumphal arch supported by pilasters, with a central memorial tablet in Carrara Marble. Within the arch is a painted insignia of the RASC, an inscription and a recessed marble panel bearing a cross of St John. A second inscription lies below on a chest tomb, and is dedicated to the officers and soldiers of the Royal Corps of Transport who have died on campaign since the founding of The Royal Waggoners in 1794. The memorial is also important in commemorating the evolution of the regiment and its association with General Buller. The monument was relocated to its current location in 1965 after the HQ Office to the Royal Army Service Corps was demolished, and as such, is sometimes refered to as the 'Buller Arch'. The concrete setting with brick



pavers and granite copings dates from the re-siting. The monument needs to maintain public access for ceremonial purposes, but could potentially be relocated within the Conservation Area, in a more accessible location

## PEDIMENT SCULPTURE No. M12, Buller Barracks (Grade II)

A Portland stone Royal coat of arms adjoining the Officers' Mess of Buller Barracks. The sculpture originally dates from 1857 and was taken from the pediment of the officers mess of



the West Cavalry barracks (renamed Willems in 1900) when they were demolished 1958-60. The pediment was relocated to this location in 1969 and set on concrete base with the existing memorial garden. The MoD have already secured consent to relocate this monument to St Omer Barracks.

## ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL CORPS BOER WAR MEMORIAL No. M9, Gunhill Road (Grade II)

A memorial to the members of the Corps who fell in South Africa 1899-1902. The monument was unveiled by King George VII in 1905 and comprises a curved granite wall and obelisk by RW Schultz Weir, with a bronze sculpture by Sir William Goscombe John and bronze panels by Laurence Turner. Fixed



to the wall are fourteen bronze panels recording the names of over 300 fallen soldiers. The sculpture depicts two uniformed corps members treating a soldier in a pieta composition. Public access to this monument is important as it is used in remembrance ceremonies. This access needs to be maintained within the masterplan.



THE CANAL BRIDGE

Queen's Avenue (Locally listed)

## 2.6.3 LOCALLY LISTED MEMORIALS & OTHER UNLISTED ASSETS

## THE MONTGOMERY MEMORIAL STONE No. M4, Hope Grant's Road

Cube of concrete on stepped granite set base, set within a cobbled stone margin and concrete bollards. Commemorates the opening of Montgomery Lines Barracks on the 7th April 1965, which was named after and opened by Field Marshall the Viscount Montgomery of Alamein, commander of the Parachute Regiment from 1944-56. The monument is currently sited on the edge of Hope Grant's Road but should be publicly accessible within the masterplan.



## TUMULUS No. M2, Pennefather's Road



The Tumulus (the remains of a Bronze Age barrow) is located within the Site to the south-west of Pennefather's Road. The top of the barrow was partially levelled in the late nineteenth century. Public access to this

asset is desirable and the tumulus is already set within a landscaped area.

## IRA BOMB VICTIMS MEMORIAL No. M6, Pennefather's Road (Locally listed)

Site specific Stone memorial on the site of the former Officer's mess where 7 civilians were killed by an IRA bomb on 22nd February 1972. The memorial is surrounded by a garden which replicates the outline of the Officers Mess destroyed by the bomb. Public access to this memorial is important and should be considered carefully in the masterplan. The monument is locally listed.





## KEY

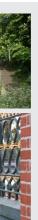
\* LOCALLY LISTED MONUMENT/ASSET

\* UNLISTED MONUMENT/ASSET





## DESCRIPTION OF THE EXISTING HERITAGE ASSET



## MARINA OFFICERS MESS MOSAIC No. M15, Buller Barracks

Mosaic depicting the Royal Army Service Corps crest, originally located in the entrance porch to Marina Officers Mess Royal Army Service Corps, Singapore Base District 1951. After the closure of the mess, the mosaic was moved to Buller Barracks in 1970. Surrounded by formal paving and planting.



## THE GORDON OAK No. M13, Buller Barracks

Oak tree planted by Major-General Charles George Gordon who was killed in service in Sudan in 1885.



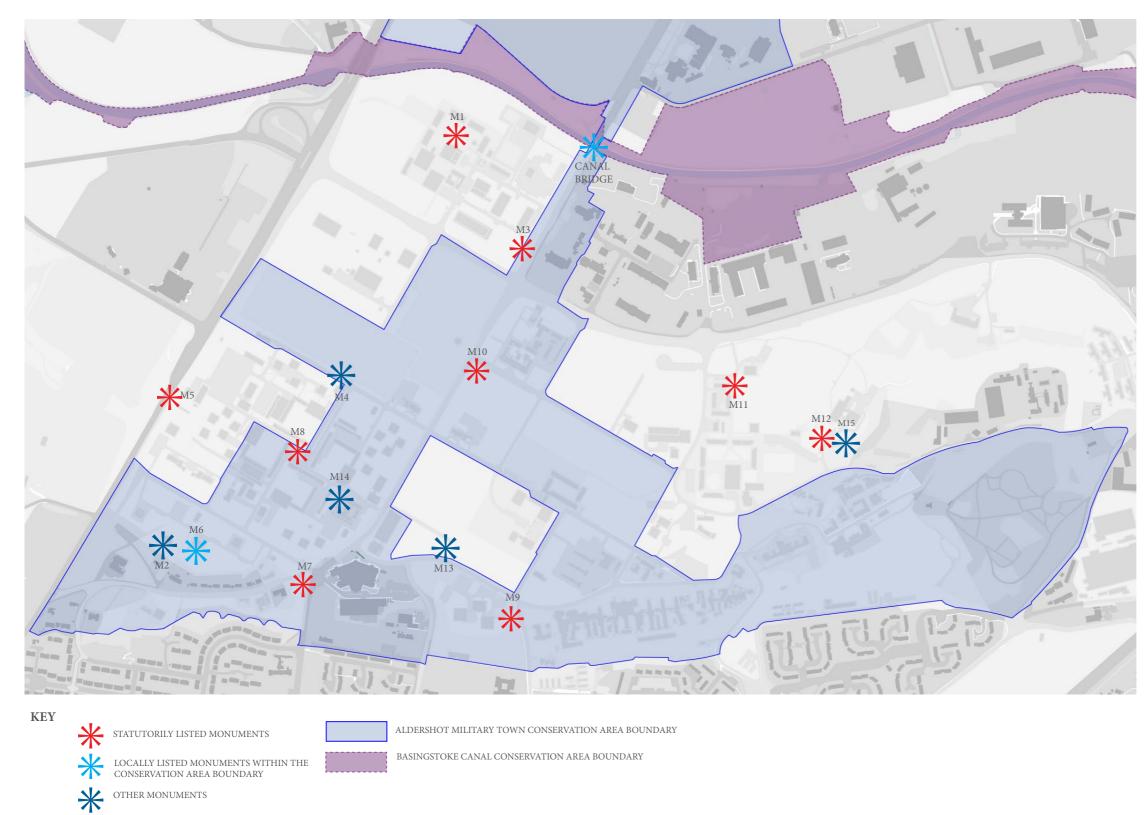
## WALL SCULPTURES No. M14, Rhine Barracks

Low relief pre-cast concrete wall sculptures on the first floor external wall of the Junior Ranks Club



and Education Centre. Designed by the artist Bill Mitchell, c.1964. These are stylistically similar in design to the Ramsden Wall Murals.

## 2.6.4 SUMMARY - MONUMENTS & MEMORIALS WITHIN WELLESLEY









#### KEY MONUMENTS

BALLOON SQUARE MEMORIAL (LISTED) M1 CAMMELL MEMORIAL (LISTED) М3 M4MONTGOMERY MEMORIAL BERESFORD MEMORIAL (LISTED) M5 M6 IRA BOMB VICTIMS MEMORIAL (LOCALLY LISTED) Μ7  $2^{\mbox{\tiny ND}}$  division world war one memorial (listed) M8 RAMSDEN WALL MEMORIAL (LISTED) М9 ROYAL MEDICAL CORPS BOER WAR MEMORIAL (LISTED) M10 8<sup>TH</sup> DIVISION WORLD WAR ONE MEMORIAL (LISTED) M11 ROYAL ARMY SERVICE CORPS MEMORIAL ARCH (LISTED) M12 PEDIMENT SCULPTURE (LISTED)

#### OTHER ASSETS

M2 TUMULUS	
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- M13 GORDON OAK
- M14 BILL MITCHELL SCULPTURE
- M15 MARINA OFFICER'S MESS MOSAIC

## 2.6.5 POTENTIAL FOR MONUMENT AND MEMORIAL RELOCATION

This diagram identifies the potential for the relocation of the monuments and memorials at Wellesley. This diagram does not suggest that all category B and C monuments will or should be moved or that this is desirable - the presumption is against moving or removing monuments. Rather, its purpose is to set out the parameters for potential relocation if it is deemed necessary. All listed memorials would require listed building consent prior to relocation.

The existing monuments and memorials can be divided into three groups:

- A) Monuments which are site specific because of an event on at the specific location in which they are currently situated. These must remain in situ.
- Monuments that were built on and for the location on which they are situated, but are not site B) or event specific. These could be relocated within the same development zone or within the Conservation Area if necessary. Listed memorials would require listed building consent prior to relocation.
- Monuments which are not site specific and could be relocated. Again, listed memorials would C) require listed building consent prior to relocation.

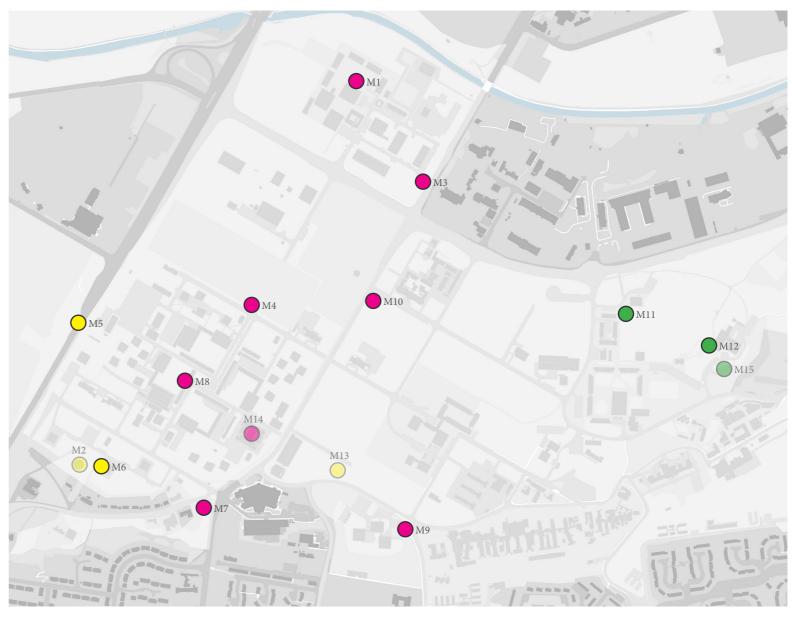
There are two key monuments at Wellesley that fall into Category A and must remain in situ. These are:

- The Beresford Memorial (M5) (Grade II Listed) Commemorates Captain Beresford who was killed near the site of the memorial.
- The IRA Bomb Victims memorial (M6) (Locally Listed) The memorial is located on the site of the . destroyed officers mess and must remain at the same location. The location of the memorial is important to relatives of those who were killed.

In addition, the Gordon Oak (M13), (although not a memorial) will obviously have to be retained in situ, as will the Tumulus (M2) - Naturally, as a large archaeological monument, this cannot be removed. Most of the remaining moments within Wellesley fall within Category B and therefore could be relocated if necessary. Careful thought should be given to the new site of any relocated memorial and the history of the relocation should be made clear to the public.

The Ramsden Garden Wall Memorial, could potentially be relocated within the development as this monument is not site specific and commemorates more generally to the redevelopment of the barracks in the 1960s. However, any potential relocation would be dependent upon the structural possibility of moving the monument. This may be prohibitive and structural investigation would have to be carried out before any attempt at relocation.

The IRA Bomb Victims Memorial, British Army 8th Division World War One Memorial, British Army 2nd Division World War One Memorial, Royal Army Service Corps Memorial Arch and the Royal Medical Corps Boer War Memorial are all used on an annual basis during Remembrance services for both civilian and military services and require space around them to enable attendance of parades or gatherings. This must be considered when detailed areas of Wellesley around the monuments are being planned.



#### KEY

- **CATEGORY A** INDICATING MONUMENTS THAT ARE SITE AND EVENT SPECIFIC AND MUST REMAIN IN SITU.
- **CATEGORY B** INDICATING MONUMENTS THAT WERE, BUILT FOR THE LOCATION BUT ARE NOT SITE SPECIFIC AND COULD BE RELOCATED WITHIN CLOSE PROXIMITY (LISTED MONUMENTS WOULD NEED LISTED BUILDING CONSENT FOR RELOCATION)
- **CATEGORY C -** INDICATING MONUMENTS THAT ARE NOT PLACE SPECIFIC AND COULD BE RELOCATED

#### KEY LISTED MONUMENTS (STATUTORILY & LOCALLY)

M1

M3

M4

M5

М6

Μ7

M8

M9

M10

M11

M12

BALLOON SQUARE MEMORIAL (LISTED) CAMMELL MEMORIAL (LISTED) MONTGOMERY MEMORIAI BERESFORD MEMORIAL (LISTED) IRA BOMB VICTIMS MEMORIAL (LOCALLY LISTED) 2<sup>ND</sup> DIVISION WORLD WAR ONE MEMORIAL (LISTED) RAMSDEN WALL MEMORIAL (LISTED) ROYAL MEDICAL CORPS BOER WAR MEMORIAL (LISTED) 8<sup>TH</sup> DIVISION WORLD WAR ONE MEMORIAL (LISTED) ROYAL ARMY SERVICE CORPS MEMORIAL ARCH (LISTED) PEDIMENT SCULPTURE (LISTED) Permission already granted for relocation of monument to St. Omer's Barracks by MoD





#### OTHER ASSETS (FADED IN DIAGRAM)

M2	TUMULUS
M13	GORDON OAK
M14	BILL MITCHELL SCULPTURE
M15	MARINA OFFICER'S MESS MOSAIC



## 2.6.6 PLAQUES AND FOUNDATION STONES WITHIN WELLESLEY

## ALEXANDER OBSERVATORY PLAQUE

Within Building No. L2 (Grade II)

Bronze plaque stating that the building was presented to the Aldershot Army Corps by Patrick Y Alexander on the 1906.

#### HEAD QUARTERS 4<sup>TH</sup> DIVISION FOUNDATION STONE Within Building No. 11 (Crade II)

Within Building No. L1 (Grade II)

Stone plaque commemorating the laying of the foundation stone by the Duke of Connaught on the 28th March 1894. Stone laid by Lt General AA Denison- Smith MBE on the 28th March 1994.

## HEAD QUARTERS 4<sup>TH</sup> DIVISION MEMORIAL PLAQUE Within Building No. L1 (Grade II)

Canadian Army Memorial - Bronze plaque commemorating men of the RCOC and RCEME who gave their lives during World War Two, together the first Canadian casualties on the 6th July 1940. Presented by Branch 466 of the Royal Canadian Legion on the 6th July 1969.

## SMITH DORRIEN HOUSE FOUNDATION STONE

Within Building No. L5 (Grade II) Foundation stone laid by Lt General Sir H L Smith Dorrien on the 4th March 1908.

## LEISHMAN LABORATORY FOUNDATION STONE Within Building No. 25 (Curtilage Listed as part of Cambridge Military Hospital) Foundation stone dated 1932.

LOUISE MARGARET HOSPITAL FOUNDATION STONES Within Building No. 26 (Curtilage Listed as part of Cambridge Military Hospital)

1. Foundation stone laid by HRH Louise Margaret, Duchess of Connaught and Strathearn.

2. Foundation stone dated 1926 with the following inscription: 'This extension of the Louise Margaret Hospital was erected for the wives and children of Offices by voluntary effort and was personally named; The Queen Mary Wing by her Majesty a generous subscriber on the 21st May – 1926.'





## KEY

 EXISTING PLAQUES & FOUNDATION STONES



## BULLER BARRACKS Within Building No. 31H

Metal tablet commemorating the opening of the barracks in 1970 by the Duchess of Gloucester. Attached to abstract concrete structure surrounding flag pole.

## DUCHESS OF KENT BARRACKS Within Building Group 15

Metal plaque commemorating the opening of the barracks by HRH The Duchess of Kent on the 11 July 1969.

## FITZWYGRAM HOUSE INSCRIPTION Within Building No. L6 (Grade II)

Painted timber plaque stating that the school was founded through the representation of James Collins Esq and General Sir Frederick Fitzwygram on the 1st June 1880.

## FITZWYGRAM HOUSE FLOOR MOSAIC Within Building No. L6 (Grade II)

Floor mosaic in entrance hall, with the initials VAS. Part of the original construction.

## MANDORA OFFICER MESS MEMORIAL IN ENTRANCE HALL Within Building No. 28B

Consisting of three stone tablets:

1. Commemorating victories over the French in Egypt and the death of General Sir John Sir Ralph Abercrombie.

2. The removal of Cleopatra's Needle and its presentation to King William IV.

3. The fixing of Cleopatra's Needle in Kew Garden in 1837. The memorial tablet was first given to London County Council, then was given to the War Department, before being fixed in the entrance hall to Mandora's Officers Mess in 1894.

## MANDORA OFFICER MESS MOSAIC IN ENTRANCE HALL Within Building No. 28B

Floor mosaic in entrance hall, with the initials VS and date 1894. Part of the original construction.

#### HISTORIC NAMES AND ASSOCIATIONS 2.7

Although not readily apparent, elements of the gridded Victorian barracks continue to influence the current layout of Wellesley. The history of the site as part of the Military town is reflected in the street patterns, and the retention of important road and barrack names that survive at Wellesley today. Links to the past history of the military camp have therefore been maintained and it is vital that this is continued in the development of Wellesley.

## GIBRALTAR BARRACKS



Built 1895, demolished in 1964. Named after the Royal Engineers role in the siege of Gibraltar, in 1704 and during the American Independence War in 1779-1783.



## STANHOPE LINES

Stanhope Lines formed the reconstructed South Camp and was named after Edward Stanhope, Secretary of State for War 1886-92.



### HOPE GRANT'S ROAD

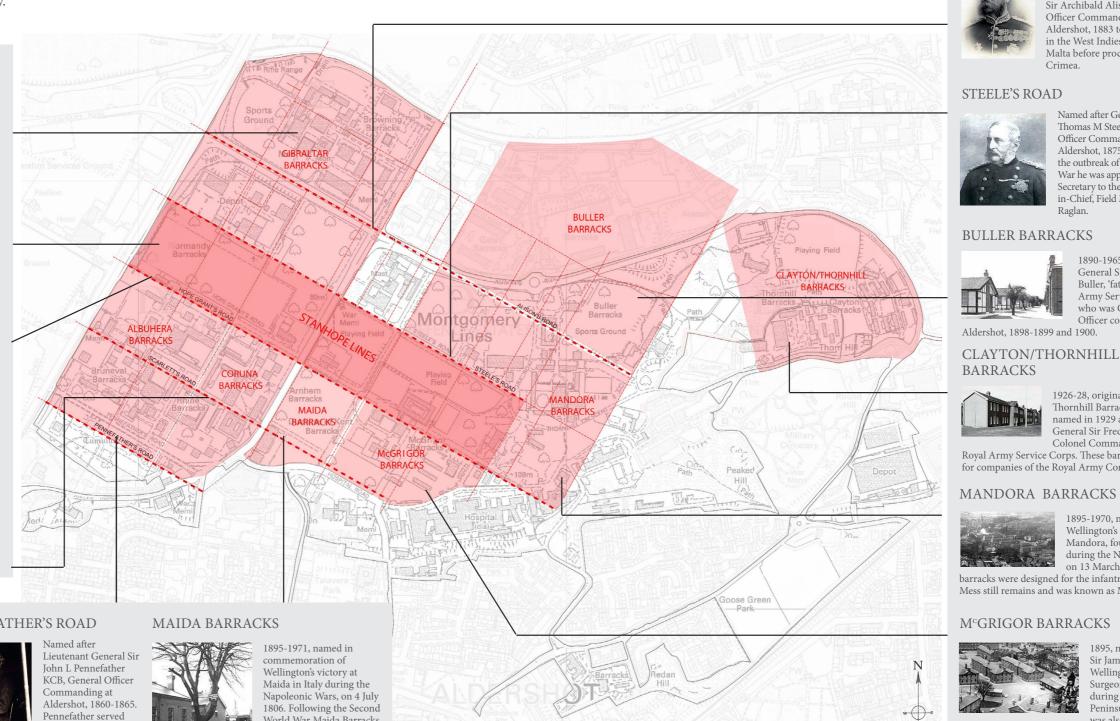
Named after General Sir James Hope Grant GCB, General Officer Commanding at Aldershot, November 1870 to 1875. He served in India 1845-6, and 1848-9. He later served in China (1859-60).

## SCARLETT'S ROAD



Named after Lieutenant General Sir James Scarlett, General Officer Commanding at Aldershot, 1865 to 1870. At the outbreak of the Crimean

War he was appointed to command the Heavy Cavalry Brigade, and his brigade of only 800 men defeated the Russian enemy of 3000.



## PENNEFATHER'S ROAD



the Crimean War (1854-5) he commanded 1st Brigade of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Division at the Alma.



World War Maida Barracks became the Depot for the Parachute Regiment.



# grainger plc



#### ALISON'S ROAD

Named after Lieutenant General Sir Archibald Alison, General Officer Commanding at Aldershot, 1883 to 1888. Served in the West Indies, Canada and Malta before proceeding to the



Named after General Sir Thomas M Steele, General Officer Commanding at Aldershot, 1875 to 1880. On the outbreak of the Crimean War he was appointed Military Secretary to the Commanderin-Chief, Field Marshal Lord Raglan.

1890-1965. Named after General Sir Redvers Buller, 'father' of the Army Service Corps, who was General Officer commanding at

1926-28, originally named Thornhill Barracks, but renamed in 1929 after Lieutenant General Sir Frederick Clayton, Colonel Commandant of the

Royal Army Service Corps. These barracks were built for companies of the Royal Army Corps.

#### MANDORA BARRACKS

1895-1970, named after Wellington's Battle of Mandora, fought in Egypt during the Napoleonic Wars on 13 March 1801. The

barracks were designed for the infantry. The officers Mess still remains and was known as McGrigor's Mess.

1895, named after Sir James McGrigor, Wellington's Surgeon-General during the Peninsular War. He was also Director

General of the Army Medical Department, 1815-51. These barracks were built as accommodation for the Medical Staff Corps.



37

3.1

3.3 3.4

3.5

3.6 3.7



Historic postcard of Queen's Avenue, Aldershot





# SECTION 3.0

# HISTORIC OVERVIEW OF THE SITE

## 3.0 HISTORIC OVERVIEW OF THE SITE

EARLY HISTORY

3.2 DEVELOPMENT OF THE MILITARY TOWN

3.2.1 The Hutted Camp: 1854–1890 3.2.2The Permanent Brick Camp: 1890–1918 3.2.3 Post Second World War Reconstruction: 1960 onwards

CONCLUSIONS & THE SOUTH CAMP TODAY

HISTORIC MAP PROGRESSION

FIGURE GROUND PLAN PROGRESSION

ERAS OF EXISTING BUILDINGS

CONCLUSIONS & SIGNIFICANCE OF THE OVERALL SITE

3.7.1 Significance of the Overall Site3.2.2 Conclusions



#### EARLY HISTORY OF THE AREA 3.1



The Tumulus is the remains of a Bronze Age Barrow, substantially altered in the nineteenth century to become a military bandstand.



The site of Wellesley is located in an area of formerly sparsely populated infertile heathland. Despite its relatively remote location there is evidence of early human occupation in the area at Caesars Camp (an Iron Age Hillfort occupying about 11 hectares to the southwest of the town) and the Bat's Hogsty (a further earthwork to the west of Wellesley). On the north western boundary of the site is the tumulus, the remains of a Bronze Age barrow. During the nineteenth century this was substantially altered, which has unfortunately reduced its archaeological potential.

The 'Aldershot' name is derived from an Anglo-Saxon settlement in the area called 'Alreshete.' This is thought to refer to the Alder trees found in the locality, indicating that the area was wet and boggy. Aldershot is referred to in the Domesday Book as being part of the Hundred of Crondall,

St Michaels Church, Aldershot which dates from the twelfth century.

which covered 30,000 acres of land in North East Hampshire.

Aldershot Village remained a quiet rural hamlet centred on the twelfth century Church of St Michael. The barren heathland supported a small population, which in 1841 was recorded as only 677 persons.

On the western boundary of the site is the former London to Winchester turnpike road which is now the A325 Farnborough Road. This stretch of the road had a dangerous reputation, with numerous tales of highway robberies. It was rumoured that during the eighteenth century the notorious highway robbers Dick Turpin and Springheeled Jack operated in the area.

To the north of the site runs the Basingstoke Canal, built between 1788 and 1794, to transport agricultural goods from Hampshire to London via the River Wey and the Thames. The canal was never a commercial success and its fortunes fluctuated, finally going into decline in the post-Second World War period. Between 1977 and 1991 the canal was restored as a navigable waterway, for leisure use, by the Surrey and Hampshire Canal Society Ltd. Associated with the canal was the Aldershot Timber Wharf (formerly the Farnham Wharf) which was located adjacent to the Farnborough Road, on the north west corner of the site. This continued to be used as a timber wharf until the 1920s.



1810 map of the Aldershot area showing the small scale of Aldershot village before the arrival of the military. The Basingstoke Canal can be seen running across the top of the map.



The Basingstoke Canal, built in 1788-94 to transport agricultural goods to London.

#### THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE MILITARY TOWN 3.2

The military development of Aldershot occurred in three distinct phases:

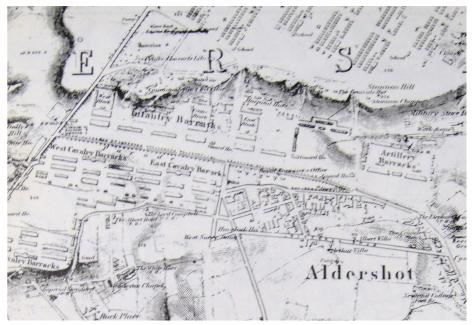
- The Hutted Camp: 1854–1890

Each of these phases of development has had a strong impact upon the appearance and significance of the site today. The development of the town is clearly demonstrated in sections 3.4, 3.5 and 3.6 on pages 45-49.

### 3.2.1 THE HUTTED CAMP: 1854-90

Aldershot's transformation into a military town occurred as the result of the establishment of a temporary camp and training exercises held around the Chobham area in 1853. These exercises had been encouraged by the Prince Consort, who had written to Lord Hardinge, Commander in Chief in 1852, expressing the need to improve military training.

The success of these exercises resulted in the decision to establish a permanent training camp for 20,000 troops of the British Army. Lord Hardinge surveyed the area for a suitable site and Aldershot was selected due its strategic location midway between London and the great port of Portsmouth. 10,000 acres of the infertile heathland was purchased to the north of Aldershot Village. The new camp was split into North and South Camps, divided by the Basingstoke Canal. Wellesley occupies a large proportion of the original South Camp.

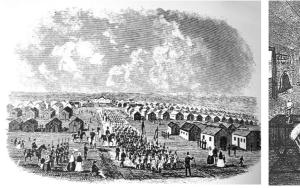


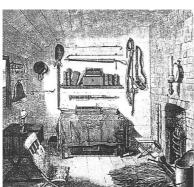
1854 map of Aldershot showing the early military encampment.



## The Permanent Brick Camp: 1890–1918 Post Second World War Reconstruction: 1960 onwards







Engraving of 1855 showing the hutted military camp in Drawing of the interior of a typical South Camp

officers hut.

The camp was built between 1854 and 1859, with construction hastened by the outbreak of the Crimean War in 1854. The camp largely consisted of timber huts arranged in a grid layout parallel to the London to Winchester turnpike road. This first phase of development instigated the gridiron planning framework, which was in part adopted by the later phases. The buildings included accommodation blocks and service buildings such as cookhouses, churches and hospitals. The accommodation blocks also made provision for soldier's wives and children.



Left: Head Quarters Office huts prior to rebuilding in the 1890s

Engraving of 1866 showing the permanent brick barracks at Wellington Lines, mmediately to the north of Aldershot town and to the south of Wellesley.

As part of the move towards a permanent camp, Wellington Lines was constructed within the south camp between 1856 and 1859, in close proximity to Aldershot Village and to the south of Wellesley. The lines contained three cavalry and three infantry barracks, all within more permanent buildings of yellow London Stock bricks and slate.

Queen Victoria and Prince Albert first visited the camp on the 10th June 1855. Subsequently, a Royal Pavilion was constructed to the west of Aldershot in 1856 to accommodate the Royal Family on future visits to the camp (the pavilion was demolished in the 1960s and is now occupied by the European Headquarters of the Computer Sciences Corporation. Prince Albert continued to take a keen interest in the development of the camp and instigated the building of the Prince Consorts Library, which was completed in 1860, just outside the boundary of Wellesley.

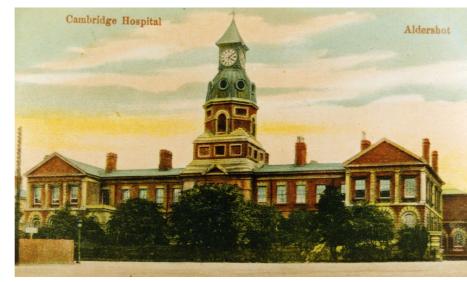


Prince Consort Library built in 1860, at the instigation of Prince Albert.



The Royal Pavilion, built in 1856 to accommodate the Royal Family when they visited Aldershot.

The development of the military camp had a dramatic effect on the development of Aldershot and the surrounding area; the population increased from 875 in 1851, to in excess of 16,000 by 1861, which included 9000 military personnel. To meet the needs of a rapidly expanding population, the Aldershot began to expand to the north west and it changed from being an inconsequential village into the first purpose built military town in the British Isles since Roman time. It quickly earned the title 'Home of the British Army.' This status was enhanced by the opening of the London and South Western Railway's line from London Waterloo to Aldershot in 1870. This was followed in 1879 by the South Eastern Railway Company extending their line from Guildford to Aldershot, and a month later by the South Western Railway completing their link between Aldershot and Ascot.



View of the front of the Cambridge Military Hospital built in 1875-9.

Several of the more important buildings in South Camp were built in brickwork, including The Cambridge Military Hospital (1875-9), prominently located on top of the ridge on the southern edge of the site. This building is now the most significant heritage asset at Wellesley. The Hospital was built to replace existing hutted hospital accommodation and it's design utilised the new continental idea of pavilion wards linked by corridors to provide the fresh air to patients and prevent infection spreading between wards. During the First World War, the Hospital was the first base hospital to receive casualties straight from the Western Front. The Hospital therefore played an important role in army medical care and has often been at the forefront of medical developments and surgical advancements.



and children.

In 1897, the Louise Margaret Hospital was built east of Cambridge Military Hospital, to treat soldier's wives and children. The hospital was designed in a compact version of the pavilion ward layout and was named after the HRH The Duchess of Connaught and Strathearn.

## 3.2.2 THE PERMANENT BRICK CAMP: 1890-1918



grainger plc



North west view of the front of the Louise Margaret Hospital built in 1897 to treat soldiers wives

The second major phase of redevelopment at Aldershot occurred as a result of the 1890 Barrack Act, which proposed reconstruction of the major military camps in Aldershot, Colchester, Shornecliffe and Curragh in permanent materials. In Aldershot, this involved the replacement of the existing wooden hutted accommodation with permanent brick buildings. The reconstruction comprehensively swept away the existing huts. However, the gridded layout established in the earlier phase was continued.

Left: Edward Stanhope, Secretary of State for War 1886-92, after whom the Stanhope Lines were named.



The construction of the new brick buildings proceeded rapidly and within seven years, the main elements of South Camp had been completed. The reconstructed South Camp was named the 'Stanhope Lines' after Edward Stanhope, Secretary of State for War 1886-92.



*The junction between Queen's Avenue and Alison Road showing St Michael and St George Church built in 1892.* 

At this time Stanhope Lines Parade Ground was also established. The large open space was set perpendicular to the Farnborough Road, and effectively divided South Camp into north and south halves. As a result of the reconstruction, the Queen's Avenue assumed a greater importance as a tree lined avenue linking North Camp to South Camp. It also assumed greater significance as a formal ceremonial route

between the two Camps. The vista provided by the Avenue was punctuated at its mid point by the dominant spire of St Michael and St George Church built in 1892 - the spire is still a dominant feature today.



*Undated view of Stanhope Lines Parade Ground from the south west showing Gibraltar Barracks and Head Quarters Office in the background.* 

A key figure in this phase of development was Field-Marshal Sir Evelyn Wood, commander of the Aldershot Division between 1889 and 1893. Wood advocated a new method of army organisation known as the 'Company System.' This approach proposed that each military unit was self contained with soldiers living and working within an integrated area. The layout of the buildings reflected this system, where the plan of each barrack building often followed a regular pattern and was set on a grid.

In South Camp, the layout of the individual barracks sometimes responded to the typography of the site by placing the officer's mess on the higher ground to



Portrait of Field Marshal Sir Henry Evelyn Wood (1838–1919), who advocated the Company System at Aldershot.

the south and the barrack blocks, dining halls, stores, workshops, armouries and other buildings on an axis to the north. Exceptions to this were Gibraltar Barracks and Buller Barracks where the officers messes were placed to the west and east respectively.

Wood also introduced the system of naming each barrack to commemorate a famous British victory, a practice that was continued when the area was reconstructed again in the 1960s. Barracks in South Camp at this time included Albuhera, Barossa, Corunna, Gibraltar, Maida, Mandora and McGrigor.

This second phase of development is characterised by the use fine red brickwork, with subtle brick detailing,

sometimes enhanced by the use of soot blackened pointing. This contrasts to the use of yellow London Stock bricks used in the earlier phase. Buildings constructed in this phase of development embraced new ideas in planning and technology, incorporating the early use of cavity brick wall construction and concrete floors.

Many of the new buildings were standard Military building types used extensively throughout Aldershot and other military camps in the British Isles. A high proportion of these buildings have been lost from South Camp as a result of the 1960s redevelopment, but McGrigor Barracks and Mandora Officers Mess remain as examples of what was once a common type. Other buildings were built for specific purposes, such as the Signalling School and Post Office.



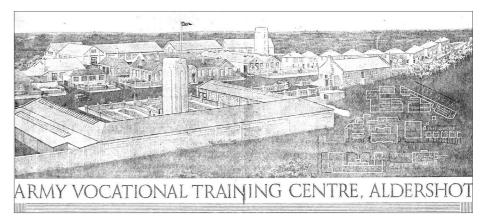
An undated south-east view of Barrosa Barracks showing typical brick blocks. Once a common building type, only a few examples now remain in Aldershot at McGrigor Barracks.

The Stanhope Lines provided accommodation both for regular infantry battalions, but also for more specialised units which resulted in the camp becoming associated with pioneering technological and medical developments. In particular, the Stanhope Lines is linked to the early years of military aviation, via the formation of the Balloon Section of the Royal Engineers in 1890. This became the first operational aircraft unit in the British Army.

Stanhope Lines is also associated with improvements to the care of animals. In 1880, the Royal Army Veterinary School, was established under the influence of James Collins, principle veterinary surgeon to the Forces, and Major General Sir Frederick Fitzwygram, commander of the Cavalry Brigade. The Vaccine Institute at the Veterinary School also played an important part in the development of calf lymph for the treatment of small pox in humans. Another important link is that between South Camp and the Royal Army Service Corps located in Buller Barracks. During the First World War, South Camp was also linked to developments in military dental surgery under the control of William Kelsey Fry.

At the beginning of the twentieth century, the South Camp was still expanding; Aldershot became the home of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Divisions which comprised the bulk of the 1st British Army and by the outbreak of the First World War in 1914, military personnel in Aldershot had reached 18,207. It was from Aldershot that the British Expeditionary Force set out for France at the start of the First World War. The Garrison also had a strong association with the Canadian Army with three of the main Canadian units located within the Aldershot Command during the First World War.

In the aftermath of the First World War military personnel in Aldershot rapidly declined to 9,501, the lowest number in the camp for forty years. Little development occurred during this time, reflecting the national reduction in military spending. However, area of significant rebuilding occurred around the former Signalling School in Gallwey Road, where the Army Vocational Training Centre was established. In this centre, soldiers were prepared for returning to civilian life by learning a trade. Various workshops were built where a variety of skills such as woodworking, plastering and mechanics were taught.



Drawing showing the Army Vocational Training Centre built in the interwar period to prepare soldiers for returning to civilian life





In response to increasing mechanisation in the army, a substantial workshop building was constructed for the Royal Army Ordnance Corps opposite the Government Railway Sidings in Ordnance Road. As the threat of impending war began to loom, Parsons Barracks was built in Ordnance Road to house the Royal Army Ordnance Corps and barrack blocks and an officer's mess built at Clayton Barracks to provide additional accommodation for the Royal Army Service Corps.

Aldershot military camp played a major role in the Second World War. The garrison was once again strongly associated with the Canadian Army, serving as a major centre for units arriving in the United Kingdom and for repatriation at the end of the war.

The Second World War had relatively little impact on the buildings in the garrison, Aldershot surprisingly escaped bombing and new buildings consisted purely of temporary timber hutting. Examples of these can be seen to the south of the Cambridge Military Hospital and south of Mandora Officers Mess. The large timber clad kitchen building adjacent to McGrigor Barracks, is also likely to date from this period. The most significant building to be built during this period is the Nurses Residence at Louise Margaret Hospital, constructed just before the war in 1937.

## 3.2.3 POST SECOND WORLD WAR RECONSTRUCTION: THE 1960s ONWARDS

The 1960s heralded the third major phase of redevelopment in Aldershot. As with 1890s Barracks Act reconstruction, this later redevelopment reflected the changing nature of warfare and the desire to improve the living and working environment of soldiers and their families. The 1960s development, just like the Barrack Act building program, embodied the latest ideas in planning and the use of building technology.

This phase of development also coincided with the abolition of National Service and the instigation of the concept of the modern professional army made up of recruited career soldiers. To match the concept of the 'professional army,' came the need to provide an environment that combined elements of the new towns with those of modern university campuses being built at the time.

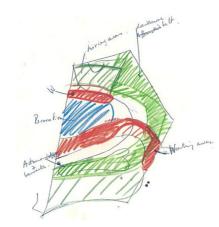
In planning the new camp, the Army's directive was that opportunities should be provided 'for the soldier to enjoy a full life in his off-duty hours in his home and in attractive surroundings comparable with those of well paid workers in industry.' The concept was to clearly define the different parts of the camp and separating the working areas, soldiers living areas and soldiers families areas. Field Marshall Wood's, 'Company System' in which each military unit was self-contained, with integrated living and working areas was not suitable for the post-war army, which was increasingly reliant on specialised technology and mechanisation. To work efficiently, it was important that units share their working facilities. However, Woods' idea of commemorating important military battles was continued at Montgomery Lines by the naming of the barracks after important airborne actions.

The Victorian barracks at this time were considered an uninspiring 'tarmac town.' Pevsner in The Buildings of England (1967) contrasted the old barracks with the new development as follows:

'The army descended on Aldershot in 1854. It created miles of dreariness. The dreariness is remedied now.'



Brenda Colvin CBE, landscape architect for post Second World War reconstruction of the military town.



An early study for the structural landscaping of Aldershot Military Town, showing the site divided into distinct bands

As part of the 'Crescent Town' concept, the site was divided into distinct bands. Working areas of the major units adjoined the centre open space, and outwards in the next band were the soldiers and officers living area. In the outer band, the married quarters were located close to the existing civilian centres of Farnborough to the north and Aldershot to the south, on the site of the former Wellington Lines.

The concept for the new garrison was the brain child of Sir Donald Gibson, who formed and directed the Planning Group as General Director of Works, at the Old War Office, and later became controller general at the Ministry of Public Building and Public Works. The design team consisted of Building Design Partnership under the control of Sir George Grenfell Baines OBE, and the noted landscape architect Brenda Colvin CBE.

In the early stages of planning three alternative masterplan concepts were considered before the 'Crescent Town' proposal was adopted for the new military town. Central to this idea was that the masterplan should respond to the topography of the hills that separated South Camp from the main town, providing cohesion between the softer hilly landscaped and the gridded section of the camp.

Colvin's Landscape Masterplan of 1974 illustrates this concept, although the scheme was never fully realised. In her design, Colvin proposed two types of landscape; wild vegetation was re-created by fencing off areas and regenerating the thick scrub woodland native to the area, while the Army's need for military precision was met by trim grass with well spaced trees. Colvin's masterplan clearly shows her organic response to the site.

# Scale 1:5000

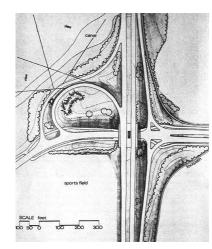


Brenda Colvin's 1974 Landscape Masterplan for Aldershot. The schemed was never fully realised.

Another part of the masterplan concept was to separate main road traffic from the living/working areas. To direct traffic away from the military camp, the Farnborough Road was upgraded to a dual carriageway. Alison Road was also proposed for widening and rerouting and was shown on the masterplan looping northwards across the Basingstoke Canal, before joining Lynchford Road in North Camp. These elements of the masterplan were not implemented.







Colvin's landscape design for the new junction between Farnborough Road and Alison's Road.

The main entrance into the site was a new intersection and underpass at the junction between Farnborough Road and Alison Road. In the final project only the Farnborough Road upgrade and junction, together with the and east west dual carriageway section of Alison Road was completed.

The proposed masterplan shows the intension to remove all the existing buildings from the site, including the Cambridge Military Hospital, although once again this proposal was only partially completed.

Due the shortage of labour and materials, together with time constraints and costs, it

was decided to use a concrete industrialised building system called G80 for the construction of the buildings. The concrete components for this system were cast in a casting yard located adjacent to the site. The components consisted of columns, beams, roof and floor plates, staircases, load bearing wall units and external wall panels. The external wall panels were insulated internally with 100mm polystyrene and externally finished with a vertical rib texture in the concrete.



*A drawing showing the G80 industrialised concrete building system.* 



Left: Typical barrack blocks in Montgomery Lines, built in 1965, using G80 industrialised concrete building system.

The texturing of the concrete outer face was devised by the artist Bill Mitchell. The same artist was responsible for geometric relief wall murals to the first floor of the north block of the Junior Ranks Club and Education Centre together with the Ramsden Wall Memorial, which was built from the rubble of the demolished Victorian barracks. Apart from the wall texturing, generally the buildings were unadorned, relying on scale and mass for affect.

The first new barrack complex to be completed in South Camp was 'Montgomery Lines,' built on the site of the former Corunna, Barossa and Albuhera barracks, west of Queen's Avenue. The barracks were named after Field Marshal Viscount Montgomery, Colonel Commandant of the Parachute Regiment from 1944 to 1956, who officially opened the barracks on 7th April 1965. The complex consisted of four barracks to house the 16th Parachute Regiment, and were named Arnhem Barracks, Bruneval Barracks, Normandy Barracks and Rhine Barracks after famous airborne actions. The planning of these barracks aimed give a variety of informal and formal spaces, arranged in a grid layout. Hope Grant's Road and Pennefather's Road were retained from the previous barracks.

Following the precedence of the previous Victorian barracks, the four new offices messes were located on the higher ground to the south. These messes were constructed using the same concrete building system, but are distinctively different to the other buildings in the barracks, employing large areas of glazing at first floor level. On 22nd February 1972, one of the messes was destroyed by an IRA bomb and subsequently a second mess building was demolished. Each of the four barracks featured a distinctive band practice room. These small buildings were of traditional brick construction but featured a prominent glazed lantern over the practice area constructed using pre cast concrete ribs.





Aerial view of Browning Barracks, built in 1965 and selected for a Civic Trust Award in 1969.

Following this other areas of South Camp were redeveloped during the 1960s and 70'. These include Browning Barracks, built in 1964, which served as a depot for the Parachute Regiment and which in 1969 was selected for a Civic Trust Award. Duchess of Kent Barracks which served the Women's Royal Army Corps were open by the Duchess of Kent on the 11 July 1969. Buller Barracks were also built between 1965 and 1970 to serve the Royal Corps of Transport.

These barracks were constructed using a variation of the industrial concrete system used for Montgomery Lines. These building differ by the use of a light grey mosaic tile finish integrally cast into the face of concrete wall panels. Certain buildings also employ feature panels finished with contrasting textured concrete.

Since the 1970s, new buildings have tended to use more orthodox, nonindustrial types of construction. This includes a group of new workshop buildings built in Browning Barracks, constructed using a steel portal frame and fair face concrete blockwork.

One of the effects of the IRA bombing in 1972, was the need for increased security which resulted in the barracks being separated from civilian areas by security fences. This has diminished the natural open landscape concept of the original masterplan.

## 3.3 CONCLUSIONS & THE CAMP TODAY

This analysis has identified that since the site began to be used for military use in 1854, it has gone through three distinct phases of development The reconstruction of Aldershot Garrison in the 1960s had a profound effect on the character of South Camp. The experimental nature of the buildings, constructed using the industrial concrete building system, have over the years revealed design flaws, which have been exacerbated by poor maintenance. Many of the buildings have not stood the test of time but were nonetheless a prominent part of the history of the camp.

In addition, the full masterplan of 1974 was never entirely realised and a significant number of important individual buildings and groups of buildings remain, including the Cambridge Military Hospital building complex and Head Quarters 4<sup>th</sup> Division.

In 1995, the Louise Margaret Hospital was closed, which was followed by the closure of the Cambridge Military Hospital in 1996. These hospitals were closed for various reasons, including changes to the organisation of the Army Medical Corps, together with the cost of maintaining old historic buildings. In recent years the parachute regiment have left Montgomery Lines and the area has become disused.

As Project Allenby Connaught has progressed, the army has gradually moved from South Camp to newly constructed buildings in North Camp. This has a resulted the site becoming increasingly disused. The army currently occupy the 4<sup>th</sup> Division Headquarters Buildings, Fitzwygram House and associated buildings, together the Army Resettlement Centre. A number of other buildings are occupied by civilian companies connected with army. These include part of Buller Barracks occupied by Aspire Defence Services and Mandora Officers Mess occupied by Sedexo. In areas controlled by Grainger, several buildings have been leased to private companies.

The camp today presents an image of dereliction and decay, the pioneering spirit of the 1960s having been lost by the appearance of unoccupied buildings and unmaintained landscape. Despite this, the remaining buildings provide a unique record of the development of military history from 1870s to the present day, as well providing a poignant reminder to those who have served in the army or are connected to the area. In addition, the remnants of the carefully conceived mature landscape provide an ideal setting for the next phase of South Camp's development as Wellesley. The development of the site and the it's long history must still be readable within Wellesley, and as such, can be an asset to any new development.



