Camp Columbia The History of Dutch Australian American WWII Collaboration

Royal Historical Society of Qld

12 April 2023

Paul Budde

Camp Columbia Heritage Association Inc.

- Heritage listing (set in motion)
- Preserve and catalogue remaining elements and artifacts found on site.
- Improve accessibility for visitors to the historic sites.
- Have a visual display on the site.
- Make the historical significance of the site more widely known.
- Thru collaboration: Australia, Netherlands, USA

We thanks the RHSQ for their support.

Historic Overview of the Site

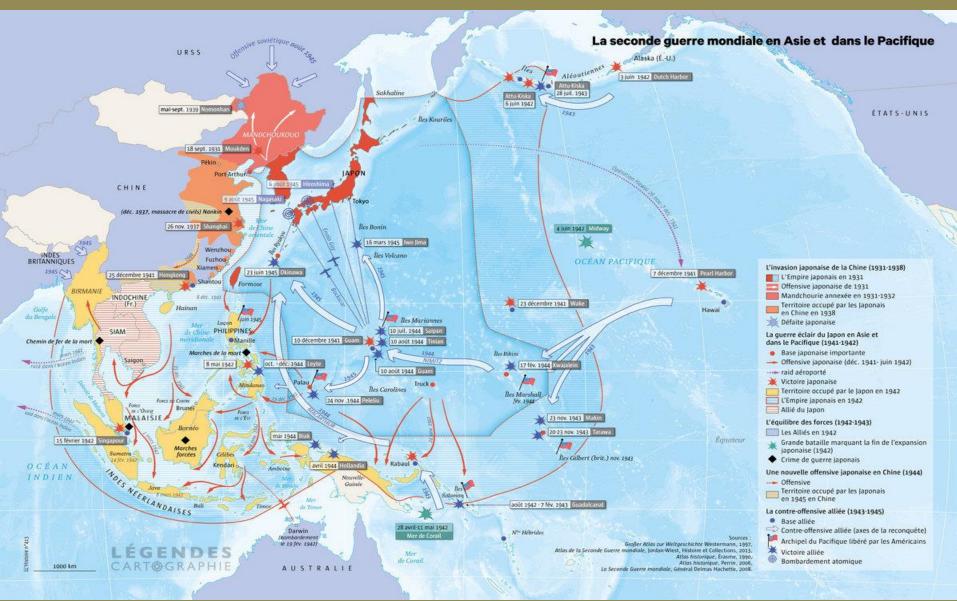
- Area Aboriginal hunting ground. Camp at Goodna.
- Police Magistrate Dr Stephen Simpson established Border Police Station in 1842 (Wolston House).
- In 1884 Reserve gazetted for QDF at Wolston for a long rifle range.
- The Superintend of the Woogaroo Asylum was also the Acting Police Magistrate for the district.
- 1880s military exercises (400 volunteers) at the Asylum. Superintendent also the QDF Captain
- WW II Camp Columbia

War in SE Asia & Southwest Pacific

- Pre-war Dutch, NEI and Australian diplomatic exchanges.
- American-British-Dutch-Australian (ABDA) Command.
- NEI Occupation 20.000 Dutch to Australia.
- MacArthur SWA Command Camp Columbia
- Netherlands East Indies Government-in-Exile.
- Truth telling.

With thanks to: Dr. P.C Boer, Dr. Jack Ford, Ruby Todorovski, Vicky Mynott, Bass Kreuger, Peter Dunn OAM, Margot Kohonen

Paul Budde History, Philosophy & Culture







Columbia is the female national personification of the United States.

MILITARY FACILITIES 1942 - 1945

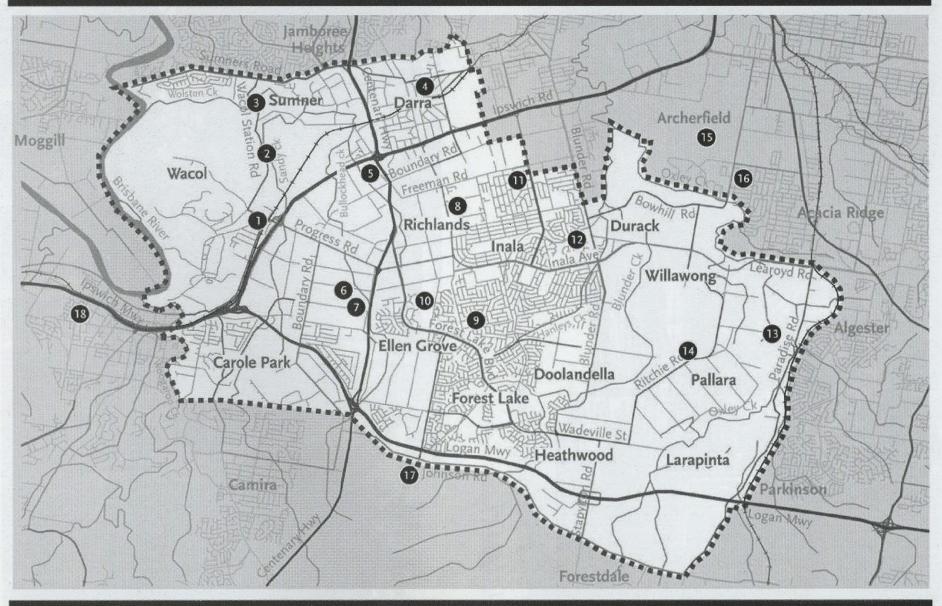


Fig 31: Military facilities in the region 1942-1945





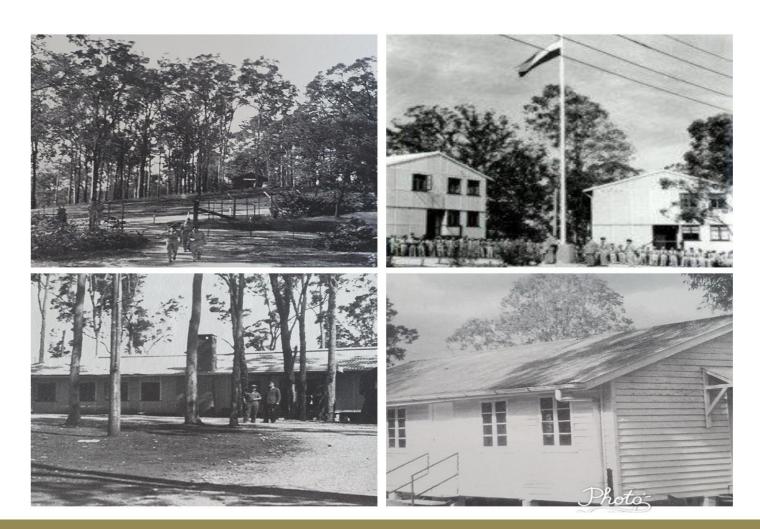
Camp Columbia

In Brisbane:

January 16, 1943 the Sixth United States Army was formed.

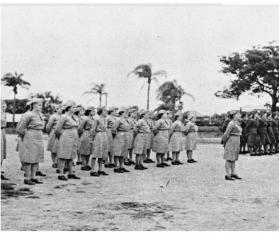
15 March, 1943 the United States Seventh Fleet was formed (1/3 Dutch).

Dutch at Camp Columbia - 1944-1947



Camp Columbia









UQ Archaeological Research Camp Columbia



Historical remnants Camp Columbia



Artefacts found at Camp Columbia



Wacol Migration Camp





Truth telling

- Australian Govt. had ongoing problems with the coloured people from NEI.
- The Dutch imprisoned Indonesian political prisoners in Australia. This was illegal and the Dutch were forced to release these prisoners.
- These Indonesian harnessed support for a free Indonesia Black Armada.
- Dutch were adamant to recolonise NEI increasingly opposed by Australia.
- Australia wanted a mandate over Timor and DNG. Dutch & Americans refused.
- Dutch conducted two war campaigns in Indonesia.
- Senseless killing of Dutch, Indos, Chinese, Moluccans (Bersiap) by Indonesians.
- Australia played a key role in the negotiations of a free Indonesia.
- Stranded NEI women ruling High Court -Started end of the White Australia Policy.

Thank You

For more information CCHA Website

https://campcolumbia.com.au/