

Nirimba Fields - Timeline

Before the settlement of New South Wales by Europeans, the Blacktown district was inhabited by the Darug Aboriginal people, who are the traditional owners and ongoing custodians of the land. We pay our respect to elders past and present, and acknowledge the Aboriginal people for their custodianship of the land.

Nirimba is the Darug word for “Pelican”. It represents the former RAAF site. The area was commissioned by the Royal Australian Navy (RAN) in 1953 and named HMAS Nirimba. It was used by the RAN until 1994. The site was redeveloped and the Nirimba Education Precinct was named in 1995. The suburb is 260 hectares in size.

Nirimba Fields is a new locality comprising part of the existing suburb of Quakers Hill and Schofields. Additional historical information on Schofields and Quakers Hill can be found on the Schofields suburb timeline and the Quakers Hill suburb timeline.

1941	Land acquired by the Federal government and a Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) base built
1945	Royal Australian Navy (RAN) converts the base to a naval air station.
1946	Base briefly reoccupied by RAAF. Part of site later taken over by Department of Immigration for a migrant hostel
1949	Part of site taken over by Department of Immigration for a migrant hostel
1951	Schofields Migrant Hostel closed.
1954	Mrs Evidokia Petrov, wife of a Soviet Embassy official who had asked for political asylum flown from Darwin to Schofields Airfield.
1977	Schofields Jubilee Airshow (Australia's first international airshow) held on 8 November.
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1979	Schofields Airshow held.
1983	Schofields Airshow held.
1985	Schofields Airshow held.
1994	HMAS Nirimba decommissioned and closed 25 February
1995	Memorandum of understanding (MOU) signed for the Nirimba Education Precinct. The site includes Wyndham College, St John Paul II Catholic College, Nirimba TAFE and Western Sydney University.
2000	Schofields Defence Depot used as a rehearsal ground for the opening ceremony of the 2000 Olympics
2019	First lots sold at Akuna Vista, on the former HMAS Nirimba site.
2020	The suburb of Nirimba Fields was officially gazetted on 6 November.
2021	Population 1,632 (Census).