**Description**

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| **Designer/Maker:** | Herwald G. Kirkpatrick |
| **Builder/Maker:** | W. B. Dawes |
| **Construction years:** | 1936-1936 |
| **Physical description:** | The R. A. A. F. Officers' mess is a large two storey building of three wings forming a U shape around a formally landscaped courtyard. The west wing is the formal entry to the building. The south wing, forming the base of the U, houses the ballroom with bedrooms above, and the east wing opens to a east verandah overlooking terraces lawns and gardens towards Penrith and the city of Sydney beyond. The building is approached by a long sweeping drive flanked with standard lamps. The west wing has a symmetrical front, 11 bays long, with a central porte-cochere flanked by single bay parapetted breakfronts. The walls are rendered, relieved by decorative panels of polychromatic brickwork and polychromatic brickwork to the window sills. The porte-cochere has a flat parapetted roof and polychrome brick piers. The original light fittings on the walls of the entry from the porte-cochere survive. Sets of 2 and 3 x 8-pane casement windows open to each bay. Mature plantings of cypress species continue the symmetrical front. The central (south) wing has paired casement windows on the first floor of the north elevation. The ground floor has large picture windows overlooking the symmetrical courtyard garden to the north. The south elevation of the central wing has service entries on the ground floor. The east wing has a single storey flat roofed verandah on the east elevation. Large picture windows from the ground floor dining rooms open out to the verandah. A central stair with a roughcast spandrel leads from the verandah to the terraced lawn below. 3 pane casement windows on the first floor have feature polychromatic brickwork and arches over. The verandah roof is suspended from steel tie rods. The building has a glazed tiled hipped roof and exposed rafters. The chimneys are roughcast. The stone footings of Charles Smith's house, Logie, survive under the east wing. The east verandah and stair appear to follow the lines of Logie's verandah and stair. Internally the large ballroom has a sprung timber floor and corbelled ceiling featuring a large skylight. Many of the original leadlight stair windows, light fittings and decorative ceilings survive. The west garden terrace has border plantings of citrus sinensis. A swimming pool is located at the south end of the terrace. |