

"Anzac"

"Anzac" is historically the correct way to write expressions such as "the Anzacs", "an Anzac", "at Anzac", "to Anzac", "the Anzac sector", "Anzac Cove", "the spirit of Anzac". That is how the soldiers and those reporting about them in 1915 and 1916 generally wrote the expressions.

During 1915 the original upper-case acronym "ANZAC" was very soon made into into the upper- and lower-case "Anzac". In Use of the word Anzac on the DVA (Department of Veterans' Affairs) Anzac Centenary website, the point is made that General William Birdwood requested that the area held by the ANZAC troops be given the place name 'Anzac'. This word containing lower-case letters was soon applied to the soldiers themselves (as 'Anzacs'), as pointed out on the DVA's web page Protecting the word Anzac.

Thus, although the expression "A.&N.Z.A.C." led to the upper-case "ANZAC" becoming the original acronym, the word "Anzac" with only an upper-case "A" was what was actually used for locations (Anzac, the Anzac sector, Anzac Cove) and people (the Anzacs, an Anzac) at Gallipoli at that time.

The Commander of the ANZAC troops specifically chose 'Anzac' (with lower-case letters) as the area name. The soldiers were called Anzacs after the area (Anzac) they fought and suffered in, not primarily after the corps (ANZAC) they belonged to.

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Upper-case ANZAC should be used where the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps as an army formation or battle grouping is being referred to, as in "the landing of the ANZAC", "the ANZAC landing", "the ANZAC forces" or, if the writer has the corps in mind rather than the soldiers themselves, "the landing of the ANZAC troops".