

## Duncan Cornelius MACKINNON

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Duncan Mackinnon was born in 1890 in Picola, north western Victoria. He was an articled clerk at the time of his enlistment in July 1915. He embarked in January 1916, aboard the *Afric*, with the 24th Infantry Battalion, reaching France in March 1916.

In April, he was promoted to sergeant in the 8th Battalion. He was shot in the back in July, and was evacuated to England for some months. He rejoined the 8th Battalion in France in December of 1916 but the following March was again evacuated to England, sick. In November 1917, he returned to France as lieutenant of the 7th Battalion Army Infantry School in France. He returned to the front line in the spring of 1918 and, in the final stages of the war, he was gassed and again invalided back to England. Even at this very late stage of the conflict, Mackinnon resumed active service, returned to France in October 1918, and remained there until February 1919.

After his return to Australia in April 1919, Mackinnon resumed his legal studies, completing his final examinations in early 1920. He worked as a solicitor with an office at 379 Collins street. In 1924, he was elected as a councillor for Caulfield. He remained on Council for 15 years, including a stint as Mayor. In 1947, he became the President of the Law Institute of Victoria.

He married in 1920 and had 3 daughters. He lived in Murrumbeena and was active as a solicitor until his death in 1957.



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Two unidentified Australians of the 7th Australian Light Trench Mortar Battery just outside Villers Bretonneux, July 1918. Mackinnon was attached to this unit at this time.

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