

2334 CORPORAL. W. DOUGLAS.

South Africa Medal 1877-1879 (bar 1879) (inscribed 2334 CORPL. W. DOUGLAS.A.H.C.) was awarded to 2334 Corpl. W. Douglas. Army Hospital Corps. (ex M. Hibbard collection)



ARMY HOSPITAL CORPS

In 1857, a Royal Commission recommended that the (British) Medical Staff Corps, which evolved during the Crimean War as the first corps of medical personnel other than officers, be replaced by an Army Hospital Corps. This was established on 1st August 1857. The men of the Army Hospital Corps serviced the main army hospitals in England as well as the field hospitals in battle conditions. On 1st August 1884, a Royal Warrant confirmed that medical officers and quartermasters should be considered Medical Staff and the Army Hospital Corps revert to its previous title, that of the Medical Staff Corps, to be commanded by Medical Staff. On 1st July 1898, the Royal Army Medical Corps was formed from the officer-only Army Medical Service and the Army Hospital Corps.

REFERENCES:

1. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Royal_Army_Medical_Corps
2. <http://www.regiments.org/regiments/uk/corps/RAMC.htm>
3. http://www.army.mod.uk/medical/royal_army_medical_corps/history_of_the_ramc/index.htm
4. <http://www.militarybadges.org.uk/mimage/photos50.htm>