

# BARRAGE

The RCA Museum News

THE RCA MUSEUM  
CANADA'S NATIONAL ARTILLERY MUSEUM



January 2025

## Updated Munitions Displays



During the cold winter months, our team works on updating the museum displays. We recently replaced our old and deteriorating wooden munitions mounts from the 1970s with two new ones that offer a much better visual presentation. We

contracted a local company to create two custom four-level metal mounts to display various munitions. Specifically, we required heavy-duty steel mounts capable of supporting hundreds of pounds per level.

The first munitions display highlights late nineteenth-century artifacts, including brass safety tools for black powder, grapeshot, cannonballs, and rifled muzzle-loading shells. We dug into our archives, added more munitions and updated the labelling for improved clarity. The various cannonballs weigh between 3 and 56 pounds, while the rifled shells range from 7 to 180 pounds. Canadian Gunner fired the cannonballs from smoothbore cannons and the shells from early rifled muzzle-loading artillery.

The second display focuses on four types of WWII munitions including anti-air, anti-tank, field and tank. It features a variety of projectiles from WWII, including rounds for the Sherman Tank and the Panzer VI. We included 75mm, 105mm, and 25-pounder rounds for field guns. In the anti-tank category, we showcase various 3-pounder, 6-pounder, and 17-pounder projectiles. At the back of this display, we added impressive anti-air munitions featuring 3-inch, 3.7-inch, 4.5-inch, and 90-mm rounds.

The updated munitions displays are a notable upgrade from the old wooden ones. The new metal mounts are eye-catching and have added safety features, including a protective chain and side rails to prevent the munitions from falling out. We organized the display into rows, each labelled with corresponding artifacts, making it easy for visitors to identify the differences between the munitions. We packed the new display with a wide variety of projectiles used by mostly Canadians. When visitors take a moment to explore the latest displays, we spark their curiosity and achieve our goal.



## A Very Long Record of Service

Master Gunner James Maher served in the British and Canadian Artilleries for sixty-three years, from 1852 to 1915. He fought in the Crimean War of 1853-56, the Fenian Raid of 1866, and the Northwest Rebellion (Northwest Resistance) of 1885. He served in Canada during the Boer War (1899-1902) and retired, for the third time, one year into the First World War (1914-1918). His dedication to the guns was exceptional and unmatched in terms of duration.

In 1993, Alan and Eleanor Ede, close friends of the granddaughter of Master Gunner James Maher, donated an outstanding collection of Maher's artifacts to the RCA Museum. The donation included eyeglasses, personal documents, pipes, service records, shaving accessories and a Victorian toiletry case. The jewel of the donation was his medal set with the original mount, with name, rank, and unit inscribed on the rim of each medal.

The medals from the left include the Crimea Medal with Sevastopol Bar, the General Service Medal with Fenian Raid 1866 Bar, the Turkish Crimea Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal (UK, Victoria), and a second Meritorious Service Medal (Canada, Edward VII). The set is unusual, including two Meritorious Service Medals representing separate periods of service with the Royal Artillery and then the Canadian Artillery. The RCA Museum began exhibiting Maher's decorations in 1993, and we uphold the tradition by prominently featuring them in the new Gunner Gallery.



James Maher was born in Portabello, Ireland, in 1839. James was the son of a trumpet major with the Royal Horse Artillery and followed his father's footsteps, joining the Royal Artillery at thirteen. In 1855, Gunner Maher fought in the Siege of Sevastopol during the Crimean War. Maher rose through the ranks and, by 1861, became a Sergeant stationed in Portsmouth, England. From 1862 to 1867, he served in British North America, followed by six years in Malta from 1868 to 1874. He then went to England and retired from the Royal Artillery after 28 years of devoted service in 1880.

James Maher immigrated to Canada with his family and joined A Battery in Kingston, Ontario, that same year. Master Gunner Maher served with A Battery for eighteen years, from 1880 to 1898, including active operations during the Northwest Rebellion (Northwest Resistance) in 1885. After retirement from the Permanent Force, Maher worked for the Director of the Artillery at Militia Headquarters in Ottawa, Ontario, for an additional seventeen years. At 78, in the fall of 1915, one year into the First World War, Master Gunner James Maher ended his sixty-three years of military service and retired. He died in Ottawa at the age of 88 in 1925.

While in uniform, Maher saw the Canadian Permanent Force grow from a select handful to thousands. He saw the Canadian Artillery advance from smoothbore breechloading cannons to modern quick-firing artillery systems. He saw military tactics go from cavalry charges and linear column formations to combined arms and trench warfare. Master Gunner Maher witnessed these advancements during his long record of outstanding service, unmatched by any Canadian Gunner.



Master Gunner James Maher, circa early 1880s.

By Andrew Oakden

## The C3 105mm Howitzer

By 1998, the Canadian Armed Forces upgraded 96 C1 105mm howitzers to *RDM Technology* C3 105mm howitzers. The upgrade extended the service life of the fleet of C1s, which had been in service since 1955. The CAF retained spare parts and twenty-eight C1s for ceremonial and historical purposes, of which the RCA Museum has two.

Noticeable differences between the C1 and C3 include the latter's longer barrel, muzzle brake, and more robust trails. The C3's barrel is 158.35 inches (4.022m) long, including the breech ring and muzzle brake. It is an increase of 57 inches (1.45m) over the C1's 101.35-inch (2.57m) barrel. The strengthened barrel and breech block allowed the C3 to handle firing higher velocity, extending range ammunition like the High Explosive – Extended Range (HE-ER) C132 projectiles from 11,000m up to 19,000m with Charge 2.



The most noticeable change to the C3 from the C1, besides the longer barrel, is the addition of a three-slotted muzzle brake. When firing modern, extended-range ammunition, it reduces the force load on the trunnions and recoil system. Designers removed the shield flaps as a weight-saving modification to counter the additional weight of the C3's heavier trails and barrel. While not intended, the changes gave the C3 a sleeker, more aggressive appearance than the C1.

Another performance-enhancing modification of the C3 105mm is the addition of progressive rifling. With progressive rifling, the twist rate inside the barrel (how many rotations the projectile will make within a specific length of barrel) increases. The twist rate of the C3 starts at one turn in 144.55 inches to one turn in 74.34 inches, which puts less stress on the projectile during firing.

The CAF primarily equipped reserve units with the C3 105mm, with the regular force also using them sparingly. Whiskey Battery of the Royal Canadian Artillery School located at CFB Gagetown, NB and "C" Company, 3 Canadian Division Training Centre located at CFB Shilo use the C3 to train regular and reserve Gunners. The C3 105mm provided a more cost-effective platform for ammunition cost for gunnery training than the 155mm M777 howitzer employed by the regular force.

The CAF has never deployed the C3 105mm howitzer with Gunners during overseas operations; however, it plays a vital role in domestic operations such as ceremonial gun salutes for Remembrance Day, Canada Day and the opening and closing of provincial legislatures. The most crucial role of the C3 is during the CAF's Operation PALACI, conducted annually at Roger's Pass, British Columbia. Known as AVCON, the avalanche control operation ensures safe passage on the Trans Canada Highway in avalanche-prone regions. Working with Parks Canada, Canadian Gunners utilize the C3 howitzers firing high explosive ammunition to initiate controlled avalanches.



After almost thirty years of service, Canada's C3 105mm howitzers are understandably showing their age. Replacement parts are scarce since RDM Technology became defunct shortly after fulfilling its contract with the Canadian Army for the C3. It raises many questions about the future of light tube artillery for Canadian Gunners, particularly those in the reserve units that employ them. The retirement of Canada's C3s will undoubtedly mark the end of an era.

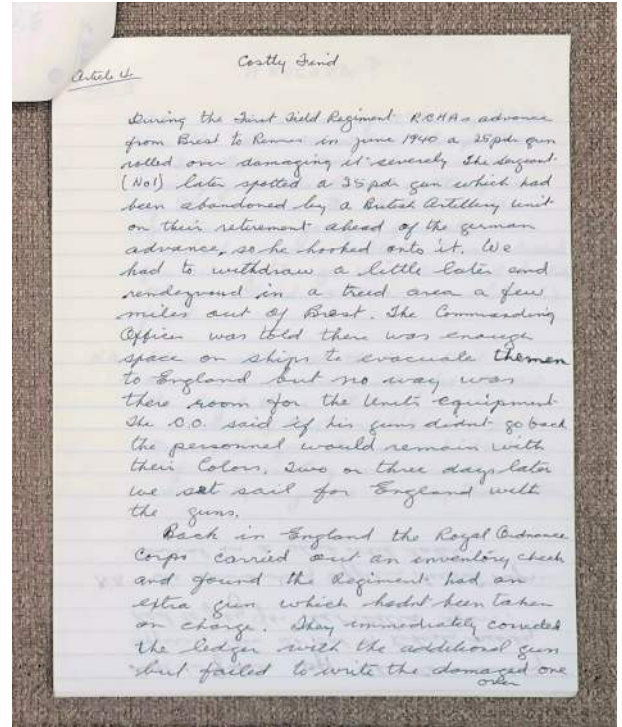
By Will Brandon



## Costly Find by Captain R. E. Nicholls

At the RCA Museum, we feature artifacts belonging to Captain George R. E. Nicholls (1910-1987). He served with the C Battery of the Royal Canadian Horse Artillery (RCHA) in Winnipeg from 1933 to 1939 and with the 1st Field Regiment in Britain, France, and Germany from 1939 to 1946. Recently, I found eight handwritten short stories by Captain Nicholls from the 1960s.

On June 13, 1940, WO2 Nicholls was among 311 Canadian Gunners from the 1st Field Regiment who landed in Brest, France, as part of the 2nd British Expeditionary Force, the day before the German Army entered an undefended Paris. After the Allied military collapse, British Command ordered the evacuation of military and civilians from western France, known as Operation Aerial (June 15 to 25, 1940). The order included leaving behind arms and equipment; however, Lieutenant Colonel J. H. Roberts, the Commanding Officer of the 1st Field Regiment, refused. Consequently, the Canadians were the only Allied unit to return to England with most of their guns intact. Captain Nicholls provided a fascinating firsthand account of Operational Aerial and the return of the guns.



### Costly Find

During the First Field Regiment, RCHA's advance from Brest to Rennes in June 1940, a 25-pounder gun rolled over, damaging it severely. The Sergeant (No. 1) later spotted a 25-pounder gun abandoned by a British Artillery unit on their retirement ahead of the German advance, so he hooked onto it. We had to withdraw a little later and rendezvoused in a treed area a few miles out of Brest. The Commanding Officer was told there was enough space on ships to evacuate the men to England, but there was no room for the Unit's equipment. The C.O. said if his guns didn't go back, the personnel would remain with their Colors. Two or three days later, we set sail for England with the guns.

In England, the Royal Ordnance Corps carried out an inventory check and found the Regiment had one extra gun that hadn't been taken on charge. They immediately corrected the ledger with the additional gun but failed to write off the damaged one left in France. The Commanding Officer, then Lt Col H Roberts, nearly had to pay for that extra gun. N.B. The Commanding Officer became Major-General a short while later.

By Captain George R. E. Nicholls

## Local Hero Sergeant George Oliver

The RCA Museum has proudly displayed Sergeant George J. Oliver's military decorations since August 2006. Sergeant Oliver, a local hero from Brandon, received four decorations for bravery during the First World War. George was one of only five Canadians who won the Distinguished Conduct Medal and Military Medal with two bars for bravery.

On August 26, 2006, Isabel Shaw, the daughter of Sergeant George Oliver, presented her father's medals to Rick Sanderson, the RCA Museum Director, for temporary display. Mrs. Shaw wanted them displayed at the museum 'because they were too valuable to have at my home.' She said, 'It makes me feel very proud' that her father's medals for bravery are on display. Mark George, Regimental Major at the time, shared this sentiment, wanting the medals immediately on display to showcase the exploits of a local hero.

During WWI, seventy Canadians received the Victoria Cross, the highest award for valour. However, only five received the Distinguished Conduct Medal and Military Medal with two bars, making Sergeant Oliver's achievement exceptionally rare.



Decorations of Sergeant George Oliver, from the left: DCM, MM with two bars, the Order of St. Johns of Jerusalem, 1914-18 Star, British War Medal, Victory Medal, and the Order of St. John Service Medal.



Sergeant George Oliver, 1919.

Born on February 23, 1892, George J. Oliver moved to Canada in 1907 and lived in Brandon and the Westman area for seven years. Since George was eighteen, he worked for his uncle as a pump technician in Forrest, Manitoba. When the war broke out, he enlisted in the 12th Manitoba Dragoons, trained at the Brandon Armoury, and joined the First Canadian Contingent at Camp Valcartier in Quebec.

While in Valcartier, Private Oliver joined the 5th Canadian Infantry Battalion on September 23, 1914. The Battalion departed with the First Contingent on October 3, sailing to England and arriving in Plymouth on October 15. After further training in England, they sailed to France as part of the 1st Canadian Division, reaching St. Nazaire on February 15, 1915.

Private Oliver served as an Infantryman in the 5th Battalion with the 2nd Brigade, where he faced German gas attacks during the Second Battle of Ypres. On June 1, 1915, he became a Signaller with the 2nd Canadian Infantry Brigade. Later, on December 21, 1915, the Canadian Army transferred him to the 1st Canadian Division Signal Company. The Signal Service consisted of committed members known as Linesmen or Sappers. Enemy artillery and gunfire disrupted communication lines, and technicians such as Sergeant Oliver had to enter the battlefield to fix them. He excelled at this task and earned four medals for bravery during critical battles.

George Oliver served at the Somme in 1916 and received his first Military Medal for bravery during the Battle of Vimy Ridge in 1917. His second and third decorations for gallantry came from Hill 70 and then Passchendaele in 1917. He received his fourth valour decoration, the Distinguished Conduct Medal, during the battle of Amiens, the first strong offensive of the Last Hundred Days in 1918. His war experiences were extensive, mirroring the experiences of the Canadian Army.

The Battle of Vimy Ridge began at daybreak on April 9, 1917. Signaler Oliver worked for 48 hours continually, risking his life to repair communications lines on Vimy Ridge, which were vital for the operation's success. George's courage and disregard for danger on the battlefield earned him the Military Medal, leading to a promotion to Acting Corporal on June 5, 1917.

On August 15, 1917, the 1<sup>st</sup> Canadian Division launched a bold assault on Hill 70. Acting Corporal Oliver maintained critical communications under heavy enemy artillery fire even after being buried three times. Oliver's conspicuous gallantry earned him the First Bar to the Military Medal. In a heartwarming turn of events, George celebrated his leave in October by marrying Isabella Borthwick in Dunbar, Scotland.

As 1917 ended, Canada's involvement in the Battle of Passchendaele marked a pivotal moment. On November 10, the 1<sup>st</sup> Canadian Division was instrumental in securing key positions, including Hill 62. Acting Corporal Oliver received the Second Bar to the Military Medal for conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty; over three days, continually, under heavy enemy barrages, he repaired the broken lines and delivered dispatches. He was promoted to substantive Corporal on December 26, reflecting his dedication and courage.

The Last Hundred Days offensive began on August 8, 1918, near Amiens and continued until the Armistice on November 11. The Canadian Army awarded Corporal Oliver the Distinguished Conduct Medal for marked gallantry and devotion to duty from September 27 to 30, 1918. East of the Canal du Nord, Corporal Oliver observed Canadian infantry under fire from a German machine gun nest and called in artillery support. Oliver then single-handedly eliminated the last machine gun by rounding the nest, entering from the back, and shooting four German soldiers before capturing a fifth. The Canadian Army promoted him to Sergeant on October 23, 1918.

In November 2007, Mrs. Shaw signed a temporary loan agreement with the museum that included military decorations, collar dog tags, photographs, a pocket watch, service pins, and a St. John's Ambulance Medal. A subsequent group of artifacts included a Christmas 1918 dinner menu from Signals 2nd Infantry Brigade, an embroidered handkerchief, and scrapbook pages, including diary pages, notes, photos, and newspaper clippings.

In 2009, the RCA Museum had the medals appraised for their cultural significance to Canadian military history and as part of the donation process. The third-party appraisal confirmed the exceptional rarity of the four decorations for bravery. Medal sets such as this rarely appear for auction or donation. Each award for bravery acts as a multiplier towards the overall value, with Canadian awards having a premium over more common UK awards.



Sergeant Oliver and his wife Isabella, 1919.



Private George Oliver, 1914.

After the war, the Canadian Army honourably discharged Sergeant Oliver on July 5, 1919. George and his wife, Isabella, settled in Brandon, Manitoba, raising four children. George Oliver worked for the Manitoba Telephone System as a lineman for 37 years. He was a dedicated community member, serving as a scoutmaster and volunteering for St John's Ambulance, assisting anyone in need. During the Second World War, he served as a Corporal in the 102nd Reserve Infantry Company, Veterans Guard of Canada, where he protected critical sites and POW camps. His contributions earned him the Order of St. John Service Medal in 1953. George Oliver died in 1968 at the age of 76.

In February 2013, Mrs. Shaw signed the Deed of Gift, donating her father's military decorations and artifacts to the museum. I want to express my deep appreciation for Mrs. Shaw's generous donation. We are incredibly grateful for her contribution! The RCA Museum will continue to proudly share the story of Sergeant George Oliver, lest we forget. His life is a powerful reminder that ordinary individuals can achieve extraordinary feats when motivated by service and sacrifice. He is a true local hero with a remarkable war story.

By Andrew Oakden



## The Origin of the Royal Canadian Artillery

Canadian Gunners have traditionally celebrated 1855 or 1871 as the official origin of the RCA. Other potential years of origin include 1716, 1793, and 1883. The Royal Artillery (UK) celebrates its birthday as May 26, 1716, and one of the oldest Canadian units, the Loyal Company of Artillery (now 3rd Field Regiment), was founded on May 4, 1793. The Regiment of Canadian Artillery (RCA) started, with lineage, on August 10, 1883, through Militia General Order 18/83. However, Canadian Gunners do not celebrate 1716, 1793 or 1883 as the year of origin for the Royal Canadian Artillery.

The Militia Act of August 1855 and the formation of A and B Batteries in 1871 were critical events in the history of the RCA. First, the Militia Act of 1855 authorized a 5,000-man force, including seven artillery batteries, with 20 days of paid training per year. In September 1955, the Directorate of History stated, "The oldest artillery units existing in Canada today are five batteries formed in 1855 under the terms of the Militia Act of that year, which set up the volunteer force." Second, in a short RCA history from 1907, "Militia General Order No. 24 of 1871 authorized the formation of two batteries of Garrison Artillery. In addition to performing garrison duties, these batteries should serve as practical schools of gunnery for the training of all ranks of the Militia Artillery." Both 1855 and 1871, respectively, are generally regarded as the origin years of the RCA.

In the context of twentieth-century historiography, from the 1890s to World War II, the consensus was that the militia formed the Royal Canadian Artillery on October 20, 1871. In 1911, the RCA celebrated its fortieth anniversary of the "organization of the Regiment." In 1921, the Gunners celebrated their 50th anniversary and produced commemorative coins. The RCA Museum has regimental histories from the 1920s, 1930s, and 1940s, and they all push the same narrative: "The Regiment originated on October 20, 1871."

In the early 1950s, the origin of the RCA shifted to 1855. In a short regimental history from 1952: "The first paid Canadian artillery force was authorized by the Militia Act of August 1855, and this date is considered the birth of the Regiment." Another document stated, "The first paid force of Canadian artillerymen was authorized by the Militia Act of August 1855." In 1955, the Royal Canadian Artillery celebrated the 100th anniversary of the RCA throughout Canada. The RCA Museum possesses photographs that display military parades commemorating the 100th Anniversary.

In May 1955, Lieutenant-General Simonds, Chief of the Defence Staff, responded to the centennial in a more measured way. He said: "This year (1955) marks the hundredth anniversary of those units of artillery that were formed within the Canadian Militia in 1855 and that are still in existence in the Canadian Army today. But it should not be forgotten that units of Canadian artillery had been formed, had fought well before this time, and had already started the great tradition that you now inherit." LGen Simonds pointed out that although Canada formed Gunner units in 1855, many of these units were composed of experienced Gunners from existing militia batteries.



*Photos from top to bottom: 1) 3rd Regiment, RCHA, Dartmouth, Centennial Celebrations, May 26, 1955; 2) 4th Regiment, Celebrating Centennial, 1971; 3) RCA 125th Celebrations, Ottawa, 1996.*



Photos from top to bottom: 1) General Brownfield Centennial Celebrations May 26, 1955; 2) 3rd Fd Loyal Company, 200th Anniversary; 3) RCA Birthday, Shilo, May 26, 1961.

From a short post-WW2 RCA history: "Although regular units of Canadian artillery have existed only since 1871, there is a record of Canadians serving as artillerymen from quite early in the French regime." Canadians have a long history of joining units with the British and French. British soldiers from the Royal Artillery served in the northern colonies since 1604. Colonists saw action in Quebec in 1636, with the Company of One Hundred Associates defending the area from Indigenous attacks. Militia were raised again in the Battle of Quebec against Sir William Phips in 1690, during the Revolutionary War of 1775–83, and during the War of 1812.

In the 1970s, an RCA history stated: "Volunteer units did exist in Canada before the Militia Act of 1855, but continuity before this date is next to impossible to establish." From the 1950s to the 1970s, the Regiment looked at other possible dates, such as 1716 and 1793. We have documents that mention 1793 as the origin of the RCA with the establishment of the Loyal Company of Artillery in Saint John, New Brunswick. The 3rd Field Regiment, RCA, in Saint John perpetuates the original unit. There are non-perpetuated military units, such as the 1st Halifax Field Battery, circa 1750.

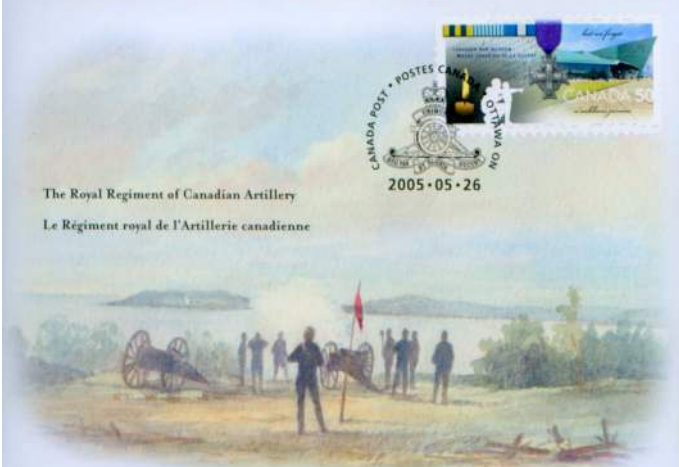
In 1948, Base Commander Camp Borden, Colonel D. K. Todd, noted in a letter to Army Headquarters that the Royal Artillery (UK) celebrated their birthday as May 26, 1716. Many in the Canadian Artillery wanted to honour the British as "one family" and celebrate May 26th as the birthday of the Canadian Artillery. A regimental history from the 1950s referenced 1716 as the start of the Canadian Artillery. The Royal Canadian Artillery Association passed a motion in late 1951 to adopt May 26th as the birthday of the Canadian Artillery, also called Gunner Day, and Army Headquarters approved the motion in April 1952.

Units observed the birthdate (May 26th) from 1952 to the 1970s. Additionally, they blended the Royal Artillery (UK) birthday, May 26th, with their year of origin, 1855 or 1871. For example, the RCA celebrated major centennial events across Canada on May 26, 1955. They blended two historical events and celebrated Gunner Day and the origin of the RCA.

In the second half of the twentieth century, the RCA's origin year shifted back and forth from 1855 to 1871. In the 1960s, the date 1855 presented the first "paid" force. From a regimental history in the 1960s: "The first paid Canadian Artillery force was authorized by the Militia Act of August 1855." The date 1871 represented the first "regular" or "permanent" elements of the Royal Canadian Artillery. As stated in a 1970s Regimental history: "The regular component of the Regiment originated on October 20, 1871."

In *RCHA – Right of the Line*, published in 1986, Major G. D. Mitchell advanced that the RCA started in 1871. Similarly, in *The Gunners of Canada, Volume 1*, published in 1967, page 99, Colonel G. W. L. Nicholson wrote: "Here was the nucleus of Canada's Permanent Force. Today's 'A' and 'B' Batteries of the 1st Regiment, Royal Canadian Horse Artillery, the senior artillery unit in Canada's Regular Army, are direct descendants of the two batteries formed in 1871."





Photos from top to bottom: 1) 5 RALC 125th Anniversary of the RCA, 1996.; 2) The Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery 150th Celebrations Post Card, 2005; 3) A & B Batteries, 1 RCHA, 1871 to 2021, 150th Celebrations Post Card, 2021.

dates. Canadian Gunners never celebrated 1883 as the origin of the RCA because so much history and heritage happened before this date. Arguably, 1855, 1871, and 1883, among others, are significant dates in the development of the Canadian Artillery, and they all could be considered possible contenders for the origin of the Royal Canadian Artillery.

Several significant steps over hundreds of years led to the creation of The Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery in 1956. These achievements helped Canadians win at Vimy Ridge in 1917 and defeat Germany in North-west Europe in 1944-45. The first Canadian Gunners were colonists who joined volunteer militia batteries in the 17th century. Paid militia units started with the Militia Act of 1855. The formation of A Battery in Kingston and B Battery in Quebec City created the first permanent and regular subunits within the Active Militia in 1871. The first regiment, the Regiment of Canadian Artillery, started in 1883 and became the Royal Canadian Artillery in 1893.

The RCA celebrated their centennial again in 1971, which likely confused the older Gunners, who witnessed the centennial in 1955. According to the Canadian Gunner annual report in 1971, there was a debate regarding the significance of the centennial. Colonel Commandant Major-General Sparkling wrote: "The centennial represented the hundredth birthday of the A and B Batteries, as the first of Canada's regular force units." He also referenced 1855, reminding readers not to forget that these paid militia Gunners filled the ranks of A and B Batteries in 1871.

In 1980, the RCA did not acknowledge the 125th anniversary of 1855. In 1996, the RCA celebrated its 125th anniversary of "the formation of A and B Batteries." Colonel Commandant Brigadier R. P. Beaudry wrote, "The Regiment celebrated its 125th anniversary in 1996. I must tell you how proud I felt to be a gunner during the many ceremonies I attended. In particular, after the memorable parade and roll past on Parliament Hill in Ottawa." Also, in 2005, the RCA celebrated the 150th anniversary of the "original Canadian Batteries... the oldest components of the Canadian military." Recently, in 2021, the RCA celebrated the 150th anniversary of the establishment of A and B Batteries in 1871, "often considered the first 'full-time' or 'regular' elements of the post-Confederation Canadian Army." Note, in both 2005 and 2021, they celebrated qualified historical events but not the origin of the RCA. They did so because the Department of History and Heritage (DHH) did not support the origin of the RCA narrative.

DHH recognizes the start of the Permanent Corps through Militia General Order No. 2 of May 2, 1884. The Canadian Militia did not create the category until 1884, and before this date, A and B Batteries were Active Militia. Additionally, it was not until Militia General Order 18/1883 that the militia authorized the formation of the Regiment of Canadian Artillery, the first Canadian regiment in terms of lineage, which became the Royal Canadian Artillery in 1893. Colonel De la Cherois T. Irwin (1843-1928) was the first Commanding Officer of the Regiment of Canadian Artillery from 1883 to 1897.

It's impossible to pinpoint a particular date of origin without weakening the historical significance of other

## DONATE

Thank you for your support! Donations help us to fund curatorial projects and pay the salaries of summer students.

I would like to support The RCA Museum with a monetary donation of:

☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$1,000 ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/Province: \_\_\_\_\_

All donations are promptly processed and a tax receipt provided.

Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Payment Method:

Please send your donation by cheque payable to *The RCA Museum* – Box 5000 Station Main, Shilo, Manitoba R0K 2A0, Canada.

All monetary donations are appreciated and will be recognized in The RCA Annual budget.

Please check the following that apply:

1. I consent to my name being published on the RCA website.

☐ Yes ☐ No, I wish to remain anonymous.

2. I consent to be on The RCA Museum mailing list and receive the Quarterly Newsletter (Barrage).

☐ Yes ☐ No, I do not consent.

## Contact Us

Telephone : (204) 765-3000 Ext. 258-3570  
Fax: (204) 765-5289  
Email: [rcamuseum@forces.gc.ca](mailto:rcamuseum@forces.gc.ca)  
Website: [rcamuseum.com](http://rcamuseum.com)  
Facebook: RCA Museum

**The Royal Canadian Artillery Museum (The RCA Museum)**  
Building N-118  
CFB Shilo  
P.O. 5000, Station Main  
Shilo, Manitoba R0K 2A0

**Musée de l'Artillerie royale canadienne**  
(Musée de l' ARC)  
Bâtiment N-118  
BFC Shilo  
C.P. 5000, succursale Main  
Shilo (Manitoba) R0K 2A0

Telephone : (204) 765-3000 poste 258-3570  
Facsimile : (204) 765-5289  
Courriel : [rcamuseum@forces.gc.ca](mailto:rcamuseum@forces.gc.ca)  
Site Web : [rcamuseum.com](http://rcamuseum.com)  
Facebook: RCA Museum

Director/Directeur  
Senior Curator (On Leave)  
Assistant Curator/Conservatrice adjointe  
Collections Manager/Gestionnaire des collections  
Front Desk/Reception

Andrew Oakden  
Jonathan Ferguson  
Dayna Barscello  
William Brandon  
Lisa Fischer

Ext/poste 258-3763  
Ext/poste 258-3531  
Ext/poste 258-3577  
Ext/poste 258-4563  
Ext/poste 258-3570

## Pour nous joindre