

# **TRENCH MORTAR BATTERIES**

## **Trench Mortar Batteries December 1915 to February 1916**

A letter from GHQ of December 15th 1915 authorized the formation of two trench mortar batteries for each of Canada's Infantry Brigades. It appears that it was not until March 1st 1916 that a sufficient number of guns were available to be organized into the light mortar batteries for all nine infantry brigades of the 1st, 2nd, 3rd Divisions and later the three brigades of the 4th Division, these being organized in May 1916. War Diaries show that a number of batteries were formed almost immediately. Initially three light and three medium trench mortar batteries were organized but no divisional designations appear in the War Diaries until January 8th 1916 (the 35th TMB 1st Division). (All batteries were designated as 'Trench Mortar Batteries' until September 1916 when the designation 'Light Trench Mortar Batteries' was introduced.) The covers of the early War Diaries of the (light) trench mortar batteries show that '1st Div' was penciled in sometime later.

A close reading of the War Diaries show that not all of the Brigade commanding officers welcomed the light trench mortars these firing from the front line trenches while range finding and apparently causing heavy retaliatory fire This changed after training and new tactics were developed and the ability to destroy machine gun nests and target bomber units (hand grenades) saw their acceptance.

The (light) trench mortar batteries were formed with infantrymen from Canada's Infantry Battalions while the medium and heavy trench mortar batteries were formed from the Canadian Field Artillery the heavier mortars being fired from a greater range did not cause the same retaliatory damage to the front line trenches and appear to have been found more acceptable. The light and medium batteries appear to have operated separately as no coordination between the two is noted in the War Diaries.

Prior to March 1st 1916 War Diaries exist for three (light) Trench Mortar Batteries, the 14th, 35th, 46th and for one (medium) Trench Mortar Battery, the 25th. A War Diary for a 53rd (medium) battery is dated March 1st to March 31st 1916. An entry for a 58th Trench Mortar battery is crossed out in the March 1916 1st Canadian Divisional Mortar Group War Diary. However no War Diary is currently reported for this unit. Although battery numbers conform to various infantry battalions no obvious connection between them has been established.

Being raised from personnel within each infantry brigade no regimental numbers blocks were used for the light trench mortar batteries the gunners presumably wearing their battalion badges. The regimental numbers for medium trench mortar batteries were included in CFA number blocks

## **(Light) Trench Mortar Batteries December 15th 1915 to February 29th 1916**

### **14th Trench Mortar Battery**

The War Diaries of the 14th Canadian Trench Mortar Battery are dated from January 1st to February 29th 1916. The first entry is dated as January 9th 1916 but lists its previous action in the field so the battery was in action prior to this entry. The battery was under command of a Lieutenant with an undecipherable signature but came under command of Lieutenant H.C. Higginbotham (30th Wellington Rifles, 34th Bn.CEF). Lieutenant Higginbotham was seconded to the 9th Division (UK?) February 15th 1916 and command passed to Lieutenant A.S. Morrison (40th Northumberland Regiment) later on September 29th, as Captain A.S. Morrison O.C. the 4th Light Trench Mortar Battery, 2nd Division.

### **35th Trench Mortar Battery, 1st Division**

The War Diaries of the 35th Trench Mortar Battery are dated From January 1st to February 29th 1916 the first entry January 2nd 1916. Three different commanding officers are listed but their signatures are currently undecipherable.

### **46th Trench Mortar Battery, 1st Division**

The War Diaries of the 46th Trench Mortar Battery are dated From January 1st to February 29th 1916 the first entry January 9th but lists previous action in the field so was in action prior to this entry. The battery was initially under command of Lieutenant F.G. Thompson but coming under command of Lieutenant W.E. McIntyre (8th RRC, 23rd Bn.CEF) January 30th 1916. (Diary entry for January 24th states Lieutenant W.E. McIntyre and 15 NCOs and men arrived from the 1st Canadian Infantry Division.)

## **(Medium) Trench Mortar Batteries December 15th 1915 to February 29th 1916**

### **25th Trench Mortar Battery, 2nd Division**

The battery was organized in Flanders in December 1915 under command of Lieutenant W.S. Tuck (HQ staff CFA). Entries in the War Diary of the 25th Canadian Trench Mortar Battery begin December 18th and end February 29th 1916 (The War Diary continuing as X/2/C from March 1st to 31st) Captain W.C. Tuck was KIA October 30th 1916 while in command of the 2nd Light Trench Mortar Battery

All of the War Diaries from the above units conclude on February 29th 1916 when the trench mortar brigades were reorganized.

### **Brigade (Light) Trench Mortar Batteries**

Effective March 1st 1916 the two sections in each battery were given a letter/number/letter designations. On June 25th 1916 the 3 inch Stokes Mortar (Actually 3.2 inches) became the standard mortar tube for the light trench mortars prior to this both 3.7 and 4 inch mortar tubes are listed as being used. The medium trench mortar batteries using 4.7 and 6 inch Mortars. (It is reported by the end of WWI 1,636 Stokes Mortars were in use by the British Empires forces). On the adoption of the Stokes Mortars in June the establishment of the light mortar brigades was increased to a new scale of eight Stokes mortars per brigade under overall command of a Captain with 60 ORs in four sections each under command of a lieutenant. At this time the batteries were designated as (Brigade numbered) Trench Mortar Batteries. In September 1916 another letter from GHQ authorized the two sections of each light battery be amalgamated and the batteries designated as 'Light Trench Mortar Batteries'. The War Diaries for the 'Trench Mortar Batteries' cease at this time with the exception of a single War Diary for the 5th Light Trench Mortar Battery. (Please see below.)

## **1st DIVISION**

### **1/C/1 & 1/C/2 Trench Mortar Batteries March 15th 1916 June 20th 1916**

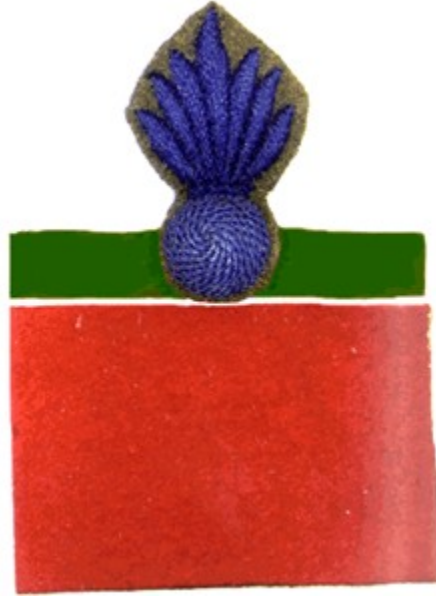
The light trench mortar batteries adopted brigade numbered battery trench mortar designations in June 1916 these becoming Light Trench Mortar batteries in September 1916.

### **1st Brigade, Trench Mortar Battery June 20th - September 9th 1916**

### **1st Brigade, Light Trench Mortar Battery September 9th - 1918**

The battery was organized in Flanders as 1/C/1 and 1/C/2 on February 29th 1916 under command of Captain W.E. McIntyre (8th Royal Rifles). War Diaries are noted only from May 21st 1916 to August 31st 1916 but Operational Orders continue through 1918. Effective June 20th 1916 the designation became the 1st Brigade Trench Mortar Battery and on September 9th 1916 the batteries were amalgamated and designated the 1st Light Trench Mortar Battery. The battery was disbanded November 15th 1918 the personnel returning to their original units for demobilization.

### **Formation patch introduced circa fall 1916**



### **2/C/1 & 2/C/2 Trench Mortar Batteries March 15th 1916 June 20th 1916**

The light trench mortar batteries adopted brigade numbered battery trench mortar designations in June 1916 these becoming Light Trench Mortar batteries in September 1916.

### **2nd Brigade, Trench Mortar Battery June 20th - September 9th 1916**

### **2nd Brigade, Light Trench Mortar Battery September 9th - 1918**

The battery was organized in France as 2/C/1 and 2/C/2 on February 29th 1916 under command of Captain G. Costigan (103rd Calgary Rifles, 50th Bn.) War Diaries exist until August 31st 1916 all signed by Captain Costigan who must have returned to the 50th Bn. on being promoted to a Major in September 1916 and later being KIA at Vimy Ridge April 10th 1917. Effective June 20th 1916 the designation became the 2nd Brigade Trench Mortar Battery and on September 9th 1916 the batteries were amalgamated and designated the 2nd Light Trench Mortar Battery under command of Captain W.C. Tuck who was KIA one month later October 30th 1916.

### **Formation patch introduced circa fall 1916**



### **3/C/1 & 3/C/2 Trench Mortar Batteries March 15th 1916 June 20th 1916**

The light trench mortar batteries adopted brigade numbered battery trench mortar designations in June 1916 these becoming Light Trench Mortar batteries in September 1916.

### **3rd Brigade, Trench Mortar Battery June 20th - September 9th 1916**

### **3rd Brigade, Light Trench Mortar Battery September 9th - 1918**

The battery was organized in France on February 29th 1916 as 3/C/1 and C/3/2 under command of Captain F.J. Higginson (101st Regiment, 51st Bn.CEF.) Effective June 20th 1916 the designation became the 3rd Brigade Trench Mortar Battery and on September 9th 1916 the batteries were amalgamated and designated the 3rd Light Trench Mortar Battery War Diaries exist until August 31st 1916.

### **Formation patch introduced circa fall 1916**



## **2nd DIVISION**

### **4/C/1 & 4/C/2 Trench Mortar Batteries March 15th 1916 June 20th 1916**

The light trench mortar batteries adopted brigade numbered battery trench mortar designations in June 1916 these becoming Light Trench Mortar batteries in September 1916.

### **4th Brigade, Trench Mortar Battery June 20th - September 9th 1916**

### **4th Brigade, Light Trench Mortar Battery September 9th - 1918**

Formed in France March 1916 from the 4th Canadian Infantry Brigade with two batteries 4/C/1 and 4/C/2 under command of Captain A.S. Morrison (40th Northumberland Regiment). Effective June 20th 1916 the designation became the 4th Brigade Trench Mortar Battery and on September 9th 1916 the batteries were amalgamated and designated the 4th Light Trench Mortar Battery. War Diary entries cease August 31st 1916, Operational summaries continue to January 17th 1917.

### **Formation patch introduced circa fall 1916**



### **5/C/1 & 5/C/2 Trench Mortar Batteries March 15th 1916 June 20th 1916**

The light trench mortar batteries adopted brigade numbered battery trench mortar designations in June 1916 these becoming Light Trench Mortar batteries in September 1916.

### **5th Brigade, Trench Mortar Battery June 20th - September 9th 1916**

### **5th Brigade, Light Trench Mortar Battery September 9th - 1918**

Formed in France from the 5th Canadian Infantry Brigade December 1915 with two batteries 5/C/1 and 5/C/2 under command of Lieutenant R.M. Fair (McGill COTC, 24th Bn) (Captain Fair was killed in action September 6th 1916) Effective June 20th 1916 the designation became the 5th Brigade Trench Mortar Battery and on September 9th 1916 the batteries were amalgamated and designated the 5th Light Trench Mortar Battery under command of Captain W.H. Carling (7th Fusiliers, 70th Bn.CEF, 26th Bn.CEF). The battery served in the 2nd Brigade.

### **Formation patch introduced circa fall 1916**



### **5th Brigade, Light Trench Mortar Battery October 1st 1918 - November 1918**

A Light Trench Mortar War Diary exists for the 5th Light Trench Mortar Battery from October 1st to November 16th 1918 this poses the intriguing question of where or what happened to the War Diaries of the other eleven Light Trench Mortar Batteries. Other batteries are listed as being relived or reliving the 5th so it seems unlikely that War Diaries for these were not written.

### **6/C/1 & 6/C/2 Trench Mortar Batteries March 15th 1916 June 20th 1916**

### **6th Brigade, Trench Mortar Battery June 20th - September 9th 1916**

The light trench mortar batteries adopted brigade numbered battery trench mortar designations in June 1916 these becoming Light Trench Mortar batteries in September 1916.

### **6th Brigade, Light Trench Mortar Battery September 9th - 1918**

Formed in Flanders in February 1916 from the 6th Canadian Infantry Brigade with two batteries, 6/C/1 and 6/C/2 under command of Lieutenant R. Pouncy (103rd Calgary Rifles, 50th Bn.). Effective June 20th 1916 the designation became the 6th Brigade Trench Mortar Battery and on September 9th 1916 the batteries were amalgamated and designated the 6th Light Trench Mortar Battery. Later commanded by Captain J.W. Reith M.C. (79th Cameron Highlanders, 27th Bn 1914) War Diary entries cease August 31st 1916 but Operations Orders show the unit was involved in the capture of Hill 70 in August 1917.

### **Formation patch introduced circa fall 1916**



### **3rd DIVISION**

#### **7/C/1 & 7/C/2 Trench Mortar Batteries March 15th 1916 June 20th 1916**

The light trench mortar batteries adopted brigade numbered battery trench mortar designations in June 1916 these becoming Light Trench Mortar batteries in September 1916.

#### **7th Brigade, Trench Mortar Battery June 20th - September 9th 1916**

#### **7th Brigade, Light Trench Mortar Battery September 9th - 1918**

Organized in France March 1916 from the 7th Canadian Infantry Brigade with two batteries 7/C/1 and 7/C/2 under command of Lieutenant N.E. Towers (1st Hussars). Effective June 20th 1916 the designation became the 7th Brigade Trench Mortar Battery and on September 9th 1916 the batteries were amalgamated and designated the 7th Light Trench Mortar Battery command of Captain N.E. Towers. The battery served in the 3rd Brigade. War Diary entries cease August 31st 1916.







### **C/8/1 & C/8/2 Trench Mortar Batteries March 15th 1916 June 20th 1916**

The light trench mortar batteries adopted brigade numbered battery trench mortar designations in June 1916 these becoming Light Trench Mortar batteries in September 1916.

### **8th Brigade, Trench Mortar Battery June 20th - September 9th 1916**

### **8th Brigade, Light Trench Mortar Battery September 9th - 1918**

Organized in France in February 1916 from the 8th Canadian Infantry Brigade with two batteries 8/C/1 and 8/C/2 under command of Captain B.M. Beckwith (14th King's Own Hussars). A War Diary entry for June 3rd 1916 states 'C/8/1 totally wiped out.', and June 13th 'To be 8th Cdn Infantry Trench Mortar Battery.' June 20th 1916 the designation became the 8th Brigade Trench Mortar Battery and on September 9th 1916 the batteries were amalgamated and designated the 8th Light Trench Mortar Battery. War Diary entries for the 8th Trench Mortar Battery cease August 31st 1916



### **9/C/1 & 9/C/2 Trench Mortar Batteries March 15th 1916 June 20th 1916**

The light trench mortar batteries adopted brigade numbered battery trench mortar designations in June 1916 these becoming Light Trench Mortar batteries in September 1916.

### **9th Brigade, Trench Mortar Battery June 20th - September 9th 1916**

### **9th Brigade, Light Trench Mortar Battery September 9th 1916 - 1918**



Organized in France in March 1916 from the 9th Canadian Infantry Brigade with two batteries 9/C/1 and 9/C/2 under command of Captain J. Horan (98th Kenora Light Infantry, 58th Bn.CEF). On June 20th Captain Horan returned to the 58th Bn. and command was given to Lieutenant J.E. Ryerson. Effective June 20th 1916 the designation became the 9th Brigade Trench Mortar Battery and on September 9th 1916 the batteries were amalgamated and designated the 9th Light Trench Mortar Battery. Captain Ryerson was KIA by a sniper on September 9th 1916. War Diary entries for the 9th Trench Mortar Battery cease August 31st 1916.



#### **4th DIVISION**

##### **10/C/1 & 10/C/2 Trench Mortar Batteries May 28th 1916 June 20th 1916**

The light trench mortar batteries adopted brigade numbered battery trench mortar designations in June 1916 these becoming Light Trench Mortar batteries in September 1916.

##### **10th Brigade, Trench Mortar Battery June 20th - September 9th 1916**

##### **10th Brigade, Light Trench Mortar Battery September 9th 1916 - 1918**

10/C/1 and 10/C/2 were organized at Bramshott May 28th 1916 under command of Captain H.K. Clemens (2nd Dragoons, 8th CM, 47th Bn.CEF). Effective June 20th 1916 the designation became the 10th Trench Mortar Battery for which badges exist these featuring a heavy trench mortar (no heavy or medium battery was designated the 10th Trench Mortar Battery). Effective September 1916 the batteries were amalgamated and designated the 10th Light Trench Mortar Battery. The battery served in the 3rd Brigade. No War Diaries are noted for this battery. (Later Captain H.K. Clemens served at the Trench Warfare School at Crowboro.)

#### **Badges by Wheeler & Co. London**



30-3-11-102 Cap Brown finish



30-3-12-102- Collar Darkened finish

### Badges by the Jewels Co. Haslemere, Surrey

A prototype cap badge of similar design to the 10th and 11th trench mortar batteries was produced this without a numerical designation

#### Prototype



30-3-11-104 Cap Brass. N/S lugs Not maker marked



30-3-11-106 Cap Brass. N/S lugs Not maker marked



30-3-12-106- Collar N/S lugs Not maker marked



30-3-11-108 Cap Gilt. N/S lugs Not maker marked

30-3-12-108 Collar Gilt. N/S lugs Not maker marked



30-3-11-110 Cap Silver plate N/S lugs Not maker marked



30-3-12-110- Collar Silver plate. N/S lugs Not maker marked

### **Formation patches introduced circa mid 1917**



### **11th Brigade, Trench Mortar Battery July 1st 1916 - September 9th 1916**

### **11th Brigade, Light Trench Mortar Battery September 9th 1916 - 1918**

The 11th Trench Mortar Battery was formed at Bramshott in England under command of Captain F.J. O'Leary (105th Saskatchewan Fusiliers) July 1st 1916. From personnel from the 53rd, 54th, 74th, 75th 90th and 102nd Battalions and from the 2nd Canadian Divisional Cyclists. The unit arrived in France August 16th 1916 being designated the 11th Light Trench Mortar Battery September 9th 1916. War Diary entries for the 11th Light Trench Mortar Battery cease in June 1917.

### **Badges by the Jewels Co. Haslemere, Surrey**



30-3-11-112 Cap Brass. N/S lugs Not maker marked



30-3-12-112 Collar Brass. N/S lugs Not maker marked



30-3-11-114 Cap Silver plate. N/S lugs Not maker marked



30-3-12-114 Collar Silver plate. N/S lugs Not maker marked



30-3-11-116 Cap Brown OSD. N/S lugs Not maker marked

30-3-12-116 Collar Brown OSD. N/S lugs Not maker marked

### **Formation patches introduced circa mid 1917**







### **12th Brigade, Trench Mortar Battery July 1st 1916 - September 9th 1916**

### **12th Brigade, Light Trench Mortar Battery September 9th 1916 - 1918**

In July 1916 under command of Captain A. Leighton (72nd Highlanders, 72nd Bn. CEF) the 12th Brigade Light Trench Mortar Battery was formed at Bramshott in England from the 72nd, 73rd, 78th and 87th Battalions arriving in France August 17th 1916. No War Diaries or Operations Orders are noted for this unit.

### **Formation patches introduced circa mid 1917**



### **Canadian Divisional Mortar Groups (Medium and Heavy) Trench Mortar Batteries**

### **Reorganization of the Trench Mortars March 1st 1916**

The medium and heavy batteries were combined under the designation the 1st Canadian Divisional Mortar Group March 1st 1916, the first War Diary entry being March 3rd 1916. Apparently like the light trench mortar batteries the medium batteries were numbered before March 1916 although no War Diaries are known for these with the exception of the 53rd. Number/letter/number battery designations were used from the beginning of March 1916. 'C' designations being used for light trench mortar batteries, 'X' and 'Y' for medium (4.7 to 6-inch) and 'Z' (9.5 inch) heavy. Initially a 'W' designation appears in the organizational chart of the 2nd Canadian Divisional Trench Mortar Group. The medium and heavy trench mortar batteries

retained the 'X', 'Y' and 'Z' designations for the duration of WWI.

### **53rd Trench Mortar Battery, 2nd Division**

The War Diary for the 53rd Trench Mortar Battery (Z/2/C 2nd Div.) under command of Lieutenant A.M. Thurston (HQ CFA Staff) KIA June 26th 1916 is dated from March 1st to March 31st 1916. The post February 1916 designation **Z/2/C** of the 53rd Trench Mortar Battery is intriguing as it would appear that other medium trench mortar batteries were originally numbered but for which no War Diaries are currently known.

### **1st Canadian Divisional Mortar Group**



### **2nd Canadian Divisional Mortar Group**



### **3rd Canadian Divisional Mortar Group**



### **Formation patches**

3rd Division patches were initially introduced in September 1916. The first pattern was white but this was changed to black 10 days later. The patches were initially worn on the back 1-inch below the collar but likely moved to the sleeves shortly after as in the example illustrated below.

#### **1st Pattern introduced October 1916 - May 1917**



#### **2nd Pattern adopted circa May 1917**



#### **4th Canadian Divisional Mortar Group**



### **5th Canadian Divisional Mortar Group**

Although illustrated in the literature branch designations were not worn by units of the 5th Division.



## **THE CANADIAN ORDNANCE CORPS**

The Canadian Ordnance Corps served as a component of the Quarter-Master General's Branch. The duties of the Ordnance Corps were to provide clothing, rifles, guns, equipment and ammunition and to maintain supplies of the same; and to provide the personnel to maintain the efficiency of equipment in the field. The Permanent Force component of the Corps was authorized July 1st 1903 under the designation Ordnance Stores Corp. Badges were authorized under General Order 30 of 1904 which reads in part 'Collar: Gilt or gilding metal, The Ordnance Arms surmounted by the Beaver; height, 1 7/8-inches; width, 1 1/4-inches. On Puggaree and cloth Forage cap. Same as for collar badge, with a scroll below inscribed "Ordnance." Height 1-5/8, width 1 1/4-inches. The title was changed to 'The' Canadian Ordnance Corps December 2nd 1907. A Militia component was authorized April 1st 1912 as the Canadian Ordnance Corps this with three detachments No.1 at London, No.2 at Toronto and No.3 at Kingston.

### **Canadian Ordnance Corps in WWI**

Thirty two all ranks of the (PF) Canadian Ordnance Corps sailed for England with the first contingent in October 1914, where an Ordnance Depot was established at Ashford in Kent, in the spring of 1915. The C.O.C. personnel were attested into the C.E.F. at Salisbury in England in February 1915 regimental numbers block 34801 - 35000. The only other listed numbers block is for No.9 Detachment from Halifax in 1918 these troops remaining in Canada. The establishment in England rose to 118 all ranks by September 1915. Overseas the maximum number of C.O.C. personnel serving with the C.E.F. was 25 Officers and

1,291 other ranks this in August 1917 by December 31st 1918 this number had been reduced to 20 Officers and 642 other ranks.

An Ordnance Armourer Sergeant served with each infantry battalion and an Ordnance Armament Artificer with each artillery brigade. In the field each division was assigned a C.O.C. Armourer Sergeant Major, each infantry brigade an Armourer Quarter-Master Sergeant and each battalion an Armourer Staff-Sergeant. For the Canadian Artillery the C.O.C. maintained two Light and one Medium Ordnance Mobile Workshops, these attached to the Canadian Corps. In addition each battery of Heavy or Siege Artillery was assigned a C.O.C. Armament Officer.

In the field equipment that became unfit for use was returned to an Ordnance Corps Depot for repair. In the field minor repairs were performed by Ordnance Mobile Workshops. The personnel of the Ordnance Workshops at the base depots comprised of armourers, wheelwrights, tailors, cobblers, carpenters etc. These men being selected from other units and trained for their special duties.

## Badges

Initially the C.O.C. personnel serving in the CEF wore the pre WWI 1912 pattern badges. In England an Ordnance Base was set up at Ashford in Kent that by June 11th 1915 with three officers and 42 Other Ranks this number rising to eight officers and 110 Other ranks by September 1915. Later in the war when the Canadians took over in the Bramshott and Witley areas a second Depot was set up at Liphook. A maximum of 25 officers served overseas in the COC in WWI. Although only ever a small unit badges were produced by a large number of makers both in Canada and in England.

### Badges by Canadian Makers

#### Attributed to P.W. Ellis & Co. circa 1912

The lugs in an East/West orientation. This issue is well struck with sharply detailed beaver on a log. The area below the shield on the cap badges is not voided. The cap badges are slightly 'domed'. Although not maker marked this issue is unlike the subsequent badges being struck in brass.



30-7-11-102 Cap Brass. Not maker marked. Not voided below shield



30-7-12-102 Collar Brass. Not voided below shield

### Badges by Caron Bros. Montreal



30-7-11-104 Cap Gilding metal. Not maker marked. Not voided below shield



30-7-11-106 Copper.. Not maker marked. Not voided below shield.



30-7-12-106 Collar Copper. Hemsley pattern lugs. Stamped 'CARON BROS'

### 1916 issues, large size cap badges



30-7-11-108 Cap. Gilding metal. Marked 'CARON BROS MONTREAL 1916'



30-7-12-108 Collar Copper. Marked 'CARON BROS MONTREAL 1916'



30-7-14-108 Title Copper finish. Maker marked 'CARON BROS MONTREAL 1916'



30-7-11-110 Cap Brown finish. Pin back. Marked 'CARON BROS MONTREAL 1916'

### Badges by Hemsley Circa 1917

The beavers on this issue sit on a 'tourse' not a log, as on the original patterns. Superior construction. The cap badge is not voided below shield. Fully struck up reverse. Not maker marked. Hemsley pattern lugs. Facing collar badges are not currently reported.





30-7-11-112 Cap Pickled finish. Not maker marked



30-7-12-112 Collar Pickled finish. Not maker marked

### Badges by British Makers

#### Un-authorized 4th Divisional Detachment title



30-7-14-114 Title Brass. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked

### Canadian Ordnance Mobile Workshops

For the Canadian Artillery the C.O.C. maintained two Light and one Medium Ordnance Mobile Workshops, these attached to the Canadian Corps.

30-7-23-116 Formation Patch Blue triangle with red central dot and letters 'O', 'M' and 'W' in the three corners

### CANADIAN ARMS AND INSPECTION DEPARTMENT

On arrival in England in 1915 a small repair shop the Canadian Arms Inspection and Repair Depot (C.A.I.R.D.) was established this small unit wearing its own distinctive badges these being authorized October 31st 1915.



30-7-11-118 Cap Brown finish. Not maker marked



30-7-12-118 Collar Brown finish. Not maker marked

**Officers OSD (large patterns) maker unidentified possibly Firmin**



30-7-11-120 Cap Die struck British Ordnance Corps badges with beaver attached



30-7-11-122 Cap Die cast badges. British Ordnance Corps badges with beaver attached





30-7-12-122 Collar Die cast badges. British Ordnance Corps badges with beaver attached

### Badges by Tiptaft (small size)

There are two different issues of other ranks badges by J.W. Tiptaft & Son. The first issue circa 1916 is struck in gilding metal and maker marked the collars on this issue do not appear to face. At press time only a single officers service dress darkened collar badge is reported. The second issue is not maker marked and is struck in brass. Between April 1918 and May 1919 500 C.O.C. cap badges were shipped to the Ordnance Depot at Ashford, Kent by Tiptaft none of these being listed still in inventory as of January 20th 1919.



30-7-11-124 Cap Gilding metal. Fully struck up reverse. Maker marked 'Tiptaft B'ham'



30-7-12-124 Collar Gilding metal. Fully struck up reverse. Maker marked 'Tiptaft B'ham'

### Officers

30-7-11-126 Cap Brown OSD. Fully struck up reverse. Maker marked 'Tiptaft B'ham'



30-7-12-126 Collar Brown OSD. Fully struck up reverse. Maker marked 'Tiptaft B'ham'

### Other ranks (circa 1918)



30-7-11-128 Cap Brass. Fully struck up reverse. Tiptaft pattern lugs. Not maker marked



30-7-12-128 Collar Brass. Fully struck up reverse. Tiptaft pattern lugs. Not maker marked



30-7-14-128 Title Brass. Brass. Large periods. Tiptaft type 2 lugs. Not maker marked



30-7-14-130 Title Brass. modified with top bar removed

### SIMILAR POST WWI BADGES

#### THE CANADIAN ORDNANCE CORPS (N.P.) 1921 - 1936

A non permanent component was established September 1st 1921 this being granted 'Royal' in 1936, prior to this the C.O.C. badges were worn. The shoulder title illustrated below is maker marked J.R. Gaunt & Son Ltd B'ham. This indicating it was produced circa 1927 but badges are not listed in General Orders for 1927 or 1928. The Peace Establishments for the Non-Permanent Active Militia were set out in the appendix to G.O. No. 4 of 1926.



30-7-11-132 Cap Gilding metal. Unidentified maker but with Gaunt pattern lug fasteners



30-7-14-132 Title Brass maker marked J.R.Gaunt & Son Ltd B'ham. Circa 1927.

### **Badges by unidentified maker**



30-7-12-134 Collar Brass. Die cast gilding metal with tiny Tiptaft pattern lugs.

### **THE PERMANENT CANADIAN ORDNANCE CORPS 1919**



30-7-14-136 Title Gilt lacquer on gilding metal. Maker marked Caron Bros 1919.

Under General Order 90 of November 3rd 1919 the Canadian Permanent Ordnance Corps was granted the prefix 'Royal' by King George V. The total establishment being set at 34 Officers and 551 other ranks. A Caretaker Section was added under General Order 106 of July 2nd 1920 comprising of 172 O.Rs.

### **THE ROYAL CANADIAN ORDNANCE CORPS 1919 - 1922**

#### **Badges attributed to Roden Bros**



30-7-11-140 Cap Brass. Flat cut sheet copper lugs. Fully struck up reverse. Not marked



30-7-12-140 Collar Brass. Flat cut sheet copper lugs. Fully struck up reverse. Not marked



30-7-14-140 Title Brass. '2' Bar titles were adopted in 1922

New badges were authorized under General Order 46 on 1922 which reads in part: “ ‘ROYAL CANADIAN ORDNANCE CORPS’ Cap Badge: In gilt. The Ordnance Arms encircled by a Garter bearing the words ‘HONI SOIT Y MAL Y PENSE’, the Garter surmounted by a crown, the whole within a wreath of maple leaves. Below the Garter a scroll bearing the letters ‘R.C.O.C.’. Collar badge: In gilt. Same as for cap badge. Dress regulation of 1907 is hereby amended.”