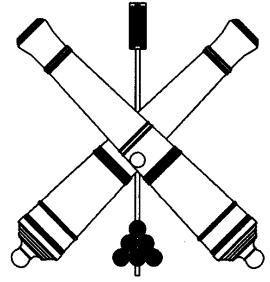


THE CANNON ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AFRICA

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9-inch Rifled Muzzle Loading Gun – Middle North Battery, Simonstown.

On 16 March 2011 the Simonstown Middle North Battery 9-incg RML gun will be fired for the first time in 108-years. (See events calendar for details of event and directions).



A bit of history and specifications:

- Manufactured at the Royal Gun Factory, Woolwich, in 1865.
 - 9 inch Mk 1 serial number 22 weight 12,5 tons.
 - Range 6,000 yards at 13 degrees of elevation with a charge of 45 lbs of very large grain powder.
 - Projectile weight 256 lb muzzle velocity 1,440 ft/sec.
 - Deployed in Halifax 1866 – 1878.
 - Moved to Bermuda in 1878 until 1881.
- Before being shipped to Bermuda, the gun was modified especially for ships of the "Shah" class.

- Used at Sheerness proving range 1881 – 1885. By 10/02/1885 the gun had fired 25 full rounds, 78 reduced rounds and 1 blank, returned.
- Moved to Simon's Town in 1896 – still in its original position.
By 13/02/1896 the gun was mounted at "Upper North Battery", first fired in 1896, 27 full rounds and 1 reduced round.
Fired in 1897, 38 full rounds, 8 blanks. (In September, 29 full rounds)
Fired in 1898, 20 full rounds and 3 blanks.
Fired in 1899, 26 full rounds and 7 blanks.
Last fired 27/04/1903, 3 full rounds.
Struck off charge on the 19/09/1906.
- In 1983/84 the gun was restored by the Gun Shop, Dock Yard Simons Town
- Fired 257 lb Palliser shot with a 50 lb powder charge, (first shot was with 33 lb in 1896).