



Army Museum of Tasmania

Anglesea Barracks
HOBART

Information Sheet No 19

1854 TARGETS UNCOVERED

The targets are made of cast iron, each estimated as weighing hundreds of kilograms. Uncovered within the grounds of Anglesea Barracks in 2007, they had laid buried in the ground covering drains and were in a badly rusted condition until the chance discovery. Following research by museum staff, sandblasting and a dedicated effort by museum volunteers these artefacts have been restored to a condition suitable for display.

When used as targets in the mid 1800's they were bolted together in various combinations for the different ranges at which the .577 and .45 calibre rifles were fired.

A single iron target plate measured 6' x 2' and various target configurations were used by bolting the plates together. Between 1854 – 59 the following configurations applied:

First Class	6'x12' =	Six Sections together with a 3' black centre 500-800 yds
Second Class	6'x8' =	Four sections together with a 2' black centre 300-600 yds
Third Class	6'x4' =	Two sections together with a 8" bull in 2' black Centre 100-150 yds standing, 200-300 yds kneeling

Width was reduced to 1 section at short range or extended to 8 sections at 900 yards.

The pure lead projectiles would on striking the target leave a grey coloration on the paint before dropping to the ground.



Rusted targets prior to restoration



Having positioned four plates for display, John Lennox, Chair of the Military Heritage Foundation of Tasmania thanks members of RAEME, 2FSB for their support .in 2009.