

James Stephen Lynch

An Unsung Life

Part Three

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(The Third)

Part three of James Stephen Lynch, An Unsung Life, opens with the departure of Eugene Hugh Lynch, James' older brother, from the family property, "Bulgundra". It was the year 1889.

Eugene Hugh Lynch joined the N.S.W. Artillery, on the 16th October 1889.

He was given the Regimental Number, 1907.

Age, 21 yrs 2 months,

Height, 5ft 10 3/4ins.

Eyes, Blue. Hair, Brown.

Complexion, Fresh. Marks, Nil.

Born, In or near town of Monaro, NSW.

Trade, Farmer.

Remarks, RC.

From the Australian War Memorial, under the heading:-

Training Records School of Gunnery Middle Head 1885 – 1894.

1st Class Course. Return of Marks obtained by Officers, non-commissioned officers and gunners of the NSW Artillery in written practical examination course commencing 14/2/1892 ending 30/6/1892.

Reg. No. 1907. Battery 2.

Lynch, E. (A Bom) Mark.

10" 25 ton 75

10" 18 ton 80.

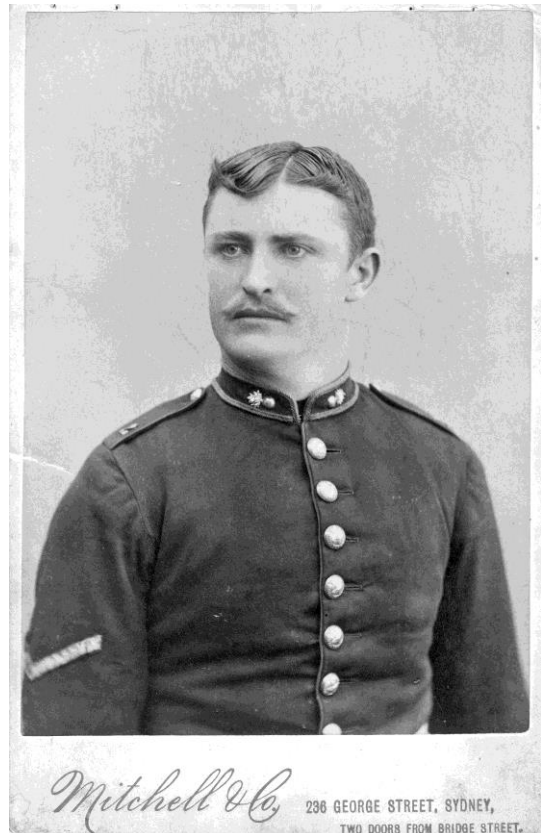
Shell Practice 120/200.

Shot Practice 100/200.

Total 1387. 2nd Class certificate.

A School of Gunnery was established at Middle Head in September 1885. NSW Artillery was stationed at Victoria Barracks. Outlying detachments were at Middle Head, Georges Head and South Head. The School of Gunnery transferred to South Head in the 1890's.

Eugene Lynch in NSW Artillery uniform, Sydney early 1890's aged early 20's.



There is also a photo of one of the guns being lowered into position on Middle Head with great numbers of men around assisting.

This was 1891.

Perhaps Eugene was there. How is your eyesight?



NSW Artillery Regiment was reserved for permanent gunners.

“A” Battery was the glamour unit and unique. It was always in the public eye. It took care to the best of its ability to maintain its professional competence. In all respects it was unchallenged in the whole of NSW, with the one exception of horsemanship.



Above:- Eugene Lynch on the right. Believed to be at South Head in the 1890's when he was in NSW Artillery.



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

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The Australian War Memorial has quite a varied collection of photos from the NSW Artillery, School of Gunnery in the years Eugene Lynch was serving.

The above picture is from the year 1890, within the first twelve months of Eugene's service. The caption that is attached to the photo follows:-

"Sydney. NSW. 1890". Group photograph of long course students at the NSW School of Gunnery, Middle Head.

No names attached. Anyone spot Eugene? My wife, Jackie, suggests it could be Eugene, back row far right. Going on hairstyle.?



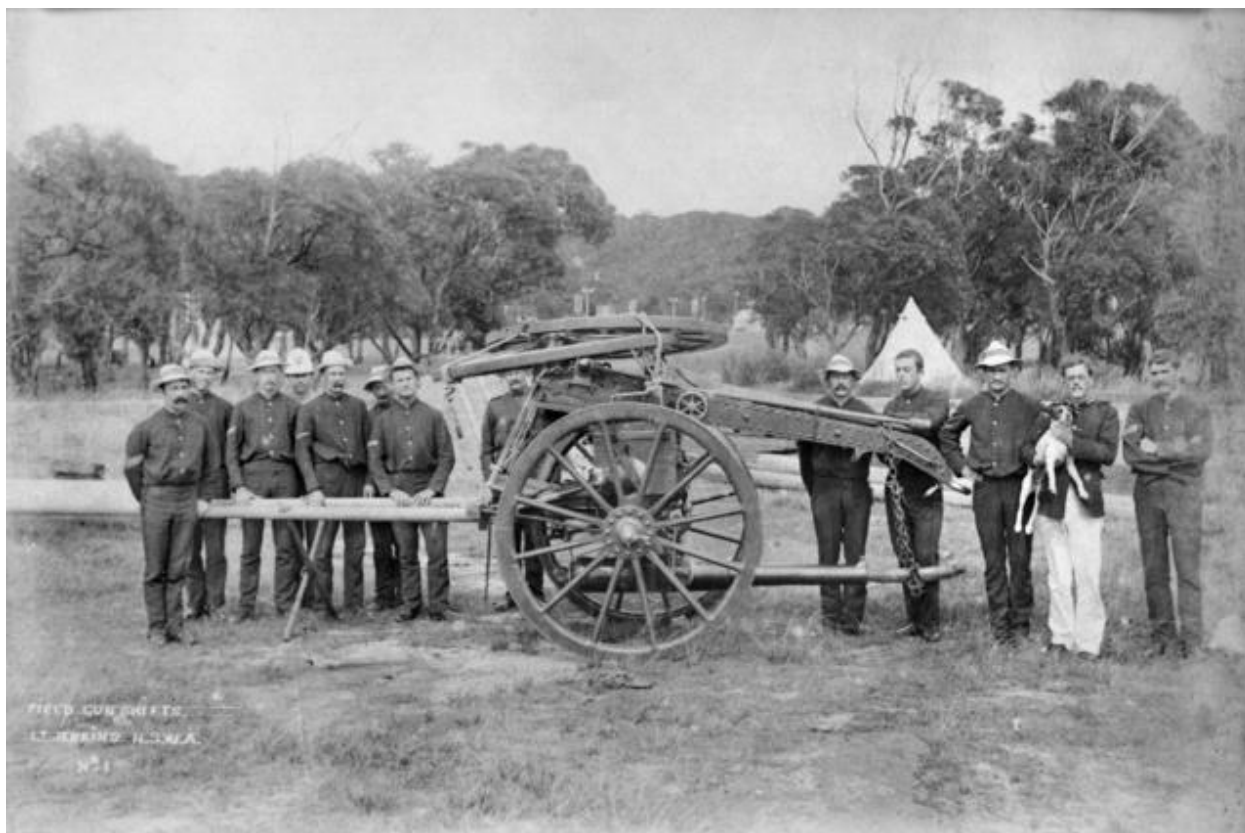
AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

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Caption of above photo reads:- NSW School of Gunnery. Sydney, NSW, 1892. Group photograph of officers, non commissioned officers and gunners attending the long course at the NSW School of Gunnery, Middle Head.

This was the year that the Training records of Eugene Lynch were recorded a few pages previously.

Chances are he is somewhere among the group that were doing the course that year.



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

P00991.017

One more picture from the year 1892. The caption is as follows:-

“Sydney, NSW, 1892. Members of the long course at the NSW School of Gunnery, Middle Head. Moving a gun and limber. The gun is a 9 pounder rifled muzzle loader (RML) mark2. A pet dog also appears to be involved.”

Again no names are given, which after one hundred and twenty five plus years makes picking out a face accurately extremely difficult.

Eugene Lynch remained with the NSW Artillery until late 1894 early 1895. His original decision to join the NSW Artillery was influenced, no doubt, by his elder cousin Thomas Lynch, son of Thomas Lynch, the Irish convict, who was Eugene and James’ uncle.

(More on this in another upcoming report on the life and times of the Lynch tribe.)