

THE BADGE (OR CYPHER)

The Badge of the Association consists of a wreath made up of Red Maple Leaves and Green Oak Leaves and Acorns. Maple Leaves occupy the upper left and lower right quarters of the circle; Oak makes up the remainder and each quarter is separated by a cross formy (i.e. a cross made up of four triangular shapes equal in size).



The Maple Leaves are of obvious relevance as the Association is 'of Canada'. On the other hand, the Oak Leaves and Acorns are a long held symbol of loyalty and fidelity to the Monarchy. In the British traditions, this has been particularly so since Charles the II was hidden in the Oak Tree after the Battle of Worcester in 1651. As a consequence, he chose an Oak Tree as the symbol for his Coronation Medal following the Restoration, and ever since, the oak had this particular symbolism of fidelity for loyalists.

The cross formy placed at each point where the Maple and Oak come together in the Badge is inspired by the form of cross which has long been used by the Association. In the centre is the Cypher G III R signifying Georgius Tertius Rex, the sovereign to whom the Loyalists gave their devotion and their service in such a pre-eminent manner. This Cypher is similar to the one actually used by George III during his lifetime.

Loyalist Note: Royal Symbols

The Badge is included in the Grant of Arms or Armorial Bearings to the Association. The esteem with which Canadians and their institutions are held by The Queen is reflected by the inclusion of no less than three Royal symbols in the Armorial Bearings: The Crown in the Shield of the Arms, the Union Jack in the Crest and the Royal Cypher of George III who reigned at the time the original Loyalists took up arms in defence of the Crown in the thirteen rebellious American colonies.