

ArtiFactsheet: Sopwith Pup

A U.K designed plane, the Sopwith Pup was famed aircraft designer Thomas Sopwith's first single-seat fighter. After a series of successful tests, The Royal Flying Corps (U.K) ordered their first Pups in April 1916 with the Royal Naval Air Service (U.K.) following suit in June. Deliveries to the two services began in September and November 1916 respectively.

During the First World War, Pups operated through the thick of the fighting in 1917 then were gradually withdrawn to become trainers. Four companies manufactured 1 575 Pups before production stopped in October 1918. The Royal Naval Air Service employed Pups to pioneer the use of floating vessels as a base for flying operations.

For more information about the Sopwith Pup visit ingeniumcanada.org/aviation/collection-research/artifact-sopwith-pup.php.

Many artifacts related to aviation and First World War planes can be found in the collection of Ingenium – Canada's Museums of Science and Innovation: ingeniumcanada.org/ingenium/collection-research/collection.php.

Artifact Details

Sopwith Pup, 1967
Manufacturer: George Neal
Artifact no. 1973.0657

The Sopwith Pup found at the Canada Aviation and Space Museum is a reproduction built by George Neal of Toronto. Manufacture of the Pup took over seven years to complete. First flown by Neal on September 2, 1967, the aircraft was featured in several air shows and fly-ins before the Museum purchased it in 1973.

Fun Fact

"Pup", the only name ever used for the airplane, was not recognized by the authorities, who had officially named it the "Scout".

Canada Aviation and Space Museum, Image Bank, CAVM 14755

