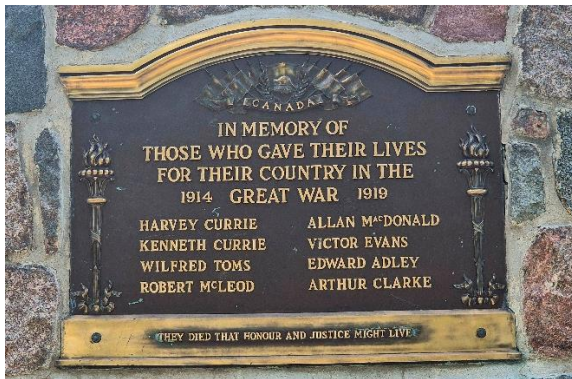


Bayfield Stories



Allan Daniel MacDonald was a private in the 18th Battalion Canadian Infantry (Western Ontario Regiment).



He was born on 16th September 1896 in Bayfield, Huron, Ontario. He was the son of Donald Daniel and Mary Elizabeth MacDonald (Pflug).

In 1911 Allan was living with his parents and sisters Alice, Margaret, Agnes and Ruth. His father was a farmer.

On 2nd March 1916 while living in Bayfield Allan enlisted in the 18th Battalion Canadian Infantry. He listed his occupation as fisherman (deep-sea fisherman).

He died of wounds on 15th August 1918 in Marcelcave, Somme and is buried in Villers-Bretonneux Military Cemetery. While taking part in an attack on Marcelcave, he was seriously wounded in the right hip by an enemy machine gun bullet on the morning of 8th August 1918. He died a week later from the effects of his wounds at No.48 Casualty Clearing Station.

Arthur Edward Clarke was a private in the 58th Battalion Canadian Infantry (Central Ontario Regiment). He was born on 1st December 1880 in Margate, Kent. He was the son of Augustus Bagley and Mary Alice Bagley Clarke, of Gillingham, Kent.

At age 16, he enlisted as a seaman and served for eight years in the British Royal Navy (1896-1904) before emigrating to Canada. On enlistment in the Canadian Expeditionary Force, he was living in Hensall, Ontario, working as a labourer and was married to Emily Emma Company who he married on 29th November 1908. He enlisted on 13th May 1916 in Hensall, Ontario with his brother Herbert in the 161st Huron Battalion.

The battalion was mobilized at London, Ontario and went to Camp Borden. It sailed from Halifax on 1st November on the SS Lapland and arrived in England on 11th November. The battalion was stationed at Lower Dibgate and went on to Shorecliffe Heights. Arthur was reassigned to the 58th Battalion and was among a draft of 250 men sent to France on 1st December. Separated from his brother Herbert (transferred to the 47th Battalion), he was killed on 15th June 1917 while on duty in a trench when a mortar bomb exploded near him. He was 36 and is buried in Petit- Vimy British Cemetery.

Edward Percy Adley was a private in the 4th Battalion Canadian Mounted Rifles (2nd Central Ontario Regiment).



He was born in Eltham, Kent on 20th February 1887. He was the son of Arthur and Annie Adley (Burt) of Bellingham, London. His father was born in Blackwater, Reading and his mother was born in Lydd, Kent.

In 1901 Edward was living with his parents and brothers Albert, William and George in Battersea, London. His father was a poultry and fish worker.

Edward arrived in Canada on 20th March 1909 aboard the S.S Tunisian.

Edward enlisted in Clinton, Ontario on 1st September 1915 in the 4th Battalion Canadian Mounted Rifles (2nd Central Ontario Regiment). At the time he stated that he was a farmer.

On 15th September 1916, the 4th Battalion Canadian Mounted Rifles fought near Mouquet Farm during the Battle of Flers-Courcelette on the Somme. Attached to the 8th Infantry Brigade, 3rd Canadian Division, the battalion suffered nearly 280 casualties in a costly attack against German defensive trenches. Edward was killed in action on 15th September 1916 and is remembered on the Vimy Memorial.

Harvey James Currie was a private in the 7th Battalion Canadian Infantry (British Columbia Regiment). He (William James Harvey) was born on 11th March 1895. He was the son of Samuel James and Agnes Currie (Nicholson).

In 1911 Harvey was living in the Huron South district of Ontario and was working as a labourer on a farm.

He initially enlisted in Clinton, Ontario in the 33rd Infantry Battalion on 9th August 1915. The battalion sailed aboard the S.S Lapland on 17th March 1916 arriving in England on 26th March. While stationed at Shorncliffe he was transferred to the 7th Infantry Battalion and was sent to France on 25th May 1916.

He was killed in action on 9th September 1916 by shell fire while his company were repelling an enemy attack and is remembered on the Vimy Ridge Memorial, France. His company were occupying an area south-east of Mouquet Farm, Courcelette during the Battle of Ginchy as part of the Battle of the Somme.



Kenneth Currie was a private in the 161st Battalion Canadian Infantry (Huron Battlefield). He was born on 16th April 1898 in Clinton, Ontario. He was the son of Samuel James and Agnes Currie (Nicholson).

In 1901 Kenneth was living with his parents, brother William and sisters Janet, Laura and Irene in Stanley, Ontario. His father was a labourer.

Kenneth enlisted in Clinton, Ontario on 17th February 1916 in the 161st Battalion Canadian Infantry. He stated that he was a labourer. The Battalion sailed on 1st November 1916 aboard the S.S. Lapland arriving in England on 26th March.

He was killed in action on 30th August 1918 during the Battle of the Drocourt-Queant Line. He is buried in Upton Wood Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France.



Robert McLeod was a private in the 102nd Battalion Canadian Infantry (Central Ontario Regiment). He was born on 25th March 1880.

On 22nd October 1916, the 102nd Battalion (Northern British Columbians), Canadian Expeditionary Force was stationed in France/Flanders after arriving from England on 12th August, undergoing active frontline training and trench routines as part of the 11th Infantry Brigade, 4th Canadian Division. Robert was killed on 22nd October 1916 and is buried in Adanac Military Cemetery, France.

Victor Raymond Evans was a Cadet in the 79th Canadian Training Squad Royal Air Force. He was the son of William and Martha A Evans

He enlisted in Bayfield, Ontario in November 1917 and was accepted into the Royal Flying Corps on 10th December 1917.

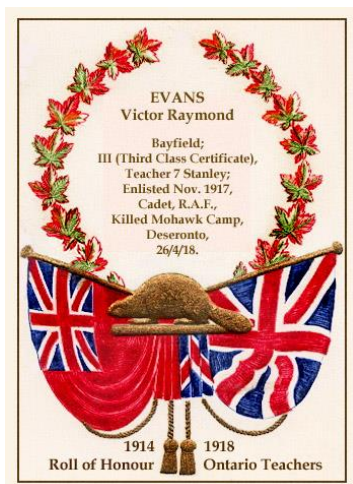
He was killed at Camp Mohawk pilot training camp, Deseronto on 25th April 1918 and is buried in Bayfield Cemetery. Victor was struck on the head by a propellor while getting out the front of a machine.

The Court of Inquiry verdict was:

No. 153475
The Cause of the accident was in our opinion that Cadet Evans V.R. No. 153475 whilst on duty at Camp Mohawk, Deseronto, on 25th April, 1918, about 11 o'clock a.m., after having come down from an instructional flight under 2/Lieut. J.I. Bedingfield in Machine C-477, got out of the front seat of the machine contrary to instructions, and walked into the propellor.

Detail from Attorney General's 1918 file RG4-32/1152 at the Archives of Ontario

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Wilfred Toms was a private in the 18th Battalion Canadian Infantry (Western Ontario Regiment). He (Hugh Wilfred Toms) was born 18th February 1898 in Bayfield River, Ontario. He was the son of John Nicholas and Eliza Toms (McNeil).

Wilfred registered for military service in 1916 and stated that he was working as a fisherman. He arrived with the 161st Battalion at Liverpool on November 11, 1916, he was transferred to the 18th Battalion and arrived in the field on April 3, 1918. He served with the Battalion until August 8, 1918, when he was killed in action in operations.

He died 8th August 1918 at Marcelcave, Somme and is buried in Crucifix Corner Cemetery, Villers-Bretonneux, France. His brother Private Malcolm Lloyd Toms served alongside Wilfred and was fortunate to survive the conflict.