



Allan Sidwell Batten

Royal Newfoundland Regiment

Regimental No. 2045

World War I

Born: 25 Feb 1895

Died: 21 Jul 1959

Place of Birth: Bareneed, Port de Grave Peninsula, Conception Bay, Newfoundland

Parents: Abram and Harriett (nee Bussey) Batten

Although born in Bareneed, Allan grew up in St. John's. He was the third (3rd) child of three (3) born to Abram and Harriett. Allan had two older sisters, Bertha, and Gladys.

Allan enlisted in the Royal Newfoundland Regiment on the 22nd of December 1915. He was twenty-one (21) at the time and according to his attestation (enlistment) papers, he stood 5' 6" tall, was of fair complexion with light brown hair and grey eyes. He listed his occupation as clerk, was single and Anglican by faith.

His official service record contains the following entries:

1. 24 – 03 – 1916: Embarked St. John's on board the SS Sicilian.



SS Sicilian

2. 09 – 02 – 1916: Embarked Southampton for BEF (British Expeditionary Force). Disembarked Rouen, France
3. 21 – 07 – 1916: Joined unit
4. 06 – 10 – 1916: Admitted to hospital Boulogne with "Trench Fever."
5. 06 – 10 – 1916: Invalided to England
6. 07 – 10 – 1916: Admitted to Western hospital Manchester
7. 15 – 07 – 1917: Furloughed and assigned to headquarters for discharge
8. 04 – 08 – 1917: Arrived Newfoundland

9. 21 – 02 – 1917: Discharged
“medically unfit.”

Back in civilian life and the war over, Allan married Florence May Smith on May 20th, 1919. She was 20 years old.

The 1921 Newfoundland general census shows the Battens living on Long’s Hill in St. John’s East. They have two children, Bertha who is one (1) year old and Weston, who is just several months old.

By 1935 and the next census enumeration, Allan is 40 and Florence is 36. They are still in St. John’s but have moved to Parade Street. Their family now consists of nine (9) children, Bertha 15, Weston 13, Allan 11, Gwendlyn 10, Fredericka 8, Joan 5, Robert 3, Madeline 2, and Edward, less than a year old. Allan’s occupation is noted as merchant,

Ten years later at the next census, the family has grown to include daughters Margaret and Sandra, bringing the total to eleven (11) children in all.

Allan died in July 1959 at the age of sixty-four (64). Cause of death noted was hypostatic pneumonia and other complications. He is buried at St. Mark’s Anglican Cemetery at Bareneed, Newfoundland.