



**James Henry Mercer**  
**Royal Naval Reserve (Newfoundland)**  
**Service No. 754X**  
**World War I**

**Born:** 04 Feb 1885

**Died:** 08 Dec 1977 (age 92)

**Place of Birth:** Country Road, Bay Roberts, Newfoundland

**Parents:** John and Naomi Mercer

James enlisted in the Royal Naval Reserve (Newfoundland at the Port of St. John's in August 1914.

The official Service Record for James from the archives have the following hand-written entries. It provides a timeline of events by date and postings for him.

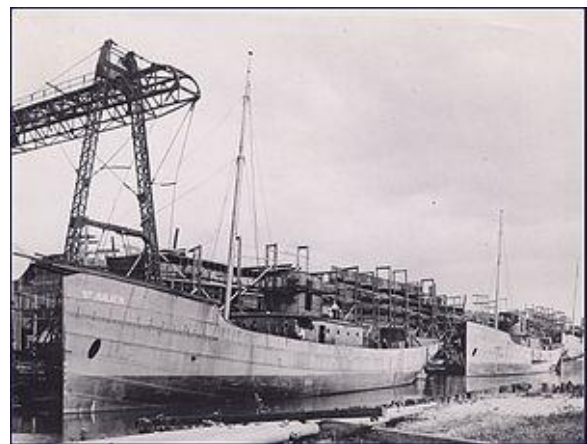
1. 08 Aug 1914 – 05 Nov 1914: HMS Calypso

2. 06 Nov 1914 – 06 Dec 1914: HMS Vivid 1
3. 07 Dec 1914 – 03 Dec 1915: ???
4. 04 Dec 1915 – 13 Jan 1916: HMS Vivid 1
5. 14 Jan 1916 – 14 Feb 1917: HMCS Rainbow



**HMCS Rainbow**

6. 15 Feb 1917 – 15 May 1917: HMCS Niobe
7. 16 May 1917 – 29 Jul 1917: HMCS Stadacona
8. 30 Jul 1917 – 30 Apr 1918: HMCS Stadacona
9. 01 May 1918 – 06 Sep 1918: HMCS Guelph
10. 07 Sep 1918 – 26 Sep 1918: HMCS St. Julien



*St Julien* (left), *Vimy*, and *Ypres* under construction at Toronto, circa. May 1917

11. 27 Sep 1918 – 14 Jan 1919: T.R.4

12. 15 Jan 1919 – 11 Feb 1919: HMCS Niobe
13. 11 Feb 1919: Shore demobilized.

In 1910 prior to enlisting in the war effort, James had married Dorcas Gray of Coley's Point.

The 1921 general Newfoundland census lists the Mercer's as living in Country Road, Bay Roberts. They have three (3) children, John aged 9, Fannie age 7 and Wanda just 1. Naomi, James' mother now a widow is living with them. She is 64.

By 1935, James and Dorcas are still listed as being in Country Road but only Wanda 16 and latest addition Emmie 12 is at home with them.

Dorcas passed away in 1945 and the census now reflects that change with just James at 55 living alone.

James passed away in December 1977 at the age of 92. Both he and Dorcas are buried in the St. John The Evangelist Churchyard Cemetery at Coley's Point.