



James Mugford

Royal Newfoundland Regiment

Regimental No. 4944

World War I

Born: 19 Aug 1898

Died: 25 Mar 1990

Place of Birth: Clarke's Beach, Conception Bay, Newfoundland

Parents: George and Annie (Ann Maria) Snow) Mugford

On May 7th, 1918, a 20 year old James enlisted in the Royal Newfoundland Regiment at the CLB Armoury Headquarters and recruiting office on Harvey Road in St. John's. According to his enlistment paper and medical form, he was 5' 6 ³/₄ " tall, with blue eyes and a distinguishing scar on the right side of his face below his ear. He was single, a fisherman by trade and a Methodist by faith.

James official service record is somewhat brief containing just several entries as noted below:

1. 07 – 05 – 18: Enlisted
2. 11 – 06 – 18: Embarked St. John's by train for Halifax, Nova Scotia



3. 07 – 07 – 18: In Halifax hospital. Supposed to be part of draft No. 20
4. 26 – 10 – 18: Reported at depot from Halifax
5. 30 – 11- 18: Discharged as being "medically unfit."

A letter from James' father dated 07 July 1918 questions as to why the doctor who did his original medical did not see the problem with his son. This letter is fairly outspoken and found on page 15 of James' service record and worth a read (copy on next page).

In civilian life, James (24) is found in the 1921 Newfoundland general census living in Clarke's Beach with wife Emma (20).

The 1935 census lists James' parents George (70) and Annie (65) still in Clarke's Beach but there is no entry for James or wife Emma. It seems that have moved to the United States and are listed in the 1940 United States general census living on Cottage Street, Everett, Massachusetts. The Mugford's own their home and James is a naturalized US citizen and working as a paint dryer. They now have four (4)

children, Alfred, Ralph, Emmie and Ethel,
all born in the US.

James passed away in March 1990 and is
buried in Woodlawn Cemetery in Everett.

Page 15 from the Service Record of Pte James Mugford

H944 Pte James Mugford
Mrs Mugford father Clarke Beach
Clarke Beach
N/ July 7 1918
Dear sir
Just a few lines to let you
know that I got your letter
about my son Pte James
Mugford 1914
and I am sorry to hear that
He is sick but that is what
I was expecting when he passed
him and the Doctor must have
been in pain are in tormented
are some other thing for he could
see the marks in his head
What are they going to do
with him now send and tell
me it is no good for the
Doctor to operate on is dead
for it was born with him
for the Doctor should be more care
full it only gives people trouble and
the Admiralty expense your truly
George Mustford