

William Barrett
Canadian Expeditionary Force
Regimental No. A10766
World War I

Born: 02 October 1889

Died: 06 June 1916

Place of Birth: Frenches Cove, Bay Roberts, Newfoundland

Parents: John and Eliza Barrett

William was working as a labourer in Smiths Falls, Ontario at the time of his enlistment on 13 February 1915.

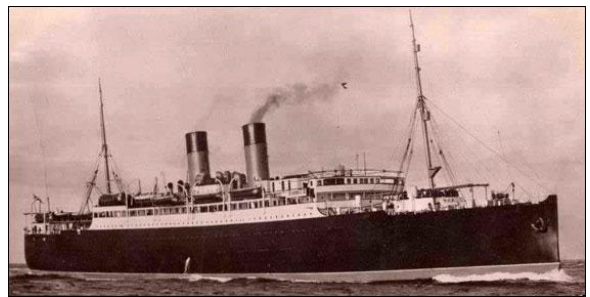
His enlistment papers paint a picture of this 25 year old Newfoundlander who stood only 5'4" tall, weighed 152 lbs and was described as having a dark complexion with dark hair and blue eyes. He was single and of the Anglican faith.

Upon satisfactory completion of the traditional medical, which took place in Ottawa on 27 Mar 1915, he was pronounced fit for overseas service and attached to the 42nd Battalion for a brief time.

He was transferred to the 38th Battalion of the CEF (Canadian Expeditionary Force.), then to the 12th Reserve Battalion and eventually to the 2nd Battalion 1st Canadian Brigade.

William's service record contains the following entries:

- 1) 13 Feb 1915: Enlisted and attached to the 42nd Battalion
- 2) 27 Mar 1915: passed medical at Ottawa
- 3) 28 Mar 1915: Attested and transferred to the 38th Battalion
- 4) 24 Jun 1915: Embarked Halifax aboard the HMTS Missanbie



HMTS Missanbie

- 5) 04 Jul 1915: Arrived Plymouth, England
- 6) 06 Jul 1915: TOS (taken on strength) drafted to the 2nd Battalion overseas CIB (Canadian Infantry Brigade)
- 7) 07 May 1916: Granted leave
- 8) 14 May 1916: Rejoined Unit
- 9) 11 June 1916: "missing since operations 03 Jun 16 to 08 Jun 16"
- 10) 06 Jun 1916: "Killed in Action"

Private William Barrett (Number A/10766) of the 2nd Battalion (East Ontario Regiment) of the Canadian Expeditionary Force, having no known last resting-place, is commemorated on the stone of the Menin Gate, Ypres (today Ieper): Panel reference 10-18-26-28. William is also remembered on the Cenotaph in Bay Roberts.

There is a memorial stone found in the old St. Matthews Anglican Cemetery, Bay Roberts.

The Stone Inscription Reads:

“Erected by his father
In Loving Memory of his son
Pte William Barrett
2nd Battalion 1st Canadian Brigade
who was killed in action June 2, 1916
age 27 years.”



WW I Medals awarded posthumously to Pte William Barrett (on display at Branch 32).



“Death Penny” presented to the family of Pte William Barrett (on display at Br. 32).

Below are clippings from The Guardian newspaper from Bay Roberts that mention William:

23 April 1915

Wm. Barrett, son of John Barrett, French's Cove, wrote to his father recently from Ottawa telling him that he had volunteered for the front. Will has been living in Canada for the past four years. Newfoundland will be well represented in this war, both on land and sea.

30 June 1916

Reported Missing

Ottawa, Ont., June 26, 1916.
To Jno. Barrett, French's Cove.
Sincerely regret inform you
A10766 Pte. Wm. Barrett infantry
officially reported missing operations between June 3rd and June 8th. Officer in Charge Recon Office.