

William Hall

Newfoundland Merchant Navy

World War II

Born: 28 Sep 1918

Place of Birth: Hallstown, North River,

Conception Bay, Newfoundland

Parents: William J and Julia (Mahoney)

Hall

The Hall family of Hallstown, North River was a rather large one. According to vital statistics, William (Sr.) and Julia had no less

than nine (9) children together.

William (Jr.) was the sixth child born to the couple. When William became of age, he signed on as seaman in the Canadian Merchant Navy. He was an able seaman on board the SS Canford Chine

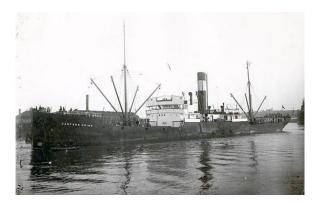


Photo Courtesy of Library of Contemporary History, Stuttgart

SS Canford Chine

when it was attacked and sank by U-52 on February 8, 1941

Name Canford Chine

Type: Steam merchant

Tonnage: 3,364 tons

Completed: 1917 - Richardson, Duck &

Co Ltd, Stockton-on-Tees

Owner Chine Shipping Co Ltd, Swansea

Homeport: Swansea

Date of attack:10 Feb 1941

Nationality: British

Fate: Sunk by U-52 (Otto Salman)

Position: 55° 51'N, 17° 35'W - Grid AL 6269

Complement: 36 (36 dead - no survivors)

Convoy: OG-52 (straggler)

Route: Cardiff - Buenos Aires - Uriburu

Cargo: General cargo and coal

History: Completed in December 1917 as Bryntawe for H. & B. Goldberg, Swansea. 1936 renamed Canford Chine for Chine

Shipping Co Ltd, Swansea.

The Sinking:

At 14.35 hours on 10 Feb 1941 the unescorted Canford Chine (Master Neil Macdougall), a straggler from convoy OG-52 since 8 February, was hit underneath the bridge by one G7e torpedo from U-52 about 165 miles southwest of Rockall. The ship broke in two and sank after being hit amidships by a coup de grâce at 15.35 hours. The Germans later observed a lifeboat under

sails at the sinking position, but the survivors were never seen again. The master, 33 crew members and two gunners were lost. *There were no survivors*.

William is commemorated on the Halifax Memorial Panel 19.

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