

St. James Westminster Church

Remembrance

To the Glory of God and to the Memory of Those of this Church who served Their King and Country.

The Supreme Sacrifice

World War I

1914 – 18

Arthur Bailey Aitken
Herman Aitken
Ellison Preston Atkinson
William Edward Baker
Frederick Carfrae
Robert Carfrae
Charles Herbert Collyer
Robert Anderson Charles Crowder
Oswald Austin Hicks
Mark Holland
William George Howlett
Albert Edward Liley
Edward Lionel Morley
Robert Mowat
Lawrence Russell Skelly
Richard Whetter
William Henry Yorick

World War II

1939 – 45

Cyril William Darling
Alan William Garnet
Harry Albert Howarth
Donald Earle Craig Lawrence
Edward Leonard Littleford
Peter George Mason
Herbert Kitchener Pattison
Herbert Andrew Tripp
Richard Wildgoose

Former St. James Curate
Reverend Walter (Bob) Leslie Brown

Notes on the research

I began the research by cross checking names with Library and Archives Canada's First World War Personnel database. I attempted to eliminate people based on their area of birth and the addresses of their next of kin. I then eliminated more people by cross checking the religion listed on their attestation papers, as well as any addresses not within south London limits.

If the soldier's attestation papers were online I used them along with the Circumstances of Death database to find out details. I also checked their names with commemorations and monuments.

The soldiers listed in the first section are the ones who were identified as dying during the course of the First World War. There is a small section below where I did a little research on some people who survived the war.

Please note that the research below was taken from Library and Archives Files, the Canadian War Graves Commission and the London Christmas Echo.

Made the Supreme Sacrifice



Private Arthur Bailey Aitken 1045832

Aitken was born in December 1898 in London, Ontario. At the time of his enlistment he stated that he was a labourer and that he had previously spent one year with the 7th Fusiliers. He enlisted with the Canadian Expeditionary Force on 23 March 1917. He was placed in the 241st Battalion and went to the Young Soldier's Battalion upon arrival in England. Aitken was later transferred to the 12th Battalion, and then the 15th Battalion.

He was killed in action on 27 September 1918. The record stated he was killed instantly by an enemy bullet while crossing an open trench in the Buissy, France while on military operations. He is buried at Chapel Corner British Cemetery.



Private Herman Aitken 112168

Herman Aitken was born in London, Ontario on 4 October 1893. His parents were listed as his next of kin and lived on his attestation papers. They lived on Bruce Street. At the time of his enlistment in 1915, Aitken was working as a shoe maker in London. He was immediately placed with the 7th Canadian Mounted Rifles. In November 1916 he was transferred to the 18th Battalion.

Baker was killed about two miles east of Vimy on 9 May 1917. Herman Aitken's name appears on the Vimy Memorial in France.



Private Ellison Preston Atkinson 226044

Private Atkinson was born on 29 July 1897 in Glencoe, Ontario. He decided to enlist with the Canadian Expeditionary Force in October 1915. At the time, his occupation was a student.

Atkinson left Canada and landed in Shorncliffe, England in 1916. Not long after he began training, he became seriously ill and was hospitalized.

He died on 30 May 1916 in Moore Barracks Hospital in England from meningitis and influenza. Private Atkinson is buried in the Shorncliffe Military Cemetery in England.

Sergeant William Edward Baker 26669

Sergeant Baker was born in London, Ontario on 26 May 1891. He enlisted for service in September 1914. When he enlisted he stated that he had been a part of the 7th Regiment in London for 3 years, though at the time he listed his occupation as being a hospital attendant. He was originally placed in the 14th Battalion, but he requested a transfer to the Canadian Army Medical Corps in 1917. Baker was then placed with the 1st Field Ambulance of the CAMC and was promoted to Sergeant at this time.

He contracted pneumonia in November 1918 and died from his illness on 27 November 1918 and was buried in Nivelles Communal Cemetery in Belgium. He was survived by his parents, residents of 7 Byron Ave, London, Ontario. In he was awarded the Military Medal in 1919.

Private Frederick Carfrae 400924

Fredrick Carfrae was born in Watford, Ontario in 1886. He attested 14 May 1915 in London. On his attestation papers he stated that he was a member of the 1st Hussars for seven years prior to his enlistment. Carfrae was placed with the 33rd Battalion. He arrived in England in 1916 and was transferred to the 4th Battalion of the Canadian Mounted Rifles in France.

He was declared missing and later dead on 2 June 1916. Records state that he was killed by a shell explosion while fighting near Ypres. Private Carfrae was commemorated on the Menin Gate Memorial. He was survived by his wife Isabelle.

Private Robert Carfrae 491258

Robert Carfrae was born in Sussex, England in 1894 and came to Canada and worked as a farmer. He enlisted with the 33rd Battalion in Canada on 15 May 1915.

He arrives in England on 26 March 1916 and was transferred to the 4th Battalion of the Canadian Mounted Rifles in June.

Carfrae was killed in action on 16 September 1916. He was buried at the Serre Road Cemetery No. 2 near Somme, France.

Sergeant Charles Herbert Collyer 109277

Charles Collyer was born in Saskatchewan in 1892 but had moved to London, Ontario. At his time of enlistment in December 1914 he was a banker, but stated that he had previously served for three years with the 7th Fusiliers. He enlisted in Toronto, though his father was listed as living in London. When he enlisted he was given the rank of Corporal and was placed with the 4th Canadian Mounted Rifles. Collyer arrived in France in October 1915 and was promoted to sergeant in the spring of 1916.

He was declared missing in the vicinity of Maple Copse, Belgium on 2 June 1916 and was later declared dead. He is commemorated on the Menin Gate Memorial.



Private Robert Charles Anderson Crowder 802536 (Unsure if it's the same person that is on the honour roll)

Private Crowder was born 19 March 1896 in London, Ontario. At the time of his attestation in 1916 he was working as a clerk. He was originally placed with the 135th Battalion and arrived in England in August 1916. Crowder was transferred to the 134th Battalion, then to the 12th Battalion, and then to the 15th Battalion in 1918. Later that year he was transferred to the 1st Canadian Mounted Rifles.

He was killed on 29 September 1918 while he was marching at St. Olle near Cambrai by an enemy shell. He is buried in Crest Cemetery, Fontaine-Notre Dame.

Lieutenant Oswald Austin Hicks 45004

Hicks was born in 1893 in London, Ontario. On his attestation papers on 22 September 1914, he stated that he was a civil engineering student from Queen's University. On his attestation papers he noted that he was part of the cadets as a youth. He was placed in the 1st Divisional Engineers. He was then appointed to the new army on 17 January 1915 and rose to the rank of sergeant. At some point during the war he appears to have been transferred to the Machine Gun Corps.

He died on 17 December 1918 and is buried at Woodland Cemetery in London, ON.

Private George Holland 874700

Holland was born in Worsley, England in 1889. He lived in Manitoba and worked as a farmer at the time of his enlistment into the 184th Battalion in 1916. His mother, who he listed as his next of kin was a resident of High Street here in London. On his attestation papers he noted that he had previously been in the C.A.S.C. for six months at Camp Ewell. Soon after joining he was transferred to the 11th Battalion and then to the 78th Battalion.

He was killed on 18 June 1917 in Belgium. Records state that he was killed by a shell blast while he was on duty as a member of a working party near Vimy. He is buried in La Chaudiere Military Cemetery.



Private William George Howlett 53125 and 739404

Howlett was born in Cambridge, England in 1876. At the time of his enlistment he was working in London as a bricklayer and city inspector. He enlisted the first time in 1914 and had served with the 18th Battalion. Howlett was discharged on 20 October 1915. He reenlisted, but due to illness he was not able to be deployed until March 1916. He was placed in the 114th Battalion of the C.E.F.

He served overseas until 1 September 1916 when he was killed in action. He is commemorated in Mount Pleasant Cemetery in London, ON.



Albert Edward Liley 802829

Liley was born on 30 December 1896 in London, Ontario. He enlisted on 26 January 1916 with the 135th Battalion. At the time of his enlistment he had never been involved with any other militia. He arrived in England and was transferred to the 116th Battalion, and was then transferred to the 18th Battalion in France.

He was killed on 10 November 1917 in the trenches south of Passchendaele. He left behind his mother, Mrs. Caroline Liley, a member of St. James Church. He is commemorated on the Menin Gate Memorial near Ypres.

***** Morley**

Missing from the records



Private Robert Mowat 112264

Private Mowat was born in 1889 in Toronto, Ontario. Prior to the war he was employed as a blacksmith. He enlisted in London on March 20 1915, citing his address as 103 Beaconsfield Ave. Mowat was a member of the 5th Canadian Mounted Rifles Battalion.

He was killed in action on 1 October 1916, west of Courcelette, France. His name was placed on the Vimy Memorial.



Private Lawrence Russell Skelly 803015

Lawrence Skelly was born on 10th August 1897 in London, Ontario. He enlisted in March 1916. On his attestation papers he listed his occupation as a cutter, and noted that he had served for 1 and a half years with the 7th Fusiliers. He served with the 18th Battalion of the Canadian Infantry.

He died on 24 March 1917 and was commemorated on the Vimy Memorial. He was 19 at the time of his death. His father, William Skelly, lived on Tecumseh Ave.



**Lance Corporal Richard Whetter 24064
(Awaiting further information regarding Whetter)**

Richard was the son of Frank and Mabel Whetter of London, Ontario born in 1888. He served with the 13th Battalion of the Canadian Infantry at the time of his death.

He died on 23 April 1915 and was commemorated on the Menin Gate Memorial. He was survived by his parents and his sister, residents of London.



Private William Henry Yorick 1075055

William Yorick was born in London, Ontario on 13 December 1874, and went on to be a machinist. He had previously served with several regiments. He served with the 28th Perth Regiment for three years, the School of Infantry for 3 months, and the 13th Regiment for 2 months. He enlisted into the CEF on 3 April 1916 and was placed with the 7th Battalion and then the 4th Pioneers Battalion. He transferred battalions several times. First, he was briefly affiliated with the 5th Pioneers Battalion. Then, he was transferred to the 25th Reserve Battalion, while serving with the 25th he was attached to the Canadian Casualty Assembly Centre. He then transferred to the W.O. Regimental Department and the Y.M.C.A.

At the time of his death he was working for the Canadian Corps Labour Pool. Yorick was hospitalized on 31 August 1918 for diarrhea. He died on 9 September 1918 of dysentery. He was survived by his wife Isabelle, a resident of Euclid Ave in London, Ontario. He is buried in St. Sever Cemetery in Rouen, France.

Served with the Colours

Major Henry Napoleon Abell

Enlisted with the 7th Canadian Mounted Rifles on the 12 January, 1915. He was thrown from his horse on 3 March 1915 and sustained a head fracture and was unconscious for 10 days, at which time he bled from his eyes, nose, and mouth. After he had recovered he frequently had debilitating headaches and shakes. He was medically discharged 11 January, 1916. He died 27 September, 1919.

Lieutenant Eva Louise Boyden

Eva Boyden was born in London, Ontario in 1892. Prior to her enlistment in 1916 she was a nurse, and then enlisted with the Canadian Army Medical Corps. She served in England and France with both the 10th and the 14th Canadian Field Hospital. She was discharged by reason of demobilization on 15 February 1919.

Sergeant Harry Carfrae 802134

Carfrae attested for service in London, Ontario on 2 December 1915. He was originally registered with the 125th but was transferred to the 135th Canadian Infantry Battalion on 15 October 1916. When he was initially registered he was marked as blind in the right eye. He went over to England and was promoted Sergeant Major on 22 August 1916. He was discharge on 13 May 1919.

Private William Roy Carfrae 400846

W.R. Carfrae registered for service in London, ON on 26 April 1915 and served with the 33rd Battalion. During his career he was served in England and France with the 1st Battalion during which time he was a deserter in February 1916. After he was medically discharged. He reenlisted on 5 July 1917. He was charged as a deserter on 22 November 1917. He was discharged on 2 July, 1919.

Lieutenant Frances Collyer

Frances was born in Manitoba in April 1890 to Charles and Emily Collyer. She registered as a nursing sister with the Canadian Army Medical Corps on 23 May 1916 and was assigned to the 10th Field Hospital. Collyer spent some time at the Moore Barracks Canadian Hospital. In 1916 she was on medical leave for three weeks after contracting influenza. She was discharged 20 May 1919 due to the demobilization.

Captain Arnold Munroe Dillon

Dillon was born in 1891. He attested on 20 May 1915. At the time of his attestation he was living in London, Ontario and working as a wholesale grocer. He had previously spent 3 years as a member of the 7th Fusiliers. Upon enlistment he joined the 18th Battalion. In March of 1916 he was wounded in combat and took some time on leave. He was then transferred later that year to be part of the 39th Battalion as an attaché. He was then made a member of headquarters. He was discharged for being medically unfit on 11 February 1917.

THE BRIGADIER

Brigadier Marmaduke Martin Dillon, father of the late Dr. Murray Talbot Dillon, a former long-time member of the St. James Westminster Anglican Church Choir, was among the veterans serving at Vimy Ridge during World War I. He later helped established the Vimy Ridge Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion became its first president for 1929 and 1930 and later, honorary president.

An architect, engineer and contractor from Port Dover, Dillon had established one of the largest contracting firms in Toronto by 1914 and opened an office in his hometown. He enlisted in December, 1915, with the 39th Norfolk Rifles as a 2nd Lieutenant when he considered the war was going to be continuing. He served with the 23rd Reserve Bn., 12th Reserve Bn., Motor Machine Battery Canadian Machine Gun Reinforcing Pool and No. 1 Company first Bn. Canadian Machine Gun Corps arriving in England in November, 1916 and France in early April, 1917.

Dr. Dillon, the St. James choir member detailed his father's military service in the book: *The Brig*. The book was an account of Brigadier M. M. Dillon, MC, Ed CD MEIC and produced by the University of Toronto Press in 1994.

VIMY RIDGE

"Vimy was part of the Arras offensive of April 1917. The heaviest fighting was between Givenchy and Lens near Arras. The strongest German position in this section was Vimy Ridge. The Canadian Corps now under Canadian command was given the task to storm and take Vimy Ridge. This was the first time that Canadian troops had acted in corps strength under Canadian command. General Arthur Currie was the Corps commander and the task was considered formidable. At 5:30 a.m., Easter Sunday, April 9, 1917, the attack began. It had been preceded by a four-day artillery barge and supported by a creeping artillery barrage advancing just ahead of them. [*The Brig.: An Account of the Late Brigadier M. M. Dillon, MC Ed CD MEIC by M. T. Dillon, CD. BA. MD, LMCC, University of Toronto Press, 1994. p. 3*]

"The Canadian Corps at Vimy was under Canadian command for the first time, and all four divisions had machine guns in action. For the first time in history the creeping barrage was attempted on a large scale. 230 guns were used continuously for barrage and support, 104 guns were mobile and 24 remained with the corps reserve. The S. A. A. expenditure for the machine guns was 4,976,000 rounds. The Canadian Corps achieved the impossible and Canada became a nation at Vimy Ridge. The cost was terrific with casualties in the tens of thousands. It was followed by Arleux, Hill 65 and Hill 70. The story of Vimy has been told and retold all across the country and will continue to be for some time as the beginning of the Canadian tradition. [The Brig.: Vimy Ridge. p 14]

The future Brigadier Dillon first Military Cross arose from action during the attack and the capture of Paschendaele for action on November 17 between 3 a.m. and 6 p.m. The award was presented on February 18, 1918 "for conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty during lengthy operations when in command of four guns. He exhibited the greatest courage and skill in the face of very great difficulties in placing his guns in position and getting up ammunition. His fine example to his men and judgment were entirely responsible for keeping his guns in action."

A second Military Cross citation came January 11, 1919 while a lieutenant with the 1st Bn. Canadian Machine Gun Corps. He was recognized for "conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when battery command became a casualty and the battery disorganized by losses from shell fire. This officer took command and after steadying his men made a personal reconnaissance which enabled him to push his guns forward and cover an exposed flank."

A promotion to captain and the position of commanding officer for C. Battery came on October 13, 1918.

The Brig was invested at Buckingham Palace in 1919, where he met the 17th Viscount who was the curator of the museum in the Tower of London." He arrived back in Canada in April, 1919. [The Brig. Index p 11]

After setting in London, Mr. Dillon studied structural design to further his business skills. He joined the militia in 1929 with the 2nd Bn. Canadian Machine Gun Corps, took militia staff courses and was promoted to Brigade Major.

The Vimy Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion was established for veterans and Dillon was considered the "driving force" in its creation. He was notified he was elected the charter president when it formed in 1929. Its projects included sponsoring the Vimy orchestra.

When the Canadian Machine Gun Corps amalgamated with the Canadian Fusiliers in 1935, Lieutenant Colonel M. M. Dillon became the new commanding officer of the battalion.

The Dillon home the family established on Chesterfield Avenue off Thompson Road was later delared a Heritage Home.

On January 8, 1948, Dillon was appointed a major and second in command of the Machine Gun Training Centre in Dundurn, Saskatchewan. The next year he became the commanding officer and was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel. He took over the Engineers Training Centre at Dundurn in early 1941 where they practiced building dams, roads, bridges and tunnels.

Moved to Ottawa as deputy director of trades training for Canada in February 1942, he was promoted to brigadier in 1943 as a member of the Army Council of Canada with duties including that of deputy quarter master general.

Dr. Michael Dillon, too young for the war, served with the Royal Canadian Army medical corps in peace time. He continued to serve when it became the medical service for all of the branches. His wife, Maggie, became a pilot officer with the RCAF Nursing Auxiliary in London as a pilot officer in 1959 and became a flight lieutenant in 1964.

The grandfather of Brigadier Dillon (and great grandfather of Dr. Michael Dillon) also Marmaduke Martin Dillon was a Colonel in the 89th Regiment and a member of the Irish Parliament before immigrating to North America. He became a deacon at St. John Cathedral in Antigua and became a curate at St. Paul's

Cathedral in London in 1854 for two years. After serving briefly in Maryland, he was appointed rector of Parkside at St. Thomas and Christ Church, Port Stanley between 1878 and 1881.

VETERAN CONNECTIONS

Dedication to God and Country came natural to members of the Church of England at St. James' Church in particular. That dedication was spearheaded by Rt. Rev. David Williams, the fourth Bishop of Huron, and Dean Evans Davis, first rector, and chaplain as Honorary Captain of the Seventh Regiment for more than 25 years. As rector of St. James, he knew each of the 136 volunteers and five nurses from the church who enlisted and ministered to their families.

Many of the veterans marched and crawled in mud to the command of Sir Arthur Currie – an Anglican from nearby Strathroy - to take Vimy Ridge with the 2nd Canadian Division in 1917 and other key objectives throughout France and Belgium for the free world. His life highlights from its beginning at a Napperton farm - three miles west of Strathroy – are traced in the downtown London Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada plaque. When enlisting at the age of 38 – more than twice the age of the youngest 16 year olds who volunteered, he already had 17 years of militia experience. He was on the front line for victories at the Second Battle of Ypres, the Somme, Hill 70, Battle of Passchendaele (third Battle of Ypres), Battle of Amiens, Battle of Canal du Nord and the Hundred Days Offensive with his troops.

The wounded veterans were cared for by the medical corps under the supervision of Colonel Evans Greenwood Davis from London South who has a place with them on the Veterans' Plaque at St. James' Church. From his militia service as a stretcher-bearer, the medical student, a son of Dean Evans and Mrs. Louisa Davis, rose to the position of commander of 15th Fusiliers when war was declared on Germany. He was promoted to colonel early in his service in service in England, the Mediterranean, Isle of Lemnos, Egypt and France before becoming Director of Medical Services for Canada after the war.

SIR ARTHUR CURRIE

The Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada recognized the contribution made by Sir Arthur Currie. There was the succession of promotions to Major General in command of the First Canadian Division and Lieutenant General and commander of the Canadian Corps after Vimy Ridge. On completion of the war, he became the first full General in the Canadian Army when he completed his service as inspector general of the Canadian militia. His post-war challenge turned to the leadership of students and faculty at Montreal's McGill University where he served as principal and vice-chancellor from 1920 until his death in 1933. The plaque that was unveiled outside the Middlesex County Court House has been relocated inside the Middlesex County Administration Building.

Sir Julian Byng, commander of the Canadian Corps between 1915 and 1917 and a future Governor General of Canada, "groomed Currie as his replacement. When Byng was promoted to army command after his Canadians had successfully stormed Vimy Ridge in April 1917, Currie was appointed in June to head the Canadian Corps. The first and only Canadian soldier to occupy the post, Currie proved an excellent corps commander." His reputation for demanding more heavy equipment and a propensity to interview other experienced leaders and their troops in preparation for major advances "enhanced the prospects for success. The Canadians cemented their reputation as an elite assault formation, with an unbroken string of major victories in 1917 – 1918 that included Hill 70, Passchendaele, Amiens, Arras, and the Canal du Nord, under Currie's leadership. He is widely considered to have been among the finest generals of the war.

"Lieutenant-General Sir Arthur Currie was made commander of the Canadian Corps in June 1917. A detailed planner, he refused to send his troops into battle without thorough preparations. The Canadians never lost a battle under Currie's command" even though he wasn't

recognized for having charisma. [Generals – Sir Arthur Currie. Canada and the First World War. p 1 - 4]

Easter Monday, April 9, 1917 began early at 5:30 a.m. when 30,000 Canadian forces “climbed out of trenches and tunnels in the middle of a snowstorm to slowly venture behind a curtain of artillery shells destroyed everything in its path. Germany soldiers were captured while still in their bombproof dugouts. Primary, then secondary and tertiary trenches were rapidly taken. By 12:30 p.m. Canadian soldiers stood on top of Vimy Ridge. By the end of April 12, the ridge was completely in Canadian hands, at a cost of 10,602 casualties, including 3,598 killed.” [The Battle of Vimy Ridge, Department of Veterans’ Affairs website. Cited in Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia. Arthur Currie]

Given major credit for “planning and execution of the successful assault against Vimy Ridge,” Currie successfully advocated the Canadians continue as “a single coherent fighting force.” He was known for utilizing the most modern artillery in trench warfare.

“Currie is best known for his planning and leadership during the Hundred Days Campaign (August 8 to November 11, 1918), the most successful of all Allied offensives, which led to the defeat of Germany and the end of the war. Under Currie’s leadership, Canadian soldiers won several important victories, including the battles of Amiens, Cambrai, Valenciennes and Mons” although casualties were heavy. Fighting stopped at 11 a.m. on November 11, 1918, after just liberating Mons. [Sir Arthur Currie. The Canadian Encyclopedia]

Knighted by King George V in 1917, Currie’s awards included Commander of the Bath, Legion of Honour, Knight Commander of the Order of St. Michael and St. George, Croix de Guerre and the U. S. Distinguished service Medal. The Royal Canadian Legion branch in his hometown of Strathroy was named in his honour. He had Church of England family roots. [First World War Who’s Who – Sir Arthur Currie]

The second Battle of Ypres “established the reputation of the Canadians as a fighting force” when taking control of a section of trench on April 17, 1915, and facing the Germans’ first use of chlorine gas in modern warfare.

A noted Guelph medical professor, Dr. John McCrae, wrote the famous “In Flanders Field” poem during the Second Battle of Ypres. He served as the brigade-surgeon of the Canadian Field Artillery as a major and its’ second in command when a close friend was killed among the 6,000 Canadian casualties during a 48-hour period. The gas raid irritated his asthma condition but he continued, treating the wounded through the Somme, Vimy Ridge, and the Battle of Passchendaele (the third battle of Ypres). He died of pneumonia on January 28, 1918 in Boulogne, France. [Canadian Government Biographies. John McCrae; Sir Arthur Currie Biography. Canada in World War 1]

VIMY BATTLES

Three members from St. James are remembered at the Vimy Memorial in France. **Private Robert Mowat** who served with the 5th Canadian Mounted Rifles Quebec Regiment and later as a Trooper with the 7th Regiment, died October 1, 1916 at the age of 27. His body was not recovered.

Private Lawrence Russell Skelly, the son of Mr. and Mrs. William Skelly of 141 Tecumseh Avenue, served with the 7 Fusiliers and the 18th Western Ontario Infantry. He died March 24, 1917 at the age of 19, and is remembered on the Vimy Memorial.

Corporal Herman Aitken, who enlisted with the 7th Mounted Rifles and transferred to the “Fighting Eighteenth” after going overseas, was killed on May 9, 1917 at the age of 22.

Among those honoured at the Vimy Ridge Memorial, he played on the Western University hockey championship team in 1914. He was a son of London Fire Chief John Aitken and his wife Eliza of Bruce Street.

A young brother of Corporal Aitken, **Private Arthur Bailey Aitken** with the 15th Battalion was also killed in France at the age of 19 on September 27, 1918 late in the war. He was buried at the Chapel Corner Cemetery in Sauchy-Lestree France. He received leg wounds in a zeppelin raid on their camp in Folkestone, England but declined an offer to return to Canada and to be discharged wanting "to do his bit" on the front lines and asked his parents not to make an application for him to be called home. [Veterans Affairs Canada reports; Corporal Aitken, Son of Fire Chief, Dies for Empire. The London Free Press, May 9, 1917; Fire Chief Loses Second Son in War. The London Free Press. October 11, 1918]

Two other members of St. James were war victims in France in September, 1918.

Private William Henry Yorick a member of the Canadian Labour Corps, died September 9, 1918, at the age of 45 while battling a serious intestine disease in France. The husband of Isobelle Yorick (a member of the church choir) and father of Alan of Euclid Avenue, he enlisted two years earlier with a forestry unit and later transferred to Y. M. C. A. work in France. He was buried at St. Sever Cemetery in Fouen, France. [Veterans Affairs Canada reports; Three London Men Dead: 7 Wounded. The London Free Press. September 17, 1918]

Private Robert Anderson Charles Crowder, 22, son of Robert Hedley and Julia Crowder, was killed September 29, 1918, two days before Private Arthur Bailey Aitken. A member of the first Canadian Mounted Rifles, he was buried at the Crest Cemetery at Fontaine-Notre Dame in France. [Veterans Affairs Canada reports]

Trooper Ellison Preston Atkinson, a member of the 2nd Canadian Mounted Rifles, 1st Central Ontario Regiment, died at the age of 16 from spinal meningitis at Moore Barracks Hospital in England. The son of Wilson and Lily Atkinson of Langarth Street, Trooper Atkinson was buried at Shorncliffe Military Cemetery in Kent. [Veterans Affairs Canada reports; One Londoner Dead, Another Wounded. Trooper Ellison Atkinson Succumbs to Spinal Meningitis. The London Free Press. May 31, 1916]

Lieutenant Oswald Austin Hicks, 25, who enlisted with the 5th Field Company of Canadian Engineers from Queen's University Kingston, was the son of Mrs. Harriet Hicks of Victor Street. Among the first to arrive at Calcartier Camp to go overseas with the First Canadian contingent, he qualified for his commission as a lieutenant in the infantry and the Machine Gun Corps. Lieutenant Hicks saw two years' active service with the Machine Gun Corps where he was gassed and suffered shrapnel wounds in the Battle of the Somme where many officers were either killed or wounded. His health didn't permit him to return to action after convalescence and was returned home. He died September 17, 1918, a little more than a year after returning home.

Sergeant Edward Baker, a member of the 1st Field Ambulance of the Canadian Medical Corps died while being treated for Pneumonia at the age of 27 in Belgium on November 27, 1918 – 16 days after the end of the war. The son of John T. and Julia Baker of Byron Avenue, Sergeant Baker was the recipient of the Military Medal. He is buried at the Nivelles Communal Cemetery in Belgium south of Brussels.

Two members of St. James Westminster, **Sergeant Charles Herbert Collyer** and **Private Frederick Carfrae** died on June 2, 1916 at Ypres and were buried at Ypres Menin Gate Memorial Cemetery. They were members of the 4th Canadian Mounted Rifles 2nd Central

Ontario Regiment fighting in the Battle of Mount Sorrel that extended between June 2 and 13, 1916.

A cousin of Frederick Carfrae, **Private Robert Carfrae**, was killed on September 16, 1916, at the age of 21. Also a member of the 4th Canadian Mounted Rifles, he lived with his cousin, Frederick's family on Briscoe Street. He was buried at the Serre Road Cemetery No. 2 in France.

Private Albert Edward Liley, who went overseas with the 135th Battalion, and moved to the 18th Battalion, was killed November 10, 1917, at Ypres. His grave is at Ypres Menin Gate Memorial in Belgium. His mother, Mrs. Caroline Liley, was notified of his death on November 26.

Private Mark Holland, another member of the 18th Canadian Battalion, died of injuries on December 29, 1915, in Belgium. He was born in Worsley, England in 1889, and moved later to Manitoba. He is buried at the La Clytte Military Cemetery in Belgium.

Private William George Howlett, a member of 18th Canadian Battalion died from heart complications at a Toronto military hospital on September 3, 1916, at the age of 40. He had undergone an operation in England and was flown home and was serving with a Toronto battalion at Camp Borden where he suffered further heart problems. He was survived by his wife, Jane Howlett and four children, residents of Langarth Street. He was buried in Mount Pleasant Cemetery in London.

Lieutenant Edward Lionel Morley, 23, a member of the Royal Air Force, was killed in a training flight at Deseronto, Ontario, July 26, 1918, and a cadet in their aircraft was seriously injured. A staff member of Molson's Bank in Vermillion, Alberta, he was a son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Morley of Ridout Street He was a gold medal recipient at London South Collegiate.

Lance Corporal Richard "Dick" Whetter, a 26-year old member of St. James Westminster, was reported missing in action on April 23, 1915, at Ypres, and later confirmed as a casualty that day. His father, Frank, a London division court clerk and mother, Mabel Whetter, had expressed hope that their son was taken prisoner after receiving word that he was last seen near the scene of an explosion. He was the first member of the congregation to die in World War I. He was a Bank of Montreal employee and noted rugby player with Montreal and London teams. He was buried at the Ypres Menin Gate Memorial Cemetery in Belgium in the Province of West Flanders.

COLONEL IN TWO WARS

Starting as a stretcher-bearer in the 7th Fusiliers militia, Dr. Evans Greenwood Davis progressed to become a colonel and Director of Medical Services for Canada at the end of World War I. Following the distinguished service example of his father - Very Rev. Evans Davis, Dean of Huron, a quarter century as a military chaplain – the son, Dr. Davis returned to make a valued contribution during World War II.

Dr. Davis was appointed Direction of Medical Services in the Department of Soldiers' Civil Re-establishment in Ottawa on July 10, 1919 and director of the Board of Pension Commissioners. He had been appointed assistant director of medical services for Saskatchewan at the end of the war. Twice mentioned in military dispatches for distinguished service in Europe, he was also presented with a C. M. G. order.

Late in World War II, Col. Davis commanded 58 imperial hospitals with headquarters at Shorcliffe, England, where he received his promotion to colonel in 1917. He had been called back from France where he served as the head of hospital units.

Initially installed as second in command of No. 3 Stationary Hospital in London, England, as major, Dr. Evans was promoted to lieutenant colonel as he moved to serve in the Eastern Mediterranean Isle of Menos and France over more than three years.

As a student before graduating from the University of Western Ontario with his medical degree, Colonel Davis was commissioned lieutenant in the 15th Field Ambulance in 1906. He took his internship at Victoria Hospital, London, and post graduate work in New York and London, England, hospitals. He returned to his home neighborhood of London South to establish his private medical practice and serve as a medical demonstrator at Western. He had progressed to commander of the 15th Fusilier when war was declared on Germany.

Once World War I was over, Dr. Evans again returned to London to his private medical practice and concentration in surgery and obstetrics. He carried out part of his community service as a member of the senate at U. W. O.

Dr. Evans was appointed honorary colonel of the 15th Field Ambulance in London, Ontario, early in 1939, several months before the September 3 declaration of war. He volunteered again in World War II, and was appointed to supervise the medical board during examination of recruits mobilizing for Western Ontario units. Shortly afterwards, he was selected as director-general of medical services in October, serving until 1942 when he returned to London, Ontario. He served as a consulting specialist in internal medicine at the Westminster Veterans' Hospital.

Dr. Evans was elected president of the Ontario College of Physicians and Surgeons and appointed as a fellow of the American College of Surgeons. The medical specialist died at his Waterloo Street residence on May 24, 1951 at the age of 65, five years after his wife Bernice. [Davis, Col. Evans Greenwood. Province of Ontario 1615 – 1927; Middleton, Jessie and Landon, Fred. Dominion Publishing Company, Toronto; Diocese Synod May 12, 13, 1952; Dr. E. G. Davis Dies in London and Funeral Rites held for Dr. E. G. Davis, The London Free Press May 25, 1951; May 26, 1951]

DECORATED FOR SERVICE

Honorary Captain Edward Appleyard, rector of St. Matthew's Anglican Church in London, was cited for deeds of gallantry at Vimy Ridge on April 9, 1917, rescuing Canadian wounded while under fire. He was presented with the prestigious Military Cross for his actions. His congregation relocated from Dundas Street, across from Western Fair Grounds, to East London at the Church of the Ascension in an amalgamation. He was the father of Rt. Rev. Harold Appleyard, a suffragan bishop of Huron, and a former honorary assistant at St. James Westminster, with Archdeacon A. H. Skirving. Bishop Appleyard also received the coveted Military Cross while serving in World War II in Europe as a chaplain.

VIMY RIDGE BRANCH

Brigadier Marmaduke Martin Dillon, father of the late Dr. Murray Talbot Dillon, a former long-time member of St. James Westminster Church choir, was among the veterans serving at Vimy Ridge during World War I. He later helped establish the Vimy Ridge Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion in London and became its first president for 1929 and 1930 and later, honorary president.

BERTHA SMITH, M.B.E.

A London nurse, Bertha Smith, recognized for her heroics in the May 30, 1918, bombing that destroyed the Etaples, France hospital, was made a Member of the Honorary Serving Sisters of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem. She was cut with flying glass but escaped serious injury.

Miss Smith exhibited "the finest example" of "Cool courage and devotion" an injured soldier wrote home. She had been given two nights off from her hospital rounds but she returned to duty with the sound of the first bomb, and stayed right through until 8 o'clock the next morning. "As they brought in the wounded," the soldier recalled, "she would rush from one bed to another. Of course some poor chaps were beyond her help, but she made sure they were cared for before turning to the next one."

Sent to England as a convalescent, she continued in voluntary nursing service there until the end of the war. She started at the hospital in France in July, 1915.

On returning to London, Miss Smith established the London Child Welfare Association that became part of the city department of health. She served as the organization's child welfare administrator and nursing supervisor and became recognized as an authority in the field throughout Canada and the United States.

King George V honoured Miss Smith in 1934 for "distinguished service to the Empire in child welfare and social service." She was made a Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, entitling her to use the letters M.B.E. after her name.

One of four daughters of Canon John William Pettit Smith, a rector at Christ Church and later bursar of Huron University College, she studied at Hellmuth Ladies College in London after graduating from London Collegiate Institute - the forerunner of London Central Secondary School. She graduated from nursing at St. Luke's Hospital in New York and did graduate work at a Paris, France, hospital.

Bertha Smith was a long-serving member of St. James Westminster. Her sisters donated the stained glass window depicting Mary with the Baby Jesus, a memorial that was unveiled on January 6, 1940. [London Woman Made an O.B.E., London Free Press. January 1, 1934; Bertha Smith Taken by Death. Brilliant War Record. The London Free Press. April 11, 1938; Vestry report, January 16, 1940]

LIBERTY AND FREEDOM

"This is not England's battle, but our battle, and we are by duty bound to fight for right against might," said Rev. Dean Davis at memorial services at St. James' Anglican Church for eight members of the congregation who have laid down their lives in the defense of the empire.

"All our brave men who have died in this war have given their lives for the cause of liberty and freedom," said Dean Davis, "and I am sure that they have our prayers for them at all times." He urged the members of the congregation to not forget those in the service from the church in their prayers.

Dean Davis said England was in the fight for the cause of liberty, and that it was not her fight any more than ours. "We are just as vitally interested in the war as the United Kingdom or any other of the allies," he stressed. [London's Dead Heroes Honoured in City Churches. At. St. James' Anglican Church. The London Free Press. May 28, 1917]

ENTHUSIASTIC DOXOLOGY

The Doxology "was sung as never before in London," as 20,000 Londoners sang the hymn to open World War I Victory Celebrations at Victoria Park on November 11, 1918. The victory "prayer and singing" service followed the "Great Parade Through Streets" by the First

Hussars, Great War Veterans and Collegiate Institute cadets paced by the Western Ontario Regiment and Central Garrison Regiment bands.

“Not one in the vast throng failed to realize the debt of gratitude to God for the successful issue of the great struggle. Led by the massed bands everybody in the park joined in the hymn of praise.”

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him, all creatures here below,
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost host. Amen.

The Doxology - or the final verse of the hymn - Awake, My Soul, and with the Sun written by Thomas Ken in 1674, was sung weekly in many Protestant churches.

SERVED WITH THE COLOURS

Major Henry Napoleon Abell enlisted with the 7th Canadian Mounted Rifles on January 12, 1915. He was medically discharged on January 11, 1916, and later died on September 27, 1919.

Lieutenant Eva Louis Boyden was born in London in 1892. She enlisted as a nurse and served with the military, being discharged “by reason of demobilization” on February 15, 1919.

Sergeant Harry Carfrae volunteered in London on December 2, 1915. He was discharged on May 13, 1919.

Private William Roy Carfrae registered for service in London on April 26, 1915 and served until his discharge on July 2, 1919.

Lieutenant Frances Collyer was born in Manitoba in April 1890 and was registered as a nursing sister with the Canadian Army Medical Corps on May 23, 1916.

Bertha Smith, a nurse from the congregation, was recognized for her heroics in the May 30, 1918, bombing of the Etaples, France hospital, and was later made a Member of the Honorary Service Sisters of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem. On returning to London, she established the London Child Welfare Association - later the city department of health. She was a daughter of Canon John William Pettit Smith, a rector of Christ Church, and later bursar of Huron College.

Captain Arnold Munroe Dillon was born in 1891. He enlisted and served until his discharge on February 11, 1917.

Colonel Evans Greenwood Davis, MD., son of Dean Evans and Mrs. Davis, enrolled as a stretcher bearer with the 7th Fusiliers as a student. He was mentioned twice in military dispatches. A graduate of the UWO Medical School, was commander of the 15th Fusiliers when war was declared. He advanced to become second in command at the No. 3 Stationary Hospital in London England as a lieutenant-colonel. He later became Director of Medical Service for Canada on July 10, 1919, and returned to service in World War II.

Dean Evans Davis, rector of St. James Westminster, Seventh Fusiliers Chaplain, was honored for more than 24 years as chaplain.

The St. James Westminster World War I Veterans:

E. P. Abey, Major Henry N. Abell, Capt. Q. Aitkin, M.D., B. Atkinson, F. Baker, W. Ball, E. Bamford, M. L. Bamford, Lt. F. H. Bawden, Sgt. W. A. Bentley, W. A. Bentley, P. Bishop, C. H. Brown, W. Burgess, H. Bryant, F. Campbell, G. Campbell, W. Campbell, C. R. Carfrae, G. E. Carfrae, Sergeant Henry Carfrae, William Roy Carfrae, L. T. Chantler, E. Collyer, Capt. P. R.

Collyer, M.C., R. Crough, Colonel Evans Greenwood Davis, Lt. W. L. Davis, K. A. Dawson, Captain Arnold Dillon, R. Duraresq, J. J. Dyer, E. Edward, C. R. Carfae, G. E. Carfrae, F. R. Carter, L. T. Chantler, T. E. H. Chatto, C. S. Collyer, M. M., Capt. P. R. Collyer, M. C., E. Edward, C. T. Fish, A. E. Gardner, A. Gardner, F. Gilbert, H. H. Gilbert, R. L. Gilbert, A. F. Hallett, L. Harrison, F. Haysom, L. Heathcote, J. Kerman, L. H. Hessel, J. Hockstader, F. S. Horner, J. D. Hunt, F. G. Hunt, F. Jeo, F. Jackson, J. Jenkins, A. Jones, C. Jones, Lt. A. M. Judd, A. Kelley, R. S. Kelley, J. R. Kenny, J. Kerman, L. F. S. Kitchincman, F. B. Lavender, W. R. Leahy, A. Leigh, C. K. Leigh, Lt. K. Lewis, C. Liley, W. MaCrow, P. Marshall, H. McCoy, B. Morris, J. Morris, N. Morris, J. C. Nash, J. F. Nash, M. M., F. Newton, F. Norman, Q. North, C. Norton, C. Palmer, E. Parsons, Q. E. Pattison, Q. W. Pattison, J. Perkins, F. W. Qram, W. Rawson, L. A. Rechnitzer, Q. P. Rechnitzer, H. Roberts, C. Rozelle, W. H. Rozelle, J. Sampson, J. Shaw, A. Skelly, A. F. Skelly, F. W. Smith, G. Smith, E. Stewart, A. Q. Tanner, C. T. Tanner, C. Taylor, Lt. J. H. Towsend, F. Skelly, J. Venn, J. A. Vincent, J. W. L. Vincent, L. Vincent, F. Q. Wallace, J. Warburton, A. C. Waterman, W. H. Watts, Lt. D. Weld, Lt. G. L. White, L/C P. L. Widdowson, C. S. Wood, C. Wyse, H. Wyse, J. Wyse.

Nurses: Lt. Eva Boyden, Lt. Frances Collyer, A. Crowder, V.A.O., D. S. Sabine, V.A.O., Lt. M. Stanley.

{The military material has been assembled through the assistance of Ms. Nicoletta Michienzi, The Royal Canadian Regiment Museum, London,; National Archives of Canada, Veterans Affairs, Canada; St. James Westminster archives, The London Free Press, and family interviews.]