

Arthur Holderness

Service Number: 6568

Rank: Private

Branch: 1st Battalion

Years Served: 1914 - 1915

Summary: Arthur Holderness was born in Nottingham England on 14 December 1890 to Louisa and John Holderness. In 1911 he was living with his parents at 3 Albion Place Canal St. Nottingham England. In 1913 he boarded the ship Tunisian, for the journey across the Atlantic arriving in Quebec 18 July 1913. On 15 April 1914 he crossed the border at Port Huron destined for Strathroy. Not long after he was part of the 26th Regiment of the Middlesex Light Infantry in G Company and is listed in a souvenir Christmas booklet. He attested at Valcartier Quebec on the 22 September 1914 and served in the Western Ontario Regiment. He "went missing in action" on the 15 June 1915 at Givenchy France (The Second Action of Givenchy). Of note the 1st Battalion had just been equipped with the short Lee-Enfield rifle which replaced the Ross rifle only two days prior to this battle. This was the third phase during the Second Battle of Artois that lasted from 9 May to 18 June 1915. Since his body was never recovered or identified, he is honoured on the Vimy Memorial. He is also honoured on the Memorial tablet at St Peter's Church Nottingham, England where he was baptized. Other soldiers from Strathroy-Caradoc to die in this battle include Archibald McMurphy and Fritz Robinson.

Name: Arthur Holderness

Birth Date: December 14, 1890

Relatives: Father - John Holderness. Mother - Louisa Holderness

Address: 3 Albion Place, Nottingham, England

Attestation Date: September 20, 1914

Death Date: Presumed to be June 15, 1915

Memorial Site: St. Peter's Church, Nottingham, England

In Memory of

Private

Arthur Holderness

6568, 1st Bn., Canadian Infantry who died on 15 June 1915

Remembered with Honour

Vimy Memorial



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission



Date	Particulars
	Card – 6568 Pte Holderness, Arthur 1 st Btn Canadian Infantry, Theatre of War – France, Dates served – blank with awards card 10 May 1921, Mrs. Louisa Holderness mother 5 Valentine Place Nottingham England
31 Aug 1914	Medical examination at Valcartier Quebec
22 Sept 1914	Attested in the CEF at Valcartier Quebec. Born 14 Dec 1870 in England
	No previous military experience, occupation Potter or Porter Medical – 5'4" tall, 145 lbs, medium complexion, brown hair and eyes, 4" scar on right arm, Church of England
15 Jun 1915	Card - Missing in action at Givenchy France "for official purposes presumed to have died on or since 15 Jun 1915"
14 Apr 1916	For official purposes presumed to have died on or since 15 Jun 1915
4 Dec 1920	Medal Card – Decorations and medals to Mother at Nottingham England, P&S to Mother and Memorial Cross to mother. Another card shows Medals and decorations, P&S to father at 3 Oxford Square, Canal Street, Nottingham, England with Memorial cross to mother as above.

Attestation Paper:

ATTESTATION PAPER.

CANADIAN OVER-SEAS EXPEDITIONARY FORCE.

No. 668

Folio. 427

QUESTIONS TO BE PUT BEFORE ATTESTATION.

1. What is your name? *Arthur F. Alder*
2. In what Town, Township or Parish, and in what Country were you born? *Wells England*
3. What is the name of your next-of-kin? *Julia Ann Alder*
4. What is the address of your next-of-kin? *113 Sumner Rd. Sumner Ont.*
5. What is the date of your birth? *14 Dec. 1890*
6. What is your Trade or Calling? *Police*
7. Are you married? *No*
8. Are you willing to be vaccinated or re-vaccinated? *Yes*
9. Do you now belong to the Active Militia? *No*
10. Have you ever served in any Military Force? *No*
11. Do you understand the nature and terms of your engagement? *Yes*
12. Are you willing to be attested to serve in the CANADIAN OVER-SEAS EXPEDITIONARY FORCE? *Yes*

A. F. Alder (Signature of Man).
J. W. McDonald (Signature of Witness).

DECLARATION TO BE MADE BY MAN ON ATTESTATION.

Arthur F. Alder do solemnly declare that the above answers made by me to the above questions are true, and that I am willing to fulfil the engagements by me now made, and I hereby engage and agree to serve in the Canadian Over-Seas Expeditionary Force, and to be attached to any arm of the service therein, for the term of one year, or during the war now existing between Great Britain and Germany should that war last longer than one year, and for six months after the termination of that war provided His Majesty should so long require my services, or until legally discharged.

A. F. Alder (Signature of Recruit)
J. W. McDonald (Signature of Witness)
Date *Sept 20* 1914.

OATH TO BE TAKEN BY MAN ON ATTESTATION.

Arthur F. Alder do make Oath, that I will be faithful and bear true Allegiance to His Majesty King George the Fifth, His Heirs and Successors, and that I will as in duty bound honestly and faithfully defend His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, in Person, Crown and Dignity, against all enemies, and will observe and obey all orders of His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, and of all the Generals and Officers set over me. So help me God.

A. F. Alder (Signature of Recruit)
J. W. McDonald (Signature of Witness)
Date *Sept 20* 1914.

CERTIFICATE OF MAGISTRATE.

The Recruit above-named was cautioned by me that if he made any false answer to any of the above questions he would be liable to be punished as provided in the Army Act.

The above questions were then read to the Recruit in my presence. I have taken care that he understands each question, and that his answer to each question has been duly entered as replied to, and the said Recruit has made and signed the declaration and taken the oath before me, at *Halton Place* this *22* day of *Sept.* 1914.

J. W. McDonald (Signature of Justice)

I certify that the above is a true copy of the Attestation of the above-named Recruit.

J. W. Hill (Approving Officer)

J. W. Hill

Description of <u>Arthur Hololerness</u> on Enlistment.	
<p>Apparent Age <u>25</u> years <u>9</u> months.</p> <p>(To be determined according to the instructions given in the Regulations for Army Medical Services.)</p>	<p>Distinctive marks, and marks indicating congenital peculiarities or previous disease.</p> <p>(Should the Medical Officer be of opinion that the recruit has served before, he will indicate the date, acknowledge his own previous service, attach a stamp to that effect, for the information of the Approving Officers.)</p>
<p>Height <u>5 ft 4</u> ins.</p> <p>Girth when fully expanded <u>36 1/2</u> ins.</p> <p>Range of expansion <u>3</u> ins.</p> <p>Complexion <u>medium</u></p> <p>Eyes <u>brown</u></p> <p>Hair <u>brown</u></p>	<p><u>4 scar scars right arm</u></p> <p><u>Pigmented mole 1/2" dia</u></p> <p><u>3" below right nipple</u></p>
<p>Religious denomination</p> <p>Church of England <u>X</u></p> <p>Presbyterian</p> <p>Wesleyan</p> <p>Baptist or Congregationalist</p> <p>Other Protestants (denomination to be stated)</p> <p>Roman Catholic</p> <p>Jewish</p>	

CERTIFICATE OF MEDICAL EXAMINATION.

I have examined the above-named Recruit and find that he does not present any of the causes of rejection specified in the Regulations for Army Medical Services.

He can see at the required distance with either eye; his heart and lungs are healthy; he has the free use of his joints and limbs, and he declares that he is not subject to fits of any description.

I consider him fit for the Canadian Over-Sea Expeditionary Force.

Date Aug 3 1914. Lieut Col A. Hololerness

Place Val Cartier C.M.C.

Medical Officer.

"Insert here 'fit' or 'no fit'."

Note.—Should the Medical Officer consider the Recruit unfit, he will fill in the Rejecting Certificate only in the case of those who have been attested, and will briefly state below the cause of rejection:—

CERTIFICATE OF OFFICER COMMANDING UNIT.

A. Hololerness having been finally approved and inspected by me this day, and his Name, Age, Date of Attestation, and every prescribed particular having been recorded, I certify that I am satisfied with the correctness of this Attestation.

J.W. Hill Lt Col (Signature of Officer)

Date Sept 22 1914. 1st Batta

Casualty Form:

