

# Charles Henry Smithrim

**Service Number:** 688295

**Rank:** Private

**Branch:** 172nd and 47th Battalion

**Years Served:** 1917

**Summary:** While his mother lived in Strathroy, Charles Henry Smithrim was working as a teamster in Armstrong BC when he attested in the 172nd Btn at Vernon. He was transferred to the 47th Btn in France. He was reported missing in action between the 5th and 7th of May 1917. He is remembered on the Vimy Memorial and the Metcalfe Township War Memorial.

**Name:** Charles Henry Smithrim

**Birth Date:** December 11, 1876

**Relatives:** Mother - Elizabeth A. Smithrim. Father - R. H. Smithrim

**Address:** Born - Strathroy, ON. Latest Address - Armstrong, BC

**Attestation Date:** September 22, 1916

**Death Date:** c. May 5th to 7th, 1917

**Memorial Site:** Vimy Memorial and Metcalfe Township War Memorial



Date	Particulars
	Card – 688295 Pte Smithrim, Charles Henry, 47 <sup>th</sup> Btn CEF, Theatre of War – France, Date of Service- 22 Apr 1917, Mother Mrs. E. A. Smithrim Strathroy ON, Large red “D” ( <i>deceased?</i> )
<b>9 Dec 1916</b>	Will signed leaving estate to mother RR #2 Kerwood ON
<b>22 Dec 1916</b>	Teamster born Strathroy Ontario, from Armstrong BC, Attested in 172 <sup>nd</sup> Btn at Vernon BC, no previous military experience
	Medical 5’ 9 ½ “, 175 lbs, fair complexion, blue eyes, dark brown hair, Methodist, chicken pox scars on back, small elliptical scar from burn on inner side of right thigh, clear medical.
<b>10 Jan 1917</b>	Arrived in England aboard SS Mauretania
<b>10 Jan 1917</b>	SOS ( <i>Sent off Strength</i> ) from 172 <sup>nd</sup> Btn to 24 <sup>th</sup> Reserve Btn Bramshott England
<b>21 Apr 1917</b>	SOS to 47 <sup>th</sup> Btn Seaford England
<b>7 May 1917</b>	Reported missing after action between 5 <sup>th</sup> and 7 <sup>th</sup> May 1917
<b>23 Mar 1918</b>	Presumed to have died on between 5 <sup>th</sup> and 7 <sup>th</sup> of May 1917
<b>26 Jan 1922</b>	Medal Card – Smithrim, Pte, C. H. 688295, 47 <sup>th</sup> Btn,
	Medals and Decorations to Mother Mrs. E. A. Smithrim Strathroy ON, Plaque and Scroll to mother
	Memorial Cross to mother
	Not eligible for 1914/15 Star

Card 256  
7-10-16

172ND BATT. C.E.F.

DUPLICATE

ATTESTATION PAPER.

No. 688295

Folio. ✓

CANADIAN OVER-SEAS EXPEDITIONARY FORCE.

QUESTIONS TO BE PUT BEFORE ATTESTATION.

- (ANSWERS)
1. What is your surname? Smith
- 1a. What are your Christian names? Charles Henry
- 1b. What is your present address? Armstrong, Ont.
2. In what Town, Township or Parish, and in what Country were you born? Brathay, Ontario
3. What is the name of your next-of-kin? R. H. Smith
4. What is the address of your next-of-kin? Brathay, Ont.
- 4a. What is the relationship of your next-of-kin? Father
5. What is the date of your birth? 11th December 1896
6. What is your Trade or Calling? Steamer
7. Are you married? no
8. Are you willing to be vaccinated or re-vaccinated and inoculated? Yes
9. Do you now belong to the Active Militia? no
10. Have you ever served in any Military Force? no  
If so, state particulars of former Service.
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

DECLARATION TO BE MADE BY MAN ON ATTESTATION.

I, Charles Henry Smith, do solemnly declare that the above are answers made by me to the above questions and that they 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.

Date SEP 22 1916 191 R. H. Smith (Signature of Recruit)  
J. P. O'Connell (Signature of Witness)

OATH TO BE TAKEN BY MAN ON ATTESTATION.

I, Charles Henry Smith, 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.

Date SEP 22 1916 191 R. H. Smith (Signature of Recruit)  
W. H. O'Connell (Signature of Witness)

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 Ternon, Ont. this 22nd day of September 1916.  
J. P. O'Connell (Signature of Justice)

# Description of Smithson Charles Henry on Enlistment.

Apparent Age 39 years 9 months.  
(To be determined according to the instructions given in the Regulations for Army Medical Services.)

Distinctive marks, and marks indicating congenital peculiarities or previous disease.

Should the Medical Officer be of opinion that the recruit has served before, he will, unless the man acknowledges to any previous service, attach a slip to this effect, for the information of the Approving Officer.

Height 5 ft. 9 1/2 ins.

blackish Poe marks on back

Girth when fully expanded 39 ins.

Range of expansion 3 ins.

Small elliptic scar from burn on inner side of right thigh.

Complexion fair

Eyes blue

Hair dark brown

Church of England

Presbyterian

Methodist yes

Baptist or Congregationalist

Roman Catholic

Jewish

Other denominations

(Nominations to be stated.)

## 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-Seas Expeditionary Force.

Date Sept 22nd 1916

Place Yemen BPs

W. Campbell Capt  
Medical Officer.

(Insert here "fit" or "unfit".)

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

## CERTIFICATE OF OFFICER COMMANDING UNIT.

Charles Henry Smithson 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.

W. P. Davis B-41 (Signature of Officer)

Date EP22 1916 191 472ND BATT. C.E.F.

NAME <i>Smithrim, Charles Henry</i>		REG'TL. No. <i>688295</i>
RANK AND CORPS <i>Pte. 47<sup>th</sup> Bat. (Comm 192 Bat.)</i>		H. Q. FILE No. <i>649</i>
CABLE		FOLLOWS
No.	DATE	No.
NATURE OF CASUALTY		FOLLOWS
<i>M. 5009</i>	<i>22-5-17</i>	<i>Reported missing May 5<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> 1917</i>
<i>Can. Rept</i>	<i>2-11-17</i>	<i>Pres. Rept missing Now for</i>
<i>G. S. B.</i>	<i>2-11-17</i>	<i>official purposes Presumed</i>
<i>Rec. 28-3-18</i>	<i>17-1-18</i>	<i>to have died on or since May</i>
		<i>5<sup>th</sup> or 7<sup>th</sup>, 1917.</i>
SURNAME <i>Smithrim</i> ( <i>649-S-13451</i> )		CARD NO.
CHRISTIAN NAMES <i>Charles Henry</i>		FOLL <i>D</i>
REG'L. No. <i>688295</i>	RANK <i>Pte.</i>	
UNIT <i>172nd.</i>		<i>Bn.</i>
FORMER CORPS <i>nil</i>		
NEXT OF KIN.		CHANGE OF ADDRESS
NAMES IN FULL <i>Smithrim, R. H.</i>		
RELATIONSHIP TO SOLDIER <i>Father</i>		
ADDRESS <i>Strathroy, Ont.</i>		
COUNTRY OF BIRTH <i>Canada</i>	<i>Strathroy Ont.</i>	DATE <i>Dec. 11<sup>th</sup> 1876</i>
PLACE OF ATTESTATION <i>Vernon B.C.</i>		DATE <i>Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup> 1916</i>

L. L. 6945. M. & D. 6994. M. F. W. 22. 100m. - 8 1/2. H. Q. 177-39-338.



*Temporary*

Army Form B. 103.

### Casualty Form—Active Service.

Regimental Number 2222

Regiment or Corps \_\_\_\_\_

Rank Pte Surname S. Smith Christian Name Cat

Religion \_\_\_\_\_ Age on Re-listment \_\_\_\_\_ years \_\_\_\_\_ months

Enlisted (a) \_\_\_\_\_ Terms of Service (a) \_\_\_\_\_ Service regions from (a) \_\_\_\_\_

Date of promotion to present rank \_\_\_\_\_ Date of appointment to lance rank \_\_\_\_\_

Extended [ ] Re-engaged [ ] Qualification (b) \_\_\_\_\_  
or Corps Trade and Rate \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation \_\_\_\_\_ Signature of Officer \_\_\_\_\_

Report		Place of Casualty	Date of Casualty	Remarks <small>Taken from Army Pass Book, Army Form B. 10, or other official document</small>
Date	From whom received			
		Embarked		
		Disembarked		
11-4-17	S. Cat	Acc. in France	11-4-17	Acc
12-4-17	Guyton	Taken on strength	12-4-17	1st Lt. D.O. 55
20-4-17	S. Cat	Left for Amis	20-4-17	Acc
10-4-17	Guyton	Ground Unit	10-4-17	Amis. D.C. 148
2-5-17	D.O.	Threatening after capture	2-5-17	Amis. D.C. 148
12-6-17	D.O.	Reported Missing after Action	12-6-17	Amis. D.C. 148
		1. Struck off strength accordingly by (G.I.)	12-6-17	Amis. D.C. 148

*To Hospital &c*  
*China House, London*

Not to be used as a form for lost or damaged forms, or returned after Section B, Army Form, numbers of such re-instatement or replacement will be entered.  
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