

William Henry Gough



Service Number: 802938

Rank: Corporal

Branch: 135th Battalion and 4th Mounted Rifles

Years Served: 1916 - 1918

Summary: William was born in Parkhill, Ontario to Richard James and Anna (Winter) Gough on May 19th, 1895. He was the older brother to Erva, Marjorie and Grace. The family moved to Strathroy after the death of his father Richard James, in 1910. William enlisted at the age 20 in 1916. As a member of the 135th Battalion, he left his job as a dry good clerk in "Gents Furnishings" in Strathroy to go overseas on the 22nd August 1916. He had risen in rank to Corporal with the 135th but reverted to Private to proceed overseas. On the

breakup of the 135th he joined the 4th Canadian Mounted Rifles.

On the 26th of August 1918 “while taking part with his company during an attack on Lancer Trench near Monchy-le-Preux, he was hit in the head and instantly killed by an enemy machine gun bullet”. This was part of the 2nd Battle of Arras which took place between August 26 and September 3, 1918. It included the Battle of the Scarpe (August 26-30, 1918) and the Battle of Drocourt-Quéant (September 2-3, 1918). William along with 42 other WWI soldiers rest in Orange Hill Cemetery Feuchy France. The cemetery was constructed by the Canadian Corps at the end of August 1918. On September 15, 1918 there was a memorial service held at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Strathroy in honour of Private William Gough as well as Private Alexander Newton. A marker was also placed by the family at the Strathroy Cemetery.

Name: William Henry Gough

Birth Date: May 19, 1895

Relatives: Mother - Anna E. Gough. Father - James Gough

Address: Caradoc St., Strathroy, ON

Attestation Date: February 14, 1916

Death Date: August 26, 1918

Burial Site: Orange Hill Cemetery, Feuchy, France

Memorial Site: Strathroy Cemetery



<i>Date</i>	<i>Particulars</i>
	Card – 802938 A Cpl Gough, William Henry, 4th CMR (<i>Canadian Mounted Rifles</i>) France Date of Service 28 Feb 1918, mother- Mrs. A. E. Gough Caradoc St Strathroy ON
14 Feb 1916	Dry Goods clerk in Gent's furnishings attested in 135 th Btn at Strathroy ON. No previous military experience. Born 19 th May 1895
15 Feb 1916	Medical at Strathroy 5' 8 1/2" 163 lbs., no physical disabilities, dark complexion, brown hair and brown eyes. Methodist
7 Aug 1916	Signs Will leaving estate to his mother.
22 Aug 1916	Embarked Halifax Canada aboard SS Olympic
22 Aug 1916	Appointed Acting Lance Corporal
30 Aug 1916	Arrived Liverpool England
15 Oct 1916	Transferred to 134 th Btn CEF
15 Oct 1916	TOS (<i>Taken on Strength</i>) 134 th Btn CEF at Bramshott England
13 Apr 1917	Appointed Acting Corporal at Witley England
28 Feb 1918	Transferred to 4 th CMR
28 Feb 1918	Reverts to ranks to proceed overseas
28 Feb 1918	Proceeded to join 4 th CMR
28 Feb 1918	TOS 4 th CMR in France
26 Aug 1918	Killed in Action Circumstances of Death – "While taking part with his Company during an attack on Lancer Trench near Monchy-le-Preux, he was hit in the head and instantly killed by an enemy machine gun bullet."
4 Feb 1922	Medal Card – Gough W. H. Pte 802938 4 th CMR Medals and Decoration to Mother Mrs. A E Gough Caradoc St Strathroy P&S Mother Memorial Cross, scroll and plaque to Mother

Attestation Paper:

ATTESTATION - PAPER.

ORIGINAL
No. 802938

Folio.

CANADIAN OVER-SEAS EXPEDITIONARY FORCE.

QUESTIONS TO BE PUT BEFORE ATTESTATION.

(ANSWERS)

1. What is your surname? *Gough*
- 1a. What are your Christian names? *William Henry*
- 1b. What is your present address? *Strathroy, Ont. Canada*
2. In what Town, Township or Parish, and in what Country were you born? *Barbhill, Ont.*
3. What is the name of your next-of-kin? *Mrs. Anna E. Gough*
4. What is the address of your next-of-kin? *Strathroy, Ont.*
- 4a. What is the relationship of your next-of-kin? *Mother*
5. What is the date of your birth? *19th May 1895*
6. What is your Trade or Calling? *Day-Book Clerk (Photo Engraving)*
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, *William Henry Gough*, 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 *14 February* 1916. *W. H. Gough* (Signature of Recruit)
G. B. Ashwell Hunt (Signature of Witness)

OATH TO BE TAKEN BY MAN ON ATTESTATION.

I, *William Henry Gough*, 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 *14 February* 1916. *W. H. Gough* (Signature of Recruit)
G. B. Ashwell Hunt (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 *Strathroy* on *14th* day of *February* 1916.

G. B. Ashwell Hunt (Signature of Justice)

Description of William Henry Gough on Enlistment.

Apparent Age <u>20</u> years <u>9</u> months.		Distinctive marks, and marks indicating congenital peculiarities or previous disease.	
(To be determined according to the instructions given in the Regulations for Army Medical Services.)			
Height	<u>5' 8 1/2</u> ins.	<p>(Should the Medical Officer be of opinion that the recruit has served before, he will enter the same accordingly (to any previous service, subject to that effect, for the information of the Approving Officer.)</p>	
	Girth when fully expanded <u>36</u> ins.		
	Range of expansion <u>4</u> ins.		
Complexion <u>dark</u>			
Eyes <u>brown</u>			
Hair <u>brown</u>			
Religious denominations.	<input type="checkbox"/> Church of England		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Presbyterian		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Methodist		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Baptist or Congregationalist		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Roman Catholic		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Jewish		
Other denominations <u>(to be stated)</u>			

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 Feb 15th 1916.

Place Strathroy H. L. Borden
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 attached, and will briefly state below the cause of unfitness.

CERTIFICATE OF OFFICER COMMANDING UNIT.

William Henry Gough 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.

B. Robson D. Co (Signature of Officer)

Date 15-2- 1916.

Casualty Form:

Fill in Only—Unit, Number, Rank and Name.

Casualty Form—Active Service.

135th O.S. Battalion, C.E.F.

Unit, Regiment or Corps _____

Registered No. **802938** Rank **Private** Name **William Henry Gough**

Enlisted (a) **14-2-16** Terms of Service (a) **Period of War** Service reckoned from (a) **14-2-16**

Date of promotion to present rank { } Date of appointment to latest rank { } Historical position on roll of N. C. Co. { }

Retained { } Re-engaged { } Qualification (b) _____

Agent		Event of promotion, re-engagement, transfer, re-enlistment, etc., being entered on or entered on Army Form 5-7A, Army Form A & B or its official successor. The authority to be quoted in each case.	Place	Date	Remarks Include Date, Army Form 5-7A, Army Form A & B, or other official documents
		Embarked - Canada	Halifax	23-8-16	
		Arrived - England	Liverpool	30-8-16	
<i>7-9-16</i>	<i>as 135th</i> Appointed	A/Lieut. Corporal	Witley	22-8-16	<i>as 25</i> Ordn. 289, 2/2 7-9-16.
<i>14-10-16</i>	<i>as 135th</i> Transferred to	134th B'n.	Witley	15-10-16	Reg. Ord. 266. 14-10-16
					135th Batt'n. Can. Inf.
<i>Nov. 1916</i> <i>10-11-16</i>	<i>as 135th</i> Transferred to	135th B'n.	Witley	10-11-16	<i>as 25</i> Ordn. 289, 2/2 7-9-16.
<i>14-9-17</i>	<i>as 135th</i> Appointed	A/Lieut. Corporal	Witley	14-9-17	<i>as 25</i> Ordn. 289, 2/2 7-9-16.
<i>22-2-18</i>	<i>as 135th</i> Transferred to	135th B'n.	Witley	22-2-18	<i>as 25</i> Ordn. 289, 2/2 7-9-16.
<i>FEB 28 1918</i>	<i>as 135th</i> Transferred to	135th B'n.	Witley	FEB 28 1918	<i>as 25</i> Ordn. 289, 2/2 7-9-16.

Fill in the name of a man who has re-engaged him, or appointed (also Re-enlist 13 Army Reserve), particulars of rank (in parentheses) in addition will be accepted. A statement, bearing date, etc., will require special attention in the case of a man who has been re-engaged.

Report		Record of promotions, decorations, transfers, casualties, etc., during active service, as reported on Army Form D 50, Army Form A 30, or in other official documents. The authority to be quoted in each case.	Place	Date	Remarks. Include Army Form D 50, Army Form A 30, or other official documents.
Date	Name when received				
17.1.17	O. CAGB D.	Landed in France. Strength 4.1.17	Taken on	Nom. Roll	6.1.17
2.2.17	— do. —	Left for C.E.C.	Bd. 18.2.17	Pl. 110/02	2nd 18.2.17
13.2.17	O. C. 4th Bn.	Arrived unit	1.5.17	Nom. Roll	1/1/17
			5.5.17	3.2.17 d/	
26-8-18	4th CBR	KILLED IN ACTION	Field	26-8-18	Writer (K.I. 17-1159) Daily Orders 108.

Re-Sinter

for Lt.-Col. A.A.G.
Canadian Section, G.H.Q. 3rd Echelon, B.E.F.

110/02
110/02
110/02

September 12 1918

**TWO STRATHROY BOYS
KILLED IN ACTION.**

—Two more Strathroy homes were saddened this week by official messages from the Canadian war office, informing them that their dearly beloved soldier boys had "passed out" while gallantly fighting for home and country on the bloody fields of France. Pte. Alexander S. Newton, son of William Newton, and Pte. William Gough, son of Mrs. Ann Gough—two well-known and highly-esteemed Strathroy boys—fell in action on Aug. 26. Both were raised to young manhood in this community, and both voluntarily enlisted for service when their country's honor and safety was imperilled. They trained and went overseas with our own County Battalion—the 135th—and had been at the front for some time. The casualty lists, which have grown to heart-rending proportions the past few weeks as a result of the terrible fighting on the western front, are the real subscription lists, recording the names of the great contributors to the price of liberty. Strathroy has lost many of her brightest and best in the struggle, and the full toll that will be exacted is not yet. But we must carry on and bravely bear the sacrifices of war. The deep sympathy of the legion of friends and

that of the whole town, generally, goes out to the grief stricken families and relatives of the noble lads, in their hour of trial.

September 26, 1918

September 19, 1918

The late Pte. William H. Gough, who was killed in action, was a member of Court Strathroy, No. 147, Canadian Order of Foresters, and, as a special mark of esteem, the brethren of the lodge marched in a body and attended the memorial service in the Presbyterian Church, Sunday evening.

CARD OF THANKS.

We desire to express our sincere thanks to all who have been so kind and thoughtful to us in our sore bereavement: to the Mary Armstrong Chapter, I. O. D. E., for the beautiful decoration of the family pews in St. Andrew's Church, and to the friends and citizens, generally, for their comforting expressions of sympathy.

WM. NEWTON & FAMILY.
MRS. GOUGH & FAMILY.

<http://central.bac-lac.gc.ca/.redirect?app=pffww&id=428319&lang=eng>