WW I Enlisted Men & Women of Whitewater Region

Pte. Frank Romea

Pte. Frank ROMEA, son of **Louis ROMEA** and **Mary FERRIER**, was born on 7 Apr 1896 in Pembroke. He had 5 siblings - two brothers and three sisters. The children are found in different homes in the 1911 census. Their mother had died in 1906. Frank was living with his maternal uncle – James Ferrier in Cobden. Frank's brother Pte. James Stanley also served in WWI and sustained a gunshot wound to his left elbow. Prior to enlisting, Frank worked as a baker. The spelling of the Romea name was also found to be Roma, Romeau, Rouma, etc, etc, and therefore difficult to search. His military papers show Romea & Roma.

Pte. Romea enlisted July 28, 1915 at age 19. He served with the 24th Canadian Battalion, CEF². He was killed in action, in the trenches of St. Eloi, Belgium on April 15, 1916^{3,4}. He had just turned 20 years of age the week before.

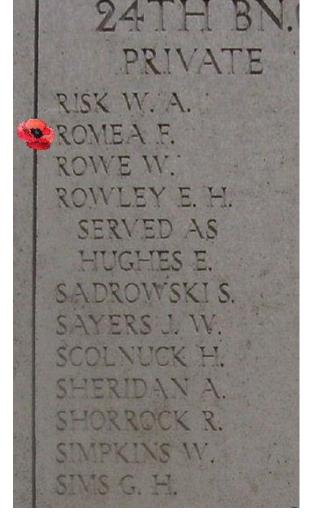
The battle at St. Eloi Craters occurred in the fields near the village of St. Eloi, which was about 5 km south of Ypres. It began March 27, 1916 by the British blowing up mines along the front. By April 4th in exhaustion, they were relieved by the Canadians who continued until the siege

ended April 16th. Due to the landscape being changed by the mine explosions, big muddy craters left the battlefield un-crossable in many areas and the soldiers were in cold muddy waters and strong down-pours throughout. Historical reports claim it was a disaster for the Canadians and their Allies. The German Army maintained their control of the battlefield.^{5,6}

Pte. Romea and his comrads who died with him are commemorated on a stone located at Ypres Memorial (Menin Gate) at Ypres, West Flanders, Belgium.^{4,7}

The names of Lance Corporal W. J. Stewart (died of wounds); Privates Stuart Rudge, Frank Roma, J. H. Mulloy (killed in action) were announced.

Pic 19: Newspaper notice of death



Pic 2⁷: Photograph of Memorial Stone in Romea alphabetical range

In Memory Of Private

FROMEA

Service Number: 141761

24th Bn., Canadian Infantry who died on 15 April 1916

Remembered with Honour YPRES (MENIN GATE) MEMORIAL

Panel 24 - 26 - 28 - 30.

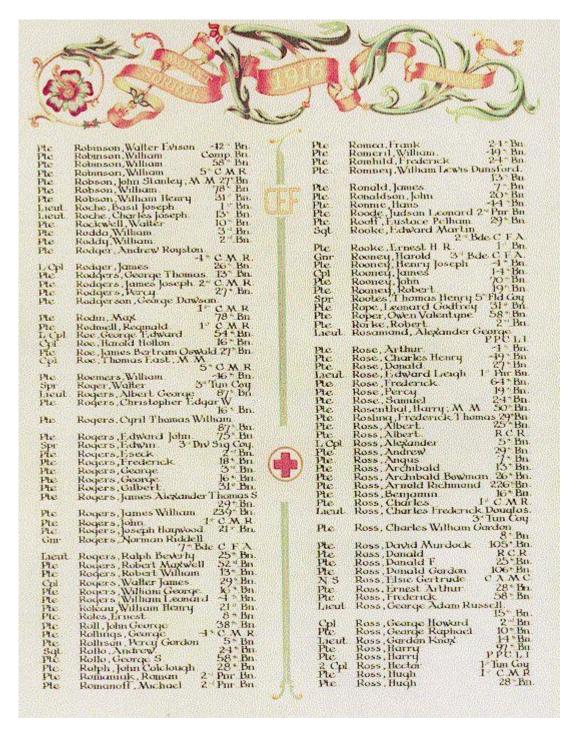




COMMEMORATED IN PERPETUITY BY THE COMMONWEALTH WAR GRAVES COMMISSION

Pic 3⁷: Ypres Memorial (Menin Gate)

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Pic 48: Pte. Frank Romea in The Book of Remembrance

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