

WW I Casualties of Whitewater Region Project

Private Alfred Patterson

Pte. Alfred PATTERSON, son of **Hugh PATTERSON** and **Honoura MADIGAN**, was born on 26 May 1890 in Bromley Township. He was the oldest of 5 children, 2 girls and 3 boys. His parents are buried at St. Pius V Roman Catholic Cemetery in Osceola, Ontario.¹

Alfred enlisted into the 38th Battalion of the Canadian Infantry – Eastern Ontario Regiment on 10 Jan 1918 in Kingston. His occupation was listed as farmer. He was 27 years, 7 months old. He was 5'10 ½" tall and weighed 155 lbs. He had dark brown eyes and black hair. He named his father as his beneficiary.²

Pte. Patterson disembarked in England on Mar 4, 1918. He joined the unit in the field three months later, on Jun 18, 1918. After less than 8 months in service, Pte. Patterson was "Killed Action. Killed during an attack from South of Vis-En-Artois to South of Dury, on the morning of Sep 2, 1918."^{3,4} He was 28 years, 3 months and was buried in Dury Hill British Cemetery (grave #19) Dury, Pas De Calais, France.^{4,5,6} He died the same day as fellow Cobden Comrade, Pte. Wilbert Drynan (grave #22) and they are buried in the same cemetery.^{1,5}

In August, 1918, Dury was behind the German defence system known as the Drocourt-Queant line. The story is told on the granite monument that stands at Dury Hill Cemetery. "The Canadian Corps 100,000 strong attacked at Arras on August 26th 1918. Stormed successive German lines and here on September 2nd broke and turned the main German position on the Western Front and reached the Canal du Nord."⁷ Dury village and the hill just south of it were captured. The monument commemorating the fallen is a block of white Quebec granite weighing about 15 tonnes.⁷

Pte. Patterson's name was also commemorated on the plaque Cobden Memorial Hall plaque⁸; Cobden Legion's WWI Honour Roll Plaque⁹; and the Bromley Township War Memorial.¹⁰

Pte. Patterson's father received a plaque and scroll provided to the fathers of WWI casualties. He also received his medals².



Image 1: Dury Monument⁷

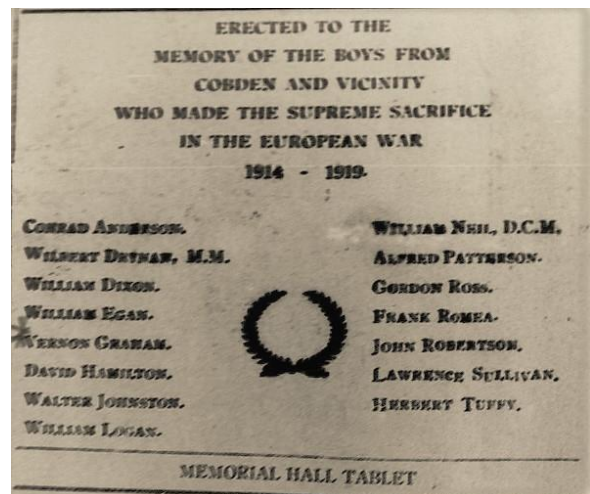


Image 2: Cobden Memorial Hall Tablet⁸

WW I Casualties of Whitewater Region Project

Sources:

1. Bennett, Fay E., Faysgenealogy.com. www.faysgenealogy.com : family history database & images; 2001-present. Cobden, ON. (Original sources noted in database)
2. Library and Archives Canada, Ottawa. "Attestation Paper, Canadian Over-Seas Expeditionary Force" Database. <https://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/military-heritage/first-world-war/personnel-records/Pages/item.aspx?IdNumber=565352>
3. "Personnel Records of the First World War." Library and Archives Canada, Ottawa. Digital images. Library and Archives Canada. <https://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/military-heritage/first-world-war/personnel-records/Pages/item.aspx?IdNumber=565352>
4. "Circumstances of Death Registers, First World War." Library and Archives Canada, Ottawa. Digital images. https://central.bac-lac.gc.ca/.item/?op=img&app=microform&id=31829_B016767-01162
5. The Canadian Virtual War Memorial: Veterans Affairs Canada. "The Canadian Virtual War Memorial (CVWM)." Database. Veterans Affairs Canada. <https://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/remembrance/memorials/canadian-virtual-war-memorial/detail/253926?Alfred%20Patterson>
6. Commonwealth War Graves Commission. "Commonwealth War Graves Commission." Database. www.cwgc.org <https://www.cwgc.org/find-records/find-war-dead/casualty-details/253926/A%20PATTERSON/>
7. Webmatters Carte de Route, First World War <http://www.webmatters.net/index.php?id=650>
8. Cobden Memorial Hall WWI Memorial Tablet, newspaper clipping, The Cobden Sun, Nov 13, 1919
9. Bennett, Wayne. *Photograph of the WWI Cobden Honour Roll*, The Cobden Legion, Ontario. November 2022.
10. Bromley Township War Memorial, Douglas, ON <https://ontariowarmemorials.blogspot.com/2021/01/douglas.html>
11. Remembering the Fallen WWI, Dury Canadian Memorial, <https://www.ww1cemeteries.com/dury-mill-british-cemetery.html>