

Kings Island Military Cemetery, Limerick, County Limerick, Republic of Ireland

War Grave



Lest We Forget

World War 1



167 CORPORAL

J. T. ANDERSON

AUSTRALIAN ENGINEERS

17TH DECEMBER, 1915 Age 25

Eldest Son Of

Capt. J. T. Anderson

Of Melbourne, Victoria

A Brave Anzac

John Taylor ANDERSON

John Taylor Anderson was born at Windsor, Melbourne, Victoria in late 1887 to parents John Taylor Anderson & Annie Anderson (nee Cronin).

John Taylor Anderson attended Park School, St. Kilda, Victoria.

Annie Anderson, mother of John Taylor Anderson, died on 15th April, 1908 at Kew, Victoria.

John Taylor Anderson served an apprenticeship in Engineering at the Austral Otis Works (according to information supplied by his father for the Roll of Honour). His Attestation Papers recorded that he served as an apprentice for 7 years with Johnston & Sons.

John Taylor Anderson was a 27 year old, single, Marine Engineer from 8 Canterbury Road, Toorak, Victoria when he enlisted on 18th August, 1914 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 167 & his religion was Presbyterian. His next of kin was listed as his father – Captain John Anderson, of 8 Canterbury Road, Toorak, Victoria.

John Taylor Anderson was posted to 2nd Field Coy. Engineers on 18th August, 1914 as Sapper for recruit training. He was transferred to No. 3 Field Company, A.I.F. on 16th September, 1914.

Sapper John Taylor Anderson embarked from Melbourne, Victoria on HMAT *Geelong (A2)* on 22nd September, 1914 with the 3rd Field Company, Engineers – Headquarters and Nos. 1, 2 and 4 Sections.

Sapper John Taylor Anderson was admitted to No. 1 Australian Field Ambulance Hospital, Pyramids, Mena, Egypt on 29th December, 1914 & was discharged to duty on 16th January, 1915.

Sapper John Taylor Anderson proceeded from Alexandria on 5th April, 1915 to join M.E.F. (Mediterranean Expeditionary Force).

Sapper John Taylor Anderson was admitted to 1st Field Ambulance on 5th April, 1915 & was discharged on 7th April, 1915 with Influenza. He was transferred to Hospital Ship *Osmanien* on 14th April, 1915.

Sapper John Taylor Anderson embarked on HMT *Itonus* from Alexandria on 2nd June, 1915 & rejoined his Unit at Gallipoli on 8th June, 1915.

Sapper John Taylor Anderson was promoted to 2/Corporal at Gallipoli on 27th July, 1915

2/Corporal John Taylor Anderson was admitted to 1st Australian Casualty Clearing Station at Anzac on 17th September, 1915 with abscess of Antrum then transferred to Hospital Ship *Maheno* on 18th September, 1915. He was transferred to St. Patrick's Military Hospital at Malta on 23rd September, 1915 with debility & discharged to Convalescent Camp on 9th October, 1915. 2/Corp. Anderson embarked from Malta for England on Hospital Ship *Braemar Castle* on 26th October, 1915 with Neuralgia.

2/Corporal John Taylor Anderson was admitted to The King George Hospital, London, England on 4th November, 1915 with "Shell Shock". He was discharged to furlo on 20th November, 1915.

Corporal John Taylor Anderson died suddenly on 17th December, 1915 at Geary's Hotel, Limerick, Ireland. At the Inquest a Coroner's Jury found the cause of death to be due to natural causes. (Note- The "Report of Death of a Soldier" Army Form B. 2090 has the date of death as 18th December, 1915. The Summary Form D 7045 & other forms have the date of death as 17th December, 1915).

Newspaper item – *Northern Whig*, Belfast, Antrim, Northern Ireland– 21 December, 1915:

SOLDIER'S SUDDEN DEATH IN LIMERICK

Corporal John Taylor Anderson (25) was found dead in bed at Geary's Hotel, Limerick, on Saturday. The deceased travelled by the train from Limerick Junction on Friday night in the same compartment as Mr R. F. Ryan, proprietor of Geary's hotel, with whom he got into c conversation. He said he was without money or friends in the city, and Mr

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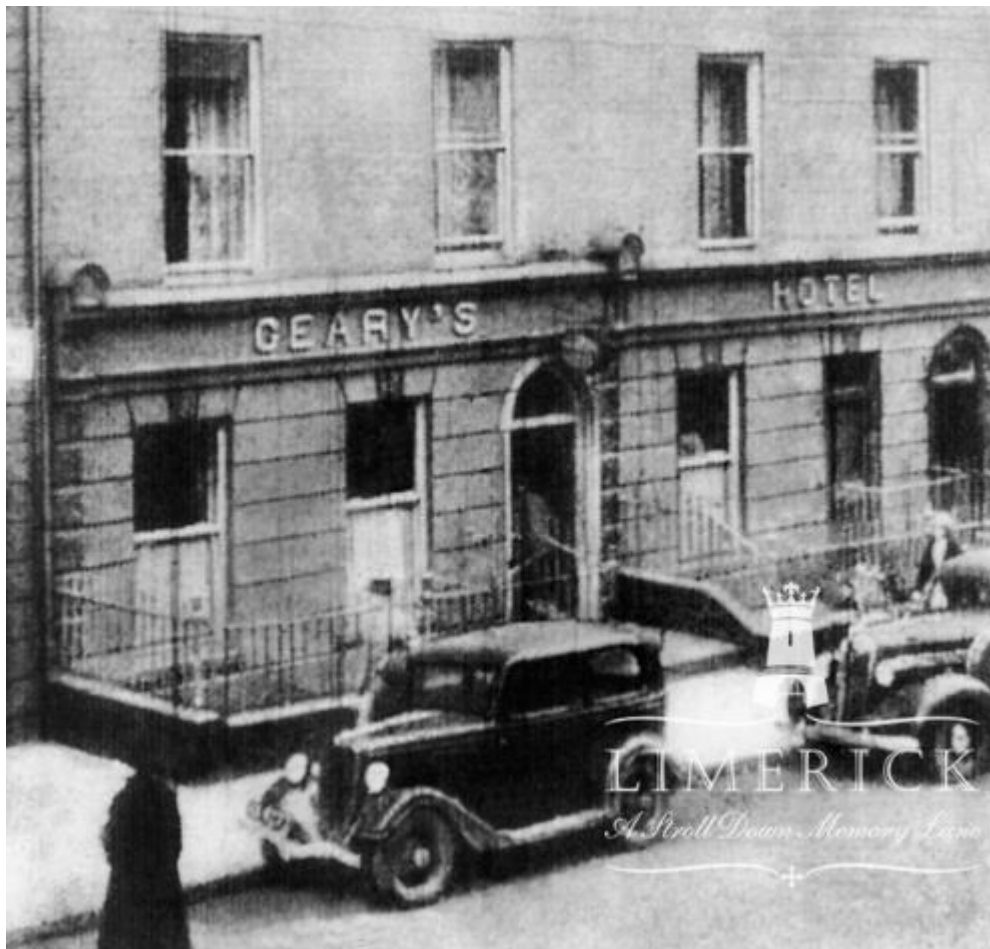
Ryan kindly invited him to his hotel. A room was placed at his disposal, but it was quite evident that the deceased was in a poor state of health, caused by wounds received at Gallipoli. When one of the attendants at the hotel went to call him in the morning, Corporal Anderson was found dead, and Mr Bryan immediately apprised the military authorities and the constabulary. The deceased was a member of the Australian Forces, and a son of Captain Anderson, Canterbury Road, London.

(Similar items were placed in the *Dublin Daily Express*, 20 December, 1915; *Irish Times*, 20 December, 1915)

Newspaper item – *Dublin Daily Express* - 21 December, 1915 & *Irish Times*, 21 December, 1915 :

Australian Soldier's Sad Death in Limerick

Mr J. F. Barry, J. P., City Coroner, held an inquest yesterday at Limerick on the body of Corporal John Taylor Anderson, of the Australian Imperial Forces, who was found dead in the room at Geary's Hotel on Saturday morning, having been put up there the previous night. Mr R. F. Ryan, proprietor of the hotel, deposed to having met Corporal Anderson in a train coming from Limerick Junction to Limerick on Friday evening. Witness had a conversation with the soldier, who told him he was coming to Limerick to see the parents of a young woman whom he knew in London. He also told witness he had no money and no friends here, and that he had been shot through the left lung and wounded in the legs and hand, which was bandaged. Witness invited him to the hotel, and put him up for the night there. He was discovered dead in bed the following morning. Dr Shanahan stated that death was due to natural causes. Some formal evidence having been given, Lieutenant Costelloe, on behalf of the officer commanding the troops in Limerick, expressed the thanks of the military to Mr Ryan for his kindly action. The jury found that death was due to natural causes. The Coroner spoke warmly of Mr Ryan's kindly treatment of deceased, whose sister wrote from Waltham Hall, Grimsby, stating her inability to be present and asking to have a wreath of violets on her brother's grave.



Geary's Hotel, Limerick (Photo used with Permission "Limerick A Stroll Down Memory Lane")

Corporal John Taylor Anderson was buried on 21st December, 1915 in Kings Island Military Cemetery, Limerick, County Limerick, Republic of Ireland – Plot number 61 and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

Sapper John Taylor Anderson requested in his Will, dated 4th June, 1918, that in the event of his death the whole of his property & effects be bequeathed to Mrs Harold Abbey, "Didgemere Hall", Roydon, Essex, England.

Corporal John Taylor Anderson was entitled to 1914/15 Star, British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Cpl. Anderson's father – Captain J. T. Anderson, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent June, 1921 & Plaque sent August, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Corporal John Taylor Anderson – service number 167, of 3rd Field Coy., Australian Engineers. He was the son of Capt. John T. Anderson, of 9 Queens Street, Melbourne, Victoria and the late Annie Anderson.

Corporal J. T. Anderson is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 23.



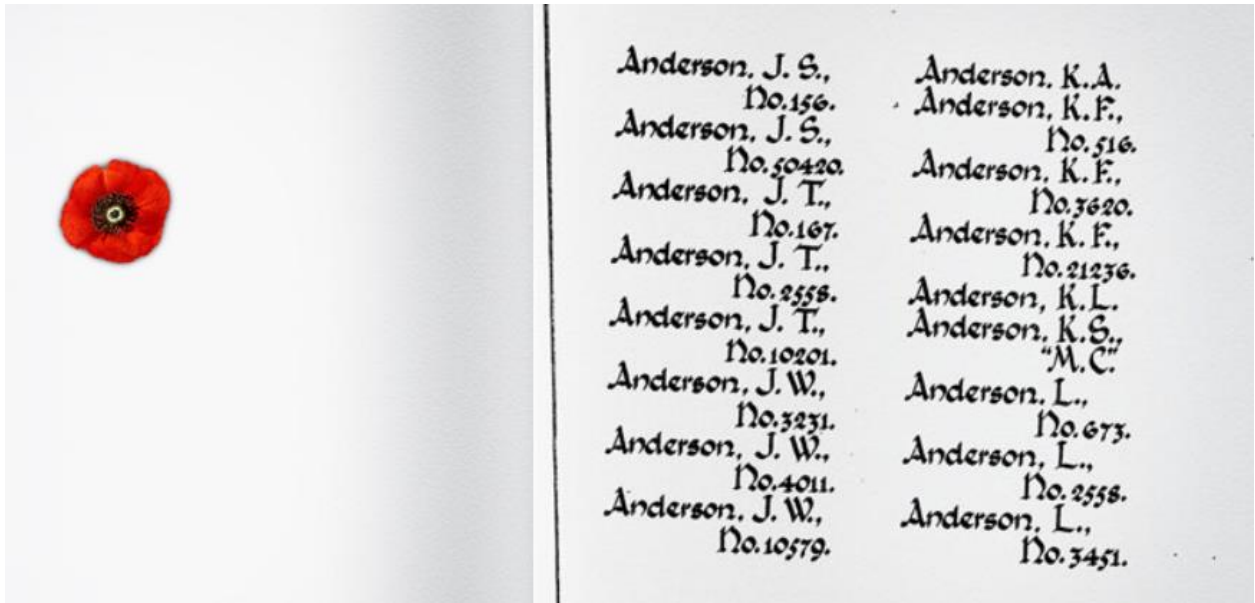
Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

A plaque in remembrance of 2nd Field Company Engineers, A.I.F can be found at Shrine of Remembrance, St. Kilda Road, Melbourne, Victoria.



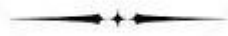
2nd Field Company Engineers (Photo from Monument Australia – Kent Watson)

J. T. Anderson is remembered in the Book of Remembrance at the Shrine of Remembrance, Melbourne, Victoria.



(86 pages of Corporal John Taylor Anderson's Service records are available for On Line viewing at National Archives of Australia website).

Information obtained from the CWGC, Australian War Memorial (Roll of Honour, First World War Embarkation Roll) & National Archives





Corporal John Taylor Anderson (on right)

(Photo from Discovering Anzacs – aussiedigger1)



Newspaper Notices

CASUALTY LIST 117

REPORTED IN HOSPITAL

AT LONDON

Cpl. J. T. Anderson

(*Leader*, Melbourne, Victoria – 4 December, 1915)

DIED ON SERVICE

ANDERSON – Died of illness in England, on the 18th December, Corporal J. T. Anderson, 3rd Field Coy. Engineers, A.I.F., eldest son of Captain J. T. Anderson, 23 Grandview grove, East Prahan.

(*The Argus*, Melbourne, Victoria – 21 December, 1915) & (*The Australasian*, Melbourne, Victoria – 25 December, 1915)

Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstones

The Defence Department, in 1920/21, contacted the next of kin of the deceased World War 1 soldiers to see if they wanted to include a personal inscription on the permanent headstone. Space was reserved for 66 letters only (with the space between any two words to be counted as an additional letter) & the rate per letter was around 3 ½ d (subject to fluctuation).

The expense in connection for the erection of permanent headstones over the graves of fallen soldiers was borne by the Australian Government.

(*Information obtained from letters sent to next of kin in 1921*)

A letter from Base Records, dated 2nd July, 1921, to Captain J. Anderson, Victorian Stevedoring Company, 9 Queens Street, Melbourne, advised that a letter from the Defence Dept. concerning an inscription on the headstone his son, the late Corporal J. T. Anderson, buried in Limerick Cemetery had not been answered & non-receipt of a reply within 21 days would have to be accepted as indicating that no further action was to be taken.

Corporal J. T. Anderson does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

Eldest Son Of Capt. T. J. Anderson Of Melbourne, Victoria

A Brave Anzac

Kings Island Military Cemetery, Limerick, County Limerick, Republic of Ireland.

The cemetery, on the North side of the City, comprises an area of just under an acre, being divided into plots for Officers, Other Ranks and children. There are 39 Commonwealth burials of the 1914-1918 war here, 16 of which are those of men of the Royal Welch Fusiliers. King's Island Military Cemetery, previously known as The Royal Military Cemetery, was consecrated on the 11th of August 1856, according to the rites of the Church of Ireland. Its original use was for the burial of soldiers from among the regiments of the British Army. The Military Cemetery comprises of 0.6 Hectares of land, including a lodge, gardens and main entrance to the west and a now defunct pedestrian entrance to the east. There are 39 Commonwealth War Grave Commission burial plots in the cemetery dating from 1914 and after. 16 of the burials are drawn from among the ranks of the Royal Welch Fusiliers, 5 from the Scottish Horse, 4 from the Royal Army Medical Corps, 3 from the (Royal) Army Service Corps, 3 from the Oxford and Bucks Light Infantry, 2 from the Royal Field Artillery and a single burial each from the Tank Corps, the King's Shropshire Light Infantry, the Australian Engineers, the Highland Light Infantry, the Labour Corps and the Duke of Wellington's West Riding Regiment.

(Information from CWGC)



Kings Island Military Cemetery, Limerick *(Photos with permission Sharon Slater)*



Photo of Corporal J. T. Anderson's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Kings Island Military Cemetery, Limerick, County Limerick, Republic of Ireland.



(Photo courtesy of Simon Mamouny)