

**Barford St. Martin Church Cemetery,
Wiltshire, England**

War Graves



Lest We Forget

World War 1



4484 CORPORAL

W. ANDERSON

AUSTRALIAN ENGINEERS

5TH OCTOBER, 1918 Age 29

To Live In Hearts

We Leave Behind

Is Not To Die

Walter ANDERSON

Walter Anderson was born at Rozelle, Sydney, NSW in 1889 to parents William & Rosanna Anderson (nee Hubbard).

Walter Anderson attended Rozelle Superior Public School, Sydney, NSW.

Walter Anderson was a 26 year old, single, Carpenter when he enlisted at Wodonga, Victoria, on 13th February, 1915 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 15 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his mother – Mrs Rose Anderson, of 6 High Street, Rozelle, Sydney, NSW.

Private Walter Anderson embarked from Melbourne on HMAT *Ulysses (A38)* on 10th May, 1915 with the 6th Infantry Brigade, 22nd Infantry Battalion – Transport Section “A” Company & disembarked at Egypt.

Private Anderson proceeded to join M.E.F. (Mediterranean Expeditionary Force) at Gallipoli on 3rd September, 1915.

Private Anderson disembarked from *Manitou* at Alexandria on 9th January, 1916.

Private Walter Anderson was transferred to 5th Field Company Engineers. He was given a new service number – 4484.

Private Anderson was absent without leave from 0830 hrs to 2200 hrs on 20th January, 1916 while at Tel-el-Kebir, He was given 48 hours detention.

Private Walter Anderson was transferred to 8th Field Company Engineers on 21st February, 1916.

Private Anderson was written up on 11th June, 1916 while at Ismailia – *“When on Active Service 1. Drunk in town about 11 pm 2. Absent without leave 2100 to 2315 on 11/6/16”* He was awarded 14 days Field Punishment No. 2 & forfeited 1 days’ pay. Total forfeiture 15 days pay.

Private Anderson embarked overseas from Alexandria with the B.E.F. (British Expeditionary Force) on 17th June, 1916. He disembarked at Marseilles, France on 25th June, 1916.

Private Anderson was appointed Lance Corporal on 21st July, 1916, while in France.

Lance Corporal Anderson was on furlough to England on 3rd January, 1917 & rejoined from furlough on 20th January, 1917.

Lance Corporal Anderson was detached from duty with 1st Anzac Workshops on 26th February, 1917 & rejoined his Unit on 15th July, 1917.

Lance Corporal Anderson was promoted to Temporary 2nd Corporal on 1st October, 1917 vice Hughes wounded. He reverted back to the rank of Lance Corporal on 18th July, 1917 on return on 2nd Corporal Hughes. Lance Corporal Anderson was to be temporary 2nd Corporal vice Bignell wounded on 18th October, 1917.

Temporary 2nd Corporal Anderson was on leave to UK on 13th December, 1917 & rejoined his Unit from leave on 1st January, 1918.

Temporary 2nd Corporal Anderson was sent to Corps Gas School on 6th January, 1918 & rejoined his Unit on 13th January, 1918.

Temporary 2nd Corporal Anderson was promoted to 2nd Corporal on 18th January, 1918 as 2nd Corporal Bignell had still not re-joined the Unit.

2nd Corporal Anderson was promoted to Corporal vice Corporal Hughes to Australia on furlough from 25th March, 1918.

Corporal Anderson was wounded in Action – gassed on 13th May, 1918. He was taken to 14th Australian Field Ambulance then transferred to 20th Casualty Clearing Station. Corporal Anderson was transferred to 61st Casualty

Clearing Station on 14th May, 1918 then transferred to 28th Ambulance Train on 15th May, 1918. Corporal Anderson was admitted to 12th General Hospital at Rouen, France on 15th May, 1918 suffering the effects of being gassed. Corporal Anderson was transferred to England on 20th May, 1918 on Hospital Ship *Guildford Castle*. He was admitted to Boscombe Military Hospital, Hants, England on 21st May, 1918 suffering from Gas Poisoning.

While recuperating in Hospital, Corporal Anderson met Ruth Holt, who was an English Nursing sister. They later became engaged.

Corporal Anderson was transferred to 3rd Auxiliary Hospital, Dartford on 4th June, 1918. The Hospital Admissions sheet records that he had "*burns back & inguinal region*".

Corporal Anderson was on furlough from 7th June, 1918 to 21st June, 1918.

Corporal Anderson was marched in to No. 4 Command Depot at Hurdcott, Wiltshire on 21st June, 1918.

Corporal Anderson was admitted to Isolation Camp Hospital at Hurdcott suffering from Scabies on 10th August, 1915 & discharged on 15th August, 1918.

Corporal Anderson was sent sick to No. 1 Group Hospital at Hurdcott on 30th September, 1918 – P.U.O. (Pyrexia (fever) of unknown origin). Hospital Admissions form recorded Bronchitis as the disease.

Corporal Anderson was admitted to Military Hospital at Fovant, Wiltshire, on 3rd October, 1918, seriously ill with Pneumonia.

Corporal Walter Anderson died at 4.15 pm on 5th October, 1918 at Fovant Military Hospital, Wiltshire, England from Pneumonia.

A death for Walter Anderson, aged 30, was registered in the December quarter, 1918 in the district of Wilton, Wiltshire.

Corporal Walter Anderson was buried on 9th October, 1918 at Barford St. Martin Church Cemetery, Wiltshire, England – Row 2 and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone. From the burial report of Corporal Anderson - *Coffin was good, Elm with Brass Mounts – The deceased was buried with full Military Honours, the coffin draped with the Australian Flag was conveyed to the graveside on a Gun Carriage. The cortege was preceded by a Firing Party and the band of No. 4 Australian Command Depot. Six comrades of deceased acted as Pall-bearers.*

Miss R. M. Holt, 39 Leaphill Row, Southbourne, Hants, attended as chief mourner. Four Officers and about a hundred N.C.O.'s and men from deceased's Company also attended. Floral wreaths from Miss Holt and the Officers, N.C.O.'s and Men of No. 4 Command Depot were placed on the grave. Headquarters A.I.F. Depots in U.K. were represented.

Sapper Walter Anderson requested in his Will, dated 11th September, 1915 while at Lemnos, that the whole of his property and effects were to be given to Hilda Florence Anderson (sister) of 6 High Street, Rozelle, Sydney, NSW.

Corporal Walter Anderson was entitled to 1914/15 Star, British War Medal and the Victory Medal. A letter was sent in October, 1920, to the late Corporal Anderson's mother to confirm that she was the closest next-of-kin. A reply was received from Hilda Anderson (sister) advising that their mother was deceased & there is no father living & she concluded that the next-of-kin would be the eldest surviving sister – Mrs J. Burt of Sutton Forest, NSW.

Base Records replied asking for evidence of the mother's death – a newspaper cutting they advised would be sufficient & also asked whether there were any brothers living & if so the name & address of the eldest living brother. According to the "Deceased Soldiers' Estate Act 1918" the disposal of War Medals etc were handed over in the following order of relationship – "Widow, eldest surviving son, eldest surviving daughter, father, mother, eldest surviving brother, eldest surviving sister, eldest surviving half-brother, eldest surviving half-sister". A Memorial Scroll

& Memorial Plaque were also sent to Corporal Anderson's next of kin –his brother – Mr Harold Anderson, Woonona, Sth Coast. (Scroll sent August, 1921 & Plaque sent November, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Corporal Walter Anderson – service number 4484, aged 29 years, 8th Field Coy., Australian Engineers. He was the son of William and Rose Anderson.

Corporal W. 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

On 5th August, 2013, the Last Post Ceremony at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra was dedicated to Corporal Walter Anderson, 8th Field Company, Australian Engineers. (Video of the Ceremony can be seen [here](#))

(72 pages of Corporal Walter 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, Red Cross Wounded & Missing) & National Archives





AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

P07569.001

Corporal Walter Anderson c 1918



Newspaper Notices

AUSTRALIAN CASUALTIES

WOUNDED

2nd Cpl. W. Anderson, Rozelle, NSW

(The Argus, Melbourne, Vic – Monday 17 June, 1918)

ROLL OF HONOUR

ANDERSON – After three years and five months' active service, died of pneumonia, October 5, 1918, Corporal Walton Anderson, 8th Field Engineers, dearly loved son of Mrs R. Anderson and brother of Harold, Will and Hilda of Glen-Ayr, High Street, Rozelle, and brother and brother-in-law of Mr and Mrs John Bevit, of Sutton Forest.

(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – Saturday 19 October, 1918)

AUSTRALIA'S HEROES

CASUALTY LIST No. 442

DIED, OTHER CAUSES

Cpl. Anderson, W., Rozelle, NSW

(The Ballarat Star, Victoria – Friday 22 November, 1918)

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 Barford St. Martin Church Cemetery. 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)

Corporal W. Anderson does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

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Barford St. Martin Church Cemetery, Wiltshire, England

This cemetery belongs to the Church, and is on the North side of the village. There are 10 Commonwealth War Graves in this Cemetery – 9 from World War 1 (4 Australian Soldiers) & 1 connected to World War 2.



Barford St. Martin Church (Photo from CWGC)



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

D00295

Original Grave Markers – Barford St. Martin Church Cemetery

Graves of Australian soldiers in the cemetery at Barford St. Martin's.

*Left to right, graves marked with crosses: 4050 Private (Pte) Franklin Dodd, 32nd Battalion, died of sickness 31 January 1917; **4484 Corporal Walter Anderson, 8th Field Company Engineers, died of sickness 5 October 1918**; 5443 Pte John Smith, 54th Battalion, died Sunday 30 June 1918. Pte Smith was the alias of William Greenway.*



Barford St. Martin Church Cemetery (Photos from CWGC)



Photo of Corporal W. Anderson's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Barford St. Martin Church Cemetery, Wiltshire, England.



(Headstone photos by Lady Linda – Find a Grave)



Corporal Anderson's Headstone (Photo from CWGC)