

**Aldershot Military Cemetery,
Hampshire
War Grave**



Lest We Forget

World War 1



81765 CORPORAL

W. M. SAGE

8TH BATTN. CANADIAN INFANTRY

9TH JUNE, 1915 Age 23

William Murdoch SAGE

William Murdoch Sage was born on 11th June, 1892 in Coonamble, New South Wales, Australia to parents William & Robina Sage (nee Campbell). William Sage had married Robina Campbell in 1891, in Sydney, NSW, Australia.

William Murdoch & his parents returned to live in Scotland.

The 1901 Scotland Census recorded Wm. M. Sage as an 8 year old living with his family at 26 Victoria Gardens, Rutherglen, Lanarkshire, Scotland. His parents were recorded as William Sage (House Joiner, aged 39, born Hamilton, Lanarkshire) & Robertina Sage (aged 35, born Achscrabster, Caithnesshire). William was the eldest of 3 children listed on this Census. His younger brothers were listed as George R. Sage (aged 4, born Achnavart, Caithnesshire) & Kenneth Sage (aged 2, born Hamilton, Lanarkshire).

William Sage, a Joiner, aged 42 travelled from Lanark, Scotland in 1905 with his ultimate destination of Winnipeg, Canada. He was a passenger on the *Mongolian* which had departed from Glasgow, Scotland & arrived at Montreal, Quebec, Canada on 31st May, 1905.

Mrs Robina Sage (aged 39) & her 4 children – William (aged 13), George (aged 9), Kenneth (aged 7) & Flora (aged 4) were passengers on SS *Pretorian*. They embarked from the port of Glasgow on 19th May, 1906 & were to disembark at Montreal heading for Saskatoon.

The 1906 Canada Census of Manitoba, Saskatchewan recorded the Sage family – Wm. (Head, aged 45, born Scotland), Jane (Wife, aged 45, born Scotland), Wm. (Son, aged 13, born Scotland), Geo. (Son, aged 9, born Scotland), Kenneth (Son, aged 7, born Scotland) & Florence (Daughter, aged 4, born Scotland).

The 1911 Census of Canada recorded William Sage as a 19 year old, Accountant, living with his family in the district of Saskatoon, in the province of Saskatchewan, Canada. His parents were listed as William Sage (Carpenter, aged 49, born Scotland – December, 1862) & Rebona Sage (aged 45, born Scotland – June, 1866). William was the eldest of 4 children listed on this Census - George (aged 14, born Scotland – August, 1897), Kenny (aged 12, born Scotland – October, 1899) & Florrie (aged 9, born Scotland – August, 1902).

William Murdoch Sage was a 22 year old, single, Clerk when he enlisted at Winnipeg on 22nd December, 1914 with the Canadian Overseas Expeditionary Force. His service number was 81765 & his religion was Presbyterian. His next of kin was listed as Mrs R. Sage of 817 Avenue C. North, Saskatoon, Canada.

From the newspaper report of Corporal William Murdoch Sage's condition in 1915 – he was originally attached to 32nd Battalion, Canadian Expeditionary Force. (C.E.F.)

32nd Battalion:

The Battalion was authorized on 3rd November, 1914 & recruited in Manitoba and Saskatchewan and was mobilized at Winnipeg. The Battalion embarked for Britain on 23rd February, 1915. It was redesignated as the 32nd Reserve Battalion, C.E.F. on 18th April, 1915.

Lance Corporal William Murdoch Sage was later attached to 8th Battalion, Canadian Infantry (Manitoba Regiment).

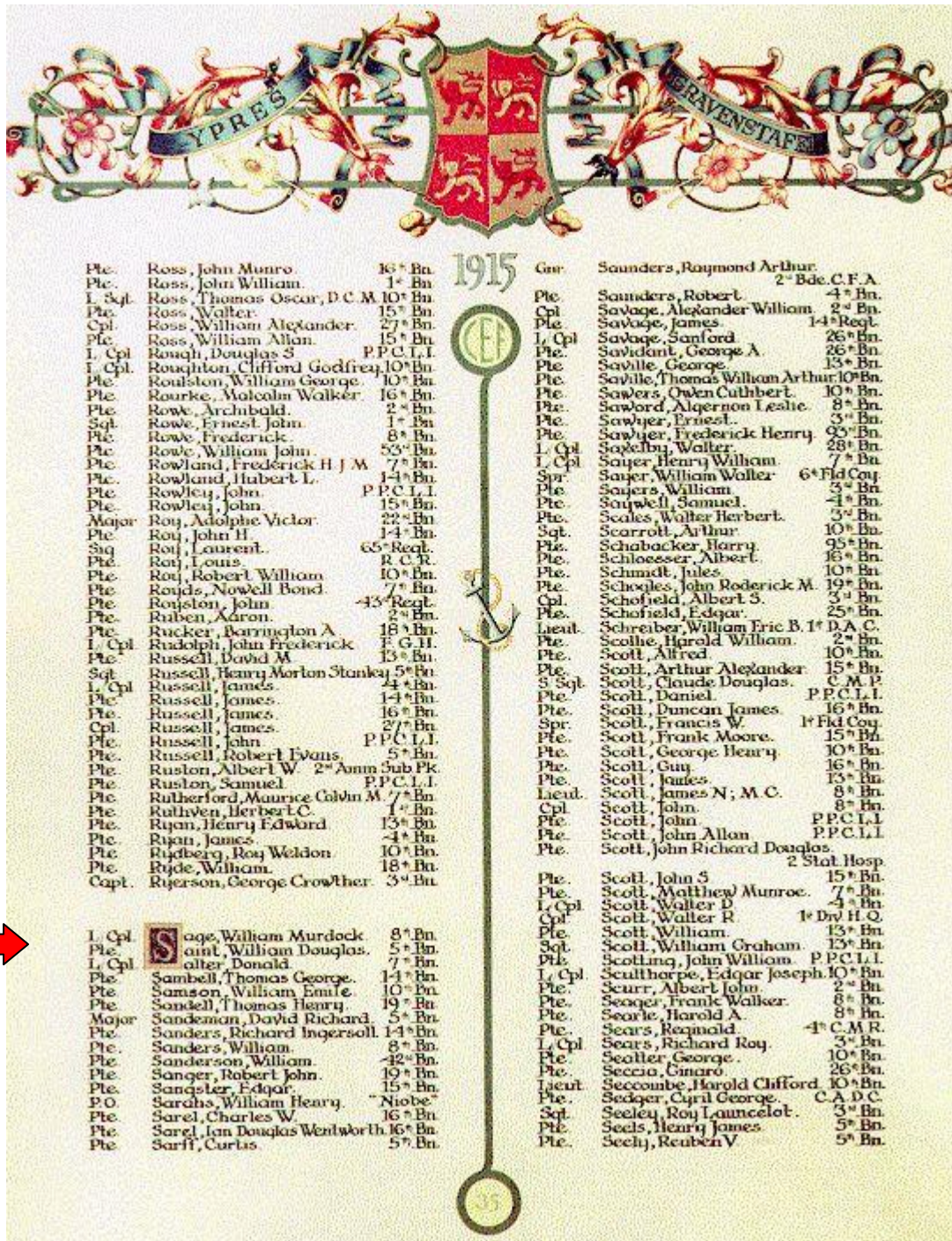
Lance Corporal William Murdoch Sage died of wounds on 9th June, 1915 at Connaught Military Hospital, Aldershot, Hampshire.

A death for William M. Sage, aged 22, was registered in the June quarter, 1915 in the district of Hartley Wintney, Hampshire.

Lance Corporal William Murdoch was buried in Aldershot Military Cemetery, Hampshire – Plot number AF. 1887. He has a private headstone but his death is acknowledged by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Lance Corporal W. M. Sage – service number 81765, aged 23, of 8th Battalion, Canadian Infantry. He was the son of Robina Sage, of 2225 York St., Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, and the late William Sage. Native of New South Wales, Australia.

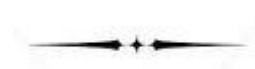
William Murdoch Sage is remembered on page 35 of Canada's First World War Book of Remembrance.



William Murdoch Sage is remembered on the Commemorative Roll Book, located in the Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra. The Commemorative Roll records the names of those Australians who died during or as a result of wars in which Australians served, but who were not serving in the Australian Armed Forces and therefore not eligible for inclusion on the Roll of Honour.



Commemorative Area of the Australian War Memorial (*Capital Photographer*)



Newspaper Notices

WESTERN CASUALTIES

Dangerously ill:

Corp. William Murdoch Sage, formerly of 32nd, now of 8th Battalion, Saskatoon, Sask.

(*Winnipeg Free Press*, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada – 9 June, 1915)

CASUALTIES

Eighth Battalion

Died of Wounds Corp. William M. Sage (22nd), Saskatoon, Sask.

(*Medicine Hat News*, Medicine Hat, Alberta, Canada – 17 June, 1915)

Aldershot Military Cemetery, Hampshire

During both wars, numerous regimental and corps depots were based in and around Aldershot. At the outbreak of The First World War, it was the headquarters of the Aldershot Command and of the 1st and 2nd Divisions, and the Depot of the Royal Army Medical Corps. The North and South Camps, divided by the Basingstoke Canal, remained in full activity throughout the War. During the Second World War, some 400,000 Canadian servicemen were trained there.

Aldershot Military Cemetery is a permanent military cemetery, the property of the Ministry of Defence. The Commonwealth War Graves Commission is responsible for the care of just over 800 graves of both world wars within the cemetery.

There are 690 First World War graves in the cemetery, the earliest bears the date 5th August 1914, and the latest 11th August 1921. Many of these graves are in plot AF. The 129 Second World War graves are in groups in various plots, the largest group in plot A containing 86 graves. *(Information from CWGC)*

Aldershot Military Cemetery is unlike any other military cemetery in the United Kingdom, for not only is it set on hills and small valleys in natural surrounds, but here, at rest, lie nearly 17,000 fighting men of nine nations, dating back to the 1850's.



Aldershot Military Cemetery *(Top photo from CWGC, bottom photo by Colin Smith)*



Photo of Lance Corporal W. M. Sage's Private Headstone at Aldershot Military Cemetery, Hampshire, England.



(Photo courtesy of Andrea Charlesworth 2012)

Lance Corporal William Murdoch Sage's inscription on his headstone:

CORPORAL W. M. SAGE
8th Battn. CANADIAN INFANTRY
ELDEST SON OF WILLIAM & ROBINA SAGE
OF SASKATOON
WHO DIED OF WOUNDS ON JUNE 9th 1915
AGED 23

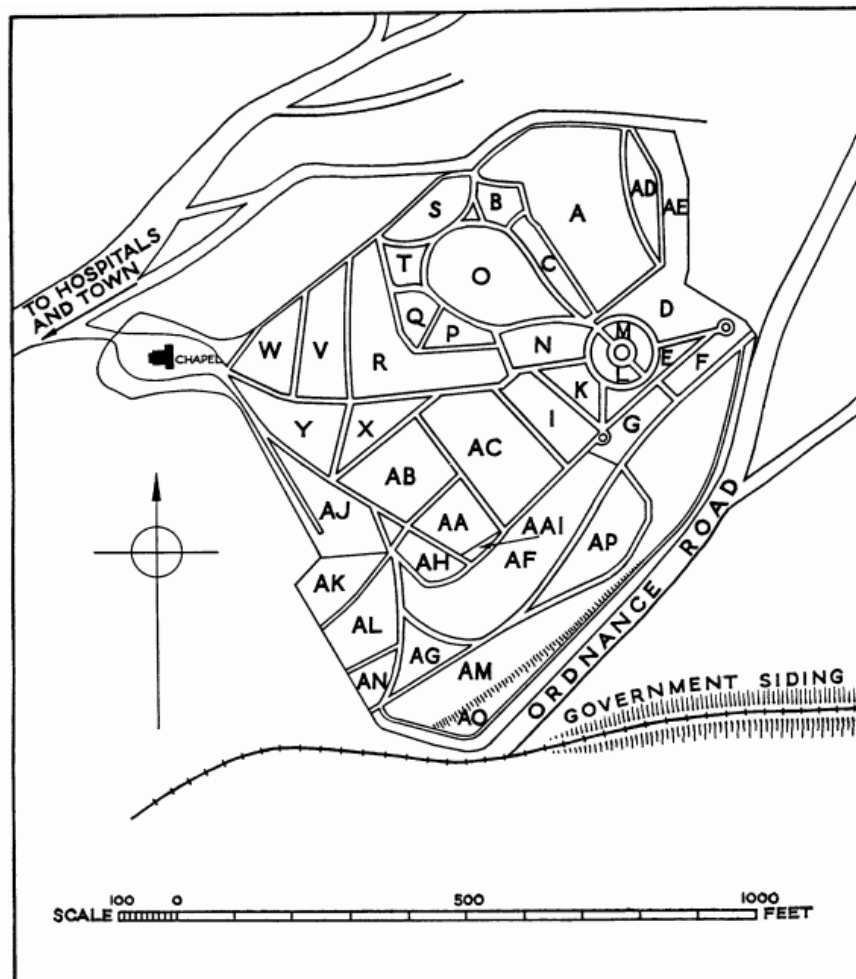
—◆—
Though Nothing Can The Loss Replace

A Dear One Taken From Our Side

Yet In Our Sorrow We Rejoice

To Think 'Twas Nobly That He Died

—◆—
Map of Aldershot Military Cemetery, Hampshire



KEY PLAN OF ALDERSHOT MILITARY CEMETERY.