

**Tidworth Military Cemetery,
Tidworth, Wiltshire
War Graves**



Lest We Forget

World War 1



3512A SAPPER

J. WALLACE

AUSTRALIAN TUNNELLERS

7TH JUNE, 1917

John (Jack) WALLACE

John Wallace was born at Waterloo, Sydney, New South Wales around 1885. (A birth was registered in Sydney, New South Wales for a "John Wallace" in 1886 with parents John & Mary A. Wallace).

Jack /John Wallace was listed on the First World War Embarkation Rolls twice – once as "Jack Wallace" with a service number of 3512 & also as "John Wallace" with a service number of 3512A.

- Jack Wallace was a 30 year old, single, Miner from Sydney, NSW when he enlisted at Seymour, Victoria on 1st January, 1916 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 3512 & his religion was Presbyterian. His next of kin was listed as his father – address unknown.
- John Wallace was a 30 year old, single, Miner from Sydney, NSW when he enlisted at Seymour, Victoria on 1st January, 1916 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 3512A & his religion was Presbyterian. His next of kin was listed as his father – address unknown.

Sapper Jack /John Wallace was posted to Miners Reinforcements on 16th August, 1916.

Sapper Jack /John Wallace embarked from Melbourne on 16th August, 1916 but was listed as embarking with different areas of Mining Corps/Company:

- Sapper Jack Wallace embarked from Melbourne, Victoria on RMS *Orontes* on 16th August, 1916 with the Mining and Tunnelling Company - August Reinforcements.
- Sapper John Wallace embarked from Melbourne, Victoria on RMS *Orontes* on 16th August, 1916 with the No. 1 Mining Corps, 4th Reinforcements.

Sapper Jack /John Wallace was written up for an Offence at Sea on H.M.S. *Orontes* – Absent without leave from Parade on 26th August, 1916. He was awarded a forfeiture of 1 days' pay by Colonel J. Rowell.

Sapper Jack /John Wallace was written up for an Offence at Sea on H.M.S. *Orontes* – Absent without leave on 7th September, 1916. He was awarded a forfeiture of 1 days' pay by Colonel J. Rowell.

Sapper Jack /John Wallace disembarked at Plymouth, England on 2nd October, 1916. He was marched in to Details, No. 3 Camp, Parkhouse, Wiltshire, England from Australia on 3rd October, 1916.

Reinforcements were only given basic training in Australia. Training was completed in training units in England. Some of these were located in the Salisbury Plain & surrounding areas in the county of Wiltshire.

Sapper Jack /John Wallace was written up for an Offence on 19th October, 1916 while posted at Parkhouse, Wiltshire – (1) A.W.L. (Absent without Leave) from 06.30 on 4th October, 1916 till 20.45 on 16th October, 1916. (2) Giving a false name to A.G.M.M. (3) In possession of an irregular pass. He was awarded 12 days detention by Captain Neech & a total forfeiture of 25 days' pay.

Sapper Jack /John Wallace had the letter "A" added to his Regimental No. – 3512 to 3512A in 10th February, 1917 while posted with Tunnelling Company Details.

Sapper Jack /John Wallace was marched in to No. 1 Command Depot at Perham Downs, Wiltshire on 28th February, 1917. He was marched out to Camp Headquarters on 2nd March, 1917.

Sapper Jack /John Wallace, 4th Tunnelling Company, was admitted to 16 A Ward on 12th March, 1917 with Syphilis. A second Medical Card recorded he had been admitted to 1st Australian Dermatological Hospital, Bulford, Wiltshire on 15th March, 1917 with Gonorrhoea which had been contracted in London. He was discharged on 22nd May, 1917.

Sapper Jack /John Wallace was sent sick to Hospital on 30th March, 1917 from Details, Perham Downs (as recorded on Statement of Service form).

Sapper Jack /John Wallace was marched in to No. 7 Camp, Perham Downs from No. 1 Command Depot at Perham Downs on 23rd May, 1917. He was marched out to No. 7 Camp under Escort on 25th May, 1917.

Sapper Jack /John Wallace was marched out for No. 7 Camp, Perham Downs, Wiltshire to Drafting Depot on 28th May, 1917.

Sapper Jack /John Wallace was sent sick to Brimstone Bottom Isolation Hospital on 29th May, 1917. The Hospital Admissions form recorded "*Slight Rubella rash. On 3/6/17 developed Broncho-pneumonia & died on 7/6/17. Had recently undergone ___ treatment at Bulford.*"

Sapper John/Jack Wallace died at 12.40 am on 7th June, 1917 at Brimstone Bottom Isolation Hospital, Tidworth, Wiltshire, England from 1. Rubella 2. Bronchitis (Bronchial Pneumonia).

A death for a "*John Wallace*", aged 20, was registered in the June quarter, 1917 in the district of Pewsey, Wiltshire, England.

Sapper John/Jack Wallace was buried on 8th June, 1917 in Tidworth Military Cemetery, Wiltshire, England – Plot number A. 52 and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

Colonel Hawker, A.A.G., 3rd Military District, wrote to Base Records on 12th June, 1917 referencing their list which had reported 3512a Sapper J. Wallace had died on 7th June, 1917 & stated "*please note that inquiries have been made at the office of the District Paymaster, but no particulars could be obtained as to the present whereabouts of the Father of the Late Sapper Wallace. The allotment of Sapper Wallace is being paid into the Commonwealth Bank.*"

A Notice for the Press was prepared on 15th June, 1917: "*The Defence Department desires the next-of-kin of No. 3512 Sapper John Wallace, Tunnelling Details, (late Mining Corps) to communicate with the Officer in Charge, Base Records, Victoria Barracks, Melbourne, as early as possible.*"

The Curator, Estates of Deceased Persons, New Zealand Chambers, 483 Collins Street, Melbourne, Victoria, wrote to Base Records on 23rd July, 1918 regarding Sapper No. 3512 J. Wallace, Tunnelling Details, deceased stating "*This case has been referred to me by the District Paymaster for administration and I shall be obliged if you will inform me of the full name of the late soldier. If you receive any application by the relatives I shall be obliged if you will be good enough to furnish me with their addresses.*"

Base Records advised on 9th September, 1918 that a package of the personal effects of the late No. 3512 Sapper J. Wallace was being forwarded per separate post to The Curator, Estates of Deceased Persons, New Zealand Chambers, 483 Collins Street, Melbourne, Victoria for disbursement to the legatee.

The Curator, Estates of Deceased Persons, New Zealand Chambers, 483 Collins Street, Melbourne, Victoria, wrote to Base Records on 23rd July, 1918 regarding Sapper No. 3512 J. Wallace, Tunnelling Details, deceased stating "*with reference to your letter of the 2nd instant I beg to inform you that no distribution has been made by me in this case. The address if the father is unknown and no application has been made to me by any person claiming to be next of kin.*"

Base Records wrote to District Finance Officer, 3rd Military District on 29th May, 1923 enquiring as to whom the War Gratuity of the late No. 3512 Sapper J. Wallace was allotted & also any blood relations names & addresses in order to dispose of the War Medals etc. A Reply was received stating no claim had been lodged for War Gratuity on account of the late Sapper Wallace.

Sapper J. Wallace was entitled to British War Medal only as he had not entered a Theatre of War. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also to be sent to Sapper Wallace's next-of-kin, however no relative was able to be located so the British War Medal, Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were sent to Untraceables.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Sapper Jack Wallace – service number 3512A, of Australian Tunnelling Corps. No family details are listed.

Sapper J. Wallace is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 27.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

(74 pages of Sapper John Wallace'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



Newspaper Notices

AUSTRALIAN CASUALTIES

315TH LIST

Died of Illness

Spr J. WALLACE, address not known.

(The Bendigo Independent, Victoria – 26 June, 1917)

Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstones

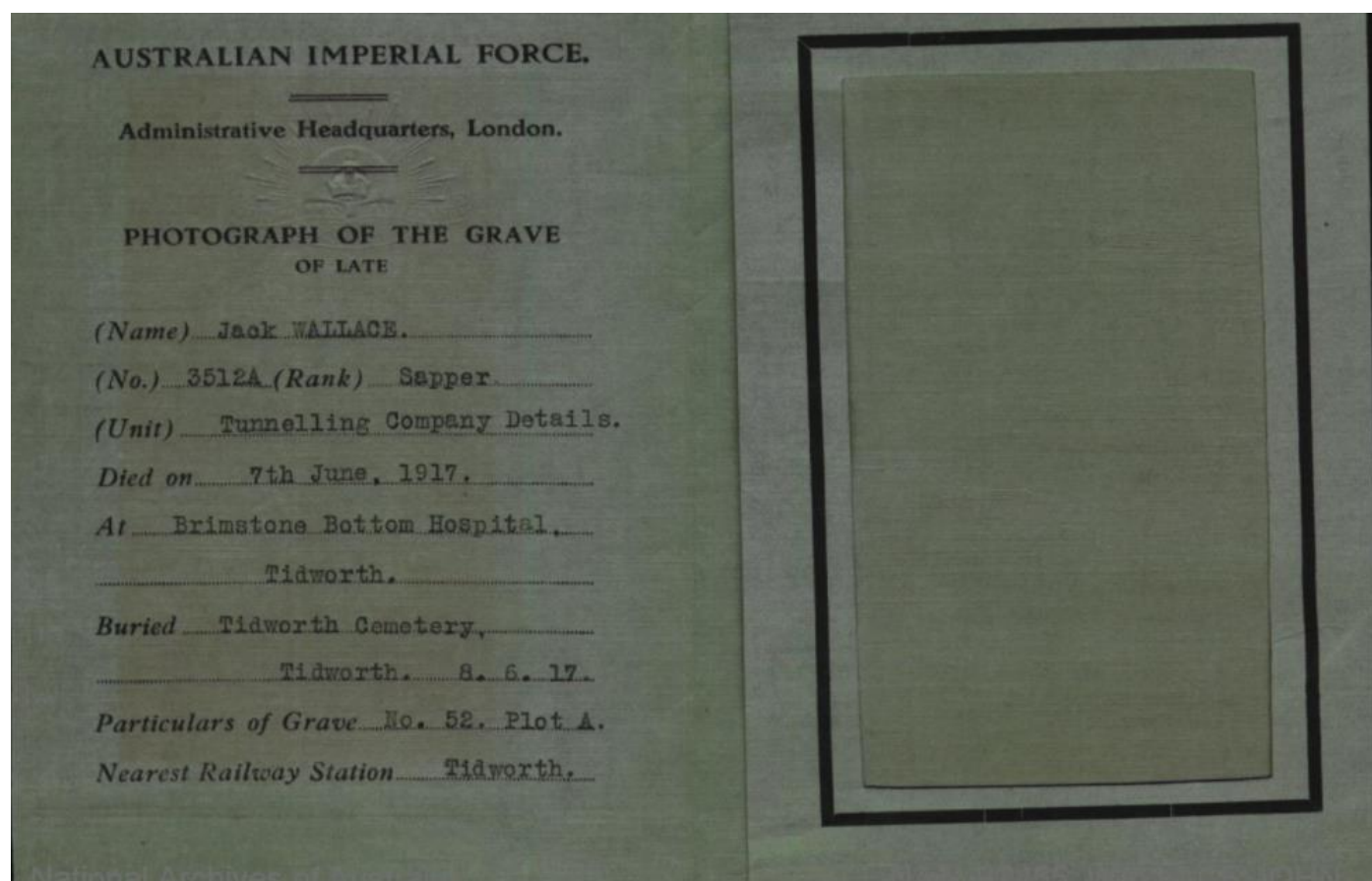
The Defence Department, in 1920/21, contacted the next of kin of the deceased World War 1 soldiers to see if they wanted to include a personal inscription on the permanent headstone. Space was reserved for 66 letters only (with the space between any two words to be counted as an additional letter) &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

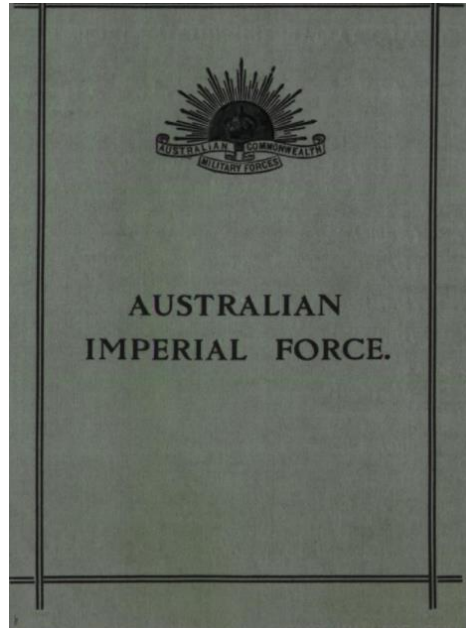
(Information obtained from letters sent to next of kin in 1921)

Sapper J. Wallace does not have a personal inscription on his headstone.

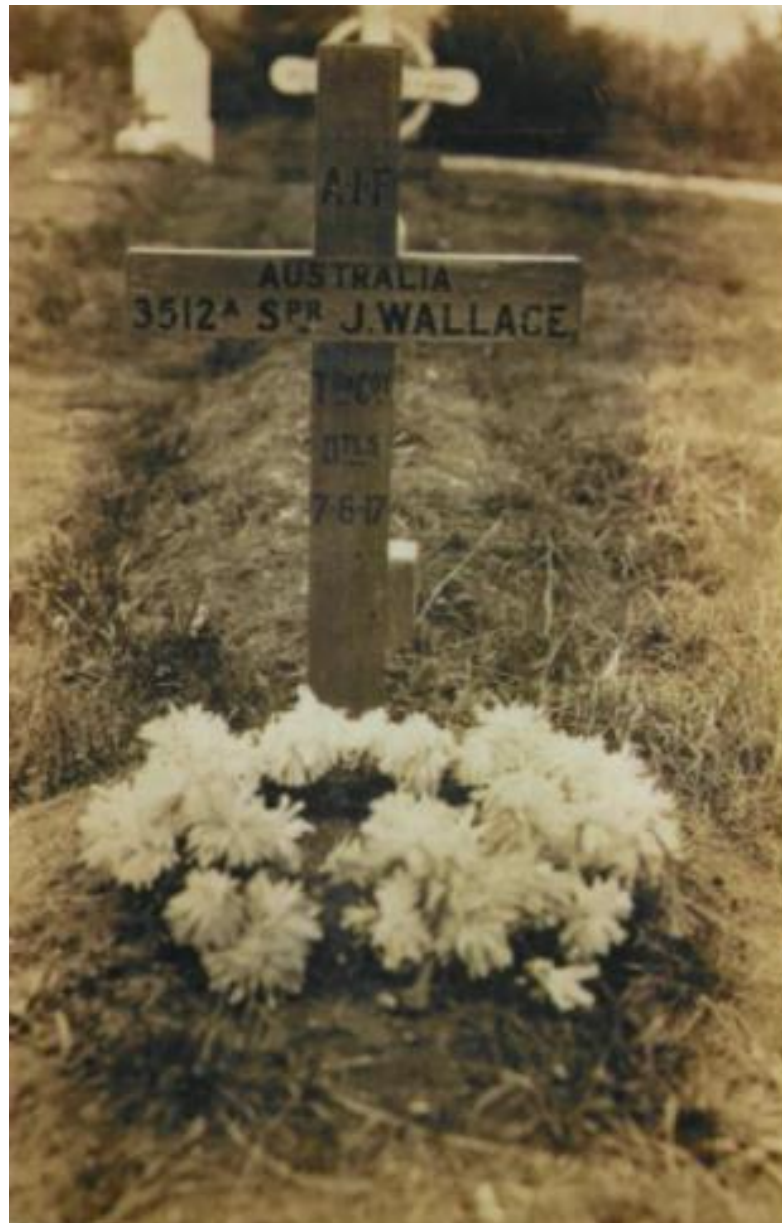
The next-of-kin of Australian WW1 Soldiers were sent photos of the original grave marker of the deceased soldier. As no next-of-kin could be located for Sapper J. Wallace – 2 photographs of his Grave Marker are located in his Service Record file.



Inside of folder containing photo of Grave for next-of-kin



Outside cover of folder containing photo of Grave for next-of-kin



Tidworth Military Cemetery, Wiltshire, England

Tidworth Military Cemetery, which contains burials of both wars, was directly connected with training grounds on, or near, Salisbury Plain.

During the First World War, the cemetery was used for burials from Tidworth and Fargo Military Hospitals and the 417 graves, many of them of Australian or New Zealand servicemen, are scattered throughout the cemetery.

There are 106 Second World War graves in the cemetery, two substantial groups of which can be found in sections F and D. The rest are scattered.

The cemetery also contains 40 war graves of other nationalities, many of them Polish.

(Information from CWGC)



Tidworth Military Cemetery *(Photo by julia&keld – Find a Grave)*



Tidworth Military Cemetery, Wiltshire *(Photo courtesy of John Prestidge)*



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

D00319

Tidworth Military Cemetery – March 1919

Snow cover on graves marked with a cross in the AIF cemetery.

Identified, left row, back to front: 3049 Private (Pte) John Joseph Cahill, 57th Battalion (Bn), who died 16 March 1917; 769 Lance Sergeant Gerald Ryan, 14th Bn, died of accidental injuries caused when he fell sliding on ice 6 February 1917; 6022 Pte James Thomas Frazer, 9th Bn, died of pneumonia 25 January 1917; 2680 Pte William Humphreys, 13th Field Ambulance, Australian Army Medical Corps, died of sickness 23 January 1917; 2435 Pte James Byrne, 39th Bn, died of accidental injuries 18 January 1917.

Right row: 1094 Lance Corporal Henry Matthews, 13th Australian Light Horse, died of accidental injuries 8 January 1918; 3701 Pte Thomas Henry Goss, 37th Bn, died of sickness 28 August 1917; 2769 Gunner James O'Connell, 13th Brigade, Australian Field Artillery, date of death 31 July 1917; 6961 Pte Alexander Bruni, 67th Bn, died of sickness 15 July 1917; 3135 Henry John Vaughan Percy-Dove, 40th Bn, aged 28, died of sickness 11 June 1917; **3512A Sapper John (Jack) Wallace, Australian Tunnelling Company, who died 7 June 1917.**



Tidworth Military Cemetery, Wiltshire *(Photo by Chris Talbot 2009)*



(Photo courtesy of Portsmouth Remembers – Kevin)

Photo of Sapper J. Wallace's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Tidworth Military Cemetery, Wiltshire, England.



