



# Private Charles Thompson

The No. 2 Construction Battalion, Canadian Expeditionary Force (CEF)

By: Natalie Wiker & Mitchell Kettell

# Charles Thompson

Rank: Private

Regimental Number: 931306

Next of Kin: Georgina Thompson

Address: 45 Maitland Street, Halifax

Birth Place: Halifax, Nova Scotia

Taken on Strength: Oct 6, 1916

**ORIGINAL** 931 306

**ATTESTATION PAPER.**  
**No. 2 CONSTRUCTION, B'n. C.E.F.**  
**CANADIAN OVER-SEAS EXPEDITIONARY FORCE.**

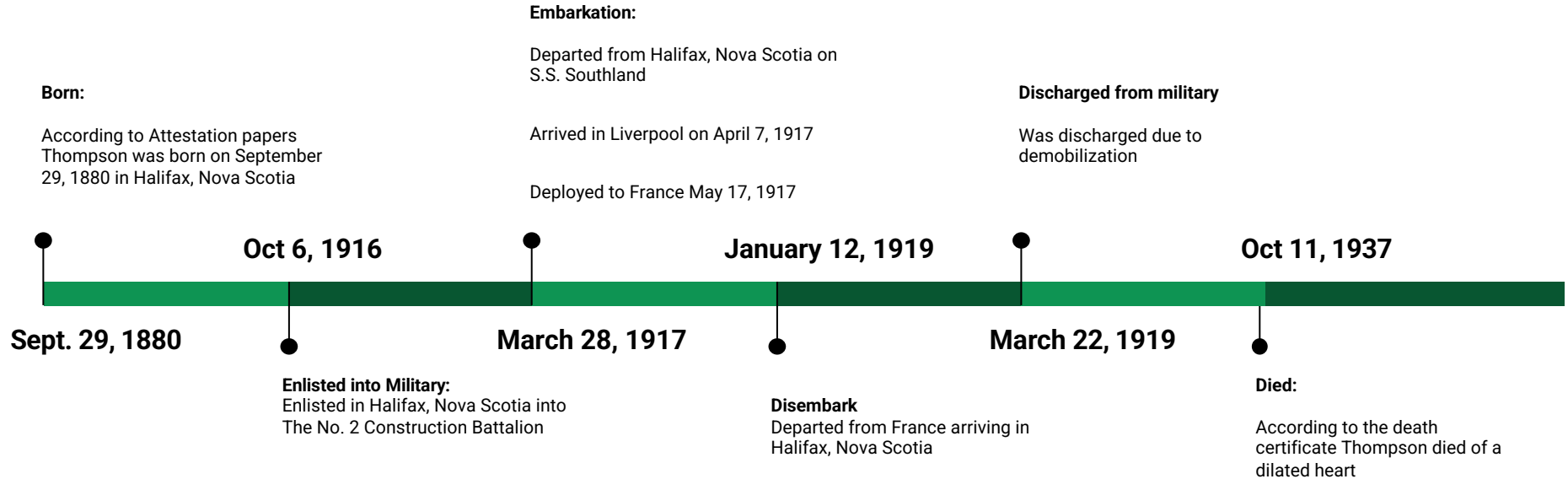
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**QUESTIONS TO BE PUT BEFORE ATTESTATION.**  
(ANSWERS.)

1. What is your surname?.....	Thompson
1a. What are your Christian names?.....	Charles
1b. What is your present address?.....	45 Maitland St. Halifax N.S.
2. In what Town, Township or Parish, and in what Country were you born?.....	Halifax Nova Scotia
3. What is the name of your next-of-kin?.....	Georgina Thompson
4. What is the address of your next-of-kin?.....	45 Maitland St. Halifax N.S.
4a. What is the relationship of your next-of-kin?.....	Wife
5. What is the date of your birth?.....	September 29 - 1880
6. What is your Trade or Calling?.....	Fireman
7. Are you married?.....	Yes
8. Are you willing to be vaccinated or re-vaccinated and inoculated?.....	Yes
9. Do you now belong to the Active Militia?.....	No
10. Have you ever served in any Military Force?..... <small>If so, state particulars of former Service.</small>	No
11. Do you understand the nature and terms of your engagement?.....	Yes
12. Are you willing to be attested to serve in the } CANADIAN OVER-SEAS EXPEDITIONARY FORCE? }	Yes

# Life Timeline:



## Pvt. Charles Thompson Service File

- Enlisted on October 6th 1916 in Halifax, Nova Scotia
- Enlisted into the No 2. Construction Battalion of the Canadian Expeditionary Force
- At the time of enlistment Charles declared his birthday as September 29th 1880 and that he was 36 years of age.
- He declared that he was married to Georgina Thompson, who was listed as his next of kin, and that he had no children
- Charles indicated his trade as being a fireman and that he had never previously served in any military force.
- Medical Records indicate that Thompson was relatively healthy
- Religious affiliation: Methodist

Examined	{ on 6 <sup>th</sup> day of Oct 1916
	at Halifax
Birthplace	{ City or Town Halifax
	{ County Nova Scotia
Apparent age	36 years
Trade or occupation	Fireman
Height	5 feet 7 1/2 inches
Weight	168 lbs
Chest measurement	{ Minimum 38 inches
	{ Maximum expansion 40 inches
Physical development	good
Small-pox Marks	nil
Vaccination Marks	{ Arm: Right Left
	{ Number: one
When Vaccinated last	1909

SURNAME	Thompson	CARD NO.	6.
CHRISTIAN NAMES	Charles	REG. NO.	20527-19 Remot
RECL. No.	931306	RANK	Pte.
UNIT	No. 2. Construction		Bn.
FORMER CORPS	nil		
NEXT OF KIN.			
NAMES IN FULL	Thompson, Mrs. Georgina		
RELATIONSHIP TO SOLDIER	Wife 253 Brunswick St.		
ADDRESS	46 Cornwallis St. Halifax, N.S.		
	I.O.P. 27-5-19 3/1/19. Halifax, N.S.		
COUNTRY OF BIRTH	Canada	DATE	Sept. 29 <sup>th</sup> 1880.
PLACE OF ATTESTATION	Halifax, N.S.	DATE	Oct. 6 <sup>th</sup> 1916.
			R/C. 25/1/19. 256/70
L. L. 694A M. & D. 694A		M. P. W. 22. 100M. -8-16. H. G. 177-38-38B.	




## Census of 1911

- Charles and his wife Georgina Thompson were both found in the 1911 Census as being married.
- Charles' birthday is listed as being June 1874 making him 36 years of age, while Georgina's birthday is listed as April of 1882 making her 28 years of age.
- Both listed their religion as Methodist and their nationality as Canadian.
- Charles' chief occupation has him listed as being a labourer.

Thompson Charles	175	Married	M	Head	M	June 1874	36	NB		African Canadian	Methodist	Labourer
Thompson Georgina	"	"	F	Wife	M	April 1882	28	NB		African Canadian	Methodist	Labourer

## Circumstances of Death

- All information in Pvt. Thompsons service file suggests that he survived the war without any major injuries
- His discharge papers and Death Certificate indicate that he died on October 11th 1937
- Thompsons immediate cause of death is listed as being a dilated heart. This, however, was identified as being brought on by Charles suffering from a morbid condition.
- Unfortunately we were unable to decipher the handwriting identifying this condition.

1. DESCRIPTION AT THE TIME OF DISCHARGE.	
Age <u>38</u> years <u>5</u> months	 Descriptive marks <u>Nil</u>
Height <u>5</u> feet <u>8</u> inches.	
Complexion <u>Dark</u>	
Eyes <u>Black</u>	
Hair <u>Black</u>	
Trade <u>Livestock</u>	
Intended place of residence (To be given as fully as practicable.) <u>253 Brownwick St Halifax</u>	
2. The above-named man is discharged in consequence of <u>Demobilization</u>	
Authority for discharge.....	
N.B.—The cause of discharge must be worded as prescribed in the King's Regulations and be identified with that on the character certificate. If discharged by superior authority, the number and date of the letter to be quoted.	
3. Conduct and character while in the service have been, according to the records, etc. <u>Deceased 11-10-37.</u> <u>649-T-6531</u>	
N.B.—This will be assessed when practicable, by the Commanding Officer, in the presence of the addressee and the Officer Commanding his Squadron, Battery or Company.	
4. Special qualifications for employment in civil life. (Vide para. 332, K. R. & O., Canada.)	

FORM 4

This form if filled in an envelope, marked "Demobilization Certificate for Importation into Canada" and properly addressed will pass through the mail "FREE".

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA—CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION OF DEATH

1. PLACE OF DEATH  
 County of Halifax Municipality of Halifax  
 City or Town Halifax Street Dropped dead on street  
 (If death occurred in a hospital or institution, give the name instead of street and number.)  
 (If death occurred in a hospital or institution, give the name instead of street and number.)

2. LENGTH OF STAY in years, months and days  
 (a) In City, Town or Island Division where death occurred 20 years (b) In Province Life (c) In Canada (if not born here) Life

3. NAME OF DECEASED Thompson, Charles  
 RESIDENCE No. 100 Street Gerrish City, Town or Rural Division Halifax Province N.S.

4. Sex Male 5. Nativity Canadian 6. Race African 7. Single, Married, Widowed or Divorced Married

8. BIRTHPLACE Waverley, N.S.

9. DATE OF BIRTH Not known

10. AGE in Years 38 Months 5 Days 7

11. Trade, profession or kind of work as pursued, however, when done, as contractor, bookkeeper, bank, etc.

12. Kind of industry or business, as contractor, bookkeeping, bank, etc.

13. Date deceased last worked at this occupation.

14. Total yrs. spent in this occupation.

15. If married give name of wife or husband of deceased George Thompson

16. Name Joseph Thompson

17. Residence U.S.A.

18. Marital Status Eliza Brooks

19. Residence Not known

20. Signature of Informant William Woodbury  
 Address Young St., Truro  
 Relationship to deceased Half Brother

21. Place of Burial, Crematorium or Removal Camp Hill  
 Date of burial or removal October 14, 1937

22. Undertaker NOVA SCOTIA UNDERTAKING CO.

23. DATE OF DEATH October 11, 1937

24. MEDICAL CERTIFICATE OF DEATH  
 24.1. I HEREBY CERTIFY that the person described in this certificate is dead.  
My dead body (rest in 3)  
 CAUSE OF DEATH  
Deilated heart  
Chronic Valvular disease

24.2. I HEREBY CERTIFY that the person described in this certificate is dead.  
 (a) (b) (c) (d) (e) (f) (g) (h) (i) (j) (k) (l) (m) (n) (o) (p) (q) (r) (s) (t) (u) (v) (w) (x) (y) (z)

25. If a woman, was the death attended with pregnancy?  
 26. Was there a surgical operation? No Date of operation: \_\_\_\_\_  
 State findings: \_\_\_\_\_ Was there an autopsy? No

27. If death was due to external cause (homicide) fill in date the following Accident, suicide or homicide? \_\_\_\_\_ Date of injury: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Manner of injury: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nature of injury: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Specify whether injury occurred in factory, in home, or in public place.

Signed by W. Woodbury MEDICAL EXAMINER  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ Date Oct 19 1937

28. Registrar's Name and Number \_\_\_\_\_  
 29. Filed 17 12 1937

## Historical Newspapers:

- After conducting a search for Pvt. Charles Thompson in the archives of different Canadian newspapers, we unfortunately had no results.



## Ancestors Search

- Searches for Charles Thompson in the Births, Marriages, and Deaths database returned no results, matching the information of Pvt. Charles Thompson
- Searches in the Land database also returned no results
- Searches in the Nova Scotia Archives allowed us to locate Pvt. Thompsons death certificate. Which provided us with the names of his parents Joseph Thompson and Eliza Brooks, and his half-brother William. Unfortunately Williams surname was illegible.
- Unfortunately we were unable to find any further information on these individuals in the databases.





# Discrepancies in information

## Date of Birth:

- Attestation Papers: **September 29, 1880**
- Medical Examination upon leaving service: **Sept 1855**
- 1911 Census: **June 1874**
- Tomb stone: Listed the year **1887**
- On death certificate the date of birth is **unknown**



# Discrepancies in information

## Occupation:

- Attestation papers: **Fireman**
- 1911 Census: **Labourer**
- Death certificate: **Labourer**
- Proceedings on Discharge: **Fireman**

## Unit or Corps #:

- Attestation papers: **No. 2 Construction Battalion**
  - Medical Examination upon leaving service: **17 Reserve Battalion**
  - Proceedings on Discharge: **No. 2 Construction Battalion**
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