

By: Kim Huang & Carrie Cho



Remembering *ALICE LOUISE TRUSDALE*

1892-1919

Overview:

Part 1: Pre-War

- Growing up
- Family
- Education

Part 2: During-War

- Role in War
- Pay Wage

Part 3: After-War

- Employment
- Cause of
Death
- Contribution





Pre-War :

Born: December 12th 1892 in Waterford Ontario, Canada

- 25 year old single woman upon enlistment

Fun Facts:

- On average, nursing sisters were **29.9 years old**
- Nursing sisters were required to be single, widowed, or divorced, but many women **secretly** married during their service and did not resign



Occupation before enlisting: *Graduate nurse*



S.O.S. Detroit - 18.3.19. M.D.

392-20-98

TRUSDALE, Alice Louise N.S. *Cambridge*

M & D. uncle

(The)

O.E. Trusdale,
166 Chatham St.,
Brentford, Ont.

P & S. father

Death not due to Bernice

W.H. Trusdale,
Waterford, Ont.

Memorial X- mother

Mrs. Barbara Ellen
Trusdale, as above.

*Not Eligible for 14.15 Star
" " " U. M.
Eligible - B.M.M.*

7/223

Father: William H.
Trusdale

Mother: Barbara Ellen
Trusdale

- Addressed as Alice Louise's
documented **Next of Kin**

Parents of Alice Louise Trusdale

Other Family of Alice Louise Trusdale

Brother: Howard Trusdale

Sister: Unknown. *Supposedly* Alice's mother and sister had been beside her at her deathbed.

Alice and Howard at a homecoming celebration for Howard

Fun Fact:

- Many records were filed with Alice's family name **misspelled** (i.e. 'Truesdale') so census information on Alice is hard to find



Education of Alice Louise Trusdale

Elementary and Secondary: Waterford
Public and High School

Nursing School: Guelph General
Hospital

- Before the war, she was residing in
New York and working on obtaining
advanced medical training

Graduating class of 1912 at Guelph
General Hospital School of Nursing



C.A.D.C. 5009 A.

CANADIAN ARMY DENTAL CORPS, O.M.F.C.

DENTAL CERTIFICATE FOR DEMOBILIZATION

Canadian Printing and Stationery Services, London

NAME OF SOLDIER (Block Letters) TRUSDALE A. L.

REGIMENT C. A. M. C. RANK Leading Stoker No. _____

Date of Examination in England Jan 24/19. Date of Examination in France _____

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16

17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32

PRESENT DENTAL REQUIREMENTS

1. FILLINGS none

2. EXTRACTIONS none

3. CROWNS none

4. DENTURES

(a) Full Upper } none

(b) Part Upper }

(c) Full Lower }

(d) Part Lower }

HAS SHE EVER REFUSED DENTAL TREATMENT? no

HAS SHE EVER RECEIVED DENTAL TREATMENT? (Reply by "Yes" where applicable to any or all of a, b or c.)

(a) In Canada none

(b) In England none

(c) In France none

Signature of Dental Officer J. R. Smith

25- 1-19 Capt C.A.C.

Health Examination at Enlistment

DIRECTIONS TO DENTAL OFFICERS

1. This form will be made out for each individual at the time of Demobilization in England or France.
2. Figures as per chart will be used to designate teeth concerned.
3. In reference to Partial Dentures the numbers of teeth thereon will be stated.

- ✓ - Vaccinated
- ✗ - No prior dental work
- ✓ - Cleared to be in medical category A

"I consider her FIT for the Canadian over-seas expedition force"

- ✓ - Physical development considered good by examining doctor



Dental certificate demonstrating no prior dental treatments

During War:



Details of Alice Trusdale's Service

- Served in the **CAMC** (Canadian Army Medical Corps) in **Canada and England**
- Worked at:
 - No. 10 Canadian General Hospital
 - No. 4 Canadian General Hospital

Pay Wages

- **\$35/month**
- Served 10 months
 - Made **\$3500** in total

CAMC Nursing Sisters
photographed



A Day in Alice' s Shoes

Nursing Sisters were responsible for the medical prescription, treatment, and care of patients.

Morning

- Feeding patient
- Bathing patients
- Re-dressing wounds
- Transporting dead bodies (Night-time duty as well)

Afternoon

- Wounded patients would be able to **receive visitors** or **write letters** to send to loved ones
- Distribution of meal times and bedpans/urinals

Off duty

- Nursing sisters would go on **walks, cycle rides, explore** outside the village/area they are at
- Participate in **recreational activities and clubs** within the hospital to help with morales during the war



Fun fact:

- While nursing sisters were initially due to focus on medical care, they were also expected to clean, tidy rooms, and make beds.

After-War:



Survived the war.

Date of return to Canada: March 1919

- WWI truce announced November 11, 1918

After her return, she became worked as a **matron** at **Freeport Military Hospital, Kitchener**

- Cared for sick and wounded veterans



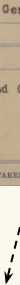
Campus of Freeport Military Hospital

The Passing of Alice Trusdale

Cause of death: By disease, **Polio** / Infantile Paralysis

- Admitted to hospital on **September 12, 1919**
- **Symptoms:** included the paralysis of lower limbs which ultimately spread and eventually impacted respiratory muscles
- Passed later that evening.

1. SEX	2. RANK OR RATING	3. SURNAME
	Nursing-Sister.	TRUSDALE.
4. UNIT OR SHIP	5. DATE OF CASUALTY	
C.A.M.C.	12-9-19	
6. CIRCUMSTANCES OF CASUALTY		
Cause: Infantile Paralysis Patient admitted to hospital, on transfer from Frysport Hospital, on the morning of Sept. 12th. Had a paralysis of the lower limbs which spread, respiratory muscles were involved, and patient died in the evening. <i>Death not due to service (Auth. B.P.C. 23.6.23)</i>		
7. LOCATION OF UNIT AT TIME OF CASUALTY		
General Hospital Guelph Ont.		
NOTE—Items 12, 13 and 14 are not to be completed until grave		
12. CEMETERY	13. LOCATION OF CEMETERY	
Greenwood Cemetery.	Near Waterford, Ont.	
14. PHOTOGRAPH OF GRAVE TAKEN	15. EXPOSURE NO.	



po·li·o·my·e·li·tis

/ˌpɒləiˌoʊ.mɪəˈlɪdəs/

noun **MEDICINE**
noun: **poliomyelitis**

an infectious viral disease that affects the central nervous system and can cause temporary or permanent paralysis.



Fun fact:

- Polio cases have decreased by **99%** since the 1980's
- Polio was a concerning epidemic in the 1900s and was once called **Infantile Paralysis** due to the assumption it only affected children. This was most definitely not the case.

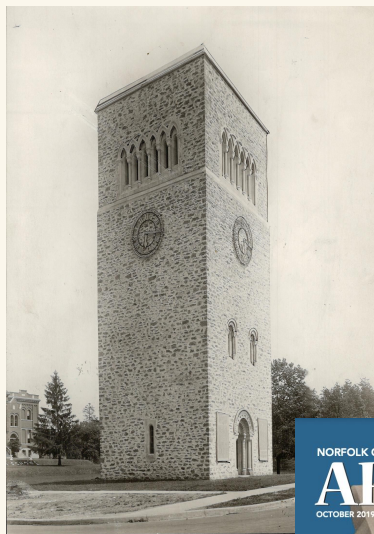
Resting Place of Alice Louise Trusdale

- Passed at **age 27**
- Sent back to **Waterford, Ontario**
- Buried in **Greenwood Cemetery**

Not so Fun Facts:

- 2845 Canadian Nursing Sisters served in WW1
- At least 58 of those nurses died during the war due to illness or enemy fire





- Alice was mentioned on the **Norfolk War Memorial Carillon Tower** for her nursing work in WW1
 - She was the only woman mentioned and inscribed in the memorial



- Norfolk County Heritage & Culture Magazine dedicated October 2019's issue to Alice Trusdale

The Impact of Alice Trusdale's Contributions

Bibliography

Ball, S. (2018, May 9). *Rediscovering our local Nursing Sisters - Alice Trusdale*. Guelph Museums.

<https://guelphmuseums.ca/rediscovering-our-local-nursing-sisters-alice-trusdale/>

Butts, E. (2014, May 30). *Remembering Alice Trusdale*. Guelph Mercury.

<https://www.guelphmercury.com/news-story/4550606-remembering-alice-trusdale/>

Canadian War Museum. (n.d.) *In Uniform - Nurses*. <https://www.warmuseum.ca/firstworldwar/history/people/in-uniform/nurses/>

Remembering Alice. (2019, October). *Art-I-Facts*. p 11. <https://waterfordmuseum.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/Art-I-Facts-October-2019.pdf>

Starns, P. (n.d.). What was a typical day like for first World War Field Nurses? The History Press. Retrieved March 23, 2022, from

<https://www.thehistorypress.co.uk/articles/what-was-a-typical-day-like-for-first-world-war-field-nurses/>

The College of Physicians Of Philadelphia. (n.d.). History of polio. Timeline | History of Vaccines. Retrieved March 23, 2022, from

<https://www.historyofvaccines.org/timeline/polio>

Toman, C. (2014). Canadian Army Medical Corps Nursing Sisters. In *The Canadian Encyclopedia*.

<https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/canadian-army-medical-corps-nursing-sisters>

World Health Organization. (2018, March 18). Poliomyelitis: Does polio still exist? is it curable? World Health Organization. Retrieved

March 23, 2022, from <https://www.who.int/news-room/questions-and-answers/item/does-polio-still-exist-is-it-curable>