

896 Company Sergeant Major *Robert Branfitt Porter*

Accountant (wage \$80.00 per mo.)

Enlisted: January 4, 1915, aged 28 years

Parents: John and Mary Grace Porter, Box 175, Grand Falls, Nfld.

Religion: Methodist

Description:

- Height: 5ft. 5in.
- Weight: 133 lbs.
- Complexion: Dark
- Hair: Dark
- Eyes: Brown
- Identifying marks included two moles on back, left shoulder

Service:

- Promoted Sergeant, February 24, 1915
- Embarked St. John's for United Kingdom, S.S. Stephano, March 20, 1915
- Embarked United Kingdom for Gallipoli, August 13, 1915
- Landed Suvla Bay, from Egypt, September 19-20, 1915
- Embarked Port Suez, March 14, 1916 and landed at Marseilles, France, March 22, 1916
- Promoted to Company Sergeant Major, June 11, 1916
- Reported missing in action, July 1, 1916
- Official certificate of death issued, February 9, 1917

Burial: The body of Company Sergeant Major Robert Porter was never found and identified so he has no known grave site. His name appears on the Beaumont Hamel Newfoundland Memorial, Beaumont Hamel, France.

Note: In his Attestation Paper, January 4, 1915, Robert Porter indicated that he had no military experience. Yet, within less than two months of enrolment, he was promoted directly from Private to Sergeant and shortly before the Battle of Beaumont Hamel, he was again promoted, this time to Company Sergeant Major. Obviously, he was a person with outstanding leadership abilities and could have had an outstanding future had he not fallen in battle.