

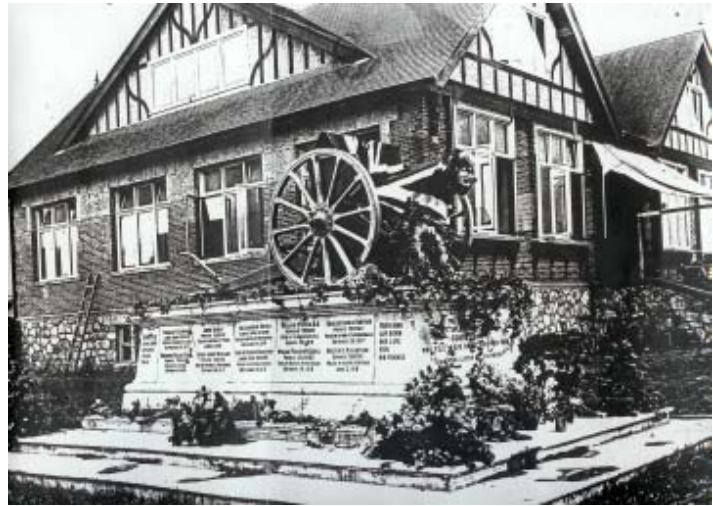
WORLD WAR I CENOTAPH

TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND THE SPLENDID MEMORY OF SURREY MEN WHO
FELL IN THE GREAT WAR 1914 – 1918

Cenotaph: A tomb or a monument erected in honor of a person or group of persons whose remains are elsewhere.

History of the WWI Cenotaph

Designed by a municipal clerk, Mr. Clair Lemax, the original granite WWI Cenotaph base was built in 1921 by a Surrey Municipal crew and located beside the Municipal Hall on what is now Highway #10. The Cenotaph was unveiled by Brig. Vic Oldum on May 22, 1921, and dedicated on August 4, 1921.



Atop the original granite Cenotaph sat a German Field Gun (called a Whizz Bang) that had been captured by the CDN 47th Battalion on September 27, 1918. A second German gun was placed on the other side of the Municipal Hall but both were removed and melted for scrap at the start of WWII. Annual ceremonies were held on August 4th until after WWII. Ceremonies are no held on November 11th.

During the late 50's the Cenotaph was moved to a new location outside Shannon Hall on Pacific Highway (#15) and remained there until 2004. In 2005, after much consideration of the historic value and location, the WWI Cenotaph was re-located very close to the original Highway #10 location and is part of the Surrey Learning & Discovery Centre, which includes the new Surrey Museum, Cloverdale Heritage Square and existing Library and Archives facilities.



During reassembly in 2005 the cenotaph was refurbished and enhancements completed. A wider base was added to easily accommodate the placing of wreaths on Remembrance Day. The existing granite structure was acid washed and flashed to restore the natural beauty of the BC granite. New complimentary granite panels engraved with all the historical information were added to replace the old metal letters and preserve the memorials and phrases. Lastly, modification was made to the top of the cenotaph to better represent a grave and provide a permanent place for the WWII, Korea and Peacekeepers memorials.

Surrey men remembered on the Surrey WWI Cenotaph include;

ABBOTT, James Curtis (Private) – Died of wounds at Rouen August 11, 1918

AISH, Frank Donald (Private) - Killed in action at Vimy Ridge April 9, 1917

BATES, Alexander (Lance Corp.) – Killed in action at Valenciennes November 4, 1918

BRADSHAW, Hew McKenzie (Lance Corp.) – Killed in action at Arras September 2, 1918

DAVIS, George (Private) – Died at Shorncliffe England May 23, 1916

FLEETWOOD, Thomas (Lance Corp) – Died of wounds at Lens September 8, 1917

GIBLIN, John (Private) – Killed in Action at Monchy September 2, 1918

GOLDSTONE, Henry James (Private) – Killed in action at St. Eloi March 22, 1916

GOOCH, Frederick William (Private) – Killed in action October 18, 1918

HURFORD, Charles Harris (Private) Killed in action at Passchendaele October 26, 1917

Mc CASKILL, William Fraser (Private) Died at Kinmel Park, Wales October 24, 1918

Mc RAE, Archie Duncan (Electrician US Submarine F.I.) – Killed in Pacific Ocean December 17, 1917

MOODY, Ernest (Private) – Killed in action on the Somme November 11, 1916

NICHOL, David Arnott

QUIBLE, George (Private) – Killed in action at Dury September 2, 1918

ROBERTSON, Walter G., (Gunner) Killed in action at Arras June 2, 1918

ROWLAND, George Albert (Private) – Died of wounds at Poperinghe October 26, 1917

SHORT, John (Private) – Killed in action at Ypres June 2, 1916

SMITH, Sidney (Lance Corp.) – Killed in action at Ypres November 29, 1917

STOKES, M.M. William (Sergeant) Died in Vancouver BC August 25, 1917

TRIGGS, Harvey (Private) - Killed in action at Vimy Ridge March 16, 1917

TRIGGS, Reginald Bruce (Private) – Killed in action near Passchendaele October 24, 1917

WICKS, John G. (Private) – Died of wounds at Passchendaele December 1, 1917