

John Prescott

(1893 – 1917)

John Prescott departed from Liverpool on the ship Canada on 3rd March 1910. He arrived in Halifax on 11th March and then travelled on to Hamilton, Ontario. He went in the same party as other boys from the National Children's Home and Orphanage, John R Brown and Frederick George Slater. He was 16 years old and his date of birth is recorded as 13th August 1893.⁽⁴⁰⁾

The 1911 Canadian Census notes a John Prescott as a servant in the household of Anna and Peter Yule in Oneida, Haldimand, Ontario. John was 17 years old, born in 1894, having arrived in 1909 – not quite tallying with BHC records, but they could be vague about the details. The following household on the census records Elizabeth (age 30) and James Yule (age 40). This is likely to be the same James Yule who acted as Next of Kin for John.⁽⁴¹⁾

War record

John's Attestation Papers were signed on 21st December 1915 in Calidonia, Ontario. It records his date of birth as 11th August 1893, born in Liverpool and says he was a farmer, living in Calidonia. His next of Kin was his friend James Yule of Oneida Haldimand. His service number was 739580. He was the only J Prescott with Canadian Forces who died.⁽³⁹⁾

When he attested he was 22 years old, 5' 9" tall with brown eyes and hair. He gave his religion as Church of England.⁽³⁹⁾

The Circumstances of Death records and Commonwealth War Graves records tell us that he was killed in action in "trenches north of Lens".^(39,15)

John cannot be identified on the 1901 UK Census, there was no record of any relative on his military file in 1929.⁽³⁹⁾ There is no known grave.⁽¹⁵⁾ He is remembered on the Methodist Church war memorial, Bolton Road, Edgworth and on the Vimy Memorial in Vimy, Pas de Calais, France.⁽¹⁵⁾



(16)

In Memory of

Private

John Prescott

739580, 29th Bn., Canadian Infantry who died on 19 August 1917

Remembered with Honour

Vimy Memorial



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

(15)

Research: Linda Spencer, Jennifer Layne, Helena Spencer

Standard References: 15, 39, 40, 41
16 P Harwood Collection – Publisher Unknown