

Researcher(s): Date:		Joseph Forsyth 4 June 2016	ORIGIN:	
INFORMATION		DETAIL	SOURCE(S)	COMMENTS
Surname		Appleby	Find My Past birth index, Attestation paper	
Forenames		Joseph	Ditto	
Date/Place of Birth		17 Oct 1891	Attestation paper	
Last Recorded Address pre enlistment		17 Gillespie St, Nanaimo, BC	Attestation paper and form filled out on board ship when returning to Canada	
1911 Census Address & details (or latest available)		10 Single Junction Row, Cramlington Colliery, Cramlington, NBL. Living with father (widower), brother Arthur, sister Ann and her husband Joseph Willis and her 2 daughters.	1911 census RG14PN30841 RG78PN1762 RD559 SD6 ED4 SN12	
Schools/Colleges attended				
Religion/Church attended pre enlistment		Church of England	Service record; marriage certificate	Although he was married by a Methodist minister.
Organisation/Society/Club membership				
Occupation/Trade pre enlistment		Coal Miner	Attestation paper	
Place of Work pre enlistment		Canadian Collieries (Dunsmuir) Ltd	Wikipedia	This company owned almost all the mines in Nanaimo and district.
Name of Father		Joseph Appleby b. Cramlington, NBL 1857.	Find My Past census records and death certificate of son.	Unable to find death in BC or England but after 1921.
Name of Mother (maiden name if possible)		Eliza Milburn b. Cramlington, NBL 1861 d. Cramlington, NBL 1906.	Find My Past birth and death indexes	
Parental Address (if known)		7 Marjorie St, Cramlington, NBL	Attestation paper	
Parent's marriage(s)		1881, Cramlington, NBL	Find My Past marriage index.	
Siblings	Number 4	Ann Appleby b. 29 May 1881 Cramlington. D. 2 July 1957 Nanaimo, BC. Married Joseph Willis.  Susannah Appleby. b. 12 Apr 1885. Married John Besford in 1904. d. 1970 Northumberland South District.  Henrietta Appleby. b. 1887 in Cramlington, NBL. D. 1907, Cramlington, NBL Arthur Appleby b. 14 Aug 1895 in Cramlington, NBL d. 1989 in Derby. Married Laura Davis in 1929	FMP birth and census records, marriage record and BC death certificate. FMP National Register 1939, marriage and death indexes.  FMP birth and death indexes and census records. FMP birth, marriage and death indexes and 1939 National Register.	Joseph said he had 2 sisters and 1 brother on his medical chart from Esquimalt Military Hospital in 1919.  This is high probability for marriage and death, not certainty.
Wife's name and maiden name		Margaret Amelia Brown. Aka Margaret Amelia Gerrard (1st marriage) b. 22 Oct 1888, Whitehave, Cumberland d. 19 Aug 1950. Vancouver, BC	BC Marriage and death certificates.	M Jonas Gerrard 19 Oct 1915; he died 7 Nov 1918 in Fernie, BC
When and where married		2 Feb 1922. Methodist Parsonage, Nanaimo BC	BC Marriage certificate	
Children's	Number	Joseph Appleby, jnr.	Vancouver City	This is based

names	2	John Appleby		directory entries at 759 E 57 Avenue, the address at which Joseph was living at time of death.	upon entries in Vancouver city directories between 1942 and 1954.
Remarriage of widow (if applicable)					
Relationship to other subjects					
Date of death and age	Date:	5 Jan 1960	Age:	68	BC death certificate. Buried Forest Lawn Cemetery, Burnaby.
Regiment at end of service	Canadian Military Engineers			Service record	
Battalion at end of service	2 <sup>nd</sup> tunnelling company			Service record, discharge certificate	
Rank at end of service	Sapper			Service record, discharge certificate	
Service Number at death/end of service	506712			Service record	
Place of death (if pre 1921)					
Place of death (if post 1921)	Shaughnessy Hospital, Vancouver, BC			BC Death certificate	
Address at death (if post 1921)	759 E 57 Avenue, Vancouver, BC			BC Death Certificate	
Occupation at death (if post 1921)	Retired.				
Battle at death (if applicable/known)					
Field of action at death (if applicable)					
Cause/Circumstances of death (if known)	Pulmonary fibrosis (for 30 years) and pneumonia			BC Death certificate	
Location of Grave/Memorial	Forest Lawn Cemetery, Burnaby, BC				
Grave/Memorial reference (if known)					
Local/other memorials recorded on					
Details of any other WW1 service:	8 Aug 1916	Embarked Canada SS Scotian			
Rank	19 Aug 1916	Disembarked England			
Service Number	23 Aug 1916	Taken on strength, Shorncliffe			
Regiment	29 Jan 1917	Proceeded overseas to 2nd Tunnelling Co			
Battalion	29 Jan 1917	Gassed by shell, Hill 60			
	15 Oct 1917	Etaples Field Hospital			
	19 Oct 1917	To England			
	22 Oct	Admitted to Central Military Hospital, Fort Pitt, Chatham			
	13 Nov 1917	Transferred to MCH Woodcote Park, Epsom			
	21 Nov 1917	Discharged from CCH Epsom to 3rd CCD			
	14 Dec 1917	to Depot Company, Depot #6			
	11 Apr 1918	Attached from 6th Regimental Depot to CASC			
	20 Apr 1918	Returns to unit, Kinmel Park Camp, Wales			
	26 Nov 1918	Deemed medically unfit			
	30 Jan 1919	Admitted to Esquimalt Military Hospital, Esquimalt, BC			
	11 Feb 1919	Discharged from Esquimalt Military Hospital "No further treatment advisable. Boarded for discharge."			
	5 Mar 1919				
Date of Enlistment (if	8 May 1916.			Attestation paper	

known)			
Place of Enlistment	Nanaimo, BC		
Medals, Decorations and Awards	War service badge, class A and class B	Discharge certificate	
Service Record(s) if surviving.	<a href="http://central.bac-lac.gc.ca/.item/?op=pdf&amp;app=CEF&amp;id=B0201-S008">http://central.bac-lac.gc.ca/.item/?op=pdf&amp;app=CEF&amp;id=B0201-S008</a>		
Destination Country	Canada		
Departure from UK	Date:	Vessel:	Port:
	18 Apr 1914	Teutonic	Liverpool
Arrival at Destination	Date:	Port	Canadian Passenger Lists 1881-1922
	April 1914	Halifax, Nova Scotia	
Return to England (if applicable)	Date:	Vessel:	Port
Other Immigration Info (if stated)	Gives occupation in England as miner. States occupation to be Fireman in Nanaimo. On outgoing passenger list states occupation as Stoker.		Canadian Passenger Lists 1881-1922

#### Additional Information – include any information of note

Joseph was the 4<sup>th</sup> child, and 1<sup>st</sup> son, of Joseph Appleby and Eliza Milburn. Both parents had lived their whole lives in Cramlington, Northumberland and so did Joseph until he decided to emigrate to Nanaimo, British Columbia where miners were needed. Previous to emigration he worked for the Cramlington Coal Company as a boiler washer.

On 2 April 1910, aged 18 years and 5 months, Joseph volunteered to join the Territorial Force and signed his attestation paper for 4 years of service at Seaton Delaval, Northumberland. He joined the Royal Garrison Artillery and attended annual training at Southsea Castle 12 June - 26 June 1910; an AF Course (I think this may be anti-aircraft gunnery) at Shoeburyness, Essex, 27 Aug - 10 Sep 1910 and annual training at Tynemouth, NBL 10 June - 24 June 1911.

In September 1912 miners in Cumberland, about 100 km north of Nanaimo went on strike and by spring 1913 over 3,500 miners were on strike in the Nanaimo area. The mine owners had locked the men out and brought in strike breakers from China, Britain and Italy and this was likely what lured Joseph to Nanaimo.

The Canadian Army formed two tunnelling companies in 1916 – the 1<sup>st</sup> Canadian Tunnelling Company was formed from eastern Canadian recruits and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Canadian Tunnelling Company recruited from British Columbia and Alberta. Over the next two years both sides dug tunnels under enemy lines and Crater fighting played a central role in many 1915 and 1916 battles. Tunnelling companies also dug subways, cable trenches, saps, and underground chambers for signal or medical services. In many areas extensive networks of tunnels were dug behind Allied front lines, allowing for movement of men and supplies into the front trenches without enemy detection.

Joseph volunteered on 8 May 1916 in Nanaimo. A description in his service record describes him as 5'6 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>"; 177 lbs and with a girth expanded of 39". He had brown eyes and black hair. On his right arm was a tattoo of a woman and snake and on his left arm a tattoo of a soldier and either a monument or a cross.

By 1 April 1917 the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tunnelling Company had a strength of 923 men all ranks (2<sup>nd</sup> Tunnelling Co. War diaries, item61). The war diaries provide an account of the various tunnels and trenches completed by the Company over the next 8 months. By 1 September the strength of the company was reduced to 30 officers and 615 other ranks. At the end of that month the company took over works in along the Ypres – Comines canal and on 15 October the following report appears in the war diary:

“Larchwood, 15.10.17. During the night a gas shell penetrated Duke Street Gallery. 13 of our sappers were sleeping in a dugout nearby and next day were evacuated as gas casualties”. Joseph was one of those 13 sappers.

Joseph spent 3 days at a St. John Ambulance Field Hospital near Etaples and then was evacuated to the military hospital at Fort Pitt, Chatham, Kent. He was treated there for a week and transferred to Woodcote Park, Epsom, Surrey where he spent a further 3 weeks before being sent back to the Company's Depot where he was attached to the Canadian Army Service Corps for a while. He was returned to Canada and admitted to the Canadian Military Hospital in Esquimalt, British Columbia where he remained for 3 weeks before a medical board recommended his discharge as medically unfit for service. The notes on his medical record read:

“Probable duration of illness – negligible. Recommendations for treatment – outdoor life and moderate exercise”.

Joseph returned to Nanaimo with a war service gratuity of \$75 and demobilization pay of \$350 to resume his life as a miner. He lived with his sister Ann (Annie), her husband Joseph Willis and their 3 daughters at 14 Gillespie St, Nanaimo. In the Canadian census of 1921 his father, Joseph Appleby snr. Is shown living with the family, aged 65.

On 2 Feb 1922 Joseph married Margaret Amelia Gerrard (nee Brown) in the Methodist Parsonage on Haliburton St in Nanaimo. Since both he and his bride stated their religion as Church of England the place of the marriage is a bit of a

mystery. Margaret had been previously married to one Jonas Gerrard in Fort Steele, British Columbia on 19 Oct 1915 and he had died in that community on 7 Nov 1918.

I believe Joseph and Margaret had at least two children: Joseph Junior and John. In the Vancouver City Directory for 1942 Joseph and Margaret are living at 3245 E. Georgia St with Joseph Jnr. Joseph is working as a labourer at Overseas Wood Products and Joseph Jnr has no occupation listed. In 1944 Joseph has a job as a turner at Giroday & Co. Sawmills and John is listed as a machinist at Boeing. Joseph Jnr does not appear in the directory. In 1947 Joseph is a labourer at the same company; John is a cabinetmaker and Joseph Jnr is working as a warehouseman at Vancouver Supplies. By 1950 they had moved to 759 E 57 Avenue where Joseph is shown as retired, John is a salesman and Joseph Jnr is a storekeeper. In 1954 Joseph still lives with his two sons; John has married (Ruby) and is a carpenter and Joseph Jnr is a salesman for Lions Gate Tobacco Co. City directories after this date are not available on line but can be consulted at the Vancouver Public Library.

On 5 January 1960 Joseph dies in Shaugnessy Hospital from pneumonia. The Medical Certificate of Death notes that he had pulmonary fibrosis for over 30 years, likely a result of the gas in 1917. The informant is J. Appleby, son.