

## Corporal George Amos Adams<sup>©</sup>

**Regimental number: 552236**

**38th Battalion (Eastern Ontario Regiment), Canadian Infantry**

**born: 1 April 1889–died: 30 October 1918**

Corporal George Amos Adams was probably known as Amos to his family in Prince Edward Island (PEI) and as George in his adult life in Alberta. He was born on 1 April 1889 in Charlottetown, PEI, the only son of Amos and Catherine Mary (née Story) Adams.<sup>1</sup> He was baptized in the church at Pownal, PEI, on 15 June 1890.<sup>2</sup> His parents were both born in PEI—Amos Sr. about 1860<sup>3</sup> and Catherine on 9 December 1863.<sup>4</sup> They married in the manse of St. James Presbyterian Church in Charlottetown on 12 November 1888.<sup>5</sup> Sadly, Amos Sr. died soon after his son was born, perhaps as early as June 1889.<sup>6</sup> In 1891, Catherine was living in the neighbourhood then known as Charlottetown Royalty with her son. She was a housekeeper in the home of Hugh McLeod, a shoemaker.<sup>7</sup>

Two years later, on 21 September 1893, Catherine married John Fry Worth, a widower.<sup>8</sup> John and his first wife, Jane Munn,<sup>9</sup> had least two sons: Francis Herbert, born on 11 June 1874<sup>10</sup> and John Jr., born in about 1880.<sup>11</sup> Together Catherine and John Sr. had another son, John Ernest Hamlyn (known as Ernest), born on 26 May 1894 in Charlottetown and baptized at St. Paul's Anglican Church on 10 January 1896.<sup>12</sup>

In 1901, John, Catherine, Frank and Ernest were living in Charlottetown, where John was a sail maker,<sup>13</sup> but Amos was living as the adopted son of his maternal uncle, Joseph Story, and his wife, Jane, who lived on a farm in Queen's County, PEI.<sup>14</sup> Amos's stepfather died in 1910.<sup>15</sup>

As a young man Amos went west: in 1911 he was living in Claresholm, southern Alberta, and working in a general store.<sup>16</sup> From there he enlisted in the Canadian Expeditionary Force on 3 February 1915. His enlistment papers indicate that he had previous military experience with the 4th Regiment, Canadian Artillery, but do not record any details as to where or when.<sup>17</sup>

Amos spent the remainder of 1915 and the first six months of 1916 in Canada before sailing with the 13th Regiment, Canadian Mounted Rifles, from Halifax, Nova Scotia, to England on the SS *Olympic* (sister ship to the *Titanic*) on 29 June 1916. He was the acting Company Quartermaster-Sergeant.<sup>18</sup>

Shortly after arriving in England on 6 July 1916, Amos was transferred to the Royal Canadian Regiment and Princess Patricia's Light Infantry Depot, which became the 7th Canadian Reserve Battalion on 1 January 1917. Between his arrival overseas and his transfer to the 38th Battalion in November for deployment to France, Amos was an acting sergeant (with pay) and the acting Company Quartermaster-Sergeant (without pay); however, he reverted to his permanent rank of private when he embarked for the continent. During his time in England, Amos met and married Elysee May Foukes.<sup>19</sup>



**Corporal George Amos Adams**

Source: Canadian Virtual War Memorial, Veterans Affairs Canada

Amos reported to the 38th Battalion in France on 10 November 1917 when it was billeted behind the lines near Caestre, about 25 kilometres west of Ypres. He saw his first action when the battalion moved to the front line at Avion near Lens on 19 December. In the early months of 1918 the battalion moved from rest to reserve, to support and to the Front for various periods of time. On the night of 16/17 March near Bully Grenay, still in the Lens area, a patrol from the battalion received congratulations from the Corps commander for repulsing an enemy raiding party. During the month of June, the battalion was at Lozinghem for rest and training. The 38th was sent to the front lines near Arras, south of Lens, in July and then moved further south for the Battle of Amiens, which took place 8–11 August 1918 at the beginning of the Allied summer offensive on the Somme.<sup>20, 21</sup> In early September, the battalion took part in the Battle of the Drocourt-Quéant Line,<sup>22, 23</sup> which forced the Germans to a defensive position behind the Hindenburg Line. Amos was promoted to corporal in the field on 4 September. Late in September, the battalion moved forward again to be part of the battle for the Canal-du-Nord, specifically to capture the high ground of Bourlon Wood.<sup>24</sup> After a respite behind Arras, the battalion was dispatched past Denain to Rouvignies on 23 October and to the front line at La Sentinelle on 28 October.<sup>25</sup> The next day, at this position on the outskirts of Valenciennes, Amos was seriously wounded by shrapnel and transported to the 1st Canadian Casualty Clearing Station (No. 1 CCCS) at Auberchicourt about 25 km behind the battle line. He succumbed to his wounds on 30 October 1918.<sup>26</sup> The 38th Battalion was relieved at Onnaing, east of Valenciennes, on 6 November and did not take to the field again before the Armistice.<sup>27</sup>



**Grave marker for Cpl. G.A. Adams**

Source: Canadian Virtual War Memorial, Veterans Affairs Canada

which 37, 546 were transferred to other hospitals, to base, or returned to the field. At least 879 servicemen died at No. 1 CCCS.<sup>30</sup>

Amos was buried in the Emerchicourt Communal Cemetery near Denain on 31 October 1918.<sup>28</sup> His remains were later removed to the Douai British Cemetery (Grave G 16), 24 km northeast of Arras.<sup>29</sup>

No. 1 CCCS, originally designated as No. 2 Clearing Hospital, was organized at Liverpool, Nova Scotia, and at Valcartier, Quebec, in August and September 1914. It was part of the first contingent of the Canadian Expeditionary Force sent to Europe, arriving in England in October 1914. Casualty clearing stations were not stationary: after being first established at Aire, France, in March 1915, No. 1 CCCS moved 12 times to various locations in France, Belgium and finally, Germany. It ceased operations in February 1919. The unit was shelled at least three times in 1916 and 1917. At the conclusion of the war, it was one of the foremost medical units on the advance into Germany. An incomplete record of the unit's operations underestimates a total of 42,489 admissions to the unit, of

Douai British Cemetery was begun at the end of October 1918 and closed in November 1919. A total of 239 Allied servicemen are buried in the cemetery: 202 from the UK, 33 from Canada, and 4 from South Africa.<sup>31</sup>

Amos left his estate to his widow with one exception: he gave his "coon skin coat" to his half-brother Ernest.<sup>32</sup> In 1920, Elysee received a deceased soldiers' war service gratuity; she was living in Brighton, England, at the time.<sup>33</sup>

Amos's stepbrother, Frank, a barber, married before the war.<sup>34</sup> He and his wife, Mary, had six children.<sup>35</sup> Frank died in Charlottetown, PEI, on 20 March 1922.<sup>36</sup>

Ernest became a druggist. He married his first cousin once removed (also Amos' cousin), Margaret Anne Smith, on 2 November 1937 in Millview, PEI.<sup>37</sup> Margaret was the daughter of William C. Smith and Myrtle Blanche Story, the daughter of Joseph and Jane Story. It is not known whether Ernest and Margaret had any children and when they died.

Amos's mother Kate died on 31 January 1940 in Charlottetown.<sup>38</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> "Prince Edward Island, Canada, Baptisms, Marriages, Burials, 1780–1983," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 7 April 2018), entry for George Ann Adams

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> "1881 Census of Canada," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 7 April 2018), entry for Amos Adams, Province: Prince Edward Island, District number: 2, Sub-district number: A, Sub-district: Charlottetown Royalty, Division: 3

<sup>4</sup> "Prince Edward Island, Baptism Index, 1788–1943," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 7 April 2018), entry for Catherine Mary Story

<sup>5</sup> "Prince Edward Island, Canada, Baptisms, Marriages, Burials, 1780–1983," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 7 April 2018), entry for Catherine Mary Story

<sup>6</sup> "The Callaghan's from PEI and Beyond," (Public Member Tree), *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 7 April 2018), entry for Amos Adams

<sup>7</sup> "1891 Census of Canada," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 7 April 2018), entry for Amos Adams, Province: Prince Edward Island, District number: 135, District: Queens, Sub-district: Charlottetown Royalty

<sup>8</sup> "Prince Edward Island, Marriage," *Public Archives and Records Office* ([www.gov.pe.ca/parosearch/ajax/show-advanced-search](http://www.gov.pe.ca/parosearch/ajax/show-advanced-search): accessed 7 April 2018), entry for John Fry Worth, Source: RG19, Series 3, Subseries 4: Marriage Licenses, 1893

<sup>9</sup> "Prince Edward Island, Marriage," *Public Archives and Records Office* ([www.gov.pe.ca/parosearch/ajax/show-advanced-search](http://www.gov.pe.ca/parosearch/ajax/show-advanced-search): accessed 7 April 2018), entry for John Worth, Source: RG19/s3/ss5: Marriage bonds, 1875

<sup>10</sup> "Prince Edward Island Baptism," *Public Archives and Records Office* ([www.gov.pe.ca/parosearch/ajax/show-advanced-search](http://www.gov.pe.ca/parosearch/ajax/show-advanced-search): accessed 7 April 2018), entry for Francis Herbert Worth, Record book: Number1, Record book page: 146

<sup>11</sup> "1881 Census of Canada," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 7 May 2018), entry for Herbert Worth, Province: Prince Edward Island, District number: 2, District: Queens, Sub-district number: A, Sub-district: Charlottetown Royalty, Division: 1

<sup>12</sup> "Prince Edward Island, Baptism," *Public Archives and Records Office*, ([www.gov.pe.ca/parosearch/ajax/show-advanced-search](http://www.gov.pe.ca/parosearch/ajax/show-advanced-search): accessed 7 April 2018), entry for John Ernest Hamlyn Worth, Record book number: 1, Record book page: 182

<sup>13</sup> "1901 Census of Canada," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 7 April 2018), entry for John Werth [sic], Province: Prince Edward Island, District: Queen's (west/ouest), District number: 136, Sub-district: Charlottetown (City/Cité), Sub-district number: A-11

<sup>14</sup> "1901 Census of Canada," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 7 April 2018), entry for Amos Adams, Province: Prince Edward Island, District: Queen's (east/est), District number: 135, Sub-district: Lot (township/canton) 49, Sub-district number: H-1

<sup>15</sup> "Prince Edward Island, Canada, Baptisms, Marriages, Burials, 1780–1983," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 7 April 2018), entry for John Worth

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- <sup>16</sup> "1911 Census of Canada," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 7 April 2018), entry for George Adams, Province: Alberta, District: MacLeod, District number: 3, Sub-district: 26–Claresholm, Sub-district number: 26, Place of habitation: 9th Avenue N
- <sup>17</sup> "Personnel Records of the First World War," *Library and Archives Canada* ([www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/military-heritage/first-world-war/personnel-records/Pages/list.aspx](http://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/military-heritage/first-world-war/personnel-records/Pages/list.aspx): accessed 5 May 2018), entry for George Amos Adams, Reference: Canadian Expeditionary Force (CEF), RG 150, Accession 1992–93/166, Box 27 - 30, Item number: 1429. Unless otherwise specified, all information about his military career comes from this source.
- <sup>18</sup> "Canadian Expeditionary Force - 1st, 3rd, 6th to 10th, 12th, 13th regiments, Canadian Mounted Rifles - Royal Canadian Dragoons - Lord Strathcona's Horse - 1st, 3rd and 4th Divisional Cavalry Squadrons - Nominal Rolls of Officers N.C.O.'s and Men. 1914–1918," *Library and Archives Canada* ([www.bac-lac.gc.ca](http://www.bac-lac.gc.ca): accessed 3 May 2018) Reference: RG9-II-B-3. Volume/box number: 80
- <sup>19</sup> "England & Wales, Civil Registration Marriage Index, 1916–2005," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 7 May 2018) entry for Elysee M. Foukes, Registration district: Steyning, Inferred county: Sussex, Volume: 2b, Page: 761
- <sup>20</sup> "War Diaries - 38th Battalion, Canadian Infantry," *Library and Archives Canada* ([www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/military-heritage/first-world-war/Pages/war-diaries.aspx](http://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/military-heritage/first-world-war/Pages/war-diaries.aspx): accessed 28 April 2018), Reference: RG9-III-D-3. Volume/box number: 4938. File number: 432, Copied container number: T-10743
- <sup>21</sup> "Amiens, Battle Honours," *Canadian Soldiers* ([www.canadiansoldiers.com](http://www.canadiansoldiers.com): accessed 7 May 2018)
- <sup>22</sup> "War Diaries - 38th Battalion, Canadian Infantry," *Library and Archives Canada* ([www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/military-heritage/first-world-war/Pages/war-diaries.aspx](http://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/military-heritage/first-world-war/Pages/war-diaries.aspx): accessed 28 April 2018)
- <sup>23</sup> "War Diaries - Arras," *Library and Archives Canada* ([www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/firstworldwar/025005-1000-e.html](http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/firstworldwar/025005-1000-e.html): accessed 5 May 2018)
- <sup>24</sup> "War Diaries - Canal-du-Nord and Cambrai," *Library and Archives Canada* ([www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/firstworldwar/025005-1000-e.html](http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/firstworldwar/025005-1000-e.html): accessed 5 May 2018)
- <sup>25</sup> "War Diaries - 38th Battalion, Canadian Infantry," *Library and Archives Canada* ([www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/military-heritage/first-world-war/Pages/war-diaries.aspx](http://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/military-heritage/first-world-war/Pages/war-diaries.aspx): accessed 28 April 2018)
- <sup>26</sup> "No. 1 Canadian Casualty Clearing Station," *British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa* ([www.bifhsgo](http://www.bifhsgo): accessed 25 April 2018), entry for G. A. Adams
- <sup>27</sup> "War Diaries - 38th Battalion, Canadian Infantry," *Library and Archives Canada* ([www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/military-heritage/first-world-war/Pages/war-diaries.aspx](http://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/military-heritage/first-world-war/Pages/war-diaries.aspx): accessed 28 April 2018)
- <sup>28</sup> "Canada, CEF Commonwealth War Graves Registers, 1914–1919," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 19 April 2018), entry for George Amos Adams
- <sup>29</sup> "Canadian Virtual War Memorial," *Veterans Affairs Canada* ([www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/remembrance/memorials/canadian-virtual-war-memorial](http://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/remembrance/memorials/canadian-virtual-war-memorial): accessed 1 May 2018), entry for George Amos Adams
- <sup>30</sup> "Record of service - Overseas Military Forces of Canada medical units," *Government of Canada* ([www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/services/military-history/history-heritage/official-military-history-lineages/ledgers/ww1-medical-units.html](http://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/services/military-history/history-heritage/official-military-history-lineages/ledgers/ww1-medical-units.html): accessed 17 June 2018), entry for 1st Canadian Casualty Clearing Station
- <sup>31</sup> "Remembering the Fallen," ([www.ww1cemeteries.com](http://www.ww1cemeteries.com): accessed 17 June 2018), entry for Douai British Cemetery
- <sup>32</sup> "Personnel Records of the First World War," *Library and Archives Canada* ([www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/military-heritage/first-world-war/personnel-records/Pages/list.aspx](http://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/military-heritage/first-world-war/personnel-records/Pages/list.aspx): accessed 5 May 2018), entry for George Amos Adams
- <sup>33</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>34</sup> "Prince Edward Island, Marriage," *Public Archives and Records Office* ([www.gov.pe.ca/parosearch/ajax/show-advanced-search](http://www.gov.pe.ca/parosearch/ajax/show-advanced-search): accessed 9 May 2018), entry for Frank Worth, Source: RG19, Series 3, Subseries 4: Marriage Licenses, 1902

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<sup>35</sup> "1921 Census of Canada," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 8 April 2018), entry for Frank Worth, Province: Prince Edward Island, District number: 148, Sub-district: Charlottetown (City), Sub-district number: 54; City, township or village: Charlottetown Ward 2 West, Street or township: Pownel 55, Municipality: Ward 2 W

<sup>36</sup> "Prince Edward Island, Death," *Public Archives and Records Office* ([www.gov.pe.ca/parosearch/ajax/show-advanced-search](http://www.gov.pe.ca/parosearch/ajax/show-advanced-search): accessed 8 April 2018), entry for Frank Worth, Entry: 934, Source: RG19/s2/ss6: Death registration books, 1922

<sup>37</sup> "Prince Edward Island, Canada, Baptisms, Marriages, Burial, 1780–1983," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 7 April 2018), entry for John Ernest Hamlin Worth

<sup>38</sup> "Prince Edward Island, Death," *Public Archives and Records Office* ([www.gov.pe.ca/parosearch/ajax/show-advanced-search](http://www.gov.pe.ca/parosearch/ajax/show-advanced-search): accessed 9 May 2018), entry for Mrs. Katherine Worth, Entry number: 1096, Source: RG19/s2/ss6: Death registration books, 1940