

Maitland Family photographs

Accession number 31279

Date 1916-1917

Scope and content 5 photographic postcards relating to the service of brothers Reginald Gordon Maitland and Francis William Maitland, during the First World War. Reginald Maitland who served with the 11th Australian Machine Gun Company, he was killed in action 1 June 1917 at Messines, France. Frank Maitland served with the 41st Infantry Battalion in France. Wounded in action and hospitalised with Trench Fever, he returned home to Australia in May 1919.

System of arrangement Arranged into 1 series

Description 5 photographic postcards

Administrative / Biographical history Brothers Reginald (Richard) and Francis (Frank) Maitland were born to Frank Maitland and Ellen Hewitt. Ellen died in 1903 and their three children were placed in care, the youngest Dorothy born just two years prior. Barely 19 years old, Reginald Gordon Maitland enlisted in March 1916 and was assigned to the 11th Australian Machine Gun Company, he arrived in England in November 1916 and proceeded to France shortly after. He was admitted to hospital several times early in 1917 having contracted mumps and then laryngitis. Reginald rejoined his unit in the field in April 1917 when the Battalion was deployed east of Albert. On 2 June 1917 while preparing to move to the trenches, prior to the attack on Messines Ridge, Private Reginald Maitland, acting as a brakeman on one of the wagons, halted near Ploegstreet Wood. A high explosive shell burst nearby and wounded three men including Reginald Maitland. Taken to a dressing station, it was here that he died, and was buried the following day.

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Preferred citation

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Series 1: Photographs (1916-1917)

Series number 1

Series title Photographs

Date 1916-1917

Scope and content

Photographic postcards relating to the service of Reginald Gordon Maitland, 11th Australian Machine Gun Company and his brother Francis William Maitland, 41st Infantry Battalion, during the First World War.

Description

Description 5 photographs

Additional format Digital copies available

Locate OMBOX Box 21009

Access

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Items in this series:

6th Reinforcements, 41st Australian Infantry Battalion (21 December 1916)



Unit ID 31279/1

Date 21 December 1916

Scope and content

Group photograph of the 6th Reinforcements for the 41st Australian Infantry Battalion, taken in December 1916, prior to departing Brisbane. The card was sent by Francis (Frank) Maitland 2848 Pte. F. Maitland, 6/41 Battn. 11th Infantry Brigade, On Active Service, A.I.F. abroad - to his sister Dorothy (Doris). Frank writes "we are on our way to Sydney today [...] on Tuesday am sorry I could not come out to see you before I went but I couldn't get out, we are going to sail as soon as we arrive in Sydney by the Demosthenes bound for Salisbury Plains. This card is a photo of the unit I am sailing with you will find me sixth in the row that is marked X. Well Doris as space is scarce and the train is [...] to write any more you will have a job to read what I have written already. I will now draw to a close, hoping you are all enjoying the best of health as it is leaving me, I am your loving brother F. Maitland."

Description

Description 1 photographic postcard

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Private Francis William Maitland, 41st Infantry Battalion (1916)



Unit ID 31279/2

Date 1916

Scope and content

Studio portrait of Francis (Frank) Maitland, 41st Infantry Battalion, taken in Brisbane prior to departing for overseas with the 6th Reinforcements. The family has written on the rear "No. 2848, Pte. F.W. Maitland, 12th Sept 1916 until 26 June. Honourable discharged overseas

service 23rd Dec 1916 to 19 May 1919" The photographers/studio imprint: Ruddle Brisbane

Description

Description 1 photographic postcard

Additional format Digital copy available

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Private Reginald Gordon Maitland, 11th Australian Machine Gun Company (1916-1917)



Unit ID 31279/3

Date 1916-1917

Scope and content

Studio portrait of Reginald (Richard) Gordon Maitland, 11th Australian Machine Gun Company, and five others. Maitland is seated front row, far right.

Description

Description 1 photographic postcard

Additional format Digital copy available

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Private Reginald Gordon Maitland, 11th Australian Machine Gun Company (1916-1917)



Unit ID 31279/4

Date 1916-1917

Scope and content

Studio portrait of Reginald (Richard) Gordon Maitland, 11th Australian Machine Gun Company, and two others. Maitland is standing, top left. The family has written on the rear: 342A. Pte R.G. Maitland, 11th Australian Machine Gun Squadron, enlisted 27th March 1916, embarked for overseas on 16 August 1916 ("Orontees"). Killed in action, 1st June 1917 at Messines, France, 20 years of age.

Description

Description 1 photographic postcard

Additional format Digital copy available

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Gravesite, Private Reginald Gordon Maitland, Belgium (1917-1919)

Unit ID 31279/5

Date 1917-1919

Scope and content

Photograph of original grave and wooden cross marking where Private Reginald (Richard) Maitland was buried after being killed by a high explosive shell near Ploegstreet Wood, 2 June 1917. It was sent to his brother Frank Maitland, his next-of-kin.

Description

Description 1 photographic postcard

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(5 digital)