



Trinity Historical Society

Newsletter, Issue 21

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H. Coape, J. Morris, Eds.

The Trinity Historical Society is pleased to report that Black Cat Cemetery Preservation has completed a fourth week of work at St. Paul's churchyard. Once again, we thank Corey Jones for providing accommodations for them at Trinity Cabins and Ervin Locke for supplying the crusher dust used to stabilize the stones. One hundred and fifty one of the 188 headstones have now been restored. The remaining stones need cleaning but do not need up-righting or repair. We have also restored 6 headstones in the old Methodist Cemetery in Trinity.

As always, the THS welcomes application for membership from anyone interested in the objectives and activities of the Society.

In this edition of our Newsletter, we present the story of the 21th of the men whose names are inscribed on the War Monument in St. Paul's Churchyard.



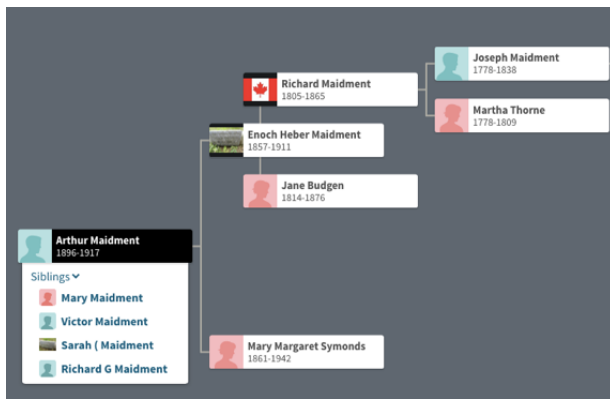
Arthur E.W. Maidment



Arthur Maidment, the son of Enoch Heber Maidment and Margaret Symonds, was born in Trinity on September 8, 1896. He enlisted in the Royal Newfoundland Regiment at St. John's on June 27, 1916 and was assigned to Company B. He was killed in action at Monchy-le-Preux, France, on April 14, 1917. He was 20.

Arthur sent 15 letters home to his family between June 4, 1916 and March 14, 1917. The letters reveal a transition from “best times ever...” when he was in St. John’s in June, to “great to be a soldier...” from Scotland in October, to “if I ever get home...we are going to the front in 10 days...I am in high spirits and don’t mind going...” when still in Scotland in November, to “please God I hope to see you all again someday after the war is over...” from France, on March 14, 1917.

At 0530 on April 14, 1917 the Newfoundland Regiment and a battalion of the 1st Essex launched an attack from their trenches at Monchy-le-Preux toward Infantry Hill, Bois du Vert and Machine Gun Woods. The attack met with withering enemy fire from machine guns and artillery. A wounded survivor made it back to Headquarters. A small group then advanced, held back the German counterattack, and got a message back to Brigade HQ that allowed artillery support. The British Bombardment helped to keep back the enemy but also killed many wounded soldiers lying in the field. The Newfoundland regiment sustained 166 deaths, 141 wounded, and 153 taken prisoner.



Family Tree

