

Niagara-on-the-Lake WW2 War Dead

Disclaimer:

This list represents a best-efforts selection of the most appropriate WW2 War Dead to be remembered in this municipality. There are no extant records of those who selected the names to be remembered by the early 1950s. In a few cases, the person lived or worked in Niagara-on-the-Lake municipality for only a short time before or during WW2; in other cases, a close relation lived in Niagara-on-the-Lake and apparently influenced the selection. The specific location of each battalion/regiment/medical station when the soldier or airman was killed or died of wounds has been taken from research into war diaries and is presumed to be the general location of death for the person at that time. Unlike WW1 War Dead, all WW2 War Dead died during the war period.

World War Two – These are the WW2 War Dead remembered on our cenotaphs and plaques around Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario municipality.

Adam, Robert Craig (29 Jan 1917-7 Dec 1944), rank: Corporal, No. B/42132, born in St. Catharines, Ontario to David Brackenridge Adam, a Scottish immigrant who married Mary Augusta Hutt in St Catharines on October 21, 1910. The family lived in Thorold in 1913, moved to St Catharines before 1917 and then to St David's, Ontario after Robert's birth. Robert completed grade 8. He was married to Mildred Rosetta (---) on 23 Sep 1938 in Bervie, Ontario (who remarried as Mrs. Lockhart), was United Church, lived on W. Warner's farm in St. David's, and employed as a truck driver. His brothers were William Hutt Adam, David Brackenridge Adam and John Reok Adam. He enlisted in the 2nd/10th Canadian Dragoons on 17 Jul 1942 in Hamilton, Ontario; in Dec 1942, Robert signed up for overseas service and Mildred moved to at 89 Stanley Ave. in Stamford (Niagara Falls) soon afterwards. On 10 Jul 1943 Robert was shipped to Sicily and ended up in the Italian campaign in the RCR (Royal Canadian Regiment) where he became a Lance Corporal and then became an acting Corporal with pay. He suffered from typhus in the winter of 1943-44. Robert was wounded in action in Italy on September 6, 1944, died of his wounds in his right arm and chest the following day, and was buried in Caserta Military Cemetery in the Campania region there. He received the Italy Star, War Medal, CVSM and Clasp.

Brown, William (Bill) Edward (16 Jan 1920-8 Aug 1944), rank: Private, No. B/148814, born in Turtleford, Saskatchewan to William Abraham Brown and Beatrice Spencer, who married on 19 Oct 1916 in Rosetown, Saskatchewan. He married Lillian Rose (---) on 17 Jun 1940 (who remarried as Mrs. Scott), had two children (Gary William and Victor Norman), was United Church living in St. David's, Ontario, and employed as a chemical operator at the Welland Chemical Works. His siblings were Donald Earl, Elsie (Hodgson), Pearl (Armstrong), Evelyn and Ida. He enlisted on 30 Jun 1943 and spent the next year training in Canada, including a Driver course. He was shipped to England in June 1944 and then to France where he landed on July 18, 1944 to join the North Shore (N.B.) Regiment. The regiment was heavily involved in the breakout from Normandy campaign and Bill was killed in action on 8 Aug 1944. He was buried in the Bretteville-sur-Laize Canadian War Cemetery, Cintheaux, Normandy, France. He received the France-Germany Star, War Medal, CVSM and Clasp.

Cooper, Albert Digby (29 May 1919-16 Jun 1944), rank: Pilot Officer, No. J/18201 (R75981), born in Merriton, Ontario, son of John Digby Cooper who married Lorena Elizabeth Burch on 5 Apr 1911 in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario. He was single, attended Virgil Public School 1925-32, was Anglican, and a farm hand on a rented property on Progressive Ave. in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario. His siblings were Nancy Kathryn (Kirkby), Lorena May and Joan Florence Marie. He enlisted in the R.C.A.F. in Jul 1940 and trained as a pilot in 1941; on 4 Oct 1943 he was assigned to No.22 Operational Training Unit, Gaydon, Warwickshire, England. He was killed instantaneously on 16 Jun 1944 as a result of a flying accident in a Wellington HZ.715 which struck Red Pyke at about 1,900 ft. while flying in cloud near Buttermere Lake, Cumberland. Albert had received multiple injuries and severe burns. He is buried in Chester R.A.F. Cemetery in Cheshire.

Dietch (Dietsch), John Joseph (9 Mar 1921-10 Aug 1944), rank: Private, No. B/40909, born in Beamsville, Ontario, son of Emil Paul Dietsch and Margaret M. Kelly who married on 12 Sep 1906. At the time of his enlistment he was single, a Roman Catholic, living in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario, and employed as a truck driver. He had two brothers (Nicholas Austin and Emil Paul) and three sisters (Mrs. R.J. Goode, Mrs. J. Bates, Mrs. V. Hindle). His enlistment on 27 Jun 1940 at St. Catharines, Ontario was in the Lincoln & Welland Regiment. He was granted leave to marry Mary Margaret Caraher of Niagara-on-the-Lake on 17 Jan 1942, who moved to be with her mother-in-law in Stratford, Ontario after the wedding. Now married, John was transferred to the Algonquin Regiment, Royal Canadian Infantry Corps. He was given leave to see his wife several times in 1943, and had one daughter Mary Gail, born on 14 Feb 1944. He finally disembarked in France on 20 Jul 1944. John was killed in action on 10 Aug 1944 in northern France; his activity had been a Driver of mechanized vehicles, such as an MV "C". He was buried in the Bretteville-sur-Laize Canadian War Cemetery, Cintheaux, Normandy, France. He was awarded the France & Germany Star, Defence Medal, War Medal, CVSM & Clasp.

Dinwiddie, George Charles Edward (20 May 1910-13 Dec 1943), rank: Captain, No. P/16250, born in Belgravia, London, England, son of George Harwin Dinwiddie and Mary Jane Hopkins of Toronto, Ontario, who were married in Apr 1906 at Windsor, Berkshire, England. He married Phyllis Ivy Baker of Castlereagh Street, Niagara-on-the-Lake on 21 Jul 1937 in Niagara Falls, New York; George was Church of England, and a painter and decorator by trade. In the intervening years between the Wars, he engaged in several years of service in The Royal Canadian Regiment as a Non-Commissioned Officer. On 7 Sep 1939 he re-enlisted at Niagara Camp, Ontario into "B" Company, The Royal Canadian Regiment, Canadian Active Service Force. He was trained as an officer, and transferred to the Hastings and Prince Edward Regiment, Royal Canadian Infantry Corps. By the winter of 1943, the German armies in Italy were defending a line stretching from the Tyrrhenian Sea north of Naples to the Adriatic Sea south of Ortona. Having died of wounds received in action in the battle for Ortona, George was buried Moro River Canadian War Cemetery, San Donato, Ortona, Italy. He was awarded the Italy Star, Defence Medal, War Medal, CVSM & Clasp.

Duggan, Frederick Charles (17 Feb 1920-25 Jan 1942), rank: Pilot Officer, No. J/6373, born in St. David's, Ontario, son of Dr. Charles Edward Duggan and Jessie Carrie Moore Hume who married in St. David's, Ontario in 1911 and lived there. His brothers were Hume, Dr. Richard Street and David (dec.). He was single, an Anglican, who attended SS#5 St. David's School and Stamford Collegiate, and became an electric Furnace operator at North American Cyanamid in Niagara Falls, Ontario. He enlisted in the R.C.A.F., 222 Squadron (Natal) and received his

pilot's flying badge on 27 Jul 1941. Fred lost his life accidentally when his Spitfire fighter collided with a Merlin in low cloud with freezing conditions on an air operations flight near Orfordness, Suffolk, England. He is remembered on the Runnymede Memorial in Egham, Surrey, England.

Fast, John (16 Dec 1922-3 Mar 1945), rank: Private, No. B/118402, born in Buragan, Crimea, son of John J. Fast and Justina P. Friesen of St. Catharines, Ontario, who were married on 19 Feb 1922 in Blumstein, Ukraine. He was single, a German-speaking Mennonite and, after his immigration from Russia in 1927, lived in Manitoba. He missed 3 years of high school when his parents moved to Ontario, worked on the family farm and drove a truck. His siblings were Peter J., Irene, Mary, Ernest J., Jacob J., Paul J., Daniel J. and Margaret Fast. He enlisted on 25 Oct 1943; however, within months he was admitted to hospital for bronchitis and a herniotomy, and subsequently discharged. On 13 Apr 1944 at Camp Borden he was reallocated from Royal Canadian Army Service Corps to Counterintelligence Corps and undertook basic training in Simcoe, Ontario. He suffered from typhus twice in the summer of 1944 and received furlough. He was transferred to the Algonquin Regiment, Royal Canadian Infantry Corps on 10 Jan 1945. John was killed in action in the Hochwald, Nordrhein-Westfalen, Germany on 3 Mar 1944; he is buried in the Groesbeek Canadian War Cemetery, Nijmegen, Holland. He was awarded the France & Germany Star, War Medal, CVSM & Clasp.

Gibson, Arthur Gordon Bartley (6 Dec 1919-5 Dec 1942), rank: Flight Sergeant / Observer, No. R/75979, born in St. Catharines, Ontario, the son of Henry (Harry) Gibson and Amelia Bartley of St. Catharines. He was single, an Anglican and a junior draftsman for the Foster-Wheeler Company in St Catharines. He enlisted in the R.C.A.F in Jul 1940 and was attested in Hamilton, Ontario in Dec 1940. He trained as an observer in Canada through 1941 and was assigned to R.A.F. Ferry Command in Oct 1942. He had been given his Observer badge in Mar 1942. Gordon was killed by shock and burns when the Hudson VI FK-687 bomber in which he was the Observer, crashed at the Houlton Air Base, Aroostock, Maine on 5 Dec 1942. This plane was due to be ferried either to England for active service or to Canada as a training aircraft. He is buried in Victoria Lawn Cemetery, St. Catharines, Ontario.

Grafton, Frederick William (9 Mar 1909-22 Dec 1944), rank: Captain, No. P/16331, born in Port Credit, Ontario, son of George Grafton and Matilda Ellis of Hamilton, Ontario, who were married in Port Credit, Ontario in Jun 1896. He married Dorothy Esther (---) of Islington, Ontario, was Church of England, and a clerk and a driver. In the intervening years between the Wars, he engaged in several years of service in The Royal Canadian Regiment as a Non-Commissioned Officer. He enlisted on 6 Sep 1939 at Niagara Camp, Ontario. On 29 Nov 1941 he was engaged in the Training Company of Instructors and had transferred to the Algonquin Regiment, Royal Canadian Infantry Corps by the time he arrived in France on 25 Jul 1944. He sustained multiple grenade wounds to the left leg and torso on 10 Oct 1944 and died of those wounds as well as acute yellow atrophy of the liver and neurological disease on 22 Dec 1944. By this time his wife had moved to Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario. He is remembered in Brookwood Military Cemetery, Pirbright, Surrey, England. He was awarded the France & Germany Star, Defence Medal, War Medal, CVSM & Clasp.

Grange, Arthur Hugh (14 Dec 1916-6 Jun 1944), rank: Flying Officer, No. J/27158, born in Son of Arthur Grange and Edna May Cascaden Ennis of Niagara Falls, Ontario, who married on 20 Nov 1915. His siblings were Claire and Joanne. He was married to Mary Patricia Sheppard of Picton, Ontario in Queenston, Ontario on 28 Jun 1938, an Anglican and garage foreman. They lived in Queenston, Ontario and she remarried as Mrs. Davis after the war. He enlisted in the R.C.A.F. on 18 Feb 1942 in Hamilton, Ontario, and was later transferred to 582 Squadron on 16 Apr 1944. He had received his Air Bomber and Observer badges on 11 Jun 1943. He was missing after his Lancaster N.E. 162 heavy bomber failed to return from a mission over Langres, France on 6 Jun 1944; it exploded in air and crashed on the border of Sortosville Bocage and St. Cyr Bocage near Valognes, Cherbourg Peninsula. The wreckage and engines fell over a wide area. The plane's pilot, Squadron-Leader A.W. Raybould DSO, DFM and Arthur were reported shot by Germans in a wood near Lisieux, about 130 km from crash site. Their bodies were not recovered. He is remembered on the Runnymede Memorial in Egham, Surrey, England.

Greaves, Roy (9 Apr 1920-9 Oct 1943), rank: Flying Officer Navigator, No. J/22586, son of William Greaves and Mabel Ruth Ball, marmalade and jam manufacturers in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario., who married 15 Jun 1910 in College, Ontario. His siblings were William, Gordon Claude, Winston A. and Frederick C. He was single, United Church, and a clerk accountant at Imperial Bank of Canada for 5 years until 1941. He enlisted in the R.C.A.F. on 31 May 1941 in Hamilton, Ontario, did an Air Navigator's Course at Ancienne Lorette, Quebec late in 1942. He embarked for Britain on 13 Feb 1943 and was transferred to 90 (R.A.F.) Squadron on 1 Sep 1943. A month later he was killed during air operations over northern Germany when the plane was shot down into a peat bog. He is buried in the Hamburg Cemetery, Ohlsdorf, Germany.

Grier, George Murray (7 Jul 1922-28 Jul 1943), rank: Leading Aircraftman, No. R/168120, born in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario, son of William Grier and Martha L. (---) of Niagara-on-the-Lake, retired farmers who married 1 Jan 1902 in Sheffield, Ontario. He was single, Methodist, and employed as an electrician at English Electric in St. Catharines for two years to mid-1942. His brothers were William J., N. David and R.R. – the first two of whom were also in the R.C.A.F. - and sisters were Mrs. Fred Warren, Mrs. Robert McCormick, Mrs. C.J. Leeder, Mrs. J.C. (Nellie) Gordon and Mrs. Mel Gibson. He enlisted in the R.C.A.F. on 10 Jun 1942 and transferred as an aircrew pilot in the War Emergency Training Plan on 10 Jun 1943. He died as a pilot in training from multiple injuries in a flying accident northwest of Norwich, Ontario on 28 Jul 1943 while stationed at Aylmer. He is buried in St. Andrew's Presbyterian Cemetery, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario.

Grimstead, John Earl (2 Sep 1921-25 Jun 1944), rank: Trooper, No. B/87911, born in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario, son of Russell Grimstead and Marion E. (---) of Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario, who were married in Toronto in 1919. He had a brother Joseph. He was single, Anglican, and a linotype printer and a grocery clerk in the general store of Reid & Son, Niagara-on-the-Lake. He enlisted in Lincoln and Welland Regiment in St. Catharines, Ontario on 2 Sep 1939, attended Camp Borden in the summer of 1940, and was transferred to the 12th Canadian Army Tank Battalion on 19 Mar 1941. He arrived in Gourrock, Renfrewshire, Scotland on 1 Jul 1941 and deserted in early 1942. Transferred to Three Rivers (12th Armoured) Regiment, Royal Canadian Armoured Corps, he was shipped to Italy in Jun 1944 and was killed in action near Villastrada, Castiglione Di Lago, Perugia, Umbria on 25 Jun 1944. He was buried in the Assisi

War Cemetery, Rivotorto, Perugia, Italy. He was awarded the Italy Star, Defence Medal, War Medal, CVSM & Clasp.

Hall, Joseph Malcolm (10 Jun 1916-24 Jun 1943), rank: Private, No. P/16407, born in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario, son of Alexander Hammond Hall and Amy M. Price of Niagara-on-the-Lake. He married Mary Jean Atherton of St. Catharines, Ontario on Niagara-on-the-Lake on 19 Feb 1938; he was United Church and considered his trade to be Soldier. His brothers were Evan, William and John. He enlisted at Niagara Camp on 7 Sep 1939, joining the Royal Canadian Regiment, Canadian Infantry Corps. He arrived in Gourrock, Renfrewshire, Scotland on 30 Dec 1939 after 123 days at sea from Halifax, Nova Scotia. On 14-15 Jun 1940, as a Corporal, he was in Brest, France, but returned to Plymouth. Having been promoted to Sergeant, he reverted to the rank of Private on 22 Oct 1942; this was his second reversion. He died instantly from a compound fracture of the skull in a motorcycle accident late at night whilst delivering a message on duty at the crossroads in Hurlford, Ayrshire, Scotland. He is remembered in Brookwood Military Cemetery, Pirbright, Surrey, England. He was awarded the Defence Medal, War Medal, CVSM & Clasp.

Hindle, Percy Samuel (16 Mar 1923-29 Jul 1944), rank: Private, No. B/145409, born in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario, son of Frank Hindle and Margaret McWhirter of Niagara-on-the-Lake, who married on 11 Apr 1916 there. He left school at 15 years to assist the family, and worked for Harrisons & Sons, lumber company as a truck driver and odd-job worker for 5 years. He was single and Roman Catholic. His brothers were Frank Jr. and David, and sisters Mrs. Margaret Dowdy, Viola, and Sarah Ada. He enlisted on 2 April 1943 in Toronto, joined Princess Louise's Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders of Canada and was in Britain by 28 Jul 1943. He subsequently disembarked in France on 21 Jul 1944, just 8 days before his death. He died of wounds received in action during the Battle for Normandy. He was buried in Bretteville-sur-Laize Canadian War Cemetery, Cintheaux, Normandy, France. He was awarded the France & Germany Star, Defence Medal, War Medal, CVSM & Clasp.

Hollingsworth, Gordon Percy (19 Nov 1903-21 Oct 1943), rank: Sapper, No. B/27060, born in Toronto, Ontario, son of George Hollingsworth and Silvia A. Moxley who were married on 14 Jan 1892 in Toronto, Ontario. His mother died when he was six years old; he married Rachel Rowan of Toronto on 17 Apr 1937. His brothers were George, Cecil, Frank and Arthur, and sisters were Mrs. Hilda Woods, Harriet (Hattie) and Gladys Irene. He was negroid, United Church, and a taxi and truck driver. In the intervening years between the Wars, he engaged in several years of service in the Queen's Own Rifles and 9th Battalion as a Non-Commissioned Officer. He enlisted on 5 Jun 1940 in Hamilton, Ontario. He arrived in Gourrock, Renfrewshire, Scotland on 30 Jun 1941 from Halifax, Nova Scotia on SS Britannic after a 9-day crossing; he had joined the 6th Construction Company, Royal Canadian Engineers. Gordon died, on his way to Croydon General Hospital, Surrey, from a fracture at the base of the skull caused by an accidental fall from a moving Southern Railway train. He is remembered in Brookwood Military Cemetery, Pirbright, Surrey, England. He was awarded the Defence Medal, War Medal, CVSM & Clasp.

Howarth, Jack Leach (18 Dec 1915-28 Jan 1944), rank: Sergeant, No. B/41839, born in Chippawa, Ontario, son of Fred Howarth and Mary Jane Leach of North Tonawanda, New York, who married on 29 Jun 1907 in Peoria, Illinois. This parents later moved to Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario. He was single, a Presbyterian, and a millwright. His brothers were Douglas, Fred

and Robert William – all of whom served – and his sisters were Mrs. Mary Alice Rost, Mrs. Elsie Mona Wilson, Mrs. Edna May Crowl, Mrs. Bertha Gwendolyn Mennes, Mrs. Doris Pini and Mrs. Iva Jean Pettit. He enlisted on 29 Jun 1942 in Hamilton, Ontario, and joined the 2nd/10th Dragoons, Royal Canadian Infantry Corps; he transferred to the 2nd Infantry Training Battalion in Debert, Nova Scotia on 20 Oct 1943. Jack died in Debert Military Hospital as a result of a broken neck and other injuries received 22 Jan 1944 when struck by a civilian hit-and-run driver. He is buried in St. Mark's Anglican Church Cemetery, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario. He was awarded the War Medal and CVSM.

Hutchinson, James Alvin (22 Feb 1925-27 Sep 1944), rank: Private, No. B/117899, born in St. David's, Ontario, son of Edwin Ross Hutchinson and Annie Hazel Bovair of St. David's, Ontario. He was single, United Church, a farm hand and truck driver. His brothers were Edwin Wilson and Stanley Ellison, and his sisters were Phyllis Irene, Nina Hazel and Anna Louise Gordon. He enlisted on 12 Oct 1943 in Toronto, Ontario, and joined 'A' Squadron, 4th Princess Louise Dragoons Guards, Royal Canadian Infantry Corps. He was sent overseas on 28 Apr 1944. James died of wounds received in action during the advance from Ancona to Rimini (which broke the Gothic Line) with heavy fighting around Rimini. He was buried in Gradara War Cemetery, Pesaro, Italy. He was awarded the Italy Star, War Medal, CVSM and Clasp.

Hutchison, Jack Leon (26 Jan 1917-3 Jun 1942), rank: Flight Sergeant (Pilot), No. R/75946, born in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario, son of Lawrence Leon Hutchison and Florence Victoria Pendergast of Virgil, Ontario, who married 22 May 1912 in St. David's, Ontario. It was his mother who ran a successful candy and ice cream store for more than 40 years in Virgil. He had an elder brother, James Hedley, who survived the war and lived in St. Catharines. He enlisted in the R.C.A.F. on 11 Dec 1940 in Hamilton, Ontario, received his pilot's training in Canada and flew to Britain on 18 Sep 1941. While serving as a Wellington twin-engine bomber pilot in the 115 (R.A.F.) Squadron from Lossiemouth, England and returning from a night-time mission over Bremen, Germany on 3 Jun 1942, his plane was shot down by the German ace fighter pilot, Prince Egmont zur Lippe-Weissenfeld (post-war records analysis), near the island of Vlieland, Holland. He and his 5 crew were buried at Den Burg Algemene Begraafplaats on the island of Texel off the coast of northern Holland. Jack is remembered on the lectern of St. Andrew's Church in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario.

Irvine, James Frederick (1 Jan 1917-10 Sep 1942), rank: Flight Sergeant (Pilot), No. R/103273, born in was the son of George Whitman Irvine and Jessie (Effie) Josephine James, who were married in Grantham, Ontario on 5 Jun 1907. He was single, an Anglican, and worked at Canadian Bank of Commerce for 7 years through 1941. His brothers were Arthur (Art) Norman, Frank Whitman, and George Elliott, and his sister was Mrs. Marjorie Mae Hall. He enlisted in the R.C.A.F. on 30 May 1941 in Hamilton, Ontario, received his pilot's training in Canada and flew to Britain on 23 Mar 1942, joined 196 Squadron, was stationed at Leconfield Air Base near Beverley, Yorkshire, and was promoted to Flight Sergeant on 16 Jul 1942. On 9/10 Sep 1942 he was presumed dead after the Wellington bomber he was piloting was shot down in one of the largest air raids over Germany. At Dusseldorf that night, 360 allied aircraft dropped 700 tons of bombs causing severe damage in all parts of the city; some bombs fell at Krefeld, Munchen-Gladbach and adjacent towns. Thirty bombers were missing, five crashed and three came down in the sea. He is remembered on the Runnymede Memorial in Egham, Surrey, England and in Christ Church Anglican Cemetery, McNab, Niagara, Ontario.

Lamoure, Lawrence Ronald (30 Nov 1923-30 May 1943), rank: Sergeant/Air Gunner, No. R/158735, born in St. Catharines, Ontario, son of Fremonte Cecil (Monty) Lamoure and Alice Eva Davis of Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario, who were married on 2 Jul 1913 in Temiskaming, Ontario. He was single, United Church, and an aircraft riveter. His brothers were Grant Meredith and Eugene W., and his sister was Audrey L. He enlisted in the R.C.A.F. on 14 Mar 1942 in Hamilton, Ontario, completed his gunnery training in Mt. Jolie, Quebec; he was an upper gunner on the Halifax JB793 bomber. He arrived in Britain on 4 Feb 1943 and was assigned to the 419 Squadron on 16 May 1943. Just two weeks later his aircraft was attacked by a night fighter while returning from a night air raid on Wuppertal, Germany on 29/30 May 1943; it was one of 719 aircraft to bomb the city that night and the raid created a firestorm that killed over 3,500 people. The bomber crashed near the village of Jalhay, south of Eupen, Belgium and one survivor was taken prisoner of war. Lawrence did not survive and is buried in Hotton War Cemetery, Marche-en-Famenne, Namur, Belgium.

Lewis, Richard Selwyn (30 Jul 1913-16 Aug 1944), rank: Corporal, No. B/27659, born in Bryn Celyn, Anglesey, Wales, son of Henry Jones Lewis and Ellen Catherine (Nellie) Griffiths of Monfa Farm, Wellington, Ontario, and later Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario, who married in Bangor, North Wales on 6 Aug 1907. He was single, a Welsh-speaking Presbyterian, and a hard rock miner by trade. His brother was William Iorwerth and his sisters were Megan Jones (Mrs. T.D.) Roberts and Beryl Wynn (Mrs. Ronald L.) Way. He enlisted on 2 Jul 1941 at Niagara Camp, Ontario and joined 8 Field Squadron, Royal Canadian Engineers. He embarked at Halifax for Britain on 1 Jun 1942 and arrived in France on 18 Jul 1944. Just one month later Richard died of wounds received in action during the liberation of Caen in the Battle for Normandy. He is buried in Beny-sur-Mer Canadian War Cemetery, Reviers, Normandy, France. He was awarded the France & Germany Star, Defence Medal, War Medal, CVSM & Clasp.

Manley, Norman Hugh (15 Dec 1924-31 Oct 1944), rank: Rifleman, No. B/65863, born in Toronto, Ontario, son of Leslie Howard Manley and Aleta Catharine Bowes of St. David's, Ontario. He was single, a Baptist, and tool and die machinist. His brother was Calvin Leslie, and sister was Mrs. Georgena Constance Gay. He enlisted on 20 Jul 1942 at Niagara Camp, attached to the 2nd Reserve Battalion, Lincoln and Welland Regiment. After basic training in Niagara and advanced training in Debert, Nova Scotia, he arrived in England on 29 Dec 1942. He gave his birthdate at enlistment as 10 Aug 1925; his mother advised the Army to use her son as a machinist, rather than as an active soldier until he was 19 years old. Assigned to the Royal Winnipeg Rifles, Canadian Infantry Corps he disembarked in France on 10 Jun 1944 – on D+4. On 31 Oct 1944 Canadian troops attacked across the single causeway between Walcheren and South Beveland, Holland which caused the enemy to withdraw from the Battle of the River Scheldt Estuary and led to the liberation of a channel to the major port of Antwerp. Norman was killed during this battle on the day when control of the estuary tilted in favour of the Allies. He is buried in Adegem Canadian War Cemetery, west of Brugge, Belgium. He was awarded the France & Germany Star, Defence Medal, War Medal, CVSM & Clasp.

Martin, Bruce Leonard (5 May 1924-24 Sep 1944), rank: Trooper, No. B/148244, born in St. Catharines, Ontario, son of Charles Martin and Annabelle McIntosh of St. Catharines, who were married on 19 Mar 1914. He was single, Church of England, and a milk truck driver. His brothers were Charles John and William Elias (dec.), and his sisters were Mrs. Laura Isabel Brown, Mrs. Dorothy Jean Such, Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Ellis, Mrs. Ethel Walker, and Helen Margaret. He enlisted on 15 Jun 1943 in Toronto, Ontario, completed training at Camp Borden

including his large vehicle driving certification. He joined the 11th Armoured Regiment, Ontario Regiment, Royal Canadian Armoured Corps. While driving a 60 cwt truck from Rome to Borge San Lorenzo on 24 Sep 1944 the brakes failed on a steep incline 55 km. south of Siena and the truck rolled 8 times; Bruce died of injuries received in action en route to the medical station. He is buried in the Bolsena War British Empire Cemetery, Viterbo, Lake Bolsena, Italy.

Matthews, Donald Willis (23 Nov 1919-27 Sep 1943), rank: Sergeant/Air Gunner, No. R/193148, born in Scotland, Ontario, son of Hartley Willis Matthews and Mary Jane (Jean) Patterson of St. Catharines, Ontario, who married on 9 Sep 1916 in Hartland, New York. He was single, an Anglican, and a farmer's son who attended SS #1 Grantham School. His sisters were Mrs. Marian Garrard and Mrs. Mildred E. Nightingale. He enlisted in the R.C.A.F. on 30 Sep 1942 in Hamilton, Ontario, and completed his Air Gunner and Wireless Operator training for Bomber Command in Canada before sailing for Britain, arriving on 22 Jul 1943 after 7 days at sea. There he joined 428 (Ghost) Squadron at Middleton St. George near Darlington in County Durham, England. On 27 September 1943 his four-engined Halifax bomber was shot down by a night fighter in an air raid over Hanover, Germany. The aircraft crashed in a potassium pit at Kalischacht, near Ronneberg, south of Hanover, with one survivor who was taken prisoner. Donald died in the crash and is buried in Hanover War Cemetery, Seelze, Germany. Three other British bombers were also known to have crashed in the same area and the 7-man crews buried in the same cemetery.

Parr, Donald Francis (9 Mar 1921-17 Apr 1945), rank: Lance Corporal, No. B/102121, born in Niagara Falls, Ontario, son of Harold Benson Parr and Aliene Buelah Avis McLean of Niagara Falls, Ontario, who were married 9 Jun 1915 in Wallaceburg, Ontario. He was single, United Church, and was an apprentice compositor living in St. David's, Ontario. His brothers were Warren Howard, Charles William and Kenneth Edmund, and his sisters were Alice Lenora (Skinner), Barbara Margaret (Bennett), Elizabeth Ann and Marilyn Jane. He enlisted in the Canadian Army on 20 Jul 1942 in Hamilton, Ontario. After training, he arrived in Britain from Halifax on 26 Apr 1944 after an 8-day crossing. He had joined the Hastings and Prince Edward Regiment, Royal Canadian Infantry Corps, and was promoted to Lance Corporal on 20 Oct 1944. After the Italian campaign, he was relocated to northern France on 12 Mar 1945. Donald was killed in action near Teuge, east of Apeldoorn, on the final day of the liberation of Holland. He is buried in Holten Canadian War Cemetery, Deventer, Holland. He was awarded the Italy Star, France & Germany Star, War Medal, CVSM & Clasp.

Picard, Alfred Alexander (30 May 1917-14 Oct 1944), rank: Flying Officer/Navigator, No. J/37732, born in Highland Park, Michigan, only child of Alfred (Fred) Picard and Marjorie Theresa Gilchrist, who married on 31 Dec 1915 in Detroit, Michigan. He went to school in Hamilton, Ontario and apprenticed in his father's profession of motion picture projectionist working in St. Catharines and Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario. At the time of enlisting he was employed by the Otis Elevator Company as a fitter in Hamilton. He was Presbyterian or United Church, and married Dorothy Edith Alice Page on 9 Dec 1939 in Hamilton; they had one child, Thomas Alfred Herbert Picard. Dorothy divorced Alfred on 12 Feb 1944 and the child was fostered by Mrs. Helen Jean (Mrs. Bert) Olney; she then married Clarence Archibald Irvine. He enlisted in the R.C.A.F. on 28 Aug 1942 in Hamilton, Ontario, and trained in Canada before arriving in Britain on 24 Nov 1943. He served as a navigator with a few squadrons and was flying with 153 (R.A.F.) Squadron from Scampton, Lincolnshire when his Lancaster bomber was shot down after an air raid on Duisburg, Germany on the night of 14/15 Oct 1944. The aircraft

crashed at Mattlerbusch, a small wood just north of the target city. His body was recovered and he is buried in the Reichswald Forest War Cemetery, Kleve, Germany.

Scott, George (28 Feb 1912-17 Aug 1944), rank: Flying Officer, No. J/14730, born in Edinburgh, Scotland, son of John Jacob Thompson Scott and Susan Helen Foggo of Scotland. The family emigrated to Canada in 1912 and settled in Whitby, Ontario, where George finished high school and trained in bookkeeping. Prior to enlistment he was working at the Ontario Hospital in Toronto as a clerk. He married Florence Evelyn Gobert of Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario at St Mark's Anglican Church on 5 Sep 1937 and the couple moved to Toronto, Ontario. They were childless at the time of George's enlistment in the R.C.A.F. at Hamilton, Ontario in 1940. After pilot training and bombing courses in Canada, he became a Pilot Officer in 1942. In April 1944 he was assigned as bombardier to 433 (Porcupine) Squadron based in at Skipton on Swale, North Yorkshire, and was a Flying Officer at the time of his death. His Halifax bomber was lost over the sea west of Langeland, Denmark on 17 Aug 1944 returning from a bombing raid on northern Germany. Initially he was listed as a POW, George lost his life in the crash into the sea. During George's service, his wife Florence was living in Niagara-on-the-Lake, presumably with her parents. He is buried in Aabenraa Cemetery, Syddanmark, Jutland, Denmark, 24 miles north of the border with Germany.

Thompson, Edward Winnett (23 Aug 1891-23 Jan 1945), rank: Captain, No. 23336, born in Toronto, Ontario, only surviving son of Samuel Henry Thompson and Jessie Lillian Winnett (later Mrs. Barnard) of Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario. His single brother Gordon died of influenza on 5 Oct 1918. He attended St. Andrews College for 8 years until 1909, and married Dorothy Bradbury Anderson of Toronto, Ontario on 8 Apr 1919 in Detroit, Michigan, was Church of England and Presbyterian, and a gentleman of means with a military career. He enlisted on 11 Jan 1918 in the No.2 District Company, Royal Canadian Army Service Corps at the rank of Lieutenant in charge of supplies. He died of a coronary occlusion in Niagara-on-the-Lake, aged 53, and is buried in Mount Pleasant Cemetery, Toronto, Ontario, Canada. He was awarded the Italy Star, France & Germany Star, War Medal, CVSM & Clasp. He left a son, Edward Winnett, and two daughters, Dorothy Rosemary and Heather Ann.

Unger, John (21 Jun 1921-29 Jul 1944), rank: Pilot Officer/Wireless Operator & Air Gunner, No. J/90308, born in Samara on the Dneiper River near Molotschna, Ukraine, son of Peter K. Unger and Elizabeth Wiebe of Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario, who married in Ukraine on 10 Jul 1920. He was single, Mennonite, and a pondman with International Nickel Co. of Canada. His brothers were Peter, Cornelius and Frank, and his sisters were Annie, Lily, Justina, Agatha and Elsie. He enlisted in the R.C.A.F. on 28 Aug 1942 in Hamilton, Ontario, and trained in Canada before leaving New York City and arriving in Britain on 16 Oct 1943 after an 8-day crossing. He served as a Flight Sergeant in 420 (Snowy Owl) Squadron located at Tholthorpe, North Yorkshire from 7 Jul 1944. He died on the night of 28/29 July 1944 in a bombing raid over Hamburg, Germany when his Halifax Mk. III bomber reportedly crashed near Estorf, about 70 km. south of the city. There were two survivors of the crash who were taken as prisoners of war. He is buried in Becklingen War Cemetery, Soltau, northern Germany.

Ward, Frederick (24 Feb 1908-14 Sep 1944), rank: Corporal, No. B/41966, born in Beamish Park, County Durham, England, son of Thomas Ward (a dog breeder) and Frances Louisa Mills of St. Catharines, Ontario, who were married in Chester le Street, County Durham, England on 5 Feb 1901. His brothers were William J.P., Albert, Thomas Witton, John George and Edward R.,

and he had two sister, Charlotte Jane and Annie Susan. He emigrated to Canada in 1921, settling on Niagara Stone Road, near Homer – then a part of St. Catharines, Ontario. He was Church of England, and worked as a motor mechanic, welder and millwright prior to enlistment. He enlisted in the 2nd/10th Dragoons, attesting in Hamilton, Ontario on 11 Jul 1942. He trained in Canada with the Dragoons and was rapidly promoted to Lance Corporal in 21 Aug 1942 and Corporal on 1 Feb 1943. He was shipped to England on 17 Feb 1944 after an 8-day crossing. On 23 Jul 1944 he landed in Normandy, France and was assigned to the Algonquin Regiment, Royal Canadian Infantry Corps. He was then part of the 4th Canadian (Armoured) Division, who had the mission to close the Falaise Gap. By early Sep 1944 the regiment had moved rapidly to Belgium; on 10 Sep 1944 they crossed the Ghent-Brugge Canal. Fred was killed in action during an attempt by the regiment to cross the Leopold Canal which was successfully repelled at Moerkerke by the German 245 Infantry Division. The Canadians pulled back after a tremendous covering artillery barrage. He is buried in the Adegem Canadian War Cemetery, near Brugge, Belgium. He was awarded the France & Germany Star, War Medal, CVSM & Clasp.

Wing, Robert Edward (27 May 1908-5 Jul 1944), rank: Warrant Officer Class II C.S.M., No. B/40525, born in Hagersville, Ontario, son of Alfred Sydney Wing and Minnie Maria Saunders, who married in Hagersville in 1907. He was married to Beatrice Harriet Webb of Niagara Falls, Ontario on 26 May 1934 in Stamford, Ontario and they had two sons. He was Church of England, and a latheman living in St. David's, Ontario. He had two younger brothers, Arthur Joseph and Sydney Alfred. He enlisted in the Lincoln and Welland Regiment, Royal Canadian Infantry Corps, on 25 Jun 1940 in Niagara Falls, Ontario. He was promoted to the rank of Company Sergeant Major on 3 May 1941. His training included more than a year in Nova Scotia before he arrived in Gourock, Renfrewshire, Scotland on 22 Jul 1943. He was one of nine Canadian soldiers who died of wounds from a petrol bomb in an enemy air raid. He is buried in Brookwood Military Cemetery, Pirbright, Surrey, England. He was awarded the Defence Medal, War Medal, CVSM & Clasp.

Wraith, William (12 Aug 1924-4 Sep 1944), rank: Private/Trooper/Gunner, No. B/61989, born in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario, only child of William Wraith and Edith Mabel Blackburn of Niagara-on-the-Lake, who married on 23 Mar 1914 in Lofthouse, West Yorkshire, England. He was single, Church of England, and a labourer who claimed to be two years older on his military attestation paper. He enlisted on 18 Aug 1941 in Toronto, Ontario, and was trained at Camp Borden. He arrived in Britain on 12 Jun 1942 and joined the Lanark and Renfrew Scottish Regiment which was employed on active service in home defence on Britain's East and West coasts until Oct 1943. William then joined the 1st Light Anti-Aircraft Battalion which was mobilized for the Italian campaign. Although the new Italian government surrendered on 3 Sep 1943, the Germans immediately seized control and thus it was German troops that the Allies faced in their advance up the Italian peninsula. William was killed in action during the advance from Ancona to Rimini (which broke the Gothic Line). He was buried in Gradara War Cemetery, Pesaro, Italy. He was awarded the Italy Star, War Medal, CVSM and Clasp.

Yates, Leslie Albert (30 Oct 1921-11 Aug 1944), rank: Private, No. B/40821, born in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario, son of Oscar Yates and Alveretta Mary Stevens of Niagara-on-the-Lake, who married in St. Catharines, Ontario on 1 Aug 1907. He was single, United Church, a handyman and machinist. His brothers were Wesley Ray, Trueman William, Louis Arthur, Prince Edward Gooderham, and his sisters were Mrs. Hattie May Stokes, Mrs. Carrie Edna Servos, Mrs. Alice Pearl Bean, Mrs. Elsie Emily Jones, Mrs. Violet C. Ward, and Olive Priscilla. He enlisted

in the Lincoln and Welland Regiment, Royal Canadian Infantry Corps, on 27 Jun 1940 at St. Catharines, Ontario; on 24 Sep 1941 he was transferred to Newfoundland. He embarked at Halifax, Nova Scotia on 16 Jul 1943 for Gourock, Renfrewshire, Scotland, and was promoted to Lance Corporal but reverted to Private at his own request. He arrived in France on 22 Jul 1944 to participate in the Battle for Normandy. As a part of the 1st Canadian Army Albert was in the drive to secure the town of Falaise in Operation Totalize. He was killed in action on 11 August 1944 and was buried in Bretteville-sur-Laize Canadian War Cemetery, Cintheaux, Normandy, France. He was awarded the France & Germany Star, Defence Medal, War Medal, CVSM & Clasp.

Yates, Prince Edward Gooderham (2 Sep 1925-12 Dec 1944), rank: Flight Sergeant/Air Gunner, No. B/256193, born in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario, son of Oscar Yates and Alveretta Mary Stevens of Niagara-on-the-Lake, who married in St. Catharines, Ontario on 1 Aug 1907. He was single, United Church, and a tool maker's apprentice. His brothers were Wesley Ray, Trueman William, Louis Arthur, Leslie Albert, and his sisters were Mrs. Hattie May Stokes, Mrs. Carrie Edna Servos, Mrs. Alice Pearl Bean, Mrs. Elsie Emily Jones, Mrs. Violet C. Ward, and Olive Priscilla. He enlisted in the R.C.A.F. on 14 May 1943 in Hamilton, Ontario. His excellence at marksmanship as a gunner accelerated his training, and he embarked from Halifax, Nova Scotia on 30 Mar 1944 for the 8-day voyage to Britain. He was promoted to Flight Sergeant on 14 Oct 1944, and joined 103 (R.A.F.) Squadron, located at Elsham Wolds, Lincolnshire. On 12 Dec 1944 Edward was a part of an air raid on the steel factories in Essen, Germany; his 2-engined Mosquito bomber was downed by an enemy fighter at Juchem, Gladbach, Germany and Edward died in a field nearby the village. He is buried in the Rheinberg War Cemetery, north of Krefeld, Nordrhein-Westfal, Germany.

Prepared by:
David F. Hemmings President
Niagara Historical Society
January 2019

WW2 War Dead

Surname	First names	Army or RCAF	Rank	Village	Single or Married	Religion	Age (Death)	Died In Action
ADAM	Robert Craig	A	Corporal	D	M	U	27	Y
BROWN	William Edward (Bill)	A	Private	D	M	U	24	Y
COOPER	Albert Digby	R	Pilot Officer	V	S	A	25	N
DIETSCH	John Joseph	A	Private	N	S	C	23	Y
DINWIDDIE	George Charles Edward	A	Captain	N	M	A	33	Y
DUGGAN	Frederick Charles	R	Pilot Officer	D	S	A	21	N
FAST	John	A	Private	H	S	M	22	Y
GIBSON	Arthur Gordon Bartley	R	Flt. Sgt.	H	S	A	22	N
GRAFTON	Frederick William	A	Captain	N	M	A	35	Y
GRANGE	Arthur Hugh	R	Flying Officer	Q	M	A	27	Y
GREAVES	Roy	R	Flying Officer	N	S	U	23	Y
GRIER	George Murray	R	Lead Aircr.man	N	S	U	21	N
GRIMSTEAD	John Earl	A	Trooper	N	S	A	22	Y
HALL	Joseph Malcolm	A	Private	N	M	U	27	N
HINDLE	Percy Samuel	A	Private	N	S	C	21	Y
HOLLINGSWORTH	Gordon Percy	A	Sapper	N	M	U	39	N
HOWARTH	Jack Leach	A	Sergeant	N	S	P	28	N
HUTCHINSON	James Alvin	A	Private	D	S	U	19	Y
HUTCHISON	Jack Leon	R	Flt. Sgt.	V	S	U	24	Y
IRVINE	James Frederick	R	Flt. Sgt.	M	S	A	26	Y
LAMOURE	Lawrence Ronald	R	Flt. Sgt.	N	S	U	19	Y
LEWIS	Richard Selwyn	A	Corporal	N	S	P	31	Y
MANLEY	Norman Hugh	A	Rifleman	D	S	B	19	Y
MARTIN	Bruce Leonard	A	Trooper	H	S	A	20	Y
MATTHEWS	Donald Willis	R	Flt. Sgt.	M	S	A	23	Y
PARR	Donald Francis	A	Lance Corporal	D	S	U	24	Y
PICARD	Alfred Alexander	R	Flying Officer	N	M	U	27	Y
SCOTT	George	R	Flying Officer	N	M	P	32	Y
THOMPSON	Edward Winnett	A	Captain	N	M	P	53	N
UNGER	John	R	Pilot Officer	N	S	M	23	Y
WARD	Frederick	A	Corporal	H	S	A	36	Y
WING	Robert Edward	A	WO/C.S.M.	D	M	A	36	N
WRAITH	William	A	Private/Gunner	N	S	A	20	Y
YATES	Leslie Albert	A	Private	N	S	U	22	Y
YATES	Prince Edward Gooderham	R	Flt. Sgt.	N	S	U	19	Y

TOTALS:

A:21. R:14

D:7 Q:1 N19 M:11. S:24
H:4 M:2 V:2

U:13 A:13
P:4 M:2 C:2

26.1

Y:26 N:9