

Private Arthur Sands[©] Regimental number: Unknown

Unfortunately, little information was provided about Arthur in the chaplains' journal.¹ Despite the best efforts of volunteer genealogists as part of this project, without the regimental number or even the regiment's name it was not possible to identify conclusively this Arthur Sands in order to be able to tell his personal story. That the chaplain's entry is incomplete is not altogether surprising: during the period 7 July 1917 to 13 July 1917, when this soldier was likely admitted, No. 1 Canadian Casualty Clearing Station admitted a total of 1790 wounded, as many as 653 on one day.² In spite of this, the chaplain was able to write to his wife, his next of kin at 43 Rossiter Road, Balham, London, S.W. 12 on 11 July (probably 1917). The chaplain also noted that Arthur may have had chest wounds.³

As this name did not appear in the burial records of the Adinkerke Churchyard Extension⁴ where others who died around the same time were buried, it is possible that Arthur survived. Regardless, his contribution to the war effort should be recognized and valued.

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¹ "Name Index," *British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa* (www.bifhsgo.ca: accessed 2 May 2025), entry for Sands, Arthur, Research source: No. 1 Canadian Casualty Clearing Station

² "War Diaries of the First World War: 1st Canadian Casualty Clearing Station 1914/08/13-1919/03/31," *Library and Archives Canada* (<https://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/military-heritage/first-world-war/Pages/war-diaries.aspx>: accessed 1 March 2023)

³ "Name Index," *British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa*, entry for Sands, Arthur,

⁴ "Adinkerke Churchyard Extension," *Commonwealth War Graves Commission* (www.cwgc.org: accessed 7 March 2023)