

Second Lieutenant Frederick Gordon Shand[©]

Regimental number: —

"C" Battery, 311th Brigade, Royal Field Artillery

born: 6 October 1891–died: 12 October 1918

Second Lieutenant Frederick Gordon Shand was born at 5 p.m. on 6 October 1891 at home in Peterhead, Aberdeenshire, Scotland. He was the son of William (a master plasterer) and Elizabeth Shand. William was born on 27 June 1850 in Peterhead and Elizabeth (née Gordon) in about 1853, also in Peterhead,¹ and it was the location of their marriage on 20 April 1877.² They had at least seven children—four sons and three daughters. Frederick had three older brothers:

- William M. (born in 1877)³
- James A. (born in 1885)⁴
- John M. (born in 1889)⁵

Their daughters were:

- Margaret Jane (born in 1879)⁶
- Elizabeth F. (born in 1882)⁷
- Christian (born on 11 May 1893)⁸

In 1881, William Shand was employing five men and two boys as a plasterer and the family was living at 13 Constitution Street in Peterhead. William's mother was also living at the same address.⁹ By the time Fredrick was born ten years later, the family had moved a few houses away, to 9 Constitution Street. They remained there until at least 1920.¹⁰ By 1911, Frederick, age 19, was a law apprentice and his brother James had joined his father as a plasterer working in the building trade.¹¹

It is not known when Frederick enlisted in the British Expeditionary Force, but he went to France on 27 September 1917. He first enlisted in the 2nd Scottish Horse (regimental numbers 2118, 5387 and 1506GG), but at some point he joined the Royal Field Artillery.¹² When he died he was a second lieutenant.

Just over a year after Frederick arrived in France, he was admitted to No. 1 Canadian Casualty Clearing Station with shell wounds to his left shoulder and penetrating the right side of his back. He was admitted on 11 October 1918 and died the following day.¹³ He was buried on 13 October in Duisans British Military Cemetery (Plot 7, Row B, Grave 63) with the Canadian chaplain A. D. Reid presiding.¹⁴

Duisans British Military Cemetery is located in Étrun, near Arras, France. The first burials in the cemetery took place in March 1917.¹⁵ No. 1 CCCS arrived at the beginning of September 1918 and was stationed near Duisans for two months. As a result of the serious and urgent nature of the cases admitted to No. 1 CCCS, the death rate was high in October—a total of 83 deaths occurred during the month.¹⁶

A letter was sent to his sister Elizabeth, who was his next of kin and still living at home at 9 Constitution Street.¹⁷

Frederick was posthumously awarded the British War Medal (for service overseas between 1914 and 1918) and the Victory Medal (for service in an operational theatre).¹⁸ He is honoured on the Peterhead war memorial.¹⁹

It is not known whether any of Frederick's brother served in the Great War—if they did, they probably did not lose their lives. In addition, very little is known of his family after the war. His father died on 19 April 1920 in Peterhead. Two of his sons were executors of his will—James, a plasterer, and John, a gas works employee in Kirkcaldy, Scotland²⁰ His mother died three years later.²¹

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¹ "1881 Scotland Census," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.co.uk: accessed 30 May 2021), entry for William Shand, Enumeration District: 16, Household schedule number: 253, Line: 23, Roll: csct1881_67

² "Statutory Registers–Births," *ScotlandsPeople* (<http://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/>: accessed 30 May 2021), entry for Shand, Frederick Gordon, Reference: 232/1 403, Registration district: Peterhead

³ "Statutory Registers–Births (index)," *ScotlandsPeople* (<http://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/>: accessed 30 May 2021), entry for Shand, William M, Reference: 232/1 403, Registration district: Peterhead

⁴ "Statutory Registers–Births (index)," *ScotlandsPeople* (<http://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/>: accessed 30 May 2021), entry for Shand, James Alexander, Reference: 232/1 458, Registration district: Peterhead

⁵ "Statutory Registers–Births (index)," *ScotlandsPeople* (<http://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/>: accessed 30 May 2021), entry for Shand, John M., Reference: 232/1 91, Registration district: Peterhead

⁶ "Statutory Registers–Births (index)," *ScotlandsPeople* (<http://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/>: accessed 30 May 2021), entry for Shand, Margaret J., Reference: 232/1 162, Registration district: Peterhead

⁷ "Statutory Registers–Births (index)," *ScotlandsPeople* (<http://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/>: accessed 30 May 2021), entry for Shand, Elizabeth F., Reference: 232/1 88, Registration district: Peterhead

⁸ "Statutory Registers–Births," *ScotlandsPeople* (<http://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/>: accessed 30 May 2021), entry for Shand, Christian F, Reference: 232/1 236, Registration district: Peterhead

⁹ "1881 Scotland Census," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.co.uk: accessed 30 May 2021), entry for William Shand; "1881 Scotland census," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.co.uk: accessed 30 May 2021), entry for William Shand, Enumeration District: 16, Household schedule number: 252, Line: 22, Roll: csct1881_67

¹⁰ "1891 Scotland Census," *ScotlandsPeople* (<http://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/>: accessed 30 May 2021), entry for Shand, William, Reference 232/1 16/21; "1901 Scotland Census," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.co.uk: accessed 29 May 2021), entry for William Shand, Enumeration district: 16, Household schedule number: 106, Line: 15, Roll: CSSCT1901_76; "1911 Scotland Census," *ScotlandsPeople*

(<http://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/>: accessed 30 May 2021), entry for Shand, William, Reference: 232/1 16/19, District: Peterhead; "Scotland, National Probate Index (Calendar of Confirmations and Inventories), 1876–1936," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.co.uk: accessed 22 May 2021), entry for William Shand

¹¹ "1911 Scotland Census," *ScotlandsPeople*, entry for Shand, William

¹² "British Army WWI Medal Rolls Index Cards, 1914–1920," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.co.uk: accessed 22 May 2021), entry for Frederick Gordon Shand

¹³ The chaplains' journal records Frederick's death as occurring on 11 October. All other documents record his death as occurring on 12 October.

¹⁴ "No. 1 Canadian Casualty Clearing Station," *British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa* (www.bifhsgo.ca: accessed 13 May 2021), entry for Shand, F. G.

¹⁵ "Duisans British Cemetery, Etrun," *Commonwealth War Graves Commission* (www.cwgc.org: accessed 7 October 2015)

¹⁶ "War Diaries of the First World War: 1st Canadian Casualty Clearing Station 1914/08/13–1919/03/31," *Library and Archives Canada* (<http://data4.collectionscanada.gc.ca/>: accessed 17 June 2015)

¹⁷ “No. 1 Canadian Casualty Clearing Station,” *British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa*, entry for Shand, F. G.

¹⁸ “British Army WWI Medal Rolls Index Cards, 1914–1920,” *Ancestry*, entry for Frederick Gordon Shand

¹⁹ “Peterhead – WWI,” *Imperial War Museum* (<https://www.iwm.org.uk/memorials/item/memorial/8621>: accessed 31 May 2021)

²⁰ “Scotland, National Probate Index (Calendar of Confirmations and Inventories), 1876–1936,” *Ancestry*, entry for William Shand

²¹ “Statutory Registers–Deaths (index),” *ScotlandsPeople* (<http://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/>: accessed 30 May 2021), entry for Shand (Gordon), Elizabeth, Reference: 232/1 139, Registration district: Peterhead