

Durrington War Graves



Lest we Forget

World War I



5394 PRIVATE

S. J. PICKARD

11TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

28TH DECEMBER, 1916 Age 22

In Memory Of

The Dearly Loved Son Of

Mr & Mrs Pickard of Sydney

*Commonwealth War Graves Headstone for Pte S. J. Pickard is located in Grave Plot # 140
of Durrington War Graves Cemetery*

Stanley James PICKARD

Stanley James Pickard was born at Bega, NSW in 1894 to parents James & Janet Pickard (nee Hart). He was a 22 year old, single, Clerk from Leichhardt, NSW when he enlisted on 22nd August, 1915 with the 5th Infantry Brigade, 20th Infantry Battalion, 14th Reinforcements of the Australian Army (A.I.F.). His service number was 5394 & his religion was Methodist. His next of kin was listed as his father – James Pickard of 34 White Street, Leichhardt.

Pte Stanley James Pickard embarked from Sydney on HMAT *Wiltshire (A18)* on 22nd August, 1916 & disembarked at Fremantle, Western Australia on 30th August, 1916 & was sent to Hospital with Mumps. He re-embarked at Fremantle on 10th October, 1916 on *Suffolk* & disembarked at Plymouth, England on 2nd December, 1916.

Reinforcements were only given basic training in Australia. Whilst in Australia Pte Pickard was promoted to Acting Corporal from 16th November, 1915 until 27th April, 1916 where he reverted back to the rank of Private. Training was completed in training units in England. Some of these were located in the Salisbury Plain & surrounding areas in the county of Wiltshire.

Pte Stanley James Pickard was marched in to 8th Training Battalion from Australia on 19th December, 1916.

Private Stanley James Pickard was sent sick to Hospital from 3rd Training Battalion at Durrington – Camp No. 3 on 21st December, 1916 – under observation. He was reported seriously ill with Bronchitis on 24th December, 1916.

Private Stanley James Pickard died on 28th December, 1916 at Fargo Military Hospital, Wiltshire from Influenza.

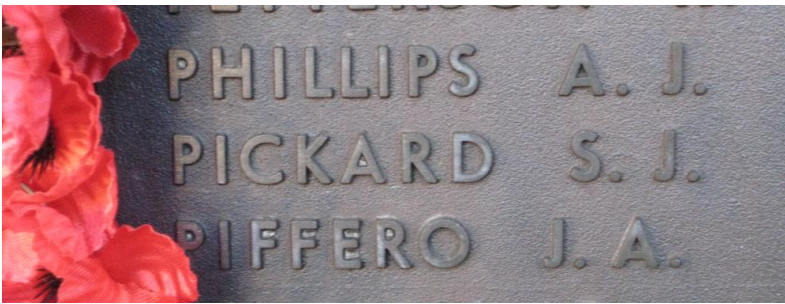
A death for Stanley J. Pickard, aged 23, was registered in the December quarter, 1916 in the district of Amesbury, Wiltshire.

Private Stanley James Pickard was buried on 30th December, 1916 at Durrington Cemetery, Wiltshire – Plot number 140 and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

The Red Cross Wounded & Missing File for Pte Stanley James Pickard contains a request on behalf of the family asking for details of Pte Pickard's illness, death & burial. A reply from Assistant Matron of Fargo Military Hospital reads:

"Pte Pickard was in hospital 7 days, very ill all the time. He was such a dear lad and we all got very fond of him. It was very pathetic indeed that Pte Pickard and his chum Pte Atkin – enlisted together – came into hospital within a day or two of one another and died within 48 hours of one another and lay side by side in the mortuary. Pte Pickard died of influenza and bronchitis and was buried at Durrington on 30.12.16 in grave No. 140 on right hand side of cemetery path. Please convey to his mother of whom he was very fond, our deepest sympathy in her grief."

Private S. J. Pickard is commemorated in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 92.



(Photos by Cathy Sedgwick)



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

S. Pickard is also remembered on the WW1 Roll of Honour board located at the top of the staircase of the old Annandale Council Chambers, now the Annandale Neighbourhood Centre, 79 Johnston Street, Annandale, NSW.



Annandale Roll of Honour WW1 (Photos from Register of War Memorials in NSW – David Roden)

Pte Stanley James Pickard was entitled to British War Medal only as he had not entered a Theatre of War. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Pte Pickard's father – Mr J. Pickard (July, 1921 & January, 1922)

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Stanley James Pickard – service number 5394 as being 22 years old & served with 11th Battalion Australian Infantry. He was the son of James and Janet Pickard of 402 Young St, Annandale, Sydney.

(44 pages of Pte Stanley James Pickard's Service records are available for On Line viewing at National Archives of Australia website).

Information obtained from the CWGC, Australian War Memorial (Roll of Honour, First World War Embarkation Roll, Red Cross Wounded & Missing) & National Archives

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Newspaper Reports

LATEST CASUALTIES

262nd LIST – NEW SOUTH WALES

Died of Illness

Pte S. J. Pickard, Leichhardt.

(The Land, Sydney, NSW – Friday 19 January, 1917)

IN MEMORIAM

PICKARD - In memory of our dear son, Pte. Stanley James Pickard, 20th Batt, A.I.F., died in England, December 28, 1916, aged 22 years. Inserted by his sorrowing parents, sister, brothers, and grandmother.

PICKARD - A tribute of love to the memory of Private S. J. Pickard, died at Fargo Hospital, England December 28, 1916. Dearly loved friend of Iris Ward, 109 Denison street, Waverley

(The Sydney Morning Herald, Sydney, NSW – Friday 28 December, 1917)

ON ACTIVE SERVICE

PICKARD .-In loving memory of our dear son and brother, Private S. J. Pickard, 20th Battalion, who died of illness, Fargo Hospital, England, 1916, aged 22.

Gone, but not forgotten. Inserted by his sorrowing parents, sister, and brothers.

(The Sydney Morning Herald, Sydney, NSW – Saturday 28 December, 1918)

Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstones

The Defence Department, in 1920/21, contacted the next of kin of the deceased World War 1 soldiers to see if they wanted to include a personal inscription on the permanent headstone at Durrington War Graves Cemetery. Space was reserved for 66 letters only (with the space between any two words to be counted as an additional letter) & the rate per letter was around 3 ½ d (subject to fluctuation).

The expense in connection for the erection of permanent headstones over the graves of fallen soldiers was borne by the Australian Government.

(Information obtained from letters sent to next of kin in 1921)

Pte S. J. Pickard does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

In Memory Of The Dearly Loved Son of Mr And Mrs J. Pickard Of Sydney

Photo of Pte S. J. Pickard's Headstone at Durrington War Graves Cemetery, Wiltshire.



(Photo © Ian King - with permission)