

# Durrington War Graves



*Lest we Forget*

## World War I



**7105 PRIVATE**

**S. W. JONES**

**7TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.**

**15TH FEBRUARY, 1917 Age 36**

*His Duty Nobly Done*

*Commonwealth War Graves Headstone for Pte S. W. Jones is located in Grave Plot # 198  
of Durrington War Graves Cemetery*

## Stepney Wilmot JONES

Stepney Wilmot Jones was born at Upper Swan, Western Australia around 1880 to parents William Frederick and Sarah Ann Jones (nee Telford). A birth was registered in 1880 to the same parents but listed as "Stephen William".

Stepney Jones was a 36 year old, single, Engineer from Melbourne, Victoria when he enlisted at Melbourne on 20<sup>th</sup> October, 1916 with the 7<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion, 23<sup>rd</sup> Reinforcements of the Australian Army (A.I.F.). His service number was 7105 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his mother – Mrs S. Jones of Commercial Road, Midland Junction, Western Australia (father was deceased). Stepney Jones stated on his Attestation Papers that he was currently serving with the African Forces (13 ½ months) & had previously been rejected from serving in the Forces due to his eyesight.

Pte Stepney Wilmot Jones embarked from Melbourne on HMAT *Hororata* (A20) on 23<sup>rd</sup> November, 1916 & disembarked at Plymouth, England on 29<sup>th</sup> January, 1917. Pte Jones was promoted to L/Cpl on 23<sup>rd</sup> January, 1917 aboard the *Hororata* but for the voyage only.

Reinforcements were only given basic training in Australia. Training was completed in training units in England. Some of these were located in the Salisbury Plain & surrounding areas in the county of Wiltshire.

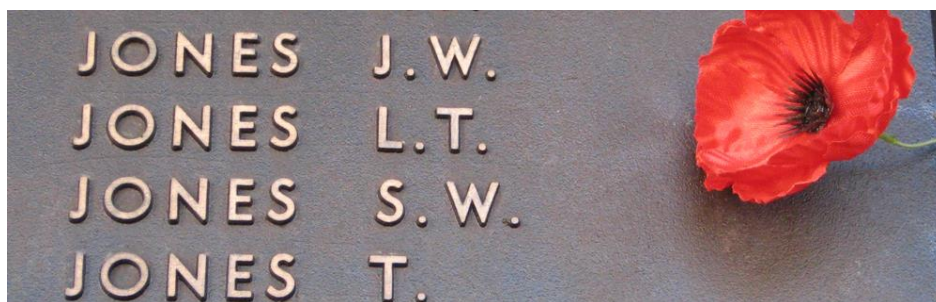
Private Stepney Wilmot Jones was admitted to Fargo Military Hospital on 12<sup>th</sup> February, 1917 with Bronchitis (slight).

Private Stepney Wilmot Jones died at 4.30 p.m. on 15<sup>th</sup> February, 1917 at Fargo Military Hospital, Wiltshire from Bronchitis.

A death for Stepney W. Jones, aged 36, was registered in the March quarter, 1917 in the district of Amesbury, Wiltshire.

Private Stepney Wilmot Jones was buried on 19<sup>th</sup> February, 1917 at Durrington Cemetery, Wiltshire – Plot number 198 and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

Private S. W. Jones is commemorated in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 50.



(Photos by Cathy Sedgwick)



*Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia*

Pte Stepney Wilmot Jones 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 Jones' mother – Mrs S. Jones (both sent January, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Stepney Wilmot Jones – service number 7105 as being 36 years old & served with 7th Battalion Australian Infantry. He was the son of William Fredrick and Sarah Ann Jones of Commercial Rd, Midland Junction, Western Australia. Born at Upper Swan.

(45 pages of Pte Stepney Wilmot Jones' 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) & National Archives*

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## Newspaper Reports

THE ROLL OF HONOUR – CASUALTY LIST NO. 276

VICTORIA – DIED OF ILLNESS

S. W. Jones, Midland Junction, W.A., 15/2/17

*(The Brisbane Courier, Queensland – Monday 5 March, 1917)*

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DEATHS

JONES – ON February 15, at Fargo Military Hospital from bronchitis, Private S. W. (Steve) Jones, beloved son of Mrs W. F. Jones, Commercial-road, Midland Junction. Previously served in German West African campaign.

*(The West Australian, Perth – Friday 9 March, 1917)*

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### 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. W. Jones does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

*His Duty Nobly Done*

Photo of Pte S. W. Jones' Headstone at Durrington War Graves Cemetery, Wiltshire.



(Photo © Ian King - with permission)