

Francis Leofric ARMSTRONG MID

Pre-enlistment:

- Francis was born on 25 October 1880 at Mt Perry, near Bundaberg, Qld
- His parents were Octavius and Jessie Armstrong with Frank being the ninth child
- He attended Brisbane Grammar School where he was in the Football 1st Fifteen and an officer in the School Cadet Corps
- His occupation at time of enlistment was that of a bank clerk with the National Bank
- He married Annie Endeavour Munro Mackay, in Saint Andrew's on 1 June 1914, and lived at Kangaroo Point, Brisbane. They had a son, Francis Mackay Armstrong who was born on the 22 February 1915, which was after his enlistment so Frank never saw him.



Previous Military Service: Boer War Service:

- It appears that Francis (Frank) joined the Prince of Wales Light Horse in Durban on 29 April 1901 and served until discharged as a Corporal at Pietermaritzburg on 1 November 1901
- Then he joined the 3rd N.S.W. Imperial Bushmen, and served with them until discharged returning home on the ship Australasian in June 1902. He was awarded the Queen's Medal, with five clasps (each clasp represented an action in which his unit had fought).

Military Records

- Service Number: 34501
- Frank Armstrong enlisted on 20 October 1914, in Brisbane, as 2nd Lieutenant with 15th Infantry Battalion, "E" Company
- On 22 December 1914 he embarked with his Unit on board HMAT Ceramic, from Melbourne. After a brief stop at Albany, West Australia, they arrived in Egypt in early February 1915
- On 1 February 1915 he was promoted Lieutenant
- He was involved in the original landings at Gallipoli on the afternoon of the 25 April 1915
- Lieutenant Frank Armstrong was killed in action on 10 May 1915 at Quinn's Post, Gallipoli, aged 34 years. Frank called it "a death trap". An attack was launched by Frank's section but had to retire. He was the last to reach Quinn's and was greatly distressed. "All my boys are killed or wounded out there" he said and attempted to climb out of the trench to rescue the wounded. Other men tried to hold him back, but it was no use - he fell, riddled with bullets.
- His war service was in Egypt and at Gallipoli

Cemetery &/or Memorial

- Cemetery: Quinn's Post Cemetery, ANZAC
- Memorials: Australian War Memorial Roll of Honour
- Brisbane Grammar School Boer War Honour Board
- Brisbane Grammar School Memorial Library WW1 Honour Board 1
- East Brisbane War Memorial
- United Service Club

Honours & Awards

- 1914-15 Star,
- British War Medal,
- Victory Medal

Rifle Shooting

- Frank Armstrong was a member of the Queensland Volunteer Rifles

ACWM Commemoration Service

Reference Links

- heritage.saintandrews.org.au/francis-leofric-armstrong/
- recordsearch.naa.gov.au/SearchNRRetrieve/Interface/ViewImage.aspx?B=3035479
- aif.adfa.edu.au/showPerson?pid=7245
- vwma.org.au/explore/people/237734
- "Southern Queensland Rifle Association Jubilee" by AT Jackson
- ww1cemeteries.com/quinns-post-cemetery-roh-h-z.html
- St Andrews Booklet
- trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/232126266?searchTerm=Francis%20Leofric%20ARMSTRONG
- trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/121999161?
- trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/20093644?searchTerm=Francis%20Leofric%20ARMSTRONG
- trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/15591165?searchTerm=Francis%20Leofric%20ARMSTRONG
- trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/175461447?searchTerm=f%20armstrong%2C%20murgon%20rifle%20club#
- trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/20012281/1586113#