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## Phillips, Frank

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### A West Australian railway employee killed while on military service for their country

Sapper Phillips served and survived in the Boer War, and then in the British Army, but his luck ran out when he joined the AIF and went to France. His son also enlisted, and died.



Memorial at Railway Workshops Midland (D.Graham/panoramio)

**Rail employment information**

| | |
|---|---|
| Employer: | Western Australian Government Railways & Tramways |
| Branch: | Locomotive |
| Designation: | Boilermaker's Assistant |

Rail employment notes: Joined WAGR 8/1912 as Boilermaker's Assistant, Midland Workshops.

Enlisted in 4th Field Engineers AIF 31/1/1916 (Service No.7191). Died of wounds 13/12/1916.

**Military service information:**

| | |
|---|---|
| Conflict: | First World War 1914-1918 |
| Service: | Australian Imperial Force (AIF) |
| Military unit: | 4th Field Company, Australian Engineers. |
| Service number: | 7191 |
| Date of death: | 13 December 1916 |
| Place of death: | France |
| Age: | 45 |
| Rank: | Sapper |
| Burial/memorialisation: | Heilly Station Cemetery, Mericourt-L'Abbe, Picardie, France |

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**Additional/personal information:**

Born in Dorset, England, came to WA when aged 40.

In answer to the standard question about other service, his widow Florence E Phillips wrote: “Serving years in the 10th Company Royal Engineers [British Army] also being all through the South African War, holding two medals, the Kings, and Queens”

And

“His eldest son also being killed”.

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Further information and/or photos may be added as available. Information may also be found on the Australian War Memorial website: *https://www.awm.gov.au/advanced-search/people*

Abbreviations: WAGR= Western Australian Government Railways (& Tramways at some periods); MRWA= Midland Railway of Western Australia; BDM=Western Australian Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages website; AWM=Australian War Memorial (Canberra and website); CWGC= Commonwealth War Graves Commission (including website). DVA=Department of Veterans' Affairs (including website)

Acknowledgements: Rail employment notes from WAGR Honour Roll and WAGR records held by State Records Office, Perth, transcribed by J.Austin 2019. Military information researched by Dr G.M.Galvin. Family information and collation by G.Higham.

----------Lest we forget----------

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