

FYNMORE, F. A. C.

Frederick Augustus Collingwood Fynmore came from a large and distinguished British naval family.

His great-grandfather Captain James Fynmore (ca.1763-1824) fought in the Battle of Trafalgar in 1805 as did his grandfather, Colonel James Francis Fynmore (1793-1887). Many of their descendants settled in Australia and New Zealand and all seven of the Fynmore men who served in the AIF in World War I were related.

Born in Christchurch, New Zealand in 1865, Frederick A C Fynmore was the eldest of six children of Frederick Engledue Fynmore (1837-1878) and Frances (Fanny) Jane Thomas (ca.1841-1939). After her husband's early death, it is presumed Frances brought the young children to Australia to join other family members.

At the time of his enlistment, Frederick A C Fynmore was working as an electrician for the City of Melbourne and had lived in Carlton for many years.

His two cousins, Thomas and James Fynmore, are also listed on the St Jude's Honour Roll.

AIF Project Entry

Frederick Augustus Collingwood FYNMORE

Regimental number	8669
Place of birth	New Zealand
Religion	Church of England
Occupation	Electrician
Address	Carlton, Victoria
Marital status	Single
Age at embarkation	44.3
Height	5' 8.5"
Weight	142 lbs
Next of kin	Mother, Frances Jane Fynmore, corner of Bay and Cross Streets, Double Bay, Sydney, New South Wales.
Previous military service	Nil
Enlistment date	11 January 1916
Place of enlistment	Melbourne, Victoria
Rank on enlistment	Sapper
Unit name	2nd Field Company Engineers, Reinforcement 17
AWM Embarkation Roll number	14/21/4
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Sydney, New South Wales, on board HMAT A20 <i>Hororata</i> on 2 May 1916.

Rank from Nominal Roll	Sapper
Unit from Nominal Roll	1st Field Company Engineers
Fate	Returned to Australia 1 November 1917.
Discharge date	4 February 1918
Other details	War service: Western Front Wounded in action, 10 January 1917 (gun-shot wound, left buttock). Commenced return to Australia on board HT 'Anchises', 1 November 1917; discharged (medically unfit: senility), Melbourne, 4 February 1918. Medals: British War Medal, Victory Medal.

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Following his discharge, Frederick returned to Carlton and again worked for the City of Melbourne. The 1927 Electoral Roll for Melbourne, South Carlton, shows him living with his mother Mrs Frances Jane Fynmore and sister Miss May Fynmore, at 19 Keppel Street, Carlton, opposite St Jude's.

His mother died there in 1939. Frederick died at the Caulfield Repatriation Hospital in 1942.

NAA: B2455, FYNMORE F A C SERN 8669.

FIVE GENERATIONS SERVE THEIR KING AND COUNTRY

HEROES OF TRAFALGAR

Sapper F. A. C. Fynmore, of the First Field Company of Engineers, who recently returned from the front, after having been wounded, has the distinction of being a member of a family which for five generations has fought for its country.

Sapper Fynmore, who has resumed his former employment in the electrical branch of the City Council, has lived in Carlton for many years. All the eligible members of his family are now serving at the front.

His father was a captain in the British Army, and fought in the Maori war. His grandfather was a "middy" in the battle of Trafalgar, while his great grandfather was a captain of the marines, who also fought at Trafalgar.

Midshipman James Fynmore subsequently became Lieut. Colonel Fynmore, Royal Marines, and was the last survivor of those who took part in the battle of Trafalgar. Lieut. Colonel Fynmore entered the Navy in 1833, and joined the marines in 1838. He retired from the service in 1848, and died on April 15, 1887, at the age of 94 years. He was buried in the Church of England portion of the Forest Hill Cemetery, Peckham, Surrey.

After recovering from his wounds Sapper Fynmore visited the grave of his grandparents and had the monument renovated. His grandfather became "the father" of the navy and of the marines, honors which rarely fall to a single officer. An English paper published at the time of his death gave a long account of the old hero's career. He saw much service during the Napoleonic and American wars, particularly boat service in blockade work off the coasts of France, Spain, Denmark, Sweden and Russia. During a tremendous gale in the Baltic he was driven ashore in his boat, while four of his Majesty's line of battle ships were wrecked, and nearly all the hands perished. He was the inventor of explosive tubes, which were tried during the bombardment of Algiers in 1816. They proved successful, and have, with improvements, been used in the navy ever since.