



Trinity Historical Society

Newsletter, Issue 60

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Trinity Historical Society would like to wish all of our readers a very Happy New Year. We had a very busy 2025. Please see our Annual Report for details.

In this edition of our Newsletter, we present the remarkable story of Cyril Gardner from British Harbour.

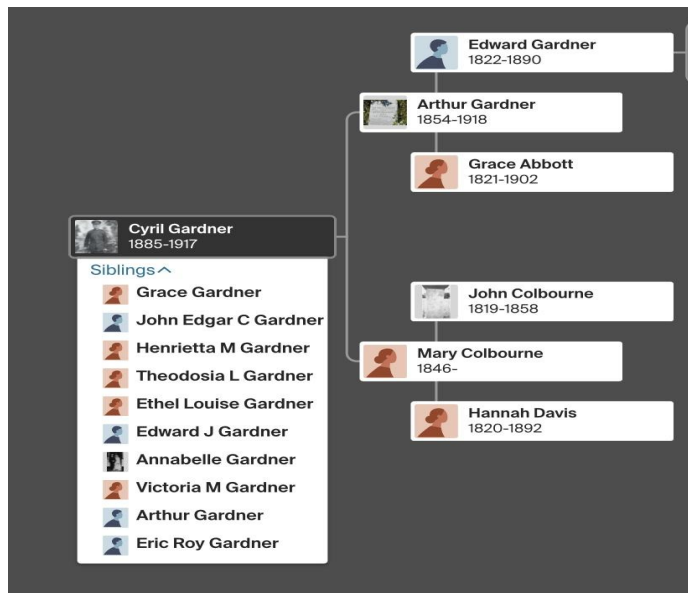
As always, the THS welcomes application for membership from anyone interested in the objectives and activities of the Society.



Cyril Gardner



Cyril, the son of Arthur Gardner and Mary Colbourne and brother of Edward James, was born at British Harbour on August 15th, 1885. He enlisted in the Royal Newfoundland Regiment on December 26th, 1914. He was declared missing in action at Monchy Le Preux on April 14th, 1917 during the Battle of Arras. He was 31.



Family Tree

Cyril first saw action at Gallipoli and was wounded at Beaumont-Hamel on July 1st, 1916, the same day his brother, Edward James, was killed. He rejoined the regiment in August 1916 and was promoted to Sergeant. He received a Distinguished Conduct Medal for gallantry in an action on October 12th, 1916 and was promoted to Company Sergeant Major on November 11th, 1916. He received a bar to his Distinguished Conduct Medal for single handedly capturing 72 German soldiers on January 27th, 1917. After their capture a German officer presented Cyril with his Iron Cross Medal for his role in protecting the captured men from other British soldiers. He was promoted to 2nd Lieutenant on March 17th, 1917. He was killed by shell fire a month later. His parents received 20 British pounds for each of his medals. He is remembered on the Beaumont-Hamel Memorial, Beaumont-Hamel, France.



Distinguished Conduct Medal



German Iron Cross