



Captain Archibald Hewland RAYMOND

[1893 – 1917]



2nd Field Artillery Brigade

Archibald (Archie) Raymond was born in Brisbane on 4 April 1893 to a large family of 11 children from his father's two marriages. His father was Alfred John Raymond (carpenter saw-miller and builder), and his mother was Jessie Catherine Raymond (nee Shearer).

The family was well-known. Archie's father was a long-time Alderman, and a one-time Mayor of Brisbane. He had remarried after the death of his first wife and Archie was the third of nine children of the second marriage. The family lived in Kangaroo Point; at *Avonmore* in Salston Street, and later in *Clifton* on River Terrace. The Pineapple Sportsground behind the Pineapple Hotel was reserved in 1888, subsequently being named Raymond Park in his father's honour.

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Archie was educated at The Southport School (TSS) where he played Australian Rules, cricket, competed in athletics, and paraded in the school cadet unit for over three years, rising to Sergeant.

After completing school, he was employed as a mercantile clerk in his father's business and served in the militia as a Lieutenant, 2nd Battery of 1st Field Artillery.

He joined the AIF and was appointed Second Lieutenant on 20 Aug 1914 and posted to 3rd Field Artillery Brigade (3 FAB), Brigade Ammunition Column (3 BAC).

The unit was located in Adelaide and Raymond joined it there on 9 September 1914, just six weeks before it sailed for Albany on HMAT A7 *Medic* on 20 October 1914. The first convoy left Albany on 1 November and arrived in Egypt in early December 1914. Raymond was promoted Lieutenant on 1 February 1915.

3 FAB had guns in action on the Gallipoli Peninsular firing from Bolton's ridge, from the day after the landing. The brigade's War Diary mentions that the ammunition column was serving there: *3rd BAC did wonderful work in supplying ammunition by hand from beach to guns, being under fire continuously.*

Neither the FAB's War Diary or the BAC's War Diary mentions the names or locations of the BAC officers at this time, but it is almost certain that Raymond would have spent at least some time there.



*Archibald (Archie) Hewland Raymond (circled)
pictured with two friends.*

Raymond's postings about this time were: from 3 BAC to Mediterranean Expeditionary Force Gallipoli on 4 May 1915; from 3 BAC to 1 Field Artillery Brigade Ammunition Column (1 BAC) at Alexandria on 10 September 1915; and from 1 BAC back to 3 BAC, re-joining it at Heliopolis on 17 December 1915.

The reasons for his postings from 3 BAC during the Gallipoli campaign are not recorded. It is probable that as 3rd FAB had only one battery of four guns in operation at Gallipoli there was no need for a full complement of officers in 3 BAC and that he was sent to these postings to broaden his experience and/or to reduce unnecessary risk of casualties and/or reduce the resupply burden to Gallipoli.

Raymond was with 3rd FAB when it was sent to the Western Front, disembarking at Marseilles in March 1916 and was promoted to Temporary Captain on 15 March. He had a number of Ammunition Column postings in May and June 1916 as the artillery was reorganised before finally joining 2nd FAB on 25 January 1917.

Although not mentioned by name in the War Diaries or in the Official History, his battery supported the AIF's raids, patrols and battles, and interdiction, defensive, and counter battery firing in May and June.

He was killed in France by shellfire on 3 March 1917 at Flers Road, near the village of Les Boeufs at Eaucourt L'Abbaye. HQ 1st Division Artillery reported that he was killed and another officer severely wounded by the same shell.

Witness reports stated that they were *going up with the guns* when a 5.9-inch shell exploded, killing Captain Raymond and severely wounding a Lieutenant Miller, both of 4th Battery. Both were buried in the same cemetery. He was described as *rather small and well liked*.

He was only 23 years old when he was killed in action, one of eight USC members killed on the Western Front.

Captain Raymond now lies in Flat Iron Copse Cemetery, Mametz, France.



Sources included:

- Australian War Memorial
- National Archives of Australia
- Various web pages
- *United Service Club, Queensland: The First Century, 1892-1992* by Flight Lieutenant Murray Adams and Lieutenant Colonel Peter Charlton
- Club Meeting Minutes, Annual Reports and sundry documents