



Saskatchewan Virtual War Memorial

In memory of

Lieutenant

Robert Grierson Combe VC

who died on 3 May 1917

Service details

<i>Conflict</i>	WWI
<i>Service</i>	Army
<i>Unit</i>	27th Battalion, Manitoba Regiment
<i>Rank</i>	Lieutenant
<i>Service number</i>	unknown(000001137)
<i>Date of death</i>	19170503
<i>Cause of death</i>	killed in action



Decorations Victoria Cross

Narrative history

Lieutenant (27th Battalion, Manitoba Regiment) Robert Grierson Combe was born at Aberdeen, Scotland, in 1880, the son of James and Elizabeth Combe. He was a pharmacist at Melville (1908-15) before enlisting, and received the Victoria Cross posthumously for valour at Fresnoy-en-Gohelle on 19170503. Combe has no known grave and is commemorated on the Vimy Memorial. Robert's wife Jean Traquair (Donald) moved to Victoria after his death.

Victoria Cross citation 19170503:

He steadied his Company under intense fire and led them through the enemy barrage, reaching the objective south of Acheville with only five men. With great coolness and courage Lt. Combe proceeded to bomb the enemy, and inflicted heavy casualties. He collected small groups of men and succeeded in capturing the Company objective, together with eighty prisoners. He repeatedly charged the enemy, driving them before him, and, whilst personally leading his bombers, was killed by an enemy sniper. His conduct inspired all ranks, and it was entirely due to his magnificent courage that the position was carried, secured and held.

Memorial information

Saskatchewan rural municipality for commemoration 214 - Cana

Grave or memorial location Vimy Memorial, Pas-de-Calais, France
(Link to Commonwealth War Graves Commission web page: <http://www.cwgc.org/find-a-cemetery/cemetery/87900/VIMY%20MEMORIAL>)

Honour roll location(s) Melville

Geo-memorial Combe Lake

Geo-memorial location 57.3333333333333,-103.816666666667

Geo-memorial NTS map reference 64E5



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Personal information

<i>Date of birth</i>	18800805
<i>Place of birth</i>	Aberdeen, Scotland
<i>Enlisted on</i>	19150401
<i>Place of enlistment</i>	Prince Albert
<i>Residence on enlistment</i>	Melville
<i>Occupation</i>	druggist

PDF documents on the Saskatchewan Virtual War Memorial web site

[From "For Valour": Saskatchewan Victoria Cross Recipients](#)

[https://svwm.ca/images/wc_ww1/Combe RG unknown\(000001137\) - 3.pdf](https://svwm.ca/images/wc_ww1/Combe RG unknown(000001137) - 3.pdf)

Links to external web pages

[Attestation](#)

<http://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/military-heritage/first-world-war/first-world-war-1914-1918-cef/Pages/image.aspx?Image=070264a&URLjpg=http://data2.archives.ca/cef/gat1/070264a.gif&Ecopy=070264a>

[Attestation](#)

<http://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/military-heritage/first-world-war/first-world-war-1914-1918-cef/Pages/image.aspx?Image=070264b&URLjpg=http://data2.archives.ca/cef/gat1/070264b.gif&Ecopy=070264b>

[CGWP](#)

<http://www.canadiangreatwarproject.com/searches/soldierDetail.asp?ID=45839>

[Memorial - Melville](#)

<http://www.cmp-cpm.forces.gc.ca/dhh-dhp/nic-inm/sm-rm/mdsr-rdr-eng.asp?PID=1170>

[Photo collection on CVWM](#)

<http://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/collections/virtualmem/Detail/1566529?Robert%20Grierson%20Combe>

[Plaque](#)

<http://www.cmp-cpm.forces.gc.ca/dhh-dhp/nic-inm/sm-rm/mdsr-rdr-eng.asp?PID=2433>



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