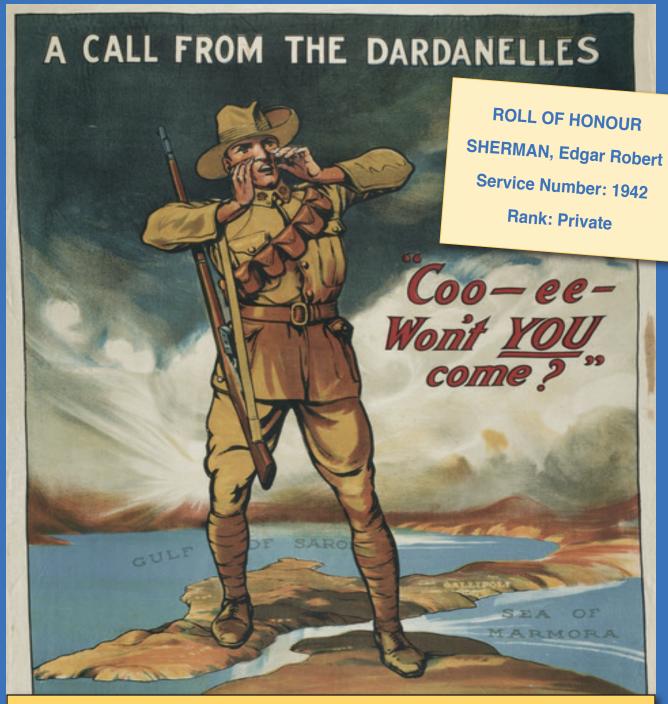
## Commemoration for the Lives of the Braidwood and District ANZACS

"We will remember them well"



From 1914 - 1918, 465 volunteers from Braidwood and the District joined the Australian Imperial Force in World War I. 88 lost their lives, never to return home. This is their story.





THE SPIRIT LIVES 2014 - 2018

#### Introduction

This year, 2015, marks the centenary of the start of the Gallipoli campaign and Australia's involvement as a nation in the greatest and most terrible conflict ever seen to that time. Australians joined their Armed Forces in large numbers. Their motives were as varied as their upbringings, from a need to save the Empire, of which Australia was an integral part, to the desire to have a great adventure.

Braidwood and district were no exception. Over the four years from 1914 to 1918, from a population of about 5000, 465 men and women from what is now the 2622 postcode area – including Braidwood, Majors Creek, Araluen, Mongarlowe, Nerriga, Ballalaba and Jembaicumbene joined the Navy or Army. Of these 377 returned to Australia. Sadly, 88 lost their lives.

A varying amount of their history is recorded in the Australian War Memorial. Some of their names, but not all, are recorded on local memorials. More is recorded in limited local histories and newspapers, not readily available to the general public; and the people who lived with and knew these distant relatives are also passing on.

The Braidwood RSL Sub Branch has collected all the information available from the Australian War Memorial and local sources, including the Braidwood Museum. Families, still resident in the district, have added their family knowledge and their precious memorabilia.

This booklet is the available story of **Edgar Robert Sherman**, one of the 88 Braidwood volunteers who did not return from World War I. It contains his details as recorded in the World War I Roll of Honour, his Enlistment Papers, Field Service records, any Casualty notification, correspondence relating to his death, details of decorations won, any available photos, and, in some instances, family correspondence or recollections.

**Edgar Robert Sherman** died for his country, for you and for me. Please pause a moment to remember him.

Lest We Forget.

#### **WORLD WAR I**

World War I lasted four years, from 4 August 1914 until 11 November 1918. It began after the assassination of the heir to the Austrian throne. The axis powers were Germany and Austria. Russia and France were the initial allies. When Germany invaded Belgium, Britain entered the war on the side of Russia and France.

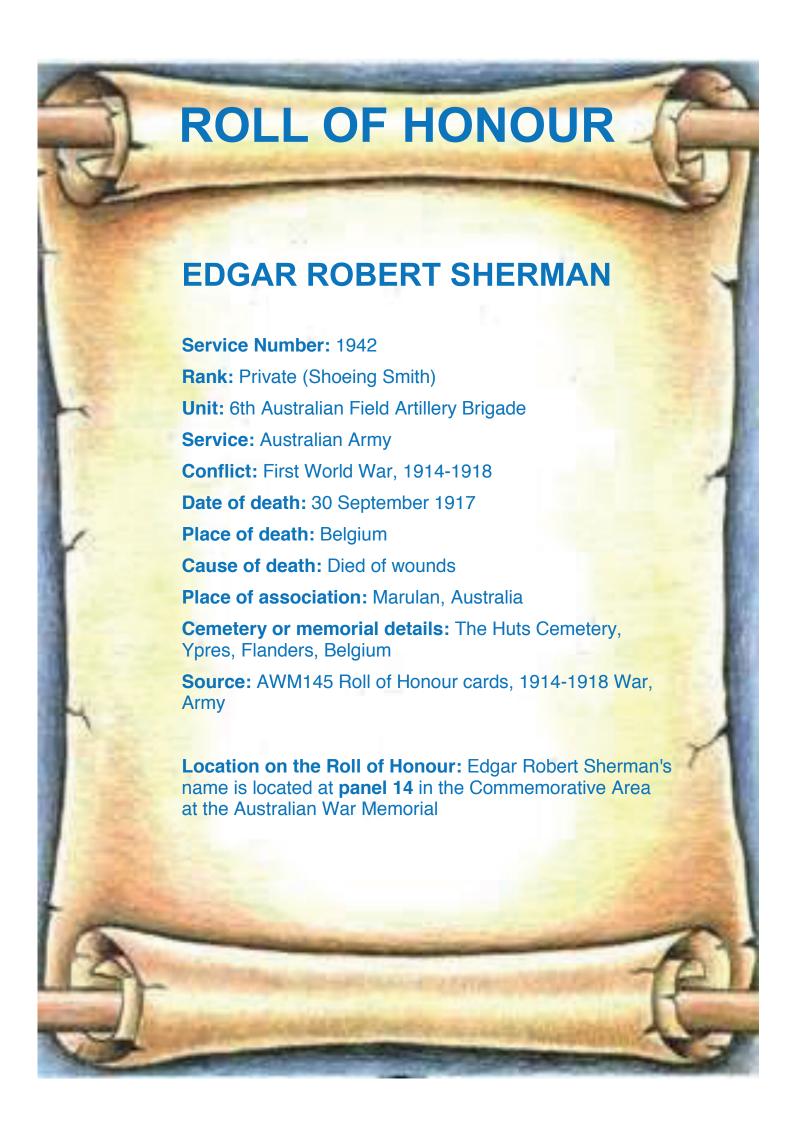
The war was in Europe, the Western Front was in France and Belgium. The Eastern Front was Russia and Austria-Hungary. Africa was another front because of colonial possessions on that continent, and after Turkey entered the war on 1 November 1914, the Middle East became another theatre of war.

Australians generally thought of themselves as an integral part of the British Empire and the Australian Army and Navy were part of the Imperial Forces. In 1914, Australia's Prime Minister, Andrew Fisher, immediately promised Australian support for Britain 'to the last man and the last shilling.' The Australian population was less than five million. 324,000 Australians served overseas. 61,720 lost their lives. 155,000 were wounded. 4,044 became prisoners of war (397 died while captive).

The first Australian troops were sent to Egypt in 1915. The ANZACS – Australian and New Zealand Army Corps – were engaged in battle on the Gallipoli Peninsula against the Turks to control the Dardanelles' and open the way to Eastern Europe with their fateful landing on 25 April 1915.

The ANZACS were evacuated on 19-20 December 1915. The Gallipoli campaign resulted in the deaths of 7,600 Australians and the wounding of 19,000. Despite the defeat, the legend attached to the heroism, comradeship and valour of the soldiers remain a source of Australian pride and national identity.







Troops on board HMAT Aeneas (A60) prior to departure, with well-wishers, including children, on the wharf holding paper streamers connecting them to the men on the ship. Edgar Robert Sherman embarked on 20 December 1915 from Sydney aboard the HMAT Aeneas (A60).



Egypt: A shoeing smith of the Australian Light Horse at work shoeing horses on the desert.



Mena, Egypt: Australian soldiers hot-shoeing their horses in the field. At a portable anvil (left), a blacksmith is hammering into shape a red-hot horseshoe that he is holding with a pair of tongs in his other hand. The smith has heated the horseshoe in a brazier filled with hot coals or charcoal which is directly beneath the anvil. Scattered at his feet are many more horseshoes which he will heat and shape. (Photo: Australian War Memorial).



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL EO

1917: Belgium: Western Front (Belgium), Ypres Area, Ypres: The 4th Australian Divisional Artillery on the Boeschepe road, near Abeele, returning to the rest area from the Ypres sector. Identified, members of the 111th Howitzer Battery, right to left are: Driver Meghean (standing); unidentified (on horse); unidentified (right, sitting in wagon); Driver Perkins (left, sitting in wagon); Gunner Miller (behind Perkins); Driver Valentine (on horse); Corporal Jossy (on Valentine's left); Shoeing Smith Hanson (on Valentine's right). Also known to be in the photograph are: J Roberts; B Dawson and A James

Mr and Mrs F. Sherman, of Betterly Park, Marulan, formerly of Braidwood. have received word their second son. driver Edgar Sherman, died of wounds on September 30th1917, aged 22 years. A brother signaller Percy Sherman was killed at Gallipoli on May 19, 1915, aged 20 years. He sailed on October 18th 1914.

Braidwood Letters from the Front, by Roslyn Maddrelll Para to Bladein

B4167 TRALIAN



MILITARY FORCES.

## AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

	Attestation Paper of Persons	Enlisted for Service Abroad.
Control of the latest	No. 1943 Name Ball Unit Joined on	13 of 6 th Ja. L. H " 21 " aug ig is
	Questions to be put to the Person	on Enlisting before Attestation.
1.	What is your Name?	Gedgor Robert Sherman
		2. In the Parish of
2.	In or near what Parish or Town were you born?	near the Town of
3.	Are you a natural born British Subject or a Naturalized British Subject? (N.B.—If the latter, papers to be shown.)	3. natural born
4.	What is your age?	1 19 yrs 11 miths
5.	What is your trade or calling?	5. Hospital alludant
6.	Are you, or have you been, an Apprentice? If so, } where, to whom, and for what period?	6,
7.	Are you married?	& Gred Sherman (father
8.	Who is your next of kin? (Address to be stated)	Marulan Usul
9.	Have you ever been convicted by the Civil Power?	9. 700
0.	Have you ever been discharged from any part of His Majesty's Forces, with Ignominy, or as Incorrigible and Worthless, or on account of Conviction of Felony, or of a Sentence of Penal Servitude, or have you been dismissed with Disgrace from the Navy?	10
1.	Do you now belong to, or have you ever served in, His Majesty's Army, the Marines, the Militia, the Militia Reserve, the Territorial Force, Royal Navy, or Colonial Forces? If so, state which, and if not now serving, state cause of discharge	11 no
2.	Have you stated the whole, if any, of your previous service?	12
3.	Have you ever been rejected as unfit for His Majesty's Service† If so, on what grounds†	13
4.	Do you understand that no Separation Allowance will be issued in respect of your service beyond an amount which together with Pay would reach eight shillings per day.	14. Jus
5.	Are you prepared to undergo inoculation against smallpox and enteric fever?	15
1	I, Edgar Robert Sherman by me to the above questions are true, and I am willing Forces of the Commonwealth of Australia within or beyon	and the limits of the Commonwealth.
		ifths of the pay payable to me from time to time during
3	Date	6. R. Sherman. Signature of person enlisted.

\*This clause to be amended where necessary and should be struck out in the case of unmarried men or widowers without children under 18 years of age.

FRAN	pice of No. 1947 Name.	Period of service	e!in each'rank.	
Unit in which served.	Promotions, Reductions, Casualties, &c.	From-	То-	Remarks.
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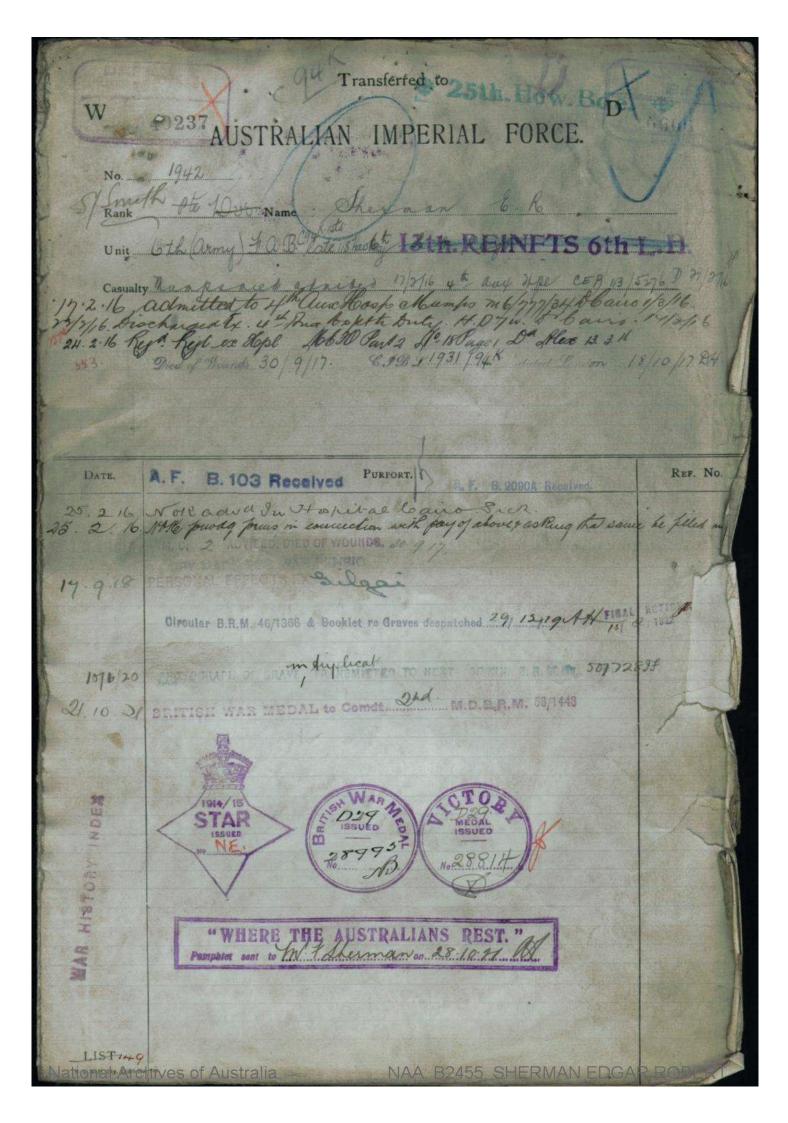
I have examined the above details and find them correct in every respect.

						40
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2nd Reserve L. H. Regl		1.3.16	27.3.16	Sup. B. R. Lich 41/10		
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I have examined the above details and find them correct in every respect.

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Sho	eing Smith Rep	iment or Corps Shk - bighk-Her	no-Regt		
Rank, TX	ROBOKT, Surname		ristian Name	Edgar	Robert
Religion.		Age on En	listment	.years	months
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6-2-16	0.0.6th L.H.B	Rejoined Regt ex hospl.	Maadt	24-2-15	AP4812 DO.18/1852
1-3-16	2nd Res Rgt	Taken on strength.	do	1-3-16	DO.1/928.
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	Brigade.	Bde.& posted to 114th Bty		00-0-10	DO.2/406.
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F. SHERMAN MARULAN (N.S.W.)

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BASE RECORDS 25/2/16

234167

### FIELD SERVICE.

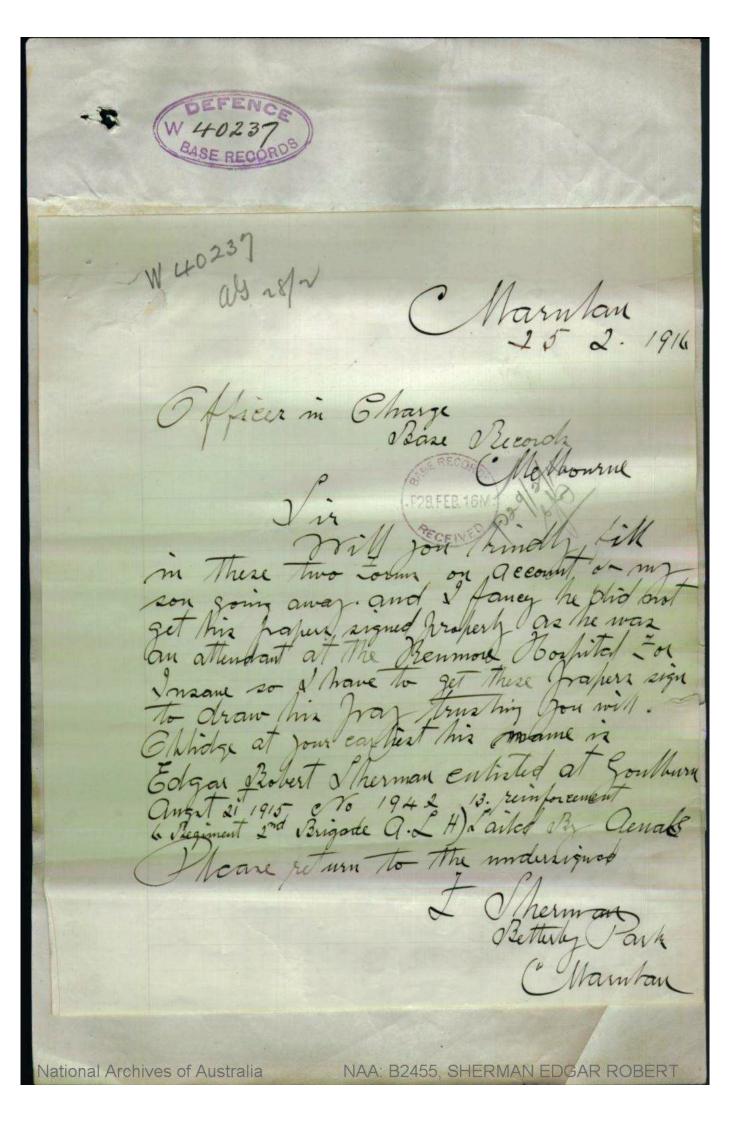
Army Form B. 2090a.

REPORT of Death of a Soldier to be forwarded to the War Office with the least possible delay after receipt

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National Archives of Australia

NAA B2455, SHERMAN EDGAR ROBERT



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43797

Doar Sir.

I have to acknowledge receiptsof your communication dated 25th ultime, concerning your son. No. 1942 Private E. R. Sherman, 6th Light Horse Regiment, (15th Reinforcements), and to inform you that same has been referred to the Assistant Adjutant-General, 2nd Military District Head-Quarters Camp Staff, Victoria Barracks, Sydney, who will reply to you direct.

Yours faithfully.

Officer i/o Base Records.

Mr. F. Sherman MARULAH, H.S.W.

Z.Z. F.

1942. Sherman.E.R. 106th. How. Bty. A.L.F.

PATHER.
Mr Fred Sherman,
Marulan

Marulan.
HEW SOUTH WALES.

EFFECTS:-

Ex. 3rd Rehelon. France. 18.1.18. (9293).

Disc. Fountain Pen. Gold Ring, Wallet. Cards, Photos, Letter, 5 Badges, Fur Hat Band.

## In Memory of

### Shoeing Smith

# **Edgar Robert Sherman**

1942, 6th A.F.A. Bde., Australian Field Artillery who died on 30 September 1917

### Remembered with Honour

The Huts Cemetery





Commemorated in perpetuity by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission



1915: Maadi, Egypt: An unidentified Australian Soldier with the small Syrian donkey (and two cheeky monkeys) which was the mascot of the 6<sup>th</sup> Australian Light Horse Regiment.

### **Acknowledgements**

Everybody responded enthusiastically to the idea of capturing the information about Braidwood's 88 World War I veterans who lost their lives. The Braidwood RSL Sub Branch is most grateful for the support they received in carrying out this task and would like to acknowledge those of whom we are aware: Karen, Chris and Renee Nelson, Roslyn Maddrell, Karen Shea, Jill Clarke, Rod McClure, Ben and Meaghan Frohling, Diane McGrath, Us On Mondays Quilting Group, Len Mutton & Co and local shopkeepers for their World War I window displays.

Thank you to the students and teachers of Braidwood Central School and St. Bedes School who have embraced these soldiers and have honoured their memories on Anzac Day 2015.

The Braidwood RSL Sub Branch raised a good proportion of the funds for the cost of producing these booklets. The efforts of the members of the sub branch involved are very much appreciated. This money was augmented by welcome funding from the Federal Government through the ANZAC Centenary Local Grants Program and the Braidwood Community Bank.

To all those who helped in any way, many thanks. Your efforts have ensured we remember these Braidwood and District Veterans well.

**Back Cover:** Peace Day, 11th November 1918, Wallace Street, Braidwood. "Wild day in Braidwood: When Braidwood woke up on Tuesday morning to find the 'glad tidings of great joy' awaiting it that Germany had signed the armistice and the frightful carnage of the past four years or so had come to an end it simply went mad with delight. No other words could adequately describe the excitement that followed." "Braidwood Letters from the Front" by Roslyn Maddrell.

### **ROLL OF HONOUR**

Alley, Clair Underwood

Archer, Fred

Backhouse, Victor John

**Barnett, Frederick George** 

**Barry, Charles Louis** 

**Beatty, Walter Cusack** 

**Bell, John Henry Edward** 

**Black, George Scott** 

**Bruce, Thomas Fraser** 

Byrne, Cecil John

Callan, William Henry

**Catlin, Robert Henry** 

**Clarke, Lester Thomas** 

Cook. Thomas John

**Crandell, Christopher George** 

**Cregan, Clarence Theodore Augustus** 

**Cullen, Henry Thomas** 

**Davis, John Henry** 

**Davis, Oscar Raymond Stanley** 

Dawson, Edric Athol

Dayball, Arthur Joseph

**Dempsey, Charles Frederick** 

**Dempsey, Charles** 

**Dowell, Frederick Robert** 

Feeney, William

Fisher, Osborne

Flack, John Foster

**Garnett, Henry James** 

Geelan, Robert Michael

Gosling, Fred

Gough, James

**Green, Francis Henry** 

**Healy, Myrtle James** 

Howard, John Alexander

**Huggett, William** 

Hunt, Frederick William

Hunt, John

**Hush, Percy Alfred** 

**Hush, Thomas** 

Hush, Austin Septimus

Innes, Henry George

Kelly, Herbert Albert

Kemp, Leslie Smith

Keyte, Robert

**Knight, Charles Oliver** 

Lee, Thomas James

Lennon, James

**Lupton, Spencer** 

Lynch, James Joseph

**Matthews, Francis** 

McCool, Francis Leslie Neil

McDonald, Alexander Joseph

McLean, Donald

McRae, Finley Arnold

Meade, Arthur Stuart

**Merton. Thomas David** 

**Montgomery, Stanley** 

Moore, William

**Newberry, Alwyn (Alwin) Horace James** 

O'Brien, Thomas Daniel

O'Reilly, John

Pooley, Edward

Rex, Horace Joseph

Riley, Frank

Roberts, Frederick Bede

Robinson, William James

Rodgers, Albert

Seidel, Alfred George

Seidel, Henry Edward

Sharpe, George Lyle

Sharpe, Reginald

Sherman, Edgar Robert

**Sherman, Percy Frederick** 

Simmons, George

Smith (Greenwood), George

Spicer, William Henry

Steele, Alexander Norman

Stein, Daniel Godfrey

Stewart, David Walter

Styles, Reginald Lucian

Torpy, Patrick Edward

**Torpy, Thomas Patrick** 

Walker, William Albert

**Watt, James** 

Watt, Oscar Harold McClure

White, Alister

Whitelaw, Thomas Philip

Wilson, Samuel Charles

AERROWN