



Street Stories

Wharton Place

GPS: [49.152759,-122.2889728](https://www.google.com/maps/place/49.152759,-122.2889728)

Private James Wharton, son of George and Lucinda Wharton of Mission, was killed on September 26, 1916 while fighting in France during the First World War. He was 26 years old.

His parents were among the earliest Mission pioneers, having arrived here in about 1888. George was a blacksmith from Yorkshire. While still living in England, he married Sarah Scott. They began a family and came across to the New World. But Sarah died in Quebec in 1881, leaving George with their four children.

The next year, George married a woman from Quebec, Lucinda Eliza Yale. They would have six children of their own and eventually settle in Mission.

James was the fifth child of the second marriage, and the first Wharton to be born in Mission, on November 16, 1890. The family homesteaded on 64 hectares in the Mission wilderness and named Mount Mary Ann after George's first child, Mary Anne Wharton.

For many years, George worked as a blacksmith in New Westminster while still living in Mission. Eventually, however, he was finally able to find enough work in Mission it-

self to run his business here.

By the time the Great War broke out in 1914, all the Wharton children were grown up, and at least three of the boys enlisted. The youngest child of the first marriage, William, joined up and was killed overseas, while one of the sons from the second marriage, Myron, served in the 158th Battalion and survived the war. James Wharton, meanwhile, enlisted in the 14th Battalion in October, 1914. He died in 1916, but his body was never found. His name is listed on the Vimy Ridge Memorial in France as one of the soldiers "who fell in France during the Great War, whose grave is not known."

Having given two sons, George Wharton lived to see the end of the war, dying on Christmas Day, 1921 at the age of 80. His widow, Lucinda, lived on until October 1935, when she died aged 79.

Street Stories is provided by the Mission Community Archives, which is operated by the Mission Historical Society. If you have any questions or further information on Wharton, please call us at 604-820-2621.

David Buss

