

Richard Gibson Michaelson

Regimental No 81586

Born 12th May 1894- died 9th February 1919

Richard Gibson Michaelson was born on 12th May 1894 at Yewbarrow, Hampsfell Road, Grange-over-Sands and baptised at Grange Parish Church on 14th June 1894. His parents were Major George Herbert Michaelson and Sarah Mary Rachel Waller who had a civil ceremony in Ireland and were married at Lancaster St Mary's on 28th Nov 1880. At the time of their marriage Sarah lived in Templemore, Co Londonderry and George served in the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers reaching the rank of Major. In the following years he served in Hong Kong and Ireland where some of their children were born and was retired and living in Grange by the time of his death in Jan 1896 at the age of 46.

Richard was the youngest of 5 children, 3 boys and 2 girls. He was only just over a year old when his father died so would not remember his father. The family continued to live at Yewbarrow in Grange and his mother remained there until her death in 1946. His oldest brother Charles Herbert Michaelson enrolled in the Royal Navy in 1899 and served as a Captain from Dec 1917 to Jan 1928. He doesn't appear to have married and died at Gt Tower, Windermere in 1949. In the 1901 census Sarah Michaelson and the 4 younger children were living at Yewbarrow along with 3 servants. She was living on her own means – the Michaelson ancestors were a wealthy and well documented family and at one time had owned Barrow Island and land in Lancaster.

Richard's 2 sisters married, Blanche to Henry Eden Smith, a well known Grange family, in 1902 and Beatrice Lilla to Everard Cooper in 1934.

Richard emigrated to Canada possibly departing from Liverpool 13th Aug 1913 on the Victorian destined for Montreal. He was listed as a farmer aged 19 English. When war broke out he enlisted in the 12th Manitoba Dragoons and joined the 1st Canadian Overseas Expeditionary Force in Dec 1914. According to his Enlistment papers Richard was 5ft 81/2 inches tall, and had a fair complexion, grey eyes and dark brown hair and a scar on his left calf. He arrived in Britain in early 1915 and went to the front serving for 11 months seeing a great deal of heavy fighting. As he was skilled at rifle shooting he was employed for a while as a sniper. He was invalided home to England where he spent time in hospital before he obtained a commission in the Royal Flying Corps. He trained at Ruffy- Baumann School of Flying in Acton on a Caudron Biplane gaining his certificate on 6th Sept 1917. However as a result of shell shock his heart failed at great heights so he was assigned to give instruction in airplane machine guns, and served in France until the end 1918. Sadly on returning to England he caught influenza and died of pneumonia on 9th Feb 1919 at Yewbarrow in Grange. He is buried alongside his father in Grange Cemetery. His brother Victor, a rubber planter, died a month later on 11th March 1919 and he is also mentioned on the gravestone in Grange Cemetery.



Yewbarrow House Hampsfell Road

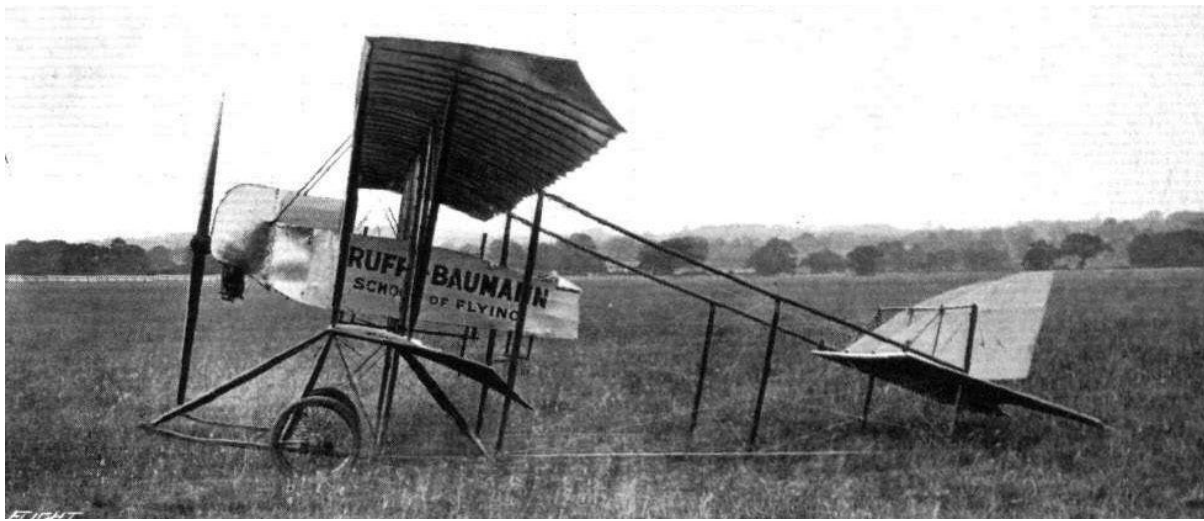
Richard Gibson Michaelson

Royal Aero Club Aviators' Certificate 1917

5202

MICHAELSON, Richard Gibson
Yewbarrow, Grange-over-Sands, Lancs.

Born 12th May 1894 *at* Grange-over-Sands
Nationality British
Rank, Regiment, Profession Lieut. 2nd Canadian Battn.
Certificate taken on Caudron Biplane
At Ruffy-Baumann School, Acton,
Date 6th September 1917.





Lieut.
Richard Gibson Michaelson,
(2nd Canadians)
5202 6 Sept. 1917



Flight Sgt.
Robert Lincoln, R.F.C.,
5203 7 Sept. 1917



Cadet
Serge Chornousoff
(Russian Flying Corps)
5204 7 Sept. 1917



2nd Lieut.
George Raby Riley, R.F.C.,
5205 7 Sept. 1917

Cemetery Grange-over-Sands Richard Gibson Michaelson died 9th Feb 1919
plot 154



Richard Gibson Michaelson is commemorated on the War memorial at Elkhorn, Manitoba Canada and the Grange War Memorial.



ATTESTATION PAPER.

No. 81586

Folio.

CANADIAN OVER-SEAS EXPEDITIONARY FORCE.

QUESTIONS TO BE PUT BEFORE ATTESTATION.

(ANSWERS.)

1. What is your name?..... Richard Gibson Michaelson,
2. In what Town, Township or Parish, and in what Country were you born?..... Grange, Lancashire, England,
3. What is the name of your next-of-kin?..... Mary Sarah Rachel Michaelson
4. What is the address of your next-of-kin?..... Yewbarrow, Grange, Lancashire, England
5. What is the date of your birth?..... 12th. May 1894
6. What is your Trade or Calling?..... Labourer
7. Are you married?..... No.
8. Are you willing to be vaccinated or re-vaccinated?..... Yes
9. Do you now belong to the Active Militia?..... Yes
10. Have you ever served in any Military Force?.. 12th, Manitoba Dragoons
If so, state particulars of former Service.
11. Do you understand the nature and terms of your engagement?..... Yes
12. Are you willing to be attested to serve in the CANADIAN OVER-SEAS EXPEDITIONARY FORCE? Yes

R. G. Michaelson..... (Signature of Man).
[Signature]..... (Signature of Witness).

DECLARATION TO BE MADE BY MAN ON ATTESTATION.

I, Richard Gibson Michaelson, do solemnly declare that the above answers made by me to the above questions are true, and that I am willing to fulfil the engagements by me now made, and I hereby engage and agree to serve in the Canadian Over-Seas Expeditionary Force, and to be attached to any arm of the service therein, for the term of one year, or during the war now existing between Great Britain and Germany should that war last longer than one year, and for six months after the termination of that war provided His Majesty should so long require my services, or until legally discharged.

Date 12th December 1914. R. G. Michaelson..... (Signature of Recruit)
[Signature]..... (Signature of Witness)

OATH TO BE TAKEN BY MAN ON ATTESTATION.

I, Richard Gibson Michaelson, do make Oath, that I will be faithful and bear true Allegiance to His Majesty King George the Fifth, His Heirs and Successors, and that I will as in duty bound honestly and faithfully defend His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, in Person, Crown and Dignity, against all enemies, and will observe and obey all orders of His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, and of all the Generals and Officers set over me. So help me God.

Date 12th December 1914. R. G. Michaelson..... (Signature of Recruit)
[Signature]..... (Signature of Witness)

CERTIFICATE OF MAGISTRATE.

The Recruit above-named was cautioned by me that if he made any false answer to any of the above questions he would be liable to be punished as provided in the Army Act.
 The above questions were then read to the Recruit in my presence.

I have taken care that he understands each question, and that his answer to each question has been duly entered as replied to, and the said Recruit has made and signed the declaration and taken the oath before me, at Winnipeg, this 12th day of December 1914.

[Signature]..... (Signature of Justice)

I certify that the above is a true copy of the Attestation of the above-named Recruit.

[Signature]..... (Approving Officer)
 Lt.-Colonel

Description of Richard Gibson Michaelson, Enlistment

Apparent Age 20 years 6 months.
 (To be determined according to the instructions given in the Regulations for Army Medical Services.)

Distinctive marks, and marks indicating congenital peculiarities or previous disease.

(Should the Medical Officer be of opinion that the recruit has served before, he will, unless the man acknowledges to any previous service, attach a slip to that effect, for the information of the Approving Officer.)

Height 5 ft. 8 1/2 ins.

Chest measure 59 ins.
 Girth when fully expanded
3 ins.
 Range of expansion

Complexion Fair

Eyes Gray

Hair Dark Brown

Scar on left calf

Religious denominations.
 Church of England Yes
 Presbyterian
 Wesleyan
 Baptist or Congregationalist
 Other Protestants
 (Denomination to be stated.)
 Roman Catholic
 Jewish

CERTIFICATE OF MEDICAL EXAMINATION.

I have examined the above-named Recruit and find that he does not present any of the causes of rejection specified in the Regulations for Army Medical Services.

He can see at the required distance with either eye; his heart and lungs are healthy; he has the free use of his joints and limbs, and he declares that he is not subject to fits of any description.

I consider him* Fit for the Canadian Over-Seas Expeditionary Force.

Date 12 December 1914.

Place Winnipeg

[Signature]
 Medical Officer.

*Insert here "fit" or "unfit."

NOTE—Should the Medical Officer consider the Recruit unfit, he will fill in the foregoing Certificate only in the case of those who have been attested, and will briefly state below the cause of unfitness—

CERTIFICATE OF OFFICER COMMANDING UNIT.

Richard Gibson Michaelson having been finally approved and inspected by me this day, and his Name, Age, Date of Attestation, and every prescribed particular having been recorded, I certify that I am satisfied with the correctness of this Attestation.

[Signature] (Signature of Officer)

Date 12 December 1914.