

# Lowe, Frederick Charles Gaden

ASC 1900-1905

No. 1349  
2/2/19  
2/2/19

Name LOWE F.C.  
Unit 10th R.L.H. 18 6th L.H.  
Joined on 17/9/15

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Questions to be put to the Person Enlisting before Attestation.

What is your Name? Frederick Charles Gaden

In or near what Parish or Town were you born? Wellington  
near the Town of Wellington  
in the County of Wessex

Are you a natural born British Subject or a Naturalized British Subject? (N.B.—If the latter, papers to be shown.) Natural born

What is your age? 26 yrs 9 months

What is your trade or calling? Private

Are you, or have you been, an Apprentice? If so, where, to whom, and for what period? No

Are you married? No

Who is your next of kin? (Address to be stated) Frederick Gaden, 300 Valley Road, Waverley, Sydney, N.S.W.

Description of Frederick C. G.

Age 26 years 9 months

Height 5 feet 11 inches

Weight 136 lbs.

Chest Measurement 33 1/2 inches

Complexion Dark

Eyes Blue

Hair Fair

Religious Denomination Church of England

Frederick Charles Gaden Lowe enlisted in the 10th reinforcements to the 6th Australian Light Horse Regiment on 7th September 1915 at Liverpool NSW. By this time both his parents had died and he listed his Grandmother Susan Gaden as his next of kin. Her address at this time was listed as 300 Valley Rd Sydney NSW. His age on enlistment was 26 yrs. 9 months. His description at the time of his enlistment was aged 26yrs 9mths, height 5 ft 11 inches, weight 136 lbs, chest measurement 33 1/2 inches, complexion dark, eyes blue, hair fair, Religious denomination Church of England. He was approved medically fit and appointed to the 10th Reinforcements of 6th Light Horse Regiment on 22 September 1915. The 6th Light Horse along with the 5th and 7th light horse Regiments made up the 2nd Light Horse Brigade.

Frederick along with the rest of the 10th Reinforcements of the 6th Light Horse embarked on transports and sailed from Sydney on 12 October 1915. He arrived in Maadi, Cairo, Egypt on 27 December 1915.

Private Frederick Lowe along with the 10th Reinforcements joined the 6th Light Horse Regiment in Cairo Egypt.

The 2nd Light Horse Brigade became part of the ANZAC Mounted Division and, in April 1916, joined the forces defending the Suez Canal from a Turkish advance across the Sinai Desert. It fought at the battle of Romani on 4 August, at Katia the following day, and participated in the pursuit that followed the Turks retreat back across the desert.

The regiment spent late 1916 and early 1917 engaged on patrol work until the British advance into Palestine stalled before the Turkish bastion of Gaza. It was involved in the two abortive battles to capture Gaza directly (27 March and 19 April) and then the operation that ultimately led to its fall the wide outflanking

move via Beersheba that began on 31 October.

With the fall of Gaza on 7 November 1917, the Turkish position in southern Palestine collapsed. The 6th participated in the pursuit that followed and led to the capture of Jerusalem in December. The focus of British operations then moved to the Jordan Valley. In early 1918 the 6th was involved in the Amman (24 & 27

February) and Es Salt (30 April & 4 May) raids, both of which were tactical failures but helped to convince the Turks that the next offensive would be launched across the Jordan.

Instead, the offensive was launched along the coast in September 1918, with the 6th taking part in a subsidiary effort east of the Jordan. It was part of the force that captured Amman on 25 September, which proved to be its last major engagement of the war; Turkey surrendered on 30 October 1918. The 6th Light Horse was employed one last time to assist in putting down the Egyptian revolt of early 1919, and sailed for home on 28 June Battle of Romani

04 August 1916 - 05 August 1916

The battle of Romani, fought between 3 and 5 August 1916, finally put a stop to the Turkish threat to the Suez canal and marked the beginning of the British

forces' drive out of Egypt and into Palestine. The British defences were sited amidst a series of towering sand dunes, 35 kilometres east of the canal, which the Turks tried to outflank to the south early on 4 August. Initially, only the 1st Light Horse Brigade was in position to meet the Turkish attack. Heavily outnumbered it was forced to fall back but as the day progressed both mounted and infantry reinforcements steadily arrived, allowing the position to be stabilized around a massive dune known as Mount Royston, after the charismatic light horse officer Lieutenant Colonel "Gallop Jack" Royston.

The position was held throughout the night and before dawn the next morning the 1st and 2nd Light Horse Brigades advanced on foot with the bayonet. Turkish resistance collapsed at this point, and large numbers of prisoners were taken. At 6.30 am fresh troops of the 3rd Light Brigade were turned loose in pursuit of the retreating Turks.

Frederick was promoted to Lance Corporal on 21st January 1917.

The first battle of Gaza took place on 26 March 1917. Two British infantry divisions were to attack it from the south while the mounted troops of the Desert Column, which included Frederick Low and the Australian 2nd Brigade, would attack from the flanks and north. When the attack was launched the infantry made slow progress but the mounted troops succeeded in capturing high ground to the north of the city and advancing into it. Concerned by the lack of progress made by the infantry, and fearing the water supplies vital for the mounted troops would not be captured that night, Lieutenant General Dobell, the British officer commanding the operation, ordered a withdrawal at dusk. The next morning, after realising his mistake, Dobell attempted to resume the battle with the infantry, but with the troops exhausted and the Turks having received reinforcements, the attack floundered.

Frederick Lowe and the 2nd Light Horse Brigade were once again in the second battle of Gaza which took place three weeks later, beginning on 17 April 1917. In the interim the Turks had extended and improved their defences. Dobell launched another frontal assault on the Turkish defences, which was supported by six tanks and gas shells. The tanks and the gas were both dismal failures and the attacking forces could make little headway against well-sited Turkish redoubts. After three days of fighting the attack was called off, having not gained any significant ground.

Frederick was promoted to Corporal on 5th November 1917 Just prior to the 3rd Battle of Gaza which he and the 6th Light Horse regiment took no part in.

First Amman Raid

22 March 1918 - 30 March 1918

The first "raid" on Amman was mounted between 22 and 30 March 1918 by the British 60th Infantry Division, the ANZAC Mounted Division, which included Corporal Frederick Lowe and the Australian 6th Light Horse Regiment, and the Imperial Camel Brigade with the intention of inflicting casualties on Turkish forces and severing railway communications with Damascus. The force crossed the Jordan River on 22 March and, despite difficult conditions, the village of Es Salt was occupied by the evening of

the 25 March. The attack on Amman itself commenced on the morning of 27 March with the 2nd Light Horse Brigade, the New Zealand Mounted Rifles and the cameliers providing the attacking force. Fierce fighting continued for two days. The force effected serious damage on the railway but Turkish resistance was so strong that British forces withdrew on 30 March. All elements of the raiding force had recrossed the Jordan by 2 April. Corporal Frederick Lowe was promoted to Sergeant during this battle as a replacement for a Sergeant of the 6th Light Horse Regiment who was killed in action.

#### Es Salt Raid

30 April 1918 - 03 May 1918

Es Salt, a village in Palestine 23 km west of Amman, was the scene of heavy fighting between 30 April and 3 May 1918. The fighting occurred as part of the second "raid" mounted east of the Jordan River by General Sir Edmund Allenby's Egyptian Expeditionary Force. The actual raiding troops - the Australian Mounted (which included Sergeant Frederick Lowe and the 6th Light Horse Regiment), ANZAC Mounted, and British 60th Infantry Divisions, and the Imperial Camel Corps Brigade - were commanded by Lieutenant General Sir Harry Chauvel and their aim was to secure a launching point for operations against the key railway junction at Dera. The operation progressed well initially with Es Salt being seized by the evening of 30 April. Increasingly determined Turkish resistance, including counter-attacks that threatened the flanks and rear of the advanced elements of the raiding force, eventually forced a withdrawal back to the Jordan on 3 May 1918. The raid failed in its objectives but did serve a purpose in that it encouraged Turkish commanders to believe Allenby's next major effort would be launched across the Jordan, when in fact it would be launched along the coastal plain.

#### Second Amman

On 25 September 1918 British forces occupied the city of Amman. After the breakthrough of the British along the coastal plain in the battle of Megiddo, the Turkish forces to the east of the Jordan River had continued to defend their positions. By 22 September, however, elements had begun to withdraw to Amman, with the intention of retreating north to Damascus. The ANZAC Mounted Division (including Sergeant Frederick Lowe and the Australian 6th Light Horse Regiment) chased them east, but a Turkish rear guard managed to hold back the Division long enough for the main body of Turks to get away, leaving only 2,360 Turks to become prisoners.

After the Second Amman Raid, Sergeant Frederick Lowe was accepted as an Officer Cadet and underwent training at 6th Light Horse Regiment in Egypt. On the 1st January 1919 Frederick Charles Gaden Lowe was promoted to 2nd Lieutenant and posted to 6th Light Horse Regiment.

#### Egyptian Uprising 1919

March 1919 - April 1919

In early March 1919, demonstrations in Cairo, mainly by students, initiated an outburst of anti-British rioting, which within a few days spread through all the lower provinces and extended to upper Egypt. The situation was exacerbated by the local civil service's declaration of a general strike and the rapid suspension of

railway and telegraph services. In the absence of a large British force in Egypt, elements of the Australian and ANZAC Mounted Divisions, which included 2nd lieutenant Frederick Lowe and the 6th Light Horse Regiment, then awaiting embarkation to Australia, were instructed to restore order. Within a month of the uprising order had been restored and principal political agitators imprisoned.

The flexibility and mobility of the ANZAC forces involved were principal factors in the suppression of the rioting. During this operation, on 2nd April 1919, 2nd Lieutenant Frederick Charles Gaden Lowe was promoted to Lieutenant.

Finally, on 28th June 1919, Frederick and the 6th Light Horse Regiment, after nearly 4 years in Egypt, embarked on the H.T. Madras for return to Australia.

Lieutenant Frederick Charles Gaden Lowe was demobbed and discharged on 26th September 1919.

The Assistant Adjutant General,  
 Defence Headquarters,  
 Victoria Barracks,  
 MELBOURNE.

Brisbane-9th July, 1920.

Re - Frederick Chas. Gaden Lowe, Sunny Plains, Winton, Qld.

I should be glad if you would kindly advise me what was the date of enlistment of the abovenamed, if he has seen service abroad, what was the date of his embarkation, and if he is no longer on active service, what was the date of his discharge.

Will you kindly set out the desired particulars, and return the memo? It is stated that this person was discharged on 26th September 1919.

Deputy Federal Commissioner  
 of Taxation.

Date of enlistment - 17/9/15.

Date of embarkation - 13/10/15.

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ Appointment terminated 26/9/19.

Deputy Commissioner,  
 Federal Taxation,  
 BRY GRANE.

Major,  
 Officer i/c Base Records,  
 15/7/20.

L O W E.	Frederick Charles, (Tpr)	LIEUT
Surname.	2 Other Names 83/7	1349.
		Regimental No.
PORT.		4th
Embarked at Sydney per H.M.A.T. A4 "Pera" on 12/10/15.		
1.12.16	Trans to 14th A.G.H. Ict. hands.	
24.11.16.	Admt. Hptl. Egypt I.C.T. Hands.	
26.11.16.	Trans. to 31st. Gen. Hpt. Egypt I.C.T. Hands.	
11.12.16.	Dis. from 14th A.G.H. to duty.	
23/11/16.	Sick. to Hptl Hill 70.	(MN)
27/11/16.	Admt. 14th Aust. Gen. Hptl. Cairo	Carbuncle
26/11/16.	Admt. 31st. Gen. Hptl. Port Said ICT Hands.	(MN)
11.12.16	Disch. to Post Commandant Kantara ex 14 Aust. G	
	Hosp.	AR
5.11.17	TO BE CORPORAL (P.R. 237230)	
28.3.18	TO BE SERGT. (PB 237230)	

1/8/18 App. CADET (MB)  
 1.8.18 Joined Cadet School Zeitoun and appointed Cadet (JM) AIF  
 30/7/18 Det. to Cadet Sch. Zeitoun  
 " " " "  
 2/4/19 TO BE LIEUTENANT (Sts 2/Lt. 6/LHRgt.) (AW)  
 4/2/19. To Hosp SICK ex Cadet School (Sts Lieut.) "  
 3.3. 19.T.O.S. of 6th L.H.Rgt from rfts.  
 3.3.19.T.O.S. of 6th L.H.Rgt ex rfts .AIF Order List.35.  
 (sts 2/Lt)  
 1/1/19. To be 2nd Lieutenant and is posted to Reinforcements  
 of 6th LHRgt. To date from 8/1/19. for purpose of pa  
 (Sts Cadet. ) (AW)  
 28/6/19 Emb. per H.T. "Madras" for Ret. to Aust. ex Kantara  
 Demobilised.

9.22.12.17	6. LH.	To be Capt vice Capt Paul. to AFC ( supernumerary) dated 8.8.18	
10.14.4.18	-	To be Sergeant vice Sgt Loveband Killed in action dated 8.8.18. PB 237230.	
11. 3. 8. 18	"	To be det source Zeitoun Talatad Dumm	
12.	AIF no 8 for 18 of 22/8/18	appointed Cadet.	8 8 2.
24. 2. 19	Sch. Ingh.	To Hospital.	
4. 2. 19 18. 2. 19	88/4. 4. 19	Phonosis Dis. to. AIF A/Bus C. C. 7.	
24. 2. 19	Cadet Sch.	Returned to Hospital.	Zeitoun.
AIF List 32	of 17-2-	19 To be 2nd Lieutenant and is posted to Rfts 6th LH Commission to date from 8-1-19 fro purposes of pay	EEF
AIF List 33	of 24-3-	19 Taken on Strgth x Rfts do do	EEF Field
8-3-19	6th LH	To be Lieut. (Auth. AIF AIF memo. 125/443 (29/4/19).	"
10. 5. 19	do.		
15. 5. 19	AIF no 16. List 35		
To Embark HT "Madras" at KAN for Australia. 27.6.19			
EGYPT.			For O/S R

