**Nolan Tweeddale Patterson**

Nolan Tweeddale Patterson was born at Snaresbrook, Essex, England, in 1896, the son of Arthur H Patterson and his wife, Nellie. The family does not appear on the English census returns of 1901 and 1911 and may have emigrated to Canada. Nolan became a student at McGill University in Canada in 1912, where he studied Arts.

When war broke out, he gained a commission and served as a Lieutenant with the 3rd Brigade of the Canadian Field Artillery. On 1st June 1916, he died of wounds received at the Battle of St. Eloi, a battle that ended in disaster.

British forces had previously blown a series of underground mines to destroy the sector's German defences, but the effort had left massive, mud-filled craters for the attackers to occupy. When the Canadians relieved British troops on the night of 3 April, they found few actual trenches in which to take cover, and most of those were waist-deep in water. The entire front was also under observation and incessant fire from the Germans. Two weeks of hard, confused fighting followed. Most soldiers dug in under heavy fire and, divided by the shell-pocked terrain, could supply their commanders with little accurate information on the progress of the battle. After aerial photography helped reveal the true German and Canadian positions, the battle ground to a halt on 16 April, with enemy forces holding most of the key points. The Canadians suffered 1,373 casualties during the confused fighting at St. Eloi.

Nolan Tweeddale Patterson was buried at the Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery in Belgium.



After the war his parents returned to England and lived at 3 Oxhey Road, Oxhey. Nolan is commemorated on the Rolll of Honour of McGill University in Canada.

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