

HALIFAX INVOLVEMENT WITH QMNG



Sarah Ann Archard was a volunteer member of the Queen Mary's Needlework Guild in Halifax, NS. Sarah was born February 5, 1882 and died December 1964 at home in Halifax. She was the eldest daughter of Alfred and Margaret Archard. She was a graduate of the Victoria General Hospital School of Nursing in 1914. Sarah was a Nursing Sister for five years and served in England, France and Canada in WW1. In 1919 she was awarded the Royal Red Cross Second class for service overseas; she was 'mentioned in dispatches' and awarded the Queen of Belgium Medal ("under pressures of our professional duties while putting up with totally unacceptable conditions in mud, gore and aerial bombings, was

legendary). After discharge in 1919 she joined the staff of Camp Hill hospital in the Department of Soldiers Civil Reestablishment and became the Superintendent of Nurses. She was an active member of the Nursing Sisters Association of Canada; NS Historical Society and the Halifax Fortnightly Club and also the President of the Overseas Nurses Club. In 1922 she was Supervisor of the Private Pavilion of the VG hospital for 22 years. She retired in 1944 due to illness. In spite of all her involvements she worked tirelessly for the QMNG, knitting garments, socks, mittens, sweaters as such, including the making of bandages and other medical supplies, also helping with obtaining donations to purchase supplies and equipment for the veterans housed at Camp Hill. The QMNG was very active during the Halifax Explosion of 1917 in helping the homeless and injured.



Sarah was awarded this QMNG medal for her years of dedicated volunteer work. (VG School of Nursing Alumni/Archives has this medal along with her four other war medals). In 2009 Sarah was awarded posthumously the CRNNS (College Registered Nurses NS) Centennial Award of Distinction for her involvement in the promotion of professional nursing.