

GENERATION FOUR.....MyLockerFamily

DESCENDED FROM (3/4) CHARLES, —William—Edward.

& Sarah Maria Hawkins:

(4/1) JOHN WILLAM, was born in 1875 at Winchester.

He is recorded as leaving school without passing his standard 4 exams, & began working with his father on Rangitata Island, then helped shift the family to Temuka.

John was quite sickly from his childhood. He was asthmatic & had a hard time getting over bouts of scarlet & rheumatic fevers. He was plagued with rheumatism all his life.

In March 1917 he was balloted into Army service & had such a poor health report that he was put into the training camp at Tauherenikau. Part of this camp had been set aside to train men like him who were less physically able.

His health didn't improve & the Army's final assessment was: "This man is unfit to train on account of his age & rheumatism. During his ten weeks in camp he has not been able to do more than two days drill. Training staff say they could never make a soldier of him, but he is a willing man & may be of use in the Home Service".

John was then posted to the Quartermaster's Stores.

He was finally discharged without penalty on the 12th of February 1918.

John was a casual laborer in Temuka until about 1934 when he took a more permanent job at a farm called "The Stumps" at Orari. He was still there in 1947 when taken ill with a serious kidney condition.

He died from that in Talbot Hospital, Timaru, on the 1st of August 1947. John is buried at the Timaru Cemetery.

grave ref: Block N, Row 138, Plot 468.

John was never married.