

EVERS, Otto Lessing



Commonwealth War Graves Commission Image:

<http://www.cwgc.org/find-a-cemetery/cemetery/11000/CAIRO%20WAR%20MEMORIAL%20CEMETERY>

Born in Marrickville, Sydney in 1890, to Frederick and Emily, Otto Lessing Evers was sixteen when he arrived to undertake the Piggery and Dairy Certificates at HAC in February 1906. He was awarded the Piggery Certificate in June 1907 and the Dairy Certificate with Cheesemaking in December 1907 and left the College on 7 January 1908. Otto never knew his father Frederick, as he had died from malaria in 1891 while captaining a trading vessel in the Solomon Islands.

Shortly after leaving the College, Evers was in the Illawarra, south of Sydney, engaged in dairy herd testing, and in 1914 he started a business at Yungaburra on the Atherton Tableland inland from Cairns, Queensland (Qld), as an auctioneer and commission agent. He soon decided he'd also breed pigs.

On 8 August 1914, just four days after war was declared, he embarked from Cairns on the *Kanowna*, for Garrison Duty on Thursday Island off the tip of Cape York, Qld. On the fourteenth he joined the 2nd Btn of the AN&MEF (Australian Naval & Military Expeditionary Force) and embarked from there two days later bound for German New Guinea. He served until 18 September when he was disembarked at Townsville, Qld.

Evers then enlisted with the 26th Btn on 6 May 1915 and embarked for Gallipoli on 4 September 1915, was admitted to hospital on Mudros (now Moudros) 29 December and invalided to Cairo where he later died of smallpox on 15 May 1916 aged 26. He is buried in the Cairo War Memorial Cemetery, Cairo, Egypt.