

Percival Albert Blakeman was born on 28th March 1887 at St Leonards, NSW, the youngest son of Albert and Eliza (nee Slater) Percival. He was registered as Albert Percival Blakeman. He was baptised at Christ Church, Lavender Bay on 13th May 1887. His two brothers were Frederick Ernest, born 1883 and George William (known as William George), born 1885



Percy in the centre with his two brothers, before leaving for Europe.

On 11th August 1914 he enlisted in the AN&MEF, stating that he was a plumber and gasfitter by trade, single and gave his mother, at 166 Walker St North Sydney, as his next of kin. He also stated that had 6 years in the Light Horse, NSW Lancers.

Percival returned from Rabaul and was discharged, term expired, on 4th March 1915 having completed 206 days service.

On 9th August 1918 he joined the 18th Battalion and sailed for Suez aboard the SUEVIC, departing Sydney on 20th December 1915. He was taken on strength by his battalion on 14th Feb 1916 at Tel-el-Kebir. On 10th March 1916 he was transferred to the 1st Pioneers and promoted Sergeant, later being appointed temporary Company QMS.

On 25th October 1917, whilst at Ypres, Percival was killed in action. He is buried at Battery Corner, Military Cemetery, Ypres and is remembered on Panel 171 at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra.

According to a letter written by his mother, Eliza, Percival's father died on 17th September 1920 "of a broken heart."