Archibald was born in Ingham, Queensland on 25th March 1884, the son of Robert Mitchell Boyd and Eliza Agnes Boyd, nee Brown.

In 1908 he married Bessie Baker and enlisted in E Company, AN&MEF on 11th August 1914 stating that he was of Independent means and gave his wife at @7 Hampden St, North Sydney, as his next of kin.

Archibald left Rabaul on 30th November 1914 aboard the MORINDA as an escort for Germen prisoners and was discharged in Sydney, term expired, on 8th Jan 1915 having completed 151 days service.

Archibald died in Brisbane on 7th April 1941.