

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL OF THE ARMY
CEMETERIAL DIVISION
WASHINGTON

FROM: Chief, Cemeterial Division, O. Q. M. G.

To:

SUBJECT: Remains of Lester H. Merrill

The records of this office show that you have requested that the body of the above-named

Lester H. Merrill 82 Division 325 Inf Company
To be returned to the U. S.

If these are not the correct instructions, please correct them. Make corrections on reverse side of this sheet.

The nearest next of kin may choose between, (1) return of the body to any address in the United States; (2) interment in the National Cemetery, Arlington, Va., or any other National Cemetery; or (3) body to remain in Europe.

By authority of the Quartermaster General.

GEORGE H. PENROSE,
Colonel, Q. M. C.

If all blank spaces below are not filled out, it will necessitate a return of this paper and a SERIOUS DELAY in the shipment of this body. State in each case WHETHER or not these relatives are STILL LIVING.

Was soldier married? no

NAME OF—	NO. AND STREET.	TOWN.	STATE.
Soldier's widow			
Soldier's children. (Name oldest first.)	1		
	2		
	3		
Father <u>Abner J. Merrill</u>		<u>Byron</u>	<u>new York</u>
Mother <u>Mary L. Merrill</u>		<u>Byron</u>	<u>new York</u>
Brothers. (Name oldest first.)	1 <u>William Jay Merrill</u>	<u>Byron</u>	<u>new York</u>
	2 <u>George Lewis Merrill</u>	<u>Byron</u>	<u>new York</u>
	3		
Sisters. (Name oldest first.)	1 <u>Sara Irene Merrill</u>	<u>Byron</u>	<u>new York</u>
	2		
	3		

Date July 18th 1921

Signature Irene Merrill

Address Byron N. Y.

Relationship Sister

IMPORTANT.—CAREFULLY read instructions before filling out this paper.

July 18, 1921

I, the undersigned, am the Father and nearest living next of kin of the within-named soldier, and desire the following disposition of his remains, viz:
 (Strike out all except the one showing the disposition desired.)

1. As stated on first page of this sheet.

2. To be returned to the U. S. and shipped to

Abner Jay Merrill
 (Name.)

Buxton
 (R. R. station.)

New York
 (State.)

3. To be returned to the U. S. and buried in _____ National Cemetery.

4. To remain in Europe, for burial in a permanent American Cemetery.

Signature

Abner J. Merrill

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FILLING OUT.

1. If definite instructions for the disposition of a body are not received from the next of kin within two weeks of its arrival at New York, burial will be made without further notice in the World War Section of Arlington National Cemetery.

2. The transfer of bodies will be made ENTIRELY at Government expense.

3. This paper MUST BE SIGNED BY THE PERSON WHO IS THE NEXT of kin IN THE ORDER shown in the square on the other side of this sheet.

4. This paper must be returned showing the name and address of each of the nearest next of kin in the spaces provided therefor on the other side of this sheet.

5. If there are minor children of the deceased soldier and no widow, the LEGALLY APPOINTED GUARDIAN of the children should ascertain their wishes and act for them in this matter.

6. If YOU are not the nearest next of kin, please ask the nearest next of kin, if living near you, to fill out this paper.

7. If YOU are not the nearest living next of kin and do not know who or where the nearest relatives are, please fill out this paper AT ONCE and mail to this office.

8. You are requested to return this paper AT ONCE in order to avoid delay in the case of this body.

9. Use the inclosed envelope—pay no postage.

NOTE.—INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE DISPOSITION OF REMAINS will be issued by this office upon the properly executed authority of the legal next of kin in each case. The widow is the first person having disposition of the remains of her husband. Should there be no widow or children, the father and, in turn (upon his decease), the mother, is the proper authority. The brothers, in order of seniority, and then the sisters in order of seniority, if there are no brothers, rank next in authority to decide. Under an opinion rendered by the Judge Advocate General of the Army, if a widow has remarried she forfeits her right, and the next of kin as given above will make decision.