

MAYME LEE OGDEN

Born: 1892

Died: July 4, 1972, Canandaigua, NY

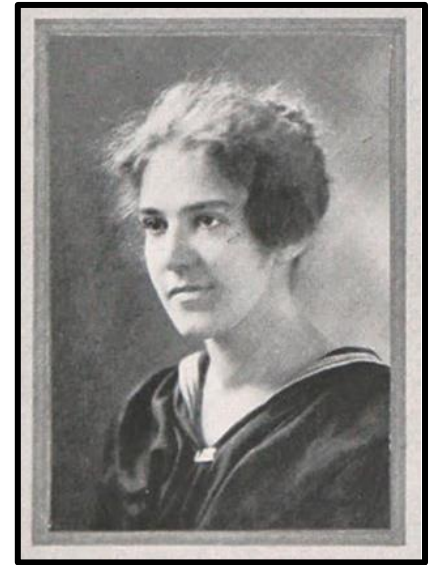
Cemetery Location: Section 11 Lot 110

Born in Louisville, KY, Mayme Ogden was the daughter of James C. and Amelia Ogden. After the family moved to the area, she attended Canandaigua Academy and then graduated from the Mechanics Institute (now Rochester Institute of Technology or RIT, as we know it) in Rochester in 1917. An accomplished commercial artist, Ogden's work was shown many times in Rochester and elsewhere and she won more than a few prizes. She was living in Manhattan, pursuing her career, when she entered the Navy in 1918.

Mayme Ogden enlisted as a Yeoman (F), sometimes called a "Yeomanette", during World War I. She served at the New York Navy Yard during the war, one of 11,274 women who were allowed to enlist in the Navy for the first time. According to her service summary, Ogden enrolled in the Naval Reserve Force on October 3, 1918 and was discharged on July 31, 1919.

After the Pentagon was built during World War II, a search for artists to complete the interior decoration of the building resulted in the selection of Mayme Lee Ogden. After the war, she was Chief of Design and continued as a civilian employee of the Defense department for a number of years. She never married and died at the home of a niece in Fredericksburg, VA on the 4th of July, 1972, an appropriate date for this patriotic woman.

Petty Officer 3rd Class, Mayme-Lee Ogden is the only female veteran of the First World War, other than nurses, now buried in Ontario County.



*Portrait is from the 1917 "Ramikin".
Mechanics Institute Yearbook*

*Information credited to:
Preston E. Pierce
Museum Educator
Ontario County Historical Society*

