

History of the Medal

The front side of the medal shows the winged, full-length, full-front, figure of 'Victory' with her left arm extended and holding a palm branch in her right hand. The reverse shows the words 'THE GREAT / WAR FOR / CIVILISATION / 1914-1919' surrounded by a laurel wreath. The medal had a ribbon attached to it although Joseph's medal is missing this. These were first made of silk but cotton was increasingly used as the twentieth century progressed. (See photograph.) The recipient's name, rank, service number and unit were impressed on the edge of the medal. The name of the regiment or corps was omitted on medals awarded to Army officers.

