



# Sybil (Beatteay) Mitchell

« **Nous sommes dans l'armée maintenant** »



## H.F. 2014.2-015 : medal; metal; silver, fibre

### Marks and Labels

On front of silver clasp, "220 Yards". On front of medal, "Speed Skating Championship 1926 Saint John Amateur Skating Association". On back of medal, "Womens Event". Sterling is stamped on bottom of back of medal.

### Description

Circular silver medal suspended from red ribbon attached to silver clasp at top.

### Narrative

If ever there was a young person who was pre-destined for greatness, it was Sybil Beatteay. Her grandfather was Elijah Ross of the Paris Crew, a 1972 Hall of Fame inductee; her coach was Hilton Belyea, a 1971 inductee, and her contemporaries were, inductees all, Harry Smyth, Willie Logan, Johnny Quigg and Oakie O'Connor. Her career covered a 13 year period from 1920 to 1933. In that span of time, she won countless age-class titles, 9 provincial and maritime senior championships, a second place finish in the North Americans, and in 1929, the Canadian Senior Ladies Championship. When she married in 1936, she gave up speedskating and moved to the United States. Her husband died and she returned to Canada at the onset of the Second World War whereupon she enlisted in the Canadian Womens Army Corps (CWAC). Sybill Beatteay Mitchell was one of an estimated 1000 Canadian women to serve overseas in England, France, Belgium and Germany. When she returned to Canada after the war she worked for Canada Customs until retirement.

### History of Use

Worn by Sybill (Beatteay) Mitchell. Willed to her sister upon death. When sister died, Sybill's belongings were dispersed. We are told they were purchased by an unknown buyer at a yard sale and then he/she put them up for auction in 2014. A benefactor purchased the package of skates, trophies and medals belonging to Sybill (Beatteay) Mitchell at auction and donated them to the New Brunswick Sports Hall of Fame museum in 2014.