

Private

FRANK WILLIAM SMITH

27672, 8th Battalion, Somerset Light Infantry

(previously 1789, West Somerset Yeomanry)

Died of Wounds 5th May 1917

Aged 19

Buried Etaples Military Cemetery

Grave XVIII.J.3A

The reports of Frank Smith's death – and there are five of them – seem to respond to something special about him. Maybe it was his youth, just 19 – 'such a bright young life', but maybe too something in his personality: 'of a bright and cheerful disposition', 'of a happy disposition and liked by all who knew him', 'my best war chum, liked by all officers and men of his company and platoon'.

Frank, or Francis, was born on 19th April 1898, the oldest child of Frank and Bessie Smith. They were a young family (all Frank's brothers were young enough to serve not in WW1 but in WW2). Frank senior was baptised at Otterford in August 1871, the son of John Smith, a Dairyman at Hayne Farm. Interestingly the Smith family were living next to the Buttles at Waterhayes in 1881.

Frank senior and Bessie Hartnell were married at Otterford in Autumn 1897. They seem to have moved around in the area; young Frank was born at Curland; in 1901 they were at Courtsmoor, Churchstanton where Frank senior was a groom; their next child was born in 1904 at Clayhidon, but then they're back in Otterford, living as tenants at North Hill Farm, Higher Widcombe (on the site of the current Abbeywood House). Frank senior was a Farmer's Carter.

Young Frank attended Otterford School from 9 October 1905 to 13 May 1911. As a boy he worked for Mr Brooks-King of Widcombe, and then in the garden at Buckland House, Buckland St Mary for the Reverend Mr A P Potts; when there he lodged with the Every family at Meanwood.

Frank joined the West Somerset Yeomanry, probably in 1915 'when he was barely 17 years of age'. The two surviving photographs of him are in his Yeomanry uniform, booted and spurred, looking absurdly young and very handsome. He was transferred to the 8th Battalion of the Somerset Light Infantry. His friend Private Bill Savery writes that they trained together at Tidworth on Salisbury Plain. According to *The Taunton Courier* Frank, and Bill too probably, had been in France for 5 months when he died; they must have arrived in a draft late in 1916. This suggests that Frank was kept in England till he was 18 plus.

Did they arrive for the last stages of the Somme battles, before these petered out in the mud of winter? About the middle of December the Battalion went into billets at Paradis, near Vieille Chapelle, where they stayed till March. Travelling north, they arrived in the Arras area on March 10, where they remained out of the Front Line in detailed training on model trench systems built to resemble the German front line.

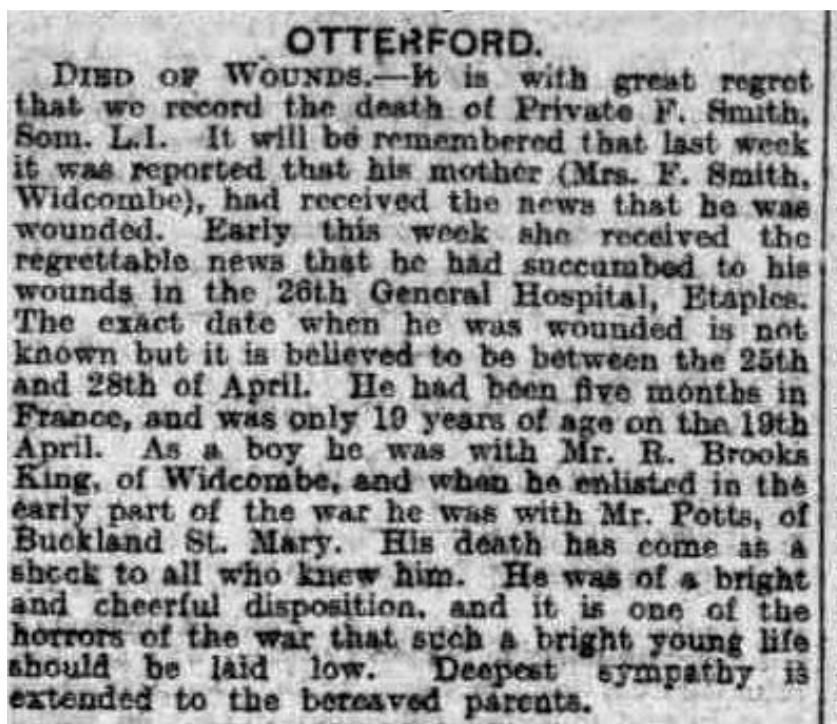
The Battle of Arras, or to describe its initial phase more precisely, the First Battle of the Scarpe (which ended on 14 April) began on April 9 after days of terrifyingly heavy bombardment of the

German lines. The 8th, part of the 63rd Infantry Brigade, 37th Division, fought till withdrawn to Arras on the April 12 with heavy losses: 2 officers wounded, 26 other ranks killed, and 70 wounded and missing. The weather was terrible; heavy rainfall, followed by snow, so bitterly cold and wretched for the men.

The Second Battle of the Scarpe (23-24 April) began for the 8th as they were moved up on the 22nd/23rd ready to attack at 4.45am. Again, attacking with fellow Battalions, they suffered heavily, 'the whole front .. swept by heavy machine gun fire and a terrific hostile shrapnel barrage'. This was the day on which Frank was wounded. Bill Savery wrote to Frank's family:

'We were blown up by the same shell, which also buried us. Afterwards when we were dug out, I heard him call "Bill", "Bill". Then I went unconscious and don't remember any more. They reported me killed, but I recovered by nightfall and then made inquiries for Frank, and was told that he was gone back to the dressing station, so I did not see him again, although we may have taken to the same hospital. It was 12.35pm when he met with his wounds which cost him his life on the 23rd day of April in the big push, for I had just taken my watch out to see the time.'

He was reported in the Somerset County Gazette as 'having been badly wounded in the legs'; Bill writes that 'I really cannot say whether he was wounded in the legs, but I am told in hospital that his wounds were on his right arm and on the side of his face' - which can't have been much of a comfort to his family.



Taunton Courier, 16 May 1917

Frank and Bill had a pact to 'write to one another's folks at home' if anything happened to either of them.

Between the 20th and the 28th April 4 officers and 17 other ranks were killed, 14 officers and 180 other ranks wounded, with 99 missing. A terrible toll. The whole attack (Bill Savery's all too familiar 'big push') gained 7000 yards at a cost of 160,000 killed and wounded.

Frank would have been taken to a Casualty Clearing Station, and ultimately to the 26th General Hospital at Etaples. This was located in a vast complex near the coast, with the necessary rail, road and boat transport for bringing troops and the sick in and out.

Elsie Tranter, a Nurse at the 26th, writes:

'2.5.1917

At present, our work in the theatre is hard and we have very long hours. We are on duty most days from early morning till very late at night. Three times this week it has been well into next morning when we have got to bed, then Sister Shann and I take it night about for emergency calls. These calls, unfortunately, are rather frequent and as they are almost invariably for haemorrhage, we have to be very quick in getting across from our tents to the theatre. Today I had to assist at ten amputations, one after another. It is frightfully nerve-wracking work. I seem to hear that wretched saw at work whenever I try to sleep. We see the most ghastly wounds and are all day long inhaling the odour of gas gangrene. How these boys suffer! This war is absolute hell. We see and hear all day and every day the results of its frightfulness. We can hear the guns quite plainly here.'

All the press reports of Frank's death are reproduced here and on the following pages. He is commemorated not only on the Buckland St Mary Memorial, but also on the one at St Leonard's Church, Otterford. As well as the photographs of him, his family have a lovely embroidered postcard, complete with flowers and patriotic butterfly, which he sent back from France.



[Particular thanks to the Smith family for allowing us to use their photos and mementoes.]

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS

Page 8]

The undermentioned Houses are situate within the Boundaries of the

Civil Parish [or Township] of	City or Municipal Borough of	Municipal Ward of	Parliamentary Borough of	Town or Village or Hamlet of	Urban Sanitary District of	Rural Sanitary District of	Ecclesiastical Parish or District of		
Oxford						Oxford			
No. of Schedule	ROAD, STREET, &c. and No. or NAME of HOUSE	HOUSES Inhabited (1) or Vacant (2)	NAME and Surname of each Person	RELATION to Head of Family	CON-DITION as to Marriage	AGE last Birthday of	Rank, Profession, or OCCUPATION	WHERE BORN	II (1) Deaf-and-Dumb (2) Blind (3) Imbecile or Idiot (4) Lunatic
32	Finchhead	1	James Abelin	Head	Mar	65	Lantern (Brazing) Man	Stomest Bar, Accrue	
			Robert do	Wife	do	56	do	do, Roulbury	
			Edith G. do	Daughter	Unm	26	do	do do do	
			Edmund do	do	do	14	do	do Oxford	
			Martha Winder	Serv	do	25	General serv	do Chesham	
33	Waterhouse	1	William Butler	Head	Mar	60	do Lab	Depon Churchaston	
			Mary A. do	Wife	do	57	Laundry	Stomest Oxford	
			Winnifred do	Daughter	Unm	24	do Lab	do do	
			Edith do	Daughter	Unm	23	do Wife	do Baginbun	
			John do	Serv	Unm	16	do Lab	do Oxford	
			Emma do	Daughter	Unm	9	do Scholar	do do	
			Lucy do	do	Unm	8	do (Lamb)	do do	
34	do Dairyhouse	1	John Smith	Head	Mar	44	Dairyman	Depon	
			Mary do	Wife	do	42	do	Stomest	
			Agnes do	Daughter	Unm	16	do	do	
			Lucy do	do	do	13	do	do	
			Isabel do	do	do	6	Scholar	do	
			Frank do	do	do	9	do	do	
			Walter do	do	do	14	do	do	
			John do	Daughter	Unm	2	do	do	
35	Finchhead Cottage	1	Charles Peters	Head	Mar	32	Gardener	Depon	
			Anna M. do	Wife	do	29	do Wife	Stomest	
			John do	Serv	Unm	1	do	do	
36	do		Charles do	Labourer	Unm	18	do Lab	Depon Churchaston	
Total of Houses...		4	Total of Males and Females...			11	13		

Note.—Draw the pen through such of the words of the headings as are inappropriate.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE						Reference:—	COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON
1	2	3	4	5	6	RG 11/2364	

FRANK SMITH SENIOR 1881 CENSUS

Administrative County of Devonshire The undermentioned Houses are situate within the Boundaries of the

Civil Parish of Churchstow Municipal Borough of Exeter Urban Sanitary District of Taunton Rural Sanitary District of Exeter Parliamentary Borough or District of Exeter Ecclesiastical Parish or District of St. Michael

Page 8

Col. 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
No. of Schedule	ROAD, STREET, &c., and No. or NAME of HOUSE	HOUSES	Number of Storeys	NAME and Surname of each Person	RELATION to Head of Family	CON- DITION as to Marriage	AGE last Birthday of	PROFESSION or OCCUPATION	Employed	Where Born	(1) Deaf and Dumb (2) Blind (3) Lame, Imbecile or Idiot				
47	Newton Cottage	1		James & Gill	Head	M	28			Newton, Churchstow					
48	Newton Cottage	1		John Ashford	Head	M	28	Agricultural Labourer; Carter	X	Newton, Churchstow					
				Elizabeth	Wife	M	26			Newton, Churchstow					
				William	Son	M	12	Schooler		Newton, Churchstow					
				Walter	Son	M	10			Newton, Churchstow					
				Harry	Son	M	8			Newton, Churchstow					
				Emily	Daughter	M	6			Newton, Churchstow					
				Lucy	Daughter	M	4			Newton, Churchstow					
49	Burroughs Farm House	1		Thomas Smith	Head	M	58	Farmer	X	Newton, Churchstow					
				Mary A.	Wife	M	56			Newton, Churchstow					
				Mary	Sister	S	55	Farmer's Sister	X	Newton, Churchstow					
				Frank	Nephew	S	24	Farmer's Nephew	X	Newton, Churchstow					
50	Burroughs House	1		James Myers	Head	M	58	Housekeeper	X	Newton, Churchstow					
				Charlotte	Wife	M	56	Cook Domestic Servant	X	Newton, Churchstow					
				John	Servant	S	28	Groom	X	Newton, Churchstow					
51		1		John Clarke	Head	M	58	Farmer	X	Newton, Churchstow					
				William	Son	M	38	Farmer's Son	X	Newton, Churchstow					
				Elizabeth	Daughter	S	34	Farmer's Daughter	X	Newton, Churchstow					
				Edmund	Servant	S	24	Farmer's Servant	X	Newton, Churchstow					
52	Burroughs Farm House	1		William J. Smith	Head	M	58	Farmer	X	Newton, Churchstow					
				Emily M. A.	Wife	M	56			Newton, Churchstow					
53		1		Abraham Barnes	Head	M	28	Agricultural Labourer	X	Newton, Churchstow					
				James	Son	M	23			Newton, Churchstow					
				Frederick	Son	M	21			Newton, Churchstow					
				William	Son	M	18			Newton, Churchstow					
54		1		Edgar Barnes	Head	M	28	Agricultural Labourer	X	Newton, Churchstow					
				Eliza	Wife	M	26			Newton, Churchstow					
				Edith Clarke	Granddaughter	M	8	Schooler		Newton, Churchstow					
7	Total of Houses and of Tenements with less than Five Rooms ...	49	1	Total of Males and Females...				16	14						

NOTE.—Draw the pen through each of the words of the headings as are inappropriate.

Eng.—Sheet B.

Reference: **RG12/1873**

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FRANK SMITH SENIOR 1891 CENSUS

Administrative County <u>Leicester</u>				The undermentioned Houses are situate within the boundaries of the										Page 4						
Civil Parish <u>Churchstow</u>				Ecclesiastical Parish <u>Churchstow</u>				County Borough, Municipal Borough, or Urban District				Ward of Municipal Borough or of Urban District		Rural District		Parliamentary Borough		Town or Village or Hamlet		
of <u>Leicester</u>				of <u>Leicester</u>				of <u>Leicester</u>				of <u>Leicester</u>		of <u>Leicester</u>		of <u>Leicester</u>		of <u>Leicester</u>		
House No.	ROAD, STREET No. and No. of HOUSE	RECORDS	REMARKS	NAME and Surname of each Person	RELATION to Head of Family	AGE last Birthday	SEX	PROFESSION OR OCCUPATION	Employer, Worker, or Own account	If Working at Home	WEEKS HOME	(1) Deaf and Dumb	(2) Blind	(3) Lame	(4) Paralyzed	(5) Infirm	(6) Pauper	(7) Soldier	(8) Sailor	
20	20	1		Robert Wright	Head	55	M	Labourer - stonecracker	Worker		Diarm. Clapham									
				Sarah	Wife	51	F				Diarm. Clapham									
				Emily	Daughter	9	F				Diarm. Clapham									
21	21	1		Albert Hill	Head	59	M	Farmer	own account		Diarm. Clapham									
				Eliza	Wife	64	F				Diarm. Clapham									
22	22	1		Eliza Hutchins	Head	47	F	Farmer	Employer		Diarm. Clapham									
				Thomas Harris	Son	31	M	Living on own means			Diarm. Clapham									
				James	Son	14	M	Farmer			Diarm. Clapham									
23	23	1		Malcolm Wright	Head	29	M	Ordinary Agricultural Lab	Worker		Diarm. Clapham									
				Frank Smith	Head	29	M	Groom - Domestic	Worker		Diarm. Clapham									
				Bessie	Wife	26	F				Diarm. Clapham									
				Francis	Son	5	M				Diarm. Clapham									
24	24	1		George Ware	Head	60	M	Ordinary Agricultural Lab	Worker		Diarm. Clapham									
				Robert Dobble	Head	39	M	Farmer	Employer		Diarm. Clapham									
				James	Son	34	M				Diarm. Clapham									
				Francis	Son	5	M				Diarm. Clapham									
				George Bale	Son	18	M	General Servant Domestic	Worker		Diarm. Clapham									
				J. M. Parsons	Son	24	M	Farmer	Employer		Diarm. Clapham									
				Thomas H. H. H. H.	Son	16	M	Farmer	Worker		Diarm. Clapham									
26	26	1		Robert H. H. H.	Head	50	M	Farmer	Employer		Diarm. Clapham									
				Ann	Wife	54	F				Diarm. Clapham									
				Bessie	Wife	17	F				Diarm. Clapham									
				James H. H. H.	Son	58	M	Living on own means			Diarm. Clapham									
				Ann	Wife	50	F				Diarm. Clapham									
27	27	1		Samuel H. H. H.	Head	60	M	Farmer	own account		Diarm. Clapham									
				Ann	Wife	63	F				Diarm. Clapham									
28	28	1		Bessie H. H. H.	Head	30	F	Farmer	Employer		Diarm. Clapham									
				Ann	Wife	47	F				Diarm. Clapham									
				William	Son	34	M				Diarm. Clapham									
				Elizabeth	Son	17	F	Living on own means			Diarm. Clapham									
9		9		Total of Males and of Females				76	14											

Note—Draw your pen through such words of the headings as are inapplicable.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE REFERENCE > RG 13/2273 CROWN COPYRIGHT - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED WITHOUT PERMISSION ON SCALE 1 2 3 4 5 6

FRANK SMITH SENIOR 1901 CENSUS

CENSUS

OF

ENGLAND AND WALES,

1911.



SCHEDULE.

Prepared pursuant to the Census (Great Britain) Act, 1910.

This space to be filled up by the Enumerator.

Number of Registration District.....305

Number of Registration Sub-District.....1

Number of Enumeration District.....3

Name of Head
of Family or
Separate Occupier.

} Frank Smith

Postal Address

North Hill Farm
Blagdon Hill
Taunton

NOTICE.

This Schedule must be filled up and signed by, or on behalf of, the Head of the Family or other person in occupation, or in charge, of the dwelling (house, tenement or apartment).

COVER OF FRANK SMITH 1911 CENSUS

CENSUS OF ENGLAND AND WALES, 1911.

Before writing on this Schedule please read the Examples and the Instructions given on the other side of the paper, as well as the headings of the Columns. The entries should be written in ink.

The contents of the Schedule will be treated as confidential. Strict care will be taken that no information is disclosed with regard to individual persons. The returns are not to be used for proof of age, as in connection with Old Age Pensions, or for any other purpose than the preparation of Statistical Tables.

NAME AND SURNAME	RELATIONSHIP to Head of Family	AGE last Birthday and SEX	PARTICULARS as to MARRIAGE	PROFESSION or OCCUPATION of Persons aged ten years and upwards	BIRTHPLACE of every person	NATIONALITY of every person born in a Foreign Country	INFIRMITY
Alfred Percival Pott	Head	47	Married	Clark in Holy Orders (Buckland)	London	English	
Edith Laura Pott	Wife	40	Married		London	English	
Kathleen Eliza Pott	Daughter	16	Single		London	English	
John Glyn Pott	Daughter	11	Single		London	English	
Edith Mary Pott	Servant	39	Single	Barmaid	Buckland	English	
Frederick Pott	Servant	48	Married	Gardener (Buckland)	Buckland	English	
Mary Alice Pott	Servant	67	Married	Housekeeper (Buckland)	Buckland	English	
Edith Kathleen Pott	Servant	23	Single	Barmaid (Buckland)	Buckland	English	
John Alice Pott	Servant	24	Single	Barmaid (Buckland)	Buckland	English	
Frederick Pott	Servant	18	Single	Barmaid (Buckland)	Buckland	English	
Edith Mary Pott	Servant	24	Single	Barmaid (Buckland)	Buckland	English	

(To be filled up by the Enumerator.)

(To be filled up by, or on behalf of, the Head of Family or other person in occupation, or in charge, of this dwelling.)

I declare that this Schedule is correctly filled up to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature: Alfred Percival Pott

Post Office Address: Buckland House, Buckland St Mary, Chard

ALFRED POTT AT BUCKLAND HOUSE, BSM, FRANK'S EMPLOYER, 1911 CENSUS

CERTIFIED COPY OF AN ENTRY OF BIRTH

GIVEN AT THE GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE

Application Number 5799166-12

REGISTRATION DISTRICT TAUNTON

1898 BIRTH in the Sub-district of Pitminster in the County of Somerset

No.	When and where born	Name, if any	Sex	Name and surname of father	Name, surname and maiden surname of mother	Occupation of father	Signature, description and residence of informant	When registered	Signature of registrar	Name entered after registration
449	19th April 1898 Curland P.R.	Francis William	Boy	Frank Smith	Bessie Smith formerly Hartnell	Farmer	Frank Smith Father Curland	19th April 1898	J. J. Davis	Registrar

CERTIFIED to be a true copy of an entry in the certified copy of a Register of Births in the District above mentioned.

Given at the GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE, under the Seal of the said Office, the 16th day of July 2014

BXCG 232585

CAUTION: THERE ARE OFFENCES RELATING TO FALSIFYING OR ALTERING A CERTIFICATE AND USING OR POSSESSING A FALSE CERTIFICATE ©CROWN COPYRIGHT

WARNING: A CERTIFICATE IS NOT EVIDENCE OF IDENTITY.

7231132 68844 04013 SMSSD 031113

SBM

FRANK SMITH'S BIRTH CERTIFICATE

Name.		Corps.	Rank.	Regtl. No.
SMITH		Som. L. I.	2nd	27672
Frank				
Medal.	Roll.	Page.	Remarks.	
VICTORY	CP/102 B17	2054		
BRITISH	do	do		
STAR				
Theatre of War first served in				
Date of entry therein				

K. 1380

FRANK SMITH MEDAL ROLL CARD INDEX



WWI PRACTICE TRENCHES ON SALISBURY PLAIN AT BULFORD



FRANK SMITH



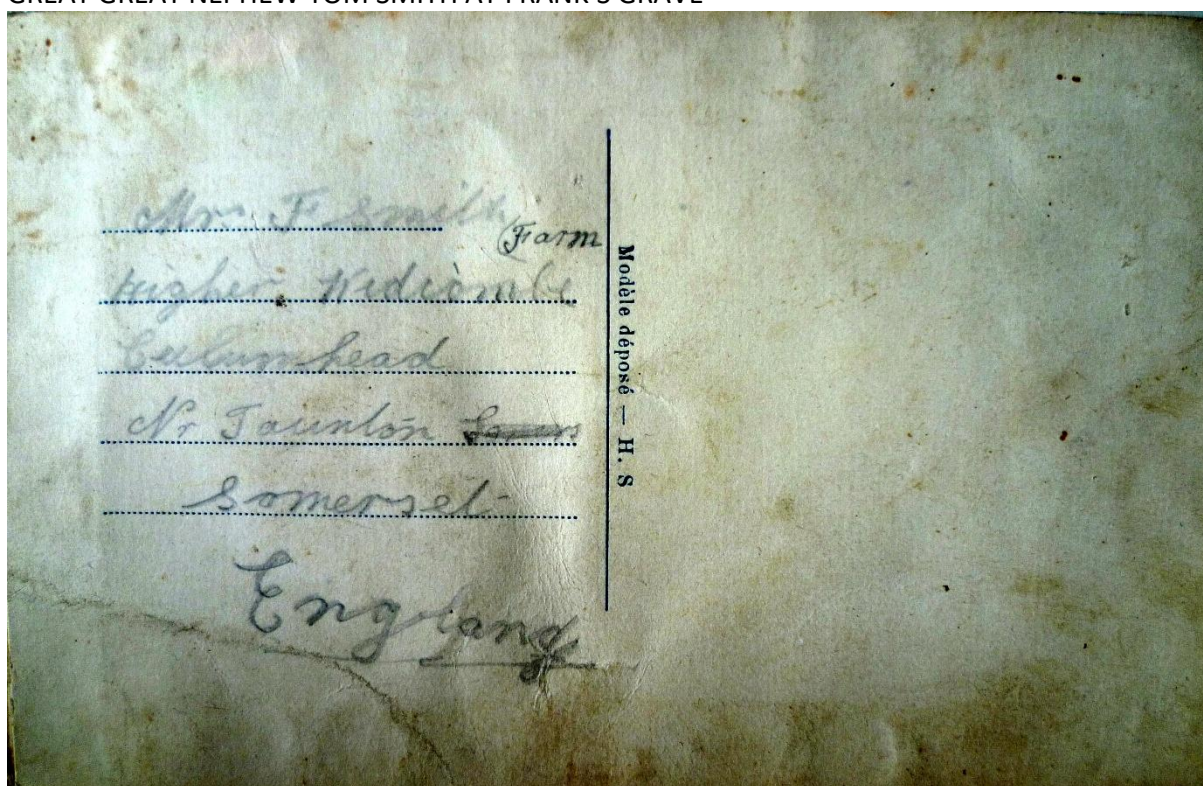


27672 PRIVATE
F SMITH
SOMERSET LIGHT INFANTRY
5TH MAY 1917





GREAT GREAT NEPHEW TOM SMITH AT FRANK'S GRAVE



REVERSE OF EMBROIDERED CARD



THE CARD

FRANK SMITH MEDALS AND MEMORIALS





HE whom this scroll commemorates was numbered among those who, at the call of King and Country, left all that was dear to them, endured hardness, faced danger, and finally passed out of the sight of men by the path of duty and self-sacrifice, giving up their own lives that others might live in freedom.

Let those who come after see to it
that his name be not forgotten.

Pte. Frank Smith
8 Somerset Light Inf.



Record Office,
EXETER.

4- JUL 1921

Sir

I am directed to transmit to you the accompanying
British War Medal, & Victory Medal.
which would have been conferred upon No 24642.

to Frank Smith SOMERSET L.I.
had he lived, in memory of his services with the
British Forces during the Great War.

In forwarding the Decoration I am commanded
by the King to assure you of His Majesty's high
appreciation of the services rendered.

I am to request that you will be so good as to
acknowledge the receipt of the Decoration on the
attached form.

I am,

Your obedient Servant.

To
Mr F. Smith
Widcombe
Culmhead.

W. Thompson. Lt Capt
Col of Records.













#D.01 Contract.....

Name and address of Firm

.....

IMPERIAL WAR GRATES COMMISSION

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT B HEADSTONE PERSONAL INSCRIPTIONS
 to be read in conjunction with
 COMPREHENSIVE REPORT A HEADSTONE MILITARY INSCRIPTIONS
 together with
 TWO STANDARD LAYOUTS (the layouts to be used
 are quoted on the badge design).

SCHEDULE "B" PAGE 18.

NAME OF CEMETERY
 STAPLES MILITARY CEMETERY. NO. 16

Badge Design No. and Layout	Headstone No.	Line 1	Line 2	Line 3	Line 4	No. of Letters in text. (7)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
	5975	(Mr. Frank Smith, Widdcombe, Culmhead, Taunton).				
1056/1E	5976	IN THE GOING DOWN	OF THE SUN	AND IN THE MORNING	WE WILL REMEMBER HIM	54
		(Mrs. E. Stephens, 13. Trinity Rd., Southampton).				
1056/1D	5977	BELoved SON OF	E. J. SWEET, BRISTOL	EVER IN OUR THOUGHTS		43
		(Mrs. E. J. Sweet, 78. Lincoln St., Lawrence Hill, Bristol).				
1056/1E	5978	NONE BUT	A MOTHER'S HEART CAN TELL	THE LOSS OF ONE	I LOVED SO WELL	51
		(Mrs. E. Thomas, 17. Odo St., Hafod, Swansea, S. Wales).				
1056/1E	5979	GOD KNOWS BEST				12
		(Mr. Wm. Chas. Tudball, 55. Summerland, Ave., Minehead, Somerset).				
1056/1B	5980	PEACE PERFECT PEACE				17
		(Mrs. Caroline Vickery, Boundsmoor, Milverton, Som.)				
	5981	(Mrs. B. N. Jones, 45. Enid St., Trearlaw, Glam. Rhondda.)				
1056/1D	5982	TO LIVE IN HEARTS	WE LEAVE BEHIND	IS NOT TO DIE		37
		(Mrs. M. E. Warman, 39. Lucerne Rd., Thornton Heath, Surrey).				
1056/1D	5983	GOD PROVED HIM	AND FOUND HIM WORTHY	FOR HIMSELF		38
		(Mr. Albert J. White, 47. Dunkerry Rd., Windmill Hill, Bedminster, Bristol).				
	5984	(Mrs. O. M. Wiltan, 25. Arundel Crescent, Plymouth, Devon).				

Names and Addresses of Next of Kin
 are shown in brackets, and will not
 appear on the Headstone.

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GRAVES REGISTRATION REPORT FORM.

SECTION **G.I.** UNIT 22. REPORT No.1.
COMMUNE ETAPLES.

SCHEDULE No. 125 C.

PLACE OF BURIAL ETAPLES MILITARY CEMETERY.

Map. Ref. 1/100-000 Calais 13 B. 6.5.4.

Land belongs to

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT.

Nos. in Red are

Record Plan Nos.

The following are buried here:— PLOT N. ROW 6. (Row J): Plot 18

Regiment	No.	Name	Rank and Initials	Date of Death	Cross Erected or Despatched	Map Reference
6/F.Hdrs.	268048	LEONARD.	PTE.J.	4- 5-17	E.	253. <i>14</i>
8/Fd.Amb.RAMC.	33379	TOWNSEND.	PTE.W.J.	5- 5-17	"	254. <i>14</i>
7/E.Surr.R.	9845	LEADBEATER.	L/C.W.	5- 5-17	"	255. <i>13</i>
8/Som.L.I.	27672	SMITH.	PTE.F.	5- 5-17	"	256. <i>14</i>
11/R.War.R.	19406	LAWRENCE.	PTE.E.	4- 5-17	"	257. <i>14</i>
7/R.Fus.	35575	HUNT.	PTE.C.D.	5- 5-17	"	258. <i>14</i>
2/Suffolk R.	23523	BARR.	PTE.G.	4- 5-17	"	259. <i>14</i>
4/Worcester R.	40587	BARNES.	PTE.T.	4- 5-17	"	260. <i>14</i>
6/D.L.I.	273065	McGOVERN.	PTE.P.	5- 5-17	"	261. <i>16</i>
10/York. & Lan.R.	39860	STAFFORD.	L/C.G.R.R.	4- 5-17	"	262. <i>16</i>
N.Z.Tunlg.Co.	21431	DOOLEY.	SPR CPL.W.J.	4- 5-17	"	263. <i>15</i>
4/M.G.C.	85628	WELLS.	PTE.H.	4- 5-17	"	264. <i>15</i>
9/North'd Fus.	24/1063	CALLAGHAN.	PTE.T.	4- 5-17	"	265. <i>14</i>
6/late 9/R.W.Kents.	13024	ACOTT.	A/CPL.R.	5- 5-17	"	266. <i>14</i>
8/Canadians.	235514	WADE.	PTE.J.	4- 5-17	"	267. <i>13</i>
13/K.R.Rif.C.	R/23454	GROOM.	L/C.P.	4- 5-17	"	268. <i>13</i>
1/Canadians.	195758	AVERY.	PTE.G.E.G.	5- 5-17	"	269. <i>12</i>
7/E.York.R.	24909	BAILEY.	PTE.H.	4- 5-17	"	270. <i>11</i>
24/Seaforth Hdrs.	43104	FULLERTON.	PTE.J.	4- 5-17	"	271. <i>11</i>
4/Worcester R.	40458	CLOWES.	PTE.G.R.	5- 5-17	"	272. <i>11</i>
7/A. & Suth.Hdrs.	278905	BROWN.	PTE.J.S.	5- 5-17	"	273. <i>10</i>
7/8 K.O.S.B.	7034	TILBURY.	PTE.G.	5- 5-17	"	274. <i>10</i>
2/H.L.I.	42897	MITCHELL.	PTE.J.	4- 5-17	"	275. <i>9</i>
9/North'd Fus.	12202	TREVOR.	L/C.H.E.	5- 5-17	"	276. <i>9</i>
1/R.M.L.I. Bn. R.N.D.	CH/1472	ROPE.	PTE.H.A.	5- 5-17	"	277. <i>8</i>
13/Rifle Bde.	4236	DREW.	L/C.I.I.	3- 5-17	"	278. <i>8</i>
12/H.L.I.	8522	PATRICK.	CPL.W.	3- 5-17	"	279. <i>7</i>
1/R.Irish Fus.	8777	DUNGEY.	D/C.G.R.	4- 5-17	"	280. <i>7</i>

SLIPS CHECKED

HWV(P237A)

Forms/W3372/1

RECEIVED

20 OCT 1918

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CEMETERY Fr. 40
ETAPLES
PART VI
U.K. GRAVES
SENIOR to
ZELLEY

SMITH, Pte. Daniel, 16/1416. 1st/5th Bn. Northumberland Fusiliers. 25th/26th March, 1918. Age 23. Son of Mrs. Annie Smith, of 14, Beech Grove Terrace, Prudhoe-on-Tyne. XXXI. J. 9A.

SMITH, Pte. Donald Griffin, 6469. 17th Bn. Royal Fusiliers. Died of wounds 18th Oct., 1916. Age 22. Son of Walter and Eleanor Smith, of "Oakleigh," Swaffham, Norfolk. XII. A. 11.

SMITH, Cpl. Ernest Albert William, 4882. "C" Sqdn. 9th Lancers. Died of wounds 6th May, 1918. Age 21. Son of Henry Albert and Eliza Mary Smith. Native of Borden, Sittingbourne, Kent. LXVIII. A. 34.

SMITH, Pte. E., 28291. 6th Bn. Northamptonshire Regt. 26th Feb., 1917. XXI. J. 5A.

SMITH, Pte. E., 290885. 9th Bn. Norfolk Regt. Died of wounds (gas) 14th May, 1918. Age 28. Husband of B. M. Smith (now Lake), of Bracon Ash, Norwich. LXV. B. 32.

SMITH, Pte. E. G., 39369. 8th Bn. Gloucestershire Regt. 21st April, 1918. Step-brother of William C. Smith, of Cockbury Cottages, nr. Winchcombe, Glos. XXIX. J. 9.

SMITH, Pte. Frank Morrey, 36674. 7th Bn. Border Regt. 4th Dec., 1918. Age 19. Son of Herbert Isaac Smith and Helen Smith (step-mother), of 37, Urban Gardens, Millfield, Wellington, Salop. XLVII. A. 17.

SMITH, Pte. Frederick, 9089. 1st Bn. Worcestershire Regt. 23rd July, 1916. Age 40. Son of Druscilla Smith of 11, Littleworth St., Evesham, Worcestershire. XIV. D. 3.

SMITH, Pte. F., 4382. See "POVEY," the true family name.

SMITH, Pte. F., 27672. 8th Bn. Somerset Light Inf. Died of wounds 5th May, 1917. Age 19. Son of Frank Smith, of Widcombe, Culmhead, Taunton. XVIII. J. 3A.

SMITH, Pte. F. E., 201121. 2nd/5th Bn. The King's Liverpool Regt. Died of wounds (gas) 5th Aug., 1917. Age 22. Son of Arthur John and Edith Smith, of 494, Prescott Rd., Old Swan, Liverpool. Born at Liverpool. XXII. N. 3A.

SMITH, Cpl. F. G., 76456. 2nd/6th Bn. Durham Light Inf. 20th May, 1918. LXV. C. 4.

SMITH, Pte. George, 271173. "D" Coy. 2nd Bn. Royal Scots. Died of wounds (gas) 26th May, 1918. Age 22. Son of Peter and Isabella Smith, of 38, Kennishead Rd., Thornliebank, Glasgow. Native of Thornliebank. Was a clerk with G. and J. Burns, Shipping Agents. Voluntarily enlisted in the R.A.M.C. in 1915, transferred to Infantry, 1917. LXVIII. D. 15.

SMITH, Serjt. George, 6762. 139th Siege Bty. Royal Garrison Artillery. Died of wounds 22nd April, 1917. Age 36. Husband of Elizabeth Smith, of Yeovil Rd., Clossworth, Sherborne, Dorset. XIX. F. 12A.

SMITH, Serjt. George Arthur, 37105. M.M. 346th Siege Bty. Royal Garrison Artillery. 19th April, 1918. Age 21. Eldest son of George and Louise Smith, of 295, Folkestone Rd., Dover. XXIX. G. 5A.

SMITH, Pte. George Barker, 23164. "D" Coy. 26th Bn. Royal Fusiliers. Died of wounds 12th Oct., 1916. Age 34. Son of George and Jane Smith, of Birmingham. VII. C. 4.

SMITH, Pte. George Clifford, 42495. M.M. 2nd Bn. Suffolk Regt. Died of wounds 19th Oct., 1918. Age 19. Son of Arthur Edward and Catherine Susan Smith, of "Oakleigh," Cromwell Rd., Whitstable, Kent. LXVIII. J. 2.

SMITH, Pte. George Herbert, 2786. "B" Coy. 5th Bn. Durham Light Inf. Died of wounds 29th Sept., 1916. Age 26. Son of Anna Eliza Smith, of 37, Wycombe St., Bondgate, Darlington, Co. Durham. XI. D. 16.

SMITH, Cpl. George Herbert, 766452. "A" Coy. 1st Bn. Artists' Rifles. Died of wounds 1st April, 1918. Age 22. Son of Charlotte Elizabeth and the late Joseph Smith, of Manchester. XXIX. A. 6.

SMITH, Pte. George William, 25897. 14th Bn. York and Lancaster Regt. Died of wounds 31st May, 1917. Age 29. Son of George and Clementina Smith, of 45, Sherrington Rd., Sheffield. Native of Sheffield. XXV. F. 13.

SMITH, Tpr. Godfrey, 1316. Royal Horse Guards. Died of pneumonia 22nd April, 1918. Age 30. Son of Henry and Alice Mary Smith, of Bradfield, Berks; husband of M. L. Smith. XXIX. L. 2A.

ARMY REGISTER OF SOLDIERS' EFFECTS



OTTERFORD CHURCH MEMORIAL



Somerset County Gazette

OTTERFORD. Otterford man dies of wounds. The sad intimation was received on Monday by Mr & Mrs F. Smith of Widcombe Farm, Culmhead, that their son, Private Frank Smith of the Somerset Light Infantry had died of wounds at a base hospital in France. The deceased who was only 19 years of age joined the West Somerset Yeomanry when he was barely 17 years of age and was afterwards transferred to the Somerset Light Infantry. He was always of a happy disposition and greatly liked by all who knew him. Prior to joining the Army he was for some time with the Vicar of Buckland St. Mary helping in the gardens.

It was known by the parents that he was badly wounded in the legs but hopes were entertained that so promising a young life would be spared to them. The deepest sympathy of the whole district is extended to the family in their great trial.

* * * * *

OTTERFORD. The late Private F. Smith. It will be recalled that a few weeks back the news was received that Private F. Smith of the 8th Somersets, eldest son of Mr & Mrs Frank Smith of Widcombe Farm, Otterford had died of wounds in the severe fighting that took place in France in the latter part of April.

A few days ago Mr & Mrs Smith received from France a letter from a chum of their son, Private W.J. Savery, a Taunton man of St. James Street, that shows that young Smith was well liked by the whole of the officers and men of the 8th Battalion. The letter is as follows:-

France. May 25th 1917. Dear Mr. & Mrs Smith. I am very sorry to see in the Somerset County Gazette which my wife sends to me of the death of your son, Private Frank Smith. I tender my deepest sympathy in your great trial. I am writing these few lines to you as promised, for if anything happened to either of us we promised to write to each other's folks at home, for we had been chums we were at Tidworth and I have lost my best war chum. He was liked by all officers and men of his company and platoon.

Now I really cannot say whether he was wounded in the legs but I am told in Hospital that his wounds were on his right arm and on the side of his face.

We were blown up by the same shell, which also buried us. Afterwards when we were dug out, I heard him call "Bill", "Bill". Then I went unconscious and don't remember any more. They reported me killed, but I recovered by nightfall and then made inquires for Frank, and was told that he was gone back to the dressing station, so I did not see him again, although we may have taken to the same hospital. It was 12-35pm when he met with his wounds which cost him his life on the 23rd day of April in the big push, for I had just taken my watch out to see the time. I am a Taunton man of St James Street, and if I am spared to come back to "Blighty" again I will give you a call, and will also write to you when I get back to the battalion. (8th Somersets).

Yours sincerely Private W.J. Savery.

Passed on by Geoffrey Berry of Churchstanton