



SAPPER GEORGE EDWARD ANDERSON

No 13 Pontoon Park, Royal Engineers

Service number 414748

Died of dysentery, Egypt 17 October 1918, age 37

Buried in Cairo War Memorial Cemetery

Born at Great Brington 1881

Parents Edward and Ellen Anderson

Husband of Emma Louise, father of Jessie Louise

Marital Home 9 Badby Road, Daventry

Victory Medal, British War Medal

George Anderson was born in Great Brington in 1881 and attended Brington School. He first appears in the 1891 Census aged 9 living at an unknown address with his parents Edward John and Ellen Louise (nee Hillyard), with brother Alfred John aged 7. By the 1901 Census he was living with his Uncle John Anderson and his wife Emma at 9 Badby Road Daventry. His uncle was a bricklayer and he himself was described as carpenter and joiner. In the 1911 Census he was still there, still single and described now as a joiner.

George enlisted at Daventry and became a Sapper in the Royal Engineers. No doubt his skills as a carpenter and joiner influenced that outcome. Unfortunately we have no record of his service whatsoever, except that he was serving with No 13 Pontoon Park Company in Egypt or Palestine when he contracted malaria and died in October 1918.

This unit was part of the British Egyptian Expeditionary Force constituted in July 1917 to further the war against the Ottoman Empire in Palestine and Syria. A pontoon park was an engineer unit responsible for holding and maintaining bridging equipment. No 13 Company were part of XX Corps and possibly well up north, but we can only speculate precisely where George was when he was taken ill. He was probably brought back to a base hospital in Egypt. Tragically George died in the moment of victory, after the fall of Damascus on 1 October 1918 signalled the effective end of the campaign in the Near East.

His brother Alfred, also a carpenter, served in the war and is in our Survivors Photograph.

George married Ellen Louise née Hillyard on 17 April 1911, just after the 1911 Census was taken. Their daughter Jessie Louise was born 17 April 1913, who died in 1987. Jessie married Guy Wallace Benjamin Turnock in June 1936. Jessie and Guy had a daughter Shirley L Turnock born 1937, and she married Cecil K Bird in 1960. Shirley is still alive.

In Memory of

Sapper

G E Anderson

414743, 13th Pontoon Park Coy., Royal Engineers who died on 13 October 1918 Age 37

Son of Edward J. and Eilen Anderson; husband of Ellen Louisa Anderson, of 9, Badby Rd., Daventry, Northants. Born at Great Brington, Northants.

Remembered with Honour
Cairo War Memorial Cemetery



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission