



Percy Archer

1893-1918

Percy was born in Westtown, Dewsbury in 1893. His father was William Archer, a Butcher and later a Rag Warehouseman born in Dewsbury in 1863 and died in 1933. His mother was Ellen (nee Denton) born in Dewsbury in 1868 and died in 1903. They were married on 19th September 1892 at St. Matthew's Church, Westtown.

Their other children were; Annie, born in 1896, Hephzibah, born in 1900 and Ellen, born in 1902.

On the 1901 and 1911 Census Records the family lived at 5, South Woodbine Street, Dewsbury.

Percy was educated at Wheelwright Grammar School and was employed as a Clerk at Brown's Chemical Works in Savile Town, he was married to Annie Harrison (born in Dewsbury in 1891 and died in 1943) on April 22nd 1916 at All Saints Church, Dewsbury; they had a daughter, Ellen Annie, born in 1916 and lived at 13, Elmwood Grove, Mount Street, Batley. Annie was remarried in 1932 to Frederick Mather (born in 1899 and died in 1948).

He enlisted in May 1918 into the East Yorkshire Regiment with the Service Number 39843 and was transferred to the 15th Battalion Lancashire Fusiliers serving as Private 63753. Home on leave in early September he returned to the front on the 12th. He sent a letter to his wife dated 26th September saying he was working in the Company Office and considered himself quite clear from danger, but was killed in action in France on 30th September 1918; he was buried in Uplands Cemetery, Magny-la-Fosse, Aisne, France. Percy was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

Magny-la-Fosse is a village about 10 kilometres north of St. Quentin, 2 kilometres east of the road from St. Quentin to Cambrai. Uplands Cemetery is 2 kilometres north-east of the village on the road to Joncourt. The village of Magny-la-Fosse was taken by the 46th (North Midland) Division on 29th September 1918, after their capture of Bellenglise, but the cemetery belongs rather to the 32nd Division, who followed after them. Uplands Cemetery contains 43 burials of the First World War, three of them unidentified.

Percy is commemorated on the Dewsbury Cenotaph in Crow Nest Park and in the Dewsbury Roll of Honour kept in Dewsbury Central Library and on the Batley War Memorial and on the War Memorial in Holy Trinity Church, Batley Carr and on the Memorial Plaque to former pupils in Wheelwright Grammar School.

In Memory of

Private

P Archer

63753, 15th Bn., Lancashire Fusiliers who died on 30 September 1918 Age 25

Son of William and Ellen Annie Archer; husband of Annie Archer, of 13, Elmwood Grove, Mount St., Batley, Yorks.

Remembered with Honour

Uplands Cemetery, Magny-La-Fosse



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

