



Herbert Jesse Carey

41584 Private, 2nd/6th Battalion, The Prince of Wales (North Staffordshire Regiment)
formerly 25249 Norfolk Regiment

He died on 15th April 1918 in France, aged 34

Herbert was buried at Le Grand Beaumart British Cemetery, Steenwerck, France

Herbert was born in Woodton, Norfolk, being baptised in the local church in mid 1884. His father, George, gave his profession in the '91 census as that of an agricultural labourer, all very standard.. However, not quite so normal, was the fact that his wife was 20 years younger than himself, came from Yorkshire and, of the six children at home, next to the Woodton school house, only the last two had been born in the same place – Woodton.. George claimed to be from 'Swaite' and the four older children from Wharren Lee St, Hunmanby, Santon and Calfors. This I find all a little confusing – perhaps the census taker was equally confused and he just put down what he heard!

So going back 10 years and the family are indeed living up in Yorkshire; King Street, Sancton, to be precise, but now George gives his birth place as Woodton (where the family had returned to by the mid 1880's) and the older children's birth places are given as Wharram¹, Hunmanby² and Sancton³ - all in Yorkshire.

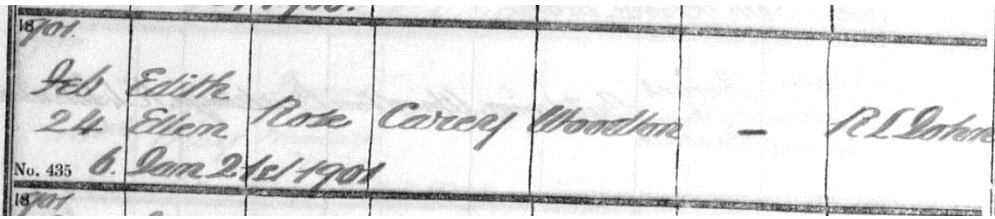
Having ironed out most of the glitches of the 1891 census, we are still left with the query as to how a Norfolk labourer wound up touring the backwaters of Yorkshire before returning to his hometown. Not so unusual today, but 140 years ago – most unusual! George had married Hannah Moll in Driffield, the East Riding of Yorkshire back in early 1878, some little time after the birth of their oldest son. In all the censuses I can find, she gives her birth place as being Grimstone, it was actually Wharram le Street, where she, Rose Hannah Moll was living with her widowed mother in 1871 and it was her mother who came from Grimstone!

Continuing on with the 1901 census, the family have actually remained in Loddon but now George is claiming birth in Mundham – almost pick a place and guess! Hannah has remembered she was born in Wharram le Street and 3 of the four older Yorkshire born children are still at home following the unremarkable trades of carter, cook and bricklayer's labourer whilst the youngest is a scholar and an infant grand daughter has been added to the mix. This little girl is the illegitimate daughter of the oldest of 20 years old Rose, the Cook (domestic) and has the delightful name of Edith Ellen Carey.

¹ Wharram-le-Street is a village and civil parish in the Ryedale district of North Yorkshire, England. The population as of the 2011 census was less than 100.

² Hunmanby is a large village and civil parish in the Scarborough district of North Yorkshire, England. It was historically part of the East Riding of Yorkshire until 1974

³ Sancton is a village and civil parish in the East Riding of Yorkshire, England.



Baptism entry for Herbert's illegitimate niece.



No 29 Warwick Square

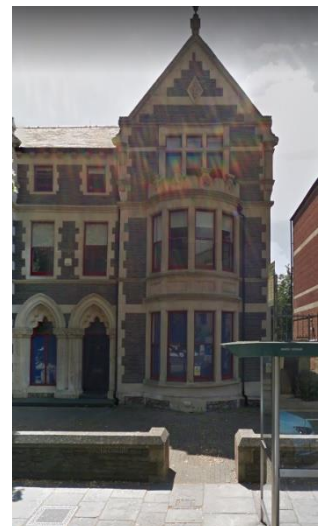
So, where is Herbert – certainly not in this rather overcrowded slightly chaotic household! He, as a 17-year-old, is up in London starting a career in domestic service. On the bottom rung at the moment he is a footman working for a solicitor in the rather nice 29, Warwick Square. The head of the household, Evelyn Napier Fellowes comes from Norfolk himself, possibly explaining why he has two Norfolk born servants amongst the staff of 6 looking after himself, his wife and their two children. Fellowes himself came from a Norfolk family of clerics and must have been doing rather well. His marriage to Wynefred may have helped launch his career,

she was the daughter of a wealthy silk merchant who was also a collector of Porcelain and the works of Turner which he also vigorously promoted. No.29, Warwick Square is not only a very nice Georgian house in a very nice part of London but it is on a corner and is seriously big!

Herbert would have been working in a house, not only of money, but also culture. The fact that, at 17, Herbert had a job as a footman indicates he is likely to be above average height, of regular features and reasonably reticent. One would not want a spotty oik welcoming or ushering in one's visitors!

10 years on and Herbert has moved even further away from his roots, again working for a solicitor, he is now employed as a valet, several stages up from being a footman. However, the establishment is rather less grand, the 78 years old John Pybus Ingledew was then living with two unmarried daughters and a son and a daughter in law at 9, Cathedral Road, Cardiff. Positively bijou compared to the Warwick Sq property but still working for a man born into money and privilege.! Some 55 years earlier Ingledew was touring Egypt and in the manner of the times, scratching his name into ancient monuments!

Philae - The Kiosk of Trajan,



ROBERT. WOOD 1854
I. R. INGLEDREW NEWCASTLE. 1854

John Pybus Ingledeu, was born 31 October 1832, Newcastle upon Tyne, died 31 December 1915

He visited Egypt between December 1853/May 1854. He visited, accompanied with Robert Wood (the son of his former landlord) the island of Philae on Thursday 19 January 1854 and returned to visit Philae on Sunday 22 January.

The Egypt diary of John Pybus Ingledeu consists of 54 pages

In contrast, in 1911, Herbert's widowed mother was still living in Woodton with her oldest son, Henry Moll Casey, agricultural labourer and it seems that she had had 8 children, one of whom must have died quite young as it failed to appear in the census returns. She was making ends meet by charring – rough heavy cleaning work. Another child, George, was a bricklayer's labourer, newly married. Rose had also got married, in 1905, 4 years after the birth of her daughter, to a James Edward Cooper (labourer son of a labourer) he was away on the night of the 1911 census. Instead Rosa, living out at the Brickyard Cottages, Oulton Broad, is being visited by her younger sister Sarah and is at home with her first child Edith and one of the two children she has had with her husband who was 5 years her junior! Rosa has obviously moved into her new family's territory, next door to her is Ada Cooper, also at home with 5 children and no husband in sight in spite of being married. Maybe the Cooper husbands were brothers and had gone off on a jolly? Or perhaps, since when they had a double baptism of the baby that precipitated the marriage and his younger brother, Alderman gave his profession as a fisherman they were out on the boat. And indeed, going back 10 years and Ada's husband, Alderman Cooper⁴, is at home, in the brickyard cottages with his father, Samuel (living 2 doors away in 1911) and Rosa's 'husband-to-be' James. Very snug!

No next of kin was listed for Herbert Carey – I did wonder if, in the quarter of a century since he left home, he had more or less cut himself off from his family. I suspect that his family were largely if not entirely illiterate, hence the multiple confusions about birth places, so letter writing would not have featured. He was working in grand houses focussing on presentation and decorum. His relatives were continuing in the family tradition of working at manual labour.

It may be that his family thought him less of a man in his servile work but Carey had a demanding war by anyone's standards. Whilst still in the Norfolk regiment, Pte Carey was reported wounded in the daily casualty lists on both the 3rd of November 1916 and on the 22nd of December 1917.

NORFOLK REGIMENT.—Burroughs 241881 S. (Bristol); Carey 25249 H. J. (Harleston); Dickerson 265415 F. E. (Swaffham); Coles 241658 A. (Weston-super-Mare); Duroe 40542 J. (Wolverhampton); Fitzgerald 40690 M. (Dublin); Hayton 6930 G. (Great Yarmouth); Linley 33307 H. (Sheffield); Matthews 15056 Sjt. L. (Stoke Ferry); Savage 33025 A. (Norwich); Vaughan 13302 L.-Sjt. E. T. (Hornsey, N.); Watson 40042 L.-Cpl. A. (South Ruston).

Daily Casualty
List.
22nd Dec. '17.

This still leaves the question as to how he got from Cardiff back to Harleston in order to enlist. I initially took a guess that he had left the service of Mr Ingleby, taken employment with a local

⁴ Married 7th July 1901

family – maybe the Pratts or Hazards, enlisted at Harleston and on his death, his former employer lobbied for him to be commemorated on the local memorial.

However, when I was able to access Herbert's Will (soldiers were encouraged to make a 'soldiers will, a simple document specifically designed for serving men) it transpired that his mother had moved to Wortwell. Carey left all his effects and possessions to his mother in Wortwell, near Harleston. This puts a different slant on Carey's enlistment. It would be more likely that he had left his employment with the firm intention of enlisting, visited his mother in Wortwell and then enlisted at the nearest recruiting centre which was off course Harleston. His mother's residence in Wortwell would of course explain why he was acknowledged on the Broad Street memorial.

Carey's 'Soldier's will'.

He certainly deserved some recognition of the suffering he had endured for his country before finally succumbing, possibly to disease as his status was given as 'died' rather than 'killed in action', 'missing assumed dead' or 'died of wounds'.

18 ..
WILL.

In the event of my death I give the whole of my property and effects to my mother, Mrs Hannah Carey Wortwell near Harleston Norfolk

Signature *Herbert J. Carey*
Rank and Regt. *14th No 25549 Norfolk Regt.*
Date *24 July 1916*