

William Richard Picton (Pickton) was born in June 1891 in Brentford and lived with his father William, a coal foreman and mother Mary Anne (née Gardner) who were both also born in Brentford. By 1901 the family were living at 40 Catherine Wheel Yard, Brentford and William had 2 brothers and 2 sisters: Elizabeth (1892) who later married Leonard James Heath on 15th August 1915 and lived at 5 Wilton Avenue, Richmond; Harry (1894) Nellie (1898) and Arthur (1900).

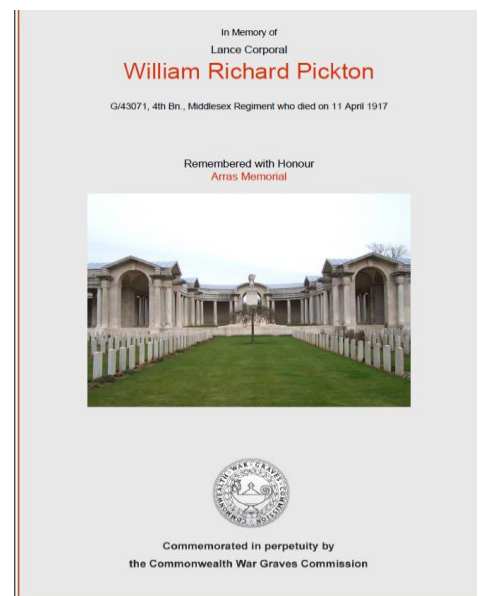


In 1911 the family had moved a few doors away to 34 Catherine Wheel Yard and William senior was a night watchman at the Metro Water Board. William Richard aged 20 was working as a storekeeper's assistant at a barge builder's yard; Elizabeth aged 19 was a general servant; Harry aged 17 is listed as formerly a van boy; Arthur is 11 and the family have another daughter, Louie, aged 9.

William enlisted in Northampton to the Royal West Surrey Regiment, private 12048. He was promoted to Lance Corporal in the 4th Battalion, Middlesex Regiment (G/43071) and died on 11th April 1917. He is buried in the Faubourg d'Amiens cemetery and commemorated on the Arras memorial. His brother Arthur enlisted into the 8th Battalion Middlesex Regiment at Ealing and served with the Duke of Cambridge's Own Middlesex Regiment (5189). He saw home service from 3rd November 1915 to 26th April 1916. He is also remembered at All Saints, Isleworth.



c1915 Ordnance Survey Map- Catherine Wheel Yard, Brentford



Certificate included with the permission of the CWGC