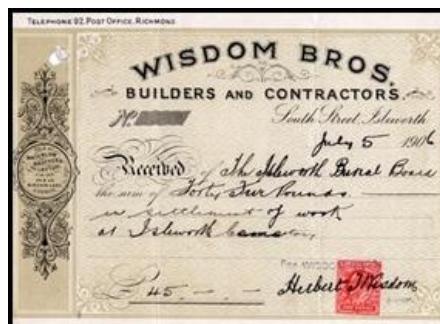
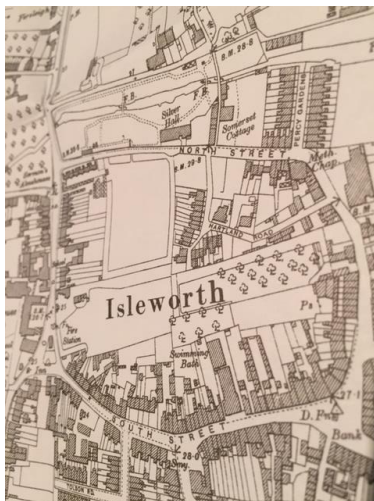


George Francis James Wisdom



George was born in March 1888 to William and Anne Wisdom (nee Cormick). William was a successful builder and they lived in Cedar Cottage, 41 Worton Road. George had 6 older brothers and sisters: Minnie Eliza, William Towers, John, Herbert Thomas, Margaret and Isabel Mary. In 1898, William sat on the county council of Middlesex for Isleworth. When Chiswick Urban District Council was formed in the 1890s, the original Town Hall was enlarged by William Wisdom for £20,000, completed in 1901. In the census of 1891, William and Anne are living at 9 South Street, Isleworth with Minnie, William, John and Herbert. William is listed as a Master Builder employing 4 men and 2 boys. By 1901, George was a student at the Emmanuel School in Wandsworth Common, aged 13. Minnie was working as an Elementary School Mistress; William and Herbert were builder's assistants and Margaret and Isabel were Pupil Teachers in an Elementary School. George had a new brother, Colin born in 1892.

In 1907, Minnie married John George Carey, a civil engineer and surveyor. William's headed paper gave his address as South Street, Isleworth. Nowadays, Wisdom Court occupies the site of his former offices. In the 1911 Census, William Wisdom was listed as a Box and Packing Case Maker.



Above left: Isleworth including South Street in 1894. George Wisdom's offices would have been opposite the Public Baths.

Above centre: a receipt from 1906 for work on Isleworth Cemetery

Above right: a letterhead from an 1871 invoice.

George enlisted into the Canadian Pioneers 3rd Battalion on 4th May, 1914 in Victoria, British Columbia as Private 431024. The Pioneers landed in France on 9th March, 1916 and were used to support the British Sherwood Foresters Pioneers at Ypres. George died of his wounds on 17th June, 1916, aged 28. He is buried in the Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery, Grave V111 A. 36. George is also remembered on the memorial at Isleworth and Syon School, formerly Isleworth County School. George's brother, Colin Matson also lost his life aged 26, on April 9th 1917, serving with the Canadian Infantry (16372) at Vimy Ridge.

