

Edmund Frederick Ames (31 January 1896 - 1 April 1917)

Edmund was the son of Joseph Valentine and Alice Sophia Ames (nee Bucket) who married on 13 October 1889 in Bethnal Green, London. Joseph was born in the Bloomsbury area of London. Edmund's mother Alice was born in Bethnal Green, London.

Joseph and Alice had 4 children so Edmund had a brother and 2 sisters. They were Harold Valentine born in South Hackney in 1890, Gladys Mary born 1899 and Ethel Grace born in 1903. Like Edmund, both his sisters were born in Bethnal Green, where the family lived for many years. Edmund attended both Olga Street School and then Malmesbury Road School in Tower Hamlets from the age of 6. Edmund's father, Joseph, was listed as an Undertaker or an Undertaker's assistant in both the 1901 and 1911 Censuses.

By 1911 the Ames family, Joseph and Alice and all four children, had moved to 30 Loring Road, Isleworth. At that time Edmund was aged 15 and his occupation was a Gardener.

In February 1912 Edmund's older brother Harold enlisted in the Royal Artillery Regiment aged 20. He had previously been employed as an Assistant Fishmonger & Poulterer at John Fisher, King's Parade, Isleworth. He rose to the rank of Sergeant in the Artillery by 1917 and served both in France and Mesopotamia between 1914 and 1918. Harold survived World War One.



30 Loring Road, Isleworth

Edmund enlisted as a Private on 30 August 1915 at Stamford Brook, Middlesex. He was in the 8th Battalion of the Duke of Cambridge's Own (Middlesex Regiment) which was part of the Territorial Force with its HQ at 202a Hanworth Road, Hounslow. Edmund served in France and in March/April 1917 his Battalion was in action during the German retreat to the Hindenburg Line. In the latter part of March 1917, British patrols found some of the German front line trenches empty and allied troops advanced, consolidating their position as they progressed. However by the end of March the allies were again meeting greater resistance from enemy forces. There was a series of engagements on 1 and 2 April in which the towns of Savy and Selency were taken and the allies advanced within 2 miles of St Quentin. Edmund died on 1 April 1917. Initially he was buried on the battlefield but later was exhumed and re-buried and is now commemorated at the Tilloy British Cemetery, Tilloy les Mofflaines, Pas de Calais, France.

