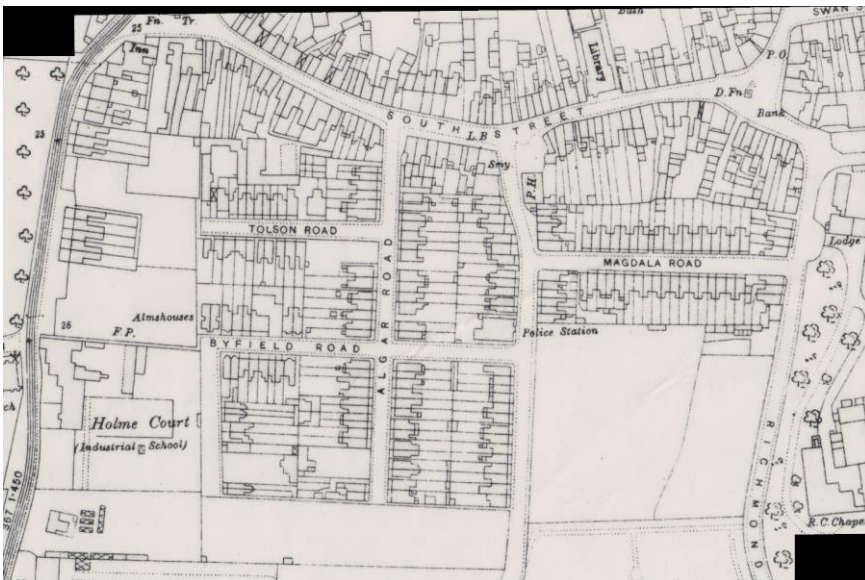


## Herbert Mills



Herbert Mills was born in Hammersmith in 1881 to George Walter Mills from Hammersmith and Emily Mills (née Moorcroft) from Gillingham in Dorset. George was working as an Oilman Assistant and they were living at 38 Atwell Road, Lambeth and had four other children: Edith Augusta born 1871; Walter born 1874; Ernest born 1877 and Emily Ann born 1879.

By 1891 the family had moved to 3 Whitestone Villas in Acton and George was working as a Collector. Emily was listed as a Caretaker and Ernest, aged 13, was an errand boy. Herbert's sister Edith Augusta married Walter Toms in September 1891 and by 1901 they were living at 7 Willow Cottages in Chiswick with their son, Walter William born in 1893 and their daughter Gladys Eleanor born 1896. Herbert had also moved to Chiswick and in 1901 was working as a painter and paper hanger and was a boarder at 46 Belmont Grove, Chiswick. In 1908 he married Anne (née Vickery) from Severton, Somerset and they had Muriel Eileen in December 1908 and Violet Emily in January 1911. In 1911, the family lived at 1 Home Cottages, Byfield Road Isleworth and Herbert worked as a house painter. By 1915, they were living at 15, Byfield Road. **See below left for a 1915 map of the Byfield Road, Algar Road and Worple Road area in Isleworth.**



By 1911 Herbert's parents had moved to 47 Leslie Grove, East Croydon where George, 62, worked as a Commission Agent. Emily, now 69, was listed as an invalid. Their daughter Edith and her husband Walter Toms had also moved to 30 Leslie Park Road, East Croydon. Walter was a self-employed plumber and their son Walter aged 17 was an Engineering Apprentice. Gladys was 14 and they had a new baby, Leonard George, aged 7 months. Walter's brother, Richard, aged 30 was also

living with them and working as a painter. Herbert's elder brother, Ernest, aged 34 was an inmate in the St Pancras workhouse at 4 Kings Road, Camden Town and was listed as "previously a plumber".

Herbert enlisted in Hounslow into the Princess Charlotte of Wales's (Royal Berkshire) Regiment, 6th Battalion as Private 18155. This Battalion was formed at Reading in September 1914 under the command of the 53rd Brigade in the 18th (Eastern) Division. They moved to Colchester and onto Salisbury Plain in May 1915. Herbert first served abroad with them on 16th December 1915. The Battalion saw active service in 1916 at Albert, Delville Wood and the Battle of Thiepval Ridge, then in 1917 on the Ancre, during the German retreat to the Hindenburg Line, at the 3rd Battle of the Scarpe and at Passchendaele. Herbert died on 9th November, 1917 from wounds received while fighting and was awarded the 15 star, Victory and British medals. He was buried at Dozinghem Military Cemetery in West-Vlaanderen, Belgium, grave ref. XV. B. 2. Herbert is also remembered on the Memorial in St Bridget's Church, Memorial Square, Isleworth.