



Frederick Herbert Tomlins (Q3 1892- 26 April 1915)

Frederick was born in Croydon, Surrey in 1892. He was the eldest son of Albert Thomas and Jane Elizabeth Tomlins (nee Heading). Albert and Jane had both been born in Stanmore, Middlesex and married in Hendon in 1892. They had eight children so Frederick had five younger sisters (Dorothy, Violet, Daisy, Gladys and Jessie) and two younger brothers (Albert and Leslie). In 1901 the family were living at 39 Askew Road, Hammersmith.

Father Albert was working as an electrical engineer. By 1911 Frederick, his mother and siblings were all living at 56 Pages Avenue, Hove in Sussex. At the time of the census, their father Albert was visiting a family in Hammersmith where his brother William was a boarder. In 1911 his mother Jane was working as a confectionery dealer, Frederick aged 18 as an electrician's assistant, Dorothy aged 16, was employed as a packer of chemicals and Violet, aged 14 was assisting in the confectionery business. The four younger children were at school. By 1913 Frederick was living at 37 Argyle Road, Hanwell and was working as an electrician.

Frederick attested into the Middlesex Regiment in Ealing in June 1913. He was nearly 21 when he joined the 8th Battalion as a Private. He was embodied on 4 August 1914. Initially he served at Gibraltar from September 1914 until February 1915. After a few weeks back in England, his Battalion joined the British Expeditionary Force in France on 9 March 1915.

In April 1915 Frederick's regiment was involved in fierce fighting near Zonnebeke in defence of the British front line at Ypres.

On 25th and 26th April the 8th Battalion Middlesex Regiment was sent to support the Canadians as the enemy had advanced and taken some of the allied trenches. There was close combat fighting with bayonets and along with machine gun support from the Royal Fusiliers, they eventually forced a partial enemy retreat. However, the Battalion suffered many losses in a few days. The Middlesex Chronicle reported that the 8th Battalion alone had 61 killed, 210 wounded and 38 recorded as missing. Among the missing was Frederick, then aged 23.



Menin Gate at Ypres

Name	Corps	Rank	Regt. No.
TOMLINS	Middx. R.	Pvt	2125
Frederick. H			
Medal	Roll	Page	Remarks
VICTORY	5/1/02	338	6336
BRITISH	21/10/16	1619	
15 STAR			
Theatre of War first served in	(1) Ypres		
Date of entry therein	9-3-15		

Medal Index Card for Frederick H Tomlins

More than a year later in July 1916, Frederick was presumed to have died on or after 26 April 1915. He is remembered on the Menin Gate Memorial at Ypres and also at All Saints Church in Isleworth.