

Private Arthur Edward Mansell
Regimental Number: 35247
1/4th Battalion, Loyal North Lancashire Regiment

born: 1895 - died: 21 May 1918

Arthur Edward Mansell was the sixth son of William and Maria (nee Coe) Mansell of Salter's Lode, just outside Dowham Market, Norfolk. William and Maria, both from Norfolk, were married in the spring of 1885.¹ Their first son, John, was born in the winter of 1885.² A second son, Charles Coe, was born in 1886,³ but died the following year.⁴ They then had four more sons: George (born in 1887),⁵ Harry (born in 1890),⁶ Charles William (born in 1893)⁷ and Arthur (born in 1895). Their seventh child was a daughter: Mabel May L (born in 1901).⁸

William was a farm labourer, becoming a farm foreman by 1911. All his sons followed in his footsteps. Three (John, Harry and Charlie) were horsemen on a farm and Arthur was a farm yardman.⁹ William and Maria's third son, George, had died in 1909.¹⁰ In 1911, they were all living at Fryer's Farm, Salter's Lode.¹¹

Arthur enlisted in Norwich in the 10th Battalion (Territorial Force) of the Loyal North Lancashire Regiment. Later he transferred to the 9th Battalion and finally to the 1/4th Battalion.¹² The 10th Battalion was disbanded in France in February 1918.¹³ Perhaps Arthur transferred to the 9th Battalion then.

In May 1918, when he was admitted to the 1st Canadian Casualty Clearing Station, he was serving with the 1/4th Battalion near Pas de Calais in northern France. He was admitted on 20 May with gun shot wounds to his leg and back. He died and was buried in the Pernes British Military Cemetery (Plot 1, Row F, Grave 23) the following day. He was 22 years old. He was a member of the Church of England and the chaplain, J. K. Tibbitts, presided over the burial. His mother, who was then at Newbridge Farm in Salter's Lode, was notified of his death.¹⁴ His father received the monies the army owed William after his death.¹⁵

On 20 May, 370 soldiers were admitted to the 1st Canadian Casualty Clearing Station – by far the highest number of admissions in any one day that month.¹⁶ This brought the total number of patients to 522. In the whole month of May, there were 115 deaths at this CCCS – more than in any of the other three and a half months that the 1st CCCS was in Pernes. The Pernes British Military Cemetery was only set up in April 1918 when the 1st and 4th Canadian Casualty Clearing Stations came to Pernes, driven back by the German advance.¹⁷

Arthur was awarded the British War Medal (for service overseas between 1914 and 1918) and the Victory Medal (for service in an operational theatre).¹⁸

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¹"England & Wales, FreeBMD Marriage Index, 1837-1915," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.co.uk: accessed 11 December 2014), entry for William Mansell, Registration district: Downham, Inferred County: Norfolk, , Volume: 4b, Page: 637

²"England & Wales, FreeBMD Birth Index, 1837-1915," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.co.uk: accessed 11 December 2014), entry for John Mansell, Registration district: Downham, Inferred County: Norfolk, Volume: 4b, Page: 350

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- ³ "England & Wales, FreeBMD Birth Index, 1837-1915," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.co.uk; accessed 11 December 2014), entry for Charles Coe Mansell, Registration district: Downham, Inferred County: Norfolk, Volume: 4b, Page: 366
- ⁴ "England & Wales, FreeBMD Death Index, 1837-1915," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.co.uk; accessed 11 December 2014), entry for Charles Coe Mansell, Registration district: Downham, County: Norfolk, Volume: 4b, Page: 249
- ⁵ "England & Wales births 1837-2006," *Findmypast* (www.findmypast.co.uk; accessed 11 December 2014), entry for George Mansell, District: Downham, County: Norfolk, Volume: 3B, Page: 356
- ⁶ "England & Wales, FreeBMD Birth Index, 1837-1915," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.co.uk; accessed 11 December 2014), entry for Harry Mansell, Registration district: Downham, Inferred County: Norfolk, Volume: 4b, Page: 311
- ⁷ "England & Wales births 1837-2006," *Findmypast* (www.findmypast.co.uk; accessed 11 December 2014), entry for Charles William Mansell, District: Downham, County: Norfolk, Volume: 4B, Page: 337
- ⁸ "England & Wales births 1837-2006," *Findmypast* (www.findmypast.co.uk; accessed 11 December 2014), entry for Mabel May L. Mansell, District: Downham, County: Norfolk, Volume: 4B, Page: 332A
- ⁹ "1911 England Census," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.co.uk; accessed 3 December 2014), entry for Arthur Mansell, County/Island: Norfolk, Registration district: Downham, Registration District Number: 237, Sub-registration district: Downham, ED, institution, or vessel: 3, Household schedule number: 114, Piece: 11670
- ¹⁰ "England & Wales deaths 1837-2007," *Findmypast* (www.findmypast.co.uk; accessed 11 December 2014), entry for George Mansell, District: Downham, County: Norfolk, Volume: 4B, Page: 229
- ¹¹ "1911 England Census," entry for Arthur Mansell
- ¹² "UK, WWI Service Medal and Award Rolls, 1914-1920," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.co.uk; accessed 11 December 2014), entry for Arthur Edward Mansell
- ¹³ "The Long, Long Trail: The Loyal North Lancashire Regiment: Battalions of the Regular Army (<http://www.1914-1918.net/loyals.htm>; accessed 11 December 2014)
- ¹⁴ "Record of Deaths, 17 February 1916 - 10 February 1919, a record maintained at No. 1 CCCS," Library and Archives Canada, (records accessed 2013 & 2014), Record Group 9, series IIC10, volume 4556, Record number 511
- ¹⁵ "UK, Army Registers of Soldiers' Effects, 1901-1929," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.co.uk; accessed 19 January 2015), entry for Arthur Edward Mansell
- ¹⁶ "War Diaries of the First World War: 1st Canadian Casualty Clearing Station 1914/08/13-1919/03/31," *Library and Archives Canada* (http://data4.collectionscanada.gc.ca/netacgi/nph-brs?s1=casualty+clearing&s13=&s12=&l=20&s9=RG9&s7=9-52&Sect1=IMAGE&Sect2=THESOFF&Sect4=AND&Sect5=WARDPEN&Sect6=HITOFF&d=FIN&p=1&u=http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/archivianet/02015202_e.html&r=1&f=G; accessed 15 December 2014)
- ¹⁷ "Pernes British Military Cemetery" *Commonwealth War Graves Commission* (<http://www.cwgc.org/find-a-cemetery/cemetery/11600/PERNES%20BRITISH%20CEMETERY>; accessed 13 January 2015)
- ¹⁸ "British Army WWI Medal Rolls Index Cards, 1914-1920," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.co.uk; accessed 11 December 2014), entry for Arthur Edward Mansell