

Private Alfred Herbert Lodge

Regimental Number: 41120

8th Battalion, King's Own (Royal Lancaster Regiment)

born: 1899 - died: 7 July 1918

Private Alfred Herbert Lodge, born in 1899 in Nottingham, was the son of Albert and Ellen Lodge.¹ His father, also Alfred Herbert, was born in about 1868 in Leeds, Yorkshire, and his mother, the former Ellen Ratcliffe,² was born in about 1867 in Nottingham. Alfred and Ellen were married, also in Nottingham, in 1892. Alfred was one of the couple's eight children – six daughters and two sons: Florence (born in about 1893), Gladys Annie (born in about 1895), Beatrice E. (born in about 1898), Alfred Herbert, Lizziebeth (born in about 1901), Charles Ratcliffe (born in about 1906), Lily (born in about 1908) and Ida (born in about 1910).³

In 1901, the family was living at 6 Skirbeck Terrace in Nottingham and his father was a silk drawer.⁴ In 1911, the family was living at 45 Citadel Street, Nottingham, but now his father was identified as a bricklayer's labourer, working for a cycle works.⁵ It is likely that Alfred's mother died early in 1917.⁶

Alfred enlisted in the King's Own (Royal Lancaster Regiment). When he died, he was serving with the 8th Battalion, which was a service battalion that had been posted to France in September 1915.⁷ Alfred almost certainly did not go to the Front until much later.

On 7 July 1918, the Battalion was on the Front Line.⁸ Although the day was fine and fairly quiet there were shell rounds and bombardments at two points on the line in the morning. This is perhaps where Alfred was injured. He was admitted to the 1st Canadian Casualty Clearing Station on 7 July with shell wounds to his face and chest.⁹ He died the same day and was buried the following day in Pernes British Military Cemetery (Plot 5, Row E, Grave No. 2) with the chaplain, R. K. Lambert, presiding. Alfred was identified as a member of the Congregational Church.

Alfred was one of 30 patients admitted to the 1st CCCS on 7 July and one of 39 who died there that month.¹⁰ Most of the over 1,000 First World War soldiers buried in the Pernes British Military Cemetery died at one of the nearby clearing stations.¹¹ This 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.

His father, who was still at 45 Citadel Street in Nottingham, was notified by letter of his son's death. He also received the monies owing to him from the army after his death.¹²

Alfred was awarded the British War Medal (for service overseas between 1914 and 1918) and the Victory Medal (for service in an operational theatre).¹³

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¹ "1911 England Census," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.co.uk; accessed 24 April 2015), entry for Alfred Herbert Lodge, Registration district: Nottingham, Registration District Number: 430, Sub-registration district: Nottingham North West, ED, institution, or vessel: 39, Piece: 20630

² "England & Wales marriages 1837-2008," *findmypast* (www.findmypast.co.uk; accessed 24 April 2015), entry for Alfred Herbert Lodge, District: Nottingham, County: Nottinghamshire, Volume: 7B, Page: 443

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- ³ "1901 England Census," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.co.uk; accessed 24 April 2015), entry for Alfred H. Lodge, Registration district: Nottingham, Sub-registration district: Nottingham South West, ED, institution, or vessel: 12, Piece: 3165, Folio: 84, Page Number: 37, Household schedule number: 222; "1911 England Census," entry for Alfred Herbert Lodge
- ⁴ "1901 England Census," entry for Alfred H. Lodge
- ⁵ "1911 England Census," entry for Alfred Herbert Lodge
- ⁶ "England & Wales, FreeBMD Death Index, 1837-1915," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.co.uk; accessed 2 June 2015), entry for Ellen Lodge, Registration district: Nottingham, Inferred County: Nottinghamshire, Volume: 7b, Page: 487
- ⁷ "Kings Own (Royal Lancaster) Regiment 8th Btn," The Wartime Memories Project (<http://www.wartimememoriesproject.com/>; accessed 24 April 2015)
- ⁸ "UK, WWI War Diaries (France, Belgium and Germany), 1914-1920," Division: 3rd Division, Diary Dates: 1915 - 1919, 1915 - 1918, Diary Entry Location: 76th Brigade. 3rd Division. 1/8th Battalion King's Own Royal Lancaster Regiment August 1918, Regiments in Diary: King's Own Royal Lancaster Regiment, Royal Welsh Fusiliers, Piece Description: Piece 1436: 76 Infantry Brigade (1915 - 1919), Piece Number: 1436
- ⁹ "Record of Deaths, 17 February 1916 - 10 February 1919, a record maintained at No. 1 CCCS," Library and Archives Canada, (records accessed 2013 & 2015), Record Group 9, series IIC10, volume 4556, Record number 611
- ¹⁰ "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=FINN&p=1&u=http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/archivianet/02015202_e.html&r=1&f=G)
- ¹¹ "Pernes British Military Cemetery" *Commonwealth War Graves Commission* (<http://www.cwgc.org/find-a-cemetery/cemetery/11600/PERNES%20BRITISH%20CEMETERY>; accessed 13 January 2015)
- ¹² "UK, Army Registers of Soldiers' Effects, 1901-1929," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.co.uk; accessed 19 January 2015), entry for Alfred Sterbert Lodge
- ¹³ "British Army WWI Medal Rolls Index Cards, 1914-1920," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.co.uk; accessed 24 April 2015), entry for Lodge, Alfred H.