

## **Lance Corporal Frederick Ernest Barrett<sup>©</sup>**

**Regimental number: 9674**

**9th (Service) Battalion, Royal Welsh Fusiliers**

**born: 20 August 1885–died: 18 August 1916**

Although Frederick Ernest Barrett served with the Royal Welsh Fusiliers, he is listed as one of the 66,000 Canadians who died in or because of the First World War.<sup>1</sup>

Frederick was born on 20 August 1885 at 26 Chetwynd Terrace in Hunslet, Yorkshire,<sup>2</sup> an area known for heavy industries such as steel and iron foundries and railway works. By 1920, it was included in the enlarged boundary of Leeds, Yorkshire.<sup>3</sup> His mother, Ann Eliza (née Lodge) Barrett (1865–1938),<sup>4</sup> the daughter of George and Ann (née Pearson) Lodge, was also born in Hunslet.<sup>5</sup> His father, William Barrett (1863–?),<sup>6</sup> the son of William and Elizabeth Barrett, was born in Woodnewton, Northamptonshire.<sup>7</sup> William and Ann Eliza married on 8 June 1885 at St. Mary the Virgin Anglican Church, Hunslet. William gave his occupation as a railway shunter.<sup>8</sup>

The couple had six children. Frederick Ernest was the eldest, followed by George Lodge (1887–1973),<sup>9</sup> Lucy (1889–1970),<sup>10</sup> Mabel (1891–1975),<sup>11</sup> Jessie (1892–1963)<sup>12</sup> and Annie (later known as Lillian Annie) (1894–1933).<sup>13</sup>

In 1891, William, Ann Eliza, and their three children, Frederick, George and Lucy, were living on Moor Crescent Road, Hunslet. William was working as a railway shunter; Ann Eliza did unpaid domestic chores.<sup>14</sup> During the next decade, three more children, Mabel, Jessie and Annie were born.

In 1901, Ann Eliza and five of her children were living at 18 Belle Vue Place, Holbeck, Yorkshire. According to the 1901 England Census she was married and the head of the household. Her husband William was not listed. Mabel, Jessie and Annie probably attended school, while 15-year-old Frederick and his younger brother George were working as delivery boys. Mary Ann Johnston, a 66-year-old widow, was visiting.<sup>15</sup> Lucy was living with her aunt, Emma Lodge, who ran a boarding house at 17 Bismarck Street in Hunslet.<sup>16</sup>

By 1905, some of the family had relocated to 66 Harley Street, Hanley, Staffordshire. This address was listed when Jessie and Annie enrolled at the Hanley Municipal Secondary School (Girls) in 1905 and 1907, respectively; their father's occupation was recorded as a fresh fish seller.<sup>17</sup> George gave this as his home address when he travelled to the United States in 1907. (He returned to England in 1908.)<sup>18</sup> Mabel also lived there until she emigrated to the United States in September 1909. She stayed with her aunt and uncle, Mary and William Cooper of Mount Morris, Livingston, New York.<sup>19</sup>

Frederick most likely enlisted in the British Army around this time. In 1911, he was with the 2nd Battalion, Royal Welsh Fusiliers (RWF), stationed at Robert's Barrack, Quetta, India.<sup>20</sup> That year, most of his siblings were still living in Hanley but at 60 Harley Street with their aunt, Emma Lodge. George was working as an aluminum works fitter, Lucy as a shop assistant, and Jessie and Annie as lithographers at a pottery works.<sup>21</sup>

This situation soon changed. On 11 June 1911, George emigrated to the United States on board the SS *Cymric*, giving his last address in England as 16 Princess St., Eastwood North, Hanley, where he lived with his father, William. George's destination was the home of Mary and William Cooper.<sup>22</sup>

In 1912, Frederick's sister Mabel, who was working as a telephone operator in the United States, married Henry R. Potts in Monroe, New York.<sup>23</sup> That same year, Jessie wed Walter Mellor in Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire.<sup>24</sup> On 25 April 1912, Ann Eliza, travelling under her maiden name, left Liverpool on board the SS *Baltic*, arriving in New York on 5 May 1912. She recorded that she was married and had been living with her sister, Emma Lodge, at 60 Harley Street, Hanley. Her final destination was Rochester, New York, where her sister Mary Cooper lived.<sup>25</sup> Annie most likely went to the United States around the same time.<sup>26</sup>

On 3 June 1913, George was living in Fort William (now Thunder Bay), Ontario, when he married Amy Ethel Cornes, who was originally from Stoke-on-Trent.<sup>27</sup> Amy arrived in Canada with her parents, Francis and Emma Cornes, on 15 May 1913 and travelled to Fort William to marry George.<sup>28</sup> Tragically, Amy died in childbirth on 23 March 1914 along with infant George Sidney Barrett.<sup>29</sup>

Frederick was also in Canada in 1914. He had left the army but was in the reserves. When war was declared on 4 August 1914, he returned to England to rejoin his regiment.<sup>30</sup> Frederick was in a "theatre of war" by 6 October 1914, with the 1st Battalion, RWF.<sup>31</sup>

This regiment, originally titled the 23rd Infantry of Foot, was raised in March 1689. By 1702, it was known as the Welsh Regiment of Fusiliers and by 1881 as the Royal Welsh Fusiliers. In 1914, it consisted of seven battalions, two in the regular army (1st and 2nd), one special reserve and four territorials. By the end of the First World War, 11,000 RWF members, serving in 40 battalions, had died in the conflict.<sup>32</sup>

The 1st Battalion, RWF, was stationed in Malta when the war broke out. It returned to England and was assigned to the 22nd Brigade of the 7th Division. It was at Lyndhurst Camp, Hampshire, when the 7th Division received orders to mobilize on 4 October 1914. The battalion embarked on HMT (His Majesty's Transport) *Winifredian* at Southampton, sailed to Dover, Kent, arriving at 8 p.m. and from there to Calais and on to Dunkirk, France. However, once there, the battalion was ordered back to Dover. The situation had changed. The 7th Division was needed to assist the British Expeditionary Force (BEF) and its allies in defending Antwerp, Belgium, so the division sailed to Zeebrugge, Belgium, arriving at 9 a.m. on 7 October.<sup>33</sup>

By then, Antwerp was overrun. The BEF retreated along with the Belgian and French forces ahead of the enemy's advance. The 1st Battalion, RWF, marched to Oostkamp, about 9 km from Bruges, Belgium, arriving at 4 p.m., and then moved on to Ghent to assist in the defence of the city. The roads were congested with not only soldiers but also countless refugees. From Ghent, it marched 22 km to Hansbeke and by 13 October was in Roulers (a.k.a. Roeselare), taking up defensive positions along the way. Once the Belgian and French armies' withdrawal to the Yser River was completed, the BEF moved to the town of Ypres, spending the night of 14/15 October.

Three days later, the 7th Division initiated a plan to gain control of the enemy-held area east of Ypres, near the town of Menin. The 1st Battalion, RWF, which was camped just north of the Menin Road at Becelaere, moved out at 5 a.m. on 19 October in the advance guard. It was ordered at 11:15 a.m. to attack the enemy at the village of Kleythoek. Although it did not receive the requested artillery support, "the attack was on the way to being successful"<sup>34</sup> when at 12:40 p.m., the battalion received orders to retreat, hold the high ground above Kezelberg and cover the retirement of three other regiments. "Because the battalion was closely engaged with the enemy, this order was not one that could be easily carried out."<sup>35</sup> At 3 p.m., the battalion retired to Zonnebeke: 2 officers and 17 other ranks (ORs) were dead, 4 officers and 84 ORs were wounded and 11 men were missing. The

battles for the territory around Ypres, this one later called The First Battle of Ypres (19 October to 22 November 1914), had begun.<sup>36</sup>

In the following days of fighting, the ranks of the 1st Battalion, RWF, were decimated as it held the line against the enemy's advance. On 22 October, on retiring to Ecksternest, it recorded 6 officers and 37 ORs killed, 3 officers and 80 ORs wounded and 6 officers and 213 ORs missing. The next day, while collecting the dead and wounded, some men were fired upon by enemy soldiers who were wearing blankets over their uniforms and thus were mistaken for BEF soldiers. Yet during this chaotic time, there was an amusing moment. On 24 October, three local goats joined the battalion's regimental goat,<sup>37</sup> following it everywhere and refusing to leave. The battalion moved on but left its mascot and its new friends for safekeeping with the 22nd Brigade's transport division because it could no longer care for one pet, let alone four.

On 30 October, the battalion was assigned to shallow trenches near the village of Zandvoorde. The enemy gained the high ground of Zandvoorde Ridge and fired upon the battalion, killing all but 86 ORs.<sup>38</sup> The 1st Battalion, RWF, would spend the following months rebuilding.

During this fighting in October 1914, Frederick was severely injured. To dress his wounds, medics cut away his uniform. His wallet, which contained a letter from his sister Jessie Mellor, was lost. Jessie received the wallet in June 1915. Bandsman S. Tibbrett of the 2nd Queen's Regiment had found it but was then wounded himself and was delayed in sending it to her.<sup>39</sup>

By then, Frederick had been discharged from hospital and was once more at the Front. Now a Lance Corporal with the 2nd Battalion, RWF, he experienced the rigours of trench warfare: day-to-day shelling, sniper fire, endless noise, mud, horrid stench and skirmishes, followed by rest periods behind the lines. One such skirmish occurred in late September 1915, when the battalion was in the trenches near Cambrin, France.<sup>40</sup> Frederick was again seriously wounded.<sup>41</sup> After he recovered, he was most likely transferred to the 9th (Service) Battalion, RWF,<sup>42</sup> which was formed at Wrexham, Wales, on 9 September 1914 and had joined the BEF at the Front on 19 July 1915.<sup>43</sup>

On 1 July 1916, Frederick was most likely with the 9th (Service) Battalion, 58th Infantry Brigade, 19th (Western) Division when the BEF attacked the enemy at the village of La Boisselle. The Battle of La Boisselle (a.k.a. the Battle of Albert, 1–13 July 1916) was the first of 12 battles covering the period 1 July 1916 to 18 November 1916, which became known as the Battle of the Somme.<sup>44</sup>

Before the attack, the BEF artillery bombarded the enemy trenches for five days. On 1 July 1916 at 7:28 a.m., the 179th Tunnelling Company, Royal Engineers, detonated the Lochnagar mine under the German army's trenches just south of the village of La Boisselle. It was a massive explosion creating a huge crater. However, enemy intelligence had discovered the plan and the damage to the enemy's forces was minimized.<sup>45</sup> The advancing BEF troops from the 34th Division, attempting to take La Boisselle, were decimated by the enemy's machine gun fire and bombardment.

The 9th (Service) Battalion, RWF, along with other regiments in the 58th Infantry Brigade, 19th Division, were ordered into the fray to take the enemy's second line at La Boisselle. Because of the congestion in the BEF communication trenches and the destruction of its frontline trenches, the battalion reached its start-off point at daybreak on 2 July and then was only able to proceed as far as the new crater before nightfall. The battalion once more received the order to attack and gain the objective regardless of its losses.<sup>46</sup> Under heavy bombardment and machine gun fire, the battalion did succeed with relatively few casualties because of its officers' skilful leadership.<sup>47</sup> Nonetheless,

from 1 to 4 July, 3 officers and 34 ORs were killed, 5 officers and 125 ORs were wounded, and 15 ORs were missing.<sup>48</sup>

The battalions of the 58th Infantry Brigade were congratulated by Major General T. Bridges, Commanding 19th Division, who felt that the storming of La Boisselle was “a feat that would live in history.”<sup>49</sup>

The battalion remained in the area until it was relieved. By 7 August, it was in the frontline trenches on the Kemmel–Vierstraat Road near Bailleul, France. It was relieved at midnight on 13 August and retired to the Brigade Reserve at R. C. Farm. On 14 August, HRH King George V inspected the 19th Division’s recipients of military awards at 5th Corps Headquarters. Two members of the 9th (Service) Battalion were honoured.

The battalion returned to the frontline trenches on the evening of 19 August but without Lance Corporal Frederick Ernest Barrett. Sometime around 18 August, Frederick had been critically wounded. How, when, and where this occurred was not recorded. He was taken to No. 1 Canadian Casualty Clearing Station (CCCS) at Bailleul, France. A casualty clearing station was a medical unit behind the front lines, usually located near transportation. Casualties who could not be adequately treated were stabilized before being transported to a military hospital.<sup>50</sup> Frederick might have been one of four injured men admitted on 17 August or one of three admitted on 18 August. He was one of two who died on Friday, 18 August.<sup>51</sup> His death was recorded by the No. 1 CCCS chaplain<sup>52</sup> and reported in the *Staffordshire Sentinel* on 19 September 1916.<sup>53</sup>

Lance Corporal Frederick Ernest Barrett was buried at Bailleul Communal Cemetery Extension, Nord (Grave/Memorial Reference II. F. 166).<sup>54</sup> Bailleul is in France, close to the Belgian border. It was occupied on 14 October 1914 and became an important railhead, air depot and hospital centre. Several casualty clearing stations, including No. 1 CCCS, were quartered there. The earliest Commonwealth burials at Bailleul were made in April 1915. An extension was built and burials continued until April 1918; they occurred again in September and after the Armistice, when soldiers’ remains were brought in from the neighbouring battlefields.

Frederick was posthumously awarded the 1914 Star (for service in France or Belgium between 5 August and midnight of 22/23 November 1914, the end of the First Battle of Ypres), the Victory Medal (for service in an operational theatre), and the British War Medal (for service overseas between 1914 and 1918).<sup>55</sup> As next of kin, Frederick’s sister Lucy, who was working as a nurse in Leeds, Yorkshire, received his medals as well as a memorial plaque and a parchment scroll. His aunt Emma Lodge was the beneficiary of his will. On 2 March 1917, she received his savings, £6 14s 5d. and a war gratuity of £11 10s on 10 November 1919.<sup>56</sup>

The Barrett family’s world continued without Frederick. His sister **Annie**, now known as **Lillian Annie**, married Earl Clement Rayner on 19 May 1917 in Indiana.<sup>57</sup> His brother **George**, on one of his visits to England, married Ada Jervis, originally from Hanley, Staffordshire,<sup>58</sup> at St. John the Baptist Anglican Church, Greenwich, on 8 September 1918. On the registration document, George listed his father’s occupation as “fish merchant.”<sup>59</sup> On 27 October 1919, George returned to the United States with Ada. The couple planned to visit with George’s mother before travelling to South Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.<sup>60</sup> His sister **Lucy** moved to the United States on 17 October 1919.<sup>61</sup>

By 1920, most of Frederick’s family resided in the United States. His mother married Percy James Tolhurst, another English expatriate, on 1 July 1920 in Indiana.<sup>62</sup> In 1920, she was living in Chicago, Illinois, with Percy, who was working as an insurance salesman. Lillian Annie and husband Earl

were living with them. Earl was working as a book publisher.<sup>63</sup> Lucy, a private duty nurse, was boarding with her aunt Mary Cooper and husband in Jersey City, New Jersey.<sup>64</sup> Frederick's sister **Mabel** Potts, husband Henry and children were residents of Buffalo, New York. Henry was a telephone operator.<sup>65</sup> Only his sister **Jessie** Mellor remained in England. In 1921, Jessie, husband Walter and children were living at 60 Harley Street, Hanley. Walter was employed as an electrician.<sup>66</sup> His aunt Emma Lodge was visiting her cousins, Walter Pearson Lewis and Ann Eliza Lewis, in Bardsley, West Yorkshire.<sup>67</sup> Emma died the following year.<sup>68</sup>

Sadly, war would claim another family member. During the Second World War, Frederick's nephew, **Leslie Ernest Mellor**, a Junior Engineer Officer in the Merchant Navy, died on 7 February 1943 when the MV *Africa* (Glasgow) was torpedoed.<sup>69</sup>

Lance Corporal Frederick Ernest Barrett was not forgotten. His sacrifice is noted on page 569 of the *First World War Book of Remembrance*, located in the Memorial Chamber of the Peace Tower, in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada. He was also commemorated in the *Welsh National Book of Remembrance*.<sup>70</sup> More recently, his name was recorded on the *Canadian Virtual War Memorial*<sup>71</sup> and on the Royal Welch Fusiliers Museum's website *Faces of the Fallen*.<sup>72</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> "First World War 1914–1918," *Veterans Affairs Canada* (<https://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/remembrance/wars-and-conflicts/first-world-war>: accessed 19 February 2023); *Canadian Virtual War Memorial* (<https://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/remembrance/memorials/canadian-virtual-war-memorial/detail/198292?Frederick%20Ernest%20Barrett>: accessed 11 February 2023), entry for Lance Corporal Frederick Ernest Barrett, Service number: 9674

<sup>2</sup> "Copy of an entry of birth," *General Register Office* ([https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/order\\_history.asp](https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/order_history.asp): accessed 10 January 2023), entry for Frederick Ernest Barrett, GRO Reference: 1885, When and where born: 10 August 1885, 26 Chetwynd Terrace, Hunslet, Volume: 09B, Page: 257, Name and surname of father: William Barrett, Rank or profession of father: railway shunter, Name and maiden surname of mother: Ann Eliza Lodge, When registered: 1 October 1885

<sup>3</sup> "History of Hunslet," *Wikipedia* ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History\\_of\\_Hunslet](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_Hunslet): accessed 14 January 2023)

<sup>4</sup> "GRO Indexes 1837–1918 Births," *General Register Office* ([https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/indexes\\_search.asp](https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/indexes_search.asp): accessed 10 January 2023), entry for Ann Eliza Lodge, GRO Reference: 1865, S Quarter in Hunslet, Volume: 09B, Page: 308, Mother's maiden surname: Pearson; "Florida, U.S., Death Index, 1877–1998," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 10 January 2023), entry for Ann Eliza Tolhurst, Death date: 1938, Death place: Manatee, Florida, United States

<sup>5</sup> "1871 England Census," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 14 January 2023), entry for Ann Eliza Lodge, Registration district: Hunslet, Sub-registration district: Hunslet, Enumeration district, institution, or vessel: 32, Household schedule number: 78, Piece: 4514, Folio: 34, Page: 13

<sup>6</sup> "Northamptonshire, England, Church of England Baptisms, 1813–1912," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 15 January 2023), entry for William Barrett, Baptism date: 31 May 1863, Baptism place: Wood Newton, Northamptonshire, England, Father: William Barrett, Mother: Elizabeth Barrett. **Note:** William most likely died sometime after George's wedding on 8 September 1918 and Ann Eliza's marriage to Percy J. Tolhurst on 1 July 1920.

<sup>7</sup> "1891 England Census," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 10 January 2023), entry for William Barrett, Registration district: Hunslet, Sub-registration district: Hunslet, Enumeration district, institution, or vessel: 34, Piece: 3664, Folio: 132, Page: 14. **Note:** William recorded his place of birth as Woodnewton, Northamptonshire.

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<sup>8</sup> "West Yorkshire, England, Church of England Marriages and Banns 1813–1935," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 16 January 2023), entry for William Barrett, Marriage age: 21, Marriage date: 8 June 1885, Marriage place: Hunslet, St. Mary the Virgin, Yorkshire, England, Father: William Barrett, Spouse: Ann Eliza Lodge; "shunter," *wordnik* (<https://www.wordnik.com/words/shunter>: accessed 14 January 2023) **Note:** A shunter moves the switches that transfer a train or carriage from one track to another.

<sup>9</sup> "GRO Indexes, 1837–1918 Births," *General Register Office* ([https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/indexes\\_search.asp](https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/indexes_search.asp): accessed 20 January 2023), entry for George Lodge Barrett, GRO Reference: 1887, M Quarter in Hunslet, Volume: 09BA, Page: 280, Mother's maiden surname: Lodge; "Florida, U.S., Death Index, 1877–1908," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 21 April 2023), entry for George Lodge Barrett, Birth date: 6 February 1887, Death date: 3 September 1973, Death place: Pinellas, Florida, United States

<sup>10</sup> "GRO Indexes, 1837–1918 Births," *General Register Office* ([https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/indexes\\_search.asp](https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/indexes_search.asp): accessed 20 January 2023), entry for Lucy Barrett, GRO Reference: 1889, M Quarter in Hunslet, Volume: 09B, Page: 289, Mother's maiden surname: Lodge; "U.S., Social Security Death Index, 1935–2014," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 10 February 2023), entry for Lucy Barrett, Birth date: 23 January 1889, Issue State: New Jersey, Last residence: 07840, Hackettstown, Warren, New Jersey, USA, Death date: Mar 1970

<sup>11</sup> "GRO Indexes 1837–1918 Births," *General Register Office* ([https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/indexes\\_search.asp](https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/indexes_search.asp): accessed 20 January 2023), entry for Mabel Barrett, GRO Reference: 1891, J Quarter in Hunslet, Volume: 09B, Page: 306, Mother's maiden surname: Lodge; "U.S., Social Security Death Index, 1935–2014," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 20 January 2023), entry for Mabel Potts, Birth date: 1 April 1891, Issue state: New York, Last residence: 33161, Miami, Miami-Dade, Florida, USA, Death date: May 1975

<sup>12</sup> "GRO Indexes 1837–1918 Births," *General Register Office* ([https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/indexes\\_search.asp](https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/indexes_search.asp): accessed 20 January 2023), entry for Jessie Barrett, GRO Reference: 1892, S Quarter in Hunslet, Volume: 09B, Page: 297, Mother's maiden surname: Lodge; "England & Wales, Civil Registration Death Index, 1916–2007," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 21 April 2023), entry for Jessie Mellor, Birth date: abt 1893, Registration date: Jul 1963, Registration quarter: Jul-Aug-Sept, Registration district: Birmingham, Inferred county: Warwickshire, Volume: 9c, Page: 327

<sup>13</sup> "GRO Indexes 1837–1918 Births," *General Register Office* ([https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/indexes\\_search.asp](https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/indexes_search.asp): accessed 20 January 2023), entry for Annie Barrett, GRO Reference: 1894, M Quarter in Hunslet, Volume: 09B, Page: 281, Mother's maiden surname: Lodge; "New York, New York, U.S., Extracted Death Indexes, 1862–1948," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 23 February 2023), entry for Lillian A. Rayner, Death date: 28 Mar 1933, Death place: Manhattan, New York, U.S.A., Certificate number: 7761

<sup>14</sup> "1891 England Census," *Ancestry*, entry for William Barrett

<sup>15</sup> "1901 England Census," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 18 January 2023), entry for Frederick Barrett, Registration district: Holbeck, Sub-registration district: Holbeck, Enumeration district, institution, or vessel: 19, Household schedule number: 98, Piece: 4202, Folio: 178, Page: 16

<sup>16</sup> "1901 England Census," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 18 January 2023), entry for Lucy Barrett, Registration district: Hunslet, Sub-registration district: Hunslet, Enumeration district, institution, or vessel: 45, Household schedule number: 9, Piece: 4194, Folio: 171, Page: 2

<sup>17</sup> "National Schools Admission Registers & Log Books 1870–1916," *Findmypast* ([www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk): accessed 22 January 2023), entry for Jesse Barrett, Event year: 1905; entry for Annie Barrett, Event year: 1907. **Note:** Jessie's date of birth was recorded as 06 August 1893, her home address as 66 Harley Street, Hanley, and her father's name as Wm. Annie's date of birth was recorded as 07 January 1894, her home address as 66 Harley Street, Hanley, and her parent's occupation as fish seller.

<sup>18</sup> "New York, U.S., Arriving Passenger and Crew Lists (Including Castle Garden and Ellis Island), 1820–1957," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 10 January 2023), entry for George Lodge Barrett, Arrival date: 21 December 1907, Arrival port: New York, New York, Final destination: Mount Morris, New York, Ship name: Baltic

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<sup>19</sup> "New York, U.S., Arriving Passenger and Crew Lists (Including Castle Garden and Ellis Island), 1820–1957," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 10 January 2023), entry for Mabel Barrett, Arrival date: 13 September 1909, Arrival port: New York, New York, Final destination: Mount Morris, New York, Ship name: Arabic; "1910 United States Federal Census," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 11 January 2023), entry for William Cooper, Year: 1910, Census place: Mount Morris, Livingston, New York, Roll: T624\_986, Page: 11A, Enumeration district: 0054, FHL microfilm: 1374999. **Note:** Mabel Barrett was living with William and Mary Cooper.

<sup>20</sup> 1911 England Census," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 19 January 2023), entry for Frederick Barrett, Military unit: Infantry, Registration district number: 461, Enumeration district, institution, or vessel: India, Piece: 34978. **Note:** Because Frederick Ernest Barrett's service record did not survive the 1940 fire at the Army Records Office in Walworth, London, his military career was pieced together using a number of sources.

<sup>21</sup> "1911 England Census," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 19 January 2023), entry for George Lodge Barrett, Registration district number: 361, Sub-registration district: Hanley, Sub-registration district number: 1, Enumeration district, institution, or vessel: 34, Piece: 16544

<sup>22</sup> "Massachusetts, U.S., Arriving Passenger and Crew Lists, 1820–1963," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 10 January 2023), entry for George Lodge Barrett, Departure place: Liverpool, England, Arrival date: 1 June 1911, Arrival place: Boston, Massachusetts, Ship: Cymric

<sup>23</sup> "New York, U.S., County Marriage Records, 1847–1849, 1907–1936," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 12 January 2023), entry for Mabel Barrett, Marriage date: 20 Mar 1912, Marriage place: Munroe, New York, USA, Father: Wm Barrett, Mother: Lodge, Spouse: Henry R. Potts, Film number: 000831341

<sup>24</sup> "England & Wales, Civil Registration Marriage Index, 1837–1915," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 22 January 2023), entry for Jessie Barrett, Registration year: 1912, Registration district: Stoke upon Trent, Inferred county: Staffordshire, Volume: 6b, Page: 401, Spouse: Walter Mellor

<sup>25</sup> "New York, U.S., Arriving Passenger and Crew Lists (Including Castle Garden and Ellis Island), 1820–1957," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 10 January 2023), entry for Ann Eliza Lodge, Arrival date: 5 May 1912, Arrival port: New York, New York, Final destination: Rochester, New York, Ship name: Baltic

<sup>26</sup> "1920 United States Federal Census," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 10 February 2023), entry for Lillian Raynor [sic], Home in 1920: Chicago Ward 13, Cook (Chicago), Illinois. **Note:** Lillian was recorded as arriving in the United States in 1911.

<sup>27</sup> "Ontario, Canada, Marriages, 1826–1936," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 12 January 2023), entry for George Lodge Barrett, Birth year: abt 1887, Birth place: Leeds, England, Marriage place: Thunder Bay District, Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada, Father: William Barrett, Mother: Annie Lodge, Spouse: Amy Ethel Barrett

<sup>28</sup> "Canada, Incoming Passenger Lists, 1865–1935," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 25 January 2023), entry for Amy E. Cornes, Departure port: Manchester, England, Arrival date: 15 May 1913, Arrival port: Quebec, Canada, Vessel: Manchester Commerce

<sup>29</sup> "Ontario, Canada, Deaths and Deaths Overseas, 1869–1948," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 13 January 2023), entry for Anna [sic] Ethel Barrett, Birth date: abt 1890, Birth place: England, Death date: 23 March 1914, Death place: Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada, Cause of death: shock following confinement

<sup>30</sup> "Women and Civil Service," *Staffordshire Sentinel*, 14 June 1915, p. 4, *Findmypast* ([www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk): accessed 14 January 2023). **Note:** This is most likely Frederick Ernest given the regiment. However, the reporter mistakenly attributes the story to Mrs. Miller instead of Mrs. Mellor.

<sup>31</sup> "UK, British Army World War 1 Medal Rolls Index Cards, 1914–1920," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 2 January 2023), entry for Fredk E. Barrett, Regiment or corps: Royal Welsh (Welch) Fusiliers, Regimental number: 9674. **Note:** This source recorded that Frederick was with the 1st Battalion and that he entered the theatre of war on 6 October 1914.

<sup>32</sup> "Royal Welsh Fusiliers," *Wikipedia* ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Royal\\_Welch\\_Fusiliers](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Royal_Welch_Fusiliers): accessed 18 January 2023); "Faces of the Fallen," *Royal Welsh Fusiliers Museum at Caernarfon Castle* (<https://www.rwfmuseum.org.uk/faces-of-the-fallen/#:~:text=The%20%E2%80%9CFaces%20of%20the%20Fallen,sacrifice%20during%20this%20brutal>

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[%20conflict](#): accessed 16 January 2023). **Note:** “Welsh” was sometimes spelled “Welch.” For consistency, I have used the spelling “Welsh.”

<sup>33</sup> “1 Battalion Royal Welsh Fusiliers, War Diaries, 1914 Oct. –1917 Nov.,” *National Archives, Kew* (<https://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk/details/r/C7352442>: accessed 16 January 2023), Reference: WO-95-1665/1. **Note:** Unless otherwise identified, all information about the 1st Battalion, Royal Welsh Fusiliers’ movements during this time period comes from this source.

<sup>34</sup> “1 Battalion Royal Welsh Fusiliers, War Diaries, 1914 Oct. –1917 Nov.,” op. cit., entry for 19 October 1914  
<sup>35</sup> Ibid.

<sup>36</sup> Steven John, *Welsh at War: From Mons to Loos & the Gallipoli Tragedy*, (Barnsley, South Yorkshire: Pen and Sword Books Ltd., 2008), Chapter 6: The First Battle of Ypres, *Google Books* (<https://books.google.ca>: accessed 21 April 2023)

<sup>37</sup> “Welsh Billy Goats,” *National Army Museum* (<https://www.nam.ac.uk/explore/army-mascots#:~:text=Welsh%20billy%20goats&text=This%20dates%20back%20to%20an.with%20the%20regiment%20ever%20since>: accessed 18 February 2023)

<sup>38</sup> Tony Spagnoly and Ted Smith, *Cameos of the Western Front: Salient Points Two Ypres Sector 1914–1918*, (Barnsley, South Yorkshire: Pen and Sword Books Ltd., 1998), Chapter 3 – 1st Royal Welch Fusiliers at Zandvoor, 30 Oct 1914, *Google Books* (<https://books.google.ca>: accessed 28 January 2023)

<sup>39</sup> “Women and Civil Service,” op. cit. **Note:** There may have been a transcription error in recording Bandsman S. Tibbrett, 2nd Queen’s name as he did not appear in any available records.

<sup>40</sup> “2 Battalion Royal Welsh Fusiliers, War Diaries, 1914 Aug–1915 Nov.,” *National Archives, Kew* (<https://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk/details/r/C7351995>: accessed 26 April 2023), Reference: WO-95-1365/3, entry for 25 to 30 September 1915

<sup>41</sup> “Rank and File,” *Chester Chronicle*, 9 October 1915, p. 3, *Findmypast* ([www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk): accessed 25 April 2023)

<sup>42</sup> “UK, World War 1 Service Medals and Award Rolls, 1914–1920,” *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 1 February 2023), entry for Frederick Ernest Barrett, Regimental number: 9674. **Note:** This source lists the battalions in which Frederick served.

<sup>43</sup> “9 Battalion Royal Welsh Fusiliers, War Diaries, 1915 July–1919 Mar.,” *National Archives, Kew* (<https://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk/details/r/C7353063>: accessed 1 February 2023), Reference: WO-95-2092/1. **Note:** Unless otherwise identified, all information about the 9th Battalion, Royal Welsh Fusiliers’ movements during this time period comes from this source.

<sup>44</sup> Tony Ball, “The Northumberland Fusiliers and the Somme, 1916: A Case Study in Unit Deployment, Tactical order and Casualties,” *Journal of the Society for Army Historical Research* Vol. 85, No. 344 (Winter 2007), p. 310, *JSTOR* (<https://www.jstor.org>: accessed 20 April 2023)

<sup>45</sup> *Lochnagar Crater Foundation* (<https://www.lochnagarcrater.org/history/first-day-of-somme>: accessed 2 February 2023)

<sup>46</sup> “9 Battalion Royal Welsh Fusiliers, War Diaries, 1915 July–1919 Mar.,” op. cit., entry for 2 July 1916

<sup>47</sup> Ibid., entry for 3 July

<sup>48</sup> Ibid., entry for 4 July 1916

<sup>49</sup> Ibid., after entry for 31 July 1916

<sup>50</sup> “Casualty Clearing Station,” *Wikipedia* ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Casualty\\_Clearing\\_Station](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Casualty_Clearing_Station): accessed 2 March 2022)

<sup>51</sup> “No.1 Canadian Casualty Clear Station War Diaries of the First World War: 1st Canadian Casualty Clearing Station 1914/08/13–1919/03/31,” *Library and Archives Canada* (<http://central.bac-lac.gc.ca/.redirect?app=fonandcol&id=2005082&lang=eng>: accessed 3 February 2023), entries for 17 and 18 August 1916

<sup>52</sup> “Search Name Index,” *British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa* ([www.bifhsgo.ca](http://www.bifhsgo.ca): accessed 12 February 2023), entry for F. E. Barrett, Service number: 9674

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- <sup>53</sup> "Roll of Honour," *Staffordshire Sentinel*, 19 September 1916, p. 1, *Findmypast* ([www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk): accessed 8 April 2023)
- <sup>54</sup> *Commonwealth War Graves Commission* (<https://www.cwgc.org/find-records/find-war-dead/casualty-details/198292/f-e-barrett>: accessed 8 February 2023), entry for F. E. Barrett, Service number: 9674
- <sup>55</sup> "British Army WW1 Medal Rolls Index Cards, 1914–1920," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 23 April 2023), entry for Fredk E. Barrett, Regimental number: 9674
- <sup>56</sup> "UK, Army Registers of Soldiers' Effects, 1901–1929," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 8 February 2023), entry for Frederick Ernest Barrett, Regimental number: 9674
- <sup>57</sup> "Indiana, U.S., Marriages, 1810–2001," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 18 February 2023), entry for Lillian Barrett, Event Type: Marriage Registration (Marriages), Marriage date: 19 May 1917, Marriage place: Indiana, United States, Spouse: Earl Clemany [sic] Rayner, Page: 311, FHL film number: 002414694
- <sup>58</sup> "1901 England Census," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 18 January 2023), entry for Ada Jervis, Registration district: Stoke upon Trent, Sub-registration district: Hanley, Enumeration district, institution, or vessel: 04, Household schedule number: 235, Piece: 2599, Folio: 88, Page: 38
- <sup>59</sup> "London, England, Church of England Marriages and Banns, 1754–1938," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 7 February 2023), entry for George Fodge [sic] Barrett, Marriage date: 8 September 1918, Marriage place: St. John the Baptist, Eltham, Greenwich, England, Father: William Barrett; "England & Wales, Civil Registration Marriage Index, 1916–2005," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 7 February 2023), entry for Ada Jervis, Registration quarter: Jul-Aug-Sept, Registration district: Lewisham, Inferred county: London, Spouse: George L. Barrett, Volume number: 1d, Page number: 2237
- <sup>60</sup> "New York, U.S., Arriving Passenger and Crew Lists (Including Castle Garden and Ellis Island), 1820–1957," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 10 February 2023), entry for George Lodge Barrett and Ada Barrett, Arrival date: 27 October 1919, Arrival port: New York, New York, Final destination: South Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, Ship name: Adriatic
- <sup>61</sup> "New York, U.S., Arriving Passenger and Crew Lists (Including Castle Garden and Ellis Island), 1820–1957," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 10 February 2023), entry for Lucy Barrett, Arrival date: 17 October 1919, Arrival port: New York, New York, Final destination: Mount Morris, New York, Ship name: Adriatic
- <sup>62</sup> "Indiana, U.S., Marriages, 1810–2001," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 8 February 2023), entry for Anne Eliza Barrett, Event Type: Marriage Registration, Marriage date: 1 July 1920, Marriage place: Indiana, United States, Spouse: Percy J. Tolhurst, Page: 185, FHL film number: 002414697; "Illinois, U.S., Federal Naturalization Records, 1856–1991," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 8 February 2023), entry for Percy James Tolhurst, Petition date: 12 December 1930, Petition place: Chicago, Illinois, Spouse: Anna. **Note:** Percy states that he and Ann married in 1894 in Hanley, Staffordshire, England and that he came to the United States on March 10, 1912, as George Lodge. He gave his birthdate as 24 January 1875. Percy died in 1954. "Florida, U.S., Death Index, 1877–1998," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 20 February 2023), entry for Percy James Tolhurst, Death date: 1954, Death place: Sarasota, Florida, United States
- <sup>63</sup> "1920 United States Federal Census," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 10 February 2023), entry for Lillian Raynor [sic], Home in 1920: Chicago Ward 13, Cook (Chicago), Illinois. **Note:** Percy is using his second name, James.
- <sup>64</sup> "1920 United States Federal Census," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 10 February 2023), entry for Lucy Barrett, Home in 1920: Jersey City Ward 8, Hudson, New Jersey. **Note:** The first name of Mary Cooper's husband is recorded as "John E" instead of "William."
- <sup>65</sup> "1920 United States Federal Census," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 10 February 2023), entry for Mabel Potts, Home in 1920: Buffalo Ward 22, Erie, New York
- <sup>66</sup> "1921 Census of England & Wales," *Findmypast* ([www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk): accessed 19 February 2023), entry for Jessie Mellor, Registration district: Stoke Upon Trent, Registration district number: 361, Sub-district: Hanley, Sub-district number: 1, Enumeration district: 34, County: Staffordshire, Piece: 12676, Schedule number: 223
- <sup>67</sup> "1921 Census of England & Wales," *Findmypast* ([www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk): accessed 19 February 202e), entry for Emma Lodge, Registration district: Wetherby, Registration district number: 490, Sub-district: Wetherby,

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Sub-district number: 1, Enumeration district: 15, County: Yorkshire (West Riding, Piece: 21116, Schedule number: 22

<sup>68</sup> "England & Wales, Civil Registration Death Index, 1916–2007," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 21 April 2023), entry for Emma Lodge, Birth date: abt 1845, Registration date: Jul 1922, Registration quarter: Jul-Aug-Sept, Registration district: Stoke on Trent, Inferred county: Staffordshire, Volume: 6b, Page: 122

<sup>69</sup> *Commonwealth War Graves Commission* (<https://www.cwgc.org/find-records/find-war-dead/casualty-details/2800831/leslie-ernest-mellor>: accessed 10 February 2023), entry for Leslie Ernest Mellor

<sup>70</sup> *Welsh National Book of Remembrance* (<https://www.library.wales/discover-learn/digital-exhibitions/manuscripts/modern-period/the-welsh-national-book-of-remembrance>: accessed 26 April 2023), entry for Lance Corporal Frederick Ernest Barrett, p. 317

<sup>71</sup> *Canadian Virtual War Memorial* (<https://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/remembrance/memorials/canadian-virtual-war-memorial/detail/198292?Frederick%20Ernest%20Barrett>: accessed 11 February 2023), entry for Lance Corporal Frederick Ernest Barrett, Service number: 9674

<sup>72</sup> "Faces of the Fallen," *The Royal Welch Fusilier Museum at Caernarfon Castle* (<https://www.rwfmuseum.org.uk/faces-of-the-fallen/face.php?i=340&t=Barrett>: accessed 9 February 2023), entry for L/Cpl Barrett, Frederick Ernest