

Edward Smith

Named on the St Bartholomew's Church memorial.



EDWARD SMITH WAS born in Pickwick in Corsham in 1891. His father, Edward Elias, was a general labourer and his mother was Jane Pearce (née Fido), both themselves from Corsham. They had two other sons, Francis and Arthur. The family were still in Pickwick in 1901, but by 1911 Edward was working in a dairy in Islington, London, and his parents were living in the gardener's lodge at Warleigh Manor in Bathford. Edward married Annie Jones in Bathford in 1913, and he gave Claverton Down as his place of residence when he enlisted for the war in Trowbridge.

Initially Edward joined the West Somerset Yeomanry, but at some point he was transferred to the Labour Corps serving on the home front. He may well have been injured and deemed not fit enough for front-line service. He was serving with the 379th Home Service Employment Company when he died in Southampton on 2nd October 1918. He is buried in Southampton Hollybrook Cemetery.

Edward is named on the St Bartholomew's memorial but is not recorded in *War Records of Corsham* or listed on the town War Memorial.