

113: Edward Birchall Baines

Basic Information [as recorded on local memorial or by CWGC]

Name as recorded on local memorial or by CWGC: Edward B. Baines

Rank: Private

Battalion / Regiment: 4th Bn. The King's (Liverpool Regiment)

Service Number: 51508

Date of Death: 29 August 1916

Age at Death: 30

Buried / Commemorated at: Thiepval Memorial, Thiepval, Departement de la Somme, Picardie, France

Additional information given by CWGC: The son of William and Agnes Baines, of 24, Langton Road, Liverpool and the husband of Rose Baines, of "Beach Lea", Leighton Rd., Neston

Other than the note recorded by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission that Edward Baines was '...the husband of Rose Baines of "Beach Lea", Leighton Road, Neston', it is not known what connection, if any, Edward Baines had with the town. Neither Edward nor Rose seems to have any close family connection to Neston and it is possible that Rose moved to Neston, for reasons unknown, after Edward's death. Certainly, when Edward died, his stated address was Oxford Street, Liverpool.

Edward Birchall Baines was the fourth child of Liverpool publican William and Agnes Baines and he was born in the Toxteth area of the city on 8 September 1885 and baptised at Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Liverpool on 18 September. In 1891 the family was living at Pitt Street:

William Baines	Head	M	38	Publican		X	Lancaster Liverpool
Agnes do	Wife	M	37				do do
Annie do	Serv	F	11	Scholar			do do
Mary A do	Serv	F	10	do			do do
Grace do	Serv	F	8	do			do do
Edward B do	Son	M	4	do			do do
Juliana Victoria do	Serv	F	3				do do
Elizabeth Waddington	Serv	F	60	domestic servant		X	do Ormskirk

1891 census (extract) – 53, Pitt Street, Liverpool

William Baines	38	publican	born Liverpool
Agnes	39		born Liverpool
Annie	11		born Liverpool
Mary A.	10		born Liverpool
Grace	8		born Liverpool
Edward B.	4		born Liverpool
Juliana Victoria	3		born Liverpool
Elizabeth Waddington	60	domestic servant	born Ormskirk

Pitt Street, now redeveloped, is in central Liverpool and not far from Liverpool Cathedral.

By the time of the 1901 census the family had moved some distance north in the city and were now in Walton:

Annie Coroner	Wife	S		28	✓	Seamstress	Worhere	home	do
William Baines	Head	M	49			Assistant - Publican	Worhere		Special - Lancashire
Agnes	Wife	W		50	✓				do do
Annie	Daughter	S		21	✓				do do
Mary A.	Daughter	S		20	✓	Assistant - Book shop	do		do do
Grace	Daughter	S		18	✓				do do
Edward B.	Son	S	15		✓	Assistant - Green grocer	do		do do
Juliana V.	Daughter	S		13	✓				do do

1901 census (extract) – 3 Springbank Road, Walton on the Hill, Liverpool

William Baines	49	assistant publican	born Liverpool
Agnes	50		born Liverpool
Annie	21		born Liverpool
Mary A.	20	assistant – book shop	born Liverpool
Grace	18		born Liverpool
Edward B.	15	assistant – green grocer	born Liverpool
Juliana V.	13		born Liverpool

William Baines, Edward's father, married Agnes Birchall at Lancaster Register Office in early 1879

Edward married Rose Ann Mitchell at Mount Pleasant Presbyterian Church, Liverpool, in late 1909 and in 1911, then aged 26, Edward and Rose were living in the large home of tailor Robert Skinner in Oxford Street, Liverpool (a continuation of Mount Pleasant, near Abercromby Square):

										pieces on back of Schedule(s)		trade (employer)		religion		nationality	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
1	Robert Skinner	Head	74	Married	48	2	4	4	Worship Tailor	270	Employer	Wife - Third	Scottish				
2																	
3	Edward B. Baines		26	Married	one	none			Van Driver	070	confectioner	4	Liverpool	English			
4	Rosa Baines	Housekeeper	23	Married	1					010		0	Liverpool	English			

(To be filled up by the Enumerator)

I certify that—
 (1) All the ages on this Schedule are entered in the proper set column.
 (2) I have entered the males and females in Columns 3 and 4 separately, and have compared their sum with the total number of persons.
 (3) After making the necessary enquiries, I have completed all entries on the Schedule which appeared to be defective, and have corrected such as appeared to be erroneous.

Initials of Enumerator: *JS*

Total		
Males	Females	Persons
2	1	3

(To be filled up by, or on behalf of, the Head of Family or other person in occupation, or in charge, of this dwelling.)

Write below the Number of Rooms in this Dwelling (Kitchens, Tenement, or Apartment). Count the kitchen as a room but do not count sanitary, landing, lobby, closet, bathroom, nor warehouse, office, shop.

I declare that this Schedule is correctly filled up to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature: *R for Robert Skinner*

Postal Address: *77 Oxford St*

10

1911 census (condensed) – 77 Oxford Street, Liverpool

Robert Skinner	74	tailor	born Fifeshire
Edward B. Baines	26	van driver, confectioner's	born Liverpool
Rosa	23		born Liverpool

Edward Baines's Service Record has not been found and so it is not possible to give details of his time in the army or the circumstances of his death. However, it is known that Edward enlisted in Liverpool and he gave his place of residence as Edge Hill.

The 4th Battalion The King's (Liverpool Regiment) was an 'Extra Reserve' battalion which was formed on the outbreak of war, in August 1914, in Seaforth. Having moved to Edinburgh they mobilised on 6 March 1915 and the battalion landed at Le Havre and came under the orders of Sirhind Brigade, Lahore Division of the Indian Corps., based at

Robecq. On 10 November 1915 they transferred to the 137th Brigade, 46th (North Midland) Division and on 3 December 1915 were attached to the 56th and 58th Brigades, 19th (Western) Division. On 27 February 1916 they transferred to the 98th Brigade, 33rd Division.

Throughout the war the battalion was engaged in action on the Western Front, in 1916 being involved in The Battle of Albert, The Battle of Bazentin, The Attacks on High Wood and the capture of Boritska and Dewdrop Trenches. It is clear, from the War Diary, that the troops were in action in the front line near to Mametz Wood when Edward was killed on 29 April 1916:

MAMETZ WOOD.	19/8-16	Search party sent to look for officer's bodies - 2Lt. T.H. IRVING missing believed killed - 2 men wounded - one man from hospital.	20
FRICOURT WOOD.	20-8-16	Fine - cleaning + resting - CO's Conference at Bdge. Hq. at 10 am. 2 men to hospital. 1 man from hospital.	20
	21-8-16	Fine - gazette: Lieut NICHOLLS to be Captain - Capt. O'BRIEN took over A Coy - 200 men on working parties - Baths for men in morning. One man to hospital.	20
"	22-8-16	Fine - Baths for men in morning - 200 men working parties. One man to hospital.	20
"	23-8-16	Fine - CO & Coys Commanders reconnoitered approaches to reserve defences of right reserve Brigade POMMIERS REDOUBT & MONTAUBAN in afternoon - 320 men on working parties.	20
"	24-8-16	Relieved by 4 th Suffolks - Complete 3.15 pm - moved to MAMETZ WOOD - in Divnl. Reserve - 100 th Bgde attack enemy TEA Trench - bombardment 3.45 pm. Working party 120 men - Enemy shelled MAMETZ Wood during night. One man wounded, 1 from hospital.	20
"	25-8-16	Fine - showers - moved to CARLTON TRENCH N. of BAZENTIN Le GRAND in position 7.15 pm. In support - 1 st MIDDLESEX & 2 nd A&S HR. in front line - 280 men working party digging; to join up gap existing between these two battalions. 1 man wounded, 1 to hospital.	20
CARLTON TRENCH.	26-8-16	Fine - in support - whole battalion on working & carrying parties. 3 wounded, 1 to hospital.	20
"	27-8-16	Fine - O/C Coys visit trenches of right battalion (1 st MIDDLESEX) - 1 st Coy. moved off at 10.30 pm. Relief complete 6 am (28 th). 1 man died of wounds, 1 man wounded.	20

MAMETZ WOOD 19/8-16 Search party sent to look for officer's bodies – 2Lt. T. H. IRVING missing believed killed. 2 men wounded – one man from hospital.

FRICOURT WOOD 20-8-16 Fine – cleaning & resting – CO's conference at Bdge. HQ at 10 am. 2 men to hospital – 1 man from hospital.

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CARLTON TRENCH 26-8-16 Fine – in support – Whole battalion on working & carrying parties. 3 wounded, 1 to hospital.

CARLTON TRENCH 27-8-16 Fine – O/C Coys visit trenches of right battalion (1st MIDDLESEX) – 1st Coy. moved off at 10.30 pm. Relief complete 6 am (28th). 1 man died of wounds, 1 man wounded.

Front line 28-8-16	Showery - our line - from LONGUEVAL - FLERS Rd. to about 400yds to North - Heavy shelling from front line & supports day & night. 9 killed. 20 wounded (3 shell shock)
Front line 29-8-16	Fine - warm - more quieter. Officers of 9 th Royal Sussex Regt. visited front line trenches. 2 Officers 5 th Scottish Rifles visit front line. 10 men killed, 32 wounded (10 shell shock) 1 man missing
" 30-8-16	Wet - enemy shelling heavily - relieved by 9 th Royal Sussex Regt. - Guides at MAMETZ Village at 5 pm - 2 men wounded, 2 to hospital. 9 men returned from Field Ambulance.
" 31-8-16	Relief complete 4 am. Coys marched to BECORDEL Cross Roads independently - looked back here - Battalion moved at 7 am to bivouac & huts nr. to DERNANCOURT arriving 10.30 am. Fine & warm day - rested - men bathed. One man to hospital & one from field ambulance.

1875 Wt. W593/826 1,000,000 4/15 J.B.C. & A. A.D.S.S./Forms/C.2118.

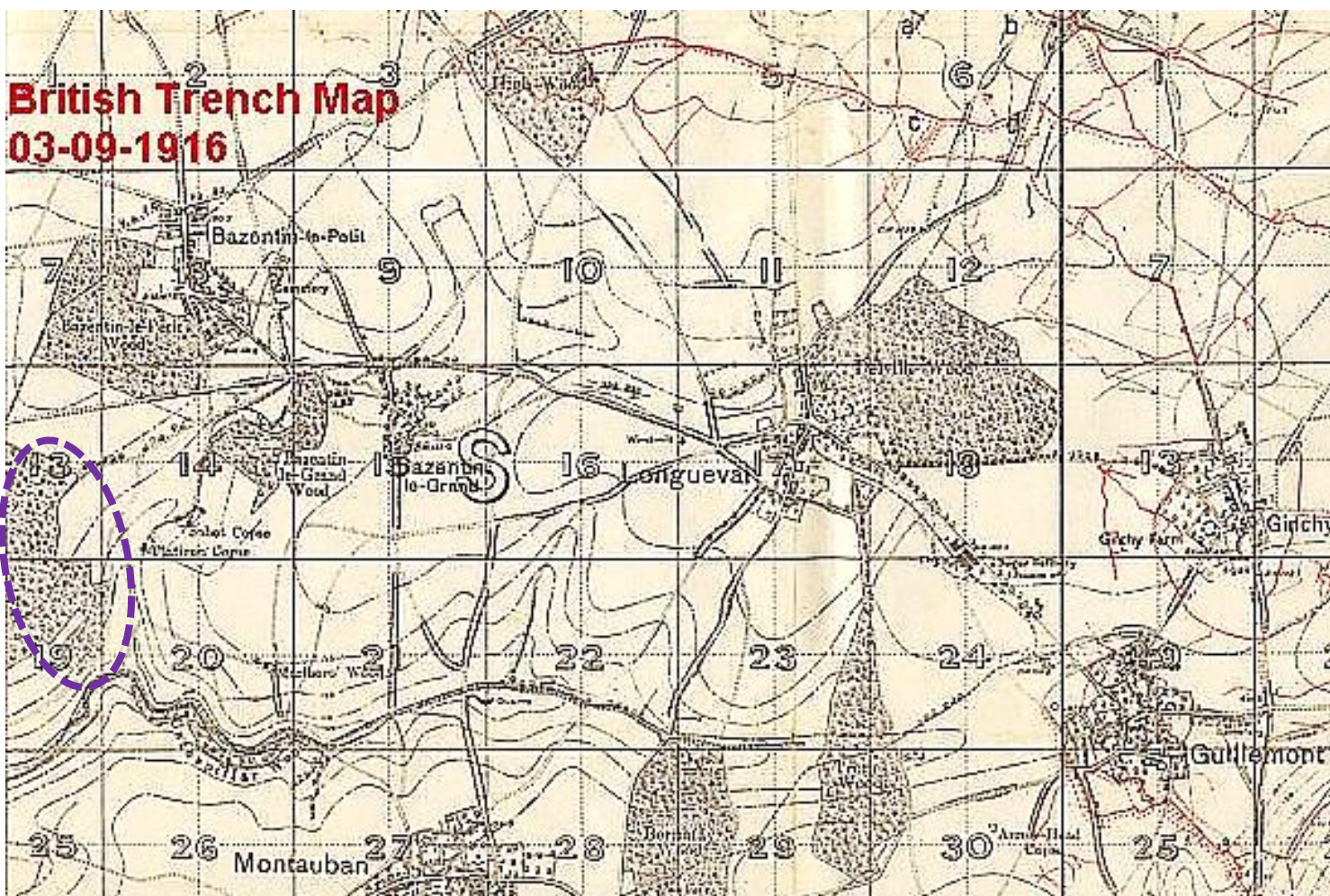
*Lincoln Lieut. Colonel
Comdg. H. B. The King (Liverpool Regt)*

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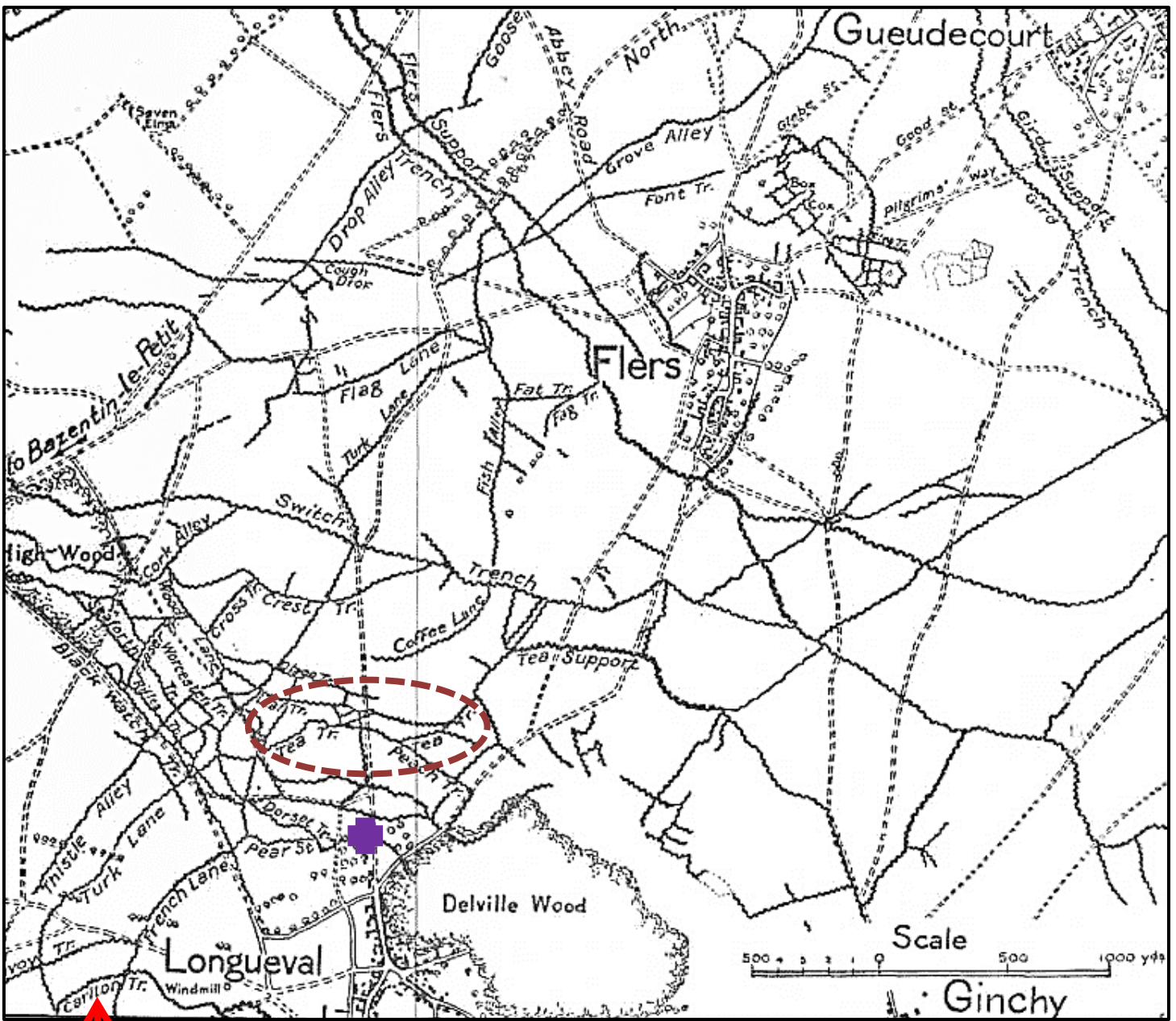
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The area around Bazentin-le-Grand and Longueval at the beginning of September, 1916, a few days after Edward Baines had died. The eastern side of Mametz Wood is encircled in purple and German trenches and positions are shown in red. [Source: www.pierreswesternfront.punt.nl]



Carlton Trench

Map of entrenchments, September 1916, in the area north and east of Longueval. Carlton Trench (eastern sector), and Tea Trench (encircled), both mentioned in the War Diary extract, lie between Mametz Wood (off the map to the west) and Delville Wood. This was an area of intense fighting during the campaign on the Somme. The approximate position of Edward Baines when he was killed is indicated by ■
 [Source: www. empirecall.pbworks.com]

KILLED IN ACTION.

Private Edward Baines, K.L.R. He leaves a widow and two children, who reside at 77, Oxford-street.

Liverpool Daily Post - Tuesday 3 October 1916
 and *Liverpool Echo* - Monday 2 October 1916



The inscription to Edward Baines on the Thiepval Memorial, Picardie, France.

Name.	Corps.	Rank.	Regt. No.
BAINES Edward B	L1 Pool R	Pte	51508

Medal.	Roll.	Page.	Remarks.
VICTORY	H/2/102 B20 2252		
BRITISH	25	44	
STAR			
Theatre of War first served in			
Date of entry therein			

The announcement of Edward's death notes that Edward and Rose had two children although only one possibility has been identified: a Norman E Baines (mother's maiden name: Mitchell) was born in Liverpool in the second quarter of 1912.

British Army WWI Medal Rolls Index Cards, 1914-1920

357687	29/1506	Baines Edward Birchall	4th Batt Liverpool France Reg Pte 51508	19-8-16 Preston 1/16	2	4	9	2	4	9	m.o. 17	22-2-17	Widow sole leg Rose	2	4	9	
												17/10 2	Widow sole leg Rose	3			Pd

Army Registers of Soldiers' Effects, 1901-1929

In Summer 1919 the army paid outstanding credits – mainly remaining wages – to soldiers or, in the case of those who had died, their family or nominated representatives. At the same time a War Gratuity was often paid. In June 1919 Edward's widow Rose, as sole legatee, received a payment of outstanding wages of £2 4s 9d from the army and, in October, a War Gratuity of £3. This, a total value of £5 4s 9d, is equivalent to a *labour value* (wages) of around £810 in 2016.

The War Gratuity was introduced in December 1918 as a payment to be made to those men who had served in WW1 for a period of 6 months or more home service or for any length of service if a man had served overseas. The rules governing the gratuity were implemented under Army Order 17 of 1919 but the amount paid was related to the length of war service.

In 1911 William Baines, Edward's father, was a 'commissioned agent', aged 59, boarding at 14 Westbourne Street, Liverpool - he was the only person entered on the census return for that residence. Agnes Baines (59) and her unmarried daughters Annie (31) and Juliana Victoria (23, domestic) were also boarding at 69 Cardwell Street, Edge Hill with seaman John Ernest Johnson and his family.

It is believed that William Baines died in mid-1912 in West Derby when his age was given as 58. Agnes Baines died in late 1921 in West Derby aged 69.

In the 1939 Register (29 September) Rose Baines (born 25 March 1888), Edward's widow, was living with three other persons, who do not seem to have been related to her, at 'Sunnymede', Liverpool Road, Neston. Rose was recorded as a midwife working for Cheshire City Council Municipal. Rose died, possibly in Neston, in early 1978.