

# First World War Service Record of Eric Goward Abbott

The following is from the National Archives WO 374/20

13/10/1914  
Goward  
Abbott

Form B. 2065  
1

SHORT SERVICE.  
(Three years with the Colours.)  
ATTESTATION OF  
No. 569 Name Abbott, Eric Goward 1147 # Royal Warwickshire Regt.,  
Corps Birmingham Battalion

Questions to be put to the Recruit before Enlistment.

1. What is your Name ? .....	1. Abbott, Eric Goward
2. In or near what Parish or Town were you born ? .....	2. In the Parish of ... <u>Handsworth</u> ... in or near the Town of ... <u>Birmingham</u> ... in the County of ... <u>Staffordshire</u> ...
3. Are you a British Subject ? .....	3. <u>Yes</u>
4. What is your Age ? .....	4. <u>27</u> Years ... <u>1</u> Month
5. What is your Trade or Calling ? .....	5. <u>Articled Clerk</u>
6. Have you resided out of your Father's house for three years continuously in the same place, or occupied a house or land of the yearly value of £10 for one year, and paid rates for the same, and, in either case, if so, state where ? .....	6. <u>No</u>

You are hereby warned that if after enlistment it is found that you have given a wilfully false answer to any of the following seven questions, you will be liable to a punishment of two years imprisonment with hard labour.

7. Are you, or have you been, an Apprentice ? if so, where ? to whom ? for what period ? and, when did, or will, the period of your apprenticeship expire ? .....	7. <u>Yes. Articled Clerk. At ...<u>Handsworth</u>... Birmingham. 5 years to Dec. 1914. Employer ...</u>
8. Are you Married ? .....	8. <u>No</u>
9. Have you ever been sentenced to Imprisonment by the Civil Power ? .....	9. <u>No</u>
10. Do you now belong to the Royal Navy, the Army, the Royal Marines, the Militia, the Special Reserve, the Territorial Force, the Army Reserve, the Militia Reserve, or any Naval Reserve Force ? If so, to what unit and Corps ? .....	10. <u>No</u>
*11. Have you ever served in the Royal Navy, the Army, the Royal Marines, the Militia, the Special Reserve, the Territorial Force, the Imperial Yeomanry, the Volunteers, the Army Reserve, the Militia Reserve, or any Naval Reserve Force ? If so, state which unit, and cause of discharge. ....	11. <u>No</u>
12. Have you truly stated the whole, if any, of your previous Service ? .....	12. <u>Yes</u>
13. Have you ever been rejected as unfit for the Military or Naval Forces of the Crown ? If so, on what grounds ? .....	13. <u>No</u>
14. Are you willing to be vaccinated or re-vaccinated ? ....	14. <u>Yes</u>
15. Are you willing to be enlisted for General Service ? ....	15. <u>Yes</u>
16. Did you receive a Notice, and do you understand its meaning, and who gave it to you ? .....	16. <u>Yes</u> (Name ..... Corps .....
17. Are you willing to serve upon the following conditions provided His Majesty should so long require your services ? .....	17. <u>Yes</u>

(a) For a term of three years unless the War lasts longer than three years in which case you will be retained until the War is over. You will be required to serve for one day with the colours and the remainder of the period in the Army Reserve until such time as you may be called up by the Army Council. If employed with Hospitals, Depots of Mounted Units, and as Clerks, etc. you may be retained after the termination of hostilities until your services can be spared, but such retention shall in no case exceed six months. If, however, the War is over in less than three years, you will be discharged with all convenient speed.

I, Eric Goward Abbott, do solemnly declare that the above answers made by me to the above questions are true, and that I am willing to fulfil the engagements made.

Eric Goward Abbott SIGNATURE OF RECRUIT.  
Thomas Rose Signature of Witness.

OATH TO BE TAKEN BY RECRUIT ON ATTESTATION.

I, Eric Goward Abbott, do make Oath, that I will be faithful and bear true Allegiance to His Majesty King George the Fifth, His Heirs, and Successors, and that I will, as in duty bound, honestly and faithfully defend His Majesty, His Heirs, and Successors, in Person, Crown, and Dignity, against all enemies, and will observe and obey all orders of His Majesty, His Heirs, and Successors, and of the Generals and Officers set over me. So help me God.

CERTIFICATE OF MAGISTRATE OR ATTESTING OFFICER.

The Recruit above-named was cautioned by me that if he made any false answer to any of the above questions he would be liable to be punished as provided in the Army Act.

The above questions were then read to the recruit in my presence.

I have taken care that he understands each question, and that his answer to each question has been duly entered as replied to, and the said recruit has made and signed the declaration and taken the oath before me

at St. Martin's Lane on this 10th day of Sept 1914

Signature of the Justice. John G. England

If any alteration is required on this page of the Attestation, a Justice of the Peace should be requested to make it and initial the alteration under Section 80 (8), Army Act.

The Recruit should, if he require it, receive a copy of the declaration on Army Form B. 2065a. Eric Goward

Description of <u>Abbott Brown Leonard</u> on Enlistment.	
<p>Apparent Age <u>22</u> years <u>1</u> months.  <small>(To be determined according to the instructions given in the Regulations for Army Medical Services).</small></p> <p>Height <u>5</u> feet <u>9 1/4</u> inches.</p> <p>Weight <u>127 1/2</u> lbs.</p> <p>Chest measurement { Girth when fully expanded <u>35</u> inches.  Range of expansion <u>3</u> inches.</p> <p>Complexion <u>Sallow</u></p> <p>Eyes <u>Brown</u></p> <p>Hair <u>Dark Brown</u></p> <p>Religious denomination { Church of England <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>  Presbyterian <input type="checkbox"/>  Wesleyan <input type="checkbox"/>  Baptist or Congregationalist <input type="checkbox"/>  Other Protestants <input type="checkbox"/>  <small>(Denomination to be stated)</small>  Roman Catholic <input type="checkbox"/>  Jewish <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>Distinctive marks, and marks indicating congenital peculiarities or previous disease.</p> <p><small>(Should the Medical Officer be of opinion that the recruit has served before, he will, unless the man acknowledges to any previous service, attach a slip to that effect, for the information of the approving Officer.)</small></p>
<p><i>Certificate of Medical Examination.</i></p> <p>I have examined the above-named recruit and find that he does not present any of the causes of rejection specified in the Regulations for Army Medical Services.</p> <p>He can see at the required distance with either eye: his heart and lungs are healthy: he has the free use of his joints and limbs, and he declares that he is not subject to fits of any description.</p> <p>I consider him * <u>Fit</u> for the Army.</p> <p>Date <u>Sep 10</u> 19<u>14</u></p> <p>Place <u>Birmingham</u></p> <p style="text-align: right;"> <u>P. O. K. M. J.</u>  Medical Officer </p> <p><small>Norm.—Should the Medical Officer consider the Recruit unfit, he will fill in the foregoing Certificate only in the case of those who have been attested, and will briefly state below the causes of unfitness:—</small></p>	
<p><i>Certificate of Primary Military Examination.</i></p> <p>I hereby certify that the above-named recruit was inspected by me, and I consider him * <u>Fit</u> for service in the <u>general</u> service and that due care has been exercised in his enlistment.</p> <p>Date <u>10<sup>th</sup> September</u> 19<u>14</u>.</p> <p>Place <u>Birmingham</u></p> <p style="text-align: right;"> <u>M. J. G. L. J.</u>  Recruiting Officer. </p> <p><small>* Insert here "fit" or "unfit."</small></p>	
<p><i>Certificate of Approving Officer.</i></p> <p>I certify that this Attestation of the above-named recruit is correct, and properly filled up, and that the required forms appear to have been complied with. I accordingly approve, and appoint him to the <u>14<sup>th</sup> Royal Warwickshire Regt. No. 1.</u></p> <p><u>Birmingham Battalion.</u></p> <p>If enlisted by special authority, Army Form B. 203 (or other authority for the enlistment) will be attached to the original attestation.</p> <p>Date <u>10<sup>th</sup> September</u> 19<u>14</u>.</p> <p>Place <u>Birmingham</u></p> <p style="text-align: right;"> <u>W. H. B. J. L.</u>  Lieut-Colonel. </p> <p style="text-align: right;">} Approving Officer.</p> <p><small>* The signature of the Approving Officer is to be affixed in the presence of the Recruit.  † Here insert the "Corps" for which the Recruit has been enlisted.</small></p>	



No. 9122/242 (Accts. 4.)

Effects.—Form 107.

I, Julia Emma Louisa Dudley Abbott  
 declare that Eric Howard Abbott  
 of The Austins, Handsworth, Bham.  
 who died on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of March 1917.

If no Will was left  
 insert "no" before  
 "Will," and strike out  
 the words in brackets.  
 Any Will which it is  
 not intended to prove  
 should be forwarded  
 for inspection.

left no Will [which it is not intended to prove], and that Letters of  
 Administration of this Estate or Confirmation have not been, and are not  
 intended to be, taken out.

The only near relations left by the said Eric Howard Abbott  
 were as follows:—

Relationship	Names in full		Addresses in full
Widow	<u>none</u>		
Children	<u>none</u>	Age	
Other relations	(Mother) <u>Julia Emma Louisa Dudley Abbott</u>	<u>55</u>	<u>The Austins Handsworth Birmingham</u>
	(Brother) <u>Cyril Edward Abbott.</u>	<u>28</u>	
			<u>Siddo —</u>

The said Eric Howard Abbott  
 was born at The Uplands, Handsworth, Birmingham  
Julia S. Abbott. Signature of the Applicant.

## CERTIFICATE.

I hereby certify that the above Statement made by Mrs Julia S. Abbott  
 signed in my presence is complete and correct, to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Dated at Birmingham this 27<sup>th</sup> day of July 1917

Signature of Minister } Edward Mahins Qualification J.P. for the County of Warwick  
 or Magistrate }

Address 50, Newhall St  
Birmingham

WAR OFFICE,

LONDON, S.W.

100  
A G 40

1. Rank and Name 2/LT. E. G. ABBOTT

2. (a) Regiment and Brigade (or Division) 5<sup>th</sup> SERV STAFFS REGT.  
(b) If attached to another unit 137 BRIGADE  
overseas, the Battalion and name 46 Division.  
of Regiment must be stated

3. Address in United Kingdom The Austins, Handsworth,  
Birmingham.

4. Date of leaving Unit (Abroad) 8<sup>th</sup> December 1916.

5. Date of Embarkation for England 9<sup>th</sup> December 1916.

6. Port of Embarkation for England Boulogne.

7. Port of Disembarkation (England) Folkestone.

8. Date of Arrival in England 9<sup>th</sup> December 1916.

9. Name of Ship Onward.

10. Cause of Return Leave.

11. Dates if on leave, from 9<sup>th</sup> December 1916.  
to 19<sup>th</sup> December 1916.

12. Authority

13. Whether examined by a Medical Board since return from Continent No.

(Date) 21<sup>st</sup> January 1917. (Signature) E. G. Abbott