

First World War Service Record of Percy Claud Jacomb Smith

The following is from the National Archives Ref: WO 339/54050

Register No.

Minute Sheet No.

2nd Lieutenant P.C.J. Smith,

1st Battalion, East Yorkshire Regiment.

"Killed in action - ^{1st} (2nd) July, 1916."

B.2090a

Next of Kin -

S. Smith, Esq: (Father)

Grand Hotel,

Eastbourne.

M.S.3.Cas:

13. 7. 16.

gW. Effects ²disposed of within

gW. Credit Corrolo — £2 " 18 " 4 ³

gW. Send Form ⁴51 to Agents and circulate for claims.

gW. c/o balance at Agents. (7.51) ⁵

125322/1

R. M. C. 122

FIRST APPOINTMENTS.

L. York.

FORM to be filled up by successful Candidates for appointment to Commissions in the Army. Candidates are warned to consult their parents or guardians before stating their wishes, as changes cannot be made when once an officer has been gazetted.

Name in full Percy Lland. Jacob Smith

	(1)	Family or Territorial Claims (if any), to be fully stated.
1. Regiments for which I desire to express a preference.	Royal Sussex Regt.	Major R. M. Birchall. 1st Sussex attached to 7th Sussex.
Officers wishing for Scottish, Irish, or Welsh Regiments should state their connection, if any, with the country in question.	Devonshire Regt.	a first cousin
(Not more than three Regiments should be specified. Family or Territorial claims should be fully stated.)	Queen's Royal West Surrey Regt.	

In the event of a vacancy not being available in these Regiments, state whether it is desired to wait under the terms of the annexed Memorandum. Candidates will only be allowed to wait when they are considered to have special claims.

2. Failing the above, is a Regiment stationed at Home, India, or Colonies preferred?

India.

3. The Indian Army authorities anticipate that the number of officers appointed to the Unattached List from Sandhurst and from Universities will in ordinary circumstances be sufficient to fill all, or nearly all the vacancies in the Indian Army as they occur, but if any officers are required from time to time to supplement this direct supply such appointments will be open to officers of units of the Cavalry and Infantry of the Line and the Royal Artillery serving in India who possess the necessary qualifications. If a candidate desires to be posted to a Unit serving in India, with a view to becoming a candidate for the Indian Army, he would be well advised to state the following words on this Form, "Any Regiment which has a Battalion serving in India," in place of specifying any particular Regiments. At the same time it is pointed out that though every endeavour will be made to meet the candidate's wishes, it may prevent disappointment if he will bear in mind that the request can only be complied with if there is an available vacancy in the Indian Battalion of the Regiment to which he has been gazetted, taken in conjunction with the claims of other candidates who have passed senior to him. As a very large number of those entering the Service wish to go to India, it must be understood that it is quite impossible to accede to the request of all applicants owing to the small number of vacancies which occur from time to time in Battalions stationed in that Country.

Signature Percy L. J. SmithDate 28/5/15.

Address to which notification of appointment should be sent. Any change should be at once notified to the War Office.
(to be written clearly).

G. Company R. M. C.
Sandhurst

NOTE.—This Form must be filled up and forwarded to "THE SECRETARY, WAR OFFICE, WHITEHALL, LONDON, S.W.," through the Commandant of the Royal Military College.

NOVEMBER—DECEMBER, 1914.

FORM OF PARTICULARS.

N.B.—Candidates must fill up this form carefully and send it to the SECRETARY, CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION, for transmission, in the case of successful Candidates, to the War Office.

Examination for Admission to the Royal Military Academy, or the Royal Military College.

1. Name of Candidate in full Percy Claud Jacob Smith
2. Date and place of Birth October 20th 1896 Wimbledon
(A Certificate of Birth to be attached. If one has been previously forwarded, state on what occasion and where sent.)
3. Whether of pure European descent Yes
4. Permanent Address London & South Western Bank Terminus Road Eastbourne
5. (a) Name of Father in full Sydney Smith
(b) Position in Life Member of Stock Exchange
(c) Whether of English, Scottish, or Irish family... English
6. Is the Candidate in the Special Reserve, Militia or Territorial Force? If so, state Regiment ... no
(Recommendation to be forwarded from the Officer Commanding the unit.)
7. Is the Candidate, or has he been, a member of the Officers' Training Corps? If so, state:—
(a) Contingent Malvern College.
(b) Rank.....
(c) If left, date of leaving April 1914
(d) Whether in possession of Certificate A ... no
8. Has the Candidate been in any other branch of the Public Service? no
9. Has the Candidate attended any previous examination for admission to the Royal Military Academy or Royal Military College, or for appointment to a Commission in the Army? If so, state the date or dates September 1914
10. Name and address of the person in the United Kingdom responsible for the Candidate's contribution in the event of his being admitted to the Royal Military Academy, or the Royal Military College Sydney Smith
London & S.W. Bank
as in No. 4, above

School, College, or other place of education of Candidate.	The columns to be filled in for the four years preceding the date of applying for examination.	
	From	To
<u>St Wilfrids</u> <u>Bexhill</u>	<u>1907</u>	<u>1911</u>
<u>Malvern</u> <u>College</u>	<u>1911</u>	<u>April</u> <u>1914</u>
<u>Carlisle St</u> <u>Gordon</u>	<u>April</u> <u>1914</u>	<u>to present</u> <u>time</u>

Percy C. J. Smith
Signature of Candidate.

Date September 2nd 1914

Sydney Smith
Signature of Parent or Guardian.

* * Every question must be answered in words, not by strokes, dots, or other marks.

Attention is drawn to the Form on the third page.

**CERTIFIED COPY of an Entry in a REGISTER
of BIRTHS (6 & 7 Wm. IV., cap. 86).**



In any correspondence respecting this certificate the following number should be quoted:—

Given at the GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE, SOMERSET HOUSE

REGISTRATION DISTRICT KINGSTON ON THAMES

1896. BIRTHS in the Sub-District of Wimbledon in the County of SURREY

No.	When and where Born.	Name, if any.	Sex.	Name and Surname of Father.	Name and Maiden Surname of Mother.	Rank, or Profession of Father.	Signature, Description and Residence of Informant.	When Registered.	Signature of Registrar.
150	Twentieth October 1896 Homeside West Side The Common U.D.	Percy Claud Feb 2 Jacomb	Boy	Sydney Smith	Ethel Angeline Smith formerly Jacomb	Stock Broker	E. A. Smith Mother Homeside West Side The Common Wimbledon	Twenty sixth November 1896	William Henry Wingfield Registrar

CERTIFIED to be a true Copy of an Entry in the Certified Copy of a Register of Births in the District above mentioned.

Given at the GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE, SOMERSET HOUSE, LONDON, under the Seal of the said Office, the 21st day of August 1914.

By the Act of 6 & 7 William IV., c. 86, sec. 32, it is enacted, "That the Registrar-General shall cause to be made a Seal of the said Register Office, and the Registrar-General shall cause to be sealed or stamped therewith all Certified Copies of Entries given in the said Office; and all Certified Copies of Entries, purporting to be Sealed or Stamped with the Seal of the said Register Office, shall be received as evidence of the Birth, Death, or Marriage to which the same relates, without any further or other proof of such Entry; and no Certified Copy purporting to be given in the said Office shall be of any force or effect which is not Sealed or Stamped as aforesaid."

By sec. 37 of the same Act it is enacted that, "for every general search of the Indexes shall be paid the sum of twenty shillings, and for every particular search the sum of one shilling, and for every Certified Copy the sum of two shillings and sixpence;" exclusive of Inland Revenue Stamp (33 & 34 Vict., c. 97) of one penny.

CERTIFICATE.

To be filled in by Officer Commanding the School Contingent, Officers Training Corps, as to the qualifications of a Candidate who seeks the Headmaster's recommendation for nomination by the Army Council to a Cadetship at the Royal Military College.

1. Name in full { Surname ... Christian Names ...	Smith Percy Claude Leonard
2. Date of joining the Officers Training Corps ...	April 30th 1914
3. Whether still an efficient member ... (See para. 63, Officers Training Corps Regulations.)	Yes left
4. Rank in the Officers Training Corps ...	Pte
5. Date of appointment to that rank ...	-
6. Whether he has presented himself for the Certificate A examination. If so, date and result ...	No
7. State any other particulars which may be useful to the Headmaster in deciding whether the Candidate is suitable for recommendation to the Army Council ...	I should think quite a suitable Candidate.
8. Has the Candidate worked hard at Officers Training Corps duties during the time he has belonged to the Contingent? ...	Quite satisfactory good worker.
9. Has his work in the Officers Training Corps given any indication of qualities pointing to the likelihood of his becoming an officer of special merit or otherwise?	Good always.

I certify that the above particulars are in accordance with records of the Contingent and the opinion I have formed of the Candidate named.

B. S. M. Tindle Left

Commanding Mahm. Contingent,
Officers Training Corps.

Dec: 17th 1914.

Form of Recommendation.

(To be filled in by the Headmaster of the school recommending the candidate for nomination.)

1. Name of school.	Malvern College
2. Name of candidate in full { Surname Christian names	Smith Percy Claude Jerome
3. Dates between which the candidate has been continuously in residence at the school.	1911 - 1914
4. In which form in the school is the candidate? Give his place in the form, the average age of the form, and the number of pupils composing it.	The candidate left in April 1914, having attained a good educational standard and is strongly recommended by the Headmaster (former) of this school, Canon S.R. James.
5. Do you concur in the statement of the Officer Commanding the School Contingent (Form M. T. 291) as to the candidate's work as a member of the Officers Training Corps?	

The Headmaster is earnestly requested to exercise the greatest care in giving the following confidential information concerning the candidate, and to bear in mind the importance of the public interests involved in the nomination of a gentleman to a prospective commission in His Majesty's Service.

In judging the suitability of a candidate from an educational point of view, the nature of the course of instruction and of the periodical examinations at the Royal Military College should be borne in mind.

It will be observed that nearly all the subjects studied at the Royal Military College will be new to the candidate; his capacity of profiting by the course and reaching the required standard can thus only be gauged by his general intelligence and industry.

The nomination of a candidate who is unable to meet the standard of "moral" and education necessary for an officer in His Majesty's Service, can only result in his failure at the Royal Military College, thereby causing disappointment to himself, unnecessary expense to his parents, and discredit to his school.

6. Is the candidate, in your opinion, educationally qualified to undergo the course of instruction at the Royal Military College?	above
7. Is he neat-handed and likely to make a fair draughtsman?	see

8. Give your opinion of the candidate's moral character.

Quite satisfactory

9. Is the candidate a leader among his contemporaries, and does he exert a good influence with his comrades?

10. What special characteristics does the candidate exhibit?

For any further information
please apply to

11. Does the candidate occupy any prominent positions in school life?

Canon S.R. James

S. Days

Cambridge. I.W.

12. Do you consider the candidate equal or superior to the average of his contemporaries in character, common sense, reliability, and leadership?

13. If the candidate's age will admit of his being recommended by you on some future occasion, do you consider that he would benefit by a further period at your school?

14. Do you consider that the candidate, if commissioned, will be a credit to his school?

15. Give any information not covered by your answers to the above questions which will throw light on the characteristics, capabilities, and character of the candidate.

I am of opinion that

P. C. J. Smith

(from what I have heard)

is in every respect suitable for nomination to a cadetship at the Royal Military College, and I can confidently recommend him as likely to make an efficient officer in His Majesty's regular army.

Signature of Headmaster

Frank S. Preslin.

Full name of school

McLennan College.

Date

Dec 29. 14.

† Insert name of candidate.

Form of Particulars

(To be filled up by the candidate in his own handwriting and countersigned by his parent or guardian.)

Of a candidate recommended by the Headmaster of

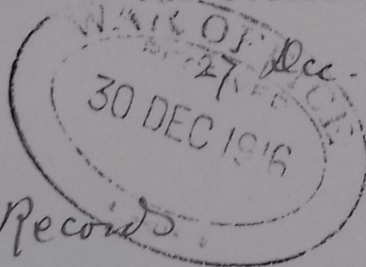
(1) *Malvern College* for nomination by the
Army Council to a cadetship at the Royal Military College.

1. Name in full	{ Surname Christian names	<i>Smith Percy & Land Jacomb</i>
2. Permanent address in the United Kingdom, where communications should be sent.		<i>Grand Hotel Eastbourne Wimbledon Surrey September 1914</i>
3. Date and place of birth. (A certificate of birth is to be attached, unless one has already been forwarded, in which case state date, and for what purpose.)		<i>Oct 20 1896 Army Examination</i>
4. Whether the son of a British born or naturalized British subject.		<i>British Born.</i>
5. Whether of pure European descent.		<i>Yes.</i>
6. Name in full, and profession, of father, and whether of English, Scotch, Welsh, Irish or foreign family. In the last case state nationality.		<i>Sydney Smith Esq: Retired Stock Broker English</i>
7. Whether father is still living.		<i>Yes</i>
8. Particulars of the military or naval services, if any, of near relations of the candidate.		<i>Lieut. E. J. Smith 7th Hants. Major R. M. Birkett 1st Sussex Capt. H. L. Dyce 9th Hodsons Horse. Lieut. F. B. Jacomb 108th Infantry F. A. Lieut. F. A. B. Nicoll 3rd Surrey Capt. H. B. de D'Arcey 112th Infantry F. A.</i>
9. Educational history of the candidate since the age of 10 years, with the names of the schools attended and periods of attendance at each.		<i>A. E. Clark Esq: St Wilfrid's Bexhill September 1907. - 1911 Malvern College. Worcester. 1911 - April 1914.</i>

K-2
O. M. SOCIETY



P. e.
attached.
THE COLLEGE, MALVERN.



To the
O. of Records.
The War Office.

Dear Sir,

The Headmaster of Malvern College
will be much obliged if you can give
him the name & address (with relation-
ship) of the next of kin of

Percy Claude Jacobus Smith

2 Lt E. Yorks R.

Killed July 1 1916

Yours faithfully
H. Kempson.

The Secretary

3. (Cas.)

H.M.S.

M.S.3

TELEGRAMS

Message with

No. of

461

and is

January 2nd 1917.

The Military Secretary presents his compliments to Mr H. Kempson, and, in reply to his letter of the 27th ultimo, begs to inform him that the next of kin registered in this Department of the late

Second Lieutenant F. C. J. Smith,
1st East Yorkshire Regiment,

is his Father, Mr C. Smith, of the Grand Hotel, Eastbourne.

Your Obedient Servant
[Signature]

The Secretary
War Office
Lark Building
St James's Place
London W. 1.

Phm

Action to be taken, if any.

11 July 16

Prefix Ao Code _____ (Inland Official)

Office of Origin and Service Instructions: O. H. M. S.

Words: M. S. 3.
C. A. S.

Sent _____ At _____ M. _____ To _____ By _____

No. of Telegram 64611

I certify that this Telegram is sent on the service of the W. D.

(Signature) L. Allenger

Attention is called to the Regulations printed at the back hereof

TO Smith
Grand Hotel - Eastbourne

Dated Stamp _____

DEBRY TO INFORM YOU THAT

2nd Lieut P. C. Y. Smith
1 East Yorkshire Regt. was killed in action
2 July. The War Council express their
sympathy

FROM SECRETARY, WAR OFFICE

Register No. 122322

Extract from Letters of Administration.
Probate of Will.

Dated 22nd March 1914. Granted at P. P. R.

1. Estate of Percy Claude Jacob Smith of the
Grand Hotel Eastbourne, County
of Sussex, Lt. H. M. Army.
2. Date and Place
of Death 1st July 1916, in France, on active service
intestate a bachelor.

3. Grantees Sydney Smith natural and
lawful father and next of
kin of the said intestate.

4. Gross value, £ 5580. 2. 5.

5. Disposal of Medals

Contracted by }
Produced by }
Produced by }

J. Lawson Lewis Esq.
Barclays Bank Chro.
Ternley Rd,
Eastbourne

to whom returned

by R. P. H. 14/17



32

THE GRAND HOTEL,
EASTBOURNE.

Feb 21 1917

Sir

No 125322
2

As father to the
late 2nd Lieut P S J Smith
1st Battalion East York Reg^t
Cooc's Bank, told me
(where my son had an
account.) that the correct
sum would in due
course be placed to
the credit of that account
by the War Office.
I'm sorry I cannot

Will you therefore

inform you what sum
is due from Army fund,
all I can say is that
the account at Fisco has
not been touched, as they
tell me the War Office
have not as yet placed
anything to the credit
of my late Son's account.

I may add I cannot call
to memory any letter
from the War Office dated
Oct 3rd, 1916, referred to
in yours of yesterday

Yours truly

Sydney Smith

The Secretary
War Office
London S W

THE GRAND HOTEL,
EASTBOURNE.

Aug 19 1916

Sir

I think it only
right, that I should
let you know the
contents of the box
forwarded by post No.
contained two old
rapers, six old letters
cheque book & paying
in slip & one wooden
pipe, the pipe & one

with the above mentioned

3 bronze badges

razor didn't belong
to him.

no watch no ring
no glasses

I need scarcely say
I am more than.

disgusted

Yours faithfully
Sydney Smith

My sons name
the late 2nd Lieut P C J Smith

1st Bat East Yorks Linc

Killed July 1st or 2nd
Reg^t

(Accounts 4).

| September, 1916.

Sir,

With reference to your letter of the 19th ultimo I am directed to acquaint you that in addition to the small package of personal effects of the late Second Lieutenant F.C.J. Smith, East Yorkshire Regiment, Messers Cox & Co's. Shipping Agency were instructed to forward to you a heavier package of the late Officer's kit which was received in this country. Should this not have reached you I am to suggest that you should communicate with the above mentioned firm.

I am to explain that the arrangements in force provide for the recovery wherever possible of all the effects of deceased Officers and for their return to this country for disposal. Every endeavour is made to ensure the safe custody of the effects, and this Department has no reason to doubt that if any further articles of the late Officer's property were recovered they will in due course be received.

I am to add that owing to the abnormal conditions of active service great difficulty in the recovery and transmission of effects is frequently experienced, but that if any further articles of the late Officer's property are at any time forthcoming, they will be at once forwarded to you.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

(Sd) *J. Miles*

for the Assistant Financial Secretary.

S. Smith, Esq.,
The Grand Hotel,
Eastbourne.

125372

note to B. 20/8

C. R. 760 B590/2127/aa

FIELD SERVICE.



Report of Death of an OFFICER to be forwarded to the War Office with the least possible delay after receipt of notification of death on Army Form B. 213 or Army Form A. 36 or from other official documentary sources.

Unit) 1st Bn The East Yorkshire Regiment.

Rank) 2/Lieut.

Name) P.C.J. Smith.



By whom reported O.C.I/E. York.R.
Date of Death 1/7/16
Place or hospital France
DIED Cause of death Killed in Action.
Place of burial Not yet reported.

State whether he leaves a will or not { Not received.

All private documents and effects received from the front or hospital, should be examined, and if any will is found it should be at once forwarded to the War Office.

Any information received as to verbal expressions by a deceased officer of his wishes as to the disposal of his estate should be reported to the War Office as soon as possible.

Lieut. Colonel,
Officer i/c Inftry Sections,
Adjutant General's Office at the Base.

General Headquarters, 3rd. Echelon.

Date) 8/7/16

From,
The Standing Committee of Adjustment,
General Headquarters,
3rd Echelon,
British Expeditionary Force.
18/7/16.

To,
Messrs. Cox & Co's., Shipping Agency, Ltd.,
10, Charing Cross,
London, S.W.

The undermentioned effects of the late
2/Lieut. P.C.J. Smith, 1st Bn: East Yorkshire Regiment,
are forwarded herewith, by registered post.

Inventory.

Letters.

- 1. Safety Razor. (case damaged)
- 1. Fountain pen.
- 3. Badges.
- 1. Cheque Book.
- 1. Advance book. 31366
- 1. Pipe.
- 1. Razor.

Cox & Co
543325
543350

