



Francis Bailey

64 Park Grove



Silhouette of a First World War soldier
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Tracing Francis' life and details of his military service has proved difficult. We know from the Register of Electors list for 1918 that he was away on military service at that date, and had returned to 64 Park Grove by mid 1919.

Francis Bailey is a common name and with the possibility that he might have been known as "Frank" the task of identifying the correct military records has proved impossible. Many records were destroyed by fire in World War 2 and other records, such as medal record cards, were not filled out in sufficient detail to allow us to link the archive to a particular person.

Francis was born in Derby on 25 June 1893 and was baptised at Christchurch one month later. In the 1901 census he was living with his parents at 7 Bramble Street Derby – the only son of Francis and Alice Bailey. His father was a Grocer who employed people to work in his business.

In 1911 the family were living at 64 Park Grove with a visitor present – Annie Fairham who was probably an aunt – she and Francis' mother, Alice, were born in Ballarat, Australia – both British citizens by parentage. By this stage Francis (senior) was

a listed as a Wholesale Grocer, and Francis (junior) aged 17 was working as a Boot Factors Assistant.

While the family were resident at 64 Park Grove for the 1911 census they do not appear on any of the Electoral Rolls until 1918 when Francis (junior) is listed as absent on Naval or Military service. The only other resident listed as a voter at this time is Annie Osborne who appears on the voting lists for this house intermittently between 1908 and 1926. By 1919 the entire Bailey family were living at the address but Francis (junior) was to leave the area in about 1920.

After that we lose touch with him – with such a common name it has proved impossible to track down where he lived, whether he married and had a family. His parents and Annie Osborne had moved out of Park Grove by 1930.

A Francis Bailey, born on the same date, died in 1983 in the Aberconwy area of Gwynedd, North Wales.

If you have any information about Francis Bailey please contact us at 6streetshistory@gmail.com