



William David Hampshire Walkerdine

30 Bromley Street



Silhouette of a First World War soldier
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William was the only surviving son of David and Rebecca Walkerdine. They had eight children but three did not survive infancy - we know this from the 1911 census which recorded the number of children born in a marriage and how many had lived or died.

William was born in 1894 and the 1901 census reveals that the family were living at 26 Cowley Street: Rhoda was the oldest at 11, and then came Winifred (9), Dora (7) William (6) and Margaret (5). Father, David, is listed as a timber merchant who employed men.

By the Register of Electors for 1904 the family are living at 30 Bromley Street – probably the first family living in the newly built house. In the 1911 census David, the father, now describes himself as builder and slater; William is 16 and employed as a junior clerk at a leather merchants and his sisters Dora and Winifred were also employed as clerks.

We know from the Register of Electors for 1918 that William was absent on military service; however, there was another William H Walkerdine of a similar age living on Thornhill Road in Derby at the same date. One of these two served with the Royal Fusiliers, later transferring to the newly formed RAF – but the surviving military records are not detailed enough to distinguish the two men.

We do know that William (also known as David) appears never to have returned to live at Bromley Street and by 1920 the whole family had moved away.

In 1925 he married Margaret Hunsworth in Coventry but there are no records of any children and of where they lived and worked. There are no further traces of him until his death in Stockport in 1954. He must have been visiting Stockport as his home address was Carbis Bay, St Ives, Cornwall.