

Codford War Graves



Lest we Forget

World War I

1129 PRIVATE

JAMES McEWAN

LANCASHIRE FUSILIERS

26TH DECEMBER, 1915



Commonwealth War Graves Headstone for Pte J. McEwan is located in St. Mary's Churchyard, Codford – near south-east corner of Churchyard.

* Headstone has Service number of 1129, however CWGC & UK Soldiers died in Great War has number as 4129

James McEWAN

James McEwan was born at Bury, Lancashire to parents James & Mary McEwan (nee Brookes). His birth was registered in the district of Manchester, Lancashire in December quarter, 1879.

The 1881 Census recorded James McEwan as a 2 year old living with his family at 17 William St, Bury (split household). His parents were recorded as James McEwan (Iron Turner in Iron Works, aged 26, born Westmorland) & Mary McEwan (Rover in a Cotton Mill, aged 24, born Bury, Lancashire). Also included was youngest child – Peter (aged 1 month, born Bury, Lancashire).

The 1891 Census recorded James McEwan as a 12 year old living with his parents at 13 Tenters Court, Bury in a 4 roomed dwelling. His parents were recorded as James McEwan (Iron Turner, aged 36) & Mary McEwan (Rover in a Cotton Mill, aged 34). Also included was youngest child – Peter McEwan (aged 10) & listed as Nieces - Annie G. Brooks (Rover in Cotton Mill, aged 26) & Lizzie Brooks (Rover in Cotton Mill, aged 23).

A death was registered in September quarter, 1899 in Bury for James McEwan, aged 44.

The 1901 Census recorded James McEwan as a 22 year old Wringing Machine Fitter, living with his family at 66 South Garden St, Bury, a 4 roomed dwelling. His widowed mother was recorded as Mary McEwan (Cotton Card Room Hand, aged 44). Also included in the household were Peter McEwan (Printer's Apprentice, aged 20) & listed as Sisters of Mary – Annie Brooks (Cotton Card Room Hand, aged 36) & Elizabeth Brooks (Cotton Card Room Hand, aged 33).

The 1911 Census recorded James McEwan as 32 year old Labourer (Railway) living with his widowed mother at 29 Shepherd St, Bury, in a 4 roomed dwelling. His mother was recorded as Mary McEwan (Widow, aged 54, with 2 children). Also listed was Mary's sister – Annie Brooks (Rover, Cotton Mill Industry, aged 45).

James McEwan enlisted with Lancashire Fusiliers at Bury, Lancashire. He was given the rank of Private & a Service number of 4129*. (Pte McEwan's service number on his Headstone reads 1129). Pte McEwan was posted to 4/5th Reserve Battalion of Lancashire Fusiliers.

The 4/5th Battalion was formed in Southport in Spring 1915 as a home service depot or training unit and then moved to Codford, Wiltshire & Witley, Surrey.

Pte James McEwan died on 26th December, 1915.

A death for James McEwan, aged 32, was registered in the December quarter, 1915 in the district of Warminster, Wiltshire, England.

Pte James McEwan was buried in the Churchyard of St. Mary's, Codford, near south-east corner of the Churchyard. His death is acknowledged by Commonwealth War Graves Commission & as such he has a CWGC headstone.



St Mary's Churchyard, Codford – James McEwan's headstone is fourth from right
(of 5 CWGC headstones) (Photo courtesy of Romy Wyeth – 2013)

Photo of Pte J. McEwan's Headstone in St. Mary's Churchyard, Codford



(Photo by Andrea Charlesworth- 2012)