

Bernard Peacock Smith

Sergeant 12 Field Survey Depot, Royal Engineers

Service Number 1885352

Died on 23 July 1943 Age 31

Remembered with Honour Medjez-El-Bab War Cemetery

Inscription 'Until the day break and the shadows flee away'

<https://www.cwgc.org/find-records/find-war-dead/casualty-details/2813304/BERNARD%20PEACOCK%20SMITH/>

Bernard Peacock Smith was born on 27th May 1912 (registered in the Basford R D) the son of Sidney Herbert and Agnes Annie (nee Peacock) Smith. Sidney and Agnes were married in 1911 the marriage being registered in Basford R D. in the June quarter. A further son Lancelot R Smith was born on 19th September 1915 birth also registered in the Basford R D.

On the 1911 Census Sidney Herbert born in Andover Hampshire was lodging with the Pope family on Orlando Drive. His occupation was a Printers Clerk.

I do not know where the family lived following the marriage of Sidney and Agnes. In the 1920's they were living on Willow Road moving c1926 to number 27 Gedling Road.



Willow Road looking towards Conway Road. Number 27 is on the left
Photographed in 2020

Sidney and Agnes later moved to Waverley Avenue Gedling residing at 'Homestead' on the 1939 register.



Bernard, meanwhile had moved to Hampshire presumably for his employment, he met and in 1937 married Joan Daisy Marie Richardson (born 1917 in Hampshire), registered in the June quarter in Winchester Registration District.

On the 1939 register Bernard and Joan were living at 13, Kipling Road Eastleigh Hampshire his occupation was a Lithographic Artist also an ARP Warden. There is a closed record which could be their son Bernard S Smith whose birth was registered in the Winchester RD in the December quarter of 1938.

Bernard was probably conscripted in 1941. He subsequently joined the 12 Field Survey Depot, Royal Engineers. It was important for forces to know accurately where they were and even if unseen where the enemy was, The Survey units were responsible for surveying the ground, creating maps and identifying the position of the enemy. The 12th Survey Unit was on service in North Africa when Bernard was killed on 23 July 1943. On the casualty list his name is under 'Accidentally Killed'

His remains were reinterred on 14 Aug 1944 in the Medjez-El-Bab War Cemetery near Tunis.

For details and photographs of this cemetery, please see the website

<https://www.findagrave.com/cemetery/2225062/medjez-el-bab-war-cemetery>

Joan Daisy Marie Smith remarried in 1955 to Herbert E Leach in Winchester RD in the Sept Quarter. Her death is registered in the December quarter of 2006 in Winchester RD.