

Percy HUNT

Born: 1881, East Cowes

Parents: Maurice Hunt and Harriet Morey

Last known address: 6 Bernard Road, Cowes

Last known occupation: Market gardener

Service number: 203339 **Regiment:** 1st/6th Battalion Hampshire Regiment

Service history summary

- enlisted : not known
- rank: Private
- decorations: British War Medal
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Died: 8th September 1919 **Age:** 28

Buried: [Mazargues War Cemetery, Marseilles](#)

Family/descendants: Percy was the youngest son of Maurice Hunt and Harriet Morey, who were married in St Mildreds Church, Whippingham in 1878. Maurice was born in Whippingham and Harriet in Arreton. Maurice was a gardener and later a market gardener. Percy married Ada Hunt, from Fawley in Hampshire, at the Bible Christian Chapel, East Cowes in 1907, which was the same chapel in which his brother Arthur had married Beatrice Mary Atkinson in 1902. Percy and Ada appear to have had one child, Aubrey Leslie Hunt, born in the early summer of 1911 and who died in Brighton in 1935, aged 25. Harriet died in 1920, aged 66, and Maurice in 1924, aged 69.

Brother: Arthur (1879)

Sister: Gertrude (1885)

Wife: Ada Hunt (c1878)

Son: Aubrey Leslie (1911)

Northwood/Gurnard connection: Percy was born in East Cowes in 1881 and it is uncertain what connection he had to Northwood Parish and how he came to be on the local commemoration plaques, as all the information found to date relates to a Cowes or East Cowes home. In 1891 the family were living at Norris Castle Lodge in East Cowes when Maurice was a gardener/domestic servant and Harriet a lodge keeper. Ten years later, in 1901, the family were still at Norris Castle Lodge. Maurice was registered as an employer rather than a worker and it is possible that he employed Percy as his assistant. Arthur was a builder's labourer.

In 1911 Percy (29) and his wife Ada (33), who must have been heavily pregnant, and nephew Arthur William Hunt, aged 5, were living at 6 Bernard Road Cowes and Percy was a market gardener. Percy's parents were just around the corner in Birmingham Road. Percy's nephew Arthur, born to his brother Arthur and his wife

Beatrice may have been staying as a result of Beatrice having died at the age of 35 in the previous year (1910). In the 1911 census brother Arthur was a widower living alone in Beckingham, Kent. His occupation was a carpenter on a gentleman's estate.

War record: as Percy was not awarded the 15 Star, he must have joined up later in the War. As with so many others, his service record has not survived. The 6th Battalion Hampshire Regiment was formed in August 1914, sailed for India on October 9th and landed in Karachi on November 11th. On September 16th 1917 the Battalion landed at Basra and remained in Mesopotamia for the rest of the War as part of the 17th Indian Division.

Marseilles was the European base for Indian troops, which is presumably why Percy died in hospital there on September 8th 1919. Whether he died of wounds or disease is not known but he was buried in the Mazargues Cemetery in the city.