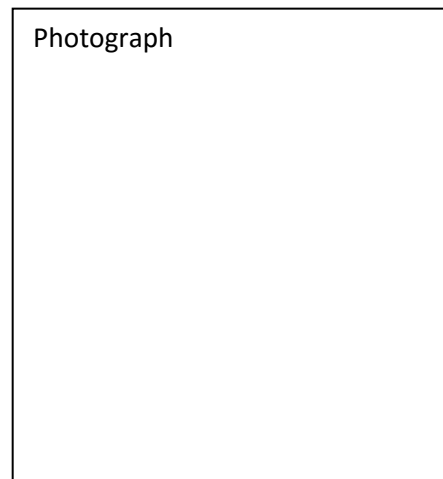


<i>Name</i>	William Godsall GORDON
<i>Birth Place</i>	Paris, France ('British Subject by parentage')



<i>Occupation 1911</i>	Scholar
<i>Date of Birth</i>	26 February 1900
<i>Date Enlisted</i>	Possibly March 1918

<i>Parents</i>	Kate GORDON (née FARNISH), a widow at the time of William's birth; her late husband Alfred Edward GORDON died on 25 October 1898, in France
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<i>Married</i>	Apparently remained single
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*Information from National Roll of the Great War*

GORDON, W., Private, 2<sup>nd</sup> Gordon Highlanders

He joined the Bedford Regiment in March 1918, and after his training at Hastings and Felixstowe, and service in Ireland, volunteered for duty in Russia. He did much valuable service with the Gordon Highlanders at Vladivostock and on the Dvinsk, and was also stationed for a time at Constantinople. After his return home he was demobilised in March 1921.

Gouard Cottage, Bugbrooke, Weedon, Northants.

*Additional Information*

William GORDON was born in Paris to a 29-year old widow with two young children, whose husband of just three years, Alfred, had died in October 1898 at the early age of 28.

At some stage William arrived in England and by 1911 he was living with a foster mother in Bugbrooke. Emma BULL (née BARNES), aged 57, was the widow of Thomas BULL who had died in March 1891. Emma was caring for six foster children including William, aided by her unmarried daughter of 23, Frances Hirrell BULL.

Frances married local baker, later postmaster (and cousin?), Frederick Edwin BARNES in late 1915.

William apparently joined the Bedfordshire Regiment in early 1918 and would have served with either or both the 3/5th (Territorial Force) Battalion and the 3rd (Reserve) Battalion, these units being stationed at Hastings, Felixstowe and in Ireland at times to correspond with the National Roll entry, above.

There is no record of the Gordon Highlanders with the Allied Intervention in Russia. There were two other Scottish units present, 2nd Battalion, the Highland Light Infantry and 2nd/10th Battalion, the Royal Scots.

No specific Medal Index Card or Service Record for William has been identified – though 27 plain 'William GORDONS' served abroad with the Gordon Highlanders.

In 1939 William was living as a single man in 'GPO Lane', Bugbrooke, with married Frances Hirrell BARNES (née BULL) also at the same address; her husband Frederick was living in the High Street with his mother. Frances died on 3 November 1947 and Frederick on 31 October 1950.

William's death on 30 June 1981 was registered at Corby; he has a memorial in Bugbrooke churchyard (No. 208).