

<i>Name</i>	William Anderton LATTIMER
<i>Birth Place</i>	Kentish Town, north London
<i>Occupation 1911</i>	Police Constable
<i>Date of Birth</i>	First quarter of 1885
<i>Date Enlisted</i>	17 October 1902; re-joined 5 August 1914
<i>Parents</i>	William Anderton LATTIMER and Charlotte LATTIMER (née ANDERTON – a cousin?), both born in Northampton
<i>Married</i>	Apparently never married
<i>Information from National Roll of the Great War</i>	
No entry found.	

<i>Additional Information</i>

William LATTIMER was born and brought up in north London (along with six siblings), where his father (after whom he was named exactly) worked for the London & North-Western Railway (LNWR) as a Store Keeper (at Euston?). However, sometime after 1891 the family moved to Northampton, where his mother died in 1897, aged just 50. On 17 October 1902, young William volunteered for the Royal Garrison Artillery (RGA), giving his age as 18 years and one month, when he was nearer 17½. He enlisted in Northampton and joined at Great Yarmouth as Gunner 11781, leaving his widowed father and younger siblings at 35 Park Street, Northampton.

William must have enjoyed his early military life for in November 1904 he signed to extend his service, but on 3 November 1909 he transferred to the Reserve in order to become a Police Constable (PC). By this time his father had also died (in 1905) and the remaining family appears to have dispersed.

The 1911 Census shows William as a Constable with the 'County Police Force', lodging in Wellingborough along with other PCs. 'P.C. Latimer' is mentioned in school newsletters, so he must have patrolled in Bugbrooke often enough by early 1914 to be known to the pupils. He may have been in the company of the established PC, Frederick GARLICK*, or perhaps stood-in for him or took over the 'beat' from him.

William was recalled to the RGA promptly on the outbreak of war. After a period in England and promoted to Acting Sergeant (22 June 1916), he went overseas from 9 August 1916, first to Salonika, then to Egypt from 29 August 1917 and ending in Palestine. For his services in operations leading to the capture of Jerusalem, William was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal (DCM), as announced in the *London Gazette* Supplement of 11 April 1918 (where his home town is erroneously given as 'Nottingham'). The DCM was second only to the Victoria Cross as a bravery decoration for other ranks of the Army. William returned to England at the end of July 1919 and was eventually discharged from 134 Siege Battery, RGA, on 31 March 1920 '... to Moulton Police Station', no doubt to re-join the county force. It is not known if he patrolled in Bugbrooke again.

In addition to his DCM (which he received in December 1919), William qualified for the British War Medal and the Victory Medal, which he received in January 1921.

William had been living in Moulton when he died in Northampton General Hospital on 25 February 1959.

*= Frederick William GARLICK (1881-1957), a local man, lodging in Bugbrooke in 1911, whose father had also worked for LNWR.



**The Distinguished
Conduct Medal**

GVR issue, obverse