

Gedney Drove End & Dawsmere J.J.Walker Memorial

TF 459 297

WMA 42992 and 42993.



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THIS WALL / WAS ERECTED BY / MR. JAMES WALKER / IN MEMORY OF HIS SON /
JOHN JAMES / WALKER / KILLED IN MORMANDY / 27TH JUNE 1944



© Cheryl Arnold



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THIS PLAYING FIELD
WAS GIVEN TO THE VILLAGE BY
COUNC. A. WALKER J.P.
IN MEMORY OF HIS SON
JOHN THOMAS
WALKER
WHO DIED
4TH SEPTEMBER 1943

Christ Church

TF442301



© Wendy Parkinson

WMA 42986

To provide and place a memorial cross with the figure of Our Lord thereon, said cross to be of Portland Stone on concrete foundation, in the churchyard of the parish church of Gedney Drove End.

That the said cross is to be about twelve feet six inches in height on a base of about seven feet by seven feet, with the following inscription cut on the centre panel of the octagon forming the base of the memorial viz:

1914 – 1918
To the Glory of God and in
undying memory of the men
from this Parish who died on
The Great War

And the names of the fallen (about 22 in number) to be inscribed on the panels on either side.
Approved by the P.C.C. on the 18th November 1924.

Faculty Book 15, page 306, dated 7th April 1935.

Dimensions: (4 sided) 2.1m wide by 2.1m deep by approx 4m high (excludes concrete base)



© Michael Peck

Hunt on to allow grave restoration



The headstone of the grave

Published on **Sunday 27 November 2011 11:00**

THE search is on for the owner of a dilapidated gravestone so work can be done to restore it.

The Gedney Drove End and Dawsmere Branch of the Royal British Legion wants to repair the gravestone for free out of respect for the soldier who is buried [commemorated] there but cannot carry out the work without permission of his family.

Branch chairman Rob Mitchell said: "We would like to hear from anybody within the district, who knows of the name 'Walker'.

"The gravestone has sunk and fallen over the years and we would like to level and secure the headstone."

The stone bears the inscription: "In loving memory of John James, beloved son of James and Annie Walker. Killed in action in Normandy June 27th 1944. Aged 21 years."



This is inscribed on a marble shield, in gold leaf lettering that has almost disappeared over the years.

Mr Mitchell added: "It's out of respect for the sacrifice that John made for us all that we would like to do this."

Also on the memorial was a postcard with the words: "In memory of Pte. (1612) George E Morrison, Princess Patricia's Light Infantry. Died of wounds, 1st March 1915, France."

Mr Mitchell would also like to hear from the person who wrote the card, so it can be established if Pte Morrison was local, if so his name should be written on the war memorial.

John James Walker



© Cheryl Arnold 27th July 2014

Right kerb:
IN FONDEST MEMORY OF JAMES WALKER, / CALLED TO REST 22ND MAY 1965, AGED 91 YEARS.

Left kerb:
**ALSO OF HIS WIFE ANNIE LAURA WALKER, / CALLED TO REST 11TH MAY 1970, AGED 80 YEARS.
RE-UNITED.**

Vase:
FROM JESSIE

Shield:
**IN LOVING MEMORY OF / JOHN JAMES / BELOVED SON OF / JAMES & ANNIE WALKER /
KILLED IN ACTION / IN NORMANBY / JUNE 27TH 1944 / AGED 21 YEARS.**

Gravespace delineated by two square and two deep chamfered white kerbs with square post to each corner, space is capped and white gravel covered. Square vase with container and grey shield shaped recumbent stone within space. Black lettered inscription on chamfered kerbs, gold lettered inscription on vase and shield.

John James Walker. Gunner 4809813. 91 Anti-Tank Regiment, Royal Artillery. Died 27th June 1944, aged 21 years. Son of James and Annie Laura Walker of Holbeach, Lincs. Buried Ryes War Cemetery. V.B.6.

Personal details are drawn from the Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) and the reference ' Soldiers Died in the Great War 1914 – 1919, Army Roll of Honour 1939 – 45 with additional material from, Bomber Command Losses by W.R. Chorley, Memorial Inscriptions, Etc as applicable.

1914 - 1919

A.R. Baker, Unable to identify CWGC/SDGW

C. W. Baker, Unable to identify CWGC/SDGW

James Herbert Baker, Private 36283. 5th Battalion, South Staffordshire Regiment. Killed in action 28th September 1918. Born Holbeach, enlisted Bourne and resident Long Sutton, Lincs. Commemorated Vis-En-Artois Memorial. Panel 6 and 7.

John William Baker, Private 13361. 10th Battalion, Lincolnshire Regiment. Died of wounds 16th August 1917. Born Deal, Kent, enlisted Spalding and resident Long Sutton, Lincs. Commemorated Tincourt New British Cemetery. I.C.18.

Harry Clark Beba, Private 52472. 7th Battalion, Lincolnshire Regiment, formerly 62605 North Staffordshire Regiment. Died of wounds 9th October 1918. Born Gedney Marsh, enlisted Lincoln and resident Gedney Marsh, Lincs. Commemorated Honnechy British Cemetery. I.A.5.

Albert Denton, Private 13361. Private 2351. Lincolnshire Yeomanry. Died at sea 3rd November 1915, aged 23 years. Son of James and Sarah Ann Denton of Station Road, Long Sutton, Lincs. Born Walpole Highway, Norfolk, enlisted Lincoln and resident Holbeach, Lincs. Commemorated Helles Memorial. Panel 331.

F. Dunn, Unable to identify CWGC/SDGW

Walter William Everard, Private 43037. 1st Battalion, Lincolnshire Regiment. Killed in action 11th April 1917. Enlisted Holbeach and resident Gedney Drove End, Lincs. Commemorated Wancourt British Cemetery. Special Mem 57.

Harry French, Lance Sergeant 18240. 7th Battalion, Lincolnshire Regiment, formerly 12378 Royal Army Medical Corps. Killed in action 31st August 1917, aged 21 years. Son of W.H and E French of Dawsmere, Lincs. Born Melton Mowbray, Leics, enlisted Grantham and resident Holbeach, Lincs. Commemorated Sunken Road Cemetery, Fampoux. I.E.3.

George Henry Gee, Private 17904. 6th Battalion, Lincolnshire Regiment. Killed in action 18th September 1916, aged 19 years. Son of Matthew James and Sarah Ann Gee of Cuckoo Bridge, Spalding, Lincs. No entry in SDGW. Commemorated Thiepval Memorial. Pier and Face 1C.

Ezra Grimmer, Private 200756. 2/4th Battalion, Lincolnshire Regiment. Killed in action 26th September 1917. Enlisted Long Sutton, Lincs. Commemorated Tyne Cot Memorial. Panel 35 to 37 and 162 to 162A.

Gilbert John Healey, Private 27146. 1st Battalion, Kings Own (Royal Lancaster Regiment). Killed in action 23rd October 1916, aged 27 years. Son of (the late) Harry and Annie Healey of Gedney Drove End, Lincs. Born Dawsmere and enlisted Long Sutton, Lincs. Commemorated Thiepval Memorial. Pier and Face 5D and 12B.

Samuel Edward Houchen, Gunner RMA/14401. Royal Marine Artillery. Died 1st April 1918. Commemorated Deal Cemetery. 2.1221.

Richard William Hurling, Private 28444. 2nd Battalion, Lincolnshire Regiment. Killed in action 21st April 1917. Born Sutton, enlisted Lincoln, Lincs and resident Battersea, Surrey. Commemorated Thiepval Memorial. Pier and Face 1C.

Harry Jones, Private 40094. 8th Battalion, North Staffordshire Regiment, formerly 25027 South Staffordshire Regiment. Killed in action 7th June 1917, aged 24 years. Son of William and Catherine Jones of Gedney Drove End, husband of Mary Jones of Roman Villa, Roman Bank, Long Sutton, Lincs. Born Gedney and enlisted Long Sutton, Lincs. Commemorated Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial. Panel 55

Charles Kidby, Private 201794. 4th Battalion, Lincolnshire Regiment. Killed in action 25th April 1917. Born Sutton Bridge, enlisted Holbeach and resident Gedney Green Dyke, Lincs. Commemorated Mazingarbe Communal Cemetery Extension. II.A.8.

G. Mackman, Unable to identify CWGC/SDGW

G. Morris, Unable to identify CWGC/SDGW

William Scott, Private 43038. 1st Battalion, Lincolnshire Regiment. Killed in action 11th April 1917. Born Daisy Hall, Holbeach, enlisted Holbeach and resident Dawsmere, Lincs. Commemorated Wancourt British Cemetery. Special Mem 31.

John Thomas Vickers, Corporal 16664. 8th Battalion, Lincolnshire Regiment. Died of wounds 3rd August 1916. Born Long Sutton, enlisted Holbeach and resident Gedney Marsh, Lincs. Commemorated Cabaret-Rouge British Cemetery, Souchez. IV.B.20.

James Ward, Private 27102. A Company, 2nd Battalion, Royal Warwickshire Regiment, formerly 5562 Lincolnshire Regiment. Killed in action 4th May 1917, aged 31 years. Son of William And Eliza Ward of The Crosses, Long Sutton, Lincs. Enlisted Long Sutton and resident Dawsmere, Lincs. Commemorated Arras Memorial. Bay 3.

1939 – 1945

William Thomas Davies, Private 5827443. 1st Battalion, Cambridgeshire Regiment, former Suffolk Regt. Died 3rd October 1943, aged 24 years. Son of Margaret Faulkner of Spalding, Lincs. Husband of Hazel Edith Davies. Born and resident Lincolnshire. Commemorated Kanchanaburi War cemetery. 2.L.9.

William Edward Ellis, Lance Bombardier 11407703. 169 Battery, 100 (8th Battalion, Gordon Highlanders) Anti-Tank Regiment, Royal Artillery. Died 27th January 1945, aged 24 years. Son of George William and Violet Eleanor Ellis, husband of Ruby M Ellis of Spalding, Lincs. Born and resident Lincolnshire. Commemorated Taukkyan War Cemetery. 18.J.19.

Edward William Eke, Sergeant (Wireless Op/Air Gunner) 1332191, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve. 90 Squadron, Royal Air Force. Lost on air operations 13th May 1943, aged 20 years. Son of Edgar John and Mary Ann Eke. Commemorated Amersfoort (Oud Leusden) General Cemetery. Plot 13. Row 7. Grave 131.

*Took off at 0030 from Ridgewell for Duisburg in Sterling III BF523 WP-G. Shot down by night-fighter (Uffz Emil Heinzelmann, III./NJGI), crashing 0328 into the Ijsselmeer of Nijkerk (Gelderland), Holland. **Page 141, Bomber Command Losses, Vol4***

Raymond Twaite, Sergeant (Wireless Op/Air Gunner) 1581079, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve. Died 1st June 1944, aged 21 years. Son of John Robert and Kate Twaite of Gedney, Lincs. Commemorated Gedney Drove End (Christ Church) Churchyard. Grave 17.

John James Walker, Gunner 4809813. 91 (5th Battalion, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders) Anti-Tank Regiment, Royal Artillery. Died 27th June 1944, aged 21 years. Son of James and Annie Laura Walker of Holbeach, Lincs. Born and resident Lincolnshire. Commemorated Ryes War Cemetery, Bazenville. V.B.6.