

ORIGINAL FILE DESTROYED

C.C.M. 64759

Capt. J. B. Cooper, R.A.S.C.

Bath Abbey Cem.

Grave Sect. II. 0 18-19

0/1436.

61 | Capt J. B. Cooper a.s.c.

Mrs V. M. Cooper.

c/o Messrs Wuthers, Bensons Currie  
Williams & Co.

Howard House,

4 Arundel St, Strand

CWGC/8/1/4/1/2/210 (CCM64759) C. 2

1/14 36

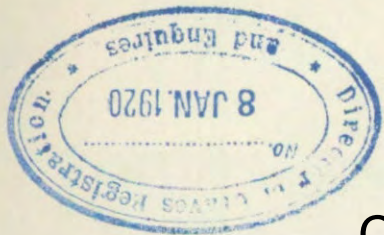
41 Cape J. B. Cooper. A.S.C.

Cem. Mrs V. M. Cooper.

do Messrs Withers Bensons.  
Carrie Williams & Co.

Howard House.  
4. Arundel St,

Strand. W.C



CWGC/8/1/4/1/2/210 (CCM64759)

E  
2512 Kensington.

46, ST. GEORGE'S COURT,  
GLOUCESTER ROAD,  
S. W. 7.

Ref - no —

0/14 36

12 JAN 1920

Jan - 9<sup>th</sup> / 20

Dear Sir —

My husband — the  
late Captain J. B. Cooper - A. S. C.  
was buried in the  
Abbey Cemetery  
Bath —

I have erected a memorial  
over his grave — but thank  
you all the same for offering  
to erect a temporary  
wooden cross —  
Yours faithfully J. B. Cooper

Reference:- B.G.8981.  
CCM/64759.

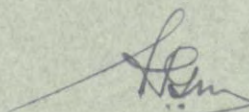
Enquiries

DIRECTOR OF WORKS.

Bath (Abbey) Cemetery, Somersetshire.

... I attach four copies of Schedule  
No. 2 of the Report for the above-mentioned Cemetery,  
containing one additional burial (Cooper) which  
has received the necessary Record Office verification  
and may be regarded as a war grave.

Will you kindly carry out the usual  
action and return two copies of the Schedule ?

  
for DIRECTOR OF RECORDS.

I.W.G.C.  
LONDON.

20th February, 1933.

CWGC/8/1/4/1/2/210 (CCM64759)

May 4<sup>th</sup>/56.

Manor Hotel.  
Huddersfield.  
Purley.

Dear Sir -

My husband. the late  
Captain J. B. Cooper - 's grave  
to be on your books & understood  
in future care & attention -  
& when I was in Bath recently -  
the Dover station - gave me the  
enclosed to hand on to you -  
so I have. in reply - given you  
the grave to you - & so I shall  
be reunited - the grave will  
so - be disturbed at my death -  
except a small inscription  
to be added - the grave -  
I am about to be moved

excellent admt. - a granite  
slab with leaded lettering &  
should not require any  
attention in many years - beyond  
an occasional brushing -  
I was with at Durnington Cemetery  
near Salisbury - lately there  
my elder son - his late Group Capt.  
T. B. Cooper. is buried - & I was  
delighted to see his name on  
Grass one kept up there. The  
Air Ministry asked me to hand  
them his death & released when  
my son was killed / He was  
in command of the R.A.F. Flying  
Squadron - Bombardier Army / and had  
a - his name on his grave etc -  
& I thought I ought to hand on

has enclosed to you in my  
letter of 1st grade -  
I apologize for the delay in -

Yours sincerely -  
Robert M. Cooper -  

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IMPERIAL  
COMMISSION  
RECEIPT  
8 - MAY 1956  
No.....



Capt. John Bruce Cooper

Royal Army Service Corps

21<sup>st</sup> Nov. 1915.

Bath Abbey Cem., Somerset  
Grave Sect. II. O. 18-19.

Skeleton Entry.

CCM

64759

M<sup>rs</sup> Cooper also mentions her son in the R.A.F.

Destroyed

660 Wk.

To see. Do we  
distinguish this group. it  
is marked by a private  
memorial.

J. Lynell

10. 5. 56

IMPERIAL WAR GRAVES COMMISSION

WOOBURN HOUSE,  
WOOBURN GREEN,  
HIGH WYCOMBE,  
BUCKS.



Secretary of the Imperial War Graves Commission begs to  
state that the permanent headstones have now been erected  
at the graves in

AO. UK

There are three 1914/18  
graves in this Cemetery.

Form M/1000 dated Feb 1934  
(we have not had one since) shows  
Capt Cooper's grave to be covered  
by a polished granite slab.

None of the graves are  
covered by a maintenance  
agreement, nor have we any  
knowledge of an undertaking  
to look after Capt Cooper's grave,  
as suggested by Mrs Cooper's  
letter. Perhaps the Area Supt. went  
out to City recently and broached  
the question of maint of one or more  
of the graves with the Gen. Supt?

15/1/50

Superintendent,  
South Western Area.

Bath Abbey Cemetery, Somerset.  
Grave of Capt. J.B.Cooper. R.A.S.C. 21. 11. 1915.  
Section II O. 18-19.

There are three 1914-1918 graves in this Cemetery, The last M 1000 dated 13th February 1934 reports that the above grave is covered by a polished granite slab. There is no maintenance agreement for this burial place, nor have we any knowledge of any undertaking to look after the above grave which has been suggested in a letter we have recently received from Mrs. Cooper. Have you visited this cemetery recently and broached the question of maintenance of one or more graves to the Cemetery Superintendent? If not, would you please note this cemetery for a visit the next time you are in the Area and let us have a detailed report of this grave, as if it is entirely covered by a polished granite slab and it is marked by a private memorial, it is difficult to see what maintenance could be undertaken by the Commission.

*Am.*  
Chief Administrative Officer,  
United Kingdom District.

15th May, 1956.

C.F.O. / To see please.

*Am.*

two.

As this is a private memorial the  
Commission cannot accept responsibility  
for its upkeep. When Area Dept. has replied  
the further letter to Mrs. Cooper should be  
agreed with CAO.

J. J. Yruech

16. 8. 56

CGM. 64759.

16th. May, 1956.

Dear Madam,

Thank you for your letter of the 5th. May, regarding the grave of the late Captain J. H. Cooper, Royal Army Service Corps, which is receiving attention.

A further reply will be sent to you as soon as possible.

Yours faithfully,

Secretary.

Mrs. V. A. Cooper,  
Manor Hotel,  
Hindhead,  
Surrey.

ON	14. 6. 56
TO	
BY	
DATE	

*J.*  
for  
reply  
from Act.



6A OUK

Have you had a  
reply from the A.S  
about this grave please

Dean

15/6/56

W 8981.

Superintendent,  
South Western Area.

*E. file.  
CCM/64759.*

Bath Abbey Cemetery, Somerset.  
Grave of Capt. J.B.Cooper. R.A.S.C. 21. 11. 1915.

With reference to my minute of 15th May 1956,  
Enquiries Branch are pressing for a reply.

*[Handwritten signature]*

Chief Administrative Officer,  
United Kingdom District.

19th June, 1956.

B.F.  
29/6/56  
TO Enquiries  
INITIALS *ND*

*Miss Deane / To me please.*

*[Handwritten signature]*

Inquiry in Act. / This copy for info file No. CCM/64759.

Reference W 8981.

*Wm.*  
Chief Administrative Officer,  
U.K. District.

*29/6/56.*

Bath Abbey Cemetery, Somerset.

With reference to your minute dated 15th May 1956, concerning the grave of Capt. J.B. Cooper, R.A.S.C. 21. 11. 1915 in the above mentioned Cemetery.

I inspected this grave yesterday and found it in very good condition. It is marked by a private memorial, consisting of a Polished Grey Granite Ledger, which entirely covers the grave. The Caretaker informed me that he washed this Memorial some short time ago, on the instructions of Mrs. Cooper.

With regard to the upkeep of the grave, I cannot see what maintenance could be undertaken by the Commission apart from the occasional washing of the Memorial which could be done by our Works Team as and when required.

The other two war graves in this burial place are also in good condition. The grave of COTTERELL which is marked by a private memorial is tended by relatives and the grave of RAWLINGS which is also marked by a private memorial, consisting of a white marble headstone, kerb and slab, does not require any horticultural maintenance.

(Signed) F.WATSON.

S.W. Area Superintendent.

Salisbury.

28th June, 1956.

~~b.A.O (UK)~~

As the only maintenance  
which would be done is by  
occasional working of the  
private memorial by your  
works team, is it in order  
to advise the Wk of this.

I thought the Commission  
would not maintain  
memorials erected privately

May I have your  
advice please

Dean

Tel: Bourne End 594.

IMPERIAL WAR GRAVES COMMISSION,  
WOOBURN HOUSE,  
WOOBURN GREEN,  
HIGH WYCOMBE,  
BUCKS.

Dear

.....  
.....

With reference to your request for a photograph of the grave of the above when the permanent headstone is in position, I regret that the Commission cannot undertake to supply a photograph, this not being within the scope of their work.

After the 1914-18 War, some organizations and firms of photographers were given permits to take photographs, on behalf of the relatives, in the War Cemeteries in certain areas. It is not known at present what will be the general practice in respect of post-war photographs of graves of the Second World War.

CWGC/8/1/4/1/2/210 (CCM64759)

~~Mrs. Dean~~ <sup>Widow</sup> 917

The Area Supt.  
only said the washing of  
the P.M. could be done  
by the Works team, but  
we should not allow it  
to be done as this would be  
tantamount to maintaining  
a P.M., body of your reply for  
Area Supt. please. Franklin

Dr. Brown.

Would you please see Mrs  
Cooper's letter of the 4<sup>th</sup> May.

She points out that she has  
virtually "given over the game" to us  
— a state of affairs to which  
I am sure the Commission would  
not agree — at least not so long  
as the private memorial remains  
"in situ".

As a tyro in these  
matters, I should have thought this  
~~letter~~ should have been "squashed"  
on receipt of Mrs Cooper's letter in  
Early May?

I am now rather "forced"  
as how best to write to Mrs Cooper  
and I would appreciate your  
advice.

W. J. P. M. A. S.

1697

Mr. Morley

Thank Mrs Cooper for the copy of the entry in the cemetery Register. Say that we do not understand what she means by saying the grave has been virtually handed over to us for care & attention; as it is marked by a PM & she herself has <sup>only</sup> recently been taking an interest ~~in it~~ & giving instructions for its washing, the Commission can assume no responsibility for its upkeep, but record its existence. They will only step in if at any time in the future the PM decays or shows evidence of grave neglect.

JMA  
11.7.56



G.C.M. 64759.

16th July, 1956.

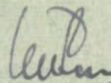
Dear Mrs. Cooper,

Further to this office letter of the  
16th May, 1956.

I am now writing to state that it is not understood when you say that the grave of Capt. J. B. Cooper, R.A.S.C., in Bath Abbey Cemetery, Somerset, has, virtually, been handed over to the Commission for care and maintenance. Since it is marked by a private memorial and you have, recently given instructions for its washing, the Commission can assume no responsibility for its upkeep. They do, however, record its existence.

Should the private memorial show evidence of neglect, at any time in the future, the Commission will then consider what could be done.

Yours sincerely,



Secretary

Mrs. V. M. Cooper,  
Manor Hotel,  
HINDHEAD,  
Surrey.

Manor Hotel.

(1)

July 17<sup>th</sup> / 56-

Sturdhead-

Pursey-

C.C.H. 64759-

Dear Sir -

I thank you for your letter regarding my husband's grave in Bath Abbey Cemetery - we are a little puzzled by it - Probably my handwriting is so illegible you could not quite make it out -

At the end of World War 1 - your Commission wrote & asked me if I would care for them to put up a very low 2 stone for my husband's grave - I wrote & explained I had a headstone but it was

in order to see the Commission  
recoded his existence of the  
gran - I said it would  
be looked after. I cannot  
produce the correspondence  
because I lost nearly half  
the things in the last fire. These  
included all private letters  
& papers - but in 1949 - your  
representative in Salisbury  
found me and sent me  
the Commission's work he had  
in his office - in which my  
husband & gran were  
recoded - but some remarks  
in red ink in the margin -  
I forget what it was!  
I only thought recently -

I have some years ago passed  
the allotted space I had  
in the hand on to you the  
particulars of the grate-  
though I know my son-  
Commander R. J. Cook - R.N.  
(Staff Officer (Medical - Admiralty))  
will always keep an  
eye on it after my death -  
I always I do not think  
there will be any expense  
attached to it - as the  
grave has always been  
well looked after by the  
Cemetery people. I know  
the value station (Bath Abbey)  
takes an interest in his business.

I trust you will forgive me  
for not explaining all the  
apparently more clearly in  
my first letter - I was certainly  
not expecting or asking  
you to spend any money  
for me -

Sincerely,  
Walter H. Cooper.



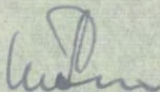
DC

C.C.M. 64759.

Dear Mrs. Cooper,

Thank you for your letter of the  
17th July, which has clarified the position.

Yours sincerely,

  
for Secretary

Mrs. V. M. Cooper,  
Manor Hotel,  
HINDHEAD,  
Surrey.

Copy of entry in Bath Abbey Cemetery Register:-

No. 3482

Date of Death 21st November 1915

Name, &c John Bruce Cooper  
Captn. in the A.S.C. M.T.

Abode at the time of Death 2 Daniel St.  
Bath

Age 46

Date and Hour of Burial 24th Novr. 1915  
3 p.m.

Mode of Burial and Situation of Grave or Catacomb. New grave.  
Sec. II 0  
18-19  
6" 6"

Name of Undertaker and Officiating Minister Messrs Ealand & Co.  
New Bond St.  
Revd. Preb. S.A. Boyd  
Rector.

Fees and Charges	Ground for grave	12	-	12	-	0
	Preserving ground			10	-	6
		<u>13</u>		-	<u>2</u>	<u>6</u>

Remarks -----

The above is a true copy

*John Hutton*

Chairman,  
Bath Abbey Fabric Committee

8th March 1956

Copy of entry in Bath House Register

1943

1st November 1943

John Stanger  
Cairn, 1st Nov. 1943

Initials  
T.M.

1st Nov. 1943

New grave  
10-12  
1943

New grave  
10-12  
1943

10-12  
1943

IMPERIAL WAR Graves  
COMMISSION  
RECEIVED  
3 - MAY 1956