

Herbert Middleton accidentally killed at Blyth Shipyard 13 August 1901



In Loving Memory of
HERBERT MIDDLETON
WHO WAS ACCIDENTALLY KILLED AT BLYTH SHIPYARD
ON THE 13TH DAY OF AUGUST 1901
AGED 24 YEARS
ALSO OF **JOSEPH MIDDLETON**
HIS FATHER
WHO DIED ON THE 2ND DAY OF NOV^R 1911
AGED 70 YEARS
ALSO **SARAH**, WIFE OF THE ABOVE
JOSEPH MIDDLETON
DIED FEB 15TH 1912, AGED 74 YEARS.

Many people are remembered on graves in Barrow, but are buried elsewhere, including overseas. In this case, Herbert Middleton was brought back from Blyth to be buried in his home town.

Surprisingly, the *North Western Evening Mail* August 15th 1901 carried a brief account of the inquest:

THE FATALITY TO A BARROW MAN AT BLYTH

THE INQUEST

Yesterday, Mr. Deputy Coroner Rutherford held an inquest at the Knight Memorial Hospital, Blyth, on the body of Herbert Middleton (24), a ship plater, who died from injuries received at the works of the Blyth Shipbuilding Company, on Tuesday.

James W. Parker, a plate worker, stated that, about seven o'clock on Tuesday morning the deceased, witness, and another marker, were proceeding to the ship in the dock, for the purpose of punching a plate. A travelling crane was standing on the railway, and some trucks extended through the gateway leading to the docks. Deceased was passing between a truck and the gate-post, when the crane started and the hinge of the truck caught him in the side and crushed him.

After hearing further evidence, the jury found that the injuries had been accidentally received, and they recommended that the company provide a separate gate-way for the use of the workmen only.

Ancestry in the **1891 Census** has the family living at 28 School Street, Barrow. Father Joseph (49) Joiner, born Lowick; mother Sarah (47), born Liverpool; and children Amelia (19), pupil teacher; Arthur (15), Cabinet Maker's Apprentice; and Herbert (14), no occupation recorded. All the children born in Barrow.

The family are still at the same address in the **1901 Census**. Joseph is a house joiner (own account), Arthur is a house joiner (worker) and is now married to Minnie (23), while Herbert is a ship's plater.

Amelia Middleton married George Brooks at St George in 1897; Minnie Huitson married Arthur Middleton at St Luke in 1901 (Cumbria BMD)