
Richard COBB (c. 1777-c. 1868)

Richard Cobb's connection to North Lopham is by birth, residence and burial.

Little can be found about Richard and his family. It may be that the Hannah BANHAM given in the 1851 and 1861 Census is Richard's daughter. It is also possible that Richard married an Elizabeth WORLEDGE in 1808. The information for Richard is scarce, and some of that not satisfactorily provable.

Richard COBB was born circa 1777 in North Lopham, Norfolk.

Richard served 2 periods in the army. The first, in the 30th Regiment of Foot, from 25 Aug 1799 to 14 Aug 1802, as a Private, serving for 2 years 294 days. He re-enlisted into the 31st Regiment of Foot on 25 Apr 1805 and after 1 year 107 days was promoted to Corporal. 3 years 148 days later he was promoted to Sergeant and served as such for 10 years 28 days.

From the service dates and Richards units, it is likely that when with the 30th Foot he fought in the British force in Egypt in 1801, going on to fight at Alexandria. It is also possible that he fought in the Peninsula War (1808-1814) when with the 31st Foot, in battles such as Vittoria and Nivelle.

Richard's total military service was 17 years 212 days, leaving on 1st Feb 1820, his conduct said to have been 'extremely good'. His home address given as North Lopham and occupation weaver.

The 1841 Census (held on 6 Jun 1841) shows Richard at The Green in North Lopham - 65, own account, living in the household of Micah BANHAM (45), his wife Martha BANHAM (40), and their sons Richard BANHAM (15) and Robert BANHAM (8). [It is possible that Martha BANHAM was Martha COBB and likely to have been related to Richard -

she may have been the baseborn daughter of Anne RUDD, father a COBB.]¹

At the time of the 1851 Census, Richard was living at The Street in North Lopham - widower, 74, Chelsea Pensioner, living with Richard BANHAM (29, linen weaver), his wife Hannah BANHAM (29), and their 3 children Sarah Ann BANHAM (8, scholar), John BANHAM (6. scholar) and Arthur BANHAM (2).²

On 7 Apr 1861, (the 1861 Census), he was living at The Village in North Lopham - widower, 84, Chelsea Pensioner, living with Richard BANHAM (38, warper of linen), his wife Hannah BANHAM (38, baker), and their 4 children Eliza BANHAM (7, scholar), Walter BANHAM (4. scholar), Robert BANHAM (2) and Emma BANHAM (10m). [Richard's relationship to head of household was given as father.]³

Richard died circa 1868 in North Lopham - aged 92 years.⁴ He was buried on 28 December 1868 in North Lopham The ceremony was conducted by Rev. J WAYMAN, curate.⁵

Sources

1. *1841 Census*. HO107 Piece 776 Book 8 Folio 8 Page 10 Schedule 1034. Cit. Date: 6 June 1841.
2. *1851 Census*. HO107 Piece 1822 Folio 219 Page 29 Schedule 122. Cit. Date: 30 March 1851.
3. *1861 Census*. RG09 Piece 1236 Folio 153 Page 17 Schedule 96. Cit. Date: 7 April 1861.
4. *CR Death*. 1868 Q4 Guiltcross Norfolk Vol 4B Page 175. Cit. Date: Q4 1868.
5. *PR - Burial*. North Lopham, Norfolk. Cit. Date: 28 December 1868.