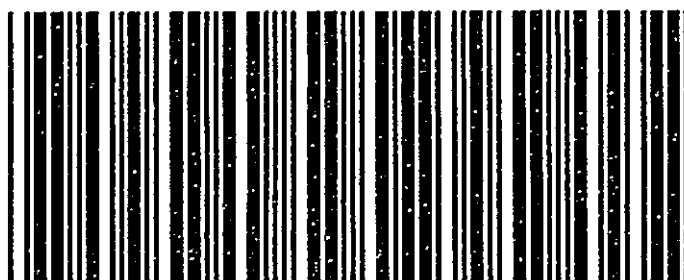


Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War
1DRL/0428

**675 Sergeant
Arthur Garfield Orgill**

5th Pioneer Battalion



2060410D

5th Pioneers.

ORGILL, A.B.
Sgt. No. 675

Killed in action 11/4/17.

"Casualty was killed on the Somme near Bapaume on the 11th April, 1917 by H.E. shell which struck him in the head. I was about 10 yards away from him. Casualty was killed instantaneously. He is buried about 100 yards from the spot where he fell. A cross was put up to mark the spot."

Informant:- M. Mackie,
929 5th Pioneers.

Private address
G.P.O.
Sydney.

H.A.B.
24/9/17.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU-MELBOURNE.

M
Ed
Luff

5th Pioneers, A.I.F.

Orgill, A.G. 675.

(K. Apl 11th/17. Set D & B)

"Some of the boys were playing football in the evening about 6 o'clock and waiting to get paid and he was in the pay-tent when Fritz started shelling. He ran out of the tent and was just jumping into the sunken road when a piece of shrapnel hit him in the back of head. He was the only one killed then. This was at Vaux, and I saw his grave there in the village."

Eye-witness: Yes

Description: Medium height, medium colour, nicknamed "Orgy"

Informant: Pte J.A. Smallwood,
5th Pioneers, A.I.F.,
3rd London General Hospital, Ward 9,
Wandsworth.

Home address:

21, Morgan St,
West Subiaco, W. Australia.

9th August 1917.

Alicia Adelaide Needham.

M.

5th Pioneers Battn.
A. I. F.

Orgill.
A. G. 675

"Killed 11.4.17"

Killed near the Hospital at Vaux and buried in a cemetery near there. I saw his body being taken away for burial. He used to be my Sgt. and transferred to Q.M. Sgt. There is a cross up.

Witness:-

Robinson 2149

W.39.Horfield.

D.P.Dickson.

London.

15.8.17.

K.

A. I. F.,
Pioneer Battn.

Q. 9.
Orgill, Acting Q.M.S. 675,
C. Coy

(K. April 11th/17. Det: D & B)

"At Vaux, Bullecourt Front on April 11th, C. Coy were in huts behind the lines, and while they were being paid, a shell burst near the tent. Orgill was hit in the scalp, he was attended by the A.M.C. but died unconscious 20 mins. later. He was buried at Vaux where other Pioneers already lay, it was a good burial and a beautiful cross was put up with his name and all details on it." Searcher's Note: Pte Gaugh, 5th Pioneers, A. Coy, 1 Pltn, who is in the next bed to Pte Bone, confirms above details in every particular."

Eye-witness: Yes, also Pte Gaugh, 5th Pioneers, A. 1.

Description: Tall, well built, dark hair, clean-shaven,
27-30, known as "Orgy", from Victoria

Informant: Pte C. Bone, 110, A.M.C. att 5 Pioneers A.I.F.,
5th Southern General Hospital.

Home address: Milton Section, Portsmouth.

c/o Mrs. I. Smith.

15th Aug/17.
Hughes.

Minnie, Newcastle, N.S.W.

M

5th AUST. PIONEERS.

A. G. ORGILL. 675. S.K.

Killed 11.4.17. Det.D/B.

I have seen his grave at Vaux, 4 kilometres beyond Bapaume. There was a nice cross over his grave with his name on. It is not a Military Cemetery but a group of British graves on the right of the road going into Vaux. There is a French Cemetery near. There was a proper service over the grave, I saw the party start out with a Padre in charge. Orgill was a Q.M.Sgt. of D.Coy. He came from Victoria. Age 28/29, not married, tall, medium build, dark, and was a carpenter. He left Australia with the 29th Battn.. His No. would be a low one. M.

Ref:- L.C.Bartholomew, 2116,
No.11 Con.Camp, Buchy nr. Rouen, 15.8.17. FKP.

Havre

16th August.1917.

5th AUSTRALIAN PIONEERS

ORGILL, A.G. 675

K. April 11th. 1917. Det. D/B.

I knew him well. His initials and number are as stated. He was Sergt., and Acting Q.M. of C.Co. at the time of his death, which occurred on the Vaulx Road. He was killed outright by a shell. He was buried in a small Cemetery which lay in the angle of two roads leading from Bapaume to Vaulx, alongside of the latter. The Chaplain, Capt. Craimes of our Battalion put the cross on the grave. I sent all Orgill's effects to the D.A.G., 3 Echelon.

Informant: L.Cpl. Graham, J.W. 1071
5th Australian Pioneers.
Australian Camp, Rouelles.

L. de D.

Havre

16th August.1917.

5th AUSTRALIAN PIONEERS

ORGILL, A.G. 675

K. April 11th.1917. Det. D/B.

I know him; his number is as stated. I do not know any of the details of his death, but I saw his grave which was in a small Cemetery in the angle of two roads leading from Bapaume to Vaulx and alongside the latter. He had a cross with the name and number on the grave.

Informant: Pt. Kelly, J.B. 2891
5th Australian Pioneers.
Australian Camp, Rouelles.

L. de D.

Navre

22nd August.1917.

5th AUSTRALIAN PIONEERS

ORRILL, A.O. 675

2 April 11th.1917. Det. D/B.

He was in D. Co., and was attached to Headquarters. He came from Victoria. I had known him for about a year. He was a carpenter. He was Q.M.Sergt. of the Company. His christian name was Arthur. The number given is about his. I saw his grave in the Military Cemetery on the outskirts of the Village of Vaux, between Morouil and Bapaume. There is a cross with his name, number and Battalion on the grave.

Informant: L.C. Bartholomew, 2116
5th Australian Pioneers, A.Co.. IV. Pltn.
Australian Camp, Rouelles.

C.D.M.

Ca M 3-11

AUST PIONEERS. 5.

ORGILL, A.G. 675

K. April 11th 1917. Detⁿ D/B.

I helped to carry Orgill on a stretcher to No. 15 Field Ambulance. He had been hit on the right side of the temple, and was unconscious. He died about a quarter of an hour after we reached the D/S. He was buried at Vaulx in the small cemetery there.

Inf: Spr W. Foragty. 3523. 5.C.XI
No. 2 A.R. Camp.
BOULOGNE. 24.8.17.

HMH

cd.
M Sull

AUST PIONEERS. 5.

ORGILL, A.G. 675

K. April 11th 1917. Dets D/B.

He was Quartermaster of C. Coy. We were being paid on the 11th April at about 7 p.m. at Vaux about 3 miles from the front line. Orgill was on his way from his dugout to the pay tent, when 2 or 3 shells came over. Orgill ran for the bank to take cover, but was hit and rolled down the bank. I saw this, and I also saw him carried away on a stretcher. He was buried in a little cemetery at Vaulx.

Inf: Spr. R.S.O'Connor. 2954 5.C.XI
No. 2 A.R. Camp.
BOULOGNE. 24.8.17.

HMH

cd.
M Sull

5th Aust. PIONEERS.

A. G. ORGILL. 675.

K. 11.4.17. Det. D & B.

I have seen his grave alongside that of Lt. Turner among a group of graves at Vaulx - right in the village - there is a cross over the grave with his name on. The grave is tidy. He was killed the night I went on leave. I got to London April 14 and stayed one night at Boulogne and a night at Albert. I had the following from men who saw it, for instance S/B L. Wright of C Co. (still there). At the time the Co. was being paid from Orgill's tent as he was A/Qmr. and all the Co. were gathered round. A shell landed near which blew Orgill's head right off and wounded Opl. J. Lynch of C Co. 11 Pl - it blew three fingers off his hand. He had not returned when I left. Orgill was a Sgt. He came from a Bn. and joined the Pioneers in Egypt. Aged about 30 - about 12 stone - 5 ft. 10, dark. He left Australia with the 8th Bde. He was the only Orgill in the 5th and that must be his number.

Reference: N. Wroughton, 3566.
No. 11 Con. Camp Buchy Nr. Rouen. 24.8.17.

CD
M
REP.
Self

A.I.F. 5.
Pioneers.

ORGILL, A.G. 675.

K. Apl. 11th. 1917. Det D & B

I knew him well, as he was Quartermaster of C. Coy, and I acted as his assistant for a time. I was in hospital in Rouen when he was killed on Apl. 11th but Loe. Cpl. Moorland, C. Coy saw him killed and gave me the following details. C. Coy were being paid on the evening of the 11th Apl. The Germans sent over two shells and Orgill who was in his way back to his dugout was killed instantaneously by one of them. He is buried in a small cemetery at Vaulx. Flowers were put on his grave and a cross erected. Orgill came from Ballaray.

Informant: Sapper M.D. Pianta. 2768

5th Pioneers, C. Coy. MGS.

2nd Army Rest Camp.

BOULOGNE. 27.8.17. HMM

M. Self

5th Pioneer Battn
A.I.F.

ORGILL.
Sgt. A.G. 675

"Killed 11.4.17."

I saw him dead at Vaux he had been hit with a shell, death was instantaneous. I knew him well, he was a Sgt. and he was the only man of that name in the Coy. I saw his grave and it was marked by a cross bearing his number name and Unit.

Witness:

^{3?}
L/Cpl. K. Drew. 2228
5th Pioneers.
A. Coy.
3rd A.A. Hospital,
Dartford.

W. Oman,
London.
27.8.17.

M.

5th Pioneer Battn
A.I.F.

Orgill.
A.G. 675

"Killed 11.4.17."

Refer to Pte. A.J. Morrow 2722 5th Pioneers Battn C. Coy. who is still in France and who saw him killed at Vaux and can give all particulars.

Witness:-

Pte. F. Morrow. 2723
5th Pioneers. HdQtrs.
Signal Station.
3rd A.A. Hospital,
Dartford.

W. Oman,
London.
3.9.17.

Note written Pte. Morrow
Pte. 1.9.17..

M

5th Pioneers.
A.I.F.

Orgill
Sgt. A.G. 675

"Killed in Action 11.4.17."

Regarding some information about A.G. Orgill. He was buried decently in a soldiers Cemetery at a place called Vaulx not far beyond Bapaume. I should think that is grave would be registered. You also want a description of him. Well he was tall, anywhere from 5'9" to 6' fair, and rather sharp featured.

Letter from:-

A.J. Marrow.
France.
12.9.17.

London.
27.9.17.

M

5th Pioneers Btn.

ORGILL, A. H.
Sgt. 675

Killed in action 11/4/17.

"I knew Casualty. He was a tall, thin man, fair complexion, light moustache, about 30 years of age. Casualty was playing football near Vaux when an H.E. shell exploded near Casualty. He was buried at the Vaux Cemetery and I erected a cross over his grave, with his name and number on it. I was an eye-witness. He was well known and liked by all his comrades."

Informant:-- L/Cpl. Graham,
No. 366.

Private address:-
Feewoomba, Q'ld.

T.O.F.
13/2/18.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU-MELBOURNE.

M/CA
20/1

5th Pioneers Btn.

ORGILL, A. G.
Sgt. 675

Killed in action 11/4/17.

"I knew Casualty. He was a tall man about 6 ft. slightly built, dark complexion, about 35 years of age, known as "Arthur". Casualty was working on the road at Noreuil Gully near Bapanne. He was killed by an H.E. shell but I did not see him killed. I saw his body a few hours later. His chief wounds were about the head. He was lying in a grave which was about to be covered up at the time. He was buried in a small cemetery just near Noreuil Gully. A cross was erected with his name and number on it."

Informant:- Sgt. A. E. Jones,
Ho. 267, 5th Pioneers Btn.
Private address:-
Findlay, N.S.W.
T.C.F.
8/6/18.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU-MELBOURNE

5th Pioneers Btn.

ORGILL, A. G.
Sgt. 675

Killed in action 11/4/17.

"I knew Casualty. He was a tall man about 5 ft. 11 ins. medium built, fair complexion, about 25 years of age, known as "Arthur". His mother lives at Scott Street, Dandenong. Casualty was the Co.'s Q.M.S. and was going from one dug-out to another at Vaux. An H.E. shell exploded near Casualty killing him instantly. I did not see Casualty killed but I saw his body the next day after his death. His chief wounds were about the body and head. He was buried near Vaux and I helped to bury him. A cross was erected with his name and number on it, and he was deeply mourned by all his comrades."

Informant:- Staff Sgt. Gidlow,
No. 8, 5th Pnrs. Btn.
Private address:-
McCulloch Street,
Bairnsdale.
T.C.F.
28/6/18.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU-MELBOURNE

5th Pioneers Btn.

ORGILL, A. G.
Sgt. 675.

Killed in action 11/4/17.

"I knew Casualty. He was a tall man, slightly built, fair complexion, about 29 years of age, known as "Arthur". Casualty was going for his pay to Co. H.Qrs. at Vaux when an H.E. shell exploded near him entering his head killing him almost instantly. I was 150 yds. away at the time the shell exploded but was the first to reach him, but he was beyond all aid. He was buried at the Vaux Cemetery and a cross was erected with his name and number on it."

Informant:- Pte. G. E. Koop,
No. 1818, 5th Pnrs. Btn.

Private address:-
37 Hampton Road,
Creswick, S.A.

T.C.F.
16/8/18.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU-MELBOURNE.

5th Pioneers Btn.

ORGILL, A. G.
Sgt. 675.

Killed in action 11/4/17.

"I knew Casualty. He was a tall man, well built, medium complexion, about 33 years of age, known as "George". Casualty's Co. was being paid at Vaux in the Sunken Road. I had been paid and Casualty was going to get his when a shell was heard coming over. Casualty and myself immediately made for cover. He went one way and I went the other. A shell exploded near Casualty killing him almost instantly. I went over to him and helped to carry him to the Dressing Station. He was dead when he arrived there. He was most severely wounded about the head. He was buried at Vaux near the Dressing Station and Padre Grams conducted the service. I was an eye-witness."

Private address:-
194 Johnson Street,
Fitzroy.

Informant:- Pte. H. McColl,
No. 2638, 5th Pnrs. Btn.

T.C.F.
23/8/18.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU-MELBOURNE.

2722

C. C.

30.8.17

ret A. J. MORROW

C. G.

5 Pioneer Balts

AIF

B. E. F.

For

675 Sgt. A. G. ORGILL

5 Pioneer AIF
Mc

K. 11. 4. 17.

B. H. 5. 9. 17.

ack PC.
18-9-17.

675 S. A. G. O. R. G. 13th The Fred

5th Platoon Sept 12/1917

K. A. D. M. (Cd)

Dear Miss W. De. a K. e. 3

your letter to hand regarding
some information about (A. J. Orgill)

He was issued decent in a soldier.

(Cemetery at a place called Vaux
not far beyond Bapaume. I should think
that his grave would be registered.

you also want a description of him.

well he was tall anywhere from 5^{ft} 9ⁱⁿ to 6ft
fair & rather sharp featured.

Yours Sincerely

Pt. A. J. Morrow