

Roll: **19081024-0810**

Camera: **Monochrome Print: MPS**

Film:

Subject:

Grandpa Fulford

Notes:

The stories that I know about Grandpa Fulford (Frederick John Fulford) are that he stowed away to America twice, the second time with the boxer Tommy Farr, that he sold sheet music on the streets of New York and that he won and lost a fortune on the roulette wheels in Monte Carlo.

Now of course I wish he could talk to me about these adventures and about the rest of his life but all I can do is try to scratch together some of the historical record.

I have known that he lived in Stoke Newington for many years, ever since, while I was still living there myself, my brother Royston, sent me a gazetteer of Stoke Newington that had been found when Patrick Road was cleared prior to sale. Grandpa Fulford was in it.

More recently Roy gave me an algebra book in which Grandpa had written his name and address, which was 23 Cricketfield Rd. a street I knew well when I was living in London because my friend Keya Guha lived there too, just a few doors away at number 29. Now through the census records for 1901 and 1911 I find that this was not the family home with his mum and dad that I imagined but that he was brought up by John and Ann Jackson who are recorded as being his grandparents. I can't find any record of his parents. I can't find any record of a Jackson marrying a Fulford, the one marriage that seems to fit was Frederick Wesley marrying Anne Urwin (or possibly Adelaide Garvey) in Hackney in 1886. Just to make things a little more difficult John Jackson in 1901 records Fred's name as Freda! That's not a transcription error, I've seen the manuscript and there it is bold as brass "Freda" but much to my relief he also states the relationship as "Grandson". (In 1911 he does call him Fred).

I was suitably astonished to find a record taken from the passenger list of the Saint Paul arriving in New York on 24th October 1908. The birth date of Fredk. Fred's birth date is given as 1887 but that is certainly wrong as his age is shown as 20 years 8 months which takes us 24th February 1888 which exactly is when Fred said he was born in 1939. What makes it certain that this is he, is that the record shows that his departure port (Southampton) relation was his Grandfather John Jackson. It also gives his arrival port relation as FRIEND, A M Tenney. I assume these relations were necessary because at 20 years 8 months, Fred is still below the age of majority.

So Fred did go to New York and may well have sold sheet music on the streets there but at least on this occasion it does not appear he was a stowaway. If this was an emigration attempt then it clearly went almost as badly as my own as Fred was certainly back 1911.

The SS Saint Paul was American built and named after the city of St. Paul in Minnesota. It had an amazing history including a collision with the British Cruiser Gladiator in April of 1908 as it steamed out of Southampton. The Gladiator foundered and lost 27 crew. You can look it up on Wikipedia.

Frames:

MPS0002 19260615 00:00:00 Portrait.



MPS0002 - Frederick John Fulford