UCF Veterans Legacy Program



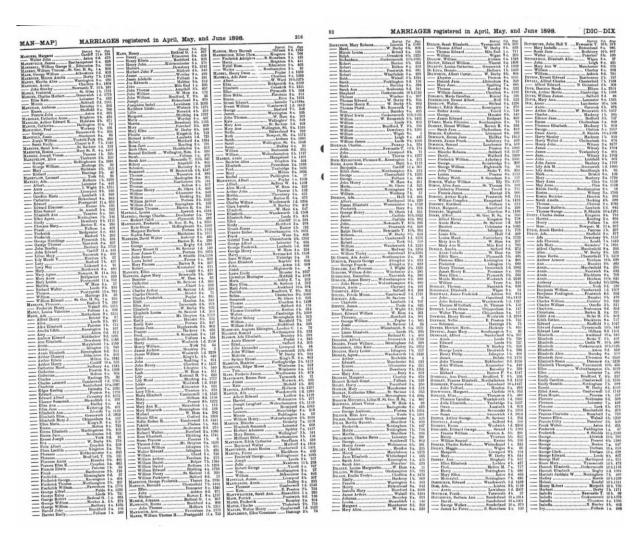
Dorothy Ditchburn Stephens

1899 - 1961

Yeoman Second Class: United States Navy Reserve Force

World War I

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Marriage of Dorothy's Parents

"England & Wales, Civil Registration Marriage Index, 1837-1915," database, *Ancestry* (ancestry.com: accessed August 13, 2024), entry for Walter Ditchburn and Mary Mann.

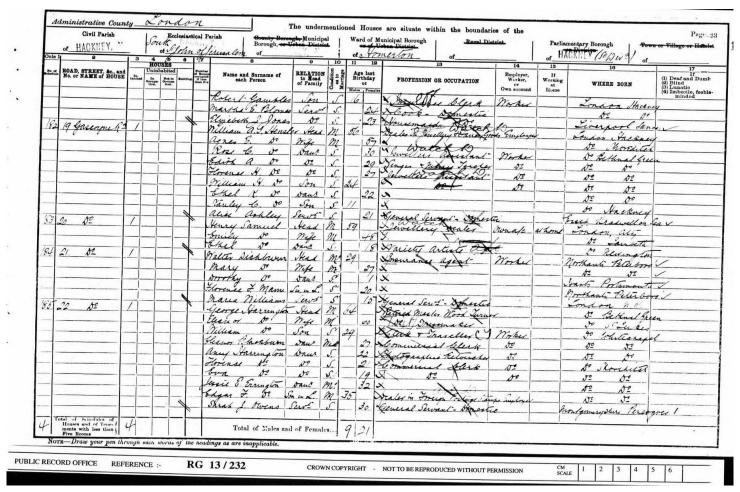
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Romford	2 b. 175	- Winifred Amelia	
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	3 a. 334	Disspain, William	Fulham 1a.
Whitechanel	1 c. 263	- Henry	Gateshead 10 a
Swansea	11 a.1010	Roland	Gateshead 10 a. Croydon 2 a. Sculcoates 9 d.
W. Ham	4 a. 409	DITCH, Albert	Sculcoates 9 d.
Kensington	3a. 104	Dirtchburn, Albert	Guisbro' 9d.
Windsor	2 c. 442	- Edward Leighton	Portses 2b. King's N. 6 c. Guisbro' 9 d.
Maldon	4 a. 659	- Eric Harding	Guisbro' 9 d.
Hendon	3a. 190	— John	
W Ham	40. 404	Lloyd	Cockermouth 10 b
Poplar	1 c. 615	- Margaret Murray	Gateshead 10 a
a Bethnal G.	1 c. 228	Victor	Sunderland 10 a
Dideford	6 c. 123	Ditchfield, Albert	Bolton 8 c.
Norwich	4 b. 122	- Beatrice Mahel	Bolton 8 c.
Blofield	4 b. 220	— John	Preston 8 e.
St. Thomas	5 b. 46	- Margaret Ellen	Chorley 8 e.
St Apstell	5 c. 218	Thomas	Warrington 8 c.
St. Austell	5 c. 87	- Walter	Runcorn 8 a
Devonport	5 b. 319	William	Blackburn 8 e.
Truro	5 c. 126	DITCHMAN, William	Edmonton 3 a.
Easington	1 b. 752	DITE, Laura Beatrice	Lambeth 1.4
Tavistock	5 b. 355	DITTMAR, Emily	Hartlepool 10 a
Piymouth	5 b. 219	DITTON, Gladys May	Richmond, S. 2a.
W. Bromwich	6 b. 834	DITTRICH, Lewis Christian	King's N. 6 c.
Birmingham	64. 199	- Mand May	Bethnal G
Woolwich	1 d. 1242	DIVAL, William George	St. Saviour 1d.
Birmingham	6 d. 143	DIVALL, Charles Leonard	Chesterfield 7 b.
Stourbridge	0 c. 165	Dorothy Louisa	Eastbourne 2 b.
Birmingham	6d. 140	George	Epson 0 -
Portsea	2 b. 466	- Mary Elizabeth	E. Grinstead 2 b.
Alnwick	10 b. 485	- Olive May	Brighton 2 b.
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Poplar	1 c. 575	- Harold Frank	Wandsworth 1 A
Ashton	8 d. 532	Divers, Louis	Preston 8 e.
Edmonton	3 a. 333	DIVER, Allen	Haslingden 8 e.
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nd	2 b. 309	DIVES, Walter	Croydon 2 a
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Gateshead	10 p. 1099	— Doris Rose	Newport P. 3
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nzie N Biorley	9 a. 43	Elsie Catherine	Birmingham 6d
Hull	9d. 27	Frances	Manchester 84
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W. Derby	8 b. 302	Francis Hunter R	King's N. 6
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Birth Index

"England & Wales, Civil Registration Birth Index, 1837-1915," database, *Ancestry* (ancestry.com: accessed August 13, 2024), entry for Dorothy Ditchburn, Portsea Island, Hampshire, England.

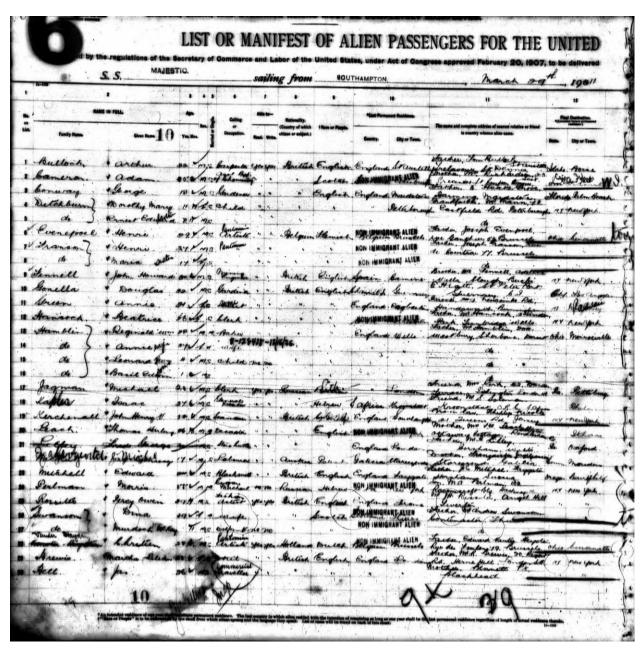
https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/42606345:8912



1901 England Census

"1901 England Census," database, Ancestry (ancestry.com: accessed August 13, 2024), entry for Dorothy Dickburn, London, England.

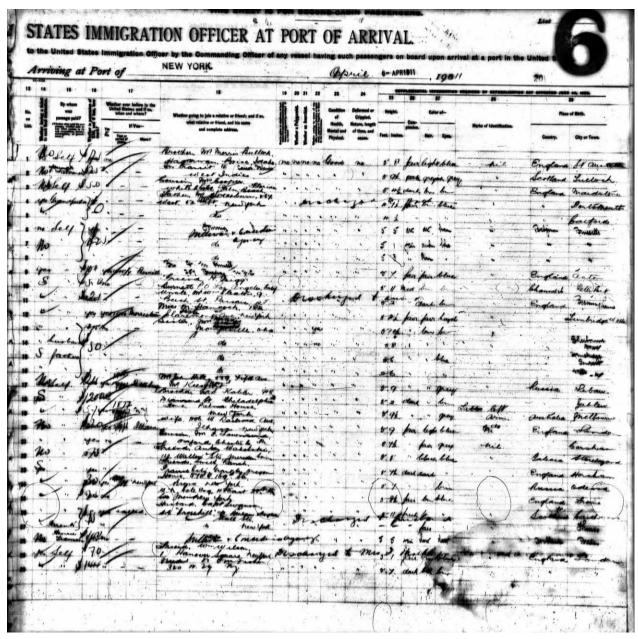
https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/15633703:7814



Arrival in New York From England (Page 1 of 2)

"New York, U.S., Passenger and Crew Lists, 1820-1957," database, *Ancestry* (ancestry.com: accessed August 14, 2024), entry for Dorothy Mary Ditchburn.

https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/4008452289:7488



Arrival in New York From England (Page 2 of 2)

"New York, U.S., Passenger and Crew Lists, 1820-1957," database, *Ancestry* (ancestry.com: accessed August 14, 2024), entry for Dorothy Mary Ditchburn.

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1915 New York State

"New York State Census, 1915," database, *FamilySearch* (familysearch.org: accessed August 14, 2024), entry for Dorothy Ditchbuan, Queens, New York City, New York.

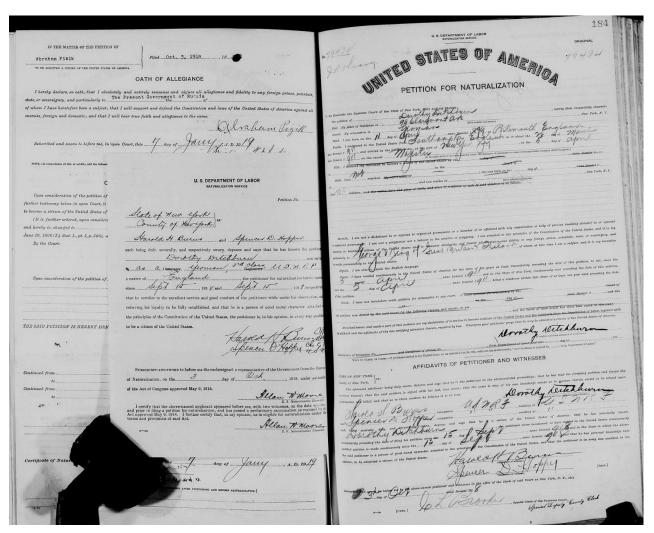
https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:K9GZ-YQK

Name	Walter Ditchburn
Age	44
Birth Year	abt 1871
Death Date	8 Sep 1915
Death Place	Manhattan, New York, USA
Certificate Number	26442

Death of Dorothy's Father

https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/2177972:9131

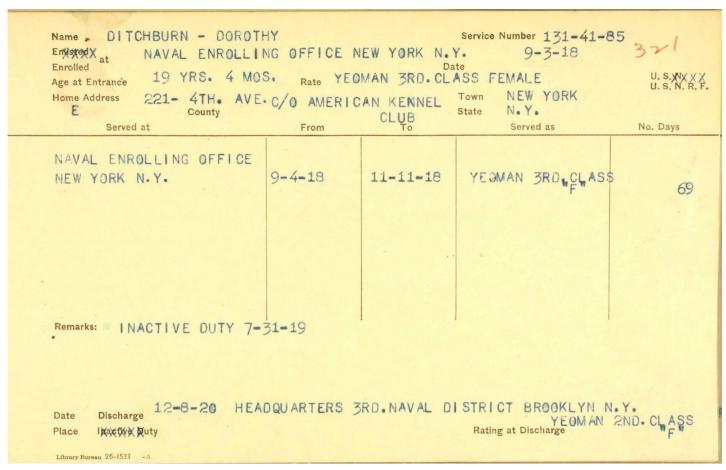
[&]quot;New York, New York, U.S., Extracted Death Index, 1862-1948," database, *Ancestry* (ancestry.com: accessed August 14, 2024), entry for Walter Ditchburn, Manhattan, New York.



Petition For Naturalization

"New York, County Naturalization Records, 1791-1980," database, *FamilySearch* (familysearch.org: accessed August 14, 2024), entry for Dorothy Ditchburn.

https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:QPZJ-6FZ2



World War I Military Service

"New York, U.S., Abstracts of World War I Military Service, 1917-1919," database, *Ancestry* (ancestry.com: accessed August 14, 2024), entry for Dorothy Ditchburn, New York City, New York.

https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/16816:3030

Dorothy Reunited With Her Sister

"Two Sisters Reunited After Varied Careers, 40 Years, Ocean Apart," *Tampa Bay Times*, June 21, 1959.

https://www.newspapers.com/image/314977962/?match=1&terms=dorothy%20ditchburn

Transcription:

"Two sisters, one American born with a British accent, and the other British-born with a trace of New York twang, were reunited recently on Redington Shores after 40 years.

Mrs. Dorothy Stephens, staying at the Hendry Apartments, 178 C St., was 18 when she saw her mother and 4-year-old sister, Muriel Ditchburn leave for England in 1919. Dorothy, her parents, and brother, Ernest, had come from Peterborough, Northamptonshire, England, to New York where Muriel was born.

But after Mr. Ditchburn's death in 1915, his wife decided to return to England as soon as possible. So Mrs. Ditchburn and Muriel were on the first boat out of New York harbor after the close of World War I, leaving behind Ernest, employed in Chester, Pa., and Dorothy, a member of the U.S. Navy.

MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP

The attractive, eldest Ditchburn sister graduated with honors from Columbia University on a music scholarship, and then sang in New York operettas. Upon her marriage to a naval officer, John Stephens, Mrs. Stephens moved with him to California. After Stephens' death, Dorothy moved to Florida where she became assistant editor of the Dunedin Times..."

(The article then discusses Muriel's life in England as well as the sights they have seen since her arrival in Florida.)

"However the Ditchburn family reunion story is not quite complete. The sisters would still like to locate their brother, Ernest, who was last heard of when he was employed by Sun Shipping Co., Chester, Pa. Muriel would like her brother to contact her at No. 7 Farne Close, Birdham, Chichester, Sussex, England.

If Ernest can be found, the sisters believe this will make the perfect ending for the Ditchburn reunion."

(*The article is accompanied by a photograph of the two sisters.*)

Dorothy Stephens Obituary

"Deaths in Tampa Area-Mrs. Dorothy D. Stephens," Tampa Tribune, January 10, 1961.

https://www.newspapers.com/image/331110252/?match=1&terms=dorothy%20ditchburn

Transcription:

"BAY PINES, Jan. 9–Mrs. Dorothy Ditchburn Stephens, 61, World War I veteran, died yesterday in Veterans Hospital here. A native of Portsmouth, England, Mrs. Stephens moved to Seminole seven years ago from New Jersey. She was a retired secretary and a Protestant. Survivors include her sister, Miss Muriel Ditchburn, Sussex, England."

DIT	OF DECEASED - LAST - FIRST - MIL	DDLE (Prin	nt or Type)	14. NAME AND LOCATION OF CEMETERY (City and			
STEPHENS, DOROTHY DITCHBURN				VA CEMETERY VA CENTER, BAY PINES, FLA			
				IMPORTANT - Item 18 on reverse side must be completed. See attached instructions and complete and submit both copies.			
3141	1 314 685 3. PENSION OR VA CLAIM NUMBER 15 575 153			15. This application is submitted for a stone or marker for the unmarked			
4. ENLISTMENT DATE (Month, day, year) 9-5-18 AP 7-31-19 RAP 17. MEDALS 7. MEDALS		grave of a deceased member or former member of the Armed Forces of the U. S., soldier of the Union or Confederate Armies of the Civil War or for an unmarked memorial plot for a non-recoverable deceased member. I hereby agree to accept responsibility for proper placement at the					
SIAII	1 Nova	/. MED	JONE 2	grave or memorial plot at no expense to the	e Government.		
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Y 2 C U. S. Navy US NR = 10. DATE OF BIRTH (Month, day, year) 4-11-99 11. DATE OF DEATH (Month, day, year) 1-6-61			TE OF DEATH (Month, day, year)	ADDRESS OF APPLICANT (Street address, City and State) VA CENTER, BAY PINES, FLA. SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT DATE			
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Military Headstone Application

"U.S., Headstone Applications for Military Veterans, 1861-1985," database, *Ancestry* (ancestry.com: accessed August 14, 2024), entry for Dorothy Ditchburn Stephens, Bay Pines, Florida.

https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/124020:2375

Full Name	Stephens, Dorothy Ditchburn
Birth Date	11 Apr 1899
Enlistment Date	5 Sep 1918
Discharge Date	31 Jul 1919
Death Date	6 Jan 1961
Burial Date	12 Jan 1961
Cemetery	Bay Pines National Cemetery
Cemetery Address	Po Box 477 Bay Pines, FI 33744
Cemetery State	Florida
Cemetery Plot	Section 35 Row 4 Site 20
Notes	Y2 US Navy World War I
Conflict	World War I
Served For	United States of America

Dorothy Stephens Veterans Gravesite

"US, Veterans' Gravesites, ca.1775-2019," database, *Fold3* (fold3.com: accessed August 14, 2024), entry for Dorothy Ditchburn Stephens, Bay Pines National Cemetery.

 $\underline{https://www.fold3.com/record/710982910/stephens-dorothy-ditchburn-us-veterans-grave sitescal 1775-2019}$



Dorothy Stephens' Headstone in Bay Pines National Cemetery

UCF Veterans Legacy Program, *Headstone for Dorothy D Stephens*, photograph, 2023, Bay Pines National Cemetery, St. Petersburg, FL.