



# 3 Soldiers of the Great War.

*A story of incredible loss and heartache!*

**James Honney**-17819 10th Essex Reg

**George Honney**-55157 14th Welsh Regiment

**Charles Honney**-1670 Infantry Bridge Machine Gun Company

PRIVATE  
**J HONEY**  
Service Number: 17819

**Regiment & Unit/Ship**  
Essex Regiment  
10th Bn.

**Date of Death**  
Died 29 September 1915

**Buried or commemorated at**  
ALBERT COMMUNAL CEMETERY EXTENSION  
Coll. grave I. DA. 2.  
France

**Country of Service**  
United Kingdom

**GEORGE HONNEY**  
Private  
Service Number: 55157

Unit, Regiment, Country of Service  
**14th Bn.**  
Welsh Regiment  
United Kingdom

Date of Death  
**Died 05 August 1917**

Commemorated at  
**YPRES (MENIN GATE) MEMORIAL**  
Panel 37.  
Belgium

PRIVATE  
**C HONNEY**  
Service Number: 1670

**Regiment & Unit/Ship**  
London Regiment (Royal Fusiliers)  
1st Bn.

**Date of Death**  
Died 10 October 1916

**Buried or commemorated at**  
GROVE TOWN CEMETERY, MEAULTE  
I. O. 9.  
France

**Secondary Unit, Regiment**  
attd. 167th Bde. Machine Gun Corps

**Country of Service**  
United Kingdom

Heartbreak sorrow & tragedy, the three words that describe the sad life of Mary Anne Honney. Born Mary Anne Fry and at the age of 18 she married George Honney on the 10th July 1887 at Wandsworth London. A marriage that would last almost sixty years. During their first 21 years Mary gave birth to 12 children and although all being born reasonably healthy sadly only five survived beyond their fourth birthday, mainly due to the cold climate and respiratory problems. The loss of the seven children had a huge affect on Mary and with the thought of maybe losing their remaining and only surviving daughter George and Mary decided to take the doctors advice and move to Australia. The plan was for George to set sail first, and being a bricklayer, get work and set up a home for Mary and the five children. George jnr, James, Charles, Fredrick, and Cecilia. Twelve months later how things had changed, the first world war had broken out **George jnr James and Charles** had enlisted and sent to France while Mary and the two remaining children Fredrick and Cecilia set out for Australia on the Aberdeen Line ship the "Demosthenes". This long voyage was not without incident as the Demosthenes was stalked and torpedoed by a German submarine however the ship was able to limp into the safety of Australian waters with two torpedoes unexploded that had struck the ship above the waterline. Although booked thru to Sydney it is unsure whether Mary and the children disembarked in Melbourne as their ship was three weeks overdue and believed lost at sea. The family had not been in Australia long when they received the heart-breaking news that **James had been killed in action**. The family had now moved to Bundaberg and the agonising wait for the end of the war continued. Any bad news regarding family members was always sent by telegram and delivered by a post office boy on pushbike. Every time Mary saw a telegram boy coming along her street, she would pray he would not stop at her place. Unfortunately, twelve months later the telegram boy did stop and deliver the devastating news that **Charles had also been killed in action**. Another year goes by and they get the good new they have all been waiting for. THE WAR HAD ENDED. Mary was so relieved, now she would get one son home, however just days later the telegram boy stopped at their house again, **George jnr had been killed in action during the the Battle of Passchendale**.

It was so hard for Mary but she battled on and during the next few years she focused on her two remaining children Fredrick and Cecilia. Eventually Fredrick married and had three children Malcolm Freddie and Margie. Mary often baby-sat the two younger children. One day while caring for Margie 10 and Freddie 7 the pair went to play with friends a few doors away. As usual grandma Mary insisted the pair be home by lunch time. Lunch time came but no children so Mary went to bring them home. Imagine Marys despair when finding that the children's friend's whole family had not been home all day. The resulting search ended in tragedy, Margie and Freddie were found drowned in the Burnett river on 29/10/1944. How George and Mary survived these years of endless tragedies is mind blowing, sadly there was more to come for Mary, when two years later

she lost her husband of 59 years and four months. During those 59 plus years it was Marys "steel will' that enabled her to carry on and kept her going, however that steel will went to the grave with her husband. Mary passed away two days before Christmas the following year. Never were the words "rest in peace" ever so meaningful.

Surviving postcards from the Honney boys showing Berteaucourt Les Dames north of Vignacourt in northern France. Probably a "behind the lines " town during the early days of the Great War and the lead up to the Battle of the Somme offensive in mid 1916.

Battalions would be stationed in the villages awaiting the call up to the front lines.

***James would die in September 1915 at Loos.***

***Charles would be killed in in October 1916 during the Battle of the Somme and George would die in the horrors of Passchendale near Ypres in August 1917***

## **James Honney's War.**

### **10th Battalion, Essex Regiment**

It was during the Battle of Loos in late September 1915 that James Honney would be killed.

The Battle of Loos took place from 25 September to 8 October 1915.

In many places British artillery had failed to cut the German wire before the planned attack. The engineers manning the poison gas cylinders warned against their use, because of the weakness and unpredictability of the wind but they were overruled by General Sir Hubert Gough. In some places the gas drifted back into the British lines and caused more British than German casualties. Advancing over open fields, within range of German machine guns and artillery, the British infantry suffered many casualties. The British were able to break through the weaker German defences and capture the village of Loos mainly due to numerical superiority. Supply and communications problems, combined with the late

arrival of reserves, meant that the breakthrough could not be exploited. Haig did not hear until 10:00 a.m. that the divisions were moving up to the front. French visited Haig from 11:00 to 11:30 a.m. and agreed that Haig could have the reserve but rather than using the telephone he drove to Haking's headquarters and gave the order at 12:10 p.m. Haig then heard from Haking at 1:20 p.m. that the reserves were moving forward. French had not understood the poorness of the roads these reserves would be using and had not constructed new ones. Much of the reserves divisions had to march most of the day and night single file up the only accessible roads.

## **26-28 September**

When the battle resumed the following day, the Germans had recovered and improved their defensive positions. Much of the barbed wire, in some places 30 ft (9.1 m) deep, remained uncut and the British had used their stock of chlorine gas. British attempts to continue the advance with the reserves were repulsed. Twelve attacking battalions suffered 8,000 casualties out of 10,000 men in four hours. The British preparatory bombardment, which amounted to desultory fire for about twenty minutes, apparently inflicted no casualties. German machine gunners reported being "nauseated" from the sight of so many corpses and ceased firing so that the British could retreat with their wounded. French told Foch on 28 September, that a gap could be "rushed" just north of Hill 70, although Foch felt that this would be difficult to co-ordinate and Haig told him that the First Army was in no position for further attacks. A lull fell on 28 September, with the British back on their starting positions, having suffered more than 20,000 casualties, including three major-generals.

James would be buried and later moved to the **Albert Communal Cemetery extension along with 3 other soldiers killed on the same day.**

In Memory Of

Private

**J HONEY**

Service Number: 17819

10th Bn., Essex Regiment who died on 29 September 1915

Remembered with Honour

ALBERT COMMUNAL CEMETERY EXTENSION

Coll. grave I. DA 2.



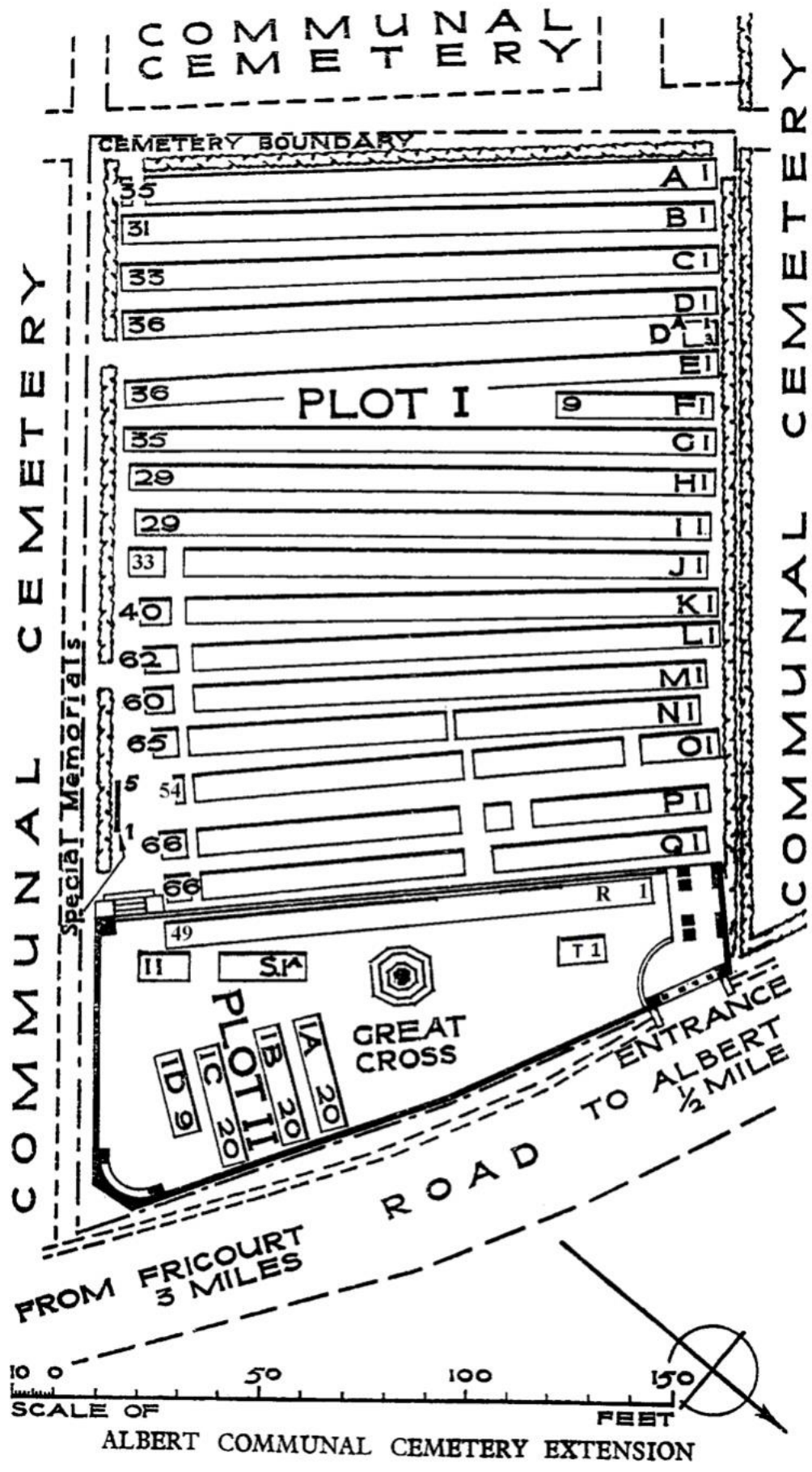
|||||  
COMMONWEALTH  
WAR GRAVES  
|||||

COMMEMORATED IN PERPETUITY BY THE COMMONWEALTH  
WAR GRAVES COMMISSION

- HEIDT, Pte. G. W., 523240. 1st Field Amb. Canadian Army Medical Corps. 9th Oct., 1916. I. P. 19.
- ✓ HEISER, Cpl. J., 20548. 2nd Field Coy., Royal Engineers. Killed in action 2nd June, 1916. Age 26. Son of Abraham and Clara Heiser, of 94, Brunswick Buildings, Goulston St., Aldgate, London. Born at Spitalfields, London. I. G. 12.
- HEMANS, Maj. George Willoughby. 29th Lancers (Deccan Horse) Indian Army. Killed in action 4th March, 1917. Age 37. Son of Col. Hemans, of Eagle Tower, Southsea; husband of Helen Hemans, of 2, Nottingham Place, Marylebone, London. I. Q. 66.
- ✓ HENDERSON, Lce. Cpl. Frank, 27/1017. 11th Bn. Northumberland Fusiliers. Killed in action 20th June, 1916. Age 21. Son of William and Hannah Henderson, of 22, Hedley St., South Shields. I. G. 23.
- ✓ HENDERSON, Gnr. J. H., 5333. 41st (Durham) Siege Bty., Royal Garrison Artillery. 14th July, 1916. I. J. 30.
- ✓ HESLIN, Pte. T., 20/803. 20th (Tyneside Scottish) Bn. Northumberland Fusiliers. 15th June, 1916. Age 42. Husband of I. Heslin, of 1, Short Row, Hobson, Burnopfield, Co. Durham. I. E. 21.
- ✓ HICKMAN, Gnr. F., 73696. 41st Siege Bty., Royal Garrison Artillery. 14th July, 1916. I. J. 30.
- ✓ HILDYARD, Pte. T. F., 11267. 6th Bn. East Yorkshire Regt. 21st Sept., 1916. I. O. 20.
- ✓ HILEY, Pte. Joseph, 9183. "B" Coy., 10th Bn. Royal Warwickshire Regt. 31st July, 1916. Age 21. Son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Hiley, of 110, Deakins Rd., Hay Mills, Birmingham. I. L. 26.
- ✓ HILL, Gnr. P., 6456, M.M. 13th Siege Bty., Royal Garrison Artillery. 17th Sept., 1916. I. N. 3.
- ✓ HILLIS, Dvr. John, 64326. 150th Field Coy., Royal Engineers. 7th July, 1916. Age 24. Son of William John and Elizabeth Hillis, of 32, Lawther Place, Belfast. I. I. 21.
- ✓ HINDLE, Pte. A., 29606. 9th Bn. Loyal North Lancs Regt. 22nd Oct., 1916. I. Q. 64.
- INDEX No. Fr. 430
- ✓ HINDS, Cpl. A. B. D., 14067. 8th Bn. Norfolk Regt. 27th Feb., 1916. Age 24. Husband of Violet Allen (formerly Hinds), of 22, Newton Rd., Cricklewood, London. I. B. 13.
- ✓ HINE, 2nd Lt. Herbert Josiah, M.M. 6th Bn. The Buffs. 25th Aug., 1918. Age 30. Son of Joseph Edward and Jessie Hine, of 17, Silver St., Enfield, Middx. I. S. 10.
- ✓ HOAR, Pte. H. F., 469232. 2nd Bn. Canadian Inf. (Eastern Ontario Regt.). Died of wounds 10th Sept., 1916. Age 19. Son of Mrs. Mary F. Hoar, of East Mount, Colchester Co., Nova Scotia. I. N. 30.
- ✓ HODGKISS, Pte. E., 17138. 1st Bn. King's Shropshire Light Inf., attd. 2nd Bn. Welch Regt. 28th July, 1916. Age 18. Nephew of Ellen Vaughan, of 8, Village Rd., Norton, Shifnal, Salop. I. K. 10.
- ✓ HODGSON, Lce. Serjt. J., 3/9738. 8th Bn. Suffolk Regt. 25th Nov., 1915. I. C. 8.
- ✓ HOLLAND, Pte. G., 16390. 7th Bn. East Lancashire Regt. 1st Dec., 1916. I. Q. 7.
- ✓ HOLLAND, Pte. J. J., 29/5. 20th (Tyneside Scottish) Bn. Northumberland Fusiliers. 4th June, 1916. Age 26. I. D. 28.
- ✓ HOLLOWES, Pte. Arthur Purcell, 18521. 10th Bn. Duke of Wellington's Regt. 30th July, 1916. Age 22. Son of William Edward and Alice Hollowes, of 11, Rook St., Barnoldswick, Yorks. I. L. 40.
- ✓ HOLT, Pte. James, 11695. 16th Bn. Lancashire Fusiliers. Killed in action 17th Dec., 1915. Age 21. Son of Mr. and Mrs. Holt, of 27, Pym St., Patricroft, Lancs. I. E. 10.
- ✓ HONEY, Pte. J., 17819. 10th Bn. Essex Regt. 29th Sept., 1915. I. DA. 2.
- ✓ HOPKINSON, Serjt. W., 7407. 11th Bn. Sherwood Foresters. 31st July, 1916. Husband of M. A. Hopkinson. I. L. 44.
- ✓ HOPWOOD, Pte. A. E. B., 20346. 7th Bn. Royal West Kent Regt. 23rd Aug., 1918. II. C. 19.
- ✓ HORNSHAW, Pte. T. W., 150959. 1st Canadian Mounted Rifles (Saskatchewan Regt.). 15th Sept., 1916. Age 28. Son of Robert and Mary Ellen Hornshaw, of Asselby, Howden England. Born at Carlton, Yorks. I. N. 15.



James is buried in Plot I. DA2



COMMUNAL  
CEMETERY

COMMUNAL CEMETERY

COMMUNAL CEMETERY

CEMETERY BOUNDARY

PLOT I

PLOT II

GREAT  
CROSS

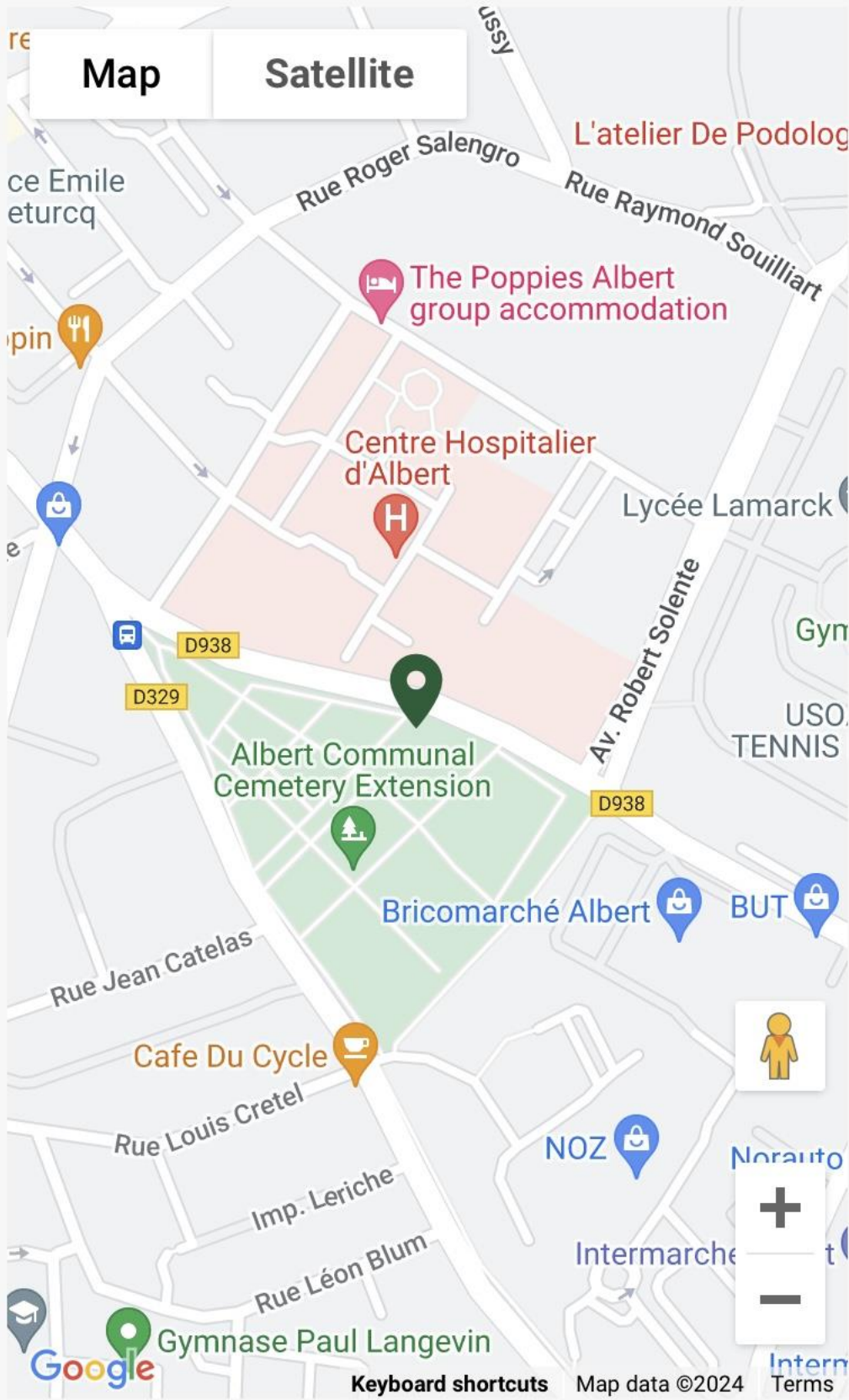
ENTRANCE  
TO ALBERT  
1/2 MILE

FROM FRICOURT  
3 MILES

SCALE OF FEET

ALBERT COMMUNAL CEMETERY EXTENSION

Albert was held by French forces against the German advance on the Somme in September 1914. It passed into British hands in the summer of 1915; and the first fighting in July 1916, is known as the Battle of Albert, 1916. It was captured by the Germans on the 26th April 1918, and before its recapture by the 8th East Surreys on the following 22nd August (in the Battle of Albert, 1918,) it had been completely destroyed by artillery fire. The Extension was used by fighting units and Field Ambulances from August 1915 to November 1916, and more particularly in and after September 1916, when Field Ambulances were concentrated at Albert. From November 1916, the 5th Casualty Clearing Station used it for two months. From March 1917, it was not used (except for four burials in March, 1918) until the end of August 1918, when Plot II was made by the 18th Division. During the Second World War the extension was used again, when the French moved into it British casualties from isolated graves in and around Albert. There are now 862 First World War and 25 Second World War casualties commemorated in this site. Of these, 12 First World War casualties and 8 Second World War casualties are unidentified. Five graves, destroyed by shellfire, are now represented by special memorials. Two soldiers known to be among the casualties buried here, but whose graves could not be identified, are commemorated by special memorials, inscribed, "Known to be buried in this cemetery". This cemetery was designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens.



## **George Honney's War.**

The Swansea Pals 14th Welsh Battalion was formed from local men by the Mayor of Swansea in the response to Lord Kitchener's famous appeal for volunteers. This Battalion, was recruited for the battalion in the Swansea area and its subsequent training in Swansea, Rhyl and Winchester, prior to departure, some 1,200 strong, in December 1915 for the Western Front landing at Le Havre. As part of the 38th Welsh Division it participated in the attack on Mametz Wood on the Somme where, in a single day, it suffered almost 100 men killed and 300 wounded out of an attacking contingent of less than 700. A further very successful raid on the German held High Command Redoubt was followed by front line service in the dreaded Ypres Salient. Here it took part in the bloody third Battle of Ypres, better known today as the Passchendaele Offensive. At Aveluy Wood it was accidentally shelled by its own artillery, suffering a number of fatalities. The Swansea Battalion then took an active part in the battles that finally broke the Hindenburg Line and the spirit of German resistance, one of its exploits being described as the high point of soldierly achievement by Douglas Haig. It was still advancing when the Armistice was signed in November 1918.

### **The Battle of Passchendaele**

The British had wanted to attack in the Flanders area in 1916 but had conceded to French desires to launch a joint assault on the Somme. But in 1917, after the Arras offensive which had brought such early success for the British, British General Douglas Haig planned to launch a major attack in the Ypres Salient, and force the breakthrough that he believed would win the war.

Haig aimed to capture the high ground surrounding Ypres, including the Passchendaele ridge, through a series of smaller battles. It would be a major decisive action to break through the German defences.

This attack, working with the French, would culminate in the conquest of the Belgian coast and would help to alleviate the growing threat of the German submarines operating from Belgian ports.

It was an ambitious and risky plan. But it did not learn the lessons from the Somme the previous year, or take into account the army's strained resources after the Arras offensive earlier in 1917.

After a preliminary artillery bombardment of two weeks - which saw 3,000 guns fire millions of shells at German positions - the great offensive began at 3.50am on 31 July 1917.

On the first day, at Pilckem Ridge, the British, and particularly their French allies, were able to make some gains, but not without cost.

During the afternoon of 31 July, it began to rain heavily. British artillery observers lost sight of the advancing troops and were unable to support them as the Germans counter-attacked. This resulted in the loss of captured ground.

The rain continued and quickly turned a landscape already smashed by three years of fighting into a swampy quagmire. It affected the British and French, as they tried to advance across heavily contested ground, more than the German defenders. In particular, the rain made supplying the guns, and moving them forward, virtually impossible.

After the opening day, both sides made efforts to strengthen their positions. But by 2 August the rain had made any kind of strategic movement all but impossible. As a result, the whole Passchendaele offensive was postponed for several days. It was during the following days in the thick mud and cratered battlefield that second son Charles Honney would be killed. His body never recovered and now remembered on the Menin Gate at Ypres.

In Memory Of

Private

# GEORGE HONEY

Service Number: 55157

14th Bn., Welsh Regiment who died on 05 August 1917

Remembered with Honour

YPRES (MENIN GATE) MEMORIAL

Panel 37.



|||||  
COMMONWEALTH  
WAR GRAVES  
|||||

COMMEMORATED IN PERPETUITY BY THE COMMONWEALTH  
WAR GRAVES COMMISSION

Charles, B/1130. 9th Bn. 20th June, 1915. Age 20. Emma Homewood, of 5, Bridge Rd., Bermondsey,

Stephen John, L/7007. 1st Bn. 31st Oct., 1914. Age 30. Mary Homewood, of Mers-

Richards. 1st Bn. South 1st Nov., 1914. Age 21. Son of B. J. Homfray, of Penllyn am.

G/1056. 12th Bn. Middle- 1917.

Frederick, 25142. 12th Bn. July, 1917.

William, 3033. 1st/12th Bn. Rangers). 8th May, 1915. Emanuel and Amy Maria Smith Bridge Rd., London,

Arthur, 39846. 24th Heavy Artillery. 10th June, 1915.

Pte. Harry, 6143. 1st Bn. 30th Oct., 1914. Husband of, of 3, Bright St., Aston,

Edward, L/14925. 4th Bn. Nov., 1914.

Frederick William, 43968. Horse Artillery. 20th Oct.,

William Henry, G/23627. Kent Regt. 31st July, 1917. and Alice Honeysett, of 39, Ontario, Canada.

W., 532347. 490th Field 31st July, 1917.

A. E., 7907. 1st Bn. South 1st Nov., 1914.

Frank Tycho, TF/2320. x Regt. 13th April, 1915. S. E. Honeywell, of Victoria, e Francis T. V. Honeywell. urrey, England.

HONEYWOOD, Pte. George, 8418. 1st Bn. IND Suffolk Regt. 18th Feb., 1915. Age 19. Son of YPR Mrs. Eliza Elliston, of Church Gate, Glemsford, (ME Suffolk. MEM PAR (U.K

~~HONEYWOOD, Pte. L., 3/9363. 2nd Bn. Suffolk Regt. 22nd Jan., 1916. COSTAVERNE COM BENGAL.~~

HONICKE, Cpl. John Frederick, 10504. 6th Bn. Royal Berkshire Regt. 11th Aug., 1917.

HONNEY, Pte. George, 55157. 14th Bn. Welch Regt. 5th Aug., 1917.

HONNER, Lce. Cpl. John, 400. 1st Bn. Royal Warwickshire Regt. 25th April, 1915.

HONNOR, Pte. Albert Edward, 7162. 4th Dragoon Guards. 10th May, 1915. Age 20. Son of Albert Henry and Ellen Honnor, of 128, High St., North Finchley, London.

HONOUR, Serjt. Henry, 10144. 1st Bn. King's Own Yorkshire Light Inf. 8th May, 1915.

HONOUR, Rfn. Joseph Henry, S/29931. 11th Bn. The Rifle Brigade. 14th Aug., 1917.

HOOD, Pte. Charles Ernest, 8344. 6th Bn. Royal Irish Regt. 7th June, 1917. Age 22. Son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Hood, of 8, Freeland Place, Hotwells, Bristol.

HOOD, Pte. Edward, 9308. 2nd Bn. Bedfordshire Regt. 31st Oct., 1914.

HOOD, Rfn. Ernest Arthur, 5420. 1st Bn. The Rifle Brigade. 3rd May, 1915. Age 18. Son of George and Lavinia Hood, of 68, Carlton Avenue, New Brompton, Kent.

HOOD, Serjt. Frederick W., 9328. 1st Bn. Royal Irish Fusiliers. 10th June, 1915.

HOOD, Pte. George, 17280. 2nd Bn. Duke of Cornwall's Light Inf. 28th April, 1915. Age 17. Son of Margaret L. Aldridge (formerly Hood), of 127, Fairbridge Rd., Upper Holloway, London, and the late Daniel Hood.

HOOD, Pte. John, 2848. 2nd Bn. Northumberland Fusiliers. 24th April, 1915. Age 23. Son of the late Stirling and Mary Ann Hood.

HOOD, Pte. John Henry, 1711. 4th Bn. Yorkshire Regt. 2nd May, 1915. Age 28. Son of Richard and Mary Hannah Hood, of 18, Moorcock Row, Lingdale, Boosbeck, Yorks.

HOOD, Pte. Harold, 8778. 1st Bn. Cheshire Regt. 13th Nov., 1914.

BURIED IN CEMETERY

\* NOW KNOWN TO BE BURIED IN COSTAVERNE WOOD CEMETERY

## **Charles Honney's War**

During the First World War, 235,476 men wore the Royal Fusilier badge, and 21,941 were killed. By 1914, The 7th Royal Fusiliers (City of London Regiment) had for long been considered a 'smart' regiment. This reputation was not just a matter of the adopted style of the Regiment; it was the direct result of 229 years of distinguished service in every campaign. The first battle honour had been earned at Namur in 1695, and the most recent was the 'Relief of Ladysmith' in the Boer War. The early years of the 20th century had been spent with battalions serving in England and India, as was usual for all infantry regiments after the major reforms of the late 19th century. The 1st Battalion, serving in India in 1904, had taken part in the notorious Younghusband Expedition to Tibet. The 2nd Battalion fought in the Boer War.

In 1914, the home-based Army consisted of three elements. First, the Regular Army, of which 1st and 4th Battalions The Royal Fusiliers were part, was the expeditionary element. Second, the Special Reserve, which embodied the former militia, volunteers and yeomanry units, formed the reserve to the Regular Army. Kaiser Wilhelm of Germany considered these elements to be a 'contemptible little army', The Old Contemptibles. Third, the Territorial Force, which was created in 1908 for home defence only. The Territorial Force included The London Regiment, of which 4 battalions were badged as Royal Fusiliers; this would be an important affiliation for the duration of the War. From late 1914, the volunteer 'Kitchener Armies' formed a fourth element of the Army, in which The Royal Fusiliers would be prominent.

The First World War was a watershed in every respect: politically, militarily, socially, scientifically and technically; little, if anything, was the same after the War as before it. In purely military terms, huge advances were made in organisation and training, yet the front remained almost static for 3 years.

The technical advances, in terms of weapons, tanks, aircraft and, notoriously, gas were unprecedented, even if tactics did not always keep pace. By 1918 the British Army had, arguably, become the most complex and sophisticated organisation in the world.

Because of good recruiting in the pre-war years, The Royal Fusiliers were permitted to have 3 regular battalions, when most other regiments had only two. At the outbreak of the War, The 1st and 4th battalions were in England and the 2nd Battalion was in India.

The story of The Royal Fusiliers in the First World War opens with the 4th Battalion at Mons.

The Battle of the Somme began on the 1st July 1916.

The only substantial British success was in the south where, using more imaginative tactics and helped by the French artillery on their immediate right, the 18th and 30th Divisions took all their objectives and the 7th Division captured Mametz. At Thiepval, the 36th (Ulster) Division seized the Schwaben Redoubt but was forced to withdraw because of lack of progress to its left and right. Elsewhere some British infantry made it into German positions but were forced to withdraw in the face of determined resistance and a huge volume of German artillery fire.

These limited gains cost 57,470 British casualties – of which 19,240 were killed – making the first day of the Somme the bloodiest in British military history. But there was no question of suspending the offensive with the French still heavily engaged at Verdun. The British did not achieve the quick breakthrough their military leadership had planned for and the Somme became a deadlocked battle of attrition.

By mid-September the British were ready to assault the German third line of defences with a new weapon, the tank. Objectives for 15 September included the Fourth Army's capture of the German defences at Flers and the seizure of Gueudecourt, Lesbœufs and Morval. The Canadian Corps of Gough's Reserve Army was to take Courcellette.

Of 49 tanks available to support the infantry, only 36 reached their starting points, though these caused alarm among the German defenders. Flers and Courcellette fell but the advance on 15 September was limited to about 2,500 yards (2,286m) on a three-mile (4.8km) front.

Haig believed that if pressure was maintained the German forces would ultimately collapse. On 26 September Gough's Reserve Army began an attack on the Thiepval Ridge from the Schwaben Redoubt to north of Courcellette. Mouquet Farm and Thiepval fell to the British infantry, but it was 14 October before fighting in the Schwaben Redoubt finally ended.

To the right the Canadians became involved in a desperate battle for Regina Trench which continued until 10 November.

In the meantime, between 1 and 20 October, on the battle's extreme right, the Fourth Army was edging painfully towards Le Transloy, capturing Le Sars on 7 October. However, rain was turning the battleground into a quagmire.

Charles Battalion 1/1st Londons was holding the line from Leuze Wood and Middle Copse, and when German resistance began to crumble it was able to push patrols forwards. By midnight 167th Bde was in the lower part of Bouleaux Wood and beyond the derelict tank from the 15 September fighting. Next morning 1/1st Londons pushed to capture Combles.

In early October 167th Bde occupied a line of linked-up outposts in a sea of mud, and the planned attack on 5 October was postponed. It went in on 7 October for the Battle of Transloy . 1st London and 1/7th Middlesex leading again towards 'Spectrum Trench' about 400 yards (370 m) ahead of the outpost line. 1/1st London had no success except on the left where some of the bombers pushed on with 1/7th Middlesex into the trench. The brigade failed to make any appreciable advance against machine gun fire in the follow-up attack next day. The division was relieved the following night. It was here on the 10th October during action that Charles would be killed and eventually laid to rest at Grove Town Cemetery Meaulte near Albert.

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In Memory Of  
Private  
**C HONNEY**

Service Number: 1670

1st Bn., London Regiment (Royal Fusiliers) who died on 10 October 1916

Remembered with Honour  
GROVE TOWN CEMETERY, MEAULTE

I. O. 9.



|||||  
COMMONWEALTH  
WAR GRAVES  
|||||

COMMEMORATED IN PERPETUITY BY THE COMMONWEALTH  
WAR GRAVES COMMISSION

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<p>pt., 1916. Clithero</p>	<p>208, Oldham Rd., Middleton, Manchester, and the late Thomas Hollows. I. N. 48.</p>
<p>3rd Bn. N. 44. 3rd Bty. wounds, Age 20. d G. and Wanstead</p>	<p>HOLMAN, Pte. Frank Eli, 19860. 7th Bn. Somerset Light Inf. Died of wounds 17th Sept., 1916. Age 22. Son of Eli and Elizabeth Holman, of New Buildings, South St., Crewkerne, Somerset, I. D. 17.</p>
<p>loughby, Died of of Capt.</p>	<p>HOLMAN, Pte. H., 14587. 1st Bn. The Queen's. 6th Nov., 1916. II. C. 28.</p>
<p>8. 13th nds 20th m, Lon- Elizabeth London.</p>	<p>HOLMAN, Pte. R. L., 13212. 2nd Bn. Coldstream Guards. 15th Sept., 1916. I. C. 14.</p>
<p>h Field Died of of Harry Diptford,</p>	<p>HOLMES, Pte. Ernest, 33938. 10th Bn. Lancashire Fusiliers. Died of wounds 4th Nov., 1916. Age 19. Son of Edward and Mary Ellen Holmes, of 19, Hawkshaw St., Howard St., Salford, Manchester. II. F. 7.</p>
<p>h Field Died of of Harry Diptford,</p>	<p>HOLYWELL, Spr. William, 1709. 416th Field Coy., Royal Engineers. 2nd Oct., 1916. Age 42. Son of George C. and Janet C. Holywell; husband of Mary T. Holywell, of 8, Henry St., Edinburgh. I. K. 43.</p>
<p>1. North- 7th Feb., the late nington,</p>	<p>HONNEY, Pte. C., 1670. 1st Bn. London Regt. (Royal Fusiliers), attd. 167th Bde. Machine Gun Corps. 10th Oct., 1916. I. O. 9.</p>
<p>1. North- 7th Feb., the late nington,</p>	<p>HONYCHURCH, 2nd Lt. Terence William. 1st/7th Bn. Middlesex Regt., attd., 167th Trench Mortar Bty. Died of wounds 22nd Sept., 1916. Age 21. Son of Mabel Lucy, and the late William George Honychurch, of 33, The Crescent, New Southgate, London. I. H. 5.</p>

3 other members of Charles Battalion died on that day and are buried along with him at Grove town Cemetery Meaulte near Albert.



**Second Lieutenant  
Rutherford Willoughby  
Davison**




London Regiment (Royal  
Fusiliers)

Date of death: 10/10/1916 (aged  
25)

Cemetery: GROVE TOWN  
CEMETERY, MEAULTE

*Son of Samuel Rutherford  
Davison and Alice Davison (nee  
Willoughby).*

 Died on the same day

 Served in the same regiment/ship/squadron

 Buried/commemorated in the same cemetery



**Private Thomas Flack**



London Regiment (Royal  
Fusiliers)

Date of death: 10/10/1916 (aged  
38)

Cemetery: GROVE TOWN  
CEMETERY, MEAULTE

*Son of T. and C. Flack, of 10,  
Rivers St., Bromley-by-Bow,  
London.*

 Died on the same day

 Served in the same regiment/ship/squadron

 Buried/commemorated in the same cemetery



**Private John William Gray**

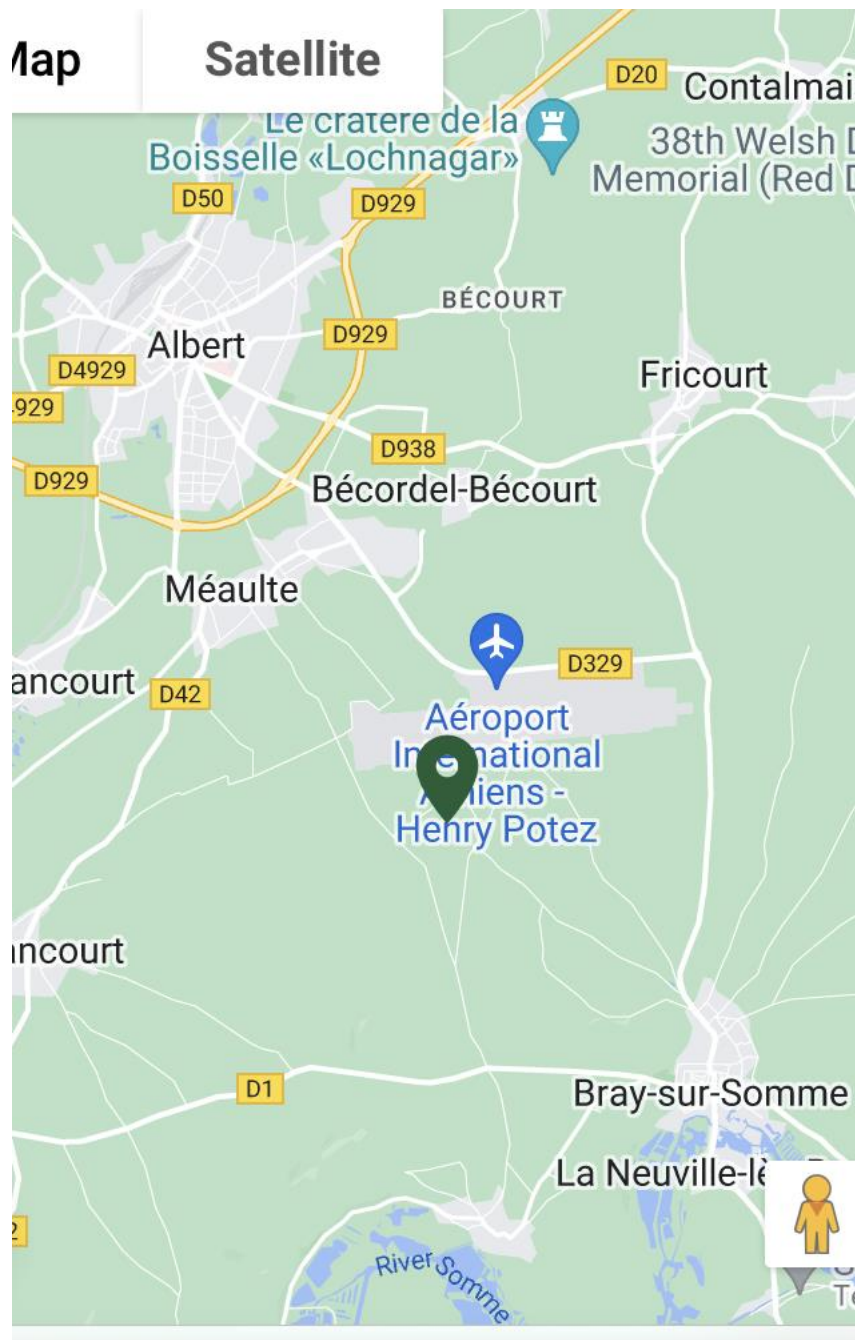


London Regiment (Royal  
Fusiliers)

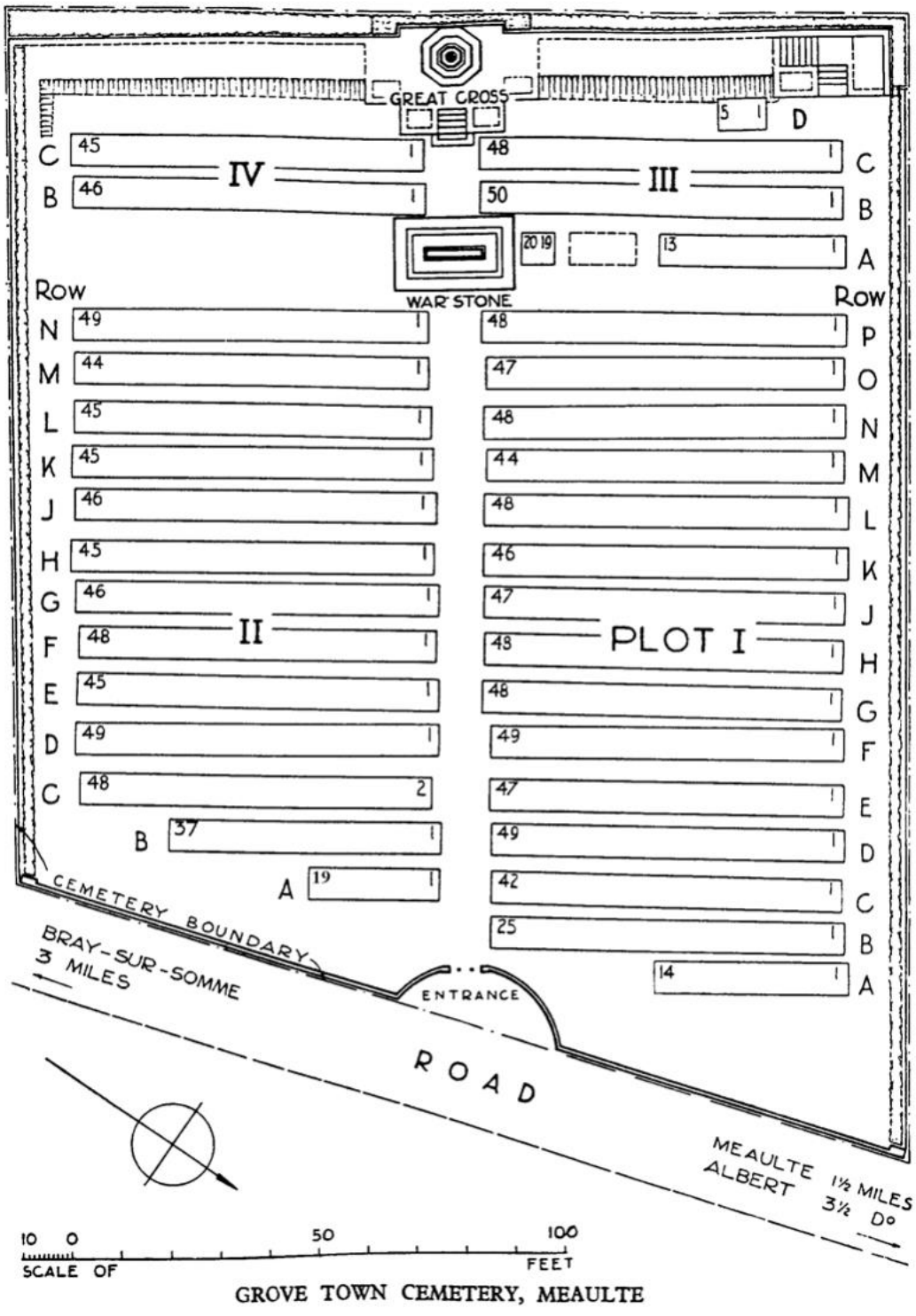
Date of death: 10/10/1916 (aged  
20)

Cemetery: GROVE TOWN

Meaulte is a village just south of Albert. From Albert head south-east on the D329 in the direction of Bray-sur-Somme. Just before the main buildings for the Aerobus turn right for the centre of Meaulte. Approximately 200 metres west of the church, take the road south "rue de Etinehem" Continue south past Meaulte Military Cemetery, and approximately 2.3 kilometres further on turn left (eastwards) Grove Town Cemetery is 600 metres along on the right side of this track. For those wishing to approach the cemetery from the south side, take the D1 Bray-sur-Somme / Corbie road, at the junction of the D1 and C2 Etinehem / Meaulte minor road is the first back to back Commission roadsign. Head north towards Meaulte, until reaching a fork in the road, where there is a CWGC road sign. Take the right fork in the direction of the airfield perimeter fence. At the Commission road sign and take the left track north, Grove Town Cemetery is ahead and to the left side of the track.



In September 1916, the 34th and 2/2nd London Casualty Clearing Stations were established at this point, known to the troops as Grove Town, to deal with casualties from the Somme battlefields. They were moved in April 1917 and, except for a few burials in August and September 1918, the cemetery was closed. Grove Town Cemetery contains 1,395 First World War burials. The cemetery was designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens.



Charles is buried in Plot 1 0 9.