

In Memory Of

ALBERT CLARKE

**Gunner 92318
58th Siege Bty., Royal Garrison Artillery
who died on Saturday, 16th September 1916.**

Born Hyde, Ches. **Enlisted** Stalybridge, Ches **Residence**

Died How Killed in action **Theatre of War** France & Flanders

Additional Inf. Son of George and Ellen Clarke, of Hyde;
Husband of Margaret Clarke, of 169, Lodge Lane, Newton, Hyde.

Commemorative Information

Cemetery: BARD COTTAGE CEMETERY, BOEZINGE, Ieper, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium
**Grave Reference/
Panel Number:** III. A. 17

Location: The Cemetery is located on the Diksmuidseweg road (N369) in the direction of Boezinge. From Ieper station turn left into M.Fochlaan and go to the roundabout, turn right and go to the next roundabout. Here turn left and drive to the next roundabout, where you should turn right into Oude Veurnestraat. Take the second turning on the left, which is the Diksmuidseweg and carry on under the motorway bridge and the cemetery is another 300 metres on the left hand side of the road. N.B. Bard Cottage Cemetery is the first cemetery on the left, the second being Talana Farm Cemetery.

Historical Information: Boezinge village was, during the greater part of the War, directly faced by the German front line on the East side; but Bard Cottage - a house between the road and the canal bank half way towards Ypres, close to a bridge named Bard's Causeway - was further from the edge of the Salient. The cemetery was made under a high bank, across the road. The first burials were carried out in June, 1915, and the cemetery continued in use until October, 1918. It reflects the holding of the Northern sectors of the Salient by the 49th (West Riding), the 38th (Welsh), and other Infantry Divisions, and the advance of Artillery to the neighbourhood in the latter months of 1917. After the Armistice, graves were brought in to Plot VI, Row C, from the fields immediately surrounding the cemetery. There are now over 1,500, 1914-18 war casualties commemorated in this site. In three instances a memorial has been erected to a soldier known to be buried in one of the unidentified graves. The cemetery covers an area of 6,535 square metres. Marengo Farm Cemetery, which contained 32 of the 46 graves concentrated into Plot VI, was about 180 metres South of Bard Cottage, on the same side of the road. It was used from June, 1915 to August, 1916. Its war name (like that of many of the farms between Boezinghe and Ypres) is due to the presence of a French Corps in that area early in 1915.