

In Memory Of

HAROLD KNOWLES

Private 316840
4th Bn., Royal Welsh Fusiliers
who died on Sunday, 24th March 1918.

Born Hyde, Cheshire **Enlisted** Hyde, Cheshire **Residence**

Died How Died of wounds **Theatre of War** France & Flanders

Additional Inf. Manchester Road, Hyde.

Commemorative Information

Cemetery: DERNANCOURT COMMUNAL CEMETERY EXTENSION, Somme, France
**Grave Reference/
Panel Number:** X. E. 20.
Location: Dernancourt is a village 3 kilometres south of Albert. The Communal Cemetery is a little west of the village, and the Extension is on the north-west side of the Communal Cemetery.

Historical Information: The Communal Cemetery was used for Commonwealth burials from September, 1915, to August, 1916, and again in the Retreat of March, 1918. It contains the graves of soldiers from the United Kingdom and Australia, who were buried from Field Ambulances at Dernancourt. The XV Corps Main Dressing Station was formed at Dernancourt in August, 1916, and in that month the Extension was opened. The 45th and 1st/1st South Midland Casualty Clearing Stations came in September, 1916, and remained until March, 1917; the 3rd Australian was here in March and April, 1917, and the 56th from April, 1917 to February, 1918. The 3rd Casualty Clearing Station came in March, 1918; but on the 26th March, Dernancourt was evacuated by the British Forces, and the Extension remained in enemy hands until the recapture of Dernancourt on the 9th August by the 12th Division and the 33rd American division. In September it was again used by the 47th, 48th and 55th Casualty Clearing Stations under the name of "Edgehill" (due to the rising ground on the North-West). There are now over 2,000, 1914-18 war casualties commemorated in this site. Of these nearly 200 are unidentified, but 29 Officers and men are known or believed to be buried among these and are commemorated by special memorials. Two Australian Soldiers, who were buried at Albert Road Cemetery Buire-sur-Ancre and whose grave could not be found are commemorated by Special Memorial Headstones. The 49th Australian Infantry Battalion erected in the Extension two wooden memorials to their officers and men who fell in the neighbourhood in March and April, 1918. The cemetery covers an area of 5,678 square metres and is enclosed on three sides by brick walls. The following are particulars of the more important graveyards concentrated into the Extension:- MOOR CEMETERY, EDGEHILL, DERNANCOURT, was about 800 metres West, near the top of the hill. It contained the graves of 42 soldiers from the United Kingdom who fell on the 23rd-25th March, 1918. ALBERT ROAD CEMETERY, BUIRE-SUR-ANCRE, was 3.20 kilometres West, on the straight road from Amiens to Albert. It contained the graves of 65 soldiers from the United Kingdom and 33 from Australia, who fell in April-August, 1918. It was made by Australian units and by the 58th (London) and 12th Divisions.