

In Memory Of

JOSEPH OLDHAM

Private 14525
1/7th Bn., Cheshire Regiment
who died on Saturday, 5th October 1918

Born Glossop, Derbys.

Enlisted Glossop

Died How Killed in action

Theatre of War France & Flanders

Additional Inf. 13, King Street, Hyde.

Commemorative Information

Cemetery: HOOGE CRATER CEMETERY, Ieper, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium

**Grave Reference/
Panel Number:** XIV. K. 7.

Location:

Hooge Crater Cemetery is located 4 kilometres east of Ieper town centre on the Meenseweg (N8) connecting Ieper to Menen. From Ieper town centre the Meenseweg is located via Torhoutstraat and right onto Basculestraat. Basculestraat ends at a main crossroads, directly over which begins the Meenseweg. The cemetery itself is located 3.6 kilometres along the Meenseweg on the right hand side of the road.

Historical Information:

Hooge Chateau and its stables, on the North side of the road, were the scene of very fierce fighting during the War. On the 31st October, 1914, the staff of the 1st and 2nd Divisions were wiped out by shell fire in the Chateau. From the 24th May to the 3rd June, 1915, the Chateau was defended against German attacks. In July, 1915, the Crater, on the North side of the road, was made by a mine sprung by the 3rd Division. On the 30th the Germans took the Chateau, and on the 9th August, it and the Crater were regained by the 6th Division. The Germans retook Hooge on the 6th June, 1916; and on the 31st July, 1917, the 8th Division advanced 1.6 kilometres beyond it. It was lost for the last time in April, 1918, and regained by the 9th (Scottish) and 29th Divisions on the 28th September. The King's Royal Rifle Corps Memorial stands near the Chateau. Hooge Crater Cemetery was begun by the 7th Division Burial Officer early in October, 1917. It contained originally 76 graves, in Rows A to D, of Plot I. It was greatly increased after the Armistice by the concentration of graves from smaller cemeteries and from the battlefields of Zillebeke, Zantvoorde and Gheluvelt. There are now nearly 6,000, 1914-18 war casualties commemorated in this site. Of these, over 3,500 are unidentified, and special memorials record the names of soldiers from the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia and New Zealand, known or believed to be among them. Other special memorials bear the names of twelve soldiers from the United Kingdom, buried at La Chapelle Farm, and two buried in Kruseecke German Cemetery, whose graves were destroyed by shell fire. The cemetery covers an area of 14,263 square metres. The following were among the smaller burial grounds from which graves were concentrated to Hooge Crater Cemetery:- BASS WOOD CEMETERIES No. 1 and No. 2, ZILLEBEKE, on the East side of the Bassevillebeek, 800 metres South of Herenthage Chateau. They contained the graves of 48 soldiers from the United Kingdom who fell in December, 1917-March, 1918. KOELENBERG GERMAN CEMETERIES, GHELUWE, close together on the South side of the Menin Road, in which were buried ten soldiers from the United Kingdom. K.O.S.B. CEMETERY, GHELUWE, on the Menin Road, 800 metres West of Gheluwe. Here were buried, after the capture of Gheluwe by the 34th Division, in October, 1918, 18 soldiers from the United Kingdom, of whom ten belonged to the 1st/5th K.O.S.B. LA CHAPELLE FARM, ZILLEBEKE, between Chester Farm and Blauwepoort Farm, where 17 soldiers from the United Kingdom were buried in February and March, 1915. MENIN ROAD PILLBOX CEMETERY, ZILLEBEKE, between Herenthage Chateau and Gheluvelt, where 20 soldiers from the United Kingdom were buried in October, 1917.