



## Horace Richard Denton

Horace Richard Denton was born in Sudborough in 1896. His father, James Denton was a blacksmith from Buckinghamshire, his mother Henrietta Denton was from Daventry.

### The Family

In 1891, James & Henrietta are living in Sudborough with their daughter Rosa. In 1900, Henrietta dies at the age of 42.

In the 1901 Census, Horace and his sister Hilda are boarding in Hornton, Oxfordshire.

By 1911, James Denton has remarried (to Elizabeth Ann Haynes) and the family is living in Banbury. James is still a blacksmith, assisted by his son James. Horace (age 14) is employed as an assistant hawker.

### Military Service

According to records, Horace Richard Denton was resident in Corby at the time of his enrolment in the Oxfordshire & Buckinghamshire Light Infantry. He served as a Private in the 6<sup>th</sup> Battalion serving in France/Flanders, arriving in France in July 1915.

He was attached to the 60<sup>th</sup> Trench Mortar Battery.

Private Denton was killed in action on 14<sup>th</sup> April 1916.

He is buried at the Bard Cottage Cemetery.

For much of the First World war, the village of Boesinghe (now Boezinge) directly faced the German line across the Yser canal. Bard Cottage was a house a little set back from the line, close to a bridge called Bard's Causeway, and the cemetery was made nearby in a sheltered position under a high bank. Burials were made between June 1915 and October 1918 and they reflect the presence of the 49th (West Riding), the 38th (Welsh) and other infantry divisions in the northern sectors of the Ypres Salient, as well as the advance of artillery to the area in the autumn of 1917.

After the Armistice, 46 graves were brought in to Plot VI, Row C, from the immediate area, including 32 from Marengo Farm Cemetery (this was located a few hundred



metres to the south of Bard Cottage, on the same side of the road. It was used from June 1915 to August 1916).

There are now 1,639 Commonwealth casualties of the First World War buried or commemorated in this cemetery. 39 of the burials are unidentified but special memorials commemorate three casualties known to be buried among them.

The cemetery was designed by Sir Reginald Blomfield.

### Reference

Commonwealth War Graves Commission

***Lest We Forget***

**Horace Richard Denton**

Of the Oxfordshire & Buckinghamshire Light Infantry

d. 14<sup>th</sup> April 1916