



Alfred York

Alfred York was born in Irchester in 1875. His father, George York was an agricultural labourer. His mother was Harriet York (nee Sawford). Both parents hailed from Bedfordshire.

The Family

In 1891, Alfred and his brother Allen are living with another brother Charles & wife Mary in Rushden.

At the time of the 1901 Census, Alfred is still living with his brother Charles in Rushden. He is employed as a boot finisher.

On 26th May 1901, Alfred marries Hannah Bayes in Rushden. A daughter, Sarah Maud was born in 1902.

Military Service

Alfred York's enlistment papers of August 1915 show his address as Corby. Hannah York is recorded as living at Woodford, near Thrapston.

His occupation is listed as labourer. He is 40 years old at time of enlistment. Alfred's place of enlistment is Westminster, London.

Alfred serves as a Pioneer in the 5th Labour Battalion, Royal Engineers, embarking to France in August 1915.

Pioneer Alfred York was killed in action on 4th April 1916. He is buried at the Brandhoek Military Cemetery.

During the First World War, Brandhoek was within the area comparatively safe from shellfire which extended beyond Vlamertinghe Church. Field ambulances were posted there continuously and the Military Cemetery was opened early in May 1915 in a field adjoining the dressing station. It closed in July 1917 when the New Military Cemetery was opened nearby, to be followed by the New Military Cemetery No 3 in August 1917.

Brandhoek Military Cemetery now contains 669 First World War burials.

The cemetery was designed by Sir Reginald Blomfield.



Reference

Commonwealth War Graves Commission

Lest We Forget

Alfred York
of the Royal Engineers

d. 4th April 1916

