

Thomas Ballinger 1878-1916

Thomas was born in Shrivenham in 1878 to parents Thomas and Sarah. His father was an agricultural labourer but by 1901 Thomas became a clerk. His siblings were Edward born 1872, Charles born 1875 and Bertie born 1880. He stayed thus with his family until 1911.

Thomas enlisted with the Royal Berkshire Regiment on the 25th March 1916. Research was difficult because he enlisted as Thomas Bellinger!! Shortly, he was transferred to the 17th Battalion, the Manchester Regiment and was killed in action on 15th October 1916. His war career lasted a mere five months and he was 38 years old.

Thomas is buried in the lovely A.I.F. Burial Ground, Flers and you can see his grave location that I have marked on the cemetery plan. I have also marked the location of his grave on the enlarged picture of the burial ground.

As Thomas never enlisted until 1916, he was not entitled to the 1915 Star but was awarded the Victory Medal and the War Medal.

The 1891 Census shows him as an 13 year old office lad working for the Post Office and living at Parish Row , Shrivenham.

In 1901 he was an agricultural labourer and in 1911 he was a Coal Merchant's Clerk, single, and living with his widowed mother and two brothers in Shrivenham.

He was a Private in the 17th Battalion of the Manchester Regt. No 43281. He was killed in action in Flanders on 15th October 1916, six months after his younger brother Bertie.

1901 census transcription details for: Cottage, Shrivenham

National Archive Reference:

RG number: **RG13**
 Piece: **1127**
 Folio: **12**
 Page: **15**
 Reg. District: **Faringdon**
 Sub District: **Shrivenham**
 Parish: **Shrivenham**
 Enum. District: **1**
 Ecclesiastical District: **Shrivenham St Andrews**
 City/Municipal Borough:
 Address: **Cottage, Shrivenham**
 County: **Berkshire**

1901
 Thomas but no Bertie.
 Can not find Bertie anywhere

Name	Relation	Condition	Sex	Age	Birth Year	Occupation , Disability	Where Born
BALLINGER, Thomas	Head	Married	M	60	1841	Ordinary Agricultural Labourer	Shrivenham, Berkshire
BALLINGER, Sarah Ann	Wife	Married	F	61	1840		South Marston, Wiltshire
BALLINGER, Charles F	Son	Single	M	27	1874	Ordinary Agricultural Labourer	Shrivenham, Berkshire
BALLINGER, Thomas	Son	Single	M	21	1880	Foreman In Coal Yard	Shrivenham, Berkshire
BALLINGER, Arthur	Son	Single	M	18	1883	Gardener (Domestic)	Shrivenham, Berkshire

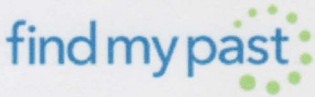
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Civil Registration event: Birth

Name: **BALLINGER, Thomas**
 Registration district: **Faringdon (Berkshire)**
 County: **Berkshire**
 Year of registration: **1878**
 Quarter of registration: **Apr-May-Jun**
 Mother's maiden name: **Not available before 1911 Q3**
 Volume no: **2C**
 Page no: **265**

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Thomas becomes Ballinger when he is



Print

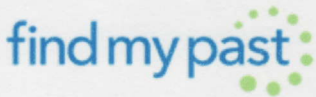
Close

Armed Forces registration event: Death

Name: **BELLINGER, Thomas**
 Unit: **Manchester Regiment**
 Rank: **Private**
 Number: **43281**
 Year: **1916**
 Volume: **I.17**
 Page: **292**
 Record source: **GRO War Death Army Other Ranks (1914 to 1921)**

Transcriptions © brightsolid online publishing ltd

Census 1911 household friendly / Census Household Search Servlet?censusYear=1911&pf=Y&uir=64260177&lineNo=3&lineNoSuffix=0



Print

Close

1911 census transcription details for: Shrivenham Berkshire

National Archive Reference:

RG14PN6426 RG78PN315 RD116 SD1 ED1 SN89

Reg. District: **Faringdon**
 Sub District: **Shrivenham**
 Parish: **Shrivenham**
 Enum. District: **1**
 Address: **Shrivenham Berkshire**
 County: **Berkshire**

1911
Flora still at
home with brother Arthur
≡
Bertie is in Wales

Name	Relation	Condition/ Yrs married	Sex	Age	Birth Year	Occupation	Where Born
BALLENGER, Sarah Ann	Head	Widow	F	62	1849		South Marslon Wilts
BALLENGER, Charles Fredrick	Son	Single	M	37	1874	Farm Labourer	Shrivenham Berks
BALLENGER, Thomas	Son	Single	M	33	1878	Coal Merchants Clerk	Shrivenham Berks
BALLENGER, Arthur	Son	Single	M	28	1883	Gardener Domestic	Shrivenham Berks

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GENERAL SERVICE ATTESTATION OF

Card No. 4
20

(For the Duration of the War, with the Colours and in the Army Reserve)

General Service

No. 20978 Name Bellinger Thomas Corps Royal Berks

READING HEADQUARTERS/SERIAL

Questions to be put to the Recruit before Enlistment.

1. What is your Name? ... Thomas Bellinger
2. What is your full Address? ... Shrewton Berks
3. Are you a British Subject? ... Yes
4. What is your Age? ... 37 Years 7 Months
5. What is your Trade or Calling? ... Clerk
6. Are you Married? ... No
7. Have you ever served in any branch of His Majesty's Forces, naval or military, if so*, which? ... No
8. Are you willing to be vaccinated or re-vaccinated? ... Yes
9. Are you willing to be enlisted for General Service? ... Yes
10. Did you receive a Notice, and do you understand its meaning, and who gave it to you? ... Yes Name James ... Corps Royal Berks
11. Are you willing to serve upon the following conditions provided His Majesty should so long require your services?
For the duration of the War, at the end of which you will be discharged with all convenient speed. You will be required to serve for one day with the Colours and the remainder of the period in the Army Reserve, in accordance with the provisions of the Royal Warrant dated 20th Oct., 1915, until such time as you may be called up by order of the Army Council. If employed with Hospitals, depots of Mounted Units, or as a Clerk, etc., you may be retained after the termination of hostilities until your services can be spared, but such retention shall in no case exceed six months. ... Yes

I, Thomas Bellinger do solemnly declare that the above answers made by me the above questions are true, and that I am willing to fulfil the engagements made.

Thomas Bellinger SIGNATURE OF RECRUIT
James ... Signature of Witness.

OATH TO BE TAKEN BY RECRUIT ON ATTESTATION.

I, Thomas Bellinger swear by Almighty God that I will be faithful and bear true Allegiance to His Majesty King George the Fifth, His Heirs, and Successors, and that I will, as in duty bound, honestly and faithfully defend His Majesty, His Heirs, and Successors, in Person and Dignity against all enemies, and will observe and obey all orders of His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, Generals and Officers set over me. So help me God.

CERTIFICATE OF MAGISTRATE OR ATTESTING OFFICER.

The Recruit above named was cautioned by me that if he made any false answer to any of the above questions he would be liable to be punished as provided in the Army Act.

The above questions were then read to the Recruit in my presence.

I have taken care that he understands each question, and that his answer to each question has been duly replied to, and the said Recruit has made and signed the declaration and taken the oath before me on this 29th day of NOVEMBER, 1915.

Signature of the Justice Mark ...

† Certificate of Approving Officer.

I certify that this Attestation of the above-named Recruit is correct, and properly filled up, and that the same appears to have been complied with. I accordingly approve, and appoint him to the Royal Berks. If enlisted by special authority, Army Form B. 203 (or other authority for the enlistment) will be attached to the original attestation.

Date 29-11-1916 Place Reading

W. ...
004978 Recruit's Name

† The signature of the Approving Officer is to be affixed in the presence of the Recruit.
‡ Here insert the "Corps" for which the Recruit has been enlisted.

* If so, the Recruit is to be asked the particulars of his former service, and to produce, if possible, his Certificate of Discharge, which should be returned to him conspicuously endorsed in red ink, as follows, viz.—(Name) ... re-enlisted in this Regiment) on the (Date) ...

20.

DUPLICATE (4604) W.L. 10/15 HAS (H. 400/1) B. 2519

2474/READING HEADQUARTERS/BERKS. Army Form B. 203

CALL UP FROM A R. CL. SERVICE 25-3-16

Card No. 4 / 204

(For the Duration of the War, with the Colours and in the Army Reserve).

General Service ATTESTATION OF No. 20948 Name Bellinger Thomas Corps Royal Berks

Questions to be put to the Recruit before Enlistment.

- 1. What is your Name? Thomas Bellinger
2. What is your full Address? Sharnbrook Berks.
3. Are you a British Subject? Yes
4. What is your Age? 37 Years 7 Months
5. What is your Trade or Calling? Clerk
6. Are you Married? No
7. Have you ever served in any branch of His Majesty's Forces, naval or military, if so, which? No
8. Are you willing to be vaccinated or re-vaccinated? Yes
9. Are you willing to be enlisted for General Service? Yes
10. Did you receive a Notice, and do you understand its meaning, and who gave it to you? Yes
11. Are you willing to serve upon the following conditions provided His Majesty should so long require your services? Yes

I, Thomas Bellinger do solemnly declare that the above answers made by the above questions are true, and that I am willing to fulfil the engagements made.

Signature of Recruit: Thomas Bellinger
Signature of Witness: Thomas Bellinger

OATH TO BE TAKEN BY RECRUIT ON ATTESTATION. I, Thomas Bellinger swear by Almighty God that I will be faithful and bear true Allegiance to His Majesty King George the Fifth, His Heirs, and Successors...

CERTIFICATE OF MAGISTRATE OR ATTESTING OFFICER.

The Recruit above named was cautioned by me that if he made any false answer to any of the above questions would be liable to be punished as provided in the Army Act. The above questions were then read to the Recruit in my presence. I have taken care that he understands each question, and that his answer to each question has been replied to, and the said Recruit has made and signed the declaration and taken the oath before me...

† Certificate of Approving Officer.

I certify that this Attestation of the above-named Recruit is correct, and properly filled in. If enlisted by special authority, Army Form B. 203 (or other authority for the enlistment) original attestation. Date 25-3-16 Place Reading

† The signature of the Approving Officer is to be affixed in the presence of the Recruit. ‡ Here insert the "Corps" for which the Recruit has been enlisted.

All Military Results

Page Tools

- [Start a Tree with this person](#)
- [Save record to my shoebox](#)
- [Add Alternate Information](#)
- [View printer-friendly](#)

Order Military Books for Manchester Regiment

Please note you will be re-directed to an Ancestry.co.uk trusted partner website where specific T&Cs apply.

Comments

There are no comments for this record

Leave a comment

Make a Connection

Find others who are researching your ancestors in Public Member Trees:

[Find others researching Thomas Bellinger](#)

UK, Soldiers Died in the Great War, 1914-1919 about Thomas Bellinger

Name:	Thomas Bellinger
Birth Place:	Shrivenham, Berks
Residence:	Shrivenham
Death Date:	15 Oct 1916
Death Location:	France & Flanders
Enlistment Location:	Fasington, Berks
Rank:	Private
Regiment:	Manchester Regiment
Battalion:	17th Battalion
Number:	43281
Type of Casualty:	Killed in action
Theatre of War:	Western European Theatre
Comments:	Formerly 20978, Royal Berks Regt.

Save This Record

Attach this record to a person in your tree as a source record, or save for later evaluation.

Save

Source Information:

Military-Genealogy.com, comp. UK, Soldiers Died in the Great War, 1914-1919 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2008. Original data: British and Irish Military Databases. The Naval and Military Press Ltd.

Description:

This database contains information extracted from 81 volumes of soldiers that died in World War I. It includes over 703,000 individuals. Information listed about may include: name of soldier, birthplace, enlistment place, residence, number, decoraton, rank, regiment, battalion, type of casualty, death date, death place, and theater of war served in. [Learn more...](#)

Suggested Records

These records may also be relevant to **Thomas Bellinger**:

Thomas Bellinger
UK, Commonwealth War Graves, 1914-1921 and 1939-1947

Thomas Bellinger
Web: International, Find A Grave Index

Thomas Ballinger
1901 England Census

Thomas Ballinger
1881 England Census

Thomas Ballinger
1891 England Census

Name.		Corps.	Rank.	Regtl. No.
BELLINGER		Manchester R	Pte	43281
Thomas				
Medal.	Roll.	Page.	Remarks.	
VICTORY	#/1/104 ^o	448932		
BRITISH	do	do		
STAR				
Theatre of War first served in				
Date of entry therein				

K. 1380

CWGC - Find War Dead

<http://www.cwgc.org/find-war-dead.aspx?cpage=1>



CWGC
Commonwealth War Graves Commission

Find War Dead

Here are your results. Too many? Use the filter on the left to narrow them down.
To save your results you need to be a registered user. [Click here](#) to register with us.

You have searched for Surname: **bellinger**, Forename: **thomas**, War: **First World War**, Served In: **Army**, Served With: **United Kingdom Forces**

1 record(s) match your search criteria

Name	Rank	Service Number	Date of Death	Age	Regiment / Service	Service Country	Grave / Memorial Reference	Cemetery / Memorial Name
BELLINGER, THOMAS	Private	43281	15/10/1916	38	Manchester Regiment	United Kingdom	VIII. L. 1.	A.I.F. BURIAL GROUND, FLERS



CWGC
Commonwealth War Graves Commission

Cemetery details

A.I.F. BURIAL GROUND, FLERS



Country: France
Locality: Somme
Identified Casualties: 1212

Location Information

A.I.F. Burial Ground is 2 Kms north of the village of Flers, in the Department of the Somme. Travel south-west of Bapaume on the D929 in the direction of Albert for 6 Kms to the village of Le Sars. Turn left eastwards on the D11 in the direction of Geudecourt for 3.5 Kms to the D74/D197 junction. Continue along the D74 in the direction of Geudecourt for 500 metres when a CWGC signpost will be seen indicating the A.I.F. Burial Ground along a track to the right.

Visiting Information

Wheelchair access is possible via the main entrance.

For further information regarding wheelchair access, please contact our Enquiries Section on 01628 507200.

Historical Information

Flers was captured on 15 September 1916, in the Battle of Flers-Courcelette, when it was entered by the New Zealand and 41st Divisions behind tanks, the innovative new weapons that were used here for the first time. The village was lost during the German advance of March 1918 and retaken at the end of the following August by the 10th West Yorks and the 6th Dorsets of the 17th Division.

The cemetery was begun by Australian medical units, posted in the neighbouring caves, in November 1916-February 1917. These original graves are in Plot I, Rows A and B. It was very greatly enlarged after the Armistice when almost 4,000 Commonwealth and French graves were brought in from the battlefields of the Somme, and later from a wider area.

The following were among the burial grounds from which Commonwealth graves were taken to this cemetery:-

FACTORY CORNER, FLERS, a little West of the crossing of the roads from Eaucourt-L'Abbaye to



CWGC
Commonwealth War Graves Commission



A.I.F. BURIAL GROUND, FLERS

O THOMAS' GRAVE

junction. Continue along the D74 in the direction of Gendecourt for 500 metres when a CWGC signpost will be seen indicating the A.I.F. Burial Ground along a track to the right.

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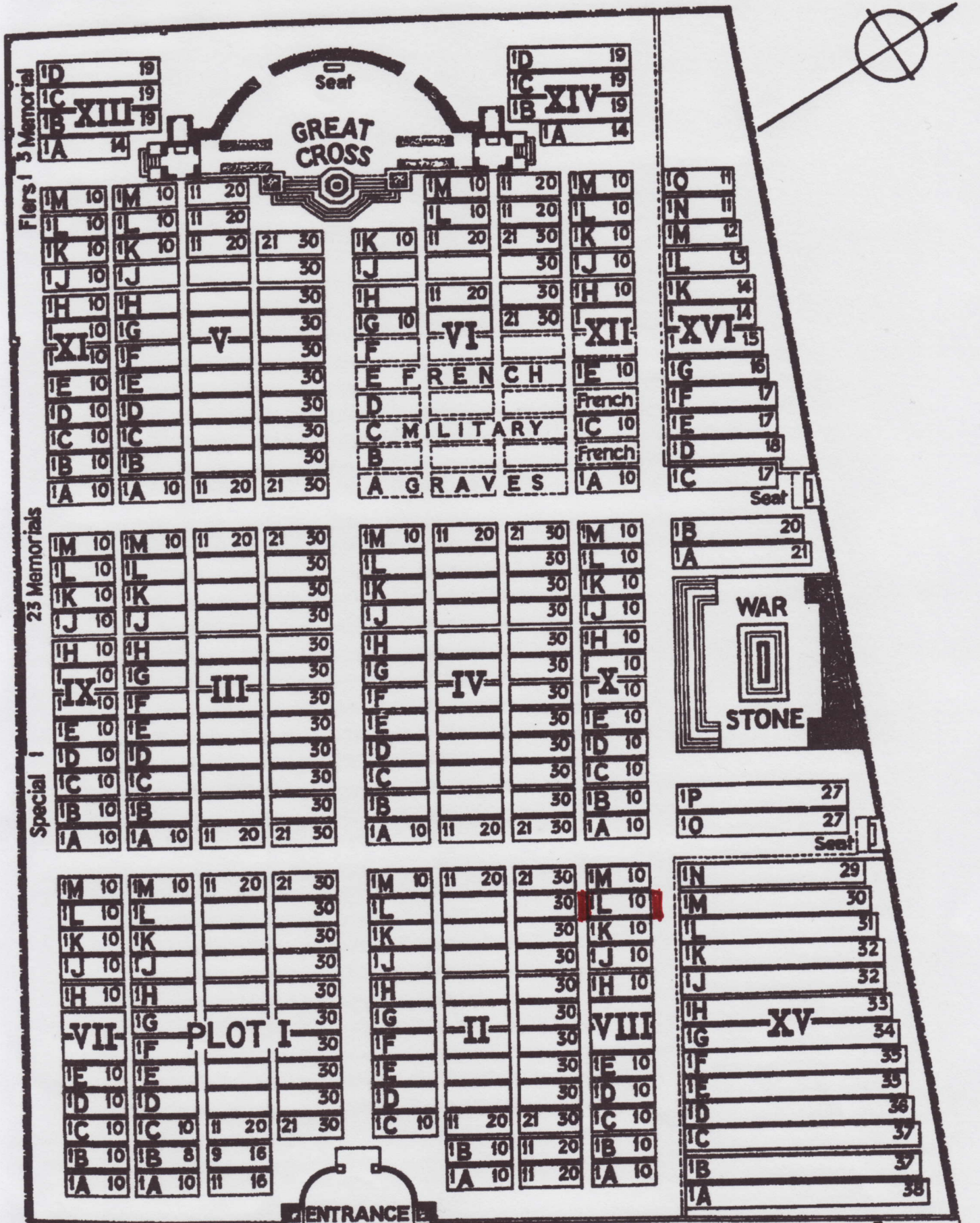
Gueudecourt and from Flers to Ligny-Thillois. This place, which had been a German Headquarters for Artillery and Engineers and had a German Cemetery, was taken by the 1st Canterbury Infantry Regiment on the 25th September, 1916, and again by the 7th East Yorks on the 27th August, 1918. Fifteen soldiers from the United Kingdom and 13 from Australia were buried here in October, 1916-March, 1917, and in August, 1918.

NORTH ROAD CEMETERY, FLERS, North-West of the village, at the crossing of the Eaucourt-L'Abbaye road with "North Road" (to Factory Corner). Here were buried, in the winter of 1916-17, 13 Australian soldiers and seven from the United Kingdom.

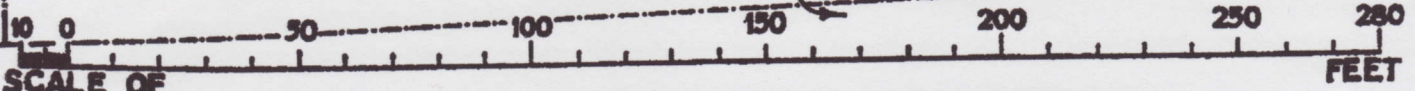
The great majority of the graves in A.I.F. Burial Ground date from the autumn of 1916, but one is from 1914, and there are others from the spring of 1917 and the spring and summer of 1918.

There are now 3,475 Commonwealth servicemen of the First World War buried or commemorated in this cemetery. 2,263 of the burials are unidentified and there are special memorials to 23 casualties known or believed to be buried among them. Other special memorials record the names of three casualties buried in a cemetery at Flers, whose graves could not be found. The cemetery also contains 170 French and 3 German war graves.

The cemetery was designed by Sir Herbert Baker.



FROM FLERS 1 MILE TO BAPAUME STATION 3 3/4 MILES
 FROM COMBLES STATION 5 1/2 MILES TRACK CEMETERY BOUNDARY



A. I. F. BURIAL GROUND GRASS LANE FLERS