

**Harry Campbell 1884 - 1917** 

Harry was born in Luckenvada (now Luckenwalde) Germany in 1884. His father was Ralph Campbell, a Carding Overlooker (Foreman) born in Pudsey 1850 and died in 1913. His mother was Emily (nee Webster) born in Dewsbury in 1850 and died in 1925. They were married on 9<sup>th</sup> July 1870 at St, Saviour's Church, Ravensthorpe. In order to stimulate their woollen industry, the Germans recruited key workers in the British Woollen Industry. With his expertise, Harry's father Ralph was an obvious attraction for the recruiters.

Their other children all born in Dewsbury were; Edwin, born in 1871, Martha, born in 1874, Kemp, born in 1876, Sidna (female) born in 1878 and Carl, born in 1882.

On the 1891 & 1901 Census records the family were living at John Street, Ravensthorpe and in 1911 at 5, Myrtle Road, Ravensthorpe.

Harry worked as a warehouseman at the mill of Messrs Marshall, Kaye and Marshall in Ravensthorpe and was married to Louisa Livesey (born in 1886 and died in 1951) on 10<sup>th</sup> August 1912 in St. Saviour's Church; they lived at 13, Lee Street, Ravensthorpe and had no children. Louisa was remarried in 1926 to Francis Farrar (born in 1875 and died in 1946).

He had volunteered under the Derby Scheme and was placed on the Reserve List pending call up which he duly received on 25<sup>th</sup> July 1916. He was sent from the recruiting depot at Pontefract as Gunner 108392 to the Royal Garrison Artillery at Great Yarmouth. On the 5<sup>th</sup> August he was posted to the 221<sup>st</sup> Siege Battery in Dunoon, Scotland. On 10<sup>th</sup> January 1917 the battery went to France as a 4 gun (8inch) howitzer battery joining the 33<sup>rd</sup> Artillery Group as part of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Army. In March they were posted to Arras where they were used for routine bombardment of the German trenches. He was killed in action on 20<sup>th</sup> March 1917 when their position was located by the Germans who bombarded it; five men were injured and one man, Harry Campbell was killed. He was buried in Faubourg d'Amiens Cemetery, Arras, Pas-de-Calais, France. Harry was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

Faubourg-d'Amiens Cemetery is in the western part of the town of Arras. The French handed over Arras to Commonwealth forces in the spring of 1916 and the system of tunnels upon which the town is built were used and developed in preparation for the major offensive planned for April 1917. The Commonwealth section of the cemetery was begun in March 1916, behind the French military cemetery established earlier, it continued to be used by field ambulances and fighting units until November 1918. The cemetery was enlarged after the Armistice when graves were brought in from the battlefields and from two smaller cemeteries in the vicinity. The cemetery contains over 2,650 Commonwealth burials of the First World War, 10 of which are unidentified.

Harry is commemorated on the Dewsbury Cenotaph in Crow Nest Park and in the Dewsbury Roll of Honour kept in Dewsbury Central Library and on the Ravensthorpe War Memorial in St. Saviour's Church.

In Memory of

Gunner

## Harry Campbell

108392, 221st Siege Bty., Royal Garrison Artillery who died on 20 March 1917 Age 32

Son of Ralph and Emily Campbell, of Ravensthorpe; husband of Louisa Campbell, of 13, Lee St., Ravensthorpe, Dewsbury.

Remembered with Honour Faubourg D'amiens Cemetery, Arras





Commemorated in perpetuity by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

