

Thomas Henry Thompson 1898 - 1917

Thomas was born in Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancashire in 1898. His father was also Thomas Henry Thompson, a coach builder with a railway company born in Leeds in 1857 and died in 1952. His mother was Eliza Ann (nee Gommersall) born in Sheffield in 1863 and died in 1940. They were married in 1883 in Sheffield.

Their other children were; Edith, born in 1884 and died in 1909, Ernest Henry, born in 1887, Bertha, born in 1894 and Doris, born in 1904.

On the 1891 Census the family lived at 20, Bootle Street, Ashton-under-Lyne, in 1901 at 46, Romney Street, Ashton-under-Lyne, in 1911 at 14, Carlton Terrace, Savile Town, Dewsbury and later at 12, Savile Grove, Savile Town.

Thomas was a single man who was educated at Savile Town Church of England School and attended Savile Town Wesleyan Church and Sunday school. He worked as a cloth raiser for Messrs George Ellis and Sons, Savile Mills and later in the Midland Station railway goods yard.

He enlisted in the 1st/8th Battalion of the West Yorkshire Regiment (Prince of Wales's Own) serving as Private 205240 and was sent to the Western Front on 23rd July 1917. He was killed in action by a shell burst on 15th November 1917 in the aftermath of the Battle of Passchendaele. His remains were never identified for burial and so he is commemorated on the Tyne Cot Memorial, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. Thomas was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

The Tyne Cot Memorial forms the north-eastern boundary of Tyne Cot Cemetery and commemorates nearly 35,000 servicemen from the United Kingdom and New Zealand who died in the Ypres Salient after 16th August 1917 and whose graves are not known. The memorial stands close to the farthest point in Belgium reached by Commonwealth forces in the First World War until the final advance to victory.

Thomas is also commemorated on the Dewsbury Cenotaph in Crow Nest Park and in the Dewsbury Roll of Honour kept in Dewsbury Central Library and on the War Memorial from the now demolished St. Mary's Church, Savile Town now relocated to Holy Innocents Church, Thornhill Lees.

In Memory of Rifleman

Thomas Henry Thompson

205240, 1st/8th Bn., West Yorkshire Regiment (Prince of Wales's Own) who died on 15 November 1917 Age 19

Son of Thomas H. and Eliza Ann Thompson, of 12, Savile Grove, Savile Town, Dewsbury.

Remembered with Honour
Tyne Cot Memorial





Commemorated in perpetuity by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission