

Seth was born in Thornhill in January 1891 and baptised in Holy Innocents Church, Thornhill Lees on 20th February 1891. His father was Thomas Walker, a glass bottle founder born in 1852 and died in 1910. His mother was Elizabeth (née Shaw) born in 1855 and died in 1931. They were married in Holy Innocents Church on 9th June 1878.

Their other children were; Emma Mary, born in 1878, Richard, born in 1879 and died in 1880, John Edward, born in 1881 and died in 1882, Louisa, born in 1883, Dick, born in 1885, Robert, born in 1888, Emma, born in 1892 and died in 1893 and Lily, born in 1893.

On the 1881 Census the family lived at 41 Berry Square, Thornhill Lees, in 1891 at Thomas Street, Thornhill Lees, in 1901 67, Lees Hall Road, Thornhill Lees and in 1911 at 15, Queen Street, Thornhill Lees.

Seth was a single man who in 1911 worked as a labourer in a chemical works. Prior to enlistment he was employed by the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Company at Thornhill Station in the goods tranship department.

He enlisted in Dewsbury serving as Private 17828 in "C" Company of the 7th Battalion King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry and went out to France in September 1915 where he was gassed and wounded during the Battle of Loos. Records state that he died of wounds sustained during the Battle of the Somme on 24th August 1916. His grave must have been lost or destroyed in later battles and so he is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial to the missing of the Somme. Seth was awarded the 1914-15 Star, the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

The Thiepval Memorial, the Memorial to the Missing of the Somme, bears the names of the officers and men of the United Kingdom and South African forces who died in the Somme sector before 20th March 1918 and have no known grave. Over 90% of those commemorated died between July and November 1916.

Seth 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 in Holy Innocents Church, Thornhill Lees.



