

# LEGERTON Charles Walter



Private : Machine Gun Corps (Infantry) : 21st Company.

Age: 34 Died of wounds: 02/04/1917

Formerly 30902, Essex. Regiment.

Service No: 55778

Additional information: Charles Walter was born at Salcott, , Essex on 10 April 1882, son of Charles George, a farm bailiff, and Keturah Legerton, of Tolleshunt D'Arcy, Essex. He married Dorothy Beatrice Clara Alston (daughter of the late Henry Alston who had been a labourer), age 20, on 29 April 1906 at St. Mary's Parish Church, Salcott, Essex . He was then a labourer residing at Tolleshunt D'Arcy and she resided at Salcott . Their daughter was Elsie Maud Alston, born in 1907. He was a postman upon entering military service .

The 21st Machine Gun Company was formed within the 30th Division , on 1-8 March 1916. He died during the German Retreat to the Hindenburg Line, 14 March to 5 April 1917. The devastating nature of the British offensive of Battle of the Somme had caused a serious re-assessment of strategy by the German high command. While the Somme fighting continued and operations on the Ancre went on through the winter, the German army created a formidable new line some miles to the rear and executed a withdrawal to it in March 1917, just in time to upset Allied plans for a new offensive. As British patrols detected that the enemy front line on the Somme had been evacuated, the German withdrawal was pursued. On reaching the new enemy position, they encountered not a trench system, but a veritable fortress: they called it the Hindenburg Line.



1914-1920 War Medal; 1914-1919 Victory Medal

NAME.		Corps.	Rank.	Regtl. No.
LEGERTON		M.G.C	Plt	55778
Charles. W				
Medal.	Roll.	Page.	Remarks.	
VICTORY	M.G.C. 101 537	3313	Dead	
BRITISH	- do -	do		
STAR				
Theatre of War first served in				
Date of entry therein				
K. 1380				



Casualty Type: Commonwealth War  
Dead Grave: VI. G. 5. Cemetery:  
WARLINCOURT HALTE BRITISH  
CEMETERY, SAULTY

The site of the cemetery was chosen in May 1916. It was used from June 1916 to May 1917 by the 20th and 43rd Casualty Clearing Stations, in February 1917 by the 1/1st South Midland, and from April to June 1917 by the 32nd. The whole of plots VII, VIII, IX and X were filled in April and May 1917, the months of the Battles of Arras. From June 1917, the cemetery was practically unused until the fighting of May and June 1918, when field ambulances buried in it. After the Armistice the

cemetery was increased by graves brought in from the small military cemeteries at Gaudiempres, La Herliere and Couturelle. The cemetery now contains 1,266 Commonwealth burials of the First World War. There are also 29 German and two French war graves. The cemetery was designed by Charles Holden. No. of Identified Casualties: 1286



Saint Mary's Salcott cum Virley