

## SEABROOK Edmund Herbert



SEABROOK, EDMUND HERBERT

: Lance Corporal Essex Yeomanry

Age: 29

Date of Death: 13/05/1915

Service No: 1307

Additional information: Edmund Herbert Seabrook (Ted) was Frank's first cousin, born Dec 29th 1885. According to the BMD register his birth was registered in Braintree district during the first quarter of 1886. His parents were Frederick Seabrook and Elizabeth (nee Price) and they were married at Clare in Suffolk, so presumably that is where she came from. At the 1881 census Frederick was living at Grange Farm, Coggeshall, at the 1891 census the family were still there including Edmund aged 5. Fred and Lizzie were still there when Fred died aged 80 in the 1920s and appear to have had no other children. Certainly Ted is referred to by his great grandmother as the only son. A birthday book belonging to his grandmother Elizabeth Ann Seabrook, gives some of information on both his & his cousin Frank's fate.. As she was the mother of Frank and aunt of Ted, it is assumed her notes are correct. According to her, both men were in the Essex Yeomanry. They signed up together, in early August 1914 and did some training in Suffolk They died together on 13th May 1915 and were buried together near Ypres at a place called Thonge? near a pile of red bricks that was a house.

*" 1/5/15 As above. Then marched back to billets at 6.30pm. Horse bandoliers issued to all mounted man carrying rifles.*

*2/5/15 As above. Church parade at 10am. Marched back to billets at 6.30pm.*

*3/5/15 and 4/5/15 Exercise in morning. At 4pm received orders to Rendevous. Left Brigade Rendevous at 6.45pm. Marched to about 1.5 miles SW of Vlamertinghe there leaving horses and all the transport, and 1 man to 4 horses, marched at 11.30pm to about 1mile W of Ypres arriving there about 2am. Very wet all night. The Brigade stayed in a field near the road. Marched back to horses at 5am and on to billets near Hooterque arriving there at 1.30pm.*

*Hooterque 5/5/15 Paraded at Brigade RV 4.15. 335 strong leaving remainder and all transport in billets. Capt Proby took charge of the limbers (one from EY) containing entrenching tools. Marched via Poperinghe and Vlamertinghe to about 0.25 mile W of Brielen. Horses left there in field with 1 man to 2 horses in charge of Maj Buxton. Remainder (about 160) marched across Yser canal by pontoon bridge to dig trenches 9pm-1am both trench digging party and horses under shell fire. No casualties started back with horses about 3am.*

*6/5/15 Regiment arrived back at Hooterque billets 6am. 7/5/15 4pm Regiment paraded with Brigade and marched back to former billets at Le Croquet arriving about 9pm. Pte Reave J N discharged on receiving commission. 16 OR's and horses for MG Section.*

*Le Croquet 8/5/15 Standing by under 3 hours notice last draft sent to Sqns.*

9/5/15 Warning reduced to 1hr 40mins. Regiment ordered to embus at Sercus 10am. 88 per Sqn plus MG Section and HQ abot 300. Southend, Dunmow and Tiptree troops sent back from Sercus owing to lack of bus accommodation. Capt Proby left in charge at Le Croquet. 1 limber from each Squadron 1 from HQ, pack of horses under Lieut Wedd went up to Vlamertinghe. Regiment proceeded to huts and dugouts at Brielen.

Brielen 10/5/15 Rested during day. Night dug trenches by Yperlee Canal.

11/5/15 Rested. Draft of 12 horses arrived to B echelon.

12/5/15 Southend Dunmow and Tiptree troops and a few OR's total 68 joined regiment under 2nd/Lt Holt. Regiment rested by day and at night proceeded on foot to dig connected trenches North of Hooge.

13/5/15 Retired from digging the GHQ line of trenches E of Potijze strength of Regiment in trenches 302 all ranks including 17 officers. Very heavily shelled from dawn to 6am. Part of 7th Brigade holding advanced trenches shelled out during morning 8th Brigade ordered to make a counter attack and retake them. Started 2.15pm. 10th Hussars on left EY centre Blues on right. EY and 10th doubled all the way to enemy trenches about 1000 yards distant. Germans retired before Brigade reached trenches. Regiment could not get into touch with Blues on right. Germans bombarded retaken trench until dark. 10th and EY less B Sqn retired to line of dugouts in front of GHQ line about 6pm thence to GHQ lines after dark. Capt R Brise and Lt Thompson with about 10 men held advanced position by ruined houses lying in shell holes till after dark. They kept back the German infantry the whole afternoon retiring after dark to rejoin rest of Regiment. Regiment held GHQ trenches during night in conjunction with company of Durham Light Infantry. Remainder of A echelon went up from Le Croquet to join Lieut Wedd's command.

14/5/15 Occupied GHQ trenches until relieved at 9pm by 2nd Cav Div to A Huts S of Vlamertinghe arriving about 11.30pm. Casualties May 13th/14th Killed Wounded Wounded & Missing Missing Officers 4 5 1 - Men 29 95 15 11 Total 33 100 16 11"



1914 -1915 Star, 1914-20 War Medal & 1914-1919 Victory Medal

Name	Grade	Rank	Regt. No.
SEABROOK E.H.	Company Sgt	Pte	1307
Service	CC/10481	40	Regt. A
1914-1915	Company Sgt	Pte	
Theatre of War first served in	(1 France)		
Date of entry theatre	11 2 15		

He is recorded on the Tolleshunt D'Arcy Memorial at St. Nicholas Church.



Casualty Type: Commonwealth War Dead  
Grave/Memorial Reference: Panel 5. Memorial:  
YPRES (MENIN GATE) MEMORIAL

The Menin Gate is one of four memorials to the missing in Belgian Flanders which cover the area known as the Ypres Salient. Broadly speaking, the Salient stretched from Langemarck in the north to the northern edge in Ploegsteert Wood in the south, but it varied in area and shape throughout the war. The Salient was formed during the First Battle of Ypres in October and November 1914, when a small British Expeditionary Force succeeded in securing the town before the onset of winter, pushing the German forces back to the Passchendaele Ridge.

The Second Battle of Ypres began in April 1915 when the Germans released poison gas into the Allied lines north of Ypres. This was the first time gas had been used by either side and the violence of the attack forced an Allied withdrawal and a shortening of the line of defence. There was little more significant activity on this front until 1917, when in the Third Battle of Ypres an offensive was mounted by Commonwealth forces to divert German attention from a weakened French front further south. The initial attempt in June to dislodge the Germans from the Messines Ridge was a complete success, but the main assault north-eastward, which began at the end of July, quickly became a dogged struggle against determined opposition and the rapidly deteriorating weather. The campaign finally came to a close in November with the capture of Passchendaele. The German offensive of March 1918 met with some initial success, but was eventually checked and repulsed in a combined effort by the Allies in September. The battles of the Ypres Salient claimed many lives on both sides and it quickly became clear that the commemoration of members of the Commonwealth forces with no known grave would have to be divided between several different sites. The site of the Menin Gate was chosen because of the hundreds of thousands of men who passed through it on their way to the battlefields. It commemorates those of all Commonwealth nations (except New Zealand) who died in the Salient, in the case of United Kingdom casualties before 16 August 1917. Those United Kingdom and New Zealand servicemen who died after that date are named on the memorial at Tyne Cot, a site which marks the furthest point reached by Commonwealth forces in Belgium until nearly the end of the war. Other New Zealand casualties are commemorated on memorials at Buttes New British Cemetery and Messines Ridge British Cemetery. The YPRES (MENIN GATE) MEMORIAL now bears the names of more than 54,000 officers and men whose graves are not known. The memorial, designed by Sir Reginald Blomfield with sculpture by Sir William Reid-Dick, was unveiled by Lord Plumer in July 1927.



*TOLLESHUNT D'ARCY*