

Herts at War

(www.hertsatwar.co.uk)

<u>Name:</u>	Henry Walter Marchant
<u>Rank:</u>	Private
<u>Service Number:</u>	265531
<u>Date of Death:</u>	22nd March 1918
<u>Age:</u>	26
<u>Regiment/Service:</u>	Hertfordshire Regiment
<u>Award:</u>	Mons Star, British War and Victory medals
<u>Grave/Memorial Reference:</u>	Panel 89-90
<u>Cemetery/Memorial:</u>	POZIERES MEMORIAL, SOMME, FRANCE Hitchin War Memorial, St Mary's Church, Hitchin St Mary's Church Memorial Book, Hitchin (<i>not confirmed</i>) Hitchin Territorials Memorial, Hitchin
<u>UK Cemetery/Memorial:</u>	Holy Saviour Church War Memorial, Radcliffe Rd., Hitchin British Schools Museum, Hitchin Not on the Stevenage Memorial



Pre War:

Son of Mr. H. W. Marchant, of 52, Radcliffe Rd., Hitchin, Herts. He was born in Hitchin and at the beginning of the war was a railwayman whose home was in Hitchin. Henry married in 1916 to Ellen Daisy Marchant, of New Council Cottages, Walkern Rd., Stevenage, Herts. her parents lived at Venables Yard, Walkern Road, Stevenage.

At the time of his enlistment in Hertford Henry resided in Stevenage.

Wartime Service:

He was also a member of the Territorial Force and was sent to France shortly after the beginning of the war, having been given the Regimental Number 2585 (265531 according to C.W.G.C. records) and posted to No. 4 Company of the 1st Battalion. He fought at Arras, Ypres, on the Somme and elsewhere until he was killed at Cambrai. He was reported missing and was said to have been badly wounded and left in a trench later overrun by the enemy.

The Battalion took up positions north, east and south east of Villers Faucon in the Somme Sector to resist the thrust of the German offensive of the 21st March 1918. The Herts had moved forward to the retreating line of the 16th Division and were part of the 116th Brigade that was virtually destroyed that day.

He has no known grave, but is remembered on Panels 89-90 of the Pozieres Memorial to the Missing in France.

Additional Information:

Also living at 52, Radcliffe Rd, Hitchin was his grandfather Charles Marchant who was trained in ordnance and had served in the Royal Navy on H.M.S. 'Royal Albert', in the Crimean War at Inkerman, Balaklava and Alma and during the Boxer Riots in China and lived until 1926 when he was buried in Hitchin Cemetery aged 90 years.

Acknowledgments:

Adrian Dunne, David C Baines

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