



FARNDON DURING THE FIRST WORLD WAR

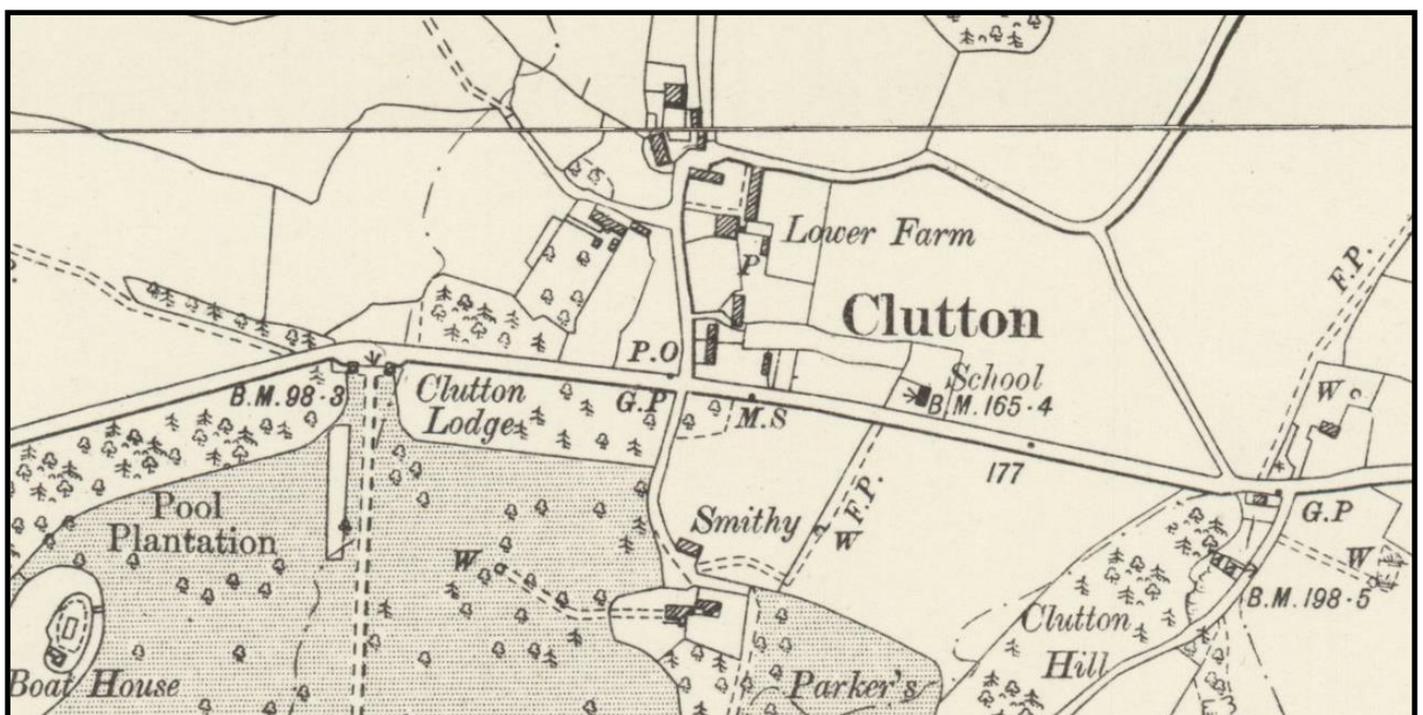
Remembering the Men of Farndon

Private 230798 THOMAS WILLIAM EDGE

**10th (Shropshire and Cheshire Yeomanry) Bn. King's Shropshire Light Infantry
Formerly 1197 Cheshire Yeomanry**

Killed in Action 22 August 1918 aged 22.

Thomas Edge was the son of William and Phyllis Edge of Clutton, Chester and lived in the local village Post Office. His father William, as well as earning his living as a farmer, was also the village post master, and his father before him also ran the shop while dealing in cattle on the side. Thomas, born in 1897, was the second of six sons, so William was certain of the family business passing onto the third generation. Eldest son John was already working in the shop in 1911 while Thomas was at school.



Administrative County		The undermentioned Houses are situate within the boundaries of the																	Page 20
Civil Parish		Ecclesiastical Parish					County Borough, Municipal Borough, or Urban District			Ward of Municipal Borough or of Urban District			Rural District		Parliamentary Borough or Division		Town or Village or Hamlet		
of Clutton		of Farnham (part)					of			of Tazewell			of Edisbury (Chesham)		of Clutton				
Col. 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18		
ROAD STREET & No. or NAME of HOUSE	HOUSES					Name and Surname of each Person	RELATION to Head of Family	Condition as to Marriage	Age last Birthday of	PROFESSION or OCCUPATION	Employer, Worker, or Own account	If Working at Home	WHERE BORN	(1) Deaf and Dumb (2) Blind (3) Lame (4) Imbecile, feeble-minded					
	Unimproved	Improved	Partially Improved	Partially Improved	Partially Improved										Males	Females			
152	1					William Edge	Head	M	52	Farm and pasture	own account		Chesham Clutton						
						Phyllis Edge	Wife	M	32				Burwood Clutton						
						John Edge	Son		9				Clutton						
						Thomas W. Edge	Son		4				Clutton						
						Edwin Edge	Son		5				Clutton						
						Wilfred Edge	Son		10 mo				Clutton						
						Thomas Tomlin	Serv		14	General Porter & Co. Genl. Porter	Wm		Clutton						
						May Jones	Serv		12	General Porter & Co. Genl. Porter	Wm		Clutton						
153	1					William Jackson	Head	Wid	52	Small Farm	own account		Chesham Clutton						
						Sydney G. Cross	Son & Leg	Pa	36	Widow's servant & farm leg. Wm	Wm		Clutton						
						Pray Edge	Daughter	Pa	38				Clutton						
						Thomas Edge	Son		3				Clutton						
						Frank Edge	Son		2				Clutton						
						Elizabeth Edge	Son		5 mo				Clutton						
						Martha Jackson	Wife		19				Clutton						
154	1					Samuel Gerard	Head	Pa	28	Farmer	employe		Clutton						
						Elizabeth Edge	Wife	Pa	24	School teacher			Clutton						
						Eva C. Edge	Son		1				Clutton						
						Martha Jones	Serv		5	Widow's servant	Wm		Clutton						
155	1					Ella Wilson	Head	Pa	42	Farmer	own account		Clutton						
						Ruth Edge	Wife	Pa	41				Clutton						
						Thomas Edge	Son		15				Clutton						
						William Edge	Son		15				Clutton						
						Sarah Jones	Serv		13				Clutton						
						Joseph Benson	Wife's son	M	76				Clutton						
						Ann Edge	Wife's son	M	73				Clutton						
4						Total of Males and of Females			14	12									

NOTE—Draw your pen through such words of the headings as are inapplicable.

Census 1901 and 1911

Number of Schedule **128**
 (To be filled up by the Enumerator after selection)

GENSUS OF ENGLAND AND WALES, 1911.

Before writing on this Schedule please read the Examples and the Instructions given on the other side of the paper, as well as the headings of the Columns. The entries should be written in Ink.

The contents of the Schedule will be treated as confidential. Strict care will be taken that no information is disclosed with regard to individual persons. The returns are not to be used for proof of age, as in connection with Old Age Pensions, or for any other purpose than the preparation of Statistical Tables.

NAME AND SURNAME	RELATIONSHIP to Head of Family	AGE (last Birthday) and SEX	PARTICULARS as to MARRIAGE.				PROFESSION or OCCUPATION of Persons aged ten years and upwards.				BIRTHPLACE of every person.	NATIONALITY of every Person born in a Foreign Country.	INFIRMITY.
			State, for each Married Woman entered on this Schedule, the number of—	Children born alive to present Marriage. (If no children born alive write "None" in Column 7.)	Children still living.	Children who have died.	Personal Occupation.	Industry or Service with which worker is connected.	Whether Employer, Worker, or Working on Own Account.	Whether Working at Home.			
1. William Edge	Head	52	Married	7	7	0	0	Sub Postmaster & Grocer	320	own account	Chesham Clutton	English	
2. Phyllis Edge	Wife	42		21	7	0	1				Burwood Clutton	English	
3. John Edge	Son	19	Single					School	220	at home	Clutton	English	
4. Thomas William Edge		14						School	240				
5. Edwin Edge		12											
6. Wilfred Edge		10											
7. Stanley Edge		7											
8. Frank Edge		6											
9.													
10.													
11.													
12.													
13.													
14.													
15.													

(To be filled up by the Enumerator.)

I certify that—

(1) All the ages on this Schedule are entered in the proper sex columns.

(2) I have counted the males and females in Columns 3 and 4 separately, and have compared these sums with the total number of persons.

(3) After making the necessary enquiries I have completed all entries on this Schedule which appeared to be defective, and have corrected such as appeared to be erroneous.

Initials of Enumerator: *W.E.*

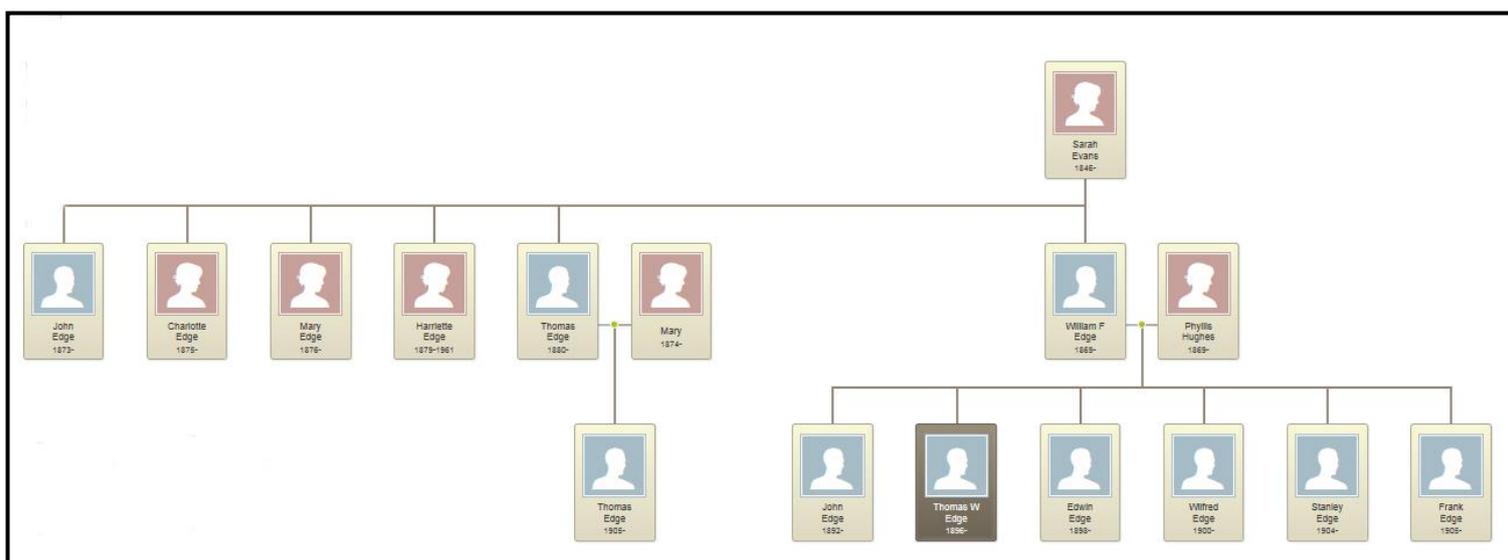
(To be filled up by, or on behalf of, the Head of Family or other person in occupation, or in charge, of this dwelling.)

I declare that this Schedule is correctly filled up to the best of my knowledge and belief.

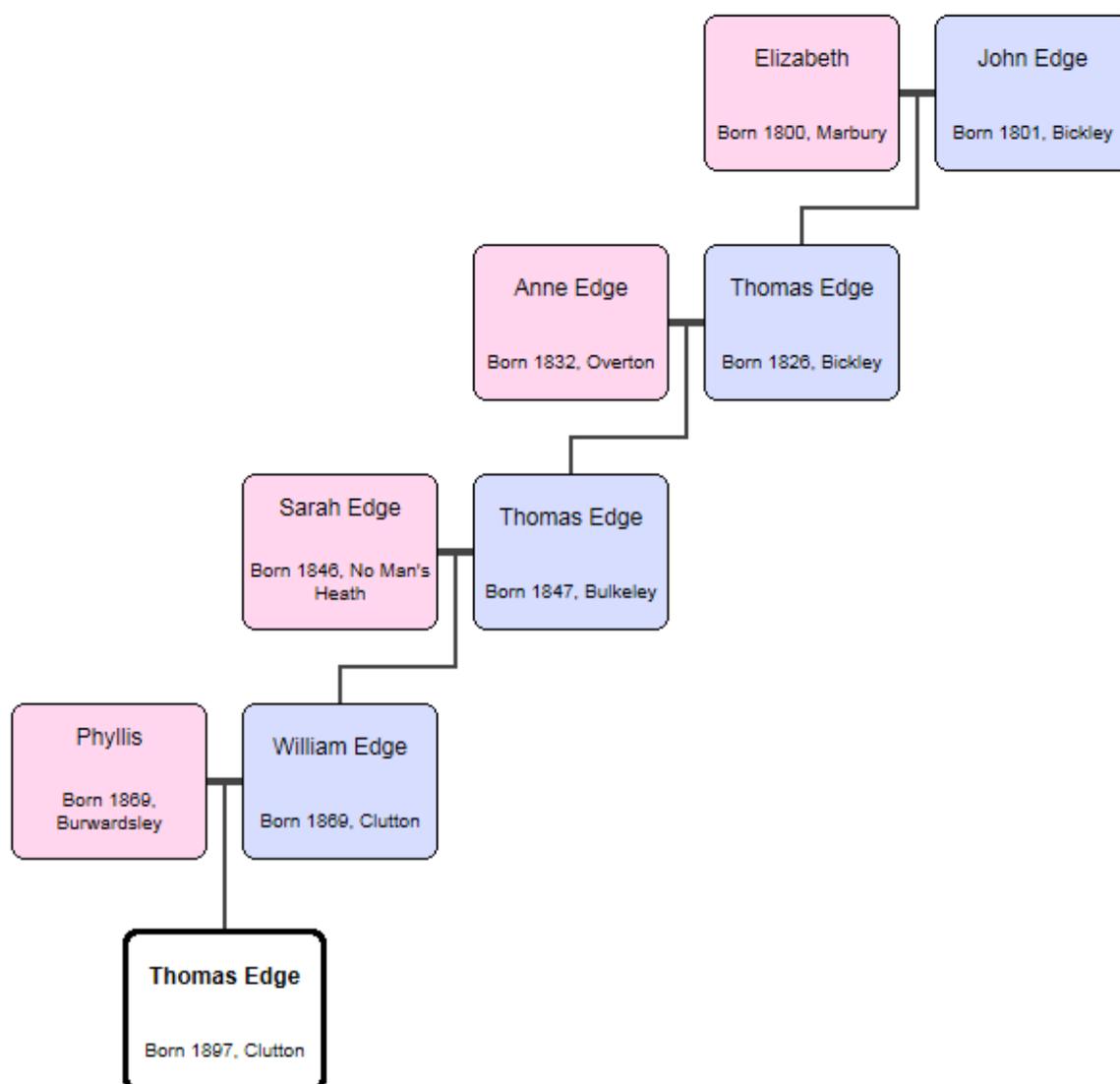
Signature: *William Edge*

Postal Address: *Clutton*

Total. Males: 7, Females: 1, Persons: 8. 2



Sarah Evans above, was married to Thomas Edge (born 1848 in Bickley, Cheshire), a shopkeeper and cattle dealer of Clutton. His parents were John and Elizabeth Edge.



When the war broke out in August 1914, Thomas was seventeen and still under age. He could volunteer at eighteen, but could not go to fight abroad until he was nineteen. This may have been the regulations, but it is well known how often this was flouted. However, Thomas' war record has not survived, so it is impossible to know the exact date when he signed up. However, he joined the Cheshire Yeomanry and his service number of 1197 would suggest this was sometime before 1916, showing he was an early volunteer and not a conscript.

During the early stages of the war, the 1st Cheshire Yeomanry remained in Chester, serving as part of the Welsh Border Mounted Brigade in the mounted division. In November that year they converted to a dismounted unit. They were then sent to Norfolk for training and were in Lowestoft when they received orders to embark for Egypt on the transport ship *Haverford* on 3 March 1916. The journey took twelve days and they eventually disembarked in Alexandria on 15 March, becoming part of the 4th Dismounted Brigade at the Beni Salama Camp. On 18 April 1916, the Cheshire Yeomanry entrained at Wardar and moved to Minia Lower Camp, and towards the end of May two officers and thirty-five other ranks were posted to join the 6th Imperial Camel Corps.

The following year the 1st Cheshire Yeomanry merged with the 1/1st Shropshire Yeomanry to form the 10th Shropshire and Cheshire Yeomanry Battalion. The regiment moved to Palestine in 1917, this time as a half battalion of the 10th King's Shropshire Light Infantry and saw fierce fighting against the Turks in battles for Jerusalem, Jericho and Tel Azur. Commander of No.2 Company, Captain Hugh Aldersey, was killed in action during this last battle. He would certainly have been known to Thomas Edge as he was the local squire of Aldersey, the neighbouring village to Clutton, who also appears on the Coddington War Memorial along with Thomas.

**The Cheshires in
Gaza 1917**

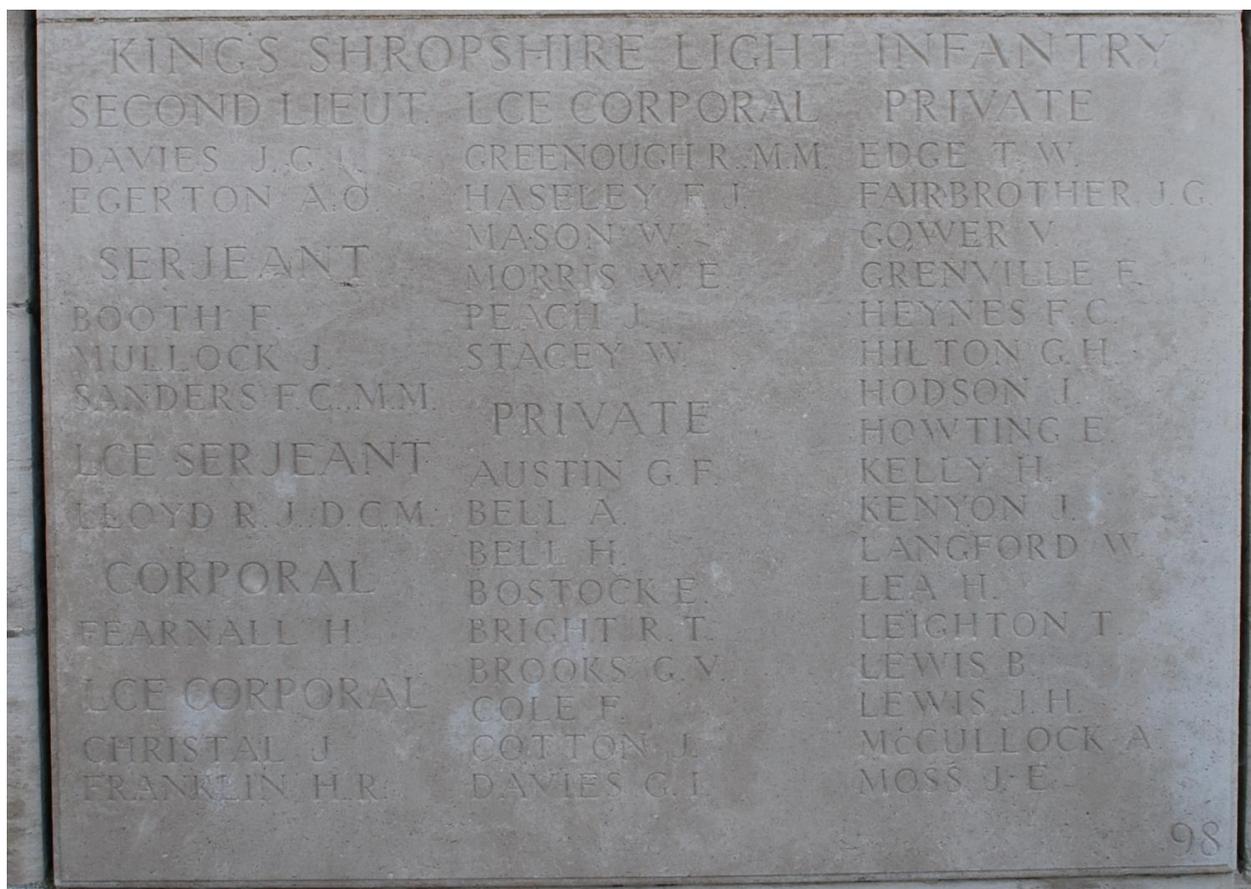


In April 1918, the battalion embarked for France, landing in Marseilles in May where they entrained for the north. After training, the Division took over a sector of the front line near Merville on the 14 July. This was followed by action in The Second Battles of the Somme, The Battles of the Hindenburg Line and The Final Advance in Artois and Flanders, suffering heavy casualties. Thomas Edge was killed in action aged twenty-two in the battle around Loos on 22 August 1918. His body was never found.

At the Armistice the battalion moved to Frasnes-les-Buissenal where they were engaged in repairing the Tournai-Leuze railway. The battalion was disbanded in June 1919 and the Cheshire Yeomanry was reconstituted as a cavalry regiment in March 1920.

Thomas is remembered on the Loos Memorial panels surrounding Dud Corner Cemetery. The Memorial commemorates over 20,000 officers and men who have no known grave, who fell in the area from the River Lys to the old southern boundary of the First Army, east and west of Grenay. Loos-en-Gohelle is a village 5 kilometres north-west of Lens, and Dud Corner Cemetery is located about 1 kilometre west of the village, to the north-east of the N43 the main Lens to Bethune road.

Dud Corner Cemetery stands almost on the site of a German strong point, the Lens Road Redoubt, captured by the 15th (Scottish) Division on the first day of the battle. The name "Dud Corner" is believed to be due to the large number of unexploded enemy shells found in the neighbourhood after the Armistice. On either side of the cemetery is a wall 15 feet high, to which are fixed tablets on which are carved the names of those commemorated. At the back are four small circular courts, open to the sky, in which the lines of tablets are continued, and between these courts are three semicircular walls or apses, two of which carry tablets, while on the centre apse is erected the Cross of Sacrifice.



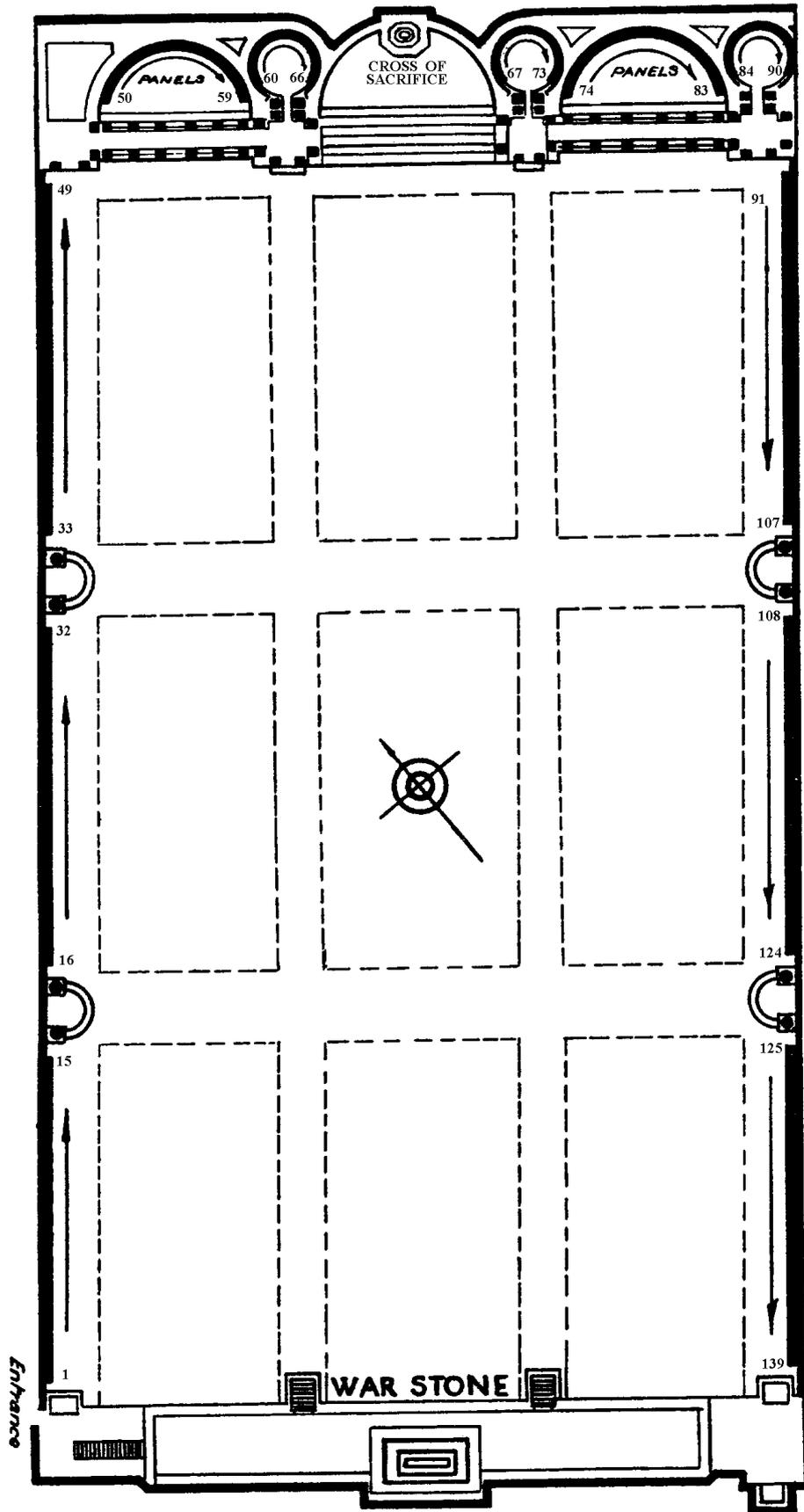
Thomas is recorded on one of the panels dedicated to the K.S.L.I. (top right)



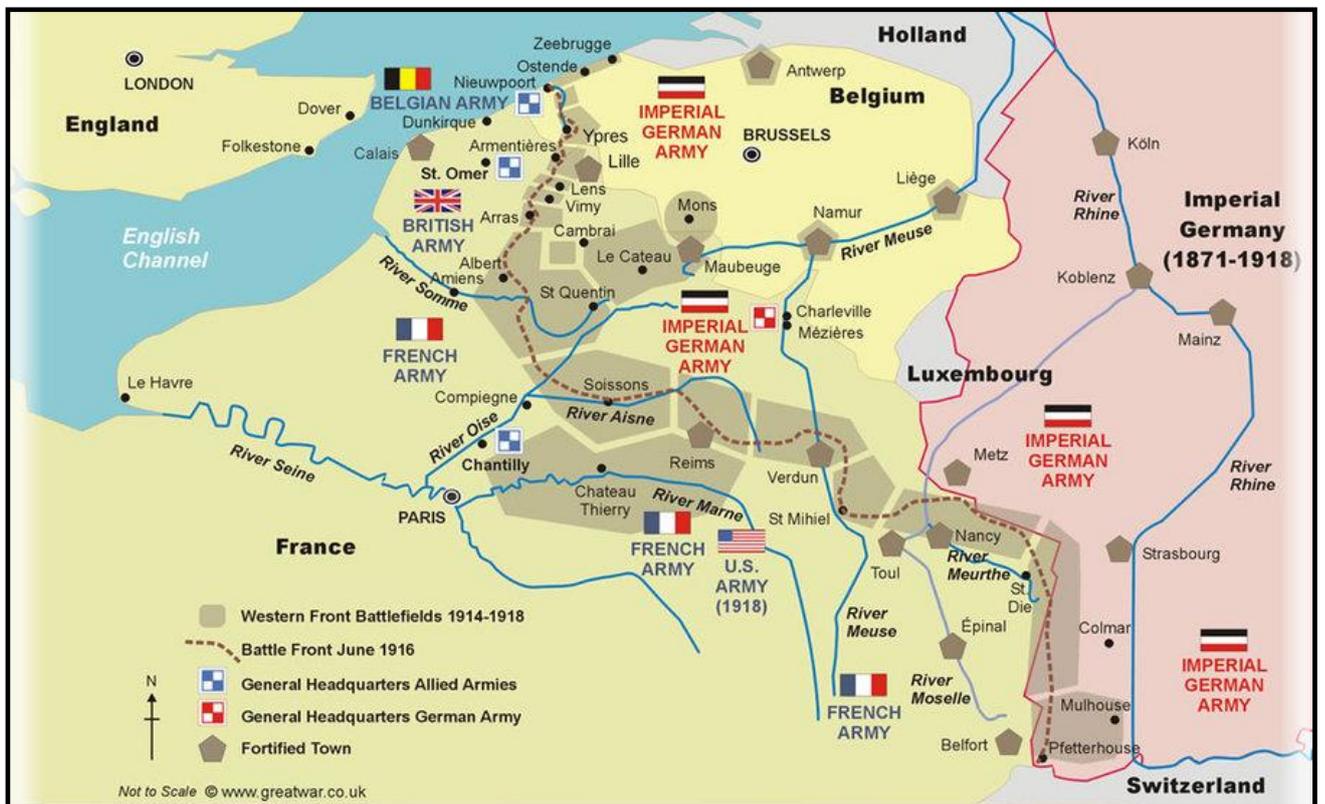
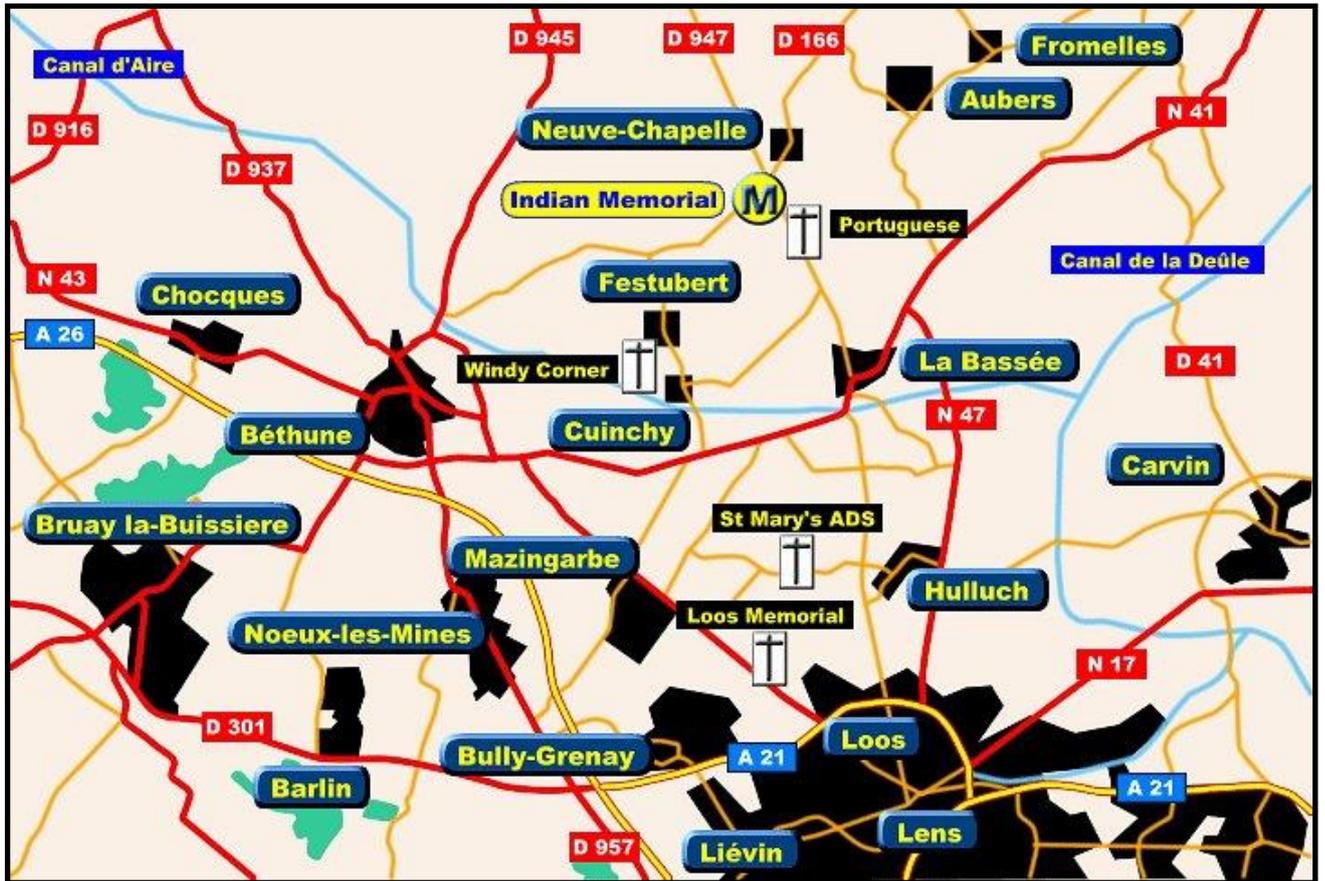
Thomas is commemorated on a panel to the top right of the photograph



MEMORIAL



LAYOUT OF THE PANELS, LOOS MEMORIAL



Name.	Corps.	Rank.	Regtl. No.
EDGE E.	6 th Res. Coy. H. S. L. I.	Pvt.	1197. 230498.
Thomas. W.			
Medal.	Roll.	Page.	Remarks.
VICTORY	5/11/102.	B. 17	5598.
BARRAGE	— " —	— " —	
STAR			
Theatre of War first served in			
Date of entry therein			

K. 1380

Thomas Edge's Medal Card



Researched and written

by

Mike Royden