

SMITH ARTHUR



Private: Essex Regiment 9th Battalion.35th Brigade, 12th (Eastern) Division.

Age: 19

Died of Wounds Date of Death: 08/07/1917

Service No: 19962

9th (Service) Battalion was formed at Warley, August 1914, as part of K1. August 1914: attached to 35th Brigade, 12th (Eastern) Division.

This was one of the first New Army divisions to be formed, as part of K1. It was assembled around Colchester (with the divisional artillery at Shorncliffe) from late August 1914. Divisional training was completed near Aldershot from February 1915, and the Division moved to France on 29 May - 4 June 1915. The Division served with distinction on the Western Front throughout the war. However, his Division was not involved in a major action at the time of his death.

He was born in the Isle of Grain in Kent. Son of Mrs. W. Smith, of 49, Old Heath, Colchester. He lived in Fingringhoe & enlisted at Colchester



Entitled to British War and Allied Victory Medals, National Archives file ref: WO329/1377



Casualty Type: Commonwealth War Dead

Grave/Memorial Reference: IV. O. 17.

Cemetery: DUISANS BRITISH CEMETERY, ETRUN



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The area around Duisans was occupied by Commonwealth forces from March 1916, but it was not until February 1917 that the site of this cemetery was selected for the 8th Casualty Clearing Station. The first burials took place in March and from the beginning of April the cemetery grew very quickly, with burials being made from the 8th Casualty Clearing Station (until April 1918), the 19th (until March 1918), and the 41st (until July 1917). Most of the graves relate to the Battles of Arras in 1917, and the trench warfare that followed. From May to August 1918, the cemetery was used by divisions and smaller fighting units for burials from the front line. In the Autumn of 1918 the 23rd, 1st Canadian and 4th Canadian Clearing Stations remained at Duisans for two months, and the 7th was there from November 1918 to November 1920. There are now 3,205 Commonwealth servicemen of the First World War buried or commemorated at Duisans British Cemetery. There are also 88 German war graves. The cemetery was designed by Sir Reginald Blomfield.

OTHER MEMORIALS Saint Andrew's Fingringhoe & the Methodist Chapel Fingringhoe



