

Private Arthur Watts

16187 7th (S Irish Horse) Battalion Royal Irish Regiment



Arthur was born in 1898, one of nine children of Edward and Elizabeth Watts of Battens Avenue, Overton. His father was a railway worker. In 1915, his elder brother Albert had been killed by poison gas and another brother, Edward, had been severely wounded in the Dardanelles campaign. His father died 14th Nov 1917, aged 55.

Arthur was killed at St Quentin on 21st March 1918.

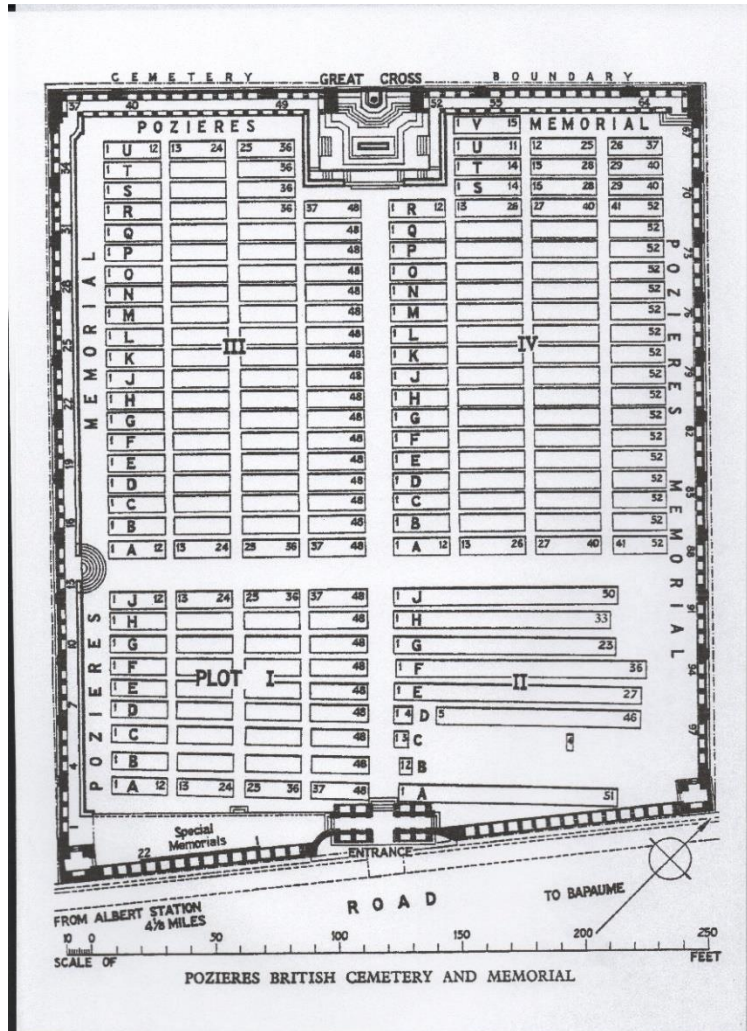
The day dawned with thick mist over the front lines around St Quentin. As it cleared, the Germans directed a massive artillery barrage against the British command posts and supply lines behind the trenches. British defences in this sector were weak and lacking in depth. When the infantry attack came they were rapidly overwhelmed. Though they did not know it, this was the first day of the long prepared German 'Spring Offensive' starting with the Battle of St Quentin. It took them to within 30 miles of Paris before they were stopped.

<http://www.1914-1918.net/bat22-1.html>

Arthur Watts is commemorated on the Pozieres Memorial, panel 31, a few miles to the north west of the town.



Arthur Watts



Arthur Watts was awarded the Victory and British medals.

Name.	Corps.	Rank.	Regtl. No.
WATTS	R. I.R. Regt.	Pt.	16187
Arthur.			
Medal.	Roll.	Page.	Remarks.
VICTORY	A 101 B 14	2219	
BRITISH	do	do	
STAR			
Theatre of War first served in			
Date of entry therein			

K. 1380

19/05/2017