

**Melcombe Regis Cemetery,
Weymouth, Dorset, England**

War Graves



Lest We Forget

World War 1



1987 PRIVATE

R. L. PEEK

21ST BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

23RD DECEMBER, 1917 Age 23

He Who Died Will Be Always

A Sweet And Sacred Memory

Our Dear Anzac

Richard Leslie PEEK

Richard Leslie Peek was born at Richmond, Victoria in 1895 to parents Richard & Eliza Peek (nee Sleeman)

(Note: Place of birth was listed as South Yarra on information provided by his mother for the Roll of Honour. No record of his birth could be found on Victorian Births, Deaths & Marriages website under the name of "Peek" but there is a listing under the name of "Peck". The birth for "*Richard Leslie Peck*" was registered in South Yarra. Electoral Rolls from 1906 to 1917 show his parents listed & the family name is Peek.)

Richard Leslie Peek attended Brighton State School, Victoria.

Richard Leslie Peek was a 20 year old, single, Farm Labourer from 9 Webb Street, Middle Brighton, Victoria when he enlisted on 21st June, 1915 in Melbourne, Victoria with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His religion was Church of England & his next of kin was listed as his mother – Mrs E. Peek, of 9 Webb Street, Middle Brighton, Victoria. Richard Peek stated on his Attestation Papers that he had served 1 year with Senior Cadets & had previously been rejected as unfit for His Majesty's Service due to a strained Heart. He also stated he had been an apprentice for 3 years with Royle & Thurgood, St. Kilda.

Private Richard Leslie Peek was posted to Depot on 23rd June, 1915 for recruit training. He was transferred to 3rd Reinforcements of 21st Battalion on 30th June, 1915.

Private Richard Leslie Peek, Service number 1987, embarked from Melbourne, Victoria on HMAT *Anchises (A68)* on 26th August, 1915 with the 6th Infantry Brigade, 21st Infantry Battalion, 3rd Reinforcements.

Private Richard Leslie Peek was taken on strength of 21st Battalion at Anzac on 12th October, 1915. He disembarked at Alexandria on 1st January, 1916 (?) (after the evacuation of Gallipoli).

Private Richard Leslie Peek proceeded from Alexandria on 19th March, 1916 to join B.E.F. (British Expeditionary Force). He disembarked at Marseilles, France on 26th March, 1916.

Private Richard Leslie Peek was absent from Tattoo Roll Call on 3rd April, 1916 & was awarded 14 days Field Punishment No. 2 from 4th April, 1916.

Private Richard Leslie Peek was wounded in France on 26th August, 1916. He was admitted to 4th Australian Field Ambulance on 26th August, 1916 with G.S.W. (gunshot wounds) to both Legs. Private Peek was transferred & admitted to 9th General Hospital at Rouen, France on 28th August, 1916 with G.S.W Legs. He embarked from Havre, France on 3rd September, 1916 on Hospital Ship *Maheno*.

21st Battalion

The 21st Battalion was raised, as part of the 6th Brigade, at Broadmeadows in Victoria in February 1915. Its recruits hailed from all over the state. The later enlistment of these men, and their average age of 29, would seem to indicate a more considered decision to enlist that set them apart from those who did so amidst the heady enthusiasm of late 1914.

The 21st Battalion arrived in Egypt in June 1915. As part of the newly raised 2nd Australian Division, it proceeded to Gallipoli in late August. It was an eventful trip, the battalion's transport was torpedoed near the island of Lemnos and had to be abandoned. The battalion finally landed at ANZAC Cove on 7 September. It had a relatively quiet time at Gallipoli, as the last major Allied offensives had been defeated in August.

After evacuation from Gallipoli in December 1915, the 21st Battalion arrived in France in March 1916. In April, it was the first Australian battalion to commence active operations on the Western Front. During the battle of Pozieres it was engaged mainly on carrying duties, but suffered its heaviest casualties of the war during the fighting around Mouquet Farm.....

(Extract of Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)

War Diary – 21st Battalion

QUARRY – 26th August, 1916:

1 am – “D” Company moved from SAUSAGE VALLEY to QUARRY and “A” Company from TOM’S CUT to QUARRY.

4.45 am – Enemy position 54, 77, 27 attacked with “A” & “B” Companies plus 2 platoons “C” and “D” together with carrying parties. Left flank being protected by one Company 90 strong 22nd Battalion

QUARRY

Attack was successful at point 77. Points 27 and 54 however proved to be very strong in men and machine guns. Reinforcements despatched to both these points and fresh efforts made to carry them by bombing but without success. Some of the Company operating on right flank appeared to go beyond their objective and in falling back suffered heavily. A further attempt on point 54 was made at 12.15 pm after heavy artillery had operated. Owing to artillery not successfully finding the range this attempt was again frustrated by enemy machine gun fire. An enemy trench mortar was captured & destroyed.

On relief of this Unit during night 26”/27” position a point 77 and to the Eastward handed over to 14th Battalion.

Casualties during period 22nd/26th August

	<i>Killed</i>	<i>Wounded</i>	<i>Missing</i>
<i>Officers</i>	3 (named)	7 (named)	3 (named)
<i>Other Ranks</i>	34	213	131

(Extract of War Diary from the Australian War Memorial)

Private Richard Leslie Peek was admitted to 2nd Birmingham War Hospital, Northfields, England on 4th September, 1916. The Hospital Admissions form recorded “G.S.W. Both Legs with fracture of left Fibula.” “F.B. removed from Rt Leg. Wound healing.” (F.B. = foreign body).

A change of address of the next of kin of Private R. L. Peek was advised by Eliza Peek on 11th September, 1916. Her old address listed as 9 Wells St, Middle Brighton & her new address was listed as 20 Lawrence St, Middle Brighton.

Base Records advised Mrs E. Peek, 20 Lawrence St, Middle Brighton, Victoria, mother of Private Richard Leslie Peek, on 24th September, 1916 that No. 1987 Private R. L. Peek has been reported wounded. She was advised on 26th September, 1916 that No. 1987 Private R. L. Peek had been admitted to 2nd Birmingham War Hospital on 4th September, 1916 suffering from gunshot wound to legs (mild).

Private Richard Leslie Peek was transferred & admitted to 3rd Auxiliary Hospital, Dartford on 7th May, 1917 from 2nd Birmingham War Hospital. He was discharged to furlo on 15th June, 1917 & was to report to Weymouth on 29th June, 1917.

Private Richard Leslie Peek was marched in to No. 2 Command Depot at Weymouth, Dorset on 29th June, 1917.

Private Richard Leslie Peek reported sick on 21st July, 1917 to Reception Hospital at Portland from No. 2 Command Depot at Weymouth. He was discharged to duty on 8th August, 1917 having recovered from Measles & was marched in to No. 2 Command Depot, Weymouth.

Private Richard Leslie Peek was A.W.L. (Absent without Leave) from No. 2 Command Depot at Weymouth in 25th October, 1917. He returned from A.W.L. on 26th October, 1917.

Private Richard Leslie Peek was written up for a Crime on 25th October, 1917 at Birmingham – AWL (Absent without Leave) from 3 pm on 25th October, 1917 till apprehended by Military Police at 12.15 pm on 26th October, 1917. He was awarded 7 days Field Punishment No.2 & was awaiting trial for 3 days. He forfeited a total of 12 days pay.

A Medical Report on an Invalid was completed on Private Richard Leslie Peek on 11th December, 1917 at No. 1 Group Monte Video Camo, No. 2 Australian Command Depot, Weymouth. His disability was listed as "G.S.W. Both Legs" which had occurred at Pozieres, France on 25th August, 1916. An operation had been performed on 3 occasions to extract foreign bodies. The Medical Board decided on 14th December, 1917 that Private Peek was temporarily unfit for all services for 6 months.

Private Richard Leslie Peek died at 6.50 am on 23rd December, 1917 at Borough Isolation Hospital, Weymouth, Dorset, England. A Post Mortem examination was completed & the results were that Private Peek died from Cholecystitis (inflammation of Gallbladder), Septic Cholangitis & Cholaemia.

A death for Richard L. Peck, aged 22, was registered in the December quarter, 1917 in the district of Weymouth, Dorset, England.

Private Richard Leslie Peek was buried on 27th December, 1917 in Melcombe Regis Cemetery, Weymouth, Dorset, England – Grave Number 3125 Section C.

From the burial report of Private Richard Leslie Peek - Coffin was Elm and brass fittings. The Funeral was conducted by Rev: W. Tait Strahan, C.F., Westham, Camp, Weymouth (C. of E.). The Rev Strahan wrote: *"I have written to Pte Peek's mother giving her full particulars concerning her Son's death."*

Private Richard Leslie Peek's burial place is now recorded by CWGC as Plot number II. C. 3125 and he has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

The Red Cross Wounded & Missing file for Private Richard Leslie Peek which contains a request from his brother A. S. Peek asking for particulars of his death & date & where he was buried.

- The Officer Commanding, 2nd Birmingham War Hospital, Northfield wrote the following letter on 19th October, 1916: *"...No. 1987 Pte Peek 21st A.I.F. was admitted into this hospital with wounds in both legs. His wounds have nearly healed, but he is still in bed. He is progressing satisfactorily."*
- The Secretary, Red Cross wrote the following letter on 18th January, 1918 to 903 L.Cpl A. S. Peek, 8th Light Trench Mortar Battery, Australian Imperial Force: *"In answer to your request for details concerning the death of No 1987 RICHARD LESLIE PEEK, 21st Bttn, A.I.F. We have received information that he died of cholecystitis and cholaemia on 23.12.17, at the Borough Isolation Hospital, Weymouth. We have no report of the burial yet, but are making further enquiries, and will send you any details which may come to hand. With our sincere sympathy in your loss."*
- The Matron, Borough Isolation Hospital, Weymouth wrote the following letter on 19th January, 1918: *"I regret that I am unable to give you much information respecting the death of No. 1987 R. L. Peek. He was admitted into this hospital on Dec. 22nd about 5.30pm as a case of cerebro spinal meningitis. When admitted he was unconscious, but the medical men considered it wise to lumbar puncture him and he was given a little chloroform and done that same day. He was very very ill and died at 6 pm on the morning of the 23rd, never having regained consciousness. Will you write to the Mil. Hospital Weymouth? They I think will be able to give you particulars about the funeral. I am sorry that I cannot tell you more, but he was quite unconscious the short time he was with us, and knew nothing."*

A War Pension was granted to Elsie Peek, 20 Lawrence St., Middle Brighton, in the sum of 25/- per fortnight from 1st March, 1918.

A request was made by Mrs Peek, 20 Lawrence St, Middle Brighton, at the Base Records Enquiry Office on 16th May, 1918 for a Certificate of Death for No. 1987 Private R. L. Peek.

Base Records sent Mrs Peek a Certificate of report of death of her son, the late No. 1987 Private R. L. Peek, 21st Battalion on 21st May, 1918.

Base Records contacted Mrs E. Peek, 20 Lawrence St, Middle Brighton, Victoria on 25th October, 1920 stating she was noted as the registered next-of-kin of the late No. 1987 Private R. L. Peek, 21st Battalion but desired to know if there were any nearer blood relatives than herself & she was specifically asked if his father was still alive due to the "Deceased Soldiers Estates Act 1918" which stated that the War Medals & Mementoes of a deceased soldier were to be handed in the following order of relationship – Widow, eldest surviving son, eldest surviving daughter, father, mother, eldest surviving brother, eldest surviving sister etc.

A notice was placed in the Press on 3rd December, 1920 regarding the address of the next of kin of the late Private Richard Leslie Peek.

Base Records wrote to Headquarters, 3rd Military District, on 14th January, 1921 with the following letter: "*On the 25th October last a communication was forwarded to Mrs E. Peek, 20 Lawrence Street, Middle Brighton, requesting her to advise me whether the father of the late No. 987 Private Richard Leslie PEEK, 21st Battalion, is still living, if so, to furnish me with his name and address. As no reply has so far been received I shall be obliged if you will endeavour to obtain the information required and advise me as soon as possible, as it is desired to dispose of the War Medals etc., issuable on account of the abovementioned late soldier's service.*"

The 3rd Military District passed on the above letter to Brigade Major, 10th Infantry Brigade for inquiry & report. The following information was found: "*Father Peek Richard Carrier New St, Gardenvale. Oldest Brother Peek Allan same address (at Gardenvale). Peek Mrs E. Embarked for England 3/9/20 on S.S. "Beltana".*"

Private Richard Leslie Peek was entitled to 1914/15 Star, British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Private Peek's father – Mr R. Peek, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent September, 1921 & Plaque sent October, 1922; returned & redirected in June, 1923).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Richard Leslie Peek– service number 1987, aged 23, of 21st Battalion, Australian Infantry. He was the son of Richard & Eliza Peek, of 322 New St., Gardenvale, Victoria.

Private R. L. Peek is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 94.



Roll of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

R. L. Peek is remembered on the Elsternwick State School Honour Roll for World War 1 (last known location – Elsternwick State School)

R. L. Peek is remembered on the Brighton Roll of Honour, located in Brighton Town Hall, Carpenter & Wilson Streets, Brighton, Victoria.



Brighton Roll of Honour (Photos from Monument Australia – Chris McLaughlin)



R. L. Peek is remembered on the City of Brighton Avenue of Honour Plaque located in Hurlingham Park, Nepean Highway, Brighton East, Victoria.



City of Brighton Avenue of Honour Plaque (Photo above from Monument Australia; below from VHD)

CITY OF BRIGHTON
 AVENUE OF HONOUR
 COMMEMORATION OF THE HEROIC SACRIFICE OF THE
 MEN OF BRIGHTON, 1914 - 1918 WAR

NOVAN A.	23rd. Batt.	Pte.	LEE W. S.	38th. Batt.	Pte.	PEEK R. L.	21st. Batt.
DOYLE F. B.	6th. Batt.	Pte.	LENNON W.	15th. Batt.	Pte.	PERMAN A. H.	6th. Fld. Amb.
WARDS S. G.	6th. Batt.	Capt.	LESLIE F. A.	15th. Batt.	Capt.	ROBERTS L.	39th. Batt.
LIOTT P. N.	39th. Batt.	Cpl.	MACE L. R.	24th. Batt.	Pte.	ROBINSON W. P. A.	23rd. Batt.
SE B. A.	15th. M.G. Coy.	Lieut.	MAXWELL W.	38th. Batt.	Lieut.	ROSS H.	8th. Batt.
NEGANT.	58th. Batt.	Lie-Cpl.	McCONNELL W. J.	57th. Batt.	Gnr.	RUSSELL R. N.	11th. M.G. Coy
CH W. A.	5th. Div. Sig. Coy.	Sgt.	McCONNELL W. J. N.	57th. Batt.	Pte.	SCOTT W. G.	24th. Batt.
TCHER D. J.	15th. M.G. Coy.	Sgt.	McKINLEY A. W.	60th. Batt.	Pte.	SPENCE N. O.	3rd. M.G. Coy
TT I. R.	23rd. Batt.	Pte.	MELBOURNE L.	28th. Batt.	Gnr.	SPENCE P. O.	4th. Fld. Art. Bde.
KES C. T.	6th. Army F.A.B.	Pte.	MILLER C.	22nd. Batt.	Capt.	STEPHEN K. T. M.C.	B.E. Forces
NELL G. J.	Pnr. Batt.	Lieut.	MITCHELL T.	59th. Batt.	Pte.	STEWART A. L.	24th. Batt.
EN M. N.	14th. Batt.	Capt.	MOORE F. L.	30th. Batt.	Bldr.	STOOKE G.	4th. Fld. Art. Bde.
LYN B. W.	58th. Batt.	Pte.	MOREY S. A.	59th. Batt.	Lie-Cpl.	STREET H. H. S. M.M.	57th. Batt.
CE F.	2nd. Fld. Art. Bde.	Cpl.	MURPHY S. B.	37th. Batt.	Pte.	TATHAM G. H.	25th. Batt.
NCHSEN F. W.	5th. Batt.	Pte.	MURRELL H. E.	39th. Batt.	Dvr.	THOMSON J. A.	2nd. Fld. Art. Bde.
IES G. A.	8th. Lt. Horse.	Bldr.	NEWSTEAD F.	12th. Fld. Art. Bde.	Pte.	TOPE T. G.	14th. Batt.
OTT H.	2nd. M.G. Coy.	Pte.	NICHOLSON A.	5th. Batt.	Gnr.	VALANTINE D. H.	14th. A.F.A. Bde.
STONE T. E.	14th. Batt.	Lie-Cpl.	NICHOLSON H. F.	23rd. Batt.	Pte.	VICKERY J. S. S.	10th. A.F.A.
Y H. L.	22nd. Batt.	Pte.	NOALL S. R.	21st. Batt.	Pte.	VINCENT T. M.	21st. Batt.
F. E. M.M. & BAR	59th. Batt.	Lieut.	PATTINSON J. R.	2nd. Tunnell'g Coy.	Pte.	WARNE-SMITH S. W.	23rd. Batt.
		Lie-Cpl.	PEDERSON C. S.	9th. Batt.	Dvr.	WILKINSON L. L.	7th. Bde.

(70 pages of Private Richard Leslie Peek's Service records are available for On Line viewing at National Archives of Australia website).

Information obtained from the CWGC, Australian War Memorial (Roll of Honour, First World War Embarkation Roll, Red Cross Wounded & Missing) & National Archives



Newspaper Notices

AUSTRALIAN CASUALTIES

228th CASUALTY LIST

WOUNDED

Victoria

R. L. Peek, Middle Brighton

(Leader, Melbourne, Victoria – 7 October, 1916)

DEATHS

PEEK – On December 23rd, 1917, at Weymouth, England, Pte R. L. Peek, dearly loved eldest son of R. and E. Peek, brother of Alan (on active service), Cecil, Ethel, Ernie and Dorothy, of 20 Lawrence street, Middle Brighton; aged 22 years. Our Anzac.

(The Herald, Melbourne, Victoria – 4 January, 1918) & (Brighton Southern Cross, Victoria – 5 January, 1918) &

(Sandringham Southern Cross, Victoria – 5 January, 1918) & (The Age, Melbourne, Victoria – 5 January, 1918)

THE 378th and 379th CASUALTY LISTS

DIED OF WOUNDS

Private R. L. Peek, Mid. Brighton

(The Mildura Cultivator, Victoria – 16 January, 1918)

Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstones

The Defence Department, in 1920/21, contacted the next of kin of the deceased World War 1 soldiers to see if they wanted to include a personal inscription on the permanent headstone. Space was reserved for 66 letters only (with the space between any two words to be counted as an additional letter) & the rate per letter was around 3 ½ d (subject to fluctuation).

The expense in connection for the erection of permanent headstones over the graves of fallen soldiers was borne by the Australian Government.

(Information obtained from letters sent to next of kin in 1921)

A letter from Base Records, dated 27th July, 1921, to Mr R. Peek, Carrier, New Street, Gardenvale, Victoria, advised that a letter from the Defence Dept. concerning an inscription on the headstone of his son, the late No. 1987 Private R. L. Peek, 21st Battalion, had not been answered & non-receipt of a reply within 21 days would have to be accepted as indicating that no further action was to be taken.

Private R. L. Peek does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

He Who Died Will Be Always

A Sweet And Sacred Memory

Our Dear Anzac

Melcombe Regis Cemetery, Weymouth, Dorset, England

Weymouth became a depot for Australian forces in 1916 and 83 of the 147 First World War burials in Melcombe Regis Cemetery are of Australian servicemen; most of these graves are scattered in the old part. The 36 Second World War burials are in the extension. The cemetery also contains seven war graves of other nationalities and one non-war burial.

(Information from CWGC)



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

D00333

Australian graves in the cemetery at Melcombe Regis. March 1919



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

D00332

Some of the Australian graves in the cemetery at Melcombe Regis. March 1919

Identified, left to right: Captain Francis Arthur Deravin, Australian Army Medical Corps, died 8 July 1917 aged 41 years (large headstone); 138 Private Louis Nelson Matthews, 27th Battalion, 4 July 1917; 5082 Private Victor George Smith, 21st Battalion, died 13 November 1918.



(Photo courtesy of Steve Stewart)



(Photos courtesy of Steve Stewart)





(Photos courtesy of Steve Stewart)

Australians in Weymouth

What was life like for the Australians?

The Camp

Within the camp, there were educational facilities as well as medical rooms which helped to recover and re-educate the soldiers. There was help provided for soldiers suffering with physical or emotional impairments, such as massage rooms, psychotherapy training rooms and a remedial gymnasium. This strengthened the men to help them recover from their injuries. The educational aspects were diverse, allowing soldiers to pick a completely different profession for when they went back home. This included architecture, motor engineering, electrical and carpentry classes. Another option allowed the soldiers to be retrained in their previous professions which may have become more difficult, due to loss of limbs or new techniques that may have been created whilst they were at war.

The Town

Weymouth benefited hugely from the influx of Australian and New Zealand soldiers. One shop that still exists today is the Acutt's clothing store, which used to sell everything a soldier could possibly need for his uniform, from the whole jacket to just the buttons and epaulettes. As well as Acutt's, the Commonwealth Bank of Australia also opened up their own branch in Weymouth, for the soldiers to use during their time over here, which highlighted the permanence of their stay. There was also a monthly newsletter that circulated amongst the men, which was produced by local company Sherrens, which still operates on the Granby Industrial estate.

Special Events

The Australian recovery camps took special occasions very seriously, such as Christmas and Easter, to try and reduce the ache of home sickness and being away from their family and friends. Most camps tried to make their soldiers feel at home, with large celebrations with Christmas dinners and special guest performances at Easter. However, there were also other special events that gained press attention, such as the opening of the YMCA building, which used to be on Abbotshay Road. This provided help and welfare to the Australian soldiers, such as free food and blankets. There were fundraising days for the prisoner-of-war soldiers that had been captured during the fall of the Kut, who were mainly Dorset soldiers. From these fundraising days in Weymouth, Dorchester and Bridport, the towns managed to raise £3,600 to help comfort the prisoners.

Entertainment

Entertainment was a highly important aspect of the soldiers' lives whilst they were in Weymouth. It kept the soldiers motivated and in high spirits whilst they were ill or injured, in hopes of helping to speed up their recovery. Throughout the camps in Weymouth, there was always something to watch or listen to, whether it was singing and acting companies who toured round the camps or at the Pavilion Theatre on the Esplanade. Sometimes, the soldiers even made their own entertainment, with marching bands and choirs being set up by the YMCA building in Westham. There were also balls and dances at the camps themselves and even a small trip to the Alexandra Garden along the Esplanade. Dating also became a significant part of the soldiers' lives, with many Weymouth women losing husbands and boyfriends at war. Finding comfort with the new soldiers at the camp, this led to many marriages between the two groups, and some migrating back to Australia with their new families, or staying here and leaving their families.

3

THESE BOYS BEARING ACUTT BROTHERS

AMERICAN OFFICERS UNIFORMS.

THE JUBILEE HALL

ROYAL PALM COURT

#weyforward

The National Lottery

Images courtesy of Australian War Memorial, Newsletter originals published by Sherrens, Ltd. Weymouth



(Photos courtesy of Steve Stewart)

Australians in Weymouth

From Weymouth to Auswey - A Soldier's Récovery



During the First World War between 1914 and 1918, many injured soldiers who were mostly from Australia and New Zealand, were brought to Weymouth. They were known as ANZACS (Australian and New Zealand Army Corps). They were placed in Repatriation and Rehabilitation camps in Westham, Littlehampton, Chichester and Portland. This was in the hope of sending them back to the line of action in France or back home to Australia due to lack of fitness. Weymouth was picked as the place to set up camp, as it was seen as a relaxing seaside location. This would help to heal the sick and injured Australians who had been fighting in major battles of the war or on the Western Front between France and Belgium.



Although thousands of ANZACS passed through Weymouth during the First World War, there are some soldiers who unfortunately did not make it home. These soldiers are proudly buried in the Melcombe Regis cemetery. This is only 100 metres away from one of the major camps in Westham, with 142 soldiers buried in the cemetery, 83 from Australia and 59 from New Zealand. These graves are similar to some of the war memorials and graves placed around Europe, much like the Somme in France. Unfortunately, there are too many grave names to be displayed on this board, but they can be found on the website link at the bottom of this board.



Past and Present Westham

As you can see on the map of the Westham camp, many of the street names have an Australian connection, highlighting the history of the area. Residents of the housing estates, which are now built where the camp once stood, are still digging up remains of the camp, such as bullets or cooking equipment.



Modern Day Street Names	Westham Camp - December 1916
Cheset Close	Soldiers Huts
Sussex Road	Company Officers
Queensland Road	Regimental Institute
Kitchener Road	Ministers Rifle Range
Corporation Road	Officers' Mess
Shorn Road	Shower Block
Longcroft Road	Vehicle Shed, Mob Store
Wessex Road	Home Shelter
Parth Street	Cool Yard
Melcombe Street	Cook House
Adelaide Crescent	YMCA
Abbotsbury Road	Dung Pit
Sydney Street	Fire Hydrant
Shirecroft Road	





www.westhamcommunitygroup.co.uk

Images courtesy of Australian War Memorial

Photo of Private R. L. Peek's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Melcombe Regis Cemetery, Weymouth, Dorset, England.



(Photo from CWGC – David Warren)



(Photo courtesy of Allan Wood)