

**Tidworth Military Cemetery,
Tidworth, Wiltshire
War Graves**



Lest We Forget

World War 1



1487 PRIVATE

THOMAS WALPOLE

AUSTRALIAN TRENCH MORTAR BATTERY

19TH APRIL, 1917 Age 42

*Beloved Younger Son Of The Late
John Thompson and Mary Walpole
Of Wilston, Queensland*

Thomas WALPOLE

Thomas Walpole was born at Hamilton, Victoria on 27th January, 1869 to parents John Thompson Walpole & Mary Walpole (nee Murchison).

John Thompson Walpole, father of Thomas Walpole, died on 7th June, 1877 at Hamilton, Victoria.

Thomas Walpole was educated at Boys' College, Hamilton, Victoria.

Thomas Walpole was aged 43 years & 8 months, single & a Station Book Keeper when he enlisted in Brisbane, Queensland on 19th January, 1916 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his mother - Mary Walpole, Second Avenue, Wilston, Queensland.

Private Thomas Walpole was posted to 11th Depot Battalion on 21st January, 1916 for recruit training. He was transferred to 41st Infantry Battalion on 5th March, 1916.

Private Thomas Walpole was discharged from the Australian Imperial Force on 17th April, 1916 by Camp Commandant as *"Unlikely to become an efficient Soldier."*

Thomas Walpole re-enlisted with the Australian Imperial Force on 20th May, 1916 at Royal Agricultural Showgrounds, Sydney, New South Wales, stating he was aged 43 years & 2 months, single & a State School Teacher from G.P.O., Sydney, NSW. He stated he was born at Dunkeld, Victoria & his next of kin was listed as his widowed mother – Mrs Mary Walpole, Dover Street, Newmarket, Wilston, Brisbane. Thomas Walpole was assigned a service number was 1487 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed on Embarkation Roll as his sister – Miss M. Walpole, Dover Street, Wilston, Brisbane, Queensland. Thomas Walpole stated he had not previously served in His Majesty's Army – only Drill Instructor to School Cadets.

According to information supplied by his mother for the Roll of Honour – Thomas Walpole was a Book Keeper (Clerk) on Station & his other training was sugar cane farmer.

Private Thomas Walpole was posted to "A" Company, 2nd Battalion at Cootamundra, NSW on 23rd May, 1916 for recruit training. He was transferred to "A" Company, Depot Battalion at Goulburn, NSW on 22nd June, 1916. Private Walpole was transferred on 5th August, 1916 to 3rd Reinforcements of Light Trench Mortar Battery at Menangle, NSW (Statement of Service form recorded with rank of Grenadier).

Private Thomas Walpole embarked from Sydney, New South Wales on HMAT *Ascanius (A11)* on 25th October, 1916 with the Light Trench Mortar Battery, 3rd Reinforcements & disembarked at Devonport, England on 28th December, 1916.

Reinforcements were only given basic training in Australia. Training was completed in training units in England. Some of these were located in the Salisbury Plain & surrounding areas in the county of Wiltshire.

Private Thomas Walpole was marched in to Australian Details, No. 6 & 7 Camp, Perham Downs, Wiltshire, England on 29th December, 1916 from Australia.

Private Thomas Walpole was sent sick to Hospital on 24th January, 1917. He was admitted to Military Hospital, Tidworth, Wiltshire on 24th January, 1917 – cause – N.Y.D. (not yet determined).

Mrs M. Walpole, Dover Street, Newmarket was advised by Base Records on 30th January, 1917 that her son Grenadier Thomas Walpole was seriously ill with acute bronchitis & asthma.

Mrs M. Walpole, Dover Street, Newmarket was advised by Base Records on 16th February, 1917 that Private T. Walpole had been admitted to Tidworth Military Hospital on 25th January, suffering from Acute Bronchitis & asthma.

Mrs Walpole sent a Telegram on 14th February, 1917 asking "How is bomber Thomas Walpole fourteen eightyseven abroad third light trench mortar Battery reply paid."

Mrs Walpole was advised again on 17th March, 1917 that Private Thomas Walpole was convalescent.

Private Thomas Walpole was discharged to Depot on 31st March, 1917.

Private Thomas Walpole was marched in to No. 1 Command Depot at Perham Downs, Wiltshire on 2nd April, 1917.

Private Thomas Walpole was marched out from No. 1 Command Depot on 5th April, 1917 & posted to Hardening & Drafting Depot the same day.

Private Thomas Walpole was admitted to Brigade Hospital, Perham Downs, Wiltshire on 18th April, 1917 with Pneumonia.

Private Thomas Walpole died on 19th April, 1917 at Brigade Hospital, Perham Downs, Wiltshire, England from Pneumonia.

A death for Thomas Walpole, aged 47, was registered in the June quarter, 1917 in the district of Pewsey, Wiltshire, England.

Private Thomas Walpole was buried on 21st April, 1917 in Tidworth Military Cemetery, Wiltshire, England – Plot number C. 328 and has a Private Headstone. His death is still acknowledged by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. From the burial report of Private Thomas Walpole - *Coffin was 1 inch Elm with brass furniture. Sister Walpole attached to No. 1 Australian Auxiliary Hospital Harefield Park Middlesex intends to erect permanent memorial.*

Mary Walpole, widowed mother of the late Private Thomas Walpole, was awarded a War Pension of £2 per fortnight from 22nd June, 1917.

Private Thomas Walpole was entitled to British War Medal only as he had not entered a Theatre of War. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Private Walpole's widowed mother – Mrs M. Walpole, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent December, 1921 & Plaque sent January, 1922).

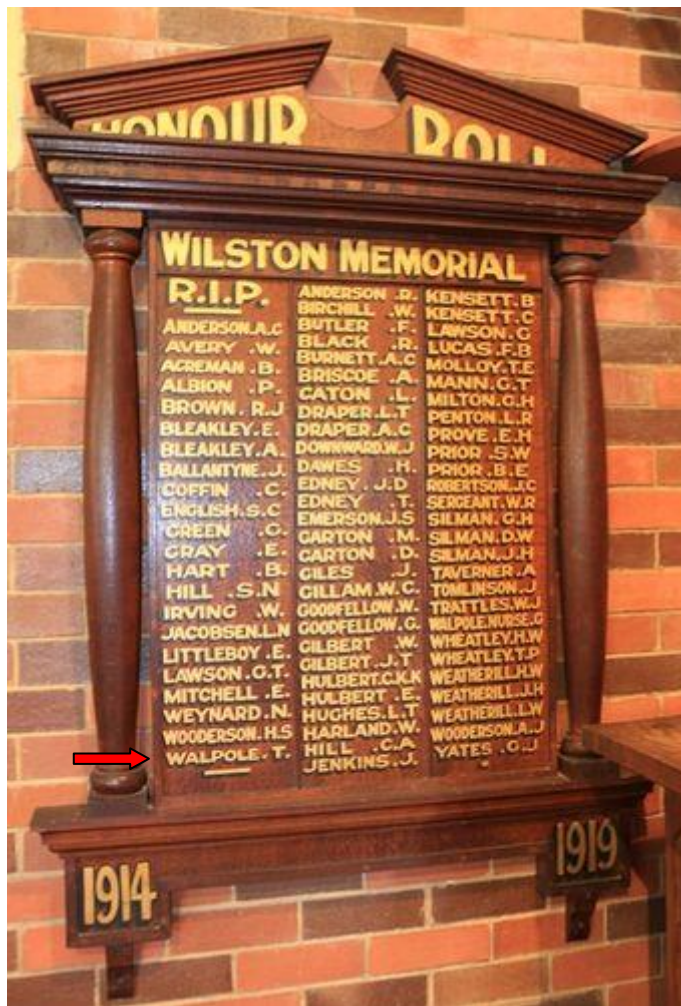
The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Thomas Walpole – service number 1487, aged 42, of Australian Trench Mortar Battery. He was the son of John Thompson Walpole and Mary Walpole, of Dover Street, Wilston, Brisbane, Queensland.

Private T. Walpole is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 21.



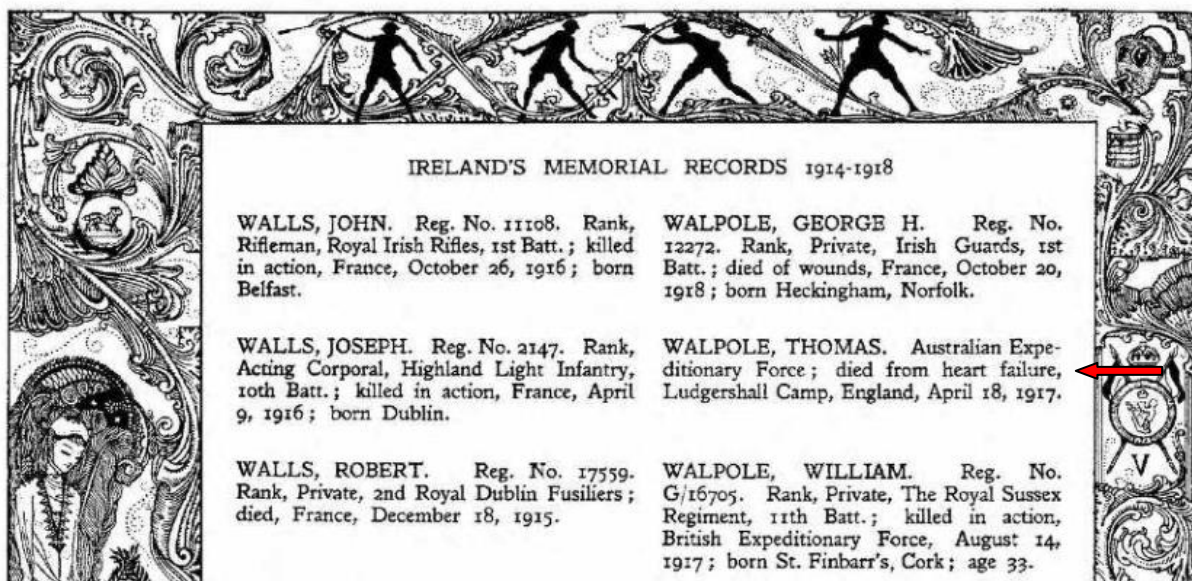
Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

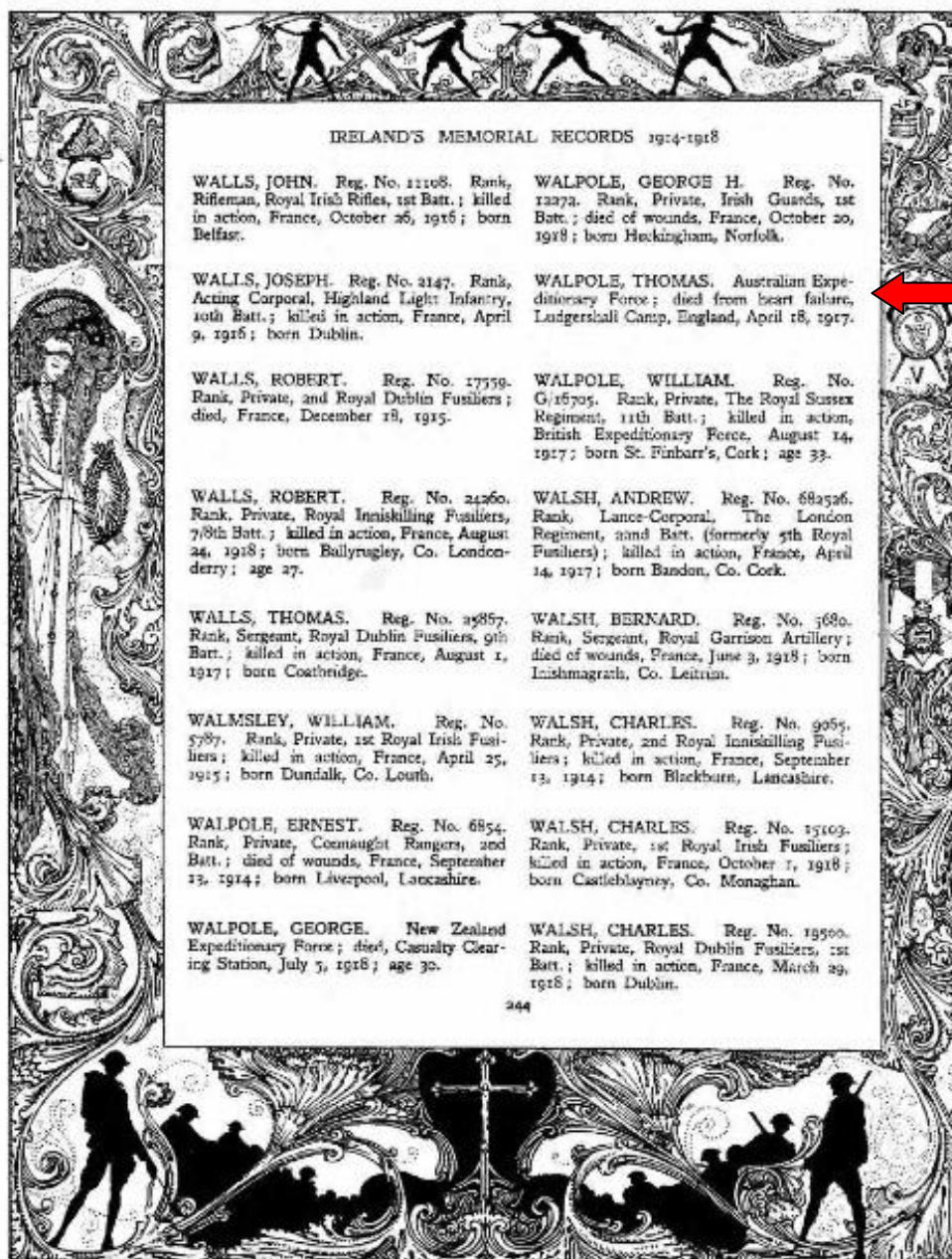
T. Walpole is remembered on the St. Alban's Church Honour Roll, located in St. Alban's Anglican Church, Lovedale & Inglis Streets, Wilston, Queensland.



St. Alban's Church Honour Roll, Wilston (Photo from Monument Australia – John Huth)

Thomas Walpole is remembered in Ireland's Memorial Records which is an 8 volume set compiled by The Committee of the Irish National War Memorial, originally published in 1923. These volumes provide information on over 49,000 Irish men and women who died in the Great War. (Volume 8 -Sma to Zig - page 244)





Ireland's Memorial Records

(48 pages of Private Thomas Walpole'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) & National Archives

Newspaper Notices

Roll of Honour

The 271st Australian casualty list was released by the censor at 10 o'clock this morning.....

QUEENSLANDERS IN OTHER STATES

Pte T. Walpole, Newmarket, ser. ill.

(The Telegraph, Brisbane. Queensland – 8 February, 1917)

290TH CASUALTY LIST

DIED OF ILLNESS

Pte T. Walpole, Wilston, Q.

(The Daily Telegraph, Sydney, NSW – 1 May, 1917)

ROLL OF HONOUR

WALPOLE – On the 19th April, at Brigade Hospital, Perham Downs, England, Bomber Thomas Walpole, III. Reinforcements, Light Trench Mortar Batter, only surviving son of Mrs Walpole, Dover-street, Wilston.

(The Brisbane Courier, Queensland – 12 May, 1917) & (The Queenslander, Brisbane, Queensland – 19 May, 1917)

Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstones

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission cares for cemeteries and memorials in 23,000 locations, in 153 countries. In all 1.7 million men and women from the Commonwealth forces from WWI and WWII have been honoured and commemorated in perpetuity.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission, as part of its mandate, is responsible for commemorating all Commonwealth war dead individually and equally. To this end, the war dead are commemorated by name on a headstone, at an identified site of a burial, or on a memorial. War dead are commemorated uniformly and equally, irrespective of military or civil rank, race or creed.

Not all service personnel have a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone. In some instances the relative chose to have their own memorial/headstone placed on the deceased's grave. These private headstones are not maintained by the CWGC as they have no jurisdiction to maintain them.

Private Thomas Walpole has a Private Headstone.

Tidworth Military Cemetery, Wiltshire, England

Tidworth Military Cemetery, which contains burials of both wars, was directly connected with training grounds on, or near, Salisbury Plain.

During the First World War, the cemetery was used for burials from Tidworth and Fargo Military Hospitals and the 417 graves, many of them of Australian or New Zealand servicemen, are scattered throughout the cemetery.

There are 106 Second World War graves in the cemetery, two substantial groups of which can be found in sections F and D. The rest are scattered.

The cemetery also contains 40 war graves of other nationalities, many of them Polish.

(Information from CWGC)



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

D00327

The AIF Tidworth cemetery under snow. – March 1919.

Identified graves marked by a cross and headstone in the foreground

Front row: 50727 Private Rowland James Dickson, Australian Machine Gun Corps, died 14 October 1918.

Second row, left to right: 18282 Driver John Thalma Jackson, Details Australian Engineers, died 30 October 1917; 17445 Pte Roland Travers Woodville, Australian Army Medical Corps, died 13 September 1917; 31712 Gunner John Alexander McDonald, 15th Field Artillery Brigade, Australian Field Artillery, died 30 July 1917, aged 37, at Tidworth Military Hospital; 3062 Pte Even Thomas Kennedy, 3rd Australian Pioneers, died 7 August 1917.

Note Gunner McDonald has a large headstone which reads in part 'erected by his sorrowing comrades of the Australian Field Artillery. His duty done.'



Tidworth Military Cemetery (Photo by *julia&keld* – Find a Grave)



Tidworth Military Cemetery, Wiltshire (Photo courtesy of *John Prestidge*)



Tidworth Military Cemetery, Wiltshire *(Photo by Chris Talbot 2009)*



(Photo courtesy of Portsmouth Remembers – Kevin)

Photo of Private Thomas Walpole's Private Headstone in Tidworth Military Cemetery, Wiltshire, England.



(Photo from Find a Grave - soilsister)



Sacred

to the Memory of

1487 Pte THOMAS WALPOLE

3RD L.T.M.B. A.I.F.

Died At Tidworth 19TH April 1917.

Beloved Younger Son Of The Late

John Thompson And Mary Walpole

Of Wilston, Queensland

