

**In Memory of
Private HERBERT HARRIS PILL
10731, 3rd Bn., Royal Fusiliers
Who died on 30 September 1915
Resident of Hammersmith born in Dorchester-on-Thames
Remembered with honour
LOOS MEMORIAL**



Commemorated in perpetuity by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

Loos-en-Gohelle is a village 5 km north-west of Lens, and Dud Corner Cemetery is located about 1 km west of the village, to the north-east of the N943, 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.

The Loos Memorial forms the sides and back of Dud Corner Cemetery, and 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. 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.

The memorial was designed by Sir Herbert Baker with sculpture by Charles Wheeler. It was unveiled by Sir Nevil Macready on 4 August 1930.

In September 1915, the Bn. was stationed in Strazeele as part of 85 Brigade. On 27 September, the Bn. marched from Bethune to Vermelles. There, orders were received to take over 700 yds of German line trenches between Corons Alley and the Hohenzollern Redoubt, with the East Surreys and the Buffs in support. Before these orders could be carried out the line was retaken by the Germans and further orders were given to retake the Redoubt. Fierce fighting ensued throughout the remaining hours of 27 September until 30 September. In the face of determined attacks the British forces were compelled to retreat after suffering heavy losses.