

### THE PASSCHENDAELE ARCHIVES

The Passchendaele Archives is a project of the Memorial Museum Passchendaele 1917. It started in 2005 and is ongoing. The museum commemorates the Battle of Passchendaele 1917 and is located in the Zonnebeke château grounds. It is the ideal starting point for a visit to the battlefields of 1914-1918 and especially of 1917. The first floor offers an historical overview of the Great War. Part of the museum is the unique dugout experience with underground headquarters, sleeping benches, communication post and dressing station.

The Passchendaele Archives

Memorial Museum Passchendaele 1917

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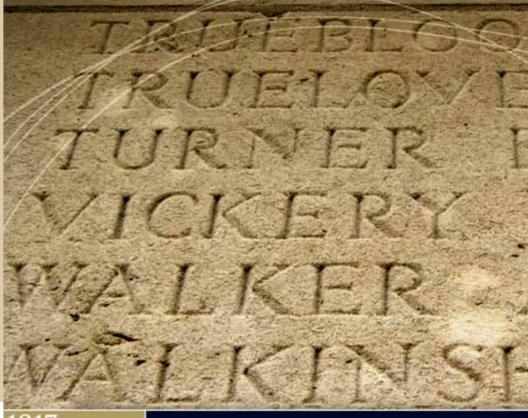






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# IS PASSCHENDAELE PART OF YOUR FAMILY HISTORY?





# PASSCHENDAELE ARCHIVES

A PROJECT OF The Memorial Museum Passchendaele 1917



for his country is no comfort to me, his memory is all I have left to love" ??

Lieutenant John Low's fi ancee, 18th January 1918

### THE PASSCHENDAELE ARCHIVES

The Battle of Passchendaele 1917 was one of the biggest and bloodiest encounters of the Great War. In 100 days of heavy fighting 245,000 British, Australians, Canadians, New Zealanders and South Africans were put out of action to gain just five miles.

In Passchendaele, the back walls of Tyne Cot Cemetery contain the names of 35,000 men missing in action from 16 August 1917 until the end of the war. The Menin Gate, Ypres, commemorates another 55,000 soldiers whose bodies are missing before that date.

Approximately half of those men lie unidentified but in graves with the inscription 'A Soldier of the Great War'. The others remain unrecovered, still buried somewhere in Flanders Fields ...

No matter how impressive a visit to Tyne Cot or other cemeteries and memorials is, one can only find a name there, with the scantiest of details. 'The Passchendaele Archives' intends to put a face and a story to those names by building up personal archives with photographs, family and military information. In order to avoid a duplicate of the excellent CWGC database, a file will only be started if a photograph is available and if the man fell during the Battle of Passchendaele, from 12 July till 15 November 1917.

### AIMS

Building up personal archives with thousands of files to be consulted in the Memorial Museum Passchendaele 1917. Developing a database with extracts of all files and research facilities.

## WE NEED YOUR HELP!



Did a relative of yours fight in Passchendaele 1917? Did he give his life? If you have a photograph, please contact us. It does not need to be the original, a good copy is sufficient. You may copy or scan it yourself, but we can also do it for you. Donations of original items for the museum or the Tyne Cot Visitor Centre are of course always gratefully received.

In return for your cooperation we will try to find out what exactly happened to your relative. You will receive a copy of a trench map with the approximate place where he was killed or mortally wounded. With this comes a short report based on the war diaries of his unit.



