



Private Walter Down



8th Battalion Welsh Regiment

Died 26 July 1916

Age 22

Walter Down was a private with the 8th Battalion Welsh Regiment serving in Mesopotamia - the area of the Tigris–Euphrates river system, corresponding to modern-day Iraq, Kuwait, the northeastern section of Syria.

On the 12th of February 1916 the Battalion moved to Mesopotamia, to join the force being assembled near Sheikh Sa'ad for the relief of the besieged garrison at Kut al Amara. They joined the Tigris Corps on the 27th of March and were in action in the unsuccessful attempts to relieve Kut. They were in action in The Battle of Kut al Amara, with the capture of the Hai Salient, the capture of Dahra Bend and The passage of the Diyala, in the pursuit of the enemy towards Baghdad.

Walter Down is commemorated by a grave (IX. D. 16) at the Amara War Cemetery in Iraq. The Amara War Cemetery contains 4,621 burials of the First World War, more than 3,000 of which were brought into the cemetery after the Armistice.

He appears to be unmarried and the son of William and Emily Down, of 3 Pentlow St, Putney, London. His brother George Arthur Down was also killed in the War (just under a year after Walter) and is commemorated in All Saints' Church. Walter was listed as being an Assisting Milkman, living with his parents in Pentlow Street when the Census was taken in 1911.

SERVICE NUMBER: 33531