

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

From October 1916 the Royal Engineers had been working underground, constructing tunnels for the troops in preparation for the Battle of Arras in 1917, this was an immense challenge. In one sector alone four tunnel companies of 500 each worked around the clock in 18 hour shifts for two months.

REGIMENT:

1st City of Edinburgh Field Company, Royal Engineers (Sapper)



George McLennan Hopkins
Born 31-07-1896 Died 01-01-1917
Aged 20 years
Leith, Edinburgh

WHERE HE FOUGHT:

He fought in the area from the River Lys to the old southern boundary of the First Army, east and west of Grenay.

WHERE HE IS BURIED:

Remembered with Honour
Loos Memorial



OTHER INFORMATION: He received Victory Medal, this was awarded to all who received the 1914-15 Star and the British War Medal known as Pip, Squeak and Wilfred.

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 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.

FAMILY TREE

