

Codford St. Peter

Roll of Honour



Lest we Forget

World War I



3084 PRIVATE

CHARLES FRANK SINGLETON

1/4th BN, HAMPSHIRE REGIMENT

1st AUGUST, 1916

Charles Frank Singleton

Charles Frank Singleton was born 30th July, 1896 at Stalbridge, Dorset to parents Francis Edward & Elizabeth Ann Singleton (nee Stroud). His birth was registered in the district of Sturminster, Dorset (of which Stalbridge was a parish) in the September quarter of 1896.

Charles Frank Singleton was baptised in the parish Church of Stalbridge on 6th September, 1896. His father's occupation was listed as Gardener & then family lived at Thornhill, Stalbridge.

The 1901 Census records Charles F Singleton as a 4 year old, born at Stalbridge, Dorset, living with his parents at Thornhill North Lodge, Stalbridge. His parents were listed as Francis E. Singleton (Gardener, aged 39) & Elizabeth A. (Dressmaker – Own Account, aged 40). Also listed in the household was Charles' older brother – George H. (aged 10) & Charles' cousin – Ellen M. Singleton (aged 12).

The 1911 Census records Charles Singleton as a 14 year old attending school & living with his parents at The Lodge, Codford St. Peter, a four roomed dwelling. His parents were listed as Francis Singleton (Gardener, aged 49) & Elizabeth (Dressmaker – Own Account, aged 50). Also listed in the household was Charles' cousin – Ellen Singleton (Housemaid, aged 22).

Charles Frank Singleton enlisted with the Hampshire Regiment at Salisbury, Wiltshire. He was given the rank of Private & a service number of 4/3084. Private Singleton's records show that he was attached to 1/4th (Territorial Battalion) Hampshire Regiment. His residence was listed as Codford, Wiltshire.

The 1/4th Battalion – Territorial Force of Hampshire Regiment sailed for India, landing at Karachi on 11th November, 1914. On 18th March, 1915 the 1/4th Battalion landed at Basra with the 33rd Indian Brigade and remained in Mesopotamia and Persia for the rest of the War.

Private Charles Frank Singleton died on 1st August, 1916, aged 20 years.

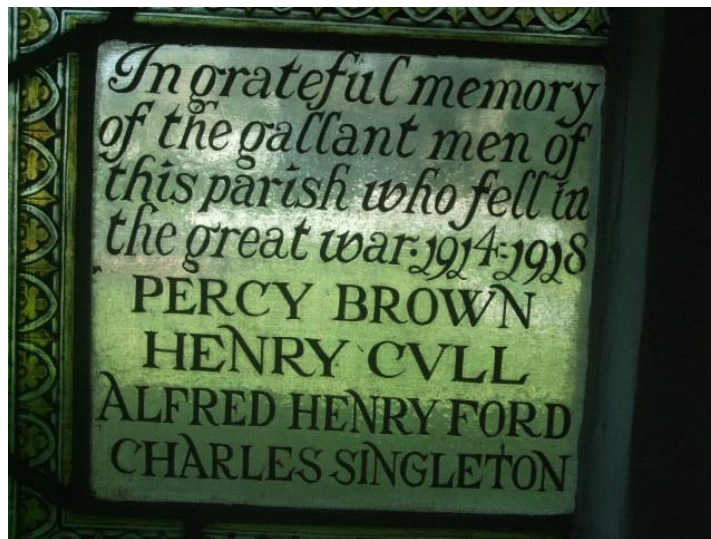
Pte Charles Frank Singleton is remembered on the Basra Memorial at Al Basrah, Iraq – Panel 21 and 63 – as he has no known grave. His death is acknowledged by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Pte Charles Frank Singleton as the son of Francis Edward & Elizabeth Ann Singleton of 28, Boyton Cottages, Codford, Wiltshire.

Pte Charles F. Singleton was entitled to the 1915 Star, British War & Victory Medals. His Medal Index Card shows he had entered a Theatre of War – Asiatic on 18th October, 1915.

C. F. Singleton is remembered as a Casualty of WW1 in the Diocese of Salisbury Memorial Book for Codford St. Peter.

Charles Singleton is remembered on the World War 1 Stained Glass Memorial window in St. Peter's Church, Codford, Wiltshire.



(Photo courtesy of Romy Wyeth)



Codford St Peter -North aisle By F C Eden, 1920 - War Memorial window with Saints Michael and George (Photo by Rex Harris 2011)

NEWSPAPER NOTICES

SINGLETON – Aug. 1st, at Mossoul, Asia Minot, Private Charles Frank Singleton, aged 20, youngest and dearly beloved son of Mr and Mrs F. E. Singleton, The Lodge, Ashton Gifford, Codford, Wilts. Taken prisoner at Kut-el-Amara. Interred in the Prisoners' Cemetery at Mossoul.

(*Western Gazette* – Yeovil, Somerset, 15 December, 1916)

Basra Memorial, Iraq



The Basra Memorial is located in Iraq & contains the names of 40,681 identified casualties of the Commonwealth forces, whose graves are not known.

The Basra Memorial was, until 1997, on the main naval quay at Maquil, on the west bank of the Shatt-al Arab, about 8 klms north of Basra. Because of the sensitive nature of the area, the Memorial was moved by presidential decree. The move, carried out by the authorities in Iraq, involved a considerable amount of manpower, transport costs and sheer engineering on their part. The Memorial was re-erected in its entirety.

The Basra Memorial is now located 32 klms along the road to Nasiriyah, in the middle of what was a major battleground during the first Gulf War.