

Sutton Veny War Graves



Lest we Forget

World War I



58698 PRIVATE

O. W. FLODIN

56TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

22ND OCTOBER, 1918

*Commonwealth War Graves Headstone for Pte O. W. Flodin is located in
Grave Plot # 6. F. 6. of St. John the Evangelist Churchyard, Sutton Veny*

Oscar William FLODIN

Oscar William Flodin was born on 12th October, 1896 in Copenhagen, Denmark to parents Sven August Flodin & Marie Sophie Flodin (nee Holm). (A letter from Royal Danish Consulate has date of birth as 11th October, 1896).

"O. Flodins" was listed as part of Crew – Fireman (aged 20, born Denmark), aboard the *Port Alma* which had left the port of London via Melbourne to Sydney arriving on 27th July, 1917. The *Port Alma* was travelling from the port of Rockhampton, Queensland, arriving in Sydney, NSW on 28th August, 1917 with "O. Flodins" as crew – Fireman. The *Port Alma* left the port of Fremantle, Western Australia & arrived in Sydney on 13th November, 1917 with "O. Flodins" as crew – Fireman. The *Port Alma* had departed Port Said in Colombo & arrived in Sydney on 4th March, 1918. "O. Flodins" was listed as crew – Fireman.

Oscar William Flodin was a 22 year old, single, Labourer from Woolloomooloo, NSW when he enlisted at Sydney, NSW on 20th May, 1918 with the 9th Reinforcements of the Australian Army (A.I.F.). His service number was 58698 & his religion was Baptist. His next of kin was listed as his brother – Mr G. Flodin of 18 Forbes Street, Woolloomooloo, NSW.

Pte Oscar William Flodin embarked from Sydney on SS *Field Marshal* on 19th June, 1918 & disembarked at London, England on 26th August, 1918.

Reinforcements were only given basic training in Australia. Training was completed in training units in England. Some of these were located in the Salisbury Plain & surrounding areas in the county of Wiltshire.

Private Oscar William Flodin was marched in to 14th Training Battalion at Codford, Wiltshire on 26th August, 1918 & allotted to Reinforcements of 54th Battalion on 27th August, 1918.

Pte Flodin was sent sick to Brigade Clearing Hospital at Codford on 27th August, 1918 & discharged on 30th August, 1918.

Pte Flodin was transferred to Reinforcements of 56th Battalion on 29th September, 1918. He was then transferred to Artillery Details and marched out to R.B.A.A. (Reserve Brigade Australian Artillery) at Heytesbury, Wiltshire on 7th October, 1918.

Private Oscar William Flodin was sent sick to Group Clearing Hospital at Sutton Veny on 18th October, 1918 with Influenza then transferred & admitted to the Military Hospital at Sutton Veny, Wiltshire on 19th October, 1918, seriously ill with pneumonia.

Private Oscar William Flodin died at 10.10 a.m. on 22nd October, 1918 at the Military Hospital, Sutton Veny of Influenza & Pneumonia.

A death for Oscar W. Flodin, aged 22, was registered in the December quarter, 1918 in the district of Warminster, Wiltshire.

Private Oscar William Flodin was buried at 3.30 p.m. on 26th October, 1918 in St. John the Evangelist Churchyard at Sutton Veny - Grave no. 6. From the burial report of Pte Flodin - *Coffin was good. Polished elm with Brass Mounts – The deceased was buried with full Military Honours, the coffin draped with the Australian flag being borne to the graveside on a Gun Carriage preceded by a Firing Party and Band from the Reserve Brigade Australian Artillery. Six of deceased's comrades supported the pall. 4 Officers and 80 N.C.O.'s and men of the deceased's late Unit attended as mourners. Headquarters A.I.F. Depots in United Kingdom were represented at the funeral.*

Pte Oscar William Flodin requested in his Will, dated 14th June, 1918, that the whole of his property & effects to be given to his sister – Anna Flodin of Vildeasgade 40 Copenhagen C. Denmark.

Private O. W. Flodin is commemorated in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 162.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

In a letter dated 29th October, 1918, the Military Forces of Australia could not locate the next of kin of Pte Oscar William Flodin. His death notice was withheld from Press Copies of Casualty List No. 448 but was included in official copies. Two photos of Pte Flodin's Grave were also included in his Service Record file – concluding that the next of kin still could not be located. No claim was made for the War Gratuity as of 15th December, 1922.

Pte Oscar William Flodin was entitled to British War Medal only as he had not entered a Theatre of War. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were supposed to be sent to Pte Flodin's next of kin, however they could not be located and were sent to "Untraceables".

The CWGC lists Private Oscar William Flodin, 58698, of 56th Battalion, Australian Infantry, A.I.F. No family details are listed.

(65 pages of Pte Oscar William Flodin's Service records are available for On Line viewing at National Archives of Australia website).

Information obtained from the Australian War Memorial (Roll of Honour, First World War Embarkation Roll) & National Archives.



Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstones

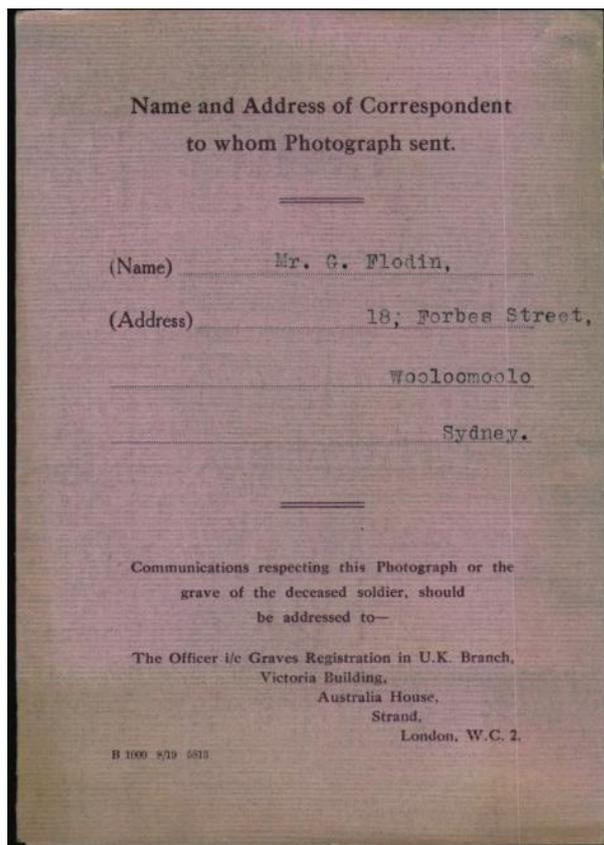
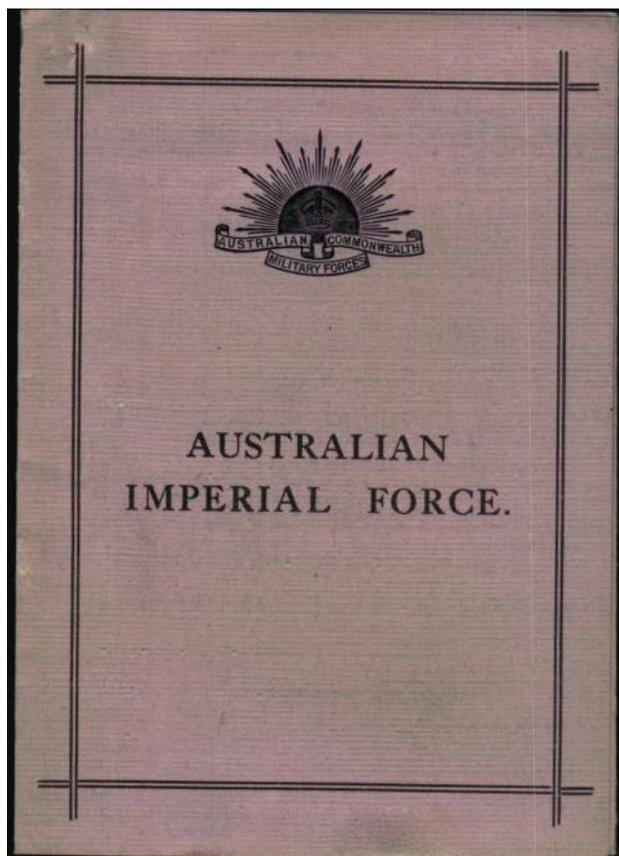
The Defence Department, in 1920/21, contacted the next of kin of the deceased World War 1 soldiers to see if they wanted to include a personal inscription on the permanent headstone at St. John the Evangelist Churchyard at Sutton Veny. Space was reserved for 66 letters only (with the space between any two words to be counted as an additional letter) & the rate per letter was around 3 ½ d (subject to fluctuation).

The expense in connection for the erection of permanent headstones over the graves of fallen soldiers was borne by the Australian Government.

(Information obtained from letters sent to next of kin in 1921)

Pte Oscar William Flodin does not have a personal inscription on his headstone.

Photo showing the temporary Headstone of Pte Oscar William Flodin that was usually sent to the next-of-kin.



(Above – showing front & back covers)

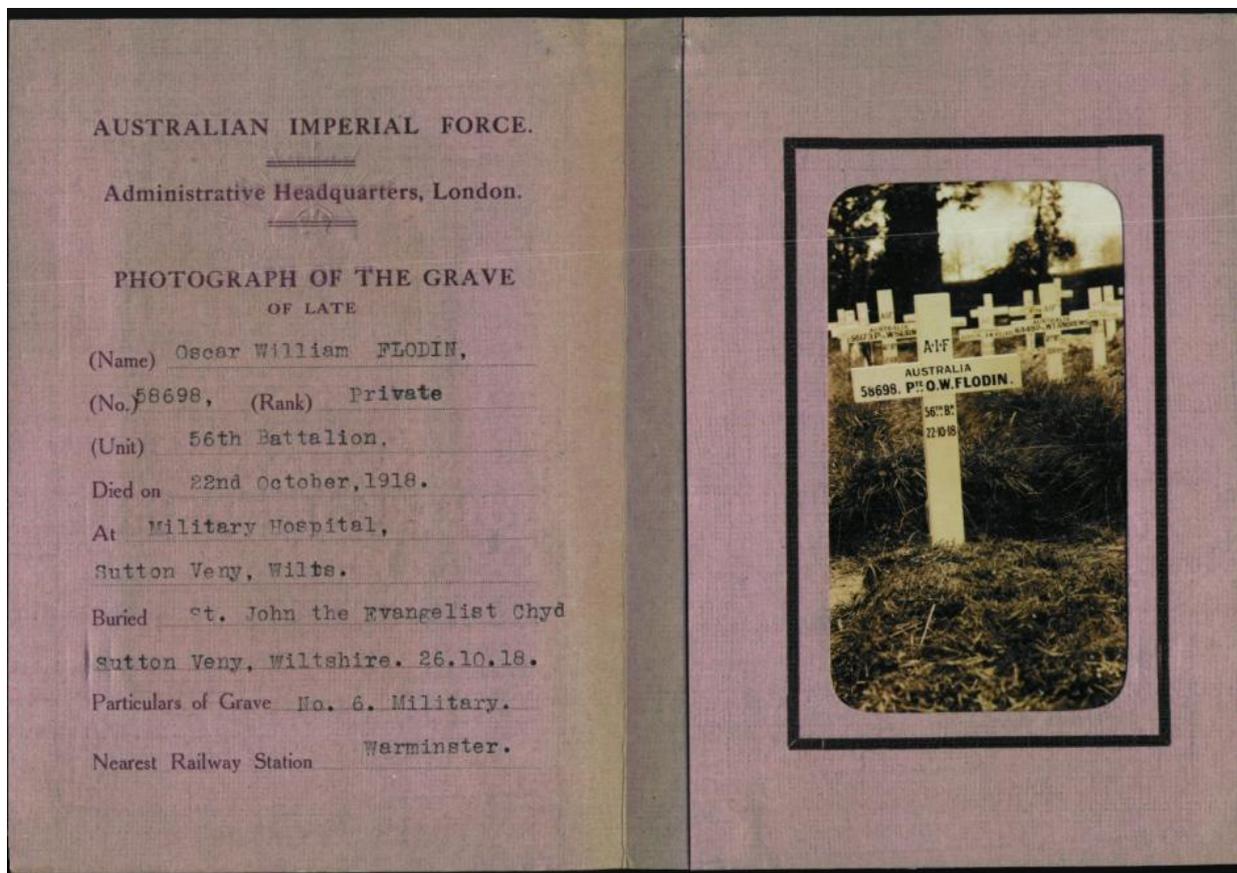


Photo of Pte O. W. Flodin's Headstone in St. John the Evangelist's Churchyard, Sutton Veny, Wiltshire.



(Photo courtesy of David Milborrow)



War Graves at Sutton Veny *(Photos from CWGC)*

