

We have no Service Record for Harold Houseman but we know from his Medal Card that he was in the King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry (KOYLI), his numbers being 62298.

We know from the Commonwealth Graves Commission that he was a Private, his battalion, the date he died & where he is buried.

In France

The 1/4th bn King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry were part of the 49th (3rd West Riding) Brigade of the 49th Division.

The West Riding Division was a Territorial Force Division already in existence at the outbreak of the war. The Division and Brigades were not numbered until April 1915 previously just named. Arrived in France in April 1915. Served in France and Flanders until the Armistice.

The following battles and engagements were undertaken by the 49th Division up to the date that we know that Harold died. He might have participated in some or all of them.

Battle of Albert. 1-13 Jul 1916, including the capture of Montauban, Mametz, Fricourt, Contalmaison and La Boisselle.

Battle of Bazentin. 14-17 Jul 1916, including the capture of Longueval, Trones Wood and Ovillers.

Battle of Pozieres. 23 Jul 1916, including the fighting for Mouquet Farm.

Battle of Flers-Courcelette. 15-22 Sep 1916, including the capture of Martinpuich.

Operations on the Flanders Coast. 20 Jun-11 Nov 1917.

Battle of Poelcappelle. 9 Oct 1917.

Battle of Messines. 10-11 Apr 1918.

Battle of Bailleul. 13-15 Apr 1918, including the defence of Neuve Eglise.

First Battle of Kemmel. 17-19 Apr 1918.

Second Battle of Kemmel. 25-26 Apr 1918.

Harold Houseman was killed on the 26 April 1918 so it would seem likely that this was on the last day of fighting at the Second Battle of Kemmel..

He is buried at the Boulogne Eastern Cemetery in France.