

ARTHUR RICHARDSON – Private 30446, 2<sup>nd</sup> Green Howards, 16th Dec 1916, Age 24

Arthur Richardson was born in Brompton-on-Swale in 1891, the son of John Robert Richardson and Hannah M Richardson. Part of a large farming family, he had five brothers and four sisters. The family had lived in East Cowton during the 1880s and moved to Brompton-on-Swale around 1890. By 1901<sup>(1)</sup> the family was living on Richmond Road in the village, next to the Snowdon family.

1901 Census Record ...

34	50	1	John Robert Richardson	Head	M	43	Farmer	Employer	at home	50 - Northallerton
			Hannah	Wife	M	44			at home	50 - Croft
			Annie	Daughter	F	19			at home	50 - East Cowton
			William	Son	M	17	Farmer's Son	Worker	at home	50 - 50
			Mary	Daughter	F	13			at home	50 - 50
			Harry	Son	M	12			at home	50 - 50

Coln	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
No. of HOUSES	ROAD, STREET, &c. and No. of SQUARES of HOUSES	Uninhabited	Inhabited	Occupied	Other	Other	Other	Name and Surname of each Person	RELATION to Head of Family	Age last Birthday of	Sex	PROFESSION OR OCCUPATION	Employer, Worker, or Own account	If Working at Home	WHERE BORN	
59	50							Arthur Richardson	Son	5	10					York: Brompton
								Frederick	Son	5	4					50 - 50
								Cisely	Daughter	5	2					50 - 50
								William Clarkson	Visitor	5	23		Worker			50 - Middle
	Richmond Rd	1						John Robert Richardson	Head	43	43	Farmer	Employer			50 - Northallerton

Father John Robert Richardson b 1858 Northallerton Farmer  
 Mother Hannah M Richardson b 1857 Croft  
 Anne E b 1882 East Cowton  
 Thomas William b 1884 East Cowton  
 Mary H b 1888 East Cowton  
 Harry b 1889 East Cowton  
 Arthur b 1891 Brompton-on-Swale  
 Frederick E b 1897 Brompton-on-Swale Grandson  
 Cisely M b 1899 Brompton-on-Swale Granddaughter  
 William Clarkson b 1878 Great Ayton Visitor (Grocer)

A few other brothers and sisters (who are mentioned in the 1881 Census) are as follows

George b 1881 East Cowton  
 John C b 1885 East Cowton  
 Margaret b 1890 Catterick Bridge

In 1911<sup>(2)</sup>, he was still living at home with his parents and family in Brompton-on-Swale.

Father John Robert Richardson b 1858 Northallerton Farmer and Carting Contractor  
 Mother Hannah M Richardson b 1857 Croft  
 Thomas William b 1884 East Cowton  
 John C b 1885 East Cowton  
 Mary H b 1888 East Cowton  
 Arthur b 1891 Brompton-on-Swale  
 Frederick E b 1897 Brompton-on-Swale Grandson?  
 Cisely M b 1899 Brompton-on-Swale Granddaughter  
 John William Clarkson b 1902 Great Ayton Grandson

Arthur seems to have enlisted in Richmond (at present I don't know exactly when) in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion.

The 2nd Battalion, The Green Howards was in Guernsey in August 1914 when war broke out when they were ordered to return to England. They landed at Southampton on the 28th of August and joined 21st Brigade, 7th Division. They proceeded to Belgium to join the BEF on the 6th of October 1914 landing at Zeebrugge. They suffered very heavy losses in the First Battle of Ypres and did not regain full strength until February 1915. They took part in the major battles of 1915 including, Neuve Chapelle, Aubers Ridge, Festubert, the second action at Givenchy and The Battle of Loos. On the 20th of December 1915 21st Brigade transferred to 30th Division. They then saw action in the Battle of the Somme in 1916 and it seems likely that Arthur survived the main battle of the Somme, which officially ended in November 1916, only to be killed in action on Dec 16<sup>th</sup> 1916. Christmas 1916 must have been a terrible one for the family.

Arthur is buried in DOUCHY-LES-AYETTE BRITISH CEMETERY (Grave III C 10).



[Douchy-Les-Ayette Cemetery](#)

Sources:

- (1) 1901 Census
- (2) 1911 Census (Ref: RG14PN29476 RG78PN1711 RD542 SD2 ED2 SN44)
- (3) Douchy Les Ayette Cemetery  
<https://www.cwgc.org/visit-us/find-cemeteries-memorials/cemetery-details/64502>
- (4) Commonwealth War Graves Commission  
<https://www.cwgc.org/find-records/find-war-dead/casualty-details/583069>