



Researching WW1 Servicemen

Where do I look for information?

- Look for his Service record on the *Ancestry** website if he was in the Army (*only 30% of these records survived the Blitz in WW2*)
- Look for him on the Medal Roll database on *Ancestry*
- If he died, look on *Commonwealth War Graves* free website for more details
- If he died, look for details on the *Soldiers Died in the Great War* database on the *FindMyPast** website
- Was he from Oldham? Look at CD Index of *Oldham Chronicle* in WW1 for references, available for use at Oldham Local Studies & Archives.
- If he was in the Navy the *FindMyPast* website has several databases of Naval records
 - * *Ancestry* and *FindMyPast* are pay-to-view websites which are free to view at Oldham Local Studies & Archives or any Oldham MBC library.

What information might I find?

On the **service record** you might find these details:

- Full name
- Date and place of birth
- Where and when he enlisted
- The regiments/units he was in
- Next-of-kin
- Details of marriage and children
- Record of where he went and when
- Hospital treatment
- Promotions/demotions

Army Form E. 501

TERRITORIAL FORCE.

4 years' Service in the United Kingdom.

ATTESTATION OF

No. *1425* Name *Frank Dent* Corps *4th Rec Bn West Riding Regt*

Questions to be put to the Recruit before Enlistment.

1. What is your Name and Address? *Frank Dent*
5 Claytons, Cooper Street
Springhead

2. Are you willing to be attested for service in the Territorial Force for the term of 4 years (provided His Majesty should so long require your services) for the County of *York* to serve in the *4th Rec Bn West Riding Regt*?

3. Have you received a notice stating the liabilities you are incurring by enlisting, and do you understand them? *yes*

4. Do you now belong to, or have you ever served in the Royal Navy, the Army, the Royal Marines, the Militia, the Special Reserve, the Territorial Force, the Imperial Yeomanry, the Volunteers, the Army Reserve, the Militia Reserve, or any Naval Reserve Force? If so, state which unit, and, if discharged, cause of discharge. *no*

Under the provisions of Sections 19 and 20 of the Army Act, if a person knowingly makes a false answer to any question contained in the attestation paper, he renders himself liable to punishment.

Frank Dent do solemnly declare that the above answers made by me to the above questions are true, and that I am willing to fulfil the engagements made.

Frank Dent SIGNATURE OF RECRUIT.
Whitefoot-Lory Signature of Witness.

OATH TO BE TAKEN BY RECRUIT ON ATTESTATION.

I, *Frank Dent*, do hereby swear by Almighty God, that I will be faithful and bear true Allegiance to His Majesty King George the Fifth, His Heirs, and Successors, and that I will, as in duty bound, honestly and faithfully defend His Majesty, His Heirs, and Successors, in Person, Crown, and Dignity against all enemies, according to the conditions of my service.

CERTIFICATE OF MAGISTRATE OR ATTESTING OFFICER.

I, *Walker George Barnall* do hereby certify, that, in my presence, all the foregoing Questions were put to the Recruit, above named, that the Answers written opposite to them are those which he gave to me, and that he has made and signed the Declaration, and taken the oath at *Whitefoot-Lory* on this *21st* day of *March* 191*4*.

Walker George Barnall (Signature of Justice of the Peace, Officer, or other person authorized to attest Recruits.)

If any alteration is required on this form of the Attestation, a duplicate of the Form should be referred to the Recruiting Officer, who will issue the appropriate form. The Recruit should, if he requires it, request a copy of the Declaration, and also Form E. 501. Here insert Corps.

A page from a service record obtained from the Ancestry website

On the **medal card** you will find:

- Regiment/s he served in
- Medals awarded

Name.	Corps.	Rank	Regt. No.
93 DENT Frank	W. Rid. R	PLC	2/23
	— " —	— " —	— " —
Medal.	Roll.	Page.	Remarks.
VICTORY	0/2/10/1 B	50	Kin A. 24.8.15.
BRITISH	No No		
15 STAR	0/2/3 B	126	
Theatre of War first served in	(1) France		
Date of entry therein	15.4.15.		

K. 1380.

Correspondence.

Address.

(25454-14a) Wt. W 3347—H.P. 6461 2000m. 10/18 H. St. Est. 5450/1253

A medal card obtained from the *Ancestry* website

For help with interpreting the information on a medal card go to the National Archives website <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/records/medal-index-cards-ww1.htm>

On the Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) site you will find:

- Where and when he died
- Regiment
- Where he is buried or commemorated
- Sometimes there are family details and an address
- The facility to print a commemorative scroll for your man
- Pictures and information about the cemetery or memorial
- If you are lucky there may be a picture of his grave

Casualty details

DENT, FRANK

Rank:	Private	VIEW CERTIFICATE This is a PDF file and requires Adobe Reader to view.
Service No:	2123	
Date of Death:	24/08/1915	
Age:	19	
Regiment/Service:	Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment) 1st/7th Bn.	
Grave Reference	I. F. 30.	
Cemetery	BARD COTTAGE CEMETERY	

Additional Information:
Son of Miriam Dent, of 92, Wrigley St., Lees Rd., Oldham. Native of Springhead, Oldham.

BARD COTTAGE CEMETERY



Country:	Belgium
Locality:	West-Vlaanderen

Find out more about this Cemetery including, visiting information, reports and plans and any emergency notices.

[Find out more](#)

Use these links to find further information

Details from the Commonwealth War Graves site at <http://www.cwgc.org/>

On the *Soldiers Died in the Great War* database you will find:

- Date of death
- Death location
- Where he enlisted
- Rank, regiment etc
- Type of casualty
- Theatre of War
- Comments – usually listing gallantry awards

First Name	FRANK
Last Name	DENT
Soldier Number	2123
Rank	PRIVATE
Battalion	1/7th Battalion.
Battalion Details	-
Regiment	Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment)
Birth Place	-
Residence	LEES, LANCS
Place Of Enlistment	UPPERMILL, LANCS
Year	1915
Death Date	24
Month Of Death	8
Year Of Death	1915
Cause Of Death	Killed in action
Theatre Of War	France & Flanders
Theatre Of War Region	Western European Theatre
Supplementary Notes	-
Record set	Soldiers died in the Great War 1914-1919

Entry on the Soldiers Died database on the *FindMyPast* website

In the **Oldham Chronicle** you might find:

- Regiment and where he served
- Family information
- Details of his life before the War

The *Oldham Chronicle* is available on microfilm at Oldham Local Studies & Archives

Dent		Private, 1/7 Duke of Wellington's West Riding Regiment, Photograph	5 Jun 1915 p8 col 3
Dent		Lieutenant Colonel, 1/7 West Riding Regiment	14 Aug 1915 p11 col 3
Dent	F	Private, 2123, 7th West Riding Regiment	25 Sep 1915 p7 col 3
Dent	Frank	Private, 1/7 West Riding Regiment, Aged 59?, Address: Claytons, Springhead, Oldham	4 Sep 1915 p6 col 7
Dent	Frank	Private, 2123, 1/7 West Riding Regiment, Aged 19, Address: Claytons, Springhead	4 Sep 1915 p7 col 2
Dent	Frank	Private, 1/7 West Riding Regiment	11 Sep 1915 p10 col 3
Dent	Frank	Private, 1/7 West Riding Regiment	18 Sep 1915 p11 col 2
Dent	Frank	1/7 West Riding Regiment	2 Oct 1915 p11 col 3
Dent	Frank		1 Jan 1916 p10 col 6

References from the CD Index of *Oldham Chronicle* in WW1.



The CD is available for research at Oldham Local Studies & Archives.

We would appreciate it if you would consider giving us a copy of your findings to add to our growing collection of information about the men of the area who served in the First World War.