

Sidney Moulds

10396, 1st Battalion Bedfordshire Regiment DoW 5 July 1915 aged 19

Sidney was born in 1897 in Wistow to Arthur and Annie (nee Setchell) Moulds. Arthur worked as a farm labourer. Sidney's mother died when he was very young so his father moved in with his married sister in Ramsey Road, Warboys and Sidney went to live with his maternal Grandmother in Mill End, Warboys.

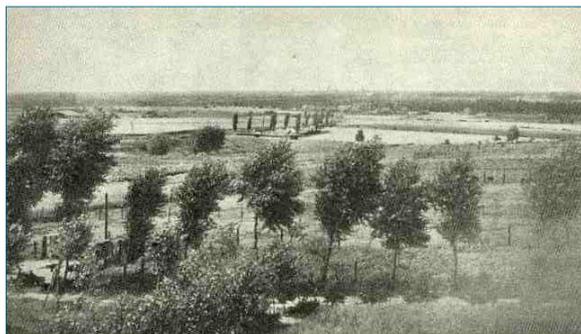
In the 1911 census, both Sidney and his Grandmother are working as farm labourers.

Sidney's service number indicates that he joined the Regular Army before war began, probably February/March time 1914. He enlisted in Huntingdon and joined the 1st Battalion of the Bedfordshire Regiment as in their turn so did **Dennis Adams, Arthur Butterworth, Roger Crisp** and **John Mills**.

Sidney was entitled to the 1915 Star as well as the Victory and British medals awarded to all who fought abroad. This means that he was sent to France after 23rd November 1914.

In 1915 the Battalion was involved in the capture and defence of Hill 60. This hill, made from spoil of a railway cutting, was of strategic importance in its view towards Ypres.

View towards Ypres (A J Insall)



In 1915 it was held by the Germans and in April/May the British fought to capture and retain it. On 11th April the battalion took over trenches opposite the hill and the British attacked on the 17th. The 1st Bedfords suffered many casualties in the battle including **Dennis Adams** and **Arthur Butterworth**. It is not known when Sidney was injured but on 1st May the men were attacked with “**asphyxiating gas and shells and all men were violently sick.**” War Diaries for June/July 1915 mention men wounded most days in the trenches of Hill 60.

Sidney died of wounds and gas on 5th July 1915 aged 19 probably in a military hospital in Rouen as he is buried in St. Sever cemetery there as are **Frederick Webb** and **Charles Wilderspin** both also on the War Memorial.



Rouen was the centre of several military hospitals throughout the war.

Sidney's grandmother died in 1927 aged 86 and his father in 1952 aged 83.

A hospital in Rouen. (Washington University School of Medicine)

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