

William Baker

Private William Baker

24836 1st Battalion Hampshire Regiment



William Baker was born in Horsted Keynes, Sussex, the son of Horace and Esther. He was still living with his parents in 1901 age 21 and working as a labourer. In 1907 he married Mercy Maria Tester in the district of Godstone, Kent. By 1911 he and Mercy were living in Turrill Hill, Freefolk, near Whitchurch with their daughter Catherine Agnes Grace aged 2 years. William was now working as a Gamekeeper. At the time of his death his wife lived at 1, Waltham Road, Overton.

William enlisted at Andover and served with the 1st Battalion Hampshire Regiment.

On the 4th January 1919 the Hants and Berks Gazette reported:

Roll of Honour. – We regret to record the death of Pte William Baker, 1st Hants Regt., of Appledell, Overton, who was killed in France on 1st Nov. He was 38 years of age. The Chaplain to the Battalion has written a letter of sympathy to Mrs Baker, in which he says:- “your husband was killed near the village of Preseau, not far from Valenciennes. The Battalion took part in an action which involved the capture of this village. His company were on the left. The position was strongly held by the enemy, and we had a few casualties, among whom was your husband, I am sorry to say. He was reverently and decently buried in an extension of the churchyard here, and the service read over his grave. I cannot tell you how sorry I am for you in your loss, coming as it has so near the end of the war.”

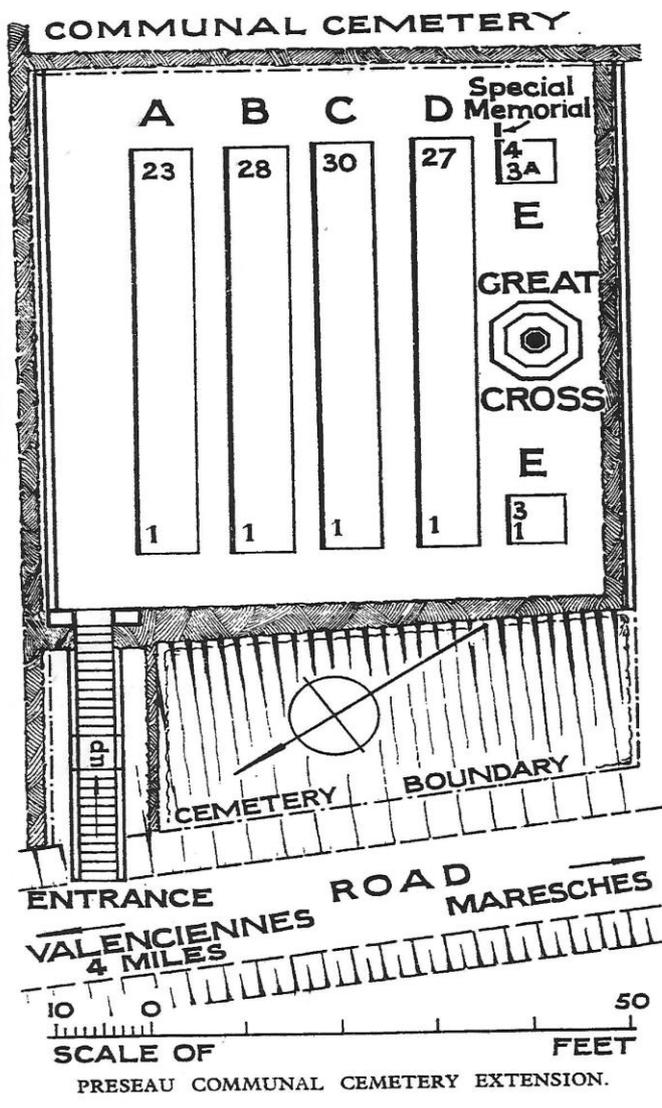
William is buried in the Preseau Communal Cemetery extension. This extension was made in November 1918 after the capture of the village. William’s wife had the words “Rest in the Lord” inscribed on his headstone. He was awarded the Victory and British medals.

Name.	Corps.	Rank.	Regt. No.
BAKER William	Hamps R.	Pte	24836
Medal.	Boll.	Page.	Remarks.
VICTORY	C/110382	151	
BATTAL	- do -	do	
STAR			
Theatre of War first served in			
Date of entry therein			

K. 1880

06/06/2017

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William Baker is buried in plot B27.