HAROLD SYMONDS

Private
355180

25th Battalion, Royal Welsh Fusiliers
died on
Sunday 28th June 1917
aged 22

HAROLD SYMONDS
is buried in
GAZA WAR CEMETERY

Gaza was bombarded by French warships in April 1915. At the end of March 1917, it was attacked and surrounded by the Egyptian Expeditionary Force in the First Battle of Gaza. The Second Battle of Gaza, 17-19 April, left the Turks in possession and the Third Battle of Gaza, ended with the capture of the ruined and deserted city on 7 November 1917. Casualty Clearing Stations arrived later that month and General and Stationary hospitals in 1918. Gaza War Cemetery contains 3,217 Commonwealth burials of the First World War.

Harold Symonds is buried in Plot XVI. Row G. Grave 8.

Name.	Corps.	Rank.	Regtl. No.
SYMONDS. Harold.	Montgom. Yeo. RW. Fus.	Pte	2231. 355180

Medal.	Roll.	Page.		Remarks.
VICTORY	J/2/103	P.43.	14442.	
BRITISH	—	—	—.—	
STAR				

Theatre of War first served in

Date of entry therein

K. 1330

Harold Symonds was born in Much Marcle in 1894. He was one of the six children of Edward and Celia Symonds. Edward was a bricklayer and the family lived in Dingle Cottage, Old Ross Rd, Much Marcle. In the 1911 census Harold at 16 was listed as a farm labourer. By the outbreak of the First World War Harold was living in Tynygraig, Buith Wells where he was employed as a groom-gardener. He enlisted in Llandindrod Wells on August 8th 1914 and joined the Montgomery Yeomanry. He served at home until March 1916 when he went with the Mesopotamian Expeditionary Force (MEF) to Egypt. He was attached to the 25th Battalion Royal Welsh Fusiliers and was killed in action by a shell on Orange Road, Mansura Ridge, Palestine on 28th June 1917. His funeral was conducted by Revd R. Jenkyn Owen the same day, and his grave is now in the Gaza War Cemetery. His brother Lewis died in St Asaph in 1918 and is buried in a war grave in Much Marcle.