

[The AIF Project](#)[Home](#) | [Search](#) | [About](#) | [Disclaimer](#)**Francis John McMillan OYSTON**

Regimental number	6312
Religion	Church of England
Occupation	Orchardist
Address	Glen Millan, Baker's Hill, Western Australia
Marital status	Single
Age at embarkation	24
Next of kin	Father, Francis James Oyston, Glen Millan, Baker's Hill, Western Australia
Enlistment date	4 April 1916
Rank on enlistment	Private
Unit name	16th Battalion, 20th Reinforcement
AWM Embarkation Roll number	23/33/4
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Fremantle, Western Australia, on board HMAT A23 <i>Suffolk</i> on 13 October 1916
Rank from Nominal Roll	Private
Unit from Nominal Roll	32nd Battalion
Fate	Killed in Action 29 September 1917
Age at death from cemetery records	25
Place of burial	No known grave

Commemoration details

The Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial (Panel 23), Belgium

The Menin Gate Memorial (so named because the road led to the town of Menin) was constructed on the site of a gateway in the eastern walls of the old Flemish town of Ypres, Belgium, where hundreds of thousands of allied troops passed on their way to the front, the Ypres salient, the site from April 1915 to the end of the war of some of the fiercest fighting of the war.

The Memorial was conceived as a monument to the 350,000 men of the British Empire who fought in the campaign. Inside the arch, on tablets of Portland stone, are inscribed the names of 56,000 men, including 6,178 Australians, who served in the Ypres campaign and who have no known grave.

The opening of the Menin Gate Memorial on 24 July 1927 so moved the Australian artist Will Longstaff that he painted 'The Menin Gate at Midnight', which portrays a ghostly army of the dead marching past the Menin Gate. The painting now hangs in the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, at the entrance of which are two medieval stone lions presented to the Memorial by the City of Ypres in 1936.

Since the 1930s, with the brief interval of the German occupation in the Second World War, the City of Ypres has conducted a ceremony at the Memorial at dusk each evening to commemorate those who died in the Ypres campaign.

Panel number, Roll of Honour,
Australian War Memorial

121

Miscellaneous information from
cemetery records

Parents: Francis James and Elizabeth OYSTON, Glen Millan, Baker's Hill, Western Australia. Native of Melbourne

Family/military connections

Brother: 1984 Lance Corporal Harold Arthur OYSTON, 51st Bn, returned to Australia, 21 June 1919.

Other details

War service: Western Front

Medals: British War Medal, Victory Medal

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