

From Berkhamsted to Battlefield

**WWI training trenches on
Berkhamsted Common**

Norman Groves



DON'T WORRY — I'm quite Comfortable at BERKHAMSTED !

B. 9 Mrs. Wilkins

77, Ellesmere Road

B'stead.

POST CARD.

This Space may be used for Communication
in the British Isles, Etc

SSE

The Address only to be
Written Here



Dear Dodo:

This might be from
life. - It's been a real
treat lately, but fine
to-day. Had a S.A
mail this week; all were
well. Hope you are
all A.I.

Best love

From

Don.

Miss. D. Bonney
Skylers Farm,
Ramsdell,
Near Basingstoke,
Herts.

1375





FINE ART PUBLISHING CO.

INNS OF COURT O.T.C., BERKHAMSTED.

WATFORD.



1290. Inns of Court O.N.C. Camp.

Oh! what a lovely Berkhamsted!



The Devil's Own WWI Training Garrison

The Inns of Court Officers' Training Corps at Berkhamsted 1914 -1919



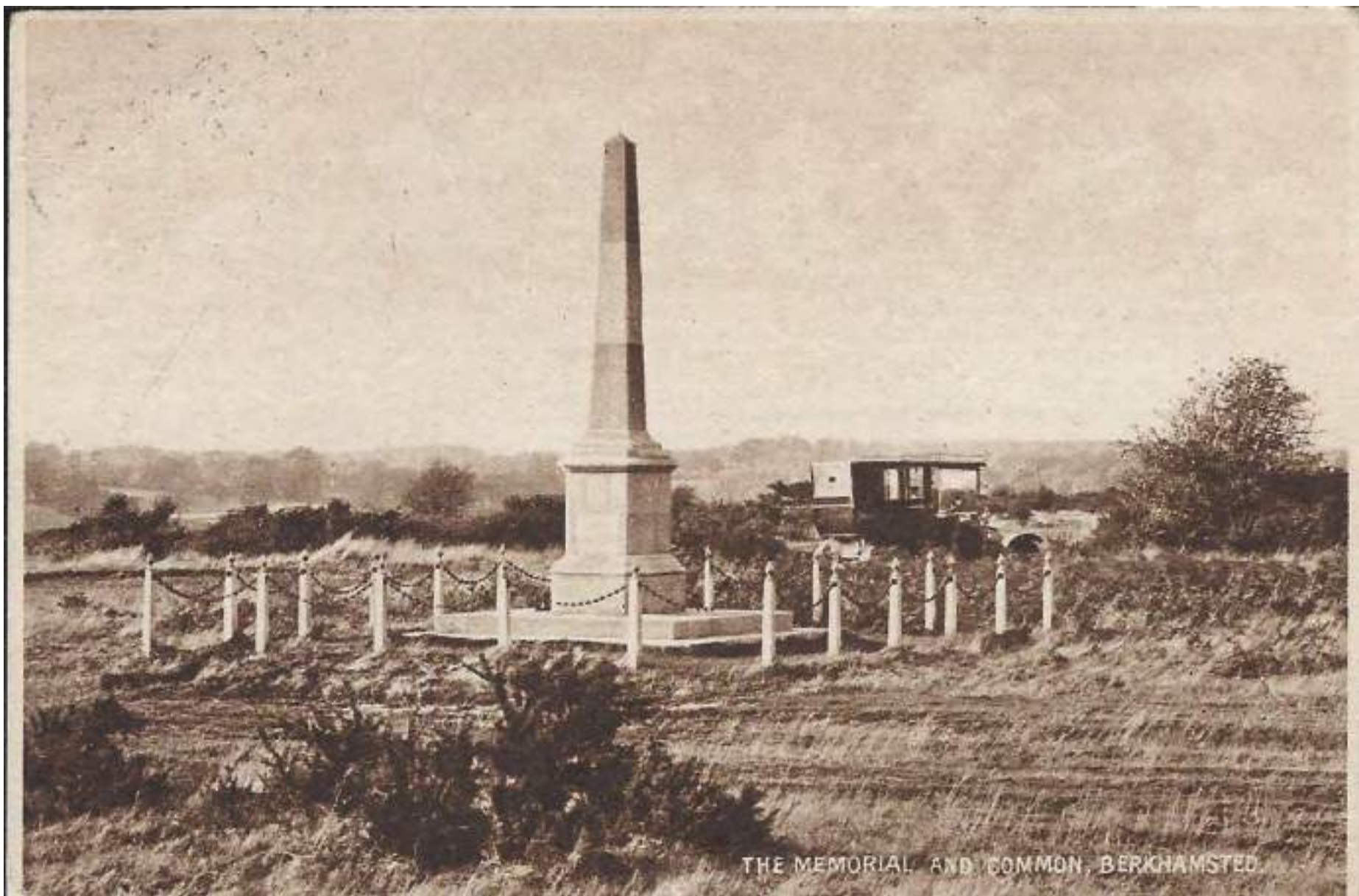
The terrible cost

2,200 were killed of
the 12,000 men
commissioned, and
3,300 - 5,000 were
wounded.

And how many
traumatised?







THE MEMORIAL AND COMMON, BERKHAMSTED.







Thank you

- ✓ **Chilterns Conservation Board**
- ✓ **Berkhamsted Golf Club Trustees**
- ✓ **Chiltern Society**
- ✓ **Heritage Lottery Fund**
- ✓ **Peter Johnston, Brian & Richard Shepherd**
- ✓ **35+ volunteers**
- ✓ **Alex Thompson & Richard North**
- ✓ **Colin Drake**

more thanks.....

- ✓ **Berkhamsted & District Archaeology Society**
- ✓ **Berkhamsted Local History & Museum Society**
- ✓ **Dacorum Heritage Trust**
- ✓ **Archaeology in Marlow**
- ✓ **Hertfordshire Countryside Management Services**
- ✓ **Inns of Court & City Yeomanry Museum**
- ✓ **Cadets from RAF Halton**
- ✓ **68 (Inns of Court & City Yeomanry) Signal Squadron**















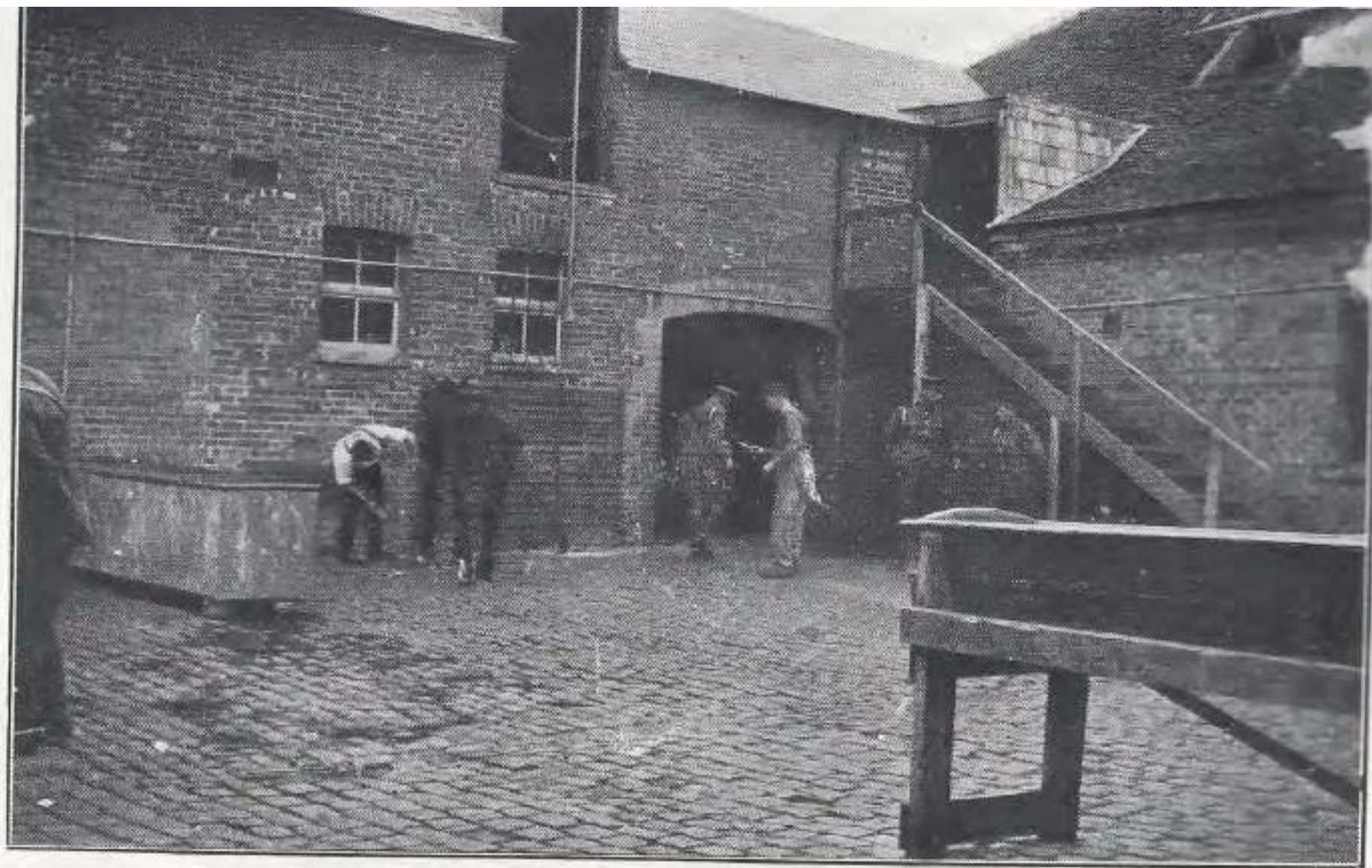




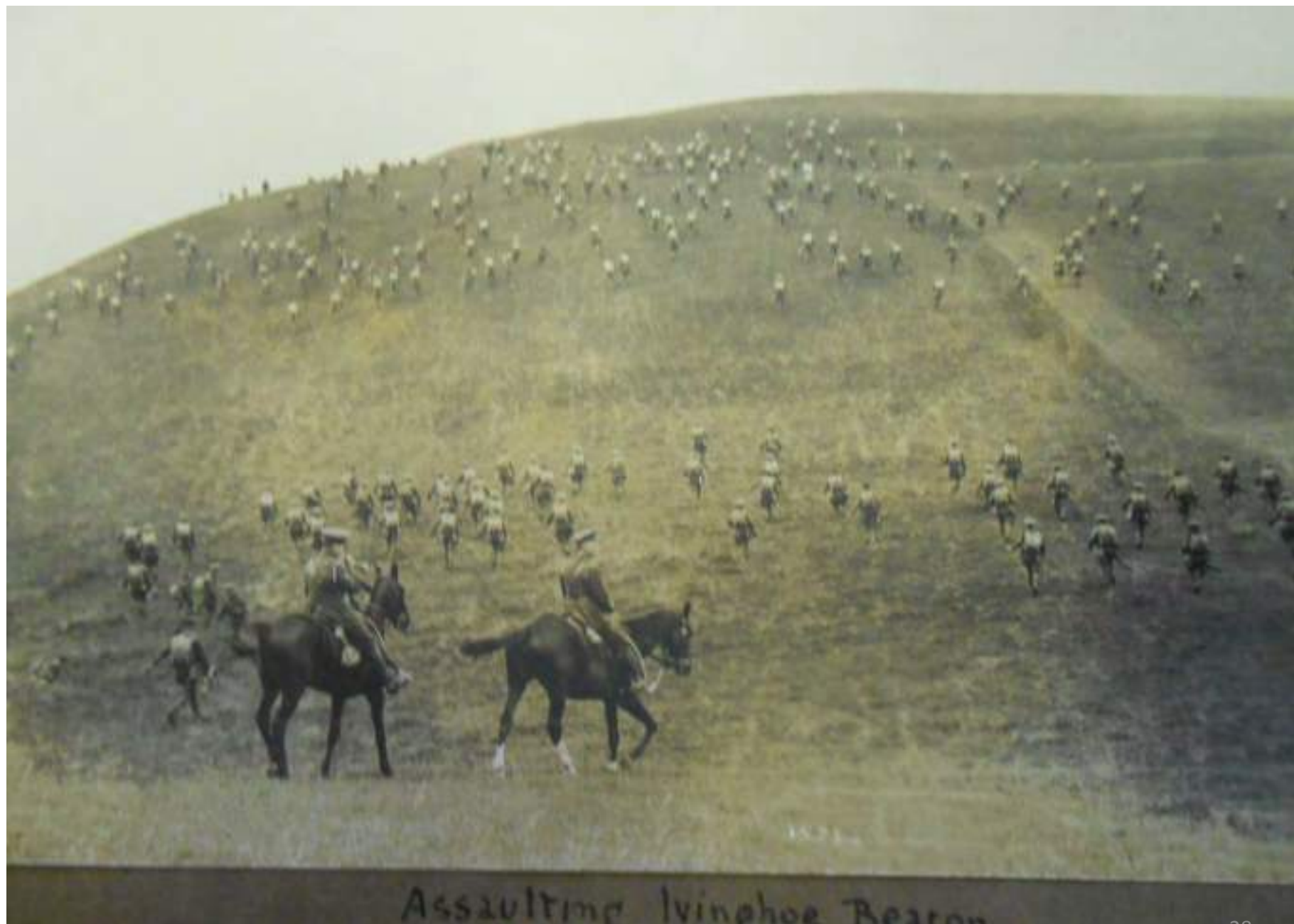


**NEAR THIS SPOT
LIE THE ASHES OF
LIEUT. COL. F.H.L.
ERRINGTON C.B.V.D
WHO SERVED THE
CORPS FOR 36 YEARS
AND WAS ITS LOVED &
HONOURED
COMMANDER
1913-1916**





IN THE OLD BREWERY.









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WATFORD.







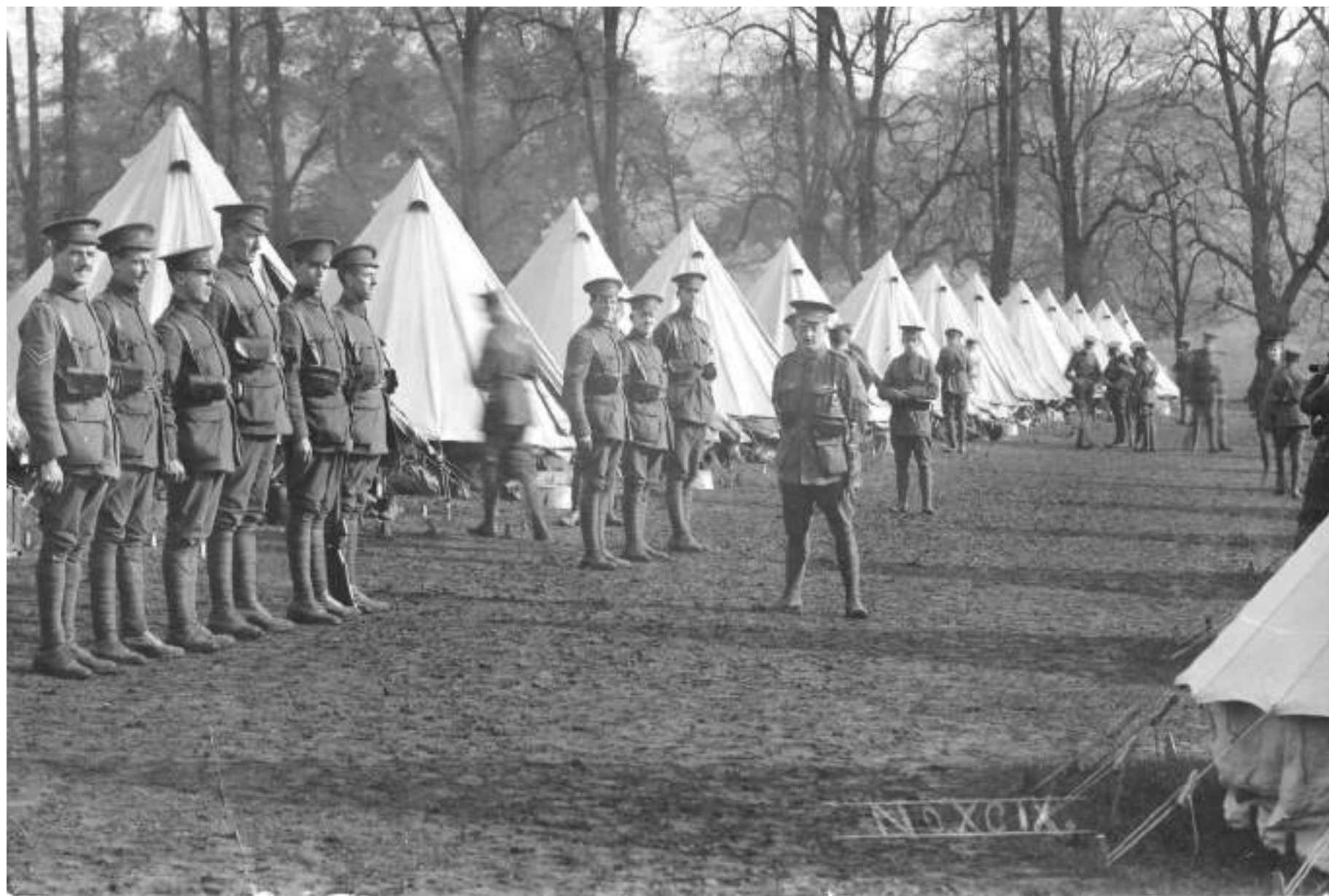






11. BERKHAMPSTEAD. THE COMMON





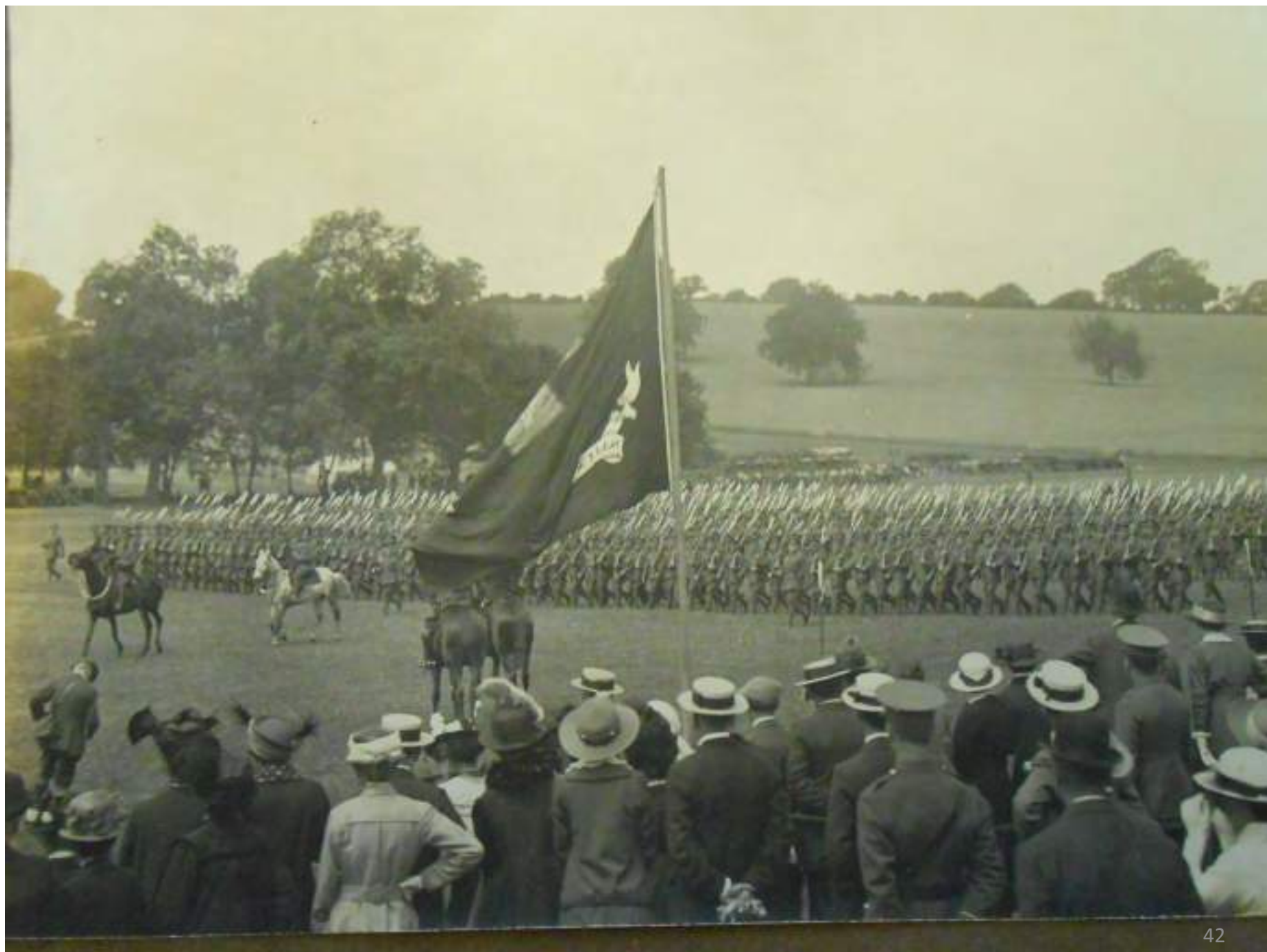


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W.









INSPECTION BY FIELD-MARSHAL SIR EVELYN WOOD, V.C., JUNE 18TH, 1915.







No. CLXI.



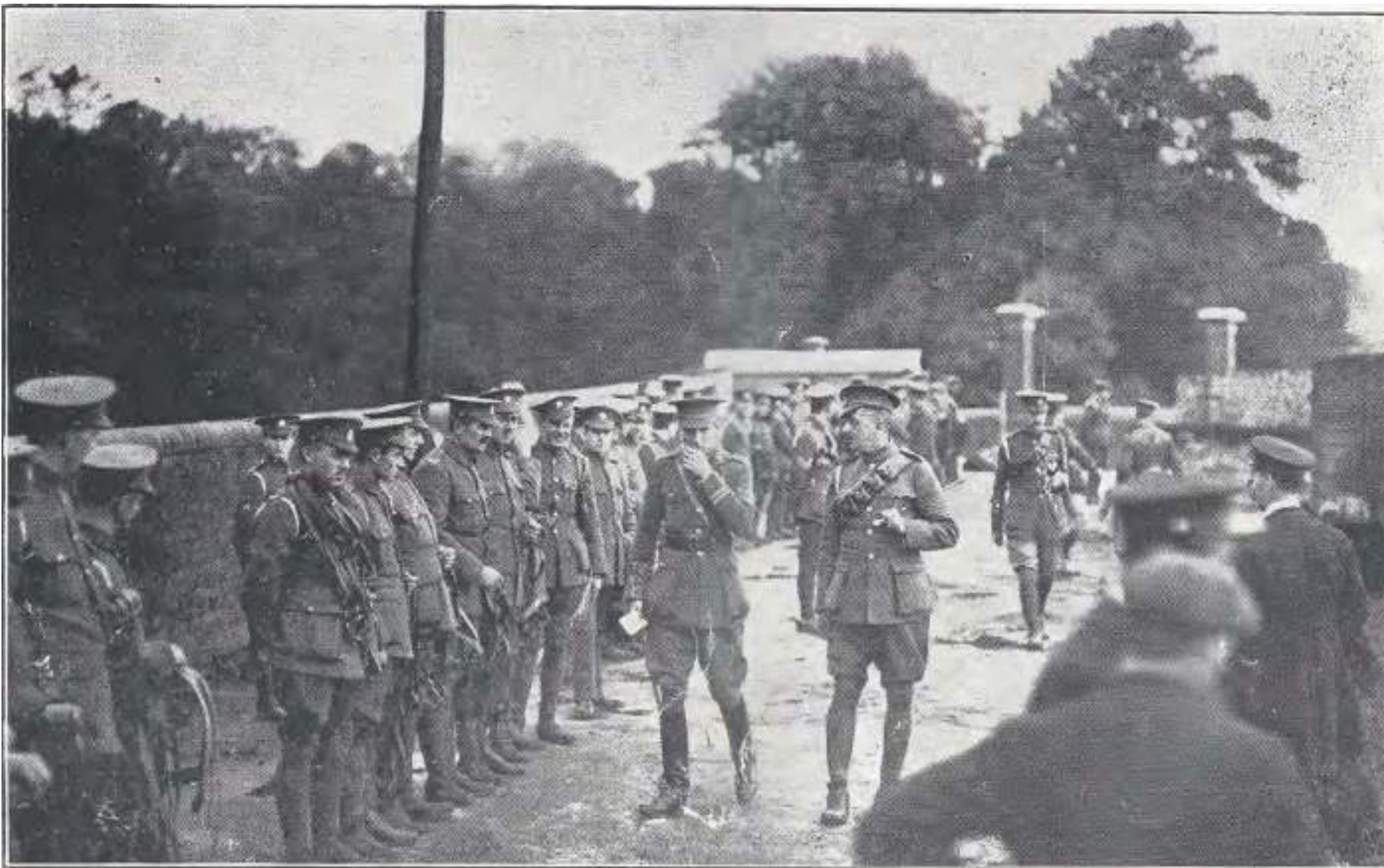










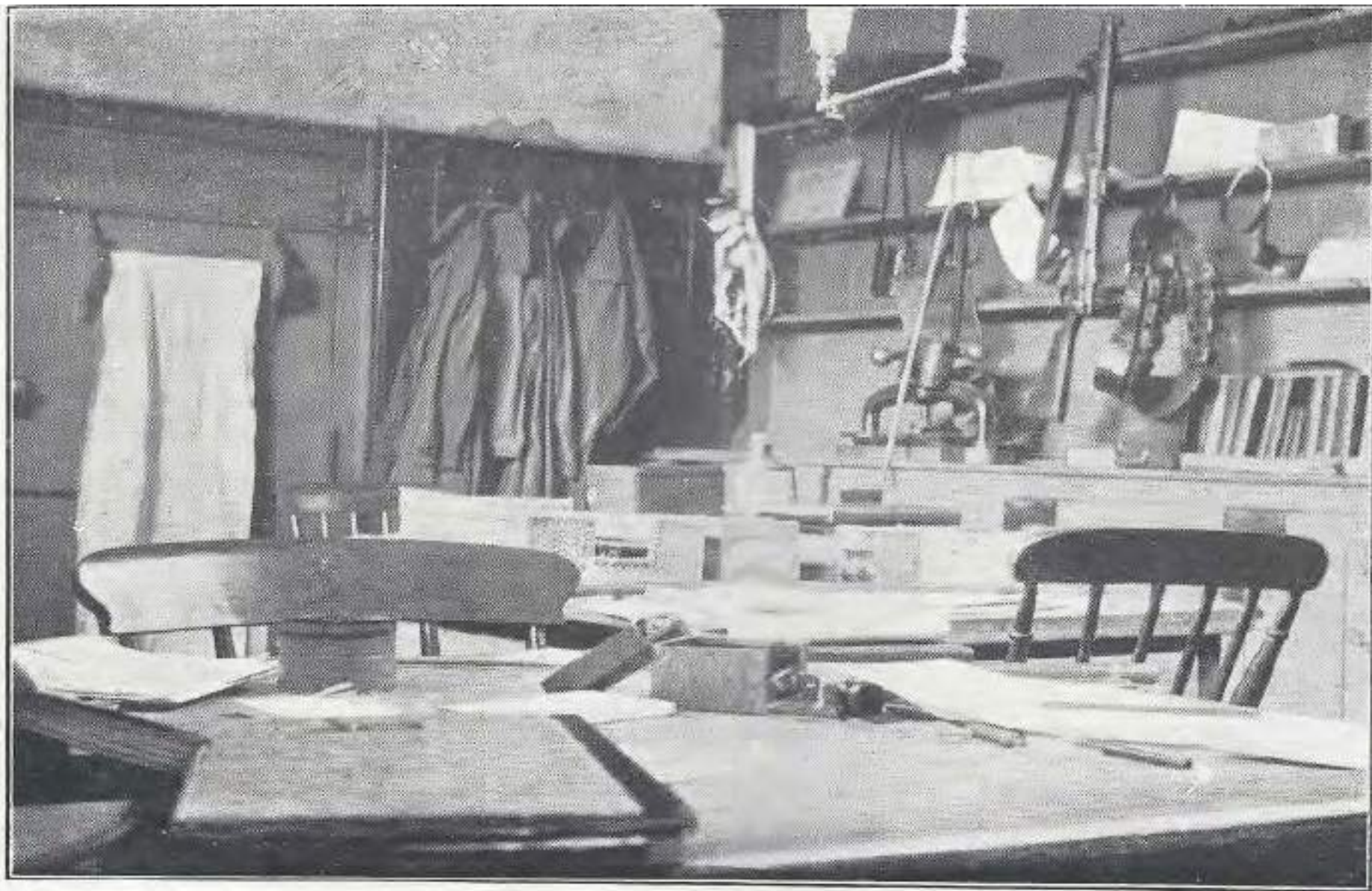


AWAITING THE FIRST HORSES : OCTOBER 14TH, 1914



"C" TROOP GROOMING.





SQUADRON OFFICE : THE OLD BREWERY.



PARADING FOR A "THURSDAY SCHEME."



"STABLES" IN THE BREWERY FIELD, SPRING, 1915.







Berkhamsted
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Google earth
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The King at the Inns of Court O.T.C. Camp.



GRISTLY WOUNDED SOLDIERS AND THEIR NURSES: HIS MAJESTY'S INSPECTION AT BERKHAMSTED.

The King's compelling interest in the welfare of his soldiers, both those who have fought and those awaiting to fight, is here more completely in these photographs, as he looks on another page taken a few days later, at Lanchester. His Majesty most often in the company of the late at Great Ormond Street Hospital, and was received there by Colonel Sir John...

He witnessed a short fight, launched the invasion into the corps, and saw them go through various training exercises. At the camp the King also spent much of his time greeting in a number of wounded soldiers and the nurses in attendance on them. His Majesty was attended by Sir Edmund H. W. Stott, Col. John Wilson, and Major H. G. Bennett. (Photo by Hulton-Deutsch)



THE "DEVIL'S OWN."

THE INNS OF COURT OFFICERS TRAINING CORPS.

It is a common impression it would be difficult to imagine any fashionable place more remote from war and trouble than Temple Gardens and Lincoln's Inn. Even to-day, in this most alienated of all quarters, the old buildings still wear but faint scars, looking almost as in the last light. There are still sitting on the lawn in the Temple the people who look to it, like Miss Fane in "Break Home," they had "the quietest part of the Long Vacation" there, of course, "glorious." And yet in Temple Gardens and on the pleasant strip of green behind Stone Buildings, with its greenery and

to their own aims. And here it may be possible respectfully to quote another famous joke at the corps expense, supposed to have been made by Sir Robert Peel, who translated their motto, "Memento mori," as "You will be quite safe in the Middle Temple." The history of the corps, however, goes back as long before Sir Robert Peel or George III. for it ever traces its descent to volunteer associations which have always been formed in Great Britain of past years since the days of old Armada. From the this long and distinguished record the work that the corps is doing to-day will bring much added distinction.

disgrace, men are being shifted to meet the further their companies, and that vacancies in turn are being filled up from the waiting list. Nor will the vacancies and loss: there will soon be more, for the War Office is now taking a number of men from the corps to help in the training of the great stream of recruits that comes flooding into the new Army. Already a hundred have been handed over for this purpose, and so have gained the highest commendation. They are going to battle in fifty, and this should mean that the waiting list will be run through quickly, quickly to be filled up again. Colonel Ferington, in whose splendid



Lieut.-Col. F. H. L. Rimbington, V.D.



SIGNALLING.



Capt. J. Hainsford Hannay, Adjutant.

its place time, in the widest possible contrast to the interesting place, very near the very heart of London, peopled with all their night and noise for war. In Lincoln's Inn is the headquarters of the Inns of Court Officers Training Corps, which is today justifying its existence a hundred times over by training and leading over officers to the Special Reserve, to the Territorials and to Lord Kitchener's New Army.

To be tactfully known to all the world by a nickname is an almost unending sign of an honorable popularity, and it is certainly so in this case. Most people, on hearing the name of Court Officers Training Corps, but everybody knows the "Devil's Own." This was the nickname invented by George III. when he reviewed the Temple Companies at Hyde Park in 1763, and it has stuck

In the beginning of August the Inns of Court passed their companies and a squadron that were sent up in the north. The moment the war broke out, there were instantly taken up. With these today there are training voluntarily their father companies of men, each one of whom is ardently hoping to gain a commission. Beyond these, there is a long waiting list, and it may further be added, in showing the general enthusiasm, that an enormous number of applicants had to be rejected on account of age or the lack of any previous training. Now, of those three original companies and a squadron, a good many have already gone to help in overseas service, mostly in the Special Reserve, a few in the Territorials. Of those in the Special Reserve, some have already left for the front, taking fresh drafts with them. To all the plans named to these

energy the corps even more than can easily be imagined—indeed, even its existence in its present shape—Captain Hannay, the Adjutant, and everybody else concerned are hard over ears in work, and very busy with it.

On one of these fine autumn evenings the clocking away makes himself to see more cheerful and more serious by taking a walk through the Inns. In the Temple Gardens there are two squads being drilled. They are not in uniform, but in ordinary clothes—by the way, not grey breeches and short jackets. One squad thing strikes one instantly. How different is the attitude of mind of the Irish crowd that stare at them through the columns from what it would have been but a short while since! Not much more than a month ago these soldierly bands in their different colored



12. At the House of Representatives, Secretary Van Dusen is seen with the President's cabinet members waiting for the President.



13. Inside the Postoffice, Secretary Van Dusen is seen with the President's cabinet members waiting for the President.



14. A Group in the Assembly, where the President is waiting to be interviewed by the press.



15. Shows the President's Secretary, Van Dusen, in a room where he is waiting for the President.



16. The President has been found by the C.M. and is seen with the President's cabinet members waiting for the President.



17. The President, John F. Kennedy, is seen with the President's cabinet members waiting for the President.



18. Shows the President's Secretary, Van Dusen, in a room where he is waiting for the President.



19. Shows the President's Secretary, Van Dusen, in a room where he is waiting for the President.



20. Shows the President's Secretary, Van Dusen, in a room where he is waiting for the President.

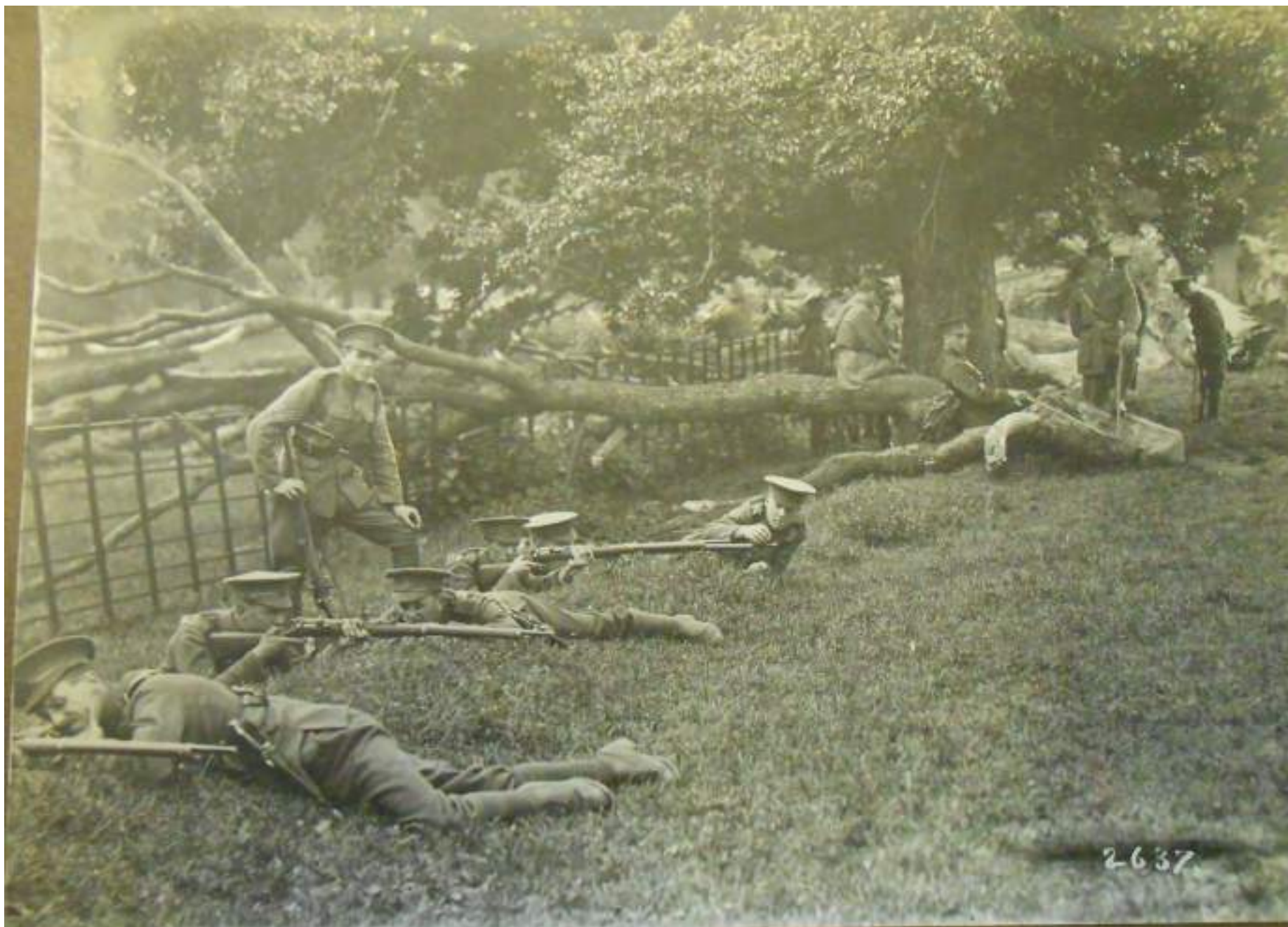


21. Shows the President's Secretary, Van Dusen, in a room where he is waiting for the President.



22. Shows the President's Secretary, Van Dusen, in a room where he is waiting for the President.





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Fate, Compass and magnetic variation.



After Night Ops.

No doubt the popularity of night operations was in some cases due to the fact of
18.12.2013









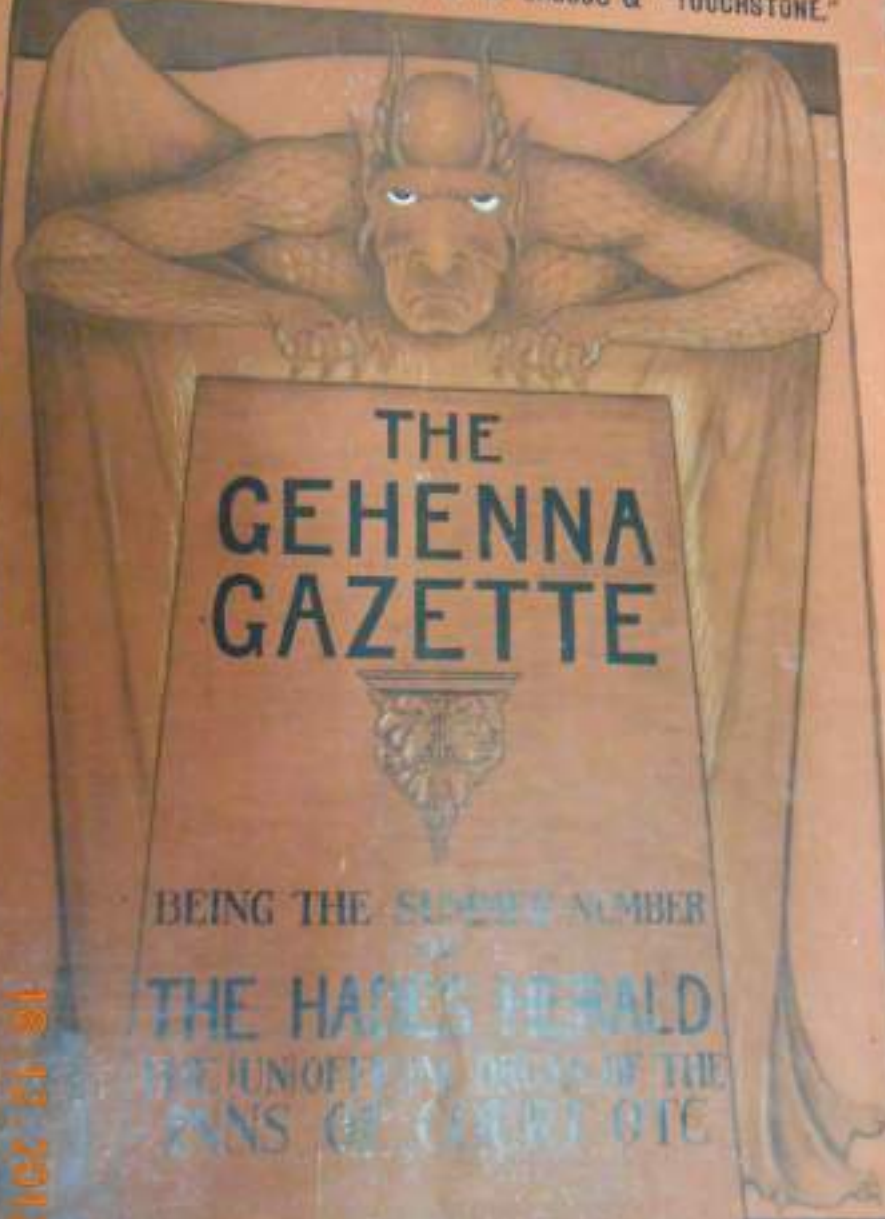


High St. Beckenham





VOLUNTEER CONTRIBUTIONS BY W. W. JACOBS & "TOUCHSTONE."



18.12.2012

WHAT IT FEELS LIKE



Anticipation



Realization

18.12.2013

THE HADES HERALD.

THE ORGAN OF THE INNS
OF COURT OFFICERS
TRAINING CORPS.



18.12.2013



A few notes on
Pay Duties

King would oblige to
might have out the
course. William
olden time, marched
treated with every
Castle hard by. I
ghost came by, I
unauthorised person
the ramparts in a
and thought myself
in shining armour,
Then I imagined
the guise of Will
thought the arms
Would William, if
teaching recruits
embryo officers
Duties? "No." I
to lack discipline,
that tableau when
scrub a flow also
went down to
puddle and awol

On the whole
can come away
spiritual exaltation
manifested discom
the stove which
never light.













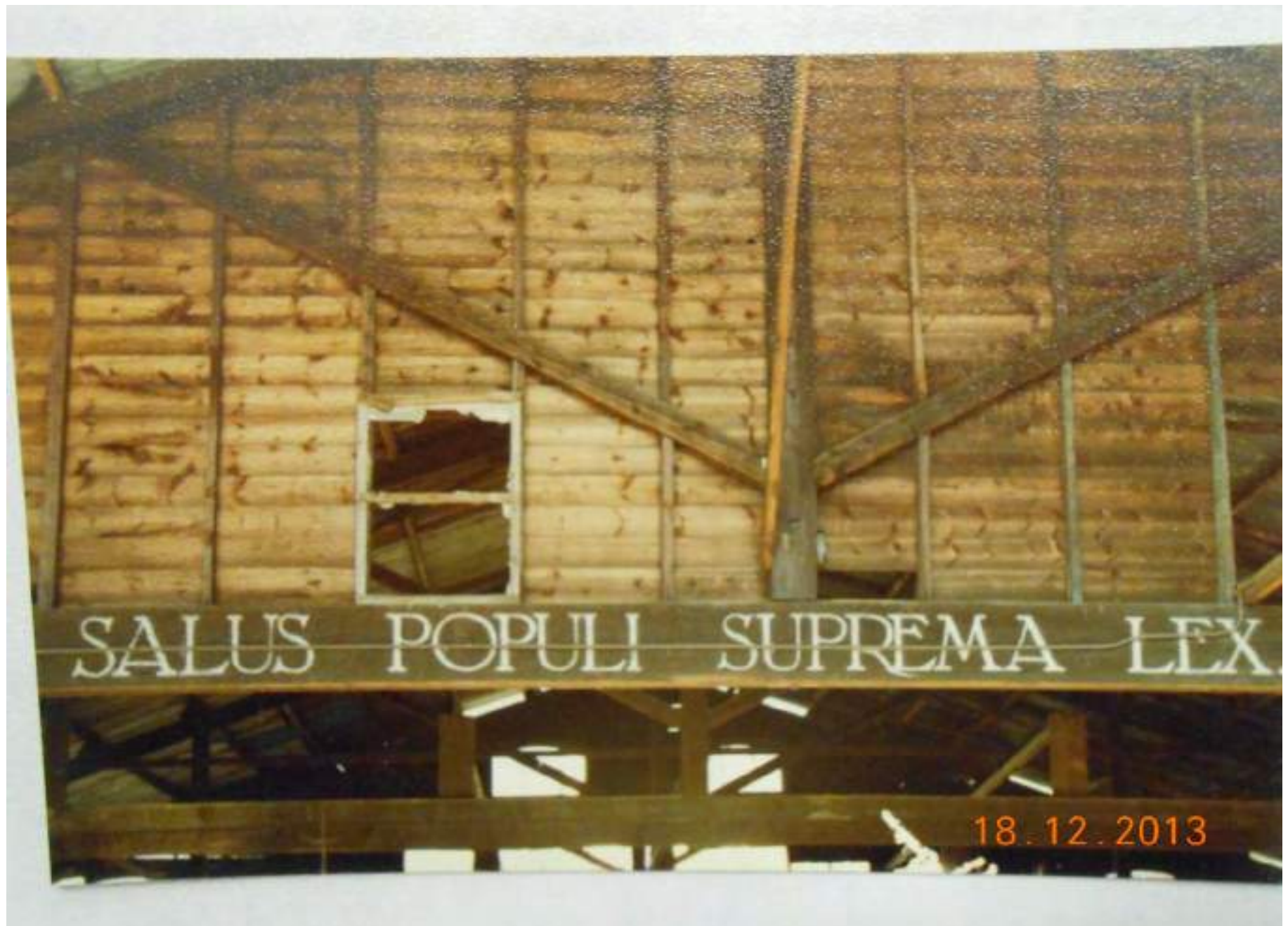
Band of Inns of Court O.D.C.







JOHN DABORN.



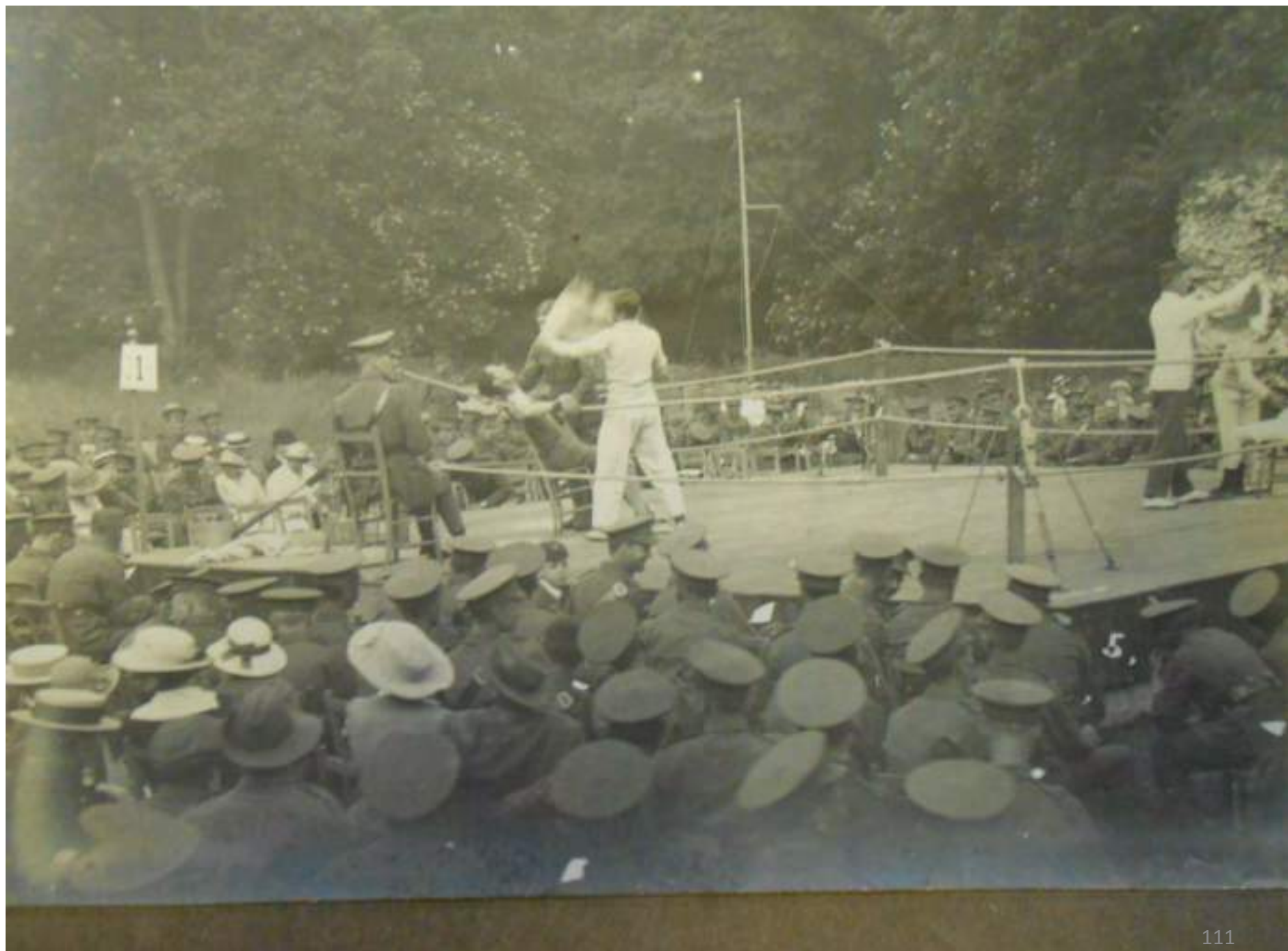




13.











2025



2026.









**Lieutenant Colonel
Christopher Bushell
VC DSO**

**The Queen's Royal
(West Surrey)
Regiment
killed Aug 1918
aged 29**





**Capt Walter
Napleton Stone
VC
Royal Fusiliers
killed Nov 1917
aged 25**

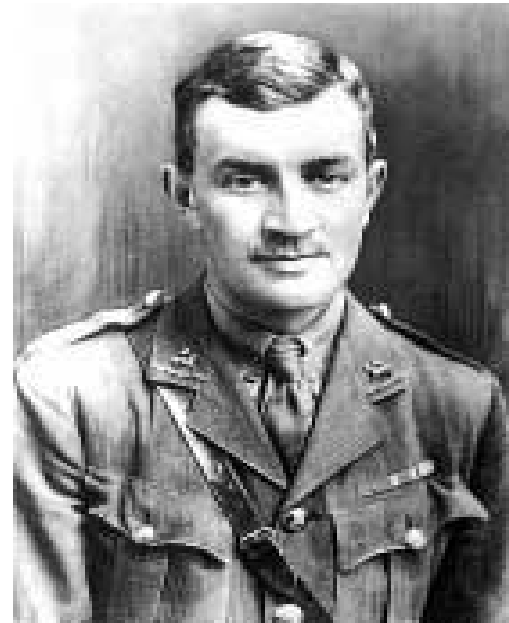




**2nd Lieutenant
John Harrison, VC
East Yorkshire
Regiment**

**killed May 1917
aged 26**





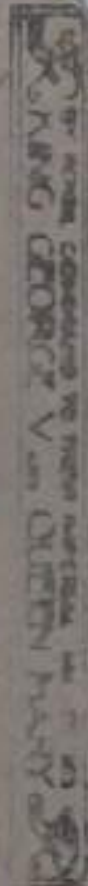






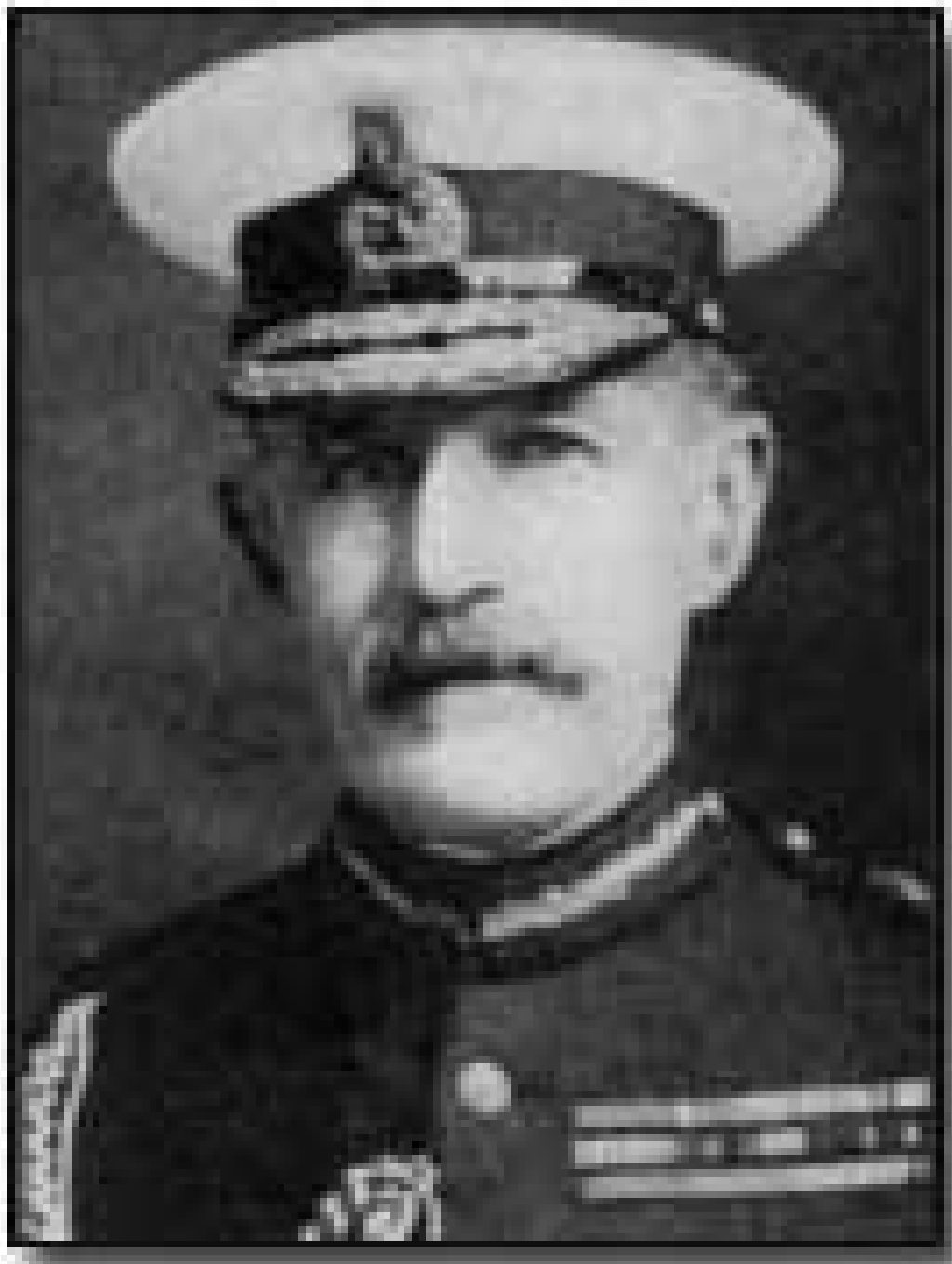


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Bank — TO M L S
—
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126





TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND IN LOVING AND
UNDYING MEMORY OF
GEN^L SR HORACE LOCKWOOD SMITH-DORRIEN
C. C. B., C. C. M. G., D. S. O.
BORN 26TH MAY 1858, DIED 12TH AUGUST 1950.
Gentlemen we will stand and fight
(Le Cateau 26th August 1914)















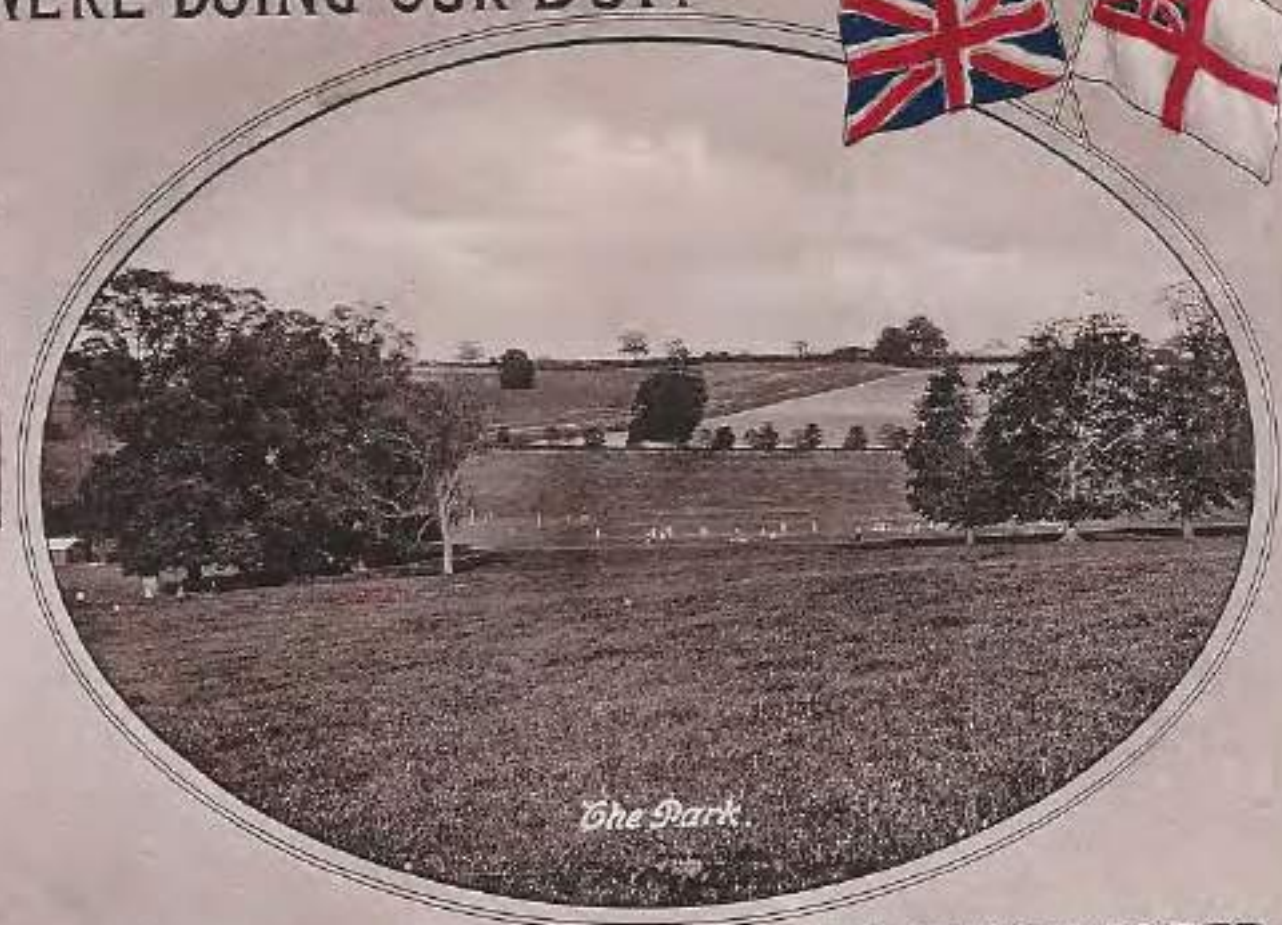
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INNS OF COURT O.T.C., BERKHAMSTED.

WATFORD.



WE'RE DOING OUR DUTY



FOR KING AND COUNTRY AT BERKHAMSTED



Mapping the trenches on
Berkhamsted Common
winter 2012-13
photographs by Colin Drake



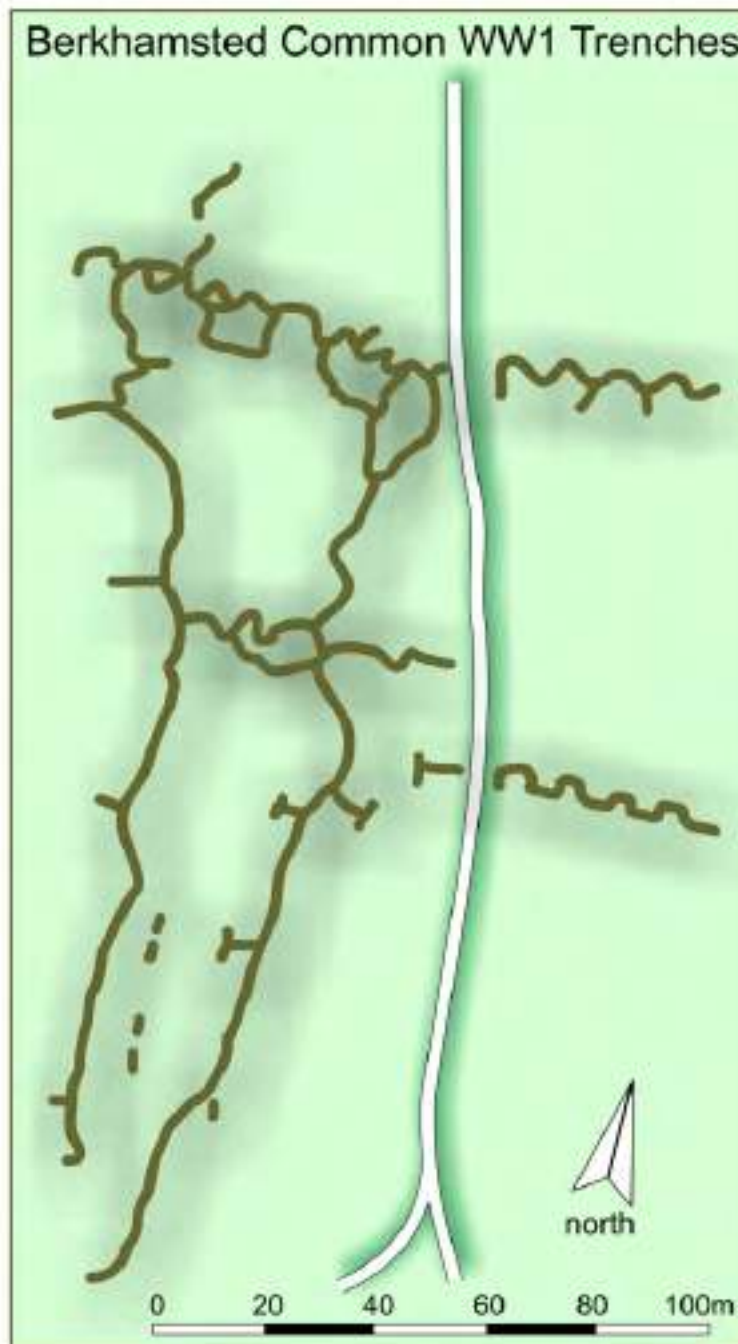








Berkhamsted Common WW1 Trenches



Remembering.....

Onslow Groves

1898 - 1979

Radio Operator, Royal Flying Corps, 1915 - 1918

John Goffey

1897 - 1916

2nd Lieutenant, King's Royal Rifle Corps
who trained at Berkhamsted with the Inns of Court OTC

Going forward...

- articles
- information board
- audio trail
- talks
- school resources
- 100 year remembrance

Websites

- *chilternsaonb.org*
- *chilternsociety.org.uk*
- *berkhamstedarchaeology.co.uk*
- *dacorumheritage.org*
- *berkhamsted-castle.org.uk*
- *iccy.org.uk*



The Inns of Court Officers Training Corps
"The Devil's Own" 1914-1918











Let us not forget



















