**Francis Edwin Hansford**

Francis Edwin Hansford, born in Ireland in about 1885, was one of five children born to Arthur Edgar Hansford and his wife, Rhoda. His father was a prison warder. In 1891 the family was living in Newcastle on Tyne. By 1901 they had moved to Hammersmith and Francis, aged sixteen, was employed there as a plumber’s boy. By 1911 Francis had emigrated to Canada and when war broke out he joined the Canadian Infantry Regiment, 8th battalion. He served as Corporal 187246 on the Western Front and died on 13 April 1917, aged 32. He is remembered with honour at the Bois-Carre British Cemetery, Thelus in France. By 1915 his father had retired and his parents moved to 12 Field Road, Oxhey. Francis is commemorated on the memorial at St Matthew’s Church, Oxhey



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