Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War
1DRL/0428

1359 Sergeant William Richard Harmer

4th Trench Mortar Battery



1270501G

[redacted]: [redacted],
4th Trench Mortar Battery.
Late 5th Bath.

Harmer, Sergt. W.R. 2359.
1359.

(K. Sept: 1/16. Det: D & B)

"I was with Sergt. Harmer on 1st September 1916. We left the Battery Headquarters on a Rations Fatigue. The position of the party was unknown and while looking for it the Sergt went into No Man's Land with three others and was killed by a high explosive shell, a piece passing through his shoulder and coming out of the left breast. We returned in half an hour to bury him but there was nothing left the body having been blown to pieces by further shelling. He was my Battery Sergt. Major at the time."

Eye witness:-- Yes.

Informant:-- Pte. J. E. Bonny, 2864,
12th Brig: Australians. L.T.M.B.
Colmore Road Hospital,
King's Heath, Birmingham.

Home address:-- Roundhill,
Moora,
West Australia.

Jan: 17th
Awdry.

France.

A. I. F.
Australian Fld.Art.
4 T.M.B.

HARMER, Sgt. W.R. 2359.- 1289.

K/Sept. 1st. 1916.

He was QMS. of the 4th. T.M.B. I saw him killed at Mouquet Farm about 3ept.1st. 1916. Sixteen of us got lost up in the trenches. As we were coming back, a piece of shell struck him in the back and killed him outright. We covered his body over and left it there. I knew him very well. He used to belong to the 46th.Inf. Batt. He was due for his commission the day after he was killed.

Reference: Pte. A.J.Stephens, 1777, 12 L.M.T.B., A.G.B.D.

Etaples.
26.1.17.
SA.

4th Trench Mtr.Batty.
late 5th Batt. A.I.F.,

HARMER
Sgt.W.R. 1359

"K. in A. 1.9.16"

Killed in Action. 1.9.16.

Cert. by A.I.F. Headquarters,
31.1.17

London
6.2.17

H.

4th Div. Trench Mortar Bty.

HARMER, W.R.
No. 2359/1359 Sgt.

Killed in action 1/9/16.

"I saw Casualty killed on the 1st September at Chalk Pitts, Pozieres by H.E. shell. At the time he was going up to the men with rations. He was wounded in several parts of his body. I buried him and put a cross over his grave alongside the sap. I knew him well." Pte. Shackleton helped me to bury him."

Informant:- H.J. Royston,
No. 3609 12th T.M.B.

Private address
59 Cooper Street,
Surrey Hills,
Sydney, N.S.W.

H.A.B.
5/7/17.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU—MELBOURNE.

4th Div. Trench Mortar Btry.
Late 5th Btn.

HANSON
Sgt. William Nicholas
1553.

~~"Killed in Action 1.9.16"~~

No trace Germany
Cert. by Capt. Mills. 10.10.19.

London.
23.10.19.

H.