

# Joseph William Small

## Canadian Infantry (South Saskatchewan Regiment) 1878 – 1917



Joseph William Small was born on 2<sup>nd</sup> Jun 1878 (and baptised on 18<sup>th</sup> Aug 1878) in Swanbourne. His parents were Frank Small (1848-1935) who came from the Isle of Wight and Ann Spencer (1851-1925) from Staffordshire.

In **1881**, Joseph is recorded as age two living with his parents and an older brother called Alfred, in a house in Petticoat Lane (now Cemetery Hill), also born in Swanbourne and baptised there in 1875. His father was a gardener, so they were probably living in the house now called Garden Cottage which is located in the grounds of Swanbourne House (*photo right*).



In **1891**, the family had moved to 19, Union Street, Winslow. Joseph's father was still a gardener, but the Census does not say whether Joseph (age 12) was still at school or working.

The family had again moved by the time of the **1901 Census** and were living in Irthlingborough in Northants where it seems they had a Market Garden business in the High Street. Joseph (now 22) and his father were both described as Market Gardeners.

Although Joseph William Small cannot be confirmed on any passenger list to Canada, a probable Census record for him in 1911 is in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan showing a Joseph Small, living alone, age 33, single, born Jan 1878 in England, arriving in Canada in 1906 and a farmer. It is believed he did not marry.

His war attestation records in Canada were signed on 27<sup>th</sup> Mar 1916 in Tisdale, Ontario. His date of birth is given as 2<sup>nd</sup> Jun 1879 (should be 1878?) and place of birth as Swanbourne. His residence is given as Aneroid, Saskatchewan, Canada, he was 5ft 9ins in height and 36ins in girth, had blue eyes and dark brown hair. His next of kin is his father, Frank Small of Coppings Cottages, Hatfield, Essex, England (which is correct).

Private Joseph William Small, son of Frank and Ann Small of Swanbourne, Bucks, England, died on 8<sup>th</sup> Nov 1917 age 39. He is buried at the Nine Elms British Cemetery, near Ieper, Belgium, Commonwealth War Grave reference VIII C II. He was in the army, Canadian Infantry (Saskatchewan Regiment), 28<sup>th</sup> Battalion, service number 888308. (*Photographs below*)

**NOTE:** Joseph William Small is **NOT** on the Swanbourne War Memorial, he probably should be.

