

**Herts at War**  
([www.hertsatwar.co.uk](http://www.hertsatwar.co.uk))

**Name:** Fred Stevens  
**Rank:** Private  
**Service Number:** 28707  
**Date of Death:** 16<sup>th</sup> September 1916  
**Age:**  
**Regiment/Service:** 6<sup>th</sup> Battalion Duke of Cornwall's  
Light Infantry  
**Award:**  
**Grave/Memorial Reference:** Pier and Face 6 B.  
**Cemetery/Memorial:** THIEPVAL MEMORIAL, Somme, France  
**UK Cemetery/Memorial:** Hitchin War Memorial, St Mary's Church, Hitchin  
St Mary's Church Memorial Book, Hitchin (*not confirmed*)  
Tilehouse St Baptist Church War Memorial.



**Pre War:**

He was a resident of Hitchin, but enlisted in Hertford in December 1914. His home address was 51 Tilehouse St. Hitchin.

**Wartime Service:**

Frederick was allocated the Regimental Number 4350 in the Hertfordshire Regiment. He was on 'special duties' until July 1915, but the nature of them has not been discovered. Later he was posted to the 6th Battalion of the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry where he was given the Number 28707. The Battalion was in the 43rd Brigade of the 14th (Light) Division. He was initially reported as missing and it was not until July 1917 that he was declared to have been killed in action at Grandecourt.

On the day of his death the Battalion launched an attack on Gird and Gird Support trenches in front of Guedecourt in the Somme sector, moving forward in a single wave. At 9.25am heavy machine-gun fire from the right brought the assault to a standstill. A renewed attack at 6.55pm was also a failure. The casualties were heavy.

He has no known grave, but is remembered on Pier/Face 6B of the great Thiepval Memorial to the Missing in France.

**Additional Information:**

**Acknowledgments:**

Adrian Dunne  
David C Baines  
[www.hitchinatwar.org.uk](http://www.hitchinatwar.org.uk)

