## **Private Frederick Wilfred Blake**

15406 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, Leinster Regiment



Frederick Wilfred Blake was born in Overton and baptised on 26 July 1898. He was the son of Francis Henry and Rose Blake and in 1901 was living with his parents and siblings in Waltham Lane, Overton, age 2 years. His father and siblings were also born in Overton and his mother was born in Worting. In 1911 the family was still living in Waltham Road, Overton.

Frederick enlisted into the Prince of Wales's Leinster Regiment (Royal Canadians) 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion in Andover and was formerly with the Training Reserve Battalion No. 6507.

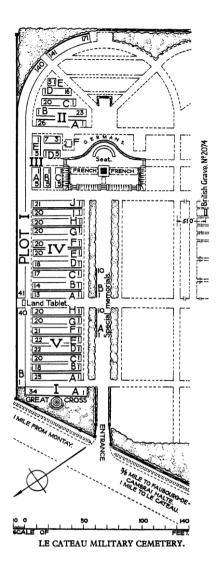
## Hants & Berks Gazette, 11 May 1918.

The Casualty Lists – The last offensive of the Germans has, we regret to say, brought grief and sorrow to more than one family in Overton. Sergt. F. Oram, D.C.M., son of Mr. and Mrs. A. Oram of Lampole, has been reported killed in action, and Pte. Cousins of Winchester Street, has also given his life for his country. Pte. F. Blake, whose mother also died a few weeks ago, has been posted by the War Office as missing. Pte. Blake has four brothers serving.

Frederick died of wounds on 12 April 1918, aged 19. He is mentioned in a Leinster Regiment document signed in Cork and is remembered in Ireland's Memorial Records for 1914 – 1918.

Frederick was buried in Le Cateau Military Cemetery, Nord-Pas-de-Calais, grave reference I B 44. Le Cateau was in German hands from August 1914 until the final Allied offensive in October 1918 so Frederick must have been killed elsewhere. His family paid for the inscription 'JUST BEYOND THE RIVER' to be inscribed on his headstone.





He was awarded the Victory and British Medals. On his record the service number is correct but the name Wilfred precedes the initial 'F'.

