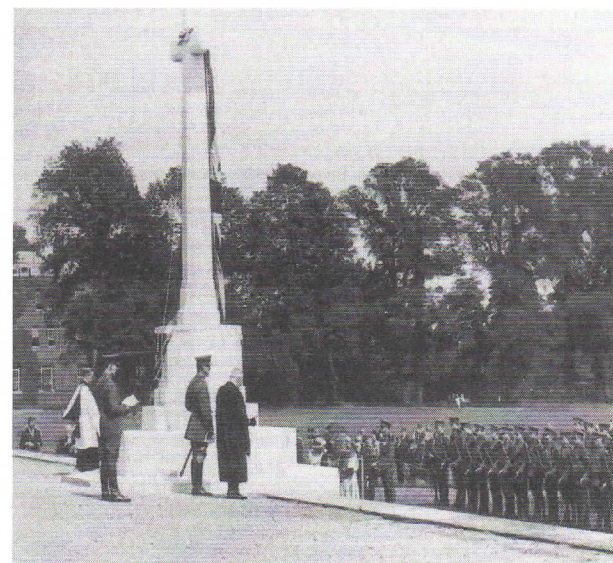




Robert was the son of Alfred and Kate Holmes and was the second youngest of seven children. Robert was born in Sussex in 1886 but by 1891 the family were living at 7 Spring Bank, Manningham.

Alfred moved north to join his father in the family brewing business and they subsequently moved to Ashfield in Bingley. Robert was educated at Oatlands School in Harrogate, and Haileybury College from 1900-1904.

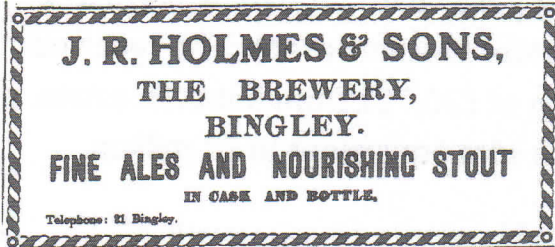


The Memorial at Haileybury College

Robert's father Alfred died in 1902 and his Uncle Fred in 1903; the 1911 Census

Second Lieutenant
Robert Brian Holmes
5th Battalion
King's Royal Rifle Corps
Killed in Action 1 July 1916
Buried in the Noeux-Les-Mines
Communal Cemetery in
Northern France

shows Robert working in the family business as a brewer and maltster.



On the outbreak of war Robert enlisted in the school battalion before earning a commission in the King's Royal Rifle Corps and being sent to the front on 15 October 1915. He was slightly wounded by a bomb in the early Spring of 1916 but was soon able to re-join his battalion.

He was killed in action on 1 July 1916 and subsequently buried in the Noeux-Les-Mines Communal Cemetery in Northern France. His grave stone includes the following inscription;

SUCH A DEATH
 AS THESE HAVE WON
 GIVES THE TRUE MEASURE
 OF THEIR WORTH



Noeux-Les-Mines Communal Cemetery

His contribution is honoured in the Haileybury College Memorial and Chapel Roll of Honour and on the Bradford Rowing Club Roll of Honour.

Following his death probate was granted to his older brother Joseph who received the sum of £20,701 from Roberts' estate, a sizeable sum equivalent to £2 million today.



Bingley Brewery