

ORIGINAL FILE DESTROYED

A.A. 48189.

55. Sgt. J. W. C. Boothe, A.I.F.

Oxford (Botley) Cem

Sect II. Grave 75.

A/8405.



048163

CWGC/8/1/4/1/1/153 (AA48189)



Cambridge.

Chief Administrative Officer,  
U.K. District.  
Ref. A/8405.

①

Oxford (Botley) Cemetery.

Sgt. F. W. C. BOOTLE. 4th. Battn. Aus. Inf.  
14 Feb. 1917.

Above-named is buried in the Service Plot, Grave II.75. The grave is marked by a Stone Cross, approx. 4' in height. The Inscription reads :-

In Memoriam  
Francis W.C. Bootle  
... Australian Infantry  
..... Molong, N. S. W.  
Died 14....ruary ....  
aged ..6

The lettering is leaded but several of the letters have become lost. The Monument is weathering.

When I was in the Cemetery on 28th. ult the Superintendent told me the sister of deceased had recently been to visit the grave. She enquired the approximate cost of renovation of the PPM. The Supt. could only tell her it would cost "a fair amount of money". He went on to mention that if she agreed to the removal of the PPM it was quite possible the Commission would provide a Headstone in replacement, free of cost. Miss Bootle was very interested in this and gave the Supt. a letter which he has on his file. Copy is attached for CAO's information.

I understand Miss Bootle is returning to Australia in early October. She expressed a wish to see the Headstone on the grave, if it can be provided.

CWGC/8/1/4/1/1/153 (AA48189)



provided.

This would appear to be a happy solution to the question of removal of yet another PPM from this Plot. It is recommended that Miss Bootle's offer be accepted.

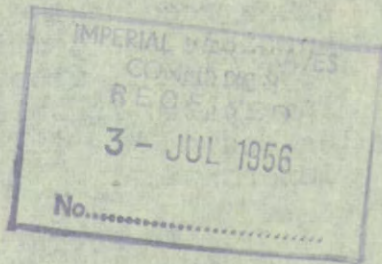
This Area can see the Headstone will be collected, if necessary, and erected at very short notice.

I have not communicated with Miss Bootle.

*J.F. Price*

2.7.56

Area Superintendent.  
Eastern Area, U.K.



Copy.

1 A

Copy of letter given to Superintendent of  
Oxford (Botley) Cemetery by Miss I. Bootle.

Miss I. Bootle  
c/o Commencial Bank of Sydney  
49/50 Berkeley Street,  
Piccadilly, W.1.

Sister of Sgt. Francis William Courtney Bootle  
4th. Battn. Australian Infantry.

Sanction removal of Cross provided I.W.G.C.  
erect their own Headstone.

(Signed) Ida Bootle.  
7 June 1956.



IMPERIAL WAR GRAVES  
COMMISSION  
RECEIVED  
3 - JUL 1956  
No.....

#55. Lt. Francis William Courtney, Boote.

4<sup>th</sup> Bn A.I.F. D/W. 14<sup>th</sup> Feb 1917.

Age 26.

Son of Francis James Essington Boote.

Elizabeth Margaret Sarah Boote.

J. Woodward Sr. Orange.

New South Wales.

Born at Murrumbidgee. N.S.W.

OXFORD (BOTLEY) CEM. Oxford.

Plot II Grave 45



Copy on UKA 8405.  
See Min 39.

BF in a fortnight pl: 31/7/56

A.A. 48189.

W.P.  
17/7

17th July, 1956.

Dear Miss Bootle,

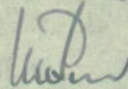
Information has been received from the Commission Area Superintendent, Cambridge, that the private memorial to Sgt. F. W. C. Bootle, in Oxford (Botley) Cemetery has weathered rather badly and that you have agreed to its removal and substitution by a Commission headstone.

I enclose a sketch of the type of headstone that will be erected and as you will see, space is provided for engraving a personal inscription.

I should be most grateful if you would kindly let me know whether you wish to have a personal inscription included in the space below the Cross. The words chosen should not exceed sixty letters.

On hearing from you arrangements will be made for erection of the headstone as quickly as possible.

Yours sincerely,

  
Secretary

Miss I. Bootle,  
c/o Commercial Bank of Sydney,  
49/50 Berkeley Street,  
Picadilly,  
LONDON, W.1.

CWGC/8/1/4/1/1/153 (AA48189)

Ref AA 48189

---

- Commercial Bank of Sydney  
49/50 Berkeley St  
Piccadilly  
London W1

July 24<sup>th</sup> 1956

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The Secretary  
Imperial Graves Commission

Dear Sir, In reply to communication of 17<sup>th</sup> July.

Thanking you for arranging for the erection of  
headstone.

Would prefer no personal inscription

Yours faithfully

Ida Bootle

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IMPE  
RECEIVED  
26 JUL 1956  
No. ....

CWGC/8/1/4/1/1/153 (AA48189)

CAG (W)

Lo see please.

You will note that Miss  
Booth requires no personal  
inscription.

URGENT

W. D. W. 2

Supr A/S Beach

26/7

Please refer to  
the correspondence on this file and  
minute 39 on A/8405 herewith.

In view of Miss Booth's return to Australia  
in early October can you arrange for this  
A/S. to receive special priority with advice  
to this office when ready so that we can  
arrange return.

CWGC/8/1/4/1/1/153 (AA48189)



*[Handwritten signature]*  
C.A.O. U.K.

I will have a headstone made and delivered at this Cemetery during August, and will let you know when it has arrived there.

*[Handwritten signature]*  
SUPT., HEADSTONE CONTRACTS BRANCH.

30th July, 1956.

Chief Clerk, H.C.B. *[Handwritten initials]* 30/56

Please order this stone from Mr. Relph under his current contract and ask if he will have it ready for inspection and collection by 16th August.

*[Handwritten signature]*  
SUPT., HEADSTONE CONTRACTS BRANCH.

30th July, 1956.

*[Handwritten signature]*  
Benjamin / To see above please.

*[Handwritten signature]*  
CWGC/8/1/4/1/1/153 (AA48189)

A. A. 48189



1st August 1956

Dear Miss Bootle,

Thank you for your letter of the 24th July from which it is noted that you do not desire to have a personal inscription engraved on the headstone to be erected over the grave of the late Sergeant F.W.C. Bootle in the Oxford (Botley) Cemetery.

Arrangements are now in hand for the supply of the headstone and it is anticipated that it will be erected over the grave by the end of this month or early September.

I will write to you again when the headstone has been placed in position over the grave.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature or set of initials, possibly 'A' or 'B', written in dark ink.

Secretary.

Miss I. Bootle,  
c/o Commercial Bank of Sydney,  
49/50, Berkeley Street,  
Picadilly,  
LONDON. W.1.

CWGC/8/1/4/1/1/153 (AA48189)



A/8405

E file case.

AREA SUPERINTENDENT,  
EASTERN AREA.


OXFORD (BOTLEY) CEMETERY.

Sgt. F.W.C. BOOTLE. A.I.F. 14. 2. 1917.  
Sectn. 11. Grave 75.

Please refer to your minute dated 2. 7.56.

The headstone which was ordered as a replacement of the original private memorial has now been delivered to the Cemetery.

Will you kindly remove the present p.p.m. and erect the Commission headstone as soon as possible, and notify completion promptly. Miss Bootle, the sister, wishes to see it before she returns to Australia in October next.

  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF WORKS,  
UNITED KINGDOM DISTRICT.

21st August 1956.

H.H/RK

*This copy for C80*  
*Huy*  
*24.8.56*

A/8405  
E. FILE CASE.

Cambridge.

23rd August, 1956.

*Huy*  
Deputy Director of Works,  
United Kingdom District.

OXFORD ( BOTLEY ) CEMETERY.

Sgt. F.W.C. Bootle. A.I.F. 14. 2. 1917.  
Sectn. II Grave 75.

Reference D.D.W's minute 21st inst.  
It is notified the PFM has been removed from the  
grave and the Commission HS erected to-day, 23rd  
inst.

The PFM. is being retained in the  
Cemetery Store pending collection.

*J. H. King*  
Area Superintendent  
Eastern Area.



30

IMPERIAL WAR GRAVES  
COMMISSION  
REC'D  
24 AUG 1956  
No.....

A. A. 48189

<b>B.F.</b>
BN 10-9-56
TO
INITIALS

27th August 1956

Dear Miss Bootle,

Further to my letter of the 1st August, I am writing to advise you that the Commission headstone has now been erected over the grave of the late Sergeant F.W.C.Bootle, A.I.F. in the Oxford (Botley) Cemetery, Section II, Grave No.75.

With regard to the private memorial previously erected on the grave, this is now being stored at the cemetery and the Commission would be grateful if you would kindly advise them of your wishes regarding its disposal.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary

Miss I.Bootle,  
c/o Commercial Bank of Sydney,  
49/50, Berkeley Street,  
Picadilly,  
London. W.1.

CWGC/8/1/4/1/1/153 (AA48189)



- Commercial Bank of Sydney  
49/50 Berkeley St  
Piccadilly  
London W1.

Ref. A.A 48189.

30.8.56

The Secretary  
Imperial War Graves Commission  
Dear Sir

In reply to your letter of 27/8/56, thank you  
very much for all you have done & as regards  
the memorial previously erected would you please  
dispose of it as you see fit & any expense  
incurred please acquaint me of same  
Yours faithfully  
Ida Bodette

WORLD WAR GRAVES  
COMMISSION  
31 AUG 1956  
No. ....

CWGC/8/1/4/1/1/153 (AA48189)

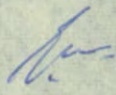


A 8405.  
Copy for E file.

Superintendent,  
Eastern Area.

Oxford (Botley) Cemetery.  
Sgt. F.W.C. Bootle, A.I.F. 1/4. 2. 1917.

With reference to your minute of 23rd August, we have now been asked by the next of kin if we would arrange for the disposal of the P.R.M. I shall be glad if you could do this without incurring expense for the next of kin.

  
Chief Administrative Officer,  
United Kingdom District.

3rd September, 1956.

C.A.O (U.K.)

<b>B.F.</b>
ON 2-10-56
TO
INITIALS <i>H.</i>

Please see reply  
from Miss Booth regarding  
the disposal of the P.A.

Is there likely to  
be any expense involved?



*H. Calvert*  
31-8-56

I have an  
attached copy of my minute  
to the Area Suplt.

*J. Williams*

3/9/56.



HS



Dear

The Commission are making permanent marking of war graves in the headstone engraved with the pe you is amongst those already erect

A number of relatives have in the commemoration by contributi the inscription of their choice. the first letters were sent out and now being accepted.

Should you wish to make a soon as convenient, accompanied by enclosed, which requires no postage

An official receipt will be and, if this does not reach you with despatch of your remittance, the C

Yc

Inquiries Branch

AA.48189

A.8405  
E. File Case.

Cambridge  
29th October, 1956

*Mr*  
Chief Administration Officer,  
United Kingdom District.

*30/10/56*

Oxford (Botley) Cemetery  
Sgt. F.W.C. Bootle A.I.F. 14.2.17.

With reference to your minute dated 3rd Sept. 1956. on my visit to the Cemetery last week it was arranged with the Superintendent that the PPM. to the above would be disposed of without incurring expense to any other party.

This has been confirmed in writing to the Superintendent.

*J.H. Widy*

for Area Superintendent  
Eastern Area.

*Requity*  
*(Mr. Hodge)*

*Will you please let me have the  
file.*

*J. Calvert*  
*31.10.56*



PC 1811 95

IMPERIAL  
COMMUNICATIONS  
RECEIVED  
30 OCT 1956  
No.....

Copy

UKA/9

Cambridge

18th October, 1956

Chief Administrative Officer,  
United Kingdom District.

Photographs

Thank you for your minute dated 16th Oct. <sup>(on 27)</sup>  
Attached please find two photographs forwarded to  
this office with your minute. These are for  
onward transmission to Miss Bootle relative of Sgt.  
F.W.C. Bootle, 14.2.17 whose grave is in Oxford  
(Botley) Cem.

C.A.O. will remember Miss Bootle gave  
permission for the unsightly PPM. to be removed and  
replaced by Commission Headstone. My last  
information was that Miss Bootle was leaving the U.K.  
for Australia during the present month. It is  
requested C.A.O. may have her present address  
ascertained, and the photographs sent to her.

(sgd.) J.F. Flynn

Area Superintendent  
Eastern Area.

CWGC/8/1/4/1/1/153 (AA48189)



Copy (original on N/A 9)

Cambridge.

Assistant Secretary (E.R.)  
(through C.A.O. U.K. Dist.)  
Ref. CM24/4/13.

Photography - United Kingdom

Reference Asst. Sec's minute dated 26th ult. -  
and his earlier minute of 3rd Sept. it is regretted  
reply has been delayed.

Extra prints of photos taken under reference Eastern  
Area/9 of 31.8.56 were required for onward  
transmission by C.A.O. U.K. Dist.

The respective photos were to show:-

- (a) New Commission HS provided for grave of  
Sgt. F.W.C. Bootle, Aus. Inf. 14.2.17.

A relative gave authority for the worn PPM formerly  
on the grave to be removed. She was to be given  
photos to take back to Australia.

- (b) The family of  
Sergt. R. Gilmore, RNZAF. 6.5.44,

sent - through a friend who was visiting the grave -  
a PAUA shell which they desired should be put on the  
grave. CAO's instructions were that a photo  
should be obtained, showing the shell in position,  
for the information of the N/K.

It is understood both the persons concerned in  
above cases were leaving the U.K. in October.

(sgd.) J.F. Flynn.  
Area Superintendent,  
Eastern Area U.K.

4.10.56.

CWGC/8/1/4/1/1/153 (AA48189)



Mr. Calvert

I did speak to you about this case some time ago. Photographs of the new headstone on the grave of Sgt. F.W.C. Bootle, A.I.F., 14.2.17, who is buried in Oxford (Botley) Cemetery, Section II, grave 75, were taken by Mr. Flynn and, after being passed backwards and forwards between U.K. District, Mr. Flynn and Photographic Section for some weeks, reached me on Monday, 22nd October, with a request to forward them to the next-of-kin. There was no note on the "E" file or on any photograph or U.K. District file of a request having been made for a photograph, and I assumed that Colonel Griffin had seen the relative and, as she was an Australian, wanted to send her a photograph personally. I was anxious to deal with it urgently in view of the fact that Miss Bootle was understood to be returning to Australia in October. I was not, however, able to see Col. Griffin until Friday, 2nd November, and he now tells me that he had no personal contact with the relative but probably asked Mr. Flynn to get a photograph taken when speaking to him on the telephone.

As you and Mr. Morby have been writing to Miss Bootle previously, it would be best if you would follow up this case. You will want, in any case, to let her know that the private memorial has been disposed of without any cost to her. Will you tell Miss Bootle that, although the Commission are not normally able to supply photographs of individual graves, in view of the fact that she had agreed to the removal of the private memorial and its replacement by a Commission headstone the Commission's Area Superintendent took two snapshots of the grave when he was next visiting the cemetery, and we

/thought



thought she would like to have these.

Would you have an extra copy of your letter done for CM.24/3/02 so that we can pick up this case again if necessary. The action suggested is contrary to the normal practice for dealing with photographs of individual graves which are either sent through the Legion or, in the case of requests from U.K. relatives for photographs of graves in the U.K., sent as half-plate enlargements on payment of 3/- (unless they prefer to engage a professional photographer).

I am having an extract made from UKA/9 for this file and the other "E" file concerned.

*R. W. W. W. W.*

6th November, 1956



A.A. 48189

7th November 1956

Dear Miss Bootle,

With reference to your letter of the 30th August, I am writing to inform you that arrangements have been made with the Superintendent of the Oxford (Botley) Cemetery for the private memorial originally on the grave of Serjeant F.W.C. Bootle to be disposed of without incurring any expense.

I am enclosing two photographs of the new headstone erected on the grave. The Commission are not normally able to supply photographs of individual graves but in view of your permission to replace the private memorial with a Commission headstone, these were taken by their Area Superintendent when he recently visited the cemetery and it is thought that you would like to have them.

Yours sincerely,

(Secretary.)

Miss I. Bootle,  
c/o Commercial Bank of Sydney,  
49/50, Berkeley Street,  
Picadilly,  
London. W.1.

CWGC/8/1/4/1/1/153 (AA48189)



Requity

Please P.A. on

A.A/48189.

A.

- Commercial Bank of Sydney  
49/50 Berkeley St  
McCaskey  
14/11/56

Secretary

Imperial War Graves Commission

Dear Sir.

Received the 2 photographs of Frank Booth's

headstone - will you please convey to the Area  
Superintendent my thanks + I will remember it  
as one more to the list of courtesies I have  
received since I arrived in England, I do  
appreciate it.

Yrs sincerely  
Ida Booth

P.S. Thankyou for disposing of old headstone. ...13.



IMPERIAL WAR GRAVES  
COMMISSION  
RECEIVED

15 NOV 1956

No.....

CWGC/8/1/4/1/1/153 (AA48189)