Name: Class: Number:

Task 1:
Identity card.

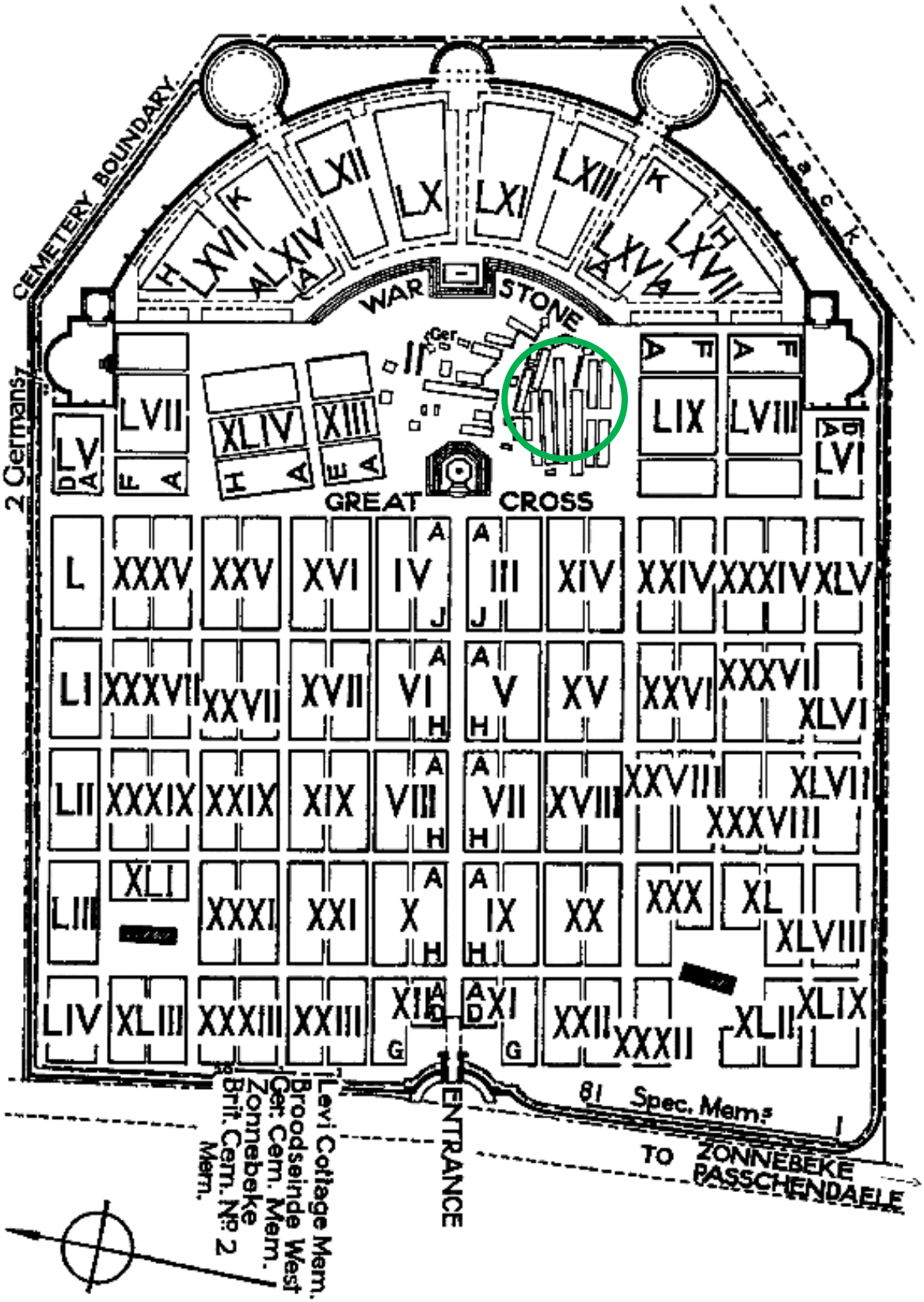
Name: FITZGERALD, Edwin Patrick

Date of death: 30/10/1917

Complete the information on this identity card by using the step-by-step guide for task 1.

Country of service	Canada		
Rank	Fully written: Private Abbreviation: Pte. *See appendix 2.2. 'Military ranks'.*		
Service number	207834 *Note: most officers don't have a service number.*		
Year of birth	1873 *If no year of birth is mentioned, use the age of your soldier to find it (if available).*	**Age**	44
Regiment + battalion	85th Bn., Canadian Infantry *Make sure you write down the battalion number (number + Bn.)*		
Place of remembrance (grave or panel)	Tyne Cot Cemetery: PLOT: I ROW: B GRAVE: 27 Tyne Cot Memorial: PANEL: / *Mark the location of the panel or grave on the attached cemetery plan.*		
Military awards	/ *See appendix 3 'British military awards'. Put a dash if no military award is mentioned.*		
Family members	Husband of Mabel Fitzgerald, of 2412, Humboldt St., Bellingham, Washington, U.S.A. *Put a dash when no family members are mentioned.*		
Coordinate Burial Return Sheet	Coordinate: 28.D.17.a.00.25 (buried in 1917 directly on Tyne Cot Cemetery, near the dressing post) *Write down the coordinate when a grave has a Burial Return Sheet.*		
Personal details	A professional soldier in the US Army. Edwin fought in the Spanish-American war (1898) and lived with his wife and two children in New York, US, a neutral country until 1917.		

Mark the location of the grave on this cemetery plan:



TYNE COT CEMETERY PASSCHENDAELE.

Name: Class: Number:

Task 2:

The fatal day.

Reconstruct the day your soldier fell. Use the information below, the book Passchendaele - The Day-by-Day Account, the step-by-step guide for assignment 2, appendix 5 'The Battle of Passchendaele' and the regimental history or War Diary at the back of the information folder.

The battalion and regiment belonged to the following brigade and division. See appendix 2 in the information folder to see how the army was structured:

Brigade	12th brigade
Division	4th Canadian Division

Write down what happened on the day your soldier died or was mortally wounded.

Second Battle of Passchendaele.

Passchendaele - The Day-by-Day Account, pp. 153-154:

The 4th Canadian Division attacked at 5.40 a.m., zero hour, with one brigade. 12th Canadian Brigade attacked with the 85th, 78th and 72nd Battalions. **Although losing half its strength in casualties, the 85th Battalion took all the strongpoints in its path including Vienna Cottage, and consolidated on its target, the Blue Line.** The 78th Battalion also took its objective south-east of the Passchendaele road and dug in. The 72nd captured Crest Farm and then sent patrols into Passchendaele where they found the Germans evacuating the village. Later the patrols were pulled back to help consolidate the position taken. **By 8.30 a.m., the Brigade had taken all its objectives** between the railway and the Ravebeek. The left flank was dropped to follow the stream as the 3rd Canadian Division had not kept abreast.

85th Canadian Battalion October War Diary:

At Zero hour the first sound heard was the Brigade machine guns. On this, all Companies pushed forward. **They met heavy machine-gun and rifle fire from the direction of the German front line and from a portion of Decline Copse South of the Railway, and from machine guns in the vicinity of D.18.a.8.6.** This machine-gun and rifle fire was taking place while the barrage was supposed to be playing on the German front line. There was a continuous sheet of machine gun bullets because the first barrage had very little effect. The three companies advanced, providing their covering fire with rifle-grenades. **After passing the front, fierce fire fight took place in No Man's Land.** The men got closer and closer to the Germans jumping from shell-hole to shell-hole, but anyone who attempted to walk upright instantly became a casualty. The fire fight continued for ten minutes to half an hour. **A reserve company was sent forward and at that point the German line of resistance broke. The companies swarmed across the hostile front line and pushed on to the final objective, sniping the fleeing Germans and dealing with those who remained in shell-holes. Some Germans were found in the Railway Cutting and some fifteen or twenty in Vienna Cottage.**

Name: Class: Number:

Germans who fled up the slopes of Hill 13 Central were caught by Canadian fire. The objective was gained at about 6.38 p.m. During the day of the 30th the Germans were seen trying to make progress down the slopes of Hill 13 and also from the direction of Passchendaele, but Lewis gun and rifle fire, together with the artillery, inflicted severe casualties upon them and frustrated any attempt of this kind. The 85th Battalion's casualties were: 12 officers killed, 8 officers wounded, 3 officers wounded and at duty and 371 other ranks killed and wounded. The battalion went into action with a strength of 26 officers and 662 other ranks.

As E. P. Fitzgerald was directly buried at Tyne Cot Cemetery, we may assume that he was wounded during the attack and brought to the Tyne Cot dressing post where he died of his wounds.

Notes:

Vienna Cottage
Decline Copse
Railway/Railway cutting
Machine guns in the vicinity of D.18.a.8.6
Hill 13
Passendale

Use this box to write down coordinates, place names, etc. They will help you to reconstruct the course of the fatal day.

Name: Class: Number:

Task 3:

Create a map.

Mark the information you found in different colors on the A3 map using:

- *The step-by-step guide 'Map reading'.*
- *Appendix 4: 'Coordinates and toponyms'.*
- *The A3 map (trench map) that was added to this bundle.*
- *Possible useful maps in the book Passchendaele – The Day-by-Day Account.*
- *The colored pencils.*

1. **Mark the battalion's starting position or the front line in blue.**

2. **If an attack took place:**
   Indicate in green up to where the battalion was able to proceed. This could be two green lines: the furthest position the battalion reached and, if the battalion had to retreat, its final location.

3. **Circle the toponyms you found in yellow.**
   If you cannot find certain toponyms on your map, use the list with coordinates in appendix 4.

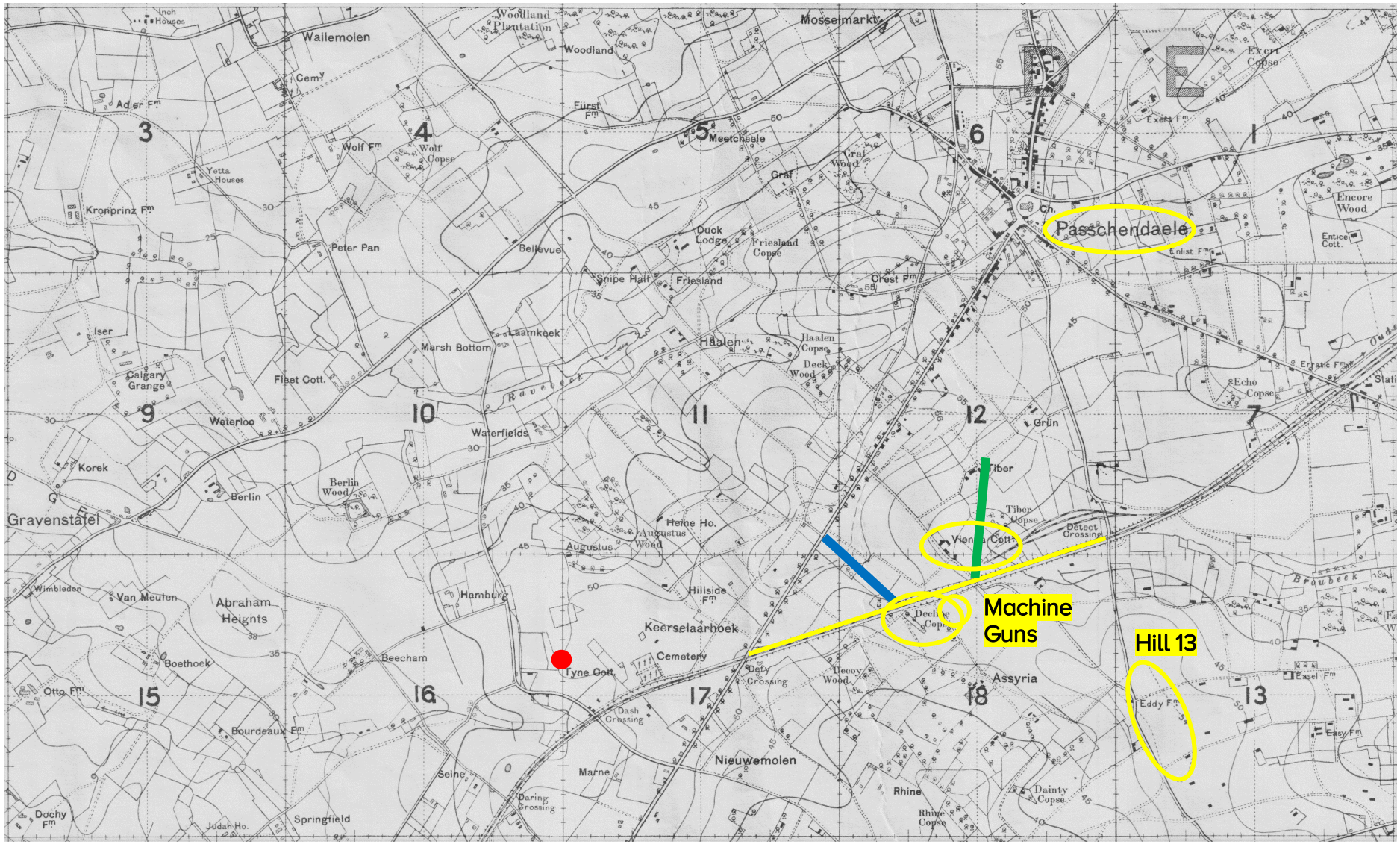
4. **Place of death:**

   A. **If your soldier has a Burial Return Sheet with a coordinate:**
   Mark the place where your soldier was initially buried with a red cross. This is generally the location where the soldier fell during battle as bodies were generally not carried back from the battlefield.

   B. **If there is no Burial Return Sheet:**
   It is most likely that tour soldier died in the area between the blue and green lines you marked on the map or nearby one or more of the mentioned toponyms. Circle this area in red.

Where could you go today to pay tribute to your fallen soldier? Use Google Maps and describe the place where your soldier died using contemporary street names and addresses.

The 85th Battalion Memorial south-west of Passendale, between the Passendalestraat, Nieuwe Molenstraat and former railway.

➔ ***You may keep this bundle and the map. Please place all other equipment (tablet, information folder, Passchendaele – The Day-by-Day Account and the coloring pencils) back in the middle of the table.***

Name: Class: Number: