Name: Class: Number:

Task 1:
Identity card.

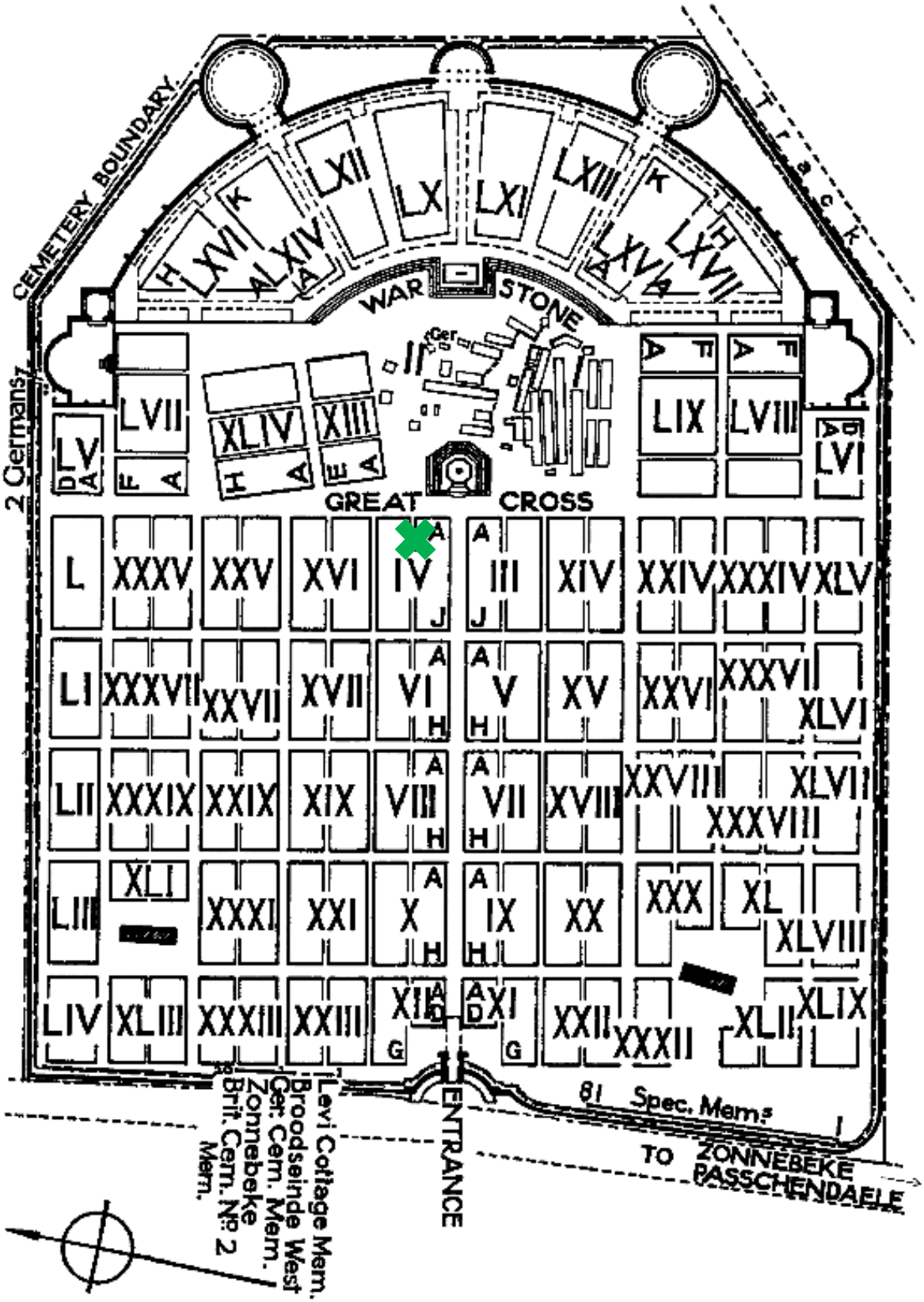
Name: ARDEN, Neville Henry

Date of death: 4 October 1917

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

Country of service	New Zealand		
Rank	Fully written: Captain Abbreviation: Capt. *See appendix 2.2. 'Military ranks'.*		
Service number	23/1288 *Note: most officers don't have a service number.*		
Year of birth	/ *If no year of birth is mentioned, use the age of your soldier to find it (if available).*	**Age**	/
Regiment + battalion	3rd Bn. Otago Regiment *Make sure you write down the battalion number (number + Bn.)*		
Place of remembrance (grave or panel)	Tyne Cot Cemetery: PLOT: IV ROW: B GRAVE: 15 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	/ *Put a dash when no family members are mentioned.*		
Coordinate Burial Return Sheet	Coordinate: D.13.c *Write down the coordinate when a grave has a Burial Return Sheet.*		
Personal details	Profession: architect.		

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	4th New Zealand Brigade
Division	New Zealand Division

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

Battle of Broodseinde.

Passchendaele – The Day-by-Day account, p. 113:

The New Zealand division attacked at 5.25 a.m., zero hour, with two brigades. In their advance to the Red Line, the New Zealanders had to **cross the Hanebeek**. Like the Australians, they were also to be the target of a German counter-attack, but the opening barrage took care of most of the enemy. The advance of 4 New Zealand Brigade started on time with the 3rd Auckland and the 3rd Otago. **They took Dochy Farm and Riverside in their stride. Otto Farm put up more resistance but also fell, and the Brigade moved on to the Red Line, which they consolidated.** The attack was taken over by the 3rd Canterbury and the 3rd Wellington. The Canterburys were held up temporarily by two pillboxes in Berlin Wood and the Wellingtons were caught by two pillboxes not shown on their map. They took these before going on to attack the farm known as Berlin, which they consolidated.

Official History of the Otago Regiment, N.Z.E.F. in the Great War 1914-1918, pp. 254-259:

On the evening of October 2, Otago troops on the left and Auckland troops on the right took over the front line of the 4th NZ Brigade. **During the night of October 3, the starting positions for the attack were determined (outlined and marked with tape) by, among others, Neville Henry Arden (4th Company).** Zero hour was set at 6 a.m. on October 4. The troops were heavily attacked by Germans, afterwards it turned out that the Germans had also planned an offensive to take back the lost ground of September 26. Half an hour before zero hour, all companies had reached their starting position and were awaiting the attack while being heavily shelled. **The first two companies that had to take care of the attack were the 4th on the right led by Captain N.H. Arden** and the 14th Coy on the left. The battalion advanced at 6 a.m. behind a well-organized jump-off. The attack proceeded "smoothly" until the major German points of resistance, consisting of bunkers, machine gun stands and reinforced shell holes on the ridge of **Abraham Heights**, were reached. 8th Company

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was able to take **Otto Farm**. The **Hanebeek** swamp slowed down the attack. Many men sank to their thighs in the mud. **Van Meulen Farm and dug-outs were part of the most important resistance nests. They offered strong resistance until a determined attack took place under the personal guidance of Captain N. H. Arden, allowing the stronghold to be captured. Captain Arden then continued to advance, already injured early in the attack, to determine the best place to consolidate. He was seriously injured and died a few moments after giving his instructions.** The command of the 4th Company was taken over by Lieut. M. Rohan.

Arden was injured at Van Meulen Farm and was taken back where he died from his injuries and was buried in a field grave.

Notes:

Hanebeek
Dochy Farm
Riverside
Otto Farm
Abraham Heights
Van Meulen Farm

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.

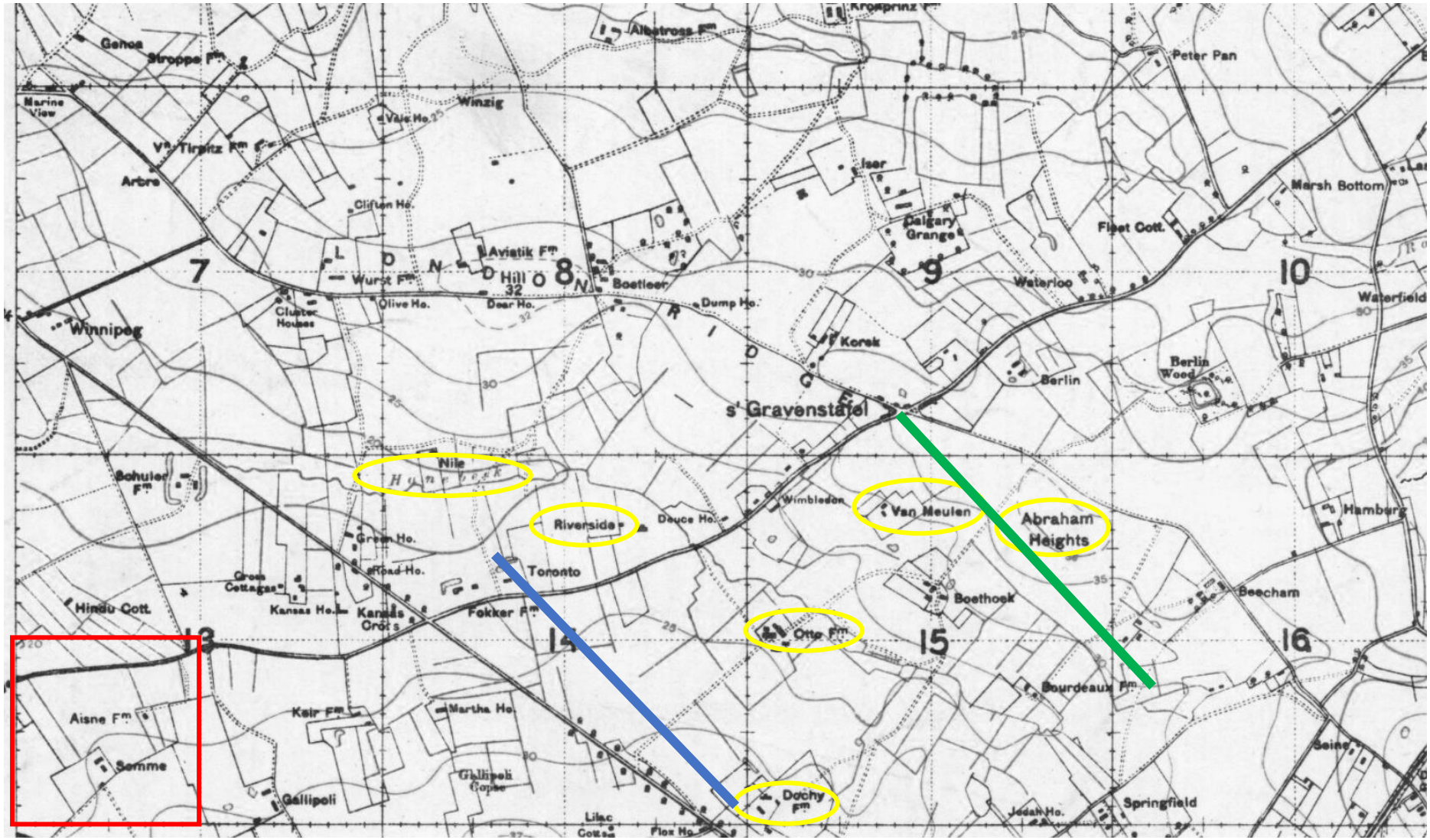
4. **Place of death:**

   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 area south of the hamlet of 's Graventafel, especially just south of the hamlet's crossroads (Van Meulen). The area of Somme Farm (Roeselarestraat 10).

➔ ***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: