

# In Memory of Private Arthur Charles Smith

1881 - 1916

*(4th (Queen's Own) Hussars)*

**Age:** 35

**Parents:** William Alfred Smith & Elizabeth Bones

**Conflict:** Easter Rising

**Country Enlisted In:** United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland

**Country of Death:** United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland

**Relation:** Paternal 4<sup>th</sup> Cousin 2X Removed



Private Arthur Charles Smith, aged 35, served in the 4th (Queen's Own) Hussars, one of the most distinguished cavalry regiments in the British Army. Holding the regimental number 2373, he was stationed in Ireland during the Easter Rising of 1916, a rebellion that shook Dublin and would alter the course of Irish history.

The Rising began on 24 April 1916, when Irish Volunteers and the Irish Citizen Army seized strongpoints across Dublin and declared an Irish Republic. British Army units, including Smith's regiment, were deployed into the city to suppress the insurrection. Though trained as cavalry, the Hussars were fighting dismounted in the streets — where narrow alleys, barricades, and sniper fire made urban combat a deadly new experience. By the last days of April, Trinity College Dublin had been converted into a fortified British base in the heart of the city. Its high walls, central location, and large open grounds made it a secure garrison point, and soldiers from multiple units operated from within its walls.

On 29 April 1916, the final day of the Rising, Private Arthur Charles Smith was killed in action in the College Green area, directly outside Trinity College. It was a day of intense fighting but also of surrender, as rebel leaders finally agreed to lay down their arms later that afternoon. Smith's death came at the very end of the rebellion, during the bitter closing exchanges in Dublin's streets.



*Private in the 4th (Queen's Own)  
Hussars British Army*

After he fell, his body was not left where he died. Nor was he buried hastily on the cricket field, as some later speculation suggested. Instead, his body was brought inside the secure grounds of Trinity College for temporary burial and safekeeping. Later, with proper arrangements made, he was reinterred at Grangegorman Military Cemetery, the principal burial ground for British service personnel in Dublin.

Private Smith's service and sacrifice were remembered not only in Grangegorman but also on the grounds of Trinity College itself. There, a memorial plaque was erected by the Officers and Cadets of the Dublin University Officers Training Corps. It reads:

*In memory of 2373 Private Arthur Charles Smith, 4th Hussars  
Killed in action on 29th April 1916 during The Rebellion in Dublin  
Erected by The Officers and Cadets of the Dublin University Officers Training Corps.  
Original Memorial replaced by The Queen's Royal Hussars Association, 2007.*

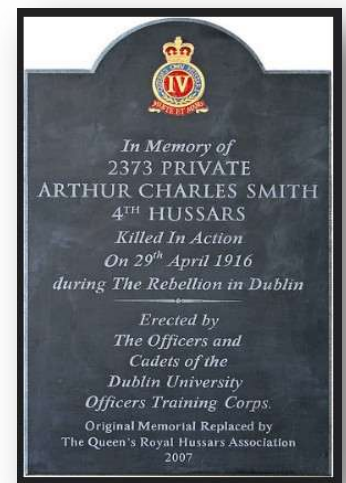
Placed on the wall at the back of a college car park, the memorial continues to ensure his name is known. Replaced and renewed in 2007 by the Queen's Royal Hussars Association, it shows that his sacrifice is still honoured

nearly a century later.

Thus, the story of Private Arthur Charles Smith is one of service, sacrifice, and remembrance. He died at the gates of Trinity College in the heart of Dublin; a soldier caught in the upheaval of Ireland's revolution. Today, he lies at rest in Grangegorman Military Cemetery, and his memory endures both there and at Trinity, where a plaque keeps alive the name of the Hussar who fell at College Green in 1916.



*Grangegorman Military Cemetery  
Cabra, County Dublin, Ireland  
Find a Grave 57621695*



*Plaque at Trinity College,  
Dublin, Ireland*