

Sir Reginald Blomfield



Reginald was born in Devon on 20th December 1856. He grew up in Kent after his father became rector for a church in Dartford and then Aldington.

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Reginald went to schools in North London and Hertfordshire before going to Oxford University to study Classics. He gained a first class degree.

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In 1881 Reginald began his training to become an architect. He worked at his uncle's architect practice and took classes at a college.

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After completing his architect training in 1884 Reginald left his uncle's practice and set up his own at 17 Southampton Street in London.

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Between 1885 and the start of World War I (1914) Reginald was very busy designing new country houses and renovating existing ones.

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In 1917, before World War I ended, he was asked by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) to be one of their Principal Architects.

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Between 1917 and 1928 Reginald designed lots of cemeteries and memorials for the CWGC in France and Belgium including the Menin Gate.

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Reginald designed the Cross of Sacrifice which is used by the CWGC as a feature in many of their cemeteries.



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Reginald designed World War I memorials in towns and villages across the UK including the one in Luton, Bedfordshire.



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Reginald was knighted in 1919 in recognition of his work in architecture and literature.

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Reginald died on 27th December 1942 aged 86 at his London home.