

# Dorothy Hyde–Parker

March 6 1909 – November 17 1918



Smeetham Hall

Dorothy Hyde Parker lived at Smeetham Hall. She was related to the Hyde-Parkers of Melford Hall and also to Beatrix Potter.

The 1911 census shows Dorothy living with parents (Lawrence and Ada), sister Mary and four live-in servants. The family had a cook, parlour maid, nurse and under-nurse.

But in 1918 the post-war flu epidemic was sweeping the country. Weakened soldiers returning from the front brought the disease to their communities. There was no cure and no antibiotics for complications. The rich were at risk along with the poor.

**I had a little  
bird  
Its name was  
Enza  
I opened the  
window,  
And in-flu-  
enza.**

A rhyme of the time of the flu epidemic

Dorothy became a victim of the flu epidemic and died aged nine.

Gillian Lamb 2012