

1. Why are there war graves in Pretoria?

Pretoria was an important military centre during the Second World War, with a headquarters, a Military College, Military Hospitals and a number of training camps. Most of the war graves of the 1939-1945 War in Pretoria are in the Military Area on the southern outskirts of the city.

Thaba Tshwane (previously known as Voortrekkerhoogte and prior to that, Roberts Heights) was established as a garrison town by the British after the Anglo Boer War and taken over by South African Department of Defence after Union in 1910. It was and still is an important military town with many units and schools of the Army, Air Force and Medical Services.

2. Where are the war graves in Pretoria?

There are CWGC war graves and memorials at least seven locations across Pretoria. Study the map below to see where they are.

3. Discover where these people came from

Use the flags to discover where some of the soldiers who are buried and remembered in Pretoria came from.

Rebecca Street Cemetery

185 war graves
From: South Africa, United Kingdom



Thaba Tshwane (New) Military Cemetery

295 war graves
From: Belgium, Greece, South Africa, United Kingdom



Pretoria North Cemetery

4 war graves
From: South Africa



Silverton Road Cemetery

4 war graves
From: South Africa



Pretoria Old Cemetery

4 war graves
From: South Africa



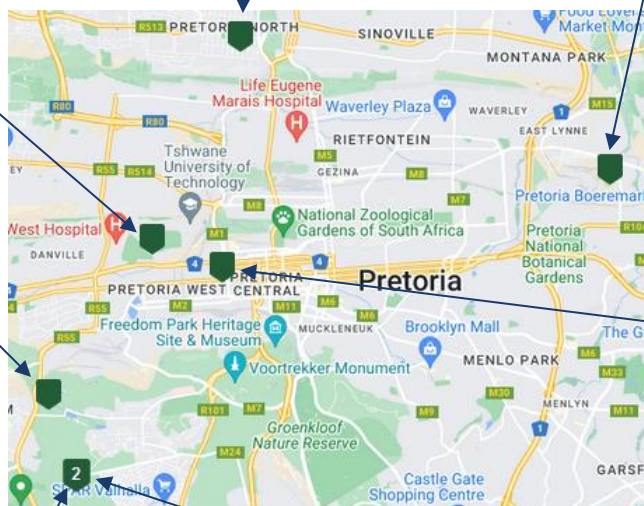
Thaba Tshwane (Old No1) Military Cemetery

296 war graves
From: Belgium, Canada, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ireland, South Africa, United Kingdom

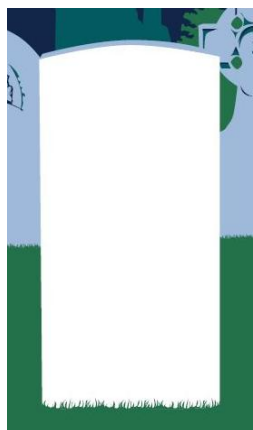


Thaba Tshwane (Old No2) Military Cemetery

196 war graves
From: Belgium, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Malawi, South Africa



4. Explore a CWGC headstone



Each headstone in the cemetery tells a different story. Find a headstone and write down 4 things you can learn about the person buried there, for example, how old they were.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

5. Discover more about the service of those buried at Thaba Tshwane (New) Cemetery

5.1 As you explore the cemetery see what you can learn from the headstones. See if you can find the following;

1. Who is the **youngest** person you can find?
2. Who is the **oldest** person you can find?
3. How many **different countries** did they come from?



5.2 There is just one headstone which has this badge engraved on. It is the Royal Engineers. Who wore this cap badge and what was his rank?

5.3 As you explore the cemetery, look at the different badges on the headstones. These will give you a clue as to the role the soldier had in the army and maybe where they came from. As you find each badge, **write down the name of the soldier who served with that unit in the box next to the badge.**



More than 580,000 from South Africa served in many campaigns in East and South West Africa and in North Africa and Europe during the world wars.



More than 300 people from Greece died while fighting for the Allied forces in the Second World War. 19 are buried in South Africa.



More than 300 people from Belgium and their empire died while serving with Allied forces in the Second World War.



More than 33,000 RAF aircrew trained as part of Empire Air Training Scheme in South Africa.

Discover more at cwgc.org/stories