

1. Why are there war graves in Cape Town?

Cape Town and the nearby Simon's Town were the scene of massive shipping movements (including hospital ships) during both World Wars, and there were military hospitals at Maitland and Wynberg.

During the Second World War, naval and maritime air operations were conducted from the area. Instruction under the Empire Air Training scheme was conducted at two Air Schools at Youngsfield Aerodrome in the Wynberg area, and the Fleet Air Arm was established at the Wingfield Aerodrome.

2. Where are the war graves in Cape Town?

There are CWGC war graves and memorials at more than 15 locations across Cape Town and the surrounding area. A new memorial is due to be built in Company's Gardens in 2023-24. Study the map below to see where they are.

3. Discover where these people came from

Use the flags to discover where some of those who are buried and remembered in Cape Town came from.

Pineland (No.1) Jewish Cemetery

11 war graves
From: South Africa



Cape Town (Maitland) Cremation Memorial

17 names
From: South Africa, United Kingdom



Maitland Cemetery

1,482 war graves
From: Australia, Belgium, Germany, Ghana, Ireland, Lesotho, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, South Africa, United Kingdom, Zimbabwe



Wynberg Cemetery, Church Street

234 war graves
From: South Africa, United Kingdom



Constantia Public Cemetery

5 war graves
From: South Africa, United Kingdom



Klip Grassy Park Cemetery

188 war graves
From: Nigeria, South African, United Kingdom



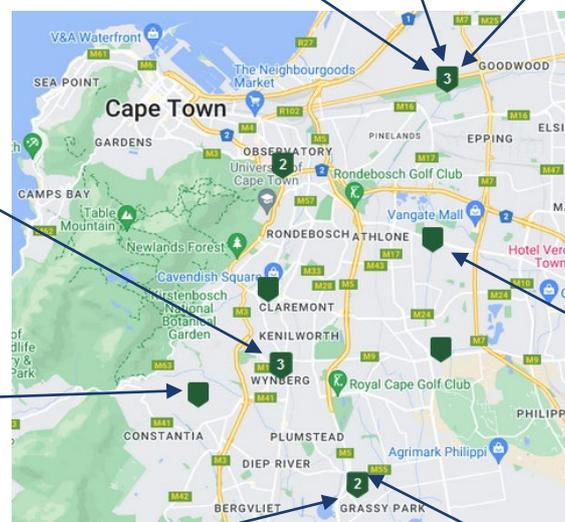
Plumstead Cemetery

248 war graves
From: Australia, Belgium, Canada, Germany, New Zealand, South Africa, United Kingdom



Vygekrall Cemetery

2 war graves
From: South Africa



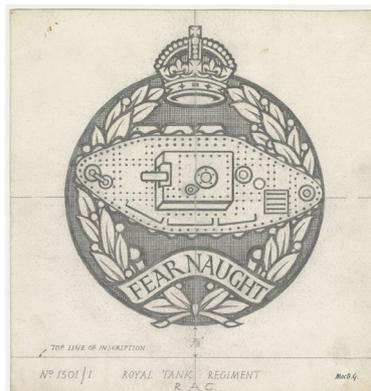
4. Discover more about the service of those buried at Maitland Cemetery

4.1 Each headstone in the cemetery tells a different story.

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** individual you can find?
2. Who is the **oldest** individual you can find?
3. How many **different countries** did they come from, based on what you can learn from the headstones?

4.3 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 individual who served with that unit in the box next to the badge.**



4.2 There is just one headstone which has this badge engraved on. Who were they and which regiment did they serve with?



The West African Frontier Force recruited in Gambia, Ghana, Nigeria and Sierra Leone for a range of units from infantry to carrier.



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 200,000 New Zealand troops, including native Māori's left New Zealand for service overseas in the world wars.



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



The Merchant Navy was the largest in the world. It recruited people from all over the globe to serve on the ships.



More than a million Australian troops fought across the globe in the world wars.