

1. Why are there war graves and memorials in Ypres (Ieper)?

From October 1914 to the autumn of 1918, Ypres (now Ieper) was at the centre of a salient held by Commonwealth (and for some months by French) forces. During the war, there were five major battles fought to the north, east and south of the city, but Ypres never fell to the Germans.

The city was bombarded and destroyed more completely than any other town of its size on the Western Front, but even so certain buildings remained distinguishable. The ruins of the cathedral and the cloth hall stood together in the middle of the city.

2. Where are the war graves and memorials in Ypres?

There are CWGC war graves and memorials at six locations close to the centre of Ypres. There are many more cemeteries and memorials in the surrounding area. 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 Ypres came from.

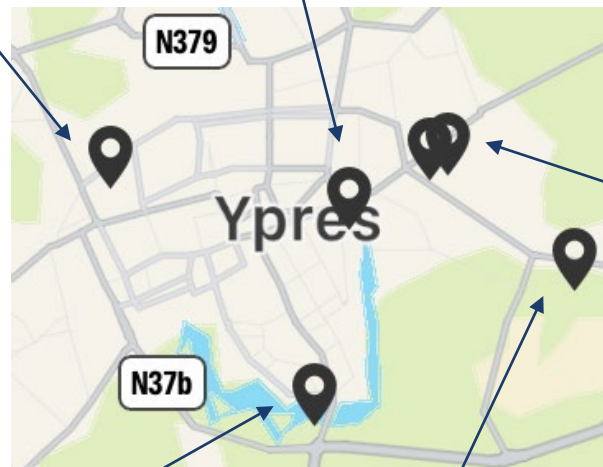
Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial

54,500 names
From: *Argentina, Australia, Barbados, Belgium, Bermuda, Canada, Denmark, France, Fiji, Finland, Germany, Ireland, India, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Nepal, Norway, Pakistan, Poland, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, USA*



Ypres Reservoir Cemetery

2,614 war graves
From: *Australia, Canada, India, Ireland, Jamaica, Malta, Newfoundland, New Zealand, South Africa, United Kingdom, USA*



Ypres Town Cemetery and Extension

145 and 673 war graves
From: *Australia, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Ireland, Jamaica, South Africa, United Kingdom*



Ramparts Cemetery

197 war graves
From: *Australia, Canada, Ireland, New Zealand, United Kingdom*



Menin Road South Military Cemetery

1,658 war graves
From: *Australia, Barbados, Canada, Greece, Ireland, Jamaica, Newfoundland, New Zealand, Switzerland, United Kingdom, USA*



4. Discover more about the service of those buried at Ypres Town Cemetery and extension

4.1 Each headstone in the cemetery and the extension tells a different story.

As you explore the war graves, see what you can learn from the headstones. See if you can find the following;

1. Who is the **youngest** soldier you can find?
2. Who is the **oldest soldier** you can find?
3. How many **different countries** did they come from, based on the information you can discover on the headstones?

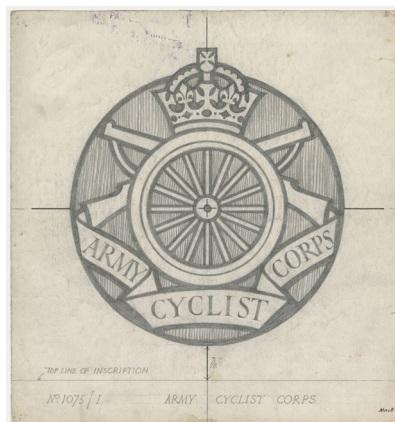


4.2 Can you find the grave of Prince Maurice of Battenberg, grandson of Queen Victoria? Record his details below...

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 soldier who served with that unit in the box next to the badge.



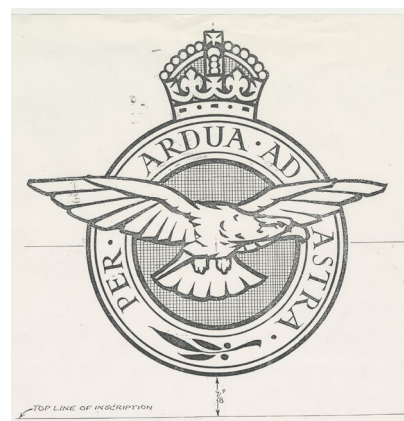
The Irish Guards fought at Ypres in 1914, 1915 and in 1917. More than 2,200 soldiers died while serving with the regiment.



The Army Cyclist Corps was formed in 1915. Only when the trench deadlock was broken in 1918 did the cyclists prove useful as mobile infantry.



Soldiers from South Africa fought in many campaigns in East and South West Africa and on the Western Front.



The Royal Air Force was formed in 1918. During the air force grew from a handful of personal and just 66 aircraft to over 100,000 men and some 4,000 aircraft.



More than 1.5 million soldiers were recruited from undivided India. 74,000 would die during the First World War.



More than 320,000 Australian troops fought in Egypt, Gallipoli, in the Middle East and on the Western Front.