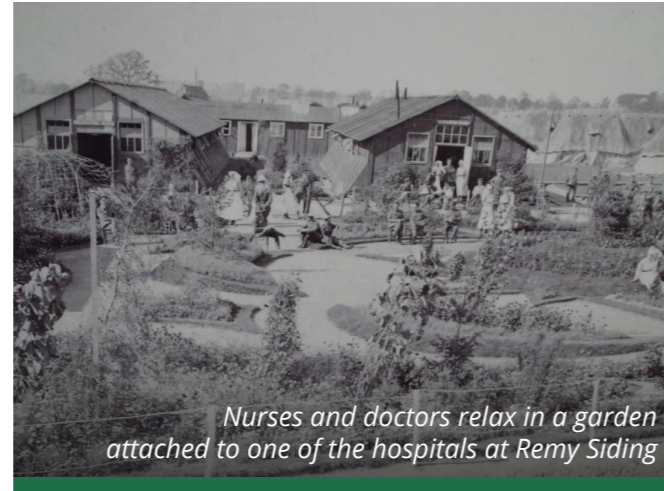


LIJSSENTHOEK MILITARY CEMETERY

This is one of the largest CWGC cemeteries in the world and is worth a special visit for anyone in the area. Throughout the First World War medical facilities were based here at 'Remy Siding' to provide care to the sick and wounded. A vast encampment of tents and huts, staffed by thousands of servicemen and women, covered the surrounding fields. Wounded soldiers arrived by stretcher, lorry, light rail and on foot almost continuously, day and night, and as the hospitals expanded, the cemetery grew in scale. Medical facilities remained here until 1920, providing care to the personnel who remained behind to clear the battlefields and search for the dead.

Throughout the war the graves here were carefully tended and maintained, often by hospital staff in their free time. Once the hospitals left, Commission architects Sir Reginald Blomfield and Arthur Hutton designed the impressive entrance and shelter buildings and added the iconic Stone of Remembrance and Cross of Sacrifice.

The cemetery register, plan and visitors' book are located in the entrance building.



Nurses and doctors relax in a garden attached to one of the hospitals at Remy Siding



LIJSSENTHOEK MILITARY CEMETERY

COMMONWEALTH WAR GRAVES

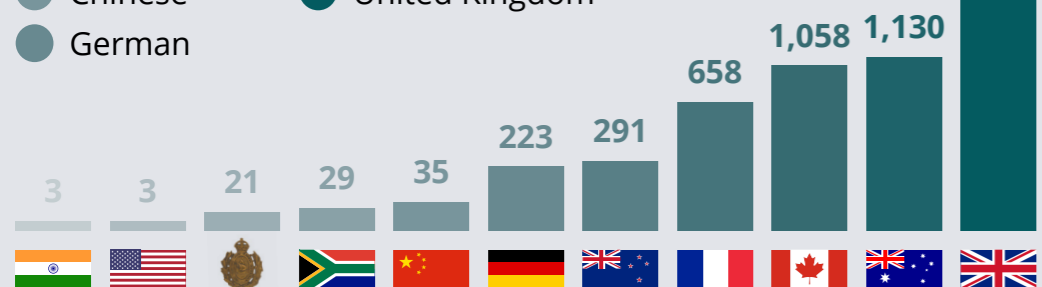


Total number of graves: **10,785**

- Identified
- Unidentified

Force nationalities

- Indian
- American
- West Indies
- South African
- Chinese
- German
- New Zealand
- French
- Canadian
- Australian
- United Kingdom



For more information please scan here.



V.U. Nathalie Dumon, CWGC Elverdijngestraat 82, 8900 Ieper - Cover Jan D'Hondt Ateljé D

A war-time photograph of part of Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery © IWM Q 17858



ONE IN TEN THOUSAND

Nurses played a vital role throughout the First World War. They worked tirelessly and skilfully to care for sick and wounded soldiers at medical centres close to the front like the one at Lijssenthoek. Amongst the ten thousand soldiers buried here is one woman, Staff Nurse Nellie Spindler. Nellie was from Wakefield in Yorkshire and had been a nurse before the war. In 1915, she joined Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service and by 1917 was working at a hospital at Brandhoek, in range of German artillery. On 21 August 1917 she was hit by shrapnel while asleep. She died in the arms of a fellow nurse. She was laid to rest in Lijssenthoek (Plot XVI, Row A, Grave 3) and her headstone has an interesting inscription for you to discover.

3



2



4



HIGHLIGHTS

- 1** This is a very large site, and we recommend that you set aside at least an hour for your visit here.

There is an amazing visitors' centre here that is well worth spending time inside. Make sure to get a printout of the day's casualty from the machine. There are toilets located in the car park.

- 2** This cemetery is vast and dramatic. It is best experienced as the architect intended, by heading down the path along the road to the large entrance building. Take note of the iron stake fence: each is dated and marked with notches. Each notch is an individual buried in the cemetery. Head through the entrance building and emerge out into the cemetery. Pause to take in the view.

- 3** Head towards the shelter building directly opposite the entrance but stop at Plot XXXI in the far-left corner of the cemetery.

The very last service person buried here can be found in Plot XXXI, Row BB, Grave 7. Private Simpson

Meldrum died on 18 June 1921. He had served during the war with the Royal Fusiliers and then volunteered to remain behind to help search the battlefields and bury the dead in the cemeteries you can visit today.

- 4** It is worth taking the time to fully explore this cemetery. Head to the Stone of Remembrance, choose a direction and see who you discover.

There are war dead here from dozens of different countries, all of whom received medical care here. Commonwealth soldiers lie side-by-side with French and German soldiers, and there is a special plot for Indian troops and another for men of the Chinese Labour Corps. You will even find three Americans who remained buried here at the request of their families. You will need to explore this large cemetery to find them all.

- 5** There is a secondary entrance near the visitor's centre that can be used to exit and return to the carpark.



LIJSSENTHOEK MILITARY CEMETERY

FOR FREEDOM & JUSTICE HE HEARD THE CRY FOR HELP

Inscription on the headstone of Private William Morton, XXVI. F. 18.

In the area

The visitor centre next to the car park of the cemetery is a must and afterwards, drive to the centre of Poperinge to Talbot House. You can visit the museum with 500 unique objects or have a cup of tea with the British wardens in the authentic ToCH. An unforgettable experience. Children will love the tour with Duchess the cat!



Westtoer bike routes nearby

- POP
- Vive le Vélo fietsroute - Paars
- Hoppelandfietsroute



No step free access nearby



Good parking



Seats present in cemetery