



**Commonwealth War  
Graves Commission**  
**Country Report:**  
**Lesotho**



**CWGC**  
Commonwealth War Graves Commission

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) is responsible for maintaining commemorations for 1001 individuals at one location in Lesotho (formerly Basutoland); the Lesotho Memorial

**Lesotho Memorial**

The War Memorial, commemorating servicemen from both World Wars, was erected in Makoayane Square in the centre of Maseru in 1963 by the Government of Lesotho. The Memorial takes the form of a curved screen wall, with Bronze panels on which are recorded the names of soldiers of Lesotho, surmounted by a cast bronze crocodile, the national emblem. An officer of the United Kingdom forces buried in Maseru Cemetery is also commemorated on this Memorial. The Memorial bears the inscription, in Lesotho:

1914-1918 1939-1945

THE SOLDIERS HONoured HERE DIED WHILE SERVING WITH THE AFRICAN PIONEER CORPS AT HOME, AT SEA AND IN FOREIGN LANDS.

Almost 400 other Lesotho servicemen who died during the 1939-1945 war are named on this memorial. They are commemorated by the Commission on or near their graves or named on the appropriate Memorial to their theatre of war.

A further panel has been added to commemorate 40 Lesotho servicemen of the 1914-1918 war whose grave are unknown or unmaintainable.

**Lesotho casualties**

There are 16 individuals from, or with family connections to, Lesotho recorded in our records, commemorated at two sites in South Africa. They served in the African Pioneer Corps (H.C.T.) and Native Military Corps, S.A. Forces.

**CULLINAN MILITARY CEMETERY, Gauteng, South Africa**  
**Commonwealth War Dead (1939-1945)**

**KAMELE**, Private, T, AS/7926. African Pioneer Corps (H.C.T.). 2 January 1946. Age 38. Husband of Mamuso Kamele, of Mhales Hoek, Lesotho. Grave Reference: Grave 42.

**LESAANE**, Private, KOOS, N/7972. Native Military Corps, S.A. Forces. 11 September 1943. Age 23. Son of Amie Lesaane, of Mafeteng, Lesotho. Grave Reference: Grave 19.

**MAFOMA**, Private, R, AS/8526. African Pioneer Corps (H.C.T.). 17 November 1945. Age 37. Husband of Arcelia Mantutle, of Morobong, Lesotho. Grave Reference: Grave 34.

**MASHANE**, Corporal, M, N/60033. Native Military Corps, S.A. Forces. 3 April 1946. Husband of M. Mashane, of Maseru, Lesotho. Grave Reference: Grave 57.

**MATELA**, Private, S, AS/28887. African Pioneer Corps (H.C.T.). 20 February 1946. Age 24. Son of Matumane Matela, of Mokhois, Lesotho. Grave Reference: Grave 54.

**MOFO**, Private, M, AS/29101. African Pioneer Corps (H.C.T.). 5 February 1946. Age 32. Husband of Magang Mofo, of Bokong, Lesotho. Grave Reference: Grave 47.

**MOKOSE**, Private, B, AS/11077. African Pioneer Corps (H.C.T.). 12 February 1946. Age 33. Husband of Majame, of Koloyanna, Lesotho. Grave Reference: Grave 49.

**MOTLOI**, Private, P, AS/6571. African Pioneer Corps (H.C.T.). 26 April 1946. Age 42. Husband of Donacine Motloi, of Maseru, Lesotho. Grave Reference: Grave 63.

**MOTSAMI**, Private, M, AS/1201. African Pioneer Corps (H.C.T.). 18 February 1946. Age 35. Son of Motsamai Maferere, of Nazareth, Lesotho. Grave Reference: Grave 53.

**RAKOLOBE**, Private, L, AS/26417. African Pioneer Corps (H.C.T.). 13 February 1946. Age 24. Husband of Matsepo Rakolobe, of Quchisnek, Lesotho. Grave Reference: Grave 50.

**LADYSMITH CEMETERY, Kwazulu Natal, South Africa**  
**Commonwealth War Dead (1939-1945)**

**KHONGOANA**, Private, M, AS/3661. African Pioneer Corps (H.C.T.). 24 April 1945. Age 41. Husband of Mampeli Khongoana of Mamathe, Teyateyanheng. Lesotho. Grave Reference: Military Plot 16. Row J. Grave 8.

**LECHAKANA**, Sergeant, P, AS/7908. African Pioneer Corps (H.C.T.). 17 July 1945. Age 41. Husband of Amelia Pebane, of Mohaleshoek, Lesotho. Grave Reference: Military Plot 16. Row K. Grave 6.

**LEQEBO**, Private, A, N/19506. Native Military Corps, S.A. Forces. 4 August 1944. Son of Makhube and Alina Leqebo; husband of Mampepuoa Leqebo, of Mohaleshoek, Lesotho. Grave Reference: Military Plot 16. Row F. Grave 3.

**NCHOLU**, Private, N, AS/2946. African Pioneer Corps (H.C.T.). 12 April 1945. Age 41. Husband of Malatola Ncholu, of Lesotho. Grave Reference: Military Plot 16. Row I. Grave 1.

**SEKONYELA**, Private, M, AS/10326. African Pioneer Corps (H.C.T.). 16 March 1946. Age 36. Husband of Mamoliehi Sekonyela, of Mokhotlong, Lesotho. Grave Reference: Military Plot 16. Row M. Grave 4.

**TAELI**, Private, T, AS/11851. African Pioneer Corps (H.C.T.). 20 September 1945. Age 40. Husband of Makakiso Taeli, of Pitseng, Leribe, Lesotho. Grave Reference: Military Plot 16. Row L. Grave 3.