

TWENTIETH ANNUAL HISTORICAL WALKING TOUR

Sunday, June 8, 2014

**THE FIRST
WORLD WAR**



Fondation du cimetière

BEECHWOOD

Cemetery Foundation

History Told, Lives Celebrated



In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

John McCrae, May 1915

On the front page:

'The Second Battle of Ypres',
painted April to May 1915 by Richard Jack

THE WORLD AT WAR

The 100th anniversary of the commencement of the Great War in 1914 is a time to remember and to reflect. We remember the sacrifices made by men and women in uniform to see the war through to a successful completion. Those who fought the war were, by and large, young people. Most had been born in the 1880s and 1890s and were coming of age at a time of prosperity, hope and confidence. The future was theirs to be had, and then the war, a great cataclysmic event, robbed them of their dreams.

At the time, Canada was a colony of Great Britain, a dutiful child of the Empire. When war was declared, we were at her side. From a population of about 8 million, more than 600,000 men and women joined the Canadian Expeditionary Force, the Navy and the British flying services; thousands more, recent immigrants from the British Isles, travelled home to serve their country in time of need.

Life on the home front was not easy – rationing of food stuffs, press censorship, the regular casualty lists of dead, wounded and missing that pulled at the heart strings of families and friends all across Canada.

When the guns went silent in November 1918, it was obvious that the cost in human lives had been enormous. About 60,000 Canadians died during the war, more than 170,000 wounded, while countless others returned home, broken in spirit, if not in health.

The men and women selected for this year's tour are a small, but representative sample of those who served in the Great War. Included are fighting soldiers, both officers and other ranks, an artist who captured realities of war on canvas, a nurse who was lost on the high seas while doing her duty, and a mother who, left to mourn two sons, would one day represent all mothers of the war dead.

Canada entered the war as a colony and finished it as a proud member of the Empire, and in doing so was also recognized as an independent country that had made a significant contribution to the Allied war effort. As we approach the 100th anniversary of the Great War, and over the

LCDR ALAN B. BEDDOE

Section 41, Lot 119 SW, Grave B



Alan Brookman Beddoe was born on June 1, 1893 in Ottawa. He was educated at the Model School and later at Ashbury College. During World War I, he enrolled with the Second Battalion of the Canadian Expeditionary Force. He was captured at Second Battle of Ypres in 1915 and spent two and a half years in the prisoner of war camps at Gießen and Zerbst. After the war, he began studying art at the École des Beaux-Arts in Paris and later at the Art Students League of New York under DuMond and Bridgman. In 1925, Beddoe returned to Ottawa where he

opened the first commercial art studio in the city.

Beddoe was deeply involved in the creation of the Books of Remembrance. James Purves, the artist originally chosen for the job after World War I, died in 1940 after having spent eleven years gathering the necessary materials. After his death, the task passed to Beddoe, who had been working as Purves' assistant. Beddoe finished the first Book in 1942, and over the next 30 years he supervised a team of artists illuminating and hand-lettering all subsequent books, listing the names of Canadians who lost their lives serving their country's military during World War II, the Korean War and the South African Wars. Beddoe was inducted to the Order of the British Empire and received the Allied Arts Medal awarded by the Royal Architectural Institute for his work on the Books. In addition to the Canadian Books of Remembrance, he was also involved with the creation of the South African Book of Remembrance from 1956 to 1966.

Beddoe was also an expert in heraldry, and designed postage stamps, posters, crests, money and coats-of-arms as well as other materials related to Canadian heraldry. In 1942, Beddoe was commissioned to design the official badges for the Royal Canadian Navy's ships. He created over 180 for the RCN's ships and various establishments, and was ap-

SIR ROBERT BORDEN & LADY LAURA BORDEN

Section 60, Lot 46



Born in Grand Pré, Nova Scotia on June 26, 1854, Borden was a successful lawyer early in his career. His political background was Liberal, but he disagreed with Nova Scotia Liberals, who wanted to secede from the Canadian union, and as a result left the party in 1886. His future wife was born Laura Bond in Halifax in 1862 to a prominent local merchant. The couple married in 1889.

In 1896, at the request of Prime Minister Charles Tupper, Borden ran for Parliament as a Conservative from Halifax. He won, but his party lost. This happened

again in 1900; in 1901 Borden became the leader of the Conservative Party. He was defeated in the general elections of 1904 and 1908. In 1911, he won the election and formed the first Conservative government in 15 years.

Lady Borden was the first Prime Minister's wife to assume an independent public role. While still living in Halifax she supported various organizations relating to expanding women's rights and interests. She was an officer as well as patron of the National Council of Women founded in 1893.

Borden was knighted in 1914, at the beginning of the First World War. By 1917, many of Canada's volunteer soldiers had died and replacements were badly needed. Borden therefore called for conscription. During the war, Borden's government also introduced the emergency *War Measures Act* and the first direct federal tax. For her part, Lady Borden worked tirelessly in support of the Red Cross and the Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire (IODE) during and after WWI.

His health failing, Borden resigned in 1920. Later, he was chancellor of Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario. The Borden's Ottawa home was a Rideau riverside property called "Glensmere" at

ACM LLOYD S. BREADNER

Section 17A, Grave 151



Born on July 14, 1894 in Carleton Place, Lloyd Samuel Breadner entered military service in 1915 with the Royal Naval Air Service. Shortly after the start of World War One, Breadner obtained his pilot's certificate at Wright Flying School and was commissioned in the British Royal Naval Air Service in December of 1915.

During the War he served as a fighter pilot with the No. 3 Naval Squadron on the Western Front. He received a promotion to Flight Lieutenant (RNAS) on December 31, 1916, and was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross on May 23, 1917.

After WWI, Breadner left the military until 1922, when he joined the Canadian Air Force. Upon the formation of the Royal Canadian Air Force in 1924, Breadner was one of the first to offer his services and was assigned as commander of Camp Borden, the RCAF training

GEN HENRY D. G. CRERAR

Section 27, Range G, Grave 226



Born in Hamilton, Ontario on April 28, 1888, Henry Duncan Graham Crerar graduated from the Royal Military College at Kingston in 1910 and received a commission as an artillery officer. He took a position with the Ontario Hydro-Electric Power Commission in Toronto, but continued to serve with the militia. At the outbreak of the First World War, Crerar was a Lieutenant in Toronto's 4th Battery, 2nd Brigade of the Non-Permanent Active Militia. He immediately joined Canada's First Division as an artillery officer, and was sent overseas

with the First Contingent. He served in France with the 3rd Field Artillery Brigade, then later as the Brigadier Major for the 5th Canadian Divisional Artillery. Crerar was responsible for designing the largest and most successful creeping barrage towards the end of the war, at Canal du Nord. This three-day barrage successfully halted the final German advance. Crerar was awarded a Distinguished Service Order for this, and went on to finish the war as a Lieutenant Colonel.

Unlike many others, Crerar remained with the army after WWI. He attended the British Staff College and returned to Kingston to teach at the Royal Military College. He represented Canada at the 1932 Geneva Disarmament Conference and at the 1937 London Imperial Conference. By 1935, Crerar had been promoted to Colonel and made commandant of the Royal Military College.

Crerar is best remembered for his role in WWII, at the outbreak of which he was promoted to brigadier general. He went on to become chief of the General Staff in 1940 and a lieutenant general in 1941, when he commanded the First Corps. He assumed command of the First Canadian Army on March 20, 1944 and went on to

COL CAMERON M. EDWARDS

Section 50, Lots 121 S, 129



Born at North Nation Mills, Quebec on September 28, 1881, Cameron MacPherson Edwards was educated at McGill University before beginning his military career. This career, which spanned over 50 years, included active service in both wars, for which he was awarded the French Medal of Honour, the British War & Victory Medals and the Canadian War Medal. Edwards was the youngest colonel in France during the First World War and was award-

ed the Distinguished Service Order for gallantry in action in France. He became the commanding officer of the 38th Battalion in January of 1915, and was wounded at Vimy Ridge in 1917. After WWI ended, he took command of the Cameron Highlanders and the Ottawa Regiment, and eventually served as the regiment's Honorary Colonel.

On the civilian side, Edwards was a very successful lumberman by trade, as well as one of the founders of the Canadian Corps of Commissionaires and a chairman of the Salvation Army advisory board. The Corps of Commissionaires recognized his dedicated service by naming its headquarters on Lisgar Street the Edwards building, and in 1947 the Salvation Army bestowed upon him the Army's Order of Distinguished Auxiliary Service. At that time, Edwards was one of only five Canadians and 45 persons throughout the world holding that order.

Edwards also briefly resided at 24 Sussex Drive, before it became the Prime Minister's residence. His uncle William Cameron Edwards bought it from its original builder, Joseph Merrill Currier (both of whom are buried at Beechwood), and his

A/M HAROLD EDWARDS

Section 103, Grave 582



Air Marshal Harold "Gus" Edwards was born on December 24, 1892 in Chorley, England. His family immigrated to Cape Breton, NS in 1903 and within a few years of moving to Canada, Edwards left school and started working in a Cape Breton coal mine at age 14.

In 1915 Edwards joined the Royal Naval Air Service (RNAS) and in 1916 arrived in England as a Flight Sub Lieutenant. During operations in France, the biplane he flew was damaged in an enemy attack and crashed. Edwards survived, but was captured and became a prisoner of war until December of 1918. After his release

Edwards earned the rank of Captain in the newly formed Royal Air Force and in April he signed up for the British mission to South Russia.

After WWI, Edwards returned to Canada and became a Flight Lieutenant in the new Canadian Air Force. With formation of the Royal Canadian Air Force on April 1, 1924, Edwards became one of its first officers. With the RCAF he was instrumental in the aerial mapping of Manitoba and the redevelopment of RCAF Station Dartmouth from a small sea plane base to a fully-fledged air station, now known as 12 Wing Shearwater. He was also involved with rescue and relief efforts during the 1936 Moose River gold mine disaster in Nova Scotia – he flew in supplies to the site and flew the survivors to hospital in Halifax.

In 1939, the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan was established in Canada to train pilots from the Commonwealth and other nations. Edwards was tasked with managing the personnel aspects of the Plan, and was directly involved in an initiative to recruit civilian and military American pilots. During his two-year tenure as Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief, RCAF Overseas, Edwards fought to make Canadian squadrons, manned by Canadian personnel, a reality. He succeeded in this task, and although many Canadian aircrew and ground crew continued to serve in Royal Air Force squad-

MAJ ERNEST G. FOSBERY

Section 37, Lot 44 E Ctr



Born in Ottawa on December 29, 1874, Ernest George Fosbery was the son of civil servant Henry Fosbery and Charlotte Hall. He was educated in Ottawa and studied art under Franklin Brownell; he also studied in Paris and made an extensive tour of European galleries before returning to Canada. In 1907, he was appointed instructor in drawing and painting at the Art Students' League, Buffalo, New York. Fosbery returned to Ottawa in 1911, opened a studio, taught at the Ottawa Art Institute and devoted much of his time to portraiture.

At the outbreak of the First World War, Fosbery joined the militia and served for several months with the Governor General's Foot Guards before he volunteered

with the Canadian Expeditionary Force in June 1915. He was wounded in the Battle of the Somme and was Mentioned in Despatches. In 1918, he was appointed an official war artist with the rank of Major and amongst a variety of war subjects; he completed paintings for the Canadian War Memorials which included portraits of two Canadian Victoria Cross recipients: Pte. M.J. O'Rourke, V.C., and Sgt. W.T. Holmes, V.C., both of which are now in the Canadian War Memorials collection at the National Gallery of Canada.

Fosbery was also responsible for introducing A. Y. Jackson, who later became a member of the Group of Seven, to Lord Beaverbrook, Canadian-born tycoon, writer and politician. During WWI, the Canadian government had put Lord Beaverbrook in charge of creating the Canadian War Records Office in London, and he made certain that news of Canada's contribution to the war was printed in Canadian and British newspapers. However, Lord Beaverbrook had no knowledge of Canadian artists – it was only on the suggestion of Fosbery that he decided to give Canadian artists an opportunity to record the activity of their country's fighting forces. Thanks to Fosbery, Jackson was transferred to the Canadian War Records branch as an artist where he went on to create important paintings of events connected with the

MARY KATHERINE GALLAHER

Section 39, Lot 85



Minnie Gallaher was born January 16, 1876 in what is now Kingston, Ontario, the third of 10 children. Her Irish parents, Rev. John Gallagher and Maud Elder, came to Canada after their marriage in 1871.

Minnie received her nursing education and graduated from the Lady Stanley Institute for Trained Nurses in Ottawa in 1901. After graduation she was in charge of a model hospital set up on the Toronto Exhibition Grounds, and later returned to Ottawa where she worked as the Assistant Superintendent of the Ottawa General Hospital. She enlisted in the Canadian Expeditionary Force on September 2, 1915 and sailed for Britain September 27, arriving at Shorncliffe, Kent on October 17.

Gallaher's first assignments included the Moore Barracks Hospital and the Westcliff Eye and Ear Hospital. In January 1916, she was posted to No. 1 Canadian General Hospital in Etaples, France, which at that time was a vast Allied military camp and a giant 'hospital' city. Over the course of the next two years, she served at several hospitals and casualty clearing stations at or near the front lines.

On March 25, 1918, Gallaher was posted to HMHS Llandovery Castle, a British merchant vessel turned into hospital ship that had been put at the disposal of the Canadian government to transport sick and wounded soldiers from Britain to Canada. Assignment to a hospital ship was generally regarded as a safe posting in wartime, but sadly, that was not to be the case.

After successfully completing four voyages to and from Canada, the Llandovery Castle was torpedoed on June 27, 1918, while sailing from Halifax to Liverpool. The attack came when the ship just off the coast of southern Ireland. Despite regulation Red Cross lights, and the fact that firing at a hospital ship was against both international law and standing orders of the Imperial German Navy, the ship was deliberately torpedoed by SM U-86.

Those who did survive the torpedoing fled to the lifeboats. The 14 Nursing Sis-

LT ALEXIS H. HELMER

Section 22, Lot 40 NW



Born in Hull, Quebec on June 29, 1892, Alexis Hannum Helmer was the son of Elizabeth and Brigadier General R. A. Helmer. He was educated at McGill University, where he graduated with a degree in Civil Engineering. He enlisted with the military shortly after the outbreak of war in 1914, and was posted to 1st Brigade Canadian Field Artillery and quickly rose to the rank of Lieutenant. Helmer was a popular officer in the 2nd Battery, and became good friends with the 1st Canadian Brigade's second in command: Major John

McCrae.

The 1st Canadian Brigade was sent to the Second Battle of Ypres on April 23rd, 1915. Their artillery batteries were set up on the west bank of the Ypres-Yser canal, about two kilometres to the north of Ypres. On the morning of Sunday 2nd May, Helmer and another Lieutenant left their dugout to check on a battery. They had only gone a short way when a German shell hit, and Helmer was killed instantly. He was 22 years old.

Near to the 1st Canadian Brigade's position on the canal bank there was a small burial ground, which had originally been established during the First Battle of Ypres in the autumn of the previous year, 1914. By early May of 1915 the burial ground contained several more graves of French and Canadian casualties. It became known as Essex Farm British Military Cemetery.

Helmer was buried on the 2nd May. In the absence of the chaplain, Major McCrae conducted a simple service at the graveside, reciting from memory some passages from the Church of England's 'Order of Burial of the Dead'. A wooden cross marked the burial place, but the grave was subsequently lost.

Helmer's death is acknowledged as the inspiration for McCrae's famous poem, 'In Flanders Fields.' While accounts of how the first draft was written differ, all agree that the impetus was McCrae's

BGEN RICHARD A. HELMER

Section 22, Lot 40 NW

Born in Russell, Ontario October 12, 1864, Richard Alexis Helmer was educated at Ottawa and Toronto, and graduated from the Ontario College of Pharmacy and was a qualified chemist in both Ontario and Quebec.

Helmer served in the ranks of the Forty-Third regiment for a number of years, and was appointed as its Major in 1899, the same year he was selected Adjutant of the Canadian Rifle Team that competed at Bisley, England. He also served in that role in 1901 and 1903, and in a similar capacity in connection with a big championship rifle meet held in Ottawa in 1906. He was also Commandant of the last Canadian Rifle Team to compete in the PALMA Trophy Team Match in the United States in 1913.

Helmer was appointed to the permanent staff of the Department of Militia in 1906 as a result of his outstanding ability as a rifleman, and in the same year was appointed Commandant of the Canadian School of Musketry and Adjutant of Musketry. Helmer rose through the ranks quickly, making Lieutenant Colonel in 1914, Colonel in 1917 and finally Brigadier-General in 1918, the same year he was made C.M.S. His promotions were a direct result of his efforts during the war, despite the blow of the loss of his son, Lt Alexis Helmer, in May of 1915.

In addition to his military career, Helmer also served as the Mayor of Hull for two years and ran a drugstore there.

Helmer died in Ottawa on February 1, 1920, after a brief attack of pneumonia. He was given a full military funeral, which was attended by the entire headquarters' staff and many members of the local militia.

BGEN WILLIAM S. HUGHES

Section 37, Lot 34 NE



William St. Pierre Hughes was born in Durham County, Upper Canada, on June 2, 1863 to a family with a long tradition of military service. He and two of his brothers went on to serve, and his brother Sam eventually became Minister of the Militia during World War I. Hughes himself was a soldier for over 40 years, starting when he was only nine as

a bugler with the 45th militia regiment. He saw service in the North-West Rebellion in 1885 and completed the period for the Long Service Decoration in the Canadian Active Militia.

In addition to his military service, in 1893 Hughes was appointed secretary to the warden of the Kingston penitentiary. He continued to work in the penitentiary system for many years: in 1913, he was made inspector of penitentiaries, and in 1918 became superintendent.

Before the First World War, then-Lieutenant Colonel Hughes was associated with the 14th Regiment of Kingston, Ontario. At the outbreak of the War, Hughes was appointed to mobilize and commanded the 21st Battalion of the Canadian Expeditionary Force. He commanded that battalion until July 14, 1916, when he took over the 10th Canadian Infantry Brigade in France, with the rank of Brigadier General.

Hughes was Mentioned in Despatches several times, and at the close of the war became heavily involved in setting up

SARAH LAMPLOUGH

Section 41, Lot 81 NW

Sarah Wilkins was born in Orangeville, Ontario on April 27, 1870. On June 15, 1892, at Ottawa, she married Frederick Leonard Lamplough (1866-1924), a dispatcher with the Canada Atlantic Railway, but the happy event almost turned tragic when Fred was severely injured in an accident soon

after they embarked on their honeymoon trip to Boston and New York. In spite of the rough start, Sarah and Fred were married for over thirty years and had several children.

Two of Sarah's sons served with the Canadian Expeditionary Force in the First World War and were killed in action. Her elder son, Leonard Alderson Lamplough, was well-known in Ottawa as a football player at Ottawa Collegiate. When war was declared in 1914, he was working on the civil staff of the Department of Militia. He immediately joined the 1st Battery, First Division, Canadian Field Artillery and was promoted to corporal. He was killed in action at Ypres on May 9, 1915 at the young age of 21.

Sarah's younger son, Frank Wilkins Lamplough, also volunteered with the CEF and went overseas as a signaller. He later transferred to the Artillery, where he became a gunner, and died of wounds received in action on July 10, 1918. He was only 21 years old.

In 1942, Sarah Lamplough was chosen to represent Canadian "Motherhood" as Silver Cross Mother on Remembrance Day ceremonies at the National War Memorial in Ottawa, in recognition of her loss and the loss experienced by all

SIR JAMES H. MACBRIEN

Section 63, Lot 1



James Howden MacBrien was born in Port Perry on June 30, 1878. In 1896 he joined the 34th Ontario Regiment, then went on to serve with the North West Mounted Police starting in 1900. A little less than a year later, MacBrien left the NWMP to join the South African Constabulary. He returned to Canada in 1906 and joined the Royal Canadian Dragoons. By 1910, he was made Adjutant of a regiment.

During the First World War, MacBrien served in France with the 1st Canadian contingent. He was wounded at the battle of Ypres in 1915 and again in 1918, at the assault on the Drocourt-Quéant line. In 1916, MacBrien was promoted to the

rank of Brigadier General and given the command of the 12th Infantry Brigade. He was only 38 years old at the time, and remains one of the youngest to hold that rank. In 1919 he was promoted to major general and made Chief of the General Staff of the Canadian Overseas Military Forces, where he remained until 1920. MacBrien was a key figure in the creation of the Department of National Defence, and in 1920, he was appointed the Chief of the General Staff of the Department, a role he held until his retirement in 1927.

In 1931, MacBrien was appointed Commissioner of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. During his term, MacBrien almost doubled the strength of the Force, assumed provincial policing duties in Alberta, British Columbia, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, established a Marine Division, an aviation section, a Police Service Dog Section, the first Crime Detection Laboratory, a museum in Regina for the RCMP, introduced the Long Service Medal, and created a Reserve Force of members to be trained and ready in case of an emergency.

He had had an extensive and outstanding career as an exemplary officer and policeman, decorated with a Distinguished Service Order in 1915, and awarded

SIR DONALD A. MACDONALD

Section 37, Lot 63 E

Born in Cornwall, Upper Canada, on October 31, 1845, Donald Alexander Macdonald received his education in Cornwall before joining the Cornwall Rifle Company, Volunteer Militia, in 1863 as an ensign. He was commissioned as a Lieutenant with the 59th Regiment in 1865 and promoted to Captain the following year, when he was also called out with his unit to defend the province against a possible Fenian invasion. In 1870, he volunteered with the 1st Battalion, Ontario Rifles, and served with the Red River Expeditionary Force which was dispatched to Manitoba to put down a rebellion led by Louis Riel. He continued to rise through the ranks, becoming a major in 1871 and a Lieutenant-Colonel in 1877.

In November 1873, Macdonald was appointed to a position in the Stores Division of the Department of Militia and Defence in Ottawa, thus launching an administrative career that would span the next 44 years. During the 1885 Northwest Rebellion, Macdonald served as a staff officer in Toronto, responsible in part for supplying the North West Field Force. In 1904, he was appointed Quarter-Master General, and received a further spate of promotions: Colonel in 1900, Brigadier-General in 1907 and Major-General in 1912.

As Quarter-Master General, he was responsible for outfitting the Canadian Ex-

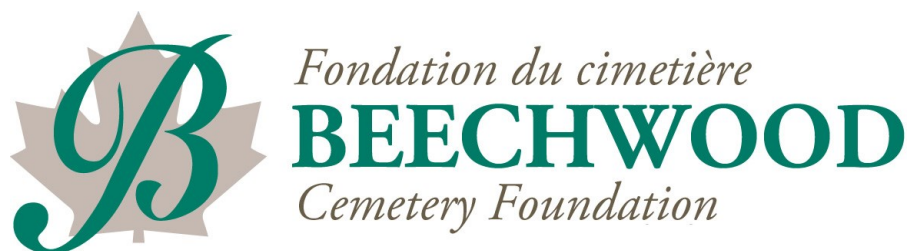


OTHER PEOPLE AND SECTIONS OF NOTE

Many other people buried at Beechwood participated in World War One, but due to space restrictions, only the biographies of those most involved with the War were included here. Several others are listed below—their biographies can be found in Beechwood's extensive Historical Portraits Booklet, available online at <http://www.beechwoodcemetery.com/index.php/en/about/history.html>.

- Sir Edward Whipple Bancroft Morrison (Section 29, Lot 16 N)
- Lt Arthur Stanley Bourinot (Section 48, Lot 1)
- BGen Ernest Alexander Cruikshank (Section 30, TG 86)
- LCdr Ernest Mozart Hiney (Section 40, Lot 139 E)
- Maj the Rev Harold Irwin Horsey (Section 24, Lot 31 NW)
- Gen Andrew G. L. McNaughton (Section 53, Lot 21 S)
- Paul Alfred Ernest Meister (Section 21, Lot 59 W Ctr)
- LCol Samuel Maynard Rogers (Section 48, Lot 14 NE)
- LCol Charles Douglas Spittal (Section 19, Lot 144 NE)
- Sir Cecil Arthur Spring-Rice (Section 22, Lot 15 SW)
- LCol William Arthur Steel (Section 17A, Lot 14)
- Col Henry Joseph Woodside (Section 17, PC 252)

And of course, all military veterans and combatants buried in Sections 19 and 29 and many of those in Section 27.



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