

Mutual Reinforcement is Effective

KEY:  Military Cemetery  Ship Lost



Throughout World War I, German submarines targeted ocean traffic of the Allied nations. After the U.S. entered the war the British and American navies began a convoy system to thwart the German menace. Many of the troops and supplies destined for the Western Front landed in the British Isles first.



Crewmembers of the USCGC Tampa served on convoy escort duty in the Atlantic in 1918.

American Battle Monuments Commission

This agency of the United States government operates and maintains 26 American cemeteries and 31 memorials, monuments and markers in 17 countries. The Commission works to fulfill the vision of its first chairman, General of the Armies John J. Pershing. Pershing, commander of the American Expeditionary Forces during World War I, promised that "time will not dim the glory of their deeds."

Brookwood American Cemetery and Memorial

The site nestles among military cemeteries and monuments of the British Commonwealth and other nations. Those who rest here were members of the American Expeditionary Forces who lost their lives in the British Isles or surrounding waters. After the Armistice they were brought here from temporary sites throughout England, Scotland, and Ireland.

The cemetery offers free guided tours on request pending staff availability.



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For more information on this site and other ABMC commemorative sites, please visit www.abmc.gov

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ENGLISH

AMERICAN BATTLE MONUMENTS COMMISSION

Brookwood American Cemetery and Memorial



"Time will not dim the glory of their deeds."

- General of the Armies John J. Pershing



MUTUAL REINFORCEMENT IS EFFECTIVE

More than two million American service members arrived in France during World War I. Almost one million landed in England first. Most of those proceeded to France. Some remained, serving at base hospitals, naval air stations, in support of the ports, and at sea and in the air.

JUNE 9, 1917: General John J. Pershing, commander of the American Expeditionary Forces (AEF), and staff arrived in Britain. They consulted with British officials before reaching Paris on June 13.

FEBRUARY 5, 1918: A German submarine torpedoed the American troop ship SS *Tuscania* near the Isle of Islay, Scotland. More than 200 men were lost.

MAY 31: The troop ship USS *President Lincoln* was sunk by a German submarine in the Atlantic west of Brest, France.

JULY 20: The U.S. Navy established a seaplane patrol base at Killingholme, England.

August 1: Base Hospital No. 29 of the AEF began functioning in London.

SEPTEMBER 16-17: The Coast Guard Cutter USCGC *Seneca*, on convoy escort, assisted the torpedoed steamship *Wellington*. Eleven *Seneca* and five *Wellington* men perished.

SEPTEMBER 26: The USCGC *Tampa* was sunk by a German torpedo in the Bristol Channel. She sank with all hands: 131 lives were lost, including 111 Coastguardsmen.

OCTOBER 6: The troop ship HMS *Otranto* collided with another ship during a storm near the Isle of Islay.

General Pershing wrote in his final report:

"The hospitable reception of those of our forces who passed through England has impressed upon us how closely common language and blood have brought together the British and ourselves."

Useful Information

Graves Area

The 468 headstones are arranged in four plots. Flowering shrubs and majestic evergreen trees border them on all sides.



Chapel Interior

The chapel's stained glass windows provide light to the altar and flags and the carved cross. Insignia of the U.S. armed forces appear in the windows.



Dedication to the Missing

The names of 564 servicemen missing on land and sea appear on the inner walls of the chapel. The names include the crew of the USCGC *Tampa*.



Headstone

This headstone marks the grave of Teresa M. Murphy, Army Nurse Corps, of New Hampshire. She died on duty at Base Station No. 3, London, on November 9, 1918.



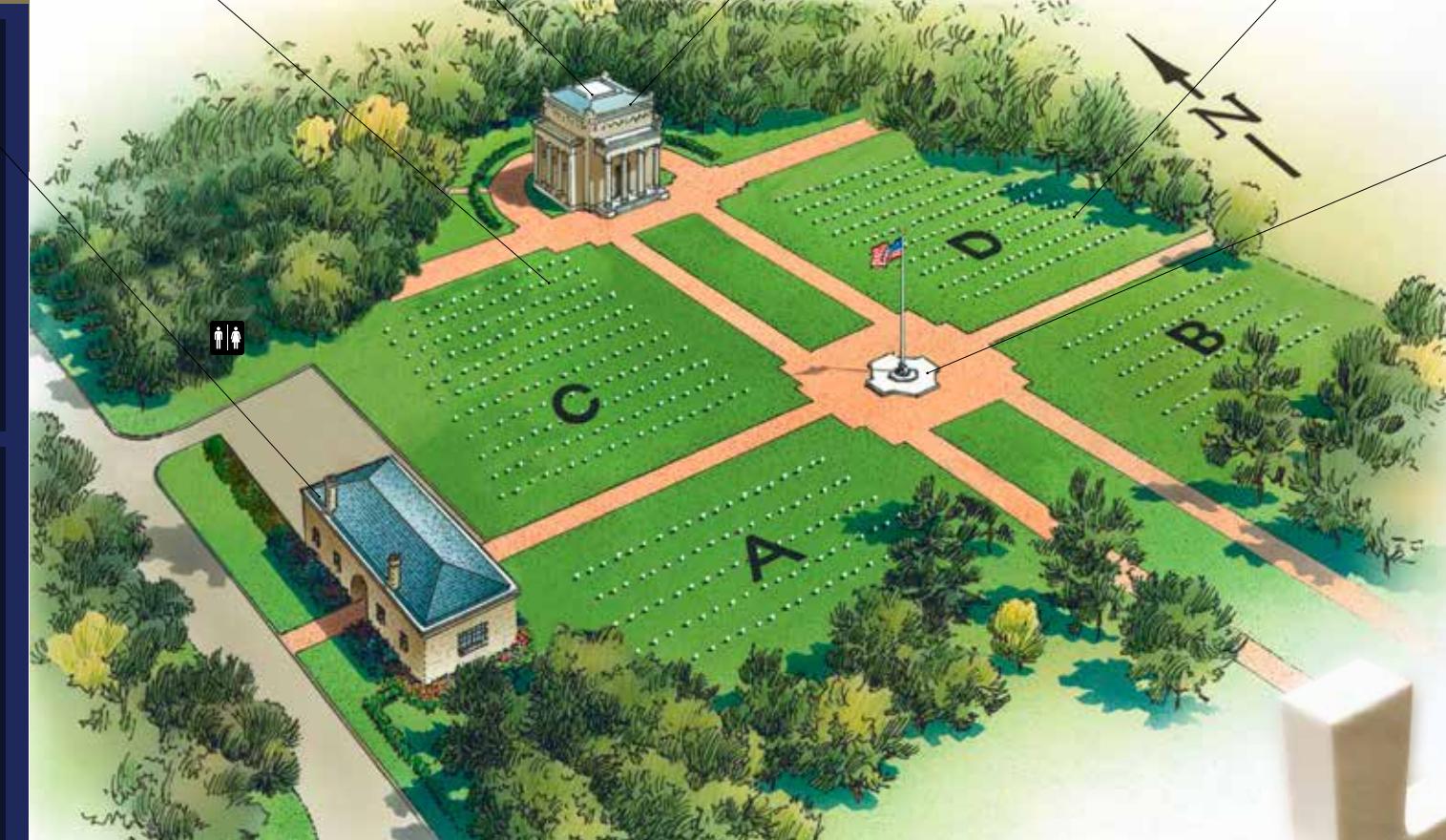
Visitor Building

Here you can meet our staff, get your questions answered, and sign the guest register.



Lush Plantings

Banks of rhododendrons, along with natural woods of oak and Scots pine trees, define the site. Other color is provided by ground cover of heather and azaleas.



Layout

From the visitor building, it is an easy walk to the flagpole, chapel, and four graves plots. Military cemeteries of other nations border the site and also welcome visitors.

DIMENSIONS: 4.5 ACRES
HEADSTONES: 468
LATIN CROSSES: 467

STARS OF DAVID: 1
MISSING IN ACTION: 564
UNKNOWN: 41

MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENTS: 2
DEDICATED: AUGUST 15, 1937

Headstone Location

PLOT:

ROW:

GRAVE:



Flagpole

The flagpole stands at the center of the four plots of graves, anchoring the cemetery's compact symmetrical design.



Photo: Naval History & Heritage Command

Survivors of the USS President Lincoln drift in lifeboats after a German submarine sank her.