

## Executive Summary

### State Party

Belgium (Be) and France (Fr)

### State, province or region

France, Wallonia and Flandres

### Name of the property

Funeral and memorial sites of the First World War (Western Front)

### Geographical coordinates to the nearest second

*Table : Geographical coordinates to the nearest second.*

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER	SITE	MUNICIPALITY	DEPARTEMENT (Fr) PROVINCE (Be)	STATE	COORDINATES OF THE CENTRAL POINT
WA01	Fort of Loncin	Ans	Liège	Belgium	50°40'29"N, 5°29'31"E
WA02	Military plots of Robermont	Liège	Liège	Belgium	50°37'55"N, 5°36'46"E
WA03	French military cemetery of le Plateau	Tintigny	Luxembourg	Belgium	49°43'47"N, 5°28'57"E
WA04	French military cemetery of l'Orée de la Forêt	Tintigny	Luxembourg	Belgium	49°44'14"N, 5°28'51"E
WA05	French-German military cemetery of le Radan	Tintigny	Luxembourg	Belgium	49°39'54"N, 5°30'48"E
WA06	Plot of the executed at Tamines	Sambreville	Namur	Belgium	50°25'53"N, 4°36'51"E
WA07	French military cemetery of la Belle Motte	Fosses-la-Ville	Namur	Belgium	50°24'15"N, 4°36'06"E
WA08	Commonwealth-German military cemetery of Saint-Symphorien	Mons	Hainaut	Belgium	50°25'58"N, 4°00'33"E
WA09	Commonwealth military cemetery "Hyde Park Corner Cemetery"	Comines-Warneton	Hainaut	Belgium	50°44'15"N, 2°52'50"E

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WA10	Commonwealth military cemetery and memorial to the missing "Berks Cemetery Extension" and "Ploegsteert Memorial to the Missing"	Comines-Warneton	Hainaut	Belgium	50°44'15"N, 2°52'59"E
WA11	Commonwealth military cemetery "Strand Military Cemetery"	Comines-Warneton	Hainaut	Belgium	50°43'58"N, 2°52'51"E
WA12	Commonwealth military cemetery "Prowse Point Military Cemetery"	Comines-Warneton	Hainaut	Belgium	50°44'38"N, 2°53'57"E
WA13	Commonwealth military cemetery "Mud Corner Cemetery"	Comines-Warneton	Hainaut	Belgium	50°44'32"N, 2°53'53"E
WA14	Commonwealth military cemetery "Toronto Avenue Cemetery"	Comines-Warneton	Hainaut	Belgium	50°44'26"N, 2°53'58"E
WA15	Commonwealth military cemetery "Ploegsteert Wood Military Cemetery"	Comines-Warneton	Hainaut	Belgium	50°44'13"N, 2°54'00"E
WA16	Commonwealth military cemetery "Rifle House Cemetery"	Comines-Warneton	Hainaut	Belgium	50°44'09"N, 2°54'04"E
FL01	Commonwealth monument to the missing "Nieuport Memorial"	Nieuport	West Flanders	Belgium	51°08'13"N, 2°45'20"E
FL02	German military cemetery of Vladslo	Dixmude	West Flanders	Belgium	51°04'14"N, 2°55'45"E
FL03	Crypt of the Yser tower	Dixmude	West Flanders	Belgium	51°01'56"N, 2°51'13"E
FL04	Belgian military cemetery of Oeren	Alveringem	West Flanders	Belgium	51°01'27"N, 2°42'16"E
FL05	Belgian military cemetery of Houthulst	Houthulst	West Flanders	Belgium	50°58'00"N, 2°56'54"E
FL06	German military cemetery of Langemark	Langemark-Poelkapelle	West Flanders	Belgium	50°55'13"N, 2°55'00"E
FL07	Canadian national monument "The Brooding Soldier"	Langemark-Poelkapelle	West Flanders	Belgium	50°53'59"N, 2°56'26"E

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FL08	Commonwealth military cemetery "Tyne Cot Cemetery" and Commonwealth memorial to the missing "Tyne Cot Memorial"	Zonnebeke	West Flanders	Belgium	50°53'14"N, 2°59'57"E
FL09	Commonwealth military cemetery "Polygon Wood Cemetery"	Zonnebeke	West Flanders	Belgium	50°51'27"N, 2°59'26"E
FL10	Commonwealth military cemetery "Buttes New British Cemetery"	Zonnebeke	West Flanders	Belgium	50°51'21"N, 2°59'30"E
FL11	Commonwealth military cemetery "Essex farm Cemetery"	Ypres	West Flanders	Belgium	50°52'15"N, 2°52'23"E
FL12	Commonwealth military cemetery "Welsh Cemetery (Caesar's Nose)"	Ypres	West Flanders	Belgium	50°53'12"N, 2°52'55"E
FL13	Commonwealth military cemetery "No Man's Cot Cemetery"	Ypres	West Flanders	Belgium	50°53'02"N, 2°53'36"E
FL14	Commonwealth military cemetery "Track X Cemetery"	Ypres	West Flanders	Belgium	50°52'41"N, 2°54'41"E
FL15	Commonwealth military cemetery "Buff's Road Cemetery"	Ypres	West Flanders	Belgium	50°52'36"N, 2°54'59"E
FL16	French military cemetery "Saint-Charles de Potyze"	Ypres	West Flanders	Belgique	50°51'47"N, 2°55'35"E
FL17	Commonwealth monument to the missing "Menin Gate"	Ypres	West Flanders	Belgium	50°51'07"N, 2°53'28"E
FL18	Commonwealth military cemetery "Bedford House Cemetery"	Ypres	West Flanders	Belgium	50°49'43"N, 2°53'26"E
FL19	Commonwealth military cemetery "Larch Wood Cemetery"	Ypres	West Flanders	Belgium	50°49'40"N, 2°55'25"E
FL20	Commonwealth military cemetery "Woods Cemetery"	Ypres	West Flanders	Belgium	50°49'21"N, 2°54'56"E

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FL21	Commonwealth military cemetery "1st D.C.L.I. Cemetery, The Bluff"	Ypres	West Flanders	Belgium	50°49'15"N, 2°54'47"E
FL22	Commonwealth military cemetery "Hedge Row Trench Cemetery"	Ypres	West Flanders	Belgium	50°49'10"N, 2°54'49"E
FL23	French ossuary of the Kemmel mountain	Heuvelland	West Flanders	Belgium	50°46'44"N, 2°48'28"E
FL24	Commonwealth military cemetery "Spanbroekmolen British Cemetery"	Heuvelland	West Flanders	Belgium	50°46'42"N, 2°52'01"E
FL25	Commonwealth military cemetery "Lone Tree Cemetery"	Heuvelland	West Flanders	Belgium	50°46'28"N, 2°51'42"E
FL26	Irish monument "Island of Ireland Peace Tower"	Messines	West Flanders	Belgium	50°45'35"N, 2°53'41"E
FL27	Commonwealth military cemetery "Lijssenthoek military cemetery"	Poperinge	West Flanders	Belgium	50°49'46"N, 2°42'04"E
ND01	Commonwealth military cemetery "Fromelles (Pheasant Wood) Military Cemetery"	Fromelles	Nord	France	50°36'22"N, 2°51'03"E
ND02	Commonwealth military cemetery & Australian memorial "V.C. Corner Australian Cemetery and Memorial"	Fromelles	Nord	France	50°37'10"N, 2°50'01"E
ND03	Commonwealth military cemetery & memorial "Louveral Military Cemetery" & "Cambrai Memorial"	Doignies	Nord	France	50°08'12"N, 3°00'54"E
ND04	German military cemetery of la Route de Solesmes & Commonwealth military cemetery "Cambrai East Military Cemetery"	Cambrai	Nord	France	50°10'41"N, 3°15'39"E
ND05	French national necropolis of Assevent & German military cemetery of Assevent	Assevent	Nord	France	50°17'30"N, 4°01'07"E

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ND06	Commonwealth military cemetery "Le Quesnoy communal Cemetery extension"	Le Quesnoy	Nord	France	50°15'21"N, 3°38'01"E
PC01	Indian memorial of the Commonwealth "Neuve Chapelle Memorial"	Richebourg	Pas-de-Calais	France	50°34'30"N, 2°46'29"E
PC02	Portuguese military cemetery of Richebourg-l'Avoué	Richebourg	Pas-de-Calais	France	50°34'25"N, 2°46'33"E
PC03	Canadian national memorial "Vimy Memorial"	Givenchy-en-Gohelle	Pas-de-Calais	France	50°22'47"N, 2°46'23"E
PC04	Commonwealth military cemetery "Canadian Cemetery n°2"	Neuville-Saint-Vaast	Pas-de-Calais	France	50°22'40"N, 2°45'48"E
PC05	Commonwealth military cemetery "Givenchy Road Canadian Cemetery"	Neuville-Saint-Vaast	Pas-de-Calais	France	50°22'33"N, 2°45'53"E
PC06	Commonwealth military cemetery "Lichfield Crater"	Thelus	Pas-de-Calais	France	50°21'34"N, 2°46'36"E
PC07	French national necropolis of la Targette & Commonwealth military cemetery "La Targette British Cemetery"	Neuville-Saint-Vaast	Pas-de-Calais	France	50°21'00"N, 2°44'47"E
PC08	German military cemetery of la Maison Blanche	Neuville-Saint-Vaast	Pas-de-Calais	France	50°20'34"N, 2°45'15"E
PC09	Czechoslovakian military cemetery of Neuville-Saint-Vaast	Neuville-Saint-Vaast	Pas-de-Calais	France	50°21'57"N, 2°44'39"E
PC10	French national necropolis of Notre-Dame-de-Lorette	Ablain-Saint-Nazaire	Pas-de-Calais	France	50°24'04"N; 2°43'10"E

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PC11	Commonwealth military cemetery & memorials "Faubourg D'amiens Cemetery", "Arras Memorial" and "Arras Flying Services Memorial"	Arras	Pas-de-Calais	France	50°17'14"N, 2°45'35"E
PC12	Commonwealth military cemetery & memorial "Dud Corner Cemetery" and "Loos Memorial"	Loos-en-Gohelle	Pas-de-Calais	France	50°27'38"N, 2°46'17"E
PC13	Commonwealth military cemetery "Etaples Military Cemetery"	Etaples-sur-Mer	Pas-de-Calais	France	50°32'09"N, 1°37'23"E
PC14	Commonwealth military cemetery "Wimereux communal cemetery"	Wimereux	Pas-de-Calais	France	50°46'26"N, 1°36'51"E
SE01	Commonwealth memorials "Beaumont Hamel (Newfoundland) Memorial" & "29th Division Memorial", Commonwealth memorial park "Beaumont Hamel (Newfoundland) Memorial Park" & Commonwealth military cemetery "Hunter's Cemetery"	Beaumont-Hamel / Auchonvillers	Somme	France	50°04'95"N, 2°39'00"E
SE02	Commonwealth military cemetery "Mill Road Cemetery"	Thiepval	Somme	France	50°03'39"N, 2°41'01"E
SE03	Commonwealth monument to the missing "Thiepval Memorial" & French-Commonwealth military cemetery "Thiepval Anglo-French Cemetery"	Thiepval / Authuille	Somme	France	50°03'01"N, 2°41'08"E
SE04	Commonwealth military cemetery & memorial "Pozières British Cemetery" & "Pozières Memorial"	Ovillers-La-Boiselle	Somme	France	50°02'02"N, 2°42'54"E

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SE05	South-African national memorial "The South Africa (Delville Wood) National Memorial" and Commonwealth military cemetery "Delville Wood Cemetery"	Longueval	Somme	France	50°01'32"N, 2°48'45"E
SE06	French national necropolis & chapel of le Souvenir Français of Rancourt	Rancourt / Bouchavesnes-Bergen	Somme	France	49°59'53"N, 2°54'42"E
SE07	Commonwealth military cemetery "Rancourt Military Cemetery"	Bouchavesnes-Bergen	Somme	France	49°59'53"N, 2°54'35"E
SE08	German military cemetery of Rancourt	Rancourt	Somme	France	49°59'48"N, 2°54'17"E
SE09	Australian national memorial "Villers-Bretonneux Memorial" & Commonwealth military cemetery "Villers-Bretonneux Military Cemetery"	Fouilloy	Somme	France	49°53'12"N, 2°30'41"E
SE10	Commonwealth military cemetery "Noyelles-sur-mer Chinese Cemetery" & Chinese memorial "Noyelles-sur-mer Chinese Memorial"	Noyelles-sur-Mer	Somme	France	50°11'09"N, 1°43'21"E
SE11	Commonwealth military cemetery "Lourencourt Military Cemetery"	Lourencourt	Somme	France	50°05'21"N, 2°30'13"E
OI01	French national necropolis of Cuts	Cuts	Oise	France	49°31'43"N, 3°05'32"E
OI02	French national necropolis of Thiescourt & German military cemetery of Thiescourt	Thiescourt	Oise	France	49°34'08"N, 2°53'08"E
OI03	French national necropolis of Compiègne (Royallieu)	Compiègne	Oise	France	49°24'09"N, 2°48'53"E

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IDENTIFICATION NUMBER	SITE	MUNICIPALITY	DEPARTEMENT (Fr) PROVINCE (Be)	STATE	COORDINATES OF THE CENTRAL POINT
AI01	American military cemetery and memorial "Aisne-Marne American Cemetery and Memorial"	Belleau	Aisne	France	49°04'42"N, 3°17'30"E
AI02	German military cemetery of Saint-Quentin & German-French monument of Saint-Quentin	Saint-Quentin	Aisne	France	49°50'53"N, 3°15'40"E
AI03	German military cemetery of Veslud	Veslud	Aisne	France	49°31'56"N, 3°44'04"E
AI04	French national necropolis of Le Sourd & German military cemetery of Le Sourd	Leme	Aisne	France	49°51'19"N, 3°44'02"E
AI05	French national necropolis of the prisoners of Effry	Effry	Aisne	France	49°55'27"N, 3°58'53"E
AI06	Danish military cemetery of Braine	Braine	Aisne	France	49°20'04"N, 3°31'53"E
AI07	French national necropolis of Cerny-en-Laonnois, German military cemetery of Cerny-en-Laonnois and memorial chapel of le Chemin des Dames	Cerny-en-Laonnois	Aisne	France	49°26'31"N, 3°39'56"E
AI08	French national necropolis of Craonnelle	Craonnelle	Aisne	France	49°25'56"N, 3°46'23"E
AI09	French memorial "Les fantômes"	Oulchy-le-Château	Aisne	France	49°12'51"N, 3°24'32"E
SM01	French national necropolis of "La Grande Tombe de Villeroy"	Chauconin-Neufmontiers	Seine-et-Marne	France	48°58'48"N, 2°48'03"E
MA01	French memorial of the battles of the Marne	Dormans	Marne	France	49°04'17"N, 3°38'49"E

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MA02	Italian military cemetery of "Bligny"	Chambrecy	Marne	France	49°11'22"N, 3°50'26"E
MA03	Russian military cemetery and chapel of Saint-Hilaire-le-Grand	Saint-Hilaire-le-Grand	Marne	France	49°09'32"N, 4°23'57"E
MA04	French national necropolis, German military cemetery & Polish military cemetery "le Bois du Puits"	Auberive	Marne	France	49°11'36"N, 4°22'04"E
MA05	French municipal cemetery & chapel of Mondement-Montgivroux	Mondement-Montgivroux	Marne	France	48°47'12"N, 4°46'31"E
MA06	French national necropolis & German military cemetery of la Crouée	Souain-Perthes-les-Hurlus	Marne	France	49°11'18"N, 4°32'17"E
MA07	French national necropolis of l'Opéra	Souain-Perthes-les-Hurlus	Marne	France	49°11'30"N, 4°33'20"E
MA08	French national necropolis of the 28th brigade "La ferme des Wacques"	Souain-Perthes-les-Hurlus	Marne	France	49°10'57"N, 4°30'37"E
MA09	French national necropolis of the monument-ossuary of the French Foreign Legion (Henri Fansworth)	Souain-Perthes-les-Hurlus	Marne	France	49°11'48"N, 4°33'58"E
MA10	French national necropolis of Navarin: monument to the dead of the armies of Champagne	Souain-Perthes-les-Hurlus	Marne	France	49°13'04"N, 4°32'30"E
AR01	German military cemetery of Chestres & French national necropolis of Chestres	Vouziers / Chestres	Ardennes	France	48°23'49"N, 4°43'39"E
AR02	German monument of the Saint-Charles cemetery	Sedan	Ardennes	France	49°42'43"N, 4°56'36"E

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AR03	French military plot of the dead of November 11, 1918 of Vrigne-Meuse	Vrigne-Meuse	Ardennes	France	49°42'06"N, 4°50'35"E
MA11	French national necropolis of Saint-Thomas en Argonne & French national necropolis of the monument-ossuary of la Gruerie	Vienne-le-Chateau / Saint-Thomas-en-Argonne	Marne	France	49°12'02"N, 4°53'19"E
MA12	French national necropolis of La Harazée	Vienne-le-Château	Marne	France	49°11'45"N, 4°54'59"E
AR04	German military cemetery of Apremont	Apremont	Ardennes	France	49°15'21"N, 4°58'05"E
ME01	French Monument-ossuary of Haute-Chevauchée	Lachalade	Meuse	France	49°11'21"N, 4°59'38"E
ME02	French national necropolis of la Forestière	Lachalade	Meuse	France	49°10'03"N, 5°00'11"E
ME03	American military cemetery and memorial "Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery and Memorial"	Romagne-sous-Montfaucon	Meuse	France	49°20'02"N, 5°05'36"E
ME04	French national necropolis of la Maize	Vauquois	Meuse	France	49°11'44"N, 5°04'31"E
ME05	French ossuary, French national necropolis, Isrealien monument & Muslim monument of Douaumont	Douaumont / Fleury-devant-Douaumont	Meuse	France	49°12'26"N, 5°25'28"E
ME06	Fort of Douaumont	Douaumont	Meuse	France	49°13'01"N, 5°26'19"E
ME07	French headstones of the executed of Fleury-devant-Douaumont	Fleury-devant-Douaumont	Meuse	France	49°11'56"N, 5°25'35"E

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ME08	Trench of the bayonets	Douaumont	Meuse	France	49°12'50"N, 5°25'32"E
ME09	French national necropolis of le Faubourg Pavé	Verdun	Meuse	France	49°09'58"N, 5°24'14"E
ME10	German military cemetery of Consenvoye	Consenvoye	Meuse	France	49°16'48"N, 5°17'49"E
ME11	French national necropolis of le Trottoir	Les eparges	Meuse	France	49°03'59"N, 5°36'21"E
ME12	German military cemetery of Gobessart	Saint-Mihiel	Meuse	France	49°52'40"N, 5°36'29"E
MM01	American military cemetery & memorial "St. Mihiel American Cemetery and Memorial"	Thiaucourt-Regnieville	Meurthe-et-Moselle	France	48°57'20"N, 5°51'07"E
MM02	French plot of civilian casualties of Gerbeviller	Gerbeviller	Meurthe-et-Moselle	France	48°30'15"N, 6°30'27"E
MM03	French national necropolis of Pierrepont	Pierrepont	Meurthe-et-Moselle	France	49°24'53"N, 5°42'15"E
MM04	German military cemetery of Pierrepont	Pierrepont	Meurthe-et-Moselle	France	49°25'23"N, 5°42'18"E
MS01	French national necropolis of Riche	Riche	Moselle	France	48°54'21"N, 6°37'48"E
MS02	German military cemetery of l'Hellenwald	Morhange	Moselle	France	48°56'43"N, 6°39'53"E
MS03	French national necropolis of l'Espérance	Cutting	Moselle	France	48°50'26"N, 6°50'07"E
MS04	French national cemetery of the prisoners of war of Sarrebourg	Sarrebourg	Moselle	France	48°44'33"N, 7°02'05"E
MS05	French national necropolis of Chambièrè	Metz	Moselle	France	49°08'03"N, 6°11'40"E
MS06	French national necropolis of Lagarde	Lagarde	Moselle	France	48°41'31"N, 6°41'59"E
MS07	German military cemetery of Lagarde	Lagarde	Moselle	France	48°41'31"N, 6°42'39"E
VS01	French national necropolis of la Fontenelle	Ban-de-Sapt, so-called "Le Béheu"	Vosges	France	48°20'51"N, 6°59'59"E
VS02	French national necropolis of la Chipotte	Saint-Benoit-la-Chipotte	Vosges	France	48°22'11"N, 6°46'27"E
VS03	French national necropolis of les Tiges	Saint-Die-des-Vosges	Vosges	France	48°17'13"N, 6°55'27"E

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HR01	French national necropolis of le Wettstein	Orbey	Haut-Rhin	France	48°05'18"N, 7°07'04"E
HR02	German military cemetery of Hohrod-Bärenstall	Orbey / Horhod	Haut-Rhin	France	48°04'44"N, 7°08'40"E
HR03	German military cemetery of Kahm	Lapoutroie	Haut-Rhin	France	48°09'36"N, 7°07'35"E
HR04	French national necropolis of Duchesne	Orbey / Le Bonhomme	Haut-Rhin	France	48°08'54"N, 7°06'28"E
HR05	French national necropolis of le Silberloch, French national monument & cryp of the Hartmannswillerkopf	Hartmannswiller / Watwiller / Wuenheim / Soultz	Haut-Rhin	France	47°51'32"N, 7°09'04"E
HR06	German military cemetery of the Uhlans	Hartmannswiller	Haut-Rhin	France	47°51'10"N, 7°10'23"E
HR07	Roumanian military cemetery of Soultzmatt	Soultzmatt	Haut-Rhin	France	47°57'22"N, 7°12'56"E
HR08	French military cemetery Germania	Stosswihr	Haut-Rhin	France	48°02'22"N, 7°03'31"E
HR09	French national necropolis of Moosch	Moosch	Haut-Rhin	France	47°51'34"N, 7°03'16"E
BR01	German and French headstones and tombs of le Petit Donon	Whisches/Grandfontaine / Hersbach	Bas-Rhin	France	48°31.00"N, 7°10.38"E

### Textual description of the boundaries of the nominated property:

The selection of funeral and memorial sites of the First World War spans the Belgian provinces of West Flanders, Hainaut, Namur, Luxembourg and Liège on the one hand, and the French regions of Hauts-de-France, Ile-de-France and the Grand-Est on the other.

The transnational serial nomination (France and Belgium) counts 139 sites.

See map below.



## Criteria under which the property is nominated

Criterion (iii): To bear unique or at least exceptional witness to a cultural tradition or to a civilization which is living or almost disappeared.

Criterion (iv): To offer an outstanding example of a type of building or architectural or technological group or landscape which illustrates a significant period or periods in human history.

Criterion (vi): To be directly or tangibly associated with events or living traditions, with ideas, beliefs or artistic or literary works of outstanding universal significance.

## Draft Statement of Outstanding Universal Value

### Brief synthesis

The burial and memorial sites that have been chosen form the components that make up the series proposed for tender. They reveal an entirely new relationship to the death of soldiers in battle. These soldiers are in fact seen for the first time as civilians mobilised *en masse*, from all social classes in all countries. The unheard-of levels of human casualties, due to the industrial scale and totality of World War I, has profoundly changed funeral rites. Only a new style of veneration of the dead, whose individual identity is recognised by everyone for the first time, can bring a universal human response to the inhumanity of war. This new memento mori is expressed by cemeteries consisting of individual graves repeating in vast numbers. Their uniformity reflects the equality of men in the face of death above all other considerations, while respecting people's personal beliefs. The inscription of the names on the tombs and memorials firstly responds to the desire to keep alive the memory of the fighters whose bodies have not been found or identified. They are the natural complements to these cemeteries.

In addition, all the components reflect the international nature of the conflict, whether they are cemeteries or memorials explicitly associated with one of the warring parties or honouring soldiers from around the world. Burial and memorial sites range from simple headstones to commemorative monuments and major national memorials. They testify to a completely new architectural movement, specific to each warring party, which continues today. They all preserve the memory of the victims (military and civilian) and bear witness to the suffering and mourning of untold numbers of the living. Although centred on the death of the soldiers, these burial and memorial sites constantly recall by their symbolism that every man who fell was also a father, a son or a husband. This funerary cult is therefore more than a veneration of the fighting man, it is a civil and humanist cult that invites contemplation and then, gradually, reconciliation and peace.

## Justification for criteria

*Criterion (iii) (To bear unique or at least exceptional witness to a cultural tradition or to a civilization which is living or almost disappeared).*

The burial and memorial sites from World War I, the sites that make up the series, bear witness to the installation and spread of a new tradition of the veneration of those who died in battle. For the first time in history, every victim is remembered and recognised individually, on a universal scale, regardless of their social or cultural background. An individual who died in combat is first recognised for himself, with respect for his religious or philosophical convictions.

Each set of remains is interred in an individual grave. If the deceased is identified, his name is engraved upon it. Individual graves are usually grouped in military cemeteries or in dedicated enclosures within civilian cemeteries. The remains of unidentified soldiers are sometimes collected in ossuaries. For those who have no identified individual grave, monuments to the fallen are erected. In most cases, the ossuaries and monuments to the fallen bear the names of individuals carved in the form of gigantic alphabetical lists.

This practice of recognising all victims individually and equally became a tradition for the conflicts that followed World War I.

*Criterion (iv) (To offer an outstanding example of a type of building or architectural or technological group or landscape which illustrates a significant period or periods in human history).*

Burial and memorial sites from World War I, the sites that make up the series, demonstrate the creation of a new class or typology of decorative, architectural and landscape elements of exceptional quality. Created and organised according to cultural sensitivities or national styles, the attention to aesthetics is universal.

They offer an example of new and large-scale constructions and the creation of sites dedicated to the memory of all those who died in battle. Their dimensions and their number express the unprecedented scale attained by the destructive force of total world war. Their location, usually around major battlefields and associated with the presence of elements that bear direct witness to the conflict, has created a memorial landscape.

The typology of military cemeteries, ossuaries and memorials to the dead of the First World War I has been taken as a standard for all subsequent conflicts.

*Criterion (vi) (To be directly or tangibly associated with events or living traditions, with ideas, beliefs or artistic or literary works of outstanding universal significance (the Committee considers that this criterion should preferably be used in conjunction with other criteria)).*

The burial and memorial sites of the First World War, the components that make up the series, are a response to the desire to perpetuate the individual identity of the victims of war and to re-humanise societies traumatised by the disappearance of a large part of their population, due to the unprecedented scale of the forces of mass destruction and death.

The shared memory of deaths in combat is topical and dynamic. Millions of visitors, of all generations and from all corners of the globe. They participate in collective commemorations, institutional events

or ones organised by voluntary groups, which may be international, national or local, as well as private pilgrimages and individual or family visits.

In these places, recalling history has an exceptional value.

Today, the burial and memorial sites of the First World War have become places of contemplation and celebration of the memory of the dead, the symbolism of which glorifies peace and reconciliation.

## Statement of integrity

The overall integrity of the proposed series covers several major themes and concepts to illustrate in the fullest possible way the different aspects of its outstanding universal value.

In the diversity of its components, the series reflects the common will of governments to meet people's expectations of seeing recognition for the sacrifice made by their loved ones. This will is expressed by a widespread international movement of cemetery creation with individual graves and memorials displaying a list of those who died in combat. The series offers a selection of burial sites that are among the most emblematic of this new veneration of those who died in battle on the Western Front (France/Belgium), within a group consisting of several thousand cemeteries and monuments.

The series reflects the memory of the nations and peoples who participated in the fighting; it reflects the incredible diversity of the warring parties, fully justifying the term 'The First World War'. Through its components, the series presents a comprehensive group of nations and peoples involved in this conflict, involving a high degree of respect for the international testimony of those who died in combat (see 4.1.4).

The series is based on the different areas of the Western Front and the different phases of the history of the war. The general mapping expresses this dual spatial and chronological balance. The series intends to respect and illustrate the testimony of the historic expansion of the Western Front.

Apart from this new veneration of the dead, the sites that make up the series express the diversity of the cultural references of the various warring parties. All of the architectural, decorative and landscape trends, which are expressed both by the diversity of the people who took part and by the history of the cemeteries and memorials, are represented in the series. It therefore expresses as fully as possible this stylistic and typological diversity of funerary and memorial structures.

Finally, there is a memorial tradition that has evolved over time and which is still expressed vividly today on a large scale. The proposed series reflects those different times in the construction of the sites, as well as their cultural and symbolic importance today.

All the sites that make up the Serial Property individually have good structural integrity, as a memorial, necropolis, organised military cemetery or monument. From the beginning, they were almost all designed as coherent monumental and landscape groups expressing the values of memory by their structure and their forms. Their construction followed the canons of a funerary art, defined as much by the cultural context of the years between the wars as by the cultural and mental weight of the memory of the war. Vegetation (grass, trees, ornamental planting) is designed to visually enhance the monumental or territorial element. The components are of great symbolic value, still perceived this way today. These are living monuments to the memory of the war and the values of reconciliation and peace that they later promoted. By themselves, these sites that make up the series express a high level of integrity of the intangible testimony and of its transmission across generations, especially since the passing of the last eyewitnesses to World War I.

## Statement of Authenticity

The sites forming the elements making up the Serial Property proposed for inclusion are cemeteries and monuments participating in the veneration of the dead and which therefore are used exclusively for this purpose. They offer a group of sites developed to provide a burial and memorial function that has been carefully preserved to this day. These are memorial sites that complement each other and are tied to the events of the First World War, of which they express the different national, historical and territorial aspects as well as the structural, architectural and decorative variants. These burial and memorial sites have been preserved and maintained in continuous accordance with that initial purpose.

The cemeteries of the soldiers who died fighting were created while the war itself was still progressing, reflecting the spread of this new veneration of the dead in battle. These include the creation, during the conflict, of individual graves and cemeteries for the burial of fallen soldiers. After the armistice there began a systematic search for those who died, their identification and recovery of their remains. This resulted in the organisation of cemeteries and burial grounds as well as ossuaries for unidentifiable remains. This creation of sometimes vast burial sites follows the organizing principles and traditions of each nation. A number of wartime cemeteries have had their remains exhumed and have been abandoned. But their function as memorials has generally been respected, giving some of them an archaeological dimension. Some cemeteries have been affected by the events of World War II, and some reconstructions took place after this, but in compliance with their initial funerary function. The same applies to burial monuments, which typically include long individual lists. They experienced a parallel history to the cemeteries, and are frequently associated with them. Their creation sometimes dates back to the period of war itself, but they were usually designed during the period between the two World Wars, in direct connection with the celebration of the memory of those who died in the fighting. Some of these monuments were rebuilt in the post-World War II period, sometimes relatively recently. However, since their creation and possible restructuring, all of them have retained their initial function. Except for very rare exceptions (the monument of the former German military cemetery in Sedan), these sites are well maintained by the national or local authorities that are responsible for them. This is therefore individual tangible evidence with a high degree of authenticity as regards the new widespread veneration of those who died in battle. As a group, they form a complete and carefully drawn up selection of the monumental, decorative and landscape typologies of which they are comprised, and forming the expression of it today. This is an expression that can be described as perfectly authentic, bearing witness to the rich and complex history of the veneration of the dead from the beginning of hostilities to today.

The sites that make up the series also show an architectural and decorative movement that was initiated in that period of history, closely linked to its symbolic values. Cemeteries express a convergence towards the new and common values to all warring parties of recognition of individuals who died in combat, while their architecture and statuary reveal national attitudes to memorials. In addition, the building of memorials to the war and its dead is developing close to the former front lines, as well as in the villages and towns of the nations and peoples who were engaged in the fighting. The most imposing memorials which make up this series visually and symbolically punctuate the Front. In addition, a specific symbolic art - memorial monumentalism - and the landscape of the cemeteries, express a deep desire for peace. All of these sites demonstrate tangible and intangible values with great authenticity, and express the living and continuous nature of this tribute which is now a hundred years old, and its evolution into a search for peace and reconciliation.

In conclusion, the selected sites that make up the series generally speaking have a high level of maintenance and conservation with regard to their material authenticity and their symbolic value. The Serial Property very strongly expresses the authentic and living character of the veneration of those who died in battle recognised as individuals.

## Requirements for protection and management

Protective measures: All the sites comprising the Serial Property are or will be protected in the short term. To do this, each partner has used its own legislation. The Belgian partners (Flanders and Wallonia) have chosen to systematically apply heritage legislation and to classify all the sites. The classification is both a recognition of their heritage value and a tool for protection.

In Wallonia, some of the sites are classified as a monument or as a site, for others the process is under way and should be finalised before the decision of the World Heritage Committee. The buffer zone is created using another heritage tool: the protective zone, the definition of which is similar to that of the buffer zone. In both cases, the heritage quality of the surroundings has also conferred the status of classified site on the buffer zone.

In Flanders, the sites in the series are all classified as [national] monuments. The buffer zones are based on heritage tools and urban planning tools.

In France, all military cemeteries are protected under the 1919 Law to include the exact wording. In addition, for the sites in the series, this basic protection has been supplemented by the use of various instruments of a heritage nature (historical monument, listed in the inventory, site), which are environmental or urban in nature.

Management measures: The management of the Serial Property prioritises the conservation of the sites that are part of the series, preserving their outstanding universal value and the attributes on which this is based. Communicating and sharing this outstanding universal value by the greatest number of local people or visitors is another important aspect of management.

The sites that make up the series are distributed in the territory of two countries (Belgium, France) and are presented by three independent and autonomous institutional heritage partners (Wallonia, Flanders, France). Furthermore, the maintenance, management and conservation of these sites is under the jurisdiction of special structures created during or just after the war by the major warring parties. The objectives of these structures are essentially the same: the creation of military cemeteries, their maintenance and management. These missions are not limited to the territory of Belgium and France but to the entire world.

The management plan therefore takes account of this complexity and relies on a structure involving representatives of the institutions supporting the project (Wallonia, Flanders and France) and the site managers (CWGC, ABMC, VDK, DMPA, IV-INIG). The management plan is to integrate this dual component: management of the Serial Property and compliance with international models created by managers on the Western Front and further afield.

We must also consider that each institution supporting the project has developed its legislation or practices concerning the management of the World Heritage Sites located within its territory.

Moreover, the anchoring of these sites in their territory, their landscape and their history should also be preserved, and links with local people and communities should be maintained and strengthened. To address this complexity and these different issues, the property management plan will combine transnational, national, regional and local levels.

## Name and contact information of official local institution/agency

### Wallonia

Name: Service public de Wallonie  
Direction générale opérationnelle de l'aménagement du territoire, du logement, du patrimoine et de l'énergie  
Title: Département du Patrimoine  
Address: Rue des Brigades d'Irlande, 1  
Municipality, province/state, country: B-5100 Jambes, Belgium  
Tel.: +32 (0)81 33 21 11  
Email: dgo4@spw.wallonie.be  
Site: [http://spw.wallonie.be/dgo4/site\\_patrimoine](http://spw.wallonie.be/dgo4/site_patrimoine)

### Flanders

Name: Ministerie van Ruimtelijke Ordening, Woonbeleid en Onroerend Erfgoed  
Title: Flanders Heritage agency  
Address: Koning Albert II-laan 19 bus 5  
Municipality, province/state, country: B-1210 Brussels, Belgium  
Tel.: +32 (0)2 553 16 50  
Fax.:+32 (0)2 553 16 55  
Email: [info@onroenderfgoed.be](mailto:info@onroenderfgoed.be)  
Site: [www.onroenderfgoed.be](http://www.onroenderfgoed.be)

### France

Name: Ministère de la Culture et de la Communication  
Direction Générale des Patrimoines  
Département des affaires européennes et internationales  
Address: 6 rue des Pyramides  
Municipality, province/state, country: 75041, Paris cedex 01, France  
Tel.: +33 (0)1 40 15 33 35

Name: Association « Paysages et sites de mémoire de la Grande Guerre »  
Address: 46 Rue Copernic  
Municipality, province/state, country: 75116 Paris, France  
Tel.: +33 (0)9 67 24 55 74  
Site: <http://www.paysages-et-sites-de-memoire.fr>