



### Tomb of the Unknown Soldier Centennial Commemoration Joint Full Honors Procession—Sites of Interest

On November 11, 1921, the World War I Unknown Soldier's funeral ceremonies began with a large procession from the U.S. Capitol to Memorial Amphitheater at Arlington National Cemetery. This November 11, the centennial commemoration of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier features a [joint full honors procession](#) that will evoke elements of the 1921 event. The 2021 procession will take place entirely within Arlington National Cemetery.

Sites of interest along the procession route include:

- **Memorial Avenue monuments:** Memorial Avenue, Memorial Bridge and the entrance to the cemetery were designed as a single project, dedicated on January 16, 1932 by President Herbert Hoover. Monuments along Memorial Avenue include:
  - **Seabees Memorial:** Dedicated on Memorial Day 1974, the Seabees Memorial honors the contributions of the Naval Construction Battalions (CBs) during war and peace. Since World War II, the Seabees have been responsible for constructing U.S. military bases, paving roads and airstrips, and implementing military infrastructure projects around the world. The bas-relief behind the main statue features the Seabee motto, "Seabees—CAN DO." The memorial was sculpted by Felix de Weldon, who served as a Seabee in World War II and is interred in ANC's columbarium. De Weldon also sculpted the U.S. Marine Corps War Memorial, adjacent to the cemetery.
  - **Armored Forces Memorial:** This memorial, dedicated in 1991, commemorates the service of American armored units, including tanks, armored infantry, field artillery, engineers and support units. It is inscribed with the insignia of various armored units, and its main panel includes a quote from the "Father of the Armored Force," Maj. Gen. Adna R. Chaffee Jr. (buried in Section 3 of the cemetery).
  - **United Spanish War Veterans Memorial ("The Hiker"):** Honoring those who served in the Spanish-American War (1898), this monument features an eight-foot-tall bronze statue representing the common American soldier in that war. It was erected in 1965. Arlington National Cemetery has more [Spanish-American War](#) memorials and gravesites than any other location in the continental United States.



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NOVEMBER 2021

- **Rear Admiral Richard E. Byrd Monument:** Featuring an eight-foot-tall bronze statue, this monument honors naval officer and polar explorer Richard E. Byrd Jr. (buried in Section 2 of the cemetery), who conducted expeditions to the Arctic and Antarctica from the 1920s through 1950s. Byrd received the Medal of Honor in 1926 for his flight over the North Pole. Like the Seabees Memorial, the monument was sculpted by Felix de Weldon.
- **101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division Memorial:** Activated as an airborne unit in 1942, the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division (“Screaming Eagles”) participated in major campaigns during World War II, including D-Day, Operation Market Garden and the capture of Berchtesgaden (Adolf Hitler’s mountaintop retreat). The 101<sup>st</sup> served in the Vietnam War beginning in 1965, and it was the last Army division to leave Vietnam. Built in 1977, the memorial is inscribed with a list of the division’s engagements and a quote from Gen. William C. Lee: “The 101<sup>st</sup> has no history ... but it has a rendezvous with destiny.”
- **4<sup>th</sup> (Ivy) Infantry Division Memorial:** This memorial is dedicated to the U.S. Army’s 4<sup>th</sup> (or Ivy, for the Roman numeral IV) Division, organized in 1917 to serve with the American Expeditionary Forces in World War I. Congress authorized the memorial in 1935, but it was not completed until 2001. The 6.5-foot-tall bronze monument represents the 4<sup>th</sup> Division’s shoulder insignia, a diamond with four ivy leaves in a cross pattern.
- **[Women in Military Service for America \(WIMSA\) Memorial:](#)** The WIMSA Memorial, a grand neoclassical structure at the end of Memorial Avenue, opened to the public in 1997. It is the only national memorial dedicated to the more than three million women who have served in the military since the American Revolution. Administered by the Women in Military Service for America Foundation, it features exhibits, an education center, archives and a bookstore. The structure, originally called the Hemicycle, was completed in 1932 and intended to serve as the ceremonial entrance to Arlington National Cemetery.
- **[McClellan Gate:](#)** McClellan Gate marks the original entrance to Arlington National Cemetery. Named for Civil War General George B. McClellan, the 30-foot-tall arched gate remains one of the cemetery’s most iconic landmarks. Atop the arch facing east, the name “McClellan” is inscribed in gold, above lines from Theodore O’Hara’s poem “Bivouac of the Dead” (1847).
- **Section 2:** One of the older sections of the cemetery, Section 2 sits between Grant Drive, McClellan Drive and the area south and east of [Arlington House](#). Along with Sections 1 and 3, it became known as an “Officers’ Section” after high-ranking veterans began requesting burial there in the 1870s. [Notable graves](#) include Gen. Benjamin O. Davis Sr., the first African American general officer in the U.S. military; Gen. Benjamin O. Davis Jr., a [Tuskegee Airman](#) and the first African



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## FACT SHEET

NOVEMBER 2021

American general in the U.S. Air Force; Adm. William Halsey Jr., one of the five five-star officers buried at ANC, who commanded American naval forces in the Pacific during World War II; and Maj. Gen. William J. Donovan, founding director of the Office of Strategic Services, the World War II-era predecessor of the Central Intelligence Agency.

- **Chaplains Hill**: Also in Section 2 (between McClellan and Grant Drives), four monuments honor the service of military chaplains: the Chaplains Monument, dedicated in 1926 to chaplains who died while serving in World War I; a monument to Protestant chaplains who lost their lives in the two world wars, dedicated in 1981; a monument to Catholic chaplains who died in World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War, dedicated in 1989; and a monument to Jewish chaplains who died while on active duty in the U.S. armed forces, dedicated in 2011. Chaplains Hill also includes the grave of Col. John T. Axton, the Army's first chief of chaplains, who participated in the World War I Unknown Soldier's funeral ceremony.
- **Roosevelt Fountain**: The terminus of the tree-lined mall east of Memorial Amphitheater and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier features an ornamental granite fountain, called the Roosevelt Fountain due to its proximity to Roosevelt Drive (named for President Theodore Roosevelt). The fountain is set into an approximately 2' deep recessed circular pool, and has a bronze spout cast with decorative foliage. The fountain, along with the mall and plazas, was an element of architect Lorimer Rich's and sculptor Thomas Hudson Jones' design for the permanent Tomb and its surroundings, completed in 1932.
- **Memorial Amphitheater**: Dedicated on May 15, 1920, Memorial Amphitheater is a stunning visual feature of Arlington National Cemetery. Every year, it hosts thousands of people during the national Memorial Day and Veterans Day observances, as well as a variety of smaller ceremonies. Designed by Thomas Hastings, the colonnaded Beaux-Arts building consists primarily of Danby marble. Its interior spaces include Memorial Chapel and Memorial Display Room, the latter of which features exhibits on the history of the cemetery and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. An [online exhibit](#), created for the Amphitheater's 2020 centennial, features historic photos along with interpretive text and videos.

For more information on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier Centennial Commemoration, please visit [arlingtoncemetery.mil/Tomb100](http://arlingtoncemetery.mil/Tomb100) and follow our social media @ArlingtonNatl.