

**Lodge Hill Cemetery,  
Birmingham, West Midlands  
War Graves**



*Lest We Forget*

**World War 1**



**1111 LANCE CPL**

**S. CAMPBELL**

**11TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.**

**28TH NOVEMBER, 1916 Age 23**

## Sydney CAMPBELL

Sydney Ignatius Campbell was born in Perth, Western Australia on 8th March, 1893\*\* (see Kings Park Honour Avenues Plaque information) to a single mother.

Sydney Campbell was schooled at Clontarf Orphanage, Victoria Park, Western Australia.

Sydney Campbell was a 21 year old, single, Farm Hand from Loco. Shed, Mount Magnet, Western Australia when he enlisted at Blackboy Hill, Western Australia on 7th October, 1914 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 1111 & his religion was Roman Catholic. His next of kin was listed as his friend – W. Bailey, Loco. Shed, Mount Magnet, Western Australia.

Private Sydney Campbell was posted to 1st Reinforcements of 11th Battalion for recruit training.

Private Sydney Campbell embarked from Melbourne, Victoria on HMAT *Themistocles* (A32) on 22nd December, 1914 with the 11th Infantry Battalion, 1st Reinforcements.

Private Sydney Campbell joined 11th Battalion at Mena on 10th February, 1915.

Private Sydney Campbell embarked from Alexandria on 2nd March, 1915 on HMAT *Suffolk* to join M.E.F. (Mediterranean Expeditionary Force) at Gallipoli Peninsula.

Private Sydney Campbell disembarked from HMT *Empress of Britain* at Alexandria on 7th January, 1916 (ex Lemnos) (after evacuation of Gallipoli).

Private Sydney Campbell was admonished at Tel-el-Kebir on 24th January, 1916 by Officer Commanding "D" Company, 11th Battalion "while on active service absent without leave from 6 am till 9 pm" on 23rd January, 1916. He forfeited 1 days' pay.

Private Sydney Campbell embarked from Alexandria on 29th March, 1916 on HMT *Corsican* to join B.E.F. (British Expeditionary Force) & disembarked at Marseilles, France on 5th April, 1916.

Private Sydney Campbell was appointed Lance Corporal on 20th May, 1916.

Lance Corporal Sydney Campbell was wounded in action in France on 22 – 25th July, 1916 (date as listed on Casualty Form – Active Service). He was admitted to 2nd Field Ambulance on 24th July, 1916 with G.S.W. (gunshot wound/s) to arm then transferred to 44th Casualty Clearing Station on 25th July, 1916. Lance Corporal Campbell was transferred to Ambulance Train & admitted to 1st Australian General Hospital at Rouen, France on 26th July, 1916. He was invalided to England on 27th July, 1916 on Hospital Ship *Aberdonian*.

### 11th Battalion

The 11th Battalion was among the first infantry units raised for the AIF during the First World War. It was the first battalion recruited in Western Australia, and with the 9th, 10th and 12th Battalions it formed the 3rd Brigade.

The battalion was raised within weeks of the declaration of war in August 1914 and embarked for overseas after just two weeks of preliminary training. It arrived in Egypt to continue its training in early December. The 3rd Brigade was the covering force for the ANZAC landing on 25 April 1915 and so was the first ashore at around 4:30 am. Ten days after the landing, a company from the 11th Battalion mounted the AIF's first raid of the war against Turkish positions at Gaba Tepe. Subsequently, the battalion was heavily involved in defending the front line of the ANZAC beachhead. In August, it made preparatory attacks at the southern end of the ANZAC position before the battle of Lone Pine. The 11th Battalion continued to serve at ANZAC until the evacuation in December.

After the withdrawal from Gallipoli, the 11th Battalion returned to Egypt. It was split to help form the 51st Battalion, and then bought up to strength with reinforcements.

In March 1916, the battalion sailed for France and the Western Front. From then until 1918, the battalion took part in bloody trench warfare. Its first major action in France was at Pozieres in the Somme valley in July.

*(Extract of Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)*

© Cathy Sedgwick 2021

## War Diary – 11th Battalion

*Firing Line – July 22, 1916:*

*Capt A. H. Macfarlane O/C "A" Coy was killed during the early morning.*

*Copy of Battalion orders for first offensive against POZIERES is attached.*

*Narrative of the operations embracing the whole time Battalion was in the firing line (19th – 25th July) is attached.*

*(Extract of Appendix F):*

*Our casualties during the operation were:*

	<i>Killed</i>	<i>Wounded</i>	<i>Missing</i>
<i>Officers</i>	6	11	1
<i>Other Ranks</i>	62	358	91

(War Diary information from the Australian War Memorial)

Lance Corporal Sydney Campbell was admitted to Royal West Sussex Hospital, Chichester, England on 28th July, 1916 with G.S.W to left arm – slight.

Lance Corporal Sydney Campbell was transferred to Woodcote Park on 11th August, 1916.

Lance Corporal Sydney Campbell proceeded overseas to France on 10th September, 1916 from 3rd Training Battalion at Perham Downs, Wiltshire.

Reinforcements were only given basic training in Australia. Training was completed in training units in England. Some of these were located in the Salisbury Plain & surrounding areas in the county of Wiltshire. Later Training & Convalescing Units were combined under the one Command Depot.

Lance Corporal Sydney Campbell joined 1st A.D.B.D. (Australian Divisional Base Depot) at Etaples, France on 11th September, 1916. He was struck off strength of 1st A.D.B.D. on 15th September, 1916 & rejoined 11th Battalion in the Field on 17th September, 1916.

Lance Corporal Sydney Campbell was wounded in action (2nd occasion) on 9th November, 1916. He was admitted to 1st Anzac M.D. (Main Dressing) Station on 9th November, 1916 with shrapnel wounds to right arm. Lance Corporal Campbell was transferred & admitted to 36th Casualty Clearing Station on 9th November, 1916 then transferred & admitted to 1st General Hospital at Etretat, France on 11th November, 1916. He was transferred to England from Havre on 23rd November, 1916 on Hospital Ship *Gloucester Castle*.

## **11th Battalion**

... After Pozieres, the battalion manned trenches near Ypres in Flanders before returning to the Somme valley for winter.

*(Extract of Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)*

## War Diary – 11th Battalion

*FLERS – 9th November, 1916:*

*Weather conditions has improved very much and the ground & Trenches are drying up fast. The air craft very active this morning both ours and the enemy's, during the night 8/9/11/16 our front line Trenches were heavily shelled by the enemy and the Trenches were damaged to some extent, and some men buried, the following casualties took place in "D" Coy:- Killed No 930 Sgt W. M. McCallum, 2207 Pte C. C. S. Wood, 3942 Pte H. T. Saddler.*

*Wounded:- "C" Coy 13 O.R. number evacuated sick 56 O.R.'s owing to the continuous rain the improvement of the Front & support Line Trenches is rendered most difficult. The enemy shelled the Front Line Trenches freely during the afternoon, and also in the vicinity of Bn Hd Qtrs but without causing much damage, we had no casualties, improvement of Shelters & work in Tunnel for Bn was carried on during the day & good progress made. The two Coys in the front Line Trenches "C" & "D" were relieved by "A" & "B" Coys and brought back to Support Trenches during the early part of the night. The C. O. visited the Front Trenches during the morning.*

*(War Diary information from the Australian War Memorial)*

Lance Corporal Sydney Campbell was admitted to 1st Southern General Hospital, Birmingham, England on 24th November, 1916 with G.S.W. arm. He was reported as seriously ill on 27th November, 1916.

Lance Corporal Sydney Campbell died at 11 pm on 28th November, 1916 at 1st Southern General Hospital, Dudley Road, Birmingham, England from wounds received in action in France – gunshot wound right arm.

A death for Sydney Campbell, aged 22, was registered in the December quarter, 1916 in the district of Birmingham, Warwickshire, England.

Lance Corporal Sydney Campbell was buried on 2nd December, 1916 in Lodge Hill Cemetery, Birmingham, West Midlands, England – his name is remembered on the Commonwealth War Graves Commission Screen Wall B10. 424 as he does not have a headstone.

The Red Cross Wounded & Missing file for Lance Corporal Sydney Campbell contains a request from the Red Cross on behalf of friends in Australia to obtain details of the sufferings, death and burial. The Matron, 1st Southern General Hospital, Dudley Rd Section, Birmingham, England wrote the following letter on 8th May, 1917: *"In reply to your letter I am afraid I am unable to give you many particulars concerning 1111 L/Cpl S. Campbell's (11th Batt) death as it took place so long ago. His uncle visited him three or four times a week, so that he could tell the relatives even more than I can. The patient died of Septicaemia following gun shot wounds in the legs and he was buried in our own portion of the Cemetery at Lodge Hill Birmingham, which is set aside for soldiers who died on active service. It is a beautiful cemetery and there is a special Committee appointed to look after the graves of Colonial soldiers and to see that they are kept in good order. I regret that I am unable to give any fuller details, but they are not easy to obtain after so long a period has elapsed."*

Sydney Igantius Campbell, of the 11th Battalion Infantry, requested in his Will, dated 27th October, 1914 that Henry William Afric Tanner of Waimering, Beverley, Western Australia, Farmer be appointed Executor of his Will. After paying for his funeral at testamentary expenses, Sydney Campbell request that the residual of his Estate be divided in two equal parts – "to William Bailey, Fireman in the State Government Railways now employed at Loco Shed Mt Magnet..... and one part to the Trustees Clontarf Orphanage, Victoria Park, Perth..."

The personal effects of the late Lance Corporal Sydney Campbell were sent to his friend – Mr W. Bailey, Loco Shed, Mount Magnet, Western Australia.

William Bailey, of Armstrong Steet, Geraldton, Western Australia, signed a Statement on 4th February, 1921 that he would *"...preserve with due care any war medals or other items given into my custody on account of the services rendered by the late No. 1111 Lance Corporal S. Campbell, 11th Battalion, Australian Imperial Force, and to return them to the Department of Defence upon demand in writing, should they be required for the purpose of being handed to someone having a prior claim to myself."*

Base Records wrote to the Secretary, Minister of Defence on 24th February, 1921 regarding the disposal of the War Medals for the services of the late Lance Corporal Sydney Campbell. The letter advised that the late Lance Corporal S. Campbell had nominated, upon enlistment, as next of kin – his friend Mr W. Bailey. "I have been unable to trace any blood relations of any description, and Mr Bailey has supplied the following information:

"This soldier has no living relatives whatever. He was educated and reared from the age of 3 or 4 years by the Christian Brothers in their boys Orphanage along with myself, and he never knew of any relation whatever either before or since that time. As I was in the Orphanage with him and subsequently left that Institution and worked with him almost to the day of his enlistment, he made me his next-of-kin as I was the only person who knew him thoroughly. It is quite possible that the School Authorities may have knowledge of his people in the School records, so I am giving you their address, as they are the only people in the world who will know."

No information was obtainable from the Clontarf Orphanage, and, as these two lads seem to have been brought up together, to all intents and purposes standing in the relationship of brothers, Mr. Bailey was asked whether he would care to have deceased's war medals as mementos, and he has supplied the necessary Bond as to due preservation and production to the Department if required.

Mr. Bailey also served in the Australian Imperial Force and gained the Military Medal.

In concluding their letter, Base Records recommended that the War Medals etc, be handed over to Mr William Bailey.

Lance Corporal Sydney Campbell was entitled to 1914/15 Star, British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also supposed to be sent to the next of kin of deceased soldiers. In Lance Corporal Campbell's case the Medals were awarded to his Friend - Mr W. Bailey, listed as his Friend on Attestation Papers. (Memorial Scroll sent July, 1921 & Memorial Plaque sent August, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Lance Corporal Sydney Campbell – service number 1111, aged 23, of 11th Battalion, Australian Infantry. No family details are listed.

Lance Corporal S. Campbell is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 61.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia







S. J. Campbell is remembered on the Beverley War Memorial, located on Railway Parade & Vincent Street, Beverley, Western Australia.



**Beverley War Memorial** (Photo above by Gordon Stuart; below by Rosie Ritorto)





Lance Corporal S. Campbell is remembered with a Memorial Plaque (MW8A) on the Kings Park Honour Avenues. At the base of each commemorative tree is a plaque inscribed with details of the deceased: name, age, unit in which they served, nature of death, place of death, and who dedicated the plaque. Honour Avenue memorials commemorate service personnel who are listed at the State War Memorial, Kings Park. These soldiers enlisted in Western Australia, died overseas on active service, and were either buried overseas or have no known graves.

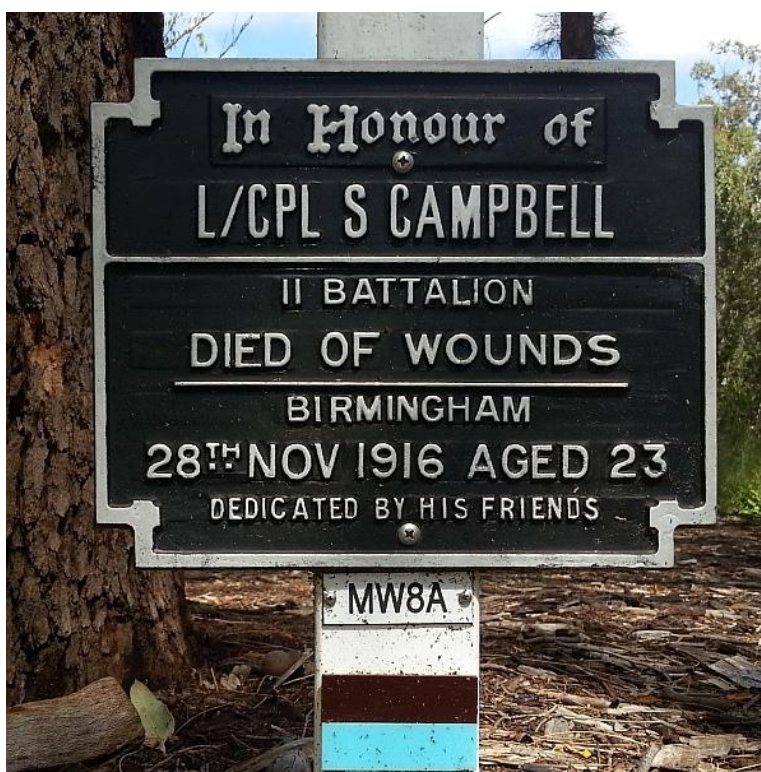
The Plaque was dedicated on 25th June, 2005 by the grandson (Robert Danze) of William Bailey, who was Sydney Campbell's best friend.

[According to information listed on Kings Park Honour Avenues Plaques database: "...was born in September 1892 and, as his mother was single, he was placed in the Subiaco Boys Orphanage in 1898. There he met another young boy, William Bailey, who Sydney became best mates with....."

*Both the boys left the orphanage in 1907 and were apprenticed to a farmer at Irwin River. Sydney enlisted in 1914 and William in 1915.*

*In 1915, Private Campbell had been posted to 11 Battalion and landed at Gallipoli where he survived and then embarked for France.*

*In May 1916, he was promoted to Lance Corporal and wounded at Pozieres. He rejoined his battalion in September but was again wounded at Zonnebeke which resulted in his death on 2 December 1916. He was aged 23.]*



*(Photos from Kings Park Botanic Gardens & Parks Authority)*



S. Campbell is remembered on the Western Australia State War Memorial which is located at the top of Kings Park and Botanic Garden escarpment, ANZAC Bluff, Fraser Avenue, Perth, Western Australia. The memorial was developed around an 18 metre tall obelisk as the principal feature, which is almost a replica of the Australian Imperial Force Memorials erected in France and Belgium.

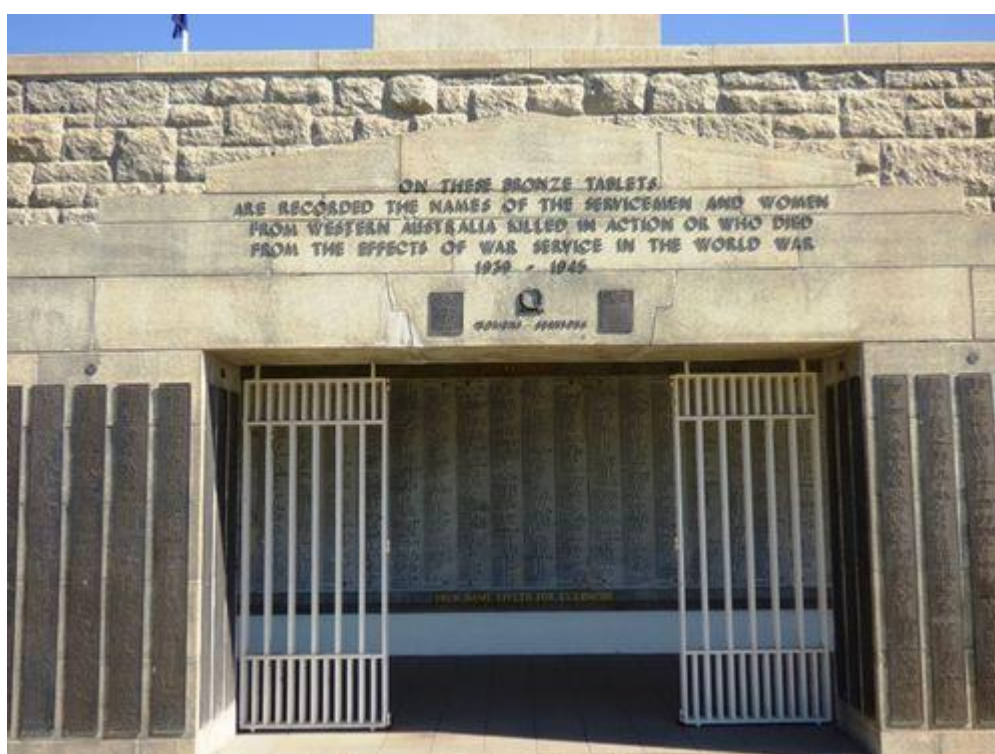
The heavy concrete foundations are supplemented by heavy brick walls which enclose an inner chamber or crypt. The walls surrounding the crypt are covered with The Roll of Honour; marble tablets which list under their units the names of more than 7,000 members of the services killed in action or as a result of World War One.



**Western Australia State War Memorial Cenotaph, Kings Park (above)**

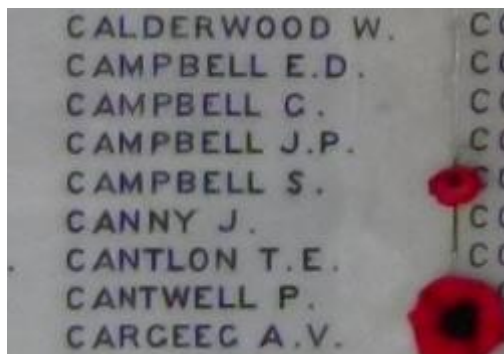
**& (below) The Crypt with the Roll of Honour names**

*(Photos from Monument Australia – Kent Watson/Sandra Tattersall/Graeme Saunders)*





11th Battalion Panel (Photo courtesy of Gordon Stuart)



(46 pages of Lance Corporal Sydney Campbell's Service records are available for On Line viewing at National Archives of Australia website).

Information obtained from the CWGC, Australian War Memorial (Roll of Honour, First World War Embarkation Roll, Red Cross Wounded & Missing) & National Archives

## **Newspaper Notices**

### **The 197TH CASUALTY LIST**

#### **WOUNDED**

Lance-Corporal S. Campbell (Mt. Magnet)

*(Western Mail, Perth, Western Australia – 25 August, 1916)*

---

#### **Personal**

The 197th casualty lists gives the name of Lance-Corporal S. Campbell, of Mt. Magnet, as wounded.

*(The Geraldton Express, Western Australia – 25 August, 1916)*

---

### **WESTERN AUSTRALIA**

#### **THE ROLL OF HONOUR**

##### **248th AND 249th CASUALTY LISTS**

#### **DIED, CAUSE NOT STATED**

L/Cpl. S. Campbell (Mt Magnet), previously reported wounded.

*(The West Australian, Perth, Western Australia – 12 December, 1916)*

---

### **Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstones**

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission cares for cemeteries and memorials in 23,000 locations, in 153 countries. In all 1.7 million men and women from the Commonwealth forces from WWI and WWII have been honoured and commemorated in perpetuity.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission, as part of its mandate, is responsible for commemorating all Commonwealth war dead individually and equally. To this end, the war dead are commemorated by name on a headstone, at an identified site of a burial, or on a memorial. War dead are commemorated uniformly and equally, irrespective of military or civil rank, race or creed.

Not all service personnel have a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone. In some instances the relative chose to have their own memorial/headstone placed on the deceased's grave. These private headstones are not maintained by the CWGC as they have no jurisdiction to maintain them.

Lance Corporal Sydney Campbell does not have CWGC headstone, his name is instead remembered on a CWGC Screen Wall as his grave was one that could not be individually marked with a headstone.

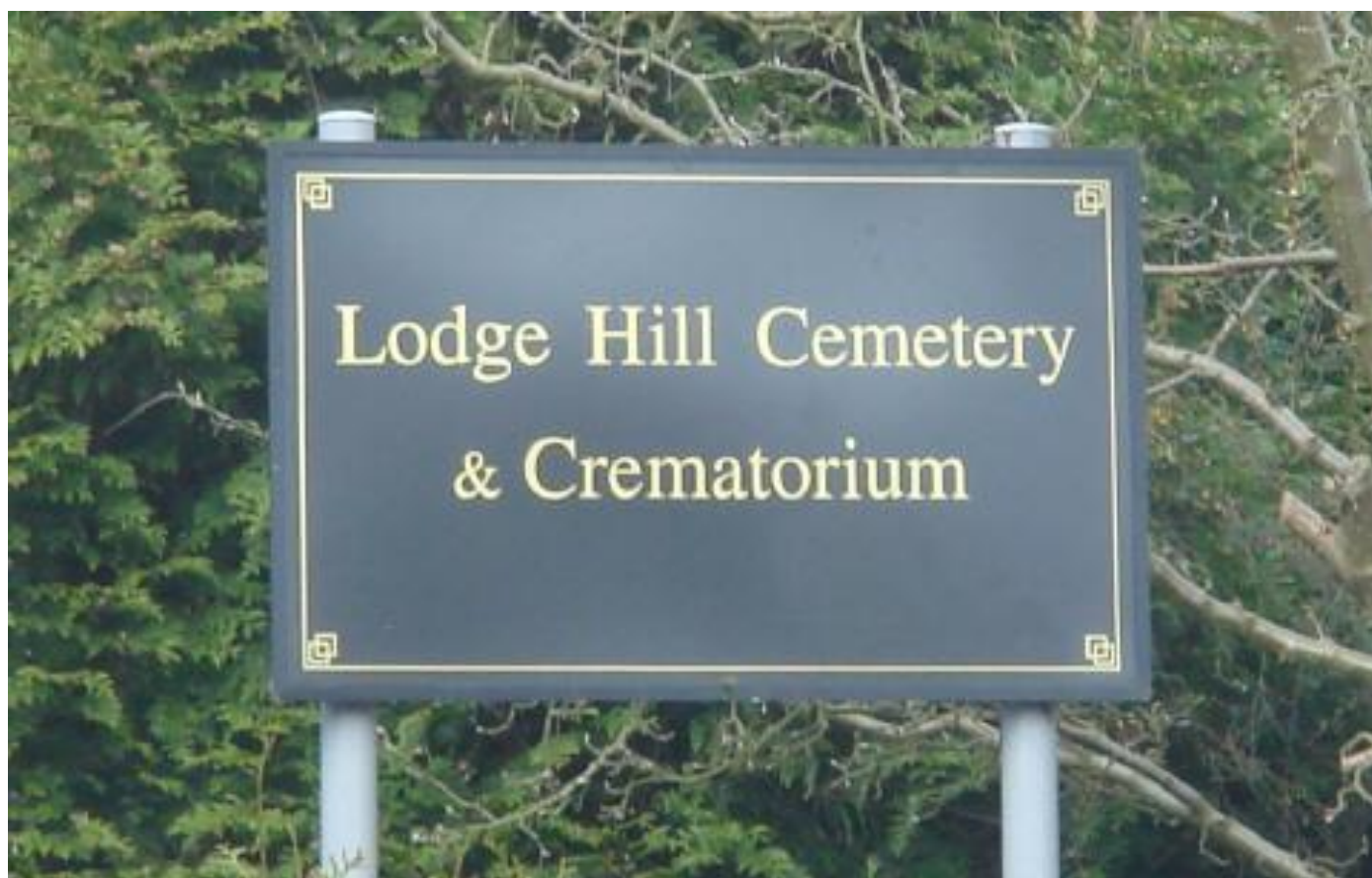


## Lodge Hill Cemetery, Birmingham, West Midlands, England

The First World War saw four important hospitals - besides many smaller - posted at Birmingham: the 1st Southern General (3,500 beds) was in the university and other buildings, with a section at Stourbridge; the 2nd/1st Southern General (1,800 beds) in the Dudley Road Infirmary and in billets; the 1st Birmingham War Hospital (1,000 beds) at Rubery Hill Asylum and the 2nd Birmingham War Hospital (900 beds) at Hollymoor Asylum. Military hospitals were at Birmingham again during the Second World War, including No 7 Canadian Hospital at Marston Green. Birmingham and Coventry were among the chief manufacturing areas producing materials for the war effort and were subjected to many devastating air raids during the Blitz of 1940-41.

BIRMINGHAM (LODGE HILL) CEMETERY contains 499 First World War burials, most of them in a war graves plot in Section B10. The names of those buried in the plot, or in graves elsewhere in the cemetery which could not be individually marked, are inscribed on a Screen Wall. Second World War burials number 125, most of them scattered throughout the cemetery, although there is a small plot in Section 2E. Birmingham Municipal Crematorium stands within the cemetery. In the chapel, there is a bronze plaque commemorating 48 servicemen of the Second World War whose remains were cremated there.

*(Information from CWGC)*



*(Photo by Lepidus Magnus)*



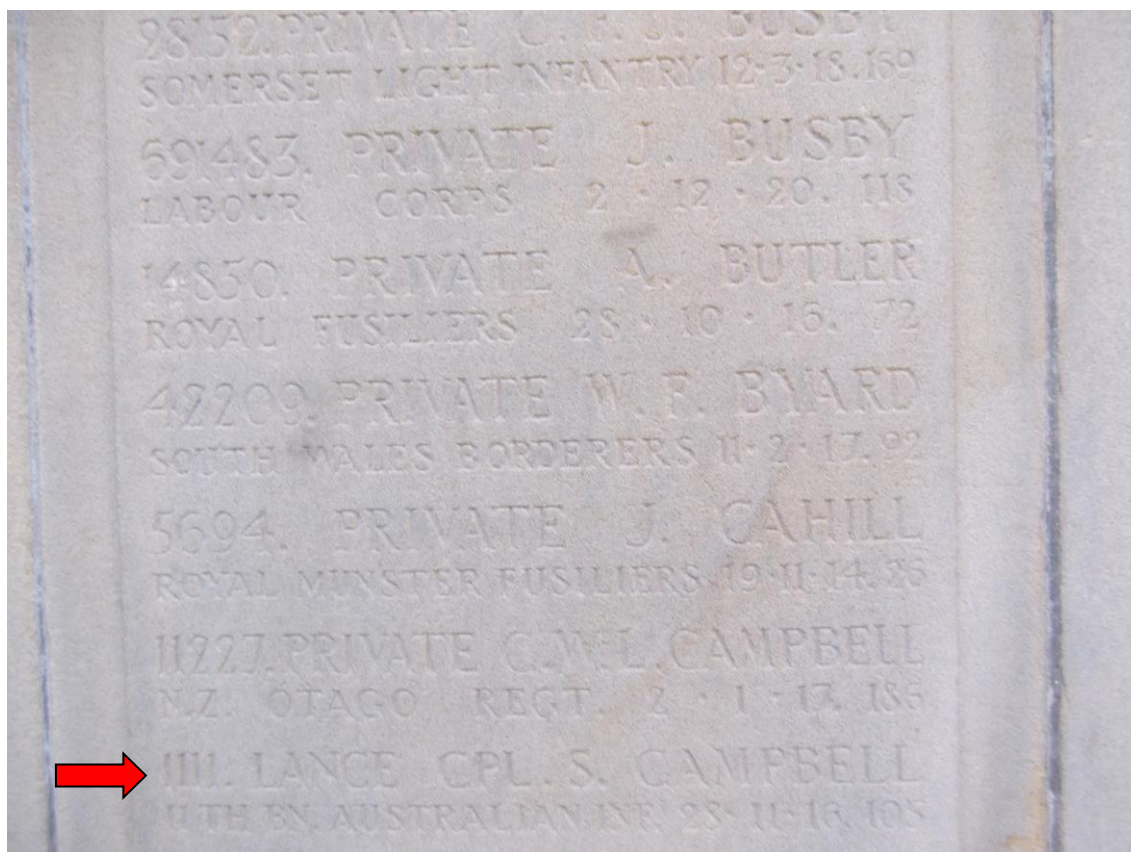


**Lodge Hill Cemetery, Birmingham** (*Photos from CWGC*)





Photo of Lance Corporal S. Campbell's name on the Commonwealth War Graves Commission WW1 Screen Wall in Lodge Hill Cemetery, Birmingham, West Midlands, England.



(Photo by Myra Mason – Find a Grave)



**WW1 Screen Wall in Garden of Remembrance** (Photo by Myra Mason – Find a Grave)





WW2 Garden of Remembrance (Photo by Myra Mason – Find a Grave)

# Lodge Hill Cemetery

