18. Pvt. Louis Bentz served as the West Point bugler for 32 years, and the cadets honored him by purchasing this all-metal monument.

19. Civil & Indian Wars: Among those buried here are Maj. Gen. Judson Kilpatrick '61, known as “Kill Cavalry,” for his daring and often futile mounted charges; Brig. Gen. Raoul “Bad Hand” MacKenzie ‘02, brevetted seven times for bravery and afterwards commander of the 4th U.S. Cavalry. His western exploits were portrayed by John Wayne in “Rio Grande.” Maj. Gen. John Buford, ’48, superb Union cavalryman, was played by Sam Elliott in “Gettysburg.”

20. Col. Sylvanus Thayer, “The Father of the Military Academy,” implemented the rigorous academics that established West Point as a great engineering college and leader development institution.

21. Lt. Gen. Winfield Scott, the greatest American military leader of the early 19th Century, was the hero of the War of 1812, conqueror of Mexico City, & commanded the U.S. Army on the eve of the Civil War. Cadet gray uniforms are in honor of his 1814 victory at Chippawa, Ont.

22. Maj. Gen. Robert Anderson ‘25 served as an artillery instructor here prior to the Civil War which began in April 1861 when Anderson commanding the Union forces at Fort Sumter, was fired upon by one of his former cadets, CSA Brig. Gen. P.G.T. Beauregard. The fountain next to the caretaker’s cottage was erected in his honor.

23. Lt. Col. George A. Custer June ’61, brevetted major general for bravery in the Civil War, died with most of the 7th Cavalry at the Battle of the Little Big Horn, June 1876. His funeral is on this guide’s cover.


25. Col. Albert Church ’28, professor of mathematics 1828-78, was known as a cold man and once had a cadet arrested for making a mathematical joke in class. 26. Robert W. Weir, Profesor of Drawing 1834-1876. 27. Dennis Hart Mahan ‘24, professor of civil and military engineering 1830-1871. Mahan Hall is named in his honor and his son, Alfred Thayer Mahan, buried at Annapolis, became America’s leading sea power theorist.

28. Col. Peter S. Michelle ‘63, professor of engineering as well as natural and experimental philosophy (physics, astronomy and optics) 1867–1901. At his side is his son: 1st Lt. Dennis Mahan Michelle ’92, organizer, coach, and captain of the first Army football team in 1890, killed in action 1898 in Cuba. The West Point football stadium is named in his honor.

29. Maj. Gen. Daniel Butterfield commanded a division in the Civil War, and his ornate monument records his thirty-eight battles and engagements. He helped compose the mournful bugle call “Taps.”


32. 1st. Lt. Thomas Selfridge ’03, in 1908, the first person killed in a powered fixed-wing aircraft. This is a cenotaph, erected in his honor but his remains lie in Section 3 of Arlington National Cemetery, near the very spot on Fort Myer where he and Orville Wright crashed.

33. Here lie many Soldiers who fought in Iraq and Afghanistan including 1st Lt. Laura Walker ’03, first female graduate killed in action, in Afghanistan in 2005, and 2nd Lt. Emily Perez ’05, first female minority cadet command Sgt. Maj. at USMA, who was killed in Iraq.

34. In Section XII and beyond are the graves of the African-American cavalry “Buffalo Soldiers” and the bandsmen who often served their entire careers here. The restricted space on the south edge, next to Washington Road, was often used to bury smaller coffins of children.

35. Brig. Gen. Palmer Pierce ’91, awarded for valor in the Spanish–American War and in World War I, was a founder and first president of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA).

36. Glenda Farrell has a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame for the “Torchy Blane” movie series. She is alongside her second husband, Academy Surgeon during most of WWII, Col. Dr. Henry Ross ’26.

37. Capt. Philip Egner led the West Point Band for 25 years and wrote the “West Point March” and “On Brave Old Army Team.”

38. Gen. Alexander M. Patch ’13 led both Soldiers and Marines at Guadalcanal and then the Seventh Army in the invasion of southern France in 1944. He lies next to his father ‘77, nephew ‘48 & grandson.


40. Col. David “Mickey” Marcus ‘24 investigated gangsters, served at Pearl Harbor and Normandy, helped draw up the German and Italian surrender documents and was chief of the War Crimes Division at the Nuremberg Trials. In 1948, with U.S. permission, he became the first Israeli general and was killed on the last day of the Arab-Israeli War. Actor Kirk Douglas portrayed him in “Cast a Giant Shadow.”

41. Margaret “Molly” Corbin took her wounded husband’s place at the cannon at the Battle of Fort Washington in Manhattan in 1776.

42. Maj. Francis Dade and 114 of his 117 Soldiers were killed by Seminole Indians in 1835. Buried at St. Augustine National Cemetery, Dade is memorialized here and by Miami-Dade County Fla.

43. Maj. Gen. Daniel Butterfield commanded a division in the Civil War, and his ornate monument records his thirty-eight battles and engagements. He helped compose the mournful bugle call “Taps.”

44. Brig. Gen. Egbert Viele ‘47, The Chief Engineer of Central Park in Manhattan and Prospect Park in Brooklyn. Afraid of being buried alive, his mausoleum had a light & a buzzer to signal the caretaker.

45. Dr. Henry Ross ’26, academy Surgeon during most of WWII, and was portrayed by Robert Stack in “Cast a Giant Shadow.”

46. Col. William H. C. Bartlett ’26, professor of natural philosophy 1834-1871, one of America’s foremost astronomers and author of widely-used textbooks on acoustics, optics, astronomy, mechanics and molecular physics. Bartlett Hall here is named after him.

47. Col. Albert Church ’28, professor of mathematics 1828-78, was known as a cold man and once had a cadet arrested for making a mathematical joke in class. 26. Robert W. Weir, Professor of Drawing 1834-1876. 27. Dennis Hart Mahan ‘24, professor of civil and military engineering 1830-1871. Mahan Hall is named in his honor and his son, Alfred Thayer Mahan, buried at Annapolis, became America’s leading sea power theorist.

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Located in New York’s Hudson Highlands overlooking the Hudson River and Constitution Island, on the promontory once known as German Flats, the West Point Cemetery is the final resting place of more than 8,000 souls. Revolutionary War Soldiers and local residents were buried here even before it was officially named a military cemetery in 1817. Internees include twenty-four Medal of Honor recipients and twenty-five West Point superintendents, leaders of every American war, noted engineers, athletes, spouses and children. Those eligible for interment and inurnment in the columbarium beneath the chapel include West Point graduates, Soldiers who die while assigned here, and their family members. There is no “grand plan” for the pattern of burials in the cemetery; over the years caretakers have tried to place friends and classmates close together, and whole sections are dominated by casualties of our largest wars. This guide provides a sample of some of the most notable gravesites.

6. Lt. Col. Fredrick G. Terry ‘29 & Maj. Fredrick G. Terry, Jr. ‘60 rest together, a testimony to the faithful service of the Long Gray Line. The father was killed during WWII and the son in the Vietnam War.

7. The caretaker’s home, built 1872, houses the cemetery’s Memorial Affairs and the academy’s Inspector General. An electronic grave locator and a handicapped-accessible restroom are at the rear.

8. Gen. Gar Davidson ‘27, head football coach 1933-7, helped build the Pentagon, served in Seventh Army in WWII, presided over the first Nuremberg War Tribunal, directed the Pusan Perimeter in the Korean War, modernized West Point as superintendent, and faced down the Russians as Seventh Army Commander during the Berlin Crisis.

9. Gen. William Westmoreland ‘36, veteran of WWII, Korea, and Vietnam was also superintendent here and Army Chief of Staff.


12. Maj. Gen. George Washington Goethals ‘80 supervised construction of the Panama Canal. His massive headstone, which might be assumed to be from Panama, is actually from Vermont.


14. Lt. Col. Eleazor Wood ‘06, was killed during the War of 1812. This obelisk and the Cadet Monument appear in old prints at their original location on a knoll near Trophy Point. Wood is also memorialized by Fort Wood, the star-shaped fortification on Liberty Island whose walls became the distinctive base for the Statue of Liberty.

15. Ensign Dominick Trant, a native of Ireland and a Soldier in the 9th Massachusetts Infantry, has the oldest known grave here. The nearby “Unknown” graves mark both remains relocated here and graves where, due to poor record keeping, broken or worn out headstones were just replaced with “Unknown.”

16. Susan & Anna Warner lived on Constitution Island, visible across the river, where they held Sunday school for the cadets. Susan wrote one of the most popular novels of the 19th Century “The Wide, Wide World,” and Anna wrote the words to the hymn “Jesus Loves Me.”

17. Cadet Monument is dedicated to Cadet Vincent Lowe, killed in an artillery accident in 1817. As assistant division commander, led the 29th Division ashore on D-Day, June 6, 1944, challenging the 5th Ranger Battalion to “lead the way” off Omaha beach. He is portrayed by Robert Mitchum in “The Longest Day.”