

Wartime history and remembrance :

A new website :

www.memoire.pas-de-calais.com / www.wartime-history.pas-de-calais.com

Due to its strategic geographical situation, Pas-de-Calais has always been a major stake in the conflicts which have shaped the European and World History.

Traces of these battles remain numerous.



Agincourt witnessed one of the most important battles in 1415: the Hundred Years War.

In 1520, King Francis the first of France and **King Henry VIII** of England decided to meet between Andres and Guînes at a place best known as '**The Field of the Cloth of Gold**'.

During the twentieth century, Pas-de-Calais was a place of bitter confrontation throughout the two World Wars.

Many people still come to this place of history to follow the path of their ancestors, to discover the architectural heritage of these bloody wars such as that to be found in the Commonwealth War grave Cemeteries or the terrifying German bunkers. Visitors pay tribute to the courageous soldiers at the **Canadian Memorial in Vimy**, at the national necropolis of Notre Dame de Lorette or at the German cemetery in Neuville-Saint-Vaast which was the main German construction on the French territory during **World War I**.

The Wellington Quarry in Arras was a strategic place where thousands of soldiers were stationed in a network of underground passages, waiting to emerge and push back the German frontline on the 9th of April 1917.



La Coupole, an impressive underground German Bunker dedicated to **World War II** and the Space Conquest, is today the home of The History and Remembrance centre.