

THE ARDENNE ABBEY

It was in 1121 that a small Christian community stood at Ardenne. On 7 June 1944, at the beginning of the battle, the Germans made Canadian soldiers prisoners in the abbey and twenty-four of these young men are executed in defiance of convention Geneva and the rights of prisoners. Today a memorial commemorates the site of this tragic event.

THE CANADIAN CEMETERY IN BENY-REVIERS

The cemetery contains 2,049 graves. Most of the soldiers buried in the cemetery were killed in June and in early July 1944 during the Battle of Caen on D-Day at Juno Beach. Canadian prisoners of war executed by the SS-Panzer Hitlerjugend at the Abbaye d'Ardenne are also buried in this cemetery.

THE CANADA HOUSE

It was one of the first houses liberated by Canadian soldiers on D-Day, 6 June 1944, and has since become a familiar historic landmark, standing in the backdrop of the many black-and-white photographs showing troops landing on the sands of this village in Normandy. The house has also become a place of pilgrimage. A memorial in front of the house indicates : "Within sight of this house over 100 men of the Queen's Own Rifles were killed or wounded, in the first few minutes of the landings.

JUNO BEACH

On D-Day, the 3rd Canadian Infantry Division commanded General Rodney Keller landed on Juno Beach. 14,000 Canadians landed alongside 9 000 British troops. Canadian losses were about a thousand. Most of them are buried at the Canadian War Cemetery Beny-sur-Mer.

JUNO BEACH CENTER & ITS PARK

Opened on June 6, 2003, the Juno Beach Centre, a unique Canadian museum on the landing beaches, is located in the town of Courseulles- sur-Mer. Juno Beach Centre presents the civilian war effort and military of the entire population in Canada and the various fronts during the Second World War, as well as the different contemporary Canadian society faces. Closed in January.