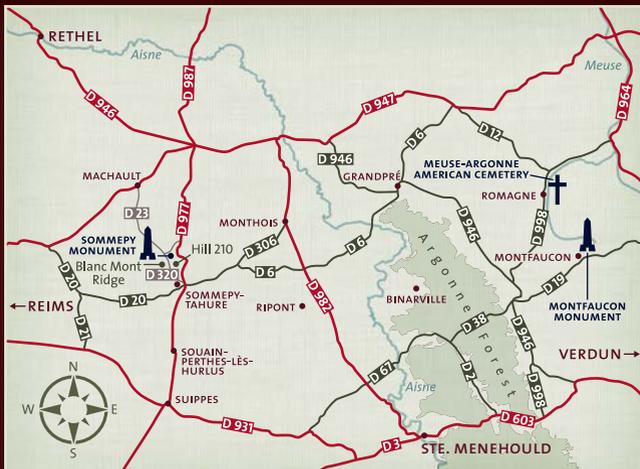




Sommepy Monument

GPS N49 17.047 E4 32.174



The Sommepy Monument is about 3 miles northwest of Sommepy-Tahure (Marne). It is situated 200 yards east of Highways D 23 and D 320.

American Battle Monuments Commission

This agency of the United States government operates and maintains 25 American cemeteries and 26 memorials, monuments and markers in 16 countries. The Commission works to fulfill the vision of its first chairman, General of the Armies John J. Pershing. Pershing, commander of the American Expeditionary Forces during World War I, promised that "time will not dim the glory of their deeds."

American Battle Monuments Commission

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Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery and Memorial

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Sommepy Monument

American Battle Monuments Commission



For more information on this site and other ABMC commemorative sites, please visit:

www.abmc.gov

Sommepy Monument



The Sommepy Monument commemorates the achievements of the American units that served in combat with the French Fourth Army during the summer and fall of 1918. The tower of golden yellow limestone and its surrounding park are situated on Blanc Mont Ridge. The ridge has always been important to warring forces. German units occupying the site from autumn 1914 fortified it heavily. Vestiges of trenches remain in the area.



Photo: ABMC

Inscriptions on the outer walls name divisions which the monument commemorates, their insignia, dates they served in the region, and four places where they fought.

42ND DIVISION, JULY 15-18, 1918

Upon learning of a German offensive planned for mid-July, the French requested reinforcements. The U.S. 42nd Division entered the line near Souain. The German offensive struck after midnight July 14-15. Soldiers of the 42nd Division held fast against German attacks until the offensive ceased on July 17.

369TH, 371ST, AND 372D INFANTRY REGIMENTS, SEP. 26-OCT. 8

These regiments of the U.S. 93rd Division were attached to French divisions serving west of the Argonne Forest. When the Allied offensive began on



Photo: The National Archives

37-mm gun section of the 2nd Division in action against German forces.



September 26, the 369th Infantry liberated the town of Ripont. The 371st and 372nd Infantry fought from September 28, advancing slowly northward. The 372nd Infantry held a position near Monthois from October 2 to 7.

2ND AND 36TH DIVISIONS, SEP. 29-OCT. 28

The U.S. 2nd and 36th Divisions were attached to the French Fourth Army for the offensive starting on September 26. On October 2, the 2nd Division entered the line slightly north of Sommepy.

The division's attack against Blanc Mont Ridge on October 3 was made by its Marine Brigade on the left and the Infantry Brigade on the right. Within three hours they seized the crest. For seven days they held on while advancing northward against German counterattacks.

The 36th Division relieved the 2nd Division on October 10. Its units advanced to Machaut on October 11, continuing to the Aisne River by October 13. On October 27, the 36th Division drove the Germans north of the Aisne River. It passed into reserve status on October 28.



Soldiers of the 42nd Division's mobile ordnance shop repair machine guns for service.

Photo: The National Archives



Soldiers of the 369th Infantry Regiment, 93rd Division. Their unit captured Ripont on September 26.

Photo: The National Archives