



GLENN PAULLEY

The cenotaph in downtown Vancouver sits in Victory Square between the main downtown area and Stanley Park. The cenotaph is three-sided to match the dimensions of the square, which is really shaped like a keystone. It is three storeys high and is built of grey Nelson Island granite.



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This photograph shows in detail the stone wreath at the bottom of the Vancouver Cenotaph.

# 'Aftermath of war

Glenn Paulley's father was a veteran and most of his relatives were affected by the Second World War. It's a subject of personal significance to him and is a part of this photography project

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There are the monolithic stone obelisks like those in Winnipeg and Vancouver, crafted from locally quarried granite.

And in sharp contrast, there are the cenotaphs topped by statues of soldiers in bronze or stone like those in Goderich or Medicine Hat, an instant reminder of the human toll. Some have heads bowed in remembrance. Others hold helmets high, as if saluting victory.

"It's really interesting to see the differences," Paulley said. "It's the reason it keeps me going."

Paulley, who describes himself as "an enthusiastic amateur" photographer, estimates he's shot nearly 25 cenotaphs, from Vancouver to Quebec City.

"I don't know where it's going, either," he said. "But I'll be doing more of it."

The idea for the project followed the death of Capt. Nichola Goddard in Afghanistan in 2006, the first Canadian female combat soldier to be killed on the front lines.

Her death got Paulley thinking about how the nation will pay tribute in the future to the fallen members of a changing Canadian military.

All of the statues on existing cenotaphs, Paulley points out, are male. "How are we going to display our sense of loss?"

There's a personal significance, too, to his photography project.

The Paulley family has a long connection to military service, with his father and several uncles and cousins having served overseas in the Second World War. Several members of his wife Leslie's family also served — as did Paulley himself for a short time while he was in university.

"When I was a kid, even though the war was over 15 years before I was born, my Dad was a veteran, and most of my relatives were affected by the war one way or another when I was growing up," said Paulley, a director at software manufacturer Sybase.

"The aftermath of the war was always present."

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The cenotaph in Medicine Hat, Alta., is constructed of red granite with text inscriptions in white. It was erected in 1920 and lists 235 names from the First World War and 81 from the Second World War. The soldier standing atop the cenotaph is dressed in a 1915 uniform. The cenotaph is in a park close to the South Saskatchewan River.



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The cenotaph erected by the Kinsmen of the City of Winnipeg sits on the grounds of the Manitoba legislative building. On the cenotaph are engraved hundreds of names of Winnipeggers who gave their lives in the First World War. There are several monuments throughout Winnipeg, as each suburban community commissioned memorials at the end of The Great War.



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Waldron, Sask., is a tiny hamlet on the CN main line, 1.6 kilometres west of Highway 9 and 20 km southeast of the city of Melville. The cenotaph lies at the end of the town's main street in a small, but well-tended park. It was erected soon after the end of the First World War. Waldron's population was never more than 100, yet it lost men in both world wars.



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The Canadian Veterans' Memorial on University Avenue in Waterloo was designed by sculptor Timothy P. Schmalz and is made entirely of bronze. As a memorial, it isn't a cenotaph as much as it is a tribute to surviving veterans.