

# Western Universities Battalion, "D" Company, 196th Battalion Collection

Last revised October 2010

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# Collection Description

**Western Universities Battalion, "D" Company 196th Battalion Collection . – 1916-1972; predominant 1916-1918.**

6.5 cm of textual records and published materials.

37 photographs.

1 map.

## **Collector's Administrative History**

The Western Universities Battalion was formed in 1916 with membership drawn primarily from the student populations of the Universities of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia. The organizers that a distinctive western unit composed exclusively of men of similar background would be desirable, and to this end they sought to attract "those earnest, studious men of practised intellect and proved ability, who are most fitted to play their parts as leaders of men in the most difficult and complex science of modern warfare." The recruiting and organization of "D" Company (British Columbia) was entrusted to Major R.W. Brock. The unit was housed on the UBC campus (then on the site of the current Vancouver General Hospital) with drilling, marching and arms training taking place on the King Edward High School grounds. "D" Company joined the rest of the W.U.B. at Camp Hughes in Manitoba and members of the Battalion saw their first action in Europe early in 1917.

## **Scope and Content**

The collection consists of pamphlets, correspondence, addresses, menus, publications, diagrams, maps, and photographs assembled by members of the Western Universities Battalion, "D" Company.

## **Notes**

File list available.

# File List

## BOX 1

- 1-1 Company Book (1916)
- 1-2 Western Universities Battalion C.E.F. No. 196th University of British Columbia - Pamphlet n.d.  
"Short History of "D" Company, 196th Battalion, C.E.F." by J.R. Atkinson - Typescript (1958)
- 1-3 An announcement of the formation of the 196th Battalion - Mimeo, n.d.
- 1-4 Letter from Ernie Jensen to Robin Dick describing his overseas service - Typescript (1927)
- 1-5 Letter from George Fountain to archivist with reminiscences of his overseas service with a copy of a 1917 clipping from the Vancouver World and his 1971 Remembrance Day address (1972)
- 1-6 Christmas Day Menu (1917)  
The Listening Post  
- No. 17, July 7, 1916  
- No. 18, July 21, 1916  
WUB  
- Vol. 1 No. 1, October 21, 1916  
Canada and Her Soldiers, issued under the authority of the Government of Canada, London, 1919  
First reunion dinner of the B.C. Company, 196th Western Universities Battalion - Menu (1919)
- 1-7 Diagrams of rifles, grenades, etc. by G.W. Jackson (1917)  
Railway map of northeast France (1918)
- 1-8 Photographs of "D" Company (1916/17)
- 1-9 Clippings and miscellaneous material
- 1-10 Insignia of the 196th Battalion (with envelope)  
[See also oversize folder with photographs]