

# S. J. McKee Archives



## Brandon College Platoon

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14257>

Part Of: Joseph H. Hughes collection  
Creator: Photographer: Davidson Studio  
Description Level: Item  
Series Number: 3-1997.1  
Item Number: 3-1997.1.66  
Accession Number: 3-1997  
Other Numbers: Hughes #81  
GMD: graphic  
Date Range: 1916  
Physical Description: 13.5" x 10.5" (b/w)  
Material Details: on matting  
Physical Condition: Photograph beginning to separate from matting  
History /  
Biographical:

Brandon College established a Canadian Officer Training Corps (COTC) program in 1916 and had enough students for a platoon that would join the 196th Western Universities Battalion's B Company. COTC logs for in the SJ McKee Archives show that at least 40 men regularly attended classes on campus during the 1916 winter term.

The Brandon Daily Sun published the names of 60 potential platoon recruits before they headed to Camp Hughes to train in the summer of 1916. Although Lt. J.R.C. Evans spearheaded the training of the COTC enlistees at Brandon College, he was found medically unfit for overseas service. In his stead, the son of the college's founder, Lt. William Carey McKee, lead the platoon to Camp Hughes where they joined the 196th Battalion. Of the 60 recruits identified in the local paper, 20 would not survive the war, including Lt. McKee. [ST/2016]

### Scope and Content:

Photograph shows a group of 40 men wearing WWI uniforms. The men have the Canada general service cap badge on their headdress. The officer in the centre of the group (i.e., the man with the cane) is J.R.C. Evans. The group of men are likely members of the first Brandon College Platoon, which joined the 196th Western Universities Battalion.

Name Access: J.R.C. Evans  
Subject Access: portraits  
First World War  
Great War  
Storage Location: Hughes oversize drawer  
Related Material: Daly House Museum  
The Clark Hall Scrapbook

### Images





## David Sommerville Charleson fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4827>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection  
Description Level: Collection  
Accession Number: 21-1997  
GMD: textual records  
Date Range: November 8, 1915  
Physical Description: 2 mm (1 two-page letter -- 1 letter with envelope)

### History /

#### Biographical:

David Sommerville Charleson was born January 14th, 1884, in Brandon, Manitoba. The Charleson's settled in the GlenSouris area south of Brandon, Manitoba in 1882. David Charleson enlisted on 24 September 1914. He served as a lieutenant in the 6th Infantry Battalion of the Canadian Expeditionary Force. Later, he transferred to the 8th Battalion. In Belgium, Charleson was a victim of an enemy gas attack early in the war, following which he returned to Canada incapacitated. Miss Estella Cullen, a trained nurse, cared for him following his return to Canada. David Sommerville Charleson died on May 12, 1925 a victim of war-time injuries. He is buried in the GlenSouris Cemetery just south of Brandon.

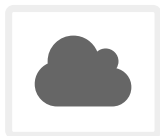
#### Custodial History:

This fonds was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 1997. Prior custodial history is unknown.

#### Scope and Content:

Fonds consists of one letter written by Charleson from Belgium in early 1915 to Miss Estella Cullen in Rounthwaite, Manitoba. In the letter, Charleson describes the circumstances facing the Canadian troops in the trenches during the Great War and provides an account of the German trenches facing him. This is an evocative and reflective letter. Philatelists may find the condition of the stamps on the letter envelope of interest.

Notes: CAIN No. 202606  
Subject Access: Estella Cullen  
World War I  
trench warfare  
Great War  
soldier's life  
Canadian Expeditionary Force  
Storage Location: 1997 accessions  
Storage Range: 1997 accessions



## Gerry Beaubier collection

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions13541>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection  
Description Level: Collection  
Accession Number: 11-2013  
GMD: electronic records  
Date Range: 1916-1917

Physical Description: 35 digital photographs

Material Details: JPEGs

History /

Biographical:

Gerry Beaubier was born in Wainwright, Alberta to Beatty and Babe Beaubier. He completed his high school in Saskatoon, before receiving a BSc in Geography from Brandon University.

Before attending university Gerry served in the army as a special reserve, while working as a night clerk at the Bessborough Hotel in Saskatoon. His post-graduate career consisted primarily of work for Canada Agriculture, under the PFRA Branch (Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Administration). Later he would work as an Executive Manager, helping develop forage and range management programs for several post secondary schools, including, Assiniboine Community College, as well as schools in Red Deer, Lethbridge, and Saskatoon.

Gerry Beaubier married Joyce Abercrombie, of Saskatoon. Together they had two sons: Neil and Dean. Neil, an Account Advisor for the Royal Bank, was born in Regina, and currently works in Swift Current. Dean was born in Swift Current, received his PhD in Education and currently lives in Forrest working at Elton Collegiate.

The Beaubiers, who were originally from Ireland, emigrated to the Canadian West, making Gerry part of the fourth generation of his family to call the region home. His great-grandfather, along with his grandfather and great uncle were amongst the first one hundred settlers in Brandon. Together they first built the Beaubier House, a boarding house for early settlers and travellers. After it burnt down they began construction on the Beaubier Hotel, which stood at the corner of 8th Street and Princess Avenue in Brandon until August 17th, 2008. His grandfather, David Wilson Beaubier, continued to build and operate hotels throughout the prairies, including the Empire Hotels (of Brandon and Saskatoon) and The Park (Moose Jaw).

David Wilson Beaubier served as a secretary of the Orange Lodge of Manitoba. As an Orange Lodge Colonel, he worked with other Orange Lodge members, to recruit throughout the prairies for the purpose of World War One. For his efforts, David was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel, and later Captain of the 99th Manitoba Rangers. David's sons (Gerry's father, at University of Manitoba, and uncle at McGill), were both working towards undergraduate degrees when war broke out in 1914, and each would leave school to join their father at Camp Hughes.

Custodial History:

Gerry Beaubier collected these photos primarily in the years 2000-2011, largely from family and friends who knew of his interest in the topic. They were donated to the S.J. McKee Archives in 2011.

Scope and Content:

Collection consists of digital photographs of those who trained for battle in World War I at Camp Hughes and in Brandon, Manitoba. It also includes a digital copy of the cover of the Nominal Roll of Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and Men, who departed from Brandon in 1917.

The photos, taken primarily at Camp Hughes, are of a number of battalions, including the 34th, 100th, 108th, 181st and 214th. The photo, PT in England, is a postcard sent home from Beatty Beaubier. The Massey Harris building seen on the right side of, WW1 B parade0001, was used to house troops throughout the war. The man standing alone at the front of the parade in, 181 Parade, is David Wilson Beaubier.

Notes: Information for the biographical and custodial histories was provided by Gerry Beaubier on September 25, 2013. Description by Dustin Lane (October 2013).

Name Access: Gerald Beaubier

Gerry Beaubier  
Beaubier family  
Camp Hughes  
Brandon, MB  
Lieut. D. Slemin  
Capt. C. Smith  
Capt. J. Strong  
Capt. Ridgeway  
Lieut. W. Smith  
Lieut. T. Williams  
Lieut. H. Craig  
Capt. S.R. Wallace  
Lieut. D.H. Beaubier  
David Wilson Beaubier  
Capt. E.L. Abbott  
Major E.R.C. Wilcox  
Major N.F. McCahey  
Lt.-Col. Sutherland  
Lt.-Col. Foster  
Major Lawless  
Major Collier  
Capt. J.D. Young  
Capt. A.E. Vanderpump  
Capt. J.E. West  
Capt. Munro  
Lieut. Watson  
Lieut. Johnstone  
Lieut. McIntosh  
Lieut. Cherry  
Lieut. Bryan  
Lieut. J.L. Evans  
Lieut. J. Kavanaugh  
Lieut. I. Vipond  
Capt. Rutherford  
Lieut. Cluff  
Capt. Maples  
Lieut. Lane  
Lieut. E.C. Whitehead  
Lieut. R. Carleton  
Lieut. B.F. Beaubier  
Fincher  
Lieut. Beaver  
Lieut. McCool  
Lieut. A.P. Milk  
Lieut. Joseph Hardy

	Lieut. K. Spencer
	Lieut. J. Faulkner
	Lieut. F. Keall
	181st Battalion
	181st Brandon Overseas Battalion Band
	A. Gov. Lines 108th
	No. 13 Platoon 108th Battalion
	184th Battalion
	34th Fort Garry
	100th Battalion
	214th Battalion
	108th Signallers
	Stretcher Bearer Section 108th
	Machine Gun Section 108th Battalion
Subject Access:	181st Brandon Overseas Battalion armed forces
	military personnel
	barracks
	public ceremonies
	downtown
	historic sites
	railroads
	military services
	parades
	regional parks
	passenger trains
	Veterans
	railway stations
	train stations
	restaurants
	food services
	war
	World War I
	World War One
	First World War
	The Great War
Storage Location:	T: drive/shared 02/web photos



## Riverbank/Berbank Red Cross fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4855>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 18-1997

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1917-1919

Physical Description: 1 cm

History /

Biographical:

The Berbank Red Cross was founded in November 1917, as a local feature of the Great War. The name Berbank was created by combining the names of the two local districts, Riverbank and Bertha, located south of Brandon in the Rural Municipality of Oakland. The Berbank Red Cross sent supplies of various kinds to local soldiers serving in the Canadian Expeditionary Force in Europe. The organization also organized social gatherings in the Berbank area. With the end of the war most rural Red Cross organizations were disbanded, but the Berbank group agreed to remain intact to assist with the construction of a church. (See accession 28-1997 Berbank Church fonds)

Custodial History:

This fonds was accessioned in 1997 by the McKee Archives. Prior custodial history is unknown.

Scope and Content:

Fonds includes a minute book, which provides a complete record of every meeting held by the Berbank Red Cross, from its creation in 1917 to 1919, when it became the Berbank Ladies Aid. Fonds also includes a roll call, financial records, and meeting minutes.

Notes: CAIN No. 202600

Subject Access: Stella Martin

Jessie Martin

Pearl Martin

Edith Wharton

Berbank Ladies' Aid

Riverbank

Bertha

Rural Municipality of Oakland

Great War

World War I

rural women

Storage Location: 1997 accessions

Storage Range: 1997 accessions

Related Material: Berbank Church fonds (28-1997) and Berbank Ladies Aid fonds (27-1997).