

# 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



## 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).