

PRITZKER MILITARY MUSEUM & LIBRARY

104 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, IL 60603

archives@pritzkermilitary.org

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Lawrence Shea Collection

Creator: Dr. Bruce Hunter
Dates: 1918-1921
Quantity: 0.25 linear feet, 1 box
Acquisition: Purchased as part of the World War I Hunter Collection
Identification: PMML ID# 800211, OCLC# 949006111, Call# PAPERS 00203
Citation: [Document Title]. The Lawrence Shea Collection, [Box #, Folder #], Pritzker Military Museum & Library, Chicago, IL.
Language: English
Finding Aid: Andrew Fordham, 2016; Updated by Andrea Martinez, 2018

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Biographical Note

Lawrence D. Shea was born to Daniel and Ellen Shea in Youngstown, OH, on June 28, 1894. He registered for the military in June 1917 and served with Company D, 112 Engineers until his death on November 10, 1918.

Scope and Content of the Collection

The Lawrence Shea Collection consists of one folder of letters from Shea to his mother, one folder containing a letter from Shea's commander to his mother, one folder containing a finding aid and summary documents as compiled by Dr. Bruce Hunter, and one folder containing a photograph of Shea's burial location in Belgium. The collection relates to Shea's time serving in the U.S. Army during World War I.

Arrangement

The collection arrived in no discernible order. Staff has arranged the collection by item type and in chronological order.

Rights

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Key Subjects

This collection is indexed under the following headings in the Library's online catalog. Researchers interested in materials about related topics, persons, or places should search the catalog using these subject headings.

Subjects

World War, 1914-1918.

World War, 1914-1918 --Personal narratives, American.

World War, 1914-1918--Poetry.

Container List

Box	Folder	Item ID #	Title	Dates
1	1		Letters from Lawrence D. Shea to Ellen Shea	1918
		800211001	About - From "somewhere in France", about trip to France, weather, treatment by French upon arrival	n.d.
		800211002	About - From "somewhere in France", travel, how everything in France is older than US, asks for mother to knit him a sweater	7/14/1918
		800211003	About - Catching up on family, papers predicting end of war in 1918, troops also gossip about the same date	7/21/1918

800211004	About - Moving through France more, billeted in town with electric lights, saw the work of Germans with roofs blown off houses or houses completely demolished, heard word that the czar of Russia was executed, all indications point to Allied success and will "finish pretty soon"	7/28/1918
800211005	About - Can't write much interesting in letters due to security, went to church, food, news from home	8/4/1918
800211006	About - Billeted in an evacuated village in France, not near the front line, airplanes and anti-aircraft fire, gas alarms, get bulletin from Division HQ every day with news, Germans retreating, church/confession, food	8/14/1918
800211007	About - Been 4 months since he left, think it will be over some day "not far distant", church, food, German airplane flying overhead	8/25/1918
800211008	About - News from home, church, sending souvenir handkerchiefs	9/1/1918
800211009	About - News from home, explaining that news of shell exploding near hospital is likely false, moved to another village, church, bought doughnuts	9/8/1918
800211010	About - Moved to the largest city yet, with electricity, church, description of very large church, aviation field nearby, many English soldiers	9/17/1918
800211011	About - Brief rest during long drive they're on, interested to read newspaper report of his own unit, news from home, won't be long til it's all over if meeting with continued success	10/9/1918
800211012	About - News from home, staying in former German quarters, church, enclosing Christmas package coupon	10/14/1918

		800211013	About - Engineers traveling back from the front, saw area that was battle line for years and now desolate scene, saw former inhabitants returning, Americans viewed as "deliverers", received news of Austrian peace terms, rumors of Germany following suit.	11/7/1918
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Letter from Cap. Walter Geckler to Ellen Shea **1919**

1	2	800211014	About - Condolences from Cap. Geckler from Company "D", 112 Engineers, how Shea was killed in action on 10 November 1918	2/5/1919
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**Dr. Bruce Hunter collection
miscellaneous**

1	3	800211015	Finding Aid	n.d.
		800211016	Letter transcription/synopsis	n.d.
		800211017	Letter transcription/synopsis from 14 July 1918	n.d.
		800211018	Letter transcription/synopsis from 21 July 1918	n.d.
		800211019	Letter transcription/synopsis from 28 July 1918	n.d.
		800211020	Letter transcription/synopsis from 4 August 1918	n.d.
		800211021	Letter transcription/synopsis from 14 August 1918	n.d.
		800211022	Letter transcription/synopsis from 25 August 1918	n.d.
		800211023	Letter transcription/synopsis from 01 September 1918	n.d.
		800211024	Letter transcription/synopsis from 08 September 1918	n.d.

800211025	Letter transcription/synopsis from 17 September 1918	n.d.
800211026	Letter transcription/synopsis from 9 October 1918	n.d.
800211027	Letter transcription/synopsis from 14 October 1918	n.d.
800211028	Letter transcription/synopsis from 7 November 1918	n.d.
800211029	Letter transcription/synopsis from 5 February 1919	n.d.

1	4	Miscellaneous materials	1919-1921
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800211030	English-French guide, with pronunciations	n.d.
800211031	American Expeditionary Forces Christmas Package Coupon	n.d.
800211032	Prayer of a Soldier in France, typed on Knights of Columbus stationary	n.d.
800211033	News clippings from the Youngstown Telegram detailing Shea's funeral, story of Shea's death as detailed by fellow soldier	n.d.
800211034	Treasury Department Bureau of War Risk Insurance Award To Beneficiary form	2/24/1919
800211035	Report of Disinterment and Reburial, photocopy	3/17/1921
800211036	Photograph (copy) of Shea burial site in Belgium, with fiber card	n.d.

1	5	Photograph	n.d.
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800211037	Photograph of Shea burial site in Belgium	n.d.
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