

University of Victoria Special Collections

Monk, Theodore Benning, 1884-1959

SC081

Title

Theodore Benning Monk fonds

Dates

1844-1959

Extent

47 cm of textual records

14 photographs

180 drawings

Biographical Sketch

Lieutenant Colonel Theodore Benning Monk was born in Winnipeg, Manitoba. In 1907, he enlisted with the active militia and in 1908 became a gunner with the 13th Battery, Canadian Field Artillery (Manitoba Regiment). He later went into law and real estate. He moved to Victoria in 1908 and started work in the City Engineer's Department. He established his own real estate firm with Roger Monteith, and among other real estate activities sought to develop the coastal town of Clo-ose, B.C. as a resort. In World War I he served with the 54th Battalion and fought in Vimy Ridge. He was Commanding Officer of the Gordon Head Cadet Training Camp at the present campus of the University of Victoria, 1940-1941, and became a liaison officer of the U.S. Army from 1942-1944. From 1930 on, Monk campaigned actively for a uniquely Canadian flag and submitted numerous designs to the competition for a new flag in 1968.

Scope and Content

The fonds consists of Monk's army service and course certificates and correspondence with the Monk family, records of the commander of the Gordon Head camp, and the Seattle liaison officer concerning the 5th Regiment and other army and business matters; personal records, including correspondence regarding a new Canadian flag, notes on the Monk family tree, insurance and investment records; photographs of Monk with officers and with Sir Arthur Currie, and drawings of proposed new flags for Canada.

Finding Aids

Finding aid available with box and file level control.

Title Source

Title based on the contents of the fonds.

THEODORE BENNING MONK (1884-1959)

(1907 - 1959)

Lieutenant Colonel Theodore Benning Monk, well-known Victoria soldier and realtor was born in Winnipeg in 1884. In 1907 he enlisted with the active militia and in 1908 he became a gunner with the 13th Battery, Canadian Field Artillery (Manitoba Regiment). He turned to law when defective eyesight barred him from the permanent army then left that as "tedious". He followed his next employer to Victoria in 1908 and started work in the city engineer's department. His real estate career started with Pemberton & Sons, but he soon founded his own firm with Roger Monteith, which was responsible for forming several sub-divisions. He also was interested in developing Clo-ose as a resort area, but a change in the government planning halted the scheme. In the First World War he started service with the 54th Battalion, and fought in Vimy Ridge. Working between the wars as a realtor, he became Commanding Officer of the 5th Regiment. He was Commanding Officer of the Cadet Training Camp on the site of the present campus from 1940-41. After his Gordon Head post he became a liason officer of the U.S. Army from 1942-44. From 1930 until his death in 1959 Colonel Monk campaigned actively for a uniquely Canadian flag: designing flags, writing to M.P.'s and appealing to the general public. Much of the archive is concerned with this interest.

This accession consists of Army: correspondence; Real Estate: certificates; Family: notes; Flag: correspondence and designs and miscellaneous Ephemera: certificates, photographs and clippings.

Monk's papers were presented to The University of Victoria Special Collections by David R. Monk through the offices of Dr. Reg Roy in August 1978.

MONK PAPERS

(1907 - 1959)

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Essay and Designs.

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Family papers, Clippings, Invitations,

Insurance Policies, Investments,

Publications found with papers.

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MONK PAPERS

(1907 - 1959)

BOX 1

ArmyRecords to do with 5th Regiment, 1914-40:Folder 1

Correspondence from and to.

ArmyWorld War I: Correspondence to - Family,Folder 2

Business, Army forms.

ArmyWorld War II: Correspondence to and fromFolder 3

-Commander, Gordon Head Camp,

Jan. 1940 - May 1941.

ArmyWorld War II: Correspondence to and fromFolder 4

-Liason Officer in Seattle.

ArmyCertificates covering service and courses inFolder 5

the army.

BOX 2

PersonalFlag: Correspondence to and from - D.B. Folder 6

Plunkett, M.P., 1932-33.

PersonalFlag: Correspondence to and from - Folder 7

CameronR. McIntosh, 1937-38.

PersonalFlag: Correspondence to and from - Dept. ofFolder 8

National Defence, 1938.

PersonalFlag: Correspondence to and from - Folder 9

R.W. Mayhew,M.P., 1939-54.

PersonalFlag: Correspondence to and from - Folder 10

Ministry ofSecretary of State for

Canada, 1945-55. (Paul Martin,

O.G. Emerson, Ph. Thibault,

W.H. Measures, Roch Pinard)

PersonalFlag: Correspondence to and from - Folder 11

F.T. Fairey, M.P., 1954-55.

PersonalFlag: Correspondence to and from - Folder 12

A. Chasse, Committee Clerk

House of Commons, 1946-55.

Monk Papers (cont'd)

BOX 3

PersonalFlag: Correspondence with the press, Folder 13
1954-57.

PersonalFlag: Magazines, Booklets and Pamphlets, Folder 14
1926-53.

PersonalFlag: Essay "The National Flag of Canada" Folder 15
drafts, 1930-37.

PersonalFlag: Clippings on the Flag, 1939-57. Folder 16

PersonalFlag: Stencil for Flag designs. Folder 17

PersonalFlag: "Proposed Distinctive Canadian Flag" Folder 18
showing stages of development.

PersonalFlag: Early designs incorporating Union Jack Folder 19

Jack

PersonalFlag: Later Flags without Union Jack Folder 20

PersonalCorrespondence re civil aid force for China, Folder 21

1932 to:- Sir Arthur Currie,
H.H. Stevens, Lt. Col. K. Stuart
from - Nanette Stuart and
H.H. Stevens.

PersonalCorrespondence with friends, 1943-44 Folder 22

(from only).

PersonalFamily Papers, 1844-193? including notes on Folder 23

family, family tree, clippings.

PersonalMinute Book of BCAA, 1923-24 containing Folder 24

Minutes of 5 meetings.

PersonalClippings about Monk collected by archivist. Folder 25

PersonalFormal invitations and calling cards, Folder 26
1911-1934.

PersonalMiscellaneous letterhead paper. Folder 27

BusinessInsurance Policies, 1915-59. Folder 28

BusinessInvestments, 1910-41 (including Statement Folder 29
of Taxable Income for 1941).

BusinessMonk and Monteith & Co. Ltd.: Blotters, Folder 30
receipts, indenture, certificates.

MiscellaneousPublications found with papers. Folder 31

Monk Papers (cont'd.)

BOX 4

Photograph Portrait of Monk as a young man (1 of 2), Envelope 1

taken by Gray & Smith, 574 1/2

Main St., Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Photograph As above (2 of 2). Envelope 2

Photograph Monk as a young man, taken by Bryant's Envelope 3

Studio, Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Photograph Monk as a young man in a great coat, Envelope 4

taken by C.H. Boyes, Kingston.

Photograph Group of officers and curate, Fort Envelope 5

MacCauley, 1914.

Photograph Officers including Sir Arthur Currie Envelope 6

about 1922-23.

Photograph W.W.I? "Canadians at Bisley" including Envelope 7

Miss A. Monk.

Photograph "5th B.C. coast Canadian Artillery Band", Envelope 8

taken by Robert Fort, Victoria, B.C.,
1931.

Photograph *Victoria Times* shot of Brigadier C.V. Envelope 9

Stockwell reviewing the "21 Class"

on Pandora Avenue, Nov. 6, 1940.

Photograph Similar to above. Envelope 10

Photograph Shot of officers reviewing troops on Envelope 11

Pandora St.

Photograph Demonstration Squad, 'A' Coy., N.P.A.M., Envelope 12

No. 111, 1st Course, Oct-Nov. 1940.

Clippings Clippings and locket of hair enclosed in Envelope 13

book, *Gold Dust*.

Photograph "Bugle Band", 121st "Western Irish", Roll 1

Vernon, B.C., 1916.

Photograph Officers, Gordon Head Camp, 1940? Roll 2

Photo no. 10962/2.

Monk Papers (cont'd.)

UNBOXED

Miscellaneous Flag designs. Folder 32

Photograph Large - The entire 5th Regiment, Envelope 14

Victoria, 1914.

Photograph Large - Officers of the 5th Regiment Envelope 15

Fort MacCauley, 1914.

Photograph Large - Officers of the 5th Regiment, Envelope 16

R.C.A., taken by W. Simmonds

Victoria, B.C. 1913.

Photograph Large - Monk, T.B. Some of the 8th Envelope 17

Field Battery. 1926 at Ft. Sarcee.

TUBE 1

Map Roll Contains: Tube 1

1. "Symbolical Maple Tree of
Canada" 3' x 2'.

2. "Standard of Canada and
Personal and Service
Flags."