

112th 'Nova Scotia' (Reserve) Battalion 1915-1917

The 112th Battalion was recruited in Nova Scotia with mobilization Headquarters at Windsor under General Order 151 of December 22nd 1915 by the 69th Annapolis and 75th Lunenburg Regiments these previously having provided 35 and 28 volunteers respectively to the 14th Battalion on its formation at Camp Valcartier in August 1914. The 112th Battalion embarked for England September 27th 1916 with 36 officers and 1090 other ranks under command of Lieutenant-Colonel H.B. Tremain (81st Hants Regiment). The Battalion merged with the 40th Battalion to form the 26th Reserve Battalion in January 1917. The 112th Canadian Infantry Battalion was disbanded effective July 27th 1918 under General Order 101 of August 15th 1918.

The regimental numbers block for the 112th Canadian Infantry Battalion was 733001 - 736000.

Cap badges by unidentified maker

Currently none with identified matching collar badges

Other ranks

Long small dorsal fin cod fish on the coat-of-arms of Nova Scotia.



612-11-102 Cap

Brown finish. Struck up reverse. E/W Lug fasteners. Not maker marked

Other ranks

Large dorsal fin cod fish on the coat-of-arms of Nova Scotia.



612-11-104 Cap

Dark brown finish. Struck up reverse. E/W Lug fasteners. Not maker marked



612-11-106 Cap

Gilt. Flat back. Not maker marked

Badges by M.S. Brown

The tools and dies were produced by M.S. Brown the badges being struck by R.J. Inglis Ltd. Montreal. Thick figures in the numeral '112'.

Other ranks



612-11-108 Cap

Brown finish. Lug fasteners. Maker marked M.S. Brown



612-12-108 Collar

Brown finish. N/S Lug fasteners. Not maker marked

Shoulder strap numerals



612-14-110 Numeral

Brown finish. Maker marked 'Caron Bros 1915'

612-14-112 Numeral

Brown finish. Maker marked 'Birks 1916'

Officers (?)

612-11-114 Cap Dark brown.



612-12-114 Collar Finish polished off. Lugs replaced with pin). Marked M.S. Brown

Officers badges by unidentified makers

612-11-116 Cap Pickled finish. Lug fasteners

612-12-116 Collar Pickled finish. N/S Lug fasteners

612-11-118 Cap Brown finish with silver overlays on numerals. N/S Lug fasteners.

612-12-118 Collar Brown finish with silver overlays on numerals. N/S Lug fasteners.

OVERSEAS

Badges by J.W. Tiptaft & Son Ltd.

The cod fish on the coat-of-arms of Nova Scotia has a small dorsal fin. The figures in the numeral '112' are narrow.

Other ranks



612-11-120 Cap Brass. E/W Lug fasteners. Maker marked 'Tiptaft'

612-12-120 Collar Blackened/brown finish. E/W Lug fasteners. Not maker marked

612-14-120 Numeral Natural gilding metal 112. Maker marked 'Tiptaft'

Officers



612-11-122 Cap Pickled finish. E/W Lug fasteners

612-12-122 Collar Pickled finish. E/W Lug fasteners



612-14-122 title Natural gilding metal '112 CANADA'. Maker marked 'Tiptaft'

The 112th Battalion embarked for England September 27th 1916 merging with the 40th Battalion to form the 26th Reserve Battalion in January 1917.

113th 'Lethbridge Highlanders' (Reinforcing) Bn. 1915-1916

The 113th Battalion (Lethbridge Highlanders) Battalion was recruited in Lethbridge and district of Southern Alberta with mobilization headquarters at Lethbridge under General Order 151 of December 22nd 1915 by the 21st Alberta Hussars and the 23rd Alberta Rangers these regiments previously having contributed 78 volunteers to the 6th Battalion on its formation at Camp Valcartier in August 1914, and later provided volunteers to the 31st, 151st, 175th and 187th Battalions and 12th and 13th Canadian Mounted Rifles. The 113th Battalion embarked for England September 27th 1916 with a strength of 30 officers and 883 other ranks under command of Lieutenant-Colonel W.A. Pryce Jones (15th Light Horse). Upon arrival in England the 113th Battalion was almost immediately absorbed into the 17th Battalion, Training and Reserve which in January 1917 was reorganized as the 17th Reserve Battalion. Being fully depleted of all ranks the 113th Canadian Infantry Battalion was disbanded September 1st 1917 under General Order 82 of June 1st 1918.

The regimental numbers block for the 113th Canadian Infantry Battalion was 736001 - 739000.

The 113th Battalion had a brass band of 36 musicians, a bugle band of 29, and a pipe band of 13 pipers and six drummers (The pipes and drums wearing distinctive Highland pattern uniform Argyll & Sutherland tartan).

It is recorded in the minutes of the Legion that "The Medicine Hat Pipe Band" had been established in Medicine Hat in 1912. Pipe Major Alex Hosie, who hailed from Forfar, Scotland, was probably the first Pipe Major. He was piping in Scotland by 1900 and served in the Highland Light Infantry. His brother Bill was one of the best pipers in Scotland. In Alex. Hosie's obituary, it is stated that he came to Medicine Hat in 1912 "on request of the Medicine Hat Kiltie Band, which he and a group of other men from their native land were asked to join. The Kiltie Band became famous throughout Canada and the United States...". This band became affiliated with the Canadian Legion of Medicine Hat in 1928, and was called "The Canadian Legion Pipe Band of Medicine Hat".

Alex and the other members of the band signed up in the 113th Battalion in Lethbridge in 1915. He saw service in Europe with the 17 Canadian Seaforth Highlanders and finished the war with the rank of Pipe Major. None of the other members of the Kiltie Band survived the war.

The first issue badges were produced for D.E. Black & Co. by G.F. Hemsley, Montreal. Two different sizes of hat badge were produced a Forge cap badge 45mm in height and a Balmoral bonnet size 59mm in height.

Other ranks



613-11-102 Forge Cap Pickled finish. Lug fasteners. Maker marked 'D.E. Black Co.'

613-12-102 Collar Pickled finish. Lug fasteners. Partial makers mark 'D.E. Black Co.'



613-11-104 Balmoral Pickled finish. Large size 59mm. Lug fasteners. Marked 'D.E. Black Co.'



613-12-104 Collar Pickled finish. Pin fasteners. Partial makers mark 'D.E. Black Co.'

Shoulder strap numerals and title



613-14-106 Numeral Brown finish.. Maker marked Caron Bros 1915. Also noted not maker marked.

613-14-108 Numeral Brown finish . Maker marked 'Birks 1916'

Made up title with Birks numeral braised over 'INF' and voided 'CANADA' titles.

613-14-110 Title Gilding metal 113/INF/CANADA.

Officers



613-11-112 Forage Cap Brown OSD. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked

613-12-112 Collar Brown OSD. Lug fasteners. Maker marked 'D.E. Black Co.



613-11-114 Balmoral Brown OSD. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked

613-12-112 Collar Brown OSD. Lug fasteners. Maker marked 'D.E. Black Co.

613-11-114 Forage Cap Silver overlay on pickled finish. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked

613-12-114 Collar Silver overlay on pickled finish. (Not reported)

Bandsmen(?)



613-11-116 Forage Cap

Gilt. With green felt insert. Marked D.E.Black



613-12-116 Collar

Gilt. Lug fasteners. Maker marked 'D.E. Black Co.'

613-11-118 Glengarry Cap

Gilt. Large size 59mm. Lug fasteners. Marked 'D.E. Black Co.'



613-12-116 Collar

Gilt. Lug fasteners. Maker marked 'D.E. Black Co.'

Pipes and Drums



613-11-118 Glengarry Cap Silver plate. Large size 59mm. Lug fasteners. Marked 'D.E. Black Co.'

613-12-118 Collar Silver plate. Lug fasteners. Maker marked 'D.E. Black Co.'



613-17-120 Broach pin Copper with pin fastener. Not maker marked

OVERSEAS

Badges by J.W. Tiptaft & Son Ltd.

Only the large pattern Balmoral bonnet size hat badges are known to have been produced by J.W. Tiptaft. The motto ribbons are 'framed'.

Other ranks

613-11-122 Balmoral/Bonnet Pickled finish. Large size 57mm. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked

The 113th Battalion embarked for England September 27th 1916 where upon arrival in England was almost immediately absorbed into the 17th Battalion, Training and Reserve

Counterfeits

Counterfeit badges for this battalion are noted. In 2004 a good quality cast reproduction of the Balmoral badge with a green imitation pickled finish appeared on the market. The reverse has large flat areas not found on the original badges. (This not illustrated.)

613-11-124 Balmoral Pickled finish. Poorly defined reverse. Lug fasteners.

Modern Counterfeit cap badges

The cap badges pictured below are counterfeits these offered for sale on the United Kingdom eBay site. Note the lack of sharpness and blurred detail, 'off metals' and extra metal around the design this not found on the original die struck example.



613-11-126 Cap Cast brass



613-11-128 Cap Cast silver

Counterfeits

Two counterfeit badges for this battalion are noted. In 2004 a good quality cast reproduction of the Balmoral badge with a green imitation pickled finish appeared on the market. The reverse has large flat areas not found on the original badges. (This not illustrated.)

613-11-124 Balmoral Pickled finish. Poorly defined reverse. Lug fasteners.

114th 'Brock's Rangers' Battalion 1915-1916

The 114th (Brock's Rangers) Battalion was recruited from the Six Nation's Indian Reservation in Haldimand County, Ontario with mobilization headquarters at Cayuga under General Order 151 of December 22nd 1915 by the 37th Regiment (Haldimand Rifles) this regiment previously having contributed 76 volunteers to the 4th Battalion on its formation at Camp Valcartier in August 1914. The 114th Battalion embarked for England November 1st 1916 with 30 officers and 679 other ranks under command of Lieutenant-Colonel A.T. Thompson (5th Infantry Brigade) where it was almost immediately broken up and absorbed into the 35th and 36th reinforcing and training battalions. In the CEF Native Americans were greatly prized for their skills as both marksmen and scouts, many becoming snipers. Being fully depleted of all ranks the 114th Canadian Infantry Battalion was disbanded effective June 1st 1917 under General Order 63 of June 15th 1917.

The regimental numbers block for the 114th Canadian Infantry Battalion was 739001 - 742000.

Badges by P.W. Ellis & Co. Ltd. Toronto.

This issue with pointed maple leaf.

Other ranks



614-11-102 Cap

Brown finish. Lug fasteners. Marked 'P.W. Ellis & Co 1916'



614-12-102 Collar

Blackened/brown finish. N/S Lug fasteners. Marked 'P.W. Ellis & Co 1916'

Shoulder strap numerals



614-14-104 Numeral

Brown finish 114. Maker marked Caron Bros 1915

614-14-106 Numeral

Brown finish 114. Maker marked 'Birks 1916'

Bandsman/NCOs(?)



614-11-108 Cap

Natural gilding metal. Lug fasteners. Marked 'P.W. Ellis & Co 1916'

Officers



614-11-110 Cap

Chocolate brown OSD. Maker marked 'P.W. Ellis & Co 1916'

614-12-110 Collar

Chocolate brown OSD. N/S Lug fasteners. Marked 'P.W. Ellis & Co 1916'



614-11-112 Cap

White metal. Maker marked 'P.W. Ellis & Co 1916'

614-12-112 Collar

White metal. Maker marked 'P.W. Ellis & Co 1916'

614-11-114 Cap

Sterling silver. (Reported not currently confirmed)

614-12-114 Collar

Sterling silver. (Reported not currently confirmed)

Sweetheart(?)



614-11-116 Cap

Gilt with added pin fastener. Maker marked 'P.W. Ellis & Co 1916'

OVERSEAS

Badges by J.W. Tiptaft & Son Ltd.

Blunt maple leaf the motto ribbons 'framed'. A spelling error occurs on this issue the letter 'M' in Haldimand being replaced with a 'W'.

Other ranks

- | | | |
|------------|--------|---|
| 606-11-118 | Cap | Blackened finish. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked |
| 606-12-118 | Collar | Blackened finish. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked |

Officers

- | | | |
|------------|--------|---|
| 614-11-120 | Cap | Brown OSD finish. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked |
| 614-12-120 | Collar | Brown OSD finish. Pin fastener. Not maker marked |
| 614-11-122 | Cap | Silver plate. (Not reported) |
| 614-12-122 | Collar | Silver plate. Pin fastener. Not maker marked Possibly a sweetheart. |

The 114th Battalion embarked for England November 1st 1916 where it was almost immediately broken up and absorbed into the 35th and 36th reinforcing and training battalions.

115th 'New Brunswick' (Reinforcing) Battalion 1915-1917

The 115th (New Brunswick) Battalion was recruited in New Brunswick by the 62nd St. John Fusiliers with mobilization headquarters at Saint John under General Order 151 of December 22nd 1915 the regiment previously having contributed 140 volunteers to the 12th Battalion on its formation at Camp Valcartier in August 1914 and to the 26th Battalion serving with the 5th infantry Brigade, 2nd Canadian Division. The 115th Battalion embarked for England July 24th 1916 under command of Lieutenant-Colonel F.V. Wedderburn (8th Hussars), with a strength of 34 officers and 801 other ranks. In January 1917 the 115th Battalion merged with the 112th Battalion forming the 26th Reserve Battalion. Being fully depleted of all ranks the 115th Canadian Infantry Battalion was disbanded effective 1st September 1917 under General Order 82 of June 1st 1918.

The regimental numbers block for the 115th Canadian Infantry Battalion was 742001 - 745000.

Badges by R.J. Inglis Ltd. Montreal (Flat)

Other ranks



- | | | |
|------------|-----|---|
| 615-11-102 | Cap | Brown finish. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked |
|------------|-----|---|



615-12-102 Collar

Brown finish. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked

Shoulder strap numerals

115

615-14-104 Numeral

Brown finish 106. By Caron Bros not maker marked

Badges by Hemsley (Domed)

Other ranks



615-11-106 Cap

Pickled finish. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked



615-12-106 Collar

Pickled finish. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked



615-11-108 Cap

Silver overlay on brown finish. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked



615-12-108 Collar

Silver overlay on brown finish. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked

OVERSEAS

Badges by J.W. Tiptaft & Son Ltd. Blunt maple leaf the motto ribbons 'framed'.

Other ranks

615-11-110 Cap

Brown finish. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked

615-12-110 Collar

Brown finish. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked

62nd Saint John Fusiliers Reinforcing Draft

The 62nd Saint John Fusiliers reinforcing draft was authorized under General Order 63 of June 15th 1917. Being disbanded under General Order 149 of September 15th 1920. The regimental numbers block was 2,532301 - 2,537300.

The 115th Battalion embarked for England July 24th where in January 1917 the 115th Battalion merged with the 112th Battalion forming the 26th Reserve Battalion.

116th (Ontario County) Battalion, 3rd Division

The 116th (Ontario County) Battalion, unofficially called the 'Umpty Umps' was recruited in Ontario County with mobilization headquarters at Uxbridge under General Order 151 of December 22nd 1915 by the 34th Ontario Regiment this regiment previously having contributed 133 volunteers to the 2nd Battalion on its formation at Camp Valcartier in August 1914 the regiment also later raised the 182nd battalion. The 116th Battalion embarked for England July 23rd 1916 with 36 officers and 943 other ranks under command of Lieutenant-Colonel S.S. Sharpe. (34th Ontario Regiment) In February 1917 the battalion proceeded to France where on the 27th February 1917 it replaced the 60th Battalion in the 9th Infantry Brigade, 3rd Canadian Division. Serving in this capacity for the duration of the Great War. The 116th Canadian Infantry Battalion was disbanded under General Order 149 of September 15th 1920.

The regimental numbers block for the original contingent of the 116th Canadian Infantry Battalion was

745001 - 748000.

There are five distinctive patterns of collar badges known for the 116th Battalion each with a slightly different shaped maple leaf.

Badges by Ryrie Bros Limited

Other ranks

Pointed maple leaf open figure '6' in numeral '116'.



616-11-102 Cap

Pickled finish. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked

Officers



616-11-104 Cap

Brown OSD. Fully struck up reverse. Marked 'Ryrie Bros Lim (ed) d'



616-12-104 Collar

Brown finish. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked

616-11-106 Cap

Brown finish with white metal overlay. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked

616-12-106 Collar

Brown finish. With white metal overlay. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked

Shoulder strap numerals and title



616-14-108 Numeral Brown finish 116. By Caron Bros not maker marked



616-14-110 Numeral Brown finish 116. Maker marked 'Birks 1916'

616-14-112 Title Caron Bros 116 braised to soldiered on general service 'CANADA' title

Badges by Hemsley

Late War souvenir cap and collars with pickled finish over-struck on a Ryrie Bros. named badge. Hemsley likely having struck the previous issue on contract for Ryrie. Both cap and collar badges being illustrated in their sales catalogue.



616-11-114 Cap Pickled. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked

616-12-114 Collar Pickled. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked

OVERSEAS

The August 1917 Canadian Corps 'Q' file listing the unit, maker, present possessor of dies, price paid per gross, and the annual requirements of badges. The tools and dies and supplier of the badges are listed as being held by '[a] Miller Bros. London, England. [b] 1/5 (1 shilling 5 pence) per set (when ordered in quantities of 1000. [c] 1500 sets annually.' It is probable that the badges were struck by Tiptaft from dies cut by Miller Bros.

Other ranks badges by Miller Bros. London.

Pointed maple leaf open with five jewels on the central band of the Tudor crown, thick numerals with closed figure '6' in numeral '116'. No matching officers badges are identified for the Miller Bros.



616-11-116 Cap

Brass . Lug fasteners. Not maker marked

616-12-116 Collar

Collar badges are reported but not currently identified.

Badges by Firmin

Other ranks

Pointed maple leaf open with five jewels on the central band of the Tudor crown, open figure '6' in numeral '116'.



616-11-118 Cap

Brown finish. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked



616-12-120 Collar

Brown finish. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked

Officers



616-11-122 Cap Silver overlay on gilt. Marked with an '&' and 'Firmin London'

616-12-122 Collar A matching collar badge is not currently identified

Formation patches introduced May 1917



First issue J.W. Tiptaft & Son Ltd. Badges.

Three jewels in the central arch of the Tudor crown.

Other ranks

616-11-124 Cap Blackened finish. Lug fasteners. Maker marked 'Tiptaft'



616-12-124 Collar Blackened finish. Lug fasteners. Maker marked 'Tiptaft'

Second issue J.W. Tiptaft & Son Ltd. Badges.

Four jewels in the central arch of the Tudor crown. The 'C' over '116' collar badges are rare. 1000 pairs were delivered to the Canadian Ordnance Stores at Ashford in Kent in 1918. All were apparently issued there being '0' listed in the January 1919 inventory.



616-11-126 Cap Brown finish. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked



616-12-126 Collar Brass. Medium 'C' over '116'. Maker marked Tiptaft, B'ham

Officers

616-11-128 Cap Brown finish with white metal overlay. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked

616-12-128 Collar Brown finish with white metal overlay. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked

Reinforcements for the 116th Battalion (8th Reserve Battalion)

The 8th Reserve Battalion established at Witley Camp 2nd January 1917 by the amalgamation of the **110th Bn.**, **147th Bn.**, **157th Bn.** and **159th** Infantry Battalions under command of Lieutenant-Colonel G. F. McFarland to supply reinforcements to the **50th** Infantry Battalion and the **4th Canadian Mounted Rifles** serving with the Canadian Corps on the Western Front. Also to the **119th Bn.** assigned to the 15th Brigade, 5th Canadian Division then in formation in England. In August 1917. The 8th Reserve Battalion also started supplying reinforcements to the **54th** and **102nd** (former B.C. Battalions). Due to the small population base in BC at that time the province could no longer provide enough reinforcements to maintain these B.C. battalions in the field. During the period of its operations the 8th Reserve Battalion absorbed the remainder of the **126th Bn.** (Broken up October 13th 1916 with drafts to the 126th and 109th battalions), the **135th Bn.** (Broken up October 15th 1916 with drafts to the 116th, 125th and 134th Battalions). The **164th Bn.** (April 16th 1918) and the **227th** Battalion (April 22nd 1917). In February 1918 the 8th Reserve Battalion absorbed the **2nd Reserve Battalion** and **119th** and **125th** Infantry Battalions, these both having been held in England assigned to the 5th Division which was broken up for reinforcements.

In April 1918 the 8th Reserve Battalion became the sole reinforcing Battalion for the 2nd Central Ontario Battalion, authorized under General Order 77 of April 15th 1918, henceforth supplying reinforcements to the **54th**, **58th**, **102nd** and **116th** Infantry Battalions serving with the Canadian Corps on the Western Front. The 8th Central Ontario Regiment was disbanded under General Order 213 of November 15th 1920.

117th (Eastern Townships' (Reinforcing) Battalion 1915 - 1917

The 117th (Eastern Townships) Battalion was an Anglophone battalion raised in Quebec December 1st 1915 with mobilization headquarters at Sherbrooke under General Order 151 of December 22nd 1915. The battalion being raised by the 53rd Sherbrooke Regiment this previously having contributed 107 volunteers to the 12th Battalion on its formation at Camp Valcartier in August 1914. The 117th Battalion embarked for England August 14th 1916 with 36 officers and 943 OR's under command of Lieutenant-Colonel L.J. Gilbert (3rd Mounted Brigade). In January 1917 the 117th Battalion was absorbed into the 23rd Battalion, Training and Reserve, this now being designated as the 23rd (Montreal) Reserve Battalion. One of three reinforcing battalions for the English speaking CEF Battalions from Quebec serving with the Canadian Corps on the Western Front at that time. The 23rd Reserve Battalion supplied reinforcements for the 14th, 24th, 87th and 5th CMR Battalions. The 117th Canadian Infantry Battalion was disbanded under General Order 149 of September 15th 1920.

The regimental numbers block for the 117th Canadian Infantry Battalion was 748001 - 751000.

Other ranks. Badges by Birks



617-11-102 Cap

Pickled finish. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked



617-12-102 Collar

Pickled finish. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked

NCO's(?)



617-12-104 Collar Pickled finish. Pin back. Not maker marked



617-14-104 Title Pickled finish. Flat back. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked

Cloth title

617-22-106 Cloth Title Reported but currently the details are un-known

Although requested the use of a woven title was not approved denial being made May 19th 1916 reading in part "use of designs other than universal 'CANADA' cannot be approved".

Shoulder strap numerals



617-14-108 Numeral Brown finish. Maker marked 'Birks 1916'

NCOs(?)



617-11-110 Cap Blackened finish. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked

Officers



617-11-112 Cap

Pickled finish with silver numerals . Fold over tangs. Not maker marked



617-11-112 Cap

Pickled with silver numerals. Flat back. N/S Fold over tangs. Not marked



617-12-114 Collar

Red brown finish with silver numerals. E/W lugs. Not maker marked



617-12-116 Collar

Brown finish with silver numerals. N/S Lug fasteners. Not maker marked

Cap Badges (only) by G.F. Hemsley (Note voiding above Canada)



617-11-120 Cap

Pickled finish. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked

Officers



617-11-122 Cap

Brown OSD finish. Pin fastener. Not maker marked



617-11-124 Cap

Silver overlay on pickled finish. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked

Solid non-voided pattern



617-11-126 Cap Brown OSD finish. Non voided. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked

The 117th Battalion embarked for England August 14th 1916 where In January 1917 was absorbed into the 23rd (Montreal) Reserve Battalion.

118th 'North Waterloo County' (Reinforcing) Bn 1915 - 1916

The 118th (North Waterloo Overseas) Battalion was recruited in Waterloo County under General Order 151 of December 22nd 1915 by the 108th Regiment with mobilization headquarters at Berlin, Ontario, the name being changed to Kitchener in 1916 in the patriotic fervor and anti German sentiment of WWI. The 108th Regiment was one of a number of Militia Regiments raised after the start of WWI to raise CEF battalions. Others include the 55th Irish Canadian Rangers and the 58th (Westmount) Rifles at Montreal and the 109th and 110th Irish Regiment both from Toronto. The 118th Battalion embarked for England January 26th 1917 under command of Lieutenant-Colonel W.M.O. Lohead (108th Regiment), with a strength of just 15 officers and 231 other ranks where it was almost immediately absorbed into the 25th Reserve Battalion. Being fully depleted of all ranks the 118th Canadian Infantry Battalion was disbanded effective July 17th 1917 under General Order 82 of June 1st 1918.

The regimental numbers block for the 118th Canadian Infantry Battalion was 751001 - 754000.

Badges attributed to Caron Bros. Montreal.

Other ranks



618-11-102 Cap Pickled gilding metal. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked



618-12-102 Collar Pickled gilding metal. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked

Officers



618-11-104 Cap Pickled finish with silver numerals. Flat back. Not marked

618-12-104 Collar Pickled finish with silver numerals. Flat back. Not marked

Badges by G.F. Hemsley.

Plain ribbons the motto with small lettering

Other ranks



618-11-106 Cap Pickled gilding metal. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked.

618-12-106 Collar Pickled gilding metal. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked.

618-14-106 Title Natural gilding metal '118' / 'Canada'. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked

NCOs

618-12-108 Collar Pickled gilding metal. Pin fastener. Not maker marked.

Shoulder strap numerals

618-15-110	Numeral	Brown finish. By Caron Bros not maker marked
618-14-112	Numeral	Brown finish. Maker marked 'Birks 19116' (error date)

Officers



618-11-114	Cap	Red/brown OSD finish. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked
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618-12-114	Collar	Red/brown OSD finish. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked
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618-11-116	Cap	Pickled with silver overlays on numeral. Lug fasteners. Not maker
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618-12-116	Collar	Pickled with silver overlays on numeral. Lug fasteners. Not maker
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OVERSEAS

Badges by J.W. Tiptaft & Son Ltd.

Framed motto ribbons.

Other ranks



618-11-118 Cap dark brown finish. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked



618-12-118 Collar Dark brown finish. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked

108th Regiment Reinforcing Draft

The 108th Regiment reinforcing draft was authorized under General Order 63 of June 15th 1917. Being disbanded under General Order 149 of September 15th 1920. The regimental numbers block was 2,310301 - 2,315300

The 118th Battalion embarked for England January 26th 1917 where it was almost immediately absorbed into the 25th Reserve Battalion.

119th 'Algoma' Battalion, 5th Division 1915 - 1918

The 119th (Algoma Overseas) Battalion was recruited in the Algoma district and Manitoulin Island region of Northern Ontario with mobilization headquarters at Sault Ste. Marie under General Order 151 of December 22nd 1915. The battalion was raised by the 51st Regiment (Soo Rifles) this regiment previously having contributed 126 volunteers to the 2nd Battalion on its formation at Camp Valcartier in August 1914, later raising the 227th Battalion. The 119th Battalion embarked for England August 9th 1916 with a strength of 32 officers and 935 other ranks under command of Lieutenant-Colonel T.P.T. Rowland (51st Soo Rifles). The 119th Battalion was assigned as one of the battalions for to the proposed 15th Infantry Brigade, 5th Canadian Division. In February 1918 the 5th Division was disbanded each of the 11 remaining battalions, the 199th having previously been absorbed into the 23rd Reserve Battalion), were ordered to send a drafts of 100 men each to the units in the field and the remainder was absorbed into the 8th Reserve Battalion (2nd Central Ontario Regiment) the reserve pool for the 54th, 58th, 102nd and 116th Battalions serving with the Canadian Corps on the Western Front. Being fully depleted of all ranks the 119th Canadian Infantry Battalion was disbanded effective November 29th 1918 under General Order 135 of December 16th 1918.

The regimental numbers block for the 119th Canadian Infantry Battalion was 754001 - 757000.

Badges by Inglis

Other ranks



619-11-102 Cap

Pickled finish. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked



619-12-102 Collar

Pickled finish. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked

Shoulder strap numerals

619-14-104 Numeral

Gilding metal. Not maker marked



619-14-106 Numeral

Brown finish 119. Maker marked 'Birks 1915'



619-11-108 Cap

Silver overlay on pickled finish. Pin fastener. Not maker marked

619-12-108 Collar

Silver overlay on pickled finish. Pin fastener. Not maker marked

Badges by Patterson



619-11-110 Cap

Brown OSD finish. Lug fasteners. Maker marked Patterson Soo



619-12-110 Collar

Brown OSD finish. Lug fasteners. Maker marked Patterson Soo

619-14-110 Numeral

Small size. Brown finish. Upper and lower 'bars'. Not maker marked

OVERSEAS

Formation patches

Brigade designations were not worn by the 5th Division although seen in illustrations.



Badges by J.W. Tiptaft & Son Ltd.

Large letters the 'CANADA' framed.

Other ranks



- | | | |
|------------|---------|--|
| 619-11-112 | Cap | Brown finish. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked |
| 619-12-112 | Collar | Brown finish. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked |
| 619-14-112 | Numeral | Brown finish. Upper and lower 'bars'. Not maker marked |

120th '13th Royal Regiment' (Reinforcing) Bn. 1915 - 1917

The 120th (City of Hamilton) Battalion was recruited and mobilized at Hamilton under General Order 151 of December 22nd 1915. The 120th Battalion was one of three battalions to be raised primarily by the 13th Regiment Hamilton Light Infantry the regiment previously having contributed 181 volunteers to the 4th Battalion on its formation at Camp Valcartier in August 1914 and the 86th Machine Gun Battalion in 1915, the regiment later formed the 205th Battalion. The 120th Battalion embarked for England August 14th 1916 with a strength of 32 officers and 838 other ranks under command of Lieutenant-Colonel G.D. Fearman (13th Royal Regiment). In January 1917 the 120th Battalion amalgamated with other Ontario battalions to form the 2nd Reserve Battalion one of two reserve battalions formed in January 1917 to reinforce battalions from Central Ontario serving with the Canadian Corps on the Western Front. Being fully depleted of all ranks the 120th Canadian Infantry Battalion was disbanded effective July 17th 1917 under General Order 82 of June 1st 1918.

The regimental numbers block for the 120th Canadian Infantry Battalion was 757001 - 760000.

Correspondence in the Canadian Archives regarding the approval process for regimental pattern badges between the C.O. and A.A.G. of the 2nd Division regarding battalion badges dated December 23rd 1915 reads "Sir, I enclose a sketch of the proposed badge for the 120th City of Hamilton Battalion. This has been approved of by the Minister, Sir Sam Hughes. Will you kindly take the necessary steps to have the same registered." The reply, December 24th 1915 "it will be necessary in submitting this design for registration at Militia Headquarters to forward a heraldic description." January 29th From the C.O. to the Senior Ordnance Officer 2nd Division "I have the honour to advise you that we have provided the men of this battalion with Regimental hat and collar badges. Kindly advise us if you can make us a cash allowance for the badges on issue and now indented for." a hand written foot note added at 2nd Division Headquarters reads " This is a matter for application to Militia Headquarters. The amount involved is approximately \$200." In a rather tersely worded reply of February 2nd 1916 from the D.A.A. & Q.M.G 2nd Division " No.1 No special badge has been authorized for your battalion. No reply has been received to my letter of December 24th," "No.2 Authority for special badges in the case of overseas units has been given in all cases upon the condition that their provision is to be without expense to the public."

First unauthorized motto 'OVERSEAS BATTALION' pattern

It would appear that the pattern with 'Overseas Battalion' motto was purchased before authorization was received and later replaced with the authorized 'Canada Overseas' pattern.

Other ranks

- 620-11-102 Cap Red/brown finish. Lug fasteners. Maker marked 'Geo. H. Lees Toronto'
- 620-12-102 Collar Red/brown finish. N/S Lug fasteners. Maker marked 'Geo. H. Lees'

Officers

Silver plated numerals and motto.

- 620-11-104 Cap Red/brown and silver. Lug fasteners. Marked 'Geo. H. Lees Toronto'
- 620-12-104 Collar Red/brown and silver. Lug fasteners. Marked 'Geo. H. Lees Toronto'



- 620-14-106 Numeral 'Made up' Brown numerals on lower bar

Corrected 'CANADA OVERSEAS' pattern badges by George H. Lees Authorized March 1st 1916.

Narrow Maple leaf



- 620-11-108 Cap Brown finish. Lug fasteners. Maker marked 'Lees 1915'



- 620-12-108 Collar Brown finish. N/S Lug fasteners. Maker marked 'Lees 1915'

Shoulder strap numerals

- 620-14-110 Numeral Gilding metal. By Caron Bros. (Not reported)

L20

620-14-112 Numeral Brown finish. Maker marked 'Birks 1916'

Officers



620-11-114 Cap Red/brown and silver plate. Lug fasteners. Maker marked 'Lees 1916'

620-12-114 Collar Red/brown and silver plate. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked

Blunt maple leaf



620-11-116 Cap Dark brown finish. N/S Lug fasteners. Not maker marked



620-12-116 Collar Dark brown finish. N/S Lug fasteners. Not maker marked

Bandsman

620-11-118 Cap Gilt. Lug fasteners. Maker marked 'Lees 1916'

620-12-118 Collar Gilt. Lug fasteners. Maker marked 'Lees 1916'

OVERSEAS

Badges by J.W. Tiptaft & Son Ltd.

Numerals and motto ribbons 'framed', small lettering.

Other ranks



620-12-120 Collar Brown finish. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked

Eaton's Stores 'Sweetheart' badges

Sweetheart or souvenir badges were very popular amongst wives and mothers with husbands and sons serving with the CEF. These were produced both in Canada and England in various materials including gold, silver and often with elaborate multi-colour enamels. T.E. Eaton's stores sold a series of cap badge size badges mostly fitted with pin fasteners but occasionally with lugs, as souvenir pieces. These are believed to have been produced by Caron Bros. Montreal.



620-11-122 'Sweetheart' Pickled finish. White metal centre. Pin fastener. Not maker marked

620-11-124 'Sweetheart' Pickled finish. Lug fastener. Not maker marked

The 120th Battalion embarked for England August 14th 1916 where in January 1917 amalgamated with other Ontario battalions to form the 2nd Reserve Battalion.

121st 'Western Irish' (Reinforcing) Battalion 1915 - 1917

The 121st (Western Irish) Battalion was recruited in British Columbia with mobilization headquarters at New Westminster under General Order 151 of December 22nd 1915 by the 11th Irish Fusiliers of Canada this regiment previously having contributed 355 volunteers to the 7th Battalion on its formation at Camp Valcartier in August 1914. The 121st Battalion embarked for England August 14th 1916 with 32 officers and 1033 other ranks under command of Lieutenant-Colonel A.W. McLellan (11th Irish Fusiliers) where in January 1917 the 121st and the 103rd Battalions amalgamated to form the 16th Reserve Battalion one of two reinforcing battalions for British Columbia battalions serving with the Canadian Corps on the Western Front. The 16th Reserve Battalion supplied reinforcements to the 54th and 102nd Battalions and the 2nd Canadian Mounted Rifles Regiment. In February 1918 the 16th Reserve Battalion was absorbed by the 1st Reserve Battalion this the reinforcing battalion for the British Columbia Regiment providing

reinforcements to the 7th, 29th and 72nd Battalions serving with the Canadian Corps on the Western Front. Being fully depleted of all ranks the 121st Canadian Infantry Battalion was disbanded effective July 17th 1917 under General Order 82 of June 1st 1918.

The regimental numbers block for the 121st Canadian Infantry Battalion was 760001 - 763000.

Badges by O.B. Allan.

Other ranks



621-11-102 Cap Dark brown finish. 'Fold over' tangs. Maker marked 'O.B. Allan'



621-12-102 Collar Dark brown finish. 'Fold over' tangs. Maker marked 'O.B. Allan'



621-14-102 Title Dark brown finish. 'Fold over' tangs. Maker marked 'O.B. Allan'

Shoulder strap numerals

621-14-104 Numeral Gilding metal. By Caron Bros (Not reported)



621-14-106 Numeral Brown finish 121. Maker marked 'Birks 1916'

NCOs

621-11-110 Cap Dark brown finish. Pin fastener. Maker marked 'O.B. Allan'



- 621-12-110 Collar Dark brown finish. Pin fastener. Maker marked 'O.B. Allan'
- 621-14-110 Title Dark brown finish. Pin fastener. Maker marked 'O.B. Allan'

Officers

- 621-11-112 Cap 'Antique' copper finish. Pin fastener. Maker marked 'O.B. Allan'



- 621-12-112 Collar 'Antique' copper finish. Pin fastener. Maker marked 'O.B. Allan'
- 621-11-114 Cap Silver. Pin fastener. Maker marked 'O.B. Allan'



- 621-12-114 Collar Pin fastener. Maker marked O.B. Allan and Sterling

Bandmaster

The ranks of Band sergeant and Bandmaster were not recognized ranks in the C.E.F.

- 621-11-116 Cap Pickled and gilt finish.
- 621-12-116 Collar Pickled and gilt finish.

Sweetheart



621-12-118 Collar Gilt finish. Pin fastener. Maker marked 'O.B. Allan'

OVERSEAS

Badges by J.W. Tiptaft & Son Ltd.

Other ranks



621-11-120 Cap Brown finish. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked



621-12-120 Collar (Smaller size) Brown finish. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked

The 121st Battalion embarked for England August 14th 1916 where in January 1917 amalgamated with the 121st and the 103rd Battalions to form the 16th Reserve Battalion.

122nd 'Muscoda' (Forestry) Battalion 1915-1917

The 122nd Canadian Infantry Battalion was recruited in the Muskoka region of Ontario with mobilization headquarters at Huntsville in Northern Ontario under General Order 151 of December 22nd 1915 by the 23rd Northern Pioneers this regiment previously having provided 152 volunteers to the 1st Battalion on its formation at Camp Valcartier in August 1914, the regiment later raised the 162nd Battalion. The 122nd Battalion embarked for England June 2nd 1917 under command of Lieutenant-Colonel D.McK. Grant (35th Simcoe Foresters), with a strength of 26 officers and 686 other ranks. After its arrival in England due to its high preponderance of skilled northern woodsmen the 122nd Battalion was absorbed into the Canadian Forestry Corps. Being fully depleted of all ranks the 122nd Battalion was disbanded effective September 1st 1917 under General Order 82 of June 1st 1918.

The regimental numbers block for the 122nd Canadian Infantry Battalion was 763001 - 766000.

In the files pertaining to badges in the C.E.F. files in the Canadian Archives is a request to approve drawings for battalion pattern cap and collar badges this being made January 13th 1916 by the C.O. Lieutenant-Colonel D.M. Grant to H.Q. 2nd Divisional Headquarters. The drawing of the design supplied, this the maple leaf pattern '122' Overseas Canada' pattern, was approved January 17th 1916. Three distinct varieties of the maple leaf pattern were produced. Samples matching the approved drawings were submitted to 2nd Divisional Headquarters (Military District No.2, located at the Exhibition Grounds, Toronto) May 3rd 1916. A letter dated November 21st 1916 from the D.A.A. & Q.M.G. M.D. No.2 to the A.A.G. M.D. No.1 at London, Ontario, reads in part “, this unit has put forward an application for a new design for cap and collar badges.” A letter of the same date to Lieutenant-Colonel D.M. Grant reads in part, “These should be forwarded to the A.A.G., M.D. No.1, as the Administration of your Unit is now being carried out in that district.”

First un-authorized pattern badges by Stanley and Aylward.

Flat badges, not domed.

Other ranks



622-11-102 Cap Brown finish. Lug fasteners. Maker marked 'Stanley & Aylward'



622-12-102 Collar Brown finish. N/S Lug fasteners. Maker marked 'Stanley & Aylward'

Shoulder strap numerals

622-14-104 Numeral Interim pattern. Copper '1', brass '2s' braised to single lower bar



622-14-106 Numeral Gilding metal. By Caron Bros. Not maker marked

622-14-106 Numeral Brown finish. Maker marked 'Birks 1916'

Officers (Domed badges)



622-11-108 Cap Pickled finish. Lug fasteners. Maker marked 'Stanley & Aylward'

622-12-108 Collar Matching collar not currently reported

Authorized pattern badges by Birks

Badges with 'Broad' maple leaf with curved 'CANADA'



622-11-110 Cap Blackened/brown finish. Flat Birks lug fasteners. Not maker marked



622-12-110 Collar Blackened/brown finish. Flat Birks lug fasteners. Not maker marked

NCOs (?)



622-11-112 Cap

Finish removed. Flat Birks lug fasteners. Not maker marked

Officers



622-11-114 Cap

Gilt. Pin back. Not maker marked

Overseas

Badges by Tiptaft

Badges with 'Tall' maple leaf with straight 'CANADA'

Other ranks



622-11-116 Cap

Blackened/brown finish. Maker marked Tiptaft B;ham

622-12-116 Collar

A matching collar is not currently confirmed

Officers



622-11-118 Cap Red/brown finish on brass. Not maker marked



622-12-118 Collar Brass. Flat back. Not maker marked

Sweetheart Badges (Attributed to D.A Reesor)

Badges with 'Duty First' motto ribbon. Similar cap badges are known for the 21st, 157th and 177th Battalions. These badges have a centre piece welded over an 91st Elgin Battalion cap badge. Some of these having lower numbers than the date of the formation of the 91st Battalion prove these can not be battalion issued badges.

677-11-120 Cap Brown finish. Flat back. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked

The 122nd Battalion embarked for England June 2nd 1917 where after its arrival in England due to its high preponderance of skilled northern woodsmen was absorbed into the Canadian Forestry Corps.

123rd '10th Royal Grenadiers' (Pioneer) Battalion 1915 - 1918

The 123rd Canadian Infantry Battalion was recruited and mobilized at Toronto November 12th 1915 under General Order 151 of December 22nd 1915. The battalion was raised by the 10th Regiment Royal Grenadiers this regiment previously having contributed 401 volunteers to the 3rd Battalion on its formation at Camp Valcartier in August 1914 and later raising the 58th and 204th Battalions. The 123rd Battalion embarked for England August 9th 1916 with just 12 officers and 369 under command of Lieutenant-Colonel W. B. Kingsmill (10th Royal Grenadiers). Effective February 1st 1917 the battalion was converted from infantry to pioneers under the designation of the 123rd Pioneer Battalion. In March 1917 with the addition of reinforcements from the Canadian Pioneer Training Depot the 123rd Pioneers became the Divisional Pioneers of the 3rd Canadian Division, replacing the 3rd Pioneer Battalion (48th Canadians) which was disbanded and its remaining personnel being used as reinforcements for other pioneer battalions. The 123rd Pioneer battalion served with the 3rd Division until May 1918 when the unit was disbanded and its personnel distributed amongst the three Engineering Battalions of the 3rd Canadian Engineering Brigade, this attached to the 3rd Canadian Division. The 123rd Battalion was disbanded under General Order 149 of September 15th 1920.

The regimental numbers block for the 123rd Canadian Infantry Battalion was 766001 - 769000.

The 123rd Battalion had two bands. A brass band with 31 bandsmen and a large bugle band of 33.

Other ranks



623-11-102 Cap Antique copper. Lug fasteners. Maker marked 'Ellis Bros'



623-12-102 Collar Natural brass. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked

NCOs



623-11-104 Cap Pickled finish. Lug fasteners. Maker marked 'Ellis Bros'



623-12-104 Collar Pickled finish. Pin fastener. Maker marked 'Ellis & Co. Toronto'

Shoulder strap numerals (Worn with 'RG' title)



- 623-14-106 Title Gilding metal 123. By Caron Bros not maker marked
 623-14-107 Numeral Gilding metal 123. By Caron Bros not maker marked



- 623-14-108 Numeral Brown finish. Maker marked 'Birks 1916'



- 623-14-110 Numeral Brown finish. Maker marked 'Ellis Bros 1915'

Officers



- 623-11-112 Cap Gilt. Lug fasteners. Maker marked 'Ellis Bros'



- 623-12-112 Collar Gilt. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked



623-11-114 Cap

Gilt. Lug fasteners. Die cast. Not maker marked

OVERSEAS

Prior to 1916 the various sapper duties required in building and maintaining trenches and other works was done by infantry troops with skilled personnel from the Canadian Engineers supervising however under the command of the various battalion Commanding Officers. This unsatisfactory system saw large numbers of trained personnel being killed or wounded in trying to perform badly planned tasks. In 1916 a Pioneer Battalion was attached to each of Canada's Infantry Divisions serving until the pioneers were absorbed into the Canadian Engineers in the spring of 1918. All together nine pioneer battalions were formed or converted from infantry battalions but only four served in the field at any one time.

The August 1917 Canadian Corps 'Q' file listing the unit, maker, present possessor of dies, price paid per gross, and the annual requirements of badges. The tools and dies and supplier of the badges are listed as being held by "[a] Messrs J. Tiptaft & Son Ltd. Northampton St. Birmingham England. Messrs Ellis Brothers, 90 Yonge Street, Toronto, Canada. [b] Sixpence for cap badges, sixpence per pair for Collar Grenades for quotation of 500 from Messrs Tiptaft. [c] 2000 (2000)".

Badges by J.W. Tiptaft & Son Ltd.

Cap badge the motto ribbons 'framed'.

Other ranks



623-11-116 Cap

Blackened finish. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked



623-14-116 Numeral

Brown finish. Maker marked 'Tiptaft'

Eaton's Stores 'Sweetheart' Badges

Sweetheart or souvenir badges were very popular amongst wives and mothers with husbands and sons serving with the CEF. These were produced both in Canada and England in various materials including gold, silver and often with elaborate multi-colour enamels. T.E. Eaton's stores sold a series of cap badge size badges mostly fitted with pin fasteners but occasionally with lugs, as souvenir pieces. These are believed to have been produced by Caron Bros. Montreal.

623-11-118 'Sweetheart' badge. Pickled finish. Lugs or pin fasteners. Not maker marked

623-11-120 'Sweetheart' badge. Pickled finish. White metal centre. Pin fastener. Not maker marked

Made up badge

Modified General Service badges for the 1st and 2nd Battalions were included in major collections formed shortly after the conclusion of WWI for both the 1st and 2nd Battalions. These are found on badges dated long after the departure of these battalions for England. Hence these can not be interim patterns. Returned soldiers of units that had served with the Canadian Corps on the Western Front and repatriated to Canada and then employed at the Depot Battalions were allowed to wear their Overseas Battalion badges. It is likely that those no longer in possession of their original regimental badges (all 1st Division badges having been produced in England) may well have worn these 'made up' patterns as a mark of distinction.) In the notes listing the different varieties of badges in his collection, Bill Bird describes a 'made up' 2nd Battalion badge as being obtained from a 'Recruiting Sergeant', this would be consistent with duties performed by Depot personnel in Canada. (The Bird collection was sold in 1946.) Due to the ease of 'manufacturing' these 'made up' badges should not command a premium price unless with provenance. No examples of 'made up' collar badges are illustrated in the Bird collection.



623-11-122 Cap Ellis Bros numeral on General Service maple leaf.

The 123rd Battalion embarked for England August 9th 1916 being converted from an infantry to pioneer battalion under the designation of the 123rd Pioneer Battalion February 1st 1917.

124th 'Governor General's Body Guard' (Pioneer) Bn. 1915 - 1918

The 124th Canadian Infantry Battalion was recruited and mobilized at Toronto November 9th 1915 by the Governor General's Body Guard and 9th Mississauga Horse being authorized under General Order 151 of December 22nd 1915. The G.G.B.G. had previously contributed 42 volunteers to the 3rd Battalion and the 9th Mississauga Horse 161 volunteers to the 2nd Battalion on their formation at Camp Valcartier in August 1914. The 124th Battalion embarked for England August 9th 1916 with a strength of 32 officers and 1004 OR's under command of Lieutenant-Colonel W.C.V. Chadwick (9th Mississauga Horse). Effective February 1st 1917 the battalion was converted from infantry to pioneer battalion under the designation the 124th Pioneer Battalion replacing the 67th (Western Scots) as the pioneer battalion of 4th Canadian Division on May 1st 1917. The 124th Pioneer battalion served until May 1918 when the unit was disbanded and its personnel distributed amongst the 7th, 8th and 9th Battalions of the 4th Canadian Engineering Brigade, this attached to the 4th Canadian Division. The 124th Overseas Battalion was disbanded under General Order 149 of September 15th 1920.

The regimental numbers block for the 124th Canadian Infantry Battalion was 769001 - 772000.

The initial design for the proposed badges of the 124th Battalion took the "Crown and Garter" of the G.G.B.G. and the "Unicorn" of the 9th Mississauga Horse this being sent to the A.A.G., 2nd Division (MD. No.2) December 6th 1915. In reply December 9th 1915 it was pointed out that "I understand that when King Edward VII came to the Throne, he issued an edict that no letters were to be shown inside the Garter, except the words "Honi Soit Qui Mal y Pense". I am informed that as devices included the Garter, expunged all lettering from the Garter itself." After further correspondence a ribbon bow was substituted for the Garter Buckle.

Badges by P.W. Ellis & Co. Ltd. Toronto.

Other ranks

Cap badge with pointed maple leaf. The tail of the unicorn having a 'split' tail. (two tails).

624-11-102 Cap Blackened/brown finish. Lug fasteners. Marked 'P.W. Ellis & Co. Toronto'



624-12-102 Collar Blackened/brown finish. N/S Lug fasteners. Marked Ellis Bros

Shoulder strap numerals



624-14-104 Numeral Gilding metal. By Caron Bros not maker marked

624-14-106 Numeral Brown finish. Maker marked 'Birks 1916'

NCOs(?)

624-11-108 Cap Pickled finish.



624-12-108 Collar Pickled finish. N/S lug fasteners

Officers

624-11-110 Cap

Silver overlay on brown. Lug fasteners. Marked 'P.W. Ellis & Co. Toronto'



624-12-110 Collar

Brown finish. Pin fastener. Not maker marked

OVERSEAS

Prior to 1916 the various sapper duties required in building and maintaining trenches and other works was done by infantry troops with skilled personnel from the Canadian Engineers supervising however this under the command of the various battalion Commanding Officers. This unsatisfactory system saw large numbers of trained personnel being killed or wounded in trying to perform badly planned tasks. In 1916 a Pioneer Battalion was attached to each of Canada's Infantry Divisions serving until the spring of 1918 when the pioneer battalions were absorbed into the Canadian Engineers. All together nine pioneer battalions were formed or converted from infantry battalions but only four served in the field at any one time.

Badges by J.W. Tiptaft & Son Ltd.

Cap badge with blunt maple leaf. The tail of the unicorn having a single tail.

Other ranks



624-11-112 Cap

Dark brown finish. Lug fasteners. Maker marked 'Tiptaft B'ham'



624-12-112 Collar

Dark brown finish. E/W Lug fasteners. Maker marked 'Tiptaft B'ham'

624-14-112 Numeral Natural gilding metal. Maker marked 'Tiptaft'

Officers



624-11-114 Cap Blackened finish. Lug fasteners. Some maker marked 'Tiptaft B'ham'

624-12-114 Collar Blackened finish. Flat back. E/W Lug fasteners. Maker marked 'Tiptaft B'ham'

Sweetheart/Bandsman (?)



624-11-118 Cap Gilt. Lug fasteners. Pin fastener. Not maker marked

Eaton's Stores 'Sweetheart' Badges

Sweetheart or souvenir badges were very popular amongst wives and mothers with husbands and sons serving with the CEF. These were produced both in Canada and England in various materials including gold, silver and often with elaborate multi-colour enamels. T.E. Eaton's stores sold a series of cap badge size badges mostly fitted with pin fasteners but occasionally with lugs, as souvenir pieces. These are believed to have been produced by Caron Bros. Montreal.



624-11-124 'Sweetheart' Brown finish with silvered numerals. Pin fasteners. Not maker marked



624-11-126 'Sweetheart' Gilt. Pin fastener. Not maker marked

The 124th Battalion embarked for England August 9th 1916 being converted from an infantry to pioneer battalion under the designation of the 124th Pioneer Battalion February 1st 1917.

125th 'Brant County' Battalion 5th Division 1915 - 1918

The 125th Battalion was recruited in Brant County with headquarters at Brantford under General Order 151 of December 22nd 1915. The battalion was raised by the 38th Dufferin Rifles of Canada this regiment having previously contributed 194 volunteers to the 4th Battalion on its formation at Camp Valcartier in August 1914. The battalion embarked for England August 9th 1916 with 32 officers and 974 other ranks under command of Lieutenant-Colonel M.E.B. Cutcliffe (38th Dufferin Rifles). In February 1917 the 125th Battalion was assigned to the 14th Infantry Brigade, 5th Canadian Division. In February 1918 the 5th Division was disbanded and each of the 11 remaining battalions, (the 199th having previously been absorbed into the 23rd Reserve Battalion), were ordered to send a drafts of 100 men each to the infantry battalions serving in the field with the Canadian Corps, the remainder being absorbed into the Reserve Battalions. The 125th Battalion was absorbed into the 8th Reserve Battalion this the reserve battalion for the 2nd Central Ontario Regiment and reinforcing the 54th, 58th, 102nd and 116th Battalions serving with the Canadian Corps on the Western Front. The 125th Overseas Battalion was disbanded under General Order 135 of December 16th 1918.

The regimental numbers block for the 125th Canadian Infantry Battalion was 772001 - 775000.

The correspondence regarding the design of the battalion badges for the 125th Battalion, located in the Canadian Archives, gives an interesting highlight of the design process. The description of the final pattern dated February 18th 1916, this being the third submitted, reads in part "On a maple leaf, an imperial crown surmounting an oval ribbon, bearing the motto, "For King and Country" and enclosing the numerals "125"; below the numerals, the crest of the County of Brant, the bear (being the token of the Six Nations Indians), standing on two logs one of pine representing the Six Nations Indians, and one of oak representing the British, the logs being bound together with thongs representing the treaties binding the Six Nations and the British Empire. On a scroll to the left of the crest the word "Canada", and to the right, the word, "Overseas". Approval of the design was received by the battalion on March 1st 1916 and samples of three sets of badges, Officers, NCOs and Other Ranks were sent to the D.A.A & Q.M.G. MD. No.2 to be forwarded to Ottawa on May 3rd 1916.

Badge attributed to Ellis Bros

Cap badges with pointed maple leaf and 13 jewels in the Tudor crown.



625-11-102 Cap Brown finish Die cast with semi hollow back not maker marked

Badges by G.F. Hemsley.

Cap badges with five jewels in the central arch of the Tudor crown.



625-11-104 Cap Brown finish. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked



625-12-104 Collar Brown finish. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked

NCOs

625-11-106 Cap Brown finish. Pin fastener. Not maker marked

625-12-106 Collar Brown finish. Pin fastener. Not maker marked

Shoulder strap numerals



625-14-108 Numeral Gilt lacquer on gilding metal 125. By Caron Bros not maker marked



625-14-110 Numeral Brown finish 125. Maker marked 'Birks 1916'



625-15-112 Numeral Theatre made with numerals added to lower 'bar'

Officers

625-11-114 Cap Pickled finish. Lug fasteners. Maker marked 'D.F. Hemsley Ltd.

625-11-116 Cap Pickled finish. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked

625-12-116 Collar Pickled finish. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked

OVERSEAS

Formation patches

The 5th Division formation patches were Garnet (Deep wine red) in colour and worn without brigade distinctions. Officers patterns were embroidered with an angular gold 'bullion' wire letter 'C' inset with five bars. Only the Divisional Artillery and Machine Gun Brigade served in France the infantry battalions being used as reinforcements.

Brigade designations were not worn by the 5th Division although seen in illustrations.



Badges by J.W. Tiptaft & Son Ltd.

Cap badges with blunt maple leaf, framed motto ribbons with 13 jewels in the Tudor crown.

Other ranks



625-11-118 Cap Brown finish. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked



625-12-118 Collar Brown finish. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked

Officers

625-11-120 Cap Blackened/pickled finish. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked

625-12-120 Collar Blackened/pickled finish. Lug fasteners. Not maker marked



625-14-120 Title Natural gilding metal finish 125/CANADA. Not maker marked

Cap badge of dubious origin.



625-11-124 Cap Brass white metal plated. Figure '1' stamped on the reverse of numeral '1'

Counterfeit cap badges

The cap badge pictured below is a known counterfeit this one of a similar badges offered for sale on the United Kingdom eBay site. Note the lack of sharpness and blurred detail, 'off metals' and extra metal around the design this not found on the original die struck example. A solid silver example will likely also of been produced.



625-11-126 Cap

Off metal. Blurred detail. Lug fasteners

The 125th Battalion embarked for England August 9th where in February 1917 was assigned to the 14th Infantry Brigade, 5th Canadian Division. The 5th Division was disbanded in February 1918 and the battalions broken up and used as reinforcements.