Guide to the Jay E. Allen Letters
MSS.2342

This finding aid was produced using the Archivists' Toolkit
October 21, 2010
Describing Archives: A Content Standard
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## Summary Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Repository</th>
<th>W.S. Hoole Special Collections Library, The University of Alabama</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Jay E. Allen Letters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>1917-1919</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extent</td>
<td>0.1 Linear feet (12 letters)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Language</td>
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<tr>
<td>Abstract</td>
<td>Twelve letters from Jay E. Allen of Co. D, 1st Ammunition Train, 4th Motor Battalion of the American Expeditionary Forces, written between November 1917 to January 1919, to his sister, Lucy (Mrs. John) Davis of Lansing, Michigan.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Preferred Citation note

Jay E. Allen Letters, W.S. Hoole Special Collections Library, The University of Alabama
Biographical/Historical note

Jay Elmer Allen was born on October 18, 1889 in Michigan, the oldest son of Elmer E. Allen. He registered for the draft in June 1917 and was at Camp Custer (Michigan) in November 1917, Camp Merritt (New Jersey) in February 1918, and in France by Mother's Day (May 1918).

Scope and Contents note

The collection contains letters written by Private (later Wagoner) Jay E. Allen, between November 1917 and January 1919, to his sister, Lucy (Mrs. John) Davis of Lansing, Michigan, while he was in the Army. He first trained at Camp Custer in Battle Creek, Michigan, and then Camp Merritt in New Jersey before being sent to France and Germany with the 4th Morot Truck Company, 1st Division Ammunition Train of the American Expeditionary Forces.

Allen's letters to his sister are chatty, dealing mainly with the harvest, the mail he has (or has not) received, his brother and brother-in-law, and with what he was allowed to tell her before leaving for France. Once in France he again focuses on the harvest, this time in France, and going home - particularly after the signing of the Armistice.

Administrative Information

Publication Information
W.S. Hoole Special Collections Library, The University of Alabama February 2009

Revision Description
October 2010

Provenance
donated by Wade Hall, 2006

Processed by
## Collection Inventory

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