

William E. Thompson, World War I soldier

Around 1919, the Kansas State Historical Society and the American Legion solicited biographical information from returning veterans (primarily members of the 35th and 89th infantry divisions) and the families of those who died in service, notably from the Gold Star Mothers. Each veteran or family member was asked to provide letters, photographs, a biography, and military records. This file contains information on William E. Thompson, Company 25. While in France, William died from pneumonia on October 11, 1918.

Date: 1918-1919

Callnumber: World War I Coll. #49, Box 45 Kansas Soldiers

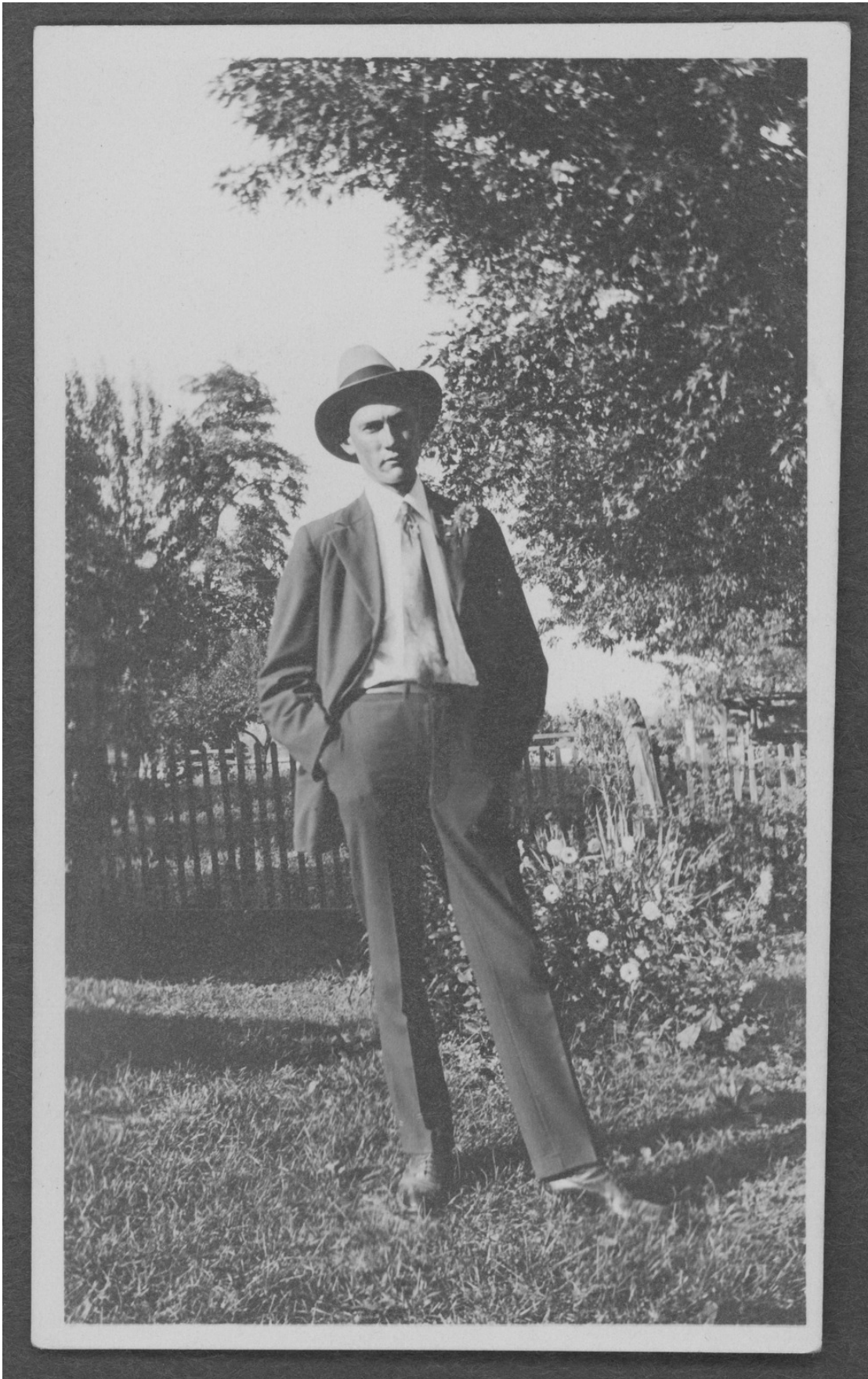
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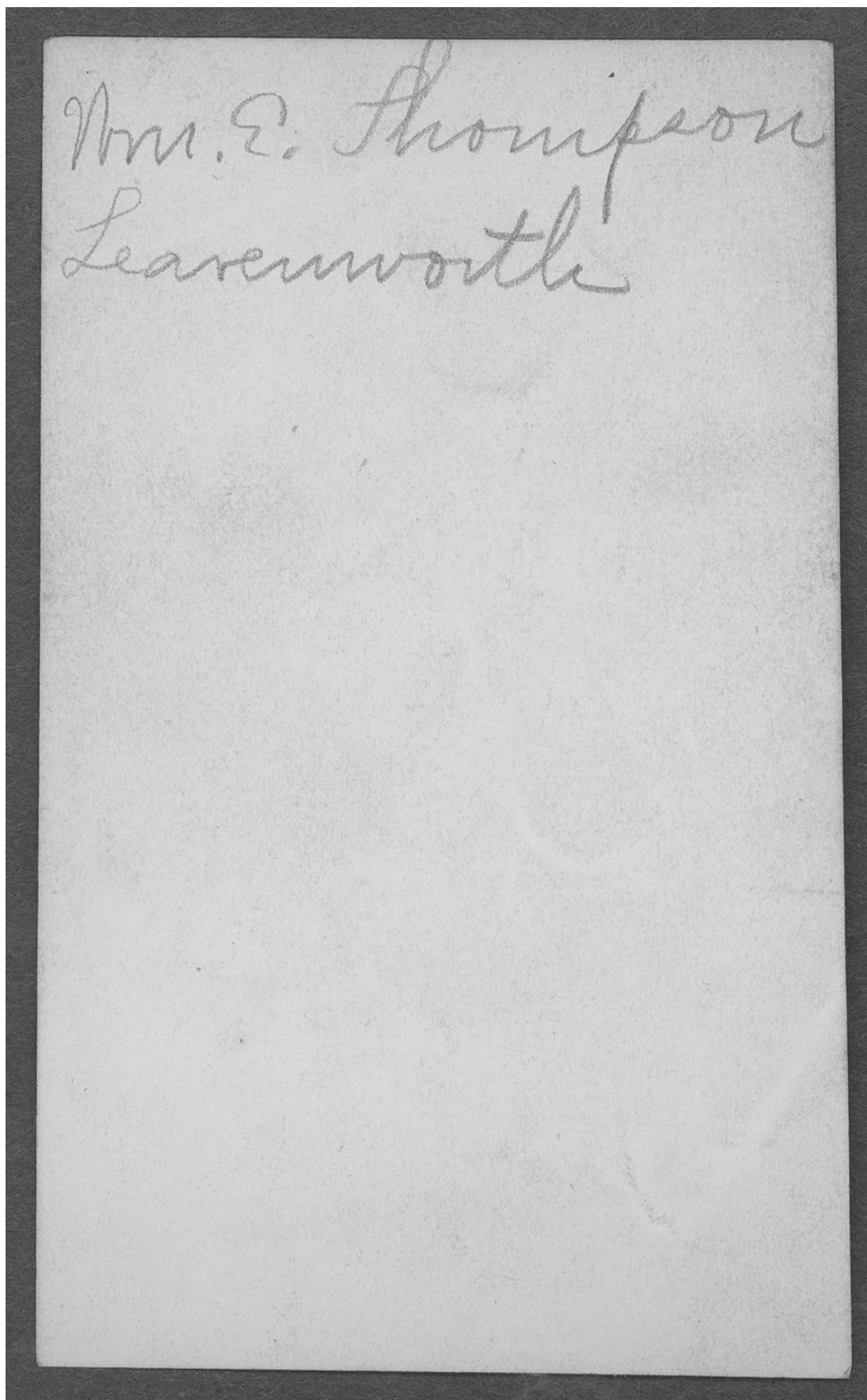


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KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

WAR ACTIVITIES

CAMP _____



Sun Sept 22 1918

Dear mother and brother how
are you any way. I am just
fine and we arrived here safe
I dont no where but we are
all right any way when did
you hear from Walter last.
well as I had to quit fighting
to go and late slipper will now
try and finish this letter
well I guess we wont be hear very
long. and I cant right much
far they read the letters
now. and cant tell you where
we are for it wont do you
no.
well we sure look fine
now we just got our heads
I liked best to the spring
we all get a little cap and
just as soon as I get it
will have my picture
taken and send you one
well we are going to travel
a little more pretty soon
and we cant right far a
while so if you dont
other

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hear from me far a
while dont worry I will
right just as soon as
possible.

We are not about to leave
the Co street so I have not
got much news only
we sure had a good time
on the road hear we are
now about 2000 thousand
miles from Leavenworth I
should judge but that is not
far it is only a nice little
ride. we came through
tunnels and down valleys
and across rivers to has
laid it.

will I hope told you about
enough for this time and
will right more next
time. so good bye
Guns soon
from your loving son
Wm E Thompson

my address is
Camp McArthur S A R R.
Co 25 I 997 R A E F

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Dear. Mrs.
Jan. 20th 1919
William E. Connelly
secretary Dear Sir
As you have requested
a sketch of the life
of the late William E.
Thompson; will try
and and give you
a sketch to the best
of my knowledge William
E. Thompson was
Born in Osage Co. Kan.
July the 23rd 1895 -
at the age of 3 he
with his parents moved to
Weston Mo. and latter
moved back to Leav. Co
Kans. and had lived the
greater part of his life
out on the farm near

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Lownmont Kan. latter
moved to Leav. City
he followed the life
of a farmer. William E.
Thompson had many
friend and was loved
by all ^{who knew him} he all bore a
good reputation he
was of a good clean
moral. and was a
member of the Methodist
church and he leaves
to mourn his lost a
mother and 4 Brothers
Albert of Lownmont Kan
and Walter in the Navy
on the U.S.S. O 8 and
Alonso of Atchison Kan.
and Earl who lives with

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with his mother at 19
and Ottawa St. Leav.
Kan. they have a Father
some where But his
whereabouts is not known
as he has deserted his
family for the last 4 years
and the mother sadly
depended on the the 2
younger Boys William E
and Earl Thompson
he ^{William E. Thompson} enlisted in Platt City
Mo. July the 16 1918 he
was sent to Jefferson
Barracks Mo. then to Waco
Texas. then to Jersey City
New Jersey last letter I
had of my son was sept
22. and also got the

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Card where he had
arrived safely over
seas. then I never heard
of him till I got the
Telegram he had died
Oct Oct the 11/1918 of Bronchial
pneumonia some where
over seas. dont know
as yet where he died
and in close in this letter
you will find a photo of
the Late William E Thompson
and also the last letter
he written home and will
you return the picture
and letter as I would
like to keep them - as are
Yours Respectfully
Mary Belle Thompson