

MY FATHER, THE POSTMASTER

Seignory Club Post Office

1942

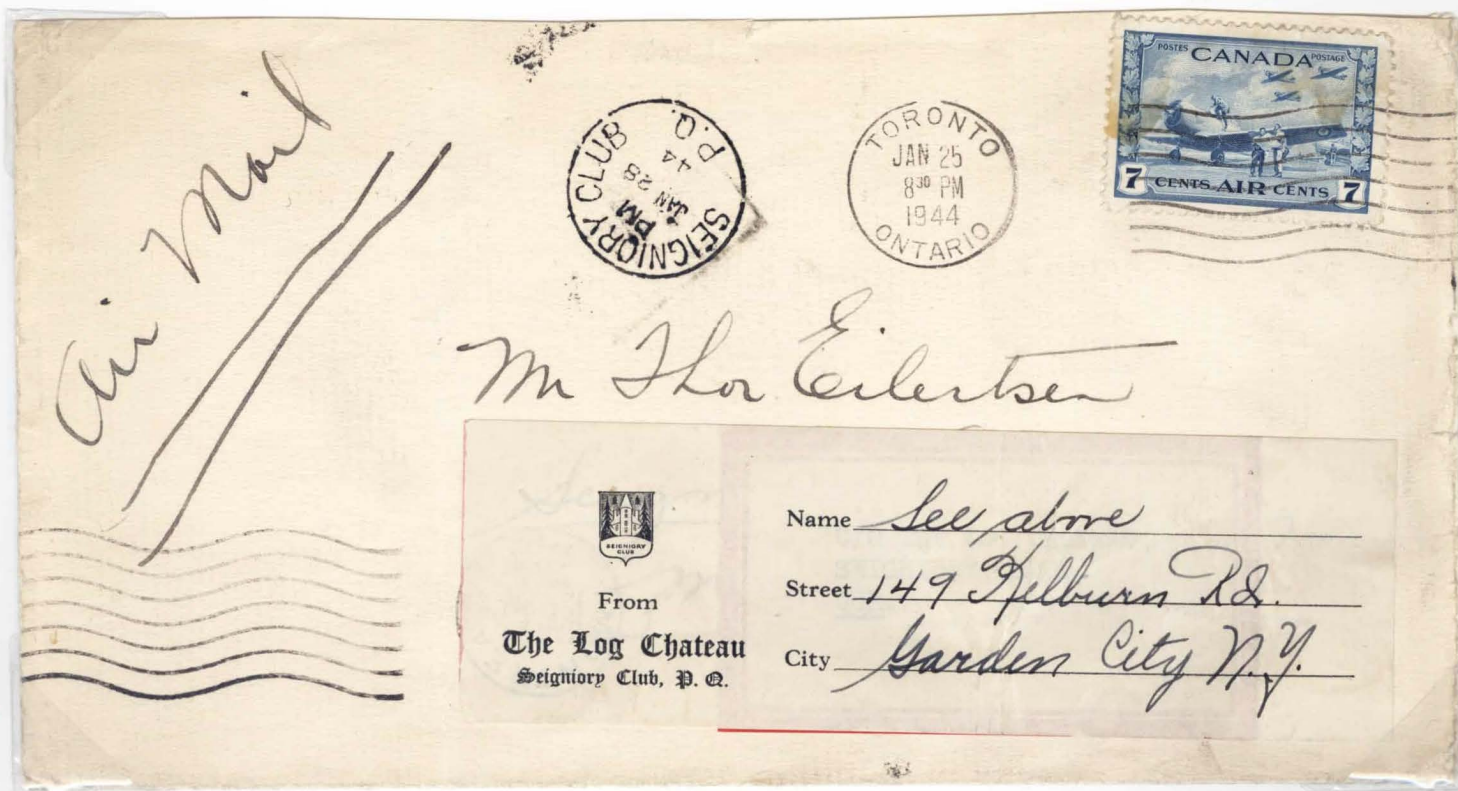


C. J. Gerald (Gerry) Verge, 1913-1948

The Seignory Club was a private club that operated from 1930 to 1970 – known as Lucerne-in-Quebec (1930-33). Since 1970 it is open to the public under the name of the Chateau Montebello.

The Post Office, part of the check-in desk, was operated under the names of the Club. Lucerne-in-Quebec (June 1, 1930 - June 30, 1933) and Seignory Club (July 1, 1933 - December 24, 1970).

Gerry Verge, my father, was the Club's manager and, by extension, its postmaster. He was appointed acting postmaster on October 23, 1942 and was official postmaster from November 30, 1942 until his resignation on March 26, 1945.



January 25, 1944, Toronto to the Seignory Club. Received January 27 and redirected January 28 to Garden City NJ.

1943 - My Family at War!



**Uncle Fernand, grand-mother
Corrine, Roger my dad**



Royal Canadian Artillery



Berthe my mother

In 1943, my father, his two brothers, my mother and my grandmother were all involved in the war effort. My father's regiment was at Caterham-on-the-Hill, Surrey, a suburb of London.



On the 2nd of September 1939, Roger, my father enlists. His brothers Léopold and Fernand also enlist. Dad's regiment sailed for Britain in August 1942 on board the HMM Capetown Castle.



Back in Canada, my mother and grandmother were working in munitions factories in St-Malo and Valcartier near Québec City.



Roger and Fernand were in the 4th Canadian Medium Artillery Regiment RCA an all-French speaking regiment. Léopold was with the Engineers. Dad's regiment landed in France on July 9, 1944 [D-Day + 33]. Their guns were 5.5-inch howitzer.



The regiment fought through France, Belgium and Holland. By VE-Day, they were in Germany. The regiment suffered 36 killed in action and 93 wounded. Its guns had fired 130,000 rounds and travelled 9,173km.



The regiment boarded the Queen Elizabeth on 20 November 1945 for home. Dad made the army his career his brothers returned to civilian life.

Michel Houde - Dad died in May 1963 the victim of complications due to war induced PTSD.