

Winchester had bullet removed from shoulder decade later

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Winchester was born in 1892 in Surrey, England. His father died before he was born and his mother remarried. (When applying for his pension, Winchester had to prove his age so his mother sent someone to check the gravestone of his father and it turns out he was actually

four years older.)

As the story goes, Winchester's employer didn't pick him up at the train station in Shelburne on the stormy winter night of his arrival so he accepted an invitation to go home John Broderick to his farm north of Honeywood where he continued to work until he enlisted in the 164th Battalion in January 1916.

According to records, soldiers in the 164th Battalion, made up of men from Halton and Dufferin counties, began their long march from Borden on Oct. 16, 1916. They marched through towns in the two counties, some days in torrential rain, in an effort to recruit men into their ranks. They made it to Shelburne the first day and on subsequent days stopped in Grand Valley, Orangeville, Milton, Oakville and Burlington before reaching Hamilton on Nov. 2. The soldiers were fed lunch from field kitchens set up along the way and hot dinners were prepared and served at churches and halls.

The battalion set sail out of Halifax the following spring, arriving in Liverpool on April 23, 1917, en route to France.

"In March 1918 when the German armies broke through the British and French lines at Albert, the Canadian Corps were to hold the line beyond Vimy Ridge. Our Battalion was located at Mericourt and for the boys of the 164th Battalion this was the first



Walter Winchester

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