

Norman Plourde, Company C, Fort McClellan, Alabama, May 1943

MCC-00478

Finding Aid

**Prepared by
Anne Chamberland, November 2019
Acadian Archives/Archives acadiennes
University of Maine at Fort Kent
Fort Kent, Maine**

Title: Norman Plourde, Company C, Fort McClellan, Alabama, May 1943

Creator/Collector: Ina St. Jean

Collection number: MCC-00478

Shelf list number: V1-478

Dates: 1943

Extent: 1 oversize folder (.01 cubic feet)

Provenance: Material was brought in by Ina St. Jean

Language: English

Conservation notes: The panoramic-size photo was taken out of a wooden frame and inserted in a clear polyester sleeve for protection.

Access restrictions: No restrictions on access.

Physical restrictions: None.

Technical restrictions: None.

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Citation: Norman Plourde, Company C, Fort McClellan, Alabama, May 1943, MCC-, Acadian Archives/Archives acadiennes, University of Maine at Fort Kent.

Separated materials: Not applicable.

Related materials: Not applicable.

Location of originals: Not applicable.

Location of copies: Not applicable.

Published in: Not applicable.

Historical information: The War Department formally established Camp McClellan on July 18, 1917. The camp was named in honor of Major General George B. McClellan, General-in-Chief of the U.S. Army from 1861 to 1862. Camp McClellan was a mobilization camp used to quickly train men for WWI.

Camp McClellan was re-designated Fort McClellan, a permanent post, on July 1, 1929. New construction began immediately and the post grew rapidly.

Fort McClellan featured a Prison Internment Camp for prisoners of war built during 1943 when Fort McClellan became the temporary home for many captured enemy soldiers, was home to the Infantry Replacement Training Center, the Chemical Corps, the Women's Army Corps Center, the U.S. Army Combat Developments Command Chemical Biological-Radiological Agency, the U.S. Army School/Training Center and the U.S. Army Military Police School, the Training Brigade, and the Department of Defense Polygraph Institute.

In 1995 the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Commission voted to permanently close Fort McClellan. The Alabama National Guard picked up where the Active Component left off by assuming a 300-acre area, which includes barracks and administrative buildings. The Alabama National Guard assumed command of Pelham Range, which consists of 23,000 acres to continue as a Training Center. History shows that Fort McClellan was first organized for the National Guard, which has had a continued presence for 100 years. In fact, during post-war years when the Fort was placed on inactive status and funding was decreased, the National Guard played an important role in keeping the fort "alive." Fort McClellan and the National Guard have each used the military property for 100 years. The training center continues to make Fort McClellan militarily "relevant" the same as it was in 1917.¹

Fort McClellan is located adjacent to the city of Anniston, Alabama in the Choccolocco foothills, part of the Appalachian Mountain chain.

Biographical information: None

Scope and content: This collection consists of one black and white panoramic-size photograph of soldiers of RTC (Replacement Training Center) of Company C, 21st Battalion at Fort McClellan, Alabama, May 1943. The 227 men on the photo are not identified but one of them is Norman Plourde of Fort Kent, Maine. The commanding officer is 1st LT Robert T. Randolph and 1st Sgt was R. J. Salyer. On the reverse side of the photo is written the name of "Alphonsine Plourde Fort Kent". The panoramic-size photo measures 31.25in. x 7.5in. The photo is in good condition despite some yellowing.

¹ https://al.ng.mil/ALABAMA/Pages/fmtc_history.aspx