

## Station 1: Trench Artifacts

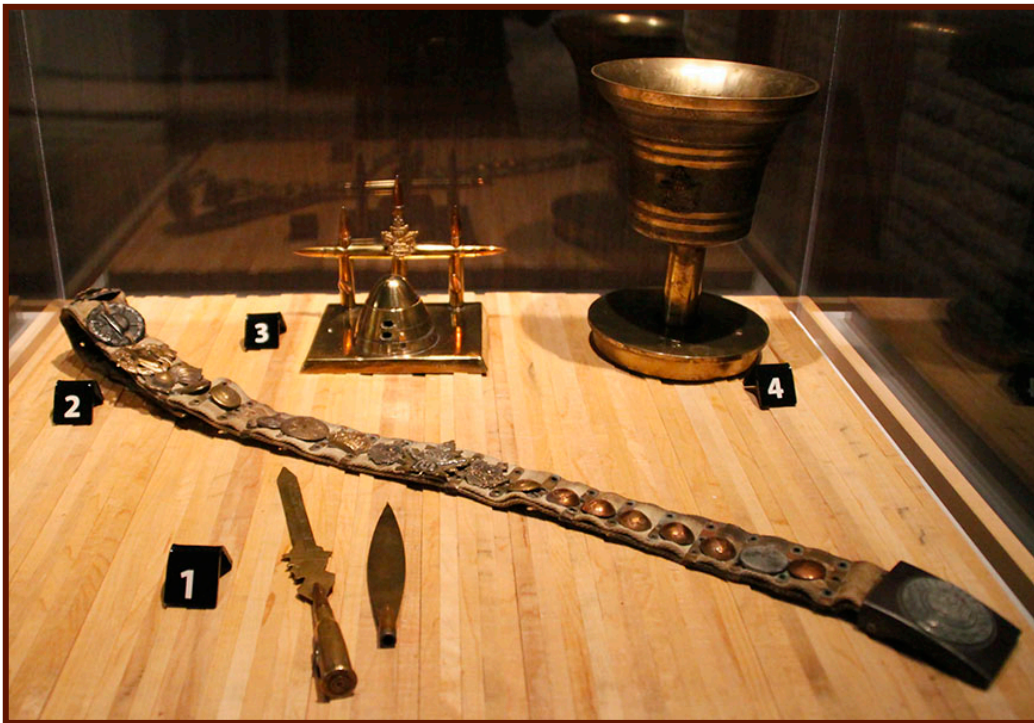


### **Respirator and Gas Mask**

*On loan from the Western Development Museum (WDM-1085-S-79.2 A, B; WDM-1973-NB-2735); the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 362 (Nutana) (7317)*

Respirators went through several designs throughout the War, eventually evolving into the gas mask that is commonly recognized and used today — this version is a 1916 pattern. Also commonly referred to as a “PH helmet,” it was soaked in a chemical that neutralized poison gas.

It was carried in a canvas bag on the soldier’s chest, where it was easily accessible.



### **Trench Art**

*On loan from the Western Development Museum (WDM-1973-S-16143.2.A-B, WDM-73-5-15143-20, WDM-1973-S-5184, WDM-1973-Y-2382) and Teresa Carlson*

Trench art was made out of recycled scraps found on the battlefields, such as spent bullets, ammunition shell casings, buttons, badges, shrapnel, glass, and even bits of rubble. Most objects were souvenirs that commemorated battles, places, dates and victories. The term “trench art” refers to items created by soldiers, as well as those made by prisoners of war and civilians.

## Station 2: Trench Tools



**Entrenching Tool** – Collapsible shovel strapped to rucksack; used to dig trenches.



**Helmet** - This helmet is covered in a mixture of mud and lye that was applied by soldiers in the trenches as camouflage.

## Station 3: Vimy



### **Vimy Pilgrimage Medal**

When the Vimy memorial was completed in 1936, the Canadian Legion organized a pilgrimage of veterans and their families. Veterans were given these pilgrimage medals.



### **Vimy Memorial**

To commemorate Canada's victory and those who gave their lives at Vimy, the government commissioned a memorial to be built on the ridge. Inscribed are the names of the 11,285 Canadians killed in France with no known grave.

## Station 4: Medals



### Medals

*On loan from the Accleton family*  
Harry Accleton received the 1914-1915 Star (second from left), British War Medal (third from the left), and Victory Medal (right). In addition to these, he was also awarded the Meritorious Service Medal (left) for distinguished service and gallantry.



### Plaque (‘Dead Man’s Penny’)

*On loan from the Royal Canadian Legion  
Branch 362 (Nutana) (6427; un-numbered)*  
These items, along with a letter from King George, were distributed to the families of soldiers who had been killed during the War.

## Station 5: Uniform



### **Uniform**

*On loan from the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 362 (Nutana) (un-numbered)*

Uniforms were made of wool and dyed a khaki colour. Ironically, the original dye used came from Germany. Rifle patches above jacket breast pockets were designed to minimise wear; brass regimental titles were located on the shoulder straps; rank insignias were on the upper sleeves; patches signified membership in a particular unit.

Puttees (pictured on left) were strips of dyed woolen cloth wrapped tightly over johdpur trousers from the ankles to the knees. They were designed to provide support and protection because the “Hobnail boots” that soldiers were issued were only ankle high. Puttees were a less expensive alternative to taller leather boots.



### **Cap Badge**

*On loan from Teresa Carlson*

Each regiment had its own identifying cap badge. This badge was from the 196th Western Universities Battalion.