This collection is available at The State Historical Society of Missouri. If you would like more information, please contact us at shsresearch@umsystem.edu.

This is a collection concerning Lloyd Ellis Hardy, a native of Tippah County, Mississippi, and later a resident of Bethany, Harrison County, Missouri. Compiled and edited by the donor, the collection includes letters written during Hardy’s service in the 4th Missouri Infantry on the Mexican border and at Nevada, Missouri, 1916-1917, and with the 139th Infantry Regiment, 35th Infantry Division, in France, 1919.

Lloyd Ellis Hardy was born at Blue Mountain, Tippah County, Mississippi, on 31 July 1895. In 1915, he was a resident of Bethany in Harrison County, Missouri, where he joined Company G of the 4th Infantry Regiment, Missouri National Guard. The 4th Missouri was called into service in 1916 for service during the Mexican border troubles. Company G was posted at Laredo, Texas, until March 1917. The regiment assembled for training at Camp Clark near Nevada, Missouri, in late summer 1917. During World War One, the 3rd and 4th Missouri Infantry regiments were combined to form the 139th Infantry Regiment. The unit served in the 35th Infantry Division, first at Camp Funston, Kansas, and then in France, in 1918-1919. Although he did not leave an account in his papers, Hardy and his unit participated in the St. Mihiel and Argonne offensives. Hardy mustered out as a sergeant when the regiment returned to the United States in May 1919. After the war, Hardy worked in St. Joseph, Missouri, and, in 1922, married Olive Neal of Kansas City. Lloyd Hardy died of typhoid at Bethany in 1926.

Hardy’s papers were kept by his sister, Delma Hardy Griffin, the maternal grandmother of the donor. The donor compiled the papers with secondary materials to form an edited “reminiscence” of Hardy’s life and military service. The letters and postcard views from Hardy’s border service and from France are the core of the collection. They concern camp life and the routine activities of the regiment.

Index Cards

Bethany (Mo.).
Camp Clark (Nevada, Mo.).
Camp Stuart (Newport News, Va.).
France—History—World War, 1914-1918.
Hardy, Lloyd Ellis, 1895-1926.
Harrison County (Mo.).
Nevada (Mo.).
Newport News (Va.).
Texas—History—1865—1950.
United States. Army. Infantry Regiment, 139th.
United States. Army. Infantry Division, 35th.
Vernon County (Mo.).
World War, 1914-1918.