



## **Descriptive Summary:**

*Title:* The Bernard Fischbach Collection

*Repository:* Northern State University Archives & Special Collections, Beulah Williams Library

*Creator:* Bernard Fischbach

*Dates:* 1938-2002

*Extent:* ½ linear foot

## **Administrative Information**

*Acquisitions Information:* This collection was donated by Bernard Fischbach

*Processing Information:* This collection was processed by Toni Mayer

*Access Restrictions:* None

*Copyright Notice:* Literary rights and copyrights, when applicable, have been assigned to Beulah Williams Library

*Preferred Citation:* [Item Name], The Bernard Fischbach Collection, Beulah Williams Library Archives and Special Collections, Northern State University, Aberdeen, SD.

## Biographical Note

Bernard Fischbach was born on July 17, 1922 and grew up on his family's farm, Sunnyside Farm, near Mellette. He attended a rural school, and was later sent to Aberdeen Central, where he graduated in 1940.

On November 25, 1940 Bernard's unit of the National Guard was activated in the U.S. Army. They had additional training at Fort. Ord, California in the spring of 1941. On November 15<sup>th</sup> of 1941 he was promoted to staff sergeant of the 147<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery Unit aboard the U.S.S. Holbrook during their journey to Pearl Harbor. Shortly after they had left Pearl Harbor they received the news that Pearl Harbor had been attacked and were placed under blackout conditions until they arrived in Darwin, Australia. For the next four years, Bernard and his unit were part of the Southwest Pacific island-hopping campaign under General Douglas MacArthur. When World War II ended Bernard was honorably discharged on October 1, 1945.

He returned home and graduated from SDSU with his bachelor's degree in animal husbandry. Eventually he returned to the family farm, raising cattle and farming until his death in 2016. In addition to his hobby of woodworking, Bernard was involved in many veteran focused organizations. He was a member of the American Legion, Disabled Veterans of America, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and Forty and Eight.

Information found at: Obituaries, [Aberdeen American News](#). January 21, 2016.

## Scope and Content

This collection is divided into two series, *147<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery, South Dakota National Guard* and *Books*. The first series *147<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery, South Dakota National Guard* focuses on the 147<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery unit that Bernard served in. The second series, *Books*, is comprised of books that are related to the time of Bernard's military service. Formats in this collection include books, articles, rosters, a scrapbook, and loose documents. This collection is entirely in English.

## **Series Descriptions:**

Series Title: The 147<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery, South Dakota National Guard    Boxes: 1

Dates: 1938-1945, 1973-2002

This series focuses specifically on the 147<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery, in which Bernard served. Formats in this collection include articles, rosters, a scrapbook, and various documents about reunions and members of the unit. This series has been arranged chronologically, with undated items at the back.

Series Title: Books

Boxes: 1

Dates: 1938, 1960-1962, 1995

This series includes books relating primarily to the South Dakota National Guard during Bernard's military service. The series is arranged alphabetically by title.

## **Detailed Description of the Collection**

1. Series Title: The 147<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery, South Dakota National Guard

Box # 1

FF1 Poetry and Book Chapter, 1941-1945

FF2 Newspaper Clippings and Articles, 1941-1942, 1973, 1992

FF3 Mailing Lists and Personnel Rosters, 1942, 1988

FF4 Affidavit, 1976

FF5 Donation Deed of Gift, 1985

FF6 Mailing Lists 147<sup>th</sup> F.A. 2000 Reunion, 1988, 2000

FF7 Articles on the Bombing of Darwin, 2002

FF8 Insignia, nd.

Item #1 Green Binder of Scanned Photographs of the 147<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery, 1938

Item #2 Scrapbook of Photographs and Newspaper Clippings

2. Series Title: Books

Box # 1

Item #3 Historic Annual National Guard of the State of South Dakota, 1938

Item #4 South Dakota Department of History Report and Historical Collections  
Volume XXX, 1960

Item #5 The Army and the Defence of Darwin Fortress by Robert J. Rayner, 1995

Item #6 The Coyotes A History of South Dakota National Guard by Richard Cropp,  
1962