

Jean Cameron
English War Bride
Samaria
June 14, 1945



I left Worthing, Sussex, England on June 7, 1945 at the age of twenty to meet my Canadian soldier husband who I married in June 1945. My mother and father, brothers Chris and John saw me off on a train from Worthing Station to Liverpool where I boarded a troop ship, RMS Samaria. I felt very lonely not knowing what Canada was all about.

There were three other war brides and myself who were assigned a cabin (with bunk beds) on the top deck. We never saw any troops as we were kept far away from them. The seas were choppy and most of the war brides were sea sick, except me. During the voyage, we were fed very well, roast beef, bacon and eggs, toast, jam and vegetables. British movies were shown.

We arrived in Halifax on a sunny morning, June 14, 1945. The first sight I saw was a lighthouse at the entrance of Halifax Harbour. We were escorted to Pier 21 where we waited in line to clear immigration. I remember lots of people. The troops went first, followed by mothers with children, and then war brides and single people. I showed my boarding pass and then was met by a Red Cross Worker who drove me to the railway station in Halifax where I boarded a train for my husband's home in Maccan, Nova Scotia. I arrived in Maccan at midnight and I was the first war bride to arrive in the small village of Maccan. I remember the train ride because there was nothing to drink or eat.

I married John Burton Cameron who served with the West Nova Scotia Regiment. We were married in St. Paul's Church, Worthing, England on June 5, 1943. John returned to Canada May 17, 1945. John died at the age of 90, September 1999. I am 75 years old.

