

Joan Landry
English War Bride
Queen Mary
July 23, 1946



As an 18 year old British War Bride, I arrived in Canada via Halifax on July 23, 1946 upon the Queen Mary. I remember very well the warm welcome we received upon setting foot on Canadian soil and in the Pier 21 terminal. I left England on the Queen Mary on July 19, 1946 arriving in Halifax on July 23, 1946. I also had my five month old baby daughter Maria Bernadette Landry with me, my sister Jeanne A.R. Bourque (also a war bride travelling to the Magdalen Islands) was with us.

As we were the only two War Brides travelling to the Magdalen Islands, we were the first passengers to disembark from the ship and were helped down the gangway to the terminal by sailors who carried our hand luggage and my baby!

There was such a huge crowd on the pier that I did not see or recognize anyone. There was a bunting with Welcome to the War Brides written on it and a band was playing, people grabbed our hands to shake them and wish us good luck. Eventually my husband and brother-in-law found us although at first I did not recognize my husband, I had never seen him dressed in civilian clothes and it had been eleven months since we had last seen each other.

After passing through the usual administrative procedures in the terminal at Pier 21, we were finally able to leave with our husbands and continue on our way to the Magdalen Islands and the new life awaiting us.

A few days after my arrival, I received a letter from the Baggage Officer of the Embarkation Office in Halifax advising me that they were sending on my baggage which had not been checked prior to leaving the port. This baggage finally arrived safe and sound.

I might add that my husband who served in La Regiment de la Chaudiere, left Halifax with his regiment on the HMT Strathmore on July 21, 1941, he returned to Canada via Halifax around the end of October, beginning of November 1945. Name of Ship: Unknown. His regiment had been broken up into smaller groups returning to Canada on different dates

