

Alma H. was
81 in 1981 not 83

Alex's Carpenter
shop.
(Alex McMillan)

Alma left Sardon
1962. not 1956.

37 years difference
in ages instead of
~~40~~ 40.

Johnnie's heart
condition not
a stroke

near Denver 10 miles
distant not 12.

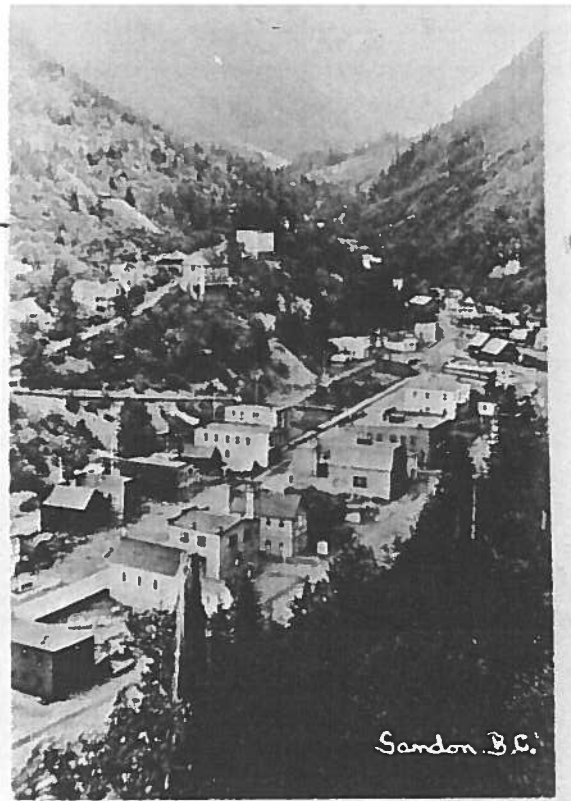
3 years before Gene arrived in
the town at the age of six.

also used as a post card for

he background the hospital and

Hotel is the sixth building up the

main street. The picture on the left was taken in the opposite
direction probably from the Ruth Hope mine mill.



Sardon B.C.



TED KLEIM

5441 ALICE BECK 1941

Alma Harris 1927



Johnny ~~Harris~~ Harris 1927



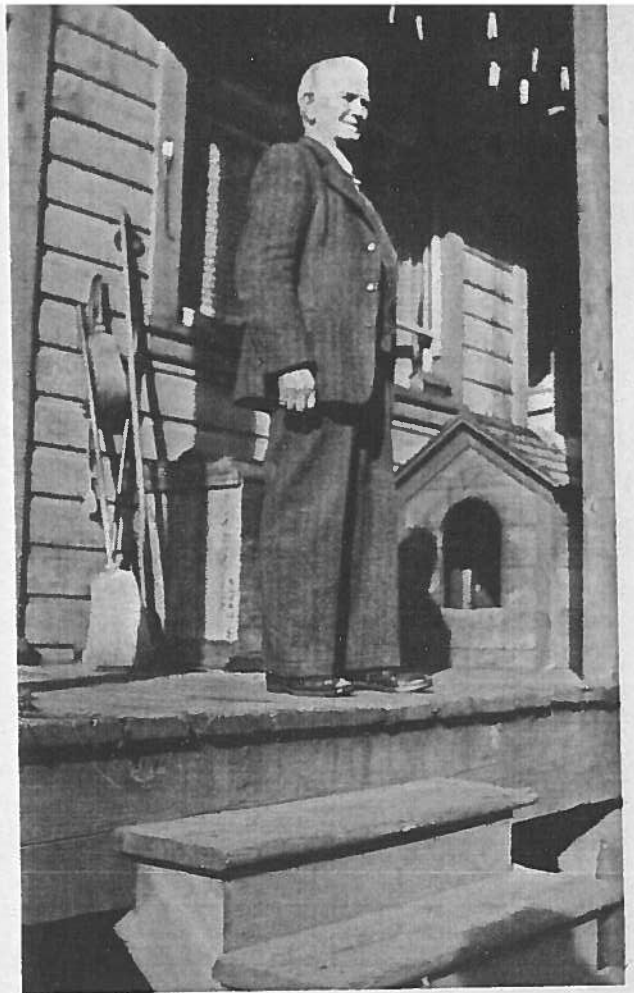
These pictures were taken on Alma and Johnny Harris's honeymoon going to Catilena Island. Alma came to Sandon from the prairies after answering an advertisement in a Calgary newspaper. Harris was advertising for a secretary for his ^{many} enterprises. Though life may seem to many to have been easy for the young bride even to keep the elite image Harris always maintained must have been hard for Alma at times. She was young and full of fun and adventure. She saw the town rise and fall several times before she actually left Sandon for good in 19⁶²~~56~~.

Alma was the person whom I answered to when working there and I found her a fair and just person. When visiting her in 1981 we ^{SPENT} ~~had~~ many hours of reminiscing of the year I cooked for her.



Picture on left was probably taken in the early 1930' or late 1929 and the other about the same time. The miner with Harris was one of his foremen. They were both taken near his mine in Sandon. Nearly every picture ever taken of the Varganian, it will be noted he smoked a pipe and always carried a superior air in his posture and his manners.

Harris didnt have too much to say to his help but when he had a complaint them, his manner was such that one would hardly realize he was being disiplined. This happened with me one day when he happened to ^{END} ~~lead~~ up with the neckk of the chicken in the hotel dining room, on his plate.



These pictures of Alma and Johnny Harris were taken in 1948 on the back steps of the Reco Hotel, just outside the kitchen door where I worked. Both were animal lovers. Alma's two Siamese cats were named Lovey and Honey. Johnny had two large dogs, one a German Shephard named Reco after his Hotel, the mine and Reco Mountain. Both were ardent bridge players and one of the first questions asked to any hotel guest was, "DO you play bridge."

During the depression when there were very few guests at the hotel Alma and Johnny spent many hours in the mountains around Sandon, hunting, fishing and picking the blue huckelberries. Though there was over ³⁷ years difference in their ages, there were very devoted to each other. Johnny suffered a ^{heart condition} ~~stroke~~ in 1950 and for the next three years was bedridden nearly full time. Alma converted a corner of the hotel lobby into a day room for Johnny so she could take care of him while she ran the small post office also in a corner of the lobby and continued to look after the many duties of keeping the hotel open for the few guests which continued to come. Johnny Harris passed away in 1953 and was burried in his native Virginia, in the family graveyard. Alma closed the hotel the same year.



Alma Harris at 83 year in 1981 with her friend of over 50 years Ted Kleim. They now share a home on the banks of Slocan Lake in Silverton, a small town just a few miles away from the once thriving town of Sandon. Alma doesnt like to go to Sandon to see the town now though she still owns the land where the Reco Hotel once stood. Kleim worked as handy man at the Reco Hotel when I was there in 1948.

When I visited Alma in 1981 she agreed to go with me to Sandon to meet John Oxly, the caretaker at the little ^{my} museum. Alma briefed Oxly on parts of the Sandon history which he was not familiar. The black and white pictures in this book are also now in the Sandon ^{my} Museum thanks to the excellent photography of my daughter Judi. Her knowlege of photography is outstanding and the reproductions she made ^{FOR} me were as clear as the originals.