

CQMS Samuel Alexander (Sam) Flatt (1901-1973)



Sam was born on 21 Oct 1901 in the small town of Campbellville in the Halton District of Ontario. He moved to British Columbia and by the late 1930s was living in New Westminster.

He was working as a clerk when he enlisted on his 38th birthday in 1939. Because of his age and clerical background he was employed as a clerk/storeman. On 19 March 1942 LCpl Flatt was promoted and became the 6th's CQMS replacing Ted Thomas who was now the 6 Field's CSM. He did not land on D-Day as he had been placed in command of a party of 7 vehicles and 25 soldiers left behind in England. He and his party crossed the English Channel and rejoined the main body of the 6th in Normandy on 16 June 1944. He occupied the CQMS position until the end of the war and was one of the handful of "old originals" from 1939 that made it to the end. He stayed with the 6th in Germany after the war and arrived back in Vancouver with the last deployed members on 20 December 1945.

On his return to Canada he joined the civil service. He was the unit historian and lead author for the *History of the 6th Field Company, Royal Canadian Engineers, 1939-1945* published in 1955. He was also very active in the 6 Field Company RCE Veteran's Association until he passed away on 9 May 1973. He was survived by his wife Mary Margaret Brown (Nee).