



BRITISH COLUMBIA  
POSTAL HISTORY  
RESEARCH GROUP

MEMBERSHIP DUES  
ARE NOW DUE \$5

Volume 8 - Number 1

Whole number 29

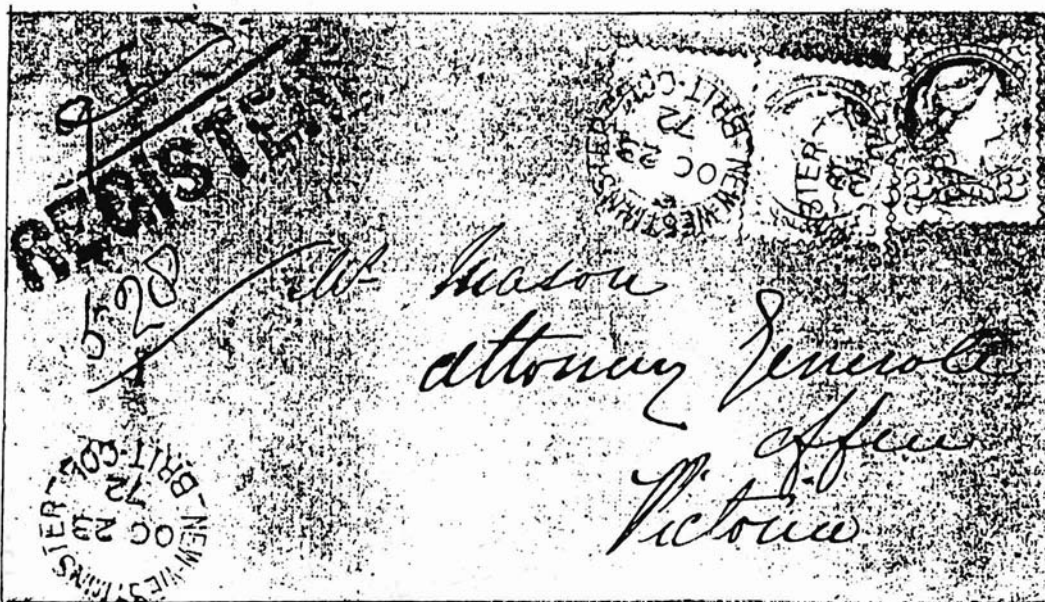
APRIL 1999

**EARLIEST REPORTED BRITISH COLUMBIA REGISTERED COVER**

NEW WESTMINSTER OCTOBER 23, 1872

The response to the request for details on early British Columbia "Registered" covers was interesting. The number of responses was greater than usual but in most cases the respondents indicated surprise at the limited number of pre 1900 registered covers in their collections. The earliest reported cover belongs to Andrew Scott and is reproduced below.

NEW WESTMINSTER / OC 23 / 72 / BRIT-COL



Back - VICTORIA / OC 23 / 1872 / BRIT.COL

The "REGISTERED" rubber stamp and the ink numeral "9" above it was applied at New Westminster. The subsequent number "528" was added at Victoria. The three cent small queen paid the first class letter rate and the two one cent stamps paid the registration fee. The three cent plus two cent registration fee rate was in effect in British Columbia from July 20, 1871 until May 8, 1889, although on November 15, 1875 the use of the two cent registration postage stamp became compulsory.

The use of the New Westminster "REGISTERED" stamp is reported from 1872 until 1875 when the registration postage stamps was introduced.

**WILLOW POINT - West Arm Kootenay Lake**

The question "Where was ... Post Office?" is often asked, and on many occasions local tradition replaces historical fact in establishing the supposed location. Willow Point, open from June 1, 1905 to November 30, 1915, is a good example. Willow Point on Vancouver Island is much better known than is Willow Point near Nelson, on the West Arm of Kootenay Lake, and as a result the Vancouver Island location is often quoted. Here are the facts.

Post Office -->  
Transactions  
Ap.-Jy, 1905

NAME OF POST OFFICE	TOWNSHIP OR PARISH	ELECTORAL DIVISION AND PROVINCE OR TERRITORY	POSTMASTER
Willow Point		Kootenay	B.C. Chas. W. West.
Windermere Station	Unsurveyed	Algoma, W.R.	O. W. J. Upton.
Wolford Centre (re-opened)	Wolford	Grenville	O. W. H. Gardiner.
Yone	Perth	Victoria	N.B. Albert De Yone.

**Post Office Location Card - Department of Lands and Forests  
(Ministry of Environment)**

PLEASE MAKE SKETCH OF LOCATION.

A. Willow Point Post Office.  
 B. Gov. wharf in course of construction.  
 C. 1/2 mile post, o. post at ferry.  
 D. Landing opposite Nelson shipyard  
 E. Nelson Balfour Road

W. Arm Kootenay Lake

Trough Junction  
 1/2 mile above

Distance about 400 yds.

WILLOW POINT  
 SP 10  
 13  
 B.C.

Willow Point P.O. is situated on Job 4311 Group I.

Magnetic North.

WILLOW POINT  
MY 13 / 08 -->

Whoa - Sketches!!  
 gone away!!  
 P.O. up there??  
 Do you recognize any one in the photographs?

Willow Point  
 H. Nelson  
 Brit. Columbia  
 Nelson Canada  
 via New York.

WILLOW POINT  
 SP 10  
 13  
 B.C.

## POSTAL ZONE RELATED SLOGANS

by Dan Rosenblat  
3500 Edgeview Drive  
Byron, CA, 94514

There is a close relationship between a considerable number of individually catalogue-numbered slogans that all pertain to the system of numbered Postal Zones at major offices, used as a sorting device prior to the eventual adoption of the National Postal Code. The major usage was of proprietary slogans at six large offices, reading MAIL FOR (office name) REQUIRES POSTAL ZONE NUMBER in English, and additionally in French as POUR (office name) INDIQUEZ LA ZONE POSTALE, for use at MONTREAL and QUEBEC. This use began in early 1961 and extended in some cases for ten years, but although separately numbered, they can all be considered as one multi-office postal directive that included a designation of the using office.

Additionally to these, some of the six offices also employed one or more other proprietary zonal related slogans prior to, after and concurrent with their use of the major slogan, and from 1968 there was some true multi-office related slogan use of a single wording at several further offices, first zoned in that year. The combined use of the MAIL FOR slogans and any other proprietaries used by one of the six offices will be listed by office alphabetically, rather than by slogan number, the six offices being MONTREAL, OTTAWA, QUEBEC, TORONTO, VANCOUVER and WINNIPEG.

All the original MAIL FOR and the French versions were issued together and intended to have continuous use. This continuous use in offices with massive mail flow consistently encountered wear and damage, so use over the 1961-70 period often required replacements for dies at various times, the replacement dies being prepared individually as required. As the paired originals used at four of the offices were non-separable when first issued, they can only be separated when one eventually showed distinguishable evidence of wear or damage, which sometimes happened shortly after issue.

The original dies were issued early in 1961, either late January or early February depending on their distance from the Ottawa distribution point of the dies. There is no documentation referencing the number of dies originally sent to each office, but research suggests that two English dies were sent to TORONTO, VANCOUVER and WINNIPEG, one English and two French to MONTREAL and one English and one French die to QUEBEC. It seems probable from its limited usage that OTTAWA received only one English die. The original nine English dies appear as manufactured from a single master die, with the office name blank, and the appropriate office name then entered by hand. The same process appears to have applied to the three original French dies.

It can be noted from some limited historical documents that postal zones were inaugurated at certain major offices earlier than any attempt to advertise them with slogans in most cases, although considerable funds and effort were expended following the earlier inaugurations in producing and distributing directories, leaflets, postal zone maps, paid advertisements in newspapers and even the appearance of a Postmaster on T.V. The six using offices are listed below alphabetically.

### VANCOUVER use - slogan M-105-5554

Historical data indicates that postal zones were inaugurated at VANCOUVER on August 13, 1951. VANCOUVER's later use of these slogans is unique in that the wording was subsequently altered from NUMBER to NUMBERS. There is evidence of six dies used in all, two original dies that can be designated die 1 (1961-65) and die 2 (1961-64), a die 3 (1964-67) replacing die 2 from 1964, a die 4 (1966-67) replacing die 1 from 1966, a die 5 (1967-68) with NUMBERS rather than NUMBER replacing die 4 in 1967 and die 6 (1968-70) with NUMBERS replacing die 5 in 1968. Therefore, VANCOUVER like TORONTO used multiple dies concurrently for several years, but ended the usage with only one die.

Also as at TORONTO, these dies were subject to massive use, resulting in wear or even damage from quite shortly after issue. Five of the six dies were only serviceable for two or three years. Die 1 was actually retained for nearly five years, but in the last two years was in a severely damaged state that fully warranted replacement.

VANCOUVER use continued

Initial use of dies 1 and 2 is recorded from Jan. 30, 1961, and they are only non-separable because neither showed evidence of wear or damage until mid-March of 1961. From March 17, 1961 a weakness amounting to a small break appears on die 1 in the lower horizontal line of the box, under the NE of ZONE. This is recorded through July 15, 1964, but on July 16, 1964 the die appears with an indication of a break and by July 24 a distinct break-off of the upper left corner of the box. This combination of weakness under the NE and a corner break is recorded until at least Feb. 15 of 1965, when a second major break in the lower left corner of the box appears, and this double break condition is recorded to Nov. 18, 1965. This indicates that the die was retained in a broken state from mid-1964 to late 1965, but was probably withdrawn very shortly after Nov. 18, 1965.



Die 1 - weakness under the NE - no further damage - 1961-64 Die 1 - weakness under the NE and a broken corner - 1964-65



Die 1 - weakness under the E and two corner breaks - 1965

Die 2 in its undamaged state can be established as one of two original dies by being later than the March 10, 1961 weakness under the NE of die 1. It developed a weakness amounting to a small break in the lower horizontal line of the box, but under the MB of NUMBER, by at least May 25 of 1962. This continues until Dec. 12, 1962, when it also shows a break in the upper left corner of the slogan box, continuing to be recorded in this state until Dec. 17, 1963. The impression of Dec. 17, 1963 suggests but does not clearly establish a second break in the lower left corner. The upper corner breaks on both die 1 and 2 are similar, but they can be separated by the different location of the weakness in the lower horizontal line.



Die 2 - hint of a break under upright of the B - Dec. 21, 1961

Die 2 - weakness under the MB - Jan. 11-Sept. 28, 1962



Die 2 - weakness under MB and a broken corner Dec. 13, 1962-May 12, 1963

Die 2 - weakness under MB, broken upper left corner possible second break in lower right - Dec. 17, 1963

Based on the premise of the probable withdrawal of the original dies 1 and 2, there must have been two replacement dies without damage, a die 3 after Dec. 17, 1963, replacing die 2, and a die 4 after Nov. 18 of 1965, replacing die 1. Unfortunately, the material without damage that would be these replacement dies does not include anything dated earlier than Oct 16, 1964, although there must have been a die 3 from very early 1964 and a die 4 from late 1965. However, it can be assumed that undamaged impressions from early 1964 to late 1965 must be from replacement die 3, and the earliest of these, dated Dec. 15, 1964, is illustrated as die 3, with earlier 1964 use certainly existing.

VANCOUVER use continued

Impressions of die 3 indicate that by late 1965 the ER of VANCOUVER shows wear, progressively worsening. By Feb. 24, 1967 the R had almost disappeared, the E was a smudge and the tops of the AL of POSTAL had worn away, as illustrated. However, the die was still retained, but by Mar. 28, 1967 there is evidence of the beginning of a break in the upper left corner, and a remarkable Courts holding on the same day and hour shows that the die broke, as evidenced by a second impression of Mar. 28, 7:00 P.M., 1967 that shows the die with a clear break. A June 10, 1967 example clearly shows how badly damaged it became, but it was still retained until a final July 7, 1967 impression, after which it was retired after more than three years of constant use.



Die 3 - earliest recorded of Oct. 16, 1964 - undamaged



Die 3 - Feb. 24, 1967 use showing heavy wear on ER



Die 3 - the beginning of a break - Mar. 28, 1967



Die 3 - completion of the break - Mar. 28, 1967

Three impressions of an undamaged and unworn replacement die 4 are recorded in Nov. 1966-Apr. 1967. So small a quantity is very suspect, but there must have been a replacement for the badly damaged die 1, which was withdrawn a year earlier in Nov. of 1965, and these three impressions are the only possibility. It must have been replaced in mid 1967 by one of the two "NUMBERS" dies, but earlier use in 1966 can be anticipated.



On June 27, 1967 a replacement die is recorded with NUMBER altered to NUMBERS, designated as die 5. Within two weeks of its issue the R of VANCOUVER shows wear, and this quickly progresses to the E and by the last recorded use of Feb. 22, 1968 even to the second V. There is also a broken right side to the slogan box and two of the grid lines had disappeared, so it was probably withdrawn by early March.



Die 3 - final broken usage - 12:30 p.m. July 7, 1967



Die 5 - early but not earliest use - 8:00 p.m. July 7, 1967

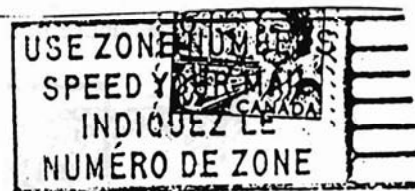
A die 6, also with NUMBERS rather than NUMBER, replaced die 5 and is recorded from March 28, 1968, but shortly after its issue there is heavy wear on the R of VANCOUVER, which increases to where the R has almost disappeared, the E is badly smudged and the TAL/POSTAL is broken. Its final recorded use is to May 7, 1970. A request for its replacement was made, but could only be granted with a different wording. See use of P-520 below.



VANCOUVER use continued

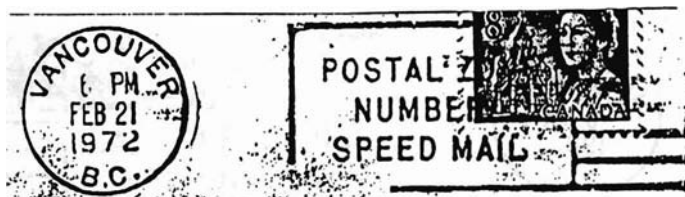
A single die of slogan U-185-9841, USE POSTAL ZONE NUMBERS INDIQUEZ LA ZONE POSTALE has been recorded from Mar. 31, 1970 to Sep. 4, 1970. By May 29 it had a break in the upper left corner of the box which wiped out the US of USE, and this break enlarged to wipe out all of USE by July 18.

It can also be noted that one of these dies, most probably that used in 1968-69 only at POINTE-CLAIRE-DORVAL, was re-issued to VANCOUVER in late 1970, probably as a replacement for the final usage of VANCOUVER die 6 of M-105, last recorded in May of 1970.

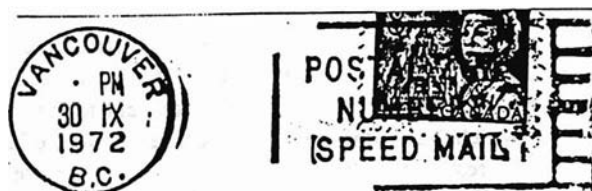


Slogan P-520-7093, POSTAL ZONE NUMBERS SPEED-MAIL. A memo of June 1, 1970 from Ottawa addressed to the PM VANCOUVER reads in part, "Since we have been asked not to have new zoning dies made and to rely upon stock for these, we are unable to send you a die reading "Mail for Vancouver requires postal zone number" we are sending from stock a die reading "Postal zone numbers speed mail." It is first recorded June 19, 1970, partially concurrent with slogan U-185, and had continuous use until late 1972, when it was withdrawn after suffering two major corner breaks.

This explains why this replacement was not bilingual, as was U-185, in accordance with a P.O. policy requiring all dies manufactured from early 1970 to be bilingual, but does not explain why this wording was in stock and where it may have had prior use. The use of the single die was undamaged to Jan. 1972, but by Feb. 21, 1972 its lower left corner was broken and by Sept. 30, 1972 the upper left also broke.



P-520 - Broken lower left corner - Feb. 21, 1972



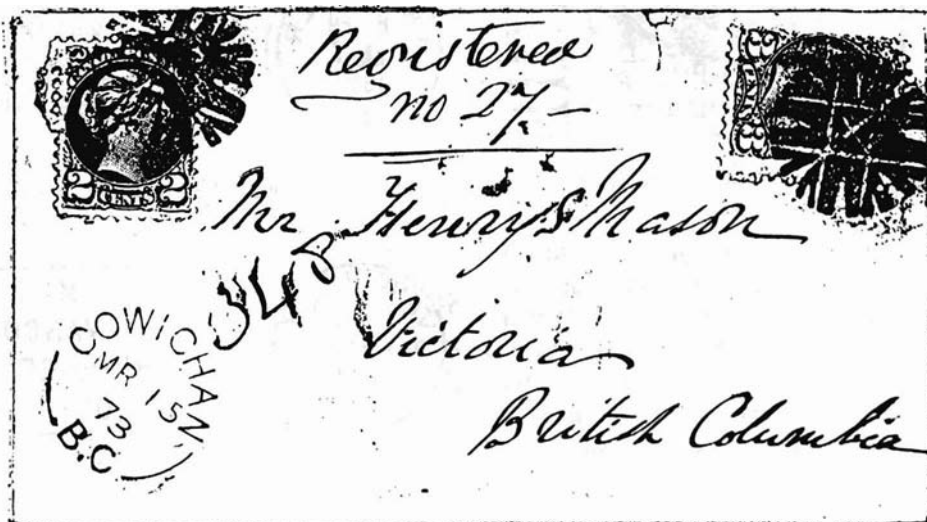
P-520 - Two broken corners - Sept. 30, 1972

In 1970 Vancouver used four different zonal related slogans, M-105 to at least May 7, 1970, U-185 in Apr.-Sept., 1970, U-235 in June-July, 1970 and P-520- 7093 in 1970-72.

ANOTHER EARLY BRITISH COLUMBIA REGISTERED COVER

Courtesy Bill Robinson

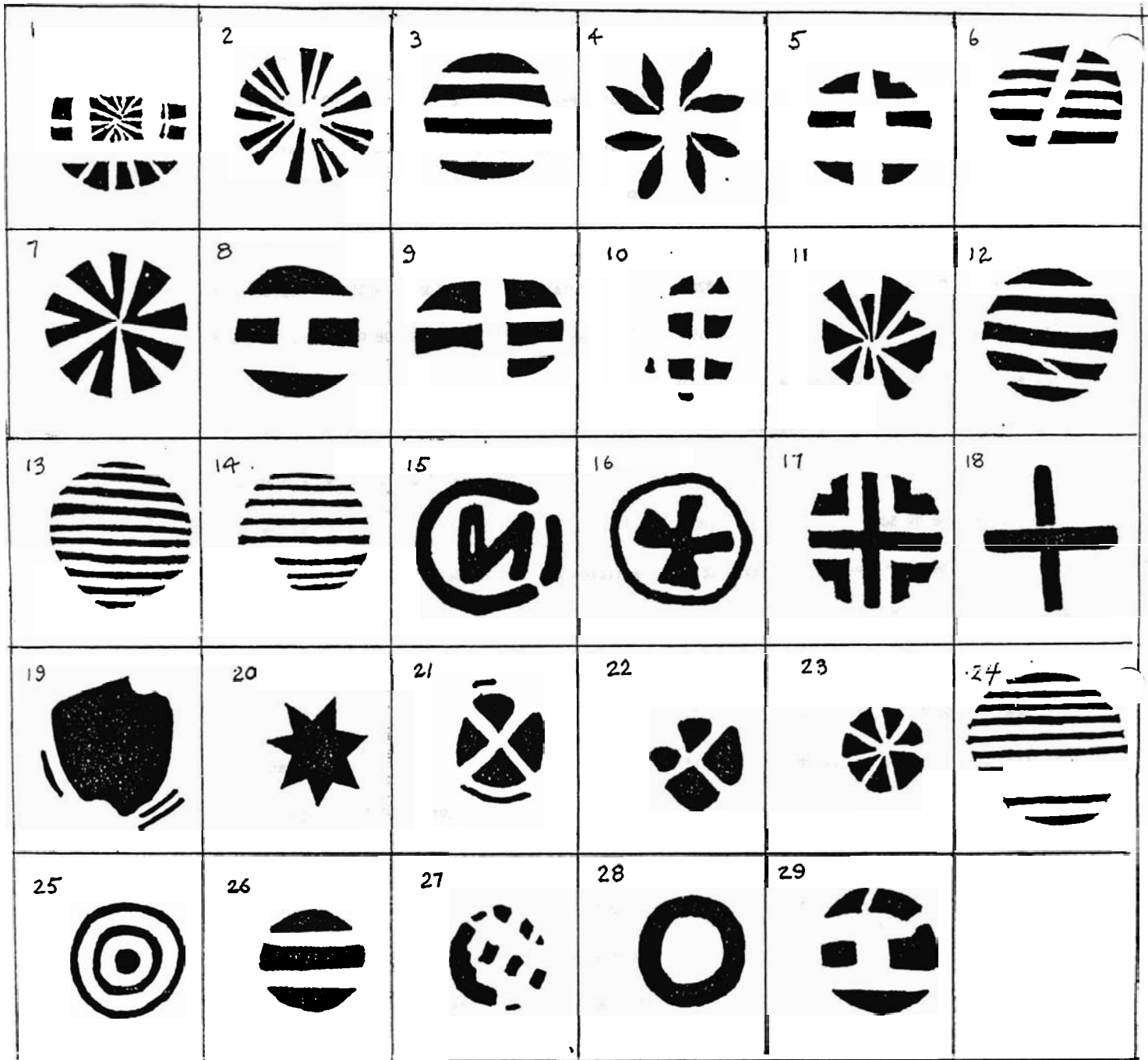
COWICHAN - pen "registered" marking - MR 15 / 73



## FROM CANADA POST

City	Close	Name	RC	Name	RC	Open	Reason
Nanaimo				Nanaimo MPP	631183	98 06 09	Counter service
Vancouver				Kensington Square PO	068462	98 07 12	Relocation
Comox				Comox PS "A"	641499	98 06 11	Counter service
Terrace	98 06 30	RPO 5	653829	Downtown RPO	344605	98 07 02	Replacement
Pink Mountain	98 08 08		082813	Pink Mountain	345067	98 08 09	Replacement
Lions Bay			065994	Lions Bay	344990	98 08 09	Replacement
Langley	98 08 16	Willobrook PO	654930				Relocation
Kelowna	98 07 31	Black Mountain	11231				Close
Likely	98 08 18		657018	Likely	345776	98 08 19	Replacement
Barkerville	98 09 30		640868				Seasonal close
Penticton	98 09 15	Penticton Plaza	068705	Penticton Plaza PO	347256	98 09 16	Replacement
Burnaby	98 09 27	Old Orchard	074233				Relocation
Saanichton	98 08 26	Saanichton PO	631019				Close
Courtenay	98 06 30	The Club (#2)	631787				Close
Kamloops	98 09 30	Rayleigh Stn.	101133				Close
Victoria				Cook St. PO	349119	98 10 01	Open
Whistler	98 10 05	Whistler North	162051				Close
Fort St. John	98 10 12	G.M.O. #1	651788	Co-op PO	347159	98 10 13	Replacement
Courtenay				Downtown PO	349437	98 10 21	Open
Surrey				Fleetwood PO	349100	98 11 04	Open
Vernon	98 10 16	Vernon Square	262439	Vernon Square PO	350303	98 10 17	New owner
Sechelt	98 08 29	Sechelt RO #1	655325				Close
Maple Ridge	98 11 13		642916				Relocated
Courtenay	98 10 30		641596				Relocated
Smithers	98 10 30		646725				Relocated
Maple Ridge	98 10 26	Haney PO	072028				Relocated
Sewell	98 10 24		646636	Sewell	646636	99 02 15	Temp. close
Quesnel	99 01 13	G.M.O. #2	250813	Maple Park PO	351768	99 01 24	Replacement
Richmond	99 01 17	Broadmoor PO	246050	Broadmoor PO	352063	99 01 18	Replacement

**NEW WESTMINSTER CORKS AND KILLERS - by Andrew Scott**



	Description	ERD	LRD		
NW1	Flag in segmented circle	19/FE/73	22/JY/73	NW15	Reverse N in circle
NW2	Burst of arrows	10/OC/72	23/AU/74	NW16	Maltese cross in circle
NW3	Four thick rough bars	30/AP/75	31/AU/75	NW17	Cross and rays
NW4	Eight-petalled flower	19/NO/75	05/FE/77	NW18	Cross roads
NW5	Three thick bars, centre cut	12/JU/77		NW19	Blob with part circle
NW6	Six rough bars, angle cut	19/OC/77	02/AU/78	NW20	Seven-pointed star
NW7	Burst of five arrowheads	05/MR/78	12/JY/78	NW21	Four segments in part circle
NW8	Three thick bars, centre gap	08/DE/78	17/DE/78	NW22	Four segments, small cork
NW9	Three thick bars, centre cut	23/MY/79	22/JY/79	NW23	Eight segments, small cork
NW10	Irregular blocks	30/SP/79		NW24	Ten narrow even bars
NW11	Irregular burst of arrows	02/JA/80	23/JA/80	NW25	Three-ring target
NW12	Five thick rough bars	29/SP/80		NW26	Three thick bars
NW13	Ten bars, centre two narrower	25/OC/80	11/JA/81	NW27	Irregular, broken up
NW14	Eight bars, broken	11/MR/81		NW28	O-ring
				NW29	Three rough segmented bars
					08/MY/81 12/SP/81
					31/MR/82 21/JU/82
					19/MY/82 23/MY/82
					06/OC/82 13/NO/82
					05/FE/84
					28/OC/85
					22/DE/85 06/MR/86
					04/JU/86 16/SP/86
					05/JA/87 26/JA/87
					25/JY/89 15/OC/89
					24/AU/83 12/JY/92 Several
					03/JU/90
					28/JA/91 28/JY/91
					11/AP/91 03/AU/91
					18/FE/97



**MEMBERSHIP DUES \$5.00 (CAN OR US) ARE NOW DUE**

**RESPONSE FORM**

Volume 7 Number 1, April 1999

Forms should be mailed to **Bill Topping**  
B.C. Postal History News Letter  
7430 Angus Drive  
Vancouver, B.C. V6P 5K2 CANADA

**NEW WESTMINSTER CORKS AND KILLERS**

Andrew Scott, as a follow up to the study of the Victoria corks (Vol. 7, No. 2, page 207-208), has produced a study of the corks used at New Westminster. There appears to be some duplication between the corks shown for Victoria and those for New Westminster. This is a topic that needs further study. A number of covers have cork cancels on the face and have either a Victoria or New Westminster post mark on the back. These may be "way mail" letters that were handed to a ship captain who cancelled the stamp with cork before delivering it to the postmaster at Victoria or New Westminster. As a result the postal marking on the back are receiving marks rather than a date stamp. A similar situation may have applied to boats serving the lower Fraser River.

Any additional information on the New Westminster corks would be greatly appreciated, particularly early or late dates or new listings. For new listings please send xerox copies and if necessary enhance the cork marking with a soft pencil.

New dates -

Scott number | early | late

---

*Please provide details on other copies in your collection.*

Name .....

Address .....

.....

DUES ENCLOSED \$5.00  
Checks payable to -  
Bill Topping

**MEMBERSHIP As of March 1999**

Abel, D. - Westbank, BC  
 Bailey, W.J. - Richmond, BC  
 Barlow, K. - West Vancouver, BC  
 Bartlett, W. - Saanichton, BC  
 Bedwell, S. - Salmon Arm, BC  
 Campbell, J.C., Kelowna, BC  
 Carr, Dr. R.V.C. - Youngstown, OH  
 Cooper, T. - Williams Lake, BC  
 Coutts, C.C. - Abbotsford, BC  
 Covert, Dr. E. - Calgary, AB  
 Ellison, K. - Oyama, BC  
 Frick, S.A. - Surrey, BC  
 Harris, E.A. - Calgary, AB  
 Hedley, M. - San Mateo, CA  
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 Jones, T.M. - Sutton Courtenay, ENG  
 Joyner, G.W. - Airdrie, AB  
 Kaye, D., Stoney Creek, ON  
 Keenlyside, J. - Vancouver, BC  
 Kembel, V. - Matsqui, BC  
 Lee, R.A. - Kelowna, BC  
 Leith, R.D. - Abbotsford, BC  
 Link, D. - Stony Plain, AB  
 Marrion, H. - Brentwood Bay, BC  
 McKay, H. - Vancouver, BC  
 McGregor, C. - Vancouver, BC  
 McGuinness, R.M. - West Vancouver, BC  
 Millar, J. - Kamloops, BC  
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 Pekonen, Bill, Richmond, BC  
 Piercey, D. - Edmonton, AB  
 Plain, Dr. B.C. - Vancouver, BC  
 Price, A. - Kelowna, BC  
 Robinson, W.G. - Vancouver, BC  
 Rosenblat, D.G. - Byron, CA  
 Rutherford, D. - Decatur, GA  
 Sagar, M. - Vancouver, BC  
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 Scott, A. - Halfmoon Bay, BC  
 Scrimgeour, Dr. G.K. - Victoria, BC  
 Sherritt, N.A. - Surrey, BC  
 Skucas, A. - Cranbrook, BC  
 Smith, J.M. - Rocky Mountain House, AB  
 Snow, Bryan, Vancouver, BC  
 Southey, T.W. - Abbotsford, BC  
 Spencer, R.A. - North Vancouver, BC  
 Sullivan, A. - Burnaby, BC  
 Tanner, A. Vancouver, BC  
 Taylor, R.A., Vancouver, BC  
 Tidball, W. - Summerland, BC  
 Topping, W.E. - Vancouver, BC  
 Unwin, A. - Bellevue, WA  
 Walburn, H.G. - Kelowna, BC  
 Wallace, J. - Victoria, BC

Warwaryik, W. - Westlock, AB  
 Wynns, J.P. - Dayton, NV  
 Young, A.M. - Revelstoke, BC  
 Young, W. - Victoria, BC

**FINANCIAL REPORT - 1998-1999****REVENUE**

Surplus previous year	\$734.25
Membership dues	295.00
New members added	20.00
Sale of back issues	-
Grant from BNA	131.00
	<hr/>
Revenue	1180.25

**EXPENSES**

News Letters - members	\$295.00
News Letters - new members	20.00
News Letters - back Issues	-
Mailings to BNA officers	35.00
BNA free News Letters	13.75
Complimentary News Letters	3.75
Sample copies	18.75
	<hr/>
Expenses	386 25
Surplus	\$794.00

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The membership fees are \$5.00 paid in Canadian or U.S. funds. Individual issues sell for \$1.25 post paid.

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