



BRITISH COLUMBIA
POSTAL HISTORY
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MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

The post card at right showing the 1983 twenty cent United States Christmas Stamp was mailed by John Wynns of Dayton, Nevada, to the editor, conveying Christmas Greetings. The card was mailed on December 7 and should have arrived at Vancouver within a week. This was not the case as it did not arrive until December 22. The fact that it depicted a nude child was spotted by an alert postal employee who, possibly as the result of the recent Little Sister Book Store ruling by the Canadian Courts, felt obligated to forward this pornographic post card to Canada Customs at Toronto for inspection and approval. After inspection by Customs Clerk 087 and another unidentified clerk it was approved for entry into Canada. The fact that Raphael painted *The Niccolini-Cowper Madonna* in 1508 and that it presently hangs in the National Gallery of Art in Washington, DC. may have prompted its release into the Canadian mail system.



NOW TO THE BAD NEWS

Since I started publishing the B.C. Postal History News Letter close to ten year ago, costs have been slowly rising and the recent hike in postal rates is a good example. Starting with the April 2001 issue (Vol. 10 No. 1) the subscription rate for the News Letter will go up to \$8.00 per year, or for those who wish to pay for two years at a time \$15.00 for two years [US or CAN \$]. The change will take place March 1, 2001 and for those paying before that date the rate will remain at \$5.00 per year. So, if you want a bargain pay next years subscription before March 1 at the \$5.00 rate.

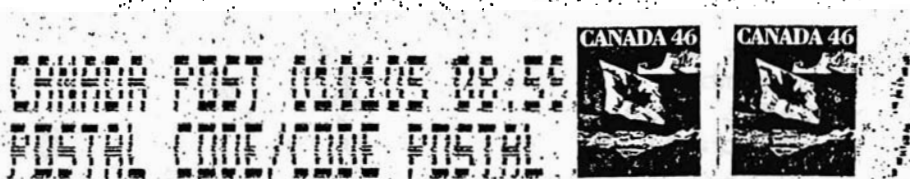
New CLEARWATER machine

Sometime over the Christmas period Clearwater was issued with an IPS rapid cancelling machine. The earliest reported date is 27 XII (2000) no year slug.

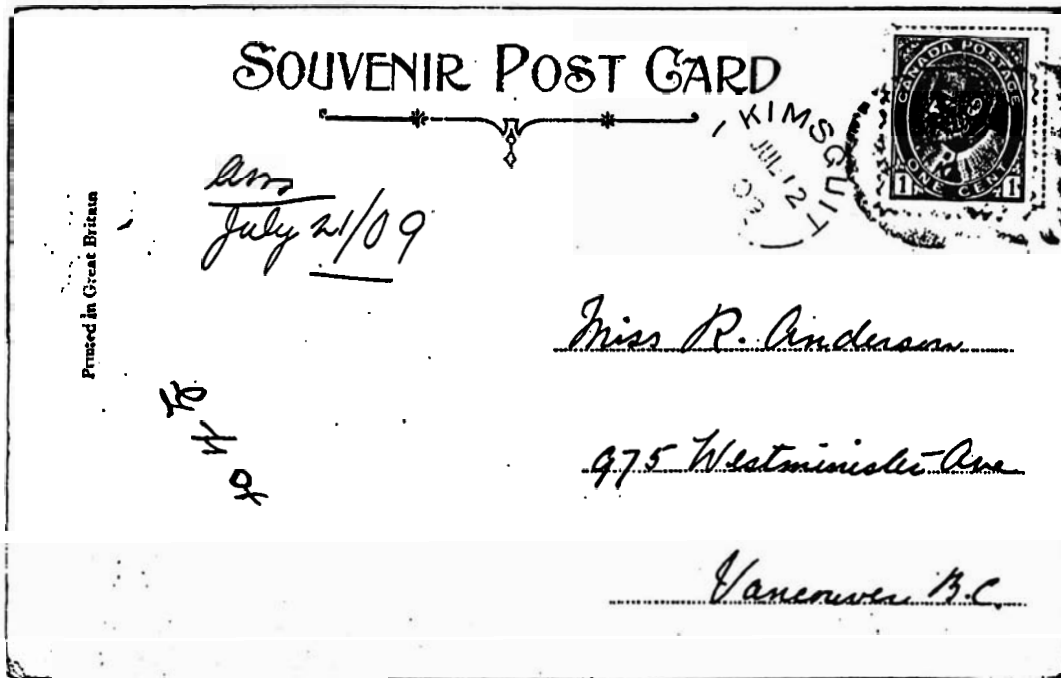


FLAT SORTING MACHINE cancel changed

The Vancouver Flat Sorting machine (No. 619) appears to have been shut down briefly after Christmas and when it returned to service the wording of the cancellation had been changed. The new marking replaces the machine number with the words "CANADA POST".



KIMSQUIT A new report from Andrew Scott.



POSTAL CODES

Canada Post — Postal Code Lookup <http://www.canadapost.ca/CPC2/addrm/plookup/pclookup.shtm>

In addition to the many multi-purpose search engines that perform the postal-code finder function, the Canada Post lookup has a handy and quick resource for Canadian addresses. You can look up addresses for a given postal code, or look up postal codes by street address, rural address or post office boxes. The Canadian Addressing Guide also provides information on how the most technologically efficient formats for addressing items sent in the post. When addressing an envelope, for example, there should never be more than 40 characters per line, and characters in the address should never be underlined.

Siobhan Roberts

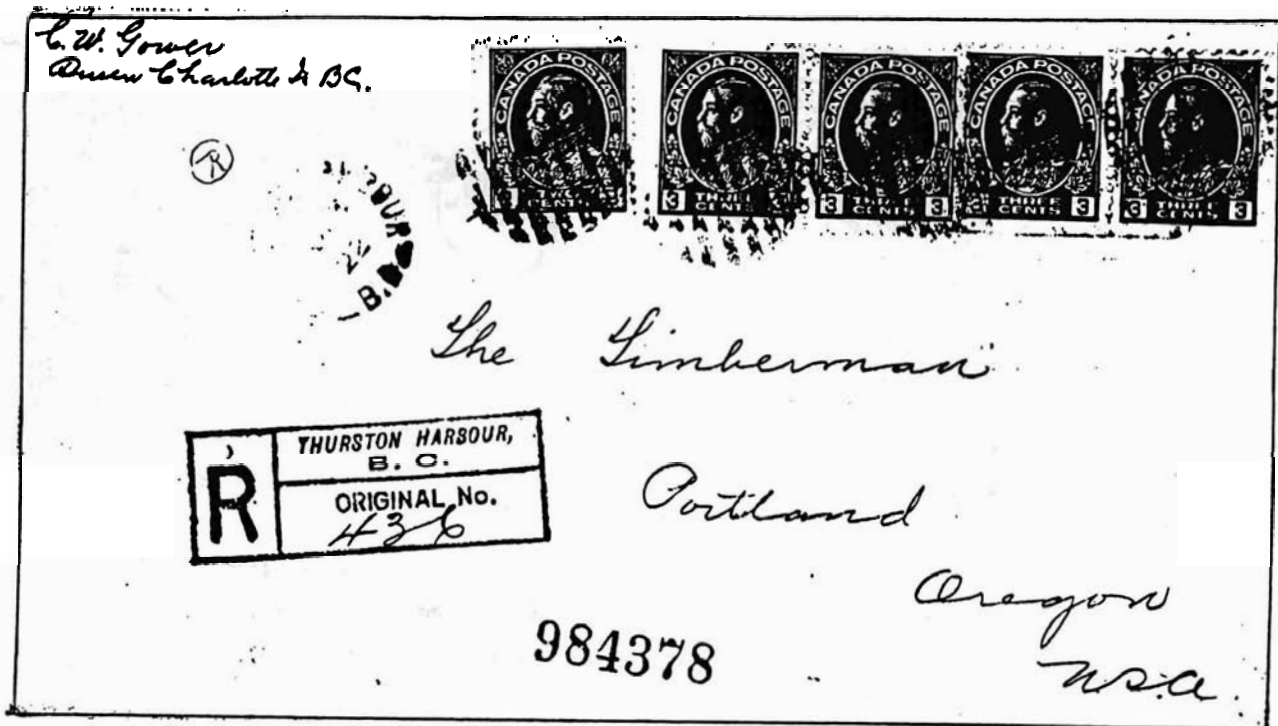
The British Columbia Postal History News Letter is a study group under the British North America Philatelic Society and is published quarterly. Membership dues are \$5.00 (CAN or US) and are payable to the editor: Bill Topping, 7430 Angus Drive, Vancouver, BC, V6P 5K2 CANADA.

NEW REPORTS OF UNREPORTED MARKINGS

Reports continue to be received of previously unreported postal listings of British Columbia Post Offices. Recent finds by Andrew Scott and Pete Jacobi include: WESTERLY (2), KIMQUIT, a registered cover from THURSTON HARBOUR and a report of VANCOUVER - SUB OFFICE CEDAR COVE.

By Andrew Scott

Thurston Harbour was a Queen Charlotte Islands post office and open from 1918 to 1926. It was located on the north shore of Talunkwan Island, to the east of Moresby Island and just south of Louise Island. The following information comes from Kathleen Dalzell's *Queen Charlotte Islands* (Vol. 2): The Imperial Munitions Board used the harbour as a collection base for aeroplane spruce (Sitka spruce) during World War I. No expense was spared, apparently, to turn the remote landing into a "miniature metropolis," complete with hospital, offices, houses, recreational buildings operated by the YMCA, wireless station and store, as well as a complete rafting camp. Three large sawmills were almost finished when the war ended. Everything was abandoned or sold for a pittance. After the war, Whalen Pulp and Paper used the harbour for their logging headquarters, and it remained a logging centre until at least the 1970s for a succession of companies. I had a chance to visit Thurston Harbour on a cruise in 1998. There was nothing left of the townsite, just a flat grassy area covered with alder. The hillsides around the bay are badly scarred with landslides that have resulted from poor logging and road-building practices. The whole place was quite a mess.



UNLISTED RC NUMBERS

See Vol. 9 page 277

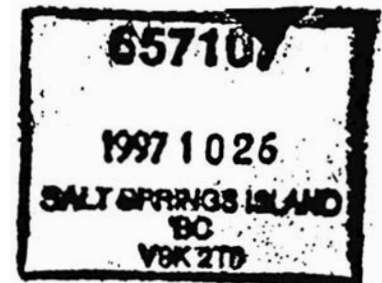
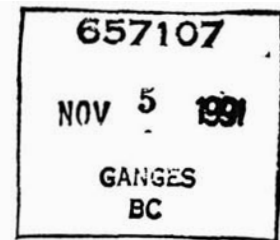
A check of a May 1995 post office list shows the following RC numbers not found in regular listings of British Columbia post offices

018147 Manager Pacific - Retail Network
018155 Manager Pacific - Retail Field Support
018163 Manager Vancouver - Area Retail North
018198 Manager Pacific - Area Retail South
018228 Manager Vancouver Island - Area Retail
021245 Supervisor Pacific - Customer Service
023906 Retail Rep Vancouver - South West
023957 Retail Rep Pacific - Downtown / Vancouver East
024015 Retail Rep Vancouver - Main Retail
024023 Retail Rep - Squamish / Powell River
024031 Retail Rep - Vancouver/ North Burnaby / North Shore
024058 Retail Rep - South Burnaby/New Westminster
024074 Retail Rep - Langley Surrey
024082 Retail Rep - Richmond Delta
024090 Retail Rep - Chilliwack
024104 Retail Rep - Kamloops
024139 Retail Rep - Kelowna
024163 Retail Rep - Penticton
024198 Retail Rep - Cranbrook
024201 Retail Rep - Vernon
024228 Retail Rep - Castlegar
024236 Retail Rep - Prince George/Peace River
024244 Retail Rep - Williams Lake
024260 Retail Rep - Prince Rupert
024279 Retail Rep - Prince George
024333 Retail Rep - Nanaimo
024341 Retail Rep - Campbell River
024384 Retail Rep - Victoria South
024392 Retail Rep - Victoria North
135240 Director Pacific District - Sales South
135259 Director Pacific District - Sales North
137782 Manager Pacific - Commercial Services
140597 Division Office - Vancouver
169897 PCU Revenue Collection - Vancouver
630004 General Manager Pacific District
630020 Manager Pacific - P&A Media & Comm Affairs
631566 Pacific - Adjustment Centre
631701 Pacific - Asset / Liab / Plan & Cont
631728 Pacific - Year End Adjustments
632619 Superintendent - Service Centre
635278 Division Office - Vancouver
636517 Manager Pacific Division - Commercial Sales
637211 Supervisor Vancouver Main - Lock Box
637416 Manager Pacific Division - Distribution
637505 Manager Pacific Division - Commercial Service
638838 Relief Supervisor - Vancouver Main Postal Unit
639656 Supervisor Pacific Division - Customer Service
640026 Pacific Division - Cash Accounts
649996 Mktg Admin Pacific - Sales and Service Support
650005 Manager Pacific - Customer Service Area A
654647 Vancouver - Revenue Protection
654655 Victoria - Revenue Protection

FROM CANADA POST

Thanks to the assistance of John Gannon, Cathy McCrimmon and other members of the Pacific Division of Canada Post, here is the listing of British Columbia post office changes up to January 1, 2001. The computer system at Canada Post is again being upgraded and as a result it has been difficult to crosscheck information and to see that all changes have been recorded. In some cases the name appearing is the name of the business in which the post office is located rather than the actual name of the office.

The POCON in use at the Ganges Retail Outlet (RC# 657107) is a good example of the problem. In 1997, the "GANGES" dater was replaced with one reading "SALT SPRING ISLAND" although the post office records still list the name as Ganges RO. A similar problem exists with the main Ganges Post Office (RC# 642630)



FILE	DATE	OUTLET	TOWN	OLD RC	NEW RC	CODE
1082	2000 08 04	Video Max	Langley	CFS	421480	V1M 2K5
1083	2000 10 16	The Medicine Shoppe	Abbotsford	CFS	425184	V2T 5E5
1084	2000 10 18	Courtenay South	Courtenay	631752	to ROSS	V9N 2L0
1085	2000 10 23	Digi Point Graphics	Surrey	CFS	425087	V4P 3H3
1086	2000 10 25	Delta Shoppers Mall	Delta	342122	421877	V4C 6R0
1087	2000 11 06	Goodlow	Goodlow	631647	425052	VOC 1S0
1088	2000 11 01	Seton Portage	Seton Portage	175544	423912	VON 3B0
1089		1089 not used				
1090	2000 10 31	Port Hardy	Port Hardy	845699	425699	VON 2P0
1091	2000 11 02	Taylor	Taylor	647101	ch add	VOC 2K0
1092	2000 10 30	Sunshine Valley PO	Delta	new	415529	V4E 2B0
1093	2000 11 04	Country Club PO	Nanaimo	new	423483	V9T 1W0
1094	2000 11 06	Parsons RO	Parsons	178810	426091	VOA 1L0
1095	2000 11 16	Gibsons RPO 1	Gibsons	640298	ch add	VON 1V0
1096	2000 11 20	Vancouver GMO 40	upgrade	179930	424730	V5V 3E0
1096a	2000 11 20	Kingsway Knight PO	Vancouver		424730	V5V 3E0
1097	2000 11 16	Mount Lehman PO	Mount Lehman	644471	P code	V4X 1V0
1098	2000 11 17	Whonnock PO	Whonnock	649228	P code	V2W 1V0
1099	2000 11 17	Yarrow	Yarrow	649376	P code	V2R 5E0
1100	2000 11 17	Bradner PO	Bradner	093092	P code	V4X 1X0
1101	2000 11 22	Murrayville PO	Langley	new	420727	V3A 3N0
1102	2000 11 20	Hallmark Cards	Richmond	CFS	425362	V7C 5V2
1103	2000 11 21	Coronation Square PO	Ladysmith	386529	P code	V9G 1T0
1104	2000 11 14	Qualicum Plant Shop	Qualicum	CFS	421731	V9K 1S0?
1105	2000 11 25	Chilliwack GMO 4	aka Cottonwood Shoe	267260	418609	V2R 1A0
1105a	2000 11 25	Chilliwack Mall PO	Chilliwack		418609	V2R 1A0
1106	2000 12 01	Sahali Mall PO	Kamloops	354757	426326	V2C 1L0
1107	2000 12 15	Fairmont Hot Springs	Fairmont Hot Springs	642266	426679	V0B 1L0
1108	2000 12 21	Bradner PO	Abbotsford	093092	P code	V4X 2J0
1109	2000 12 22	Murrayville	Langley	420727	P code	V3A 8T0
1110	2001 01 02	City Square PO	Vancouver	385115	426121	V6J 1Z0
1111	2000 12 30	Delta GMO 16	upgrade	654515	425370	V4L 2C0
1112	2001 01 02	South Tsawassen	Delta		425370	V5Z 3X0
1113	2001 01 02	City Square PO	Vancouver	426121	P code	V5Z 3X0
1114	2001 01 10	Bradner PO	Abbotsford	093092	P code	V4X 2P0

RESPONSE FORM - Gulf Island Part 2
See Vol.8.3 pages LVIII & LIX

This is the second part, of Andrew Scott's three part study, of the rubber date stamps and registration boxes of post offices located on the Gulf Islands.

R	Gabriola, B. C.
	No. <i>AV 91</i>

R1

R	GABRIOLA, B. C.
	No.

R2

R	GABRIOLA, B.C. VOR 1X0
	No. <i>343</i>

R3

R	GANGES, B. O.
	ORIGINAL No. <i>709</i>

R1

R	GANGES, B.C.
	No. <i>596</i>

R2

R	JAMES ISLAND, B. O.
	ORIGINAL No. <i>18194 B. 2901</i>

R1

R	JAMES ISLAND, B.C.
	No.

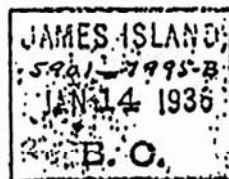
R2



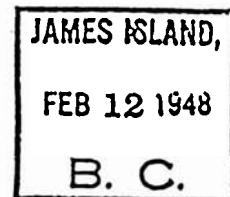
Md1



Md2



Mo1



Mo2

R	MAYNE B. O.
	ORIGINAL No. <i>300</i>

R1

R	MAYNE B. C.
	No. <i>105</i>

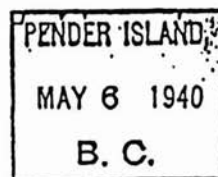
R2

R	PENDER ISLAND, B. C.
	ORIGINAL No. <i>15</i>

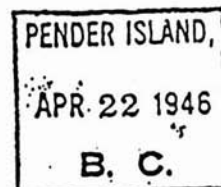
R1

R	PENDER ISLAND, B. C.
	<i>672</i>

R2



Mo1



Mo2

R	PORT WASHINGTON, B. O.
	ORIGINAL No. <i>763</i>

R1

R	PORT WASHINGTON, B. C.
	No. <i>564</i>

R2

Office	Type	Proof	ERD	LRD	Comments
Beaver Point	R1	JY/32			
Fulford Harbour	R1	MY/24		07/JA/74	
	Mo1	PBnd			
9268	Mn1		24/NO/58	06/AP/63	Type 7, FULFORD HARBOUR 22 mm, blue+ inks
9268	Mn2		20/NO/64	01/JY/71	Type 7, FULFORD HARBOUR 25 mm
9268	Mn3		11/OC/71	30/OC/73	Type 13
Gabriola	R1	AU/31			Gabriola (1/c)
	R2	PBnd	25/AP/77	05/MY/77	GABRIOLA (u/c), serif No.
	R3		13/JU/77	03/DE/77	2 lines in name with postal code
9269	Mn1				Type 3
9269	Mn2		06/MY/70		Type 7
Galiano	R1	SP/52	29/MR/65	13/DE/77	
	Mo1	08/JA/45	17/MR/45	18/AP/67	red+ inks, expanded with age
Ganges	R1		08/AU/26		ORIGINAL No.; blue, purple inks
	R2		21/JA/75	07/MR/77	No.
	Md1	14/SP/28	17/NO/31	12/DE/32	Purple, blue inks
	Mo1	25/SP/39			
9272	Mn1	19/JU/52			Type 2, 9272 is 15 mm
9272	Mn2		19/SP/59	07/MR/73	Type 2, 9272 is 12 mm, purple+ inks
9272	Mn3		03/MR/69	02/DE/71	Type 9
9272	Mn4		20/DE/69	20/AP/70	Type 10
	H1		21/JY/67	03/AP/71	GANGES, B.C. serif
	H2		02/NO/76	25/AP/77	GANGES, B.C. san-serif
	H3		01/AP/77	28/NO/81	POST OFFICE/GANGES, B.C.
	H4		11/OC/95		POSTMASTER/MAITRE DE POSTE
James Island	R1	MY/24			ORIGINAL No.
	R2	PBnd			No.
	Md1	PBnd			24 mm
	Md2		18/SP/33		28 mm, purple ink (same as Md1?)
	Mo1	14/JA/36			B.C. 10.5 mm
	Mo2	12/FE/48			B.C. 15 mm
Mayne	R1			24/SP/45	ORIGINAL No., green ink
	R2		16/JA/75	18/DE/76	No.
	Md1	PBnd			
	Mo1	03/FE/38			
9440	Mn1	07/NO/51		07/OC/58	Type 1, red ink
9440	Mn2		28/AP/64	03/OC/70	Type 10
Musgrave	R1	AP/29			
Musgraves Landing	R1	JU/23			
North Galiano	R1	AU/23			
98154	Mn1		09/FE/70	09/MR/70	Type 10
Pender Island	R1		30/AP/45	07/AP/75	ORIGINAL No.; blue, purple+ inks
	R2		29/NO/77	25/JU/80	No., red+ inks
	Mo1	06/MY/40			B.C. is 10 mm
	Mo2	22/AP/46			B.C. is 12 mm
9576	Mn1		04/AU/55	04/JA/72	Type 4, blue+ inks
Port Washington	R1		23/OC/37		ORIGINAL No.
	R2		11/MR/75	30/JA/78	No., blue+ inks
	Mo1	20/SP/41			
9608	Mn1		30/JA/60	20/SP/70	Type 7; purple, red+ inks
9608	Mn2		27/MY/65	10/AP/72	Type 10
9608	Mn3		03/JA/72	01/AP/72	Type 13
9608	Mn4		12/FE/73		Type 14
Salt Spring Island	RS		11/SP/94		Straightline REGISTERED
	Md1	PBnd			
Saturna	CS		01/FE/96	17/SP/98	Customs seal
	R1		22/MR/74	01/AP/75	
	Mo1	18/JY/47		25/MY/57	
9682	Mn1		08/JA/64		Type 8
9682	Mn2		16/AU/69	20/JA/70	Type 10
South Pender	R1	AU/52			
98802	Mn1		07/JY/70		Type 10
Thetis Island	R1	PBnd		19/JU/75	
9456	Mn1		25/FE/67		Type 10

Please mail Response Forms to Andrew Scott
Brooks Site C23
RR 2, Halfmoon Bay, BC
VON 1Y0

New Remote Readers arrive!

By Sally Enright

"How fast can you get it there and how reliable is the service?" In a world where customers are technologically savvy and expanding their horizons globally, it's not surprising they want quick and dependable service, particularly when sending international or U.S. mail.

Canada Post is responding with another new initiative to turn our vision, including rationalizing the operating network, into action. This fall, CPC will be upgrading its Multi-Line Optical Character Readers (MLOCRs) by adding Remote Computer Readers. The new Readers can "read" hand-written addresses, artistic fonts and black barcodes, further reducing the need for manual coding. This means faster mail processing and an improvement in customer service.

Current technology in the plants can read only machine-printed addresses and hand-written postal codes placed in dotted boxes. Addresses that can't be read are rejected and sent to Video Encoding Systems (VES) for manual coding. The rejected mail is then reprocessed through the MLOCR.

Now our machines can even read...

CPC 4 state barcodes printed by Canada Post on redirection mail. These yellow barcode stickers designate redirected mail as the highest priority, and can be processed with a 98 per cent acceptance rate by the RCR.

Addresses written on dark-coloured backgrounds.

Addresses printed on patterned backgrounds (such as cheques).

Hand-written addresses (script).

Postnet barcodes are printed by the USPS to identify mail bound for Canada. By finding this barcode, the Remote Reader prevents redirected mail and return-to-sender mail from erroneously being sent back to the original destination address in the U.S.

CPC 4 state barcodes printed by customers. These barcodes, developed by Canada Post, can also be seen on the envelopes used to mail CPC employees' pay stubs.

