

# **BNAPS Fancy Cancel Study Group Newsletter Number 23**

**Dave Lacelle  
Apr. '99**

## **●Group News.**

Once again, we do not have any new members, I find this somewhat disturbing. Our total membership is 75, plus the six required BNAPS mailings. Do any of you know someone who should be a member?

This newsletter has been delayed, as I have been devoting much of my spare time to "proofing" the new book. It took nine years to complete the illustrations, and of course there were many revisions and corrections over that time frame. I have now revised the illustrations to "camera ready" (or "scan ready") up to number 1512 out of about 1750 illustrations. I am now on the last chapter, "geometrics". The accompanying descriptive text for each cancel is also revised at the same time. The "deletions and miscellaneous" section has to be done last as it extensively refers back numbers in the main illustrations, which have to be finalized first.

Thank you for the response to my dues notice in the last newsletter. Total dues collected to Convention '99 were \$271.00, which with the BNAPS stipend for their six copies is just enough to produce three newsletters a year on a "break even" basis. Special thanks to several of you who sent in extra contributions. Also thanks to the kind words from several of you regarding my forced early retirement. The Department seems to have now decided that what I do might just have some social or environmental relevance (I'm the guy who keeps track of all the water and sewage treatment facilities in Canada), and said forced early retirement may now be put off for about a year and a half.

Thanks to Roger Boisclair, Gerry Carr, Horace Harrison, John Hillson, Harold Hurlbutt, Keith Lauzon, Ron Smith, Frank Waite, and Bill Wegman, for sending in material included in this newsletter.

## **REVISIONS TO PREVIOUS NEWSLETTERS**

### **●Newsletter 4, leaf cancels;**

John Hillson has sent in an example of a leaf cancel which seems to be a mirror image of D&S 4. I think it is my (provisional) number 1218, however if so, then my illustration needed work as the top, and

angle of the stem were distorted. An unedited photocopy of John's item is at right, as well as my revised illustration. The "Leaf" illustrations were some of the hardest to prepare due to the abundance of fine detail.



●Newsletter 22, London Squared Circle and cork.

Jack Gorden of the Squared Circle Study Group is of the opinion that this is just coincidental. He has also seen examples where a faint squared circle has had a receiving or transit CDS put on top of it.

●Newsletter 22, last page, items from Roger Fournelle.

The "W" illustrated was incorrect, a better example appears in the cut. There is a great deal of variation with this cancel, either the cancel was soft, wore easily, was cleaned/recut, or may have really been two different cancels. All examples are between Aug. '92, and Dec. '92.



## CORRESPONDENCE AND QUERIES

A friend recently loaned me some copies of "Century Magazine" published in New York in the 1890's. Included as advertisements in the February 1890 edition were the following three items. The printset offering was typical of many others available at the (and earlier) time. Some of the town name cancels were undoubtedly from such sets. I did not know that mimeograph copiers were available in 1890, nor that it was an Edison invention. Finally, the portable copier is fascinating, I wonder how well it worked? We have to remember that by 1890 there was already considerable technology available.

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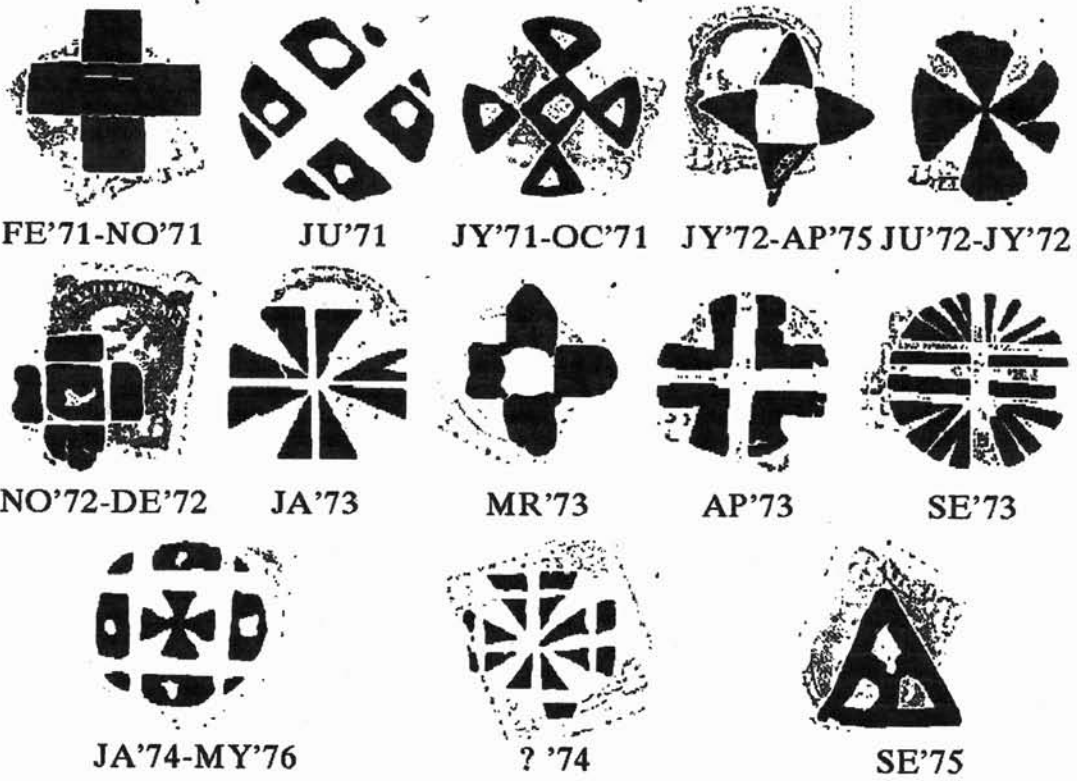
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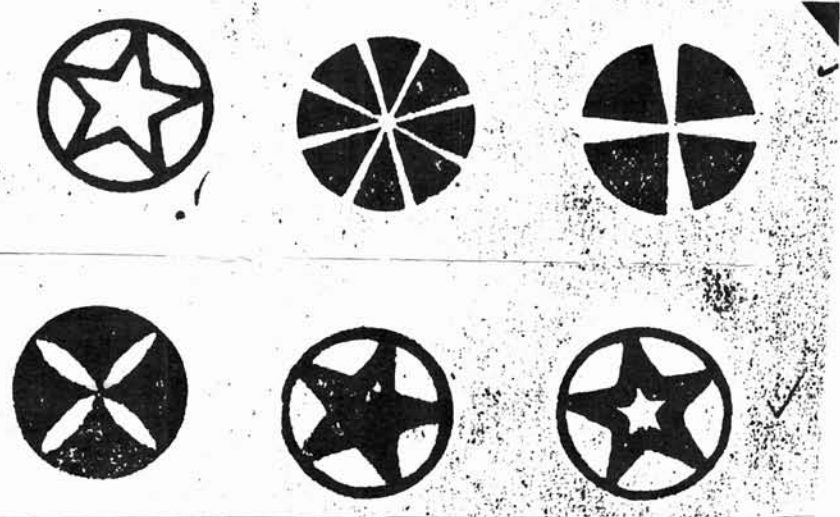


RESULT.

Now that I have completed work on most of the fancy cancels, I would like to present an otherwise unremarked cancel series. I call it the "Kingston Cross" series. There were many other imaginative cancels from this P.O., some of which may have had Masonic significance, however, for some reason the P.M. at Kingston Ontario had a penchant for cross cancels. The series ran for over five years, and there is a surprising range of overlap between uses. He may be referring to "Kingston Cross" in London U.K. (unlikely - why?) or more likely it is a play on the religious nature of his name "Mr. Deacon".



Horace Harrison has sent this along. It is from the Pritchard and Andrews proof-book, April '80. Several of these have been reported from various P.O.'s, I have a suspicion that they were used as



provisional cancels, and possibly more than one of each was produced. (P. & A. made "R" for Registered in batches of 250.) It is interesting that the official circular date stamp supplier also produced brass (presumably) four and eight segmented "corks"! (Note also the quote above about the degree of technological sophistication available in 1890.)

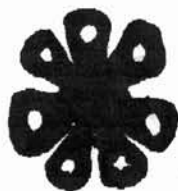
Horace also sent along this example of a cross cancel, used from Toronto Feb. '71.



Keith Lauzon sent along a tracing of the Blenheim "11" Oct. '31 in the cut. I had thought this was a poor strike of the later Blenheim "B", however he has sent along a photocopy, and this is not the case. The fact that there are two strikes also lends authenticity. Does anyone have any other copies?



Frank Waite sent along an article from "The Collectors Club Philatelist, Vol. 38, No. 6" with an article by Boggs on Canadian Fancy Cancels. The date is about 1935 (?). There was little new information in this, however a cancel which caused considerable confusion to me is illustrated. The D&S illustration, D&S 794 (#1) of this was taken from a very poor tracing of an item in the Day collection (#2). What it should look like is in #3, while #4 is another item which can be mixed up with it.



Ron Smith has sent along these two items. The crown is similar to D&S 220b, however all other copies are weak strikes, and do not have any trace of a surround. I have seen the "birdsfoot" (or whatever) before, it was a roller, however I do not have a clue as to where it was used. My copy is in purple on a S.Q. from the '90's.



Gerry Carr has sent along several items including this Como Que. "H" (P.M. Mrs. Hodson) on Map Stamp, which is a rather late fancy initial cancel.





He has also sent an example of the Ottawa Crown (D&S 226) showing over-inking. I have seen a copy of this cancel "filled in" with ink to become a fake example of D&S 225. D&S 225 by the way is an interesting item. It appears in the P. & A. proofs (dated Feb. '80, before D&S 226 in Apr. '80), was listed by Jarrett (#852), yet few (if any) genuine strikes exist. I note that both crowns have a common non-symmetry, the extending line at bottom of the crown on the right is longer than on the left. Is it possible the D&S 225 made too "Thick" a cancel, was recalled, and then recut as number 226? This would account for the limited use of 225, extensive eight year use of 226, and common defect in both.



D&S 225



D&S 226



Roger Boisclair has sent along these two Map Stamp items. The first one is somewhat problematic as there are no other postal markings. His second item has been noted before, however the place of use was unknown. Now identified as Port Haney B.C. Apr. '99.

Bill Wegman has sent in a copy of D&S 371, an "A". This looks like a manufactured cancel (some British cancels were very similar), anyone know when or where it was used?



Harold Hurlbutt has sent along several items, including a nice strike of the Brookville (Carleton Co. near Ottawa) Ont. anchor. He has also included an example of Jarrett 1152 on cover from Mc Nider Que., Jan. '81. This item did not appear in D&S, but is in the new book. His last example is probably a London U.K. "PAID" cancel, and is the exact same item illustrated in Boggs (The Postage Stamps and Postal History of Canada) pg. 647, where it is erroneously described as a "Wells Fargo" cancel. Unfortunately, two other items at the bottom of this page in Boggs are also erroneously identified as "Vickers Express". They are respectively, a smeared Montreal Ste. Catherine Street oval parcel cancel, and a Causapsal Quebec R.P.O. ticket stamp which I have seen several times, although not common.