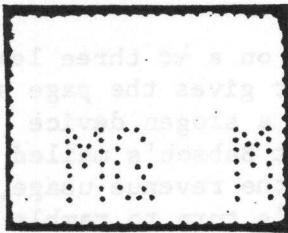
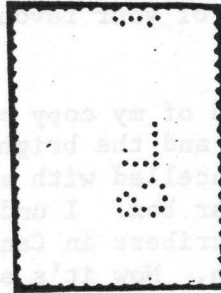
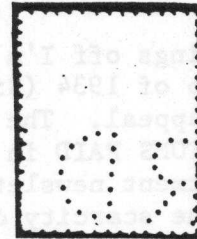


Two new perfin listings.

M26



L6



Maurice Decarie has reported three unlisted perfins. L6 is on a 5¢ brown Custom Duty stamp and is listed in the U.S. perfin catalogue as Lukenheimer Company, Cincinnati, Ohio. M26 is on a 10¢ blue Custom Duty stamp and is listed in the U.S. perfin catalogue as Max Grab Fashion Company, New York, N.Y. This perfin was reported in the March Topics as M25. Due to the lead time needed for printing in Topics, M25 was allotted to Marsh & McLennan in the April Perforator so Max Grab has been corrected to M26. The third perfin is 'RD' in a Newfoundland Money Order Stamp Tax stamp. Mike Dicketts mentions that it is suggested that the 'RD' could stand for Revenue Department. Work on this perfin by a Newfoundland revenue collector or specialist could have interesting results. These perfins located by Maurice provide a very strong reminder for collectors to check those revenues in the back of the book when you are looking for perfins.

BNAPEX'80

This is another reminder to give serious thought to exhibiting your perfins at the annual meeting of BNAPS at BNAPEX'80 in McAllen, Texas, November 5-8. And for those of you who like the thought of sunshine, I am sure that Texas is nicer than the odd Province in November. This is one of those chances where you can show your Canadian perfins to collectors who's primary stamp interests are Canadian.

Preface to the article - Perfin Positions: A New Approach.

This article proposes a new concept of designating perfin positions. The authors have copyrighted this concept of perfin positions. If collectors consider this method and presentation of cataloguing perfin positions as reasonable it is intended to transfer the copyright to the British North America Philatelic Society, or if not accepted, to some other philatelic society. The transfer of the copyright will include a codicil that the use of positions and classification of perforated insignia are for the free use of the philatelic community. The authors wish to thank Jack Benningen for reviewing the article and suggesting improvements in its style.

Amidst all the flurry about searching out perfins in back-of-the-book stock, so-called unpicked bundles, and other sources of postal issues, there's a quiet back-water of material waiting for the alert collector to navigate. Did you know that at least 83 users perforated their initials on a variety of revenue stamps beginning about 1915 and ending sometime after 1943?

These range from a few commonly found excise tax items such as B10a and S11 to mid-range rarity users like NYL to the almost unique Custom Duty stamps perforated by Cunard and other American companies. Revenues add spice to any perfin collection, especially if found on a receipt or other document. Perhaps someone reading this has a special item? If so why not share news about it with the rest of us. Write and tell the editor about one of your favourites and he'll publish it in this space.

To start things off I'm rather proud of my copy of B9. It's on a 1/4c three leaf Excise stamp of 1934 (Sissons R297) and the bright red colour gives the page a lot of eye appeal. The stamp is cancelled with a portion of a slogan device reading CUSTOMS PAID in a rectangular box. I understand that Babson's mailed their investment newsletter to subscribers in Canada, hence the revenue usage, and hence the scarcity of the perfin. Now it's someone else's turn to ramble on revenues.

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Trade notices:

David Izzett is interested in trading 2,4 or more G.B. perfins for Canadian perfins. At present he has a special interest in perfins in stamps within the past ten years. Please write David at 7 Barberry Road, Hemel Hempstead, Herts, England HP1 1SD.

Jon Johnson would like to locate a C3 and a Q1 on covers. Willing to trade other covers or any preference in Canadian perfins. Please write Jon at Box 6118, Station D, Calgary, Alberta T2P 2C7.

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The Roster Additions

- M.56 Clark, Stuart A.; 924 North Drive, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3T 0A8  
M.57 Taylor, Dr. Ian W.; 769 Milwaukee Avenue, Wheeling, Illinois 60090  
M.58 Horevenko, A.; 1325 Talbot, Windsor, Ontario N9A 1A5

The Roster Changes

- M.43 Traquair, Robert S.; #2 Sloane Court East, London, England S.W.3

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PERFIN POSITIONS: A NEW APPROACH

Perfin collectors, in their need to communicate with other perfin collectors developed the word 'position' to identify the relationship between the perforated insignia and the stamp. The normal or "A" position is the relationship between the perforated insignia and the stamp as shown in Figure 1. The question now is what is the easiest method to identify this relationship between the stamp and the perforated insignia.



Figure 1.

The first attempt to identify the perfin positions was done by Major C.E.P. Salt, R.C.M.P., in 1942, who identified four different positions based on the "O" in 'OHMS'. Mr. G.B.D. Garrett, who had studied the O5 and O6 perfins (five and four hole OHMS's) disagreed with Major Salt and in turn convinced the British Columbia Philatelic Society to use his eight different positions as shown in Figure 2.

OH	HO	SW	W2					
MS	ZM	HO	OH	HO	MS	HO	HO	SM
A	B	C	D	E	F	G		H

Figure 2.

This series of perfin positions was copyrighted by Mr. Garrett who then transferred the copyright to the B.C. Philatelic Society for general philatelic use. This position classification keeps the stamp constant and varies the insignia perforation. The varying of the perforated insignia is potentially confusing, in addition, the series in Figure 2 is not consistent in its sequence of positions. Perfin collectors are generally familiar with the different perforated 'OHMS' positions but what is the position of the stamp in Figure 3 using the above classification.



Figure 3.

There are many ways that the relationship between the stamp and the perforated insignia may be considered. However there are only two basic ways, namely, keep the stamp constant and vary the perforated insignia or keep the perforated insignia constant and vary the stamp. Either way, eight different positions are produced. Since there are over 300 different Canadian perfin types and tens of thousands worldwide, the authors are proposing a simplified method of classification that may be applied to any existing perforated insignia.

As illustrated in Figure 4 the proposed new concept is to maintain the perforated insignia in the constant "A" position and therefrom record the position of the stamp. The positions have been lettered clockwise, "A" to "D" to the four face up stamps, "A" position beginning upright at 12 o'clock. From the reverse side of the stamp the positions "E" to "H" are allocated, the "E" position place upright at 12 o'clock.

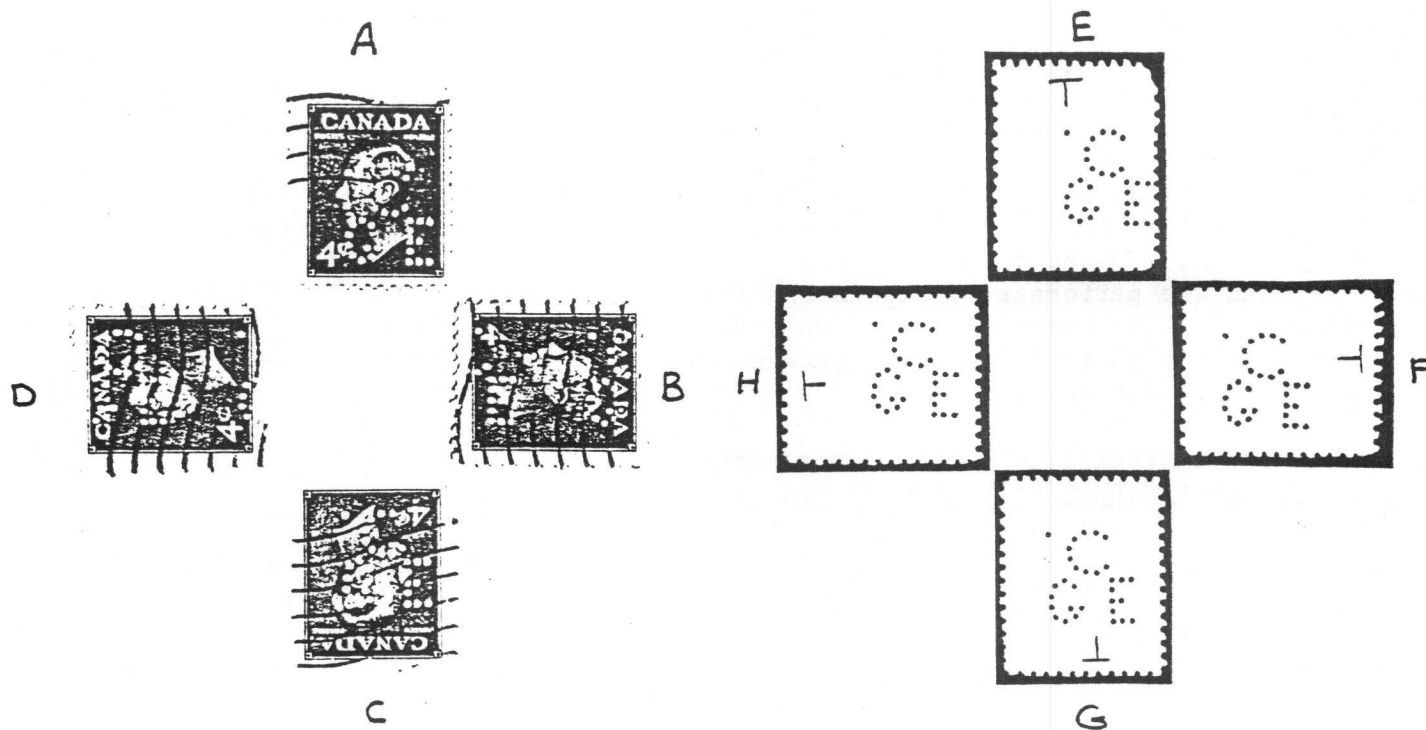


Figure 4.

The new lettering concept is similar to the hands moving around a clock. If the face of the stamp is up and the bottom of the stamp is placed at the center of the clock, the stamp can be rotated until one is able to read the design in its normal upright position. If the stamp is at 3 o'clock then it is in "B" position, at 6 o'clock it is "C" position, etc. When the reverse side is up the positions are "F" for 3 o'clock, "G" at 6 o'clock, etc.

The authors are recommending eight general perfin positions. There is a possibility of a perforated insignia to be in a position between any of the eight recommended positions. If a collector is so inclined, he might measure the number of degrees that the stamp is off from the standard position. The stamp in Figure 5 is approximately 43 degrees, 30 minutes and would be recorded a H43° 30'. Figure 6 is F43 30.

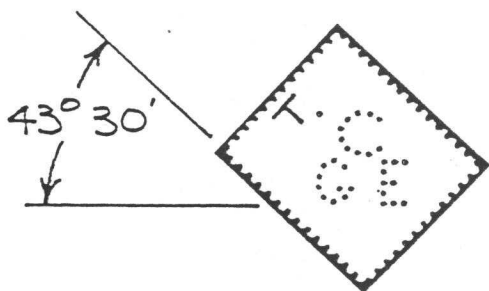


Figure 5.

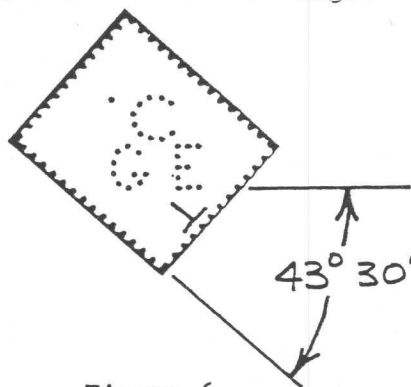


Figure 6.

The authors are not recommending that collectors record these in between positions to this level of detail. The illustrations shown in Figure 5 and 6 are merely to indicate that this level of detail is possible. Generally collecting of the eight possible perfin positions will satisfy the need of most perfin position collectors.

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Calgary, Alberta.

Copyright. June 12, 1980.

Jonathan C. Johnson,  
Calgary, Alberta.