

The Nova Scotia Post: Early Mail and Markings

PURPOSE & SCOPE: This is a Postal History 8-frame exhibit showing the earliest correspondence from, to and within Nova Scotia covering the period of 1724 to the 1870's, including precursor mails, manuscripts and handstamps, stampless and stamped covers and their method of transport.



TREATMENT: Items are broken down mostly chronologically into separate sections and if possible, by type and city. Details and use of each are further conveyed on the importance and history involved. I begin with the earliest precursor mails moving to major areas of study broken down into sections for easy comparison.


BACKGROUND & IMPORTANCE:

The exhibit begins with very early **military despatches** and **private letters** (including a new previously unreported early date) and then covers examples of the Halifax post office markings from its inception in 1754 to the establishment of new post offices and way offices which used both manuscripts and handstamps as the latter became available and includes the various methods of transportation of the mails. Much of the material exhibited is unique, existing in only one recorded copy and includes several previously unrecorded items.

EXHIBIT PLAN

- **Early Military and Civilian despatches and letters** including American Revolution (1776), War of 1812, - American Civil War 1861-1865
- **Halifax Markings** followed by
- **Pre-1842 Postmarks** issued following the establishment of the Halifax Post Office.
- **Way Office Letters, Way Mail, & Emergency letters**
- **Postmarks Issued 1842 to 1867** (Confederation in Canada)
- **Forwarding Agents and Express Mails**
- **Ship Letters**

Exceptional items are marked in blue borders.

New research is indicated by a 

1724 letter from Louisbourg
Lunenburg manuscript. The discovery copy.
previously unknown
Fishwick's Colonial Express handstamp
MACNAB C.B. handstamp
Sandy Cove T-E
West River Picton Paid to Australia. The
discovery copy. Previously unknown.
Newport Crown double circle
Saltus & Wainwright FAC handstamp
Ship Letter Liverpool N.S. Crown double oval
Pictou N.S. Ship Letter