



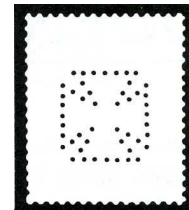
THE BNA PERFORATOR

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Editor's Post:



As those with email addresses know the 5th Edition of Canadian Stamps with Perforated Initials is now launched. "Hats off!" to John and Gary for their perseverance and dedication to this task and although members of the Study Group did contribute in some small ways, this event would never have happened without their unwavering commitment to the task. The 5th Edition breaks new ground as it will not be printed as a catalogue but will be a "living " document residing on the BNAPS website. Gary's comments on this aspect of the 5th Edition are in the opposite column. There are 20 or so members of the Study Group who do not have computers. So that they may keep current, all the new listings that were added to the 4th Edition after the publication in 1984 have been renumbered and included in the 5th Edition in proper alphabetical order. These patterns and the information known about them are on pages 11 and 12 of the printed version of this issue. A chart of the pattern numbers from the 4th Edition with the corresponding new number in the 5th Edition of the Canadian Stamps with Perforated Initials handbook is on page 13 [also not included in the email version]§

Sadly there is another closed album to report as Michael Goin passed away last March §

We can add another new member to our Study Group; Bob Combs from New Mexico USA, a life member of the Perfins Club. His focus is on US, GB and Canadian perfins and world wide perfins generally. Other interests include postal stationery, pre-cancels and RPO's. Bob's email is kca6rcswl@yahoo.com Welcome aboard!

The Post Office returned Issue #135 with a hand stamp "Occupant Moved—Address Unknown." which had been mailed to R.E. Wilson, 81 Baseline West, Apt 905 in London Ontario. The previous issue mailed to the same address was not returned. If anyone has information please let me know.

Patrick Durbano has a new email address— patrick@perfin.ca §

Barry advises that the Study Group has been blessed with not one, but 2 anonymous donations of \$250 each. On behalf of

all, a heartfelt thank-you is passed along to the donors for an extremely selfless and generous gesture. With the increasing number of members receiving their copy of the Perforator by email, we have reduced the need for printed copies to 22; 16 mailed to Canadian destinations, 4 to the USA and 2 Internationally. 58 are distributed by email. In addition to the membership there are 11 complementary copies sent by email. The costs for this issue were \$43.47 in postage and \$82.23 for printing. §

David Jones, BNAPS Secretary has received correspondence from Stellan Swenson of Sweden whose interest is in Swedish perfins and the perfins of Swedish companies on foreign issues. He would like to acquire perfins of Canadian Explosives [C63] and Canadian Industries [C36.1 and C36.2]. His address is:

Odonbärsvägan 32
SE-293 41 OLOFSTRÖM
SWEDEN §

This issue has the last installment of Russell Sampson's fine exhibit of Edward VII issue perfins. On behalf of the Study Group I want to thank Russell for sharing the exhibit which contains some very rare and hard to come by material. And Speaking of exhibits, Novapex 2012 was held on September 27th to 29th in Dartmouth Nova Scotia. Included in the 171 exhibit frames were 9 frames of perfins. Barry Senior came from Newfoundland with a 8 frame exhibit of Newfoundland perfins, without doubt the finest collection of this material in the world. His exhibit won National Gold; and according to Doug Lingard the first time a perfin exhibit achieved this distinction. Congratulations to Barry. Yours truly entered a 1 frame exhibit—Canadian Perfins with Nova Scotia Connections— my first foray into the world of exhibiting. My one frame was entered at the Regional level and was awarded a Silver.

Gary Tomasson's Notes to the 5th Edition of Canadian Stamps with perforated Initials

Firstly, we welcome you to the first BNAPS ebook, Canadian Stamps with Perforated Initials, 5th Edition. Access to and use of this handbook is free. You may print any portion or the entire handbook for your own personal use or print it for a friend that does not have the internet. We encourage you to pass on the book's address to fellow perfin collectors.

This 5th Edition of Canadian Stamps with Perforated Initials is a change from the 4th Edition in several ways, some less obvious than others. The most dramatic change is the addition of the checklist of stamps that have been reported perforated by each perforating machine. There were a lot of inconsistencies in the numbering of prior editions. In the Fourth Edition there was renumbering which we all survived. The editors decided that although it would mean some extra work for collectors to get used to the new numbers, the short term pain was worth the long term gain, the most notable being the move of International Harvester Company from the C's to the I's and the rearranging of New York Life Insurance to reflect the code holes. Any new perfin listings will now be added to the end of the respective section regardless of the initials.

The major control for the 5th Edition is the Table of Contents which shows a date, at the top left hand of the page and dates beside each section. When a section is revised, both the section date and the date at the top of the Table are changed. We do welcome requests for additional addenda, but please advise why you would like the addition information. If you would like to make a comment or add a new perfin to the checklists, change early or latest reported date or report a new perfin, you should email the information to Gary Tomasson, and they will be added to the perfin handbook by the editors on a periodic basis, as warranted – watch the section effective dates.

Gary's email address is tomasson@shaw.ca

C34 Perforator in British Columbia?

Jim Graham

BACKGROUND A couple of years ago I bought an on-line auction lot of private perfins. The lot included a number of CPR perfins, 2 on cover and another 33 on corner cut envelop pieces all with British Columbia cancels. Scans of these were not included in the lot description and so the pieces came as a bit of a surprise. There was a good deal of duplication and I didn't really examine any of it very closely. Working a little with Ron Whyte on the CPR article in Issue 134 occasioned me to examine the lot more closely. There are a total of 39 stamps in 5 different issues; 18 from Fort Steele, 14 from Skookumchuck, 2 from Huntington and 1 each from Sparwood [a strip of 3], Windermere, and Greenwood. Each also has a C34 CPR perfin, the pattern from Montreal. Table 1 gives the breakdown, listed from the oldest to the latest cancel date.

Table 1

ISSUE	LOCATION	CDS DATE	ISSUE	LOCATION	CDS DATE	ISSUE	LOCATION	CDS DATE
USC460	Skookumchuck	11/01/1970	USC460	Fort Steele	03/08/1970	USC460	Fort Steele	25/08/1970
USC459a	Greenwood	27/04/1970	USC460	Fort Steele	05/08/1970	USC460	Fort Steele	25/08/1970
USC517	Skookumchuck	21/05/1970	USC460	Skookumchuck	07/08/1970	USC460	Fort Steele	30/08/1970
USC460b	Skookumchuck	30/06/1970	USC460	Fort Steele	14/08/1970	USC517	Windermere	17/10/1970
USC460b	Fort Steele	13/07/1970	USC460	Fort Steele	14/08/1970	USC460	Skookumchuck	05/11/1970
USC460	Fort Steele	22/07/1970	USC460b	Skookumchuck	17/08/1970	USC460b	Skookumchuck	05/11/1970
USC460	Fort Steele	23/07/1970	USC460	Skookumchuck	17/08/1970	USC460	Skookumchuck	13/11/1970
USC460b	Fort Steele	27/07/1970	USC460b	Fort Steele	17/08/1970	USC460	Fort Steele	13/11/1970
USC460	Fort Steele	30/07/1970	USC460	Fort Steele	20/08/1970	USC517	Skookumchuck	15/04/1971
USC460	Skookumchuck	31/07/1970	USC460	Skookumchuck	21/08/1970	USC517	Skookumchuck	04/05/1971
USC460	Fort Steele	31/07/1970	USC460	Fort Steele	24/08/1970	USC459a	Sparwood	23/05/1972
USC460	Skookumchuck	01/08/1970	USC460	Fort Steele	24/08/1970			

BOOKLET PANES: In the tables I have listed USC459a and USC460b which are booklet pane numbers. Both the USC459 examples have a straight edge at the top and 6 of the USC 460's have a straight edge on the right hand side of the stamp. I don't know anything about the Centennial issue but I think I recall reading somewhere that after the Admiral issue all sheets had selvage strips on all four sides. Confirmation or correction of this assumption would be appreciated. Anyway, the straight edges lead me to assume that these stamps are from what Unitrade describes as "a booklet pane of 25". I also wouldn't know how to separate a USC460b from a USC460a. The difference in catalogue value alone suggests that a USC460a is unlikely to be perfined and even less likely to end up in my collection so I have labeled them 460b's. Perhaps all of the USC460's contained in this lot are from a booklet pane or panes—again I wouldn't know how to tell.

ILLUSTRATIONS

Here are the 2 covers and 2 examples of the corner cut pieces. In the scans of the covers the actual perfin pattern from the stamp on the cover has been "lifted" and shown separately with the perfin holes coloured red*. The stamp on the left hand cover has a complete pattern; the right hand cover's pattern is split. Clearly these are the C34 patterns and not the C35 with the code hole missing. Also the last reported C35 pattern is USC436 and these are Centennial issues and later.



USC460, USC460b and USC517: The preponderance of evidence suggests that all 32 of these stamps were used by the CPR. The 2 covers are CPR identified and addressed to a CPR staff person by different individuals. All of the corner cuts, whether from Fort Steele or Skookumchuck and the one example from Windermere are either on grey or manila paper, the same paper as the covers shown above. On some of them, as you can see from the shape of the handwriting in the examples on the right, they were also addressed to Mr. S.D. Cosar, the Chief Dispatcher for the CPR in Nelson. Table 1 at the top of the page shows the stamps from Fort Steele and Skookumchuck were used in a relatively short space of time— January 11th, 1970 to May 4th, 1971. Fort Steele, Skookumchuck and Windermere are on the CP rail line that runs north rather than on the line that travels west into Nelson or east towards Sparwood and Crowsnest. You can find all of these communities on a decent map of British Columbia.



WHAT'S GOING ON AT HUNTINGDON?

Table 2

PATTERN	LOCATION	CDS	ISSUE
C34	Huntingdon	04/11/1964	USC405
C34	Huntingdon	01/12/1964	USC405
C36	Huntingdon	19/01/1965	USC339 & 402
C36	Huntingdon	28/04/1965	USC339 & 402



C34's



C35



C53



These 4 corner cuts from Huntingdon listed in Table 2 were used 6 years before the Table 1 examples. The first 2 corner cuts, the 5¢ Cameo's, have the C34 pattern. The perfin pattern is split which makes it slightly harder to identify but the shape of the "R" and the loop of the "P" are clear enough for a positive identification. They are clearly not the C36 pattern. The second pair, both with a 2¢ Cameo and a 3¢ Wilding are the C36 pattern. All 4 pieces have been cut from a brown manila envelop so all in all it is likely that they were CPR used.

Huntingdon is in a different area of British Columbia than the communities previously listed, being on the US border and not that far from Vancouver. A Canadian Atlas from 1971 shows that there was an abandoned railway track from Vancouver terminating in Huntingdon. It also showed Burlington Northern and BC Power and Hydro rail lines terminating in Huntingdon. Perhaps the abandoned track was a former CPR line; a CPR railfan with a good knowledge of British Columbia operations might be able to shed some light on this.

So, how did these C34's come to be used in British Columbia? Do members have other examples? The C36 pattern is known on Centennial issues—were they distributed throughout BC or were they used only in Vancouver? Several months ago there were a number of C34 corner cuts on eBay, all with eastern Canada CDS cancels cut from those green pre-addressed CP envelopes to the Bank of Montreal. I think the postage used were all Wildings or Cameos. The Centennials are the end of the C34's period of usage—is it possible the perforator moved to the BC interior? This would not account however for the C34 usage in Huntingdon in late 1964.

I have one other CDS example of late C34 usage in western Canada; this one is from Calgary with a CDS cancel of October 5th, 1970. This is 5 days before the only October cancel date in the list on the previous page—also on a USC 517— of October 17th, 1970. Additional examples might provide clues and if you have something in your collection, I encourage you to share it.

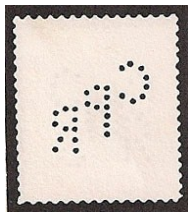
Distinguishing Canadian Pacific Perfin's Revisited

Gary Nummelin

The 4th Edition's C34 pattern shows larger holes than the C35 pattern (which does not show the CODE hole). The pattern for the Broken Die has hole sizes that appear to be of a size between the two.



C34 5th Edition



C35 broken die



C35 4th Edition

These 2 USC #286 show larger and then smaller holes. I have many such examples.



The following (C9 and 223) are 2 examples which show no code hole and the code hole on the same stamp.



These 3 USC #104s show small to medium to large size holes and are definitely C33

The following (C9 and 223) are 2 examples which show no code hole and the code hole on the same stamp



Then the strip of 5 (cat #328) has one with code, then two without followed by two with code hole. It would seem that the patterns on the pair of USC 351 match pattern on the last 4 stamps of the strip of five



Now for the confusion. When did the basic C35 with code hole pattern start to have the first broken code hole pin and then more broken code hole pins? If the code hole pin is busted, can you really default to C33 for sure? If so, for what date ranges. Problem is that C33 and C35 overlap !!

I agree that C34 is different from C33 and C35. It does not match. Additional to the comments on the differences, the widths between letters differ. Compare the P with the R on a C34 to a C33 or C35. Food for thought....

International Harvester of Canada C1's

Jim Graham

In Issue #132 I had a short piece which included scans of C1's with poorly perforated International Harvester of Canada patterns. Based on the late Steve Koning's identification of a partial Montreal CDS cancel on his copy and the similar, although not identical nature of the incomplete perforation pattern on my own copy, I made the assumption that these were indeed I16's from Montreal.



I had the occasion to be in Ottawa a couple of months ago and stopped into Ian Kimmerly's establishment on Sparks Street. In the library and publications section I happened upon the Air Mail Slogans of Canada handbook edited by Cecil Coutts and Daniel Rosenblat. Thumbing through I discovered that this particular air mail cancel, a version of cancel #S-255-7879, was not used in Montreal. It was in use between 1929 and 1932, a period when one would expect to find C1's in use, but has only been found with CDS cancels from cities in Ontario and the West. In fact Coutts & Rosenblatt state that the air mail slogans in use in Montreal and Quebec City were bilingual (pages 6 and 19). Thankfully, the Editors the 5th Edition of the CSPI handbook chose to ignore our Montreal "identification" when putting the check list together.

The only IHC C1 listed in the 5th edition is from London Ontario [I15]. Such C1 usage is consistent with the information in the Coutts & Rosenblat handbook. The earliest recorded date is August 19th, 1929 and the latest is July 4th, 1931. The perfin pattern on the 2 stamps above are so poor as to defy identification. The Air Mail Slogan handbook does say that this particular cancel was used in Hamilton, Edmonton, North Battleford, Calgary, Saskatoon, Lethbridge, Regina, and Winnipeg. As an aside, wouldn't it make more sense for some of these offices to want to 'SAVE TIME'? After all Hamilton, the home of International Harvester in Canada, is but a short trip on the CNR line from London and mail between the 2 centers surely travelled at speed and very frequently. Or perhaps the Hamilton office would use air mail to speed information to these western centers or they to 'hurry' orders to the Hamilton factory. Does someone have I15 C1 on cover which might give us a clue? How many C1's are there besides the one in Steve Koning's collection and the one in mine? Do they all have the same poorly perforated pattern? I would love to see scans of the C1's owned by C1 members and to hear your thoughts on this.

It's good to see the Perfin Handbook is well under way. At first glance it has a real good look about it; but there is a comment at the top of the listing of the LA perfins that I think should be removed or, at least, amended in view of the following comments.

In 1977 I joined the Ontario Geological Survey (in the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources) from having served at the University of Waterloo from 1960-1977. After a few months at the OGS, I was surprised that my secretary did not use (and was not using) LA perforated stamps. After enquiries over the following few weeks, I found it was not the practice to use the perforated stamps but that stamps could be purchased and perforated at the Post Office in the basement of the Legislative Building. Further enquiries led to the information that sheets of stamps could be purchased at the Legislative P.O. and perforated on request at the same time. Consequently and for many years we made good use of LA perforated stamps for all regular mail out of my Section (and in those days mail was the usual method of communication).

In the summer months, when my staff were "in the field" as part of their regular duties, they used the perforated stamps for mail used in contacting local suppliers etc. and in sending back to Toronto, an account of their monthly expenses and other records. In most years there would have been about 10-15 field parties operating in various locations across the Province. There was, in general, no particular effort made to "ensure" that all new issues were perforated – simply that stamps were purchased as required to service our needs. When I first enquired about the provision of perforated stamps, I was told that only a few ministries still made use of perforated stamps and I believe I was further told in the late 1980's that only our office and the Ministry of Labour were still having stamps perforated with the LA perforator.

In the early 1980's the Director of the Ontario Geological Survey embarked on a programme seeking the opinion of the "general public" (i.e. probably related to the mining industry in particular) of several matters which the Ministry was interested in "promoting" within the industry. Include in the "package" mailed to industry personnel and companies was a pre-addressed and postage paid (with LA perfins) envelope addressed to the Director, Ontario Geological Survey in Toronto. These envelopes were generally the large brown size (30.5 mm x 23 mm) (12" x 9") and on several occasions my Secretary would retrieve any envelopes returned to the Director. On several occasions I seem to recall that the return envelopes received were the "sending" company envelopes and not the pre-stamped envelopes that had been provided with the questionnaire. After a year or so, a new member of; the Director's staff decided that buying and affixing stamps was too time consuming so that the pre-addressed return envelopes had a postage meter impression applied!!

About the end of 1990 my secretary advised me that after planning to purchase and have perforated more stamps for immediate future use, she was advised by the post office in the Legislature Building basement that they were no longer perforating stamps with the "LA" identification. A few days later, I was curious to check the reason behind the decision and wondered if the perforator was malfunctioning. I was advised "no" it was still OK but the decision had been made to stop perforating postage stamps. I then enquired what was being done with the perforator and was, I believe, told that it was just put aside in the P.O. I later enquired if there were any plans to secure its situation and I also enquired of the Ontario Archives (then at Grenville St. in the same building as the Ontario Geological Survey was located) if they would be willing to provide a secure "home" for the perforator. Alas, I was told that the Archives only "archived" two dimensional materials (i.e. documents, copies of maps etc. and were not able to archive any machinery!!)

In the summer of 1993, Patrick Durban was employed under contract to the Ministry of Government Services which was responsible for all inbound and outbound mail for all ministries including the Legislative Assembly post office. While there, he attempted to locate the LA perforator. After several inquiries, he was told that the machine was officially out of service and could not be located. After pursuing the issue with his superiors, he was finally shown the machine and under supervision of the postmaster was allowed to make one proof punch on white paper – that punch revealed that all the pins of the 5-die Cummins machine was still present. After that the machine was returned to the manager's office where it has not been seen since. Goodness knows where it is now but it would be interesting to know if it was destroyed or disposed of so that it could not be further used beyond its original purpose.

Editor's Note: As a result of Owen's information, the 5th Edition Editors have agreed to remove the sentence "Stamps after 1976 probably philatelic" at the top of the listing of the LA perfins.

A Pricing Guide for Canadian Private Perforated Stamps - Where-To-From-Here?

Kerry Bryant

Following the inclusion of "A Pricing Guide for Canadian Private Perforated Stamps" in the June 2012 Perforator and the request for feedback, I thank all who responded. My own appreciation and realization of the indispensability of feedback has been increased as is my willingness to take time to respond to requests made of me. From the feedback, it was evident that the proposed Price Guide article was thoughtfully read, re-read, considered and analyzed. There's definitely a common consensus amongst collectors that Canadian private perfins are under-valued. I am also happy to relay that no one critique dismissed either the notion of a price guide or the example presented in the original article. From all I got back, I feel affirmed this is on the right track.

The single-most repeated sentiment in the feedback was the spread between the proposed price guide and pricing of some members' recent acquisitions; particularly E-Bay and auctions houses. One member took the time to do some sample analysis and submitted that a discount in the range of 66%-75% from the proposed pricing guide would be reflective of current market values. On suggestion, to establish a comparative figure I compiled a spreadsheet of 33 Canadian private perfins sold in the U.S. Perfins Club Auction #34. Rarities included were A's(2), B's(7) and C's(24) and the cumulative realized was \$3,512. Using the proposed Pricing Guide, those same issues valued at \$9,768 and doing the math, the differential between those and realized was 64%; consistent with the members' own "suspicions". By-rarity, the differentials were 72% for A-rarities, 69% for B-rarities and 51% for C-rarities.

So then, is the Pricing Guide 64% too high or, are market values 64% lower than the actual worth? I went back to the proposed Price Guide notes and revisited the research, statistics and math and as the values in the proposed Price Guide could be quantified and qualified, I believe the latter; Canadian private perfins are on average available for 30%-50% of their *actual worth*. At this point, it's important to reiterate that this is a price '*guide*' versus a price '*list*'. Be it a new car, house, regular-issue stamps or whatever, price guides represent a pre-established value of an item; what something sells for isn't necessarily a bona-fide reflection of an item's *true worth*! Again, ARE Canadian private perfins trading considerably below their actual worth (under-valued)...yes. But also, are Canadian private perfins actually worth the values presented in the proposed Price Guide...yes.

From another reply, the aspect of supply and demand was presented and including the comment "...I would guess that demand for perfins is very, very low. Perhaps even lower than precancels?..." Aside from the relevance of supply/demand itself, I gave this sentiment considerable thought and no argument here; a worthy and likely accurate perspective but why? Precancels and private perfins share many similarities; both are specialty collecting areas, neither are produced any longer, for the better part both appear on low-value definitive issues, each had official Postal sanction and oversight, they have a considerable variety of issues/patterns and both are comprehensively documented, researched and catalogued. One of, maybe even the biggest difference is a precancel collector knows what his collection is worth.

This leaves 4 questions...

- 1- What effect(s) would guide pricing have on the appeal (growth) and enhancement of the collecting of Canadian private perfins,
- 2- What effect would guide pricing have on market pricing?
- 3- Is there a place for the proposed Price Guide in the "Canadian Stamps with Perforated Initials Handbook
- 4- And lastly, as a where-to-from-here, is the proposed Price Guide worthy of moving forward with?

kerrybryant@accesscomm.ca

A Pricing Guide to Canadian Perfinned Stamps the Value of Perfin Position

Jim Graham

I was impressed with the amount work and thought that Kerry Bryant put into his article on the pricing of Canadian private perfins and as a collector of all patterns on all issues in all positions I was particularly drawn to his comments on position frequency and the potential impact of position on value.

This is an interesting aspect of pricing. Firstly not all patterns appear in every position. Bell Telephone B15 issues [I rated] for example are known primarily in position 1 and 3 with the occasional position 5 or 7 identified in a few issues. I have over 300 MR4's all in Position 1 and the position check list compiled by Conrad Tremblay from information provided by Study Group members (the CTCL) suggests no known B15 MR4 in any other position other than position 1. On the other hand there are 20 different issues with the Canadian General Electric C15 pattern known in all 8 positions. Any particular position for one of these 20 issues is probably not that rare whereas if any position other than position 1 turned up in a B15 MR4, it would certainly attract my attention and perhaps that of others who collect all perfins in all positions. I have looked at the 19 International Harvester Company patterns on the CTCL. Excluding the Tulsa OK pattern you can find all eight positions accounted for in 15 of the remaining 18 patterns. There is no Position 6 noted for any known I14 issue (Winnipeg), no Position 6 or 8 for I20 (Saskatoon) or no Position 8 for I21 (the other Winnipeg pattern). The frequency for each position for all the listings for the International Harvester perfins in the CTCL together with the frequency of perfin position from Bryant's survey is in Table 1.

Table 1

Position	Total	IHC CTCL Distribution	Bryant Distribution (5000)
1	895	30.013%	65.80%
3	680	22.803%	16.40%
5	635	21.294%	7.70%
7	372	12.475%	2.50%
2	135	4.527%	2.90%
4	128	4.292%	4%
6	70	2.347%	0.30%
8	67	2.247%	0.60%
	2982		

I think the Table demonstrates that there is a clear difference in the position frequency between a sizeable random sample (Kelly's sample numbered about 5000) and the frequency in pattern known to exist in all 8 positions. How the Bryant distribution would compare to position frequency of all the 325 patterns on the CTCL is an interesting question. It is possible to do this exercise manually by sorting the 26,000++ bits of data but not in "short order".

The other thing to bear in mind is that some stamps, and the 10¢ War Issue comes to mind immediately, tend to be perf'd in the even-number positions

I certainly agree that pattern position should be a consideration in pricing but I think the amount of any premium is very much dependent on the pattern and the issue. Low value definitive in patterns known to exist in multiple positions and would have a much higher rate of postal usage, such as C15's would not command much of a premium if any at all. On the other hand, a B15 MR4 in position 3 would be worth much more than any of its colleagues in position 1.

In the end "market" value is normally determined by the exchange between a *"willing and knowledgeable seller"* and a *"willing and knowledgeable buyer"*. The key word here is knowledgeable and to increase our collective knowledge is I think, the main purpose of our Study Group. Kerry Bryant has given us a very strong platform on which to build a reasoned pricing structure for Canadian private perfins.

This is somewhat of a trial run for the Great article by Kerry Bryant, and to see how tricky it is with an example of a strip of three (3) perfins as shown in the scan below.



First of all, the scan is of the 7c red brown dry printing of the Admiral issue with enhanced pictures of the 2 varieties of #114. Page 79 my 2011 USC of Canadian Stamps shows a picture of #114v which has a diagonal line in N of CENTS (Pl.8). The flaw consists of a hairline, and varies from stamp to stamp; on the strip of 3 #114v is the top perfinned stamp.

Secondly, the perfin pattern needs to be addressed. If the strip were separated the top stamp without a complete die could possibly be the B rated M15 die by closing the one pin hole on the L. Perhaps it would be mistaken for an incomplete perfin die M16 (except for a number check with the number reported and the additional pin hole on the L). Taken as a strip however, it has 3 dies of M17 - the top stamp is incomplete, the middle stamp has the addition [Co] with the [MLI/Co] and the bottom stamp is complete. Then there is the new bit - This is a NEW find of M17 to be added to the listings in the 5th Edition of the CSPI handbook - Scott # 114v (a variety)

Now to pricing using the beautifully worked on reference by Kerry Bryant:

Top stamp (Scott #114v) G rated: say perfin value 50% of \$1.55 = .75¢ + stamp cv VF \$25.00 = \$25.75

Middle Complete Die Scott #114 G rated = say perfin 'partial double' \$2.00 + stamp cv VF 6.00 = \$ 8.00

Bottom Complete which also has variety #114v G rated = say perfin value \$1.55 + stamp cv VF 25.00 = \$26.55

The Postmark could be considered [OTTAWA CANADA AU-5-30] which might add a bit to the partial top perfinned stamp, but of course it would be small crime to split the strip of 3 which would break up the postmarks and provide less value - would think the strip could have a bit more value added as a strip....with (2) stamp variety #114v. So, bottom line pricing of this M16 perfin with new two (2) variety of the three(3) Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. Ottawa, ON [MLI/Co] Rated G which is 1,001 - 3,000 factor from the 5h Edition CSPI Handbook which states "The numbers given in the 3rd Edition" . Totalling \$60.30 for this strip of G rated stamps with variety. Say \$60.00 even [without adding a bit for new listed stamp variety, cds & strip value] maybe \$5.00 more..\$65.00.. Am I close?

These patterns are known on both US and Canadian stamps. Table 1 gives the corresponding information.

TABLE 1	
Canadian Pattern Number	Corresponding US Pattern Number
M15 RF-B	M158 RF -H
M16 RF-C	M164 RF-F
M17 RF-G	M164.5 RF-A

For some reason I have always been, and remain, attracted by the differences. It is probably what interested me about perfin long ago – they were different from other stamps for sure – and probably why I hung on to them when I sold my other items back in the late 1960's. When I resumed my perfin pursuits some 5 years ago and picked up a "new" 4th edition handbook, I was fascinated by the S19 plates at the back. 95 dies and everyone "different"! Because they are different I reasoned, you ought to be able to determine which of these 95 dies perforated the stamp "in hand". After all, the FBI can match a single finger print in a data base of several millions, how hard can this be? Plus, Conrad said in his Perforator article that with practice we can all do it!

With a stamp blessed with an easily read CDS cancel, the field is narrowed considerable; even having a partially discerning post mark is helpful. Without these clues to guide me I have tried to match others and with not much success, at least not in generating enough comfort that I had identified the proper die. Determining which dies it isn't is simple, but deciding between the last 3 or 4 I found next to impossible. With a CD's cancel, a stamp perforated in positions 5 through 8 is a little easier than one perforated in any of the first four positions, where sometimes it's hard to get enough contrast between the stamp face and the perfin holes over the pattern to know if you have an exact match.

Then a couple of months ago I received a copy of the US Perfin Club's newsletter and there was an article identifying a perfin pattern by "lifting" it from the stamp [which was on a cover] and overlaying it on a choice of similar patterns to show which one it actually was. As I mentioned in the last Perforator, the editor of the Club's Bulletin, Ken Masters, kindly sent me the instructions on how to do this and I incorporated the technique in the article on C33/C34/C35 (broken pin) differences by Ron Whyte. I have applied this technique to one S22.1, a USC 223 with a Position 5 punch with a Halifax CDS cancel. Here are the results.



Image 1

Once the holes are filled in you can copy the hole pattern, save it, and then "paste" on another image.

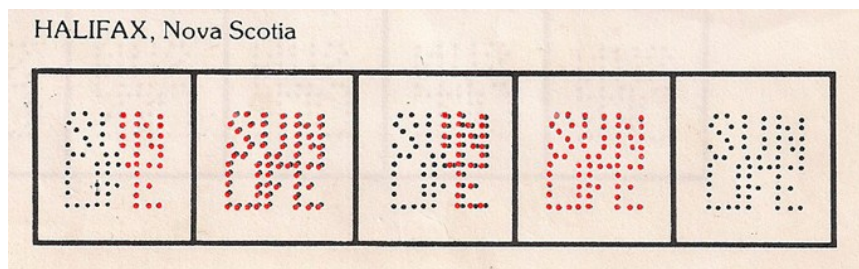


Image 2

In Image 1 the saved pattern image from the #223 has been pasted on Dies 1 and 2, the resulting image saved and then the process repeated by pasting the pattern image on Dies 2 and 3. As you can see—no match.

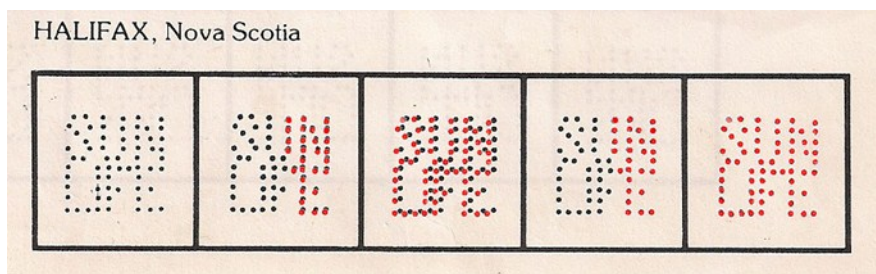


Image 2—the process was repeated for the combinations of Die 3 and 4 and Die 4 and 5. Die 4 and 5 is the match.

Conrad's S.22 entry in the 4th Edition Handbook notes that the plating for the following cities is not complete: Toronto, Windsor, Peterborough, Fort William, Regina, Saskatoon, Edmonton and Calgary.

I would encourage the membership to look through their S22's for these locations. Any stamp you have with a part of two dies will add a piece to solving the sequence of the dies for these patterns. It doesn't have to be a higher denomination issue, any low value definitive with a split perfin pattern will help. You can simply send me a scan of the front and back of the stamp. With a little effort I think we can complete the work Conrad started.

Going back to my FBI reference I have made a couple of inquiries about desktop image matching software, IRIS being one such place. My thought is if you scanned all the plate images and then scanned the pattern on a particular stamp, software could give the "matching" probability perhaps in terms of percentage. It's a 99.8% match for Die 4 of S.22.11 as an example. So far I have not across any desktop software that has the capability to sort and match the 95 different S22 die patterns. Perhaps a Study Group member has some knowledge that would assist.

Known Perforator Locations

Jim Graham

Appendix H in the 5th Edition encouraged me to search back issues of the perforator to see what I could learn about their location. Table 1 is what I found.

It would be a nice project for the Study Group to complete Appendix H as much as possible. This would mean obtaining perfin die proofs from those perforators with known locations but without die proofs in Appendix H. The companion piece would be to identify the location of the C6 and C46 perforators.

TABLE 1

Date	Pattern	Company	Last Known Location	Reporter
Apr-80	C15	Canadian General Electric	CGE in Toronto	Jon Johnson
Apr-80	I11	Consolidating Mining & Smelting	Rossland Mining Museum, Rossland BC	Jon Johnson
Apr-80	I17	International Harvester	National Postal Museum, Ottawa	Jon Johnson
Mar-84	I21	International Haverster	National Postal Museum, Ottawa	Jack Bennington
Apr-80	M17	Metropolitan Life	Ottawa Office	Jon Johnson
Apr-80	M23	Montreal Rolling Mills	National Postal Museum, Ottawa	Jon Johnson
Apr-80	M28	Marshall-Wells	Marshall Wells Archives - Edmonton	Jon Johnson
Apr-80	O4	Ogilvie Flour Mills	National Postal Museum, Ottawa	Jon Johnson
Apr-80	P8	Province of Prince Edward Island	Provincial Archives; Charlottetown	Jon Johnson
Apr-80	S2	Swift Canadian Co Ltd	A private museum in Saskatchewan	Jon Johnson
Sep-80	S22.9	Sun Life (London Ontario)	National Postal Museum, Ottawa	Gary Tomasson
Apr-80	W5	BC Workman's Compensation Board	Board Archives, BC Department of Finance	Jon Johnson

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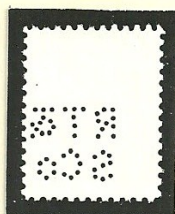
Clarenville NL A5A 2B5

Editor

Jim Graham

12006 Highway 1

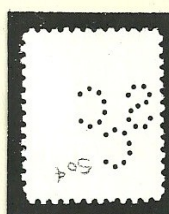
RR3 Lawrencetown NS B0S 1M0



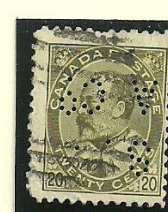
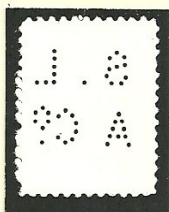
• (Left) **R. Tuck & Sons Co. (R10)**, New York, New York, RF = A. Raphael Tuck and his sons produced postcards, children's books and pornography in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. They made a series of Labrador and Newfoundland postcards. There are no dated examples of this rare perfin.



• (Right) **Swift Canadian Co. Ltd (S1)**, Toronto, Ontario, RF = E. This meat packing company started in Toronto and eventually had plants across Canada. This is the only reported example on an Edward VII issue. Dated examples are known from 1921 to 1943.



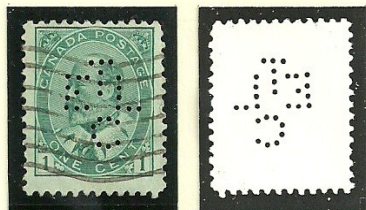
• (Left) **Steel Company of Canada (S9)**, Hamilton, Ontario, RF = G. Stelco was formed in 1910 from the merger of five Canadian firms including the Montreal Rolling Mills Co. (see M22 perfin). This is the only reported example on a 10-cent. Dated examples are known from 1912 to 1956.



• (Above and below) **Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada (S13)**, Montreal, Quebec, RF = F. Started in 1871 it is now known as Sun Life Financial. Dated examples of this perfin are known from 1899 to 1911. The 2¹-cent is the latest reported usage. Note on the cover below that the perfin design mirrors the abbreviation of the word "Company".



F. X. St. Charles & Co. (S17), Montreal, Quebec, RF = F. Little is known about this company. Dated examples are only known from 1916.



Toronto Electric Light Co. (T1), Toronto, Ontario, RF = D. Founded in 1883 by the flamboyant Sir Henry Mill Pellatt, this pioneering company built Canada's first hydroelectric plant at Niagara Falls. It received the first contract in 1890 for Toronto street lighting. It was purchased by Steubenville and East Liverpool Co. in 1907. There are no known dated examples of this perfin.



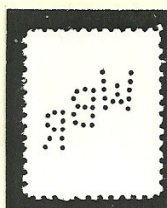
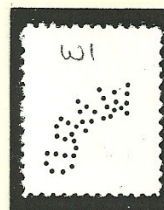
• (Above) **Trust & Loan Co. of Canada (T3),** Winnipeg, Manitoba, RF = D. Formed in 1888 it eventually became Canada Trust (see C48). Known from 1907 to 1908, the 2-cent at left is the latest reported usage.

Tupper, Phippen & Tupper (T5), Winnipeg, Manitoba, RF = D. This law firm was founded in 1882 by Sir Huger John MacDonald, the son of Sir John A. MacDonald, Canada's first prime minister. The second lawyer was J. Stewart Tupper the son of the second prime minister of Canada. Today it is known as Tupper & Adams even though the last Tupper to work at the firm was in 1960. Dated examples are known from a short period between 1904 and 1906.



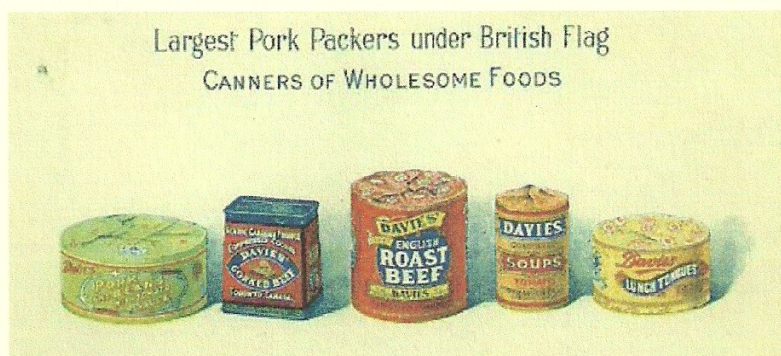
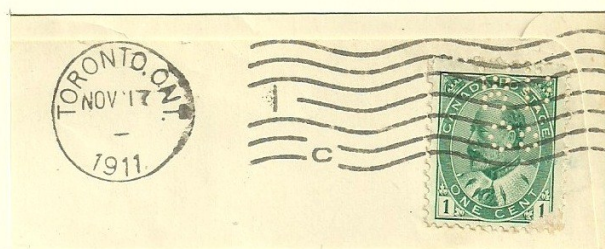
• **Traveler's Insurance Co. (T6),** Hartford, Connecticut, RF = D. Started in Hartford in 1864, this famous insurance company had branch offices in Montreal. This particular perfin was made in Hartford and then distributed to Canadian salesmen and branch offices. There are no dated examples of this perfin reported. This is the only known example of a T6 on a 5-cent.

Jos. Ward & Co. (W1), Montreal, Quebec, RF = F. Little is known about this company. Dated examples of this perfin are known from 1911 to 1917.

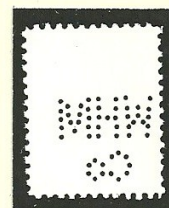


Warwick Bros. & Rutter, (W3), Toronto, Ontario, RF = E. This company was founded 1848 and was a prominent bookbinder, printer and publisher of postcards. It is now defunct. Dated examples are known from 1903 to 1942.

• **William Davies Co. (W6),** Toronto, Ontario, RF = C. Started in 1860, William Davies was Canada's first meat packing company. Its pork products gave Toronto the nickname "Hog-town". It was amalgamated into Canada Packers in 1927. This is the earliest recorded usage of the W6. Note the full colour ad on the reverse reproduced below.



• **W. H. Malkin Co. (W8),** Vancouver, British Columbia, RF = B. William Harold Malkin started his wholesale grocery business in the 1895. He also imported food, blended tea and roasted coffee. Malkin was mayor of Vancouver from 1929 to 1930. A single dated example is known of this rare perfin – cancelled in 1910.





• **W. J. Gage Co. (W9)**, Toronto, Ontario, RF = G. Started in 1880 this publishing house specialized in educational books (ex: Dick and Jane readers). It was sold to Scott Foresman Publishers of Chicago in 1970. Note the rare position pair on the 10-cent. Dated examples of this perfin have been reported from 1905 to 1937



• **William Rennie Co. Ltd. (W13)**, Vancouver, British Columbia, RF = E. This seed and gardening supply company was founded in 1870 and continued to operate until 1961. This perfin is scarce on Edward VII issues and this is the only reported W13 on a 5-cent. Examples have been found with dated cancels from 1916 to 1919.

• **Gutta Percha & Rubber Co. (#1)**, Toronto, Ontario, RF = G. Gutta Percha is a rubber-like substance made from the *Palaquium gutta* tree of East Asia. The company was famous for its "Maltese Cross" brand rubber shoe sole. This perfin is rare on this issue and this is the only reported #1 on a King Edward VII stamp. Dated examples have been reported from 1921 to 1931.



A PERFIN PUZZLE



To save time while perforating the company's initials into the postage, the stamps were often stacked before being placed into the machine. Those stamps on the bottom of the stack were often partially perforated as the pins struggled to penetrate the stamps. As well, the pins of the machine were occasionally damaged. This often produced stamps with only partial perfin designs. Can you identify which common perfin design is on this stamp?

CONCLUSION

After the Edwardian period – during the "Admiral" period from 1911 to 1928 – the number of perfin designs on Canadian postage reached a peak of 233. But in 1903, even before the peak of perfin usage occurred, the first Postage Paid system had started in Canada. In 1923 the Canadian Post Office also approved the first meter mail machine (a Pitney Bowes). The beginning of the end of Canadian perfin usage had begun.

• • •

Major References:

Johnson, J. C. and Tomasson, G. (1985), *Canadian Stamps with Perforated Initials*, Unitrade Press, Toronto
Tremblay, C. M., (2002), *Canadian Perfin Position Survey*, the BNA Perforator, Volume 23, Number 1