



In This Issue

Editor's Column	25
BNAPS News	25
Study Group News	26
50 Years Ago	26
Spacing Varieties on Modern	
Canadian Coils	27
Help Wanted - Cover Mystery	31
Paper Remnant on Pre-Cancelled	
Strip of 2c Wildings	32
Pictorial Cancel Website and Map	32

Copies distributed: 138

Editor's Column

Happy New Year to All! I hope you had a philatelically fulfilling holiday season, whether that meant a new stamp or cover under the tree for your collection, a new reference book for Hanukah or simply some quiet time to work on your collection. The temperatures have dropped significantly in Nova Scotia this week (but not very much snow in the Halifax area). For me, that means putting on the fire and trying to organize my collection – a never-ending challenge!

Our coffers have been depleted, so please consider submitting an article, short or long, for the Newsletter.

One suggestion would be updating articles which appeared in the previous issues. Many of the early issues of The Corgi Times were produced through physical cutting and pasting and black and white photocopying resulting in lost details especially for articles relating to errors and varieties. Back issues of are available at <https://adminware.ca/esg/corgitimes/corgi.php>.

Study Group News

BNAPS will conduct a Virtual Convention on Saturday, March 1, 2025, utilizing the BNAPS website to display exhibit entries and Zoom to conduct study group meetings. The ESG is scheduled for a Zoom meeting at 13:15-14:15 EST, in Stream 1 of two concurrent streams. It will be a "Show-and-Tell". Please plan to participate in this event!

Planning Calendar

This is a listing of major exhibitions and bourses with a large content of both Canadian Exhibits and Canadian dealers.

The goal is to list events far in advance to encourage either exhibiting or attendance and preferably both.

March 1, 2025	BNAPS Virtual Convention
March 29-30, 2025	ESC Spring National Stamp Show , Edmonton, AB
April 25-26, 2025	FILEX/Royal*2025*Royale , Montreal, QC
May 3-4, 2025	ORAPEX , Ottawa, ON
May 24-25, 2025	Le Salon de Vieux Papier , Quebec City, QC
September 19-21, 2025	BNAPLEX, Vernon, BC

Who are We?

We are the Elizabethan II Study Group under the auspices of the British North America Philatelic Society (BNAPS) — The Society for Canadian Philately.

Our journal, the *Corgi Times* is published six times a year.

We study all aspects of Canadian stamps during the Elizabethan-era — February 6, 1952 through September 8, 2022.

BNAPS

Website: bnaps.org

Membership information:

Christopher Ellis
62 Bruce Street
London, ON, N6C 1G6
gdeacon@gmail.com

Elizabethan II Study Group

Founder:

John D. Arn, OTB

Chairman:

Robert J. Elias
10 Thornhill Bay
Winnipeg, MB R3T 3W5
Canada

Treasurer:

Derek Fleming
854 Silver Birch Trail
Mississauga, ON L5J 4C1
Canada

Website: adminware.ca/esg

ANNUAL DUES

All addresses: C\$10.00 for a one-time application fee charge; free for all following years for distribution of *Corgi Times* via e-mail or a PDF download from the website.

Payment by PayPal is preferred:
E2SGTreasurer@gmail.com

If by cheque, please make cheques payable to "The Elizabethan II Study Group" and send to Derek Fleming, Treasurer at the address noted above.

Articles with no by-line are written or compiled by the Editor. All articles are ©2024 by the author and/or the Elizabethan II Study Group.

Study Group News

In January 2025, the Société philatélique de Québec (SPQ) highlighted Luc Frève's contributions to philately through his volunteerism, his presentations, his in-depth articles in numerous philatelic magazines and his input at meetings. Congratulations for this well-deserved recognition!



50 Years Ago

February 1975

February 5 • Semi-Postal - Swimming

February 5 • Semi-Postal - Rowing

February 5 • Semi-Postal - Sailing



Corgi Times – Publishing Details

Editor:

Jane Sodero
30 Walton Dr
Halifax, NS B3N 1X7
Canada
jmfsodero@hotmail.com

Manuscripts should be submitted to the Editor at the address at left. Electronic format is preferred but not required. Files should be in Word or text format. Scanned illustrations (300dpi, colour, actual size, JPEG or TIFF, black background) should be sent as separate files from text files. Lower quality images may not be included and may result in the article not being printed.

Issue	Article Deadline*	Publication Date
September – October	September 1 st	between September 15 and 30
November – December	November 1 st	between November 15 and 30
January – February	January 1 st	between January 15 and 30
March – April	March 1 st	between March 15 and 30
May – June	May 1 st	between May 15 and 30
July – August	July 1 st	between July 15 and 30

* at the editor's discretion articles may be held for a future issue

Spacing Varieties on Modern Canadian Coils

by Mirko Zatka

Coil spacing varieties (wide, narrow, jumps, etc.) on Canadian Elizabethan stamps all arise from the printing process used. Water-activated gum coils, sold in rolls of 500 stamps (later 100 stamps) were produced by the Canadian Bank Note Company (CBN) for the Post Office Department (later, Canada Post Corporation) from 1935 until 2000. At that time, a switch was made to the use of self-adhesive paper for coils, resulting in a change in the printer and the production technique.

All of these coils were produced using one (or two) engraved plates fitted onto a printing cylinder on a rotary press. The plate(s) were smaller than the full circumference of the cylinder. Perhaps the best explanation of the printing process was published in the November 1954 issue of **The Canadian Philatelist** by A.H. Christenson:

The printing plate is curved and attached to the cylinder of a rotary press. Only one plate is attached to the press [...]. The plate prints on paper that is in a continuous roll. After the plate impression is transferred to the paper, the cylinder stops and the paper is jerked backwards to compensate for the distance from the bottom of the last row of stamps printed and the top of the first row of stamps that will be printed next when the cylinder revolves. The printing of roll stamps is comparatively slow because of the stopping of rotation of the cylinder after each impression to allow time for the adjustment of the paper. Normally the paper adjustment will be exact and there will be no visible misalignment between plate impressions. Occasionally, however, misalignment does occur and the distance between one row of stamps from one plate and the next row of the second plate impression may vary to a slight degree or the alignment of the rows may vary.¹

Until 1968 the single plate consisted of two sections that were nine stamps high and 25 stamps wide, with a blank gutter in-between. Thus 25 stamps were printed lengthwise in one revolution of the cylinder. In 1968, starting with the 6c orange Centennial coil value (#468A), the Post Office Department changed the marketing strategy around sales of coil rolls from bulk mailers to individual customers at post offices and reduced the coil roll size from 500 to 100 stamps, while CBN changed its printing cylinder size to two plates of 10 by 36 stamps, again separated by a blank gutter (other changes were made by CBN to improve the production process, but these are outside the scope of this article). Oddly enough, some years ago I sold a partial 7c Centennial coil roll with 243 stamps. This was a continuous strip with no paste-ups or other joins! Its source was Kasimir Bileski's stock.

As described above, the paper re-engagement process with the printing cylinder should be extremely precise, meaning there should be no difference in the position or spacing of the first, next, stamp printed relative to the last stamp from the previous cylinder revolution. In reality, likely due to slight unintended movement of the cylinder or adjustment of the paper web, there are often small misalignments of the cylinder with its previous position each time it re-engages the paper. This can result in a narrow or wide spacing between the last- and the next-printed stamp, or a shift ("jump") up or down relative to the previous image (or left or right depending on orientation of the images), or a combination of both. Overall, this can generate up to 8 different combinations/possibilities of spacing differences:

- Narrow spacing: jump left, right, or no jump, (such as shown in Figure 1)

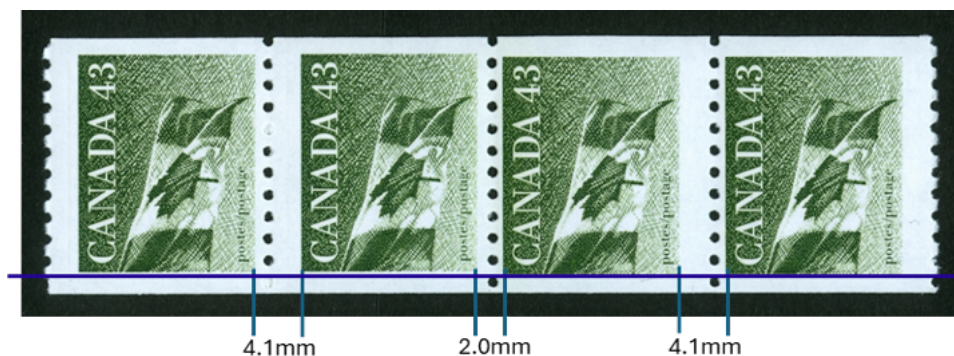


Figure 1: Very narrow spacing strip with jump to left (down as shown)

¹ Christenson, A. (1954). Canadian Coil Stamps with Faulty Alignment. *The Canadian Philatelist*, Vol 5 (#9), p. 12.

- Normal spacing: jump left, or right, (such as shown in Figure 2) and
- Wide spacing, jump left, right, or no jump (such as shown in Figure 3).

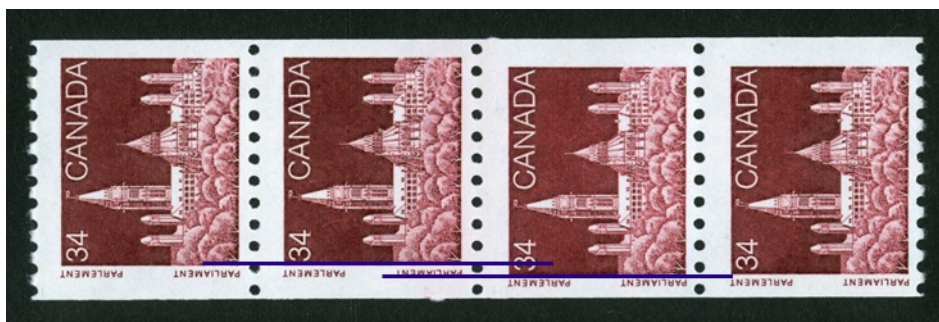


Figure 2: Normal spacing but large jump to left (down as shown)



Figure 3: Wide spacing strip with very minor jump up



Figure 4: Discoloration at location where printing re-starts (jump to top visible)

from the previous plate strike and the first from the next one. This may be caused by the plate wiping / inking process between each cylinder engagement on the paper. This is particularly noticeable on the 8c and 10c Caricature coils (#604 and #605), as well as later on the 14c Parliament (#730) and the 45c and 46c Flag coil (#1396 and #1695).

The second indication is discoloration or lack of sharpness of the top of the first stamp image where the plate re-engages the paper. This is most often seen on the 32c Maple Leaf coil (#950iii) and the 45c and 46c Flag coils.

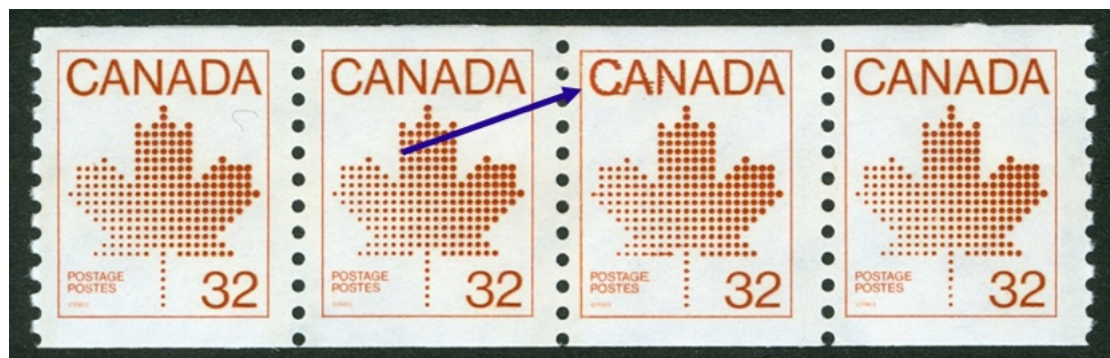


Figure 5: Discoloration of 'C' on stamp 3 (narrow spacing visible in this case)

It can be expected that the spacing distance at the location where the printing re-starts can change during the printing process, and in fact this is found on most coil issues. The 36c value is interesting in that it was in use for the shortest period of time before a rate change (May 19, 1987 to January 1, 1988; 7½ months), yet is found with the greatest variation in spacings compared to other coil values (Figure 6). It means the printing was either done in multiple runs, or the press set-up was particularly ‘loose’. The spacing differences can be found in almost every increment of 0.1mm within the given range.

A further look at the 36c coil in Figure 7 shows the distribution of the spacing. Note that most of these are narrow spacings:

As mentioned earlier, the variations in these gaps or jumps can be quite complex on a specific issue. In a number of issues, four or more different combinations of spacing and jumps exist – in the case of the 4c and 8c Centennial values seven of the eight possibles have been recorded. The range of spacing can also be quite wide as noted before, from very large on the 36c coil and the 38c Parliament (#1194A; 2.6 – 5.0mm) to a more moderate range on the ‘A’ coil (#908; 4.3 - 4.8mm) where no narrow spacing has been reported. This can offer an additional collecting challenge – find all of the different spacing differences that exist. It does not mean though that every increment of 0.1mm or so exists!

I have not seen enough examples of the Karsh, Wilding, and Cameo coil varieties to include them at this time in this study. The data in Table 1 is based on a significant number of coil spacing / jump strips I have accumulated / sold over the decades, starting with the 3c Centennial value. In some cases, this is as high as ~700 strips (6c orange and 8c Centennial values), but more typically several hundred strips (14c, 37c, 38c, 45c values and others). A ‘scarce’ rating is based on a frequency of between 5 – 10 out of every 100 spacing / jump strips, while a ‘rare’ rating is for only a couple of strips from multiple hundreds. All of these strips have come from multiple sources over the years, affording what I consider to be a broad look at “what is out there”. Spacing values at the ends of the scale range are generally scarce and more of an exception. More common are values closer to middle of the range.

I have also not tried to break down the listings further by paper fluorescence or tagging, as this is probably too deep a level for most collectors (I have not studied this data in any detail).

There are, of course, exceptions to the normal range of spacings and jumps when production errors become involved – see the illustration in the 2024 edition of the **Unitrade Specialized Catalogue of Canadian Stamps** on bottom of page 265. These are not considered in this study.



Figure 6: Range of spacing differences found on the 36c Parliament coil (2.1 to 4.5mm). Fifth strip from left shows normal 3.8mm spacing

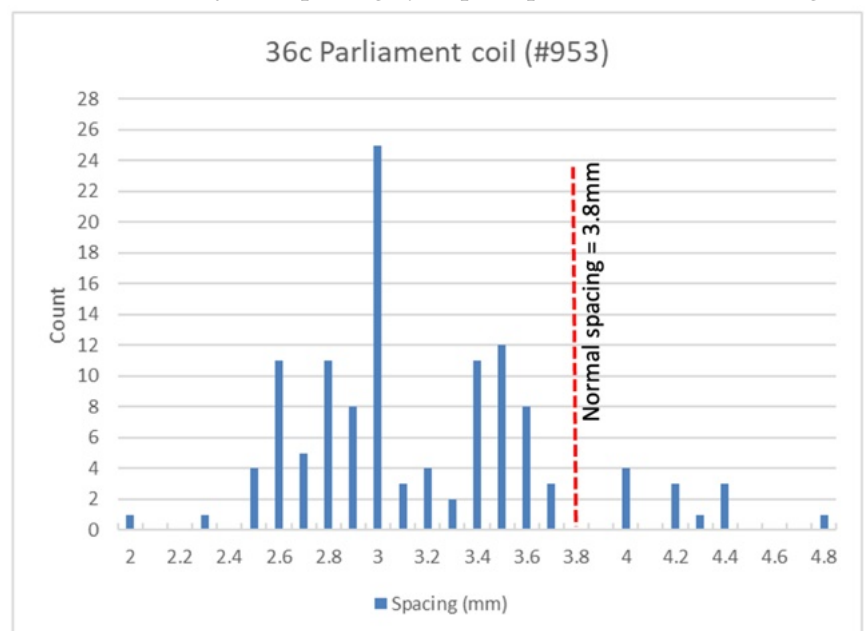


Figure 7: Statistical distribution of spacing for 105 strips.

I hope you will find this to be useful data, and I would be grateful for any updates to the list (and associated pictures or scans) members of this group can provide of strips that I have flagged as not existing / seen. I can be reached directly at zatkaphil@shaw.ca, or you can send the information to the Editor of the Corgi Times. This will provide a more comprehensive (and corrected) overall listing, allowing the **Unitrade Catalogue** to be updated in future (and a revised table published in the Corgi Times). As noted in the Table, some combinations have proven to be very elusive and may not exist, so they should not be listed in the catalogue.

TABLE 1

Issue	Normal spacing (mm)	Range of spacing (mm)	Spacing - Narrow			Spacing - Normal		Spacing - Wide			Comments
			Jump UP / RIGHT	No Jump	Jump DOWN / LEFT	Jump UP / RIGHT	Jump DOWN / LEFT	Jump UP / RIGHT	No Jump	Jump DOWN / LEFT	
3c Centennial	4.0	3.8 - 4.9	?	Y	?	?	Y	Y	Y	Y	narrow spacing is much scarcer
4c Centennial	4.0	3.1 - 5.9	Y	Y	?	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Jumps to left are extremely minor, if real
5c Centennial	4.0	4.1 - 4.5	?	?	?	?	?	?	Y	Y	Jumps to left are extremely minor, if real
6c Centennial (org)	3.8	4.2 - 4.6	?	?	?	?	Y	Y	Y	Y	Jumps to left are rare, narrow sp. not seen
6c Centennial (blk)	3.8	4.0 - 4.2	?	?	?	?	?	?	Y	?	Wide spacing range is very small; no jumps or narrow spacing seen
7c Centennial	3.6	4.0	?	?	?	?	?	Y	Y	?	Wide spacing is typ. 4.0mm - others, or jump to left, not seen
8c Centennial	3.8	3.2 - 4.5	Y	Y	Y	?	Y	Y	Y	Y	Jump to right strips more common than left jump
8c Caricature	4.0	3.8 - 4.5	Y	?	?	Y	?	Y	?	?	No narrow spacing or jump down strips seen
10c Caricature	4.0	4.3 - 4.7	?	?	?	Y	?	Y	?	Y	Narrow spacing strips not seen; jump down is very scarce
12c Parliament	4.2	4.0 - 5.0	?	Y	?	?	?	Y	Y	Y	Narrow spacing is rare; jumps are typically very minor
14c Parliament	4.2	3.7 - 5.7	?	Y	?	?	?	Y	Y	?	Narrow spacing is rare; jump up is typically very minor, no jump down seen.
17c Parliament	4.2	3.0 - 5.4	?	Y	Y	?	?	Y	Y	Y	Narrow sp. is rare; most wide spacing strips are 5.0mm
"A" Maple Leaf	4.0	4.3 - 4.8	?	?	?	?	?	?	Y	Y	Narrow spacing or jump up not seen; jump down is very minor
30c Maple Leaf	4.0	4.3 - 5.0	?	?	?	Y	?	Y	Y	Y	No narrow spacing seen; jumps are very minor
32c Maple Leaf (Abitibi)	4.0	3.0 - 5.0	?	Y	?	?	Y	?	Y	?	Jumps are very minor, jump up not seen.
32c Maple Leaf (Clark)	4.0	2.8 - 4.8	Y	Y	Y	?	?	?	Y	?	Wide spacing and jumps are very scarce. Jumps are minor.
34c Parliament	4.0	2.5 - 5.0	?	Y	Y	?	Y	?	Y	?	Very scarce large jump to left exists (F ppr). No jumps to right seen.
36c Parliament	3.8	2.1 - 4.5	Y	Y	?	?	?	?	Y	?	No jumps to left seen; wide spacing is very scarce

Issue	Normal spacing (mm)	Range of spacing (mm)	Spacing - Narrow			Spacing - Normal		Spacing - Wide			Comments
			Jump UP / RIGHT	No Jump	Jump DOWN / LEFT	Jump UP / RIGHT	Jump DOWN / LEFT	Jump UP / RIGHT	No Jump	Jump DOWN / LEFT	
37c Parliament	4.0	2.8 - 4.5	Y	Y	Y	?	Y	?	?	Y	Jumps to right very scarce; Wide spacing scarcer than narrow
38c Parliament	4.0	2.6 - 5.0	?	Y	?	?	?	?	Y	?	Jump to left very scarce; no jump right seen; wide spacing is scarce
39c Flag	4.1	3.0 - 5.0	Y	Y	Y	?	?	?	Y	?	Wide spacing is rare; jumps are very minor
40c Flag	4.1	2.8 - 4.8	Y	Y	Y	?	?	?	Y	?	Wide spacing is scarce; if present, jumps are extremely minor
43c Flag	4.1	2.0 - 4.7	?	Y	Y	?	Y	?	?	?	No jump right strips seen; Normal spacing strips exist w/ large jump left
45c Flag	4.1	3.1 - 5.0	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	?	Jumps are normally minor; jump to right and wide spacing are scarce
46c Flag	4.4	3.2 - 5.5	Y	?	?	Y	?	Y	Y	Y	Jump to left is rare

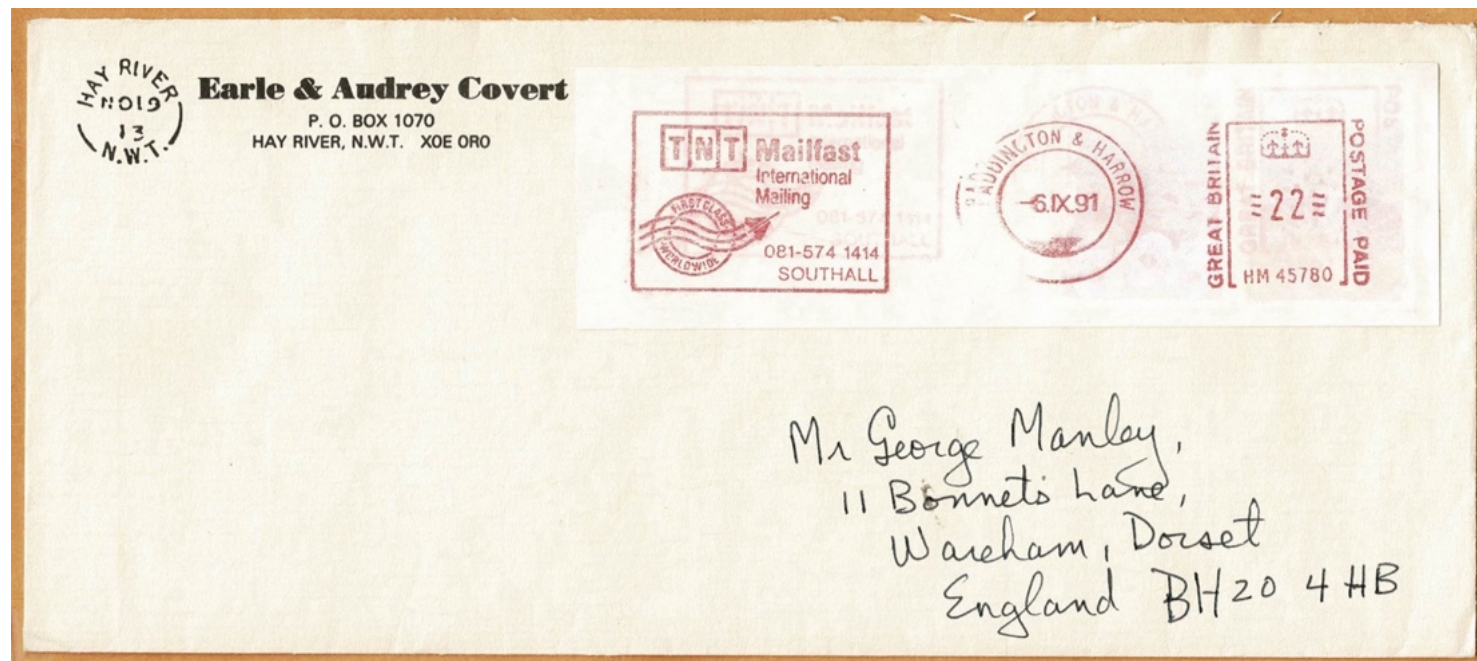
Help Wanted - Cover Mystery

Submitted by Earle Covert

Earle Covert sent this item from his own correspondence with George Manley, the author of the **Canadian Precancelled Postal Stationery Handbook** published in 1984. When the letter shown below was mailed it was franked with the appropriate Canadian postage but when it arrived in Dorset, UK, a TNT Mailfast label had been added at a Paddington & Harrow location.

From a brief web search, your editor has found that TNT Mailfast is a remailer founded in Australia in 1987. In 2001, it evolved into Spring and served clients including Post NL, Singapore Post and Royal Mail.

Earle Covert wonders whether this permit label is common. Have our members seen others placed on Canadian mail to Great Britain or other countries.



Paper Remnant on Pre-Cancelled Strip of 2c Wildings

Submitted by Gary Steele; with comments from Leopold Beaudet

Gary Steele sent this example of a paper remnant stuck to the face of two stamps in a full width strip of 10 stamps. After seeing this, Leopold Beaudet commented: "Since the precancel bars are normal, they show that an errant piece of paper clung to the sheet during the printing of the design but fell off before the precancel bars were printed by either typography or lithography on a different press."



Pictorial Cancel Website and Map

Collector "Linda" has a [website](#) and [Instagram](#) account documenting the pictorial cancels produced by Canada Post for post offices across Canada. This is a huge project as many post offices have had multiple hammers over the years with slight variations. The [map](#) covers all the provinces and territories. She is looking for contributions of missing marks and can be contacted at deldal@gmail.com. On the same topic, BNAPS member Hugh Rathbun self-published **Nova Scotia Pictorial Postmarks 1975 – 2018** in 2018.



ORAPEX
OTTAWA'S NATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION
EXPOSITION PHILATELIQUE NATIONALE D'OTTAWA



CANADIAN
STAMP NEWS



SPARKS
AUCTIONS

ORAPEX 2025
Ottawa's National Stamp Exhibition

62nd Annual Exhibition and Bourse
Theme: The Beaver
APS World Series of Philately Show
Exhibit applications for all subjects welcome.

Saturday, May 3rd, 2025 - 10 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Sunday, May 4th, 2025 - 10 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Free admission and parking
Free stamps for youth

Nepean Sportsplex
1701 Woodroffe Avenue
Ottawa, Ontario K2G 1W2

www.orapex.ca
info@orapex.ca