

THE NEWFIE NEWSLETTER

of the Newfoundland Study Group of BNAPS

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It gives me great pleasure to send this first newsletter of the Newfoundland Study Group to each of you. I am hopeful this will be only the first of many. The BNAPS librarian tells me that there are no newsletters or bulletins of any previous Newfoundland study group in the BNAPS library--which makes us the first Newfoundland study group in the 40 years of the Society's history.

Our group has been allocated a time and place for a seminar at this year's BNAPS convention in Calgary. The time is from 12:30 to 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, 12 September, and the place is the Jasper Room of the Westin Hotel. There will be a short program and the remainder of the time devoted to organizing the group. So plan now to attend.

The first project we as a group can do is to assist Palmer Moffit to develop a list of twentieth century Newfoundland post offices. A list of nineteenth century post offices is to appear in Robert Pratt's forthcoming handbook on the postal history of Newfoundland. Palmer has tabulated a list from searching all available published records. He now needs to confirm the years of operation for all the offices. The first half of his list is enclosed. Please look over the list and check your collection. If you can confirm a post office by a dated cancellation on stamp or cover, notify Palmer Moffit at 4542 East Camino De Oro, Tucson, Arizona 85718, U.S.A. If possible please send him a photocopy of the strike. Once all the confirmed years are tabulated, an updated list will be sent out with the newsletter.

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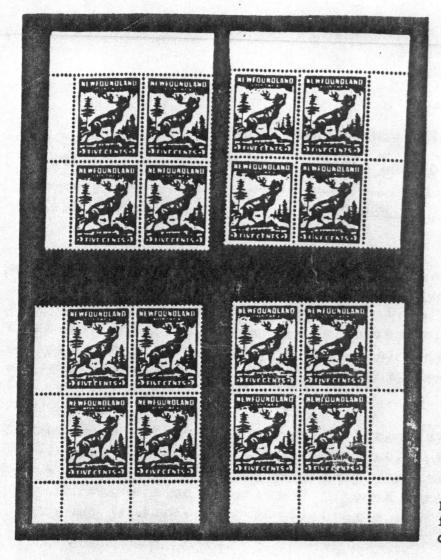


Figure 1 from the collection of John Siverts

This effort at establishing a Newfoundland Study Group is an outgrowth of correspondence between Derek Paul and myself concerning his study of the wartime 5 cents Caribou (See BNA Topics, March-April 1984, p. 33-36).

We had pretty well come to the conclusion that this stamp had been printed by Waterlow & Sons and comb perforated by Perkins Bacon. The assumption being that the perforator had survived the bombing and fire of the Perkins Bacon plant.

That is—until John Siverts showed a set of corner margin blocks (Figure 1). A study of the extension of the perforations into the margins could not prove that these are single comb perforated. It appears that these are harrow perforated or are double comb perforated. Neither are characteristic of Waterlow or Perkins Bacon. In other words, someone other than Perkins Bacon or Waterlow perforated this stamp. Who did the perforated is still a mystery. Anyone having any knowledge of who did or could have done this perforating, please contact C.A. Stillions.