

# THE NEWFOUNDLAND NEWSLETTER



## OF THE NEWFOUNDLAND STUDY GROUP OF BNAPS

Number 180

July - September 2020

### CONTENTS

Page 1	Study Group News	Malcolm Back
Page 2	Re The Attractive Rev. Butler Cover On Page 7 of NN 179	Ron McGuire
Page 3	The Earliest Link	Andrew Hussey
Page 4-6	The Cancellations of Newfoundland 1865-1908	David Piercey
Page 7-11	NEWFOUNDLAND: "John Cabot issue" 30¢ slate denomination, NSSC # 63	John M Walsh, FRPSC
Page 12-14	Newfoundland's Last Resource Issue – Single and Double Panes	A.B. Thompson
Page 15	Newfoundland 1932 1c "Pile Of Cod"	A.B. Thompson
Page 16	Another Blotchy Ink Variety	Robert Moore
	The Newfoundland Study Group Online	Malcolm Back



### NEWFOUNDLAND STUDY GROUP NEWS

by Malcolm Back

As most of you have been made aware of, we are now posting our newsletter on the BNAPS website as soon as it is published. This begged the question about the ability to search through all of the Newsletters for a particular topic or article of interest. After discussing this issue with BNAPS webmaster Leo Beaudet, he suggested the following method which allows you to search a specific website. To do this, in the Google search box enter the following: [site:www.bnaps.org](https://www.bnaps.org) "SEARCH TERM". For example, if you want to find articles on Rev. Butler you would enter [site:www.bnaps.org](https://www.bnaps.org) "Butler". Note that with more than one term as the SEARCH TERM, only text containing the entire phrase will be found. For example [site:www.bnaps.org](https://www.bnaps.org) "Rev. Butler" will only return that exact phrase, not text for just "Rev." or just "Butler". There may be another technique coming down the pipe, but for now this will work. For more info go to <https://www.lifewire.com/google-search-one-website-1616499>. If you have any other ideas along this line, please let us know and we will pass it along. Happy Hunting!!

On June 13, 2020 the NSG held its first online zoom session. All reports seem to be positive and 26 members were in attendance. We were treated to 2 excellent presentations; Richard Judge on "**Two Canadian 'Aniline' stamps: Two different spectroscopic tales.**" And Tony Thompson on "**Stamp paper – more than you need to know?**". Both talks were well illustrated and well received.

There is enough interest that we would like to plan another meeting in July, tentatively July 11. If you would like to make a presentation at this meeting please let me know ASAP so we can plan. We could also do shorter member presentations, questions and answers as well. Also let me know if that is of interest.

As always, I need articles for the next newsletter. The deadline will be September 19, 2020. Thank you for your ongoing support, and I look forward to meeting more of you at the next ZOOM session. (see page 16)

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**THE NEWFOUNDLAND NEWSLETTER  
OF THE NEWFOUNDLAND STUDY GROUP OF BNAPS**

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**Number 180**

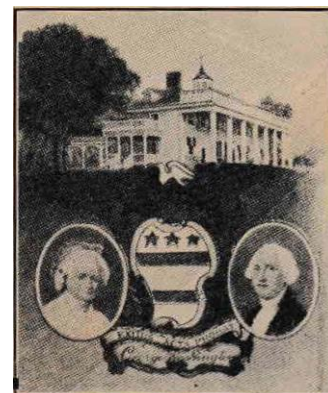
**July - September 2020**

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**RE THE ATTRACTIVE REV. BUTLER COVER ON PAGE 7 OF NN 179**

by Ron McGuire

I have the mailer for Butler's 1932 price list and believe he did this 'special' envelope to mail it to American clients using the cachet which depicts George Washington and what I believe is Mount Vernon, his home in Virginia. I could not make out the text under the patriotic crest between George and his wife, Martha, but thanks to Barry Senior, the cover's discoverer, I now know that it is Latin - "Exitus Acto Probat". I was fortunate to have those words lead me to "[www.washingtonsquareparkblog.com](http://www.washingtonsquareparkblog.com)"--which concerns the beautiful Arch created to commemorate the centennial of Washington's inauguration as America's first President on 30 April 1889 at Federal Hall in New York city, then the nation's capital. It was designed by architect Stanford White [1853 - 1906]. The original was built of wood and located about half a block away from where the more complex marble version stands. It has two different, very realistic sculptures of Washington on each side. The one on the east represents 'Washington at War'. The sculptor, Herman A. MacNeil intended the figure to appear alert and intent as if watching the maneuvers of his army. Behind him are allegorical figures of 'Fame' and 'Valor'. The west side depicts 'Washington at Peace' in front of 'Wisdom' and 'Justice'. 'Justice' is draped and crowned, holding a balanced set of scales with one hand and an open book in the other. The pages of the book are inscribed with the words: 'Exitus Acto Probat' which was taken from Washington's family coat of arms.



The arms and its motto were created by his ancestor William De Wessington [ca 1196 - 1239] who changed his name to Washington, after moving to the small village by that name, located between Newcastle and Sunderland, England. While there are several interpretations of the Latin text, this is the one considered to be the most appropriate: 'The outcome justifies the deed'. In George Washington's case the 'deed' is believed to refer to the Revolutionary War. He knew that war would result in many deaths, which he did not want, but if the results were freedom and liberty from the British, then the war was justified. Conversely, if Washington did not believe the outcome of an action was justified, then the deed should not be done.

I spend many a Sunday after noon in the mid-1960s around the Arch where people gathered to play and listen to folk music, very popular at that time. I recall it was particularly nice on sunny days in the autumn with the pleasant smell of roasted chestnuts from vendor's wagons.

1932 was the bicentennial of Washington's birth. It was celebrated in many ways across the country throughout the year. A set of twelve stamps [Scott 704 to 715], depicting different portraits of Washington, was issued on 1 January. Note that Butler used the two-cent value [Scott 707] from the set to frank the envelope.

It surprises me that the United States 'half dollar' [50 cents] commemorative coinage series, which were issued from 1892 to 1954 for various events, did not have a coin in 1932. However, the 'Standing Liberty' quarter [25 cents], issued in various years from 1916 to 1930, was replaced with the Washington quarter in 1932. That may have been meant to recognize the Washington celebration. The twenty-five cent coin continues to depict and honour Washington to the present day.

I think that this envelope was Butler's contribution to those celebrations, which I am sure would have pleased his American customers. It may have included a notice to confirm this. I doubt that Butler was in New York in March to process the covers personally and had someone do it for him at the Times Square post office; but that we will never know for sure.

**THE NEWFOUNDLAND NEWSLETTER  
OF THE NEWFOUNDLAND STUDY GROUP OF BNAPS**

---

**Number 180**

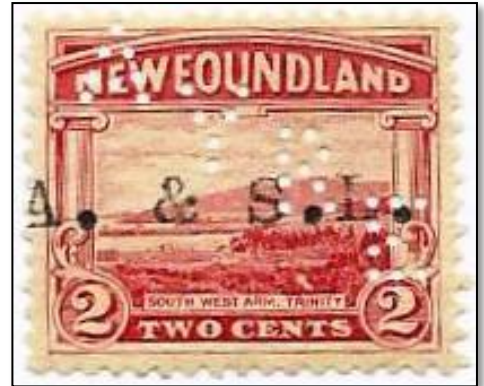
**July - September 2020**

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**The Earliest Link**

by Andrew Hussey

This is a follow-up article to that previously done as “The Missing Link” (NN 178) which outlined what the author considers to be a very late use of the “A. & S. L.” typed initials “pre-perfin/forerunner” on an AYRE perfinned stamp. This stamp, pictured here, has the “AYRE” perfin (position 1) in the Newfoundland Specialized Stamp Catalogue (NSSC) #NP5 style (14.5 mm high by 19 mm wide, also listed as the A12 style in the online BNAPS Perfin Handbook). It also has typed on it the initials “A. & S. L.” which represent the long standing St. John’s business of Ayre and Sons Limited. It is found on the 2¢ red Pictorial Issue stamp depicting South West Arm, Trinity, which, according to the NSSC, was issued on July 9, 1923. Please see the aforementioned article for my observations and conclusions regarding this particular stamp. Recently, via EBay, I was fortunate enough to pick up another very interesting item which follows in the same footsteps as this one (see image below). It also has the “A.&S.L.” typed initials (without the periods) plus a typed date but is instead on a 2¢ red Caribou Issue stamp which, according to the NSSC, was issued on January 2, 1919. This would have been the stamp issue directly preceding the Pictorial Issue. Upon examination, there are several interesting features of this stamp. The first thing is that this is the first time I have ever seen the “A. & S. L.” initials on



a Caribou Issue stamp. All versions of these typed initials have, to my knowledge, only been seen on the 2¢ Pictorial Issue. Secondly, a close look at the type font strongly suggests that the initials on the Caribou stamp (despite the missing periods) are identical to those on the 2¢ Pictorial. This suggests they were likely typed using the same (or same style of) typewriter, presumably by some poor clerk at the offices of Ayre and Sons Limited who was tasked with this. Thirdly, the typed date of, what must be May 25, 1923 shows that this pre-perfin was created during the latter period of the Caribou Issue and approximately 1½ months prior to the issue of the Pictorial stamps. With this piece as the only evidence I have seen thus far, I propose this may be the earliest known “A. & S. L.” pre-perfin stamp and as such “The Earliest Link”. It is also interesting to note that, according to the online BNAPS Perfin Handbook, there are

currently no listings for the AYRE A11 or A12 perforator known on the 2¢ Caribou Issue (Scott Catalogue #116 or 116a) but they are known on other Caribou Issue stamps. This would suggest that they ran out of stock of the 2¢ Caribou Issue prior to the arrival and use of the AYRE perforators.



**THE NEWFOUNDLAND NEWSLETTER  
OF THE NEWFOUNDLAND STUDY GROUP OF BNAPS**

**Number 180**

**July - September 2020**

**AN EXHIBIT BY DAVID PIERCEY**  
**The Cancellations of Newfoundland 1865-1908**

- continued from NN179

**TARGET CANCELS**



*Rose Blanche* 1872 ~1900  
*La Poile* 1873-1900  
(likely two different in use)



Issue current 1870-1879



Issue current 1870-1873



Issue current 1880-1887



Issue current 1890-1897



*St. John's*  
1888



Issue current 1880-1887  
(Pale blue)



(is this a distorted version of previous?)



Issue current 1887-1894  
(Dark blue)



Issue current 1894-1897  
(bright blue)

**UNCLASSIFIED**

Do not easily fit the Lacelle fancy cancel categories.



Issue current 1876-1880



Issue current 1879-1880



Issue current 1880-1887



Issue current 1870-1895



Issue current 1897-1911

# THE NEWFOUNDLAND NEWSLETTER OF THE NEWFOUNDLAND STUDY GROUP OF BNAPS

Number 180

July - September 2020

## AN EXHIBIT BY DAVID PIERCEY The Cancellations of Newfoundland 1865-1908

-continued

### BARRED CANCELS

Barred cancels are characterized by a strike consisting of several parallel bars. Some were officially issued as metal cancellation devices, while others were carved by local postmasters in cork or in wood.



A basic 10-bar cancel prepared in 1855 for distribution to the then existing 15 post offices. Can be found on all "Cents" issues 1865-1900.



Modified 10-bar cancel



Issue current 1865-



GPO outer ring  
St. John's  
1873



Issue current 1870-1873



Issue current 1877-1880



St. John's  
1870



Issue current 1865 -



Issue current 1870-1879  
(white paper)



Issue current 1870-1894  
(white paper)



St. John's  
April-May 1873



Issue current 1870-1873



Issue current 1873-1877



Issue current 1877-1880



Issue current 1877-1880



Issue current 1876-1880



Issue current 1877-1880

**THE NEWFOUNDLAND NEWSLETTER  
OF THE NEWFOUNDLAND STUDY GROUP OF BNAPS**

**Number 180**

**July - September 2020**

**AN EXHIBIT BY DAVID PIERCEY**  
**The Cancellations of Newfoundland 1865-1908**

- to be continued next issue

**BARRED CANCELS - continued**



nine bars



Issue current 1870-1894  
(white paper)



General device issued to  
most larger offices, 1888



Issue current 1887-1897



Issue current 1887-1897



Seal Cove  
1898



Issue current 1890-1898



Issue current 1898-1911



Nine bars  
St. John's  
1898



Issue current 1897-



five bars



Issue current 1897-1910



seven bars



Issue current 1897-1910

(A different barred cancel, consisting of eight bars, is shown on this exhibit's Title Page, cancelling a larger block.)



Issue current 1890-1897



Whitbourne  
1899



Issue current 1897-1910



**THE NEWFOUNDLAND NEWSLETTER  
OF THE NEWFOUNDLAND STUDY GROUP OF BNAPS**

---

**Number 180**

**July - September 2020**

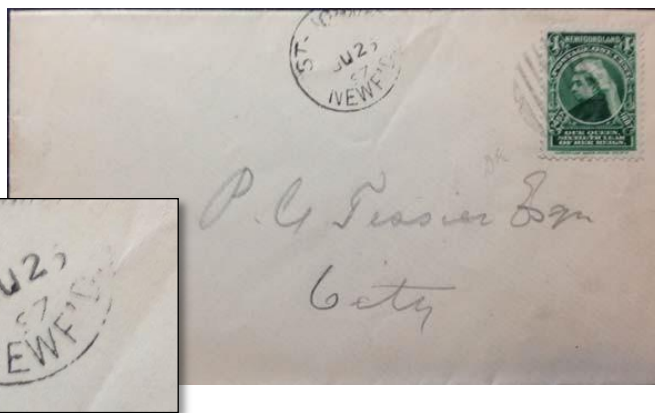
**NEWFOUNDLAND: "John Cabot issue"**

**30¢ slate denomination, NSSC # 63**

by John M Walsh, FRPSC

In June 1897 the postage stamp set known to collectors as the **1897 John Cabot & Jubilee** issue was released. To date the earliest known date of use is June 25 1897. The set is comprised of fourteen denominations extending from 1¢ to 60¢. It seems that not much in the way of varieties have been reported on stamps in this set.

In conjunction with this article and to provide information around the article title, varieties known to date are provided.



eku: for Cabot issue; Jun 25, 1897  
courtesy Robin Moore



The 1¢ is known printed on oily paper (NSSC #52a)

The 12¢ has been found with a re-entry band extending from left frame into the T of TWELVE. An endeavor to find the plate position was attempted but a complete proof sheet was not available for study. Plate proof sheets are recorded in blue and in pale blue gray colours. But the LAC archivist scanned a full sheet having SPECIMEN printed on it at 1000 dpi. It came from the Christies ABNCo archive sale of 1990. On this sheet the re-entry is found. It is at position 69. And the top right sheet corner with SPECIMEN is shown. (see page 8)



The 2¢ value is known with image doubling in lower half of the stamp (NSSC #53a)





**THE NEWFOUNDLAND NEWSLETTER  
OF THE NEWFOUNDLAND STUDY GROUP OF BNAPS**

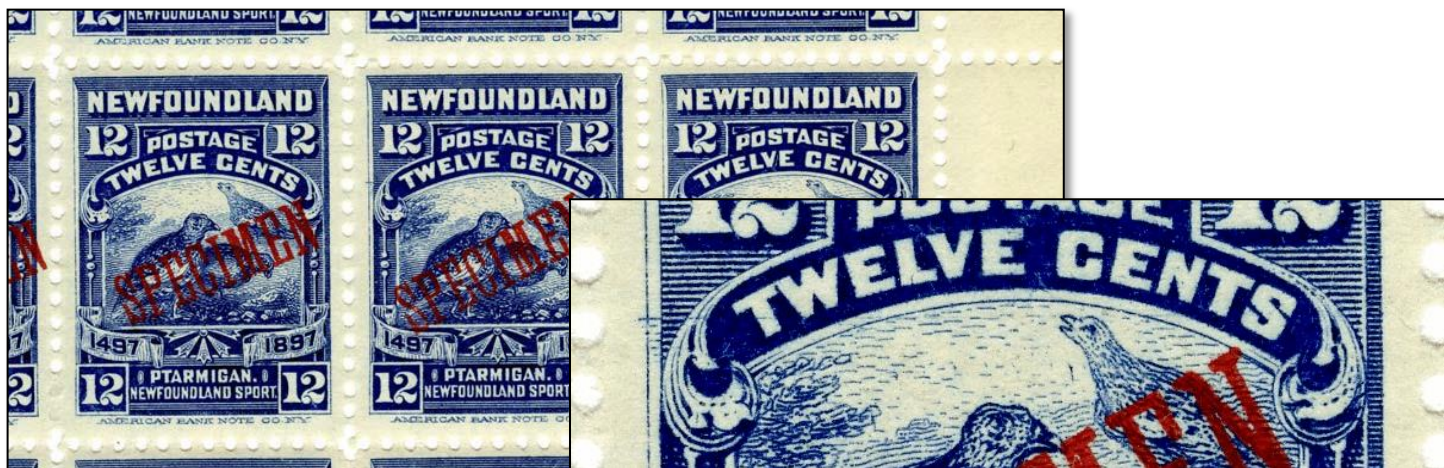
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**Number 180**

**July - September 2020**

**NEWFOUNDLAND: “John Cabot issue”**  
**30¢ slate denomination, NSSC # 63**

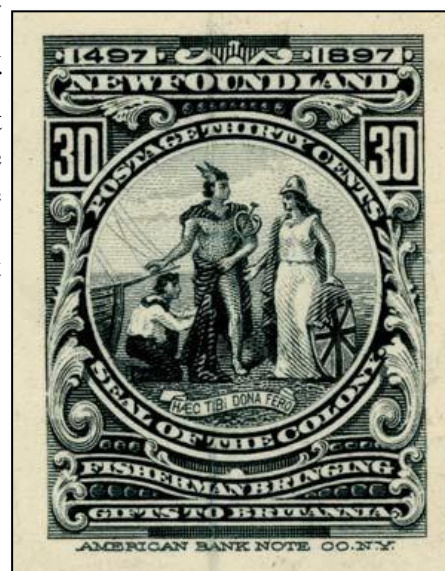
- continued



The 30¢ value NSSC # 63 has been reported to exist with a re-entry found under the letters IRTY of the word THIRTY and several other locations on the image. It would be nice to know the sheet position. From a proof sheet of 100, position 37 was randomly digitally cut. A detail cut was made to show that re-entry under the IRTY of THIRTY is clearly visible. A search was made of the other positions. It was found that this re-entry is seen on all the stamps on the sheet. With this observed finding it demonstrates that the original engraved die proof must have this re-entry present. Another search was undertaken. A request was made to Library Archives Canada for any single die proofs that they had.



LAC 1990-241.1387 cut position 37 detail



LAC 1990-241.1387 cut position 37 of 100.

Once again LAC came to the rescue. They had two die proofs. Thank you LAC archivist. The first is India sunk on card; and has manuscript writings - black C 388; imprint (word in pencil); and inspector ink notations OK Initials (looks to be J H J) 4 / 22 / 92 and written in pencil is 1¢ Columbian Blue. The enlargement shows the same re-entry is below IRTY. (see page 9)



**THE NEWFOUNDLAND NEWSLETTER  
OF THE NEWFOUNDLAND STUDY GROUP OF BNAPS**

---

**Number 180**

**July - September 2020**

---

**NEWFOUNDLAND: "John Cabot issue"**  
**30¢ slate denomination, NSSC # 63**

- continued

LAC 1990-241-1373 cut



LAC 1990-241-1373



**THE NEWFOUNDLAND NEWSLETTER  
OF THE NEWFOUNDLAND STUDY GROUP OF BNAPS**

---

**Number 180**

**July - September 2020**

**NEWFOUNDLAND: "John Cabot issue"**

**30¢ slate denomination, NSSC # 63**

- continued

On the second die is shown the die number C - 388 printed below the image. And the company imprint has been added to the previously designated position below the image.

It is demonstrated that the reentry is still present under the IRTY of the THIRTY word.

This die is considered to be in the hardened form which would mean it is ready to be rocked into the steel printing plate to do the required printing.

So, from this it is shown that all the images placed onto the steel plate have this re-entry present as it was present on the original die.





**THE NEWFOUNDLAND NEWSLETTER  
OF THE NEWFOUNDLAND STUDY GROUP OF BNAPS**

---

**Number 180**

**July - September 2020**

**NEWFOUNDLAND: “John Cabot issue”**  
**30¢ slate denomination, NSSC # 63**

conclusion



A digital cut of the 30¢ from the sheet having the red SPECIMEN word is taken from the sheet position 37 on the sheet of 100.

To close out this study it is known and has been seen that the 35¢ value is found in an aniline ink style form. (no illustration available)

This article was first published in the April 2020 edition of the Maple Leaves, the Journal of the Canadian Philatelic Society of Great Britain.

The editor, Graham Searle, *FCPS*, added a footnote to the article. “John kindly sent me a link to an image of the complete sheet of 100 of the plate proofs of the 30¢ value and I can confirm that the re-entry variety is indeed present at every position.”



**THE NEWFOUNDLAND NEWSLETTER  
OF THE NEWFOUNDLAND STUDY GROUP OF BNAPS**

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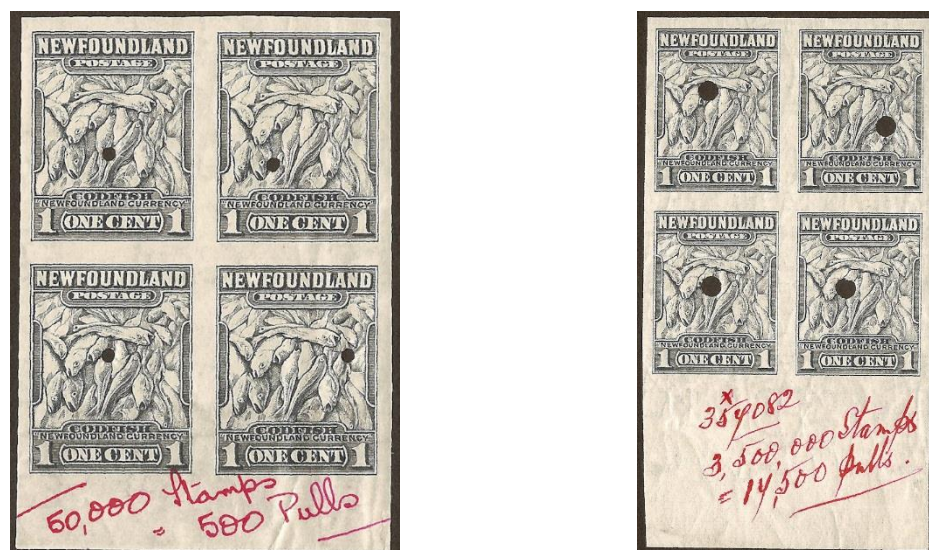
**Number 180**

**July - September 2020**

**NEWFOUNDLAND'S LAST RESOURCE ISSUE – SINGLE AND DOUBLE PANES**

by A.B. Thompson

Ayshford (1978) reports that most of Newfoundland's 1942 2<sup>nd</sup> resources issue (Sc 253–266) printed by Waterlow were single pane sheets of 100 stamps in a 10×10 layout, as confirmed by the printer's annotations on the archived record sheets (Figure 1a). The exception is the last printings of the 1c (Sc 253, plate #43965), 2c (Sc 254, #43968), 3c (Sc 255, #43697), 4c (Sc 269, #43359) and 5c (Sc 257, #43966) that were printed as two panes of 100 stamps in the same 10×10 layout. Ayshford (1978) states this for the 1c value, under order 357082 Plate 43965 "This plate was a complete change as it comprised TWO PANES of ONE HUNDRED ...". The printer's annotations indicate this by saying 3,500,000 stamps = 17,500 pulls. Therefore, 200 stamps are produced for every pull (Figure 1b). There have over the years been discussions on the number of panes used for these printings (Walsh, 1990, 2014, 2015; Stillions, 2015; Thompson, 2015). An alternative method of determining the number of panes per sheet is presented here.



(a)

(b)

Figure 1. Examples from printer's annotated notes showing (a) 100 stamps per pull (plate 41711, March 1943), and (b) 200 stamps per pull (plate 43965, August 1948).

This study looks at the printings of the 1c "pile of cod" stamp (Sc 253) from plate 42430 used on six orders between March 1944 and October 1947, and from plate 43965 used for the August 1948 order. Plate 42430 started with a central plate number (March 1944), then a large dot was added centrally above the plate number (November 1944, September 1945; Figure 2b), then a large dot to the right (January 1946, November 1946) (Figure 2a,c), and finally the addition of four corner plate numbers (October 1947) (Figure 3). No imperforate sheet was found in the archives for this October 1947 printing and the number of stamps printed and pulls made is not known; so the



**THE NEWFOUNDLAND NEWSLETTER  
OF THE NEWFOUNDLAND STUDY GROUP OF BNAPS**

---

**Number 180**

**July - September 2020**

**NEWFOUNDLAND'S LAST RESOURCE ISSUE – SINGLE AND DOUBLE PANES**

- continued

method above of dividing stamps by pulls is not possible and the number of panes per sheet cannot be determined this way. Plate 43965 has plate numbers at each of the eight corners of the two panes (Figure 4).

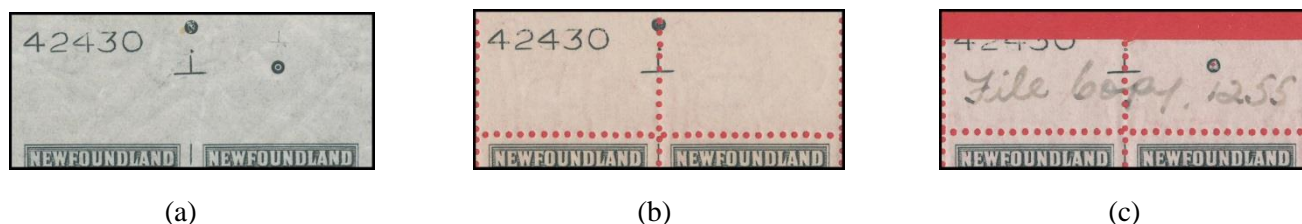


Figure 2. Plate 42430 showing (a) centre plate number from untrimmed imperforate block, (b) first style from sheet with wide top selvage, and (c) second style with large dot added above position 6 showing typical trimmed plate number (from an archival file copy sheet not recorded by Ayshford (1978)).



Figure 3. Four corner plate numbers added to the final printing from this plate, centre plate number also present but not shown here, with cutting cross guidelines normally trimmed off sheets as shown here.

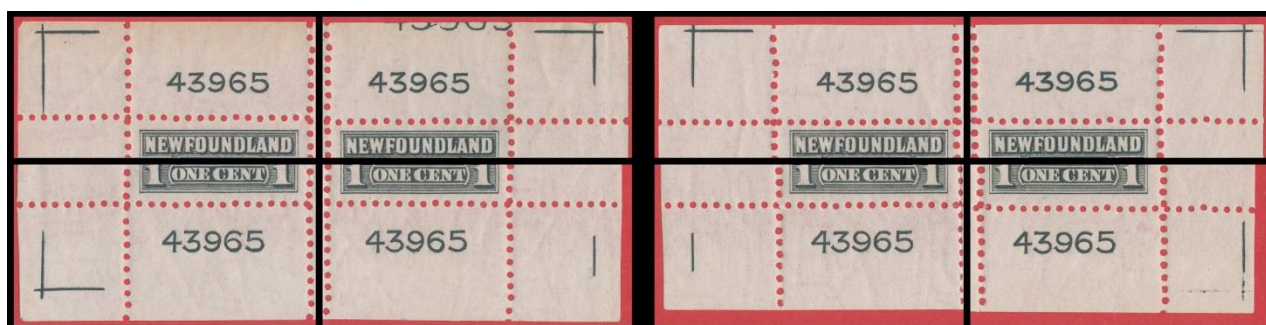


Figure 4. Corner numbers and cutting guidelines on left and right panes from last printing.

Differences exist in the precise layout of the plate numbers and cutting guidelines. Scans of sheet corners and plate blocks at 1200 dpi were overlaid using the transparency feature in photo-editing software and differences were easily seen. Examples of mismatches are seen when comparing plate numbers from different corners on plate 42430 (Figure 5 a) and for the cutting guideline and plate numbers for plate 43965 (Figure 5 b). Matches would

**THE NEWFOUNDLAND NEWSLETTER  
OF THE NEWFOUNDLAND STUDY GROUP OF BNAPS**

---

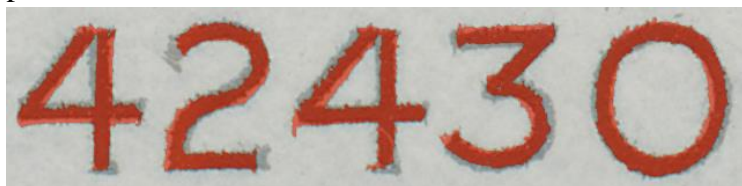
**Number 180**

**July - September 2020**

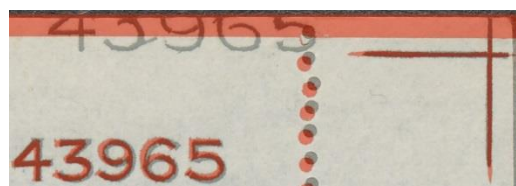
**NEWFOUNDLAND'S LAST RESOURCE ISSUE – SINGLE AND DOUBLE PANES**

- conclusion

have been coincident. The “+” guidelines on plate 42430 could not be used as they were mostly trimmed off, which was not the case for the “L” guidelines in plate 43965 that were usually seen on the sheets and plate blocks.



(a)



(b)

Figure 5. (a) Overlay showing mismatch between UL (red) and LL (black) 42430 plate numbers, and (b) mismatch in plate 43965 numbers and cutting lines from UR corners of left (black) and right (red) panes.

In this study, 21 top centre plate blocks were compared with the plate 42430 reference sample (Figure 2a), and 12 and 44 corner plate blocks, respectively, against reference sheets for plates 42430 and 43965 having the plate numbers in the corners (Figures 3 and 4). In all cases, exact matches were made with the respective position on the reference sheets, showing that sheets printed from plate 42430 were single pane and sheets from plate 43965 were double pane. If these had been two and four pane sheets, respectively, then half of the test plate blocks would not have matched the reference samples. This confirms Ayshford's statements regarding single and double pane printing of the 1c stamp. It is likely his statements on the other two pane sheets of the 2c-5c stamps from the last printing are also correct. Two pane printing was not used for the 4c Princess Elizabeth 21<sup>st</sup> birthday (Sc 269), the 5c Cabot (Sc 270), and the nine higher 7c-48c values of the 2<sup>nd</sup> resources (Sc 258-266) stamps (Ashford, 1978; Black, 2019).

**References**

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- Walsh, J.M. 2014. More proof of printed sheet size of the 3¢ Newfoundland 1923 pictorial issue. *The Newfie Newsletter*, No. 157, October/December 2014, p. 15.
- Walsh, J.M. 2015. Response from John M. Walsh FRPSC. *The Newfie Newsletter*, No. 158, January-March 2015, p. 2.



**THE NEWFOUNDLAND NEWSLETTER  
OF THE NEWFOUNDLAND STUDY GROUP OF BNAPS**

---

**Number 180**

**July - September 2020**

**NEWFOUNDLAND 1932 1C “PILE OF COD”**

by AB Thompson

The catalogues normally identify the two printings of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Newfoundland resources issues by the length of the short side, with the Perkins Bacon printing being 20.4 mm and the Waterlow printing being 21.0 mm. Measurements of a large number of 1c stamps gave a range for these measurements of 20.2-20.6 mm and 20.8-21.2 mm, respectively (Thompson, 2013). It is well known that the reason for the size difference is due to Perkins Bacon using a wet printing method and Waterlow using a dry printing method. Since wet paper shrinks as it dries, the Perkins Bacon stamps end up smaller. But the shrinkage is not the same on both sides of the stamp, its about 2.7% in width and 0.7% in height. Paper has a “grain” or “machine direction” where the fibres tend to line up in the direction the paper comes off the web. You can’t actually see this when you look at the paper under a microscope, but its effects are apparent when you compare measurements of stamps printed by the two methods.

Perkins Bacon printed a proof on a thick unwatermarked paper which is heavily inked and similar in appearance to issued stamps of Plates 1 and 2 (Figure 1).



Figure 1 Plate 1

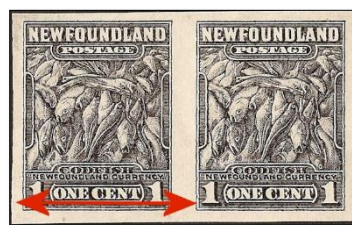


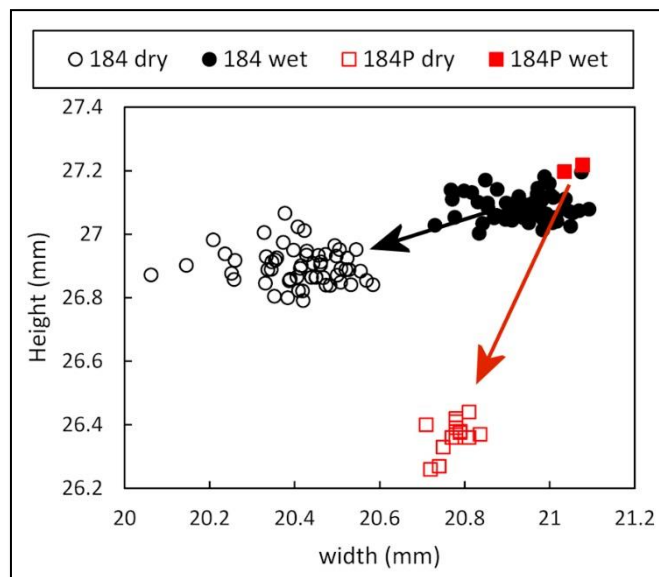
Figure 1 Plate 2

Measurements of 12 of these proofs showed the size to average 20.75 mm wide and 26.35 mm high, with little variation (Figure 2 (open red squares)).

This is an unusual size for Perkins Bacon printed stamps and very different to the measurements of 57 of the issued stamps (open black circles). We know that Perkins Bacon printed its stamps by the wet method, so measurements of wet stamps should tell us the size when they were printed. This turns out to be similar for the issued (solid black circles) and proof stamps (solid red squares; only two proofs were measured wet). What has happened, is that the grain direction of the two stamps is different (arrows on Figure 1a and b), and this causes them to shrink differently when dry (arrows on Figure 2). The reason as to the unusual measurements on the proof has now been identified.

**Reference**

Thompson, A.B. 2013. Intaglio printings of the Newfoundland 1c "Pile of Cod" stamps. BNA Topics, 70 (4): 19-30.



**THE NEWFOUNDLAND NEWSLETTER  
OF THE NEWFOUNDLAND STUDY GROUP OF BNAPS**

---

**Number 180**

**July - September 2020**

**Another Blotchy Ink Variety**

by Robert Moore

This is a continuation of my study of blotchy ink variety similar to the two cent and three cent that I have shown in previous issues “under the microscope” number 177. Presented here are two copies of 20 cent perf 12.5 x 12.5 with image height for both stamps are 21mm on normal watermark gum paper. The stamp on the right is the normal issued stamp showing Waterlow printer’s guideline in lower perf left margin. The unlisted variety here at the right is deeply ink blotched, rejected trial print? I purchased this variety stamp as a Bileski’s set of 20 cent green shales, his notes states that there was only one sheet of each printed.



**The Newfoundland Study Group Online**

On Saturday June 13, twenty-six members of the Newfoundland Study Group of BNAPS met online for the first time for a virtual meeting. The feedback has been very positive, and we are looking at the possibility of making this type of meeting a more regular occurrence. It is a great way to communicate with our membership especially under today’s unusual conditions, but also when we can’t all necessarily travel to International Conferences. We had participants from Sweden and Germany, and from right across Canada and down into the United States.

We were treated to two excellent presentations; “Stamp Paper – more than you need to know?” by Tony Thompson, and “Two Canadian Aniline Stamps; Two different Spectroscopic Tales” by Richard Judge. Thanks go to Dave Barton and Charles Livermore for getting us hooked up.

If you have any ideas for our next virtual meeting or would like to volunteer to present at a meeting, please e-mail me and let me know. Both presentations were recorded, and they will be available on the BNAPS website.

