

Canadian Re-entry Study Group

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THE MAJOR RE-ENTRY ON THE MAP STAMP

by R. Trimble

My close-up photography has suddenly improved to such an extent that I am finally able to introduce you to my absolute favourite re-entry of them all --- the Major Re-entry on the Map Stamp from Plate 5, Position #91 ! It's often difficult to rationalize the reasons behind one's "favourite" and this is how it is with me. All I know is that this stamp holds a very special fascination for me and it never ceases to thrill me whenever I look at it ! I'll never forget the feeling I had the day I discovered my very first copy --- when I removed 'just another' Map from the dealer's glassine envelope and held it under my glass. I remember literally gasping as my eyes beheld 'CANADA', as you see it above, for the first time - I had never seen one before ! I felt such an incredible rush as I returned it to its envelope, knowing I had FINALLY found it ! And a beautiful copy, at that !

Later, at home, I savoured the rest of its beauty --- the entire black plate design is magnificently doubled, though strongest towards the upper left corner. This is the area that really 'grabs' you ! Tomlinson described it beautifully (though his diagram in no way prepares you for the real thing): "...a most remarkable effect in the whole of 'CANADA' as if the artist had added extra lines and shading to give the lettering a three-dimensional effect." This is exactly what it makes you think ! In fact, when I have shown this stamp during my slide presentation on re-entries at various clubs and shows, there have actually been collectors who could not see the re-entry, because the effect looks so natural !



On comparison with a 'normal' Map, however, the "O-o-o-o's" and "ahs" begin ! I firmly believe that this is THE most striking re-entry of any Canadian issue ! To me, nothing can compare to it -- no, not even the 1¢ Admiral !

Above is the lower left corner. The strong shift of the lines of latitude may not show up very well in the photocopy, but you should be able to see the doubling in 'XM' of 'XMAS' and many marks in the '2'. As an added bonus, this stamp also has a retouched base cable, part of which you can see here.

I now have 8 copies of this marvel, including one in a beautiful position piece: a mint block of four with complete selvedge on the left and bottom. However, my greatest prey, the Major on cover, has so far eluded me. Some day !

Coming Soon: A complete listing of all re-entries that occur on the Map issue, with descriptions provided by 'Map Master' Whitney Bradley. (With helpful data not found in Tomlinson.)

BNAPEX '85 - Calgary, Alberta

Sept. 12, 13, 14, 1985.

I have received a letter from Jon Johnson, the Seminar Co-ordinator for BNAPEX '85, requesting notification as to whether or not our study group would like a time and space allotment at the next convention. Apparently space may be limited and requests are being accepted on a first-come first-served basis. I know I won't be able to attend, but is there anyone out there who would be willing to organize and chair a two hour meeting ? Of course I should also know how many of our members may be attending the convention in the first place. There's no sense someone volunteering and going to all the work of arranging a programme if there isn't going to be anyone there to attend. (I never did hear whether or not our time was used at the last convention.)

Any interested members should contact me as soon as possible.

THE 2¢ S.Q. LATENTS : THE SAGA CONTINUES

Following my little blurb on this matter in the last Newsletter I received a very detailed letter complete with diagrams from Hans Reiche and Mike Sendbuehler who have been working together on this problem for some time. Hoping not to seem 'hard to get along with', I countered with a letter to Hans and Mike outlining a further theory I had developed taking their facts into account. Shortly thereafter I received another very technical letter with diagrams from them refuting my proposed theory. In light of all this information I must confess that I am now about 99.9% convinced that Hans and Mike are correct... i.e. that the two latents come from two unrelated positions on the plate. I do reserve my 0.1% of doubt, however, until I can actually see either the Simpson piece or some other piece with or without the two latents together as absolute conclusive proof.

I feel the easiest way to present YOU with all of this information is simply to reprint those relevant parts of the three letters involved word for word with the hand-drawn diagrams as I received them. Therefore what follows is : I/Hans and Mike's original report; II/my response with possible theory; and III/Hans and Mike's resulting further response.

(To further complicate things, I understand that Mr. Hillson has already submitted an article to MAPLE LEAVES, the Journal of C.P.S of G.B., in support of his stance that the two latents occur together on the plate. The plot thickens.....)

I. After a number of hours in session with Mike we can report the following facts which I hope you can follow clearly from my notes.

Assume the two latent re-entries, which we call misplaced entries, can be found in a pair with the top stamp showing the re-entry at the bottom and with the bottom stamp showing the re-entry at the top, similar to what you suggested and what was supposed to come from the Simpson block. Each of these so-called latent re-entries fall within a certain band, namely a horizontal band which covers the doubling. It is possible to trace the exact location of each of these re-entries on the original stamp design. That is, one can find the exact position from where the re-entry details came. For our purposes here, we have located within each band of doubling one definitely identifiable position in one horizontal plane of the bands and used this horizontal location line as our references. Tracing the location of the re-entry of the top stamp to the actual stamp design we have determined that we can clearly identify line C with the latent re-entry line D. This distance has been measured as 9.7 mm or a displacement of that amount of the re-entry from the actual design. Similarly we have clearly identified on the bottom stamp the location from which the re-entry came, namely the re-entry located on line A comes from line B in the actual design. This displacement is 10.8 mm. A and B form one pair of identification lines and C and D the other, both within a band of re-entered lines.

One can now come immediately to one conclusion, namely that the same transfer roll subject cannot have entered two parts of a design with one displaced by 9.7 mm, the other with 10.8 mm. If a single transfer roll subject did enter both at the same time, the displacement must be the same.

Next, the top stamp shows a re-entry of a band which is located below the chin, but the bottom stamp shows a re-entry which lies above the chin, namely around the mouth area. Why then in this pair is the location of these two re-entered bands reversed ... namely the chin

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LATENTS (Cont'd)

band appears above the mouth band when it should be the other way around if one transfer roll subject did both re-entries at the same time ?



The third problem with the idea that both re-entries came from one subject of the transfer roll is that the distances between the band located around D and the one around A show distances which have absolutely no relation with any of the actual design features and are two completely separately entered bands.

Now make use of the third sketch (above - you may wish to re-photocopy this instead of cutting up the page) and line up, for example, line B on this sketch with line B on the bottom stamp, or use line C and line it up with the C line on the top stamp, and you will note that in each case the re-entered part of the other stamp is far removed from the place where it actually should be if one transfer roll subject did both re-entries at the same time and if either one of the latent re-entries belongs to the other or has any connection with the other one.

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LATENTS (Cont'd)

Another fact is that besides the narrow bands which have been misplaced by a wrong entry, no other trace can be found which might belong to other parts of the transfer roll subject above or below these bands and which should have entered.

We are therefore certain that both re-entries are entirely independent, have no connection whatsoever, and were caused by either a wrong guideline on the sideface of the roller or a wrong or mistaken guide dot on the metal plate. The transferer did twice make this mistake, something which happened many, many times in later issues as well, including the Admirals.

A fact little known, but most likely of no consequence here, is that this transfer roll in all probability carried not only three 2¢ subjects, but one or two of another value. Also that the movement of the steel plate when entering was limited by so-called 'entering limit stops', thus not allowing the plate to move more than a limited distance.

Now, let us hear from you.

Regards,
Hans & Mike

II. However, in the light of other facts, I am still not 100% convinced that the latents are indeed from two separate locations. Keeping an open mind, let's take a look at the other possibility --- that they ARE together, theoretically!

First of all there is Hillson's claim that he has seen the Simpson piece and that they are together.

Secondly there is the photo in the Stanley Gibbons Simpson Sale Catalogue. As I mentioned to you and in the Newsletter, my eyes DO detect 'something' in the correct place for latent #2 details below the right '2'! Now I can't claim this IS the #2 latent because the photo is so small it cannot be seen clearly, BUT there is definitely SOMETHING there, below the right '2' where the main #2 latent markings are found.

Of course, this brings us back to your theory and your factual measurements. Obviously one must ask how could this be? After all, if we accept (for the moment, in theory) that the two latents occur one above the other - i.e. #2 above #3 - as you have so clearly proven, the details on #2 come from a lower position on the transfer roll than the details on #3 !

Here we come to the theory that I developed while discussing this with Mike during our visit.

Firstly, you correctly note that the re-entered details are found in only a narrow band across the design. Secondly, you assure me that this type of mistake happened "many, many times, in later issues as well, including the Admirals." This point is proven in many instances in my own collection - the Trimble Variety on the 5¢ K.E. for one, and my 4.3 mm misplaced entry on the 1¢ Numeral for another. Agreed! This narrow band of re-entered or misplaced details, to me, is a sign of accidental 'touch-down' of the transfer roll on the plate - whether by total accidental 'drop' of the roll, or an alignment with the incorrect guideline or dot. Whichever the cause, the important point is that no 'rocking' or 'rolling' of the transfer roll took place --- the stationary roll came in contact with the plate and the details from only the curved band touching the plate were transferred.

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LATENTS (Cont'd)

Now, since we are all in agreement that the transferers or siderographers were indeed "careless" enough that this type of thing happened "many, many times", and also we are in agreement that this did indeed happen at least twice on this plate (hence the two latents), could it not be that perhaps in preparing to re-enter one of the two positions (either the upper or lower) that the transferer accidentally 'touch-down' the transfer roll not once, but twice in his attempts at alignment and that the roller had perhaps rotated slightly in between touches ??.. Thus giving rise to two 'bands' being transferred to the plate one above the other (slightly) and the rotation causing the inconsistencies of the details not 'matching up' as if from a single entry ??

Considering the number of times things like this happened, not to mention the many other errors that were made, this theory may not be so far-fetched as it may sound. After all, if a 'touch-down' of the roller could happen in two different locations on the plate, why not both in one location ?

To summarize then, my theory in a nutshell is that, should the two latents exist one above the other, they were perhaps caused by the transferer preparing to re-enter one of the designs, lowering the transfer roll and accidentally touching it to the plate before he was properly aligned and ready (creating one of the latents), raising the transfer roll to reposition - during which time the roller rotated slightly - and again accidentally touching the transfer roll to the plate in a slightly different position, thus creating the second latent. He may then have gone on to properly realign the roller with the plate and re-enter the designs correctly.

This may sound complicated, but having a background in numismatic errors, and having so many odd and wonderful re-entries on stamps, NOTHING would surprise me. Look at the case of the 5¢ on 6¢ S.Q., for example. An INCREDIBLE stamp, and they still don't know the whole story behind it yet !

Well, let's see what your thoughts are on this.

Sincerely,
Ralph

III. I have drawn here the flat plate with two subjects of the 2¢ and their dimensions together with the margin between the pair of stamps. I have put on top of this the transfer roll. (Diagram #1) A transfer roll can take up to six subjects on its circumference (see Marler's books). The dimension of this transfer roll was taken from one of the Admiral rolls and a few references in Marler's book, plus one I measured about 15 years ago when I was at the Bank Note Company. (Editor's Note: Boggs' articles on the 5¢ on 6¢ S.Q. would also substantiate Hans' measurements.) Even if the dimensions are slightly different for the 2¢, which I doubt, the problem here does not alter the picture. On the surface of the roll I have marked one subject. The roll has a radius of about 30 mm or a circumference of $2\pi r = 188.49556$ mm. This allows six subjects to be placed on the roll with a small distance of about 10 mm between each subject (or less).

Now, we want to know what is the contact area such a roll can make on to the plate. To calculate the area or arc we make use of the well-known formula $\text{arc } AB \times \frac{r}{2}$, and we get for our example 1.75 mm, or a contact area on the plate ^r of 1.75 mm. To produce an entry between two stamps, namely in the margin of the pair, this entry from a

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LATENTS (Cont'd)

Diagram #1

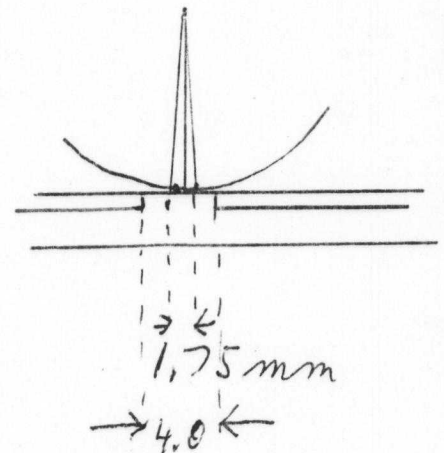
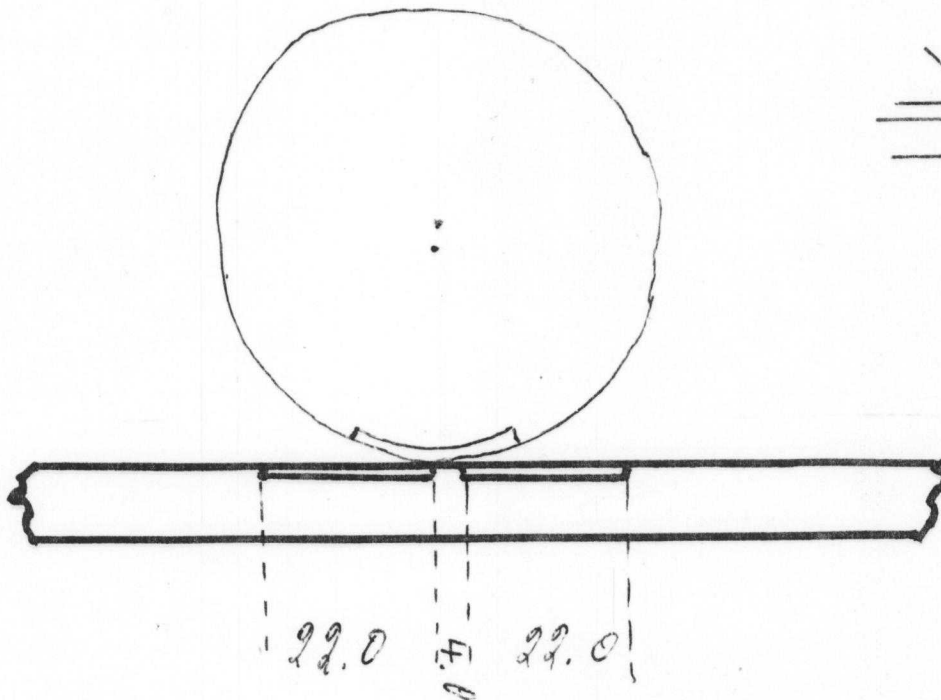


Diagram #2

single wrong setting of the roller position on to the plate can only produce an image not wider than 1.75 mm without moving the plate position !!! (Diagram #2) Since the bands of both entries at the top and the bottom of the latents are much wider than 1.75 mm, the plate must have moved as well together with the roller. Assume this first wrong entry on the top stamp was produced by moving both the roller and the plate. The second wrong entry on the bottom stamp must also come from a movement of the roller and the plate, otherwise the existing bands would not be as wide. But as explained before, the two entries come from positions on the roller which are reversed. That is, the top stamp has an entry belonging to a lower part of the design, and the bottom stamp one from a higher part of the design. To make these two entries by a single or even two wrong entries of the roller, it can only have happened if the roller first of all was wrongly placed twice, AND on top of this, the plate was moved prior to the second wrong entry by a substantial amount... namely the difference between the location of the top and the bottom band on the roller. It is most unlikely that the transferer would have moved the plate again after having set the plate correctly for the first entry.

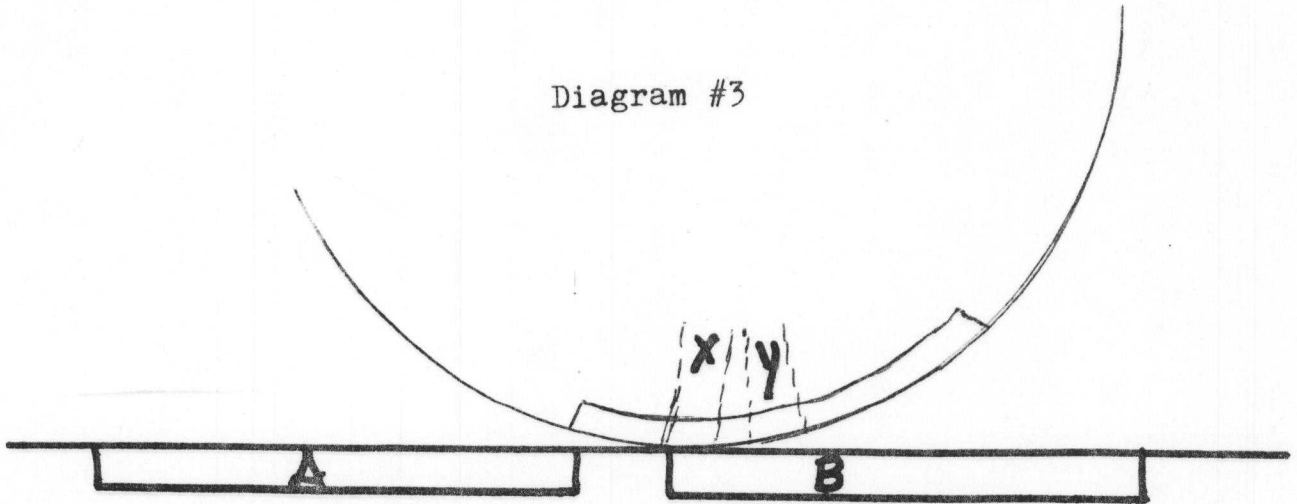
The other sketch (Diagram #3) shows this problem and the impossibility of that to have happened. Here A is the top stamp, B the bottom stamp on the plate. X is the band which was entered wrongly on stamp B and Y is the band which was entered wrongly on stamp A. All of this indicates that the roll could not have simply come into contact accidentally with the plate, and certainly not twice. So, the theory which we have put forward still holds. Of course it is a theory because we shall never know the truth, but it is a logical deduction from technical facts.

yours sincerely
Hans & Mike

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LATENTS (Cont'd)

Diagram #3



end

Well ! Pretty convincing, isn't it ? I would like to thank Hans and Mike for all of their efforts in this area and of course we welcome the thoughts and opinions of any members who may wish to make their feelings known.

RET

MEMBERSHIP REPORT & FEES REMINDER

I would like to welcome our newest member:

42 David Oatman, 315 St. John St., Bathurst, N.B. E2A 1E8

** 1985 FEES ** (Nudge, nudge !)

I would like to give a gentle reminder to the 10 members who have not yet submitted their 1985 fees. I know how easy it is to overlook such a thing - I sometimes need reminders to send in my fees to groups I belong to myself ! I hope this is only a matter of 'forgetfulness' and that we shall have all of you back with us for another year. One happy note: One of the two members that I reported we had 'lost' since the formation of the group has been reinstated !! Guess he just couldn't live without us !

Hope to hear from you soon.

