Philatelic Writer, Specialist in Squared Circle Cancellations Of Canada and the World Member, B.N.A.P.S., A.P.S., P.H.S.C.

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The Round-Up Annex, The Squared Circle Newsletter, WINNIPEG Volume Four, Number Three, Whole Number Twenty-Three. LAC LU, ONT.

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A New List of Study Group Members, with a difference:

This list of of study group members will serve as a list of those who have ordered copies of the fourth edition of the Handbook prior to publication. In the left hand column an asterisk will indicate my record that you have ordered the book. Two asterisks will indicate two books.

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- \*\*21. Curtis, Wayne R., P.O. Box 74, Station A., Toronto, Ontario. M5W 1A2.
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- 23. Doull, R. M., P.O. Box 606, Hudson Heights, Que. JOP 1JO.
- \*24. Dresser, George B., 501 Fairview Ave., College Station, TX. 77840.
- \*25. Dussault, Pierre, 1273 Carswell, Ste. Foy, Que. G1W 3R4.
- 26. Ellison, Kenneth V., Oyama, B.C. VOH 1WO.
- \*27. Falla, Raymond J., 191 Roywood Dr., Don Mills, Ont. M3A 2E5.
- \*28. Felton, James W., P.O. Box 52494, Sam Houston Station, Houston, TX. 77052.
- \*\*29. Fraser, Donald. 1183 Warsaw Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba. R3M 1C5.
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- \* 31. Gordon, John S., 2364 Gallant Fox Ct., Reston, VA. 22090.
- \*32. Graham, W. Bruce, 17 Davis Street, Aylmer, Ontario. N5H 2N4.
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- \*36. Guilbert, Capt., G., 229 Taillon, St. Basile, Que. JOL 1SO.
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- \*38. Gutzman, Wally L., 272 Vinet Avenue, Dorval, Que. H9S 2M6.
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- \*42. Hennok, Jim A., P.O. Box 250, Adelaide St. Station, Toronto, Ontario. M5C 2J4.

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be completely up-to-date. Please check for accuracy and report any discrepancies.

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The new Handbook contains a section on identification of partial strikes of towns beginning or ending with a similar group of letters. The number of cases to be considered is very large, so that some hard decisions had to be made with regard to which would be included in the Handbook and which would not. Generally, those which are included are groups which contain one or more rare towns, or which include towns having more than one hammer.

The identification scheme is one of successive elimination of possibilities. For this reason, one must start at the beginning of the elimination process and work down through it until the partial strike is identified. It is not feasible to start the procedure part way through the routine since it will generally not be clear what possibilities were earlier eliminated.

The procedure consists of looking for characteristic features of letter placement with respect to side pieces, side bars, indicia bars, or the side dots. It is generally broken up into four sections, the first representing the presence of the greatest amount of available information, and the last, the least amount. The illustrations provided always represent the case of the least amount of information.

It will often not be possible to make a positive identification, especially if the strike is faint, blurred, smeared, or bounced because any of these conditions may mask essential information. This is a particular problem when the strike appears on a dark stamp such as the 2¢ purple Numeral, or the Map Stamp.

To elaborate on the separation procedure, an example is presented in the following paragraphs for a case which is not included in the Handbook. From time to time, additional examples will be considered in Annex.

Identification of Partial Strikes, Type II Towns beginning "RO..."













ROTHESAY

ROCKTON

RODNEY

RÖSENEATH

ROSSEAU ROS



- A. <u>Both Province and Letter following "RO..." are Identifiable.</u> (If not, then go on to Section B.)
  - 1. N.B. and T identifies ROTHESAY
  - 2. B.C. and S identifies ROSSLAND
  - 3. ONT. and C identifies ROCKTON
  - 4. ONT. and D identifies RODNEY
  - 5. If ONT. and S, there are two possibilities: ROSENEATH and ROSSEAU.
    - (a) If R lies completely below the top edge of the upper indicia bar and the center of the left side dot lies on a level with the bottom end of the left side piece, the town is ROSENEATH.
    - (b) If R lies in part above the upper indicia bar, and the left side dot lies well above the bottom end of the left side piece, the town is ROSSEAU.

- B. <u>Province is Identifiable</u>, but Letter following "RO..." is not. (If not, then go on to Section C.)
  - 1. N.B. identifies ROTHESAY.
  - 2. B.C. identifies ROSSLAND.
  - 3. If ONT., there are four possibilities: ROCKTON, RODNEY, ROSENEATH, or ROSSEAU.
    - (a) If R lies completely below the top edge of the upper indicia bar, O lies completely below the bottom edge of the second left bar, and the center of the left side dot lies at a level with the bottom end of the left side piece, the town is ROSENEATH.
    - (b) If R lies in part above the upper indicia bar, there are three possibilities: ROCKTON, RODNEY, or ROSSEAU.
      - (i) If the right hand end of the loop of R lies noticeably lower than the top of the left side piece, and O lies completely below the top edge of the second left bar, the town is ROSSEAU.
      - (ii) If the right hand end of the loop of R lies on a level with the top end of the left side piece, and O lies in part above the top edge of the second left bar, the town is either ROCKTON or RODNEY. If R is noticeably wider than tall, and the left side dot is on a level with the lower indicia bar, the town is RODNEY. Otherwise, R is relatively taller and narrower, and the left side dot lies below the lower indicia bar; in this case the town is ROCKTON.
- C. Letter following "RO..." is Identifiable, but Province is not. (If not, then go on to section D.)
  - 1. C identifies ROCKTON.
  - 2. D identifies RODNEY.
  - 3. T identifies ROTHESAY.
  - 4. If the letter following "RO..." is S, there are three possibilities: ROSENEATH, ROSSEAU, or ROSSLAND.
    - (a) If R lies in part above the upper indicia bar, and the left side dot lies noticeably higher than the bottom end of the left side piece, the twon is ROSSEAU.
    - (b) If R lies completely below the top edge of the upper indicia abar, and the center of the left side dot lies on a level with the bottom end of the left side piece, the town is either ROSENEATH or ROSSLAND.
      - (i) If the right leg of R lies closer to the upper indicia bar than the left leg does to the lower indicia bar, and if the two legs of R are closely parallel, the town is ROSENEATH.
      - (ii) If the left leg of R lies closer to the lower indicia bar than the right leg does to the upper indicia bar, and if there is a considerable angle between the two legs, the town is ROSSLAND.
- D. Neither Province nor Letter following "RO..." are Identifiable.
  - If R lies completely below the top edge of the upper indicia bar, the letter following "RO..." is S, even though not visible, and the town is either ROSENEATH or ROSSLAND. To separate, go back to C.4.(b).
  - 2. If R lies in part above the upper indicia bar, the town is one of the

group: ROTHESAY, ROCKTON, RODNEY, or ROSSEAU.

- (a) If the right hand end of the loop of R lies noticeably lower than the top end of the left side piece, the town is either ROTHESAY or ROSSEAU.
  - (i) If the center of the left side dot is on a level with the bottom end of the left side piece, the town is ROTHESAY.
  - (ii) If the left side dot lies well above the lower end of the left side piece, the town is ROSSEAU.
- (b) If the right hand end of the loop of R lies on a level with the top end of the left side piece, the province is ONT., even though not visible, and the town is either ROCKTON or RODNEY; to separate, go back to B.4.(b).(ii).

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The Book Will Be Released in July:

This Annex is dated May, 1981 as I had every intention of getting this issue to you before the end of the month. Since starting the work on the issue I have been down to Hickory Hollow with the proofs of the book and, at one point, worked with Bill Moffatt for almost twenty-four hours, with only two hours off for a cat nap and a few minutes stolen for a bite to eat. We went over the whole book from beginning to end and Bill and I spend a great deal of time just making sure that those chapters dealing with hammer identifications were fully accurate.

On returning to Winnipeg I had a few finishing touches to do, including writing the introduction, preparing a table of contents, some further work on proof reading and then the whole works went back to the printer. At that time, when I did have a few days in which I had hoped to get out the Annex, I had a great deal of work to do for United Way and for a Scholarship Board I do some volunteer work with. Then, the printer sent back everything to me to line up the illustrations and to prepare a few filler items for some white space that we found at the bottom of some pages.

Now I have just finished that job and am off tomorrow to spend a day at the printer's shop overseeing the final page set-up before the presses roll. At this time the printers are saying early July and I sincerely hope they are not too optimistic. I go on holidays on the 24th. of that month and I want to have all the pre-publication orders in the mails by then.

## Calling John Burnett:

Mail addressed to John Burnett, 3060 Forrest La., York, PA. 17402, is being returned to me as undeliverable. Does anyone have John's new adress or know how to get through to him. I haven't noticed any adress chage for him in Topics but that is just a little bit behind the times right now.

## Calling a Texas Member:

A few weeks ago one of my Texas members wrote in enquiring about a variety he had noted in a Sqaured Circle cancel in which the only thing that appeared to have printed was the indicia, not the town name or province information. This is likely from HALIFAX, N.S. as this sort of thing is known to have happened there. In the fourth edition there is a good illustration of this and an explanation of how it came about. Missing rim lettering for HALIFAX, N.S., Hammer I, is known to have occurred on 3/OC 13/96. This was not a permanent condition, however, as the same correspondence which yielded the variety also contained a normal for 2/OC 26/96. This correspondence was on hard card stock and it seems that the indicia was probably seated a bit lower in the hammer than the surrounding rim



WANTED: For the next ANNEX, to be released before the end of July. Members Adlets. Will those of you who have submitted adlets older than 6 months please send in

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## An Explanatory Introduction.

This is the fourth edition of THE SQUARED CIRCLE POSTMARKS OF CANADA, a handbook of the British North America Philatelic Society. In many ways, however, it is a first edition. Only small portions of material found in earlier editions remain and these have been greatly expanded, altered and modernized. The listings section has been enriched by the availability of the Pritchard & Andrews proof book pages and their vast treasure trove of proof strikes of the Squared Circle hammers.

Gary Arnold first undertook the herculean effort of presenting all the more than 300 proof strikes in strengthened and enhanced format. His efforts were first presented in an issue of The Round Up Annex and have proven of great assistance to specialists ever since. When it was first agreed by the co-authors that proof like strikes should be used, wherever possible, to illustrate each individual hammer on the listings pages it was thought that Gary Arnold's strikes would be used.

It was found on close study, however, that there was a flaw in these reproductions that seemed to worsen as we made copies for inclusion in the book. What was learned is rather interesting. In taking an original proof strike in the proof book and making a photocopy of it enlargement and distortion inevitably occurred. The degree of enlargement is not uniform on both dimensions being about five percent on one side and four percent on the other. If several enlargements are made, as might be required in the task of producing a good enhanced strike, the enlargement increases and so does the apparent discrepancy. What is eventually produced is an ellipse of varying prominence.

Fortunately, just before the book was ready to be finalized, and before the printer had reproduced any of the illustrations, a well-known Toronto dealer presented us with an almost complete set of proof strikes which had been worked on by an artist or draftsman without resorting to the use of photo copy equipment, or at least to equipment that produced the problems of enlargement and distortion. By further cooperation of the members of the Squared Circle Study Group of B.N.A.P.S. it was possible to have available for our use proof or appearance strikes of all but three Squared Circle hammers. It will be noted in the listings that only three Quebec hammers are not represented by proof-life or appearance strikes. These towns are FARNHAM, GRANBY, and NOTRE DAME ST. WEST.

Gary Arnold's enhanced strikes were, however, very useful to us in the preparation of many of the illustrations of partial strikes as developed by Bill Moffatt and used to illustrate hammer separation and identification in Chapters Five, Six, Seven, and Eight where details are given which should lead to many new discoveries of some of the rare and now unique hammers. Chapters Nine and Ten, too, bear evidence of the usefulness of Gary's efforts in providing this book with a nucleus of good illustrations. It is certainly true that a picture can often say more than a thousand words and this can be proven many times by the readers of this book.

Chapters Five, Six, Seven, and Eight are going to require careful study and reading on the part of fairly knowledgeable collectors in order to gain the most advantage from them. If each section is read in the sequence in which it appears it should be possible to positively identify even the most partial selected strike with assurance. Patience may be required at times but if a possible KINGSTON, Hammer I, for example, can be clearly identified as either a KINGSVILLE or a KINGSTON, Hammer III, the reward will be worthy of the effort. This book is arranged in three sections. First there are the listings, which include not only the traditional Squared Circles but all of the Precursors as well. The listings are arranged with plenty of room for those who wish to do so to write in their own pertinent information or comments in the proper places in the book. Then there is the general text wherein Chapters One and Two are basically introductory; Chapters Three, Four, Five, Six, Seven, and Eight provide plenty of material for thought and action on the part of the reader in learning more about his collection; Chapters Nine, Ten, Eleven, and Twelve deal with some of the interesting sidelights of Squared Circle collecting; Chapter Thirteen discusses that important topic, Rarity Factors and Market Values; Chapter Fourteen serves as an introduction to the third section of the book, the Appendices.

Chapter Fifteen has been kindly contributed by James Kraemer, former curator of the National Postal Museum at Ottawa. Jim is a well-known philatelist who has always played an active part in various philatelic organizations and is, as well, keenly interested in Squared Circle cancels. This chapter gives many details of the Squared Circle hammers at present owned by the National Postal Museum and, as well, is illustrated with photographs and drawings contributed by Jim and the museum.

The Third section, the Appendices, is essentially distillation of material that has appeared in the listings section. Appendix A is a new roster giving a completely new set of Rarity Factors. Revised extensively since the last roster appeared in TOPICS several years ago, well over 300,000 strikes are recorded here. Appendices, B, C, and D, deal with such things as Continuity of Use, Squared Circles on Special Stamps, and Varieties in the Squared Circles.

Because many collectors are interested in at least knowing whether they have some Sunday dates permission has been obtained from the READER'S DIGEST to reproduce their 200 year calendar in its entirety. This forms Appendix E.

Maps, prepared by D. Fraser and H. W. S. Wilding of Winnipeg, will be found throughout the listings section. Of particular interest, perhaps, will be the city maps showing the location of the city sub post offices of both MONTREAL and TORONTO.

The closing pages of the book present an invitation to the reader to join the ranks of specialist Squared Circle collectors by participation in the Squared Circle Study Group as well as actively reporting material of interest to other collectors.

Many people have participated in preparing this book. Some of them have been mentioned either in this introduction or in the text proper. Others, unfortunately, have not. To attempt, at this point, to list those who have actively participated would risk the possible exclusion of someone whoses effort should not be forgotten in such a listing. As well, in the past, many specialists were active in the preparation of former handbooks or in other ways helping to increase the knowledge of all of us about the Squared Circles of Canada. These people, too, should not be forgotten but perhaps may best be remembered by reading the older handbooks, back issues of TOPICS, or issues of The Round Up Annex.

This edition of the Handbook is a product of modern printing methods and will be stored on computer tape or disc for future retrieval for a Fifth Edition, when needed. When required such an edition will be readily produced with all possible up-dated information included.

This edition has required eighteen months of joint work by the two coauthors although much work has been done prior to the actual task of preparing this volume. This joint effort will not have been wasted if this book brings pleasure to many of its readers and results in the discovery of new rarities as well as interesting varieties of the more common material. BALLSTON LAKE, N.Y. WINNIPEG, MAN.

May 10th, 1981. W. G. MOFFATT. WINNIPEG, MAN. May 10, 1981. G. F. HANSEN. 1712 ( M )

"IT IS FINISHED."