



THE ROUND-UP ANNEX

squared circle study group newsletter

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ADDITIONAL COMMENTS FROM TOM SOUTHEY

In the October, 1991 ANNEX, Tom Southey offered information from his collection of the OTTAWA hammer. The following is a continuation of a correspondence received from Tom early in 1991; the following covers several other hammers.

CHARLOTTETOWN, PEI

- (a) I have 1/OC 16/93 on a 3 cent SQ; the Handbook says that only AM and 2 were recorded in 1893.
- (b) I have two (2) copies of PM/OC22/95 (PM inverted), both on 3 cent SQ.
- (c) I have 2/JY 9/97 - TM #2 inverted; on 3 cent Jubilee.
- (d) Have -/AU 9/97 on 3 cent Jubilee; others have been reported.
- (e) Have 2/JU 7/94 (JU inverted) on 3 cent SQ.
- (f) Have PM/FE 23/97 (PM inverted) on 1 cent SQ; ANNEX page 315 lists PM/FE 28/97 (PM inverted).

QUEBEC, QUE.

- (a) Have 1/JA 4/98 (JA inverted, 4 on its back) on 3 cent SQ.
- (b) Have 4/11 AU/96 (inverted 11 & AU); reported in Handbook.

DUNNVILLE, ONT.

- (a) Have -/AU 8/99 backstamp on a cover from Weston, Ont.. Cover has a 2 cent purple Queen obliterated and a Weston squared circle as a free strike (-/AU 7/99). This is a later date than -/AU 1/99 shown in the Handbook.

MARTINTOWN, ONT

- (a) Have -/AP 2/96 (AP & 2 inverted) on 3 cent SQ.

THORNHILL, ONT.

- (a) Have PM/OC 2/01 squared circle tying #77 to cover. Usage in 1901 is not recorded in the Handbook. (ED: See Annex page 402 for a report for a 1901 strike.)
- (b) Also have AM/AU 2/08 with #89 on Toronto Fire Hall viewcard; #89 has been canceled with an obliterator so that squared circle is a free strike. No THORNHILL strikes are reported in 1908 in the Handbook. (ED: See Annex pages 278 and 317 for reports on 1908 strikes of THORNHILL.)
- (c) Does the 1902 date shown as the latest in the Handbook represent the latest known date for the first period of use? I would think that a 1909 date would be shown as the latest known date.

COMMENTS FROM TOM SOUTHEY (CONTINUED)

LONDON, ONT ON C-9 AIRMAIL STAMP

- (a) I have a SON strike of 17/JUL 26/49 on a Blue Goose airmail stamp. Not only is this a three letter month but it is clearly a #17 timemark. TM # 17 is not shown in the Handbook nor to my knowledge, been reported in the ANNEX.

MAGOG, QUE. ON C-9 AIRMAIL

Another unique item is a MAGOG squared circle on the C-9 airmail stamp. The strike is faint but it appears that the month is April, the day looks like 5 but for the year, I can only identify a 4. The stamp was issued on my 28th birthday (September 16, 1946) so the date on the cancel must be 47 or later; in fact, it does look like 47.

The ink is purple so it may be the same cancel to which reference is made in the Handbook. I have had this stamp for ages so it is possible that I reported it to Bill Moffatt before the Handbook was published.

BOBCAYGEON, ONT. STATE I

I have a strike on two (2) of the Quebec Tercentenary issues: ?/JY 28/08 on # 97 and -/AU 1/08 on # 98.

QUEEN STREET EAST, TORONTO

I have a strike ?/?Y 29/94 on a jumbo 2 cent Small Queen. The strike is a bright one which could be called a reddish violet or purple. It is not possible to see if the month is May or July since only the Y is exposed and then only part of it. If it were May, it would be an early known date.

The Handbook says that the time mark is blank from DE/99 to the end; however, with both blank and PM reported from MY 14/00. It may be of interest that I have PM/AP 30/00 on a 2 cent numeral.

TORONTO, ONT.

- (a) Under the heading "time marks", the Handbook states that "PM 7" (reversed order) is known on PM7/DE 7/93; PM7/JY 7/94; and PM7/FE 1/95. I have PM7/JU 7/94 on a 3 cent Small Queen. Isn't it interesting that out of the four strikes, three have a "7" for the day date.

- (b) As for abnormal indicia placement, I have the following:

AP 3/7PM/94	AP 4/6PM/94	AP 6/11AM/94	DE 1/4PM/94
DE 12/7PM/94	DE 4/7PM/??	FE 12/4PM/??	JY 5/7PM/94

CHELTENHAM: USAGE PERIODS REVISITED

by: Ted Kerzner

This office is a good example of the erroneous conclusions drawn in Handbook IV as to usage periods for offices which had an extended period of use but a relatively small number of strikes rostered. The use of the CHELTENHAM hammer was spread over thirty-three years from its first recorded use on AU 31/93 to its latest recorded use on MR 10/26. A total of 194 strikes were rostered, an average of less than six for each of the thirty-three years.

Little wonder that there were gaps in reported usage. Much more wonder that the editors concluded that after " DE 24/00 there were three years of disuse (despite showing an "02" use in the Continuity of Use table) until MR 22/04" and that thereafter "the hammer saw intermittent use", leaving usage gaps as follows: 1901, 1903, 1905-07, 1910-13, 1915-17 and 1922-23.

In fact, the use was likely continuous. Many of the gaps that existed in the 1980 rostered strikes have now been filled. Those that remain have more to do, in my opinion, with the relative paucity of strikes than they do with actual discontinuance of the hammer's use. What follows is the result of my own research into the usage of this hammer for the "gaps" in usage shown by Handbook IV.

1901: None Confirmed

1902: Given the inconsistency between the text in Handbook IV and the continuity of use table, can anyone confirm a 1902 usage? I cannot. (Ed. I checked Bill Moffatt's roster of strikes and found a notation for a strike dated -/MR 12/02). ✓

1903: MR 18/; AP 17/; OC 6 (Ed. add FE 6)

1905: MR 2(?) this example is not clear enough to distinguish between 05 and 06; NO 4/; AU 10.

1906: MR 2(?); MR 23; MY 30; SP 2; SP 20; OC 11.

1907: MR 29; JU 28; JY 12; AU 3; SP 28; OC 23; DE 24.

1910: MY 12; MR 23; OC 14.

1911: AP 28; MY 25.

1912: Not confirmed

1913: Not confirmed

1915: AP 7 (Ed. add AU 4)

1916: Not confirmed

1917: Not confirmed

1922: DE 22; DE 29

1923: JY 11(Ed. add JY 31)

The above are taken from items in my own collection, items I have actually seen, items reported in the Annex, or items described in his auction lots by Bob Lee (whose descriptions have a remarkable degree of accuracy in my experience and are therefore usually reliable.

Of the fourteen years in which no strikes were rostered in Handbook IV, only five remain to be confirmed: 1901, 1912, 1913, 1916 and 1917.

CHELTENHAM: USAGE PERIODS REVISITED (CONTINUED)

The 1911-18 period remains the most sparsely recorded of any period. The best I can construct are the following strikes: AP 28/11; MY 25/11 (confirmed); AP 23/14; JU 23/14; AP 7/15; JU 27/18. (ed. add DE 14/14 confirmed; AU 4 likely).

The ten years since Handbook IV have yielded up enough gap fillers to permit the conclusion that those (gaps) that still remain, including the difficult 1911-18 period would seem to be capable of completion given enough time. Even give the additional strikes recorded, we are still looking at about 6 to 7 strikes per year on average. It seems more likely to me that given the small number of strikes and the extended period of use, use was continuous throughout the thirty-three years, rather than interrupted during gaps in reported usage remaining.

