

NEW REPORTS AND UPDATES

BYNG INLET NORTH, ONT: First reported strike on an 8 Cent Small Queen; partial 1895 date.

OTTAWA, CANADA: First reported strike on 10 Cent Small Queen; partially dated strike 2/SP 10/?

BAIE VERTE, NB: Inverted month indicia "OC" error; strike on 2 Cent Edward cover -/OC 15/04; the strike is also the first reported strike for 1904.

SACKVILLE, NB: ***New earliest reported date***, -/FE 10/94 on card to the UK. (see below).

ST. JOHNS, NB HMR III: First reported strike on 10 Cent Jubilee; strike dated PM/NO 29/97



WOLFVILLE, NS: A third example of blank time mark and month/day indicia slots and an "01" year indicia on a 1 Cent Numeral stamp (above).

CHARLOTTETOWN, PEI: First reported strike on 6 Cent Small queen; partially dated strike.

ALMA, ONT, STATE II: First report of the use of 3-letter month indicia; strike dated -/JUN 5/08.

BOBCAYGEON, STATE 2: ***New earliest reported date***, by 2 months, on 3 Cent Small Queen, dated -/MR 9/94. This narrows the gap of the modification of the State 1 hammer to an 8-day period.

BOBCAYGEON, STATE 2: Two previously unreported indicia errors: year date omission on strike dated -/OC 17/0 and inverted day indicia on strike dated -/MY 2/94.

FORMOSA, ONT STATE II: First reported use in 1900; strike is dated AP/17/00.

PARIS STATION, ONT: Inverted year indicia on a strike on 3 Cent Small Queen, dated -/SP 27/93.

NEW REPORTS AND UPDATES (Continued)



PONTYPOOL, ONT: A ***new earliest reported date*** of use on a 3 Cent Small Queen; the strike is dated -/?P 29/93. Recognizing the hammer's proof date is -/JY21/93, this strike's date is clearly -/SP 29/93.

SCHREIBER, ONT STATE 2: An additional date for the single indicia "5" in the year slot; -/JU 27/5.

THORNHILL, ONT: New ***earliest reported date***; strike on 3 Cent Small Queen; strike dated AM/FE 3/95. Also, year date indicia error on a strike on 1 Cent Quebec Tercentenary, dated PM/JY 28/8.

BRANDON, MAN: Two additional strikes with missing "8" year indicia; AU 30/9 and SP 6/9.

PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE, MAN: ***New earliest reported date***; strike is dated -/NO 1/93

WINNIPEG, MAN HMR I: Strike dated 7/AU 26/93 confirms time mark for Handbook's earliest reported date

VICTORIA, BC HMR I: First report of a strike on a 5 Cent RLS; the date not clear.

MONTREAL PRECURSOR HMR III: Unlisted indicia error, no year date indicia on BS strike dated JU 11 A9/-.

OTTAWA PRECURSOR: ***New earliest use***, by 1 hour; strike is dated JA 19 6P/92.

A UNIQUE SHORT SET OF JUBILEE SQUARED CIRCLES



Study Group member Terry Sitch sent an email to Joe Smith regarding an auction lot in the UK of a short set of Jubilees all with Merritton, Ontario squared circle cancels dated -/OC 30/97.

Apparently about 50,000 mint sets were sold over the counter; these may have been on a large cover or two.

GRANBY, QUEBEC HAMMER USE by Laurent Belisle

“For the GRANBY squared circle cancel on cover, for every cover I have, there is always a free GRANBY CDS cancel on front when the GRANBY square circle is used to cancel the stamp. The date on these cancels is different most of the time. The date for the GRANBY square circle cancel is always earlier or identical but never later than the GRANBY CDS date. When I look at the receiving cancel on the covers, the date is always within 1 or 2 days from the CDS date, indicating that the GRANBY square circle cancel was used as a cancelling device tying the stamp to the cover and the GRANBY CDS was used as a dater.

This leads me to believe that dates on off cover GRANBY square circle strikes could not represent the real date of use; therefore, the earliest and latest date in the Handbook could be challenged. *Editor: The table below lists the Granby covers included in this study.*

Cancel		Receiving Cancel	Difference in Days Squared Circle vs. CDS
Sq. Circle	CDS		
MR 5/97	MR 6 97	TORONTO ONT. 23/MR 6/97	1
JU 7/97	JU 7 97	TORONTO ONT. 1/JU 9/97	0
JU22/97	JU24/97		2
AU02/97	AU 4/97	MONTREAL/1897 AUG 5/9 -0	2
SP 4/97	SP 4 97	YARMOUTH N.S. PM/SP 7/97	0
SP27/97	SP29 97	HAMILTON CANADA 11/OC 1/97	2
OC 1/97	OC 1 97		0
OC25/97	OC27 97	MONTREAL CANADA OC28A11/97	2
NO 2/97	NO12 97		10
NO17/97	NO22 97	MONTREAL NOV23/10 -0/1897	5
DE 7/97	DE11 97		4
DE 7/97	DE11 97	MONTREAL DE12/9 -0/1897	4
MR11/98	AP30 98		50
MY11/98	MY14 98		3
MY11/98	JU 9 98		29
AU11/98	NO14 98	<i>(See Cover Below)</i>	95




MONTREAL HAMMER USED AS A PRECACELLING DEVICE

A completely blank square circle hammer seemed to have been used as a precancelling device. This has been the subject of a few articles in TOPICS (September 1956, May 1973, November 1973), in The Round-Up Annex (December 1980) and in the five Handbook editions.

After much debate, in those days, the conclusion based on observation done on well inked strikes showing partial lettering that it was a MONTREAL type II hammer that had been modified to produce the precancelled stamps. In the 5th Handbook, only a short phrase mentions this: **“One hammer (believed to be Montreal) had rim lettering removed and received precancel usage”**. In the 4th Handbook, on page 394, the following statement is more complete: **“While it must be admitted that identification of this hammer as MONTREAL, Type II, Hammer II, is speculative at best, the following evidence may be considered...”**

The evidence identifies rather clearly the hammer as being a MONTREAL type II hammer. What it fails to do is to explain why it is suggested that this would be hammer II; note that in 1981 only 1 strike of the MONTREAL type II hammer II was known.

The MONTREAL type II hammer I was used until 5/JA25/03, it is therefore possible that it was retired and modified to be put to use as a precancelling device. The strikes are found on 1c Victoria numeral and 1c Edward stamps (released on July 1st, 1903), I recently acquired one of each. I took measurements of the distance between the right of the indicia bars and the right side piece; on the proof images and on cover for both hammers. The results are 5,5 mm for the MONTREAL type II hammer I and 7 mm for the MONTREAL type II hammer II; a difference significant enough to validate the hypothesis. On the 2 stamps precancelled by a square circle, the gap measures 5,5 mm; showing them to be MONTREAL type II hammer I strikes and not hammer II as suggested in the literature.

 <p style="text-align: center;">5,5 mm</p>			 <p style="text-align: center;">7mm</p>
<p>MONTREAL/QUE. Type II - Marteau I</p>	<p>1c Reine Victoria Numéral</p>	<p>1c Edward VII</p>	<p>MONTREAL/QUE. Type II - Marteau II</p>

SUMMER ANNEX ISSUE

The next Annex issue will include new reports, including additional items gleaned from the May Sparks auction of additional items from Ted Kerzner’s collection, exhibit pages from Laurent Belisile and a page off Nanaimo, BC State 1 strikes on stamp issues in use during 1893-1896.