

**NEW REPORTS AND UPDATES**

**Cumberland, ONT:** First report of a 3 Cent Jubilee cover; strike dated -/AU 14/97 (below).



**Ottawa, ONT:** First reported strike on a 15 Cent Jubilee; strike is dated ?/AU 11/97 (below)

**Rat Portage, ONT:** First reported strike on a 50 Cent Widow Weed; strike is dated -/JY 2/96

**Hull, Quebec, Hmr I:** First reported strike on a 20 Cent Widow Weed; strike is dated -/MY 11/?

**Belleville, ONT, Hmr II:** First reported strike on a 50 Cent Jubilee; strike is dated 3/MY 5/98.



**Goderich, ONT:** First reported strike on a 1/2 Cent Numeral; strike on stamp is dated -/OC 12/98.

## **NEW REPORTS AND UPDATES (Continued)**

**Lakefield, ONT:** Second reported use of a small “o” in the year date; strike dated -/NO 7/0o.

**Listowel, ONT:** First reported strike on a Jubilee government postcard, strike dated -/NO 25/97.

**North Bay, ONT:** First report of a zero spacer in day date; strike dated -/NO 08/94 on 8 Cent SQ.

**Seelys Bay, ONT:** First reported strike on 2 Cent overprint/3 Cent Numeral, strike dated ?/DE 8/99; the day indicia “8” is inverted.

**Tavistock, ONT:** First reported strike on 2 Cent Jubilee stamp, dated -/AU 31/97.

**Toronto Blecker Street, ONT:** First reported strike on a 6 Cent Jubilee; strike on stamp is dated -/DE 6/97.

**Winona, ONT:** First reported strike on a 6 Cent Leaf; strike on stamp is dated -/AU 26/98.

**Victoria, BC Hmr III:** First reported strike on a 6 Cent Numeral; partial strike on stamp is dated -PM/NO 29/?; possible year date is “99”.

## **REPORT FROM 2019 BNAPEX STUDY GROUP SESSION**

Rick Friesen chaired the Study Group session at BNAPEX 2019. Rick has been working on the new handbook and presented an update on this monumental effort. Rick prepared a PowerPoint presentation for the session which I can forward to anyone upon request via email. Rick prepared the following summary of the Study Group session.

*The talk at the SG session went well. There were only about 10 people there (not all were SG members) and they had few comments about the content. There was a lot of discussion about whether to make the new electronic handbook available to anyone landing on the BNAPS webpage (if you are familiar with it, similar to the perfin study group handbook currently on the BNAPS website available to the general public), or whether to grant access to BNAPS members only.*

*I spoke to the person responsible for the BNAPS website (Leo Beaudet) and he said either is easy to do and it is up to the study group to decide. We are going to have to figure this out soon. The best way, from my point of view is to put something in the next Annex for folks to respond to re this issue. My personal view is that having it available to anyone, not just BNAPS members, would enable anyone, including dealers who are not BNAPS members, to get access to it and have the most up to date information. It might attract folks to become a member of the SG who would not otherwise look at the handbook.*

*An informal poll at the SG meeting was about 8-2 in favor of making it available to anyone, not just BNAPS members. Both options have pros and cons and both involve the same amount of work for me. Happy to chat re this issue.*

**As noted in Rick’s commentary above, please contact Rick with your thoughts regarding the question on whether to limit access to the new “electronic” handbook to BNAPS members only. Rick’s email address is rickfriesen5@gmail.com**

## The Rat Portage "64" for "94" Year Error: An Update

Brian Copeland

The year indicia were inverted in strikes of the Rat Portage squared circle hammer during part of 1894. The year shows as "64" instead of "94". An example is shown in Figure 1.



Figure 1.  
-/JU 18/64

The 5th edition of the Squared Circle Handbook (HB5) says: "Dates of error are AP 12 to NO 3 inclusive." However, it notes that the year is shown correctly in July and September. October is not mentioned. In an effort to narrow down the period for this error, I reviewed about 60 strikes of this hammer from April 1894 to November 1894. Aaron Gulliver generously shared information regarding his strikes from that period. This was combined with my own strikes and reports in the literature and

Based on this information, the main period for the error was AP 12/64 to JU 25/64. All strikes I am aware of from this period show "64". The AP 12 report is from HB5 and a scan of the JU 25 strike appears in Glenn Hansen's article on Rat Portage postal history in BNA Topics (March/April 1981). Aaron Gulliver has a strike from AP 7/94, so the error began sometime after that. I have strikes with the correct date on JU 27/94 (see Figure 2) and JU 29/94. Hence the last day of the error in the main period was between JU 25 and JU 27.



Figure 2  
-/JU 27/94

All strikes I am aware of from July, August, September and October show the correct year "94." Figure 3 shows a strike from OC 27/94. Strikes from OC 29/94 and OC 31/94 with the correct year also exist. Hence it appears that from late June to the end of October 1894, the correct year was the norm. HB5 notes that the error occurred in August, but I have been unable to find a report or an example. I have seen multiple strikes from throughout August with the correct year.



Figure 3.  
-/OC 27/94

What of the later recurrence of the error? In BNA Topics (Jan. 1975), Dr. Moffat noted that he had reports of the error from AP 17/64 to JU 20/64 inclusive, and a report from NO 3/64. I have been unable to find other reports of the "64" error from after JU 25. I have not seen any strikes from NO 1 or NO 2, and so I do not know if the error occurred on those days.

Assuming that an error on NO 3/64 exists, it turns out that it was corrected that day. Figure 4 shows a cover with a NO 3/94 strike. The year is correct. Strikes from NO 8/94, NO 12/94, and later in November all have the year showing correctly, suggesting that the year error did not recur later in November.

The Rat Portage "64" for "94" Year Error: An Update  
(Continued)

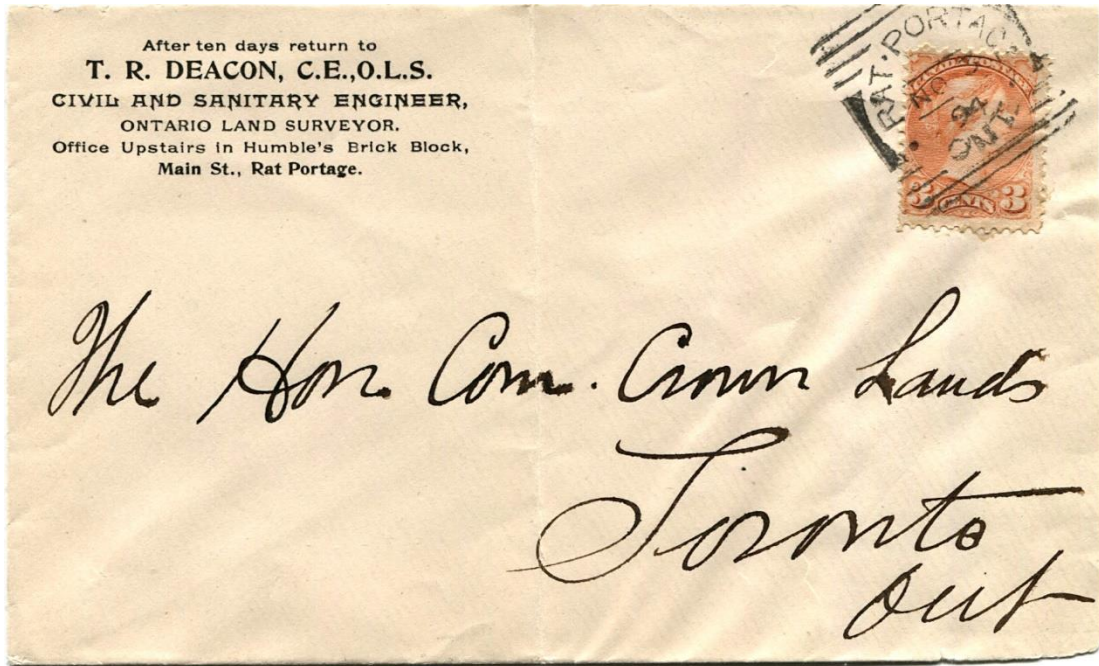


Figure 4. Cover sent from Rat Portage (-/NO 3/94) to Toronto.  
The year is shown correctly.

To conclude, the main period for the "64" for "94" date error was AP 12/64 to JU 25/64. There is also a report of the error on NO 3/64, but it was corrected that day. The year shows correctly on OC 31. Input from readers regarding strikes with or without the error from NO 1 and NO 2 (and any strikes with the error from after JU 25) would be useful and much appreciated. It would also be good to see a scan of the strike with the NO 3/64 error.

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October 19 – 20, 2019 London, Ontario

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London, Ontario  
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