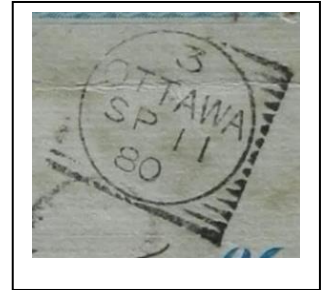


AN INTERESTING 1880 PRECURSOR ITEM

Bill Radcliffe sent a scan of 1 cent postcard with a strike of the 1880 Ottawa Precursor, dated SP 11/80. Apparently, the card was not initially deliverable and was sent to the Ottawa Dead Letter Office. Several months later, it appears that the card was “released” from the DLO, franked with three 1 cent Small Queens to pay the prevailing first class, one ounce letter rate and possibly forwarded to the original addressee. The date of the DLO postmark is DE 11./80.

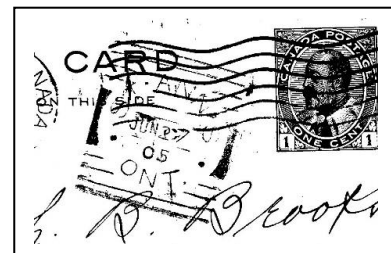
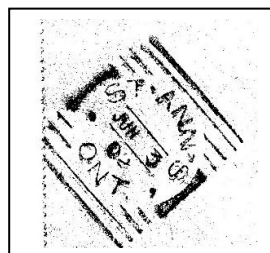
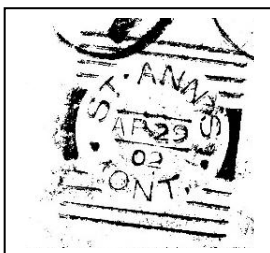


NEW REPORTS AND UPDATES – TYPE ONE

Mount Forest, ONT: First reported strike on a 2 cent Gov’t envelope; strike on cutout dated -/JA 25/00.

St. Ann’s, ONT: Terry Sitch sent the following new reports for the St. Ann’s hammer; all three strikes were transit postmarks on correspondence to Wellandport, Ontario.

- First report on a 2 cent Gov’t envelope; strike dated -/AP 29/02 (Below, left)
- First report on a 2 cent Letter Card; strike dated -/JUN 3/02; also first report of the use of the three letter month “JUN” indicia in 1902 (Below, middle)
- First report of the use of the three letter month ‘JUN’ indicia in 1905; strike dated -/JUN 27/05 (Below, right)



NEW REPORTS AND UPDATES – NOVA SCOTIA and ONTARIO



Halifax, NS Hmr 1: First reported strike on a 2 cent Gov't envelope; strike on cutout dated 2/JY 2/95.

Stellarton, NS: First report on a 20 cent Widow Weed issue; partial strike on stamp dated -/SP ?/?

Goderich, ONT: First reported strike on a 10 cent Small Queen; strike dated -/SP 21/96 (Left)

Gravenhurst, ONT: First report on a 2 cent Jubilee issue; strike on stamp dated PM/AU 29/97

Leamington, ONT: First reported strike on a ½ cent Leaf issue; light strike on stamp dated -/DE 29/98.

NEW REPORTS AND UPDATES – ALBERTA, BRITISH COLUMBIA and RPO

Calgary, ALTA Hmr 2: First report on a 10 cent Jubilee issue; strike on stamp dated AM/JU 2?/97

Victoria, BC Hmr 2: First reported strike on a 3 cent Letter Card; strike dated NT/JY 26/96

Napinka & Winnipeg MC No. 1: First reported strike on 8 cent Small Queen; backstamp transit strike on registered Wm. Rennie cover, mailed at Whitewater, Manitoba, dated EAST/MR ?/96.

REVISITING THE HAMILTON, ONTARIO PERIOD 1 LATEST REPORTED DATE “DEBATE”

THE ISSUE: The current Handbook lists the Latest Reported Date for Hamilton's Period 1 as 18/OC 9/96. There has been some question whether this is actually an 1896 date or a misread 1895 date.

This discussion begins with the report in the January 1967 BNA Topics Rounding Up Squared Circle column with the following report submitted to Bill Moffatt by Jack Gordon:

John Gordon has sent me a photocopy of an album page on which the item of interest is a strip of three 1c Small Queen carrying two strikes of a new late date for Hamilton: 18/ OC 9/ 96. This is nearly six months later than the latest date listed in the handbook.

In the October 1986 ANNEX issue, Lew Ludlow offered the following comments regarding the above latest date for Period 1 and provided five examples of October 1895 strikes, all with inverted “95” year date indicia.

“The latest (date) for the 1st period is given as October 9, 1896. I believe this is totally fallacious and comes from misreading an error made in the indicia on October 9, 1895..... Our position on this is further supported by the fact that we have no non-inverted(normal) strikes on this date and further, strikes on October 8 and 10 all have regular '95.

Our final surety in this matter is that we have never seen a Hamilton Square in the Small Queen period after April 13, 1896....Accordingly, from my point of view, the latest date for the first period is April 13, 1896. The coincidence of the inverted year with the published latest is too great!”

REVISITING THE HAMILTON, ONTARIO PERIOD 1 LATEST REPORTED DATE (Continued)

The *2001 Fifth Edition Handbook* lists Hamilton’s Period 1 latest date, reflecting Ludlow’s previous comments and notes two additional “Isolated use” dates (see excerpt below).

Periods of Use: 20/DE15/94 to ?/AP13/96, Period 1.*
19/FE26/13 to 9/AU20/14, Period 2.
NO18/15 (one day), Period 3.
 (* isolated use on 19/AP15/96 and 4/OC 4/96 was also reported)

The current Handbook (excerpt below) lists the latest date for Period 1 as 18/OC 9/96, presumably reflecting the January 1967 TOPICS report by Jack Gordon; in addition, Lew Ludlow’s opinion is noted.

Period	Earliest Date	Latest Date	Comments/Reference
Proofed	19/DE 15/94		
1	20/DE 15/94	18/OC 9/96	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ERD: HB5 • Note that Ludlow thought this an improbable but not impossible strike since it would have been 1h after the proof strike (see RA-45) • Second earliest report dated 18/DE 17/94 RA-45 • Second latest report dated 12/AP 13/96 RA-45, TM 11 also on this day (HB5 reports “Isolated use on 19/AP 15/96 and 4/OC 4/96” (are these unconfirmed reports?)) • LRD: on a strip of 3 x 1c SQ BNAT251-12 • Note that Ludlow suggests that this the year is not '96' but is an inverted year '95' strike (see RA-45)

David Robinson has provided additional insights into the discussions of Hamilton’s Period 1 outlined in the above paragraphs. David references the strikes included below.

- *“Ludlow’s suggestion that the 18/OC 9/96 is an inverted ‘95 is supported by the numerous reports of strikes on this day. I have attached scans (below) of TM’s 12, 18 and 19. It is easy to see why the inverted ‘95 could be seen as ‘96.”*



- *“The 4/OC 4/96 (noted in the current Handbook, above) may be misreported, based upon the extremely rare TM 4 and that no other OC/96 strikes have been reported.”*
- *The 19/AP 15/96 may be a misreported (as noted in the current Handbook, above) 19/AP 15/95, which would conform to existing reports.”*

REVISITING THE HAMILTON, ONTARIO PERIOD 1 LATEST REPORTED DATE (Continued)

Countering the above assumptions that 4/OC 4/96 and 19/AP 15/96 may have been misreported, David offers the following:

- *“The 17/AU 13/96 strike (at near right) supports the isolated use on 19/AP 15/96 and 4/OC 4/96.*
- David also provided a scan of a strike on a 2 cent Small Queen dated 17/AU 13/95 (above, far right) and noted the following: *“The 17/AU 13/95 strikes makes it unlikely that the ’96 strike (above) is an error for 95.”*



CONCLUSIONS:

- From the images provided by David Robinson, it is likely that the current Handbook LRD of 18/OC 9/96 is a misread of an 1895 strike.
- The previously reported Handbook strikes dated 19/AP 15/96 and 4/OC 4/96 strikes, although supported by the 17/AU 13/96 above, remain unconfirmed and could have been misreported 1895 strikes.
- Accepting that the current LRD is a misread 1895 strike, and further, the validity of the two reported 1896 strikes are not confirmed, the more “acceptable” latest reported date is 17/AU 13/96.

The Period 1 table to be included in the 2024 Handbook update is shown below.

Period	Earliest Date	Latest Date	Comments/Reference
Proofed	19/DE 15/94		
1	20/DE 15/94	17/AU 13/96	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ERD: HB5 • Note that Ludlow thought this ERD an improbable but not impossible strike since it would have been 1h after the proof strike (see RA-45) • Second earliest report dated 18/DE 17/94 RA-45 • LRD: On a 3c Small Queen RA-164 • LRD: Refer to the discussions in RA-164 regarding the various reports on the latest dates for Period 1.

BNAPEX 2024 – KINGSTON

A reminder that the Squared Circle Study Group has a scheduled meeting time from 2:00 PM to 3:20 PM on Friday August 23rd in Room A. If you are going to BNAPEX 2024, please plan on attending our gathering.

**BNAPS convention,
exhibition, and bourse
23-25 August 2024**

Friday (10:00-17:00) Saturday (10:00-18:00) Sunday (10:00-15:00)