



THE NOVA SCOTIA POST

The Monthly Newsletter of the Nova Scotia Stamp Club

October 2025
Volume 55, Issue 543

UP AND COMING

NS Stamp Club - October 14
Program: Round Table

Valley Stamp Club - October 11
Port Williams Community Centre

Moncton Stamp Fair - October 11
10 - 3pm, 100 War Veterans Ave,
Moncton, NB

The Fundy Stamp Club will hold a Silent Auction which will run from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and a Live Auction at 1:30 p.m.

South Shore Stamp Club - October 25
New Life Christian Church, Elm St.
Bridgewater, NS

Check out the status of other events at
www.rpsc.org/shows.php or
www.csdaonline.com/shows

Member Dues

It is incumbent on each member to pay their dues in a timely manner. Please pay at the next meeting or Stamp Fair. Member dues can be forwarded as per the bottom of page 2.

WHERE IN THE WORLD IS NOVA SCOTIA

by Marty Zelenietz

Where in the world is Nova Scotia? The answer may seem obvious to us, but it appears that our location occasionally puzzles various postal authorities. Perhaps this is a result of our geological history which shows that the province is composed of chunks of African, European and North American tectonic plates. In this article, I'll look at mail gone wrong – addressed to Nova Scotian destinations, but first misdirected or missent to other parts of the world.

We begin with a December 14, 1937 cover (Figure 1) sent from Staten Island, New

York, to Springfield, Annapolis County, Nova Scotia, with a two-cent carmine Washington (Scott # 634) of the 1922-26 Bureau Issue. The cover, however, first journeyed to Springfield, Ontario, where the dispatch error was noted. A manuscript "missent to" was applied, as well as a Springfield, Ontario December 15, 1937 circular date stamp (CDS), and the cover forwarded to its intended recipient. Name



Figure 1

similarity and confusion (as we'll see) is often the apparent cause of misdirected mail. The striking feature of this cover (given today's standards and expectations) is that it took only one day to transit from Staten Island, New York to Springfield, Ontario. Such a cross-border journey would now take several days, if not a week or more.

Another example of name confusion is seen in Figure 2. On December 20, 1995, a letter was sent from Southampton, UK to the Nova **NOVA SCOTIA** continued Page 2

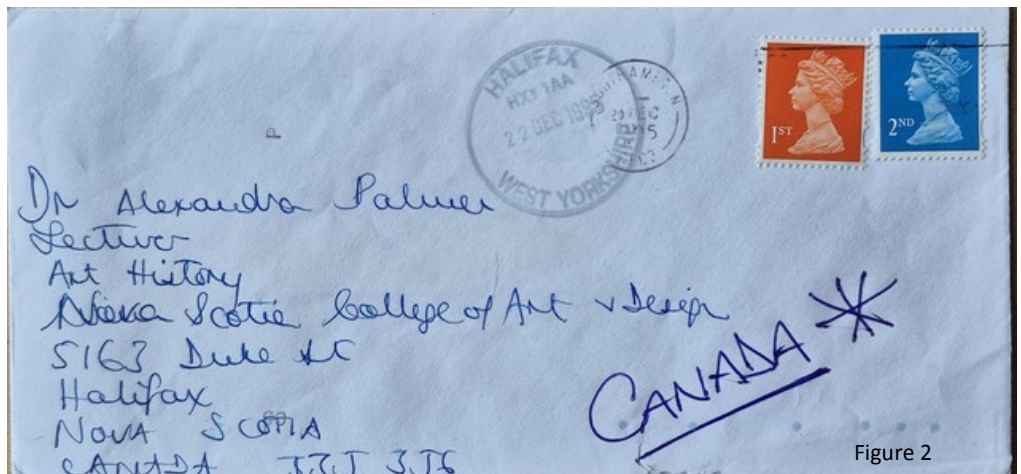


Figure 2

NOVA SCOTIA CONTINUED

Scotia College of Art and Design in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada B3J 3J6. Franked with a 1st and a 2nd NVI stamp, it lacked any airmail indication, which perhaps explains why we find a "HALIFAX, WEST YORKSHIRE 22 DEC 1995" 34mm CDS overlaying the Southampton machine cancel. The front also has a CANADA* manuscript instruction, while the reverse carries a Bradford LDO December 22 Royal Mail machine slogan cancel.

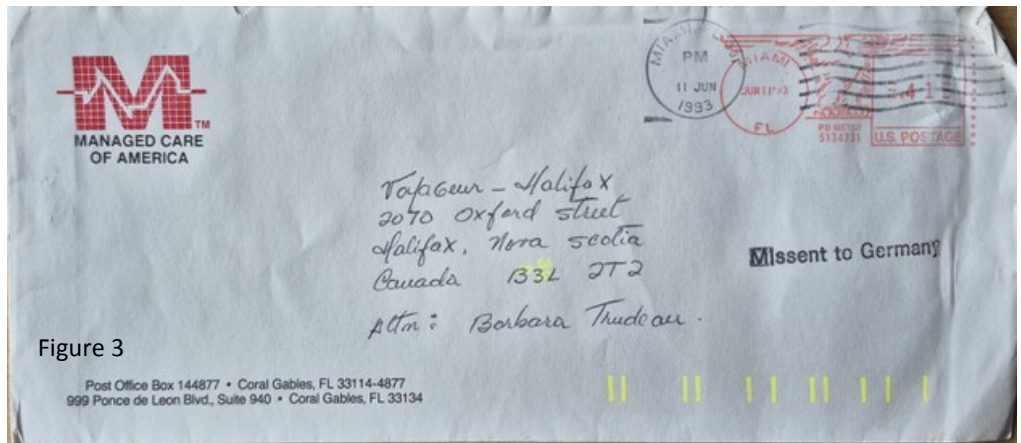


Figure 3

It is harder to understand why the Miami-origin commercial cover in Figure 3 went astray. Franked with 41 cents in meter postage which was cancelled (needlessly) by a June 11, 1993 Miami machine mark, it is clearly addressed to Halifax, complete with country name and postal code. The letter mysteriously ended up in Germany, where it received a straight-line 45mm x 4 mm "Missent to Germany" auxiliary marking. Regardless of the misdirection, the cover, like all the covers in this article, ended up at its intended destination.

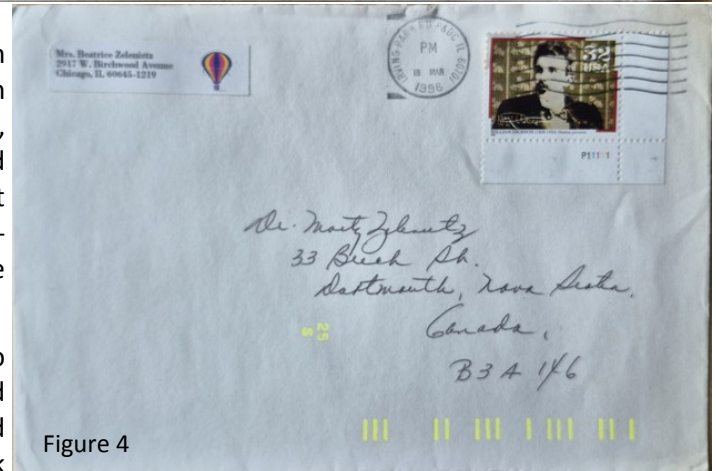


Figure 4

More mysterious yet is the Figure 4 cover. My mother in Chicago sent me a birthday card on March 18, 1996. She was very concerned that it hadn't arrived by March 23, my birthday. Today this would not be surprising – we accept that cross-border mail will take a week or more to make it to Nova Scotia. Back then, though, it was surprising. The card finally arrived on March 29. Nothing on the front of the cover indicated the reason for delay. On the back, however, I found a 30mm diameter Warsaw, Poland CDS of 22 March 1996 (see Figure 5). I daresay that the current transit time for a Chicago-Warsaw-Halifax missent letter would far exceed the 11 days it took this cover to make the trip nearly three decades ago, particularly since the basic postage was underpaid for the US-Canada rate.

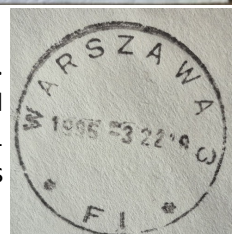


Figure 5

Underpaid postage explains some of what is going on with the Figure 6 cover. Originally sent from Paterson, New Jersey to Halifax on April 5, 1993, the 29 cent stamp was 11 cents short of the to-Canada rate. It was returned to sender, who applied the appropriate metered postage on April 12 at the Hawthorne Branch PO. The cover then received a 33mm double-ring Paterson-Hawthorne CDS and a Paterson machine cancel of the same 12 April date. What goes unexplained is the Cairo, Egypt April 17, 1993 cancellation (Figure 7) on the back of the cover!

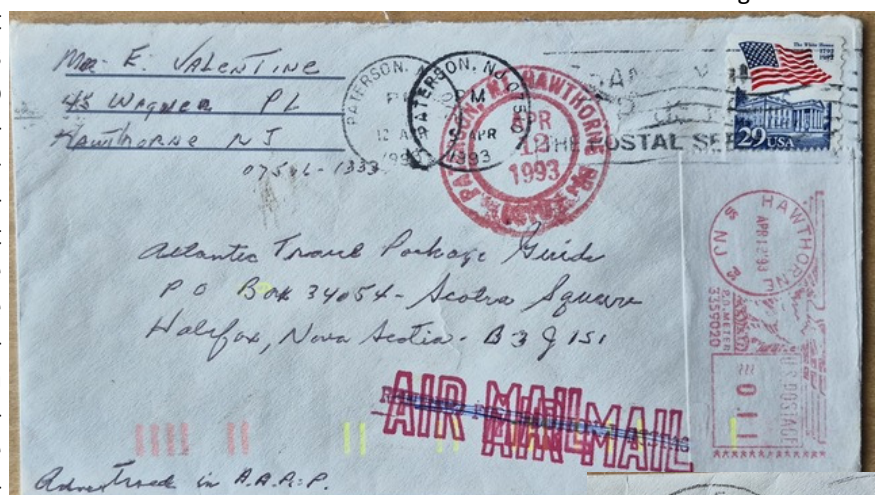


Figure 7



Continued in November Issue....

The Nova Scotia Post

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Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada

Jane Sodero - Editor
Jeff Parks - Graphic Design

<http://www.nsstampclub.ca/>
webnews@nsstampclub.ca

Nova Scotia Stamp Club meets at 7:30 p.m. on every second Tuesday of the month (except July and August) at the Nova Scotia Museum, 1747 Summer Street, Halifax, N.S. The club publishes a monthly newsletter (except summer) released in the first week of the month.

E-Membership is C\$10 per person or C\$15.00 per couple.

Print Membership is C\$15 and C\$22.50. Foreign mailings available at a premium.

Send membership applications to...
NS Stamp Club c/o Jeff Parks
102 Birch Bear Run,
Lewis Lake, NS B3Z 4B8

TO FRANCE AND BACK - DLO ARTICLE #88

by Gary Steele

BUREAU DES REBUTS
DEAD LETTER OFFICE
26 VI 1950
No. 7
MONTREAL, CANADA

Sans-serif except 'No. 7'
all caps except 'No.'
47mm x 35mm,
Proofed 3 VII 1948

This cover to France has just about everything required of it, but no one said the markings and handstamps had to be perfect. We all wish that was so for ease of examination.

Of note is the re-organization **No. 7 Montreal** DLO handstamp, a very clear strike in an open area that were mostly used on foreign mail coming into or returning to Canada.

This cover is a three quarter to one ounce weight envelope (60 cent franking for the 4 x 15 cents per quarter ounce air mail rate) mailed on June 7, 1950 with a 10-cent registration fee. Upon receipt in France a Strasbourg cds on the backside is dated June 10, 1950. Two days later per the manuscript marking '*Refuse 12/6*' indicates why it was being returned to Canada per the **RE-TURNED / TO / SENDER** pointing finger handstamp.

Upon receipt back in Canada on the front is a #9 large circle customs handstamp dated June 23, 1950 marked **DUTY FREE**. Then on June 24 it left the Montreal GPO registered section to be forwarded to the Montreal DLO on June 26 as received per the Pitney Bowes meter handstamp in red ink (these were used as a receiving mark to the DLO offices). The rare clerk #7 handstamp indicates it being processed and the large boxed **TAXE / CHARGES 3 CENTS** applied. This 3-cent tax was for the Return Dead Letter fee with this cover put into the Dead Letter Return envelope (not shown). This is where it was either returned to the Cooke hospital in Trois Rivieres or opened to find the senders permanent address.

It appears to have been picked up on the July 10, 1950 at the General Delivery Post Restante wicket. The General Delivery handstamp tied the 1 & 2 cent postage due stamps to pay the full DLO tax fee. Sometimes this fee is applied to the Return Dead Letter envelope, however not so if returned via the General Delivery wicket to the sender as per this instance.

One should mention here the return address in the upper left corner, **Hopital Cooke / Trois Rivieres, Que, Canada**. A person would have to contact the hospital and try to get the info to forward the item to a present or previous occupant. Thousands and thousands of letters would have gone out of hospitals across the country. An internet search indicates this was a public hospital-sanatorium for tuberculosis patients, which opened its doors on September 6, 1930.

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<https://www.v3r.net/culture/histoire-et-patrimoine/toponymie/toponyme/hopital-cooke>

BITS AND PIECES

Our program for our October meeting will be in the round tables format.....

Suggested discussions for this evening will be..... Over the past few months what finds have you made for your collection(s). How did it all come about? Was it a Stamp Fair you attended, an online auction, an eBay purchase or just an old-fashioned trade of some sorts. How long have you been looking for these items or item? Share your adventure(s) and stories with those at your table. Bring these items along to the meeting to share with those at your table also. Your adventures and your approach to adding items to your collection can often give fellow collectors some ideas on how they too can do what you have done or are doing in this regard.

** ** ** **

A new book has been added to the club library. Our September guest speaker, Douglas Weisz, gifted the club a copy of his book about Dorothy Knapp and her first day cover designs. More information about getting books from the club library will be in the next issue of the Nova Scotia Post.

** ** ** **

South Shore Stamp Club Stampex 2025 - Nov 1st – Michelin Social & Athletic Club, 221 Logan Road, Bridgewater. Dealers, exhibits, draws, auction. Free Parking.

VIRTUAL PRESENTATIONS-OCTOBER 2025 compiled by Ann Miller

You can register for the event via the host's website. Most of the groups listed have past presentations available to view through their websites, or YouTube.

Times listed for the ATLANTIC zone.

American Topical Association (ATA):

Oct. 7, 8 pm, Alan Barasch, "Pachyderms on stamps".

Oct. 21, 8 pm, Wayne Youngblood, "Taco Tuesday".

Auxiliary Markings Club:

Oct. 14, 8 pm, Arne Jansen, "Unusual auxiliary markings on unusual mail".

British Empire Study Group (BESG):

scheduled talk postponed

Collectors Club of New York:

Oct. 9, 8 pm, John Hotchner, "Korean war POW mail".

Oct. 22, 6:30 pm, Andrew Kelley, "The lithographed Washington-Franklin heads".

Learning About Stamps Online:

Oct. 21, 9 pm, "The latest news on Boston 2026".

North Toronto Stamp Club:

Oct. 16, 8 pm, Paul Sargent, "Britain's early postage stamps and the dawn of the age of railways".

Postal History Society of Canada:

Oct. 21, 7 pm, Chris Ellis, "Unusual (Rare) Uses of Victorian and Edwardian Official Stationery 'Advertising' Cards". Contact PHSCpresentation@gmail.com for the link.

Royal Philatelic Society of Canada (RPSC):

No Stamp Panel - Thanksgiving.

Oct. 20, 8 pm, Sam Chiu, "Canada's C-Force in Hong Kong".

Royal Philatelic Society of London (RPSL):

Oct. 7, 11 am, Daniel Ryterband, "1930's Graf Zeppelin stamps".

Society of Australasian Specialists / Oceania:

Oct. 16, 7 pm, Rufus Barnes, "Easter Island".

Contact Steve Zirinsky szirinsky@cs.com for a link.

West Toronto Stamp Club:

Oct. 7, 8 pm, Learning Workshop, "Anything and everything beginning with the letter 'J'".

Oct. 21, 8 pm, Discussion Group, Dr. Alec Globe, "Mud Hole to Metropolis" a Toronto story.

STAMP FAIR

Hosted by The Nova Scotia Stamp Club

Sunday

October 19, 2025

9:00am – 3:00pm

East Dartmouth
Community Centre

50 Caledonia Road
Dartmouth, NS



DEALERS WILL BE PRESENT SELLING
AND BUYING STAMPS

LIVE AUCTION AT 1:30PM

FREE ADMISSION

FREE PARKING