

THE SQUARED CIRCLE POSTMARKS OF NEW BRUNSWICK

Introduction: "Squared Circle Precursor"

St. John – 1892

In 1892, nine Canadian post offices, including St. John, were issued with a combination canceller-dater hammer. Its format was an enclosed circle within which was the "City, Province, Canada", and below between two sets of lines with the mailing data – MM DD TM, and under the lower lines, the year "92". They were used only in 1892.



Proof Date
JA 13 / 92

Time Mark order: from introduction on January 21, 1892 until May, "hour & A or P".
Thereafter until the end of the hammer's use on August 31, "A or P & hour".

Earliest Recorded Date

JA 21 6P



Last Recorded Date - AU 31 A11



THE SQUARED CIRCLES

Introduced 1893-1895

Fourteen New Brunswick post offices received a square circle hammer from 1893 to 1895. Usage of some squared circles lasted beyond 1910.

- 1893 Clifton, Rothesay – the initial proof strikes dated JU 15 / 92
Baie Verte, Butternut Ridge, Newcastle Creek, Milltown,
River Louison, Petitcodiac
- 1894 Fredericton, Sackville, Woodstock, Indiantown, Shediac
- 1895-1897 St, John (3 hammers)



The hammer name is derived from its design – an outer square formed by horizontal lines, cut to create a circle which held the Post Office, N.B. / Canada around the rim and the "indicia" in 3 lines – time mark, month and date, and year organized as TM / MM DD / YY. Manufacture was by Pritchard & Andrews.

EXHIBIT ORGANIZATION: This display shows: an illustration of the proof strikes (scanned directly from "The Squared Circle Cancellations of Canada – 3rd Edition, BNAPS, 2001); examples on cover; the usage dates; time marks; and quantities for less common markings. The hammers of each post office are presented in order of proof date. **SIGNIFICANT STRIKES** are "boxed" in black.