

**Unique Squared Circle Cancellations of Canada on the
2¢ Imperial Penny Postage Commemorative Issue of 1898 (The 'Map Stamp')**
By Rick Friesen

For the past several years I have been assembling a detailed compendium of known Squared Circle strikes on off-cover Map stamps and Map stamp covers. The list has been compiled from numerous sources, including over 58 years of public auction listings (starting with the 1960 J.N Sissons auction #178-179 of the Fred Jarrett collection), the philatelic literature (including books, journals and newsletters), exhibits, dealer stocks, personal communications from fellow collectors, and my own personal collection.

After a request for information first appeared in the *Roundup Annex* in 2015, I have received many contributions from fellow collectors regarding the Map stamps and covers in their collections. In addition to detailed lists of stamps and covers, a number of the owners of these collections have generously provided me with scans of their holdings. In this and subsequent articles, I will highlight various aspects of the information that I have accumulated thus far.

Of special interest are those town hammers for which a unique Squared Circle Map stamp strike has been reported. When the Handbook was published in 2001, 14 hammers were documented to have a single Map stamp strike, whether on- or off-cover. These towns are listed in **Table 1, Rows 1-14** (alphabetical order) along with the current census numbers. Only 9 of the 14 towns that reported 1 Squared Circle Map stamp strike when the Handbook was published still have a single documented strike - the other 5 towns now have 2 or more reported strikes. The currently known strikes for these 5 'multiple strike' hammers are listed in **Table 2** (entries for covers are highlighted in blue). Since the publication of the Handbook 17 years ago, 7 additional town hammers have been identified that were unknown on the Map stamp at that time and are listed in **Table 1, Rows 15-21** (alphabetical order). 5 of these hammers currently have a single reported example - the other 2 both have 2 documented strikes. Again, the currently known strikes for the 2 'multiple strike hammers are listed in **Table 2**.

It should be noted that although no Map stamp examples for Brantford were documented in the Handbook, they have been reported to exist (Ron Winmill in his 1982 book, "The Evolution of Imperial Penny Postage and the Postal History of the Canadian 1898 Map Stamp" (pg 24) says "only one example is recorded on Map stamp, though there are also 2 covers reported". A report in *Maple Leaves* (Vol 20, #2, Whole #206, pg 38 (1986)) suggests that Brantford strikes on Map stamps are known on- and off-cover – no details are given.). However, the current census does not record any Brantford Map stamp strikes on- or off-cover and since no specific listings have appeared in the philatelic literature to my knowledge, Brantford is not included in this list.

Similarly, the Robert A. Lee January 1988 auction #47 of the Hansen/Davey collection, Lot #618 (Volume 6 - ONTARIO 'G-O'), includes a listing of 3 Nassageweya stamps, one of which is reported to be 'on Map'. Since no further information is given and no scan is attached, it is unknown whether this is a mis-identified town or is in fact the first report of Nassageweya on the Map stamp. The current census does not record any Nassageweya Map stamp strikes and, since no specific listings have appeared in the philatelic literature, it is also not included in this list

Therefore, according to the database assembled thus far, 13 hammers currently boast a single, unique Squared Circle Map stamp strike. Of these 13 hammers, 11 strikes exist off-cover and 2 are on covers. The following paragraphs describe the towns and Squared Circle cancellations of these 13 unique Map stamps/covers. The railroads in existence during the Map stamp period (typically viewed as the 14 months from DE 6/98 to JA 31/00) that served each town were extracted from maps in “Cram’s Standard American Railway System Atlas of the World” (George F. Cram, Chicago (1901)), “Lovell’s Gazetteer of British North America” (John Lovell & Son, Publishers, Montreal (1895)), and “Lovell’s Gazetteer of the Dominion of Canada” (John Lovell & Son, Publishers, Montreal (1908)), while the information on the post offices and postmasters was found on the Library and Archives Canada website and the dates of use of the Squared Circle hammers are from the Handbook.

Table 1. Unique Squared Circle Map Stamp Strikes

	Town Hammer	2001 Handbook		Current Census		
		Off-cover	Cover	Off-cover	Cover	Total (1)
1	Athens, ONT	1	0	1	0	1
2	Beeton, ONT	0	1	0	2	2
3	Grenfell, ASSA	1	0	5	0	5
4	Harriston, ONT	1	0	2	1	3
5	Kincardine, ONT	1	0	1	0	1
6	Merritton, ONT	0	1	0	4	4
7	Prince Albert, SASK	1	0	1	0	1
8	Rothsay, NB	0	1	0	1	1
9	St. Anne de Beaupre, QUE	1	0	1	0	1
10	St. Ann's, ONT	0	1	0	1	1
11	Souris & Win M.C. (No. 1)	1	0	1	0	1
12	Summerside, PEI	1	0	4	1	5
13	Victoriaville, QUE	1	0	1	0	1
14	Yarmouth, NS	1	0	1	0	1
15	Cache Bay, ONT	0	0	1	0	1
16	Charlottetown, PEI	0	0	0	2	2
17	Farnham, QUE	0	0	1	0	1
18	London, ONT (Type 1)	0	0	1	0	1
19	Wellington, ONT	0	0	1	0	1
20	Windsor, ONT	0	0	1	0	1
21	Woodville, ONT	0	0	2	0	2

Notes: (1) See full listings in Table 2 for towns with 2 or more Total strikes

Table 2. Hammers from Table 1 with Multiple Map Stamp Strikes

Town Hammer	Strike Date	Scan (1)	Reference for Strike or Cover
Beeton	-/JU 21/99	Y	1. <i>Roundup Annex</i> , Vol 5, #4, Whole #29, pg 1 (1982) 2. Robert A. Lee 1984 auction #32 of the Ron Winmill collection, Lot #449 3. <i>Maple Leaves</i> , Vol 20, #2, Whole #206, pg 38 (1986) 4. Current owner
	-/JA 20/00	Y	Current owner
Grenfell (2)	-/FE 2/??	N	1. Robert A. Lee 1984 auction #32 of the Ron Winmill collection, Lot #612 2. Handbook pg II-199
	-/AP 2/99	Y	Current owner
	-/DE 2/--	Y	Eastern Auctions 2009 Auction of the Roger Boisclair collection, Lot #428
	-/DE 5/99	N	Current owner
	-/DE 16/99	N	<i>Roundup Annex</i> , Vol 35, #1, Whole #120, pg 1 (2014)
Harriston	-/JU 9/99	Y	1. N.A. Pelletier, "Squared Circles on the 1898 Canadian Map Stamps", CAPEX '78 Exhibit 2. J.N. Sissons 1982 auction of the Nels Pelletier collection, Lot #567 3. Robert A. Lee 1984 auction #32 of the Ron Winmill collection, Lot #514 4. Bow City Philatelics Postal Bid Sale #86, Lot #473 5. Bow City Philatelics Postal Bid Sale #89, Lot #602 6. Current owner
	-/SP 1-/99	Y	eBay
	-/SP 17/99	N	<i>Roundup Annex</i> , Vol 32, #2, Whole #117, pg 1 (2009)
Merritton	-/JA 3/99	Y	1. J.N. Sissons 1988 auction #482 of the Alex Csucs collection, Lot #215 2. Current owner
	-/SP 30/99	Y	Current owner
	-/FE 9/00	N	Current owner
	-/MY 16/00	Y	1. <i>Maple Leaves</i> , Vol 17, #6, Whole #174, pg 143 (1979) 2. R.B. Winmill, "The Evolution of Imperial Penny Postage and the Postal History of the Canadian 1898 Map Stamp", pg 24 (1982) 3. Robert A. Lee 1984 auction #32 of the Ron Winmill collection, Lot #535 4. Handbook pg II-130
Summerside	-/FE 21/99	Y	1. N.A. Pelletier, "Squared Circles on the 1898 Canadian Map Stamps", CAPEX '78 Exhibit 2. J.N. Sissons 1982 auction of the Nels Pelletier collection, Lot #554 3. Robert A. Lee 1984 auction #32 of the Ron Winmill collection, Lot #483

Table 2. Hammers from Table 1 with Multiple Map Stamp Strikes

	-/NO 14/99	Y	Current owner
	-/NO 22/99	N	Current owner
	-/NO 25/99	Y	1. J.N. Sisson 1985 auction #443 of the Max Rosenthal collection, Lot #1224 2. Eastern Auctions 2011 auction of the Hugh Westgate collection, Lot #274
	-/DE 28/98	Y	1. F.G. Fawn, "Imperial Penny Postage of 1898", BNAPS Exhibit #32, pg 91 (2004) 2. Eastern Auctions 2009 auction of the Roger Boisclair collection, Lot #370
Charlottetown	?	N	J.N. Sissons 1982 auction of the Nels Pelletier collection, Lot #554 (backstamp)
	?/JU ?/00	N	1. <i>Maple Leaves</i> , Vol 17, #6, Whole #174, pg 143 (1979) 2. R.B. Winmill, "The Evolution of Imperial Penny Postage and the Postal History of the Canadian 1898 Map Stamp", pg 24 (1982)
Woodville	-/?? 2/??	Y	Weeda Stamps Bidboard #1847, Lot #43 (2017)
	-/JA 3/99	Y	1. Eastern Auctions 2006 auction of the Michael Woods collection, Lot #370 2. <i>Roundup Annex</i> , Vol 29, #1, Whole #110, pg 1,4 (2006) 3. Squared Circle Cancellations website (http://www.ece.uvic.ca/~agullive/squared.html) 4. Current owner

Notes: (1) Scan/photo of the stamp/cover available; Y = yes, N = no. (2) A Grenfell off-cover Map stamp was listed in the J.A. Hennok 1995 auction #103 of the Whit Bradley collection, Lot #260, but no details or illustration were provided. Therefore, it is not included in this table since it may be one of the stamps already identified.

(a) Hammers with a single known Squared Circle off-cover Map stamp cancellation and no covers

Athens, ONT: Athens is a town in Leeds County, Ontario, 42 miles NE of Kingston. Athens was a station 17 miles W of Brockville on the Brockville, Westport & Sault Ste. Marie Railway, a line that ran 42 miles from Brockville to Westport. The Athens post office opened prior to 1841, and the postmaster during the Map stamp period was Joseph H. McLaughlin (1897-1904). The Athens Squared Circle hammer was used for about a month after the issuance of the Map stamp with the latest date of use reported as AM/JA 7/99. A single Map stamp strike (date not known) is reported in the Handbook but is otherwise undocumented in the current census. No scans/illustrations of the stamp, nor other philatelic references (including sale at auction) to the stamp, have been uncovered and the current owner is unknown.

Cache Bay, ONT: Cache Bay is a town on the N shore of Lake Nipissing in Nipissing County, Ontario, just W of Sturgeon Falls. Cache Bay was a station 27 miles W of North Bay and 54 miles E of Sudbury on the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway that ran from Montreal to Victoria. The Cache Bay post office opened in October 1889, and the postmaster during the Map stamp period was A.J. Young (1889-1900).

The Cache Bay Squared Circle hammer was used from -/OC 29/94 to -/JUL 4/5. The only reported strike of Cache Bay on the Map stamp, dated -/AU 23/99, is a weak but SON and readable strike on a dirty, 'muddy waters' Map stamp (Figure 1). Surprisingly, the 2001 Handbook reports that no

examples of the Cache Bay Squared Circle cancellation exist on Map stamps even though an off-cover strike was reported in 1986 (*Maple Leaves*, Vol 20, #2, Whole #206, pg 39 (1986)).

The first Map report' was submitted to the *Roundup Annex* (Vol 26, #2, Whole #107, pg 1 (2004)) by Bruce Kalbfleisch in 2004. It is assumed that the stamp in Figure 1 is the stamp mentioned in the above references but, since no details on the stamp or strike were provided in either reference, it is possible that they refer to 2 different stamps. Until such a time that this can be resolved, and since no references to another strike have appeared in the philatelic literature, we will document the stamp in this article as the sole Cache Bay Map stamp strike. The stamp was at one time part of the Jack Gordon collection and currently resides in the author's collection.

Farnham, QUE: Farnham is a town on the shore of the Yamaska River in Missisquoi County, Quebec, 44 miles SE of Montreal. Farnham was a station on several railways including: (1) the terminus, 24 miles from Freleightsburg, of the Freleightsburg Branch of the Central Vermont Railway, (2) the Montreal to Waterloo line of the Central Vermont Railway, (3) the Newport Section of the Canadian Pacific Railway that ran 108 miles from Montreal to Newport, and (4) the Montreal and Stanbridge Division of the Canadian Pacific Railway that ran 61 miles N from Stanbridge to St. Guillaume. The Farnham post office opened in July 1845, and the postmaster during the Map stamp period was W.F. Choquette (1896-1938). The Farnham Squared Circle hammer was used in Period 1 from -/JA 6/95 to -/MR 20/01. The only documented strike of the Farnham Squared Circle on the Map stamp, dated -/JA 28/99, is a beautiful SON strike on a Map stamp with deep blue oceans (Figure 2). Surprisingly, although several Farnham strikes were reported on other stamps during Period 1 of the hammer use, it was undocumented on the Map stamp until being discovered by the author in an eBay auction listing in February 2018 and was subsequently reported in the *Roundup Annex* (Vol. 39, #4, Whole #134, pg 1 (2018)).

Kincardine, ONT: Kincardine is a town on the E shore of Lake Huron in Bruce County, Ontario, 51 miles SW of Owen Sound. Kincardine was the N terminus, 28 miles NW of Wingham, of the Wellington, Grey & Bruce Branch (South Extension) of the Grand Trunk Railway which ran 52 miles SE from Kincardine to Palmerston. The Kincardine post office opened in June 1851, and the postmaster during the Map stamp period was Robert Baird (1892-1907). The Kincardine Squared Circle hammer was used from -/NO 1/94 to -/JY 18/95, and rarely thereafter. The only documented strike of the Kincardine Squared Circle on the Map stamp, dated -/AP 06/99, is the latest reported date of use of the hammer. It is a weak but clearly identified strike that shows 'KIN...DINE/ONT.', and it resides on a 'muddy waters' Map stamp (Figure 3). Originally reported and illustrated in *BNA Topics* (Vol 36, #4, Whole #372, pg 31 (1979)), the unique Kincardine Map stamp strike date was listed incorrectly in this and subsequent articles (*Roundup Annex* (Vol 2, #4, Whole #12, pg 136 (1979)), and *Maple Leaves* (Vol 17, #6, Whole #174, pg 144 (1979))) as -/OC 6/99. The catalogue listing of the stamp in the J.N. Sissons May 1982 auction of the Nels Pelletier collection, Lot #569, reads "light strike, only known strike". The catalogue listing of the stamp in the J.N. Sissons August 1985 auction of the Max Rosenthal collection, Lot #1242, reads "a partial strike, THE ONLY KNOWN STRIKE ON A MAP STAMP". Both of these auction catalogues do not give a date for the strike. The Matthew Bennett December 2005 auction catalogue of the Jim Hennok collection, Lot #2107, lists the strike date incorrectly as -/MR 16/99 and the listing reads "light strike on 2¢ Map, Fine". A 2006 *Roundup Annex* report (Vol 29, #1, Whole #110, pg 1 (2006)) by Jack Gordon corrects the date and reads "the Map strike (believed unique) in the Hennok collection turns out to be dated OC/AP 06/99; this is really weird" (did Gordon add OC in the time mark slot for 'off-cover'?). It should be noted that the indicia contains the only reported use of the '0' spacer in the

day for the Kincardine hammer. Finally, it is probable that the latest date of use of the Kincardine hammer reported in the Handbook (pg II-114) as -/OC 6/99 is incorrect since the Handbook ascribes it to a strike on the Map stamp, but this date is consistent with the early erroneous date reports in *BNA Topics*, the *Roundup Annex* and *Maple Leaves*. The stamp was at one time part of the Jack Gordon collection.



Cache Bay. ONT



Farnham, QUE



Kincardine, ONT

London, ONT (Type I): London is a town on the River Thames in Middlesex County, Ontario, 120 miles SW of Toronto. London was an important railway centre, a station and/or terminus of many railway lines including: (1) the Ontario & Quebec Division of the Canadian Pacific Railway that ran from Montreal to Detroit, (2) the terminus of the Stratford Branch of the Grand Trunk Railway, (3) a station on the Southern Division of the Grand Trunk Railway that ran from Suspension Bridge to Detroit and Sarnia, (4) the terminus of the London, Huron & Bruce Branch of the Grand Trunk Railway that ran from Wingham, and (5) the N terminus of the Lake Erie & Detroit River Railway that ran from London to Port Stanley. The London post office opened in 1825, and the postmasters during the Map stamp period were R.J.C. Dawson (1881-1899) and Thomas A. Browne (1899-1902). The 2nd State of the Type 1 London Squared Circle hammer was used for ~10 months during the Map stamp period until the latest reported date of use on ?/SP 21/99, although 1899 strikes are very scarce. It was undocumented on the Map stamp until being discovered by Aaron Gulliver in 2017. The only documented London Type 1, State 2, Squared Circle Map stamp strike, dated 3/DE 9/98, is a beautiful SON strike on a Map stamp with lavender oceans (Figure 4).

Prince Albert, SASK: Prince Albert is on the North Saskatchewan River in Saskatchewan, 90 miles N of (what was) the Assiniboia border and 250 miles N of Regina. Prince Albert was the N terminus, 88 miles N of Saskatoon, of the Prince Albert Branch of the Canadian Pacific Railway that ran from Regina. The Prince Albert post office opened in January 1879, and the postmaster during the Map stamp period was James F. A. Stull (1898-1907). The Prince Albert hammer was used for only 2 weeks during the Map stamp period, from -/DE 21/98 to -/JA 4/99. The only documented strike of the Prince Albert Squared Circle on the Map stamp, dated -/JA 4/99, is a partial but readily identifiable strike that shows '...ALBERT/SASK.', and it resides on a Map stamp with lavender oceans (Figure 5). It was reported by Bill Wegman in 2000 in the *Roundup Annex* (Vol. 22, #3, Whole #96, pg 2,3 (2000)) as the first 1899 strike for the hammer and the latest reported date of hammer use.

Souris & Winnipeg M.C. (No. 1): This RPO hammer was used on the Souris Section of the Canadian Pacific Railway, a 150 mile line in Manitoba that ran E/W from Souris to Winnipeg. The Souris & Winnipeg M.C. (No. 1) Squared Circle hammer was used from EAST/JA 26/94 to E/FE 26/12. The only documented strike of this hammer (RPO listing WT-778.01) on the Map Stamp and

the only date in 1899, EAST/AP 16/99, is a Sunday date and was reported in the Handbook (pg II-223). No scan/illustration of the stamp, nor other philatelic references (including sale at auction) to the stamp, have been uncovered; the current owner is unknown.

St. Anne de Beaupre, QUE: St. Anne de Beaupre is a town on the N shore of the St. Lawrence River in the foothills of the Laurentian Mountains in Montmorency County, Quebec, 21 miles NE of Quebec City. St. Anne de Beaupre was a station on the Quebec, Montmorency & Charlevoix Railway that ran for 29 miles on the N shore of the St. Lawrence River from Quebec to Cape Tourmente. The St. Anne de Beaupre post office opened in January 1874, and the postmaster during the Map stamp period was Francois Fortier (1898-1905). The St. Anne de Beaupre Squared Circle hammer was used for ~10 months during the Map stamp period until -/SP 9/99. The only documented St. Anne de Beaupre Squared Circle Map stamp strike, dated -/MR 14/-- (assumed to be 1899), is the second latest reported date of the use of the hammer. It is a partial, but clearly identified strike that shows ‘...ANNE DE BE...’, and it resides on a ‘muddy waters’ Map stamp (Figure 6). The stamp was originally illustrated in the *Roundup Annex* (Vol 8, #3, Whole #41, pg 326 (1985)) with the reference reading “the first reported Map strike for the hammer; partially dated -/MR 14/?”. It was subsequently reported in the *Map Stamp Study Group Newsletter* (#8, pg 7 (Feb-Mar 1985)), in *Maple Leaves* (Vol 21, #3, Whole #219, pg 85 (1988)), and the Handbook pg II-70. The stamp was illustrated in the catalogue of the J.A. Hennok September 1995 auction #103 of the Whit Bradley collection, Lot #244, and the listing reads “unreported in handbook (#4), Fine”. It was also illustrated in the Eastern Auctions October 2009 auction catalogue of the Roger Boisclair collection, Lot #434, and the listing reads “tiny corner crease - the only known strike on a Map stamp, unknown on cover”. It currently resides in the author’s collection.



London, ONT



Prince Albert, SASK



St. Anne De Beaupre”, QUE

Victoriaville, QUE: Victoriaville is a town on the Nicolet River in Arthabaska County, Quebec, 43 miles SE of Three Rivers and 65 miles SW of Quebec City. Victoriaville was 1 mile from Arthabaska, a station on the Arthabaska to Three Rivers Branch, and the Montreal to Levis line, of the Grand Trunk Railway. The Victoriaville post office opened in December 1858, and the postmaster during the Map stamp period was Miss Eva Beudet (1898-1902). The Victoriaville Squared Circle hammer was used from -/JA 5/94 to PM/JA 31/00. The only documented Victoriaville Squared Circle Map stamp strike, dated -/AP ??/99, is the second latest reported date of the use of the hammer. It is a partial, but clearly identified strike that shows ‘VICTORI...’, and it resides on a Map stamp with pale blue oceans (Figure 7). This stamp was first referenced in the *Roundup Annex* (Vol 22, #1, Whole #94, pg 1 (2000)) as being offered in the Dick Lamb Sale #73, Lot #1288. No strike date was given with this report nor with the Lamb listing which reads “partial on a faulty 2¢ Map #86, unreported?”. It is currently part of the author’s collection.

Wellington, ONT: Wellington is a town on the N shore of Lake Ontario on Wellington Bay in Prince Edward County, Ontario, 18 miles S of Belleville. Wellington was a station 11 miles W of Picton on the Central Ontario Railway that ran from Picton to Coe Hill, and 21 miles S of Trenton, a junction station with the Grand Trunk Railway. The Wellington post office opened prior to 1832 and the postmaster during the Map stamp period was David Clinton (1893-1901). The Wellington Squared Circle hammer was used from -/DE 29/94 to 00/AP 30/-. During the Map stamp period, the date arrangement in the hammer placed the year in the top slot (YY/MM DD/-). Although Wellington strikes are known on other stamps in 1899 and 1900, the only documented Wellington Squared Circle Map stamp strike, dated 99/?? 10/-, was uncovered by the author in an eBay auction lot in 2016 and was subsequently reported in the *Roundup Annex* (Vol 37, #1, Whole #124, pg 1 (2016)). It is a partial but clearly identified strike that shows '(WEL)LINGTON/ONT.', and it resides on a Map stamp with deep blue oceans (Figure 8).

Windsor, ONT: Windsor is a town on the Detroit River, opposite Detroit, MI, in Essex County, Ontario, 110 miles SW of London. Windsor was the Canadian terminus of several railways including: (1) the Ontario & Quebec Division of the Canadian Pacific Railway that ran from Montreal to Detroit, (2) the Southern Division of the Grand Trunk Railway that ran from Suspension Bridge to Detroit, and (3) the the Canada Division of the Michigan Central Railway that ran from Buffalo to Detroit. The Windsor post office opened in October 1841, and the postmaster during the Map stamp period was Alfred Wigle (1880-1921). The Windsor Squared Circle hammer was used for ~3 months during the Map stamp period. The only documented use of the Windsor Squared Circle hammer on the Map stamp, dated PM/MR 13/99, is the latest reported date of use of the hammer. It was reported by Bill Longley in the *Roundup Annex* (Vol 26, #2/109, pg 2 (2005)) as coming from the Jim Hennok collection although this stamp was not illustrated or sold individually in the 2005 Matthew Bennett auction of the Hennok collection. Prior to this discovery, the latest reported date of use of the Windsor Squared Circle hammer in the Handbook was PM/DE 5/98. No scans/illustrations of the stamp, nor other philatelic references (including sale at auction) to the stamp, have been uncovered and the current owner is unknown.

Yarmouth, NS: Yarmouth is a seaport on the Atlantic Ocean in Yarmouth County, on the W end of Nova Scotia, 217 miles SW of Halifax and 107 miles across the Bay of Fundy from St. John, NB. Yarmouth was the S terminus of the 87 mile Western Counties Branch of the Dominion Atlantic Railway that ran N to Annapolis, and the N terminus of the 45 mile Halifax & Yarmouth Railway that ran S to Barrington. The Yarmouth post office opened in 1806 and the postmaster during the Map stamp period was A.J. Hood (1870-1907). State 2 of the Yarmouth Squared Circle hammer was used for ~2 months during the Map stamp period until AM/JA 27/99, with AM/PM time marks being used throughout. The only documented Yarmouth Squared Circle Map stamp strike, dated ??/(??)0 DE/98, is the second latest reported date of use of the hammer. Note that normally the day follows the month in the date arrangement of the Yarmouth hammer but, in early DE 98, several dates show a reversed arrangement, including this unique Map stamp example. It is a partial, but clearly identified strike that shows '...UTH/N.S.' and it resides on a 'golden oceans' Map stamp (Figure 9). The stamp was first reported and illustrated in the catalogue of the 1987 Robert A. Lee auction #45, Lot #1058, and the listing reads "?/?0 DE/98 40% strike on 2¢ Map Stamp #85, shows '...TH/N.S.'. Stamp thinned.". The stamp and the Lee auction were subsequently referenced in the *Roundup Annex*, Vol 11, #1, Whole #49, pg 373 (1988). The J.A. Hennok September 1995 auction #103 of the Whit Bradley collection, Lot #241, catalogue listing of this stamp reads "faint -0 DE/98, unreported in handbook". Note that this statement refers to Handbook #4, not the current Handbook, pg II-38, in which the stamp is referenced as being sold in the 1987

Lee auction. Once again, the stamp was illustrated in the *Roundup Annex*, Vol 29, #1, Whole #110, pg 4 (2006), and was part of the Jack Gordon collection. It currently resides in the author's collection.



Victoriaville, QUE



Wellington, ONT



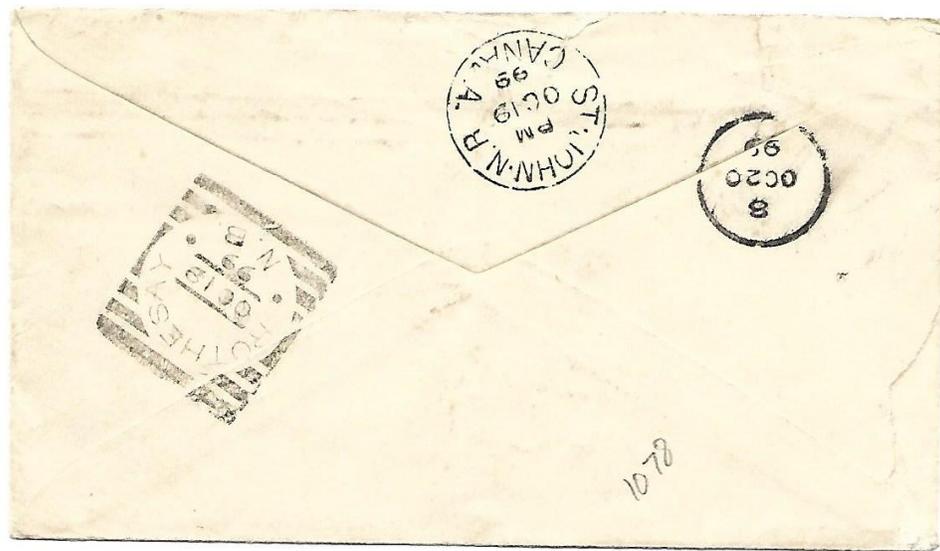
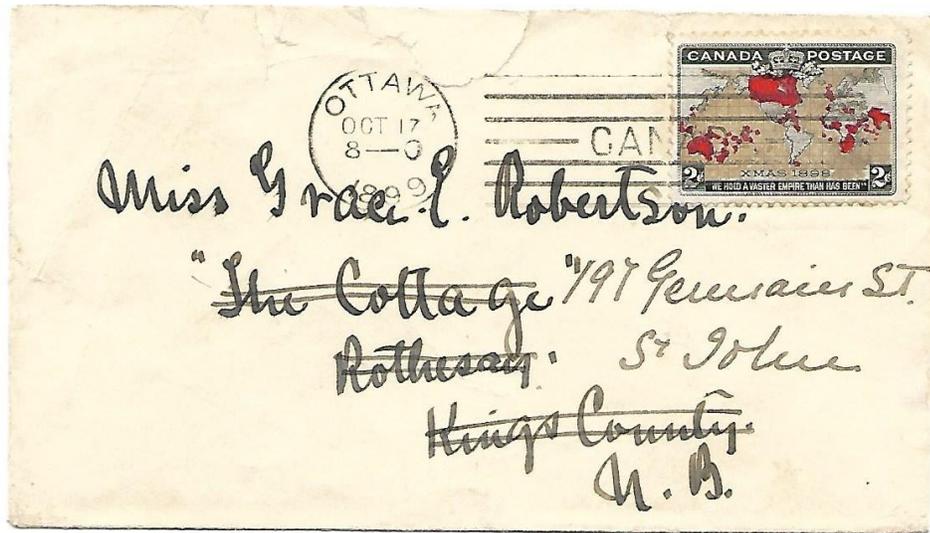
Yarmouth, NS

(b) Hammers with a single known Squared Circle Map stamp cover and no off-cover cancellations

St. Ann's, ONT: St. Ann's is a town in Lincoln County (Niagara Peninsula), Ontario, 24 miles SE of Hamilton and 25 miles W of Niagara Falls. St. Ann's was a station 14 miles NW of Welland on the Toronto, Hamilton & Buffalo Railway that ran from Hamilton to Welland (the railway never did reach Toronto or Buffalo!). The St. Ann's post office opened in October 1851, and the postmasters during the Map stamp period were Joseph H. Snyder (1881-1899) and Samuel Kennedy (1899-1913). The St. Ann's Squared Circle hammer was used in Period 1 from -/JY 24/93 to -/AU 21/99. The only documented strike of the St. Ann's Squared Circle hammer associated with the Map stamp, dated -/MY 19/99, exists as a receiving strike on the reverse of a cover addressed to Mrs. W.G. Adams, St. Anns, Gainsborough, Ontario. The cover originated in Jordan Station (JORDAN STATION/MY 18/99/ONT split circle dispatch free-strike on the obverse, and the Map stamp was canceled with a circular grid), and passed through Grimsby (Grimsby CDS transit strike dated PM/MY 18/99 on the reverse). The cover was referenced in the *Roundup Annex* (Vol 20, #6, Whole #87, pg 1 (1998)) and the report noted that this was the first legibly dated 1899 strike. I was able to obtain a photo of a poor copy of the obverse of the cover (Figure 10) that was included in Jack Gordon's Squared Circle Map stamp collection (the copy is currently part of Frank Hoyles' dealer stock of Gordon's Map stamp collection). No other scans/illustrations of the cover, nor other philatelic references (including sale at auction) to the cover, have been uncovered and the current owner is unknown.

Rothesay, NB: Rothesay is a town on the Kennebecasis River in Kings County, New Brunswick, 9 miles NE of St. John. Rothesay was a station on the Intercolonial Railway that ran 115 miles NE from St. John to Point du Chene. The Rothesay post office opened prior to July 1868, and the postmaster during the Map stamp period was J. Renwick Robertson (1894-1931). The Rothesay Squared Circle hammer was used in Period 1 from -/JU 22/93 to -/OC 1/09. The only documented strike of the Rothesay Squared Circle hammer associated with the Map stamp, dated -/OC 19/99, appears as a transit strike (Figure 11) on the reverse of a cover addressed to Miss Grace Robertson in Rothesay and then forwarded to St. John, NB (ST.JOHN.N.B/CANADA CDS receiver dated PM/OC 19/99 on the reverse). The cover was first described in the catalogue of the 1984 Robert A. Lee auction #32 of the Ron Winmill collection, Lot #479. The auction listing reads "nice strike as transit b/s on cover w/#85 tied by OTTAWA OCT 17/1899 machine cancel, fwd. to St. John, N.B. Cover w/tear faults. RF 35, this is the only recorded strike associated with the map

stamp." A partial scan of the reverse of the cover appears in the auction catalogue. A full scan of both the obverse and reverse of the cover was obtained from the current owner, Paul Grimm.



Rothesay, NB

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If any members of the Study Group have additional information (or scans) about any of the Map stamp strikes of the hammers in this article, please forward it to the author at rickfriesen5@gmail.com. I am continuing to compile the Map stamp Squared Circle database and any information you have on the stamps/covers in your collection would be much appreciated.