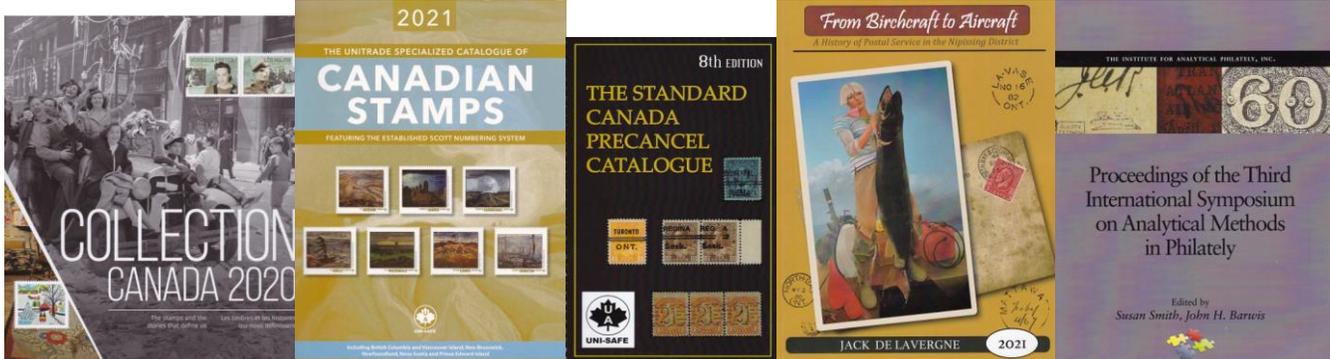




Dear Friends of the Harry Sutherland Philatelic Library,



Each month brings, mostly bad, news about COVID, however the library continues to receive new books and journals. I also continue to receive all sorts of interesting questions. Things have been a bit challenging but now I have your monthly fix of stamp library information ready to go, enjoy.



The *Collection Canada 2020* is out. We have also received our 2021 *Unitrade Canadian Stamps* as well as the 8th edition of the Precancel catalogue. Hot off the press we have a beautiful postal history book: *From Birchcraft to Aircraft: A History of Postal Service in the Nipissing District* by John N. de la Vergne. Although we already had the fourth, we are happy to have filled a blank space with *Proceedings of the Third International Symposium on Analytical Methods in Philately*, with an article by our very own J. Edward Nixon and Garfield Portch on the use of the VSC 6000.



What I did not know last month when I was working on my piece about Toronto's First Post Office was that there was a stamp! The stamps were issued to commemorate CAPEX 87, the third international philatelic exhibition in Canada.

All of the quotes here are from *Souvenir Collection of the Postage Stamps of Canada 1987* by Canada Post Corporation.

"Of the thousands of post offices across the country, Canada Post is particularly proud of its more than 140 heritage buildings. The four selected for this stamp issue are prime examples." Toronto illustrator John Mardon created the lovely images combining line drawing and colour for the post office buildings. The 34c was issued on 16 February while the others were issued on 12 Jun 1987.

The book also tells us something about the history of each: "The building that housed Toronto's first post office was also the residence of Toronto's first postmaster, James Howard. The Georgian brick structure built by Howard between 1833 and 1835 was a focal point for Toronto's 9000 citizens. When the political winds shifted in 1837, Howard was ousted from his position and the post office was located elsewhere. The

building itself changed dramatically in both appearance and function of the years. It alternatively served as a boy's school, an air force recruiting centre, a warehouse and as a cold storage for eggs and cream! The original Georgian architecture gave way to Victorian in 1870. A hundred years later, the building was slated for demolition. But its true identity was discovered and it was resurrected on its 150th anniversary as a museum and re-creation of the original post office."



"The post office in Battleford, Saskatchewan has remained virtually unchanged since it was built during the western settlement boom in 1913. Architecturally, it was typical of the Romanesque-type post offices designed before World War I. ... [these] were intended to create a recognizable federal image in areas largely settled by recent immigrants, as well as a sense of stability during a period of rapid growth."

This post office even has a web page:

<https://www.battleford.ca/p/battleford-post-office> which indicates that it is the oldest continuously-used post office in Saskatchewan and the second oldest in all of Canada. Impressive!

More information is available at:

<http://battlefordpostoffice.ca/> and at:

https://canada-post.tech/canada_post/battleford-post-office/



"Although South Nelson, New Brunswick (now called Nelson-Miramichi) had had postal service since 1853, it wasn't until 1927 that the community saw its first post office building. ... The design was typical of post offices constructed in small towns

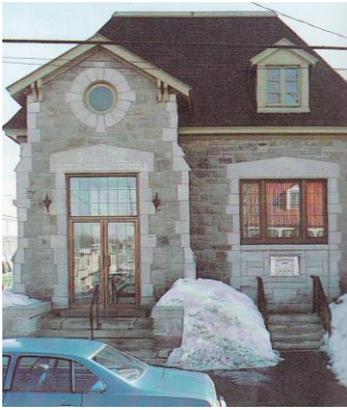


across the country at the time: a one-storey brick building with one side mirroring the other. While neighbouring post offices closed their doors in later years, the modest South Nelson post office grew, consolidating the rural mail services in the area." This post office has a Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/NelsonPostOffice>

Prior to municipal amalgamation 1 January 1995 this town was an incorporated village in Northumberland County, one of the oldest European settlements in the Miramichi Valley.

The fourth stamp in the series: "The town of Saint-Ours, Quebec waited even longer for a proper post office building. For 80 years (1853-1932), all postal business was conducted in a local store where the storekeeper also served as postmaster. Construction of a new building had actually be approved as early as 1913 but was stymied by a dispute over the site and by the outbreak of war, Finally, in 1940 ...a two-storey stone building was erected." The building is shown below.



I find this quite interesting as I have seen many of the CAPEX '78 stamps and souvenir sheets (Unitrade #753-756) but do not remember seeing these post office stamps. I was also not aware that there were stamps (#311-314) issued in 1951 that are said to be for CAPEX 51. The title in the Unitrade catalogue is Stamp Centenary although there is a note that they were issued on the occasion of the first international philatelic exhibition. You have to read the fine print to find this tidbit. And capex22.org is now live. We all have to hope that we will be able to attend events in 2022.

I send out another big thank you to Friend Michel Houde for this hint. Even though I thought that I had completely explored the APS (American Philatelic Society) website I completely missed this. <https://stamps.org/services/reference-collection>.

Reference Collection

The Society maintains two reference collections of philatelic material – one for fakes and forgeries and one for genuine stamps and postal history.

- Canada -- (Posted August 2018)
- Canal Zone -- (Posted June 2012)
- Cayman Islands -- (Posted June 2015)
- Chile -- (Posted January 2011)
- China -- (Posted May 2018)

Over the years they have scanned the album pages for many countries. The list is

extensive and worth a look. Although the scans are not good enough to see all the details it is a starting point for many kinds of stamps from all over the world. While you are there check out the News tab at the right



for some of the many activities that the library has been creating due to the lockdown and closure of the library itself. I know that I have referred to their YouTube channel before. Here is another access point. They also issue a digital newsletter and stamp chat.

Another thank you goes to the editor at philajournal@gmail.com



theStampWeb



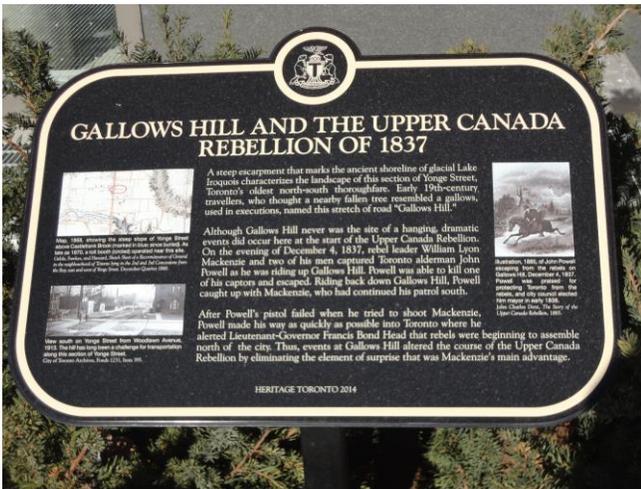
<http://www.thestampweb.com/>



There are lots of ways to connect to collectors. The Stamp Web started as a home for a free program to create pages for your stamp albums.

<http://www.stampboards.com/>

If you are interested in chat boards this one has many to choose from so you may be able to indulge your interest in many different kinds of collecting and study.



Just north of us on the north-east corner of Jackes and Yonge is a Heritage Toronto plaque. This tells us that we are located at the foot of “Gallows Hill,” so named not because there was ever a gallows here but because travellers in the early 19th century thought that a fallen tree nearby resembled a gallows. The hill was a steep escarpment caused by the shoreline of the glacial lake Iroquois. Well, you learn something

new every day. You can visit <https://www.heritagetoronto.org/>. They do not appear to have a complete list of the many plaques but under What We Do you can find information about the types of plaques that they create and how to apply to have one for your person, place or historical event. Heritage Toronto is located in Historic St. Lawrence Hall, 157 King Street East, 3rd Floor, Toronto, M5C 1G9 near the St. Lawrence Market. As I have been walking around our city more I have noticed many of these plaques all over the downtown area.



The other topic that I have been thinking about these days is libraries of all kinds, what a library means and represents. One of my favourite libraries is the Lillian H. Smith branch of the Toronto Public Library (type tpl.ca) the entrance shown here. They are in a beautiful ‘new’ building at 239 College just east of Spadina. This branch houses both the Osborne collection of early children’s books and the Merrill collection of science fiction, speculation and fantasy. The main page of the website has an updated picture of the entrance (with masks) to announce the procedures during lockdown. I really miss my local branch always buzzing with people and new items.

A very big thank you! goes out to an amazing Friend for the unexpected and generous donation of many stamps to give a great boost to my New Zealand and Iceland collections. Now I have some work to do getting it all organized and documented. You are a great community!

Keep well and safe,
Willow
Librarian

library@greenefoundation.ca

Harry Sutherland Philatelic Library

<http://www.greenefoundation.ca/library.htm#about>, <https://15758.rmwebopac.com/>

Vincent Graves Greene Philatelic Research Foundation