

THE POSTAL MARKINGS ST. JOHN'S GENERAL POST OFFICE AND SUB OFFICES 1840 - 1949

by John Butt

PAID ALL AND POSTAGE PAID

The failure of the G.P.O. at St. John's to keep adequate supplies of low value stamps on hand, caused many problems. To eke out the supplies it was often necessary to issue provisional markings. A *Paid All* or *Postage Paid* marking was applied to internal mail and payment was taken over the counter in cash.

The first usage of these markings occurred in October, 1897. The current one cent value plus a provisional were in short supply. A *Paid All* handstamp was issued and used on all circulars, newspapers and local mail with the postage collected in cash.

The two markings used between 1897 and 1918 are of an indeterminate date. PPM 3 was probably used in place of one cent stamps on bulk mailings.

The first *Postage Paid* was used on two occasions. The first in December of 1918 (PPM 4) stamped in violet, and again in September, 1920 (PPM 5) stamped in carmine. Also in 1920 PPM 6 is known issued for use on outport

mail.

The *Postage Paid* triangular handstamp (PPM 7) was used by the armed forces at St. John's during the Second World War. The use of this cancel was thought to diminish the enemies knowledge of the forces using the port as a base.

The last marking (PPM 8) was used on bulk mailing, mostly during the Christmas season from 1938 to 1948.

PPM 1: Black. September 24, 1897-December, 1897

PPM 2: Carmine. Unknown

PPM 3: Black. Unknown

PPM 4: Violet. December 24, 1918-January 21, 1919

PPM 5: Carmine. September 3, 1920-October 4, 1920

PPM 6: Gray Green. September-October, 1920

PPM 7: Blue, Black & Red. Base lengths 45, 50, 52, 65 mm. 1944-1945

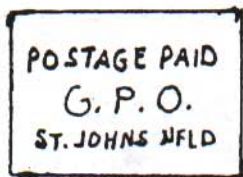
PPM 8: Black machine cancel. 1938-1948



PPM 1

PAID ALL
G.P.O. St. John's Newfoundland

PPM 2



PPM 3



PPM 4





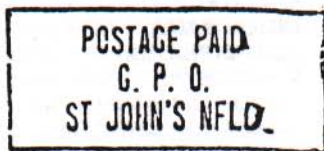
PPM 5

Postage Paid
G P O
St. John's N.F.

PPM 6



PPM 7



PPM 8



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