

MOVING THE MAIL OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND ON TRAINS AND BOATS FROM 1877 TO 1968

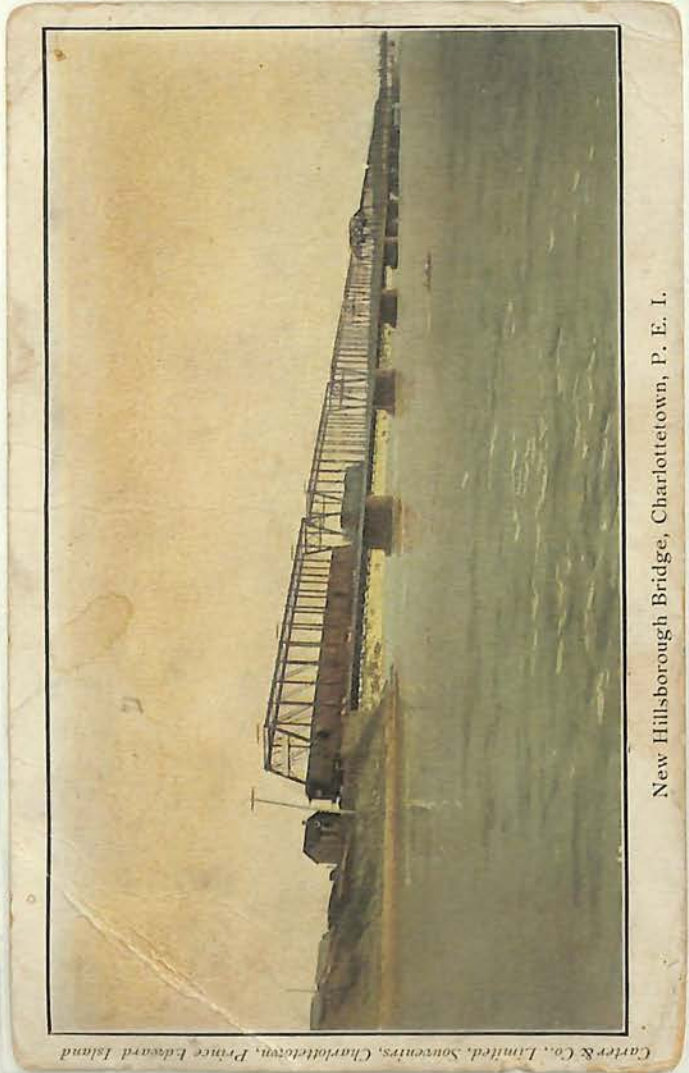
The purpose of this exhibit is to help the "average" collector understand how mail from 1877 thru 1968 moved about the Island on trains and off the Island on boats, ferries and ice boats. Railway and ship cancels and markings along with a few rare clerk's cachets that were used on everyday mail are shown.

The railway mail clerks used canceling devices identifying which rail line the train was on when the mail was canceled. The clerks would cancel and sort mail on special mail cars attached to the trains. These cancels were often placed on the back of envelopes. When this occurs the front will also be shown at a reduced size (25%). Often the cancels are hard to read because of under-inking or being placed over stamps. When this happens enlarged copies of the date stamps may be used to improve readability of these cancels.

The cancels changed over the years, some lasting only weeks and some lasting over 25 years. Sometimes the only difference in cancels are the diameter of the circle (a few millimeters larger), a missing period, comma or the use of a square dot. The markings are assigned a MA or RR reference number taken from Lewis Ludlow's "Catalogue of Canadian Railway Cancellations" 1982. In 2009 Ross Gray wrote a new "Canadian Railway Post Office Cancellation" book and all the numbers and rarity factors have been changed. These elaborate classification numbers, although very useful to the specialist are meaningless to the general reader of this exhibit and are not used as they would complicate the write-ups.



D.G.S. MINTO ICEBOUND, WINTER SERVICE
FICTOU N.S. TO GEORGETOWN P.E.I.



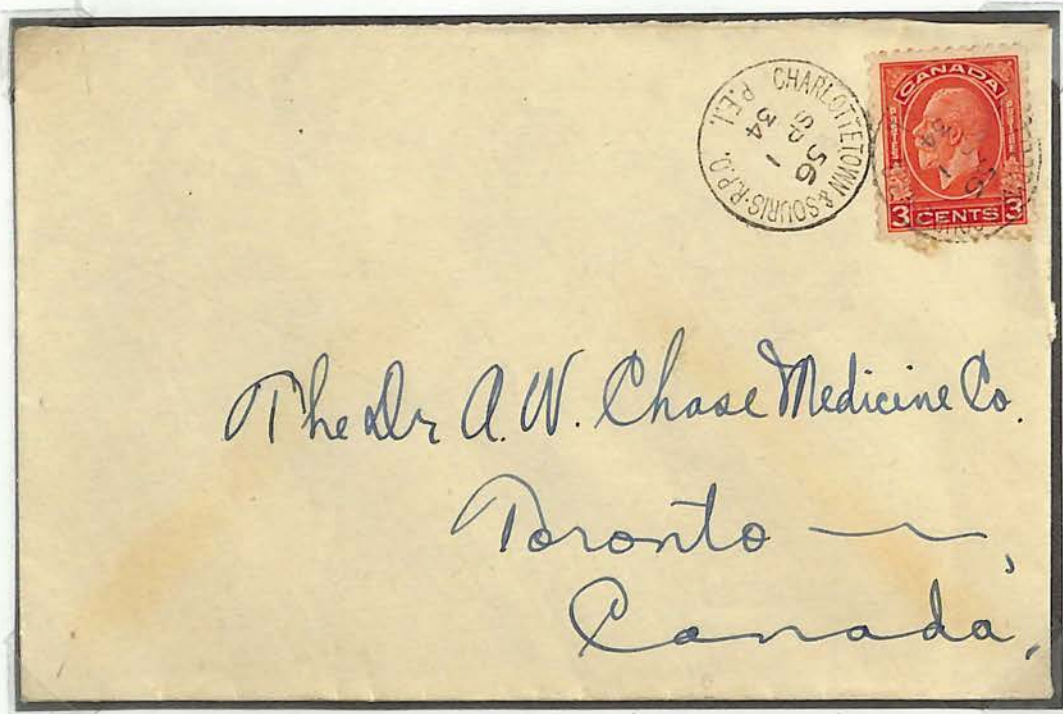
New Hillsborough Bridge, Charlottetown, P. E. I.

Carter & Co., Limited, Souvenirs, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island

RPO MARKINGS USED ON THE ISLAND

CHARLOTTETOWN(written in full) & SOURIS R.P.O. P.E.I. (MA47) 22.5mm dia.
(in use 1912-13 & 1930-1953)

Jan.4th 1936 to Toronto struck with MA47 (indicia 52)



Sept. 1st 1934 to Toronto struck with MA47 (indicia 56)

(51)



RPO MARKINGS USED ON THE ISLAND

**CHARLOTTETOWN(written in full) & SOURIS R.P.O. P.E.I. (MA47) 22.5mm dia.
(in use 1912-13 & 1930-1953)**

Aug 8th 1933 registered Charlottetown to the RCMP office in Montague with MA47(indicia 55) on back



Oval purple Charlottetown registered handstamp on front



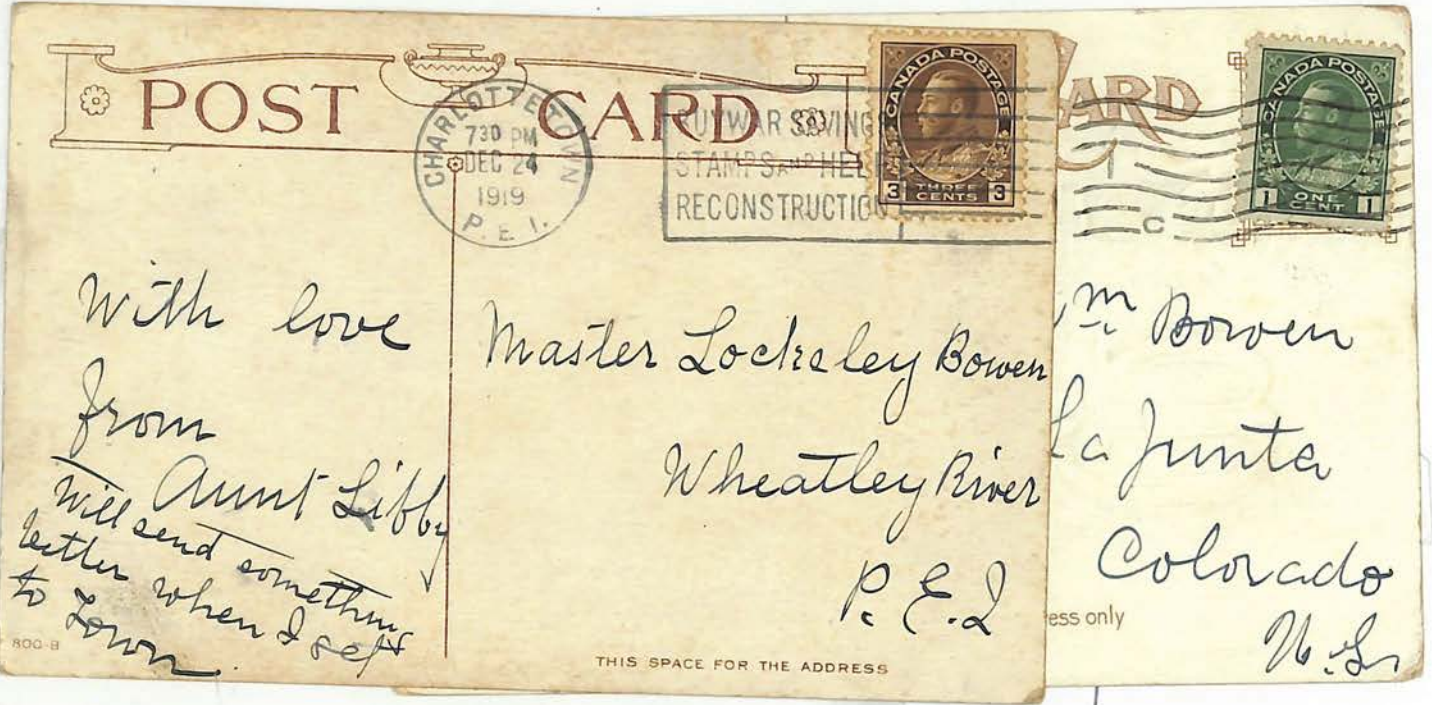
52



RPO MARKINGS USED ON THE ISLAND

CHARLOTTETOWN (written in full) & SOURIS R.P.O. P.E.I. (MA47) 22.5mm dia.
(in use 1912-13 & 1930-1953)

July 25th 1936 registered Ch'Town to Kilmure struck with MA47 (east)



Also struck with Ch'Town & Murray Harbour RPO (north) MA38(1 dot after HBR)

Feb. 26th 1936 to Toronto struck with MA47 (west)

53

POST CARD

For Address Only.



MADE IN UNITED STATES

Hempstead, N.Y.

For Correspondence.

*Dear Niece,
Just a line to let
you know that
we are all well
hope this will find
you the same*

*Best love from
Mama & Baby
O'Leary R.R. 2.*

Miss Mary M. Campbell

Mount Royal

P.E.I.

RPO MARKINGS USED ON THE ISLAND

CHARLOTTETOWN & SOURIS
R.P.O. P.E.I. (MA47) East

March 13th 1937 registered
Kelly's Cross to Bedford
Station with MA47 East



Also struck with Ch'Town & Sackville
R.P.O.(MA44) indicia 42.

Postkarte — Carte postale — Post card — Cartolina postale
 Briefkaart — Brevkort — Correspondenzkarte — Dopisnica
 Dopisnice — Karta korespondencyjna — Levelező-Lap
 Unione postale universale - Weltpostverein - Union postale universelle
 Tarjeta postal — Cartão postal — ОТКРЫТОЕ ПИСЬМО.



*Happy new year
 to all those in times
 in grandeur this
 month they are my
 dull up here
 Big good*

*Miss. Maggie, Bell
 Grandriver*

Lat 114

M. G. B.

SERIE 2834

POST CARD



THIS SPACE IS FOR ADDRESS ONLY

THIS SPACE MAY BE USED FOR CORRESPONDENCE

*Miss Maggie Bell
 Grand River
 Oct 14th 1888
 917 St. J. St.*

Made in Germany.

SERIE 865



FOR ADDRESS ONLY

FOR CORRESPONDENCE

*Mr. Will Bowen
 Lafurter
 Colorado*

*Dear Sister
 I just received your letter
 the message. Suppose you get my letter
 the other day. I read they had
 been giving the old place - the
 some things. I had not see
 Edward's letter. I read
 Fred brought a little girl
 you are all well. I am
 still away in town. I
 is over a little tonight
 the message are going to
 give me a merry from all*

Series 16 B

RPO MARKINGS USED ON THE ISLAND

CHARLOTTETOWN & SOURIS LINE (Branch to Georgetown)

At Mount Stewart Junction the Souris line branched off to Georgetown:

Nov. 12th 1932 CN Railways envelope struck with ~~MA 47~~ on front and H.W. McKay Agent cachet on back
(fewer than 5 strikes are recorded of this marking)

MA. 47



Georgetown station with 4-4-0 Kingston Locomotive Works engine

Ken 2004
\$60

55

POST CARD



Donald MacKinnon Esq.
Clerk of Session
Glen Church
Ch. Town.

Certificate received
some days ago.
Thank you!

G. H. Campbell
J. Side

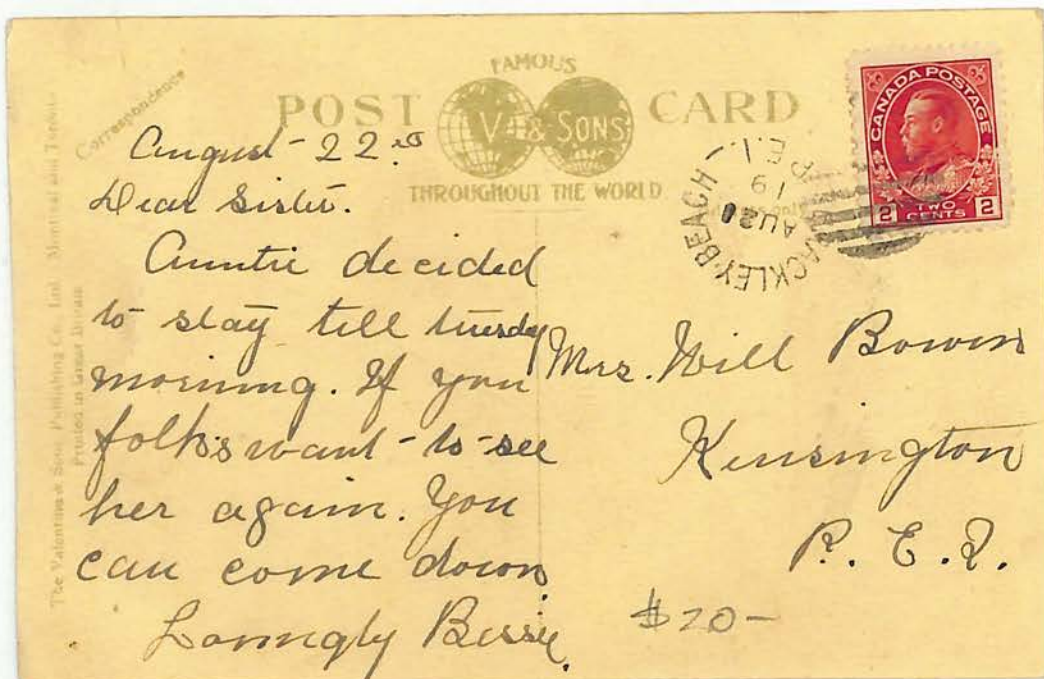
RPO MARKINGS USED ON THE ISLAND

THE MURRAY HARBOUR BRANCH LINE

The Murray Harbour branch line was opened in 1905 and the construction necessitated a bridge over the Hillsborough River:

River
bridge

The original railway surveyors had considered a bridge over the Hillsborough river in 1871 but decided to avoid such a lengthy span by diverting the line to Mount Stewart. Work started on the bridge in 1901 and it was completed in 1905:



Mixed passenger and freight train crossing the Hillsborough bridge

56

POST CARD.

CORRESPONDENCE

CHARLOTTETOWN, P.E.I.
DEC 11
7-PM
1915

Dear Little Maud
I hope you will
have a merry
Christmas and
lots of presents
Aunt-Labbie



Miss Maud Bowen

La Junta
Colorado

RPO MARKINGS USED ON THE ISLAND

THE MURRAY HARBOUR BRANCH LINE

The contract for the first 10 miles or so was initially awarded to Mr. John W. McManus of New Brunswick but he had to back out due to illness. Mr. Willard Kitchen of Fredericton NB, who had given the second lowest tender, then took over the contract:

May 6th 1904 advertising envelope of the contractor for the Murray Harbour branch line



CHARLOTTETOWN & MURRAY HARBOUR R.P.O. 23mm dia. MA36(north)

This device was in use from 1906 to 1911

Aug. 13th 1907 to Charlottetown struck with MA36 (north indicia)

Post CARD

Post CARD

Post CARD

POST CARD

THIS SPACE MAY BE USED FOR COMMUNICATION

Aranda
Dear friend,
N. W. T.

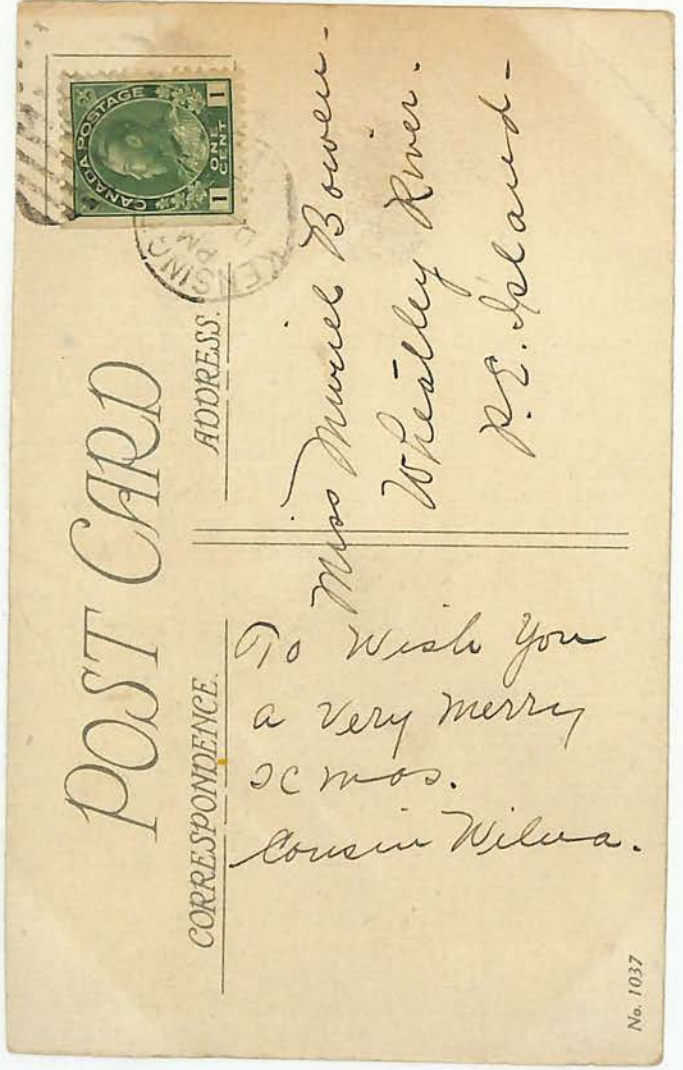
if you are still in
G. R. & family
would like to hear
from you and
me you will take
expect for a
from but it is
now Maggie no
Mrs. A. B. Stone

THE ADDRESS ONLY TO BE WRITTEN HERE.

Miss. Maggie Bell
Grand River
P. O. Island



58

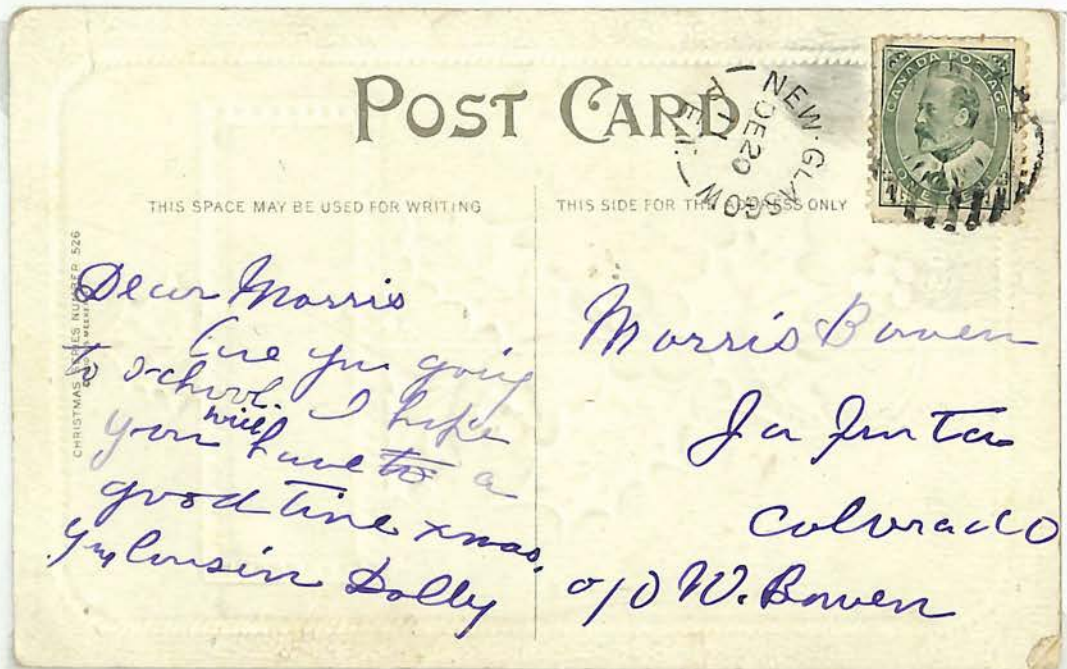


RPO MARKINGS USED ON THE ISLAND

CH'TOWN & M.HBR. R.P.O. 22.5mm dia. MA39 (blank indicia)

This device was in use from 1911 to 1918

Aug. 12th 1913 to Quebec struck with MA39(blank)



Edwardian postcard with narrow gauge locomotive in Murray Harbour station

59



POST CARD

Miss Gracie Boyle
Markdale,
Ont.

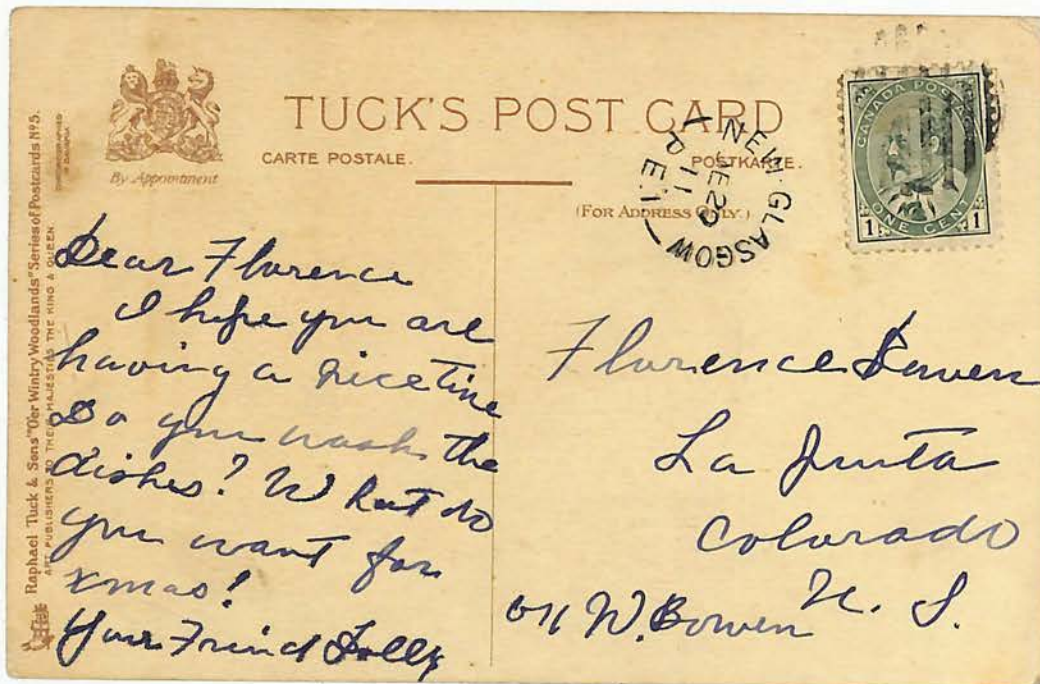
P.P. No. 2.
No. 10

Dear Grace Elroy & Orrin -
We received the hankies.
They are lovely. Thanks
very much. This is one of
the cards we painted at school.
Mernie painted this one. Hope
you have a nice Xmas this
year, and that Santa is
good to you. We have nice
weather, & good sleighing.
Our concert is 22nd. Merry
Xmas to all, Louis, Marvin & Iris

RPO MARKINGS USED ON THE ISLAND

CH'TOWN & M.HBR. (2 dots after HBR.)
R.P.O. 22.5mm dia.(MA38)North

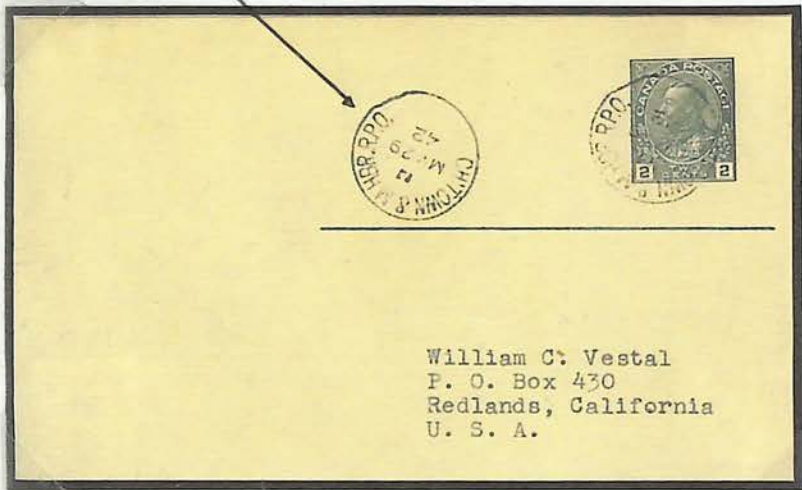
Dec.15th 1927 registered
To Montreal with MA38



Note two dots after HBR..

RPO MARKINGS USED ON THE ISLAND

**Ch'town & M.Hbr. R.P.O. W.A. ALLEY, Ry.M.C. (MA40-mail clerk's handstamp)
May 29th 1942 to California struck with MA40(fewer than 5 reported strikes)**



Also struck CH'TOWN & M.HBR. R.P.O.(MA38) North

Postcard showing freight shed and station at Murray River on Murray Harbour branch line

Advertising Ch' town & Tignish M.C.



Ch' Town & Tignish M.C.

GENERAL STATIONERY

Oct. 14th 1897 P.E.I. Railway envelope franked 1 cent Jubilee



(drop letter rate with squared circle cancellation)

P.E.I. Railway freight advice notice on 1 cent Jubilee pre-printed card

NOTICE.

Form No. 36.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND RAILWAY.

Ch Ligon Station *Mar 9* 189

The undermentioned Freight, consigned to you, has arrived here this day. We will thank you to send for it as soon as possible, as it remains here at YOUR RISK AND EXPENSE.

A. H. Byrd Agent.

FROM	NO. AND DESCRIPTION OF PACKAGES.	WEIGHT. LBS.	P. E. I. R. Charges		Back Charges		TOTAL TO PAY.
			\$	c.	\$	c.	
<i>Ch Ligon</i>	<i>1 c/s 365</i>						<i>58-</i>
TOTALS							

When sending for the Freight return this card, accompanied by the amount of charges, as otherwise it will not be delivered.

This is an advice card for parcels arriving at Georgetown from Charlottetown

Working Card

240
Division No. CHELSEA, MASS.

Organized by
THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STREET AND ELECTRIC RAILWAY EMPLOYEES OF AMERICA
ESTABLISHED IN 1893

Located at _____
Amquell St. Apt.

Dues _____ for Month of *APR 1* 19*25* 19____
John D. Sullivan

Special Assn't _____ Local Sec., _____
W. D. Malone Int. Pres.

25
PRINTED IN U. S. A.

⑤

Casual Worker

This Card only is cancelled at any time.
Option of the Company.

Signature: *W. D. Malone*

Date Issued: *Dec 15 1925*

Employed by: *Western Granite Stevedoring Co. Ltd.*

No. of this Company: *100*

EASTERN CANADA STEVEDORING CO. LTD.
FREIGHT HANDLERS WORKING CARD

NAME

McEdward, Roy

ADDRESS

Midgee, 204

CARD NO.

568

Brotherhood of Railway and Steamship Clerks
FREIGHT HANDLERS, EXPRESS & STATION EMPLOYES

Cincinnati, Ohio

INTERNATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
Affiliated with AFL-CIO and Gen. Labor Congress

Membership Card - ISSUED TO

M. C. EWEN ROY

Card No.

1187

Good until June 30, 1964 unless revoked - provided current dues stamps are affixed.
This card entitles membership in the Death Benefit Department. The Brotherhood will pay to the member's lawful beneficiary the amount named in the Constitution and Laws of the Brotherhood in effect on the date of the member's death, provided he has been a member for one year, has complied with the rules and regulations of the department and the Constitution and Laws of the Brotherhood and did not owe more than two (2) months dues on the date of death.

J. M. Harrison
GRAND PRESIDENT

R. M. Harrison
GRAND SECY-TREAS.

DEMAND STAMPS WHEN PAYING DUES

This is to certify that the person to whom this card is issued is a member of

CORNWALLIS Lodge, No. 264

John S. Urquhart Secretary *Richard Riggs* President

Member's Signature

Form 110 G. S. T. Printed in U. S. A.

Brotherhood of Railway and Steamship Clerks
FREIGHT HANDLERS, EXPRESS & STATION EMPLOYES

INTERNATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
Affiliated with AFL-CIO and Can. Labor Congress
Cincinnati, Ohio

Membership Card - ISSUED TO
MC EWEN ROY Card No. 1187

Good until June 30, 1962 unless revoked - provided current dues stamps are affixed.

This card evidences membership in the Death Benefit Department. The Brotherhood will pay to the member's lawful beneficiary the amount named in the Constitution and Laws of the Brotherhood in effect on the date of the member's death, provided he has been a member for one year, has complied with the rules and regulations of the department and the Constitution and Laws of the Brotherhood and did not owe more than two (2) months dues on the date of death.

J. M. Harrison GRAND PRESIDENT *Geo. M. Gibson* GRAND SEC'Y-TREAS.

DEMAND-STAMPS WHEN PAYING DUES

This is to certify that the person to whom this card is issued is a member of

CORNWALLIS Lodge, No. 264

John S. Urquhart Secretary *Richard Riggs* President

Member's Signature

Form 110 G. S. T. Printed in U. S. A.

“CH'TOWN & SACKVILLE R.P.O.” 23mm dia. This cancel was struck on the back of a form for 1 sack of mail and 1 sack of papers from Boston for St. Pierre Miquelon via Charlottetown with several other Maritime RPO markings July 1936.

CLOSED MAILS FOR NEWFOUNDLAND AND ST. PIERRE ET MIQUELON DISPATCHED FROM
 BOSTON, MASS., ON July 27 1936
 At 7P M., To be forwarded by Banker & Boston R.P.O. Tr.

From Post Office at	Addressed to Post Office At	Number of Sacks		
		Letters	Papers	
Boston, Mass.,	St. Pierre et Miquelon	1	1	

Handwritten notes and stamps:
 Halifax, NS
 St. John's, Nfld.
 St. Pierre et Miquelon
 North Town
 Boston
 2/27/36
 Halifax, NS
 Jul 28 1936
 St. Pierre et Miquelon
 Jul 29 1936

of letters and 1 sacks of
 1936.



Jan 30, 1937 parcel post tag from PEI to Boston.

RAILWAY STATION, GEORGETOWN, P. E. ISLAND.



PROVINCIAL BUILDING, CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. ISLAND.



The Charlottetown Hotel, Charlottetown, P.E.I.—25.

Soldiers Monument of the Great War, 1914-1918, Charlottetown, P. E. I.



Manoir Richelieu, Murray Bay



GENERAL INFORMATION

The adjacent map shows the network of the Prince Edward Railway around 1900 before the addition of the Murray Harbour branch line and the extensions to Montague and Elmira.

It also clearly shows the mail/passenger ferry connections to the Island. These consisted of Summerside to Point du Chene, Charlottetown to Pictou and Georgetown to Pictou.

In addition the map shows the mail route via ice boats in winter from Cape Traverse to Cape Tormentine (when the Island was totally ice-bound the ice boats were the only way to get mail to And from the Island).

Once on the Island the mail was conveyed via the Prince Edward Island Railway on routes as shown on the map. An important extension was added in 1905 in the form of the Murray Harbour branch line, with its subsequent spur to Montague in 1906.

Charlottetown was at the center of the system and from there lines went west to Summerside & Alberton (subsequently to Tignish) with a spur down to Cape Traverse in 1885 so the trains could connect with the ice boats. In 1917 the latter extension was modified to run from Borden when the year-round ice-breaking ferry the "Prince Edward Island" was introduced.

The railway also ran east from Charlottetown to Souris and Georgetown, and eventually to Murray Harbour as mentioned.



Railway Station, Summerside, P.E.I.

