

# The Grey, Bruce & Simcoe

POSTAL HISTORY  
STUDY GROUP

No. 1 • Vol. 1, No. 1

ISSN 1481-9511

FEBRUARY 1998

## An open letter to fellow postal historians.

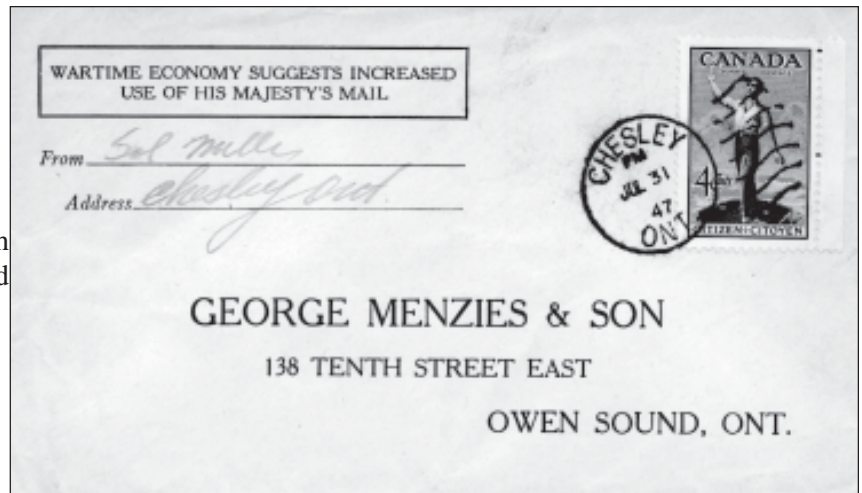
There are many postal historians in our region of the three counties of Grey, Bruce, and Simcoe with no apparent common forum to share information. The area is large enough to bring together people of varied background and yet small enough to be meaningful and manageable. I propose that those interested form a P.H.S.C. Study Group and exchange information through the medium of a newsletter covering various topics, both old and current, such as post office profiles, newly discovered cancelling instruments, interesting advertising corner cards and post cards, postal statistics for any given post office, interesting covers, railway post offices covering the region. In all of these topics the purpose is not to give the definitive answer but rather to seek out information and to build on this information. To that end each item will receive a reference number [e.g., REF. 001] to which the reader(s) may respond with further information. This reference system has been successfully tried by the *Northern Canada Study Group*.

The cost of such an endeavour can be quite reasonable and I suggest a charge of \$5.00 per year to cover postage and reproduction of the newsletter. I suggest a frequency of 4 issues per year. I am willing to assemble and co-ordinate this newsletter for the time being and have had some experience in dealing with this form of study group.

Having said this, I am open to further suggestions from all interested parties and look forward to hearing from you.

You may contact me

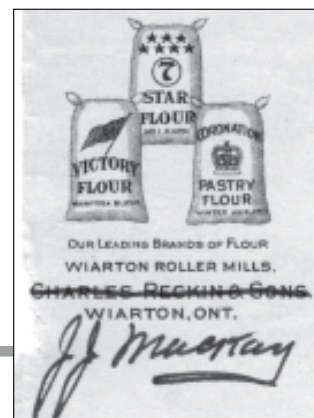
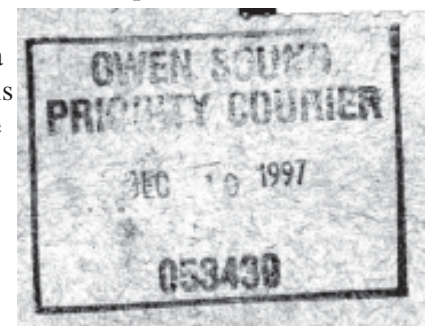
**J. (Gus) Knierim**  
RR1, Thornbury, Ontario N0H 2P0  
phone/fax (519) 599-6975



**CHESLEY, JULY 31, 1947** – *The wartime economy promotes the use of the Royal Mail. Chesley duplex cancel. Back of the cover has the notation "Holmes #200 A2". Has anybody got more information on this cover that appears to be fairly common?* [REF. 002]

## Owen Sound Priority Courier

[REF. 003] A recent registered letter from Montreal received this in transit backstamp at the Owen Sound Main Postal Station. According to Canada Post's Retail Rep, this cancel is based at the Registration Desk, which appears to have its own POCN **053430**.



*An interesting corner card from Wiarton, Ontario advertising a local flour mill. Cover has unclear cancel but is franked with Admiral War tax Stamp.* [REF. 004]

# The Post Office at Camperdown Collingwood Township, County of Grey

[REF. 005] Now just a few farms and a ski club, the CNR flag stop at Camperdown was located in Collingwood Township, Grey County, on the southern shore of Nottawasaga Bay (Georgian Bay) halfway between Craigeleith and Thornbury. In its lifetime the post office had only two postmasters having been first opened on November 1, 1887 and finally closing January 15, 1964. James Barclay Sr. was



Camperdown's first postmaster from opening day until October 15, 1924. James Barclay Jr. was appointed postmaster December 1, 1924, upon his father's death, and held that position until the closing of the post office in 1964. At that time Camperdown postal service became a part of RR2 Clarksburg.



James Barclay Jr. is seen hanging the mail sack at Camperdown.

The first mail carrier on record (pre-dating the post office at Camperdown) was a lad of 18 surnamed Lunan from the east side of the township above the mountain.

For many years the mail was delivered daily by the Grand Trunk/CNR passenger train. The train, originating in Hamilton and ending in Meaford, reached its destination via Georgetown, Caledon, Beeton, Tottenham, Allandale, Stayner, Collingwood, Craigeleith, Camperdown, Thornbury and Meaford.

*The Delphi Georgian Bay Summer Resort began its life as a sanatorium in the early 1870's. In 1874-1875 the property was purchased by Thomas Fields who ran the popular summer resort under the name of "Delphi". The above post card promises daily mail at Camperdown. The resort business at Camperdown declined by the end of the 19th century and only with the advent of skiing has it had a resurgence.*



*YWCA Camp Camperdown, near Clarksburg, Ontario certainly created traffic for the Railway as well as the post office as all those campers wrote cards home to their parents.*

## POST OFFICE PROFILE Camperdown, Ontario

Township of Collingwood, Grey County

Organizational No 78562

Opened: 1887, November 1

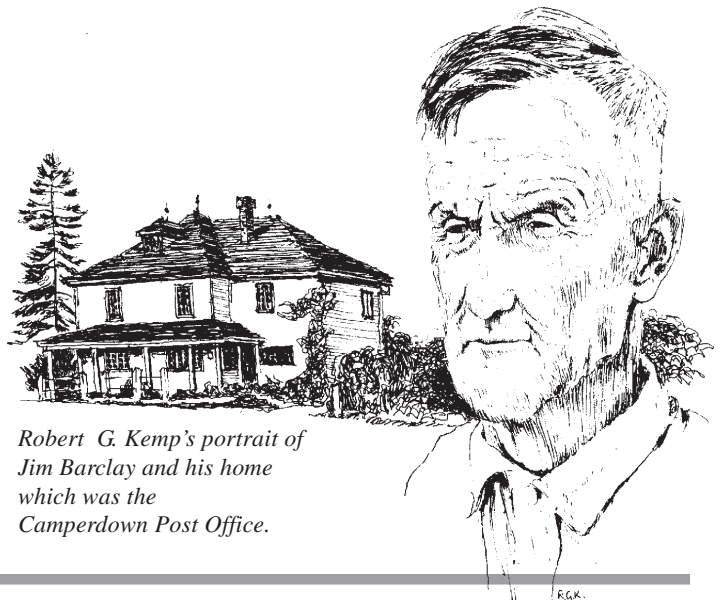
Closed: 1964, January 15

In 1998 the area is served by  
RR2, Clarksburg, Ontario

- Credits: [1] *An Illustrated History of Collingwood Township*, 1979.  
[2] L.F. Gillam's *History of Canadian Railway Post Offices*, 1967.  
[3] *List of Post Offices in Canada*, 1954.  
[4] Robt. C. Smith's *Ontario Post Offices*, 1988.  
[5] *The Courier-Herald*, Thornbury, 1998.

*If you have further information to any topic discussed please respond and share your knowledge!*

THANKS



*Robert G. Kemp's portrait of Jim Barclay and his home which was the Camperdown Post Office.*





A 1941 letter to the Maple City Hatchery in Chatham no doubt ordering the next season's chicks which would arrive by train at Camperdown.

The CNR Railcar 15832 is seen departing Stayner for Meaford on its daily run. This passenger/RPO service lasted until c.1960. [REF. 006]

Full circle cds proof strike



HAMILTON & MEAFORD  
R.P.O. No 1  
AUGUST 21, 1923



## POST OFFICE PROFILE Stokes Bay, Ontario

Townships of Lindsay & Eastnor, Bruce County

MOON: No 4442  
POCON: 395005

Postal Code: **NOH 2M0**

Householder Count (January 1998):

**77 [incl. 7 businesses, 0 farms; there are no rural routes]**

Population: 163 (1993); 110 (1970)

Opened: 1878, September 1

Still in operation in February 1998

it is the smallest office in Bruce County today

1973 Revenue: \$1,043.00

**395005**

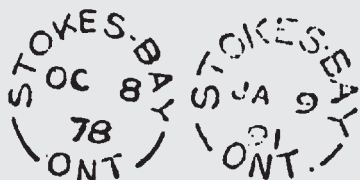
JAN 29 1977

**STOKES BAY ON**

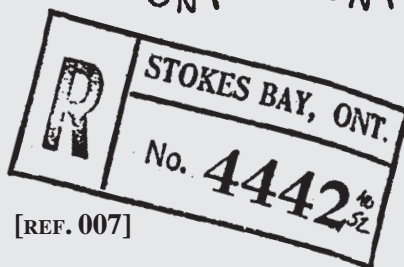
In January, 1998  
this POCON is still  
in use! There must  
be others.

Who will share  
and update our  
information ?

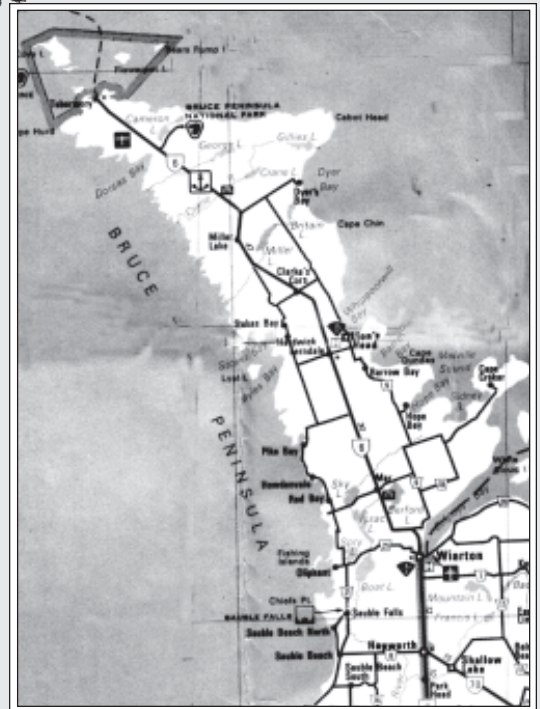
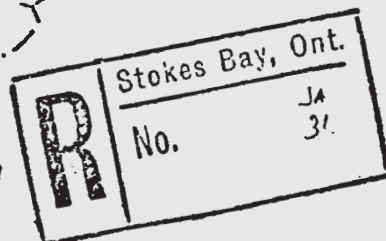
CDS  
Hammer!  
Someone must  
have one  
out there?



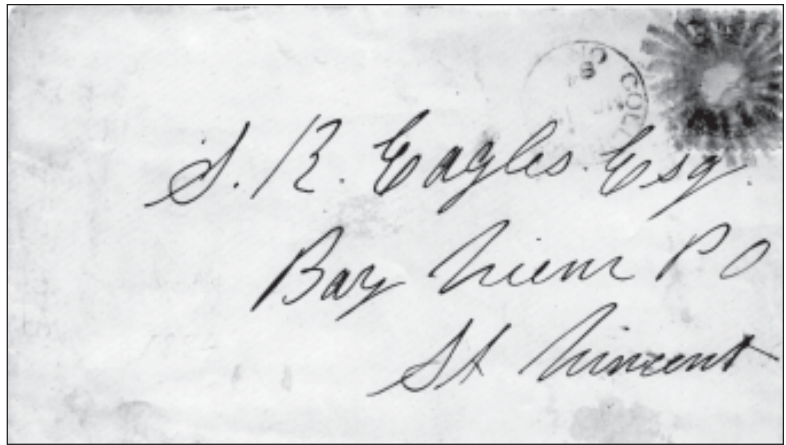
Proof Strikes



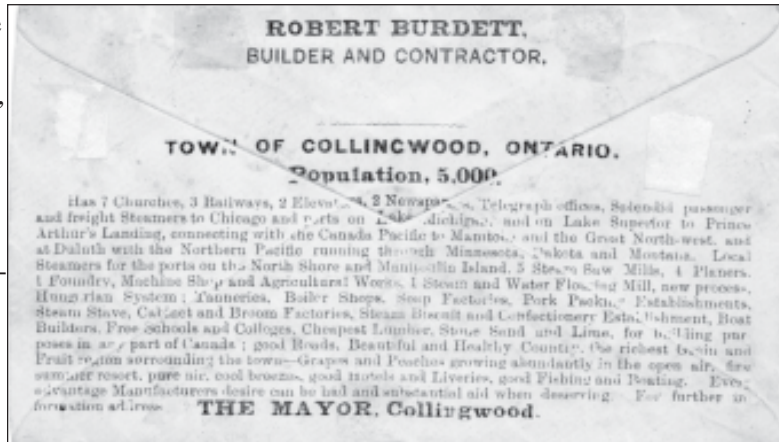
[REF. 007]



LETTER FROM  
**Collingwood**  
 County of Simcoe



[REF. 008] A seemingly uninteresting cover from Collingwood, Ontario, has a story of its own to tell. It was mailed March 19, 1884 to S. R. Eagles, Esq., Bay View P.O., St. Vincent. The St. Vincent, of course, is the St. Vincent Township in the County of Grey which surrounds the Town of Meaford. Bayview P.O. was located just west of Meaford in the vicinity of Hwy. 26. The Bayview post office was opened February 1, 1873 and closed December 30, 1914 at a time when many rural routes were established. More amazing is the backside of the envelope. It is in effect an advertising cover for the Town of Collingwood. It is worth printing the text herewith and comparing it with the modern Town of Collingwood in 1998.



An advertising cover from the Town of Collingwood in the County of Simcoe, dated March 19, 1884, and cancelled with a 24-ray Sunburst fancy cancel.

**ROBERT BURDETT,**  
 BUILDER AND CONTRACTOR,

^^^^^^^^

**TOWN OF COLLINGWOOD, ONTARIO**  
**Population, 5,000.**

Has 7 Churches, 3 Railways, 2 Elevators, 2 Newspapers, Telegraph offices, Splendid passenger and freight Steamers to Chicago and ports on Lake Michigan, and on Lake Superior to Prince Arthur's Landing, connecting with the Canada Pacific to Manitoba and the Great North-west, and at Duluth with the Northern Pacific running through Minnesota, Dakota and Montana. Local Steamers for the ports on the North Shore and Manitoulin Island, 5 Steam Saw Mills, 4 Planers, 1 Foundry, Machine Shop and Agricultural Works, 1 Steam and Water Flouring Mill, new process, Hungarian System; Tanneries, Boiler Shops, Soap Factories, Pork packing Establishments, Steam Stave, Cabinet and Broom Factories, Steam Biscuit and Confectionery Establishment, Boat Builders, Free Schools and Colleges, Cheapest Lumber, Stone Sand and Lime, for building purposes in any part of Canada; good Roads, Beautiful and Healthy Country, the richest Grain and Fruit region surrounding the town—Grapes and Peaches growing abundantly in the open air, fine summer resort, pure air, cool breezes, good Hotels and Liveries, good Fishing and Boating. Every advantage Manufacturers desire can be had and substantial aid when deserving. For further information address

**THE MAYOR, Collingwood.**

Have times really changed?

Oh, yes! In 1998 Collingwood can now boast that Canada Post was evicted from the 1915 Federal Building and has relocated across the street to the back of a building and down a long corridor.

Excellent and friendly service, but the facilities are hardly becoming to a town of 18,000 with travellers from all over the world. And yes, we must not forget a very busy franchise in a drug store, 2½ blocks away.

Perhaps someone can enlighten us to the whereabouts and nature of the post office in 1884 when our interesting cover was mailed?

**Note:** All covers corner cards, postcards and other large items are scanned at 75%; cancels are scanned at 100%, unless noted otherwise. Photos are sized to fit lay-out.

Please submit your material at 100%, in the form of a sharp photo-copy, scanned file on disk. All originals will be returned promptly.



The 1915 Federal Building, fashioned after the Havana, Cuba parliament buildings which housed the post office until 1991.

# Bruce County Post Offices

[REF. 009]

The original Canada Post list was dated February 10, 1993. This listing has been amended over the years. All such additions are printed in **BOLD**. The householder count refers to the number of drop-off points for each office. It is the number used for “Ad Mail” – all those pieces of printing that you never asked for but got just the same. This number is an excellent source to evaluate the size of the operation and the scarcity of post marks.

930210	396494	ALLENFORD 1 ELIZABETH ST, ALLENFORD, ON N0H 1A0 11,11010101,0 <b>[Householder Count, Jan. 97 – 478, incl. 3 RR’s]</b>	930210	391565	FORMOSA 78 JOHN ST, FORMOSA, ON N0G 1W0 11,11010101,0 <b>[Householder Count, Jan. 97 – 249, incl. 1 RR]</b>
9930210	390739	CARGILL MAIN ST, CARGILL, ON N0G 1J0 14,11010101, 1992 11 18	930210	392138	HEPWORTH 499 EAST BRUCE ST, HEPWORTH, ON N0H 1P0 14,11010101, 1991 11 30
930210	085839	CARGILL RO MAIN ST, CARGILL, ON N0G 1J0 44, 1992 09 08, 0 <b>[Householder Count, Jan. 97 – 365, incl. 2 RR’s]</b> <i>[Note: This office is now listed under Walkerton, and as such may no longer have a post office but only a community box installation]</i>	930210	067547	HEPWORTH RO 100 SPENCER STREET, HEPWORTH, ON N0H 1P0 44, 1991 07 24, 0 <b>[Householder Count, Jan. 97 – 556, incl. 3 RR’s]</b> <i>[Note: This operation is now listed under Warton and <u>may</u> not have a post office]</i>
930210	390879	CHEPSTOW MAIN STREET, CHEPSTOW, ON N0G 1K0 11,11010101,0 <b>[Householder Count, Jan. 97 – 147, incl. 1 RR]</b>	930210	392219	HOLYROOD BRUCE COUNTY ROAD 1 HOLYROOD, ON N0G 2B0 11,11010101,0 <b>[Householder Count, Jan. 97 – 186, incl. 3 RR’s]</b>
930210	390887	CHESLEY 120 FIRST AVE S, CHESLEY, ON N0G 1L0 14,11010101,0 <b>[Householder Count, Jan. 97 – 1345, incl. 3 RR’s]</b>	930210	392421	KINCARDINE 261 DURHAM ST, KINCARDINE, ON N2Z 1A0 15,11010101,0 <b>[Householder Count, Jan. 97 – ???, incl. ? RR’s]</b>
930210	011223	CHESLEY RO 71 MAIN STREET SOUTH CHESLEY, ON N0G 1L0 44, 1990 03 14, 0	930210	405116	KINCARDINE RPO 1 363 QUEEN ST, KINCARDINE, ON N2Z 1B0 12, 1987 06 15, 1988 02 01
930210	392804	CHIPPAWA HILL CHIPPAWA HILL, ON N0H 1H0 11,11010101, 1986 09 20	930210	012416	KINCARDINE RO 751 QUEEN ST., KINCARDINE, ON N2Z 1Z9 44, 1990 03 19, 1990 03 23
930210	011126	CHIPPEWA HILL RO RR #1, CHIPPEWA HILL, ON N0H 2L0 44, 1990 02 21, 0 <i>[Note: No longer listed, postal code is that of Southampton]</i>	930210	069671	KINCARDINE RPO 1 KINCARDINE, ON N2Z 1A0 12, 1991 08 05, 1991 08 06
930210	391158	DOBBINTON CONCESSION 13, DOBBINTON, ON N0H 1L0 11,11010101, 1991 07 10 <b>[Householder Count, Jan. 97 – 209, incl. 2 RR’s and 1 SS group box]</b> <i>[Note: Now listed under Tara]</i>	930210	405124	KINCARDINE RPO 2 665-3 PHILLIP PLACE KINCARDINE, ON N2Z 1C0 12, 1987 06 15, 1989 02 11
930210	391379	ELMWOOD MAIN ST, ELMWOOD, ON N0G 1S0 14,11010101,0 <b>[Householder Count, Jan. 97 – 629, incl. 3 RR’s]</b>	930210	392871	LION’S HEAD 70 MAIN STREET, LIONS HEAD, ON N0H 1W0 14,11010101,0 <b>[Householder Count, Jan. 97 – 1017, incl. 4 RR’s]</b>
			930210	393401	MAR LOT 21 CONCESSION 2, MAR, ON N0H 1X0 11,11010101,0 <b>[Householder Count, Jan. 97 – 371, incl. 1 RR]</b>
			930210	393509	MILDMAY 56 ELORA STREET, MILDMAY, ON N0G 2J0 14,11010101,0 <b>[Householder Count, Jan. 97 – 1024, incl. 4 RR’s]</b>
			930210	393525	MILLER LAKE HIGHWAY 6, MILLER LAKE, ON N0H 1Z0 11,11010101,0 <b>[Householder Count, Jan. 97 – 246, incl. 1 RR]</b>
			930210	394084	PAISLEY QUEEN ST S, PAISLEY, ON N0G 2N0 14,11010101,0 <b>[Householder Count, Jan. 97 – 1035, incl. 5 RR’s]</b>



930210 394238 PORT ELGIN  
630 MILL ST, PORT ELGIN, ON N0H 2C0  
15,11010101,0  
[Householder Count, Jan. 97 – 4038, incl. 3 RR's and  
4 SS (Suburban Service)]

930210 398233 PORT ELGIN RPO 1  
BOX 159, PORT ELGIN, ON N0H 2X0  
12, 1982 07 05, 1988 12 27

930210 409103 PORT ELGIN RPO 2  
2126 GODERICH ST., PORT ELGIN, ON N0H 2X0  
12, 1988 12 27, 0

930210 394394 RIPLEY  
21 JESSIE ST, RIPLEY, ON N0G 2R0  
14,11010101,0  
[Householder Count, Jan. 97 – 662, incl. 4 RR's]

930210 396192 SAUBLE BEACH  
SAUBLE BEACH, ON N0H 2G0  
11, 1986 05 16, 1988 05 08

930210 405671 SAUBLE BEACH/HEPWORTH RPO 1  
329 MAIN ST, SAUBLE BEACH, ON N0H 2G0  
12, 1988 05 08, 1991 10 27

930210 072397 SAUBLE BEACH RO  
329 MAIN STREET, SAUBLE BEACH, ON N0H 2G0  
44, 1991 10 28, 0  
[Householder Count, Jan. 97 – 653, incl. 1 RR]  
[Note: This office is now listed out of Wiarnton]

930210 396206 SAUBLE BEACH NORTH  
SAUBLE BEACH NORTH, ON N0H 2H0  
11, 1983 06 15, 1986 04 01

930210 394858 SOUTHAMPTON  
1 GROVENOR STN, SOUTHAMPTON, ON N0H 2L0  
14,11010101,0  
[Householder Count, Jan. 97 – 1781, incl. 1 RR]

930210 395005 STOKES BAY  
STOKES BAY, ON N0H 2M0  
11,11010101,0  
[Householder Count, Jan. 97 – 77, incl. 0 RR]

930210 395056 TARA  
40 YONGE ST NORTH, TARA, ON N0H 2N0  
14,11010101,0  
[Householder Count, Jan. 97 – 1087, incl. 3 RR's]

930210 395080 TEESWATER  
18 CLINTON ST, TEESWATER, ON N0G 2S0  
14,11010101,0  
[Householder Count, Jan. 97 – 737, incl. 2 RR's]

930210 395196 TIVERTON  
QUEEN ST, TIVERTON, ON N0G 2T0  
14,11010101, 1991 02 28

930210 055077 TIVERTON RO  
TIVERTON, ON N0G 2T0  
44, 1991 02 18, 0  
[Householder Count, Jan. 97 – 1163, incl. 3 RR's]

930210 395218 TOBERMORY  
HEAD ST, TOBERMORY, ON N0H 2R0  
14,11010101,0  
[Householder Count, Jan. 97 – 626, incl. 2 RR's]

930210 395285 WALKERTON  
100 SCOTT ST, WALKERTON, ON N0G 2V0  
15,11010101,0  
[Householder Count, Jan. 97 – 2790, incl. 4 RR's]

930210 069698 WALKERTON RPO 1  
WALKERTON, ON N0G 2V0  
12, 1991 08 05, 1991 08 06

930210 395471 WIARTON  
543 BERFORD ST, WIARTON, ON N0H 2T0  
14,11010101,0  
[Householder Count, Jan. 97 – 2738, incl. 6 RR's]

930210 010952 WIARTON RO  
582 BERFORD STREET, WIARTON, ON N0H 2T0  
44, 1990 02 20, 0

The information presented herewith gives you data regarding individual post offices. For example,

**930210** This is the date that original was printed out, that is, 1993, February 10.

**010952** This is the POCN or RC # for a specific office, in this case Wiarnton RO.

**Name of Office** This will often include letters such as RPO or RO indicating the type of office.

**Address and Postal Code of the specific office** Note: Today not all offices have their own listing and they are often included within a larger office. Under the Wiarnton listing we have Hepworth and Sauble Beach. There may still be a franchise in those towns.

**14,11010101,0** or **11, 1983 06 15, 1986 04 01** This line contains some coded data. The first figure "14" appears to be a code for the type of office. The second batch of numbers "11010101" indicates no data available regarding dates of operation. That series of numbers is replaced by opening and closing dates for a specific office. The "0" indicates that this office is open and functioning as of the date of print-out, that is 930210.

**1983 06 15, 1986 04 01** Last but not least, these are opening and closing dates for an office or operation. For the postal historian these dates become very important.

**This list is of value only  
if it can be kept up-to-date.  
I would appreciate very much if you would  
report any changes to**

**Gus Knierim  
RR1 Thornbury, Ontario  
N0H 2P0**

**In return I would send you periodically a new  
print-out  
of these two pages.**

**The County of Simcoe and County of Grey  
lists will be available shortly.**