

The Georgian Courier

THE GREY, BRUCE, DUFFERIN & SIMCOE POSTAL HISTORY STUDY GROUP

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Getting the Mail from PROTON STATION to BIRDELL, SWINTON PARK & BOOTHVILLE in Proton Township

[REF. 276]

Gus Knierim, John Rossiter

The northern section of Proton Township opened up to settlement in the latter part of the 1800s. As communities grew so did the need for postal service.

The Toronto, Grey & Bruce Railway headed north from Orangeville reaching Dundalk in 1873, bypassing Inistioge (formerly known as Proton) one mile to the west of the settlement. Soon a new community emerged alongside the railway line and the hamlet of Proton Station came into being. At a later point it was the begin-

ning of a new postal route, RR1 Proton Station, terminating in Boothville, Egremont Township and serving Birdell and Swinton Park in Proton Township.

Proton Station (1886-1991)

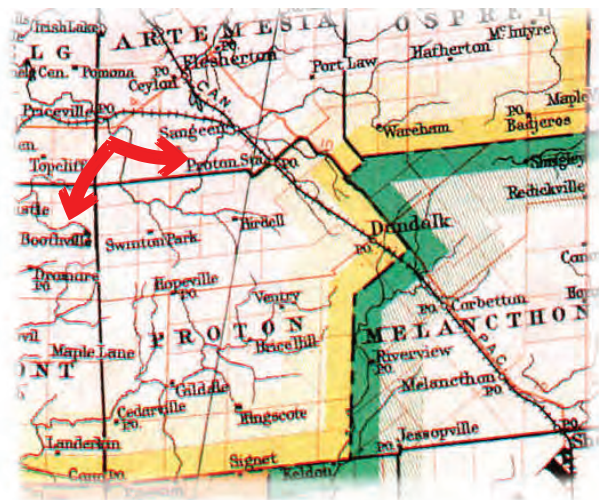
[NOTE: Proton Station was discussed in some detail in *GBD&S Newsletter* N° 13, March 2000, p.116. The following is additional information]

The reason for its existence was the railway and the local population benefited from it. The village, on the border of Artemesia and Proton Townships grew, attracting a number of businesses, and remained quite active until the mid-1900s at which time decline started to set in.

Industries included a brickyard, two sawmills, a general store, farm implements store, blacksmith, and hotel. The population supported two churches, an Orange lodge, school, and of course a post office.

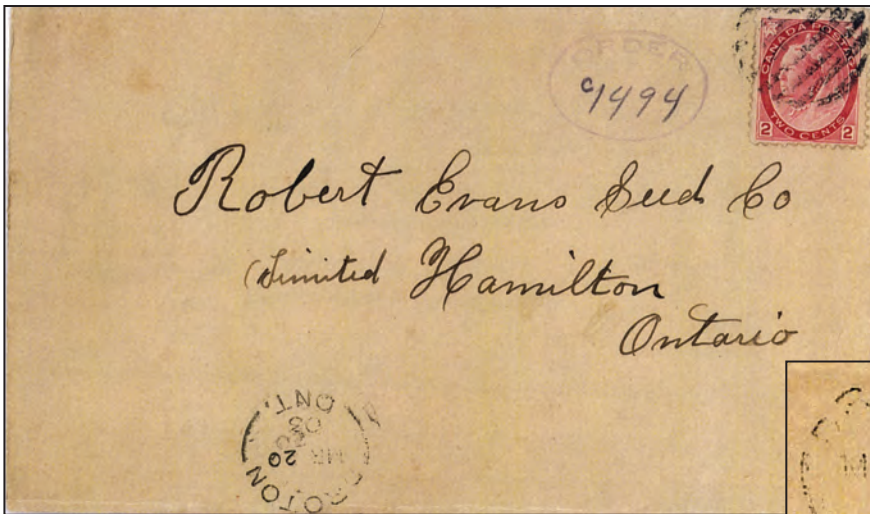
A non-accounting post office was established May 11,

Neil McCannell's General Store & Post Office, c.1905.
Ex Robt. C. Smith collection



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PROTON ONT. / MR 20 / 03

Proton Station, in the township of the same name, sure had its problems getting its name right. Initially a 21-mm broken circle datestamp was issued with the name spelled PROTEN STATION. There have been no reported sightings with that spelling. With the same proof date as the "Proten" device we have a 21.5 mm (arcs 1.5 and 0.5 mm) proofed on June 9, 1886 [p.116, GBD&S Newsletter 13].

Some time later around 1900, the device shown on this cover, measuring 22 mm (arcs 10 and 9 mm), with the name as just Proton, rather than Proton Station, was issued. The settlement at Proton had been renamed Inistioge and should not be confused with the community at Proton Station that emerged later. This is the only recorded cover.

COURTESY OF John Rossiter



1886. The office was upgraded to full-accounting status in 1905, and remained in operation as a revenue office until July 16, 1991. Thereafter for a short time a franchise (# 067318) provided postal services. This operation closed in the mid-1990s, thereafter Proton Station became a part of RR2 Proton Station operating as a rural route out of Dundalk post office.

The *Report of the Postmaster General* for the year ending June 30, 1887 shows revenue \$64.83 with Postmaster Frederick Freeman receiving a salary of just \$9.17. Freeman was also paid \$27.07 to fetch the mail from the railway line which was 5/8 of a mile away. He provided that service six times per week. For the first full year of operation this was quite remarkable. Initially the mail came via Catch-Post service until a railway station was built in 1892.

By 1900 railway traffic had increased and mail arrived now twice a day for a total of 12 trips to the station per week.

The community was growing and by 1912 four trains per day brought mail to the village. Canadian Pacific Railway, successor to the Toronto, Grey & Bruce Rwy., provided the service with trains 705, 706, 707, 708. This service continued until October 1958 at which time the R.P.O. service ceased and mail was moved by trucks.

Throughout its life the post office was located in a number of places and because it was classified as a revenue office, the postmaster provided the premises for the office. In Proton Station's case it moved between a number of stores and homes.

According to *Township of Proton: a Historical Sketch*, it is said that Postmaster Freeman had his post office located in the Hockley store.

When Neil McCannell took over the post office, it was located in his grocery store, west of the CPR tracks on the north side of the road. It should be noted that the postmaster files at Library Archives Canada have misspelled the names of Neil McCannell as well as James Corbett and "Proton Station" is listed under "Procton Station".

James Corbett took the post office to his home across

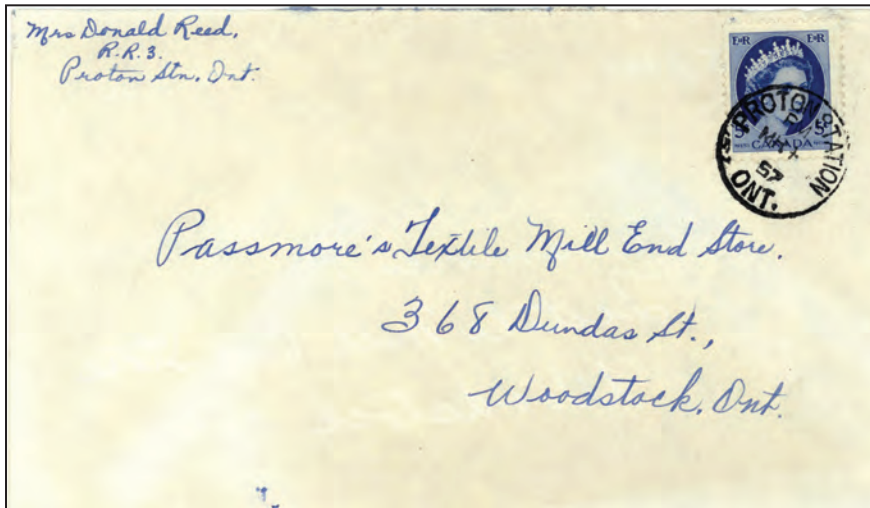
the road from the site of the former post office.

Joseph Little, a veteran of World War II purchased the general store from Cecil Trask and moved the post office there following his appointment a postmaster.

The post office at Proton Station having opened in 1886 remained in operation until 1991 and beyond as franchised outlet.

It stands to reason that a number of postmarking devices were in use. All of the broken circle and cds proof strikes are illustrated in the original article (p. 116, *GBD&S Newsletter* 13). The following is a listing of all such known devices that were proofed.

INSCRIPTION	TYPE AND SIZE	PROOF DATE
PROTEN-STATION ONT	A1 21.0 mm (arcs 0.0, 0.0) not known used	JU 9 / 86
PROTON-STATION ONT.	A1 21.5 mm (arcs 1.5, 0.5) reported used: Dec. 9, 1890 - April 29, 1903	JU 9 / 86
PROTON ONT.	A1 22.0 mm (arcs 10.0, 9.0) Mar. 20, 1903 (only one cover has been reported)	NIPB
PROTON STATION ONT	A1 20.0 mm (arcs 4.0, 3.5) Oct. 7, 1913 - Oct. 14, 1914 (short life span)	NIPB
PROTON STATION ONT.	A1 20.0 mm (arcs 3.0, 2.5) May 3, 1915 - Feb. 4, 1926	AP 2 / 15
PROTON STATION ONT.	CDS 23.5 mm no reports	JUL 16 / 21
PROTON STATION ONT.	CDS 23.0 mm reported used: Aug. 10, 1939 - April 9, 1960	DE 23 / 27
PROTON STATION ONT.	CDS 24.0 mm reported used: May 17, 1968	10 XII / 65
Proton Station ONT.	MOOD 24.5 mm dia. no reports	c.1928
PROTON STATION / ONT.	MOTO 28 x 24 mm (rect.) no reports	NOV 30 1949
Proton Station, ON, / NOC 1L0	POCON 30 x 31 mm (rect.) no reports	III 18 1983
067318 / PROTON STATION / ON	35 x 32 mm (rect.) reported used: Aug. 15, 1991	NIPB



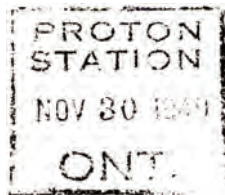
067318 / 1991-08-15 / PROTON STATION / ON

After the post office closed on July 16, 1991, a franchised retail operation was opened on July 24, 1991. It remained open until sometime in the mid-1990s. All mail service is now provided by the rural route contractor based at the Dundalk post office.

PROTON STATION ONT. / PM / MR 4 / 57

Mail that passed through Proton Station was distributed via three rural routes. In later years Route 2 and Route 3 were merged.

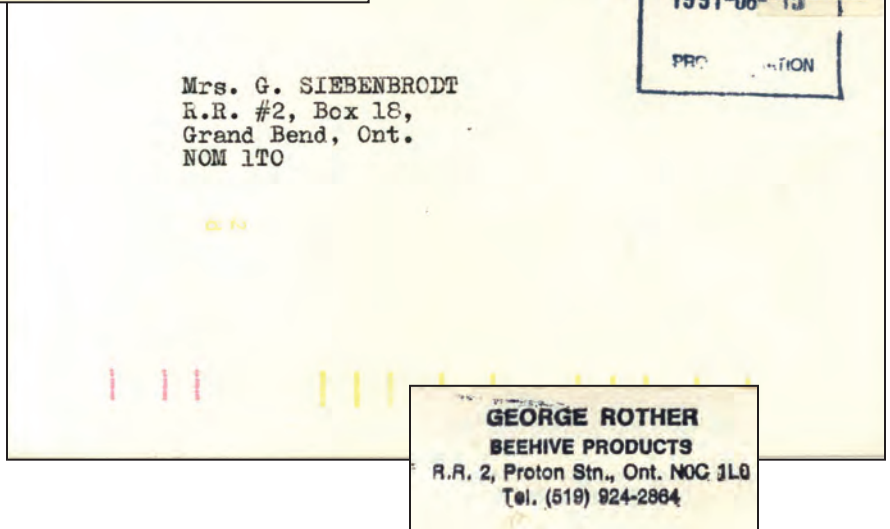
PROOF STRIKE
24.5 mm
MOOD
(Money Order Office Datestamp)
proofed c.1928



PROOF STRIKE
28 x 24 mm
MOTO
(Money Order Transfer Office Datestamp)
proofed November 30, 1949



PROOF STRIKE
30 x 31 mm
POCON
(Post Office Computer Organization Number)
proofed March 18, 1983



Swinton Park (1886-1914)

Settlers arrived in the northern part of Proton Township as early as 1870, with very few services available. It is known that they walked to Proton, Dundalk or Hopeville to collect mail and what little news they could gather about the happenings in the world beyond.

One settler, a John Martin, bought Lot 9 Concession 16, from Joseph Jones in 1879, naming his farm *Swinton Lea* after his native place in his homeland. As more settlers arrived, a petition was presented to the Post Office Department requesting a post office be established in their community. Their wishes were granted and a non-accounting office was set up on November 1, 1886, with the name of *Swinton*. This form of the name came into conflict with the recently opened *Swindon* in Parry Sound District, resulting in a slight name change to *Swinton Park* effective June 1, 1887.

John Martin was appointed postmaster on the opening of the post office in his home. He served until April 15, 1907, resigning one year before his death on May 4, 1908, in his 87th year. Both John and Martha J. Martin are buried in the St. Andrew's Presbyterian Cemetery in Swinton Park.

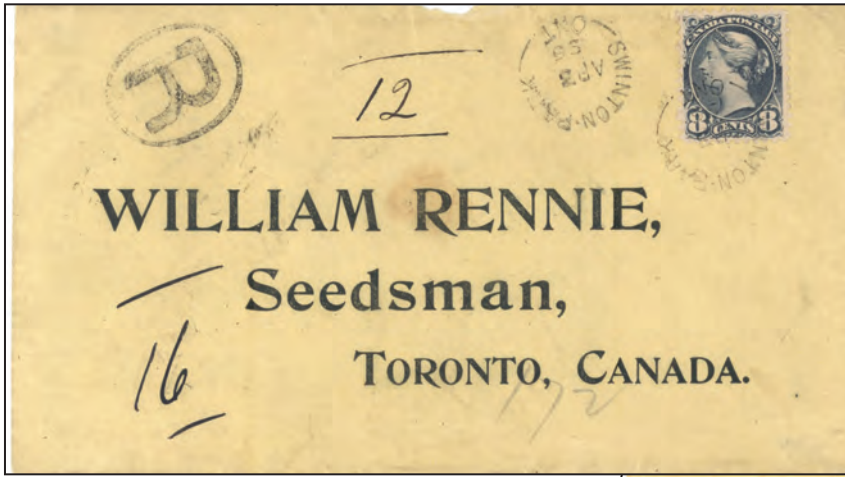
Shown here is just a sample of what may be found. Needless to say there is scope to expand this list considerably and we ask that if any of our readers would have further strikes to please report them to us. We would also like to see registration boxes for this office.

POSTMASTERS that served PROTON STATION

Frederick Freeman	May 1, 1886 until Dec. 17, 1901 [R]
Neil McCannell	Feb. 1, 1902 until Sept. 10, 1912 [R]
Samuel Scheardown, Jr	Oct. 15, 1912 until 1913 [NON-RESIDENCE]
James H. Corbett	Feb. 10, 1913 until June 30, 1923 [R]
Neil McCannell, Jr.	Nov. 30, 1923 until June 5, 1948 [R]
Joseph A. E. Little	Aug. 18, 1948 [ACTING]
Joseph Alb. Ernest Little	Oct. 8, 1948 until 1982 [R]
Gary A. Bowler	Sept. 10, 1982 until 1985 [TRANSFERRED]
Mrs. Darlene Bowler	May 30, 1985 [ACTING]
Mrs. Darlene Bowler	Nov. 15, 1985 until July 16, 1991 [R]

[R] = RESIGNATION

Post Office closed: July 16, 1991



SWINTON PARK ONT. / AP 3 / 96

A registered letter mailed from Swinton Park on Good Friday, April 3, it was processed at Proton Station on Easter Monday, April 6, and received at its destination in Toronto later the same day. The sender paid the postage of 3¢ per ounce plus a registration fee of 5¢.



As was often the custom, the Post Office Department would appoint someone else in the previous postmaster's family. So it was here in Swinton Park when Martha J. Martin, daughter, was appointed June 1, 1907, to the position of postmaster.

When the post office first opened in 1886, John Martin went to Hopeville, a distance of 4 miles, to retrieve the mail twice a week. This continued until 1896 at which time a new route from Proton Station to Boothville, passing through Swinton Park was inaugurated. This new route measured 10¾ miles and was served three times per week in 1900 for which Mr. Martin received \$111.00 per year. As he was in his early 80s, he decided to relinquish the route on December 31, 1902.

On January 1, 1903, John Marshall, the recently hired postmaster at Boothville took over the route. He served in that capacity until December 31, 1906.

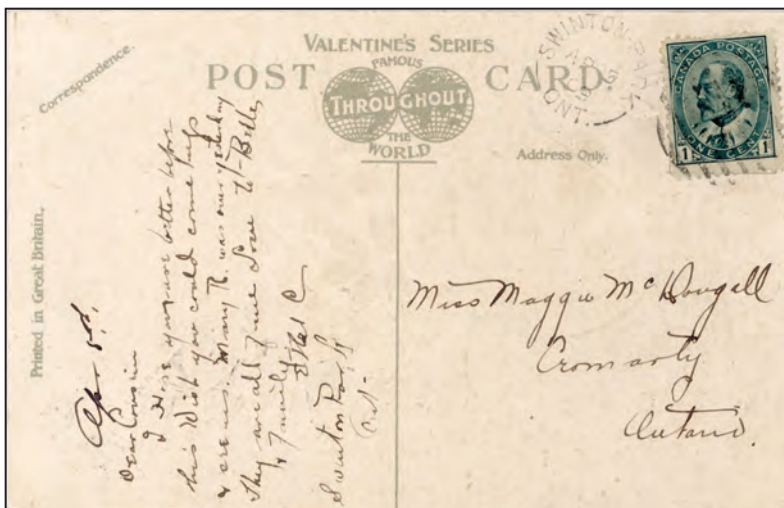
Appointed January 1, 1907, W. Marshall, the new contractor served until December 31, 1910, at which time the contract fee was \$199.00. Previously, in the 1890s, William Marshall operated a cheese factory in Boothville.

N. Wilson carried on the duties until November 29, 1912, at which time Rural Mail Delivery was introduced in this area of the township.

Thereafter this route became RR1 Proton and was served over the years by Tommy Wyville, Jim Middaugh, I. B. White, Neil Winters, Edward Cornett, Wilfred Black, and Mrs. Eileen McCabe. Daily service was provided on this route which was quite an improvement over previous years when service was three times per week. Thomas Wyville, the contractor, was paid \$784.92 for the 24-mile route that he covered daily except Sundays in the year ending March 31, 1914.

Swinton Park began as a non-accounting office but was upgraded to full accounting status on May 1, 1909. This indicated that revenue had increased substantially to \$398.00 and the office was now authorized to sell and cash money orders and postal notes. The postmasters salary for the year ending March 31, 1910 was \$218.00 plus he received a rent allowance of \$25.00.

In its 28 years of serving the public, the Swinton and Swinton Park post office were issued only two post-marking devices reflecting the name change.



POSTMASTERS that served SWINTON PARK

- John Martin Nov. 1, 1886 until April 15, 1907 [R]
- Miss Martha J. Martin June 1, 1907 until Apr. 18, 1914 [R]

[R] = RESIGNATION

Post Office closed: April 18, 1914

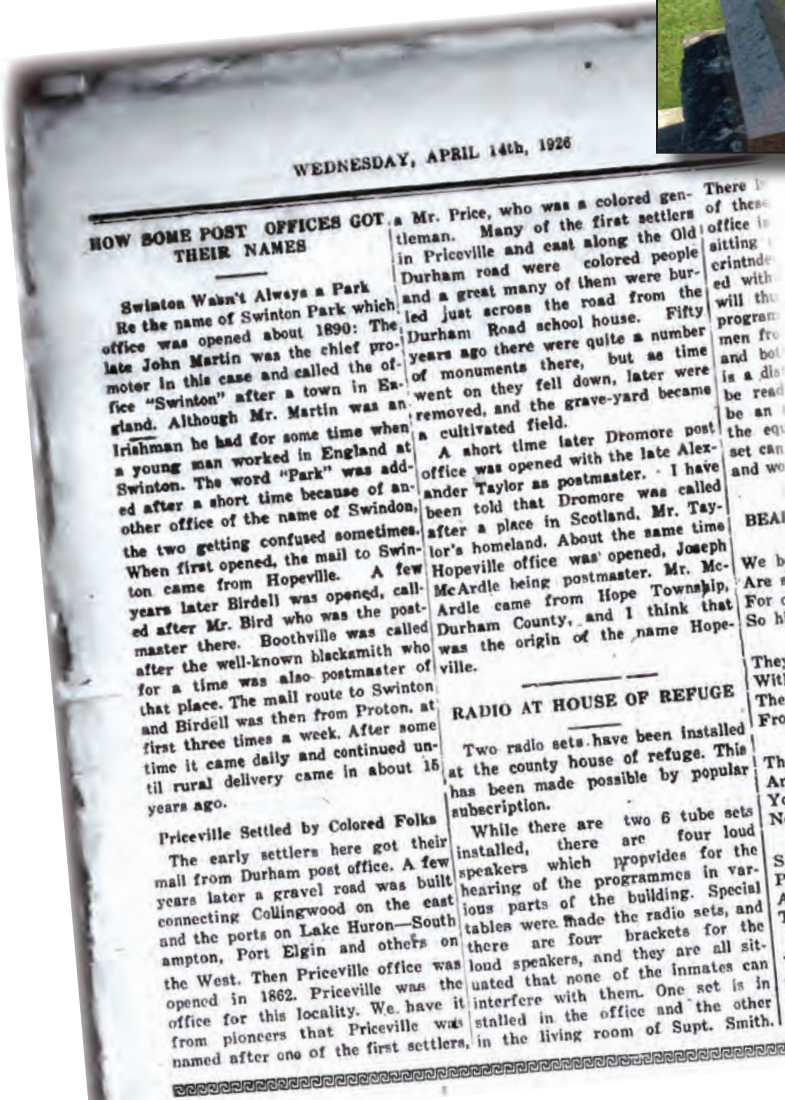
SWINTON PARK ONT. / AP 5 / 09

An Easter card mailed by Ethel at Swinton Park to her cousin in Cromarty, Ontario (Perth County).



SWINTON PARK ONT. / MR 29 / 11
 This card was written by a young girl to her Aunt in Owen Sound. The handwriting is immaculate and done with great care.

Both John Martin and Martha J. Martin, the only postmasters at Swinton Park, are buried in St. Andrews Presbyterian Church cemetery in Swinton Park.



PROOF STRIKE
 Type A1
 SWINTON ONT.
 JA 9 / 1887
 20.0 mm
 arcs 6.5, 7.5 mm

Swinton post office opened November 1, 1886, without a postmarking device. Mail was most likely manuscript dated in those early weeks until the arrival of the above datestamp. It was only in use for about six months. There are no examples of reported strikes.

PROOF STRIKE
 Type A1
 SWINTON PARK ONT.
 JU 9 / 1887
 19.5 mm
 arcs 5.5, 6.5 mm

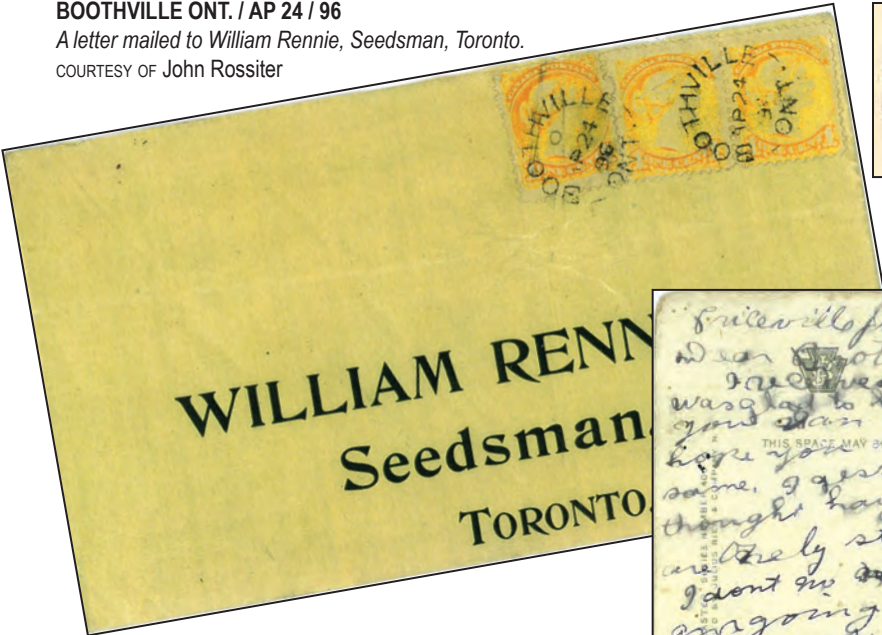


This datestamp was in use until the post office closed in 1914. It has been reported used in the period January 11, 1892 until April 7, 1911.

The Flesherton Advance, the local newspaper serving the area, dabbled in postal history in the edition of Wednesday, April 14th, 1926.

BOOTHVILLE ONT. / AP 24 / 96

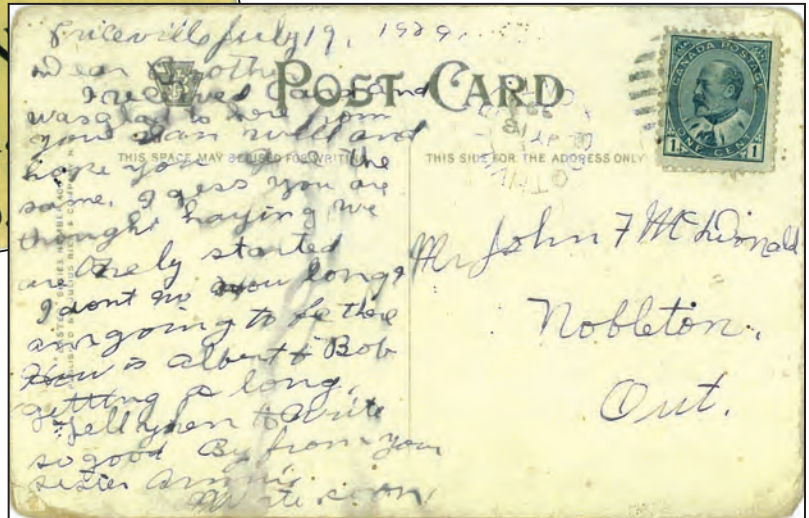
A letter mailed to William Rennie, Seedsman, Toronto.
COURTESY OF John Rossiter



BOOTHVILLE ONT. / FE 11 / 98
There is no proof strike recorded for this postmark.

BOOTHVILLE ONT. / JY 18 / 09

Post card mailed by a son to his mother back in Nobleton. Although the card is dated for neighbouring Priceville, it was mailed from the Boothville post office.
COURTESY OF John Rossiter



Boothville (1896-1913)

Boothville was a small farming settlement that centred around Conc. 20 and Sideroad 25 in the late 1800s. Named after William Booth, the local blacksmith, whose shop was located at Lot 26, Conc. 20. The shop served as the local mail centre in the early days as mail would be sent over from Dromore and placed in a box inside the blacksmith shop.

Finally, in 1896 a post office was established and Mrs. Mary A. Booth was appointed postmaster on March 1, 1896. Mail arrived at Boothville on the newly established mail route out of Proton Station. Mrs. Booth died in 1901.

J. G. Marshall was appointed February 1, 1902 as the second and last postmaster, as well as taking over the mail route from Proton Station to Boothville.

In the financial year ending March 31, 1908, Boothville showed revenue of \$72.25 out of which the postmaster received a salary of \$35.00, the minimum scale for 1908.

Rural Mail Delivery came to this settlement in Decem-

ber 1912. The post office closed shortly thereafter.

Boothville post office operated for only twenty years and therefore it should not be a surprise to learn that only one postmark dater was issued. A type A1 device, 21.0 mm diameter, with arcs measuring 2.5 mm has been reported used in the period April 24, 1896 until July 18, 1909.

POSTMASTERS that served BOOTHVILLE

Mrs. Mary A. Booth	March 1, 1896 until 1901 [D]
J. G. Marshall	Feb 1, 1902 until 1913 [R]

[D] = DEATH [R] = RESIGNATION

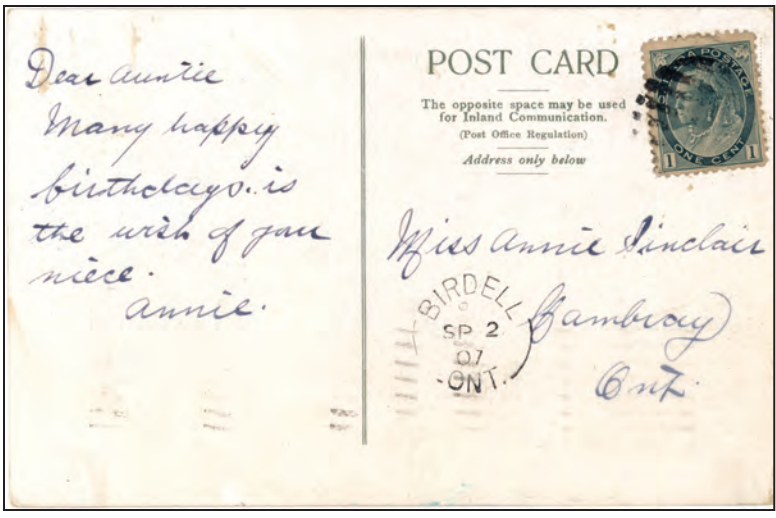
Post Office closed: January 31, 1913

BIRDELL ONT. / SP 2 / 07

Post card sent to Miss Annie Sinclair, Cambray, Ont., a small hamlet a few kilometres northwest of Lindsay in Victoria County.



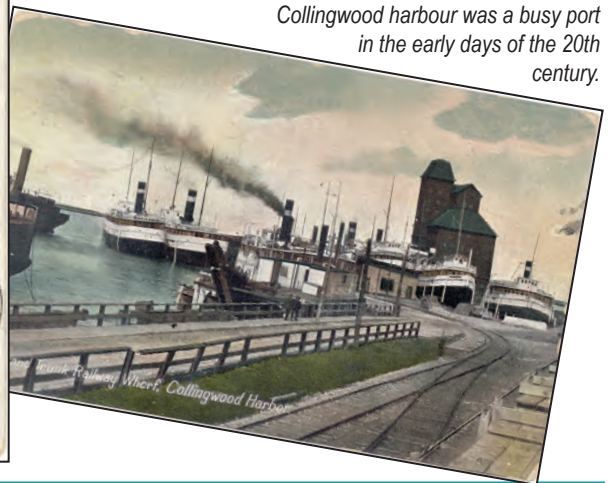
John Bird, a founding father in the settlement, in whose name the post office was named.



CLARKSBURG ONT. / AU 6 / 07 to BIRDELL ONT. / AU 19 / 07

Mailed from Clarksburg, where it was endorsed "found in drop without postage", it was forwarded to the Dead Letter Office in Toronto where it arrived the following day. As per regulation the party to whom the card was addressed, was notified that the card was being held for payment of postage

and handling charges (1¢ postage + 2¢ handling charge), and would be forwarded upon receipt of payment. In due time payment was received and the card was mailed to Birdell where it arrived on August 19, 1907.



Birdell (1902-1913)

Birdell was the last settlement to be added to the route in 1902.

Henry Bird, an ex-serviceman, worked the farm on Lot 23, Conc. 17, ever since the early 1880s. It is in honour of his family that the area came to be known as Birdell, when the post office was established in his home, and he as postmaster, on March 1, 1902. Initially mail was brought to Birdell by J. G. Marshall, postmaster at Boothville.

The 1908 Report of the Postmaster General shows revenue of \$160.90 out of which Henry Bird received \$67.00 as salary based on the previous year's revenue plus a rental allowance of \$6.00. This is substantially more than Boothville in the same year.

The post office was closed January 1, 1913 after Rural Mail Delivery was established in December 1912.

POSTMASTERS that served BIRDELL

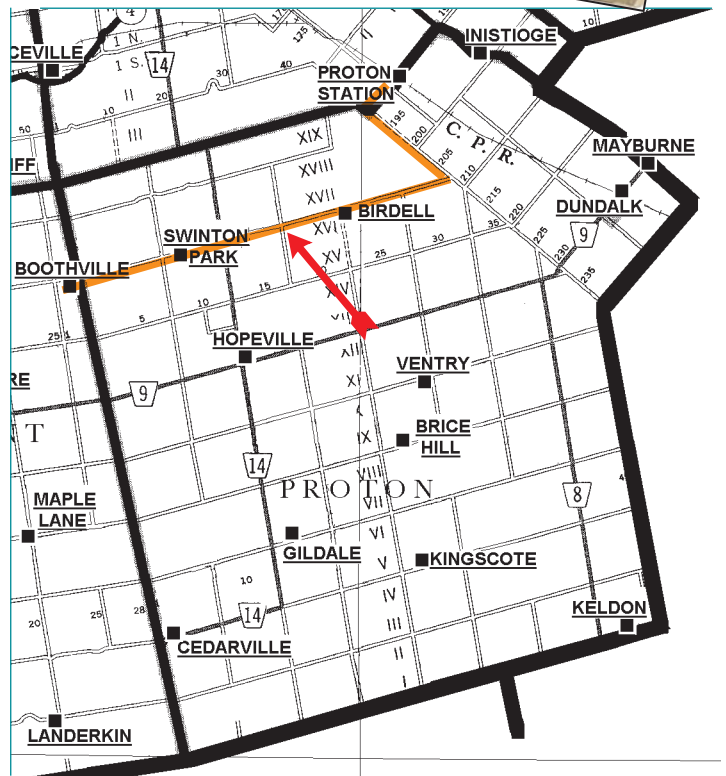
Henry Bird March 1, 1902 until 1913 [R]

[R] = RESIGNATION

Post Office closed: January 1, 1913 ☒

RESOURCES

- Various Reports of the Postmaster General (for all financial data)
- Township of Proton: A Historical Sketch, Historical Committee for the 125th Anniversary of Proton Township, 1982.
- Proof Strikes of Canada, Volume II "Split Circle Proof Strikes of Ontario", J. Paul Hughes.



EDITOR'S NOTE:
Members participation required to make this newsletter a viable proposition. All contributions, no matter how small, will add value to the research. It's the small things that count!

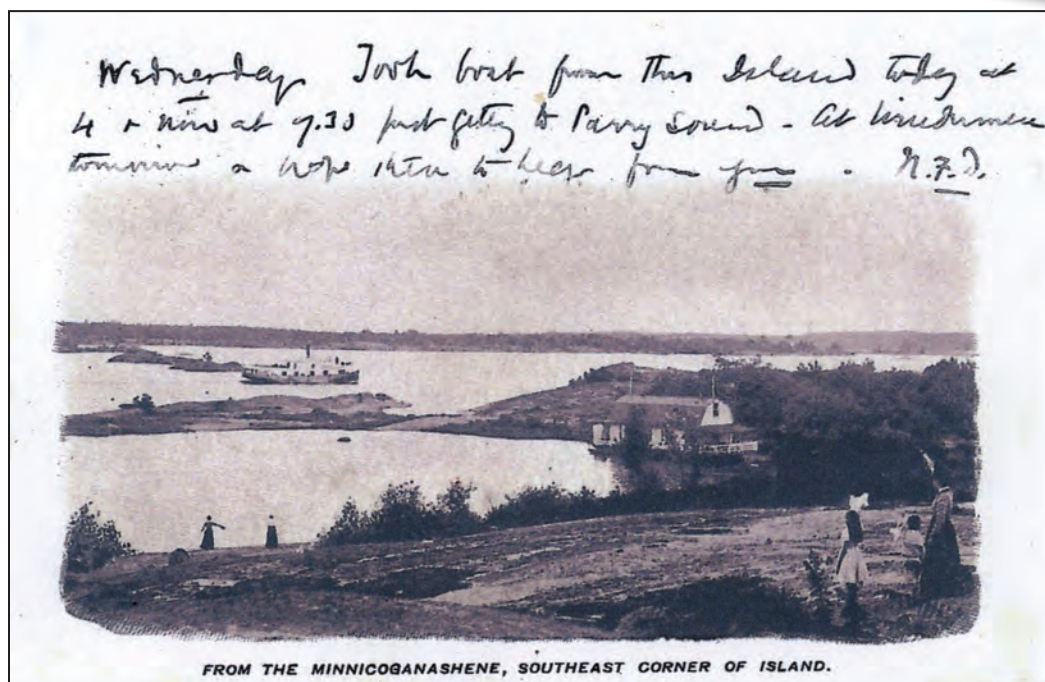
Going on Vacation ...

... and do have a great time.

Send a card when you have a minute ...

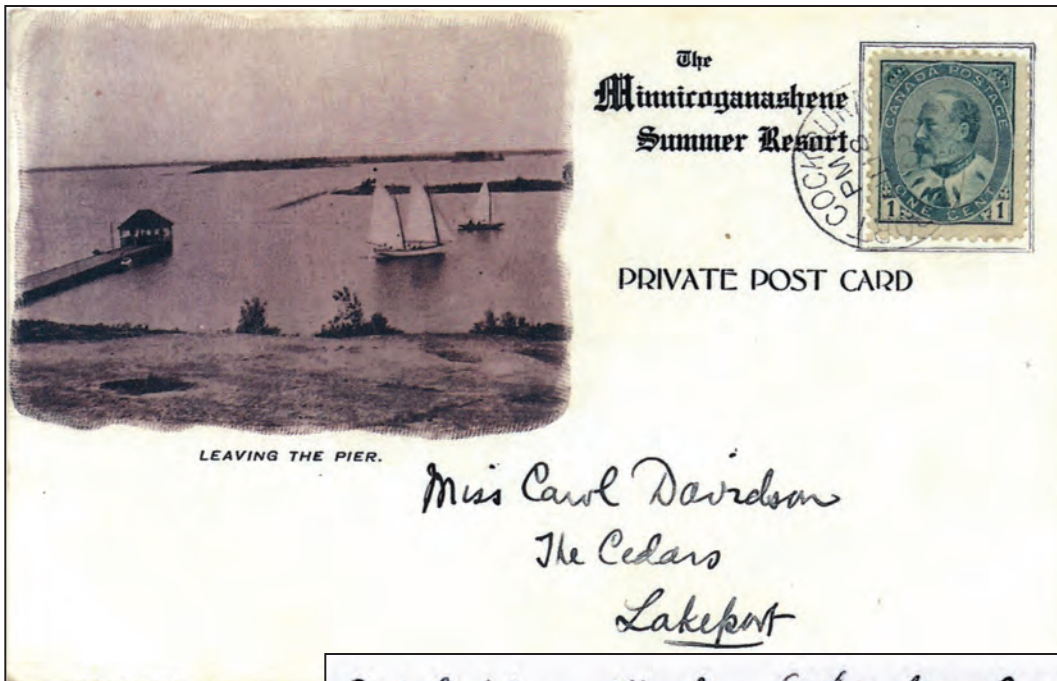
W. Bruce Graham

The following cards are a record of the summer vacation to Minnicoganashene summer resort by the addressee's father. All are circa 1905. They were sent at a time when travel to this vacation area would have been by train or boat. Your neighbours, friends, and family would wish you a great vacation and remind you to send a card home. How many of us remember a similar time ... ?



Wednesday, August 16, 1905 ...

The first of the cards shows the steamer Minnicog and states that the writer took this boat from the island (Minnicog) at 4 p.m. and arrived at Rose Point at 7:30 from where he mailed the card. He continued on to Parry Sound, Port Cockburn, and then on to Windermere.



Port Cockburn Thursday. Got here from Parry Sound at 10.30 & take the boat to Windermere This afternoon - Say that the next Mrs Campbell will be the one who tells that you write to Betty!! Fine noon at Parry Sound last night - saw the Pais Tern - nice dinner this morning of 2 miles - wish I had you with me - These 2 features are near the Parry Island & when I was sailing all last week - Much love & I wonder are you as brown as you date -

FROM THE MINNICOGANASHENE, TWILIGHT. LOOKING SOUTHEAST.



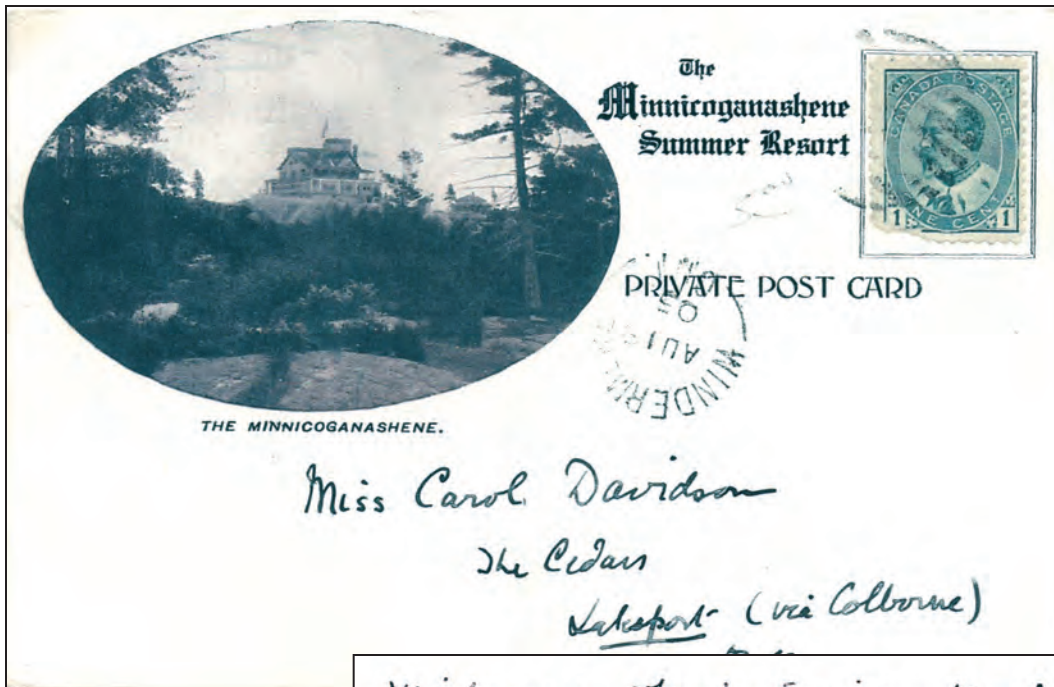
Thursday, August 17, 1905 ...

This card shows sail boats leaving the pier at Minnicog. Writer states that he arrived here from Parry Sound at 10:30 a.m. and will take the boat on to Windermere that afternoon. Card was mailed from Port Cockburn, and postmarked the following day.

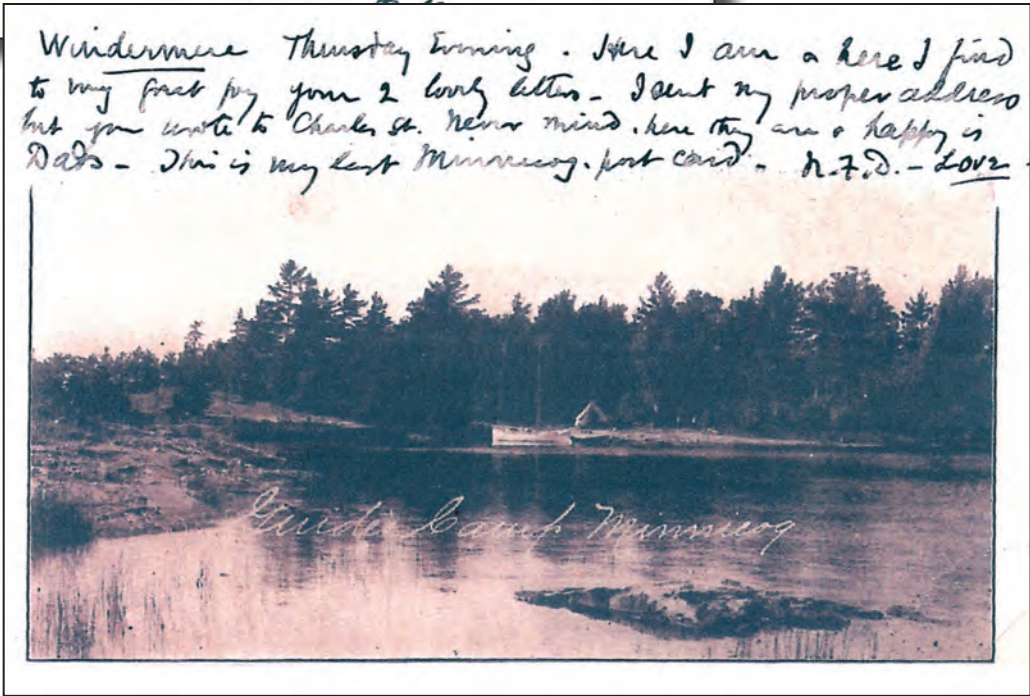
MINNICOGANASHENE • a non-accounting summer office operating from 1902 until 1938

ROSE POINT • a non-accounting summer office operating from 1902 until 1920

PORT COCKBURN • a non-accounting office operating from 1874 until 1914, and as a summer office 1915-1917.



Thursday evening,
 August 17, 1905 ...
 Here is a view of the
 lodge at Minnicoga-
 nashene; it will be my
 last Minnicog card.
 Posted from Winder-
 mere on Friday,
 August 18, 1905.



WINDERMERE • a full accounting that opened in 1868 and is still in operation.

Minnicoganashene and Windermere are located in the District of Muskoka whereas Rose Point and Port Cockburn are in Parry Sound District.



CHRISTIAN ISLAND

Simcoe County

[REF. 278]



Gus Knierim

Christian Island, home to the Beausoleil First Nation was settled quite early and was successful in petitioning the Post Office Department to establish a post office on the island on October 1, 1889.

Alfred McCue was appointed postmaster as well as the contractor to bring the mail in from Lafontaine, a distance of 8 miles; Lafontaine received their mail through the Penetanguishene post office. Initially Christian Island received its mail once a week. By 1903 service had improved so that mail came in twice a week, on Tuesdays and Fridays.

In December 1912 a post office was established at Laurin and thereafter the mail route from Christian Island connected with the mail at Laurin which was on the Penetanguishene-Randolph-Lafontaine-Laurin route. This service level continued right through to the end in 1957.

Prior to the opening of the post office mail was sent to Penetanguishene or Lafontaine during the winter months, and to Collingwood through the summer navigation season.

Throughout its 67-year history Christian Island was served by a number of postmasters as shown in the listing.

POSTMASTERS that served CHRISTIAN IS.

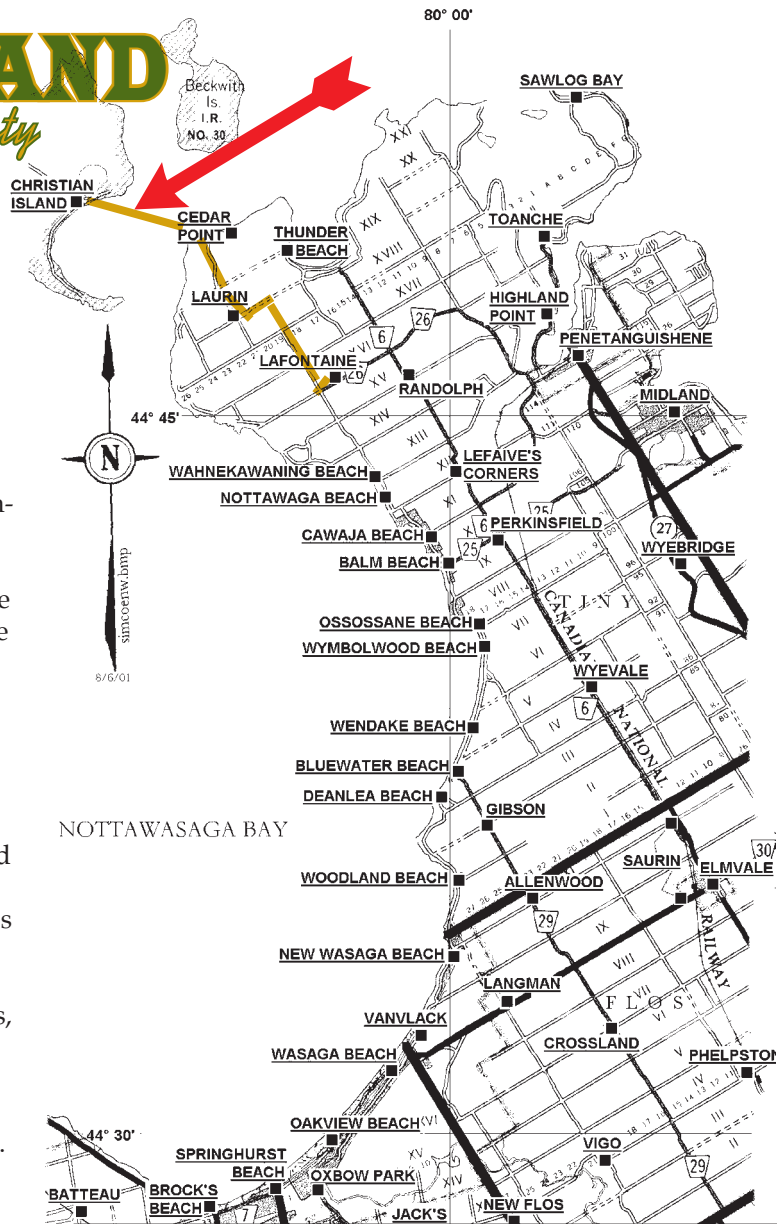
Alf. McCue	Oct. 1, 1889 until Sept. 20, 1894 [R]
D. J. Assance	Oct. 15, 1894 until Aug. 16, 1897 [R]
John W. Monague Jr.	Dec. 1, 1897 until Aug. 9, 1905 [R]
Walter Simon	Oct. 8, 1905 until Oct. 28, 1915 [R]
Robert Marsden	Dec. 30, 1915 until March 3, 1921 [R]
Elijah Monague	May 14, 1921 until Oct. 10, 1921 [R]
Robert Marsden	Feb. 10, 1922 until Feb. 1, 1952 [R]
Ephraim Marsden	Dec. 30, 1952 [ACTING]
Ephraim Marsden	Feb. 20, 1953 until July 10, 1953
Joseph Hawke	June 16, 1953 [ACTING]
Joseph Hawke	Oct. 1, 1953 until 1957

[R] = RESIGNATION

Post Office closed: June 14, 1957

Until 1905, the postmaster was also the contractor responsible for getting the mail from Lafontaine or Laurin. However, after 1905 we see different people employed as contractors. Throughout Walter Simon's tenure as postmaster, J. L. King was contractor. When Robert Marsden became postmaster, M. J. Sandy was the route contractor. Data is not available beyond the 1917 *Report of the Postmaster General*.

Christian Island post office never excelled when it came to revenue. In 1903 revenue of \$32.15 was reported out of which



CHRISTIAN ISLAND ONT / OC 1 / 07

Letter to Dr. P. A. McDonald, Penetanguishene.

There is no receiving strike.

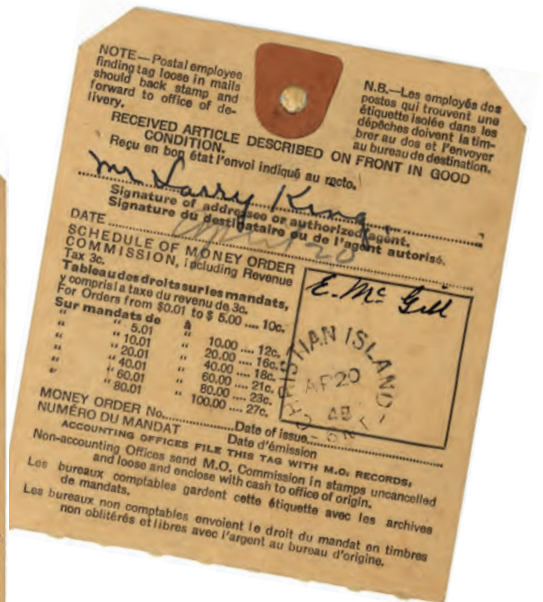




PROOF STRIKE
Type A1
CHRISTIAN ISLAND ONT.
NO 2 / 1889
20.5 mm
arcs 2.0, 2.0 mm

MIDLAND ONT. / FE 23 / 48

Johnstone's Dry Goods, Midland, Ont. send some merchandise, using the Post Office Department's C.O.D. service, to Larry King, Christian Island. Payment was received on April 20 and the back of the tag was duly datestamped at the Christian Island post office. Funds were submitted to Midland post office and the commission fee was paid by attaching a 10¢ stamp and datestamping it April 26.



CHRISTIAN ISLAND ONT. / DE 14 / 56
Registered Letter 501 was sent to Marathan Book, 187½ Queen Street East, Toronto, Ontario. Postal charges were 5¢ postage + 20¢ registration fee. There is no known proof strike for the registration box.

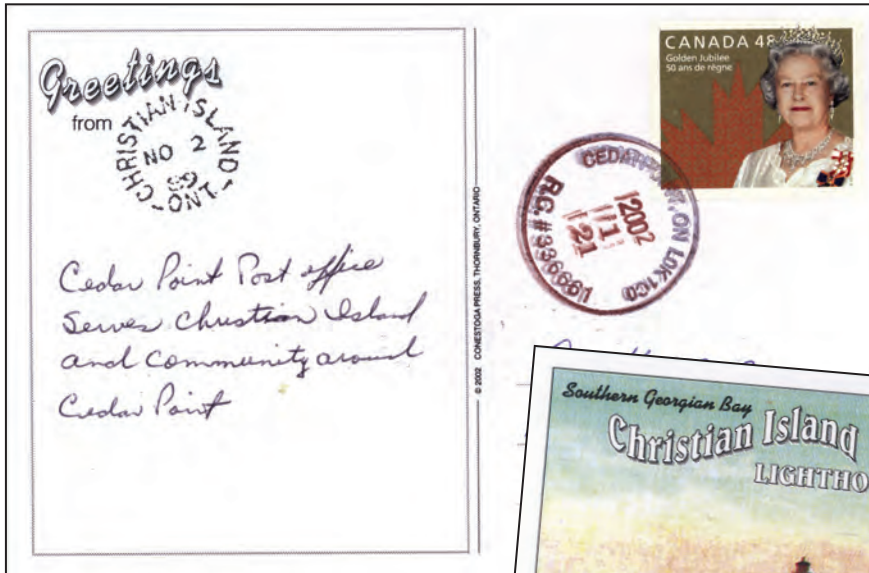
The routing of this piece of registered mail would have gone from Christian Island to Penetanguishene by motor vehicle, then on to Orillia where it caught the southbound Train 44 on the Tor. & N. Bay R.P.O. No. 8 and on to Toronto where it was received the same day.



the postmaster received a salary of \$16.00 for the year. By 1939 revenue was still only \$44.00.

In 1957 the Post Office Department chose to terminate the route and thereafter Cedar Point post office on the mainland served the folks on Christian Island. Cedar Point post office was located within walking distance of the ferry to Christian Island.

In the end this non-accounting office #78734 which was authorized to sell denominative money orders (not exceeding \$15.99 for one order) just quietly left the scene. Closing date is listed on the postmaster files as June 16, 1957, and yet the December 31, 1959 *List of Post Offices* still shows a listing for Christian Island. The *Monthly Supplements* make no mention of the closure.



CEDAR POINT, ON L0K 1C0 / R.C. #336661 / 2002 / 1 / 21

A post card showing the old light house on Christian Island with a message by the postmaster at Cedar Point, elaborating on who they serve at the post office.



Cedar Point

When Christian Island post office was closed in June 1957, a new post office with the name of Cedar Point was established on the mainland, Lot E20 Conc. 21, near the ferry terminal to Christian Island. However, between June 1957 and July 2, 1958, no post office existed and when Cedar Point opened it did so as a non-accounting summer office #78653.

In the summer of 1958 it was open from July 2 until August 30, 1958 with Mrs. Velma Mary Deschamps as postmistress.

The following year it opened July 1, not as a summer office, but as a full year-round office.

On April 1, 1973 the office was renumbered into the new computerized system and given the number 336661. Its status remained as a non-accounting office. This was mainly due to the low revenue that the operation achieved. In 1974-1975 revenue for the year was just \$85.00.

Throughout the 54 years that the post office functioned a number of persons served as postmasters or postmistresses. A partial list is provided herewith, lacking the more recent appointments.

POSTMASTERS that served CEDAR POINT

Mrs Velma Mary Deschamps	July 2, 1958 until Aug. 26, 1966
John Deschamps	Sep. 16, 1966 [ACTING]
Mrs Velma Mary Deschamps	Nov. 6, 1966 [ACTING]
Mrs Velma Mary Deschamps	Nov. 16, 1966 until April 30, 1969
Mrs Cecile Hibbs	May 1, 1969 until Oct. 20, 1974
Mrs. Patricia Robitaille	Oct. 21, 1974
Florence M. Gregoire	Dec. 21, 1977 [ACTING]
Florence M. Gregoire	Dec. 28, 1977
Mrs Claire M. Leblanc	Jan. 5, 1981

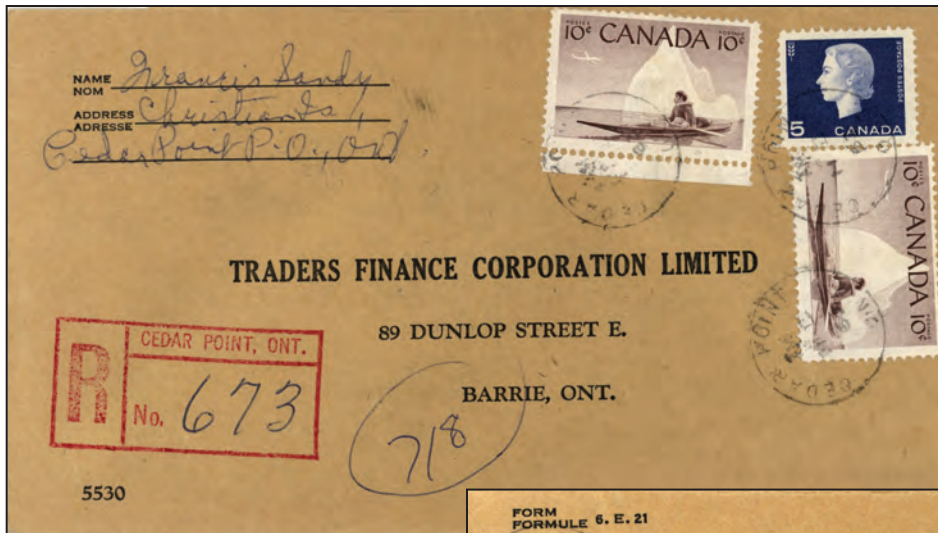
Post Office closed: 2012

When the Cedar Point office was established it was issued a 24-mm cds hammer, proofed June 18, 1958. There are no other known proof strikes. Since this office was non-accounting there may not have been the tradi-



PROOF STRIKE
Type CDS
CEDAR POINT ONT.
PM / 18 VI / 1958
24.0 mm

The Cedar Point General Store & Post Office just a short distance from ferry terminal for Christian Island – October 24, 1998.



CEDAR POINT ONT. / AM / 11 II / 63
 Registered Letter 673 mailed to a finance company in Barrie, Ontario. Letter took a circuitous route to get to Barrie. Note the Penetanguishene MOON transit mark, the Tor. & North Bay R.P.O. mark, the Toronto Terminal A Registration mark, and finally the Barrie cds for the following day.

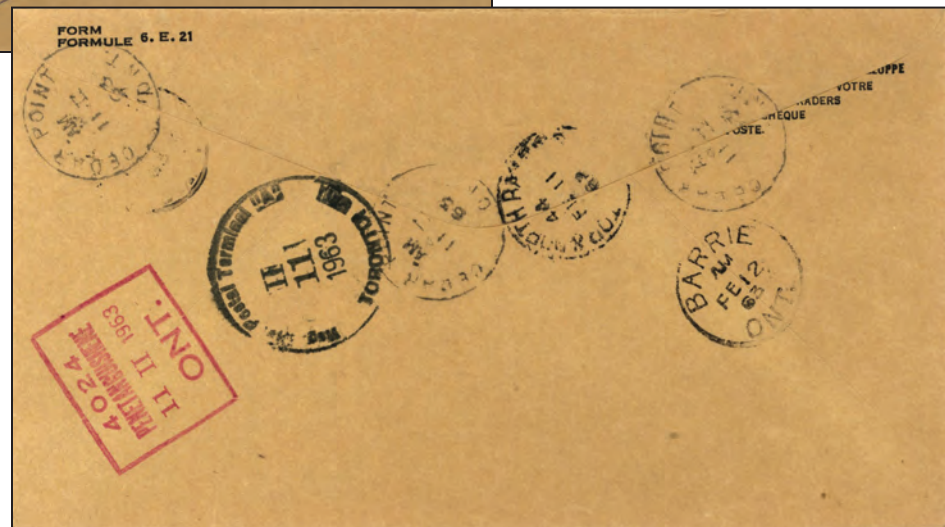
tional MOON postmark (5-digit number in this case). There should have been POCON postmarks after the change on April 1, 1973 – none have been reported! More recently there appears to have been a circular POCON postmark in use as shown here.

It continued as a non-accounting post office until it closed sometime in 2012. Canada Post's official reason was that the "Postmaster has retired, the building housing the post office has been sold, and there are just 32 clients" – an all too familiar story with rural post offices.

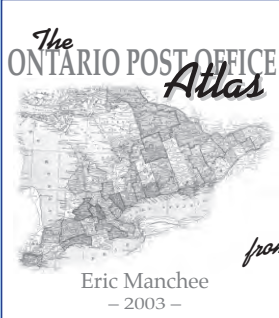
The closest post office in the present day is once again Lafontaine where it seems it all started. ☒

RESOURCES

- *List of Post Offices in the County of Simcoe, 1830 to 1967*, Larry Whitby and Michael Millar.
- *The Origin of names of the Post Office of Simcoe County*, David Williams. Pub. by William Briggs, Toronto, 1906.
- *Various Reports of the Postmaster General* (for all financial data)
- *Proof Strikes of Canada, Volume II "Split Circle Proof Strikes of Ontario"*, J. Paul Hughes.



The
ONTARIO POST OFFICE
Atlas



Eric Manchec
– 2003 –

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J. (Gus) KNIERIM
Kitchener, ON N2H 1V6
519.599.6975
we accept PayPal at
jknierim@bmts.com

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J. Knierim, 115 Lydia Street, Kitchener, ON N2H 1V6
 PHONE: (519) 578-6282 • E-MAIL: jknierim@bmts.com