

Walsh returns with 13th edition of Newfoundland philately's most comprehensive catalogue



Philatelic BOOKSHELF

By David Piercey

Newfoundland is a popular country to collect and a challenge for both the generalist and specialist collector because of the depth of material to be found within any aspect of its philately.

Collectors are indeed fortunate that John Walsh, of St. John's, N.L., has managed to produce a highly specialized Newfoundland catalogue through 12 previous editions, beginning in 1988 and spanning to the recent 2022-dated 13th edition.

Each edition of the *Walsh Newfoundland Specialized Stamp Catalogue*, now issued every two years, has managed to add new information, including discoveries, revised interpretations and expanded listings in most all areas collectors may choose to collect. This has only been possible because Walsh is a specialist in the field and enlists other specialists to contribute their knowledge and expertise to his catalogue. Consequently, his catalogue is more than just a catalogue; it is a repository for the most current information we have of the full scope of Newfoundland philately.

THE LISTINGS

Walsh's catalogue listings go well beyond what is otherwise available in the Scott, Stanley Gibbons or Unitrade catalogues.

Walsh delves with more detail into the numerous perforation varieties, imperf margins, watermark varieties, die and plate proofs, plate and inscription blocks, constant printing varieties and the like. His comprehensive listings of such varieties show the collector what is available for each issue, whether for any of the longer definitive series, the airmail stamps or for postage dues.

Much specialized information can otherwise only be found by consulting numerous other publications the collector may have to search out.

For example, the comprehensive airmail flights listings can only otherwise be found in American Air Mail Society catalogues; his listings of slogan cancels and meter marks can only otherwise be found in certain British North America Philatelic Society catalogues; his listings of revenue stamps can otherwise only be found in British North America revenue catalogues; and his railway post office (RPO) listings can only otherwise be found in the Canadian RPO catalogue.

What sets his listings here apart from these other sources is his regular inclusion of additional textual information to tell the story behind these stamps and postal markings.

His listing of known die proofs of each issue, with an accompanying picture of each item, is likely the most comprehensive cataloguing of these items to date. Similarly, his listings and illustrations of forgeries on the early issues seem hard to duplicate.

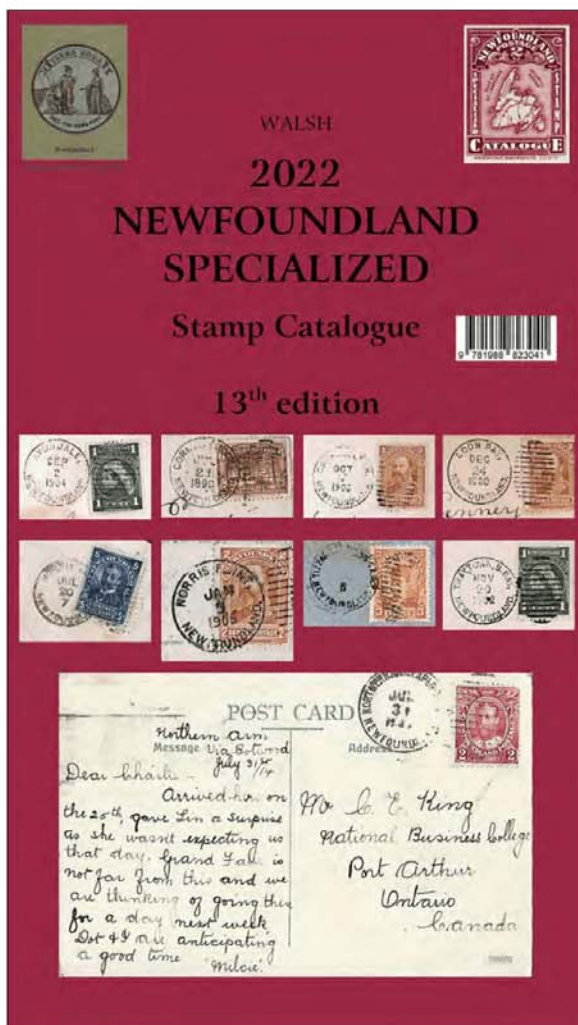
Of great benefit to collectors of postal history is his multi-page listing of postal rates, as excerpted from the *Yearbook and Almanac of Newfoundland* or other earlier Colonial Office documents; his listing of post offices and post office date stamps; and his listing of fancy corks to be found on the early "Cents" issues.

Walsh has maintained a particular research interest for the multiple overprinted and provisional stamps issued over the years. In his catalogue, he includes several of his previously published articles explaining the finer points of each overprint issue.

Similarly, his interest in plate numbers and plate position blocks can be seen in his comprehensive tables of plate numbers and marginal inscriptions.

NEW RESEARCH

Walsh's newest research – in collaboration with Rob



Moore on the 1932 First Resources, 1933 Gilbert, 1937 Long Coronation and 1938 Royal Family issues – provides new evidence certain perforation varieties were not, as previously described, only produced by Waterlow and Sons but instead by Perkins & Bacon.

They also found the Perkins & Bacon firm was experimenting with both "wet" and "dry" printing techniques before it was bombed in 1941 during wartime. Waterlow and Sons then assumed the printing contract for certain issues.

While they're seemingly small revisions to our knowledge, it's of great interest to other specialist collectors, who have had to rely on earlier published information for their understanding.

All in all, it's the most comprehensive specialized Newfoundland catalogue pro-

duced and well worth your consideration for your library – heartily recommended.

The *Walsh 2022 Newfoundland Specialized Stamp Catalogue*, by St. John's-based collector, researcher and author John Walsh, is now available in two volumes from his website, nfldstamps.com.

The catalogue is only available digitally, with two volumes. Volume one includes listings and pricing for stamps, die proofs, flight covers, postal stationery, forgeries and revenue and tobacco stamps. The first volume also includes listings of post offices, postal and revenue rates, cork cancellations and several scholarly articles. Volume two includes the 200-page cover census by Sammy Walley of the 1865-80 American Bank Note Company issues, cataloguing and pricing of Newfoundland coins, a 100-page listing of Newfoundland postcards and a 100-page listing of known business corner cards. Purchasers receive the publications as downloadable Portable Document Format – PDF – file that can be saved on one's computer for ongoing reference. 🍁

The *Walsh 2022 Newfoundland Specialized Stamp Catalogue* is available from *Walsh's Philatelic Services*, nfldstamps.com. Volume one is available for \$75 US and volume two for \$25 US (plus GST, applied at checkout).



The two catalogues that gives you the most comprehensive information on British North America Colonies to 1951. All others pale. Pages are 9 x 16 inch; NFLD with 928 pages and BNA with 775 pages.

www.nfldstamps.com