



## Stamps by Larry McInnis

### Two Versions Of Same Stamp Likely This Year

Collectors of Canadian stamps this year could have an unusual opportunity to get two commemorative stamps of the same design but with different values.

A 34-cent stamp was issued Feb. 16 to promote CAPEX '87, the big international show to be held in Toronto June 13 to 21. It shows the

refurbished old Toronto post office.

On June 12, the day before CAPEX '87 opens, Canada will issue three other commemorative stamps showing historic post offices.

On the same day, a souvenir sheet will be issued, containing four stamps. One of them will be the Toronto

post office stamp—probably bearing the new 36-cent denomination.

If approved by the federal government, new postal rates will take effect April 1, resulting in the change in denomination.

The design of the first stamp of the year is interesting because two printing techniques were used. The post office is shown in six-color lithography. This provides tremendous contrast to the surrounding design, which shows adjacent buildings in stark, one-color intaglio (engraved, sometimes referred to as recess printing). All of the buildings are shown as

they appear today.

Toronto's first post office was built in 1833 at what is now 260 Adelaide St. E. It was primarily the home of James Scott Howard.

Howard was Toronto's first postmaster, but he was York's last postmaster.

In 1797, the new town of York became the capital of Upper Canada, with a proud population of 1,400. By 1801, a tough merchant who was also the tax collector became postmaster. He was William Allan.

Allan did quite well for the mails, and from the mails.

In 1828, Allan was replaced by Howard, who changed post office buildings

three times, the third being what is now called Toronto's first post office.

That's because Allan's makeshift post office/customs house and Howard's first two post offices were in York.

#### LETTERS

Letters are invited. Please send enquiries to the writer at P.O. Box 40, Beauharnois, Quebec, J6N 3C1.

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