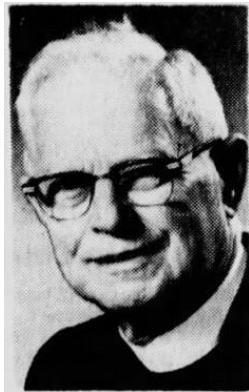


Rev. Nathaniel Cole and Eastern Arctic Patrol Covers



"Meet the Clergy", The Windsor Star, 23 January 1965. Windsor, Ontario. Page 10. <https://www.newspapers.com/clip/39089786/the-windsor-star/?id=637>

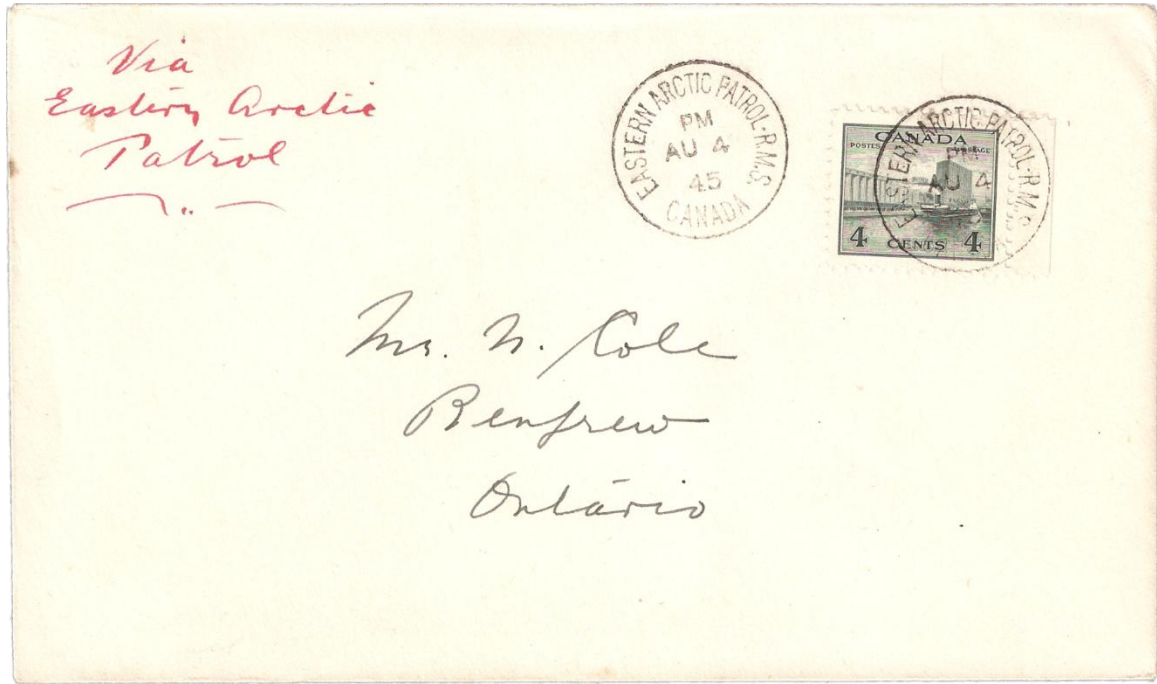
This exhibit shows philatelic covers related to the Eastern Arctic Patrol created by Rev. Nathaniel Cole, a part-time stamp dealer. It shows his continued interest in creating these covers over a period of years as he moved to different communities in Nova Scotia and Ontario.



"The S.S. Nascopie ship amidst broken ice just off a coastline", unknown date, (CU2363241) by Amott, Roger, & Sauer. Courtesy of Libraries and Cultural Resources Digital Collections, University of Calgary.

In the 1930's and 40's, the Nascopie delivered supplies to Hudson Bay Company trading posts, transported RCMP personnel to and from various communities, transported government personnel and carried mail to and from persons living in the Arctic as well as philatelic mail from collectors seeking to have covers mailed to them from the various northern post offices. The Nascopie was considered a full-service accounting post office (#2790) with its personnel appointed from the Railway Mail Service branch.

Sending mail to oneself from the Eastern Arctic Patrol, also known as the "philatelic mail" or "souvenir mail," was a common practice for collectors during the era of the annual voyages of the Nascopie and other patrol ships. Collectors would send letters addressed to themselves to northern post offices to be postmarked and returned as unique souvenirs.



Cover to Mr. N. Cole, Port Hood, Nova Scotia, postmarked Eastern Arctic Patrol, Aug. 4, 1945, paying the first class letter rate.

The Nascopie, built in 1911, weighed 2,500 gross tons, was 285 feet long and 44 feet wide with a draft of 20 feet (Fig. 1). Prior to 1933 it travelled each year from Britain to Canada for the summer Arctic voyage. From 1933. it remained in Canada. Each summer it undertook a 10,000-mile (16,000 km) journey to the various outposts.



Nascopie leaves Montreal on her last Voyage Graetz

The service to the above mentioned offices, with the exception of the last two mentioned, is once a year by this special steamer. An opportunity will be given to interested cover collectors to secure covers bearing the postmarks of these Post Offices away up in the Arctic Circle by following the procedure outlined hereunder:-

- (1) Enclose addressed envelopes bearing the requisite Canadian postage (see particulars below) or accompanied by the equivalent in remittance by Postal Money Order, Postal Note, Express Order or Bank Draft payable to the Receiver General of Canada (personal cheques are not accepted) to cover return postage to destination. Do not send cash unless your letter is registered.
- (2) Write a letter stating briefly the requirements, heading the letter "Eastern Arctic Mail".
- (3) Place the foregoing items in an envelope addressed to The Chief Superintendent, Post Office Service, Ottawa, Canada.
- (4) See that your letter is mailed so that it will reach Ottawa, Canada, not later than 8th July 1935, and as much before that date as possible.

Only Postage Stamps of the Silver Jubilee issue, released on 4th May, 1935, and of the new King's Head and Pictorial issue, released on 1st June, 1935, will be available for the prepayment of postage on these covers. If any amount in excess of the actual requirements is received, it will be applied to the covers in the form of postage. Orders for mint stamps cannot be filled and must not be included with requests for the transmission of covers.

IMPORTANT Please note that the letter stating your requirements in this connection should be headed "Eastern Arctic Mail" and must arrive at Ottawa not later than July 8th, 1935.

Part of the circular letter mailed to collectors and others in 1935 providing information on how to get covers postmarked by the Eastern Arctic Patrol.

Donen, N., Scrimgeour, G. and O'Reilly, K. February 2018. The 1935 Voyage of the RMS Nascopie in the Eastern Arctic. PHSC Journal 168-169, p. 7.

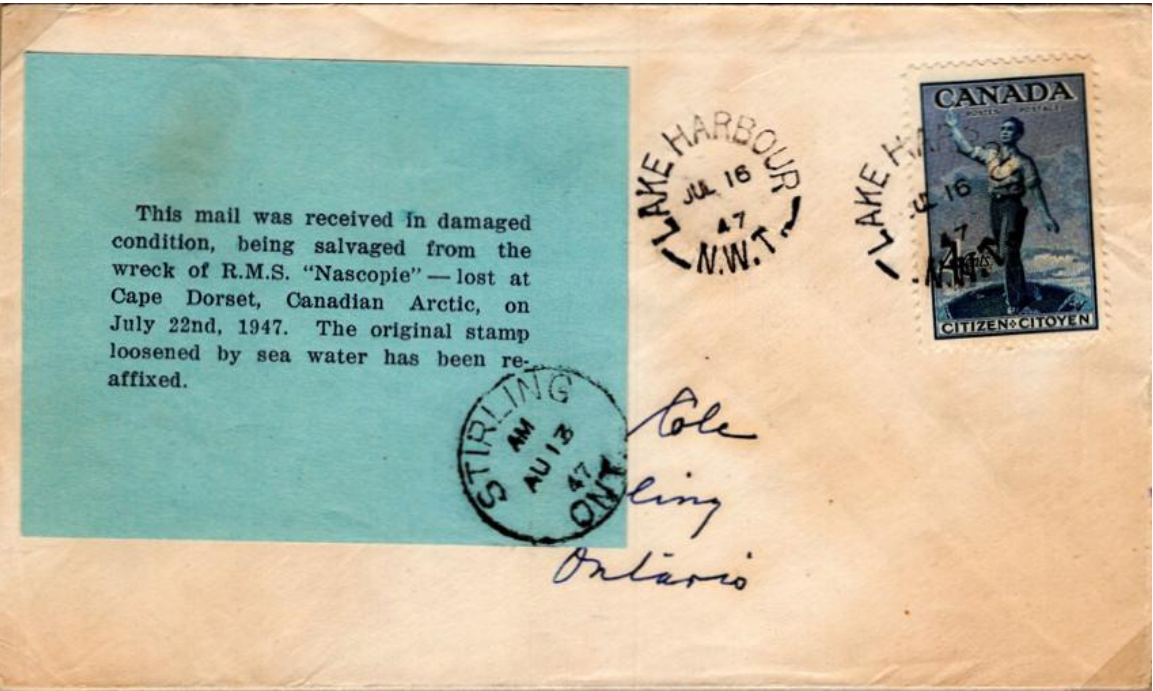


Cover to Mr. N. Cole, Port Hood, Nova Scotia, postmarked Eastern Arctic Patrol, Aug. 18, 1944, paying the first class letter rate.

The Nascopie left Montreal on July 5, 1947. Lake Harbour on Baffin Island was one of 6 posts called upon before the ship ran aground at Cape Dorset on July 22, 1947. The Nascopie struck an uncharted reef and remained aground for two months before breaking apart and sinking.



Canadian Museum of History. Boat 'Nascopie' sinking off Cape Dorset by Peter Pitseolak. Control no. 2000-93. https://www.historymuseum.ca/ke/_resources/1238158/CD2000-0223-024.jpg



Cover to ??? Cole, Stirling, Ontario, postmarked Lake Harbour, NWT, Jul. 16, 1947, paying the first class letter rate, with blue printed label indicating that the cover was recovered from the wreck of the Nascopie.