Canadian Date Nails

Rolland A. Meyers (TDNCA 1270)



March 2015

This was a project I have attempted as a diversion while undergoing a knee replacement. I do not believe anyone has tried to list all the known nails used up in Canada other than the railway nails, so I thought this would be a worthwhile project to attempt while recovering. I am sure there will be many errors, omissions and the like, but that is the nature with any attempt to put a new list together. Each edition after the first will help toward a final goal of being able to correctly list all the nails used by utilities and hydros in Canada. I did not attempt to add the railroads since they have been covered in DNC and Jeffs books. But I did put in the pages for the Type (37), (38) and (39) nails for reference.

I know the acknowledgements will also need editing because I am sure I will have forgotten someone who has helped in this project. But to the best of my ability I would like to thank the following folks for there assistance with photos and information:

Charles Sebesta, Skip Kilpatrick, Bill McClellan, Joe Bozak, Robert Bissett, Don Blake, Terry Hill, George Power and the many contacts I have been able to make with representatives of the various individual companies listed. Without the help of these folks this attempt could not have been possible.

I would welcome being notified of any errors or omissions as long as the corrections are known to be true. It is always much harder to undo an error once entered than it is to leave a blank space. So you will see several "gaps" in the listing of some of these sets. That was intentional. I just put into the list what I was comfortable with as far as proof of being used. Even then, I am sure there will be corrections warranted. Please send any of those corrections to me – (with photos/scans – if possible).

Regards,
Rolland A. Meyers
33 Ramona Avenue
Oakland, CA 94611
510-658-5221
<rolland@rollandmeyers.com>

Canadian Date and Code Nails

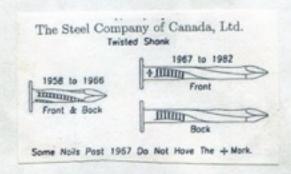
Rolland Meyers

Type (37)

The Steel Company of Canada Ltd.

A box of these nails was labeled "Stelco nails / Ardox, spiral."

Twisted square shank. Some nails after 67 do not have the "+" on the shank.



2 1/2 x 1/4 rnd R ts stl (37)



1 1/2 x 1/4 rnd R ts stl (37)



1 1/2 x 1/5 rnd R ts stl (37)







Type 38

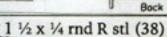
Probably made by The Steel Co. of Canada, Ltd.

2 1/2 X 1/4 Rnd R os cp stl (38)



Round Shonks

Bock



















1 1/2 x 1/4 rnd R cp stl (38)



















1 1/2 x 1/4 rnd R os cp stl (38)











































Type (39)

Unknown Canadian Co.

Round Shanks





Copper TH&B RR

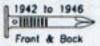












2 1/2 x 1/4 rnd I stl (39)



2 x 1/4 rnd I stl (39)



1 1/2 x 1/4 rnd R stl (39)





1 1/2 x 1/4 rnd R os cp stl (39)



1 1/2 x 1/5 rnd R stl (39)



1 1/4 x 1/4 rnd I cop (39)



1 1/4 x 3/16 rnd I cop (39)



Set #2 used by Hydro Electric Power Co. in poles.

2 1/2 x 1/4 rnd R os cp stl (39)



1 1/2 x 1/4 rnd R os cp stl (39)



1 ½ x ¼ rnd R os cp stl (39) overstike 42/1



1 ½ X ¼ rnd R cp stl (39)



1 ½ x ¼ rnd R stl (39)



1 x ¼ rr os cp, stl (39)



and indented with various shank lengths and shap nails are shown on a different page.	pes. The aluminum Type	(
2 ½ x ¼ rnd I stl ()	oscp rnd I stl ()
1 ½ x ¼ rnd I stl ()	oscp rnd I stl ()
2 ½ x ¼ rnd R stl ()	oscp rnd R stl ()
1 ½ x ¼ rnd R stl ()	oscp rnd R stl ()
2 ½ x ¼ sq or diamond indent stl ()		
2 ½ x ¼ sq or diamond raised stl ()		
Others		

2/ex/47755

Type (): Aluminum These are the aluminum date nails used in Canada beginning in 1948. They were originally made by ALCAN and produced with an oval shank and chisel point. In 1968/9 ALCAN stopped making aluminum date nails. Another company purchased some of their date nail making equipment and made them until the mid 1980's when they sold to the company now producing all the aluminum date nails made in Canada. We start with the double digit date nail, followed by single digit code nails and then the various Hydros and Utilities that used aluminum nails in Canada.

2 1/2 x 1/4 rnd R os cp alum ()



1 ½ x ¼ rnd R os cp alum ()

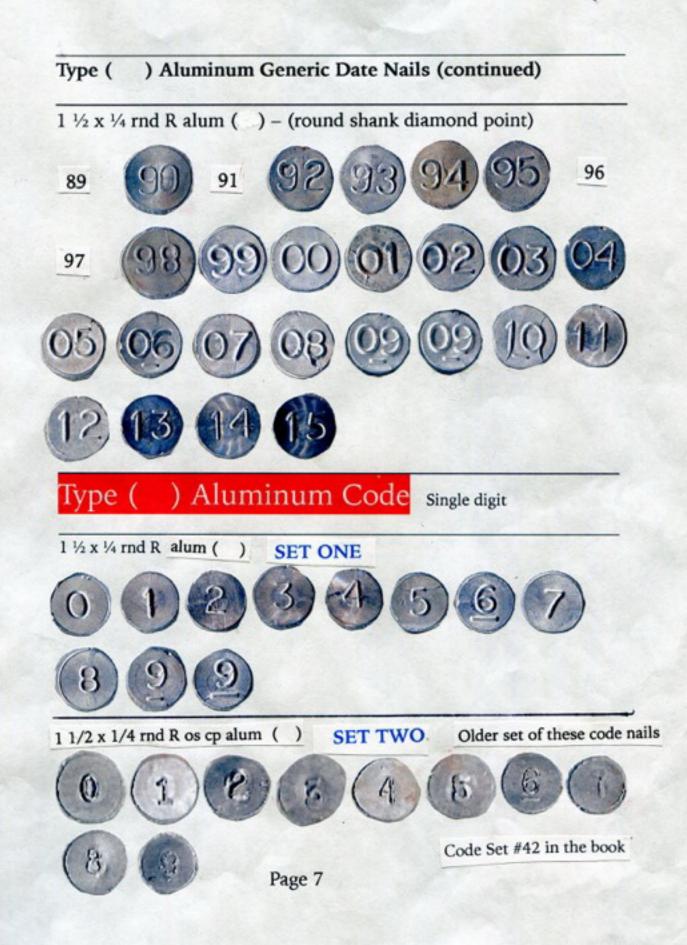
(43) 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56

(57) 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65

(66) 66 67 68 67 68 69 70 71 72

(73) 74 75 76 77 78 79 80

81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88



Steel Code Single Digit

1 1/2 x 1/4 rnd R os cp stl (39)



1 1/2 x 1/4 rnd R os cp stl ()





2 ½ x ¼ rnd R () -shanks have a double dot like a Type (05) This type of shank was on early date & code nails from Canada in the 1920's.





Steel Letter Nails

1 1/2 x 1/4 rnd R os cp stl () - These nails have more of a wedge point than a chisel.



Bell Telephone of Canada (BT) and Bell Canada (BC)

Letters on the nails changed in 1982 from BT single digit to BC single digit.

In an email from the Chief Archivist (Heritage) on 12/17/10 I received the following:

"Bell Canada used dating nails on poles to indicate year of placement. This practice started in 1963 with galvanized steel nails that were replaced in 1964 by aluminum nails. They were embossed with "BT" and a single digit between 1963 and 1982. In 1982, "BT" was replaced with "BC". " The name of the company was actually changed from Bell Telephone of Canada to Bell Canada in 1968. So it took fourteen years before the nails were changed from BT to BC.

According to a photo copy of their Supply Catalog I received dated December 1963, they ordered Dating Nails with the following description: "A galvanized steel wire nail with the letters "BT" and a digit embossed on the head. Nails are available with the digits "0" through "9". Supplied in 50lb cartons, each containing approximately 1250 nails."

In a similar purchase order for June 1964 the specs were changed to read "an aluminum wire with the letters "BT" and a digit embossed on the head. Nails are available with the digits "0" through "9". Yhere are approximately 110 nails per pound. Two nails are used per pole to show the year of placing.

George Power (TDNCA 1485) from Ontario, sent me a photo of poles with two nails in the pole, one had BT 5 and BT 8 and the other had BT 4 and BT 8, indicating 1958 and 1948. This was explained by the archivist for Bell Canada by saying the date of the pole was probably known the the nails put in after the use of aluminum date nails started in 1964.

Over the span of usage by BT and BC there have been many sets of these nails. Each a little different as different dies were used as new supplies were ordered when the old supply ran out. I have tried to show the various sets using an example nail from each. I would like to thank Skip Kilpatrick (TDNCA 1147) for his help in supplying the photos.

STANDA	RDIZATION SUPPLIES CARD		
NAIL, BATING, ALUMINUM	CLASSIFICATION OP	RATING B	
Specification CT20-190, Issue 2	CARD NO. 923	SECTION INTRO DATE EQUIPMENT UNIT C	
	CARD 7634	NO.	
REFERENCE		DEFERRABLE PLUG-IN	
		NON-DEFERRABLE PLUG-IN	

ITEM DETAIL:

An aluminum wire nail with the letters "BC" and a digit embossed on the head. Nails are available with the digits "O" through "9". There are approximately 110 nails

Two nails are used per pole to show the year of placing.

Supplied from manufacturer in 50 lb. cartons, each containing approximately

Order as follows:- (Quantity) lb. Nail, Dating, Aluminum, (Digit)

Reissued to change information on nail from "BT" to "BC" and adopt Issue 2 of

· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	31-00	dead Bearing Ene
APPROVED & Chandrus	Staff Engr-Material Standards & Design	ORIGINATOR: Beaulieu DATE/982/09/0
7		Beautieu SAIS/08/0

ORDER DATED SEPT. 2, 1982 CHANGING THE SPECS FOR THE BELL TELEPHONE (BT)
NAIL TO BELL CANADA (BC) DATE NAILS

Bell Telephone of Canada (BT) and Bell Canada (BC)

There are several sets of these nails. It is not known if all sets consist of 0-9 nails, but in one case, BC small letters/number the set goes to 10.



BT: Narrow spacing between the B and T. These nails have an oval shank and chisel point



BT: Wide spacing between B and T. These nails also have an oval shank and chisel point



BT: Large BT and number. These nails have a round shank and diamond point



BC: Small letters and small numbers. These nails have a round shank and diamond point



BC: Small letters and large numbers. These nails have a round shank and diamond point.



BC: Large letters and small numbers. These nails have a round shank and diamond point



BC: Large letter and large numbers. I am not sure what shape the shank is or the type of point on these nails. RSDP



BC: (Arched Letters) Small letters and small numbers. I am not sure of the shape of the shank or the point style on these.



BC: (Arched Letters) Small letters and large numbers. These nails are oval shank chisel point.



BC: (Arched Letters) Small letters and large numbers. These nails have a round shank but a chisel point.

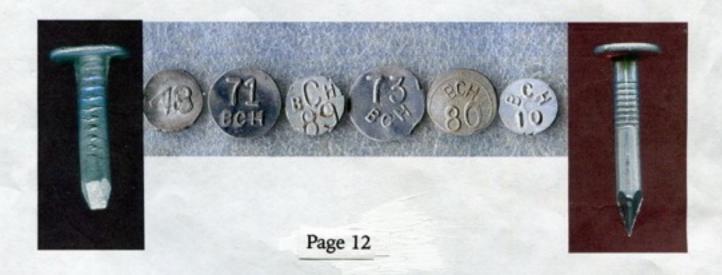


This nail is either BCO or BC zero all on a straight line. It could be a "stand alone" nail meaning Bell Canada Co. or it could also be Bell Canada O. I do not know the shank shape or point style.

British Columbia Hydro

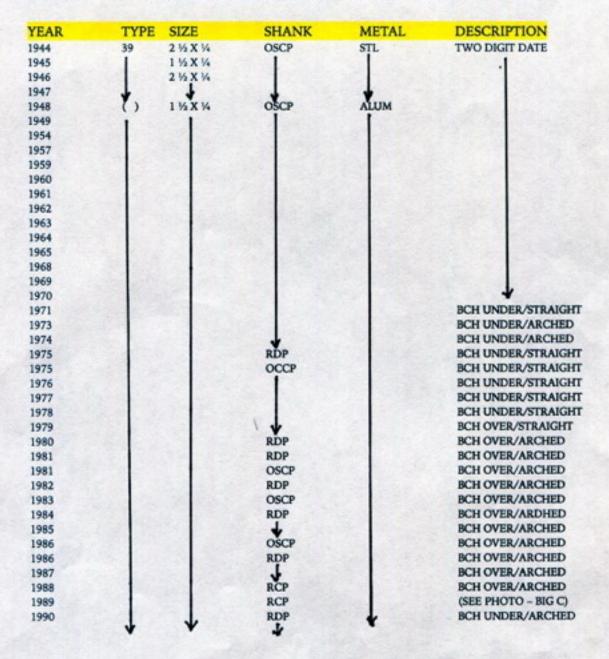
British Columbia Hydro started using nails in the early 1930's. I have spoken with representatives of that company and they have sent me nails and information. The following list are of nails that I am sure they used. I am also sure that there are others that are not shown. But I did not want to add nails to this list that did not belong. Below is a representative photo of the various shapes and patterns used by them in the placement of the BCH letters and numbers. The steel nails are shown in the Type section of this booklet. Point types are noted in the description.

OVAL SHANK CHISEL POINT ROUND SHANK DIAMOND POINT



British Columbia Hydro

Listed are only the nails I am sure exist. Years not listed may exist but there are reports that in a few cases washers or discs may have been used instead of nails. Abbreviations used: OSCP= oval shank chisel point; RDP=round shank diamond point; RCP=round shank chisel point. BCH letters over or under the date number and if those letters are in a straight line or arched. NOTE: the 89 has a large "C" in BCH.



British Columbia Hydro (cont'd)____

YEAR	TYPE	SIZE	SHANK	METAL	DESCRIPTION
1991	()	1%X%	RDP	ALUM	BCH OVER/ARCHED
1992	1		1000		BCH UNDER/ARCHED
1993					BCH UNDER/ARCHED
1994		THE RESERVE	THE STATE OF THE S		BCH OVER/ARCHED
1995	A TON SOME	200			BCH UNDER/ARCHED
1996	CHE STATE			THE RESERVE	BCH UNDER/ARCHED
1997					BCH OVER/ARCHED
1999	0.2%				BCH UNDER/ARCHED
2000		Sept. St.			BCH OVER/ARCHED
2001					
2002					
2003	7.3.10 X.3.	100			
2004	100			March 1	
2005					
2006	MINE POR				
2007					
2008			5.75		
2009		100 B C. H			1
2009	CONTRACTOR AND AND ADDRESS.				BCH UNDER/ARCHED
2010					BCH OVER/ARCHED
2011					
2012					
2013					
2014	1	1	-	•	*

British Columbia Telephone

Here are the known nails for BCT – or at least the ones I could confirm. You will note that the first nail – 1958- uses the letters BTC. Was this a misprint? All nails thereafter have BCT with the exception of the 73 and 73 which just have the "T" and the date. As far as the shanks go, all nails are 1 ½ x ¼ and all are aluminum. All are also round shank diamond point with the exception of the 73T and the BCT 78 which have an oval shank and chisel point. You will also notice that the date is above the letters – with the exception of the 78. The 64 is round shank diamond point.



(My thanks to Skip Kilpatrick for the fine scans of these nails)

Canadian "Chair Leg" type nails:





- 1. CITY OF HAMILTON, ONTARIO
- 2. CITY OF HAMILTON, ONTARIO
- 3. CITY OF HAMILTON, ONTARIO
- 4. HYDRO ELECT. POWER CO.
- 5. PYDRO ELECT POWER CO
- O. JOHO ELECT FORES
- 6. UNKNOWN
- 7. UNKNOWN
- 8. ONT, NORTHLAND RWY
- 9. ONT.NORTHLAND RW
- 1 0 / ONT.NORTHLAN RWY

- 1 1. ONT, NORTHLAN RWY
- 1 2. ONT.NORTHLAN RWY
- 13. UNKNOWN
- 1 4. NEW BRUNSWICK ELECT POWER CORP
- 1 5. NEW BRUNSWICK ELECT POWER CORP
- 1 6. NEW BRUNSWICK ELECT POWER CORP
- 17, NEW BRUHSWICK ELECT POWER CORP
- 1 8. NEW BRUNSWICK ELECT POWER CORP
- 19. NEW BRUNSWICK ELECT POWER CORP
- 2 O. NEW BRUNSWICK ELECT POWER CORP
- 2 1. NEW BRUNSWICK ELECT POWER CORP
- 22. NEW BRUNSWICK ELECT POWER CORP
- 23. WINNIPEG JOINT POLE NAIL
- 24. UNKNOWN PUC

Cambridge and North Dumfries Hydro, Inc.

This Hydro was formed in 1978 from Galt, Preston and Hespeler utilities and is a neighbor of Kitchener Hydro in Ontario. THE NAILS: This Hydro has used date nails from at least 1987 according to a representative I spoke with. Ironically, the nails being used are GALVANIZED STEEL! He sent me a scan of the 2003 nail and although blurry it had the 7appearance of a Type (15) nail? The operations person I spoke with said they have used these steel nails since at least 1987 and the last year they were used was in 2003 when the Hydro became privatized.

So this set requires a lot of input, but if true, it would be one of the only hydros/utilities in Canada that used modern steel date nails. I include a scan that was sent to me of the last nail used up there – a 2003. Blurry image, but it does appear to look like a Type (15) nail?



Calgary Power

Calgary (Alberta) Power is now owned by Fortis. Verifying the nails Calgary Power used is a "work in progress." But the nails shown and listed below were indeed used by them. There may be more to add at a later date.



Type (37) 1 1/2 x 1/4 md R ts stl: 1985-1995

City of Calgary Electric System

The City of Calgary Electric (Alberta) has been using date nails from the mid 1920's until the mid 1990's when they became Enmax. Since there are/were three or four utilities servicing the Alberta area and their areas of service overlapped I am only putting into this set the nails that are sent to me by their crews and a supervisor I have been in communication with. I am sure there are more nails to this set and addition to the list is inevitable. But the list is accurate thus far. Regarding the hand stamped nail. I believe it is a "B" but very lightly struck and I have no idea what the letter represents. A list of the nails is under the photo on the next page.

City of Calgary Electric System

Year	Type	Size	Shank	Metal	
1927	()	2 1/2 x 1/4	rr/sq shank		7()25 g shank
1929	38	1 1/2 x 1/4	rr/oscp		Calgary
1935:b	38	1 1/2 x 1/4	rr/oscp	stl (SET 2)	
1944	38	1 1/2 X 1/4	rr/oscp	stl	
1947	39	1 1/2 x 1/4	rr/oscp	stl (SET 2)	
1951	39	1 1/2 x 1/4	rr/oscp	stl (SET 2)	
1953	39	1 1/2 x 1/4	rr/diamond po	intstl	716
1954	()	1 1/2 x 1/4	rr/oscp	alum	
1955				12/2:17:36 3	CALG
1957					C SYST
1961			1		torp.
1990			rr/diamond po	int	100
1992					
1993					
1994	1				
'B"?	()	1 1/2 x 1/4	ri/oscp	alum (hand struck)	

City of Hamilton (Ontario)

Three "Chair Leg" nails attributed to them:



Dundas Power

More work needs to be done on this set of nails. Dundas Power Commission was acquired by Hydro One, so it is my assumption that if nails are still being used they would be Hydro One nails. Here are two known nails used by Dundas (Thanks to Geo. Power

(TDNCA 1485 for the photos)



Page 19

Galt P.U.C.

Gault Public Utilities Commission was abolished in 1973. According to the Chief Archivist for Cambridge, Ontario: The Galt PUC was dissolved when Galt Preston and Hespeler amalgamated in 1973 to form the City of Cambridge. We now have Cambridge and North Dumfries Hydro. It is not known if the use of dating nails was continued when this change transpired. As of this writing I have inquiries outstanding, so will leave space for possible additions and information. The 51 is (38) stl. The 53-60 are () alum. All 1 ½ x ¼ oscp.



Guelph Hydro

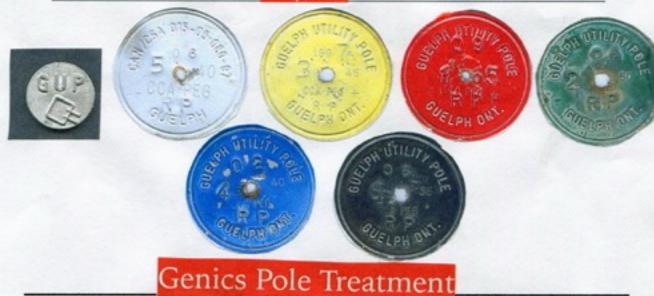
From the Director of Corporate Communications I received this a few years ago: I have asked around and have determined that, yes, Guelph Hydro used these types of nails many years ago. No one knows exactly but we think they were discontinued 25 or 30 years ago.

I have no reports of what the nails looked like or what dates were used.

Guelph Pole

As far as I can learn, Guelph Pole was strictly a pole maker for various utilities and Hydros. I could only find one nail that they used and apparently this was in association with Ontario Hydro for poles made for them. They did use colored discs that were recessed into the poles made by them which indicated the Class/Size/and other information. (See photos on next page)

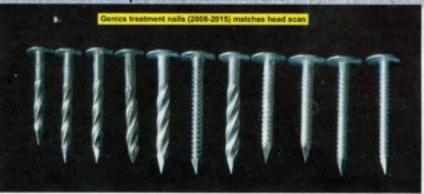
Guelph Pole

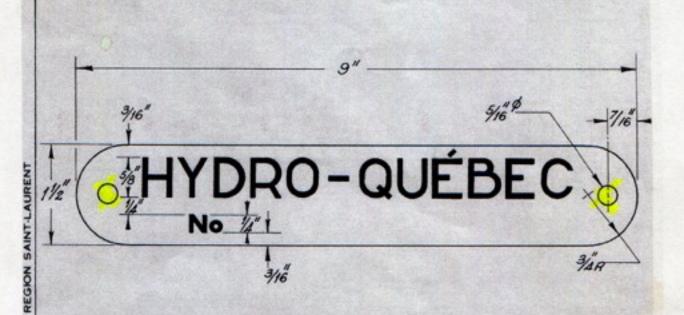


A pole treatment company based in Alberta that services customers not only in Canada but the U.S. They originally used nails purchased in China (2008-10) that were purchased in China. Then after a conversation with the manager they switched in 2011 to a similar nail made by Kaiser Aluminum in GA. After further conversations they finally settled on a nail made in Canada that has a "ring shank" that is slightly tilted. It is easy to put into a pole but almost impossible to take out. The entire set to date is shown and listed below.

2008 () 1 1/4 x 1/8 ri ts alum Made in China 20<u>08</u> - 20<u>10</u> () 1 1/2 x 1/8 ri ts alum Made in China 2011 () 1 1/2 x 3/16 ri ts alum Kaiser Alum. (GA) 20<u>11</u> () 1 1/2 x 3/16 ri ring shank alum Made in Canada 2012 () 1 1/2 x 3/16 ri ts alum Kaiser Alum (ga) 2012 - 2015 () 1 1/2 x 3/16 ri ring shank alum Made in Canada







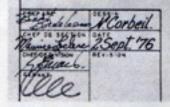
NOTES

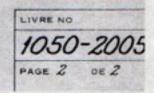
HYDRO-QUEBEC

- 1) LETTRES EN RELIEF SUR ALUMINIUM ALCAN "UTILITY"
 JAUGE #18,11/2" DE LARGEUR.
- 2) LE NUMÉROTAGE DU POTEAU DOIT SE FAIRE AU MOMENT DE L'INSTALLATION, POUR FIN DE RECORD.

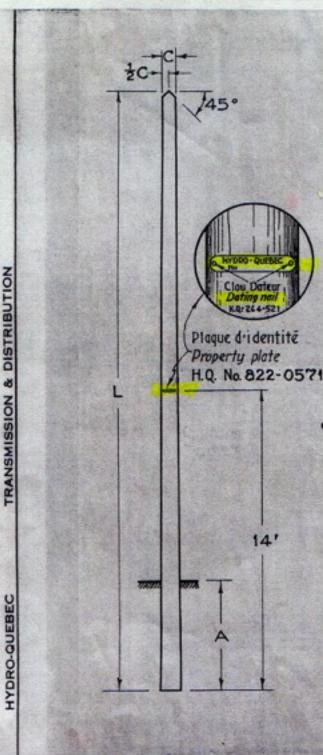
DE CODE H.Q. 822-0571.

PLAQUE D'IDENTITÉ





HYDRO QUEBEC SPEC SHEET SHOWING POLE PLATE WHERE TWO SINGLE DIGIT DATE NAILS ARE PUT



POLE SETTING DATA			
NOMINAL	GENERAL	A BOCK & SALES	
25'	5'	32'	
30'	51	35'	
35'	5214	4'	
40'	6'	4'	
45'	61'	42'	
50'	7'	42'	
55'	7'	5'	
60'	7날	5'	
65'	7214	6'	
70'	8'	6'	
75'	81*	6'	
80'	82"	65'	

AUGMENTER DE 6" AUX TRAVERSES DE CHEMIM DE FER AT RAILWAY CROSSINGS 6" DEEPER

- d) Aux FINS DE COURSES, COINS ET COURBES, LA PROFONDEUR "A" DOIT ÊTRE AUGMENTÉE D'AU MOINS (6") SIX POUCES.
- b) DANS LA TERRE FERME ET MÉLANGE DE TERRE ET ROC, LA PROFONDEUR "A" PEUT ÊTRE DIMINUÉE DE (6') SIX POUCES.
- C) TERRAINS MARECAGEUX ET AUTRES CONDITIONS EXTRAORDINAIRES DEMAN-DENT UNE ÉTUDE SPÉCIALE.
- a) ON CORNERS CURVES AND DEAD ENDS, DEPTH "A", TO BE INCREASED AT LEAST (6") SIX INCHES .
- b) IN VERY FIRM EARTH AND MIXTURE OF EARTH AND ROCK, DEPTH "A"
 MAY BE DECREASED (6") SIX INCHES.
- C) SWAMP AND OTHER EXTRAORDINARY CONDITIONS REQUIRE SPECIAL STUDY.

INSTALLATION DE POTEAUX POLE SETTING HYDRO QUEBEC SHOWING

WHERE NAILS ARE TO BE LIVRE Nº 2 BOOK PLACED ON POLE. 19 Juit, 1961

1050-2025 PAGE 1 0 1

Shawinigan Water & Power (Hydro Quebec)

This was the last of the two giant private power providers for the Province of Quebec that was taken over by the Government – the first being the Montreal Light, Heat and Power which was taken over in 1944 when Hydro Quebec was nationalized. SW&P was incorporated into Hydro Quebec in 1963.

It was explained to me by the Hydro Quebec archivist that Hydro Quebec only used two single digit nails to date their poles and that other nails were used by SW&P and MLHP with two digits on the head until the point where they became part of Hydro Quebec. So for example you may see a 46 or 48 steel nail in a Hydro Quebec pole. This indicates it was originally a pole set by SW&P prior 1963. I am not sure how many years double digit date nails were used by SW&P but here are some aluminum ones with the letters SW&P.

The issue is further confused by the fact that SW&P () 1 ½ x ¼ rr alum nails were found with dates that are post 1963, the year they supposedly were taken over by Hydro Quebec. So work has to be done on this set of nails.

THE NAILS: Shown here are the nails that are known to have been used by SW&P. I am sure there are others, including steel nails in the 40's with two digits and no letters. But without photographic evidence I will not add those here. Hopefully someone will find that evidence for not only the Shawinigan Water & Power nails but also for the Montreal Light, Heat and Power.













Montreal Light, Heat and Power (Hydro Quebec)

See listing above for SW&P. These two companies were nationalized in 1944 to become Hydro Quebec. SW&P in 1963 and MLH&P in 1944. Both apparently used nails on their own and as evidenced by the SW&P nails after 1963 may have been used by MLH&P after their 1944 take over by Ontario Hydro. THE NAILS: Not sure at this point which nails were used by them, but reports indicate that they were used and that they were double digit steel nails

Hydro Quebec

The largest of the Provincial Hydros, Hydro Quebec was nationalized in 1944 when they took control of Montreal Light, Heat and Power (MLH&P) and then Shawinigan Water and Power (SW&P) in 1963. They are the largest electric generator in Canada and supply all of Quebec Province as well as supplying surplus power to nearby Provinces.

THE NAILS used by Hydro Quebec are puzzling to a lot of folks. There are nails that are associated with Hydro Quebec that were actually put into the poles by MLH&P and SW&P. But all nails put into poles by Hydro Quebec after 1944 consist of two single digit nails. From their archivist: "ever since the nationalizatin in 1944, Hydro-Quebec uses single digit dating nails. There are two nails used to fix the plate. As an example, for a pole that was installed in 1979, you will find a dating nail with the number "7" and the second one with the number "9".

There are double digit steel nails after 1944, but it is my understanding that these nails were put in by SW&P before they became part of Hydro Quebec in 1944.

I may be wrong in this and it is possible that Hydro Quebec did not actually start the single digit dating until the late 1940's when the switch to aluminum nails was adopted.

(PLEASE SEE SEPARATE LISTING FOR SHAWINIGAN WATER & POWER AND MONTREAL LIGHT, HEAT AND POWER).

Since single digit nails were used as dates there are many variations because one digit could be used over an extended period of years while the other was used just once every ten years. I have tried to show a representative sample of these single digit nails.

There are some aluminum date nails that do not fit the description provided by the archivist. They have the "Q" symbol for Hydro-Quebec, and also a two digit date? There are also a few aluminum nails that I am not sure about the meaning of. They include an "R", a 600, a 750 and a "Q" with the lightning bolt – obviously their corporate logo.

These "odd nails" are shown below:

() 1 ½ x ¼ rr oscp alum



HYORO

HYDRO QUEBEC

() 1 1/2 X 1/4 rr oscp alum

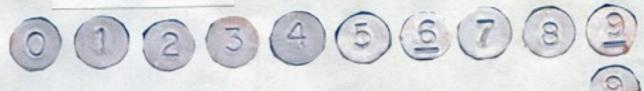


() 1 1/2 X 1/4 rr os dp alum





() 1 ½ x ¼ rr dp alum



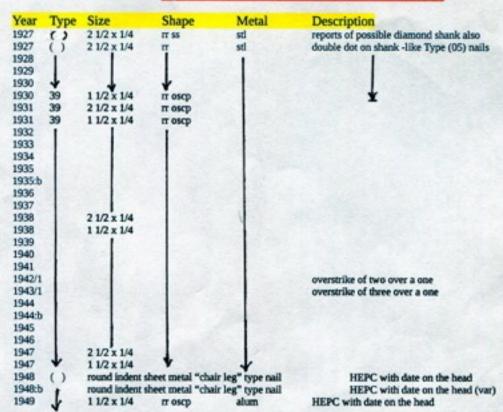
Hydro Electric Power Commission (HEPC) Ontario Hydro and Hydro One

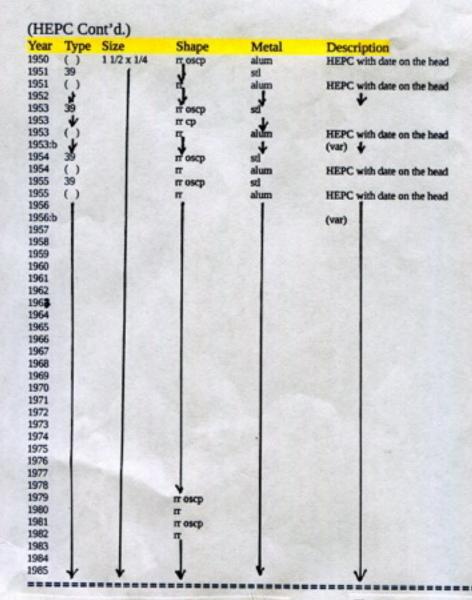
By far the largest set of date and code nails used in Canada were used by these three.

They were a continuation of the same company, (HEPC), that started in 1906 with a power house on the Niagara River and presently, as Hydro One, controls the power distribution of 97% of the Province of Ontario. It also has working arrangements with Quebec Hydro and Manitoba Hydro. HEPC began using date and code nails in the mid 1920's and as Hydro One theycontinue to use them.

I will try to keep these three sets separate although they are the same company with regulatory and structural changes that required a name change and an obvious change in the look of the nails used by each. I will start with what I believe is the set of nails used by the Hydro Electric Power Commission (HEPC). I am sure that there will be additions and possible reports of nails not belonging to this list. If they are bona fide then this list should be changed. But at the present time this is the best I think we have:

Hydro Electric Power Commission (HEPC)





ADDED NAILS TO H.E.P.C. LIST:

1924 () 2 ½ X ¼ rr stl (double dot on shank) 1930 (39) 2 ½ x ¼ rr os cp stl

1943 (39) 1 1/2 x 1/4 rr os cp stl.

1985 () 1 1/2 x 1/4 rr alum (VAR)

1929 () 2 ½ x ¼ rr stl (double dot on shank) var. 2 and 9 farther apart

1930 (39) 2 1/2 x 1/4 rr oscp stl.

1930:b (39) 2 1/2 x 1/4 rr oscp stl. (little star between 3 and 0)

1940 (39) 2 1/2 x 1/4 rr oscp stl

1942

1944

1946

There is also information that in 1943 HEPC used a blank (39) nail and washer that was hand stamped with a 43 (SEE PHOTO) Thanks to Skip Kilpatrick





LISTED BUT MAY NOT BELONG TO SET

1930 () 2 ½ X ¼ rr stl (double dot on shank) 1930 (39) 1 ½ x ¼ rr oscp stl

Hydro Electric Power Commission set of nails: DIAS RS SQ S 11/zosep 1/2050 1938 1943 2.5 (39) over 41 11/2 chair leg 1953 (39) rr oscp chair leg

21/2050

Page 29

HEPC Class and Size Nails

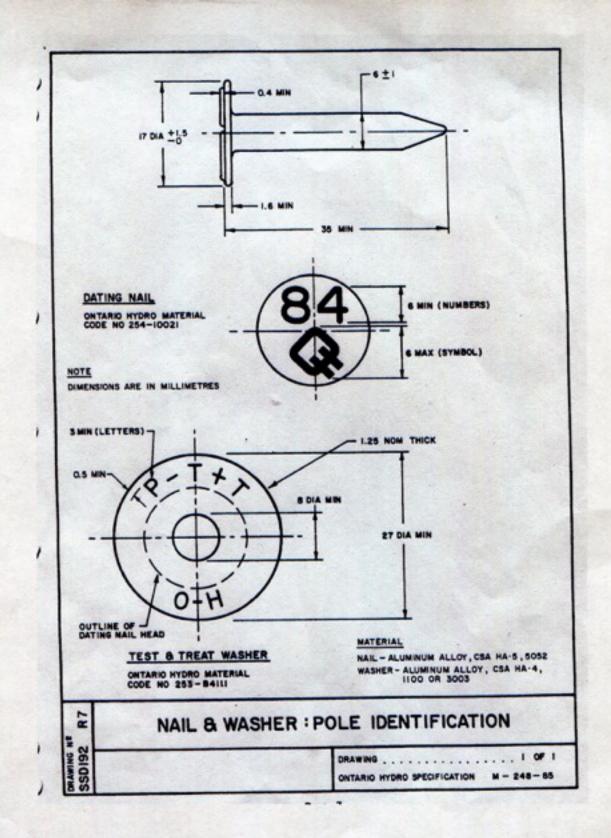
These were 1 ½ x ¼ () rr aluminum nails used to designate the diameter (Class) of the pole, and the height (Size) of the pole used by them. It is not known if Size 80, 85, or 90 exist.



Ontario Hydro

In 1974 because of legislative acts that changed the overall structure of power generation and distribution (Power Commission Act replaced by the Power Corporation Act) the name of the Hydro Electric Power Commission was changed to Ontario Hydro. The nails themselves did not make this change until 1986 which had a nail with just those two digits on it and also an 86 with the new symbol for Ontario Hydro – an electric plug.

Why it took twelve years to change the look of the date nails is not known. I also include an "oddity." A schematic drawing of a 1984 Ontario Hydro (plug) nail and the Test and Treatment washer on a spec. sheet dated September 1985. The first nail made to those specs was 1986.



Specification sheet showing the design of a new nail for Ontario Hydro dated September 1985 It shows what was to be the nails used by Ontario Hydro. Using 1984 and as example submitted in September of 1985 and first produced and used in 1996

Ontario Hydro (List of nails)_

YEAR	TYPE	SIZE	SHAPE METAL	DESCRIPTION
1986	()	1 1/4 X 1/4	RRDP ALUM	TWO DIGIT DATE ONLY/LARGE DATE
1986	1	1	RRCP	DATE OVER TILTED PLUG/LARGE DATE
1987	37	30		DATE OVER TILTED PLUG/LARGE DATE
1988		1996		DATE OVER TILTED PLUG/LARGE DATE
1989	1	C41 38375		DATE OVER STRAIGHT PLUG SMALL DATE
1989		8860		DATE OVER TILTED PLUG/LARGE DATE
1990			RRDP	DATE OVER STRAIGHT PLUG/90 CLOSE/SMALL DATE
1990		Oly In		DATE OVER STRAIGHT PLUG/90 APART/SMALL DATE
1990		1000		DATE UNDER STRAIGHT PLUG//90 APART/SMALL DATE
1991				DATE UNDER STRAIGHT PLUG/SMALL DATE
1992		100		DATE OVER TILTED PLUG/LARGE DATE
1993		- CT CT CT CT CT CT CT CT		DATE OVER TILTED PLUG/LARGE DATE
1994	13	100		DATE OVER TILTED PLUG/LARGE DATE
1995		1		DATE OVER TILTED PLUG/SMALL DATE
1996	9	100		· DATE OVER TILTED PLUG DATE APART SMALL
1996	100			DATE OVER TILTED PLUG/SMALL DATE
1997				DATE OVER TILTED PLUG/LARGE DATE
1998				DATE OVER TILTED PLUG/SMALL DATE
1999	+	4	1	DATE OVER TILTED PLUG/SMALL DATE
CODE	S			
0	()	1%X%	RRDP	O UNDER TILTED PLUG/SMALL NUMBER
2	()	1%X%	RRDP	2 UNDER TILTED PLUG/SMALL NUMBER

Ontario Hydro (Set of Nails)



Hydro One

Well, the Canadians did it again! In 1998 a Conservative Government came into power in Ontario and passed the Electricity Act and the Energy Competition At which reorganized Ontario Hydro into five different entities and supposedly opened the market. In May of 2000 Ontario Hydro becomes Hydro One, the current provider of electric power for 97% of Ontario and working agreements with Quebec Hydro among others. Instead of using a nail with two digits on the head, Hydro One has opted to use single digit nails, much like Quebec Hydro does – two nails to indicate a date. But the nails have a combination of ltters (H1 or HO) that identifies the company as Hydro One.

In talking with the manufacturer of the nails, experiments were done the first few years to find the best way to position the letters and number. The number at the bottom seemed to cause cracks in the nail so I believe they have now settled for the H1 and the number over it.

Hydro One (List of Nails)							
NUMBER	TYPE	SIZE	SHAPE METAL	DESCRIPTION			
0	()	1 14 X 14	RRDP ALUM	HO OVER 0			
0				0 OVER H1			
0				H1 OVER 0/H AND 1 APART			
0				H1 OVER 0/H AND 1 CLOSE			
1				1 OVER H1/H AND 1 APART			
1				1 OVER H1/H AND 1 CLOSER			
2				2 OVER H1			
2				2 UNDER H1			
2				HO OVER 2			
3				H1 OVER 3			
3		Service Test		3 OVER H1			
3				HO OVER 3			
4				4 OVER H1			
5				H1 OVER 5			
5				5 OVER H1			
6				H1 OVER 6			
6				6 OVER H1			
7				H1 OVER 7			
7				7 OVER H1			
8				8 OVER H1			
8				H1 OVER 8			
9				H1 OVER 9			

Hydro One (Set of Nails)

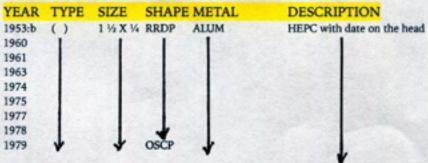


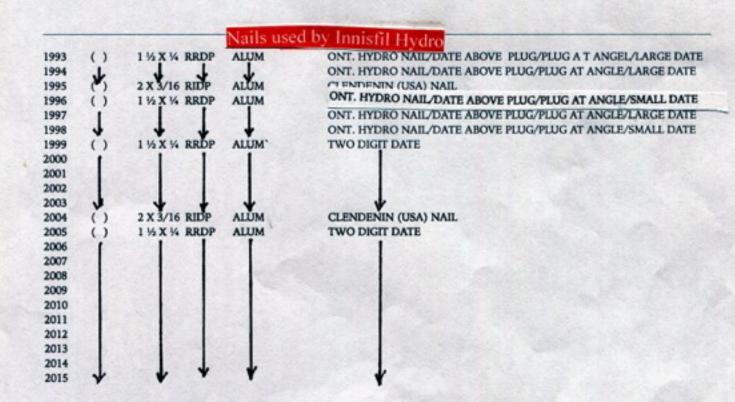
Innisfil Hydro

Innisfil, Ontario was provided power by HEPC and then Ontario Hydro until 1993 and then became independent. The nails that were used prior to 1993 were the nails of both HEPC (double digit aluminum) and Ontario Hydro (double digit with plug aluminum). They continued to use Ontario Hydro nails until 1998 and the nails between 1993 and 1998 had a yellow Innisfil Hydro disc used with the nail. The use of this disc continued for all nails used after 1993. In 1999 Innisfil switched to the use of double digit date nails – without any letters or symbols on the head of the nail. Perhaps because they could not get nails or for some other reason they used a 2" Clendenin (U.S.) aluminum nail in both 1995 and 2004. The following list are those nails I am sure were used. There are others, but this gives the parameters of those years they were used on poles in Innisfil's territory.

Innisfil Hydro (List of Nails)

I include in this list the HEPC nails that are from (now) Innisfil poles and were sent to me by them. The Ontario Hydro nails from 1993-1998 were used by them although they became independent in 1993. Yellow Innisfil aluminum washers were put around the nails after 1993.





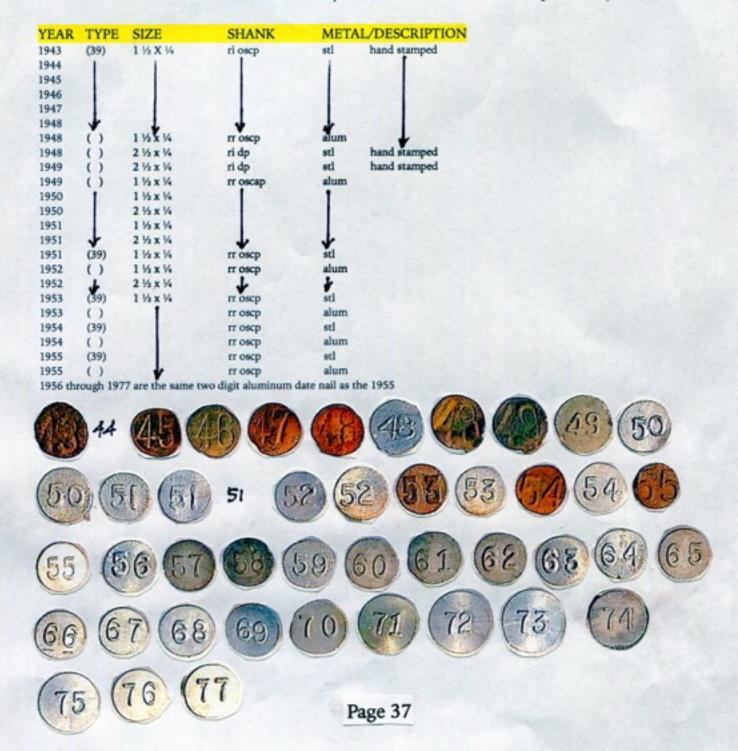
Innisfil Hydro (Set of Nails)_



Kitchener Public Utilities Comm.

In the middle of the cities of Cambridge, Galt, Guelph, Preston, Ontario sits the City of Kitchener. Their Public Utilities Commission began in 1927 and lasted until 1973. Primarily to run and operate the utilities and transit (trolley's and streetcars) system. After 1973 they were transferred to and are operated by the City of Kitchener.

THE NAILS: I have photos and a list of the nails that they apparently used there. There may be more to this list and some of these may be in error. So this list is open to adjustment.



MANITOBA HYDRO

Like most Hydros, Manitoba Hydro started in the 1870's and 80's as a supplier of electricity for the urban streetcar system (Winnepeg). In 1898 it became Manitoba Electric & Gas. In 1916 the Manitoba Power Commission was established and in 1949 a new utility was formed- the Manitoba Hydro Electric Board.

By 1955 three utilities were serving the Province of Manitoba: (1). The Manitoba Power Commission run by the Provincial Government. (2). The Manitoba Hydro Electric Board also run by the Provincial Government. (3). The Winnipeg Hydro Electric System (run by the City of Winnipeg Government.

The first two merged in 1961 to form Manitoba Hydro and in 2002 they purchased Winnipeg Hydro. Manitoba Hydro is now the sole electricity provider for the Province and is closely regulated by the Provincial Government (A Crown Corporation.)

Manitoba Hydro also has a power exchange with the U.S. Otter Tail Power of Minnesota and an example of a nail used by them is shown.











THE NAILS: An old inventory control supervisor I spoke with remembers seeing steel date nails in cedar poles in the from the 1920's. Unfortunately I do not have any examples of these early nails (yet). Thanks to the folks at Manitoba Hydro and to an old TDNCA member from Manitoba – Robert Bissett – I have been able to confirm some of the nails used by them. They are of the two digit generic aluminum type (). 1½ x¼ and oval shank chisel point. (see following list of confirmed nails used. They do not currently use date nails and I am trying to find out the last year they were used. I am also trying to find out, with some assurance, which of the two companies that existed until 1961 was the one to use the nails – or perhaps both did? Several questions need answering for this set of nails, but a set does indeed exist.

The nails listed below are confirmed as being used by Manitoba Hydro. I am sure that there are many others and that this list will grow as new information is gathered. Again, it is much easier to add verified nails later than it is to delete something that was listed in error.

1948, 1949, 1950, 1952, 1953, 1954, 1955, 1956, 1957, 1958, 1959, 1961, 1962 All of the above nails are () 1 1/2c 1/4 rr oscp, aluminum, "generic" Canadian date nails.

MARITIME ELECT. (PRINCE EDWARD IS.)

Maritime Electric is owned by Fortis Inc. which operates in several Provinces. Fortis was founded as a holding company in 1987 in Newfoundland as a way to circumvent Canadian laws which prevented expansion into other Provinces. Maritime Electric supplies the generation, distribution and transmission of electricity in Prince Edward Island.

THE NAILS were the two digit "generic" aluminum date nails made in Canada. I list only those that I am sure were used. You will note the last entry is a 1997 () 2 x 3/16 ri alum. I was told that several years had lapsed since they had last used nails up there and a new store room clerk had taken over. He saw that date nails were a required item and ordered them, even though they had not been used in years. I received a couple from the store room. I have no idea how they ended up ordering them from Clendenin in the U.S.?





New Brunswick Power Commission New Brunswick Electric Power Commission NB Power / Energie NB

The New Brunswick Power Commission was created in 1920 and changed its company name a few times in its history. There were several attempts to integrate the system with Hydro Quebec. But to no avail. The final reorganization took place in 2013. It is government owned and generates, distributes and transmits the power for the Province of New Brunswick. The name was changed in 1972-3 to NB Power / Energie NB

The Nails: In speaking with employees I found that they have used two digit date nails since at least 1949 and continue to use them. There are exceptions to the two digit format. "Chair Leg" style nails were used in the 60's and 70's and possibly other years. I assume that most of the nails used were the two digit 1 ½ x ¼ rr aluminum () generic Canadian date nail? But it would be good to have some verified pull information here of the nails and types that were used.



FORM NO. 504 83-03



STANDARD CONSTRUCTION PRACTICES DRAWINGS

DWG. HO.:

ED35-51

NOTES:

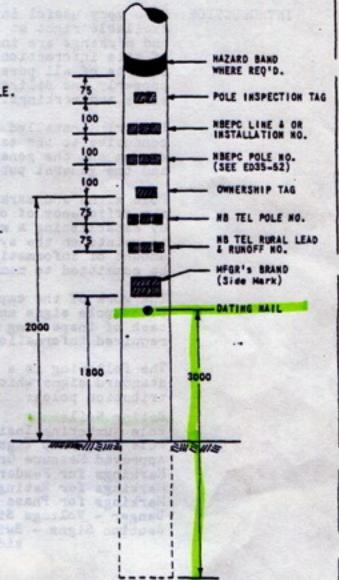
- 1. ALL TAGS TO BE PLACED ON ROADSIDE OF POLE.
- 2. OWNERSHIP TAGS WILL BE SUPPLIED AND IN-STALLED ON ALL JOINT USE POLES BY THE POLE OWNER.
- 3. POLE NUMBERING BY EACH UTILITY WILL BE LOCATED AS SHOWN.
- 4. WHEN HAZARDOUS POLES ARE FOUND, IN ADD-ITION TO REJECT OR DANGER TAG, FIRMLY STAPLE A 75 mm WIDE ORANGE REINFORCED PLASTIC STRIP AROUND THE POLE JUST ABOVE THE MBEPC POLE NO.
- S. ON N.S. POWER OWNED J.U. POLE, N.S.

 POWER WILL INSTALL DATING NAIL: ON

 NB TEL OWNED J.U. POLE, INSTALLATION

 DATE IS DOCUMENTED IN MECHANIZED POLE

 RECORD.
- 6. POLE INSPECTION TAGS IDENTIFICATION
 - · REJECT
 - DANGER REJECT
 - R REINFORCABLE REJECT
- 7. FOR DEFINITION OF DANGER AND REJECT
 POLES SEE SEP III-8-00-1.0.
- 8. NUMBERS TO BE INSTALLED WHERE REQUIRED.



NEWBRUNSWICK POWER

DESIGNED	
APPROVED	m merserean
ISSUED	
REVISED	1984-05

TITLE

POLE IDENTIFICATION

ALL DIMENSIONS ARE IN HILLIMETRES UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED.

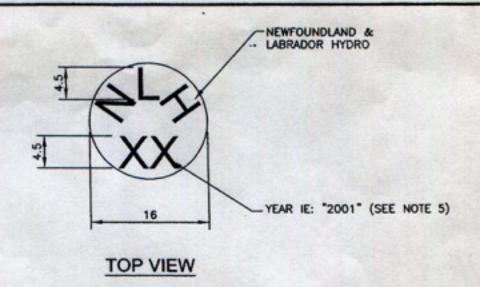
Newfoundland & Labrador Hydro

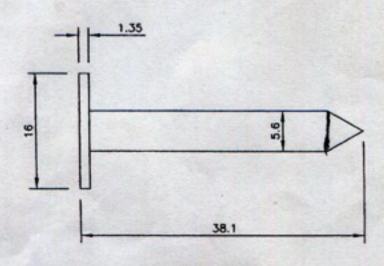
Although I have called them several times and even talked to folks in the stores department, information is very hard to come by as far as use of date nails goes. First a little history. NLH is the primary power generator for Newfoundland and Labrador. It is run by Nalcor Energy Corp. In 1975 they changed their name from NF&L Power Commission to NF&L Hydro Corporation. 80% of the power used in Newfoundland and Labrador comes from Nalcor. They are different than Newfoundland Power which has its own set of nails.

THE NAILS: There needs to be a lot of input here as I could not really find out how long they have been using the nails. I have a few nails that I know they used and will put that list here, but I am not adding any dates I am not sure of. Perhaps they used a two digit nail prior to 2005?? I say that because I have a purchase order (schematic) dated 2005 showing the design requested and it is the same design as is used on the few nails that I do have from a later time frame. So this list can use a lot of work and input, but again, I hope any information provided can be accompanied by scans/photos to prove legitimacy.



2011, 2013, 2014 () 1 1/2 x 1/4 rr alum (Many other nails probably belong to this set)





SIDE VIEW

NOTES:

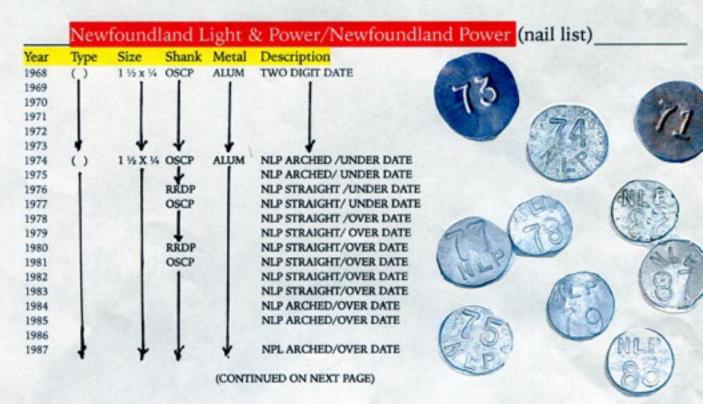
- ALL MEASUREMENTS ARE IN MILLIMETRES.
 NAILS ARE TO BE MADE OUT OF ALUMINUM.
 HEIGHT OF LETTERS TO BE 4.5 MILLIMETRES.
 HEIGHT OF NUMBERS TO BE 4.5 MILLIMETRES.
 YEAR TO BE SPECIFIED UPON ORDERING.

R1	DRAWING TITLE REVISED	RAWING TITLE REVISED SEPTJ05			
	A HYDRO	DISTRIBUTION ENGINEERING STANDARDS	APP'D.		
		ENGINEERING STANDARDS	ISSUED	DRAFT	
, he	Drawing contains intellectual property of Herrfoundhard		DRAWN	C. MURPHY	
	labouter lights (ATCAC) and shall not be copied, used intributed in whole or in part without prior writen	POLE DATING NAIL	CHECKED	G. DROVER	
	end from HTCRO. Use of the drowing shall be restricted	ITEM NO. 76	DWG No	DI-07-52-F	

Newfoundland Light & Power/Newfoundland Power

Began in 1924 with history dating back to 1896 St John's streetcar operations. In 1948 the streetcar lines were disbanded and NL&P became a public company distributing electricity to the Province. Under Canadian law, In order to expand within the Province and also to other Provinces and countries, a holding company (Fortis) was created in St John's in 1987. In 1990 the corporate name was changed from NL&P to Newfoundland Power. This became the legal name in 1998. NP is the distributor of power to the Province and supplies about 85% of the population. Newfoundland Hydro (NH)]is the power producer and is Government run and separate from NP. It is listed separately.

The list of nails below are those that are known. I am sure that there are others that will be added to this list. My thanks to Bill McClellan for listing the ones he has. I show an example of the various styles of nails used but not all of those that are listed:





Newfoundland Telephone Co. (NTC)

NEWFOUNDLAND TEL. BECAME NEW TEL. AND THEN MERGED WITH NOVA SCOTIA, PEI, AND NEW BRUNSWICK TO BECOME BELL ALIANT.

NewTel Communications was a telephone, internet and cellular service provider in the Canadian province of Newfoundland and Labrador. Originally, as the Avalon Telephone Company, it served the Avalon Peninsula; it became the Newfoundland Telephone Company, also serving southwestern Newfoundland (between Portaux-Basques and Corner Brook), part of the Burin Peninsula, Windsor and Grand Falls, as well as most of Labrador, as a result of acquisitions of four smaller companies or their phone services from 1948 to 1962. In 1979, it acquired the Labrador Telephone Company serving Labrador City, and in late 1988, it acquired Terra Nova Tel from Canadian National Railways, which served other communities on the island including Gander.

The Newfoundland Telephone Company was later shortened to NewTel Communications as its business diversified. In 1999, NewTel's parent NewTel Enterprises merged with Bruncor (parent of NBTel), Island Telecom and MTT to form Aliant (now Bell Aliant).

THE NAILS: Apparently there are three nails associated with this set. I thank Bill McClellan for his scans of the three. All three are 1 ½ x ¼ aluminum. The first two have an OSCP and the third has a RRDP.



North Bay Hydro

North Bay Hydro (Ontario) was started as North Bay Light, Heat, Power (1904-1912) and then became Nipissing Power Co. (1912-1916). From 1916 on it became part of the HEPC/Ontario Hydro system. I am not sure exactly when it became privatized and the independent supplier of power to the area. THE NAILS: I have reports from storekeepers there that HEPC and Ontario Hydro nails were used in the system but not sure when the nails changed to become their own, but I do have a photo of a '97 that fits the series now being used by them. Those nails are the 1 ½ x ¼ () ri aluminum nails that are made by Clendenin Bros. (U.S.A.) and date stamped by Premax, also a U.S. Company.



NOVA SCOTIA POWER

They were formed in 1919 and in 1960 entered a power sharing agreement with New Brunswick Power Corp. In 1974 they took over Nova Scotia Light and Power and became Nova Scotia Power Corp. 1992 they privatized to become Nova Scotia Power Inc (NSPI). They supply 95% of the power to the Province of Nova Scotia. THE NAILS were not used as date nails but as nails to number structures and etc. In other words if a building was to be number 345 then three nails would be used. They have used nails for at least twenty years and the earlier ones were steel (I have no photos of these earlier ones.) They also used Letter nails A, B, C and etc. The samples I received showed that the single digit number nails that were used were the "standard generic" () 1 ½ x ¼ rr alum. Like Hydro-Quebec, these may have had earlier oscp versions, but the ones I got were all rs dp. Ironically the letter nails I received were U.S. Made by Clendenin Bros and were () 1 ½ x ¼ ri alum. They were machine stamped after manufacture – possibly by Premax?



Waterloo North Hydro

I have no idea if any nails other than the nail and disc shown in this scan were used. Waterloo North Hydro is in Ontario and apparently a town next door to Kitchener? Here is a scan of that dis and nail- Nothing else is known about them at this time.



Notes / Corrections / Information