Illustrated Business Mail of
Clayton & Sons, Halifax, Nova Scotia
1882-1951

Purpose: This one-frame, Illustrated Mail Exhibit demonstrates the variety of business stationery - corner cards, illustrated business mail, postcards, and preprinted return envelopes - attributed to Clayton & Sons, Jacob Street, Halifax, Nova Scotia during the period 1882 to 1951, which covers most of the life of the firm.

Background: To provide for her family of seven in 1864, the recently widowed Mary Clayton established a second-hand clothing business in her Duke Street home. In 1869, with her sons Edward and William, the business moved to Argyle St as a clothier and tailoring concern _M. Clayton & Sons_. The business thrived and grew and in 1875 the business again moved to, and remained at Jacob Street operating as _Clayton & Sons_. This marks the beginning of mail in this exhibit. By 1903-04 several four to five storey buildings were built in the block that faced Jacob and Barrington Streets - the illustrated mail period. The company name was changed to _Claytons Limited_ about 1950. The firm survived until it closed to avoid bankruptcy in 1955.

Scope: The exhibit is developed on four themes that each show a chronological progression of corner cards, illustrated mail, postcards and return mail that support the Clayton & Sons motif. Titles on each page in Red introduce each theme.

Covers are identified with an original classification scheme, information regarding the design, printing method and unique design elements are indicated, followed by philatelic information (rates, cancellations, etc) in a smaller font. Where known, a brief summary o f the addressee is given to enhance the story and provide scope of the business that Clayton & Sons conducted throughout Nova Scotia and beyond.

Exhibit Plan	
	Page
Title	1
Corner Cards - Return Address	2-6
Illustrated Mail - Factory	7-13
Post Cards	14-15
Pre-printed Return Mail	16

Letterpress - Return Envelope of Unknown Origin
It is not known if these were sent out by C&S for return mail or if they were printed by a the business that did a lot of business with C&S (Type R-3).

Advocate Harbour, N.S. to Halifax, N.S.with 2¢ KEVII tied by OC 13 1903 split ring cancel. Received Halifax OC 15 1903 530 PM