

USE OF CANADIAN WILDING DEFINITIVE STAMPS, 1954–1963

Treatment and importance The use of Wilding definitive stamps is a fundamental and challenging subject. The Wilding definitives of 1954–1963 represent a major era in Canadian postal history. New developments, including the 6¢ denomination, Winnipeg tagging, and miniature panes, increased the scope and complexity of the Wilding stamp issues. Numerous postal rate changes coincided with the beginning of the Wilding era and a few occurred during the era, but no rate changes coincided with the replacement of Wilding issues. To the best of my knowledge, this is the most comprehensive exhibit of Wilding postal history ever assembled.

The preface in the upper portion of the title page includes a table summarizing the formats and denominations of Wilding stamps, with their dates of issue and replacement. The study of use then begins with the introduction of the Wilding issues, featuring rare covers showing mixed use of Karsh and Wilding definitives during times of overlap. In the main body of the exhibit, Wilding use for a broad range of postal rates and fees is documented and organized in four categories: domestic mail, Canadian forces mail, mail to the USA, and mail to other international destinations. Outstanding covers are featured as examples, showing Wilding stamps of all denominations (1¢–6¢) and from all formats (post-office panes, Winnipeg tagged post-office panes, precancelled panes, officially overprinted panes, booklet panes, miniature panes, coils, and precancelled coils). Stamps representing formats other than regular post-office panes are identified in notes accompanying the relevant cover captions, using bold font to stand out. The exhibit concludes with the replacement of the Wilding issues, featuring rare covers showing mixed use of Wilding and Cameo definitives during times of overlap.

Knowledge, personal study and research Essential explanatory information is provided throughout the exhibit. Postal rates and fees, and the dates they were in effect, are documented for the various categories of mail. Each cover has a caption explaining the rate and/or fee(s). Additional notes [in brackets] provide further information and interpretations regarding Wilding stamps and postal history.

Rarity and condition Many covers in this exhibit are uncommon and difficult to acquire. Those featuring especially rare use of Wilding stamps, and showing significant aspects of postal history, are listed below. Considering the breadth of coverage and number of rare items, it is doubtful this exhibit could be duplicated.

Presentation The pages in this exhibit are double sized (17" × 11"), so covers can be viewed in suitable orientation and to accommodate large items. Where relevant, reverse sides of covers are illustrated in colour at an indicated scale of 75%. Headings of sections are distinct, and subtle lines are used to separate sections of the exhibit. The four categories of mail are easy to locate by the colour used to underline headings and to outline boxes providing rate and fee information. The font size of text is sufficient to permit easy reading.

Especially rare use of Wilding stamps (marked ★ in exhibit) *[8 frames, 8 pages/frame]*

Three 5¢ Wildings with 2¢ Karsh during time of overlap	<i>f 1, p 1</i>
Four 5¢ Wildings with 2¢ and 3¢ Karsh during time of overlap	<i>f 1, p 2</i>
4¢ official Karsh with 2¢ Wilding during time of overlap	<i>f 1, p 2</i>
2¢ official Wilding on quintuple-weight domestic local letter	<i>f 1, p 5</i>
Fourteen 1¢ Wildings paying quadruple-weight domestic forward letter	<i>f 1, p 8</i>
6¢ Wilding paying domestic business reply envelope upon return	<i>f 2, p 2</i>
2¢ Winnipeg-tagged Wilding on 36-oz domestic money packet	<i>f 2, p 3</i>
2¢ Wilding from miniature pane on 56-oz domestic money packet	<i>f 2, p 4</i>
3¢ Wilding paying double-weight domestic transient newspaper/periodical	<i>f 2, p 6</i>
4¢ precancelled Wilding paying triple-weight domestic addressed printed matter	<i>f 3, p 2</i>
Ten 1¢ Wildings paying 9-oz domestic parcel	<i>f 3, p 4</i>
Ten 4¢ Wildings paying registered (indemnity ≤\$75) single-weight domestic forward letter	<i>f 3, p 7</i>
6¢ Wilding on domestic ballot-box tag	<i>f 3, p 7</i>
6¢ Wilding on domestic AR card	<i>f 3, p 8</i>
6¢ Wilding paying postage due on envelope	<i>f 4, p 3</i>
2¢ Wilding from miniature pane paying postage due	<i>f 4, p 4</i>
Two 2¢ Wildings paying postage due as incorrectly assessed on unpaid printed matter	<i>f 4, p 5</i>
Five 1¢ Wildings paying postage due on UMO envelope	<i>f 4, p 7</i>
5¢ Wilding paying postage due on registered UMO envelope	<i>f 4, p 7</i>
6¢ Wilding on double-weight forces letter by surface	<i>f 4, p 8</i>
6¢ Wilding on post card by air to USA	<i>f 5, p 7</i>

Four 5¢ precancelled Wildings paying bundle of newspapers/periodicals to USA	f 5, p 8
2¢ Wilding on registered (indemnity ≤\$100) 40-oz letter by surface to USA	f 6, p 4
6¢ Wilding paying single-weight UPU surface letter to USSR	f 6, p 8
Five 6¢ Wildings paying double-weight international letter by air	f 7, p 3
Three 5¢ Wildings from miniature pane paying international post card by air	f 7, p 4
Three 3¢ precancelled Wildings paying octuple-weight international newspaper	f 7, p 5
4¢ Wilding paying triple-weight international transient periodical	f 7, p 6
2¢ Winnipeg-tagged Wilding paying single-weight international printed matter to Hungary	f 7, p 6
6¢ Wilding on registered UPU international letter by surface to Hungary during revolution	f 7, p 7
5¢ Wilding on registered quadruple-weight international printed matter	f 7, p 8
6¢ Wildings on international AR card (AR requested after mailing)	f 7, p 8
Ten 6¢ Wildings paying special delivery and registered double-weight international letter by air	f 8, p 1
1¢ Wilding from booklet pane with 5¢ Cameos during time of overlap	f 8, p 8
2¢ Wilding from miniature pane with 5¢ Cameo during time of overlap	f 8, p 8
3¢ Wilding with 5¢ Cameo during time of overlap	f 8, p 8
2¢ Wildings with 1¢ Cameo during time of overlap	f 8, p 8

Significant aspects of postal history

Treatment of mail:

Re-mailed covers	f 1, p 2; f 1, p 3; f 1, p 6; f 2, p 6; f 2, p 7; f 6, p 2; f 6, p 5; f 8, p 5
Processed by Undeliverable Mail Office	f 1, p 2; f 2, p 8; f 4, p 7; f 6, p 7; f 8, p 6; f 8, p 7
Damaged mail	f 1, p 5; f 2, p 6; f 6, p 7; f 7, p 6
Stamps fallen off	f 1, p 7
Unlawful mail	f 2, p 8
Registered against loss only (not damage)	f 3, p 6
Postage added to free-franked mail	f 3, p 6; f 4, p 1; f 4, p 8; f 5, p 5; f 6, p 7; f 7, p 1; f 7, p 3; f 7, p 7
Refusal to pay postage due	f 4, p 4; f 4, p 6; f 6, p 6
Redirection to foreign countries	f 5, p 6; f 6, p 6; f 6, p 7; f 7, p 1; f 7, p 6; f 8, p 2
Posted at sea	f 6, p 7; f 7, p 1; f 7, p 5
Returned for postage	f 6, p 8
Postal mark applied during British annual mail census	f 6, p 8; f 8, p 4
Service suspended	f 7, p 7
Examined in foreign countries	f 7, p 8; f 8, p 5; f 8, p 6
Return of inadmissible mail	f 8, p 6

Rare Canadian forces postal markings:

CFPO 32 cancellation	f 4, p 8
CFPO 107 general delivery receiver	f 5, p 1

Mail to uncommon destinations:

Honduras, Guatemala	f 6, p 7
Ecuador	f 7, p 2
Uganda, Tanganyika	f 7, p 4
Saar Protectorate	f 7, p 5
Indonesia	f 8, p 2
Lebanon	f 8, p 4
Rhodesia and Nyasaland	f 8, p 6

Key literature

Principal references used in researching postal rates, fees, and policies:

Canada Official Postal Guide. 1952–53 Part I; 1955; 1957; 1959; 1961.

Chung, A., Machum, H.W.E., and Narbonne, R.F. 2004. Postal Rates and Fees of the Elizabethan Era in Canada, 1952–2002 (Volume One, Part One and Part Two).

Chung, A., Machum, H.W.E., and Narbonne, R.F. 2006. Postal Rates and Fees of the Elizabethan Era from Canada, 1952–2005 (Volume Two).

Principal reference used in researching Wilding dates of issue and replacement:

Harris, D.R. 1998. 1952–53 Karsh, 1954–62 Wilding, 1962–66 Cameo Definitives.