

USE OF CANADIAN WILDING DEFINITIVE STAMPS, 1954-1963

Introduction

Canada's Wilding definitive stamps, introduced in 1954, succeeded the short-lived, unpopular Karsh definitive stamps. Wilding stamps were issued in denominations of 1¢ to 6¢, in several formats (see Table). Winnipeg tagging and miniature panes were innovations introduced during the Wilding era. The Wildings were replaced with Cameo definitive stamps in 1962 and 1963 (see Table).

Purpose

This exhibit documents the use of Wilding stamps for a broad range of postal rates and fees. Numerous rate changes coincided with the beginning of the Wilding era on April 1, 1954. A few rates changed during the era, but there were no rate changes corresponding to the replacement of Wilding issues.

Scope

This exhibit opens with the introduction of the Wilding issues, showing mixed use of Karsh and Wilding stamps during times of overlap. The main body of the exhibit documents use of Wilding stamps

for various postal rates and fees, for domestic and Canadian forces mail, and mail to the USA and other international destinations. Wilding stamps representing all formats and denominations can be found on covers in this exhibit. Captions explain the rates and fees; notes [in brackets] provide additional information and identify formats other than regular post-office panes. The exhibit closes with the replacement of the Wilding issues, showing mixed use of Wilding and Cameo stamps during times of overlap. Many covers in this exhibit are uncommon; Wilding uses that are especially rare are marked ★.

Exhibit Plan

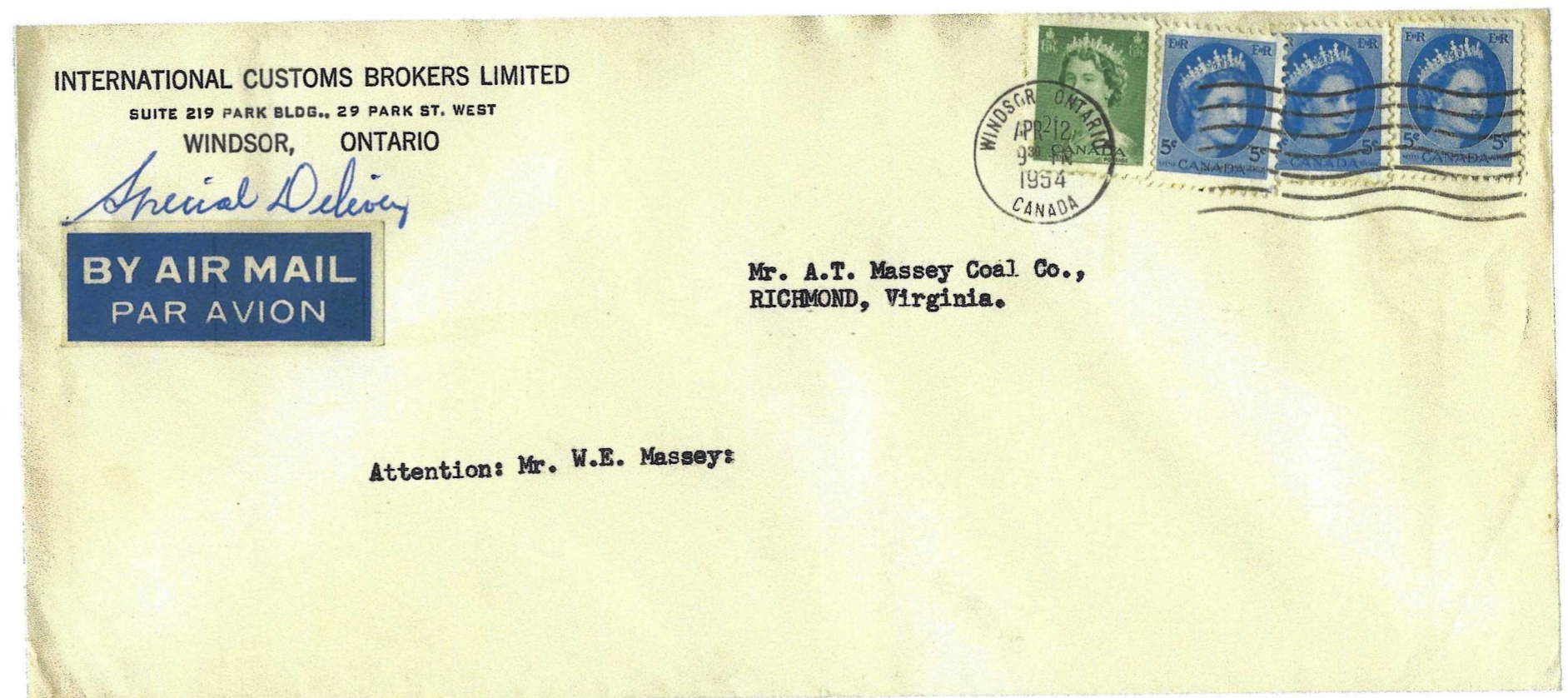
INTRODUCTION OF THE WILDING ISSUES
DOMESTIC MAIL (rates and fees)
CANADIAN FORCES MAIL (rates and fees)
MAIL TO USA (rates and fees)
MAIL TO OTHER INTERNATIONAL
DESTINATIONS (rates and fees)
REPLACEMENT OF THE WILDING ISSUES

| FORMAT / DENOMINATION | DATE OF ISSUE | DATE OF REPLACEMENT |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Post-office panes | | |
| 1¢, 4¢ | June 10, 1954 | February 4, 1963 |
| 2¢, 3¢ | June 10, 1954 | May 2, 1963 |
| 5¢ | April 1, 1954 | October 3, 1962 |
| 6¢ | June 10, 1954 | not replaced |
| 1¢-3¢ (Winnipeg tagged) | January 13, 1962 | May 15, 1963 |
| 4¢, 5¢ (Winnipeg tagged) | January 13, 1962 | February, 1963 |
| Precancelled panes | | |
| 1¢ | August 17, 1954 | unknown (not before February 4, 1963) |
| 2¢ | October 12, 1954 | unknown (not before May 2, 1963) |
| 3¢ | July 26, 1954 | unknown (not before May 2, 1963) |
| 4¢ | 1954 (not before June 10) | unknown (not before February 4, 1963) |
| 5¢ | August 27, 1954 | unknown (not before October 3, 1962) |
| Officially overprinted panes | | |
| 1¢ | November 12, 1956 | 1963 (not before February 4) |
| 2¢ | January 11, 1955 | 1963 (not before May 2) |
| 4¢ | July 23, 1956 | 1963 (not before February 4) |
| 5¢ | January 11, 1955 | unknown (not before October 3, 1962) |
| Booklet panes | | |
| 1¢ | June 1, 1956 | February 4, 1963 |
| 4¢ (6 stamps per pane) | July 7, 1955 | not replaced |
| 4¢ (5 stamps per pane) | June 1, 1956 | February 4, 1963 |
| 5¢ | July 14, 1954 | October 3, 1962 |
| Miniature panes | | |
| 2¢ | September 19, 1961 | 1963 (not before May 2) |
| 5¢ | October 11, 1961 | unknown (not before October 3, 1962) |
| Coils | | |
| 2¢ | September 9, 1954 | May 2, 1963 |
| 4¢ | August 23, 1954 | February 4, 1963 |
| 5¢ | July 6, 1954 | October 3, 1962 |
| Precancelled coils | | |
| 2¢ | January 17, 1955 | unknown (not before May 2, 1963) |

INTRODUCTION OF THE WILDING ISSUES

Post-office panes of the 5¢ Wilding were issued on April 1, 1954, replacing those of the 5¢ Karsh. However, post-office panes of the 1¢ to 4¢ Karsh were not replaced until June 10, 1954, when those of the 1¢ to 4¢ (and 6¢) Wildings were issued. Other formats of Karsh issues were replaced with corresponding Wildings on later dates. Covers showing mixed use of Karsh and Wilding definitive stamps during times of overlap are rare.

★ Single-weight letter by air to USA 7¢ first oz & special delivery 10¢.
 [Mailed April 12, 1954, with three 5¢ Wildings (issued April 1, 1954) and 2¢ Karsh (replaced with 2¢ Wilding June 10, 1954). Only known use of this stamp combination during the 70-day time of overlap.]



Attention: Mr. W.E. Massey: