

FIRST IMPRESSIONS

Newsletter of the BNAPS

First Day Cover Study Group

Issue No. 17 October-December, 2013

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Editor's Notes

This issue features article on three diverse topics. Harold Houston has provided an overview of the cachets sponsored by the Brockville-Prescott Stamp Club, and raises the prospect of other members doing similar articles about their own groups that have undertaken similar projects. Gary Dickinson outlines the various cachet makers who produced FDCs for stamps issued that featured topics related to the 1976 Montreal Olympics. Finally, John Van der Ven takes a close look at the general purpose cachets made by Toronto resident Gordon Bazeley.

I look forward to receiving articles for the 2014 issues from any members who have a topic or even a single FDC that they think might be of interest to other members. The contributions of every member will go towards keeping a vibrant and useful newsletter for all of us. If you think you may have a contribution of make, please drop me a line at one of the addresses shown below.

Submitting Articles to First Impressions

Articles may be submitted in writing or MS Word, and scans should be in JPEG format at 300 dpi. E-mail submissions should be sent to Gary Dickinson at gandbdickinson@shaw.ca or mailed to Gary at 648 San Michelle Road, Kelowna, B.C., Canada, V1W 2J1.

FIRST DAY COVERS OF THE BROCKVILLE-PRESCOTT STAMP CLUB

by Harold Houston

The Brockville-Prescott Stamp Club produced six colourful cachets that were used by the members to prepare their own FDCs. Some 210 such covers were prepared by my father, who was one of the Club's most active collectors of Canadian FDCs, between July 6, 1978 and March 23, 1984. He passed away in April, 1984 and the last dated cover in the collection is from March 23 of that year.

Over the years I have had a few conversations with members of this club but was unable to obtain any significant amount of detailed information. I have, however, been able to determine the following.

The six general purpose cachets were printed in quantities ranging from 250 to 300 per cover. The designs were done by club members or local artists and were printed locally.

The cacheted covers were then sold unstamped to interested members who prepared their own FDCs. The members would buy new stamps at the local post office on the day of issue and hand-cancel the covers. The majority of covers in my collection have Prescott, ON circular dated cancellations that were probably applied by my father himself.

The dates on the various general purpose cachets overlap, suggesting that new cachets may have been introduced before the inventory of the previous cachets held by a member had been exhausted.

I have identified the cachets as #1 through #6 in the order in which I believe they were released. I am certain that #1 was in fact the first one produced by the club and that #6 was the last one. No one I spoke with knew of any further cachets.

The six general purpose cachets are shown in Figures 1 through 6. In three of the six designs, postal markings are the

centrepiece (Figures 3, 4, and 6) while two others (Figures 1 and 2) show historical buildings and one (Figure 5) celebrates the 150th anniversary of Brockville.

Figure 7 shows a unique usage as the design depicting Fort Wellington served initially as a general purpose cachet from 1979 to 1981 but it also coincided with the "Canadian Forts" set of June 30, 1983 and thus the remaining covers served as a special purpose cachet for #986.



Figure 1. Early post office buildings at Prescott and Brockville.



Figure 2. Entrance to Fort Wellington at Prescott.



Figure 3. Pioneer post offices of Leeds County.



Figure 4. Pioneer post offices of Grenville County.

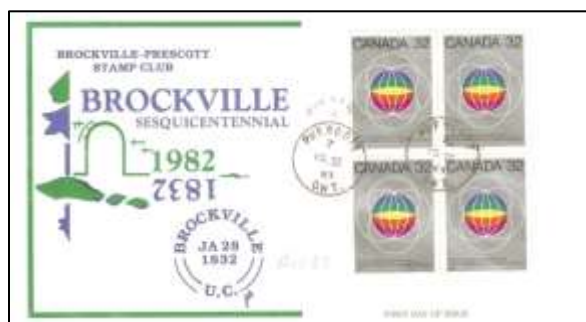


Figure 5. Brockville Sesquicentennial.



Figure 6. Squared circle cancellations of Grenville County.



Figure 7. Type 2 used as special purpose cachet.

Following are the known usages of the various general purpose cachets produced by the Brockville-Prescott Stamp Club as indicated by the Scott catalogue numbers.

#1—721, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 760a, 762a, 767, 768, 770a, 772a, 773, 774, 775, 779a, 780, 789, 790, 813, 814, 816a, 818a, 820a, 847, 848, 850a, 852a, 853, 854, 855, 856, 858a, 859, 861a, 862, 878.

#2—787, 833, 834, 836a, 838a, 839, 840, 841, 842, 844a, 846a, 847, 848, 852a, 853, 854, 855, 856, 858a, 859, 861a, 862, 878, 986, 995.

#3—863, 864, 865, 867a, 869a, 870, 871, 872, 874a, 876a, 877, 882a, 883, 884, 886a, 887, 888, 889, 893a, 904a, 906a, 909.

#4—791, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 907, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 923, 931, 935, 937.

#5—917-922, 924, 954, 967, 968, 970a, 972a, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977.

#6—792, 927, 929, 932, 979a, 980, 981, 982, 983, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 1000a, 1001, 1002, 1003, 1004, 1005, 1006, 1008a, 1009, 1010.

I would be interested in hearing from anyone who has additional information about these or other FDCs issued by the Brockville-Prescott Stamp Club. I can be contacted at hhouston@cogeco.ca.

FDCs FOR 1976 OLYMPIC GAMES STAMP ISSUES

by Gary Dickinson

Montreal was the host city for the 1976 Summer Olympics, and Canada Post Office issued 35 different stamps on twelve separate dates over a four year period leading up to the event. This activity included a new type of Canadian stamp, the semi-postal, which spearheaded CPO's efforts to raise funds in support of the Olympics. An additional single stamp was issued in 1976 recognizing the Winter Olympics being held in Innsbruck, Austria and another single stamp was issued that year to mark the Olympiad for the Physically Disabled held in Toronto.

Although many of the former FDC cachet makers had departed the business because of CPO's entry into it, there were still more than 20 private makers who participated in one or more of the Olympic issues. Nonetheless, CPO was the dominant force in terms of variety of philatelic products and of promotional efforts.

Their approach was to produce one cachet for each set of stamps issued on the same day. Thus, there were twelve different CPO designs for the Montreal Olympic stamps as they were issued in sets of two, three, or four stamps. As Figure 1 illustrates, the designs were simplistic, and all but two were printed in a single colour.

The U.S. firm Colorano, however, produced a different cachet for each stamp and they were all printed in multiple colours as illustrated in Figure 2. Colorano was the only cachet maker to produce a different cachet for each stamp.

Kingswood, a brand name of U.S. cachet maker Fleetwood, published a different cachet for each set of stamps but all of them shared the same basic design. For each set, a background colour in the design was varied and the text was altered to suit

the theme of the set being presented, as shown in Figure 3.

The above three cachet makers, Canada Post Office, Colorano, and Kingswood are the only ones known to have produced FDCs for all of the Montreal Olympics issues.

Three other cachet makers, Brickley Jones, NR Covers, and Scotia Cover Service (SCS) entered the business with the Winnipeg Centennial issue (#633) in 1973 and did not publish cachets for the earlier Olympic stamp issues although they did so for most of the latter ones. Examples of their FDCs are shown in Figures 4 through 6.

Rosecraft produced FDCs for some of the earlier Olympic stamps but ceased production early in the series. Their final original cachet was used for the first semi-postal set in April, 1974. (See Figure 7) Another major Canadian cachet maker, Schering, changed from special purpose (Figure 8) to a general purpose cachet midway through the Olympic series.

In a few instances, cachets by a particular maker have been documented for some but not all of the Olympic series stamps. For example, six different sets of stamps have known Artopages cachets (Figure 9) as do four sets with Grover products (Figure 10), two of which have both thermographed and lithographed printings.

Four of the ten ArtCraft general purpose cachets are known with Olympic day of issue cancellations, and an example is shown in Figure 11.

A few cachet makers used a single general purpose cachet for multiple Olympic FDCs. These publishers included British American Bank Note Company, Black Creek Village, the Olympic organizing

committee (COJO), Cole Covers, David C, House of Commons, Monsieur Timbre, and the Senate of Canada. These are shown in Figures 12 through 19.

Finally, there is a handful of cacheted FDCs which have unknown makers. Three of these are shown in Figures 20 to 22.

To this point I have recorded approximately 150 different cacheted FDCs and there are undoubtedly others remaining to be documented. To that end, I would be interested in hearing from anyone who has a collection of FDCs pertaining to the 1976 Montreal Olympics and who can help to fill in any blanks or extend the list of known cachet makers for the series. The FDC Study Group website currently includes only two sub-albums of such material, Bob Vogel's collection of semi-postal FDCs and Ivan Hebert-Croteau's array of COJO covers. My contact information is on page 1 of this issue.



Figure 1. CPO cachet for #B10-12.



Figure 2. Colorano cachet for #656.



Figure 3. Kingswood cachet for #644-647.



Figure 4. Brickley Jones cachet for #684-686.

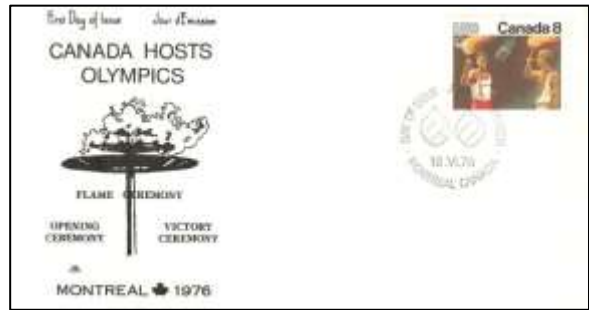


Figure 5. NR Covers cachet for #681-683.



Figure 6. SCS cachet for #B4-B6.



Figure 7. Rosecraft cachet for #B1-B4.



Figure 11. ArtCraft general purpose cachet F with #623.



Figure 8. Schering cachet for #629-632. (Postal History Corner)



Figure 12. British American Bank Note Co. GP cachet.



Figure 9. Artopages cachet for #629-632.



Figure 13. Black Creek Village GP cachet.



Figure 10. Grover cachet for # 623-624. (Postal History Corner)



Figure 14. COJO GP cachet. (Ivan Hebert-Croteau)

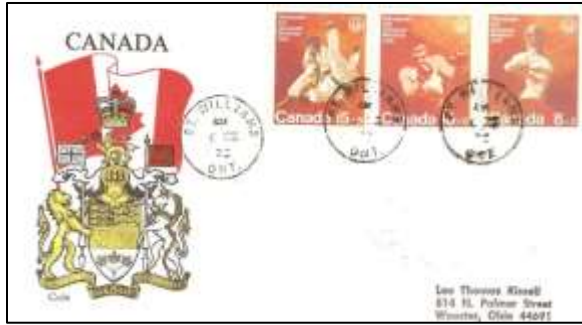


Figure 15. Cole GP cachet.



Figure 19. Senate of Canada GP cachet.



Figure 16. David C GP cachet. (Postal History Corner)



Figure 20. Unknown cachet A.



Figure 17. House of Commons GP cachet.



Figure 21. Unknown cachet B.



Figure 18. Monsieur Timbre GP cachet. (Ivan Hebert-Croteau)



Figure 22. Unknown cachet C. (Postal History Corner)

GORDON BAZELEY'S GENERAL PURPOSE CACHETS

By John Van der Ven

Toronto resident Gordon Bazeley produced a small number of FDCs for Canadian stamps issued between 1958 and 1966. He produced four different general purpose cachets, plus minor variants, which he used for a variety of stamps during that period.

I have recently acquired fourteen FDCs which have several common elements which lead to Bazeley as their maker. Each envelope has the same kind of paper folded in the same way, and each has the same hand-written return address on the back, 193 Forest Hill Road in Toronto. (See Figure 1) Several of the later covers in 1966 had an address label used to address the cover to himself. (See Figure 2)

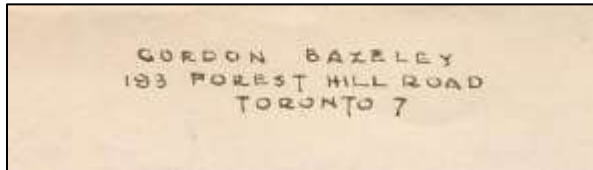


Figure 1. Bazeley hand-printed address.

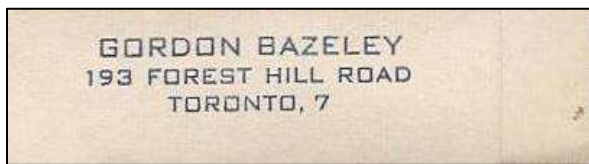


Figure 2. Bazeley address label.

One cover also had Bazeley as the typed addressee (Figure 3) and one was addressed to him at the Royal Canadian Military Institute where he was apparently a member (Figure 4).

It appears that Bazeley's cachets were produced on a small hand printing press as the cachets of the same type are identical. None of the designs has any

initials or the name of the maker either obvious or hidden within the designs.

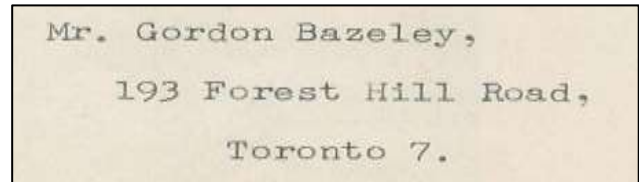


Figure 3. Typed Bazeley address.

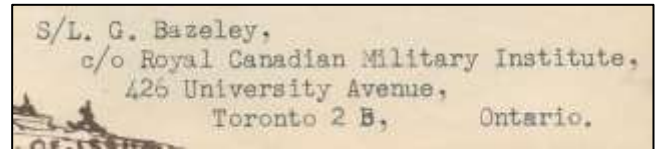


Figure 4. Bazeley address at RCMI.

The colours of my fourteen covers run from sepia black to black to bluish black. Their dates range from January, 1958 to November, 1966. The Scott numbers of the stamps represented include #362, 364, 375, 377, 381, 382, 396, 402, 403, 415, 436, 445, 449, and 450.

The scenes shown on the cachets all included mountain terrain, usually with some sign of human habitation. The two earliest FDCs included the word "Canada" in the top left corner (See Type 1A) and all included "First Day of Issue" either at top left (eight covers) or bottom centre (six covers). Several of the cachets with "First Day of Issue" at top left had two parallel guidelines for the printing above and below the text. These variations are all depicted in at least one of the half-page illustrations shown below.

Type I A of Bazeley's general purpose cachets shows a lakeside scene with a mountain backdrop. A person standing outside a teepee is waving to another person

fishing in a canoe. This is the earliest known Bazeley cachet.

Type I B has different text than 1A, but it also has some changes in the design of the artwork. Among the most notable differences are a cluster of clouds around the mountain peak and small variations in the foliage, especially in the bottom inch of the design. Type 1 B apparently followed 1A as indicated by the postmarks on the FDCs using the cachets.

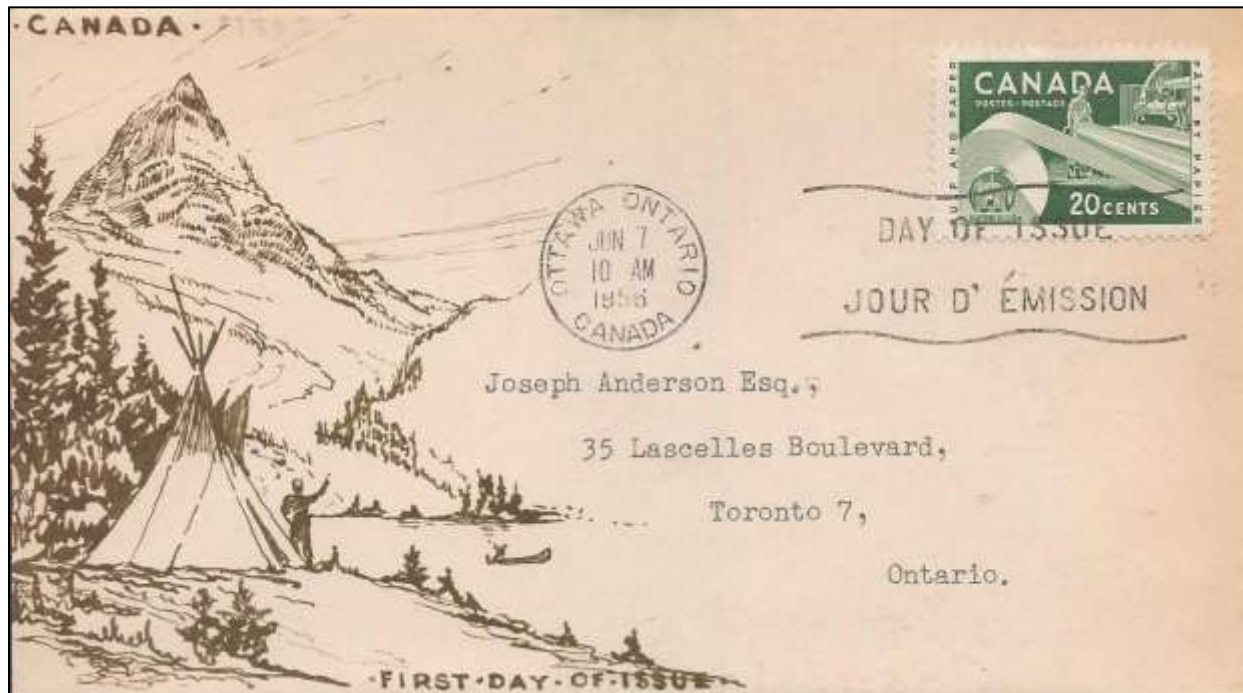
Type 2 is the only cachet design that shows neither water nor signs of human habitation. It features a treed, mountainous landscape.

Type 3 is the most complex of Bazeley's cachets as it includes a pair of geese, a cabin, totem poles, and two hunters

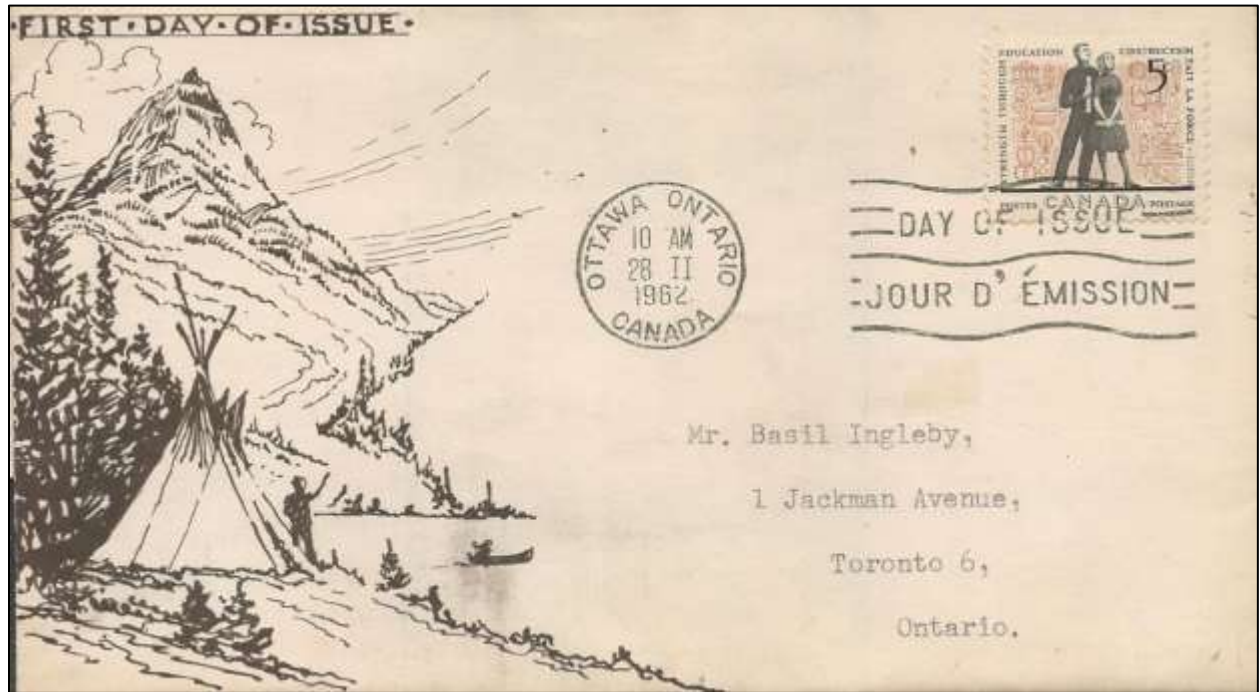
waving to a canoeist on the lake. Type 4 has fewer elements in the composition and shows the cabin from a different angle.

I would appreciate hearing from anyone who has other Bazeley cachets so that we can continue to build our knowledge about his FDCs. You can reach me at: cjvanderven@sympatico.ca

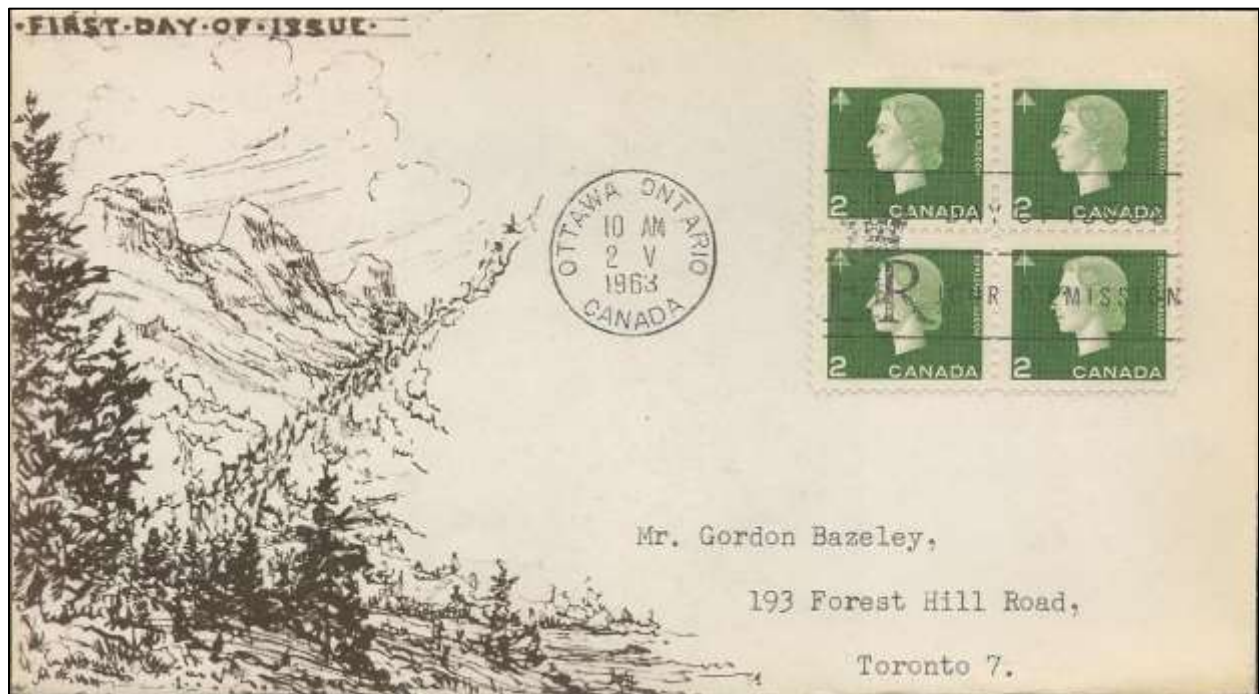
Editor's Note: The FDC Study Group website also includes Bazeley FDCs for #376, 378, 386, 401, and 404 but there are no additional cachet types.



Type 1 A



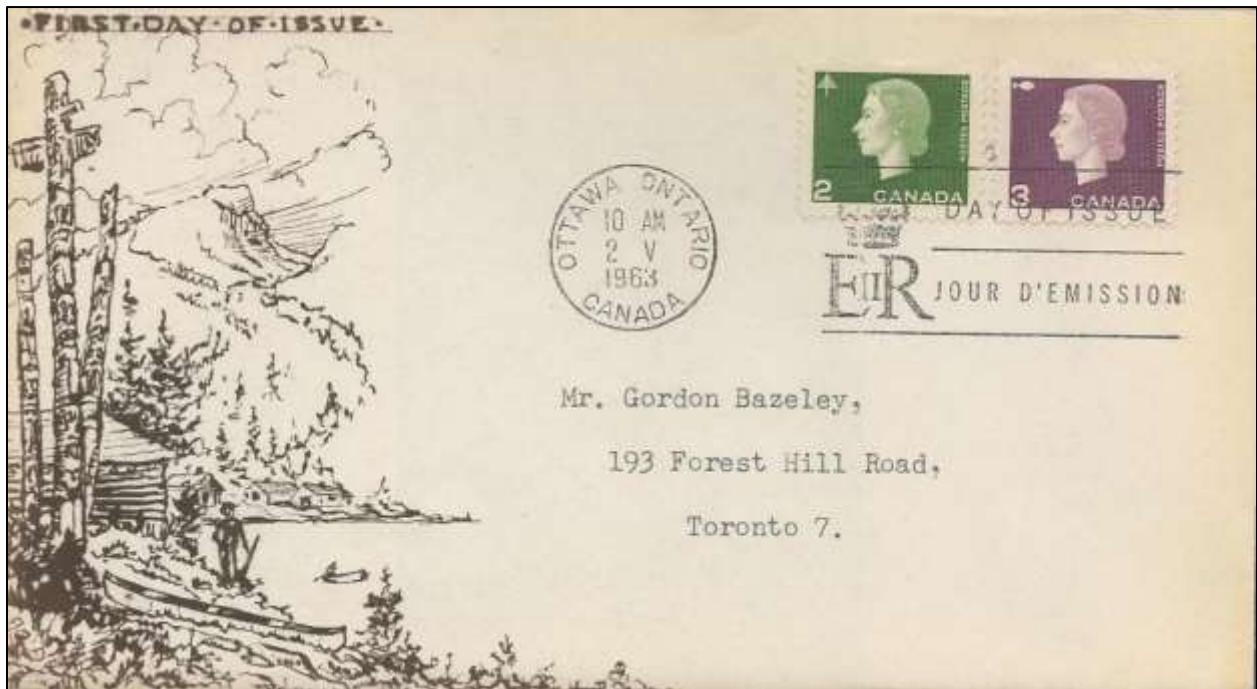
Type 1B



Type 1



Type 2



Type 4