Errors, Freaks and Oddities on Canada Post Official First Day Covers
by

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In 1971, the Canada Post Office introduced a new philatelic product called Official First Day Covers. OFDCs competed head on with established cachet makers in Canada such as Rosecraft and Cole Cover.

The errors, freaks and oddities are presented in three parts: on the cachet, on the cancellation and on the stamp or stamps.

Each slide depicts two covers. The one on the left is the *normal* and the one on the right is the *variety*. Can you spot the difference?
On the cachet

Indians of the Plains
Graphic Symbolism and Dress
1972.10.04

Inscription (orange colour) of cachet missing
On the cachet

Small Craft – Work Boats
1990.03.15

All colours of the cachet are missing
On the cachet

Christmas – Paintings
1974.11.01

Printing of cachet (the angel)
doubled
On the cachet

Christmas –
Celebrating Christmas
1973.11.07

Slash on snowman’s belly
On the cachet

Jacques Cartier
1984.04.20

Arc-shape scratch below the English text

later at Gaspé, where he erected a large cross and claimed the territory for the King of France.
On the cancellation

William Hamilton Merritt
1974.11.29

Day of issue site error noting “OTTAWA”
On the cancellation

William Hamilton Merritt
1974.11.29

Dating error – Marconi cancellation of 15.XI.74
On the cancellation

Centenary of Letter Carrier Delivery Service
1974.06.11

Dating error of 7.VI.74
On the cancellation

1976 Olympic Games
Logo of the XXI Olympiad
1973.09.20

“OTTAWA ONTARIO CANADA” hub inverted relative to the date
On the cancellation

Christmas –
Stained Glass Windows
1976.11.03

Missing one of two cancellations tying the inscription block to the cover
On the cancellation

Art Canada: Homer Watson
2005.05.27

Missing cancellation
On the cancellation

Art Canada: Homer Watson
2005.05.27

Missing cancellation (left) appears on the reverse side (right)
On the cancellation

Art Canada: Homer Watson
2005.05.27

*Inverted cancellation at the left side of the cover*
On the cancellation

CAPEX 78 Souvenir Sheet
1978.06.10

Cancellation doubled
On the cancellation

The Maple in Four Seasons –
The Maple in Autumn
1971.09.03

Cancellation shifted to the left;
stamp uncancelled
On the cancellation

Earth Sciences
1972.08.02

Small “2” in the cancellation
On the cancellation

William Hamilton Merritt
1974.11.29

Canal’s wall cracked
On the cancellation

William Hamilton Merritt
1974.11.29

Canal’s wall cracked (right)
On the stamp

Indians of the Pacific Coast
Graphic Symbolism and Dress
1974.02.22

Missing top of totem pole
On the stamp

Art Canada: Homer Watson
2005.05.27

Cancellation only – stamp missing
On the stamp

Definitives – Streets
1978.07.06

Stamp (75-cent) missing
On the stamp

Definitives – Fruit Trees

1994.02.25

A single 69-cent and two single 88-cent (the 50-cent is missing)
On the stamp

Folklore – Legendary Creatures
1990.10.01

Block inverted
On the stamp

Canadian Broadcasting Corporation
1986.07.23

Twin inscription blocks
(This is a trick slide showing 2 identical covers!)
The End