

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?

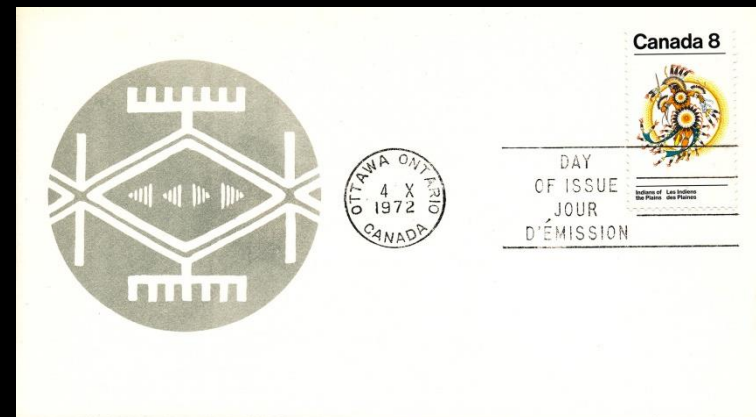
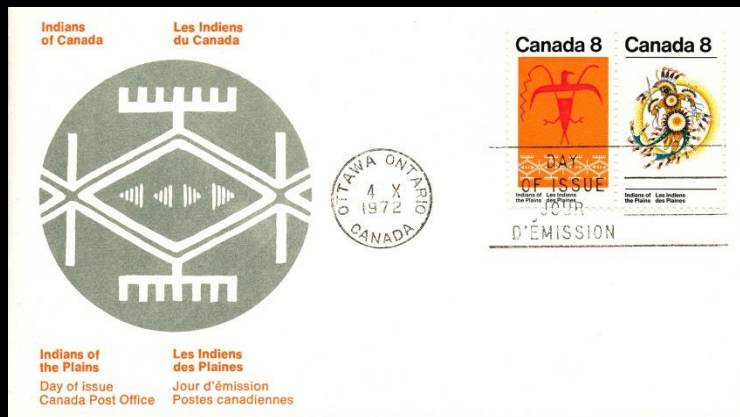
# On the cachet

## Indians of the Plains

### Graphic Symbolism and Dress

1972.10.04

*Inscription (orange colour) of cachet missing*

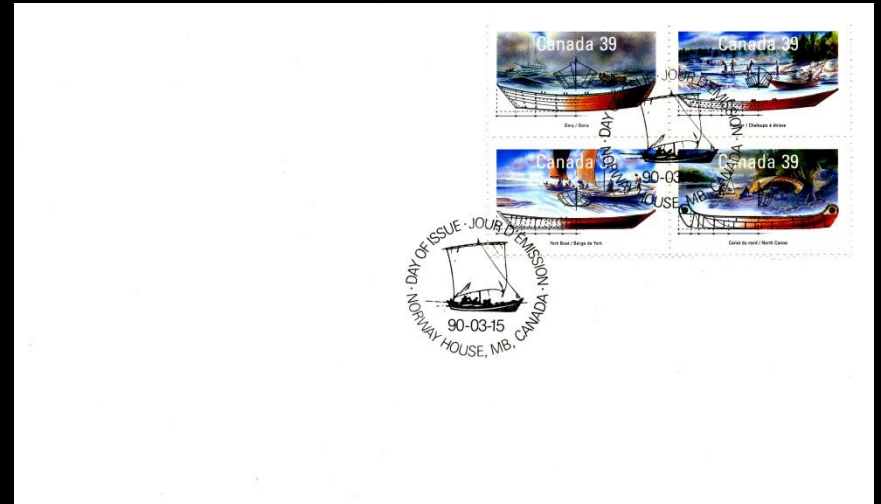
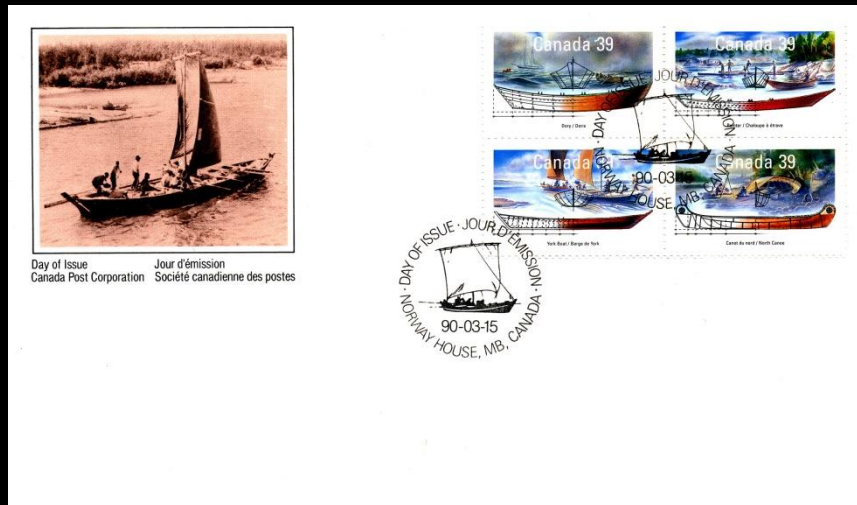


# On the cachet

# Small Craft – Work Boats

## 1990.03.15

*All colours of the cachet are missing*



# On the cachet

**Christmas – Paintings**  
**1974.11.01**

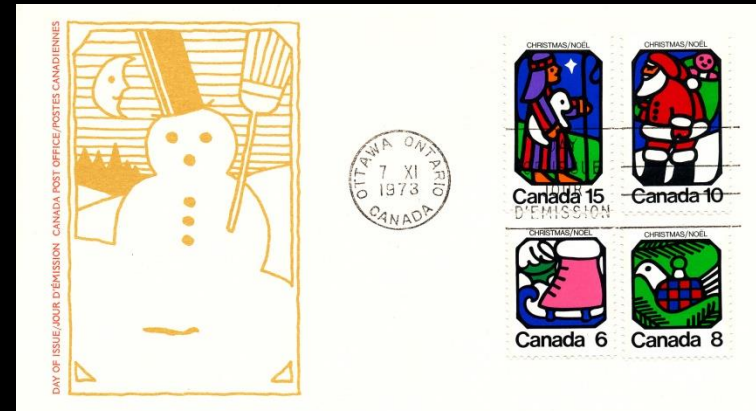
*Printing of cachet (the angel)*  
*doubled*



# On the cachet

Christmas –  
Celebrating Christmas  
1973.11.07

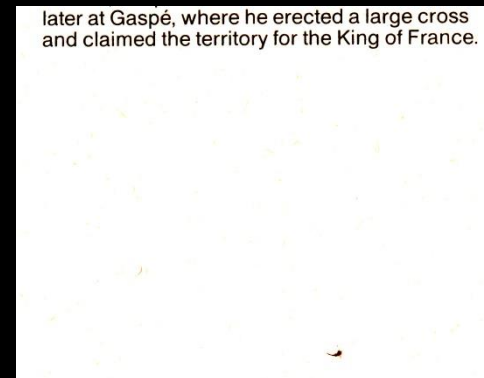
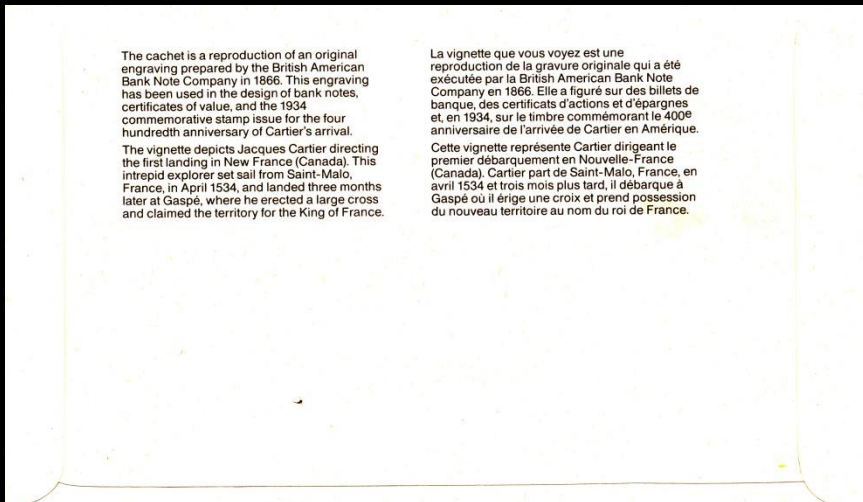
*Slash on snowman's belly*



# On the cachet

**Jacques Cartier**  
**1984.04.20**

*Arc-shape scratch below the  
English text*

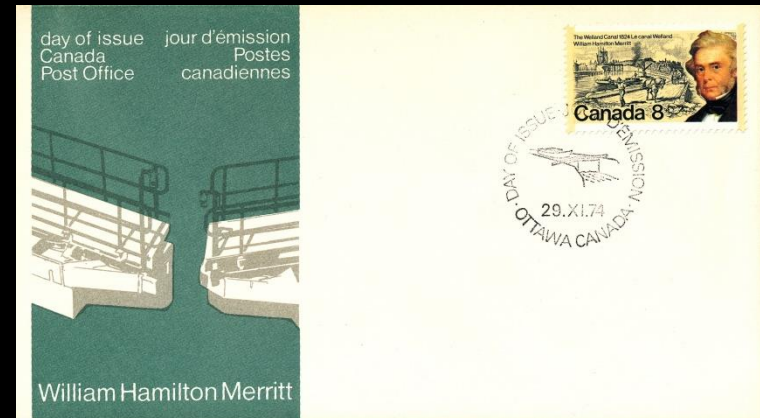
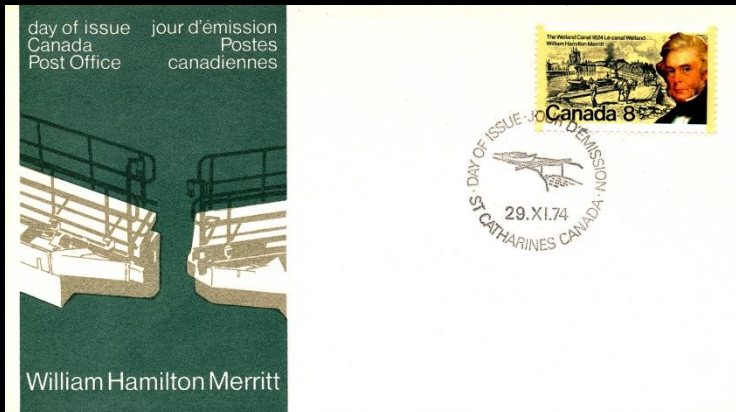




# On the cancellation

**William Hamilton Merritt**  
**1974.11.29**

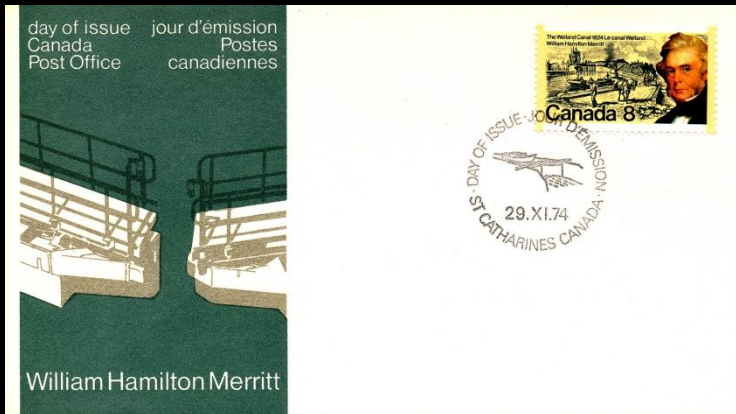
*Day of issue site error noting  
“OTTAWA”*



# On the cancellation

**William Hamilton Merritt**  
**1974.11.29**

*Dating error – Marconi cancellation  
of 15.XI.74*

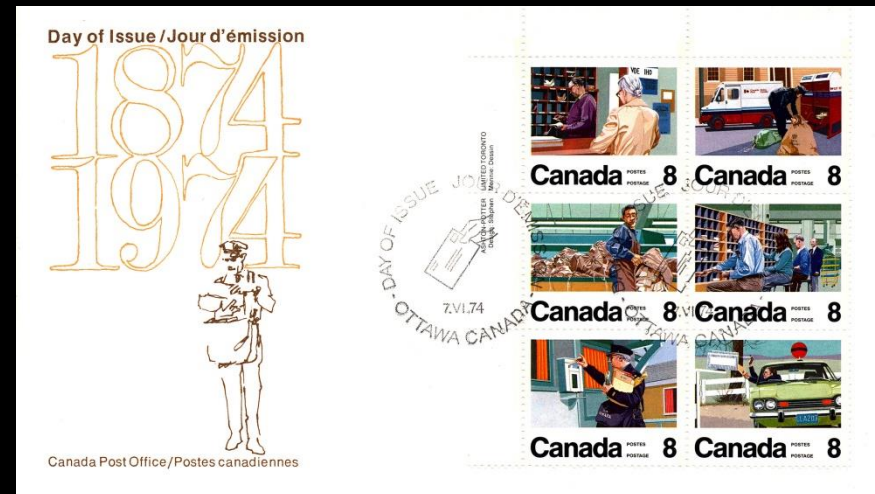
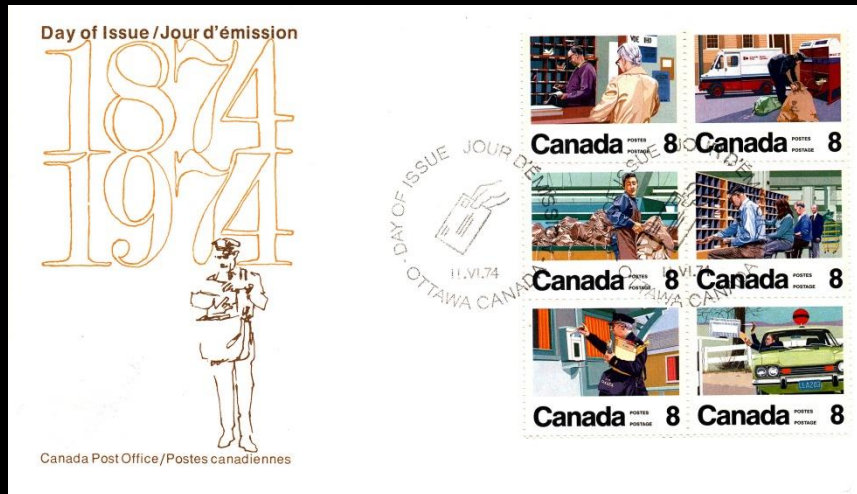


# On the cancellation

## 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

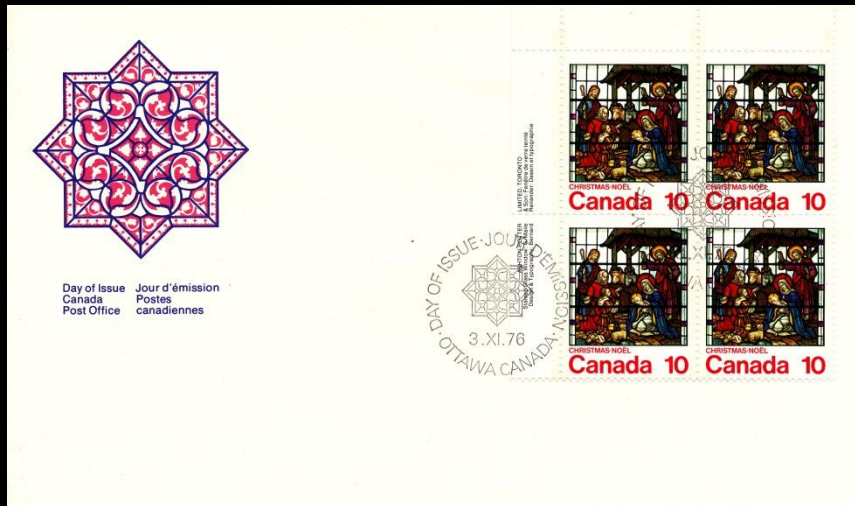
*“OTTAWA ONTARIO CANADA” hub  
inverted relative to the date*



# On the cancellation

## Christmas – Stained Glass Windows 1976.11.03

*Missing one of two cancellations  
tying the inscription block to the  
cover*

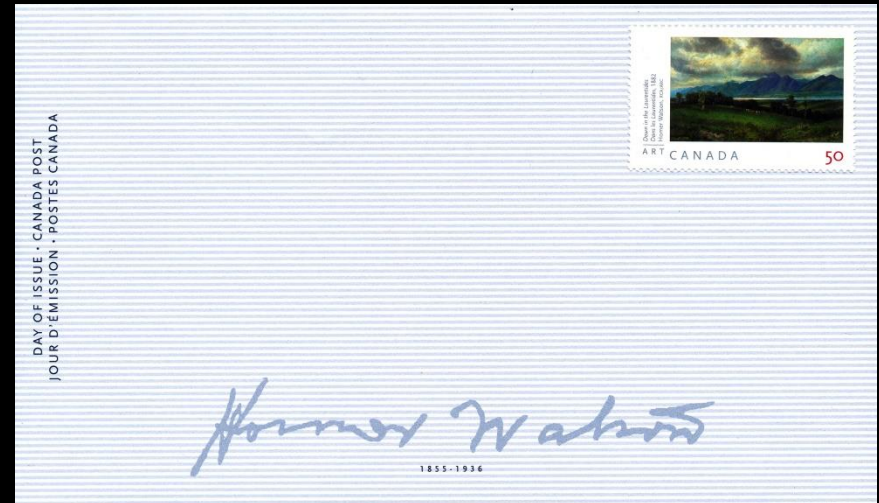
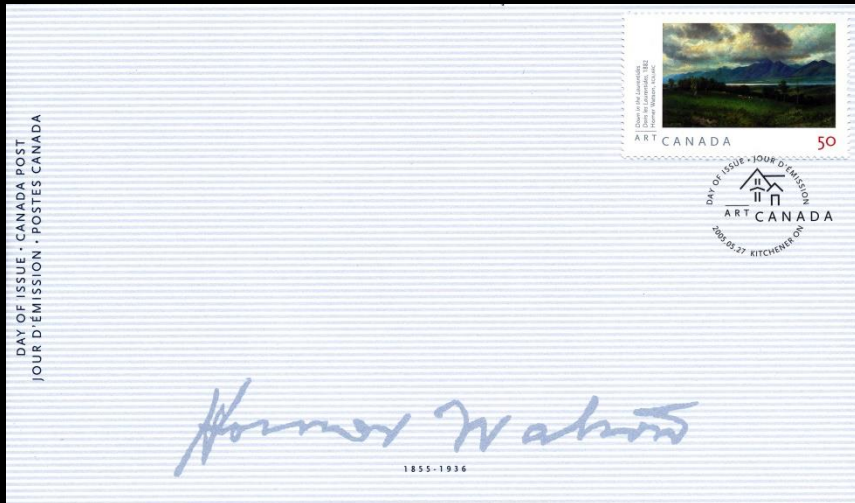




# On the cancellation

**Art Canada: Homer Watson**  
**2005.05.27**

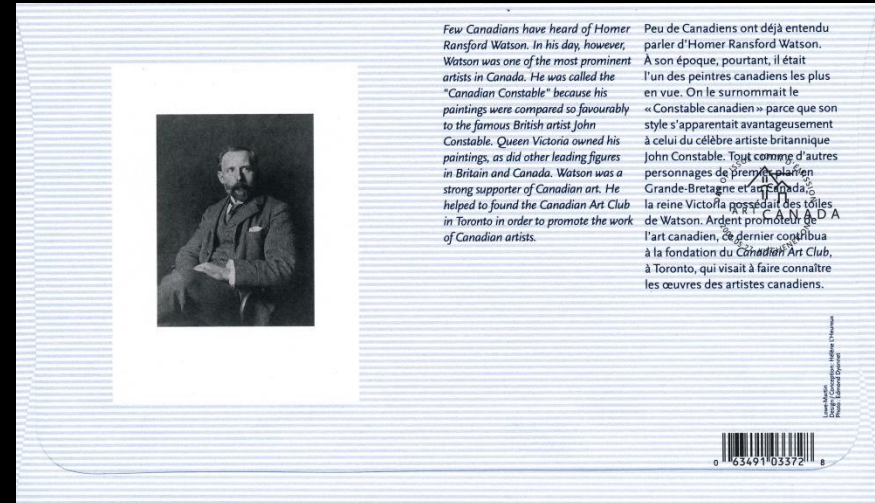
*Missing cancellation*



# On the cancellation

**Art Canada: Homer Watson**  
**2005.05.27**

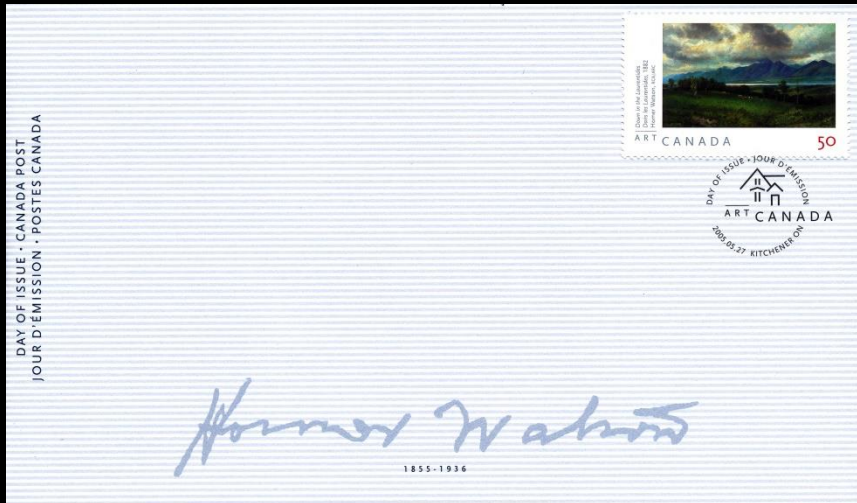
*Missing cancellation (left) appears  
on the reverse side (right)*



# 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

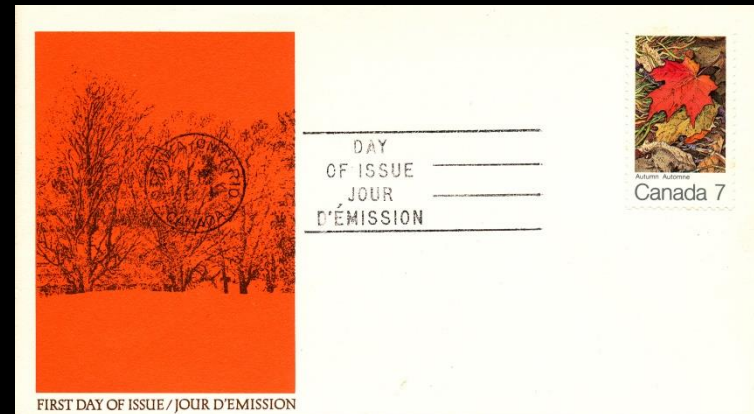
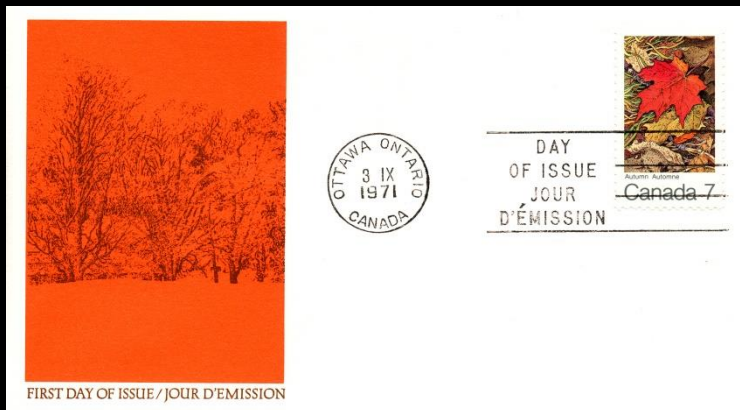
*Cancellation doubled*



# On the cancellation

**The Maple in Four Seasons –  
The Maple in Autumn  
1971.09.03**

*Cancellation shifted to the left;  
stamp uncanceled*



# On the cancellation

Earth Sciences  
1972.08.02

*Small “2” in the cancellation*

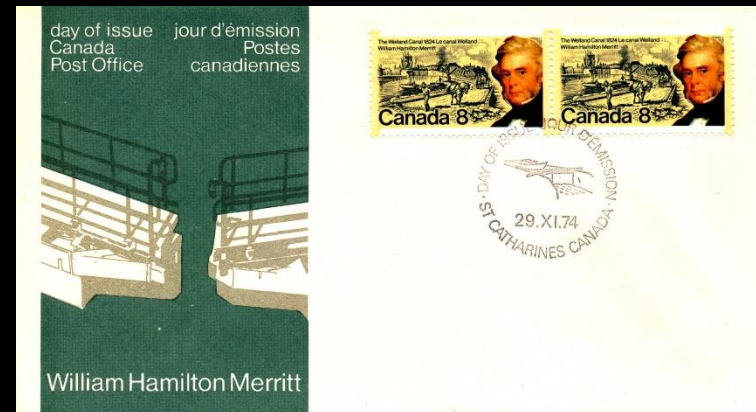
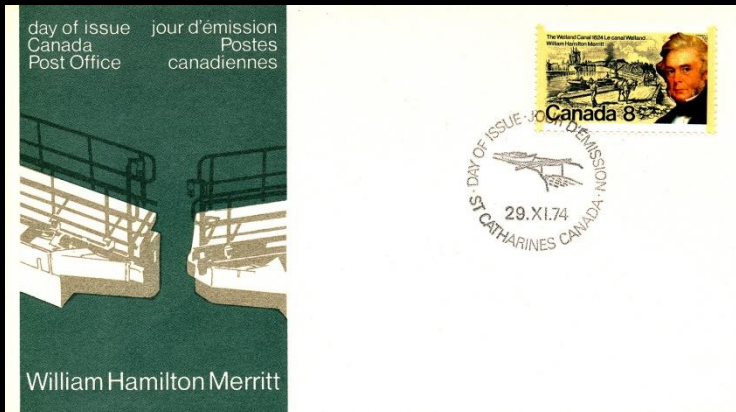


# On the cancellation

**William Hamilton Merritt**

**1974.11.29**

*Canal's wall cracked*

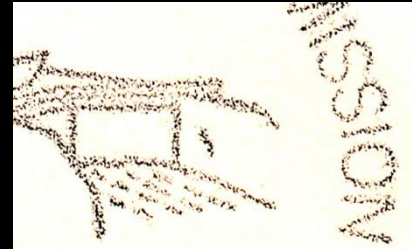
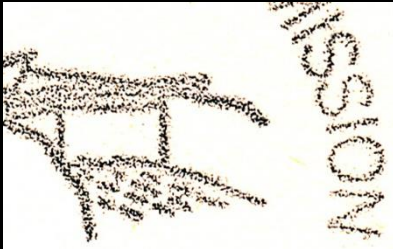


# On the cancellation

**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*

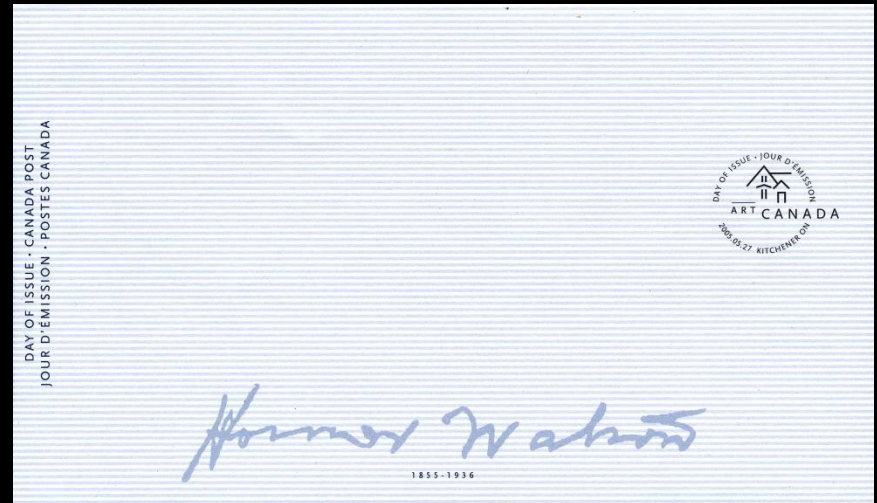
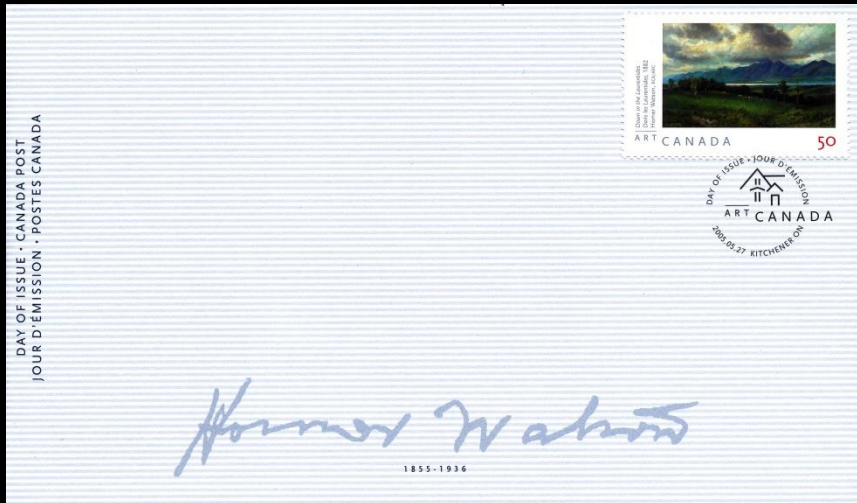




# On the stamp

**Art Canada: Homer Watson**  
**2005.05.27**

*Cancellation only – stamp missing*

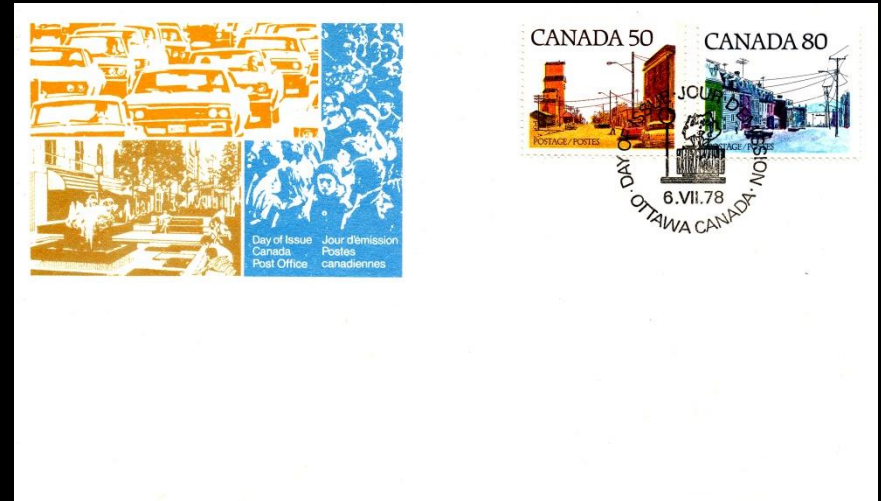
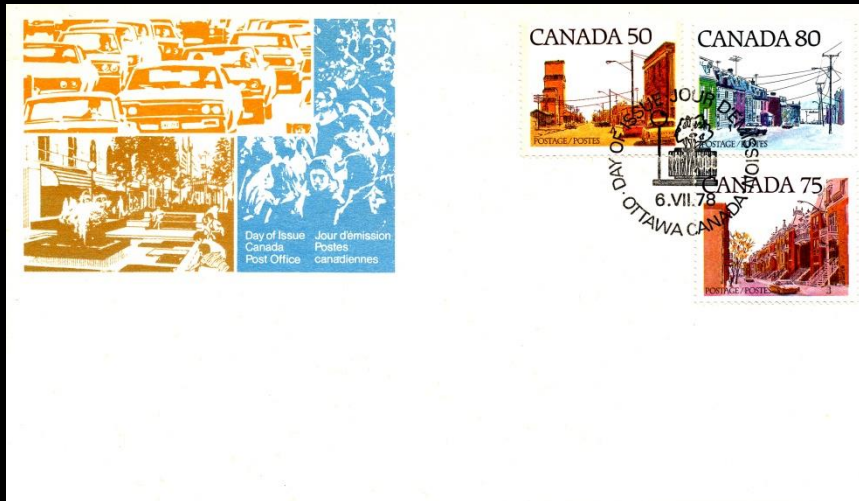


# On the stamp

## Definitives – Streets

1978.07.06

*Stamp (75-cent) missing*

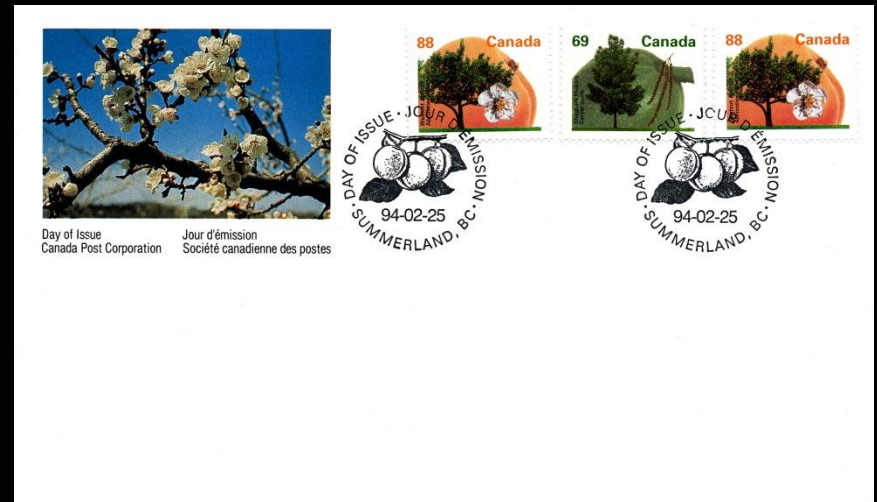
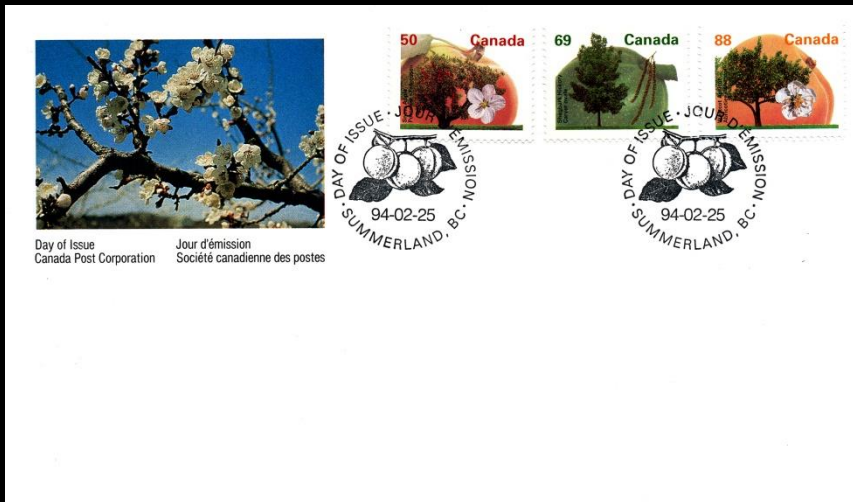




# On the stamp

## 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