



Misplaced G, 2 cent Green Cameo

## Significant items

Marked **R**

50 cent textiles

"Fishhook" G U R Plate Block, pg.6

10 cent fur drying, missing G, 1950, pg.7

2 cent green Cameo pair, one missing, pg. 7

20 cent Pulp and Paper Doubled G, 1951, UNIQUE.pg.8

1 cent brown Cameo, doubled G, 1963. pg. 8

20 cent pulp and Paper "High Flying" G. pg. 9

2 cent green Cameo misaligned G block of 20, pg. 14

2 cent green Cameo wide spacing block of 9, pg. 15

## NOTES

Certificates of Expertization are marked **CE**. All by Vincent Graves Green Foundation or Ken Pugh

When the Post Office changed from using **O.H.M.S.** to **G** to designate Official Stamps, they were recognizing the enduring presence and influence of French language and culture in Canada.

From 1950 until 1963 the Government of Canada overprinted 35 stamps with the letter "**G**" to be used for Official Government mail.

Intentional changes and errors created several variations. This exhibit is about these

# Variations in the Key of G

and displays the variations, explains how and why they occurred, addresses rarity in some cases and examines a few forgeries.



Missing G Pair, top with G, bottom without

## Outline

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# Variation in Font: Caslon

2



G



## TYPE A 3 MM

\* Standard sized stamps:  
3mm G (Type A)

\*Applied first to King  
George VI "Postes-  
Postage" series.



CASLON was the first font  
used starting in September 1950

## . Why a Single "G" ?

"Shortly after the overprinted stamps appeared in general use, two Members of Parliament and one private individual criticized the Department for not using a bilingual equivalent of the letters O.H.M.S. One of the critics, **Monsieur Jean-Francois Pouliot, M.P.** suggested that the letters O.H.M.S. be replaced by the letter "G" for "Gouvernement" and "Government". I believe this suggestion is the best possible solution. However, I suggest that no action be taken to amend the style of overprinting until the overprinted letters O.H.M.S. have been used for at least one year, i.e. until September 1950.

*from a memo dated February 27, 1950, from  
Walter James Turnbull, the Deputy Postmaster to  
Edouard Rinfret M.P. and Postmaster General:*

**Overprinted "G" Officials may be  
the only ones in the world where one  
letter represents 2 official languages**

## TYPE B 3.75 MM

\* Larger format had a  
3.75 mm G (Type B)

\*The Peace Series was  
overprinted the size of  
the G was enlarged to  
3.75 mm





## Variation in Font: Flying "G"

3



10 Cent Inuk in Kayak  
Flying "G"

### How did this happen?

By the end of 1961 there was substantial wear on the plates of Type B "G" plates which were used to overprint the larger format stamps of the 10, 20 and 50 cent varieties.

The plates were reformatted using a new Font. However, there was no discussion or announcement by the Canadian Bank Note Company, the printer or the Post Office. An enlarged version of this G is featured above. One can see it is substantially different than the type B: "a sharper upward cut... and the serifs incline upward".



An enlarged version of this G. It is substantially different than types A & B: "a sharper upward cut... and the serifs incline upward".



50 Cent Textiles, Block of 4, "Flying G"



20 Cent Pulp & Paper, Flying "G" & "High Flying G". Right stamp the G is higher

Appears only on:

10 cent Inuk in Kayak,

20 cent Pulp & Paper

50 cent Textiles

### Why Flying G?

In the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada's "The Canadian Philatelist" Article 3215, Kasimir Bileski wrote::

"The entire letter G has the appearance of taking off. Good name for it in Western Canada would be: The FLYING G, but the more prosaic "Type C" will do". But it did not "do" and the new style font became known as "The Flying G"



Enlarged Flying G, top & "High Flying G" bottom



# Variations in Font: The Blunt "G"

4



50 Cent Textile Blunt "G" at position 36.  
Plate #1 **CE**



Enlarged 50 cent textile Blunt G



20 Cent Pulp and Paper, 1961 Blunt G  
Position #7 Upper Left, Plate #2N



Enlarged Blunt "G", 20 cent Pulp & Paper



Not a specific font,  
perhaps an error or repair  
which has the right end of  
serif cut resulting in a  
"blunt" finish.,

Only 5 stamps with  
Blunt "G":

50 cent Textile, 1953

20 cent Pulp & Paper, 1961

2 cent Green Cameo, 1963

4 cent Carmine Cameo,  
1963

10 Cent Fur Drying, 1951  
unlisted

NB The Blunt "G" in the 20  
cent Pulp and Paper is not as  
"blunt" as others, showing a  
smallish "stub: of the serif,  
but still considered a Blunt G.

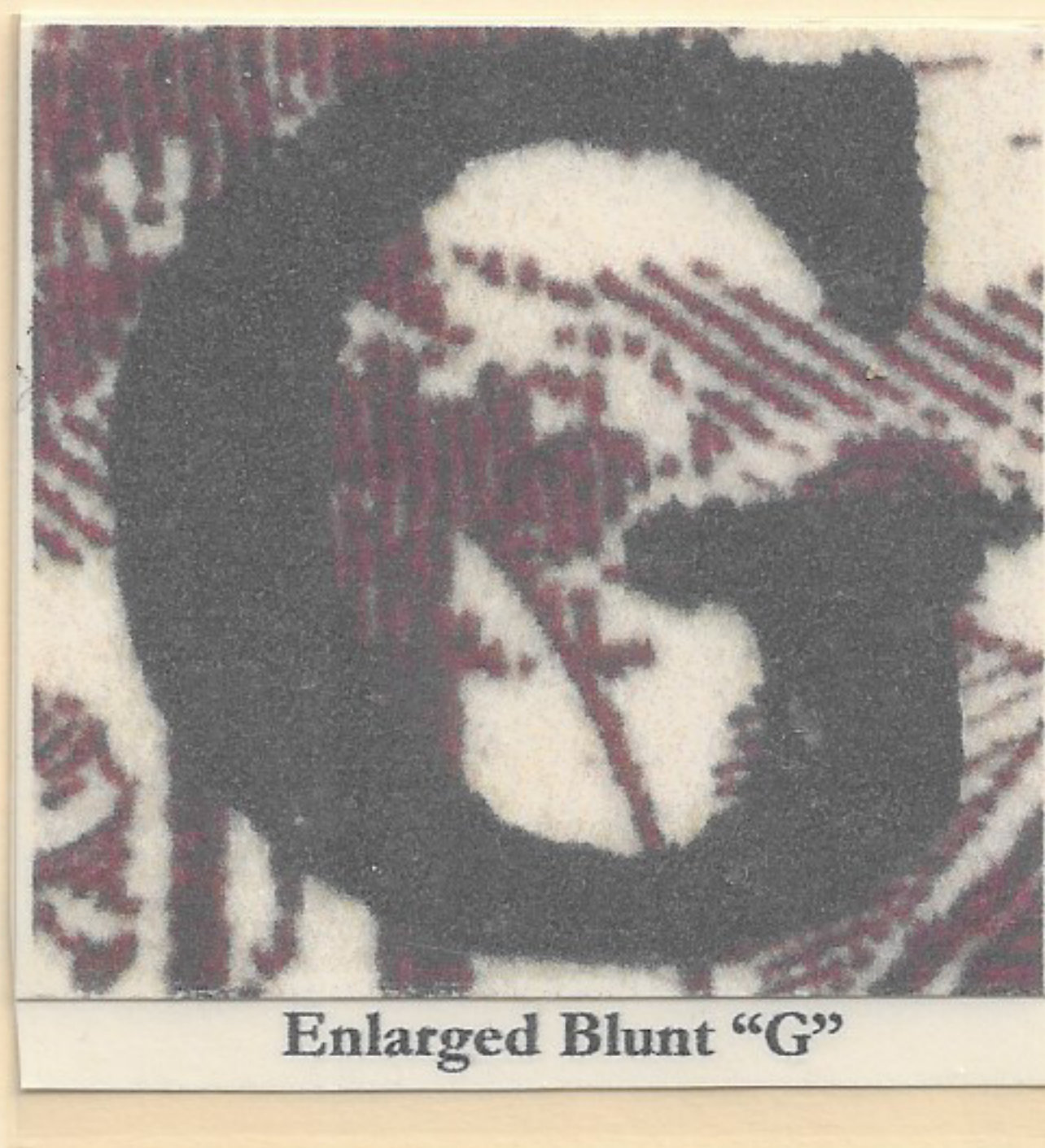


10 Cent Fur Drying Blunt  
"G"

Not the SAME Blunt G, as  
recorded on 50 cent textile,  
2 cent green Cameo, 4 cent  
carmine Cameo, and 20 cent  
Pulp and Paper, but a  
"genuine" abnormality. **CE**



Standard 10 cent Fur Drying



Enlarged Blunt "G"

Enlarged Blunt G on 10 cent  
Fur Drying



# Variations in Font: The Blunt "G": 2 cent & 4 cent Cameos

5



2 cent Cameo, Blunt "G"



Enlarged 2 cent Blunt "G"



4 cent Cameo, Blunt "G"



2 cent LL Plate Position #91

Below: 2 cent Cameo,  
Upper 5 rows of Upper Left  
Pane

Blunt "G" in Position# 39 only  
on 2 cent Cameo



4 cent LL Plate Position #91 **CE**





## Variations in Font: The Fishhook "G"



The Fishhook "G", above, so called because of the sharp point in the upper serif of the G. **ONLY** found on the 50-cent textile stamp, issued 1953.



50 cent Textile, Upper Right Plate Block # 2  
Fishhook G is in UR stamp, position#5 only. **R**  
**about 100 times more scarce than regular 50 cent textile**



Enlarged Fishhook "G" Position #5

The 50 Cent Textile is the **ONLY** stamp showing **ALL** "G" Fonts:



Caslon "G", 3.75MM



Flying "G"



Blunt "G"



Fishhook G

M.O.O.N. Cancel,  
New Norway, AB, 1960



Blunt "G" adjoined to 2 Standard 3.75MM "G"  
Textile, & 2 \$1 Totem Pole, two 20 cent Pulp &  
Paper Industry. Postmarked Peterborough, ON, April  
25, 1959



## Variation: Missing G

7

Of all 35 "G" Overprinted stamps, only 2 stamps have the variation: Missing "G". They are the 10 cent Fur Drying, issued in 1950 and the 2 cent Green Cameo issued in 1963. Fittingly, the first year and the last year "G" overprinted were issued.

### 10 Cent Fur Drying

One stamp with "G" and one without consistent error at stamp #31 in the upper left pane of 50 in both plates #1 and #2, with 200 stamps/plate; likely caused by a broken piece on the plate. The error was missed by inspectors and at department level. Many were used as per example to right and may have been subsequently destroyed.

**R:** Quantity: unknown Bileski suggests 150 to 200 times more "valuable" than regular 10 cent drying pair.



Pair, "G" missing on left stamp, Position #31 **CE**



G missing in middle pair, position #3. Postmarked Sackville, NB, June 10, 1953

### 2 Cent Green Cameo

Occurs to top 2 rows of 20 stamps in 4 panes From sheet of 600 which was advanced 10 cm when printed, see pages 14-16 for thorough explanation

**R** 80 pairs, however 16 are in blocks of four like opposite, leaving 64 possible pairs



Upper Right Corner Block, blank plate **CE**

Top 2 stamps without "G" bottom 2 with "G"



## Variations: Double "G"

8

Of the 35 G overprinted stamps, only 2 have a "G" which was double printed



20 Cent Pulp and Paper, Double "G" **CE x2**  
Issue: April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1952. 3,300,000, full sheet 200  
Discovered April 2020 **R: Articles in 3 Philatelic Journals & 3 exhibits only this 1 has been revealed**

How did this happen?

Likely 1 sheet was overprinted twice, missed by inspectors and a few stamps were distributed before recall. This stamp was found in an auction in the USA. A possible story is that stamp was saved by a collector in the US, placed in a collection and never seen again until the estate sold the stamp.



1 Cent Brown Cameo **CE**  
Issued February 4, 1963. 1,149,700, full sheet 600  
Stamp withdrawn: December 31, 1963.

**R: K. Bileski suggested that only 80 exist. Over the last 6 years, about 1/year shows up in an auction.**

How did this happen?

One sheet of 600 was overprinted twice, and missed inspectors. K Bileski suggests that only 1 pane of 100 was broken up and sold to Philatelic buyers, before the error was discovered and the stamps recalled.



An enlarged picture of the Double G



An enhanced and enlarged copy of 1 cent brown, showing doubling of G



# Variations: Misaligned "G"

9

Misaligned means a major shift in the placement of the "G".



Standard Misaligned  
5 cent George VI Post-Postes



Standard Misaligned  
10 Cent Fur Drying, unlisted variation. Sold at RA stamp club auction, October 18, 1954. **R 37 known at that time as reported in Ottawa Citizen. Likely a sheet of 200 so printed. No more recently reported.**



Standard Misaligned  
QE II "Wilding" 1 cent brown



Standard Misaligned  
2 cent Green Cameo **CE**



Standard Misaligned and Blunt "G"  
4 cent Carmine Cameo Blunt G **CE**



Standard Misaligned  
10 cent Inuk and kayak, **unlisted variation**



20 Cent Pulp & Paper Flying "G" and High Flying "G" in pairs, the stamp to the right is "higher" than stamp on left **R Only occurs on 20 cent Pulp and Paper, along right row in scarce plate #2 and blank plate**



Enlarged 20 cent Pulp and Paper showing: "High Flying "G"



# Variation: Shifted G

10

Shifted means a minor shift in placement of "G"; usually from printing plate slippage.

## STANDARD

## SHIFTED

## STANDARD

## SHIFTED



1 cent King George VI Posts-Postes



5 Cent Blue, QEII "Wilding"



2 Cent Green, QE II Cameo



7 cent Canada Goose



5 cent King George VI Posts-Postes



10 Cent Inuk and Kayak

shifted left

shifted right



1 cent Brown QEII "Wilding"



20 Cent Pulp and Paper



2 cent Green QEII "Wilding"



20 Cent Paper Industry



4 Cent Purple QEII "Wilding"



## Variations: Forgeries in "G"

"Forgery is a genuine item that has been altered unlawfully."

From Archives of Canada: Blog: "Faked, forged and counterfeit stamps at Library Archives Canada

On the following pages are examples of forgeries using "G" but not a real G used on Official stamps. The stamps are valid but have been altered by adding a "fraudulent" G.



1 cent Brown Cameo

Forged Double "G"

CE

Enlargement

Forged Double G,

Courtesy:

Vicent G. Greene Foundation



1Cent Brown Cameo

Genuine "G" CE

USED

Enlargement

Genuine Double G

Courtesy:

Vicent G. Greene Foundation





## Variations: Forgeries in "G"

12



2 cent Forged Green, Cameo Vertical.

Vertical "One with G, other Without Pairs"

do exist, but the stamp with the "G" is always

the bottom stamp. See Pages 5 and 16 for

genuine samples.



2 cent Forged Green Cameo Horizontal

Horizontal "One with G, other without G Pairs"

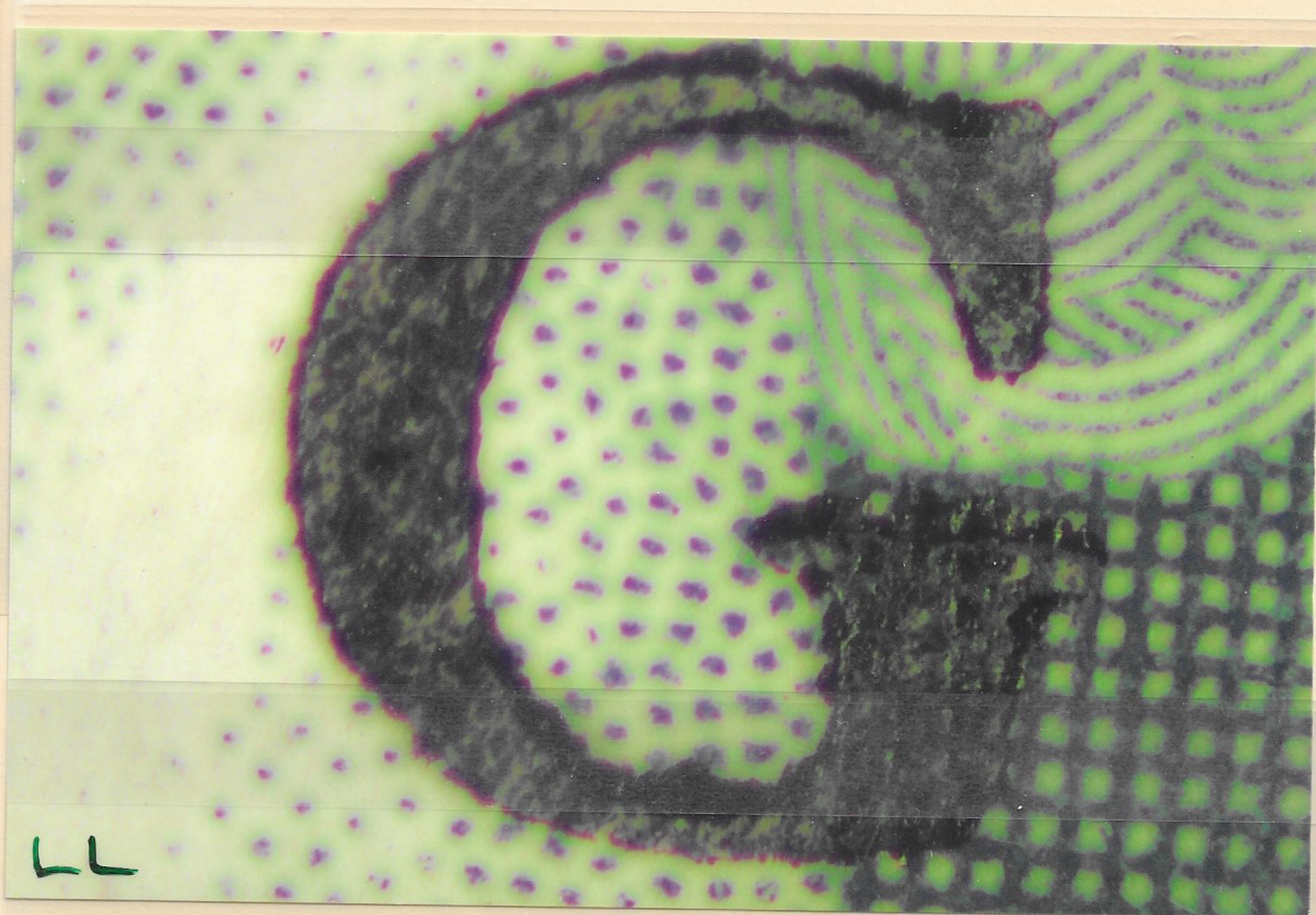
do not exist. See pages 5 and 16 for genuine samples.



2 cent Green Forged Cameo block of 6

**CE** NB See pages 9&16 for genuine

"One with G and One without"



Enlargement of one of "Gs" on four bottom stamps, other 3 similar photographs showing ragged edges and lack of density in printing of "G". Photo courtesy of Vincent Graves Greene Foundation



## Variations in G: Wide Spacing G

13

Wide and narrow spacing appears only on G overprints in the "Wilding" Series



Wide spacing, between stamps is 20mm



Distance between 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> is 17mm; 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> stamps is 20mm



QE II 5 cent "Wilding" Strip 6 showing standard, narrow and wide spacing.: 20.5- 21.5-23.5 mm spacing

## Variations: "Pawnbroker G"

There are 3 dots in the upper curve of the serif in the centre stamp in this block of 9. The 3 dots resemble the 3 gold balls in the pawnbroker symbol as pictured below. There are two origin stories: the 3 balls are linked to the De Medici family or the generosity of St Nicholas. And may have so named by K Bileski, who claimed that this variation occurs **once in every sheet of 600 stamps**. If this occurred on every sheet the quantity would be about 2000, however it is likely that many sheets were returned, some of the stamps were used or destroyed, all of which would make the quantity less



Pawnshop "balls"

Block of 9, 2 cent Cameo.

Enlarged centre stamp



# Great Cameo Printing Error

14

X	X

PAGES 14, 15 & 16 represent a full sheet of 600 stamps composed of 6 panes, 2 panes wide and 3 panes deep. See chart to left. 100 stamps per pane This page represents top 2 panes

See page 7 for UL block

R UL & UR Corner blocks with two missing "Gs" are rare, only 8 created CE

How Did this Happen?

\*Sheet was fed into printer, advanced in error by depth of a row: 2-3mm.

\*When the plate was pressed onto the sheet, No "Gs" were printed on row 1 **red arrow**

\*The next nine rows or 90 stamps had the G printed for the stamp above, but somewhat higher: Misaligned "Gs"

R There were 180 in this 2 panes & 180 on the bottom 2 panes, or 360 "misaligned" possible singles. Plus 200 wide spacing misaligned G's in centre 2 panes

R This block of 20, CE, is rare with only 8 possible, some may have been broken into singles.

Far right:

LR Plate block of 4 CE



Missing G

Misaligned G

<<<<<<<<<<

On each stamp

<<<<<<<<<

On the bottom

Nine rows

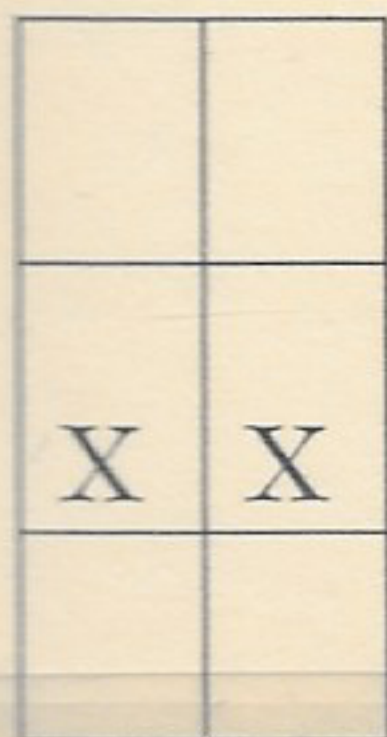
<<<<<<<<<





# Great Cameo Printing Error

p.15



Represents the 2 middle panes (100 stamps each) of six panes in a full sheet. When the plate was pressed on the stamps it was 2mm short on top panes, add to that the 10mm gutter between top and middle panes and the "G" was very much misaligned, with the G being printed above the head of QEII, but this additional space also "misaligned" the next 9 rows of where the G was printed



UL Corner Block NB High position of G on top row and lower position of G on next row. **R** only 4 of these were created

All stamps in this middle pane show wide spacing between the "G"s due the error which pushed down all G when overprinted.

**R** All 200 stamps on these 2 panes are misaligned but are referred to as "Wide Spacing" vertical unlike wide spacing as seen on page 13



**NB Wide Spacing.** Both blocks in Middle panes

Both signed on reverse: K Bileski



LL Block of middle pane



# Great Cameo Printing Error

Pg 16

With the accumulated gutter, the middle panes, the spacing has produced a set up similar like the top row of the two top panes: No "G's" in the top row. This page represents the bottom 2 panes of the sheet of 600 stamps.

X	X

The next nine rows again show misaligned "G's" The sheet was askew when entering the printer and as a result the "G's" are printed on a slight left ward alignment, about 4mm to the left which increases as the we move further down the sheet, so that we now see the "G's" printed in the hair of QEII.

Another 20 stamp block of this error is shown in exhibit: **"Canada-Cameo Definitive Issues"** an exhibit prepared by John Arn, a BNAPS Exhibit series #34, published in April 2005



UL Corner block of 4, top 2 stamps with NO "G"



Random single "Gs" also misaligned

**R 180 "misaligned" single G's were created on these two bottom panes, less whatever remained in blocks**



Middle Block from last two rows one of the bottom panes NB the severely misaligned "G"



LR corner block from last two rows of the bottom panes. NB severely misaligned "G"