

Newfoundland

Royal Family 1897 - 1901

This exhibit shows the evolution of the stamps and usages of the Royal Family Issue of 1897 - 1901. There are no known pre-production material before the die proofs. It is organized in six sections, the die proofs, plate proofs, specimen overprints, issued stamps including single usages, multiple/mixed usages and E. R. Krippner Patriotic covers,

All usages in this exhibit are of the period. I should note that the **ONLY** authorized single ½¢ usage was for the newspaper rate which is very rare. Other single usages (not in this exhibit) are philatelic and most often seen used by postcard collectors (often placed on the view side) and were tolerated by the post office. These single usages are usually marked "Printed Matter" by the sender in an attempt to validate their use. The single printed matter rate (Domestic and/or Foreign) is 1¢. However, the ½¢ stamp was very popular and is very often seen used in combination with other values to make up the rate.

Period of Use:

- ½¢ Olive Green, August 1898 to c.1900 (single usage, rate abolished)
- 1¢ Red, December 1897 to June 1898 (replaced with 1¢ Green)
- 1¢ Green, June 1898 to 15 August 1910 (replaced by John Guy Issue)
- 2¢ Orange, December 1897 to June 1898 (replaced by 2¢ Vermillion)
- 2¢ Vermillion, June 1898 to August 31, 1908 (replaced by Map Issue)
- 3¢ Orange, June 1898 to 15 August 1910 (replaced by John Guy Issue)
- War Tax Period, May 17, 1918 to January 2, 1919 (replaced by Caribou Issue)
- 4¢ Violet, October 21, 1901 to August 15, 1910 (replaced by John Guy Issue)
- 5¢ Blue, June 1899 to 15 August 1910 (replaced by John Guy Issue)

The 1¢ red and 2¢ orange were replaced by the 1¢ green and 2¢ vermillion in June 1898 to conform with a recent agreement of the Universal Postal Union concerning colours. In March 1908 the S.S. Silvia was wrecked while en route from New York to St. John's with a consignment of 2¢ vermillion stamps which were washed ashore. In order to replace the lost stamps and prevent unauthorized use of possibly salvaged items, a new 2¢ design consisting of the Map of Newfoundland was hastily decided upon, to be issued in August 1908. All remaining values were replaced in August 1910 with the introduction of the John Guy Issue. Finally, with the implementation of the War Tax Act in 1918 requiring an additional 1¢ postage on all mail, and with the current stock of 3¢ stamps being inadequate and to secure stamps in time, the Newfoundland G. P. O. went to the American Bank Note Co. who still had the 1898 plate for the 3¢ orange in their possession. The 3¢ orange was re-issued in 1918, to be replaced again in 1919 by the Caribou, issue of January 2, 1919. The War Tax period was from May 17, 1918 to January 2, 1919.

Dates to Remember:

- 2¢ Imperial Penny Postage - December 25, 1898 per oz.
- 5¢ to USA reduced to 2¢ - March 1, 1908, per oz.
- 3¢ Inland reduced to 2¢ - July 1, 1906, per oz.

Exhibit Plan:

- Frame 1 - Large and Small Die Proofs, Plate Proofs and ½¢ to 2¢ Specimen Overprints.
- Frame 2 - 3¢ to 5¢ Specimen Overprints and Regular Issues to 3¢.
- Frame 3 - Regular Issues 4¢ and 5¢ and Inland Multiple/Mixed Usages.
- Frame 4 - Inland, Canada, British Empire and United States Multiple/Mixed Usages.
- Frame 5 - United States and Foreign Multiple/Mixed Usages and E. R. Krippner Patriotic Covers.

Exceedingly rare items are identified with a red dot. ●