

United States:

The 25¢ Niagara Falls Stamp of 1922-38

Synopsis

Purpose

The single frame traditional exhibit treats the various aspects of the production of this stamp issue and its usages that compliment the postal rates of the period.

Background

With the Republican administration of Warren G. Harding, the United States Post Office Department began work on a new series of definitive stamps. Subjects were chosen to refocus the country from the problems of the great World War back to familiar American symbols. Niagara Falls, an American and Canadian natural wonder known throughout the world, was chosen to be included in the series of stamps.

Organization

The material is organized chronologically to best illustrate the production evolution that took place during the printings between 1922 and 1935. Changes explained include the switch from the Flat Bed presses to the Stickney rotary presses. A comprehensive showing of significant production varieties is included.

Usages

Usages are limited to covers, stationery and tags featuring the Niagara Falls stamps as the only affixed adhesive. Several solo usages are shown.

Rarity

Significant production items include:

- One of two known die proofs on wove paper
- One of the original six large die proofs approved by PMG New
- One of two known Chalmers die proofs (listed in Scott as essay 568-E2)
- One of two known mint compound perf. Pieces (see the Siegel census of 568c)
- One of five known pieces of the flat plate imperforate horizontal error
- One of two known copies of the "Bridge over Falls" plate variety (this copied was borrowed by editor Jim Kloetzel to photograph to illustrate the Scott Specialized Catalogue).
- A siderographer's block printed on the surplus Lindbergh booklet pane paper in 1928
- One of six known pre-first day cover uses of the rotary printed 25¢ Niagara and 17¢ Wilson stamps posted on July 25, 1931, from Brooklyn, New York.

References

- The United States Fourth Bureau Issue 1922-1938 by Gary Griffith. United States Stamp Society, 2022., pages 11-19, 58-61, 294, 296, 320-333, 371-379.
- United States Postage Stamps 1902-1935 by Max G. Johl, Quarterman ed., pages 397-400
- *Scott U.S. Specialized Catalogue* listings for Scott No. 568 and Scott No. 699.
- Rate Usages of the Fourth Bureau issue, published in 13 parts in *The United States Specialist*, journal of the Bureau Issues Association between April, 1989 and July, 1990 by the exhibitor.

United States:

The 25¢ Niagara Falls Stamp of 1922-38

Purpose - This single frame exhibit traces the archival development, production and usages of the stamp. The stamp section is organized chronologically and the usage section features covers, stationery or tags franked only with Niagara Falls stamps.

Background - With the Republican administration of Warren G. Harding, the United States Post Office Department began work on a new series of definitive stamps. Subjects were chosen to refocus the country from the problems of the great World War back to familiar American symbols. Niagara Falls, an American and Canadian natural wonder known throughout the world, was chosen to be included in the series of stamps.

- Significant items are marked with a red dot.



Contemporary photograph of the Niagara Falls essay as a 20¢ value. This model of the falls was proposed by Bureau of Engraving and Printing designer John Stevenson.



Contemporary photograph of the first proposed 25¢ model, featuring the Arlington Amphitheatre, on August 16, 1922. Later that same month, the 25¢ vignette was changed to feature Niagara Falls.



V9358

1922

- Bureau produced stamp-sized photographic essay of BEP serialized stamp no. 358, Series of 1922.