

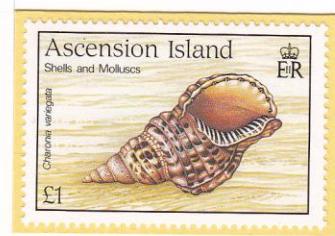
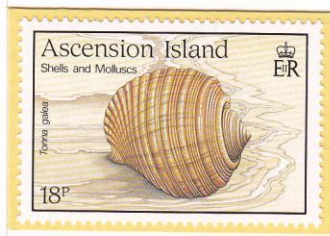
# INTRODUCTION TO STAMP COLLECTING

This exhibit is dedicated to latent as well as prospective new stamp collectors in order to gain an appreciation of the instructive, stimulating, and at the same time relaxing benefits derived from this wonderful hobby.

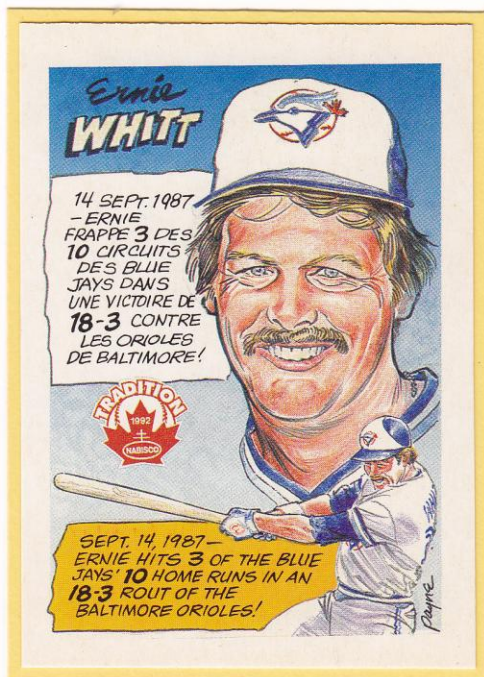


# Collecting

The impulse to collect is as old as human life on earth. In prehistoric caves dating back 40,000 years, archaeologists have found collections of shells, oddly shaped coloured stones and other curios.



Today, the range of things to collect has expanded from the natural wonders, to tens of thousands of human-made articles such as: wine labels, baseball cards, and telephone cards, to name a few.



# Collecting Stamps

Since the introduction of the postage stamp in 1840, (Rowland Hill and Penny Black), millions of men and women of all walks of life have preferred it to any other objects to collect.



The vast majority of stamp collectors collect because the activity fills a need. Three reasons are:

- the desire to feel like we are accomplishing or building something;
- the need to have at least a corner of our world that is orderly and predictable; and
- the need to differentiate ourselves from the rest.

It is perhaps a reason why stamp collecting is predominantly a thinking activity. Right now, you are drained finishing all the school projects you have been assigned, and getting good marks, so that you do well in school.



You may soon leave your current school, neatly characterized by some as graduating. For those who are used to conquering new challenges, what are you going to do when there are no different challenges?

Finally, there is the sense of self. As we narrow a stamp collection from the world down to something manageable, we most often focus on our heritage: places we've been,.....



Anne of Green Gables /  
Anne... la maison aux pignons verts

..... a topic related to our occupation, (architecture).....

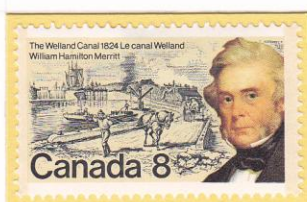
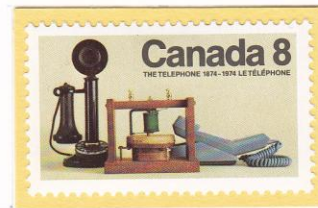


..... or one of the things we really enjoy: flowers.



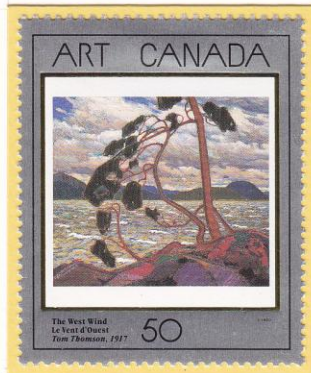
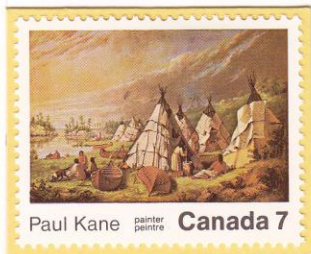
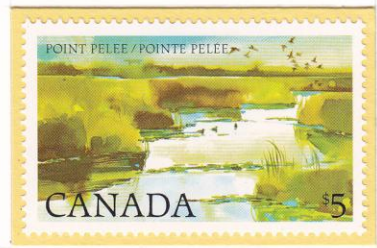
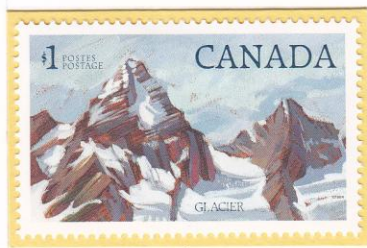
The act of collecting and enjoying the chosen collecting area is a continuing celebration of what defines us as individuals.

Those who make a passion of it all see certain immortality in the effect. Who dares to doubt that such a small piece of paper, with pictures depicting: geography and history, .....





..... nature and art, form connecting links and tighten the bonds of friendship throughout the world?



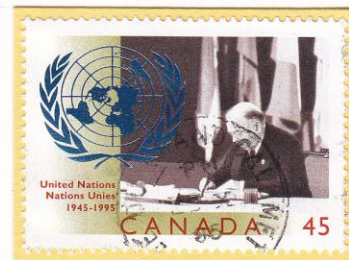
# What is Philately?

In the early days of stamp collecting it was normal to form collections of stamps of the world. Today, with the large number of stamps issued by the ever increasing number of stamp issuing countries, it is virtually impossible to form a significant "world-wide" stamp collection.



This massive expansion has created many individual branches within the hobby that lends itself to concentrated attention. In other words, the key to stamp collecting today is specialization.

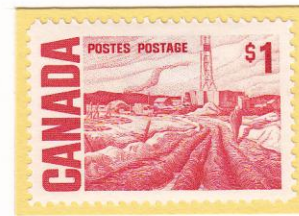
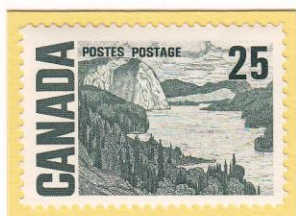
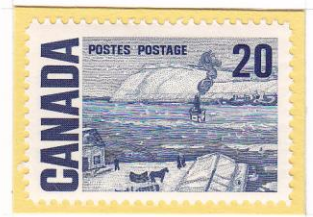
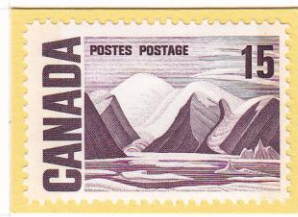
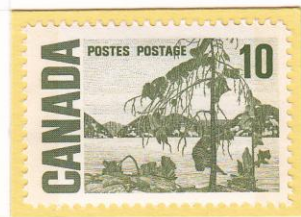
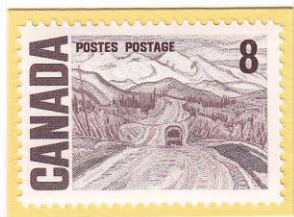
The mosaic of philately offers a broad spectrum of colours. One may collect a single country, Canada .....



..... or Italy;



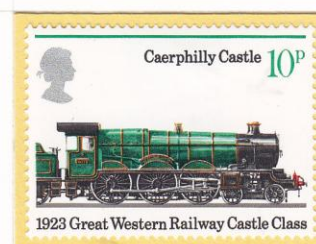
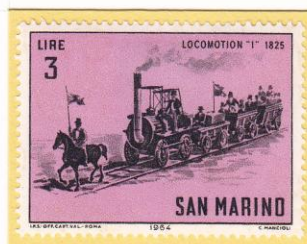
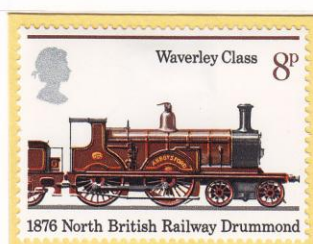
a segment of a country the Centennial Issue, .....



..... or Queen Elizabeth II, etc.



One can often relate their collection to other interests. For example, it is possible to form a sizeable collection of stamps with pictures of trains .....



..... ships.



In fact, the number of subjects that can be found on stamps is almost endless.

So, why not make stamp collecting part of your activities!  
It will expand your horizons as well as enhance your social life.