

FIRST DAY COVERS OF THE 1947 CANADA  
BELL COMMEMORATIVE ISSUE

by

GARY DICKINSON

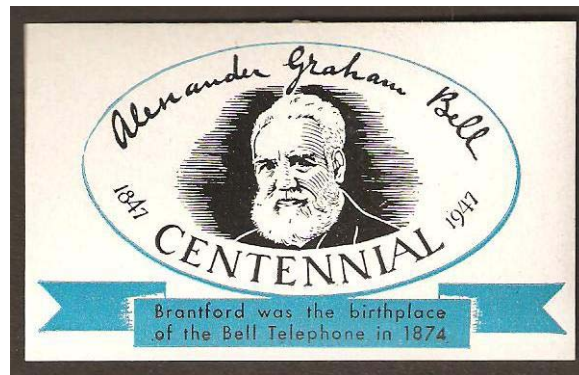


Figure 1. The Official Bell  
Centennial Logo

FDC MONOGRAPH NO. 6

EDITION 2 JANUARY, 2008

PART III

POSTCARDS, HAND-DRAWN OR PAINTED &  
PREDOMINANTLY TEXT

## STUDY PAPER ORGANIZATION

This Study Paper has been divided into four parts due to the large number of First Day Covers identified for the Bell Issue.

	<u>Thematic Categories of Cachets</u>	<u>Category No.</u>
<b><u>Part I</u></b>		
	Bell Portraits	
	Centennial Logo	274.100
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	Older Bell	.150
	Bell Homestead	.200
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<b><u>Part III</u></b>		
	<b><u>Standard Categories of Cachets:</u></b>	
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	Predominantly Text	.800
<b><u>Part IV</u></b>		
	General Purpose	.900
	<b><u>Uncacheted Covers:</u></b>	
	Business cover, typed message	.994
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	Personal cover, hand-written or printed message	.998
	Personal cover, FD dated only	.999

**FDC No.:** 274.601

**Cachet By:** Folkard

**Description:** The reverse side of this postcard contains a four-paragraph biography of Bell which occupies about one-third of the card in fine print, while the obverse has a portrait of Bell.

**Photo:** See next page.

PLIEZ ET DETACHEZ

ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL

Born, March 3, 1847. Died, August 2, 1922.

One hundred years ago a son was born, in Edinburgh, to Melville Bell, a teacher of correct speech. The boy was taught his father's science early in life. To his studies he brought rare talents: a sensitive ear, a passion for experiment, a fine scientific brain.

The boy, Alexander Graham Bell, was threatened at 23 with tuberculosis. The father took his family to Canada in search of a healthful climate. At the Brantford homestead where they settled, Bell regained his health, and conceived his great invention, the fruit of his studies in speech and electricity: the telephone.

The invention brought fame and fortune, but did not change him. He remained a teacher, an inventor and a humanitarian. He was always attempting something new, always working for the good of mankind. He said he would rather be remembered as a teacher of the deaf than as the inventor of the telephone.

This year the world remembers him as a great human being.

ADDRESS ONLY

Message inside



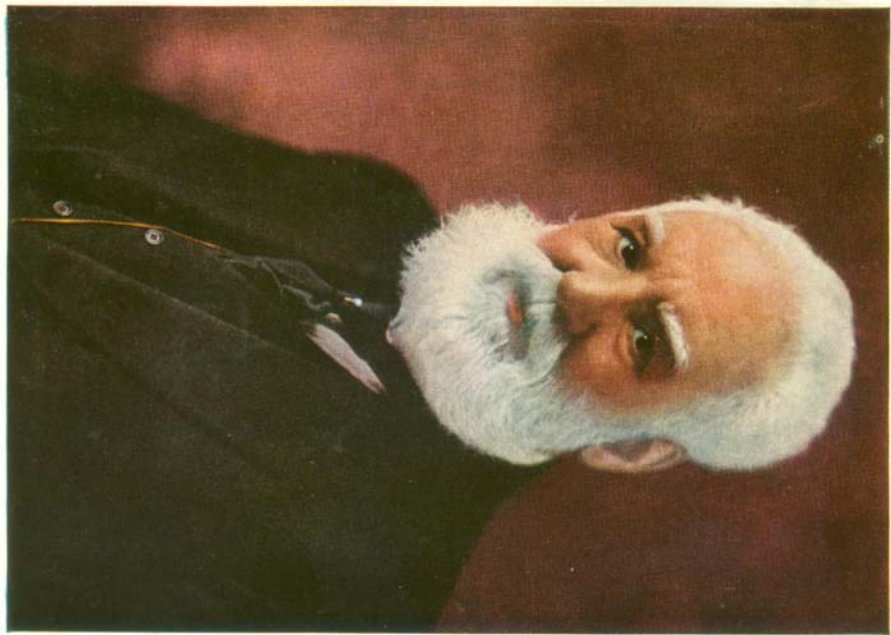
TO OPEN FOLD AND TEAR OFF

TO OPEN FOLD AND TEAR OFF

*Miss D. Christianow Jones  
31 Douglas Ave.  
Toronto, Ont.*

COMPANY OF CANADA LIMITED DRUMMONDBLDG., MONTREAL  
FOLKARD CANADA. COPYRIGHT CANADA 1929 REG'D U.S.A. PATENT OFFICE

ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL.



**FDC No.:** 274.602

**Cachet By:** Folkard

**Description:** This postcard features a frontal view of the Bell homestead and a four-paragraph background description about the house and how it was the place where Bell conceived the idea of the telephone.

**Photo:** See next page.

PLIEZ ET DETACHEZ

THE BELL HOMESTEAD AND MUSEUM  
BRANTFORD, ONT. CANADA.

*Birthplace of the Telephone Idea*

In August, 1870, a Scottish family, newly arrived in Canada, moved into this typical Ontario farmhouse at Tutela Heights, near Brantford, Ontario. Ten years later, when Melville Bell, father of that family, moved away, the simple Homestead had been made famous for all time.

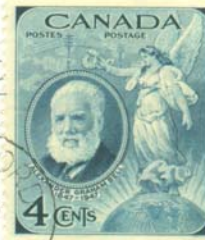
Melville Bell's words on that occasion will serve to explain the Homestead's enduring fame. "Under yon roof of mine", he said, "the telephone was born".

For it was in this house that his son, Alexander Graham Bell, had conceived his idea of how to transmit speech by electricity. Here, in the summer of 1874, he explained that idea to his father, and here he drafted the specifications for the telephone patent.

To this house thousands come annually to see the birthplace of the telephone idea. It is now preserved as a memorial and a museum containing relics of the life of Bell and of the history of the telephone.

ADDRESS ONLY

Message inside



*Handwritten address:*  
Mr. R. H. ...  
31 ...  
Brantford, Ont.

TO OPEN FOLD AND TEAR OFF

TO OPEN FOLD AND TEAR OFF

FOLKARD COMPANY OF CANADA LIMITED DRUMMOND BLDG., MONTREAL, CANADA, COPYRIGHT CANADA 1929 REG'D U.S.A. PATENT OFFICE.



THE BELL HOMESTEAD AND MUSEUM, BRANTFORD, ONT. CANADA

**FDC No.:** 274.603

**Cachet By:** Folkard

**Description:** This Folkard postcard shows a front view of the Bell Memorial, and the back of the card has a description of how the Memorial came into being.

**Photo:** See next page.

PLIEZ ET DETACHEZ

THE BELL MEMORIAL, BRANTFORD,  
ONT., CANADA.

"To commemorate the invention of the telephone by Alexander Graham Bell in Brantford, 1874".

So reads the inscription on this memorial, which stands in the beautiful Bell Memorial Gardens in Brantford, Ontario. The memorial was designed and built by Walter S. Allward, a Canadian sculptor.

The Bell Memorial Association, which raised the funds for this work, consisted of Canadians and Americans in all walks of life who thought that some permanent mark of recognition should be made to Bell's genius. For many years funds were collected and the work went on, under the presidency of the late Col. W. F. Cockshutt.

On October 24, 1917, the Memorial was unveiled, in the presence of Alexander Graham Bell himself, by the Governor General, the Duke of Devonshire.

Overcome by emotion, the inventor said, on that occasion, "There are some things worth living for, and this is one of them".

TO OPEN FOLD AND TEAR OFF

TO OPEN FOLD AND TEAR OFF

ADDRESS ONLY

Message inside



*Handwritten address:*  
H. D. Hutchinson Jr.,  
31 Douglas Ave.,  
Oakville, Ont.

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CANADA, COPYRIGHT CANADA 1929 REG. U.S.A. PATENT OFFICE.



THE BELL MEMORIAL, BRANTFORD, ONT. CANADA



**FDC No.:** 274.604

**Cachet By:** PECO (Photogelatine Engraving Company Limited)

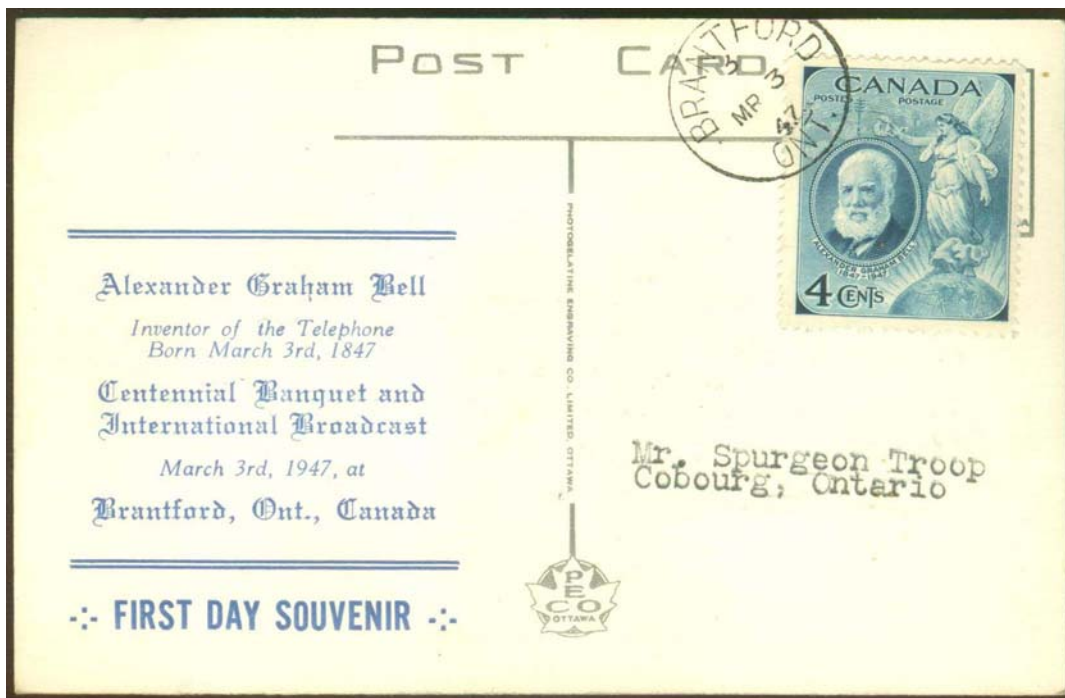
**Description:** This PECO # 20 postcard has a right frontal view of the Bell Homestead. The reverse of the card consists of an invitation to a “Centennial Banquet and International Broadcast” scheduled for March 3, 1947. This message also appears on the three other PECO cards shown here.

**Photo:**



Note: The other side of this post card is shown on the next page.

**Photo:** Non-picture side of 274.604. The four PECO cards shown in this section all have the same non-picture side.



**FDC No.:** 274.605

**Cachet By:** PECO (Photogelatine Engraving Company Limited)

**Description:** This postcard, PECO #12, has a photograph of the Bell Memorial and surrounding buildings. The statues fronting the Memorial are at the left side of the view and comprise a side view of the frontal view shown in 274.602. The invitation to the Centennial Banquet is shown on the reverse of the card.

**Photo:**



**FDC No.:** 274.606

**Cachet By:** PECO (Photogelatine Engraving Company Limited)

**Description:** PECO card #41 shows a photograph of Lorne Park in Brantford.  
The information about the Centennial event is shown on the other side.

**Photo:**



**FDC No.:** 274.607

**Cachet By:** PECO (Photogelatine Engraving Company Limited)

**Description:** PECO card #43 shows the armouries and the Grand River in Brantford. The other side of the card has the same information as the previous cards in the PECO series.

**Photo:**

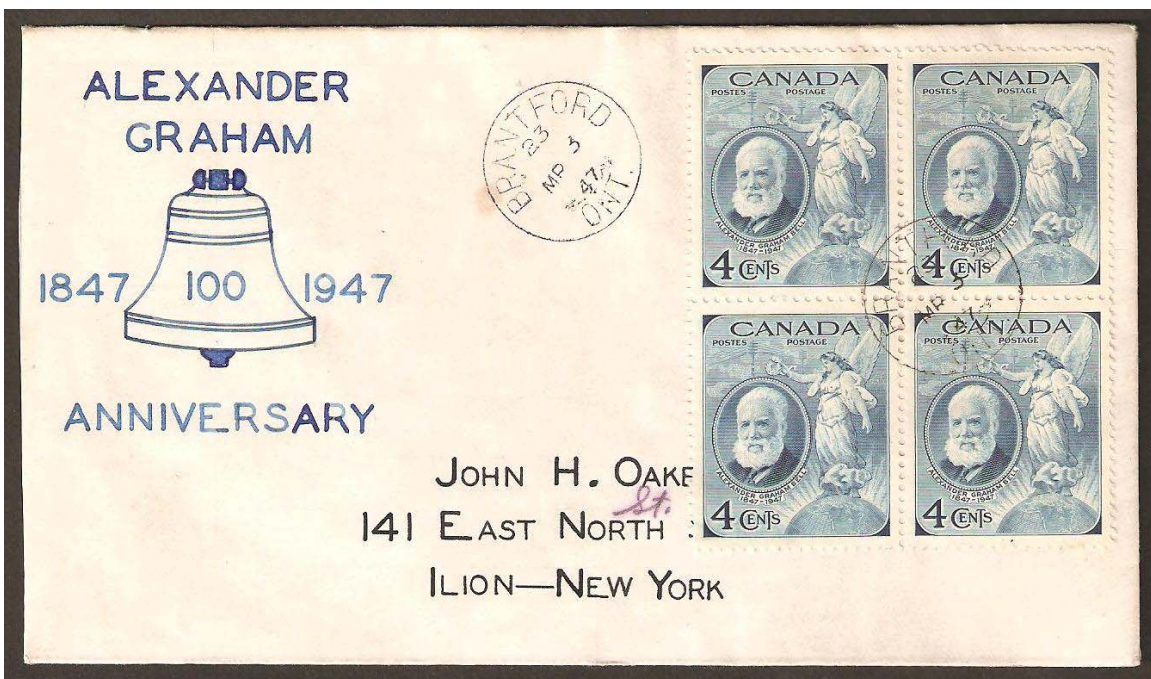


FDC No.: 274.651

Cachet By: Unknown

**Description:** This cachet was hand-drawn and lettered in blue ink. A bell encloses the number "100" with "1847" and "1947" at each side of it. Wording above the bell is, "ALEXANDER GRAHAM" and below it is "ANNIVERSARY."

Photo:

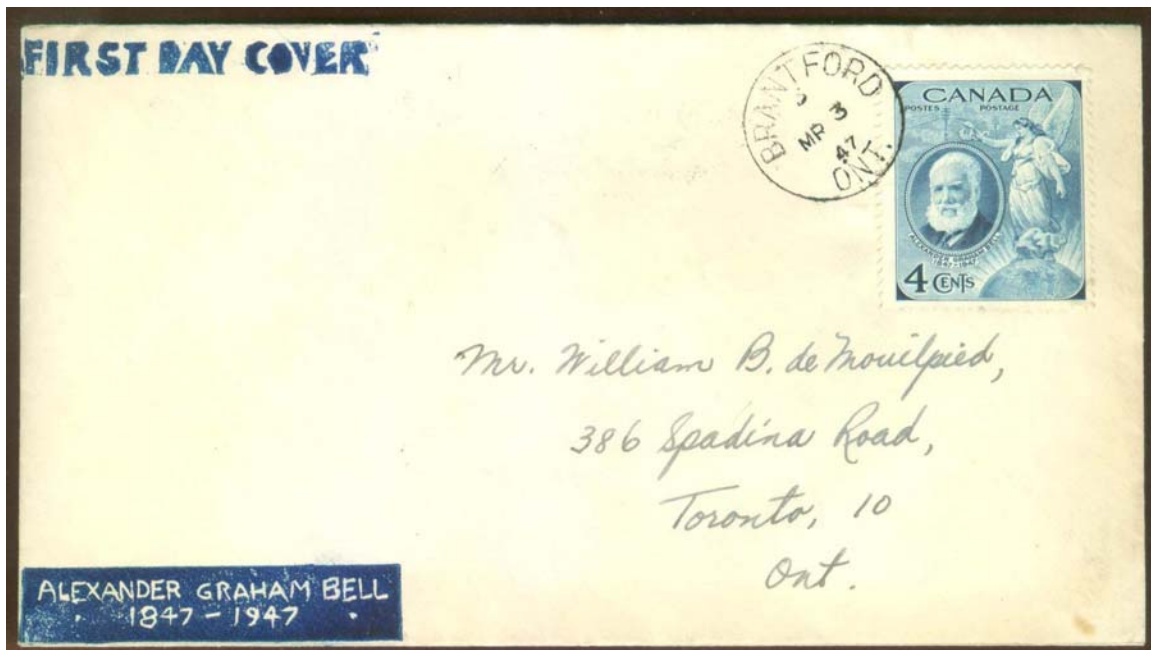


FDC No.: 274.652

Cachet By: Unknown

**Description:** This hand-made cachet was prepared in ink. It has "FIRST DAY COVER" in blue lettering at the top left corner while the bottom left corner has "ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL/ 1847-1947" in white lettering on a solid blue background.

Photo:



**FDC No.:** 274.653

**Cachet By:** Unknown

**Description:** This hand-drawn cachet with unknown colours shows a telephone operator at work on a switchboard with Bell in the background holding a telephone. Lettering at top left is, "FIRST DAY COVER."

**Photo:** This is a second-generation scan from a black and white photograph in a periodical.





FDC No.: 274.654

Cachet By: Dorothy Knapp

**Description:** This attractive multi-coloured, hand-drawn cachet shows a globe encircled by telephone lines with an allegorical figure at top left. The Bell Centennial years are shown on either side of a telephone at the bottom of the globe. A banner at the bottom of the cachet encloses Bell's name.

Photo:



FDC No.: 274.655

Cachet By: Unknown

**Description:** The theme of this cachet is similar to the previous one in that it depicts telephone lines encircling the world. Most of the cachet is in brown except for the word "COMMUNICATION" which appears in black on a banner near the bottom of the design.

Photo:



FDC No.: 274.656

Cachet By: L. J. B.

**Description:** This hand-drawn cachet in black shows a woman in a bathtub being interrupted by the ringing of a telephone. Bell's name is written beneath the tub and his centenary dates appear at bottom centre.

Photo:

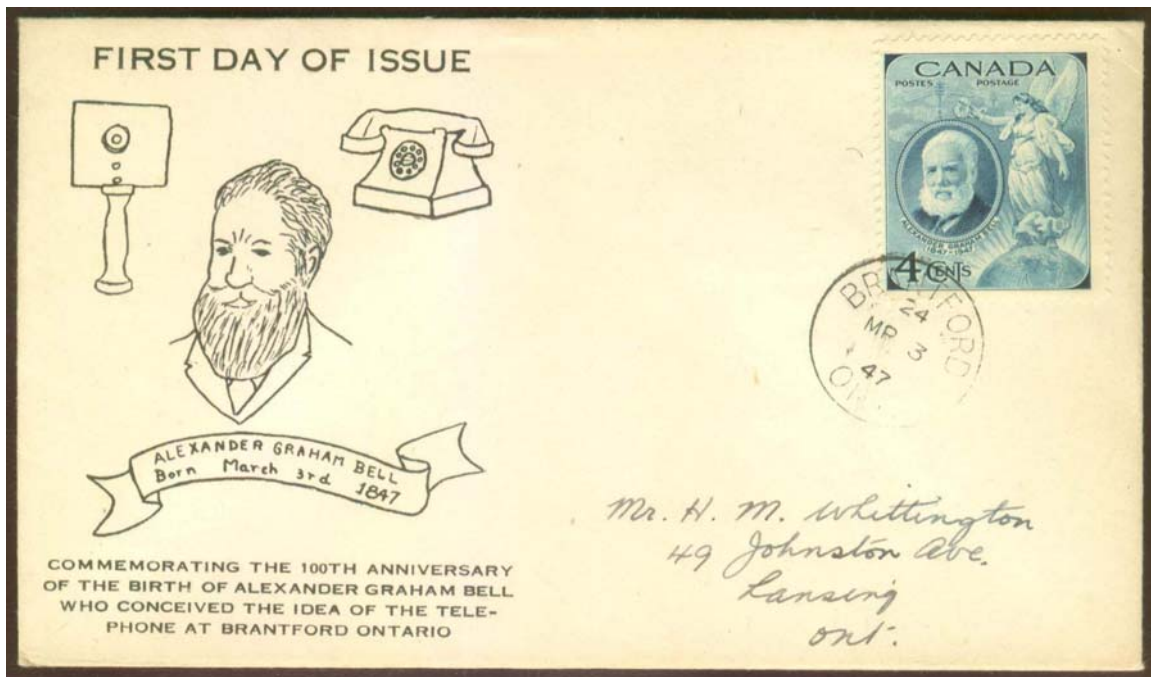


FDC No.: 274.657.01

Cachet By: Unknown

**Description:** This black cachet with hand drawings shows Bell and a pair of telephones, one early and one contemporary. A banner below the drawing of Bell has his name and birth date. Text above the pictorial elements reads "FIRST DAY OF ISSUE" while below them is the following: "COMMEMORATING THE 100<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY/ OF THE BIRTH OF ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL/ WHO CONCEIVED THE IDEA OF THE TELE-/ PHONE AT BRANTFORD ONTARIO."

Photo:

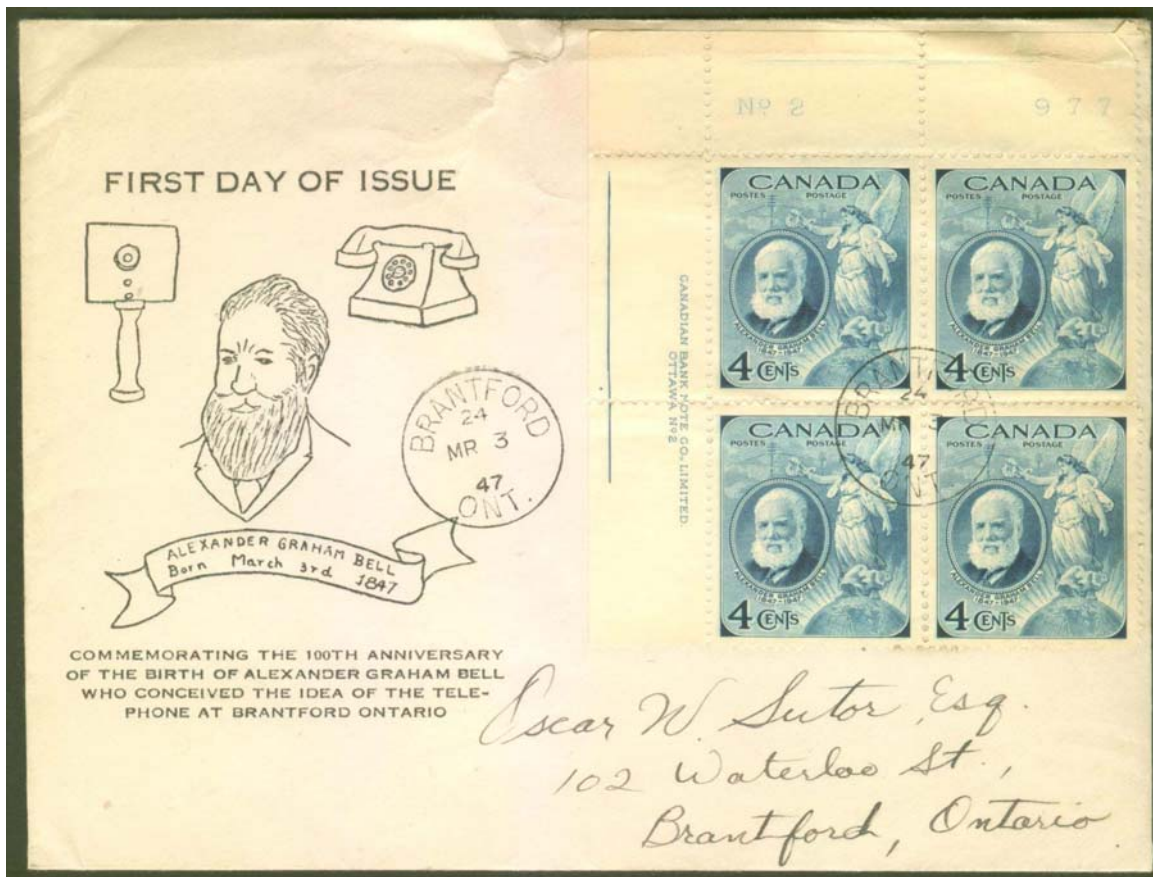


FDC No.: 274.657.02

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: This cachet is the same as the previous one except that it is on a 6.5  
x 5.0 inch envelope.

Photo:

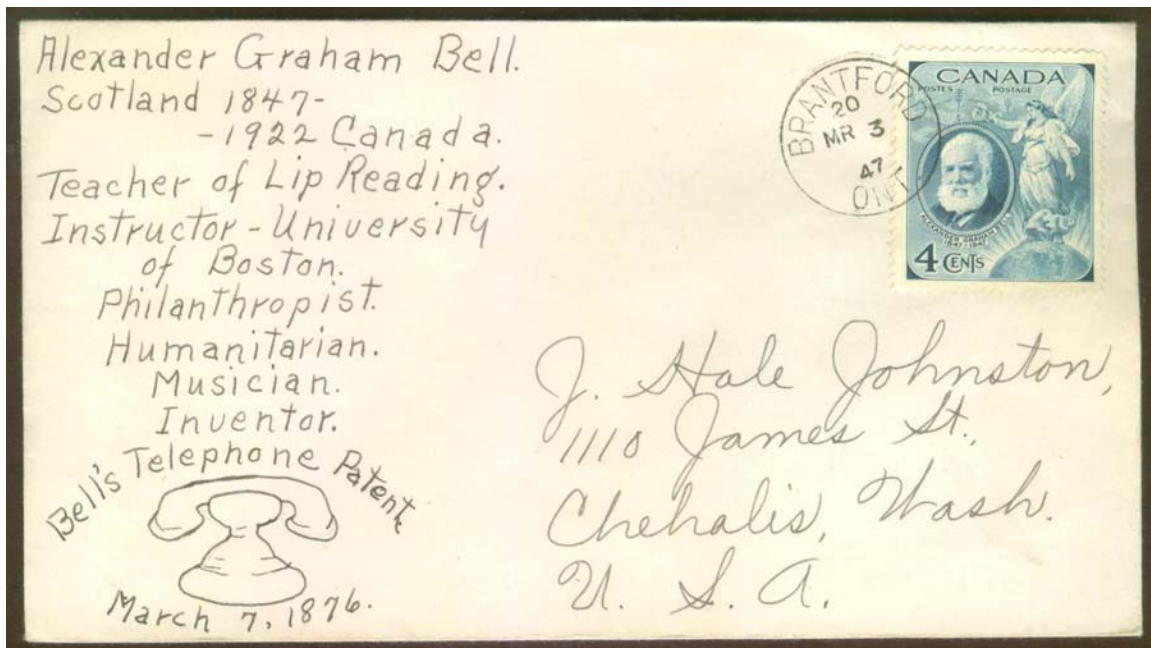


FDC No.: 274.658

Cachet By: Unknown

**Description:** Here is a hand-lettered cachet with a short summary of Bell's career and achievements. At the bottom is a drawing of a telephone with the words "Bell's Telephone Patent" above it and March 7, 1876 beneath.

**Photo:**

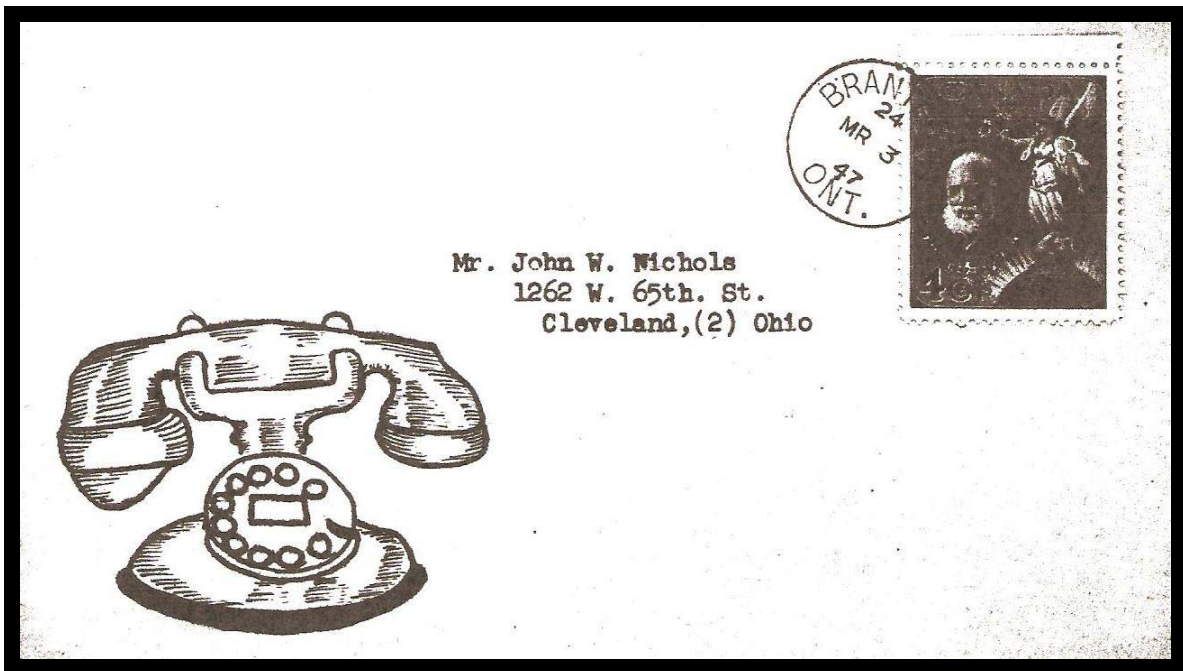


**FDC No.:** 274.659.01

**Cachet By:** John Nichols

**Description:** This hand-drawn cachet shows a contemporary model of the telephone in a very simple design.

**Photo:** This is a black and white photocopy.



**FDC No.:** 274.659.02

**Cachet By:** John Nichols

**Description:** This slightly more elaborate version of the previous cachet shows a slightly different rendering of a telephone, but there is also a sketched globe behind it.

**Photo:** This is a black and white photocopy.





FDC No.: 274.660

Cachet By: Gladys Adler

**Description:** This hand-painted cachet features a portrait of the younger Bell with a banner beneath it reading, "THE FIRST/ Telephone Man's [in script]/ Centennial 1847 1947." Bell's name appears in script below the portrait and "1<sup>st</sup> Day of Issue" is near the top of the cachet.

Photo:

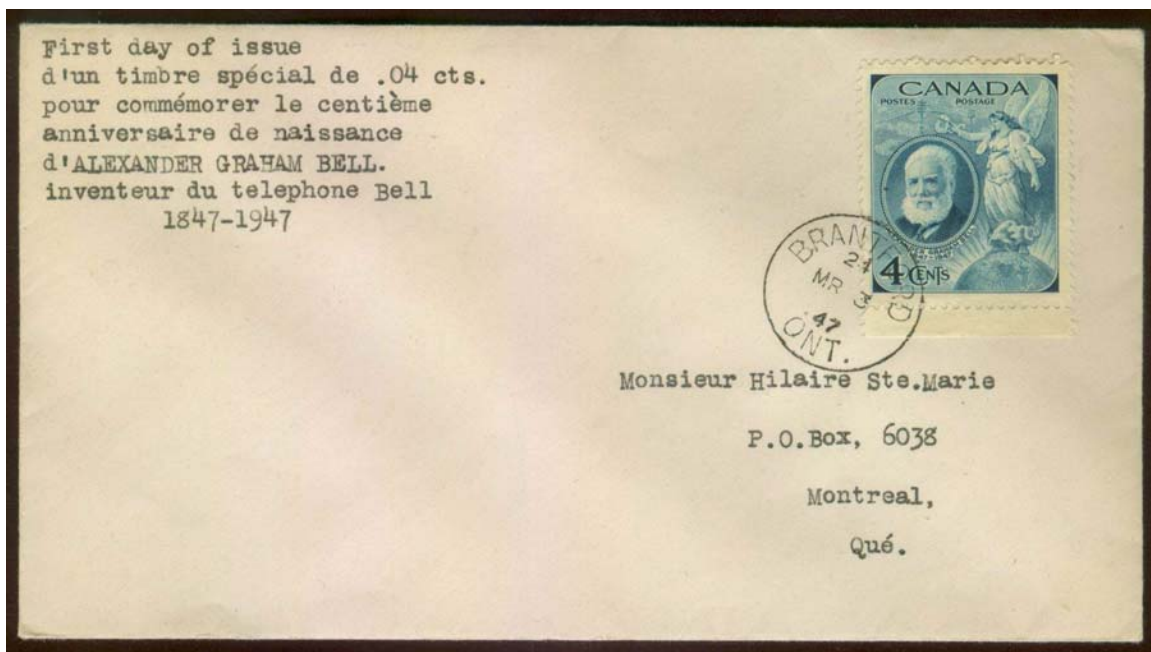


**FDC No.:** 274.661

**Cachet By:** Unknown

**Description:** Here is a typed cachet featuring a seven-line text, six lines of which are in French. "First day of issue" is the lead line, with the balance reading, "d'un timbre special de .04 cts./ pour commémorer le centieme/ anniversaire de naissance/ d'ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL./ inventeur du telephone Bell/ 1847-1947."

**Photo:**

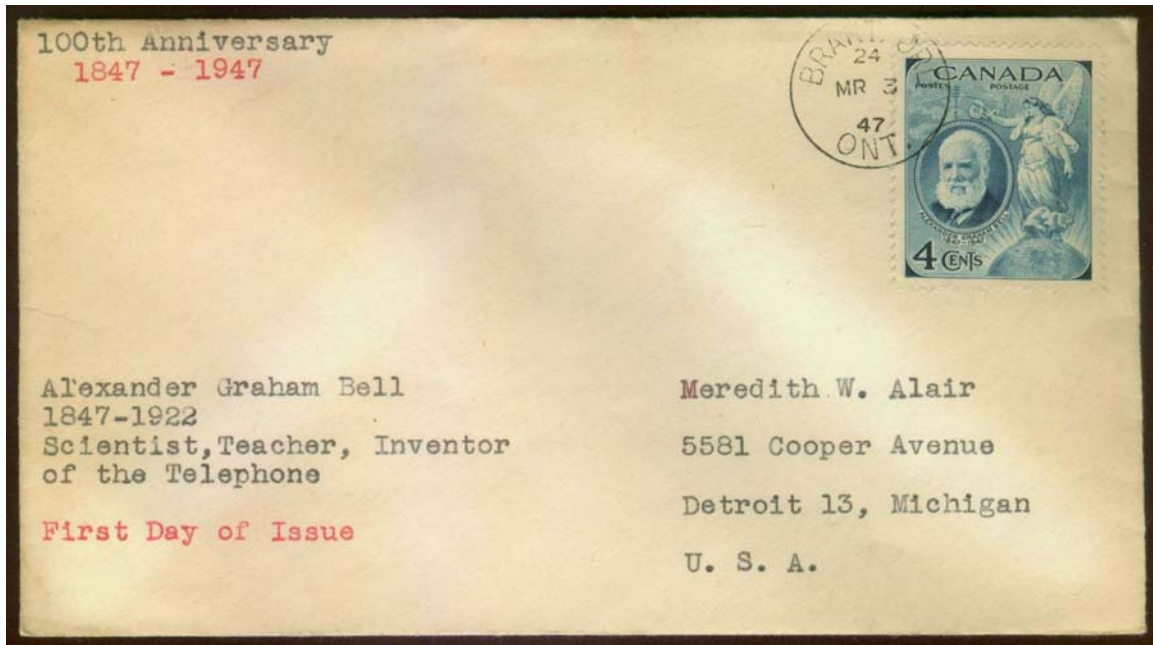


FDC No.: 274.662

Cachet By: Unknown

**Description:** Here is another typed FDC with two lines at the top, "100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary/ 1847-1947" and five lines at the bottom reading, "Alexander Graham Bell/ 1847-1922/ Scientist, Teacher, Inventor/ of the Telephone/ First Day of Issue."

Photo:

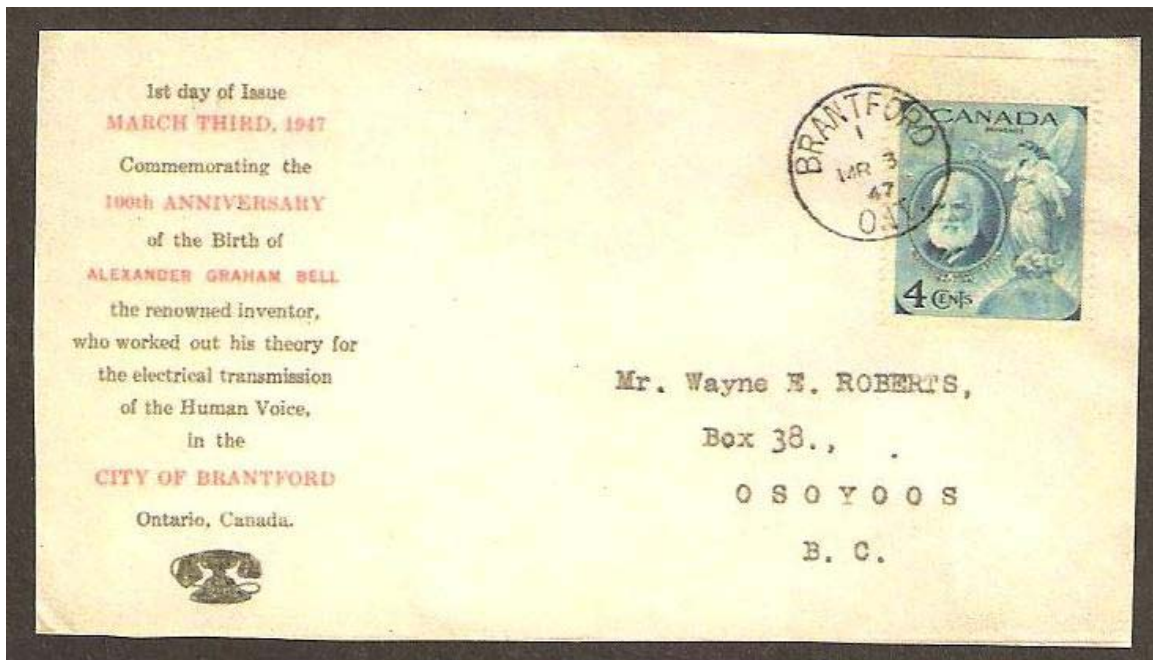


FDC No.: 274.801

Cachet By: Corporal A. K. Bond (Osoyoos RCMP)

**Description:** This red and black cachet consists of thirteen lines of text and a small picture of a telephone at the bottom. The text reads, "1<sup>st</sup> day of Issue/ MARCH THIRD, 1947/ Commemorating the/ 100<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY/ of the Birth of/ ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL/ the renowned inventor,/ who worked out his theory for/ the electrical transmission/ of the Human Voice,/ in the/ CITY OF BRANTFORD/ Ontario, Canada.

Photo:

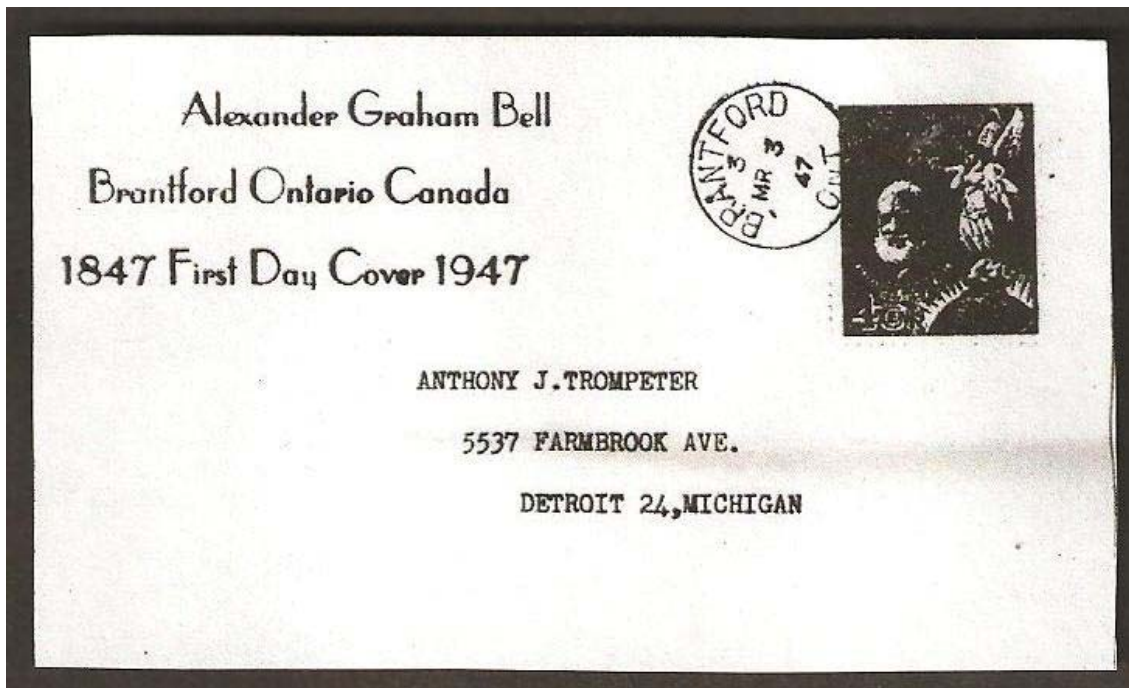


**FDC No.:** 274.802

**Cachet By:** Unknown

**Description:** This cachet with unknown colours contains only text, as follows:  
"Alexander Graham Bell/ Brantford Ontario Canada/ 1847 First Day Cover 1947."

**Photo:** This is a second-generation scan.



FDC No.: 274.803

Cachet By: Unknown

**Description:** This black and white cachet of unknown origin bears the following text: "ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL/ Commemorative/ 1847-1947/ First Day of Issue/ March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1947."

Photo:

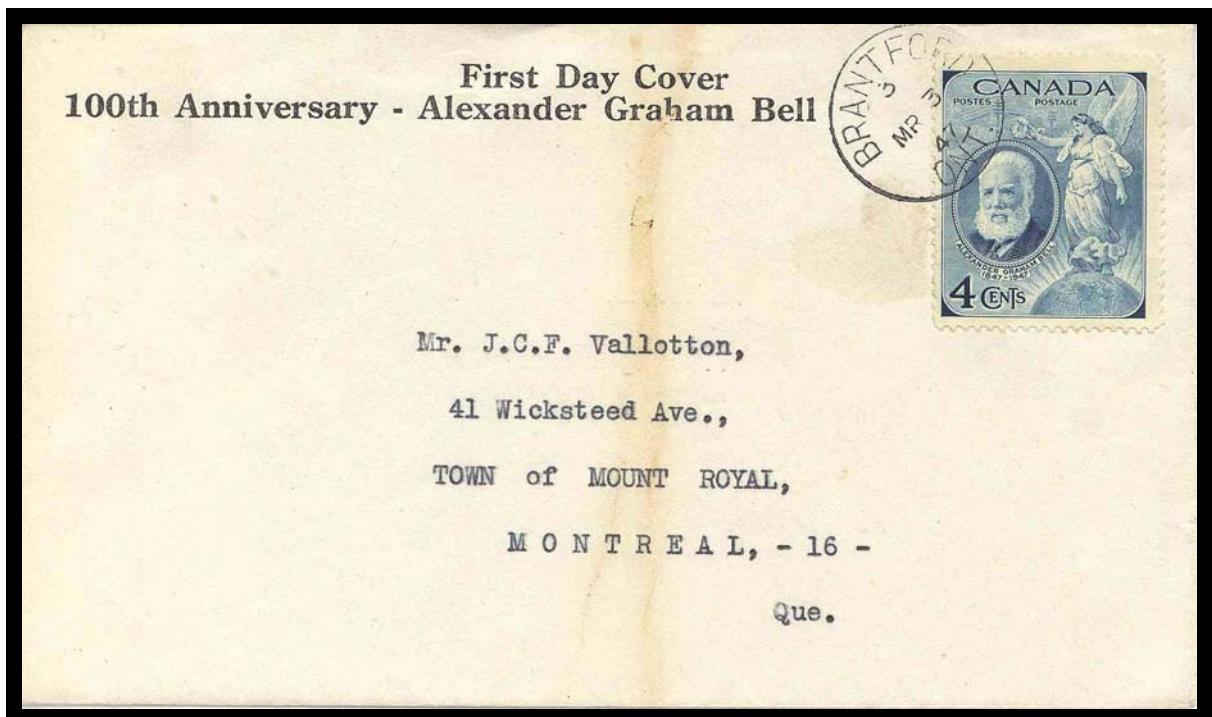


FDC No.: 274.804

Cachet By: Vallotton

Description: This simple cachet with text only contains the message, "First Day Cover/ 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary-Alexander Graham Bell."

Photo:

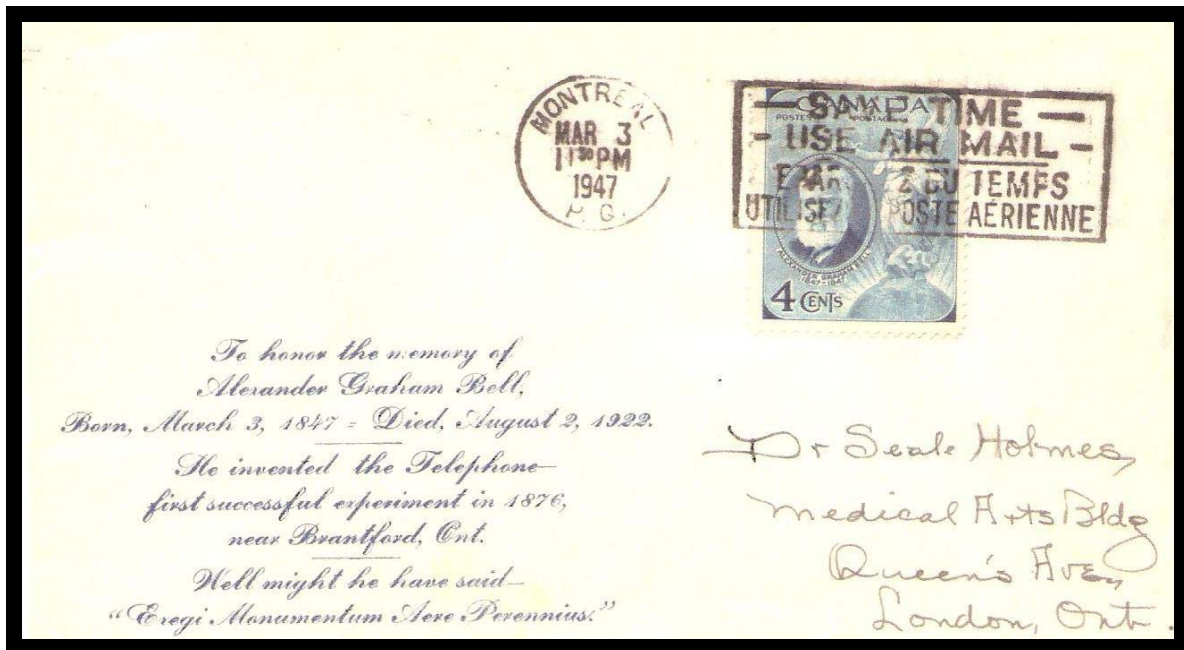


FDC No.: 274.805

Cachet By: Unknown

**Description:** This cachet consists of blue italic text with the message, "To honor the memory of/ Alexander Graham Bell,/ Born March 3, 1847, Died August 3, 1922/ He invented the Telephone/ first successful experiment in 1876,/ near Brantford, Ont./ Well might he have said--/ [illegible]."

Photo:



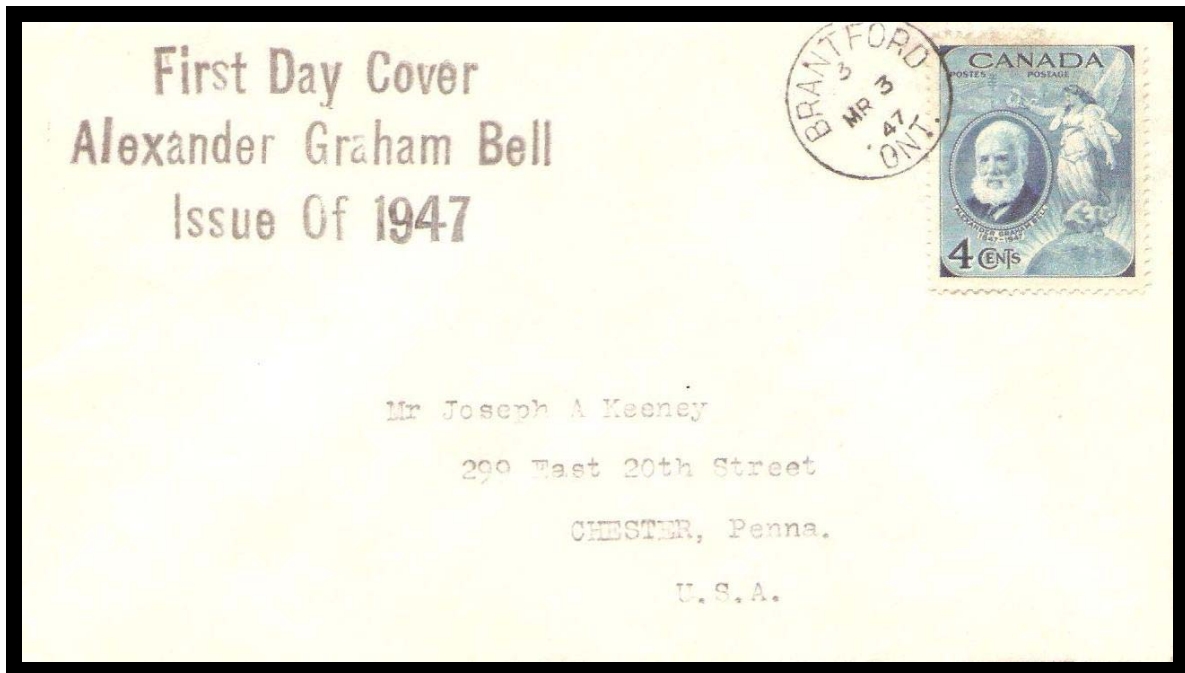


**FDC No.:** 274.806

**Cachet By:** Unknown

**Description:** This rubber stamped cachet has three lines of text reading, "First Day Cover/ Alexander Graham Bell/ Issue Of 1947."

**Photo:**

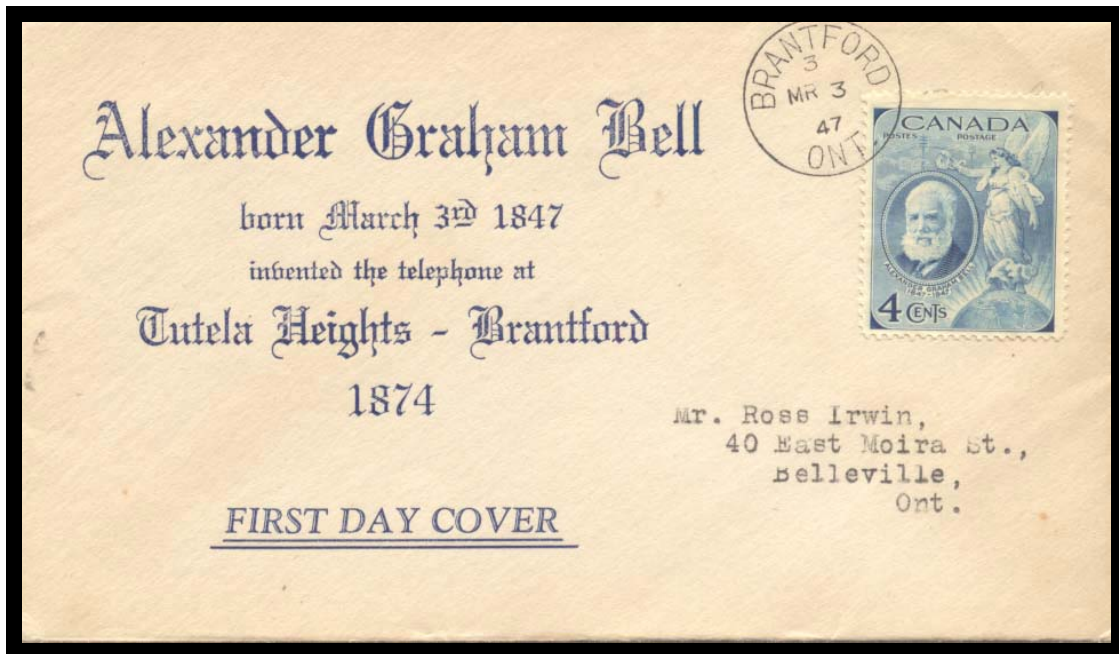


FDC No.: 274.807

Cachet By: Unknown

**Description:** The text of this cachet is primarily in italics and reads as follows:  
“Alexander Graham Bell/ born March 3<sup>rd</sup> 1847/ invented the telephone at/ Tutela  
Heights—Brantford/ 1874/ FIRST DAY COVER.”

Photo:



**END PART III**