

Addison

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An Introduction to Addison

- What is the most famous Canadian radio brand *outside of Canada*? Rogers? Northern Electric? Nope! My guess would be Addison.
- Addison is best known for Catalin radio cabinets in vivid colours with Art Deco styling, and these have become some of the most recognizable and collectable radios of the era. (They also did wood, plastic and bakelite radios, by the way)
- The American “The Collectors Guide to Antique Radios” (Bunis) contains *only one* non-American manufacturer: Addison. (No Rogers, no Phillips, no Telefunken, no Sony...).
- Electrically, most of their radios are AC-DC 5-tube “All American 5” sets, and a few battery portables.

Addison History

- The web says Harold and Jack Addison founded Addison Radio Industries in ?1939? in Toronto. (actually probably much earlier than that, some 1935ish radios have been seen).
- Purchased Mohawk Radio (that possibly had a right to use the Crosley name). Possibly Sparton???
- Very active in the 1940's. War effort. The 1950's are a bit of a mystery.
- Jack died in 1961, and Addison was liquidated. Léo Labrèche, Addison's Montréal service manager, buys the electronics division, calls it Addison TV Parts. They sell electronic parts (and appliance parts, as well as repairs) in Quebec.
- They still exist.
- We believe they owned (or somehow had a relationship with) Add Electronics, formerly located behind the Parkdale market in Ottawa.



1935?

Uses 6A7 6D6 75 42 80



Addison 
c. 1934
wood, 5 tubes, 1 band



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Photo Sept. 2007
It was gone by 2009







Catalin

- Bakelite, invented by Leo Baekeland in New York in 1907, was the first synthetic thermosetting plastic. It is formed by phenol (from coal tar) formaldehyde (from methanol) resin with wood flour or asbestos fibre filler, set under pressure. However, the filler makes it dark and opaque.
- Phenol formaldehyde resin is also the basis for “Phenolic” circuit boards.
- Catalin is a brand name for a thermosetting polymer developed and trademarked in 1927 by the American Catalin Corporation (having acquired the Bakelite patents). It uses a modification of the phenol formaldehyde used in bakelite, without filler. Special recipe for marbleized look. To get the “sheen” back, much manual labour is required.
- Production started ~1939

Model 5 "Courthouse", 1940's. Production ended 1947



\$3000???

Wood →

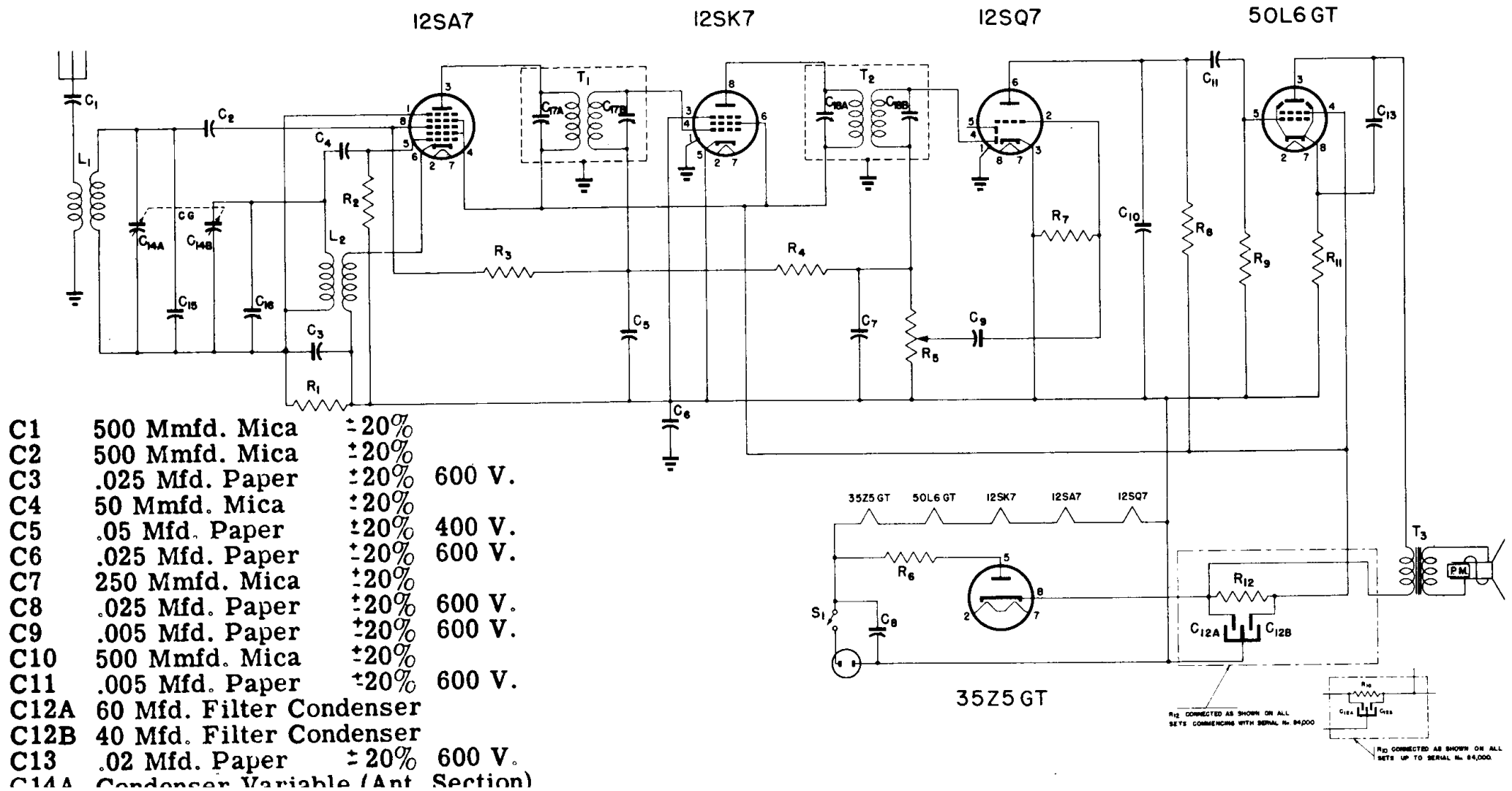




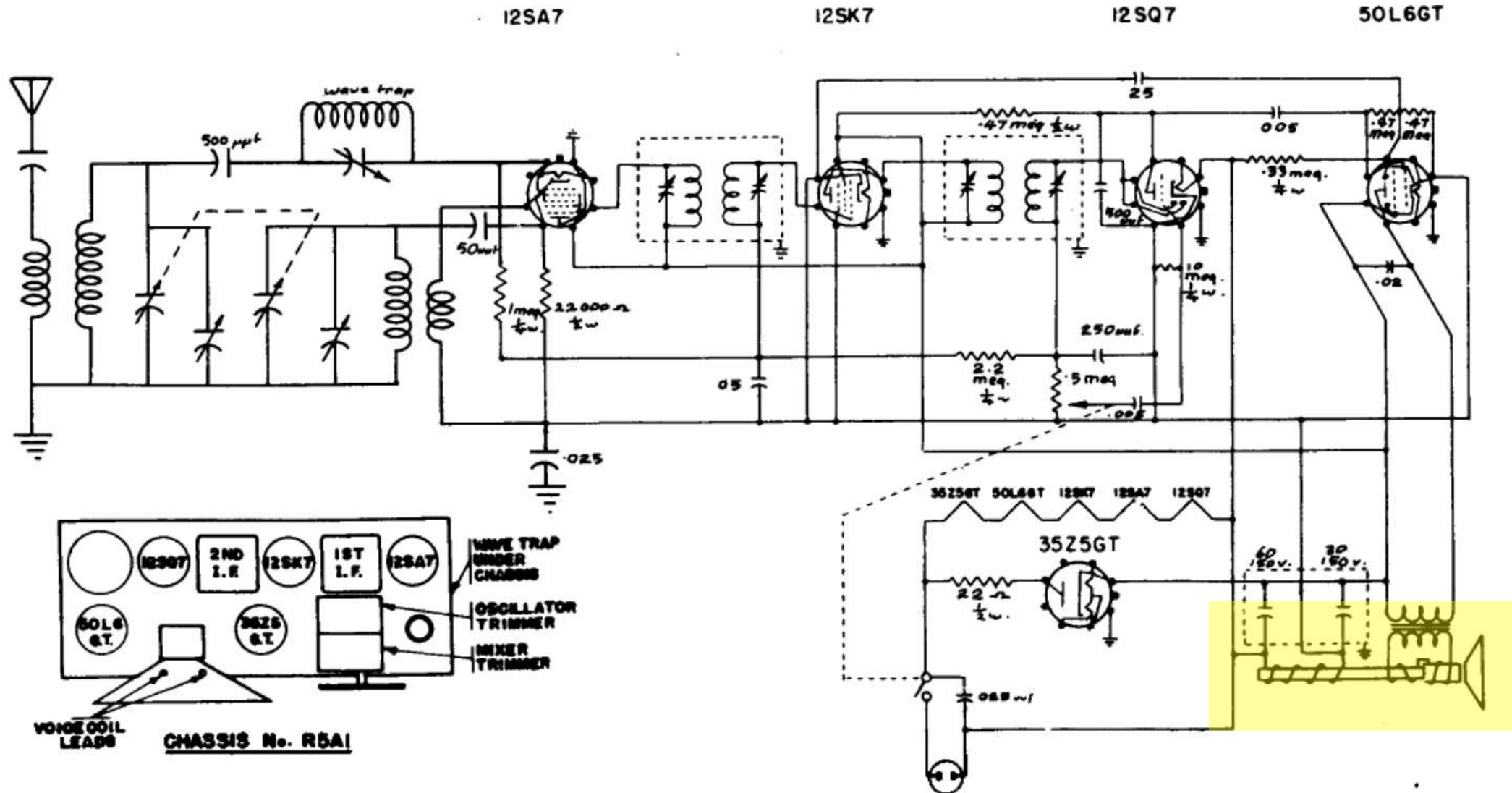
Model B2 "Waterfall", late 1940's. Production ended 1955



Model 2 Schematic: your basic AA5



Early model 2 Schematic: Note the Field Coil









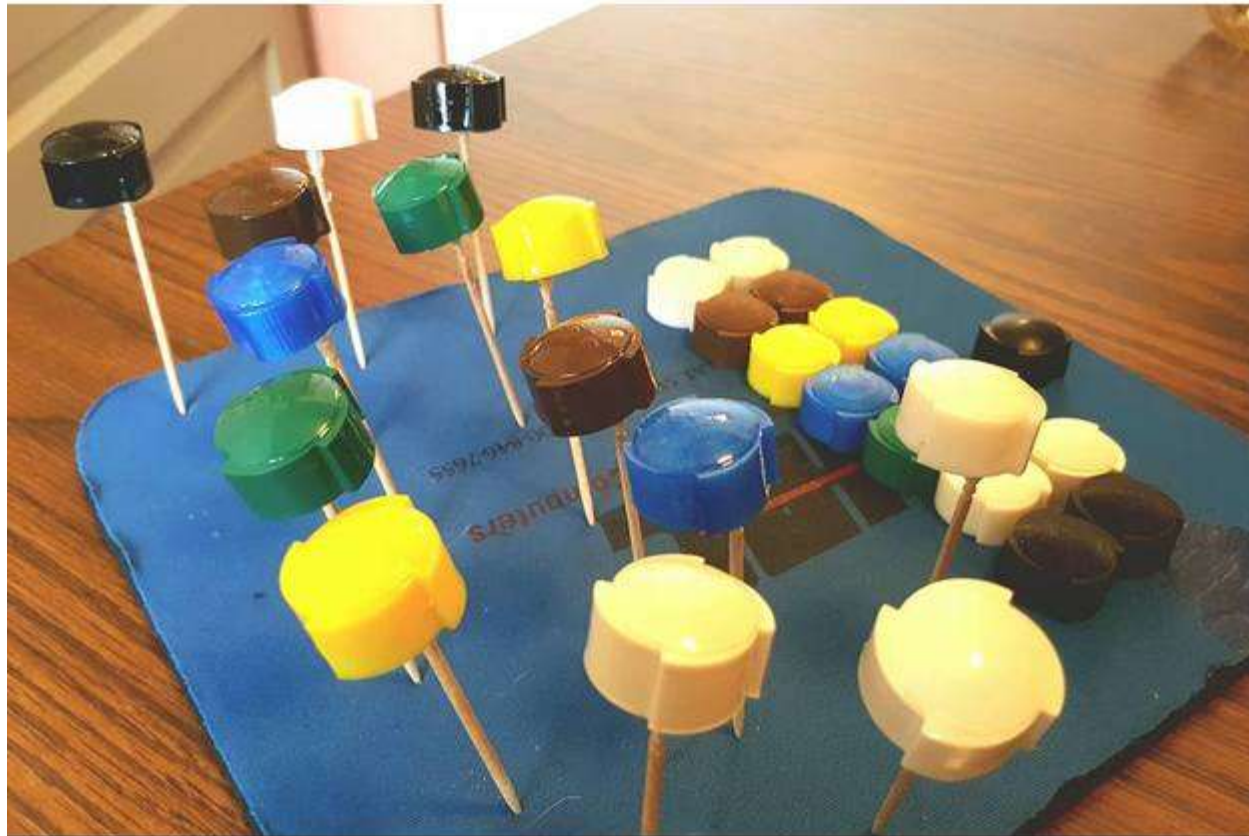
Crosley Radio, made by Addison







Addison Pinwheel Knobs





060-5004, Price, delivered, 49.95

Addison "Dansatone" Record Player

© A record player you can carry anywhere. Built-in amplifier. Sturdy carrying case has space for 10 records. Imitation leather-covered detachable cover. Weight about 13 lbs. Available in 25 or 60-cycle. 110 volt. Price, delivered, 49.95

060-5005, "Dansatone" Electric 25-cycle. Price, delivered, 49.95

060-5015, "Dansatone" Electric 60-cycle. Price, delivered, 49.95

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