



The **Stamp Collector's Club of Toledo** encourages new exhibitors by placing a "club frame" at Toledo Stamp Expo. Each member may enter a page or pages related to a selected general theme. This year we feature the letter "H" Any philatelic item, no matter how remotely related to the letter "H" may be entered.

In addition to promoting new exhibitors we hope this will expand the collecting horizons of every member and visitor to our show.

Please peruse our club exhibit and feel free to make remarks to our people at the reception desk.

Thank you for attending Toledo Stamp Expo '98

H is for

HILL, SIR ROWLAND



Sir Rowland Hill (1795-1879) is responsible for introducing "**Uniform Penny Postage**" to Great Britain. He also proposed the world's first **adhesive postage stamps**. Seeing the need for a simpler postage system, he expounded his views in a pamphlet, *Post Office Reform* (1837).

In 1839 he was authorized to put his plan into practice. In 1840 a uniform prepaid rate of one penny for all inland letters, irrespective of distance, began. The first stamps, the Penny Black, and Twopence Blue, were introduced the following year.

Hill was first appointed secretary to the Postmaster-General, then became Chief Secretary of the Post Office from 1854 until he resigned owing to ill health in 1864.

During this period Sir Rowland was responsible for a number of other measures to improve the postal service. The effect of his reforms was to raise the number of inland letters from 77 million in 1838 to 642 million by the time of his retirement.* Not only did simpler and less costly correspondence aid the growth of business, but, contrary to naysayers' fears, postal contributions to the treasury grew as well.

Reforms and improvements begun by Hill were soon followed by other countries: Brazil (1843), Mauritius and USA (1847), France and Belgium (1849). Most countries followed soon afterwards. In 1874 the Universal Postal Union (U.P.U.) was formed to standardize rates and services between member countries.

Sir Rowland Hill and his contributions have been commemorated by stamp issues from 147 countries. The American Topical Association has a checklist of all these stamps available to members who wish to form a collection.



*R.J.Sutton Rev, K.W. Anthony, 1966 *The Stamp Collector's Encyclopedia*, Bonanza Books

The "H" Stamp

"H" Rate Change Stamps – and a Modern Rarity!

*Due to pending postal rate increases in 1998,
the U.S. Postal Service issued a set of non-denominational stamps
featuring "Uncle Sam's hat."*

The new postal rate was set at 33¢.

Seven different varieties were produced...and one surprise that surfaced later!



Scott 3260
Uncle Sam's Hat
Pane Single
(33c)



Scott 3264
Uncle Sam's Hat
Coil
(33c)



Scott 3265
Uncle Sam's Hat
Coil Square Corners
die cut 9.9
(33c)



Scott 3268
Uncle Sam's Hat
Coil Square Corners
Die cut 11.2 x 11.1
(33c)



3266
Uncle Sam's Hat
Coil Round Corners
die cut 9.9
(33c)



Scott 3267
Uncle Sam's Hat
Booklet Die cut 9.9
(33c)



Scott 3264
Uncle Sam's Hat
Booklet
Die cut 8
(33c)

"Yellow Hat"

The "Yellow Hat" stamps were withdrawn before the new rate went into effect and never issued. They were supposed to be destroyed – yet a few of them turned up in the fall of 1999 in postally used condition! Only an estimated 230 H Rate stamps have been found to date – each a highly desirable modern rarity!



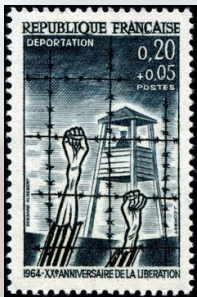
Unissued
Uncle Sam's Hat
Postcard Rate
die cut 9.9
(22c)

HOLOCAUST

The Holocaust, also known as the Shoah, was the genocide of European Jews during World War II. Between 1941 and 1945, Nazi Germany and its collaborators systematically murdered some six million Jews across German-occupied Europe, around two-thirds of Europe's Jewish population. The murders were carried out;

- ◆ *In pogroms and mass shootings;*
- ◆ *extermination through labor in concentration camps;*
- ◆ *gas chambers and gas vans in extermination camps.*

This was done chiefly at Auschwitz-Birkenau, Belzec, Chelmno, Majdanek, Sobibor, and Treblinka in occupied Poland.





Holland, Ohio began life Hardy in the 1850's. Probably named for Samuel Hardy, who was one of the signers of a document that ceded the northwest territories of Virginia to the government of the United States. He was a member of the Continental Congress in 1783-1785 and had been a lieutenant governor of Virginia. A post office was established here on August 4, 1853.

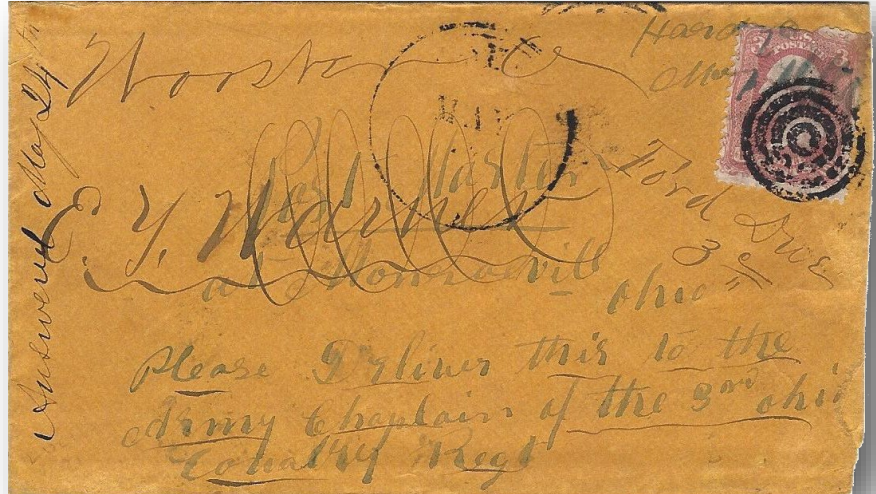
The name was changed to Holland in the early 1860s and the post office changed from Hardy to Holland February 17, 1863. The name Holland has

been thought to have come from the fact that ditches being dug in the 1850s to divert the swamp water reminded people of the canals of Holland. Others say the name came because of the large number of Dutch people in the area.

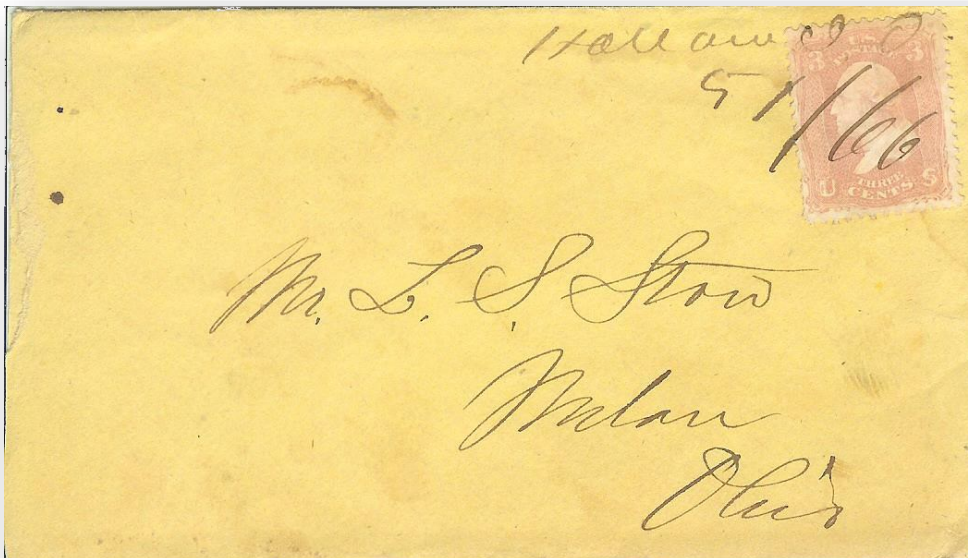
The most likely derivation of the name comes from a story about Franklin Hall (an early house builder in the area) that states when he platted the land for the building of his houses, he asked that it be called Hall Land. Supposedly, the clerk changed the "a" to an "o" and eliminated one "l", thus Holland.

On May 22, 1852, the first train ran between Toledo and Chicago through Hardy. Records of the Erie and Kalamazoo Railroad show a station in the area in 1860 with no name, but

freight and passengers from that site. In their records of 1880, it shows Holland having a population of 230 people, with the tons of freight increasing almost 20 times while the number of passengers increased by approximately 400% from 1860 to 1880. In the early 1860s, Robert Clark began developing land north of the railroad and Franklin Hall built houses south of the railroad. Their names are still memorialized in those respective areas by Clark and Hall Streets.

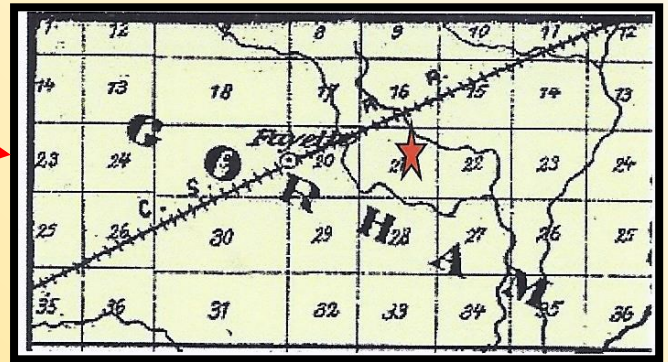
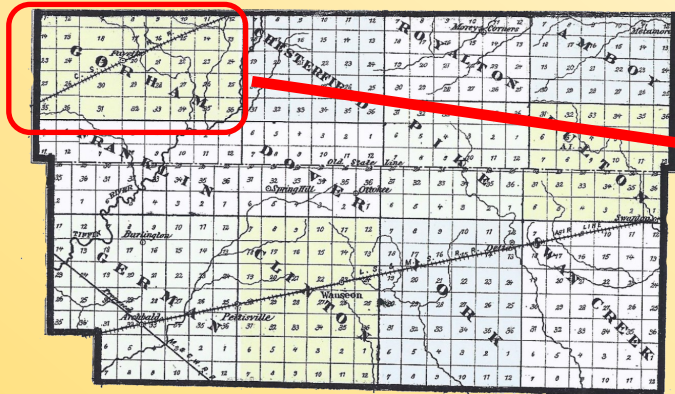


Early 1860s letter postmarked Hardy, Ohio



May 1866 letter with a manuscript Holland, Ohio postal marking.

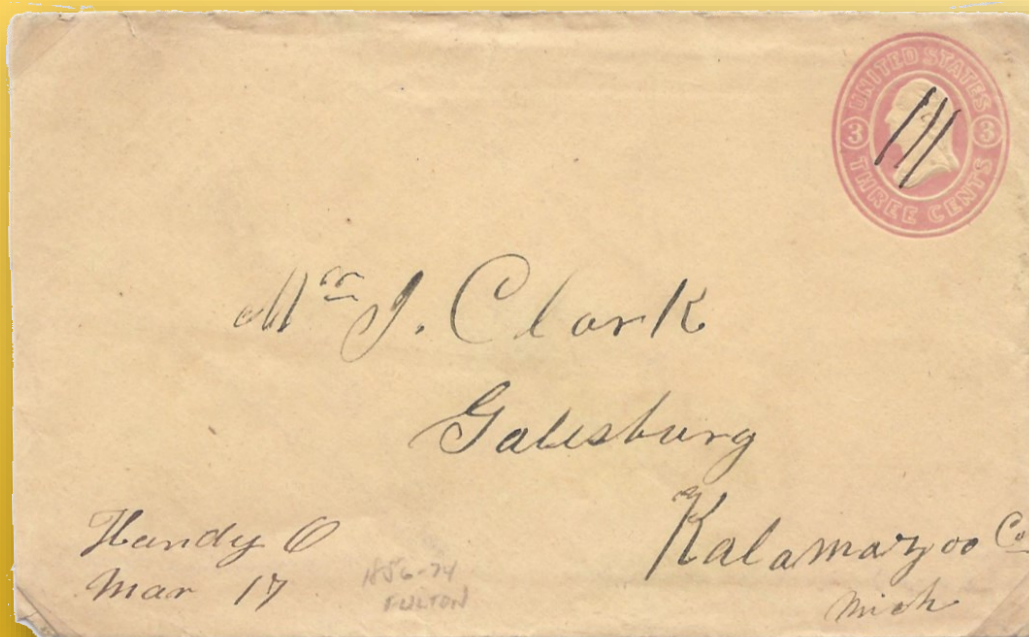
Handy, Fulton County, Ohio



A Handy post office was established **August 11, 1856** with Jared Parker as postmaster in the northeast quarter of section 21 of Gorham Township. The office was closed **April 7, 1874** when mail service was moved to Fayette. Records indicate Gorham and Handy were established in the same location and operated for sixteen and half years as separate offices.

Here a 3 cent Washington stamped envelope issued in 1861 was used to carry this correspondence to Kalamazoo County, Michigan. The item is canceled with a pen cancelation.

A manuscript postal marking of
"Handy O
Mar 17"
Appears in the lower left.





FIRST U.S. COMBINATION-PROCESS COIL

U.S. #2281

1988 25¢ Honeybee Coil Stamp

Issue Date: September 2, 1988

City: Omaha, Nebraska

Quantity: 2,206,060,000

Printed By: Bureau of Engraving and Printing

Printing Method: Lithographed and engraved

Perforations: 10 vertically

Color: Multicolored



Coil Single

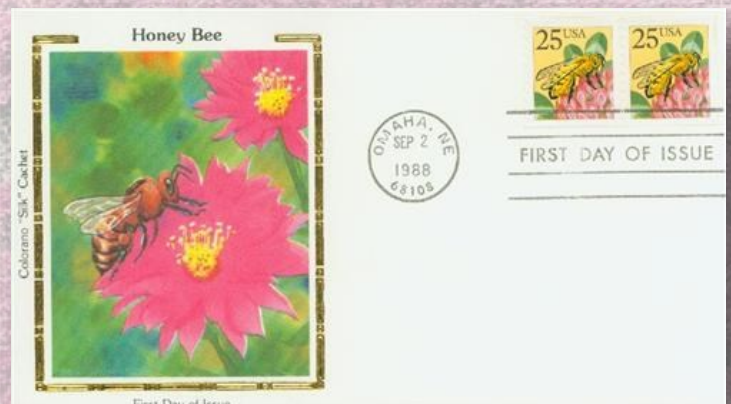


Imperforate Pair

On September 2, 1988, at the Omaha Stamp Show, in Omaha, Nebraska. The issue of these stamps was part of the opening ceremony for the show.

The USPS issued its first coil stamp printed by two totally different procedures. The stamp pictured a honeybee. The stamp printing began on the BEP's Goebel Optiforma press. This press printed all the color portions of the design. The stamp rolls were then taken to the C press, which printed the black intaglio and then applied the phosphorescent tagging. The stamps were then perforated and cut into coils for sale.

The USPS had already been using the D Press, which could do offset and intaglio printing as well as phosphor tagging all in one machine. But the bee stamp was the first coil printed using these multiple presses. Later issues of the stamp were also printed on the D Press.



“H” is for

Highway Post Office

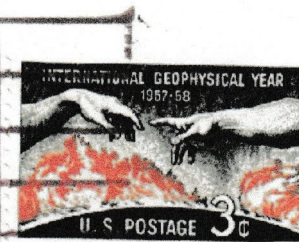
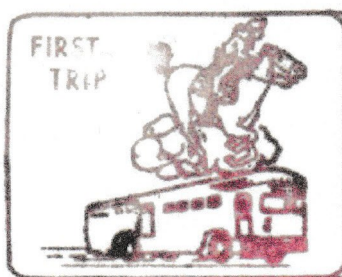
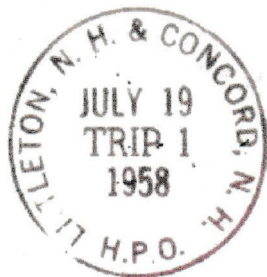


The first Highway Post Office (HPO) bus ran in 1941, on a route between Washington, D.C. and Harrisonburg, Virginia. When a new route was established a special "first day" cancellation was created for the mail carried that day. The first post office bus was designed and built by the White Motor Company of Cleveland, Ohio, and is now a part of the collection at the National Postal Museum.

Intended to replace the Railway Mail Service, these facilities, built on buses were identical to those built into railway cars. Workers would sort mail as the bus ran along its route. Located at the rear of the bus was storage space for 150 mail sacks. HPO service was a response to declining railroad traffic. As the United States was growing, use of the highway system was growing as well, meaning fewer passengers for the railways.

By 1963, business mail, once a small portion of all volume, had grown to 80 percent of the total. Sorting mechanization was improved, the adoption of the ZIP code system (1963) and sectional centers (1960), spelled the end for the Highway Post Office system. The Highway Post Office service ran until June 30, 1974.

The cancellation on the cover below features a HPO bus for the first trip from Littleton to Concord, NH.
Note "H.P.O." on the circular date stamp



Mr. J. Gottlieb
686 Broadway
Cedarhurst L.I. N.Y.

Hanukkah

A Jewish festival commemorating the recovery of Jerusalem and subsequent rededication of the Second Temple at the beginning of the Maccabean Revolt against the Seleucid Empire in the 2nd century BCE.

Hanukkah is observed for eight nights and days, starting on the 25th day of Kislev according to the Hebrew calendar, which may occur at any time from late November to late December in the Gregorian calendar. The festival is observed by lighting the candles of a candelabrum with nine branches, commonly called a menorah or Hanukkiyah.

Beginning in 1998 the Postal Service began recognizing the celebration with the issue of a special stamp for the event. Often times the issue is a joint issue with Israel. Several other countries also produce issues for Hanukkah.



HORSE

The horse (*Equus ferus caballus*) is a domesticated one-toed hoofed mammal. It belongs to the taxonomic family Equidae and is one of two extant subspecies of *Equus ferus*. The horse has evolved over the past 45 to 55 million years from a small multi-toed creature, *Eohippus*, into the large, single-toed animal of today. Humans began domesticating horses around 4000 BC, and their domestication is believed to have been widespread by 3000 BC. Horses in the subspecies *caballus* are domesticated, although some domesticated populations live in the wild as feral horses. These feral populations are not true wild horses, as this term is used to describe horses that have never been domesticated. There is an extensive, specialized vocabulary used to describe equine-related concepts, covering everything from anatomy to life stages, size, colors, markings, breeds, locomotion, and behavior.

Horse breeds are loosely divided into three categories based on general temperament: spirited "hot bloods" with speed and endurance; "cold bloods", such as draft horses and some ponies, suitable for slow, heavy work; and "warmbloods", developed from crosses between hot bloods and cold bloods, often focusing on creating breeds for specific riding purposes, particularly in Europe. There are more than 300 breeds of horse in the world today, developed for many different uses.



The United States has issued 9 stamps (seen above) featuring the horse and many stamp with a horse in the picture.

Below are examples of some issues with horses issued by some other countries.



Hosta

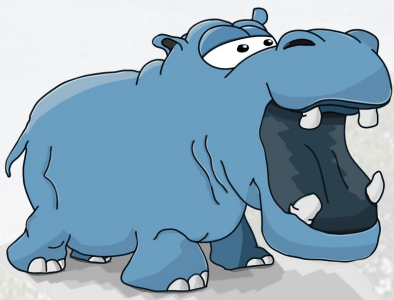
Hosta plants are a perennial growing from rhizomes or stolens. Their broad lanceolate or ovate leaves varying widely in size by species from 1-18 inches long and 0.75-12 inches broad. The smallest varieties are called miniatures. Hostas are a favorite among gardeners. Their lush foliage and easy care make them ideal for a low maintenance garden.

Originating in the Orient and brought to the Europe in the 1700s, today there are over 2,500 cultivars with such variety in leaf shape, size and texture, that an entire garden could be devoted to growing hostas alone. While hosta care is considered easy, it helps to know a little bit about how to grow hostas to help the plants reach their full garden potential.

Hostas are herbaceous perennial plants, Variation among the numerous cultivars is even greater, with clumps ranging from less than four inches across and three inches high to more than six feet across and four feet high. Leaf color in wild species is typically green, although some species are known for a glaucous waxy leaf coating that gives a blue appearance to the leaf.

Although hosta plants are touted as shade lovers, their sunlight requirements vary widely. Successfully growing hostas in the shade depends on color. Hosta leaves come in a variety of greens, ranging from a color so deep it's called blue to a light chartreuse to a soft creamy white. A good rule of thumb for the placement and care of hostas is the lighter the foliage, the brighter the sun. The deeper darker foliage retains its color best in moderate shade. The variegated varieties need more sunlight to keep their white and gold stripes. All hostas need some shade and few, if any, will do well in strong direct sunlight. They fully mature in four to eight years. For the best care of hostas, plant them in rich organic soil with a slightly acidic pH. You'll only have to do it once. In spite of their almost tropical look, hostas are rugged and once established, they tolerate almost any soil and will grow for years. Read more at Gardening Know How: Growing Hostas: How To Care For A Hosta Plant <https://www.gardeningknowhow.com/ornamental/foilage/hosta/growing-hosta-plants.htm>



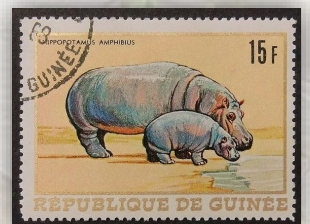
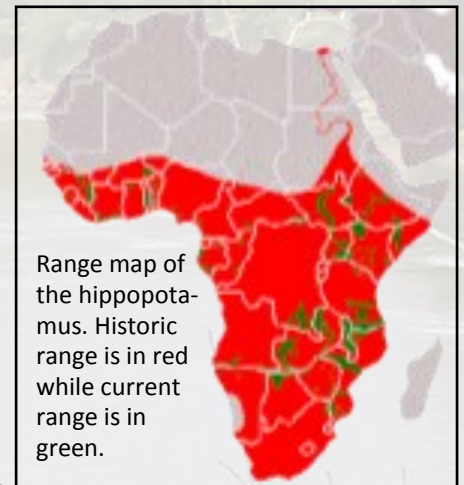


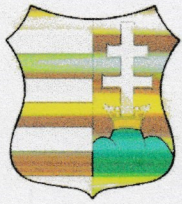
HIPPOPOTAMUS

The hippopotamus is a large, mostly herbivorous, semiaquatic mammal and ungulate native to sub-Saharan Africa. It is one of only two extant species in the family Hippopotamidae, the other being the pygmy hippopotamus. The name comes from the ancient Greek for "river horse".

After the elephant and rhinoceros, the hippopotamus is the third-largest type of land mammal and is the heaviest extant artiodactyl (in the traditional, non-cladistic sense of the term, excluding cetaceans). Despite their physical resemblance to pigs and other terrestrial even-toed ungulates, the closest living relatives of the Hippopotamidae are cetaceans (whales, dolphins, porpoises, etc.), from which they diverged about 55 million years ago. Hippos are recognizable by their barrel-shaped torsos, wide-opening mouths revealing large canine tusks, nearly hairless bodies, columnar legs and large size; adults average 3,310 lb for males and 2,870 lb for females. Despite its stocky shape and short legs, it is capable of running 30 km/h (19 mph) over short distances.

Hippos inhabit rivers, lakes, and mangrove swamps, where territorial males preside over a stretch of river and groups of five to thirty females and young hippos. During the day, they remain cool by staying in the water or mud; reproduction and birth both occur in water. They emerge at dusk to graze on grasses. While hippos rest near each other in the water, grazing is a solitary activity and hippos are not territorial on land. The hippo is among the most dangerous animals in the world due to its highly aggressive and unpredictable nature. They are threatened by habitat loss and poaching for their meat and ivory canine teeth.





“H” is for: **HUNGARY**

Modern Hungary can be a stamp collector’s dream, or nightmare. Born and evolving with postage stamps, the history of Hungary is uniquely illustrated by them .

After the Napoleonic Wars, Europe was torn apart. The Compromise of 1867 established the boundaries of Hungary, and the Austrian Emperor, Franz Josef, would be king of both countries. Composed of nine distinct countries and divided into 63 provinces with different cultures, customs and languages, ethnic tensions simmered, reaching the boiling point in the assassination of Franz Ferdinand, the Archduke, son and successor to Franz Josef, and the beginning of WWI. Europe, and Hungary, would never be the same.

The Peace Treaty of Trionon (Versailles) imposed many restrictions and new borders on Hungary, stripping it of a huge percent of its pre-war territory. French occupation was coupled with and followed by incursions by Romania and Serbia. Political unrest followed with opposing governments: Republic, Kingdom, Communist and second Republic.

Between the wars Hungary was a republic. Siding with Germany in WWII hoping to regain lost territory, it was defeated by the USSR and became a puppet of that entity, suffering under Stalin until the demise of the USSR.

A sample of some of the fascinating postal issues from Hungary’s rich history:



1900- Empire – (“Magyar Kir. Posta”) Franz Josef 1,

1918 - Republic – (“Magyar Posta”)



1919 - Socialist

2nd Mid-War” Reput. (Note overprint)

USSR “Puppet” – Stalin

Devastating
inflation

HENRY HUDSON

A
L
F
M
O
O
N



Henry Hudson was born in England in the 1570's. At this time the people who lived in Europe were interested in trading with the Orient for their spices. Hudson made a total of four voyages.

Henry's first two voyages in 1607 and 1608, were for England on a ship called *Hopewell*. On these two voyages he was looking for the Northeast Passage to the Orient. Both voyages failed to discover a water route to the Orient.

On Hudson's third voyage in 1609, he sailed for the Dutch. This ship was called the *Half Moon*. This trip was different because Henry sailed in another direction. This time he was looking for the Northwest Passage to the Orient. He landed in Maine and then traveled down the shore. He discovered a beautiful area now called New York City. He then sailed up the river all the way to the area now called Albany. The river he sailed up is now called the Hudson River. The **Half Moon** sailed back to the Netherlands because they thought the trip was not successful.

Henry's fourth and last voyage in 1610. It was on a ship called the *Discovery*. Sailing for England again he was looking for the Northwest Passage to the Orient again. He went farther North this time and sailed through a small river that was supposed to lead to the Pacific Ocean but it did not. Instead it led to a huge bay, which is now called the Hudson Bay. The strait that leads to the Hudson Bay is also named after Henry Hudson. It is called the Hudson Strait.

In 1611, after wintering on the shore of James Bay, Hudson wanted to press on to the west, but most of his crew mutinied. The mutineers cast Hudson, his son, and seven others adrift; the Hudsons and their companions were never seen again.

While, Henry Hudson failed to find the passage to the Orient, he discovered New York City, the Hudson River, the Hudson Strait, and the Hudson Bay.



In 1909 the United States a stamp commemorating the 300th anniversary of the voyage to the New York City area showing

the **Half Moon**.

Guyana's 1998 Sailing Ships issue pictures the Half Moon.



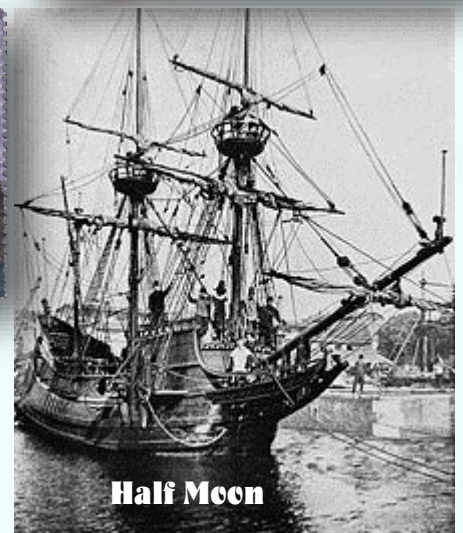
In 1986 a Canadian issue that commemorated the discovery of Hudson Bay.

Great Britain issued a 1972 stamp with Hudson's likeness celebrating polar exploration.



In 2000 Bulgaria issued a series honoring Navigators, Explorer, and Ships.

This one depicts the Half Moon and Henry Hudson.



Half Moon

A Hamilton



Alexander Hamilton (January 11, 1755 or 1757 – July 12, 1804) was an American revolutionary, statesman, and one of the Founding Fathers of the United States.

He was;

⇒ An influential interpreter and promoter of the U.S. Constitution

⇒ Founder of the nation's financial system

⇒ Founder of the Federalist Party

⇒ Founder of the United States Coast Guard

⇒ Founder of the *New York Post* newspaper.

⇒ First secretary of the treasury

⇒ Established the nation's first two *de facto* central banks (i.e. the Bank of North America and the First Bank of the United States)



Hamilton was born out of wedlock in Charlestown, Nevis. Orphaned as a child he was taken in by a prosperous merchant. When he reached his teens, he was sent to New York to pursue his education. While a student, he wrote supporting the Continental Congress and addressed crowds on the subject.

He took an early role in the militia as the American Revolutionary War began. As an artillery officer in the Continental Army he saw action in New York and New Jersey. In 1777, he became a senior aide to Commander in Chief General George Washington, but returned to field command in time for a pivotal action securing victory at the Siege of Yorktown, effectively ending hostilities.

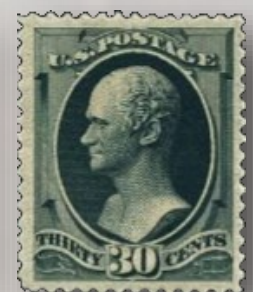
After the war, he was elected as a representative from New York to the Congress of the Confederation. He resigned to practice law. Hamilton was a leader in seeking to replace the weak confederal government under the Articles of Confederation; he led the Annapolis Convention of 1786, which spurred Congress to call a Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia, where he then served as a delegate from New York. He helped ratify the Constitution by writing 51 of the 85 installments of *The Federalist Papers*, which are still used as one of the most important references for Constitutional interpretation.

Hamilton led the Treasury Department as a member of Washington's Cabinet. He is the youngest U.S. cabinet member to take office since the beginning of the Republic. Hamilton's views became the basis for the Federalist Party, which opposed the Democratic-Republican Party.

In 1795, he returned to the practice of law in New York. He called for mobilization in 1798–99 against French First Republic military aggression, and became Commanding General of the U.S. Army. The army did not see combat in the Quasi-War.

Hamilton continued his legal and business in New York City, and was active in ending the legality of the international slave trade. Vice President Burr ran for governor of New York State in 1804, and Hamilton campaigned against him as unworthy. Taking offense, Burr challenged him to a duel on July 11, 1804, in which Burr shot and mortally wounded Hamilton, who died the following day.

Hamilton is generally regarded as an astute and intellectually brilliant administrator, politician and financier, if often impetuous. His ideas are credited with laying the foundation for American government and finance.





Hawaii



The Hawaiian Islands (Hawaiian: *Mokupuni o Hawai'i*) are an archipelago of eight major islands, several atolls, and numerous smaller islets in the North Pacific Ocean, extending some 1,500 miles from the island of Hawai'i in the south to northernmost Kure Atoll.

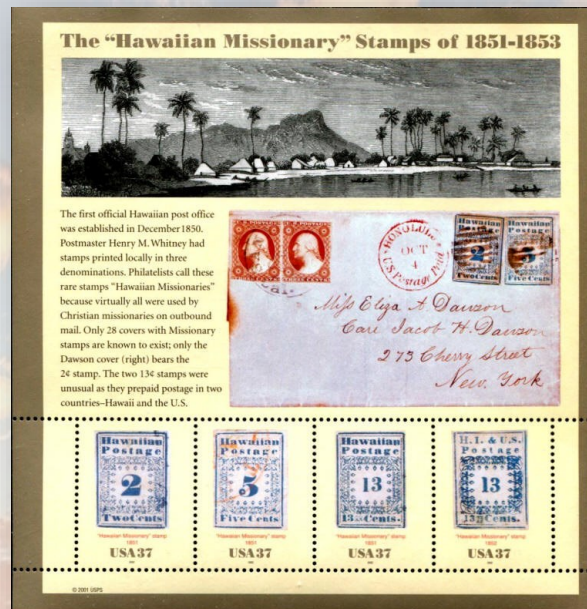
Originally the group was known to Europeans and Americans as the Sandwich Islands, a name that James Cook chose in honor of the 4th Earl of Sandwich, the then First Lord of the Admiralty. Cook came across the islands by chance when crossing the Pacific Ocean on his Third Voyage, on board HMS *Resolution*; he was later killed on the islands on a return visit. The contemporary name of the islands, dating from the 1840s, is derived from the name of the largest island, Hawai'i Island.

Hawaii sits on the Pacific Plate and is the only U.S. state that is not geographically connected to North America. It is part of the Polynesia sub-region of Oceania. Hawaii occupies the archipelago almost in its entirety with the sole exception of Midway Island, which also belongs to the United States, albeit as one of its unincorporated territories within the United States Minor Outlying Islands.

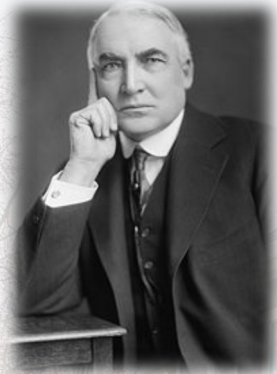
The Hawaiian Islands are the exposed peaks of a great undersea mountain range known as the Hawaiian-Emperor seamount chain, formed by volcanic activity over a hotspot in the Earth's mantle. The islands are about 1,860 miles from the nearest continent.

On August 21, 1959 President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed the proclamation that welcomed Hawaii as the 50th state. Hawaii had been annexed to the United States in 1898 and became a territory two years later.

Over the years Hawaii has been the subject of numerous U.S. stamps.



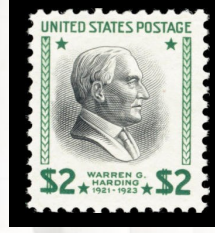
Warren Harding



Warren Gamaliel Harding (November 2, 1865 – August 2, 1923) served as the 29th president of the United States from 1921 until his death in 1923. He was a member of the Republican Party and one of the most popular sitting U.S. presidents. After his death, a number of scandals were exposed, including Teapot Dome, as well as an extramarital affair with Nan Britton, which diminished his regard.

Harding lived in rural Ohio all his life, except when political service took him elsewhere. As a young man, he bought *The Marion Star* and built it into a successful newspaper. Harding served in the Ohio State Senate from 1900 to 1904, and was lieutenant governor for two years. He was defeated for governor in 1910, but was elected to the United States Senate in 1914, the state's first direct election for that office. Harding ran for the Republican nomination for president in 1920, but was considered a long shot before the convention. When the leading candidates could not garner a majority, and the convention deadlocked, support for Harding increased, and he was nominated on the tenth ballot. He conducted a front porch campaign, remaining mostly in Marion, and allowed the people to come to him. He promised a return to normalcy of the pre-World War period, and won in a landslide over Democrat James M. Cox, to become the first sitting senator elected president.

Harding appointed a number of respected figures to his cabinet, including Andrew Mellon at Treasury, Herbert Hoover at Commerce, and Charles Evans Hughes at the State Department. A major foreign policy achievement came with the Washington Naval Conference of 1921–1922, in which the world's major naval powers agreed on a naval limitations program that lasted a decade.



Harding released political prisoners who had been arrested for their opposition to the World War.

Harding's Interior Secretary, Albert B. Fall, and his Attorney General, Harry Daugherty, were each later tried for corruption in office. Fall was convicted though Daugherty was not. These and other scandals greatly damaged Harding's posthumous reputation; he is generally regarded as one of the worst presidents in U.S. history. Harding died of a heart attack in San Francisco while on a western tour, and was succeeded by Vice President Calvin Coolidge.

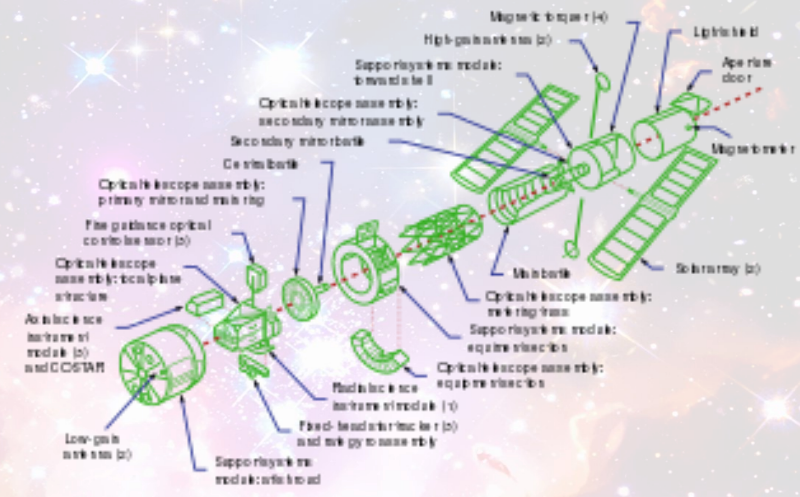
Hubble Space Telescope

The Hubble Space Telescope is a space telescope launched into low Earth orbit in 1990 and remains in operation. While not the first space telescope, it is one of the largest and most versatile.

Named for astronomer Edwin Hubble it is one of NASA's Great Observatories. The Space Telescope Science Institute selects Hubble's targets and processes the resulting data, while the Goddard Space Flight Center controls the spacecraft.

Hubble features a 7' 10" mirror, and its five main instruments observe in the ultraviolet, visible, and near-infrared regions of the electromagnetic spectrum.

Hubble's orbit outside the distortion of atmosphere of Earth allows it to capture extremely high-resolution images with substantially lower background light than ground-based telescopes. Many Hubble observations have led to breakthroughs in astrophysics, such as determining the rate of expansion of the universe.



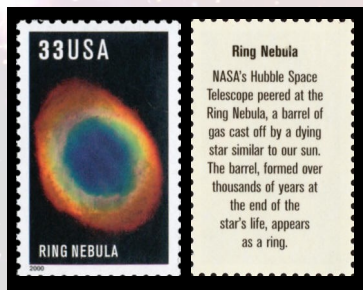
Proposed as early as 1923, Hubble was funded in the 1970s and built by the United States space agency NASA. Its intended launch was 1983, but technical delays, budget problems, and the 1986 *Challenger* disaster delayed the launch to 1990. However its main mirror had been ground incorrectly, resulting in spherical aberration that compromised the telescope's capabilities. The optics were corrected to their intended quality by a servicing mission in 1993.



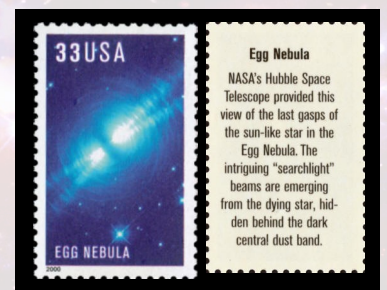
Hubble is the only telescope designed to be maintained in space by astronauts. The telescope completed 30 years of operation in April 2020 and is predicted to last until 2030–2040. One successor to the Hubble telescope is the James Webb Space Telescope, which was launched on December 25, 2021.



Eagle Nebula
NASA's Hubble Space Telescope captured the beauty of a dramatic region of star formation. This stellar nursery, known as the Eagle Nebula, features pillars of dust and gas that act as cocoons for embryonic stars.



Ring Nebula
NASA's Hubble Space Telescope peered at the Ring Nebula, a barrel of gas cast off by a dying star similar to our sun. The barrel, formed over thousands of years at the end of the star's life, appears as a ring.



Egg Nebula
NASA's Hubble Space Telescope provided this view of the last gasps of the sun-like star in the Egg Nebula. The intriguing "searchlight" beams are emerging from the dying star, hidden behind the dark central dust band.



Galaxy NGC 1316
NASA's Hubble Space Telescope captured the aftermath of an ancient collision between two galaxies. The remains of the small galaxy appear as dark clumps against the glowing core of the large galaxy, known as NGC 1316.

In 2000 the USPS issued a series of 5 stamps showing images sent back to earth from Hubble.



Lagoon Nebula
NASA's Hubble Space Telescope imaged an eerie cradle of star formation called the Lagoon Nebula. The giant clouds of dusty gas may have been shaped by high-speed interstellar winds created within the clouds by newly formed stars.



Winslow Homer

Winslow Homer

Winslow Homer (February 24, 1836 - September 29, 1910) was an American landscape painter and printmaker, best known for his marine subjects.

Largely self-taught, Homer began his career working as a commercial illustrator. He subsequently took up oil painting and produced major studio works characterized by the weight and density he exploited from the medium. He also worked extensively in watercolor, creating a fluid and prolific oeuvre, primarily chronicling his working vacations.

Winslow Homer is widely considered one of the foremost American painters of the nineteenth century. His work figured importantly in developing an American artistic sensibility at a time when European influences were the topic of much debate by artists and critics in the United States. His resolute independence was a source of influence for those of his own time. As noted by art historian Matthew Baigell in *A Concise History of American Painting and Sculpture*, "Homer and Eakins transformed genre painting and portraiture into strong statements of personal sensibility and in their late works discovered an America that impressionist pleasantries and American renaissance escapism entirely overlooked." Homer's influence is also evident in the coarse naturalism of the succeeding generations of Realists, known as the Ashcan Painters, from Robert Henri to his students, including George Bellows, George Luks.

Homer's stature earned his recognition on several USPS postage stamp issues in addition to those of other countries.



The 1962 USPS issue left features Homer's painting titled *Breezing Up* painted in 1876.



Boys in a Pasture, painted in 1874 was the subject of the USPS's 2010 issue pictured right. This issue also included micro printing at the base of the tree behind the head of the seated boy as seen in the cut out below right.



One of the greatest realists during the second half of the 19th century, Winslow Homer (1836-1910) painted *The Fog Warning* in 1885. Its depiction of the strenuous work of halibut fishing was an appropriate celebration of human strength and courage.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS, BOSTON
Boston, Massachusetts

In 1998 the USPS issued a tribute to four centuries of American art with a sheet of 20 different designs. Homer's 1885 painting *The Fog Warning* was one of the designs. The back included text about the artist and the design.



While visiting Bermuda in 1899-1900, Homer painted at least 19 water colors successfully capturing the beauty of the Bermudian landscape, these he considered to be amongst his best work. On April 30, 1987 Bermuda issued a booklet featuring five of the designs.

HAPPY Holidays

Beginning in 1962 the USPS started an annual issue of postage stamps for the holiday season. Shown here are those issue of the first twenty years.

