



Official State Seal

California

The Golden State

1850



State Flag

California Statehood Quarter-Dollars
Minting limited to ten weeks, issued January 31, 2005
Brilliant uncirculated condition.

*T*he unique California quarter-dollar features famed naturalist John Muir in California's Yosemite Valley. The rock formation is Half Dome, one of the most distinctive sights in Yosemite National Park. A California condor completes the scene.

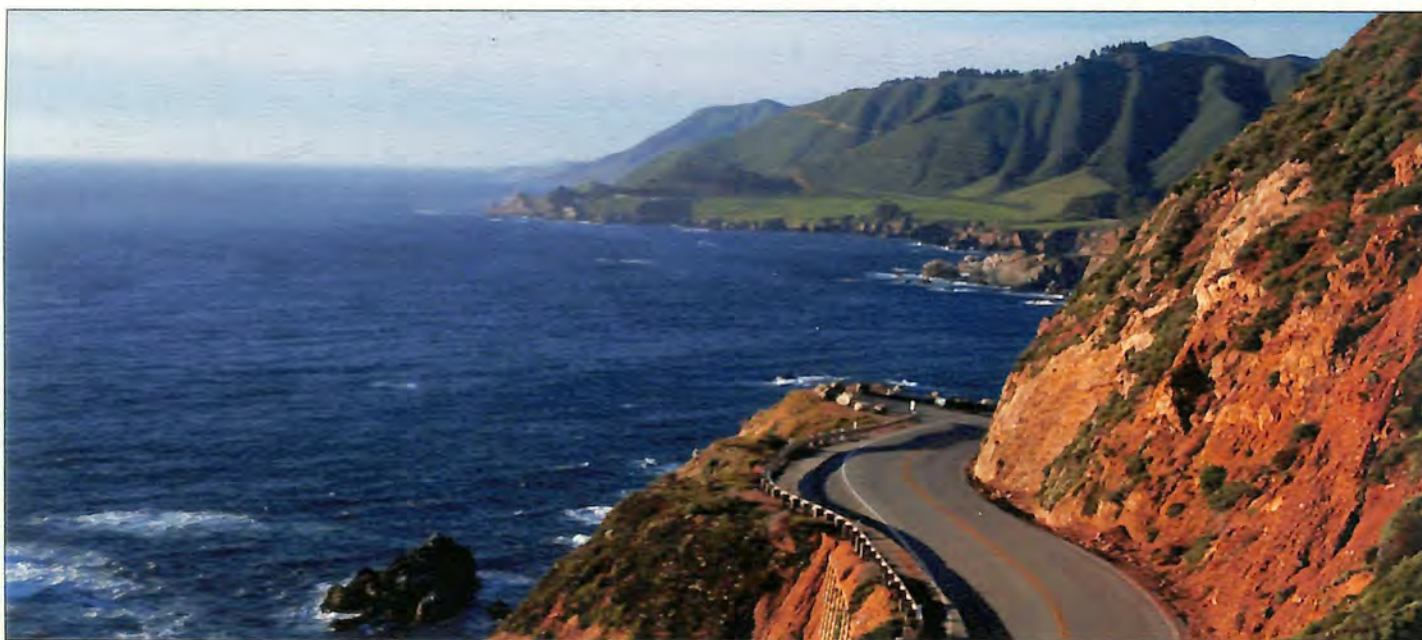
Muir, who first visited the Yosemite Valley in 1868, was astounded by its incredible beauty. Using the proceeds from a successful fruit growing business in California, he fought for the conservation of natural landscapes throughout the American West. His efforts led to the establishment of Yosemite and Sequoia National Parks in 1890.

Yosemite National Park is located in the Sierra Nevada



mountains about 150 miles east of San Francisco. With alpine wilderness, groves of giant sequoia trees and a tremendous variety of plants and animals, it is one of America's most diverse and popular National Parks. Half Dome is a colossal cracked block of granite that rises about 8,800 feet. Another prominent formation at Yosemite is El Capitan.

The California condor, an endangered species, is the largest flying bird in North America. Its wingspan can reach over nine feet. Only about 25 birds remained in the wild in 1982, but about 200 were known when the California quarter-dollar was issued in 2005.



California's narrow Highway One offers scenic views as it hugs the winding cliffs of the state's Pacific coastline.

Entered the Union: September 9, 1850

California



This stamp issued January 24, 1948 honors the 100th anniversary of the discovery of gold in California. It depicts Sutter's Mill in Coloma, where carpenter James W. Marshall happened upon gold in the American River.

Diego. By 1823, there were 21 missions from San Diego to Sonoma. The missions were part of Spain's plan to expand its New World empire.

In 1825, much of California was declared a territory of the Republic of Mexico. In 1826, trapper Jedediah Smith became the first person to make the overland journey into California from the United States. He was followed by a steady stream of traders and settlers, especially after 1841, when the first wagon trains left Missouri for California.

Prominent settlers and explorers, including John C. Fremont, believed in the "manifest destiny" of the United States expanding westward to the Pacific Ocean. Efforts by the U.S. to purchase California from Mexico failed, but in June 1846, a group of settlers in Sonoma staged the Bear Flag Revolt in which they rejected Mexican rule and created the California Republic.

The following month, U.S. forces occupied California and declared it a U.S. territory. At the end of the Mexican War, Mexico formally ceded California to the United States on February 2, 1848. Just 10 days earlier, gold was discovered at Sutter's Mill on the South Fork of the American River, starting the California "gold rush." California's population exploded from about 14,000 in 1848 to 250,000 in 1852. In 1850, California joined the Union as the 31st state.

Although California was still remote from the rest of the U.S., the arrival of the Pony Express in 1860 made

The first European to enter California was Portuguese explorer Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo, who sailed into San Diego Bay in 1542. Sir Francis Drake of England arrived in 1579 followed by Sebastian Vizcaino of Spain in 1602.

In 1769, Franciscan friar Junipero Serra established a mission at San

regular mail delivery possible for the first time. The telegraph reached the state in 1861.

With the expansion of the railroads in the late 1800's, California continued to attract new settlers. It also became one of the largest food-producing areas of the country, quickly developing into a center for citrus fruit production. In the early 1900's, the mild climate began to draw tourists. At the same time, Hollywood was established as the capital of the movie industry.

Throughout the Great Depression of the 1930's, hundreds of thousands of people came to California in search of employment and a better life. During World War II, tens of thousands of soldiers were trained at the state's military bases before being sent to locations in the Pacific. After the war, California continued to thrive and grow rapidly, becoming the most populous state in 1964. Many of its university campuses were politically active during the peace and civil rights movements in the 1960's as well as the Vietnam War. The emergence of the computer and other high tech industries in northern California in the 1980's gave this area its nickname, "Silicon Valley."

At the end of the 20th century, California remained one of the world's most popular tourist destinations. Famous sights included Disneyland in Anaheim, Universal Studios in Hollywood, San Diego Zoo, Napa Valley wine-producing region, San Francisco Bay and the Lake Tahoe area.



This stamp was issued September 9, 1950 to commemorate the 100th anniversary of California statehood. It reflects California as "The Golden State."



This stamp was issued February 18, 1939 to honor the opening of the Golden Gate International Exposition in San Francisco.



Common George Washington Design



Unique California Design

Capital: Sacramento
Bird: California valley quail

Flower: Golden poppy
Tree: California redwood

Motto: Eureka



Official State Seal

Oregon

The Beaver State

1859



State Flag

Oregon Statehood Quarter-Dollars
Minting limited to ten weeks, issued June 5, 2005.
Brilliant uncirculated condition.

*T*he Oregon quarter-dollar features a portion of Crater Lake in southwest Oregon. It is the deepest lake in the United States. Wizard Island, located in the southwest part of the lake, is shown, as are Watchman and Hillman Peaks.

Crater Lake occupies the crater of a prehistoric volcano, Mt. Mazama. When it erupted about 5700 B.C., the volcano collapsed, leaving a crater-like basin. Over the centuries, the basin filled with rainwater and snowmelt to its present depth of 1,932 feet. There are no incoming or outgoing streams or rivers, so the water is remarkably clear and a deep, intense blue. The lake is about 26 miles in circumference, and the cliffs around the rim rise up to

PHILADELPHIA MINT



Unique Oregon Design

DENVER MINT



Common George Washington Design

2,000 feet above the lake's surface.

John Wesley Hillman discovered Crater Lake in 1853 while looking for a gold mine. President Theodore Roosevelt established Crater Lake National Park in 1902. The park includes the lake as well as more than 180,000 acres of land surrounding it.

Crater Lake is sacred to many Native Americans. The Klamath Indians believed that the lake was so powerful that looking at it would cause death. According to Native American legend, the collapse of Mt. Mazama was caused by the battle between two Chiefs, which ended in the destruction of the volcano.



Crater Lake, located in southwest Oregon, is the deepest lake in the U.S. and the seventh deepest in the world. It occupies the crater of the prehistoric volcano, Mt. Mazama.

Entered the Union: February 14, 1859

Oregon



This stamp, issued February 4, 1959, honors the centennial of the admission of Oregon to the Union in 1859. The stamp features a covered wagon typical of those used by early settlers, with Mount Hood in the distance.

Spanish explorers in the 1540's were the first Europeans to see Oregon's coast, but they did not come ashore. Although Oregon was later visited by many explorers, including Sir Francis Drake and James Cook, it was of little interest until the late 1700's, when people began searching for the

mythical Northwest Passage as a direct route from Europe to the Orient. The Spanish originally claimed Oregon but abandoned it to Britain and the United States around 1790.

The Lewis & Clark Expedition reached the mouth of the Columbia River in Oregon in late 1805 as the culmination of their historic overland journey from St. Louis. The first trading post in Oregon was a beaver company established by John Jacob Astor in 1811.

The first settlers started arriving in 1834 and established missions in the Willamette Valley. By the late 1830's there were still fewer than 100 settlers in Oregon. In 1843, the Oregon Trail opened and became a main route for pioneers heading west. The trail started in Independence, Missouri, and ran for about 2,000 miles, finishing at the Columbia River in Oregon.

The Oregon Country — which included present-day Oregon, Washington and Idaho — was claimed by both Britain and the United States.

In 1846 the British gave up their claim below the 49th parallel, which is the current border between Washington and Canada. The Oregon Territory was created in 1848, and in 1859 Oregon became the 33rd state.

By 1860, the population of Oregon was over 52,000. Many were farmers who claimed up to 320 acres of free

land as an incentive from the U.S. government to settle the region. The California "gold rush" also brought many prospectors to Oregon.

Oregon was a strong Union state in the Civil War. The war did not reach as far west as Oregon, but the state supplied woolen blankets and other goods to the Union army.

Wool and wheat were the basis of the state's economy after the Civil War, but they were restricted to markets on the west coast. When the Northern Pacific Railway reached Portland in 1883, Oregon's goods were finally able to reach markets east of the Rocky Mountains. Logging also became a major industry, and the booming economy encouraged a new wave of settlers.

Oregon prospered until the Great Depression, when it became dependent on New Deal initiatives. One of the most important projects was the Bonneville Dam on the Columbia River that opened in 1937. It provided abundant electric power and helped Portland become one of the nation's largest shipbuilding cities during World War II.

Manufacturing and agriculture remained key to Oregon's economy after the war. Environmental protection was a significant issue starting in the 1960's, and the state also encouraged tourism to its rugged wilderness areas and other attractions. Among the most popular tourist destinations were Mount Hood, the Columbia River Gorge, Fort Clatsop National Memorial near Astoria, and the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry in Portland.



Issued November 4, 1968, this stamp honors the American Indian and Chief Joseph, the great Nez Perce warrior. Chief Joseph lived in the Wallowa Valley of the Oregon Territory.

PHILADELPHIA MINT



Common George Washington Design

DENVER MINT



Unique Oregon Design

Capital: Salem
Bird: Western meadowlark

Flower: Oregon grape
Tree: Douglas fir

Motto: She flies with her own wings



Official State Seal

Nevada

The Silver State

1864



State Flag



The famous Las Vegas strip in the middle of the Nevada desert. Known for its breathtaking casinos and endless entertainment, Las Vegas is host to over 35 million visitors annually.

Nevada Statehood Quarter-Dollars
Minting limited to ten weeks, issued January 31, 2006.
Brilliant uncirculated condition.

The Nevada quarter-dollar features three wild horses in the foreground with sprigs of sagebrush on both sides. The background shows the sun rising behind mountains, which is an image that also appears on the official state seal. A ribbon with the state nickname "The Silver State" completes the design.

More than 50 percent of all wild horses in the United States live in Nevada. They are descendants of horses that were originally taken by the Spanish to the New World around the year 1500. Since 1971, wild horses have been



protected by federal law. They are deemed "living symbols of the historic and pioneer spirit of the west."

Nevada has more than 150 mountain ranges. The highest point in Nevada is Boundary Peak in the White Mountains, which is 13,140 feet high.

Sagebrush is a shrub that grows up to 12 feet high and can be found throughout Nevada's deserts. It has small yellow and white flowers, and the distinctive aroma is similar to the herb known as sage. Nevada adopted sagebrush as its state flower in 1917.

Entered the Union: October 31, 1864

Nevada

Nevada was the last area of the contiguous United States to be explored. Although Spanish missionary Francisco Garces traveled through southern Nevada in 1776, there was no known exploration until fur trader Jedediah Smith crossed Nevada in 1826. By 1833, a route was established through Nevada as settlers and traders made their way to California.

Nevada was in Spanish hands until 1821 when it became a Mexican territory. Following the end of the Mexican War in 1848, Mexico ceded much of the American southwest – including Nevada – to the U.S. Gold was discovered in California at about the same time, and by 1849 thousands of “forty-niners” were streaming through Nevada on their way to California.



This stamp was issued on September 30, 1935, upon the completion of the Boulder Dam in Boulder City, Nevada. Originally named the “Hoover Dam,” this project controlled floods, furnished power, and provided water for irrigating large areas of land.

President Abraham Lincoln was anxious for Nevada to become a state whose votes in Congress would lend support to the movement to abolish slavery. In 1864, Nevada was made America’s 36th state despite the fact that it was short of the required population for statehood.

PHILADELPHIA MINT



Common George Washington Design

DENVER MINT



Unique Nevada Design

Nevada prospered in the years following statehood. In 1869, the transcontinental railroad passed through Nevada, making it more accessible to settlers. The mining boom continued, especially after 1873 when the “Big Bonanza,” which produced over \$100 million of silver ore, was discovered at the Comstock Lode. By the 1880’s, though, the Comstock Lode was nearly exhausted and the price of silver dropped. The state’s population fell from 62,000 in 1880 to 42,000 in 1900.

Meanwhile, the sheep and cattle business started to expand and resort hotels opened on Lake Tahoe to serve tourists. The Newlands Irrigation Project in the early 1900’s transformed the desert into productive agricultural land and served as a model for other irrigation projects across the U.S.

In an effort to kick-start the floundering economy and to encourage tourism during the Great Depression, gambling was legalized in Nevada in 1931. After World War II, gambling and tourism became the basis of the state’s economy and were responsible for the tremendous growth of Las Vegas. The population of Las Vegas grew from about 24,000 in 1950 to over 500,000 shortly after the turn of the 21st century.

In addition to the dazzling sights and excitement of the Las Vegas strip, Nevada offered breathtaking vistas such as Great Basin National Park in eastern Nevada and Valley of Fire State Park near Overton. Other popular tourist destinations included the Hoover Dam and Lake Mead on the Arizona-Nevada border, hundreds of ghost towns scattered across the landscape, and ski resorts near Lake Tahoe.



Issued July 14, 1951, this stamp commemorates the centennial of the first settlement of the territory now known as Nevada. The stamp was issued in Genoa, Nevada, which was Nevada’s first permanent settlement.

Capital: Carson City
Bird: Mountain bluebird

Flower: Sagebrush
Trees: Single-leaf pinon and bristlecone pine

Motto: All for our country



Official State Seal

Nebraska

The Cornhusker State

1867



State Flag

Nebraska Statehood Quarter-Dollars
Minting limited to ten weeks, issued April 3, 2006.
Brilliant uncirculated condition.

The Nebraska quarter-dollar features a pioneer family heading west on the Oregon Trail, with the famous natural rock formation known as Chimney Rock in the background.

Chimney Rock is located just south of the North Platte River, near Bayard in western Nebraska. It was one of the most famous landmarks on the Oregon Trail and has come to symbolize the great western migration that took place over this historic route starting in the 1840's. The formation is made of clay and sandstone and is about 325 feet from tip to base.



Due to the flat prairie in western Nebraska, Chimney Rock could be seen for many miles on the Oregon Trail. Many wrote about it in their journals, while others drew sketches. Some pioneers even carved their names and dates of passage into the soft sandstone, leaving a record of their journeys.

Over the years, Chimney Rock has changed shape due to erosion and lightning strikes. In the Oregon Trail era it was more rectangular and chimney-like, whereas today it is more pointed and finger-like. Chimney Rock was designated a National Historic Site in 1956.



Central Park in Omaha, Nebraska. Omaha is known as a hub for the nation's insurance industry.

Entered the Union: March 1, 1867

Nebraska



This stamp, issued September 22, 1948, honors the 100th anniversary of the founding of Fort Kearny, Nebraska. The Fort served as one of the original sources of protection for pioneers making the trek westward.

French claimed the land west of the Mississippi River, including Nebraska, in 1682. The region became known as the Louisiana Territory.

In 1803, the U.S. acquired the land that is now Nebraska as part of the Louisiana Purchase. The Lewis and Clark Expedition of 1804-1806 sailed along the Missouri River in eastern Nebraska. The first American settlements were Fort Lisa, which was established as a fur-trading post in 1812 near present-day Omaha, and Fort Atkinson, which was built as a military post in 1819. The first permanent settlement was made at Bellevue in 1823.

Starting in the 1840's, hundreds of thousands of pioneers traveled through Nebraska along the Oregon Trail on the way to Oregon, California and the Utah Territory. Although they passed through Nebraska's vast wilderness, the pioneers were not allowed to settle on the land as it was not yet an official territory of the United States.

Congress created the Nebraska Territory in 1854, opening the area to settlement. The original territory extended north to the Canadian border and west to the Continental Divide, but it was reduced to about its present size in 1861 with the formation of the Dakota and Colorado territories.

Spanish explorer Francisco Vasquez de Coronado became the first European to venture into Nebraska while searching for gold in 1541. For more than 260 years afterwards, the region was mostly visited by Spanish and French explorers and fur trappers. The

The Homestead Act of 1862 provided free 160-acre lots to anyone willing to work the land, and thousands of settlers streamed into Nebraska to stake their claims. The population boomed from less than 29,000 in 1860 to 123,000 in 1870 and over 1 million in 1890. The last of Nebraska's public land was opened to homesteads in 1904.

In 1867 Nebraska became the 37th state and Lincoln — formerly Lancaster but renamed for President Abraham Lincoln — was named the state capital. Two years later, the transcontinental railroad passed through Nebraska, making it easier for settlers to arrive and for farmers and manufacturers to ship their goods out.

For much of the rest of the 1800's, bad weather and plagues of locusts slowed the economy. The demand for farm products during World War I brought prosperity to Nebraska, but the economic boom collapsed at the end of the war and lasted through the Great Depression. After World War II, agriculture was supplemented by industrial develop-

ment and the state prospered once again. Due to favorable banking and insurance laws, Omaha became a center of the nation's financial and insurance businesses, attracting thousands of new workers to the state.

Nebraska boasted many attractions for visitors. Among the most popular were the Museum of Nebraska History and the capitol building in Lincoln, the Museum of the Fur Trade in Chadron, the Stuhr Museum of the Prairie Pioneer in Grand Island, Fort Niobrara National Wildlife Refuge near Valentine, Fort Robinson State Park near Crawford, Girls and Boys Town in Omaha, and Oregon Trail landmarks across the state.



Issued July 14, 1986, in Boys Town, Nebraska, this stamp honors Father Edward J. Flanagan. Father Flanagan was the founder of the present-day Girls and Boys Town, originally called Boys Town. It is an organization that helps abused, abandoned, neglected and troubled children.



Capital: Lincoln
Bird: Western Meadowlark

Flower: Goldenrod
Tree: Cottonwood

Motto: Equality before the law



Official State Seal

Colorado

Colorful Colorado

1876



State Flag



*The Rocky Mountains that pass through central Colorado.
A mountain range spanning 3,000 miles, the "Rockies" are known as the great backbone of North America.*

Colorado Statehood Quarter-Dollars

Minting limited to ten weeks, issued June 14, 2006.

Brilliant uncirculated condition.

*T*he Colorado quarter-dollar features a view of the state's towering Rocky Mountains, with evergreen trees in the foreground. The design also includes a banner that celebrates the state as "Colorful Colorado."

The Colorado "Rockies" are composed of numerous mountain ranges, many of which are home to spectacular and majestic natural wonders. There are more than 50 peaks in Colorado that rise above 14,000 feet, including Mount Elbert at 14,433 feet, Longs Peak at 14,259 feet and Pikes Peak at 14,110 feet.

PHILADELPHIA MINT



Unique Colorado Design

DENVER MINT



Common George Washington Design

Colorado's Rocky Mountains also feature some of the world's best winter sports terrain, including numerous ski runs at famous resorts. During other times of the year, the Rockies are popular with hikers who are eager to explore the glorious mountain vistas.

Evergreen trees add to the beauty of the mountain scenery. In Colorado, the Douglas fir grows in elevations up to about 8,850 feet, while the lodgepole pine can be found at elevations between 8,200 and 10,500 feet.

Entered the Union: August 1, 1876



Official State Seal

North Dakota

The Peace Garden State

1889



State Flag

North Dakota Statehood Quarter-Dollars
Minting limited to ten weeks, issued August 28, 2006.
Brilliant uncirculated condition.

*N*orth Dakota's quarter-dollar depicts a pair of buffalo grazing in the state's Badlands region, which is now known as Theodore Roosevelt National Park. The background of the coin shows the distinctive buttes and canyons that define the area.

Buffalo once roamed across the Badlands region in tremendous herds, but by around 1860 only a few remained due to excessive hunting. Theodore Roosevelt first visited the Badlands in September 1883. He returned many times in subsequent years, and became alarmed by the destruction of animals such as buffalo and bighorn sheep.



During his Presidency, Roosevelt made conservation a priority. He founded the United States Forest Service and signed the Antiquities Act in 1906, which would preserve wilderness areas throughout the U.S., including the Badlands region.

Theodore Roosevelt National Park was created in 1947. In 1956, 29 buffalo were released into the Park, and by 1962 the herd had grown to 145 animals. At the time the North Dakota quarter-dollar was issued in 2006, the Park was home to about 400 wild buffalo.



*Theodore Roosevelt National Park in western North Dakota.
Spanning over 70,000 acres, the Park is home to various animals, including prairie dogs, elk, and a small herd of wild buffalo.*

Entered the Union: November 2, 1889

North Dakota

The first European to reach North Dakota was the French explorer Pierre Gaultier de Varennes in 1738.



Issued July 20, 1970, this wildlife conservation stamp depicts the North American Bison, a symbol of North Dakota.

Several other explorers entered the region in the following decades, but most of those who ventured into North Dakota prior to 1800 were fur trappers.

North Dakota was claimed at various times by Great Britain, Spain and France. In 1803, the

United States acquired western North Dakota from France as part of the Louisiana Purchase. The following year, the Lewis & Clark Expedition sailed along the Missouri River in central North Dakota. They made winter camp at Fort Mandan, and they returned to North Dakota on their homeward journey in 1806. The U.S. acquired eastern North Dakota from Britain in 1818.

Missouri River steamboats first reached North Dakota in 1832. They also sailed along the Red River that forms the border with Minnesota. Settlers often used steamboats to reach North Dakota, where they established farms and created homesteads.

North Dakota was originally part of the Great Northwest territory before being included successively in the Missouri, Michigan, Wisconsin, Iowa, Minnesota and Nebraska territories. In 1861, the Dakota Territory was formed and included present-day North Dakota and South Dakota. The population of the entire Dakota Territory at that time was about 5,000.

A major boost to the settlement of North Dakota was the arrival of the railroad. The Northern Pacific railroad

reached Fargo in 1871 and Bismarck in 1873. It extended across North Dakota and into Montana by 1881. North Dakota's fertile farmland attracted more and more settlers, and the population jumped from 2,400 in 1870 to nearly 37,000 in 1880.



This stamp was issued February 21, 1989 to celebrate the centennial of President Grover Cleveland's signing the North Dakota statehood bill into law.

The Dakota Territory was divided into North Dakota and South Dakota in February 1889, and on November 2, 1889, both were admitted to statehood. President Benjamin Harrison signed the proclamations admitting both states during the same ceremony. Although North Dakota is considered the 39th state and South Dakota the 40th state, it is unknown which state proclamation was signed first.

Farming and mining were the main industries in North Dakota in the early years of statehood. By 1900 the population was more than 319,000, and the state's historic peak of population was in 1930 with more than 680,000.

A severe drought in the 1930's, combined with the Great Depression, saw many people leave the state.

Despite an agricultural revival during World War II, the population never returned. After the war, North Dakota diversified its economic growth in industries such as oil and defense.

North Dakota's most popular attractions included the North Dakota Heritage Center in Bismarck, the International

Peace Garden near Dunseith, the Fort Union Trading Post National Historic Site in Williston, the Fort Abraham Lincoln State Park and Museum near Mandan, the Dakota Dinosaur Museum in Dickinson, and the geographic center of North America in Rugby.

PHILADELPHIA MINT



Common George Washington Design

DENVER MINT



Unique North Dakota Design

Capital: Bismarck
Bird: Western meadowlark

Flower: Wild prairie rose
Tree: American elm

Motto: Liberty and union, now and forever, one and inseparable



Official State Seal

Delaware

The First State

1787



State Flag

Delaware Statehood Quarter-Dollars
Minting limited to ten weeks, issued January 4, 1999.
Brilliant uncirculated condition.

*T*he unique Delaware quarter-dollar design features Caesar Rodney's ride into history. Rodney was one of Delaware's most outspoken patriots during the Revolutionary War era. He also served as one of Delaware's delegates to the Second Continental Congress that met in Philadelphia in 1776 to organize the rebellion against British rule. When a motion for independence came before the Congress, however, Rodney was absent. As a Brigadier General in the Delaware militia, he had been called back to Delaware to suppress a riot.

PHILADELPHIA MINT



Unique Delaware Design

DENVER MINT



Common George Washington Design

Delaware's other two delegates split their votes on the question of independence. Knowing that America's quest for independence may have died without a vote of confidence from all 13 colonies, Rodney rode 80 agonizing miles on horseback through the night of July 1-2 to cast his vote in

Philadelphia. He battled heat, mud, driving rain, and thunderstorms, and his dramatic arrival at Independence Hall, "in his boots and spurs" and covered in mud, took place just in time to vote for independence. Two days later, on July 4, 1776, he proudly signed the Declaration of Independence.



*Birkenhead Mill, near the site of the original DuPont gunpowder works.
It was here that America's chemical industry was born in 1802.*

Entered the Union: December 7, 1787

Delaware



This stamp, issued September 9, 1948, honors the centennial of the American poultry industry. Over one-half of Delaware's total farming income is based in poultry, and the chicken is its state bird.

Henry Hudson was one of the first explorers to sail along the Delaware coast in 1609 while attempting to find the legendary Northwest Passage to Asia. However, it was English explorer Samuel Argall in 1610 who named the region in honor of the governor of Virginia, English aristocrat Lord De La Warr.

Swedish colonists formed the first permanent European settlement in Delaware in 1638 at Fort Christina (now Wilmington), but the colony eventually fell into British hands in 1664. When Delaware was deeded to William Penn, the founder of Pennsylvania, in 1682, it became known as the "Lower Counties." The residents of the "Lower Counties" were very different both ethnically and politically from those of Pennsylvania, so Penn allowed them to establish their own Assembly in New Castle in 1704 — although they remained under the rule of the Pennsylvania governor.

In 1776, Delaware adopted its own constitution and established a state government separate from Pennsylvania. At the same time, it also declared itself free from British rule. Despite its small size — it was the second-smallest of the original 13 states after Rhode Island — nearly 4,000 men enlisted for service during the American Revolution. Although much of the state and the Delaware River fell to the British, the only significant battle fought on Delaware soil was at Cooch's Bridge on September 3, 1777.

After the revolution, Delaware realized that its small size could be a handicap unless it joined forces with the other states to form a central federal government. Therefore, Delaware enthusiastically supported the U.S. Constitution and on December 7, 1787, voted unanimously to ratify the document. It was the first of the 13 original states to do so and has been known as the "First State" ever since.

In 1802, America's chemical industry was born in Delaware. Frenchman E.I. DuPont that year established a gunpowder works on the banks of Brandywine Creek, near Wilmington. The business attained great wealth during the Civil War when DuPont became a key supplier of gunpowder to the Union Army. From that new level of prosperity, the DuPont Company diversified into today's chemical giant and over the decades has spawned numerous related businesses in Delaware.



Issued September 4, 1951, this stamp honors the 75th anniversary of the founding of the American Chemical Society. Delaware is the birthplace of America's chemical industry.

Delaware's role as a leading industrial state was furthered by its strategic location, as major railways were built and the Delaware River afforded splendid deepwater ports for ocean-going vessels. As a result, petroleum products and automobiles have joined chemicals as significant industries in the state. More corporations are chartered in Delaware than in

any other state, the result of low costs and favorable regulation. Its status as a "business haven" has given Delaware a thriving service economy. In fact, banking, insurance, and other financial service industries provide the state's largest source of income.

PHILADELPHIA MINT



Common George Washington Design

DENVER MINT



Unique Delaware Design

Capital: Dover
Bird: Blue hen chicken

Flower: Peach blossom
Tree: American holly

Motto: Liberty and Independence



Official State Seal

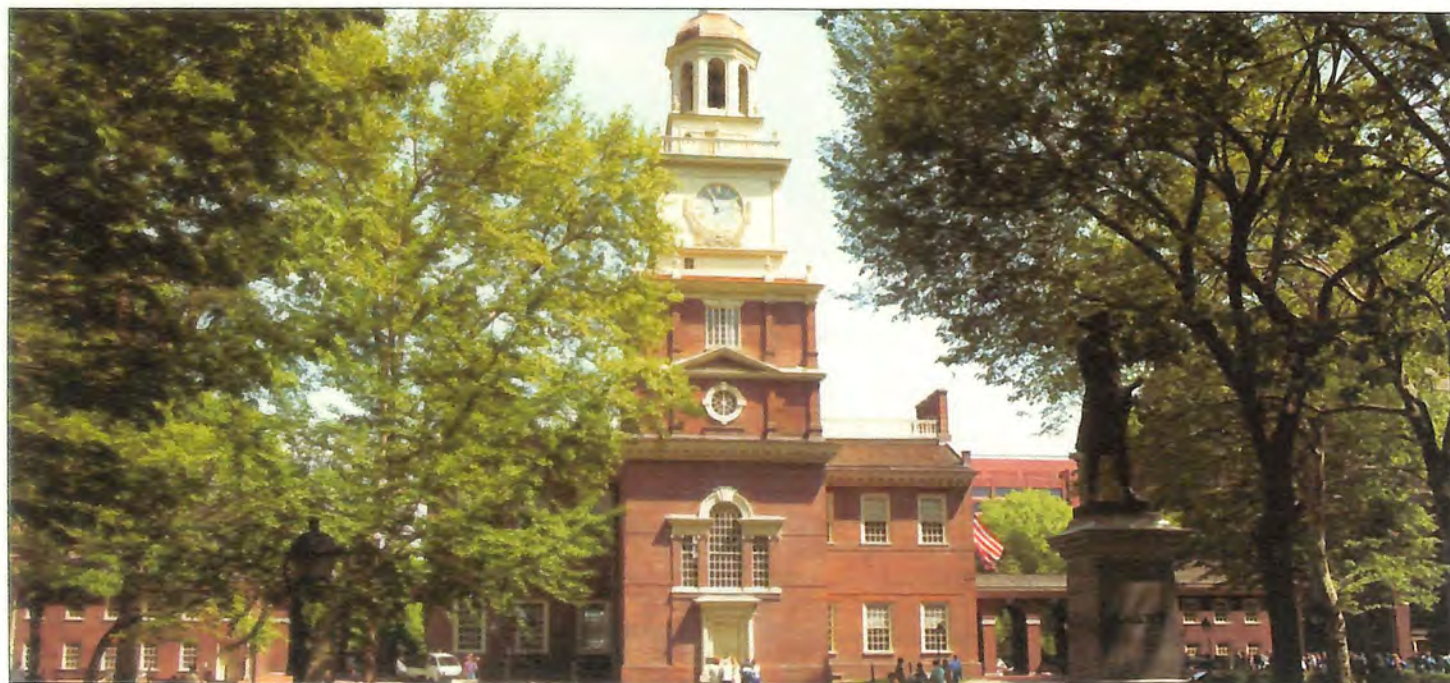
Pennsylvania

The Keystone State

1787



State Flag



Independence Hall in Philadelphia.

It was here that the Declaration of Independence was adopted and the framework of the Constitution was first drafted.

Pennsylvania Statehood Quarter-Dollars
Minting limited to ten weeks, issued March 8, 1999.
Brilliant uncirculated condition.

The unique Pennsylvania quarter-dollar design features symbols representing the state. The central image is of the statue that stands atop the Pennsylvania capitol building in Harrisburg. Named "Commonwealth," the bronze gilded statue is 14'6" high and balances on a gilt ball about 250 feet above street level. She faces west, to symbolize America's westward expansion, with her right arm extended in mercy and her left arm grasping a ribbon mace as a symbol

PHILADELPHIA MINT



Unique Pennsylvania Design

DENVER MINT



Common George Washington Design

of justice. The statue was designed by Hinton Perry and was unveiled on May 25, 1905.

In addition to the statue, the coin also features an outline of the state, the state motto ("Virtue, Liberty, Independence"), and a key-

stone. Pennsylvania is known as the "Keystone State" because, like the wedge-shaped keystone that supports a stone arch, it was in a strategic geographic position in the colonial and revolutionary era.

Entered the Union: December 12, 1787

Pennsylvania

From the time of the first permanent European settlement in 1643, Pennsylvania has been important for its strategic location, spirit of independence, and economic power.

The British gained the colony in 1664, but in 1681 King Charles II signed a charter granting Pennsylvania to William Penn in exchange for a debt owed to Penn's father, Sir William Penn. In 1682, Penn founded the colony of Pennsylvania as a refuge for Quakers and other persecuted Christians. Philadelphia, whose name means "city of brotherly love," became the capital of the colony, and Penn encouraged settlers to join his "holy experiment."



Issued November 19, 1948, this stamp commemorates the 85th anniversary of President Abraham Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, a short but stirring speech made at the Gettysburg, Pennsylvania battle site.



The Benjamin Franklin stamp, a tribute to one of Pennsylvania's most famous citizens, was issued January 17, 1956 to commemorate the 250th anniversary of his birth.

In 1787, the special Constitutional Convention also met in Philadelphia to draw up the U.S. Constitution — the document that created the Federal government. Benjamin Franklin was one of Pennsylvania's delegates, and on December 12, 1787,

PHILADELPHIA MINT



Common George Washington Design

DENVER MINT



Unique Pennsylvania Design

By 1776, Pennsylvania was the third most populous colony in America and Philadelphia had become the largest colonial city. As a result, Philadelphia served as the capital of the colonies during the revolutionary era and hosted the Continental Congress to plan the colonies' independence from Britain. Delegates from all 13 colonies signed the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776 at the Pennsylvania State House, which later became Independence Hall.

Pennsylvania became the second of the original 13 colonies to ratify the Constitution. Philadelphia was also the capital of the United States from 1790 to 1800, when Washington, D.C. became the permanent capital.

Due to its position as a "buffer" between the North and South, Pennsylvania played a major role in the Civil War. The state contributed almost 400,000 men to the Union cause and provided many of the weapons and supplies for the Union army.

The biggest, bloodiest battle of the war took place at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, on July 1-3, 1863, resulting in a decisive Union victory. Because the Confederates were unable to replace their heavy losses, the battle was the turning point in the war. On November 19, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln delivered his "Gettysburg Address" at a ceremony to dedicate part of the battlefield as a cemetery for those who had fallen in battle.

Following the Civil War, Pennsylvania became a key industrial state. Among the leading companies were John D. Rockefeller's Standard Oil Company and Andrew Carnegie's Carnegie Steel Company (later, the U.S. Steel Corporation). In addition to oil and steel, Pennsylvania was an important coal mining region and a hub for the railroads.

The Great Depression, combined with dwindling oil supplies and declining demand for coal and steel, seriously affected Pennsylvania's economy from the 1930s through the 1960s. In the 1970s, however, the state's economy recovered. Service industries, such as banking, health care, and retail trade grew steadily. Manufacturing remains an important industry, although in the second half of the 20th century the focus shifted from steel to food products and chemicals. Tourism also contributes to the economy, especially in Philadelphia, the Pocono Mountains, and the Pennsylvania Dutch areas.



This stamp, issued January 2, 1952, honors Betsy Ross. Born in Pennsylvania, Ross is known as the creator of the original 13-star American flag.

Capital: Harrisburg
Bird: Ruffed grouse

Flower: Mountain laurel
Tree: Hemlock

Motto: Virtue, Liberty, and Independence



Official State Seal

Connecticut

The Constitution State

1788



State Flag

Connecticut Statehood Quarter-Dollars
Minting limited to ten weeks, issued October 12, 1999.
Brilliant uncirculated condition.

The unique Connecticut quarter-dollar design features the famous Charter Oak that once stood in the capital city of Hartford. In 1662, John Winthrop obtained a charter from England's King Charles II that outlined the colony's borders and — unlike other colonial charters — allowed virtual self-government. In 1687, shortly after the death of Charles II, Connecticut officials received a visit from Sir Edmund Andros, a representative of the new King James II. He demanded that the charter be surrendered so that the English could create a single New England colony. Giving up the charter, however, would mean losing autonomy.



On the night of October 31, 1687, Andros and colonial officials held a meeting in Hartford. The charter was placed on the table between them — but suddenly, the candles were blown out. In the confusion and darkness the charter disappeared. According to legend, Joseph Wadsworth escaped with

the document and hid it in a secret hollow in a white oak. His heroism preserved both the charter and Connecticut's independence, and the oak tree became a symbol of liberty to all Connecticut citizens. It was approximately seven feet in diameter and about 1,000 years old when it blew down in a storm on August 12, 1856.



Mystic Seaport in Mystic, Connecticut. A reconstructed waterfront village, Mystic Seaport is home to the Australia, America's oldest schooner, and the Charles W. Morgan, New England's last wooden whaling ship.

Entered the Union: January 9, 1788

Connecticut



This stamp, featuring Senator Brien McMahon, was issued July 28, 1962 in his birthplace of Norwalk, Connecticut. McMahon is honored here for his contribution to the discovery of peaceful uses of atomic energy.



Tom Sawyer, one of Mark Twain's well-known works, is honored on this stamp issued October 13, 1972. Twain worked on Tom Sawyer and other stories in his home in Hartford, Connecticut.

The Dutch were the first Europeans to explore Connecticut in 1614, building the first trading post at Hartford. By 1633 English settlers from Massachusetts started to move to Connecticut in search of fertile land or political and religious freedom. They established the first permanent settlement at Windsor that year.

In 1639, the Connecticut colony adopted the Fundamental Orders, the first written Constitution of a democratic government. As a result, Connecticut is known as "The Constitution State."

Though the orders were not initially recognized by England, the colony was granted a royal charter in 1662 which defined its borders and granted it autonomy in the majority of its decisions.

During the American Revolution, soldiers from Connecticut fought in nearly every major campaign. The British governor, Jonathan Trumbull, remained loyal to the people of Connecticut — the only colonial governor to defy the British. Connecticut privateers captured many British merchant ships, adding to the considerable amount of food supplied by the colony to George Washington's Continental Army.

As the colony grew, farming quickly gave way to trade and manufacturing, including clock-making and shipbuilding.

In the early 19th century, Eli Whitney introduced modern mass production by making firearms with interchangeable parts. Connecticut became the center of the firearms industry, and Samuel Colt later revolutionized warfare and the "Wild West" with his Colt revolver.

During the Civil War, Connecticut supplied the Union army with many of its weapons and the Union navy with many of its ships. About 55,000 Connecticut men fought for the Union.

In addition to firearms and manufacturing, Connecticut also became known as an insurance center in the 19th century. Marine insurance was first issued for ships and cargoes sailing between Connecticut and the Caribbean; other types of insurance soon followed, including life, accident, and health. At the end of the 20th century, more than 50 insurance companies were based in Connecticut.

The 20th century saw the rise of Connecticut as the "arsenal of democracy." It supplied a significant amount of war materiel to the U.S. and Allied forces in the 20th century's major wars. The world's first atomic-powered submarine, the *Nautilus*, was launched in Connecticut in 1954.

Connecticut has a well-deserved reputation as a highly prosperous and innovative state. In its first 150 years, the U.S. Patent Office received more patents per capita from Connecticut than any other state, and companies such as Xerox, G.E., Uniroyal Chemical Company, and Union Carbide have corporate headquarters in the state. It is also a leader in high-technology production, including jet aircraft engines, helicopters, and nuclear submarines.



This stamp, issued April 6, 1959, honors Arctic Explorations. The stamp features the *Nautilus*, which was built and launched at Groton, Connecticut.



Capital: Hartford
Bird: Robin

Flower: Mountain laurel
Tree: White oak

Motto: Qui transtulit sustinet (He who transplanted still sustains)



Official State Seal

Massachusetts

The Bay State
1788



State Flag



The Minuteman Statue in Lexington, Massachusetts.

This statue commemorates the minutemen who stood their ground against the British in April 1775.

Massachusetts Statehood Quarter-Dollars
Minting limited to ten weeks, issued January 3, 2000.
Brilliant uncirculated condition.

The unique Massachusetts quarter-dollar features a colonial minuteman, a soldier who was ready to fight for America's freedom at a minute's notice. On April 19, 1775, minutemen — alerted by Paul Revere on his famous midnight ride from Boston — fought in the first battles of the American Revolution at Lexington and Concord. They played an important role in the Revolution, although they were later disbanded during military reorganization. The image of a minuteman on the coin is based on Daniel Chester French's "The Minute Man" statue that was erected at

PHILADELPHIA MINT



Unique Massachusetts Design

DENVER MINT



Common George Washington Design

Concord in April 1875 to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the start of the American Revolution.

The Massachusetts quarter-dollar also features an outline of the state in the background. A small star indicates the position of Boston, the state's capital and largest city. Massachusetts is known as "The Bay State" because of the 65-mile-long Massachusetts Bay that stretches from Cape Ann to Cape Cod. Many of the earliest colonial towns were established along the bay, including Boston, Plymouth, Salem, Lynn, and Gloucester.

Entered the Union: February 6, 1788

Massachusetts

The first recorded exploration of the Massachusetts coast was by English explorer John Cabot in 1498, but it was the Pilgrims who established the first permanent settlement at Plymouth after sailing from England aboard the Mayflower in 1620. The colony prospered, and in 1621 the Pilgrims observed the first Thanksgiving.

The Massachusetts Bay Colony was chartered in 1629, and Puritan settlers formed many small communities across Massachusetts — most notably Salem and Boston. Massachusetts was self-reliant in agriculture and fishing, but England controlled its trade and imposed heavy taxes. By the 1760's, Boston became the center of dissent against British rule, and the Boston Tea Party in 1773 displayed the colonists' anger at unfair taxation.



This stamp, issued October 21, 1947, celebrates the 150th anniversary of the launching of the U.S. frigate Constitution. Known as "Old Ironsides," the ship is docked at the Charlestown Navy Yard in Boston, Massachusetts.



Issued May 2, 1934, this stamp is part of the Mothers of America issue. It features a portrait by Massachusetts-born painter James A. McNeill Whistler of his mother.

developed thriving textile and manufacturing industries to produce items that were no longer available from Europe and the Orient.



Common George Washington Design



Unique Massachusetts Design

On April 19, 1775, the first shots of the American Revolution were fired at Lexington and Concord. Massachusetts supported the ideals of the Revolution, and the Massachusetts constitution served as a model for the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights. On February 6, 1788, Massachusetts became the sixth state to ratify the U.S. Constitution.

The state prospered until trade restrictions from the Embargo Act of 1807 brought overseas shipping to a standstill. As a result, Massachusetts

strongly supported the Union cause in the Civil War and sent over 146,000 men into battle — including the first black regiments. The state was also a vital stop on the "Underground Railway" that helped escaped slaves find freedom.

After the war, manufacturing continued to expand. By the turn of the century, Massachusetts produced more than one-third of the nation's woolen goods and about half the nation's boots and shoes.

In 1919, Massachusetts Governor Calvin Coolidge became a national hero for taking a strong stand against Boston's striking police force, which was protesting the mayor's refusal to let them form a union. Coolidge rode his popularity to the vice-presidency, taking over as President upon the death of Warren Harding. But the most famous Massachusetts politician was John F. Kennedy, who was elected President in 1960.

A major seaport, the capital city of Boston is central to New England's trade and finance as well as one of New England's main tourist spots. Boston is also the home of numerous universities, making the area a great cultural and research center. The first secondary school and first college in the U.S. were both founded in Boston.

The Massachusetts economy remained strong throughout much of the 20th century. New industries boomed to meet the demands of World War I. Then, after a decline during the Great Depression, the economy soared spectacularly once more during and after World War II. In the latter half of the 20th century, Massachusetts was known as a center for military research and development as well as a leader in high-tech industries. Banking, education, insurance, and medical care also contributed to its economy.



Massachusetts native Henry David Thoreau is pictured on this stamp issued July 12, 1967, 150 years after his birth. A famous American writer, he is best known for his essay "Civil Disobedience" and his book "Walden," which describes his life on the shore of Walden Pond.

Capital: Boston
Bird: Chickadee

Flower: Mayflower
Tree: American elm

Motto: *Ense petit placidam sub libertate quietem* (By the sword we seek peace, but peace only under liberty)



Official State Seal

New York

The Empire State

1788



State Flag

New York Statehood Quarter-Dollars
Minting limited to ten weeks, issued January 2, 2001.
Brilliant uncirculated condition.

*T*he unique New York quarter-dollar features the Statue of Liberty with a map of New York state in the background. The Statue of Liberty was a gift from France to commemorate the 100th anniversary of American independence in 1876. It was designed by Auguste Bartholdi with a framework by Gustave Eiffel, who also created the Eiffel Tower in Paris. The statue was built in Paris, then taken apart and shipped to New York, where it was reassembled on Liberty Island in New York Harbor. On October 28, 1886, President Grover Cleveland dedicated the Statue of Liberty at a special ceremony.



The map of New York state behind the Statue of Liberty includes a line tracing the Hudson River and the route of the Erie Canal. These waterways were vital to the development of the state and in opening up the interior of the United States to settlement. Henry Hudson, for whom the river is named,

became the first European to explore New York when he sailed up the river in 1609. In 1825, completion of the Erie Canal between Albany and Buffalo on Lake Erie encouraged settlers to move westward and provided a direct link between upstate towns and the important port and industrial center, New York City.



The Manhattan skyline at night in New York City, New York.
An international financial center, Manhattan is also among the world's leaders in cultural attractions.

Entered the Union: July 26, 1788

New York



Released October 16, 1940 as part of the National Defense Issue, this stamp portrays the Statue of Liberty. The statue was a gift to the United States from France, and has stood in New York Harbor since 1886.



Issued January 29, 1966, this stamp honors 32nd President Franklin D. Roosevelt. A New York native, Roosevelt spent his early years on his family's estate at Hyde Park, located in Dutchess County, New York.

sailing on behalf of the Dutch East India Company in search of the fabled northwest passage to the East Indies.

The Dutch proclaimed the colony "New Netherland," and established the first permanent settlement at Fort Orange in 1624.

The English disputed the Dutch claim to the colony of New Netherland. In fact, King Charles II granted the entire colony to his brother, the Duke of York and

Albany, and in 1664 the English seized it from the Dutch. They changed the name New Netherland to New York, and Fort Orange to Albany.

During the American Revolution, New York was a hub of activity. Nearly one-third of all engagements in the Revolution were fought in New York. The final military event of the Revolution was the British retreat from New York City in late November 1783. In addition, New York City served as America's capital city from 1785-1790, and was the site of Washington's inauguration as first President of the United States in 1789.

The completion of the Erie Canal in 1825 connected the Hudson River with Buffalo on Lake Erie, encouraging both trade and settlement in upstate New York and beyond.

In September 1609, Henry Hudson sailed the *Half Moon* up the Hudson River, thereby becoming the first European to explore New York. He was

In the Civil War, almost 500,000 New York men fought for the Union, having a considerable impact on the war. After the war, the state flourished economically — and New York City soon developed into one of the world's most important industrial and financial centers. Wall Street, home to large banks, later became synonymous with finance.

The latter part of the 19th century and the first decades of the 20th century saw New York absorb millions of immigrants from Europe, turning it into a "melting pot" of people from around the world. Most immigrants arrived through Ellis Island in New York Harbor, passing the Statue of Liberty on their way. By 1900, one of three New Yorkers had been born in a foreign country.

New York's governor, Franklin D. Roosevelt, was elected President in 1932. As the longest-serving U.S. President, he helped the nation escape the Great Depression.

Throughout the 20th century, New York City remained a major center for cultural and sporting events. Legendary baseball teams such as the New York Yankees and Brooklyn Dodgers played in New York City, while Cooperstown became home to the National Baseball Hall of Fame. Its Broadway theaters are among the best in the world, and New York also boasts world-class opera, symphony orchestras and museums.

To add to New York's international importance, the United Nations Headquarters building was completed in New York City in 1952. Landmarks such as Niagara Falls, Ellis Island, the Empire State Building and the Statue of Liberty make New York one of the world's most popular tourist destinations.



This air mail stamp, issued July 31, 1948, honors the anniversary of the merger of New York City's five boroughs. In response to public sentiment to unify the city, a referendum was passed in 1898 to consolidate Manhattan, Brooklyn, Queens, Staten Island and the Bronx into one metropolitan area.

PHILADELPHIA MINT



Common George Washington Design

DENVER MINT



Unique New York Design

Capital: Albany
Bird: Bluebird

Flower: Rose
Tree: Sugar maple

Motto: *Excelsior* (Ever upward)



Official State Seal

Delaware

The First State

1787



State Flag

Delaware Statehood Quarter-Dollars
Minting limited to ten weeks, issued January 4, 1999.
Brilliant uncirculated condition.

*T*he unique Delaware quarter-dollar design features Caesar Rodney's ride into history. Rodney was one of Delaware's most outspoken patriots during the Revolutionary War era. He also served as one of Delaware's delegates to the Second Continental Congress that met in Philadelphia in 1776 to organize the rebellion against British rule. When a motion for independence came before the Congress, however, Rodney was absent. As a Brigadier General in the Delaware militia, he had been called back to Delaware to suppress a riot.



Delaware's other two delegates split their votes on the question of independence. Knowing that America's quest for independence may have died without a vote of confidence from all 13 colonies, Rodney rode 80 agonizing miles on horseback through the night of July 1-2 to cast his vote in

Philadelphia. He battled heat, mud, driving rain, and thunderstorms, and his dramatic arrival at Independence Hall, "in his boots and spurs" and covered in mud, took place just in time to vote for independence. Two days later, on July 4, 1776, he proudly signed the Declaration of Independence.



*Birkenhead Mill, near the site of the original DuPont gunpowder works.
It was here that America's chemical industry was born in 1802.*

Entered the Union: December 7, 1787

Delaware



The 150th anniversary of the drafting of the Constitution is honored on this stamp issued September 17, 1937. Delaware was the first of the original 13 colonies to ratify the Constitution.

Henry Hudson was one of the first explorers to sail along the Delaware coast in 1609 while attempting to find the legendary Northwest Passage to Asia. However, it was English explorer Samuel Argall in 1610 who named the region in honor of the governor of Virginia, English aristocrat Lord De La Warr.

Swedish colonists formed the first permanent European settlement in Delaware in 1638 at Fort Christina (now Wilmington), but the colony eventually fell into British hands in 1664. When Delaware was deeded to William Penn, the founder of Pennsylvania, in 1682, it became known as the "Lower Counties." The residents of the "Lower Counties" were very different both ethnically and politically from those of Pennsylvania, so Penn allowed them to establish their own Assembly in New Castle in 1704 — although they remained under the rule of the Pennsylvania governor.

In 1776, Delaware adopted its own constitution and established a state government separate from Pennsylvania. At the same time, it also declared itself free from British rule. Despite its small size — it was the second-smallest of the original 13 states after Rhode Island — nearly 4,000 men enlisted for service during the American Revolution. Although much of the state and the Delaware River fell to the British, the only significant battle fought on Delaware soil was at Cooch's Bridge on September 3, 1777.

After the revolution, Delaware realized that its small size could be a handicap unless it joined forces with the other states to form a central federal government. Therefore, Delaware enthusiastically supported the U.S. Constitution and on December 7, 1787, voted unanimously to ratify the document. It was the first of the 13 original states to do so and has been known as the "First State" ever since.

In 1802, America's chemical industry was born in Delaware. Frenchman E.I. DuPont that year established a gunpowder works on the banks of Brandywine Creek, near Wilmington. The business attained great wealth during the Civil War when DuPont became a key supplier of gunpowder to the Union Army. From that new level of prosperity, the DuPont Company diversified into today's chemical giant and over the decades has spawned numerous related businesses in Delaware.



The first permanent settlement in Delaware was made by Swedish colonists in 1638. This stamp, issued June 27, 1938, commemorates the 300th anniversary of their arrival.

PHILADELPHIA MINT



Common George Washington Design

DENVER MINT



Unique Delaware Design

Delaware's role as a leading industrial state was furthered by its strategic location, as major railways were built and the Delaware River afforded splendid deepwater ports for ocean-going vessels. As a result, petroleum products and automobiles have joined chemicals as significant industries in the state. More corporations are chartered in Delaware than in any other state, the result of low costs and favorable regulation. Its status as a "business haven" has given Delaware a thriving service economy. In fact, banking, insurance, and other financial service industries provide the state's largest source of income.

Capital: Dover
Bird: Blue hen chicken

Flower: Peach blossom
Tree: American holly

Motto: Liberty and Independence