

UNITED STATES



1870-71

Printed by The National Bank Note Co.

US Embossed with Grill



Without Grill



During their first two decades or so, our stamps portrayed only Franklin and various presidents. But in 1869 the "pictorials" were born, depicting key events in our history, such as the Columbus voyage. Significantly, they also dramatized the newly popular modes of travel and communications that helped the nation grow and prosper. (In this year, too, some of the 15¢, 24¢ and 30¢ values were misprinted, with inverted centers. They are now prized rarities.)

UNITED STATES

1873

Printed by the Continental Bank Note Co.

Same as Issue of 1870-71, with secret marks added.



12 C
BLACKISH
VIOLET

(162)



24 C
DEEP PURPLE

(164)

30 C
GRAY BLACK

(165)

90 C
ROSE CARMINE

(166)



1879

Printed by the American Bank Note Co.

Same as Issues of 1873-75. Soft porous paper.



90 C
CARMINE

(191)

1881-82



1883



UNITED STATES

1887

1888



USED



USED



USED



USED



USED



USED



USED

NG

USED

USED

1890-93 USED

USED

USED



USED



USED



(229)



Same as 1890-93 Issue with triangles in upper corners



USED



USED



USED



(261)

Type II
\$1
BLACK

(261A)



(262)



(263)

The 1890-93 series printed by the American Bank Note Co. were the last to be privately handled. In 1894 the Bureau of Engraving and Printing assumed responsibility for printing stamps. Small triangles in the upper corners distinguish them from those of 1890. Also, \$1 (Commodore Perry), \$2 (President Madison) and \$5 (Chief Justice Marshall) values have been added.

UNITED STATES

Columbian Exposition Issue

1893



Oct. 12, 1492. Columbus' first sight of land. He thinks it is "the Indies."



Still thinking it the Orient, he lands, naming it San Salvador (in the Bahamas.)



Columbus' flagship, the Santa Maria, 90 ft. long, one-tenth a modern liner's size!



The Santa Maria and the even smaller Nina and Pinta; Columbus' tiny fleet.



Columbus asks Ferdinand and Isabella, Spain's monarchs, to sponsor his trip.



Barcelona acclaiming Columbus, the hero, after his discovery of a "New World."



Isabella confirms the explorer's titles, authorizes a second voyage, to colonize.



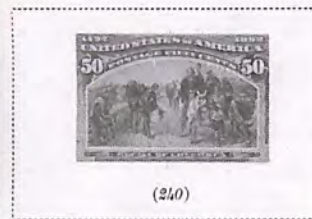
Columbus offers his King and Queen a rare gift: a few American Indians!



At Barcelona's great cathedral, Columbus explains his plans to colonize Hispanola.



Columbus and the La Rabida monks debate his new plans to explore the "Indies."



Although hailed as a hero by most, Columbus also attracted envy — and enemies.



Queen Isabella offers to pawn her jewels to finance Columbus, but she doesn't have to.



When his colonies fail, Columbus' enemies conspire to have him chained and jailed.



Released, he makes a third trip to the "New World", returns home to report triumph.



Isabella and Columbus; first stamp to feature a woman — and a non-American!



A commemorative half-dollar, issued for the Exposition, supplied this stamp portrait.

On May 1, 1893, the World's Columbian Exposition opened in Chicago, to celebrate the 400th anniversary of Columbus' voyages, called by many historians "the most important... in all history." The 16 stamps shown above depict the momentous events.

UNITED STATES

Watermarked **USPS** Perforated 12
1895



1898



Bad 9

Bad 9

Trans-Mississippi Exposition Issue

1898



French-born Jesuit Father Marquette explores the Mississippi River.



Grain harvesting in the great midwest "bread basket" that fed America.



Indian buffalo hunt. Soon the white man would drive both from the plains.

USED



John C. Fremont, adventurer, soldier; he explored and publicized the West.



Frederic Remington pictured U. S. cavalry guarding a wagon train.



Man and beast alike fell victim to the cruel and terrible train West.

H



Gold is discovered, and for 50 years prospectors follow the gleam.

USED



(292)

Only the sturdiest cattle could survive the fierce Western blizzards.



(293)

The 520-ft. steel arch bridge (1874) spanning the Mississippi at St. Louis.

America drew on its more recent past for the subject matter of her stamps: Buffalo hunt, Indians, cavalry, gold discovery, the endless granary, modern miracles.

UNITED STATES

Watermarked USPS

Pan-American Exposition Issue

1901



Fast Great Lakes steamers sped the bulk of goods between east and midwest.



Iron rails helped pave the way to the "gold" of the untapped western wilderness.



Salute to the infant auto industry that would do so much to mature our nation.



Physical and symbolic link with Canada, the single-span steel bridge below the Falls.



The Sault Sainte Marie canal linking lakes Huron and Superior via five giant locks.



"Fast Ocean Navigation" depicts one of the finest U.S. liners afloat in those days.

The Pan-American Exposition opened on May 1, 1901, to cement feelings of solidarity and friendship between the American nations, from the Arctic to Cape Horn. Held in Buffalo, N. Y., it stressed Western Hemisphere progress in the 1800's. Some of the centers in the issue became reversed and are therefore prized as valuable rarities.

1902-03



1906-08

Imperforate



USED



4 C
BROWN

(314A)

5 C
BLUE

(315)

UNITED STATES

Watermarked USPS

Louisiana Purchase Exposition Issue

1904



Robert R. Livingston *NG*



Thomas Jefferson



William McKinley



Map of Louisiana Purchase, *USED*

The purchase of the Louisiana Territory from Napoleon in 1803, for \$15,000,000, added over 800,000 sq. mi., more than doubling our size, as the stamp map shows. President McKinley approved the St. Louis World's Fair, observing the 100th Anniversary of the event. His likeness, that of then President Thomas Jefferson and negotiators Robert R. Livingston and James Monroe are also featured in this issue.

Jamestown Exposition Issue

1907



Captain John Smith



Founding of Jamestown



Pocahontas *NG*

Commemorating the tercentenary of the founding of the first permanent English settlement in America. Capt. John Smith helped save the colony. Smith — and legend — said that chief's daughter Pocahontas saved his life.

1908-19



LH

LH

LH

UNITED STATES

Watermarked USPS

1909

Perforated 12

Lincoln Memorial Issue



Three variations mark the 100th anniversary of Lincoln's birthday.

Alaska-Yukon Issue



Alaska Purchase "Folly," a 7-million-dollar bargain.

Hudson-Fulton Issue



Marking 300 years since discovery of the Hudson River and 100 since the Clermont's voyage.

Imperforate



Perforated 12

Bluish Paper

Types of 1908-10

1 C

GREEN

(357)

2 C

CARMINE

(358)

Type of 1909

2 C

CARMINE

(359)

Watermarked USPS

1910-11



Imperforate



BAD GLUE

LH

UNITED STATES

1908-13

Watermarked USPS

Perforated 12 Horizontally



USED



USED

4 C
ORANGE
BROWN

Scott 350

5 C
BLUE

Scott 351

Perforated 12 Vertically

1 C
GREEN

Scott 352



USED

4 C
ORANGE
BROWN

Scott 354

5 C
BLUE

Scott 355

10 C
YELLOW

Scott 356

Watermarked USPS

Perforated 12



USED



USED

2 C
CARMINE

Scott 386

1 C
GREEN

Scott 387

2 C
CARMINE

Scott 388



USED

Perforated 8½ Horizontally



USED

Perforated 8½ Vertically



USED



USED



USED



USED



UNITED STATES

Watermarked USPS

Perforated 12

1913

Panama-Pacific Exposition Issue



Vasco Nunez de Balboa



Pedro Miguel Locks



Golden Gate



NG

Discovery of San Francisco Bay.



USED

1914-15

Perforated 10

USED

USED



In September, 1513, Balboa discovered what he called the "South Sea," the Pacific Ocean. Four hundred years later, the first ship entered the Panama Canal, officially to open in January, 1914. The San Francisco Exposition and issue celebrated both events.

1912-14

Perforated 12



LH



COIL STAMPS



Perforated 8½ Horizontally

Perforated 8½ Vertically.



LH



USED

UNITED STATES

Watermarked USPS Perforated 12

1912-14



Watermarked USPS



Watermarked USPS

1914-15

Perforated 10



COIL STAMPS

Perforated 10 Horizontally

Perforated 10 Vertically



3 C
VIOLET

(445)

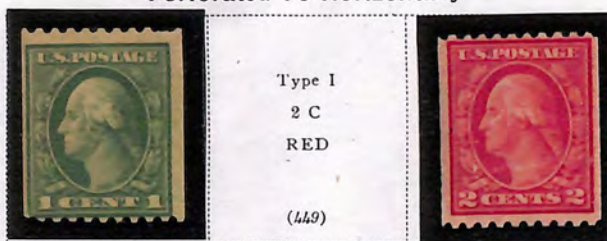
UNITED STATES

Watermarked USPS

1914-16

COIL STAMPS

Perforated 10 Horizontally

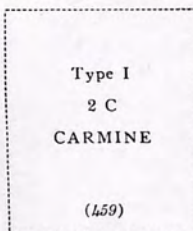


Perforated 10 Vertically



Imperforate

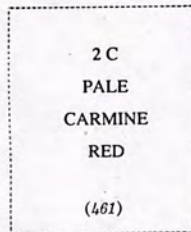
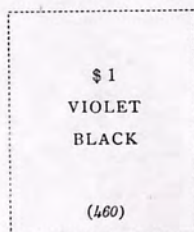
USED



1915

Watermarked USPS

Watermarked USPS



UNITED STATES

Perforated 10

1916-17



USED

USED Imperforate

USED

USED

USED

USED

1916-17



LH

COIL STAMPS

Perforated 10 Horizontally

1916-19



Perforated 10 Vertically

1916-22



NG

NG H

LH

UNITED STATES

Perforated 11

1917-19



2 C
DEEP
ROSE

(500)



NG



LH

Watermarked USPS

1917

Type of 1908-09

2 C

CARMINE

(519)

1918



(523)

USED

UNITED STATES

OFFSET PRINTING

Perforated 11

1918-20

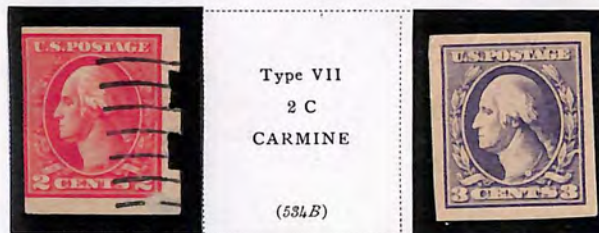
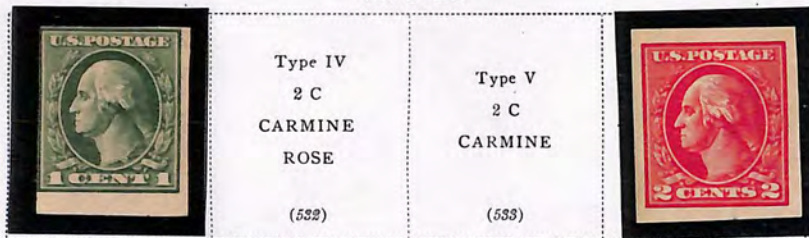


WED

LH

Imperforate

1918-20



WED

Perforated 12½



LH

Perforated 11

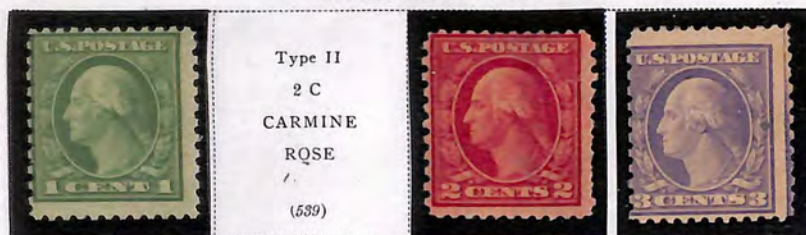


Issued on Mar. 3, some four months after the Allies' World War I triumph.

UNITED STATES

1919-21

Perforated 11x10



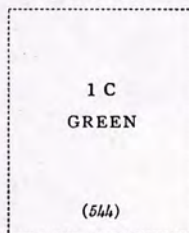
Perforated 10x11



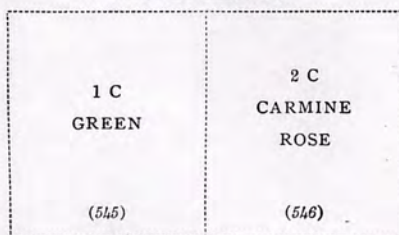
Perforated 10



Perforated 11



Perforated 11



1920

Perforated 11



USED

Pilgrim Tercentenary Issue



The Mayflower



Landing of the Pilgrims



Signing of the Compact

Although the Pilgrims first landed at Provincetown (across Cape Cod Bay from Plymouth), it was at Plymouth (Mass.) that they made their first permanent settlement. The 300th anniversary issue thus honored places, but then — as always — the spotlight was on Plymouth Rock. While still aboard the *Mayflower*, the 41 Pilgrim "Fathers" (sixty-odd others aboard were not Pilgrims) drew up the Compact under which they pledged to make their own "just and equall Laws..."

UNITED STATES

1922-25
Perforated 11



In the early 1920's, both flat plate and rotary press printing were used, with emphasis on the former. While various perforations or imperforations were employed, perforated 11 found favor as a compromise between stamp sheets too easy or too difficult to tear. New denominations were added to the value list, and new subjects, both personal and institutional.

UNITED STATES

1923-26

Perforated 11 x 10

Perforated 10

N9

Same
1 C
GREEN
(578)



Perforated 11

Same
1 C
GREEN
(594)

2 C
CARMINE
(595)



COIL STAMPS

Perforated 10 vertically



Perforated 10 vertically

Perforated 10 horizontally



UNITED STATES

USED

1929

LH

USED



For years, "grain belt" states had been victimized by stamp losses in countless ingenious ways. In an attempt to circumvent this, "Kans." and "Nebr." were overprinted on stamps for those states, to little avail.

1930

Perforated 11x10½



COIL STAMPS

Perforated 10 Vertically



LH

UNITED STATES

1929

Battle of Fallen Timbers Issue



Gen. "Mad Anthony" Wayne defeated Indians (1794) near site of Toledo, O.; treaty opened Northwest.

Ohio River Canalization Issue



Army engineers completed job begun 1875, continuous 1,000-mile channel, Cairo, Ill. to Pittsburgh, Pa.

Massachusetts Bay Colony Issue



Tercentenary of founding; group first went to Salem, then founded Boston. Famed for self-government charter.

Carolina-Charleston Issue



260th anniversary...Province of Carolina and the 250th of settlement near present Charleston.

Braddock's Field Issue



1755, British Gen. Braddock fell, fighting French and Indians, near Ft. Duquesne, now Pittsburgh, Pa.

Von Steuben Issue



Prussian Gen. who aided the Colonial cause, whipping our army into shape during Revolutionary War.

1931

Pulaski Issue



Dashing Polish Count called "father of U. S. cavalry;" died leading charge against red-coats in Ga.

Yorktown Issue



Cornwallis, trapped by Adm. De Grasse's French fleet and by armies of Washington and Rochambeau, gave up at Yorktown, Va., ending the Revolution.

Red Cross Issue



50th anniversary of establishment of American Red Cross (1st chapter set up at Dansville, N. Y., 1881).

1931

Perforated 11x10½



Perforated 10½x11



RE-GUAE

UNITED STATES

AIR POST STAMPS

USED

1918 USED

USED



1923



USED

1926-27



1927



1928



UNITED STATES

SPECIAL DELIVERY STAMPS

1885



USED

1888



USED

1893



USED

1894



Watermarked USPS

1895



USED

1908



USED

1902



USED

Watermarked USPS

1911



USED

1914



USED

Unwatermarked

1916



USED

1917



1922



H

1925



1927



LH



USED

UNITED STATES

PARCEL POST STAMPS

1912-13



USED



USED



USED



USED

PARCEL POST DUE STAMPS

USED

1912 USED

USED



USED



USED