

## FIRST RESPONDERS

Firefighters, law enforcement officers, emergency medical service professionals and other emergency personnel are occasionally recognized today by the U.S. Postal Service.



In September 2018 the USPS Issued this stamp.

Our nation's first responders rush into life-threatening situations for the benefit of others and the USPS honors their skill, dedication and unfailing bravery with stamp issues.

After 911 in June of 2002 this stamp was issued



Emergencies of all varieties and scales occur in our communities every day, from crimes and medical incidents to accidents and fires. These critical situations require men and women who possess the training and knowledge to rescue the endangered, treat the injured, and restore safety and order. First responders are found throughout our society, from small townships to the federal government. They include a wide range of law enforcement professionals and public safety personnel, from air marshals and transit police officers, to ski patrollers, park rangers, and fish and game wardens. For many, it is a volunteer job; for others, it is their full-time occupation.



May of 1968 saw this tribute to police.

October 1948 the 300th anniversary of volunteer firemen was honored



Fayette Ohio

Originally "Gorham" established in Williams County January 24, 1837 town was renamed Fayette January 20, 1873. When the Chicago and Canadian Southern Railroad came through the area Fayette began to prosper. Postal Service records show Fayette established a post office January 20, 1873 in the western center section of section 20 of Gorham Township, however, "The History of Fulton and Henry County 1888" by Lewis Cass

Aldrich says the Fayette post office was established in 1854, and Dr. Joseph O. Allen was postmaster for a number of years. This is in conflict with the USPS date above. The Fayette office is still in operation.

This cover carries an 1855 issued stamp that was demonetized in 1861 and a 32mm Fayette CDS. This combination indicates the 1854 date may be historically correct.

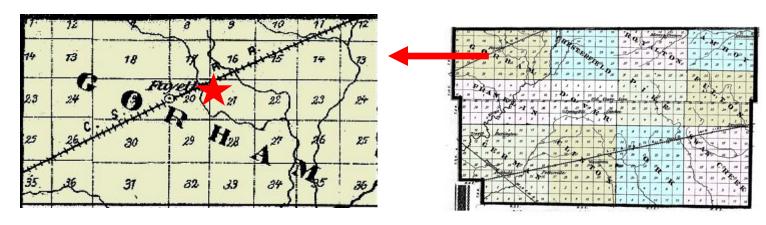


#### 2010 census

In 2010, 1,283 people, 505 households, and 345 families lived in village. Population density was 1,309.2 inhabitants per square mile. Racial makeup was 94.0% White, 1.0% African American, 0.4% Native American, 0.1% Asian, 2.3% from other races, and 2.2% from two or more races. Hispanic or Latino of any race were 14.3% of the population.

Of 505 households 36.6% had children under 18, 48.1% married couples, 13.3% female householder/no husband present, 6.9% male householder/no wife present, and 31.7% were non-families. 26.9% of all households were made up of individuals and 9.9% had someone living alone who was 65 years of age or older. The average household size was 2.54 and the average family size was 3.04.

Median age was 35.3 years. 28.4% residents were under 18; 8.9% between 18 and 24; 26% 25 to 44; 24% 45 to 64; and 12.8% were 65 years of age or older. Village is 47.4% male and 52.6% female.



## $\star$

# FLAG STAMPS

All the countries of the world issue stamps with their countries flag as the theme. The United States is no exception. Since 1957 when our first flag stamp appeared we have issued well over 100 stamps showing "Old Glory". Here is a look at a few by decade.



Our 1st flag stamp was Scott 1094 issued in 1957 displaying 48 stars



Our 2nd flag stamp was Scott 1132 issued in 1959 displaying 49 stars



Our 3rd flag stamp was Scott 1153 issued in 1960 displaying 50 stars



1st flag of 70's was Scott 1509 in 1973



1st flag of 80's was Scott 1890 in 1981



1st flag of 90's was Scott 2475 a self adhesive vending stamp.



1st flag of new century was Scott 3403 issued in 2000 and was sheet of 20 designs

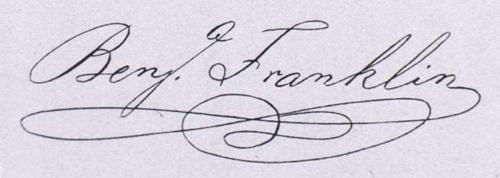


1st flag of new century's 2nd decade was Scott 4487 issued in 2011



1st flag 2020's will Be a pre-sorted coil stamp For bulk mailers





Since appearing on the first stamp in 1847 Benjamin Franklin, our first Postmaster General, has appeared on 84 United States postage stamps, 75 times in first 109 years and only 9 times in the last 64 years.

**Date:** 1847

**Description:** Unused

Depicts: Benjamin Franklin, American, 1706 - 1790

Printer: Rawdon, Wright, Hatch & Edson

Medium: Thin bluish wove paper; ink (red brown) / engraving

**Dimensions:** Height x Width: 1 x 3/4 in. (2.54 x 1.91 cm)

The Third Bureau Issue, commonly known as the Washington-Franklin Head Issue (or simply Washington-Franklins) appeared in late 1908. Before last of these

stamps was issued in early 1922, approximately 250 different stamps were issued, bearing likeness of either George Washington or Benjamin Franklin. Just five illustrations are needed for all these different stamps. Franklin appeared on a 1 cent stamp then skipped to an 8 cent and appeared on all issued denominations from 8 cent to \$5.00.





After the Washington-Franklins this orange stamp of 1938 was Franklin's next appearance. Third stamp issued in 1938 Presidential Series is an anomaly: 1) It pictures Benjamin Franklin who was never President, and 2) No rate ever existed paid solely with this half cent stamp. It is fitting that Franklin be included in the 1938 Presidential Series. Many scholars agree that not for Franklin's age he would surely been elected President.

Millions of Franklin stamps were used to pay postal rates, but no single rate ever existed.

A set of four stamps, seen below, were issued in 2006 are most recent issues honoring Franklin and his achievements. This set commemorated the 200th anniversary of his birth.









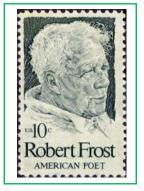
# Row troot

**Robert Lee Frost** (March 26, 1874 – January 29, 1963) was an American poet. His work was initially published in England before it was published in America. Known for his realistic depictions of rural life and his command of American colloquial speech Frost frequently wrote about settings from rural life in New England in the early twentieth century, using them to examine complex social and philosophical themes.

Frost was honored frequently during his lifetime and is the only poet to receive four Pulitzer Prizes for Poetry. He became one of America's rare "public literary figures, almost an artistic institution." He was awarded the Congressional Gold Medal in 1960 for his poetic works. On July 22, 1961, Frost was named poet laureate of Vermont. Frost is pictured here on his 85th birthday and was 86 when he read at

the inauguration of John F. Kennedy on January 20, 1961. Frost originally attempted to read his poem "Dedication", which was written for the occa-

sion, but was unable to read it due to the brightness of the sunlight, so he recited his poem "The Gift Outright" from memory instead.



#### **Stopping By The Woods On A Snowy Evening**

Whose woods these are I think I know. His house is in the village though; He will not see me stopping here To watch his woods fill up with snow.

My little horse must think it queer
To stop without a farmhouse near
Between the woods and frozen lake
The darkest evening of the year.

He gives his harness bells a shake To ask if there is some mistake. The only other sound's the sweep Of easy wind and downy flake.

The woods are lovely, dark and deep, But I have promises to keep, And miles to go before I sleep, And miles to go before I sleep.



Robert Frost in 1941		
Born	Robert Lee Frost March 26, 1874 San Francisco,	
	California	
Died	January 29, 1963 (aged 88) Boston, Massachusetts	
Occupation	Poet, playwright	
Alma mater	Dartmouth College (no degree) Harvard University (no degree)	
Notable works	A Boy's Will, North of Boston	
Notable awards	4 Pulitzer Prize for Poetry, Congressional Gold Medal	
Spouse	Elinor Miriam White (m. 1895; died 1938)	
Children	6	



Beginning 1977 the United States Postal Service began issuing stamps commemorating folk art in America. Each issue was a set of four different designs.

Pueblo Art was 1st set in 1977.



Quilting was recognized in 1978



**Pennsylvania Toleware 1979** 



**Indian Art 1980** 



Duck Decoys graced the stamps of 1985



Woodcarved Figurines 1986



Lace Making saw recognition 1987



Navajo Art 1986



**Hand Carved Carousel Horses** 

Saw a 1st day of issue at Cedar Point October 1, 1988



## French Revolution

French Revolution: Period of far-reaching social - political upheaval in France and its colonies beginning in 1789. Revolution overthrew a monarchy, established a republic, catalyzed violent periods of political turmoil, and finally culminating in a dictatorship under Napoleon who brought many of its principles to areas he conquered in Western Europe and beyond. Inspired by liberal and radical ideas, Revolution made a profound impression on course of modern history, triggering global decline of absolute monarchies while replacing them with republics and liberal democracies. Through Revolutionary Wars, it unleashed a wave of global conflicts that extended from the Caribbean to the Middle East. Historians widely regard the Revolution as one of the most important events in human history.

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1989, for 200th anniversary of French Revolution the U.S. and France produced a joint issue commemorating the event .





## Forts

During the late 1940's through 1970 the Post Office Department issued a number of commemoratives honoring Forts that had been instrumental in the growth of our country. These stamps are shown here along with some background on the fort. 1960 Ft Sumter stamp issued to commemorate battle not the fort so it is not shown.

### **Fort Bliss** 1948



Part of Army Forces Command (FORSCOM)

El Paso County, TX and Doña Ana / Otero counties, NM

United States (1849-1861)

Confederate States (1861-1862) United States (1862 -present)

**Built** 

**Controlled by** 

In use 1849 - present

**Current Commander** Major General Patrick Matlock

### **Fort** Kearney 1948



	U.S. National	Register	of Hist	oric Places
_				

Nearest city	Newark, NB	
Area	80 acres	
Built	1848	
NRHP reference #	71000485	

## Fort Ticonderoga 1955



Location	Ticonderoga, New York	
Nearest city	Burlington, Vermont	
Area	21,950 acres (8,880 ha)	
Built	1755–1758	
Architect	Marquis de Lotbinière	
Added to NRHP	October 15, 1966	
Designated NHL	October 9, 1960	

## **Fort Duquesne** 1958



Pittsburgh, PA



Controlled by

New France Great Britain

Built

1754

In use

1754-1758

Battles/wars

French and Indian War

Pennsylvania Historical Marker

May 8, 1959

#### **Fort Snelling** 1970



Location	Hennepin County, MN			
Nearest city	Minneapolis			
Built	1819			
Architect	Colonel Josiah Snelling			
Website	http:// www.historicfortsnelling.org			
Significant dates				
Added to NRHP	15 October 1966 <sup>[1]</sup>			
Designated NHL	19 December 1960			

## Futuristic Postal Vehicles

October 12, 1989 USPS issued set of four stamps, seen here, depicting "Futuristic Mail Vehicles" for 20th Universal postal Congress held in Washington DC November 13th to December 14th, 1989.

However, these vehicles were not the USPS's first thoughts of futuristic vehicles.



In 1980, USPS ordered 375 futuristic-looking electric delivery vehicles from Commuter Vehicles, Inc., of Sebring, Fl. s. 231 vehicles were delivered in South Florida in 1981. Motor failures and a dispute over warranty terms grounded fleet less than a year later. Remaining vehicles

were never delivered. At the turn of twentieth century, production of automobiles in US was divided almost equally among electric,

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Winton Electric Automobile, 1899
In December 1899, a letter carrier tested a Winton electric automobile for mail collection in Cleveland, Ohio.

(pictured in The Automobile, January 1900)



Riker Electric Mail Wagon, 1900
Two Riker electric mail wagons were being used in Washington, D.C., by August 1900.

(pictured in The Automobile, August 1900)



Columbia Electric Delivery Wagon, 1901

A Columbia Mark XI electric delivery wagon, built by the Electric Vehicle Company of New York, transported mail between the Buffalo Post Office and a temporary postal station at the nearby Pan-American Exhibition from May through October 1901. It could carry 1,000 pounds besides the driver and letter carrier and was able to travel 40 miles on one charge.

steam, and gasoline-powered models.

USPS tried all three types for mail collection in cities. More expensive than horse-drawn vehicles, motor vehicles were able to cover same distance in less than half the time and were gradually adopted by transportation contractors. In 1899 the first known test of an electric vehicle for mail collection was in Buffalo, NY, on July 2, 1899, when Buffalo's superintendent of city delivery, driven by an electric car promoter in his Columbia automobile, collected mail from 40 boxes in an hour and a half-less than half the time of a horse-drawn wagon. In December 1899, a Winton electric auto was tested in Cleveland, OH. Letter carrier collected mail from 126 boxes along a 22-mile route in two hours and 26 minutes, during a snowstorm. Horse and wagon usually took six hours. In 1900, PM Freeman Dickerson tested automobiles in Detroit, MI. Electric model by Wood Motor Co. was tested on January 10, 1900, between main Post Office and its stations. On February 14, a gasolinepowered model by Detroit Automobile Co. was tested on same routes. Both vehicles were more than twice as fast as horse-drawn wagons, although gasoline-powered automobile was slightly faster. Recommendation was "automobile operated by gasoline will be mail, as it would not have recharging time out of preferable" service. In Washington, D.C, two Riker electric mail wagons, designed the vehicle specifically for postal use, were being used by August, 1900.

Electric vehicles held on in commercial market longer than passenger market, but production gradually shifted to gasoline-powered models. 1950s—1980s USPS began to motorize city delivery routes in response to unprecedented suburban growth. They again began to experiment with electric vehicles in its quest for efficient, cost-effective delivery vehicles. Earliest city delivery vehicles consisted of Jeeps, sit-stand trucks, and three-wheeled mailsters.

## "FOR DEFENSE"

The National Defense Issue stamps were released for public use on October 16, 1940. Their date of issue coincided with first day of registration for first peacetime draft. A month earlier President Roosevelt signed Selective Training and Service Act of 1940 initiating draft despite US's declared neutrality in European war begun in 1939

Three stamps declare their purpose "For Defense" and acknowledge Industry, Agriculture, Army, Navy, Security, Education, Conservation and Health as key to national well-being. These stamps denominated 1-, 2- and 3-cents in colors of current regular issues—green, red and violet respectively. Pictured are Statue of Liberty (1-cent), an anti-aircraft gun (2-cent) and Torch of Enlightenment (3-cent).

These stamps, printed in the billions for POD, were workhorses of wartime-era mail. National Defense Issue, with production of 19,677,985,200 stamps, was largest printing to that date of any postage stamp.

Classifying the three issues, has always been a problem for collectors. Issued as propaganda stamps for WW II, billions were issued and postmasters sold these denominations instead of 1938 Presidential series in circulation.

## Originally to be issued on October 12, 1940, first day of issue was delayed until October 16, "National Registration Day."

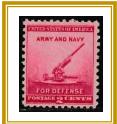
Postmaster General Frank C. Walker took office on September 11, 1940 and approved the design of National Defense issues the next day.



President Franklin Roosevelt sketched first, rough concept for 1-cent Liberty, and BEP designer William A. Roach developed FDR's concept. The Bureau printed billions in process some perforating wheels became worn. Part-perfs and imperfs appeared in huge numbers in post offices around the country, becoming twentieth century's most extensive errors or freaks.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt sketched 2-cent National Defense stamp, an image of 90-millimeter anti-aircraft gun. Stamp honors both navy and army. Approved models of all three stamps bear notation, "OK, F.D.R," US stamps

are catalogued into categories, two basic categories being commemoratives and definitives. National Defense stamps, issued in place of regular definitives have caused many question on their being listed as "commemorative".



"Torch of Enlightenment" appears on 3-cent National Defense stamp, saluting "Security, Educa-



tion, Conservation and Health." stamp's design began with pencil sketch by President Franklin D. Roosevelt. BEP artist William A. Roach prepared final design. Stamp resembles pencil sketch except for decorative ribbons president had included in original design. POD issued 8,384,867,600 3-cent stamps, reflecting FDR's desire to use postage stamps to promote support for US involvement in WW II Sold at post offices in place of 3-cent Presidential definitive, it was workhorse of stamps used for 1st class rate. James R. Lowe engraved the vignette, and Edward H. Helmuth engraved the lettering and frame.

In 1991, Henry W, Beecher, expert on US stamp production, clarified myths that perforation freaks and errors were caused by war-time shortages - for instance, shortage of perforation machine's metal pins. Controls of such materials did not begin until January 1942, when War Production was initiated. Demand for unprecedented quantities and rapid delivery to

local post offices that caused the peculiarities according to Beecher.

George Linn, editor of Linn's Stamps, commented in November 16, 1940, issue: "The National Defense 1st day covers set no records for speed. The covers trickled back as late as a full week. Other units of defense program, we trust, are functioning in a more efficient manner."

#### References:

Linn's Weekly Stamp News, Sidney, Ohio: Amos Press. (September 21, 1940), 741; (November 16, 1940), 41.

The American Philatelist. Altoona, Pennsylvania: American Philatelic Association (January 1971), 35-36. Bureau Specialist. West Somerville, Massachusetts: Bureau Issues Association, Inc. (April 1941), 54; (March 1948), 54-55.

Johl, Max G. The United States Commemorative Stamps of the Twentieth Century. New York: H.L. Lindquist, 1947.

The United States Specialist. Arlington, Massachusetts: Bureau Issues Association (January 1991), 60.



## LEETWOOD COVER SERVIC

If you have ever dabbled in 1st day covers you have probably come across some produced by Fleetwood Cover Service. The company was founded by E. Milnor Peck (December 12, 1890-November 10, 1986) and produced his 1st cachet (pictured below) on Scott 903, issued for Vermont's 150th birthday on March 4, 1941. In

August 1949 Peck attended first day ceremonies for Grand Army of the Republic stamp. Fleetwood's cachet for the event is seen

below. Cover displays post mark of Indianapolis, PO August 31<sup>st</sup>, last day of "Final Encampment."



collectors have seen loor cachets. Their first cachet was February 25, 1929 for George Rogers Clark stamp Scott 651

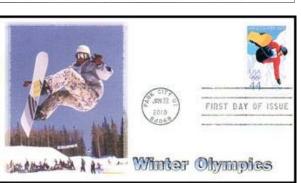
seen here. loor Cachets was a bother and sister team Harry and Travilla. Harry died February 16, 1940 and Travilla continued the bussiness.

Travilla loor met her FDC competitor, E. Milnor Peck at Indianapolis August 29, 1949. It was love at first sight, and they were married in June 1950 and combined their FDC businesses. Travilla's Last Cachet for the loor line was in 1951 for Scott 998, 3c United Confederate Vets, issued May 30, 1951. She continued an enthusiastic participant in Fleetwood Cover Service. Travilla and Milnor Peck logged hundreds of thousands of miles together

traveling to first day cities across the country until Travilla died March 16, 1967. After death of Travilla, Peck lost enthusiasm for FDC business, and in December 1968 sold Fleetwood Cover Service to Unicover Corporation of Chevenne WY.



Unicover operated Fleetwood as a separate division. First Fleetwood Cachet under Unicover umbrella was Scott 1369 a 6c American Legion stamp March 15, 1969 seen here to the left. Below you can see the enhanced cachets Fleetwood was offering in 1997.



FIRST DAY OF ISSUE d female, and high peaks please beauty and scien

Unicover sold its Fleetwood Division to Mystic Stamp Company in 2007. Mystic still produces Fleetwood brand Cachets. On the left is an example of one of their 2010 cachets.



Technically not on the Scandinavian peninsula, Finland is a "Nordic" country with a rich history, much of which is illustrated in stamps. Once part of Sweden, Russia annexed Finland in 1809, making it a Grand Duchy of the Empire. After World War I Finland fought Russia for its independence. Finland again fought Russia in World War II, losing some land – Karelia- but retaining its independence. A famous leader of Finland through this difficult time, Gustav Mannerheim, was honored on the U.S. "Champions of Liberty" issue.















The first five stamps above are often confused with Russian stamps of the same era. Note the values in Pennia and Markka. Second from the right side is a World War II era stamp with a swastika watermark, the only way to distinguish it from an earlier issue. The stamp on the right shows the Finnish Lion, one of many denominations.









The many lakes and rivers in Finland offer commemoratives the ability to show beautiful scenes of the countryside. A majority Christian country, Finns celebrate all the holidays, including Christmas, as seen on the right-hand stamp.











Finland has competed in the Olympic games since 1908 and hosted the 1952 Summer games in Helsinki. Finns have been very successful in the winter games, as may be expected, winning many medals, especially in the Nordic events.



One of the most popular countries to collect is France. In 1849 France became the 8<sup>th</sup> country to use adhesive postage stamps as pre-payment of postage. In addition to regular issues there are semi-postals, air mails, officials, parcel post, issues for offices in China and the Middle East, etc., not to mention a dozen or so colonies to add interest to a France collection.











Early French Stamps showing Emperor Napoleon III, Goddess Ceres, Symbols of the Republic



















Issues showing depictions of Marianne, symbol of the French Republic on stamps









French Comemoratives



Copies of stamps made to defraud collectors or the Post Office fall into the above categories.







The first stamp on the left is a genuine Hitler head stamp. To the right are forgeries printed in Great Britain by the OSS.

During World War II the Office of Strategic Services printed forgeries of the Hitler-head stamps of Nazi Germany in order to get propaganda into the hands of the German people, and to defraud the German post office of needed income from stamps.







These appear to be copies of the U.S. regular issue of 1902-03 in coil format. In reality, they are sheet stamps that have been carefully trimmed to mimic coils. Why? The values placed on the sheet stamps are \$.25 each, while coils are valued at \$4,500 for the 1-cent on the left and \$125,000 for the pair on the right. The fake 2-cent on the left is valued at \$250,000. In reality, none of the one-cent stamps are known used, and all the known 2-cents are in museums. Measuring will reveal a trimmed fake.



Famous philatelic forgers, Sperati, Fournier, the Spiro brothers, de Thuin and others have created some excellent fakes that remain out there. Anyone purchasing an expensive "rarity" for a bargain price from an unknown source should have it expertized prior to purchasing by an accredited source like the APS, the Philatelic Foundations and the American Stamp Dealers Association. Other experts are listed in the Scott Standard catalog of postage stamps.



#### IS THE PREFIX USED FOR REGISTERED MAIL STAMPS IN THE SCOTT STANDARD POSTAGE STAMP CATALOG



#### What is Registered Mail?

"The Registry system developed as a means of moving valuable material more safely via the US postal system...applicable only to First Class Mail and providing no indemnification or liability for loss."

Registered Mail allows the sender to purchase both proof of mailing and proof that an article was delivered or that an attempt was made to deliver it. A "return receipt" can be added for an additional fee which will return to the sender a postal card verifying delivery. Contents are insured by the Post Office as of 1898. Nowadays tracking of a letter's progress can be done electronically and can be accessed on one's own personal device.

1 US Domestic Postal Rates 1872-1999 - Beecher, Wawrukiewicz

#### History of Rates for Registered Mail

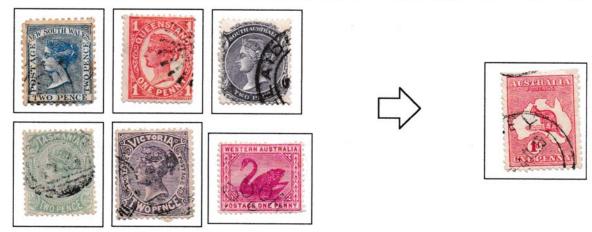
On July 1, 1855 mail could be sent "Registered" for an additional 5 cent fee. On June 30, 1863 the rate was raised to 20 cents, reduced on January 1, 1869 to 15 cents, then further reduced to 8 cents on January 1, 1874. On December 1, 1911 the rate was changed to 10 cents, and the special stamps above were used. These were discontinued on May 28, 1913. Regular postage stamps always had been acceptable to pay the fee. Today, the rate for Registered Mail is over \$12.00

## השתמטחשה

One that precedes in time. In philately it usually refers to a stamp issuing entity that is taken over by another. It also can mean a stamp issue or design that leads to a later, improved issue.



Independent cities and princely states were the forerunners of greater Germany. Left: Bavaria, Top row, left to right: Brunswick, Hamburg, Hanover, Bottom row, left to right: Luebeck, Prussia, Württemberg. The unification of Germany in 1870 merged them into the German Empire under the Kaiser. In the south, Bavaria and Württemberg, the largest, retained some autonomy until 1920. On the right side is a German Empire stamp of the first issue.



Forerunner stamps of Australia include: Top, left to right: New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia. Bottom, left to right: Tasmania, Victoria, Western Australia. On the right is a "Kangaroo" (the stamp and the animal) from the first issue of Australia, 1913.





The St. Louis "Bears" and the New York Provisional were among the forerunners of the first official United States adhesive postage stamps.













































# Foreign Flags













































## FELINES

















































27 Australia















Chinese Hibiscus































# Freshwater Fish







































British River Fishes



Royal Mail First Day Cover

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