

## **PANAMA POSTAGE DUE STAMPS: 1842 - 1942**

**Sarasota 2026**

**Purpose:** The purpose of this exhibit is to show the development of postage due covers in the Panama.

**Scope:** The scope of this exhibit is the time frame from 1842 when the first reported postage due cover was mailed until May 11, 1942, when the last Panama postage due cover is recorded. Panama's postage due covers fall into three categories; the earliest being manuscript or hand stamp markings in the pre stamp era, the second being usages or regular stamps to pay the postage due, the third is usages of Panama's two series of postage due stamps (1915 and 1929).

**Rarity:** The rarity of the covers varies. For postage due covers the scarcity level is based on personal research that I have been conducting for nearly 20 years. I established a data base comprised of each cover I encountered bearing a postage due cover. Over the years this data base has grown to contain 72 different covers. All information on scarcity noted in the exhibit is based on this data base. A call for covers to be reported was placed in Copacarta (the journal of the Colombia Panama Philatelic Society), by researching public auctions throughout the world, from copies of exhibits, and from private (non-exhibited) collections where the owners were kind enough to send me photocopies of their material.

It would be next to impossible to replicate the range of this exhibit given both the quantity of the covers I own, plus the number of under 3 known covers in the exhibit. I have chosen to only highlight the best cover in each chapter; however, in a larger frame exhibit many of the covers in this exhibit would be highlighted.

**Missing Items:** The only cover that I am aware of that I would consider a missing cover is the Colombian postage stamp usage on a cover addressed to Ferdinand de Lesseps who was in charge of the French attempt to build a canal in Panama. It has not been available for purchase for many decades. As always, covers from small countries would be nice, but given how infrequently Panama postage due covers appear on the market, I don't believe that will happen in the foreseeable future.

**Overview:** Without a doubt I believe that this exhibit is the best exhibit on Panama postage due covers in the world, both for its breadth and for its scarcity.