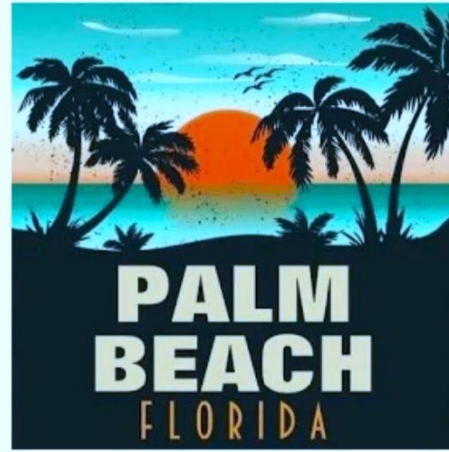


Palm Beach Stamp Club Newsletter



MAY 2025

During the 19th century, women's peace organizations attempted to establish holidays and regular activities in favor of peace and against war. A common early activity was the meeting of groups of mothers whose sons had fought or died on opposite sides in the American Civil War. In 1868, Ann Jarvis organized a committee to establish a Mother's Friendship Day, the purpose of which was to reunite families that had been divided during the Civil War. In its present form, Mother's Day was established on May 10, 1907, by Anna Jarvis, following the death of her mother, Ann Jarvis, on May 9, 1905.

The National Association of Letter Carriers (NALC) will hold its annual "Stamp out Hunger, Food Drive" on Saturday, May 10th. We celebrate Mother's Day on the 11th; National Limerick Day on the 12th; National Endangered Species Day on the 16th; Memorial Day on the 26th; and, lastly National Senior health and fitness day on the 28th. Of note, there are two articles this month that reference Hernando DeSoto and we have another article from guest author, Walter Koster.

Regards, Michael Swope

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Volume 12 Number 5

Stamp of the Month

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US Scott #2273

**Meetings: 1:00 p.m.
2nd & 4th Tuesdays**

**Mid-County Senior Center
3680 Lake Worth Road
Lake Worth, Florida 33461**

www.palmbeachstamp.club

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**Chapter Affiliate #923
Membership Affiliate #81338**

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MAY 2025



In February, U.S. Customs and Border Protection officers identified eight shipments from China containing more than 160,000 counterfeit U.S. Forever postage stamps. The fake stamps, valued at more than \$120,000.00 were seized by Anti-Terrorism Contraband Enforcement officers at the Chicago International Mail Branch. The seized stamps violate United States trademark laws.

Attention Skype Users: Microsoft announced that it is retiring Skype on May 5th, 2025, in an effort to streamline their free consumer communication services.

President Richard Kaye is scheduled to make a power-point presentation, "The Joy of Stamp

Collecting" on May 10th at the Palm Beach County Library, Lantana Branch, 4020 Lantana Road, 33462. The one hour presentation begins at 11:00 a.m. Club members are urged to attend and share our hobby.

Our April 8th club meeting featured club member Alan Fisher's presentation on donating stamps. Fisher found two worthy organizations that accept donated stamps: Stamp Collecting Club for Kids.org, and the Postal History Foundation's "Stamp Discovery Program" (Postal History Foundation.org).

At our April 22nd club meeting, Keith Lichtman made a presentation on stamp tagging, the practice of applying a luminescent coating on postage stamps to facilitate automated mail processing.

Please welcome Bill Yesowitch, a new member to our club.

The Embassy Suites Hotel at 1601 Belvedere Road in West Palm Beach, 33406, has tentatively been identified as the venue for our club's Fall stamp show on Saturday, November 1, 2025. Arrangements pending.



May 11th, Second Sunday Stamp & Coin Show at the Azan Shrine Center, Sunday 9:30-3:00. Melbourne, 32935.

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Alfred B. Maclay Gardens State Park

Pat Hensley



The U.S. Postal Service released a special stamp in 2020 to honor Alfred B. Maclay Gardens State Park in Florida. This stamp, the 55¢ (Forever) Scott #5468, is part of the "American Gardens" series, which features ten beautiful gardens from across the United States. The photograph on the stamp, taken by Allen Rokach, shows a lovely walkway lined with pink and white flowers. The stamp was issued on May 13, 2020, in Winterthur, Delaware, as part of a collection celebrating the beauty of public gardens.

Alfred Maclay was a wealthy banker and financier from New York. He visited Tallahassee with his wife, Louise Fleischmann Maclay, in 1923 and was impressed by the huge oaks and pines, beautiful dogwoods and hollies. He decided this would be the place to fulfill his lifelong dream of creating a beautiful garden, and this would become their winter home. Over the years they established one of the most beautiful ornamental gardens in Florida

Alfred B. Maclay Gardens State Park is located in Tallahassee, Florida. Alfred and Louise Maclay began creating the gardens in 1923, combining native and exotic plants to design a scenic landscape. They wanted the gardens to bloom in winter and early spring, the time they spent there. After Alfred died in 1944, Louise opened the gardens to the public and later donated them to the state in 1953. In 1965, the gardens were renamed to honor Alfred B. Maclay.



Today, the park is known for its beautiful camellias and azaleas, with over 150 types of camellias and more than 60 varieties of azaleas. Visitors can enjoy the colorful blooms, especially in mid-March. The gardens are maintained to look as they did in 1953, offering a glimpse into the past. This special stamp helps share the story and beauty of Alfred B. Maclay Gardens State Park with people all over the country.

References:

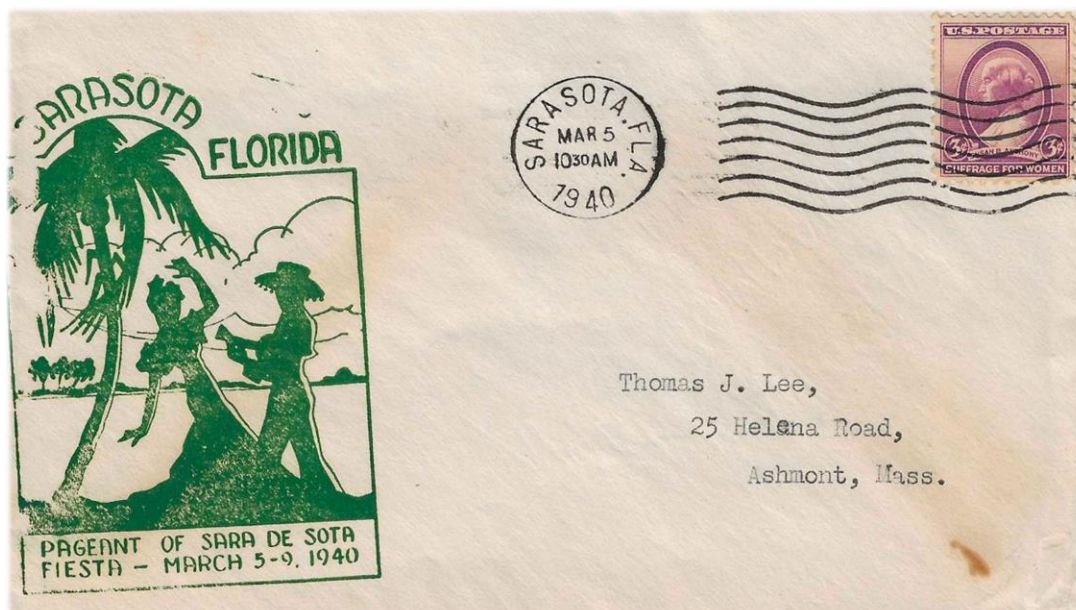
<https://www.floridastateparks.org/learn/new-postal-stamp-commemorates-alfred-b-maclay-gardens-state-park>

<https://www.gcamerica.org/news/get/id/2898>

<https://www.mysticstamp.com/5468-2020-first-class-forever-stamp-american-gardens-alfred-b-maclay-garden-state-park-fl/>

Legend of Sara De Sota

Dan Maddalino



Beginning in 1916 through 1964, one of the great events in Sarasota, Florida, was the *Sara de Sota Pageant*, celebrated here on a March 5, 1940, cachet cover. Spanish themed parade floats, marching bands, and reenactments of the legend telling the tragic love story of Chief Chi Chi Okebee and Sara DeSoto, daughter of Spanish explorer Hernando de Soto.

Legend suggests during Hernando's stay near Sarasota Bay, his daughter and Chi Chi began a love affair. In time, Chi Chi became gravely ill and Sara is said to have cared for him until he returned to health, upon which she contracted the same ailment and died. Chi Chi convinced Hernando to allow Sara to be buried at the bottom of Sarasota Bay and on burial day, Chi Chi accompanied by 100 of his loyal braves, canoed Sara's body out to the middle of the bay. There they cut holes in the bottom of their canoes and together they all drowned in order to provide Sara with protection in afterlife.

The cover cachet, in dark green ink, has the silhouette of a flamenco dancer with a tocaor, under a Florida palm tree, on the shore of Sarasota Bay. A banner reads SARASOTA FLORIDA and its base states PAGEANT OF SARA DE SOTA FIESTA – March 5 – 9, 1940. It is franked with the purple 3¢ Susan B. Anthony commemorative postage stamp (Scott #784).

The story was written by local pioneer George F. Chapline and was the basis for creation of the annual pageant. The event drew tens of thousands of tourists and locals to the town of Sarasota each year - but it is all a myth. Hernando De Soto did not bring a daughter with him in 1539 and Sara De Sota is not the origin of the town's name. But that's a story for another time.

Ref: Cover from the authors collections: www.sarasotahistoryalive.com; www.ringlingdocents.org/sahazazzota

USS Macon, *Last of the Navy's Dirigibles* – Part III

Keith Lichtman

The purpose of this article is to document missions of the *U.S.S. Macon* through philatelic covers from July to October, 1934. On July 7, 1934, Commander Alger Dresel took command of Moffett Field and Lt. Commander Herbert Wiley took command of the *U.S.S. Macon*. (Cover #1)

The *U.S.S. Macon* departed Moffett Field on July 12th for its first training flight with Lt. Com. Wiley. This was the *Macon's* twelfth flight over California, passing over many cities that honored the sighting with event covers. *Macon* returned to Moffett Field on July 13th. (Cover #2).

During early “mock” battles with the fleet, *Macon* was tagged (shot down) by the fleet’s carrier-based planes and anti-aircraft guns from the ships. Many in the Navy began to doubt the usefulness of dirigibles. *Macon's* new commander, Lt Cmdr. Wiley, came up with several ideas to improve her performance. Wiley kept the *Macon* hidden in the clouds and used the Sparrowhawk planes for scouting, which allowed it to extend coverage area. To prove the *Macon's* abilities, Wiley secretly set out to find the *U.S.S. Houston*, which was carrying President Franklin Roosevelt and Navy Secretary Claude Swanson on a secret route to Hawaii. *Macon's* planes spotted the *Houston* and shortly thereafter the dirigible arrived overhead. *Macon* sent two Sparrowhawks to drop packages containing mail and newspapers onto the *Houston's* deck. They missed the ship and deck hands had to fish them out of the water. Still President Roosevelt was impressed and sent a personal message to *Macon*: “From Houston: 1519 The President compliments you and your planes on your fine performance and excellent navigation 1210 and 1519 Well Done and thank you for the papers, the President 1245.” Event covers for the meeting of *Macon* with the *Houston* are dated from July 18th through its return to Moffett on July 21st. (Covers #3 & #4).

On July 26th, *Macon* set off on it’s fourteenth training flight from Moffett Field and it’s third flight with Lt. Com. Wiley. She cruised along the Pacific Coast and returned to Moffett Field the next day, July 27th (Cover #5).

Macon's fifteenth flight from Moffett Field occurred on August 7th, heading for it’s second visit to Camp Kearney in San Diego (Cover #6). *Macon* moored over night and returned to Moffett the next day. Again, *Macon* was honored by many of the California cities she flew over and three U.S. Naval vessels with cacheted covers. On August 9th, one day after returning to Moffett, *Macon* departed for a one day training cruise (Cover #7). On its seventeenth flight, the *Macon* participated in the San Francisco American Legion Parade on August 13th (Cover #8). On August 21st, the *Macon* ‘Flies Again’. On this trip she heads overnight to the Pacific Northwest.

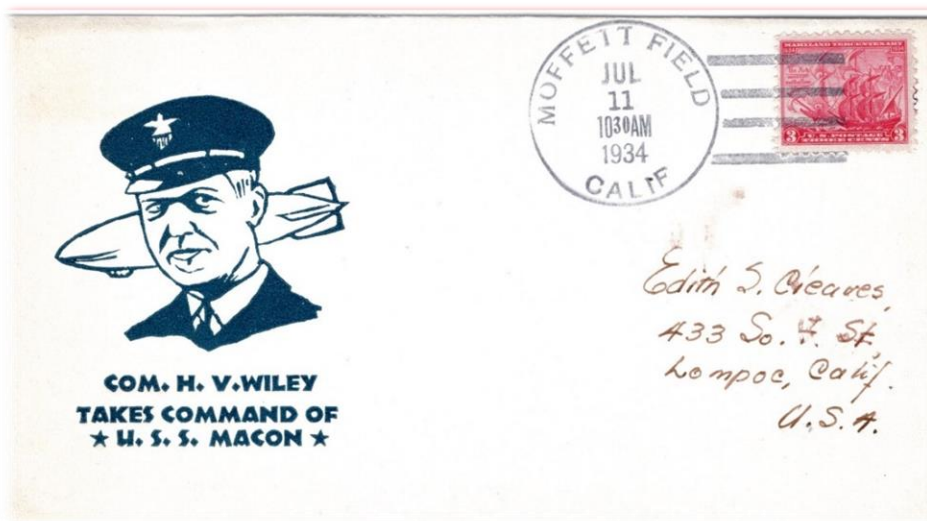
Cachet covers were issued to commemorate her passing over cities in California, Washington, Oregon, and ships *U.S.S. Pennsylvania*, *U.S.S. Maryland*, *U.S.S. Nevada*, and *U.S.S. Partridge* (Cover #9).

Macon departed on her nineteenth flight on August 28th for a 72 hour practice cruise over the California coast (Cover #10). *Macon* left Moffett Field again on September 9th heading to Sacramento California, the state capital, to celebrate Admission Day at the State Fair. On September 10th, on the way to the fair, *Macon* flew over eight cities and two naval vessels, who marked her passing with commorative covers (Cover #11).

After leaving Sacramento on September 11th, *Macon* headed south to conduct range finding maneuvers and adjusting compass (Cover #12). The training cruise was completed on September 13th with her return to Moffett Field. During this cruise *Macon* flew over eighteen cities and five naval vessels who marked her passing with commorative covers (Cover #13).

On September 26th, *Macon* made her twenty-second flight from Moffett Field to begin preparations to meet the United States fleet returning from the east coast (Cover #14). *Macon* returned to base on September 28th (Cover #15). *Macon* left Moffett Field on October 8th for a three day ocean cruise with two gusets aboard. Lt. Comdr. Anton Heinen and Lt. Comdr. Charles Rosendahl. Rosendahl previously was navigator and mooring officer aboard the Dirigible *U.S.S. Shenandoah*, Ececutive officer on the *U.S.S. Los Angeles*, and commanding officer of the *U.S.S. Akron* (Cover #16).

Macon's twenty-fourth flight occurred on October 12th, the day following her return from ocean voyage. On this one day flight around the Bay area, *Macon's* guests were cameramen from Fox Movietone News. The cameramen captured exterior shots of *Macon* being released from the mast and interior views of the ship, the crew, and docking (Cover #17). *Macon* departed on it's 25th flight from Moffett Field on October 23rd, a three day training flight, returning on October 26th (Cover #18). On October 27th *Macon* participated in Navy Day festivites in the San Francisco Bay area, flying over Mare Island Navy Yard for keel laying ceremonies of the *U.S.S. Preston* (Cover #19).



Cover #1
Scott #736, 3c Maryland
Tercentenary Issue stamp.
Cancelled at Moffett Field on
July 11, 1934.



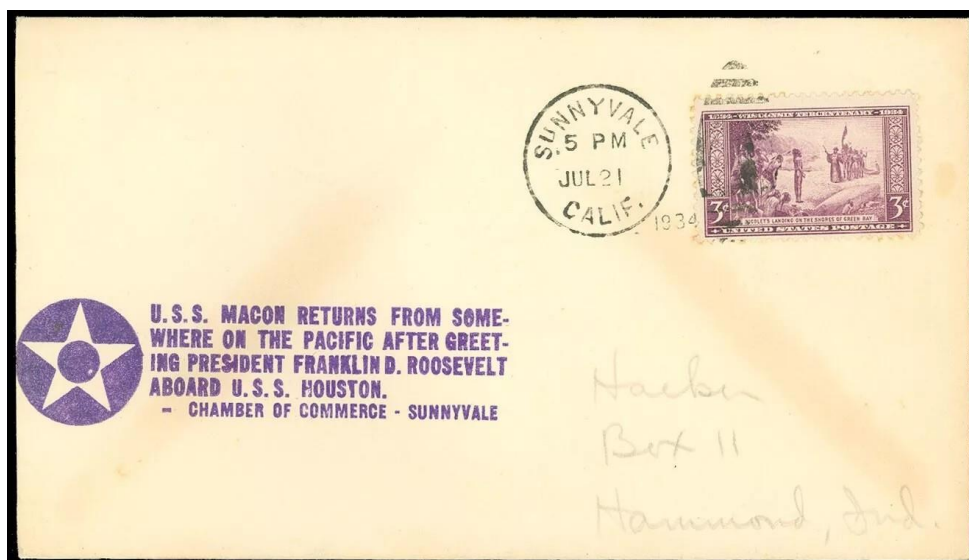
Cover #2

Scott #720, 3¢, Washington, Regular Issue stamp. Cancelled at Pasadena, California, on July 12, 1934



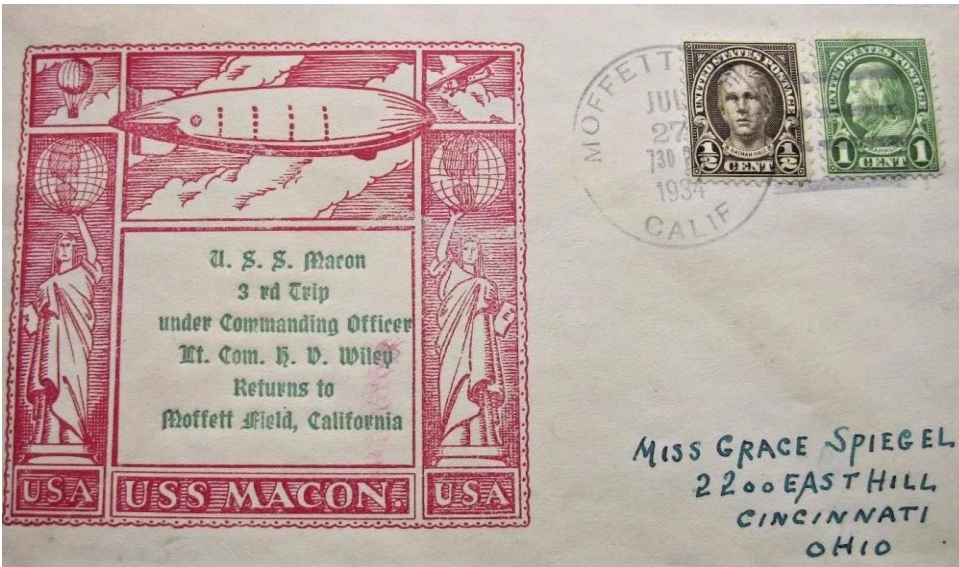
Cover #3

Two Scott #729, 3¢ Century of Progress Issue, Federal Building stamps. Cancelled on board the USS Houston, on July 19, 1934.



Cover #4

Scott #739, 3¢ Wisconsin Tercentenary Issue stamp. Cancelled at Sunnyvale, California on July 21, 1934.



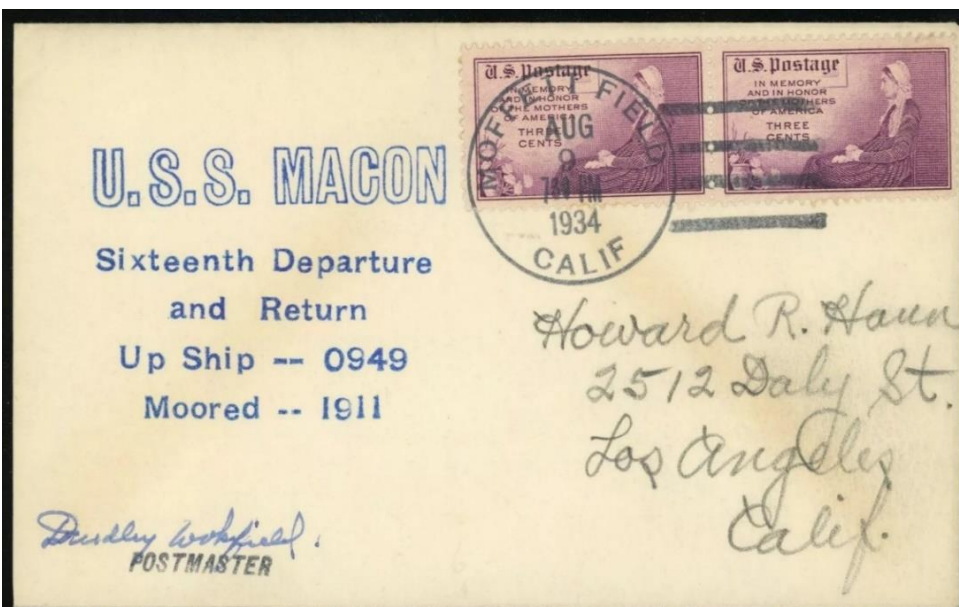
Cover #5

Scott #551, 1/2¢ Nathan Hale Regular Issue stamp, w/ Scott #552, 1¢ Franklin Regular Issue stamp.
Cancelled at Moffett Field on July 27, 1934.



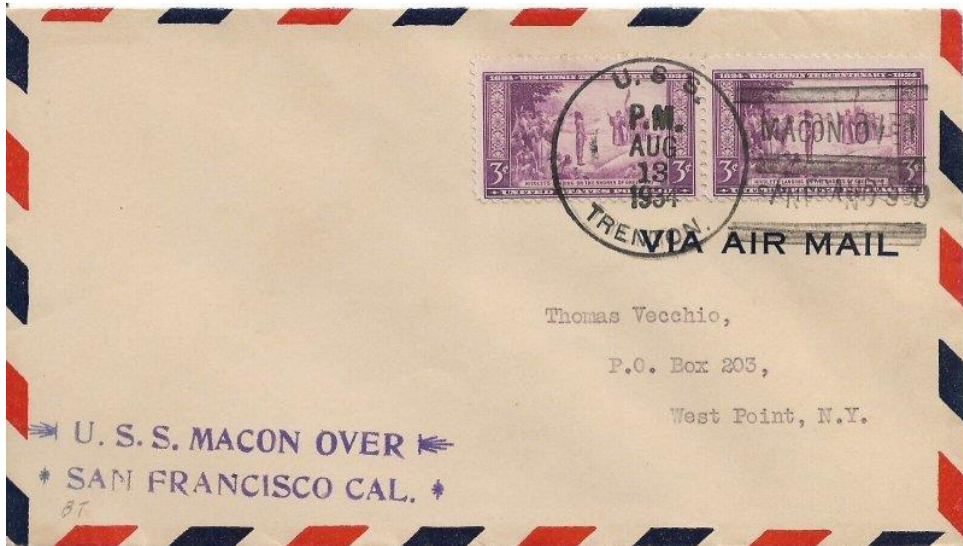
Cover #6

Two Scott #740, 1¢ National Parks Issue, El Capitan, Yosemite stamps.
Cancelled at San Diego, California on August 7, 1934.



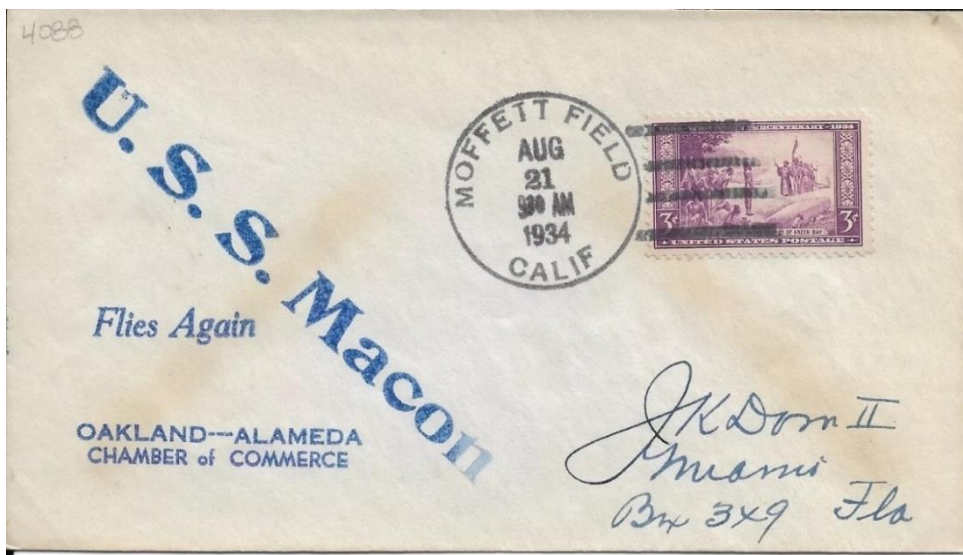
Cover #7

Two Scott #737, 3¢ Mothers of America Issue, Whistler's Mother stamps.
Cancelled at Moffett Field on August 9, 1934.



Cover #8

Two Scott #739, 3¢ Wisconsin Tercentenary Issue stamps. Cancelled on board the USS Trenton on August 18, 1934.



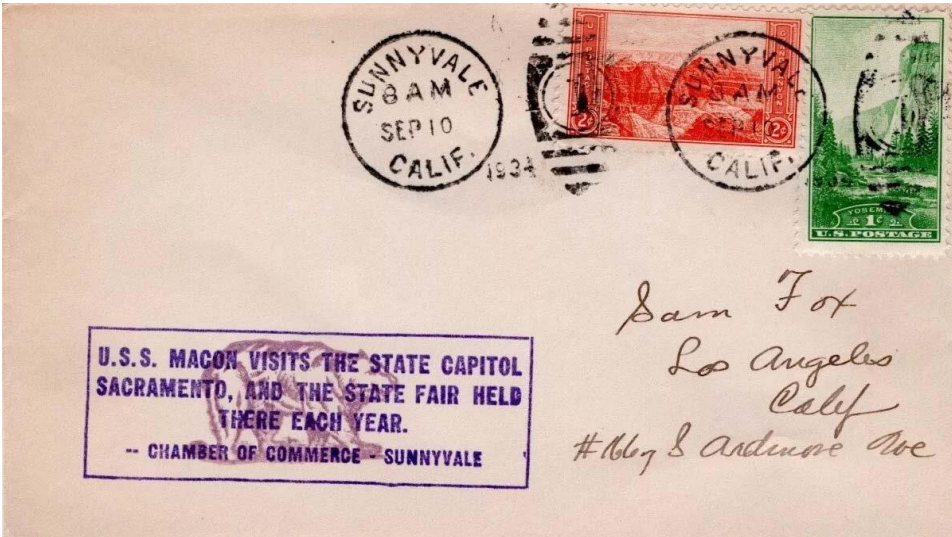
Cover #9

Scott #739, 3¢ Wisconsin Tercentenary Issue stamp, Cancelled at Moffett Field on August 21, 1934.



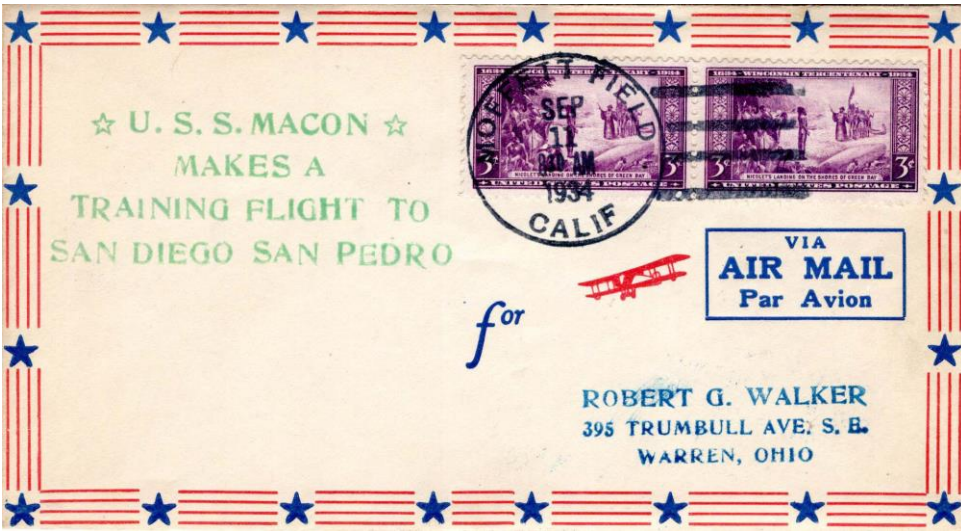
Cover #10

Two, Scott #742, 3¢ National Parks Issue, Mount Rainier stamps. Cancelled at Sunnyvale, California on August 28, 1934.



Cover #11

Scott #740, 1c National Parks Issue, El Capitan (Yosemite) w/ Scott #741, 2c National Parks Issue, Grand Canyon (Arizona) stamps.
Cancelled at Sunnyvale, California on September 10, 1934.



Cover #12

Two Scott #739, 3c Wisconsin Tercentenary stamps.
Cancelled at Moffett Field on September 11, 1934.



Cover #13

Two Scott #742, 3c National Parks Issue, Mt. Rainier stamps.
Cancelled at Sunnyvale, California on September 13, 1934.



Cover #14

Scott #742, 3¢ National Parks Issue, Mt. Rainier stamp.

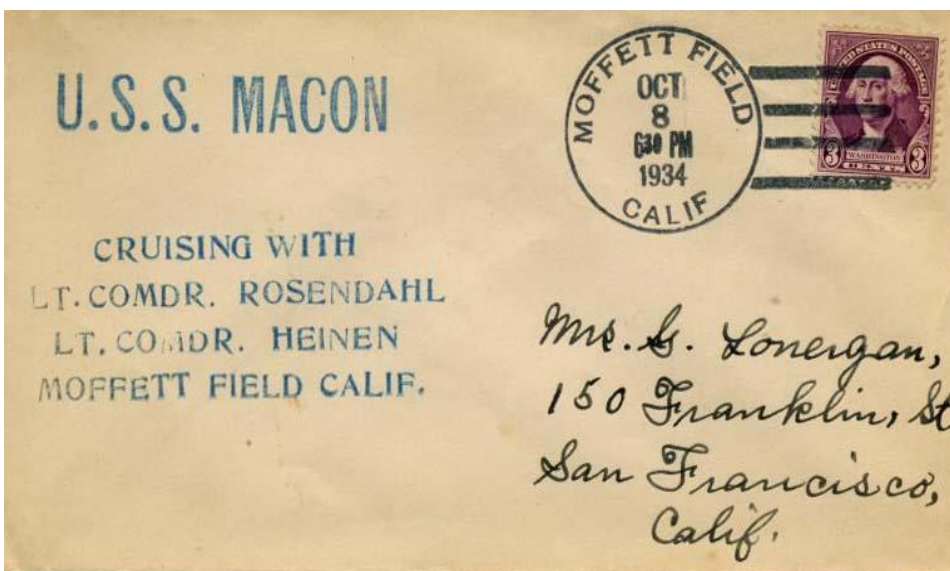
Cancelled at Sunnyvale, California on September 26, 1934.



Cover #15

Scott #737, 3¢ Mothers of America Issue, Whistlers Mother stamp.

Cancelled at Moffett Field on September 28, 1934.



Cover #16

Scott #720, 3¢ Washington Regular Issue stamp.

Cancelled at Moffett Field on October 8, 1934.



Cover #17
 Scott #C19, 6¢ Winged Globe stamp.
 Cancelled at Sunnyvale, California on October 12, 1934.



Cover #18
 Scott #745, 6¢ National Parks Issue, Crater Lake (Oregon) stamp.
 Cancelled at Moffett Field on October 23, 1934.



Cover #19
 Three Scott #741, 2¢, National Parks Issue, Grand Canyon (Arizona) stamps.
 Cancelled at Moffett Field on October 27, 1934.

U.S. Stamps in Shanghai

Michael Rogers

The United States issued stamps overprinted for use specifically in Shanghai, China, during the years 1919 to 1922 (Scott #K1 – K18). So, what were the circumstances surrounding these postage stamps and what was the reason they were terminated?

At the conclusion of the Opium War of 1840, when Great Britain secured Hong Kong, U.S. mail to China either traveled by private ship (hence the abundance of stampless ship letters) or was dispatched through the British Post Office in Hong Kong. It was during this period that Shanghai developed into the most important commercial city in China.

Following the Treaty of Nanking in 1847, both the British and French secured control of significant acreage in Shanghai. The Americans did not acquire such a concession, but rather a neighborhood of sorts, which developed around tightly clustered consulates in a very desirable commercial area of Shanghai. And, for over two decades, postal communication between Shanghai and the United States was quite expensive and fairly shaky at best. By the 1860's, increasing American interests required a more reliable and less costly postal service. The U.S. Consulate was established in 1847 and by 1903, U.S. domestic mail rates were applied to mail from, or passing through the agency.

In 1907, the U.S. Postal Agency moved and separated from its former consulate location and a postal agent was placed in charge of the facility. In 1919, the United States followed the long-established practice of other foreign powers when it issued a surcharged set of stamps for use in its Shanghai facility. A set of sixteen of the 1917-19, perforated 11, U.S. Washington-Franklin definitive postage stamps were surcharged in Chinese currency at double U.S. face value. They were prepared and issued at Shanghai. The 4¢ on 2¢ surcharge (Scott #K2) is shown at right.



Among these few, short-lived Shanghai surcharges, one very major error is well-known and the key item in any collection of these stamps: a double surcharge in red of the 2\$ on 1\$ high value (Scott #16a).

Approximately three- and one-half years after their creation, both the stamps and the agency itself were out of existence. The reason for the abandonment of the Shanghai agency was concisely noted in the 1922 Postmaster General's Report "At the Plenary Session of February 11, 1922, the Conference on Limitation of Armament held in this city, a resolution was adopted calling for the closure not later than January 1, 1923, of all foreign postal service agencies in China, except those in leased territory."

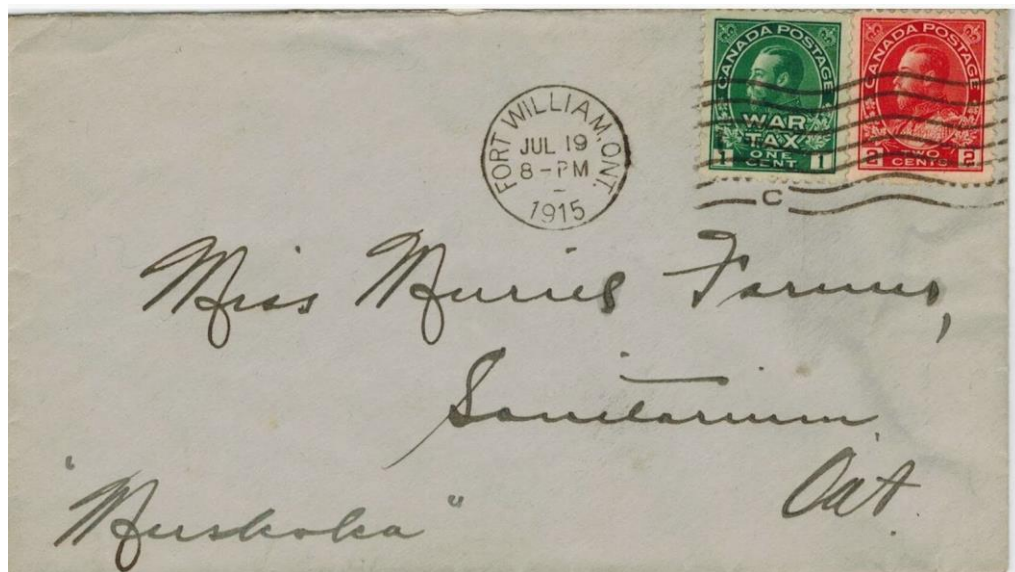
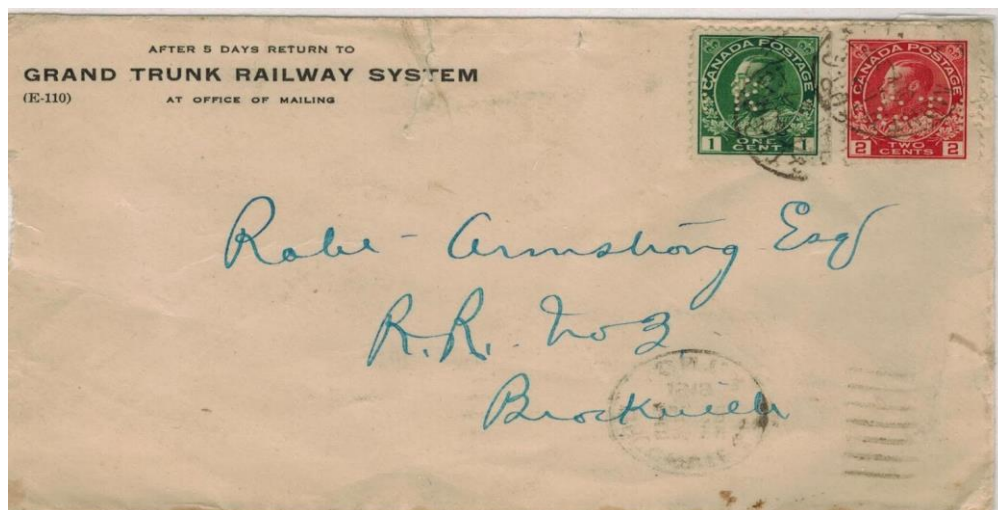
Ref: Reprinted in Part from Linn's Stamp News, August 18, 1997.

Canadian War Tax Stamps

Walter Koster

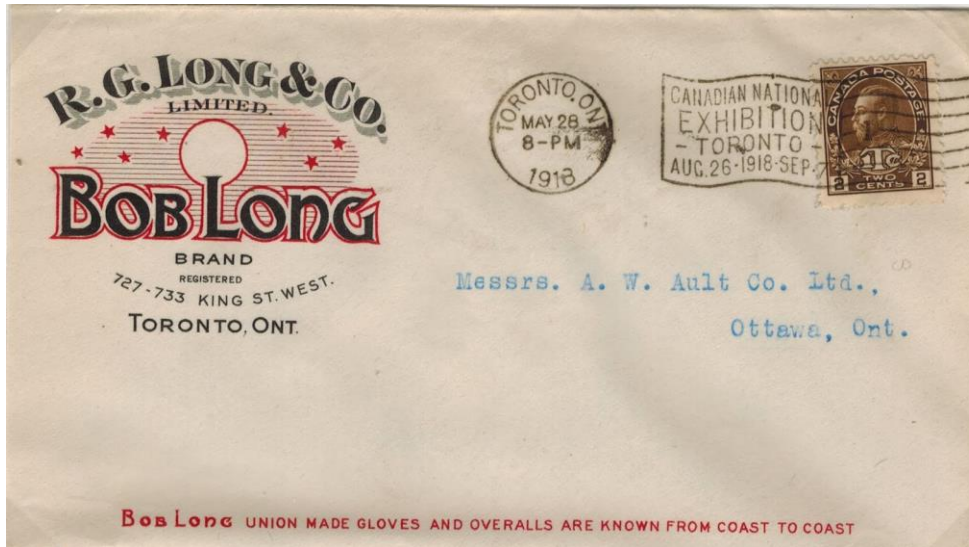
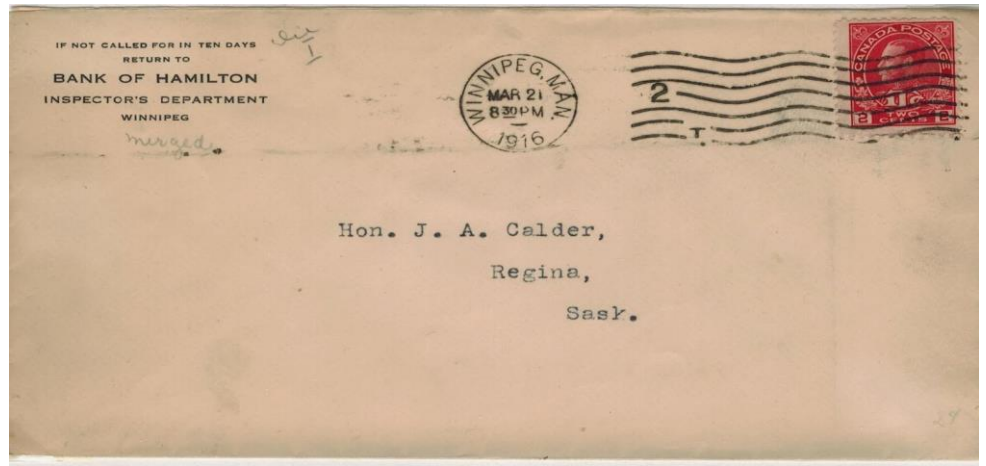
On April 15, 1915, the *Special War Revenue Act* "to supplement the revenue to meet War Expenditures" took effect in Canada. A War Tax of 1¢ was to be prepaid on letters and post cards mailed in Canada for delivery in Canada and for international destinations where the 2¢ rate applied. The War Tax could be prepaid with ordinary postage stamps or with specially printed War Tax stamps and was only added to one-ounce rate mail. The War Tax was removed on July 21, 1926 and reimposed on July 1, 1931.

Shown at right is an example of the War Tax paid with an ordinary stamp. The July 27, 1919, Montreal and Toronto Grand Trunk Railway R.P.O. to Brockville cover bears the King George V issues, red 2¢ domestic letter rate, Scott #106; and green 1¢, regular issue Scott #104.



At Left is an example of the War Tax paid with a War Tax Stamp - A Fort William to (Muskoka) Sanitarium cover, dated July 19, 1915. It bears the 2¢ domestic letter rate, Scott #106, plus the 1¢ War Tax postage stamp, Scott #MR1.

A stamp that combined the tax and postage was issued on January 1, 1916 and initially printed in carmine. Shown at right is an example of the combined postage and War Tax stamp on a Winnipeg to Regina cover, dated March 21, 1916. The King George V, Type I, red 1¢ plus 2¢ postage stamp is Scott #MR3.



The carmine color 1¢ postage stamp proved unsatisfactory because of its similarity to the color of the 2¢ ordinary stamp. A brown version was released in August, 1916. Featured at left is an example of Scott #MR4, 1¢ plus 2¢, brown postage stamp on a cover from Toronto to Ottawa.

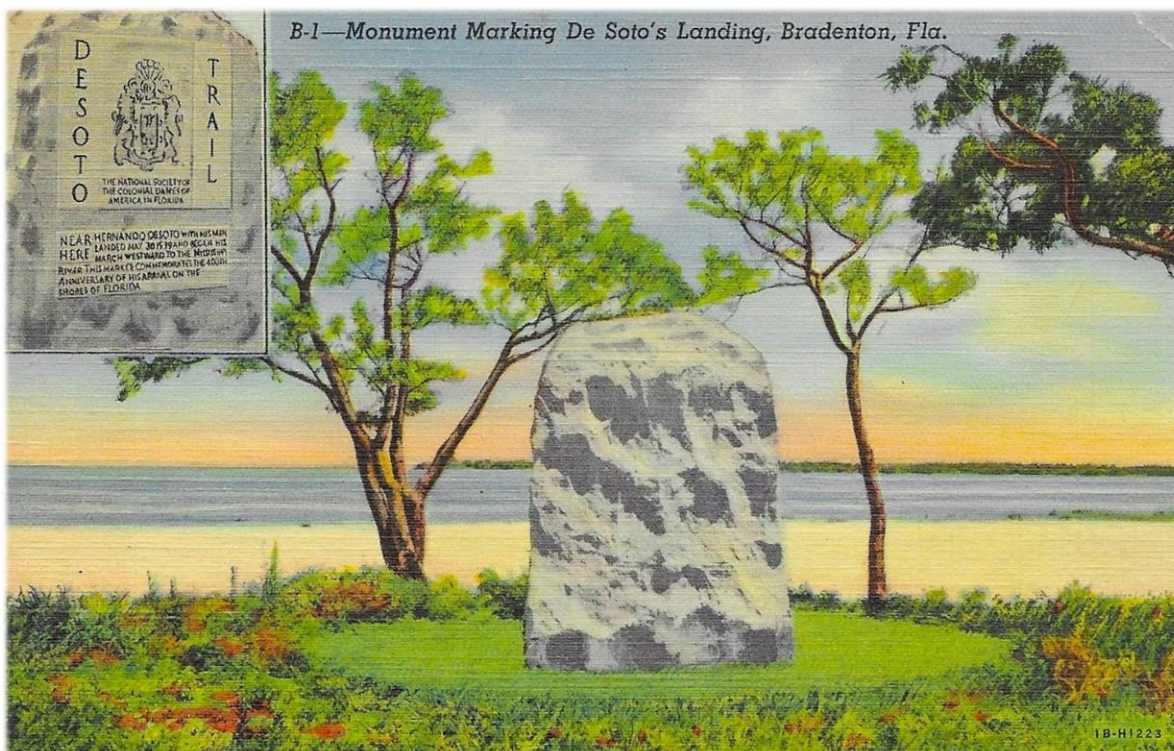
In 1918, it was decided to discontinue use of war tax stamps. A 3¢ brown, King George V Issue stamp paying the 2¢ letter rate and the 1¢ War Tax (Scott #108) was issued in August 1918. The color of the stamp was changed to carmine in 1923 (Scott #109). When the domestic letter rate was reduced to 2¢ with removal of the War Tax on July 21, 1926, there were 130 million 3¢ carmine stamps in stock. The Post Office Department surcharged the 3¢ carmine to 2¢.



Ref: postalhistorycorner.blogspot.com/2014/02/canadian-domestic-letter-rates-from.html

Hernando de Soto

Michael Swope



Hernando de Soto (c. 1497 – 1542) was a Spanish explorer best known for leading the first European expedition deep into the territory of modern-day United States through Florida, Georgia, Tennessee, Alabama, North Carolina, South Carolina, Mississippi, and Arkansas. He is the first European documented as having crossed the Mississippi River.

De Soto's North American expedition was a vast undertaking in a search for gold which had been reported by various Native American tribes and earlier coastal explorers. The main goal, however, was to search for a passage to China. De Soto died of fever on the banks of the Mississippi River.

The (c. 1940) *Colortone* linen postcard (above) was created by the Curteich Company, Chicago, for the M.E. Russell Company at Sarasota, Florida. The postcard depicts a monument to the May 30, 1539, De Soto Landing near Bradenton Florida, at Shaw Point along the banks of the Manatee River. It is now the site of the De Soto National Memorial and park.

The postcard is franked with the 1¢ green, National Defense issue, Statue of Liberty postage stamp (Scott #899) and was cancelled at Bradenton Florida on February 13, 1943.

