



Happy 4th of July

POWAY STAMP CLUB

NEWSLETTER

San Diego County's Best Stamp Collecting Club

APS #112097

July 9th 2025

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Club's Mission Statement

To promote a closer social relationship among stamp collectors of Poway, San Diego, and vicinity, and to assist in spreading the knowledge of stamps and the pleasures derived from stamp collecting to those interested in philately.

Contact Us

Poway Stamp Club
12675 Danielson Court #413
Poway, CA 92064

Club E-mail

PSCphilately@gmail.com

CLUB MEETINGS

June General Meetings

July 9th
Presentation

“Pony Express”
by A. Simoni

The speaker scheduled for July will be giving his presentation in August. Arden will discuss one of the best known American Express Mail Services: The Pony Express. This story of fast horses and hardy riders delivering mail between the east and west coast will be told through the stamps and covers of the period.

July 23rd
Large Voice Sale

The meeting will begin with our regular Club business followed by a Club verbal auction, opportunity drawing, show and tell and socialization. Members are encouraged to bring interesting covers and stamps for show and tell as well as other items for sale or trade with Club members.

Please remember to bring your badge or bring \$1

PSC Website
Powaystampclub.com



2025 Club Board Members

President	Art Berg
Vice President	David Klauber
Treasurer	Bill Kolb
Secretary	Trice Klauber
Board (at Large)	David Waller
Board (at Large)	Jim Grundy
Prev. President	Thor Strom
Program Dir.	Bill Gallagher

2025 Club Volunteers

Club Registrar	Trice Klauber
Auctioneer	Jim Grundy
Club Librarian	Scott Boyd
Newsletter Editor	David Waller
Guild Contributors	Jon Schrag
	Bill O'Connor
	Bob McArthur
	Manny Marti
	Jim Grundy
	David Klauber
	David Waller
Library Rep.	Neil Schneider
Opp. Drawing	Scott Boyd
WebMaster	David Klauber
Public Relations	Valerie Merritt

2025 Club Representatives

Federated Rep.	Bill O'Connor
S.D. Phil. Council	Nick Soroka
Rep. (Alternate)	Art Berg
APS Ambassador	Trice Klauber
ATA Rep.	Bob McArthur

CLUB EVENTS

The following is this year's meeting schedule, all events are proposed and subject to change as necessary to accommodate other events such as auctions.

July	9	A. Simoni, The Pony Express
	23	Large Voice Sale
August	13	S. Gill, Treasure Hunting Part II
	27	Member's Voice Sale
September	10	TBD – Presentation
	24	Large Voice Sale
October	8	TBD – Presentation
	22	Ugly Stamp Contest
November	12	Large Voice Sale
	26	No Meeting
December	9	Holiday Party
	23	No Meeting

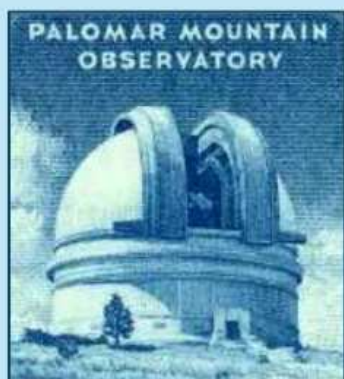


The Fair end July 6th, so make sure that you attend the fair and visit the Poway Stamp Club booth in the Exhibit Hall just west of Bing Crosby Hall. We are displaying members' collections showing how much we love are pets on stamps.

If you have not already signed up to be a docent at the Club's exhibit booth, please see Art for the sign-up sheet at our next meeting. If you are scheduled to attend the Club will provide free parking and entry passes for the Fair.

Look Forward to Seeing You at the Fair!

American Philatelic Society



San Diego Chapter 2025

Meetings

Club meetings are held every second and fourth Wednesday of each month except November & December at:

Philatelic Library
12675 Danielson Court #413
Poway, CA 92064

APS

Many of our Club members as well as our Club are members of the American Philatelic Society (APS). If 33% of our members are also members of the APS, then the Club receives a free year's membership to the APS.

Please join the APS!

Participation

All Club members are strongly encouraged to provide input for the monthly Club newsletter. Your knowledge and expertise is important and should be shared. Submit your article to:

dwaller@dbwipmg.com

Please contribute!

Club Website

PowayStampClub.com

Visit our Club's website where you will find a schedule of activities, resource links, and contact information as well as our newsletter.

Take a look!

CLUB NOTES

Club Meetings

The Poway Stamp Club meets twice a month, on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at 12675 Danielson Court, #413 in Poway. Meeting begins at 6:30pm.

Membership

It is time to inspire others to collect stamps. Enroll a new member today. Give a gift that could last a lifetime. Annual memberships to the Poway Stamp Club are \$10. For those individuals who are already philatelic collectors (and have been a member of the Club in good standing for two years), a lifetime membership in our club could be the perfect gift. Lifetime memberships are \$100.

Next Bid Board

Our next Bid Board began on July 5th and will end on July 19th. Make sure that you visit the website and place your bids. For more information and Bid Board rules visit the Club's website at PowayStampClub.com.

Club Newsletter

We Need You!



All Club members are **strongly** encouraged to provide input for the monthly newsletter. Join our Internationally recognized Writers Guild. Please submit items to the Club Editor.

E-mail:

dwaller@dbwipmg.com.



Member Spotlight!

By David Klauber



The Poway Stamp Club Newsletter highlights its newest members in each issue. Since our last newsletter there are no new members.

New members are drawn to the Poway Stamp Club because of a collection they have inherited or from a compelling interest in collecting stamps. Many of our members have similar stories to tell about how they found our Club and we would like to hear more on your experiences with stamp collecting. So, please join us at our next general meeting to talk about stamps.

Independence Day July 4, 2025



John Trumbull's painting of the draft of the Declaration of Independence being presented to Congress, 12 x 18 ft, commissioned in 1817, placed in the U.S. Capitol rotunda in 1826 where it resides today.

During the American Revolution, the legal separation of the thirteen colonies from Great Britain in 1776 actually occurred on July 2, when the Second Continental Congress voted to approve a resolution of independence that had been proposed in June

by Richard Henry Lee of Virginia declaring the United States independent from Great Britain's rule.^{[6][7]} After voting for independence, Congress turned its attention to the Declaration of Independence, a statement explaining this decision, which had been prepared by the Committee of Five, which asked Thomas Jefferson to author its first draft.

While Jefferson consulted extensively with the other four members of the Committee of Five, he largely wrote the Declaration of Independence in isolation over 17 days between June 11, 1776, and June 28, 1776, from the second floor he was renting in a three-story private home at 700 Market Street in Philadelphia, now known as the Declaration House, and within walking distance of Independence Hall.

Congress debated and revised the wording of the Declaration, removing Jefferson's vigorous denunciation of King George III for importing the slave trade, finally approving it two days later on July 4. A day earlier, John Adams wrote to his wife Abigail: "The second day of July 1776, will be the most memorable epoch in the history of America. I am apt to believe that it will be celebrated by succeeding generations as the great anniversary festival. It ought to be commemorated as the day of deliverance, by solemn acts of devotion to God Almighty. It ought to be solemnized with pomp and parade, with shows, games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires, and illuminations, from one end of this continent to the other, from this time forward forever more."

Adams's prediction was off by two days. From the outset, Americans celebrated independence on July 4, the date shown on the much-publicized Declaration of Independence, rather than on July 2, the date the resolution of independence was approved in a closed session of Congress.

Historians have long disputed whether members of Congress signed the Declaration of Independence on July 4, even though Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, and Benjamin Franklin all later wrote that they had signed it on that day. Most historians have concluded that the Declaration was signed nearly a month after its adoption, on August 2, 1776, and not on July 4 as is commonly believed.

Information obtained from Wikipedia.



Scott No. 798, 150th anniversary of the signing of the Constitution of the United States issued in 1937.

Korean War Veterans

Armistice Day

July 27, 2025



Figure1: Korean War Memorial in Washington DC.

Each year both America and South Korea observe National Korean War Veterans Armistice Day on July 27. This day was started as a way to commemorate and recognize the peace treaty that triggered a cease-fire in a long-standing war. The Korean War is a significant chapter in American history in which approximately 50,000 American troops died in the conflict, over 100,000 were wounded, and thousands of others were held captive as prisoners of war. On National Korean War Veterans Armistice Day, we are encouraged to take some moments for reflection on the service and sacrifices of American troops during this conflict.

The Korean War lasted for three years - from June 25, 1950, to July 27, 1953. The service members of the war had to overcome unique risks and experiences that set them apart from previous generations of veterans. The National Korean War Veterans Armistice Day presents us with the opportunity to remember and honor the service of these men. After being colonized by Japan, the southern part of the Korean peninsula was liberated soon after World War II. With the support of the Soviet Union, communist North Korea invaded democratic South Korea in 1950. In the wake of these events, America deployed troops to support South Korea to keep the land that was truly theirs and protect the nation's democratic interests. After three years, an armistice was signed, and the two Koreas have since then remained divided. The fighting resulted in more than 36,000 casualties for America and more than 103,000 service members were wounded in action.

In the News



American Philatelic Society

The 2025 APS election results are in and we are pleased to announce that Mark Banchik and David Klauber have been elected for the positions of President and Director-at-Large respectively.

Congratulations to our dedicated members. We look forward to their continued guidance and support in our San Diego Chapter as well as our philatelic community around the world as we navigate into the future.

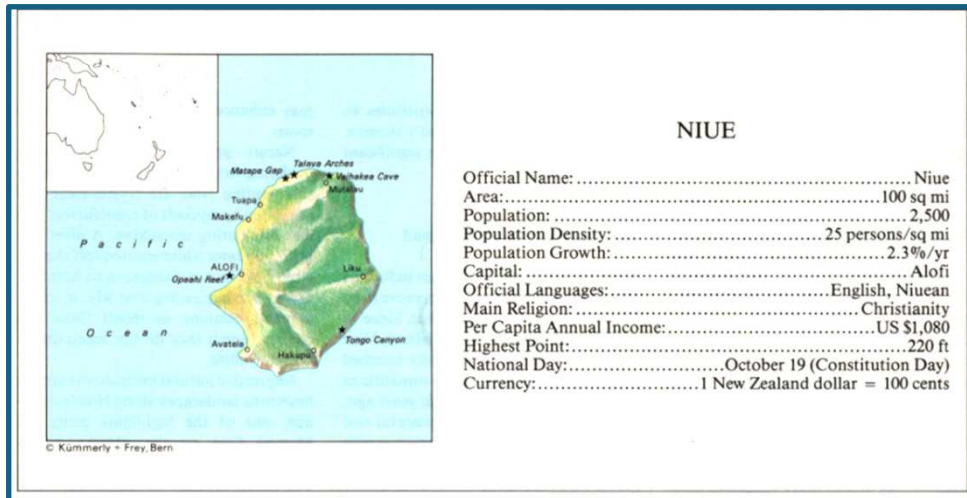
At The SD Philatelic Library

Flags of the Nations

by Neil Schneider

This is a little different from some of the other books I've reviewed. It's a collection of covers from small nations. Most are islands, like the Faroe Islands. It was fascinating to me, because of the accompanying text describing the places. There are many pictures of the places described. One of my favorite facts is about NIUE. "Look a coconut!" is a reasonably accurate description of an island, 100 square miles in size, which rises from the waters of the Pacific Ocean 310 miles from Tonga. The name "Niue" composed of the two Polynesian words *niu*, meaning coconut, and *e*, meaning there. As for the reasoning behind this unusual name – well, it's difficult to say with any amount of certainty.



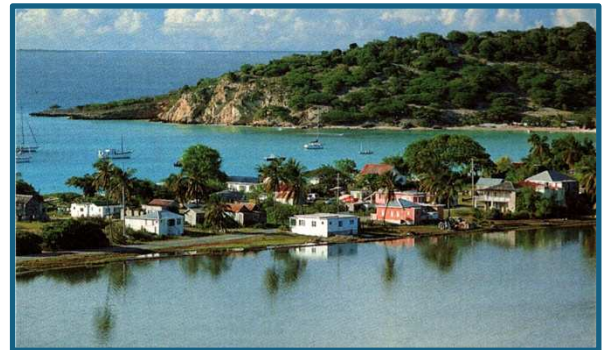


There are great pictures of the inhabitants of the island. “Niue Was Once Called “Savage Island” You’ll have to read to find out why.

“The Cote D’Azur – that part of the coast of France nearest to Italy is doubtless the epitome of any of Europe's regions of luxury and lifestyle.” So begins the description of Monaco followed by 5 pages of pictures and text describing Monaco. The last image is of Prince Ranier and movie actress Grace Kelly, “Princess Gracia Patricia – her Monegasque name....”



Questioned about Anguilla's location the natives will occasionally reply “Somewhere on the map” it is the northernmost of the Leeward Islands, a chain of tropical islands forming a natural boundary between the Caribbean Sea and the Atlantic Ocean.

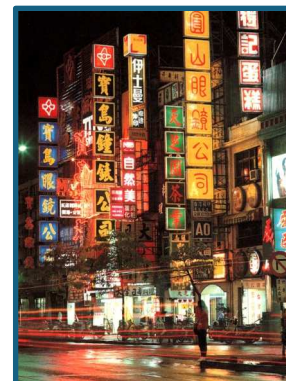


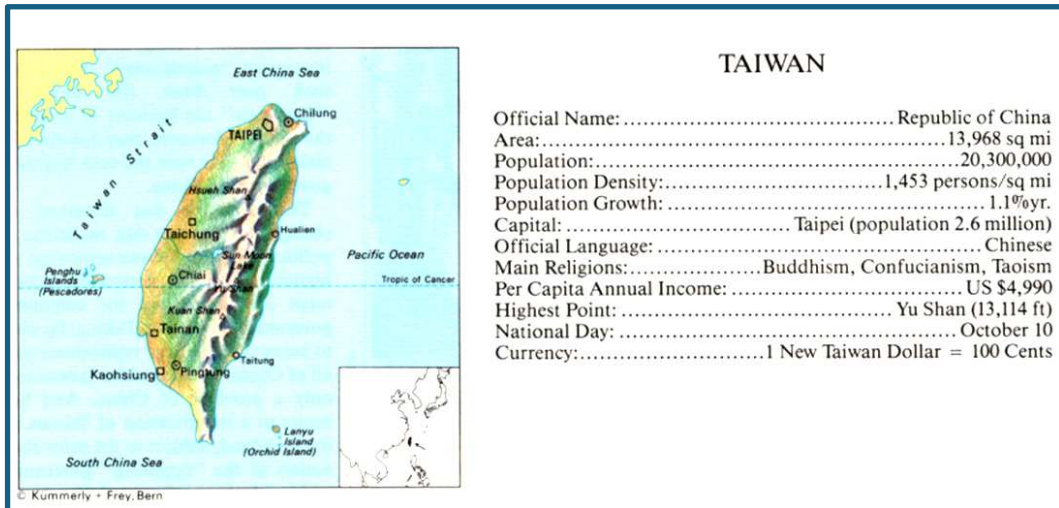
© Kümmerly + Frey, Bern

ANGUILLA

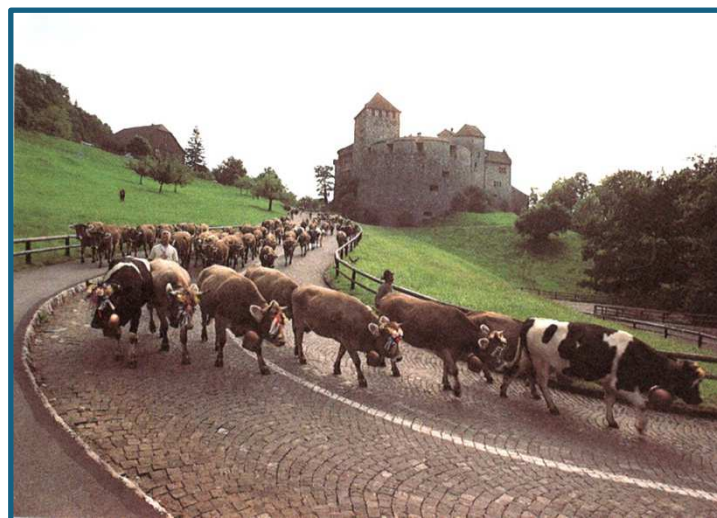
Official Name: British Dependency of Anguilla
Area: 35 sq mi
Population: 7,000
Population Density: 200 persons/sq mi
Capital: The Valley (population 2,000)
Official Language: English
Main Religion: Christianity
Per Capita Annual Income: US \$1,539
Highest Point: North Hill (203 ft)
National Day: May 30 (Anguilla Day)
Currency: 1 Eastern Caribbean dollar = 100 cents

It was the year 1544. In the South China Sea, a Portuguese trader bound for Macao was driven far off course by a murderous typhoon, leaving the large sailing vessel severely damaged, adrift in uncharted waters. All hope for survival nearly abandoned, the ship's crew thought they were seeing a mirage when a verdant island suddenly appeared before their eyes, whose lush vegetation and clear streams seemed to hold the promise of infinite riches. “Ilha formosa, ilha formosa, (beautiful island), the sailors cried in delight. And this is how, at least according to legend, the island of Taiwan came to acquire the name “Formosa”, still sometimes still used today.



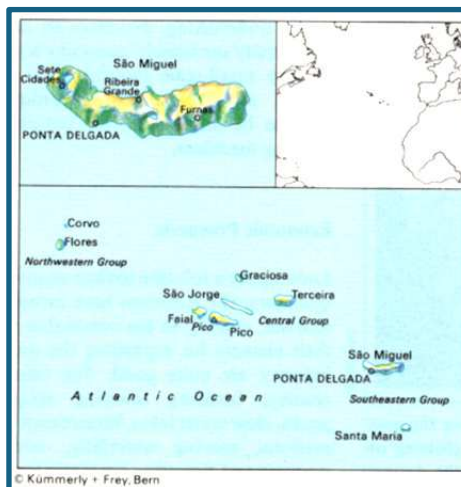


Right in the heart of Europe, completely enclosed by Austria on its eastern border and Switzerland on its southern and western side lies the Principality of Liechtenstein. It is the smallest state in Europe, with the sole exception of San Marino, Monaco and the Vatican. (note that's the way it's written; sole exception?)



When early Portuguese explorers first journeyed to the remote island of Azores in the norther

Atlantic Ocean they were struck by the majestic sight of what they thought to be innumerable hawks (actually buzzards) soaring through the sky. Hawks are called *acpres* in Portuguese, and thus the islands became known as *Arquipelago de los Acores*.



THE AZORES

Official Name: Autonomous Region of the Azores
 Area: 901 sq mi
 Population: 252,000
 Population Density: 280 persons/sq mi
 Capital: Ponta Delgada (population 32,000)
 Official Language: Portuguese
 Main Religion: Christianity (98 percent)
 Per Capita Annual Income: US \$2,250
 Highest Point: Mount Pico (7,053 ft)
 National Day: June 10
 Currency: 1 Escudo = 100 Centavos

The world knows Hong Kong as a vibrant Southeast Asian metropolis buzzing with high-powered activity. It is known as an urban area teeming with people, where millions squeeze into a few square miles – a population concentrated as densely as nowhere else in the world; as a giant shopping paradise where electronic and optical equipment, clothing and jewelry are sold at relatively low prices; as a colony of possibilities in which one out of every seventy refugees once crossed the border in straw sandals dies a millionaire.

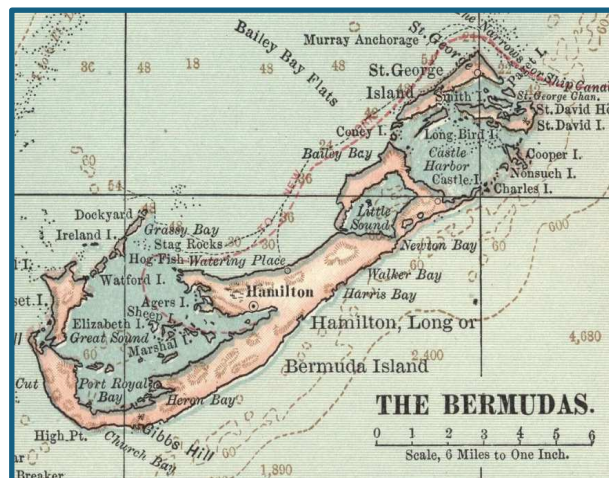
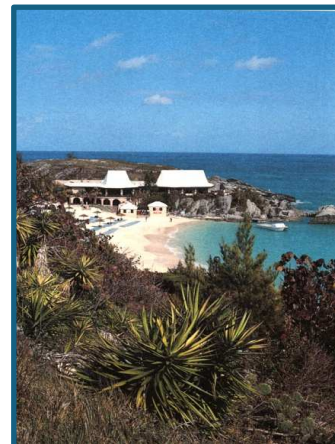


HONG KONG

Official Name: Crown Colony of Hong Kong
 Area: 413 sq mi
 Population: 5,700,000
 Population Density: 13,800 persons/sq mi
 Population Growth: 1.2%/yr
 Capital: Victoria (population 1.1 million)
 Official Languages: English, Cantonese
 Main Religions: Buddhism, Taoism, Confucianism
 Per Capita Annual Income: US \$5,677
 Highest Point: Tai Mo Shan (2,874 ft)
 Currency: 1 Hong Kong dollar = 100 cents



The lonely island group about 620 miles off the eastern coast of the United States was originally called “La Bermuda” in honor of the Spanish navigator Juan de Bermudez. In 1503, Bermudez had discovered the treacherous collection of reefs and islands which later was to become a death trap for numerous Spanish galleons and English frigates; there are 350 wrecks from four centuries in the underwater ship graveyard off Bermuda.



Other places covered in this fascinating volume are Faroe Islands, Micronesia, Guernsey, Kiribati, Saint Helena, Norfolk Island, Tonga and the Turks and Caicos Islands. It's a fun read and for me at least, very enlightening about places, some which I only learned about in this book. Perhaps you will find it as interesting as I did.

Editor's Corner

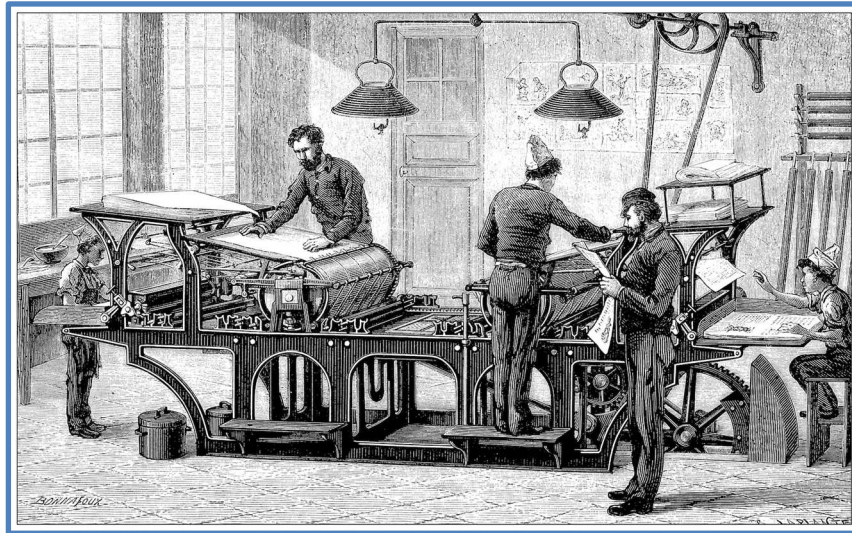


Image obtained from <https://www.gettyimages.com/search/2/image?phrase=antique+printing+press>.

To Our Readers,

I am pleased to announce that I received some inspiring comments from one of our readers complimenting Jim Grundy on his recent article in the June issue of our Newsletter. Please keep those comments, recommendations and/or kudo's coming. Our authors do appreciate hearing good things about their work and how to make their articles better.

If you find that some of the information provided in our newsletter is not accurate, could require further explanation or you have something that you would like added, please let me know. If appropriate, I would also like to publish your comments. So please let me know your thoughts, [**dwaller@dbwipmg.com**](mailto:dwaller@dbwipmg.com).

David Waller,
Editor-in-Chief



Member's Articles

Every Cover Tells a Story

by Jim Grundy

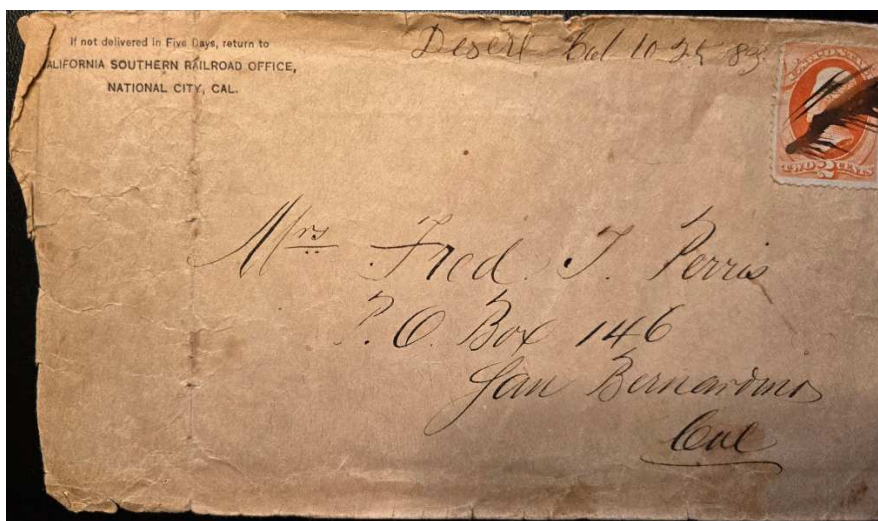


Figure 1: Image of a California Southern Railway Office cover.

This cover is not in the best condition, but it does have some interesting features. The first one was the return address. The return address was for the California Southern Railway Office in National City, California. I've been living in San Diego for almost fifty years but near heard of a railroad company that had an office in National City. Another was the manuscript cancel of "Desert, Cal., 10 25 83" (*i.e.*, October 25, 1883).

Even though I looked through many reference sources, I could not find any mention of Desert, California. Finally, there is the addressee Mrs. Fred T. Perris. How did the Perris family fit in with the railroad and Desert, California, let's find out.

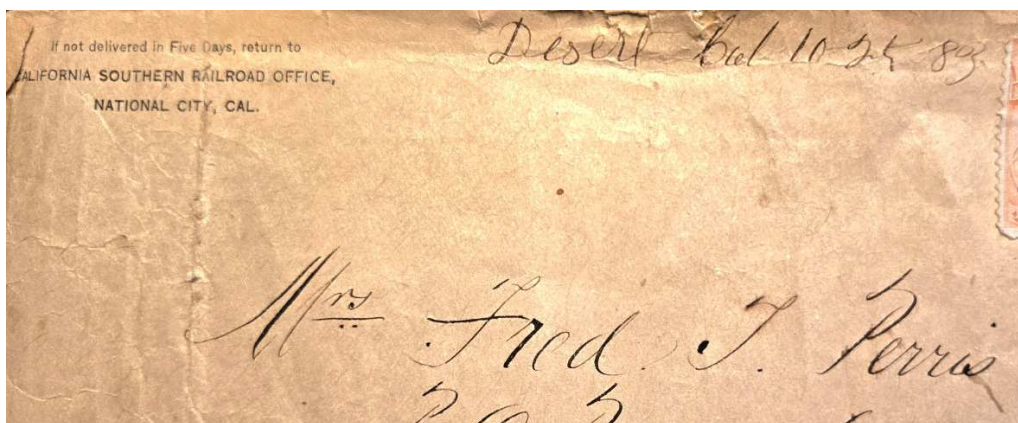


Figure 2: close-up of the return address and the hand-written notation in the upper right of the cover.

The California Southern railway was created as a branch of the Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe Railroad in July of 1880. The California Southern Railway was to be headquartered in National City, California. From National City, they were to construct a rail line that would travel north to Oceanside, northeast to Temecula, north to San Bernardino, through and up the Cajon Pass, to Victorville, and end in Barstow (Figure 3). This 210-mile railway would connect with the western end of the Transcontinental Railroad. Construction started in National City in 1881. Despite the challenging terrain, money issues, and limited resources, the track was being laid at a rate of one and a half miles a day. The rail line's tracks arrived in San Bernardino in 1883 and continued up the Cajon Pass to Barstow where it connected to the Transcontinental Railway in 1885. The first "through train" from Chicago arrived in San Diego on May 31, 1887. In 1906, the California Southern Railway merged with the Santa Fe Railroad.



Figure 3: the California Southern railway line from National City to Barstow.

Looking into the life of Fred T. Perris opened a view into growth in the Southwest. Fredrick Thomas Perris was born in Gloucester, England on January 21, 1814. At the age of 12, his family moved to Melbourne, Australia. While in Australia, Fred's mother converted to the Mormon religion. In 1853, leaving her husband behind, she moved the family to the United States and settled in a Mormon community near San Bernardino, California. There, Fred found work as a Mineral Surveyor for the State of California. In 1857, Brigham Young called the Mormon faithful to return to Salt Lake City. The Perris family moved to Salt Lake City. There, Fredrick became a United States citizen on August 30, 1858. In that same year, he returned to England to settle his late father's estate. While in England, he married his childhood sweetheart. He and his wife eventually returned to Salt Lake City.

Back in Salt Lake City, Fred did find sporadic work as a surveyor for the Union Pacific Railroad. What he succeeded at was getting Brigham Young mad at him. His partnership with three non-Mormon merchants who sold "modern" items that got him excommunicated. He started a newspaper, The Salt Lake Tribune, in competition with the Mormon paper. He ran for local office on a new political party in direct competition with the local Mormon candidate. In 1873, under the threat of death to himself and his family, he left Salt Lake City for San Bernardino, California.

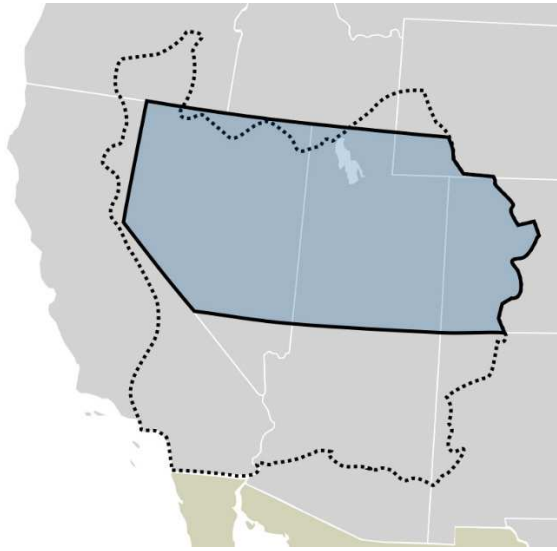


Figure 4: the dotted lines show the boundary of the Mormon state of Deseret.

In San Bernardino, Fred's life changed for the better. There Fred's interest in surveying got him a job as the county surveyor. However, it was the interest of two Nevada senators who wanted to establish a railway to move silver ore from the High Desert of California down the dangerous Cajon Pass to Los Angeles that would make Fred Perris famous. He had a plan to establish a railway in the Cajon Pass and make San Bernardino a railroad hub. The Atchison, Topeka, & Santa Fe Railroad liked his plans and formed the California Southern Railway. Because of Fred Perris's surveying and management skills, the National City to Barstow line was completed in five years. In 1885, Perris Station was added as a stop on the railway. Fred remained in the Engineering Department until his retirement in 1914. Fredrick Thomas Perris died on May 12, 1916, and is buried in the Mountain View Cemetery in San Bernardino, California.

The manuscript cancellation of Desert, Cal. was a problem. I could find no evidence that Desert, California ever existed. I asked our resident expert in California history David Klaubor, if he had ever heard of a town named Desert in California. After some thought and searching on his computer, he came to me with a possible answer. He thought that Desert was misspelled and was meant to be Deseret.

Deseret was derived from the word "honeybee" in the Book of Mormon. A beehive symbol is often associated with name Deseret. Deseret was the name Brigham Young gave to a new Mormon state he wanted added to the United States. The State of Deseret encompassed a great deal of land. So much land in fact, that it would include land in nine states on a modern map of the western and southwestern United States. Over time, the formation of several new states out of the Utah Territory drastically reduced the size of the State of Deseret and Brigham Young gave up on his dream of forming the State of Deseret. Figure 4 shows the Utah Territory shaded in blue, the State of Deseret is outlined in dotted lines, and the white lines are today's outlines of the states. Today, the beehive symbol appears on the state flag and state seal of Utah.

“Bisects or “Split Provisionals,” in Philately

by David Klauber



Figure 1: An 1888, 4¢ carmine, diagonal bisect, tied by bold strike of "San Francisco, Cal., Mar 14 '93" duplex on cover to Oakland, Cal, light stain and cover aging affects stamp, Fine and scarce bisect use. Scott No. 215 var. Estimated value \$200 - \$300.

The Bisect cover shown in Figure 1 was acquired at auction during the last WESTPEX show, which took place in San Francisco in April 2025. The item was addressed to Mr. WAH Connor of Oakland, California.

"WAH Connor" refers to W.A.H. Connor, a stamp dealer and hinge manufacturer from Oakland, California, who operated in the late 19th century. His name is found on various stamp-related items, including stamp catalogs and advertising materials from the period.

Agents Wanted
40 PER CENT. COMMISSION.
ADVANCED COLLECTORS. I have stamps to suit you also, 20 per cent. to net prices.
No Seebecks or Trash Sent.
Price List of Packets and Sets FREE. 4,000
STAMP HINGES, Post Paid, 25 Cents.
W. A. H. CONNOR,
943 Magnolia Street, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA.

Figure 2: Period W.A.H. Connor advertisement from “*Davidson’s Philatelic Concordance and Address Book.*”

The cover has a "Philatelic" origin, as Mr. Connor sent it to himself, and it was expertly canceled. I've encountered similar items in other auctions by Mr. Connor, including a cover with split Colombian issues in sets of three, where two of the stamps are bisected to accurately reflect the two-cent postage. It's evident that he was creating wonderful philatelic collectibles for future sale.

History - Bisects, also known as "Split Provisionals," in philately, are a fascinating aspect of stamp collecting. It involves cutting a postage stamp in half, usually either diagonally or vertically, so it can serve to pay half of its original value (for instance, a 10-cent stamp becomes 5 cents). This interesting practice was permitted (1847-1860s) in special situations, such as during stamp shortages. However, nowadays, it's generally not allowed in many postal systems, including the United States. To ensure a bisect is seen as genuine and truly valuable to collectors, it must be "tied" to the cover (envelope) through a cancellation that overlaps both the stamp and the envelope, demonstrating that it was used for postage. Without that special touch, bisects often have little value, as it's easy for anyone to cut a stamp in half.

However, after 1869, collectors began to lose interest in bisects, regardless of how well "tied" to the cover they were. It's clear that most, if not all, of these later listings arose from genuine postal emergencies. In each case, the postmasters probably found themselves short on other stamps and had to resort to bisecting them.

After 1875, collectors became wary of Bisects, and accordingly, such items found a smaller market. Numerous bisected varieties in this later period were not very convincing, even though they were tied adequately with genuine postmarks. Still, there was a suspicion that they reflected the cooperation of some postmaster in a small town. Small-town Postmasters often found themselves at odds with postal instructions, not always out of intention but more often because of a newfound passion for philately or simply a lack of awareness about the rules. In the 1870s, stamp collecting blossomed into a beloved hobby, with many collectors being quite knowledgeable and quick to seize "opportunities." Although the U.S. Post Office Department never officially sanctioned or promoted the bisecting of stamps, there was a time when it was somewhat "tolerated."

In many foreign countries, bisecting was a widespread practice, often done under the guidance of postal services. Some administrations even took it a step further by offering stamps that were already surcharged with the "emergency" value, making it easier for postmasters to handle bisecting.

References:

- Sloane's Column (compilation of the columns of George B Sloane), p.42, edited by G T Turner, BIA, 1961.

Grills on U.S. Stamps circa 1867-1868 and 1869-1870

by David B. Waller





Figure 1: Scott # 85D Z-Grill. Image obtained from U.S.Phila.com, priced at \$550,000 U.S.

Following the end of the Civil War in 1865, the federal government feared revenue losses because some people were cleaning and re-using postage stamps. It commissioned numerous experiments aimed at making this process more difficult^[1]. Experiments involved cancellation devices that abraded or cut the stamp's surface and inks and papers that would dissolve during cleaning to name a few.

Charles F. Steel, a supervisor with the National Bank Note Company, invented a process that embossed a waffle-line pattern (*i.e.*, grilling) into the stamp. This procedure broke the paper fibers, allowing ink to penetrate making cleaning more difficult^[3].

Stamp grilling is a process where a pattern of small, pyramid-shaped depressions (or "points") having a linear ridge on top is embossed into the stamp paper. The indents made by the grilling process, when viewed from the face of the stamp, may be provided with the points of the pattern directed upward (*i.e.*, grills A-C) or downward (*i.e.*, grills D-F) with the ridge on the top of the peak oriented vertically (*i.e.*, grills A-F) or downward with the ridge on the top of the peak oriented horizontally (*i.e.*, grill Z). The grills G-J have their points facing downward with their ridges oriented vertically. This process, is performed after printing but before perforation. The Post Office Department issued the first grilled stamps using this process in 1867.

Unfortunately, the all-over pattern made the paper very fragile, making separation at the perforations difficult^[4]. Consequently, The National Bank Note Company experimented with grill sizes and styles and found that an overly large grill weakened the stamp, and a small grill did not produce the desired effect. In 1916, William L. Stevenson classified the different grill sizes using the letters A to J. These grills were further classified based on the orientation of the indentation made as well as the orientation of the peak indent at the apex of the mark.

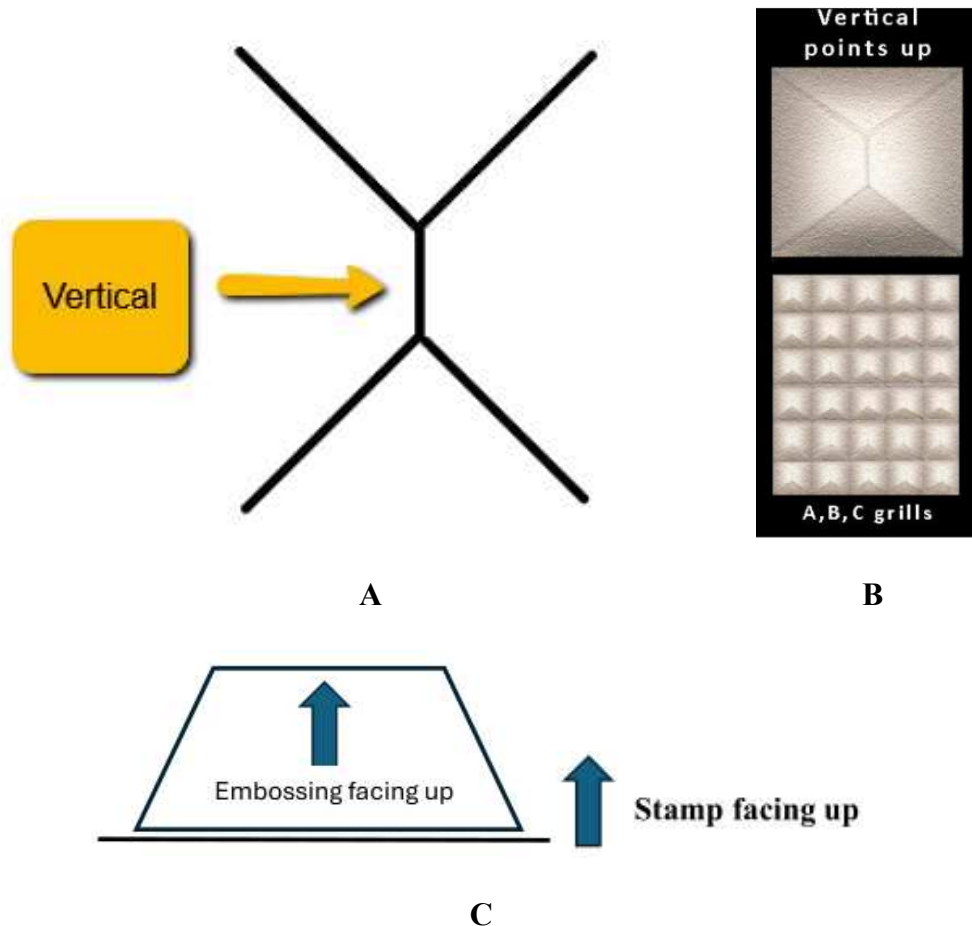


Figure 2: A-shows a line drawing, B- a perspective representation, and C- a side view of the A, B, and C grills having a vertical orientation with the embossed peak pointing upward.

A-Grill



The A grill was the first experimental grill devised by National Bank Note Company to deal with the fraudulent reuse of stamps that had their cancellations removed. The grill itself covered the entire area of the stamp with the points facing upward, which greatly weakened the paper and the perforations. This resulted in jagged edges and ripped perforations.

This first attempt at grilling was only used with the 1-, 5- and 30-cent issues. National Bank Note Company printed approximately 50,000 3-cent stamps, 2,000 5-cent stamps, and 2,000 30-cent stamps. With fewer than five copies known to exist, the 5-cent Jefferson is considered the rarest of the A grills. Fewer than ten copies of the 30-cent stamp are known to exist. **Scotts #'s 79, 80** (only 2 exist), **80a** (only 2 exist), and **81** (only 8 exist).

B-Grill

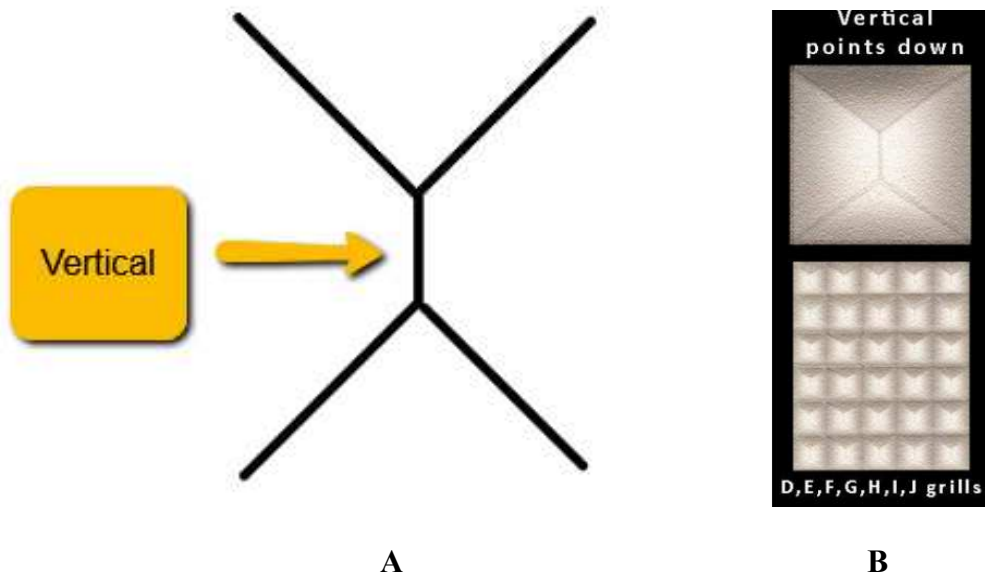


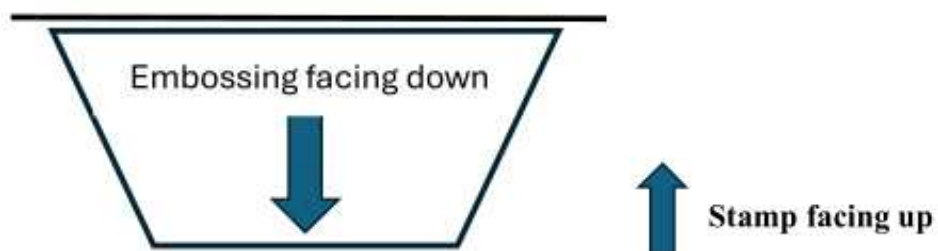
Its large size distinguishes the B grill from other grilled stamps. It is 22 points in length by 18 points wide (18 X 15 mm) and the points face upward. The larger size of this grill may have proved a problem in production, and it was quickly replaced with smaller grills. All four known examples of the B grill appeared on a single cover posted in Mason, Texas, in February 1869. All are 3-cent denominations. **Scotts # 82** (only 4 exist).

C-Grill



The National Bank Note Company produced the C grill for a limited period beginning in late 1867. The grill is 16 to 17 points in width by 18 to 21 points in length and the points face upward. Only the 3-cent Washington denomination was issued with the C grill. An estimated 300,000 are believed to have been produced. **Scotts # 83**.





C

Figure 3: A-shows a line drawing, B- a perspective representation, and C- a side view of the D through J grills having a vertical orientation with the peak pointing downward.

D-Grill



The D grill was used on two stamps starting in early 1868. The 3-cent Washington was the first stamp to be produced with this grill. The 2-cent Jackson stamp was also produced by National Bank Note Company with a D grill, but for a much shorter time than the 3-cent Washington. The grill is 15 points in width by 17 to 18 points in length and the points face downward. An estimated 500,000 3-cent Washington stamps along with 200,000 2-cent Jackson stamps are believed to have been produced. **Scotts #'s 84 and 85.**

E-Grill

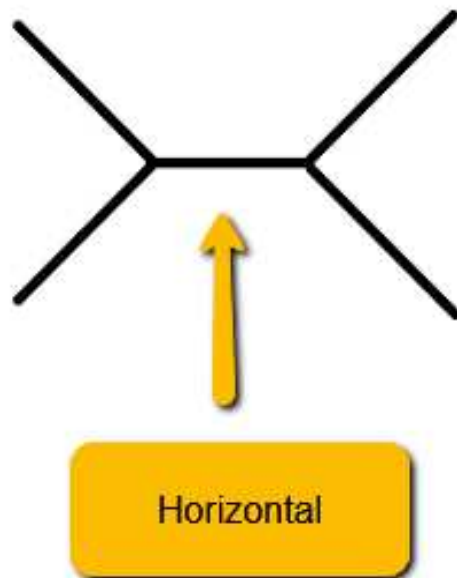


The E grill went into regular production, replacing the D grill, in February of 1868. Within that month the E grill would be produced with the 1-cent through 15-cent stamps of the 1861-1866 issues. The E grill is 14 points in width by 15 to 17 points in length and the points face downward. An estimated total of 111,000,000 stamps of the above-mentioned denominations were printed by the National Bank Note Company. **Scotts #'s 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, and 91.**

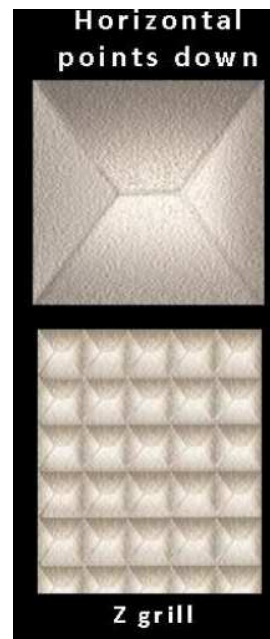
F-Grill



The F grill went into use in March of 1868, completely replacing the Z grill and was produced on the most denominations. The F grill is 11 to 12 points in width by 15 to 17 points in length and the points face downward. A total estimated 291,590,000 stamps with 1-cent through 90-cent denominations of the 1861-1866 issues were printed by the National Bank Note Company. **Scotts #s 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, and 101.**



A



B



C

Figure 4: A-shows a line drawing, B- a perspective representation, and C- a side view the Z grill having a horizontal orientation with the peak pointing downward.

Z-Grill



After the experimental grills A and C were produced the first grill to be put into regular production was the Z grill. The first denominations to have this grill were the 2-cent Jackson, 3-cent Washington and 12-cent Washington stamps. Around the same time the stamps with the D and E grills went into production. By mid-February 1868, three other denominations were printed with the Z grill; the 1-cent Franklin, 10-cent Washington and 15-cent Lincoln stamps. These three denominations were only in production a short time before the F grill was put into production. As a result, these three denominations with the Z grill are far rarer than their three brother denominations printed earlier with the Z grill. The 1-cent Franklin today is the rarest with only two known. The Z grill is 13 to 14 points in width by 18 points in length and the points face downward. An estimated 1,000 1-cent stamps,

500,000 2-cent stamps, 100,000 3-cent stamps, 2,000 10-cent stamps, 100,000 12-cent stamps and 1,000 15-cent stamps were produced by the National Bank Note Company. **Scotts #'s 85A**, (only 1 exists), **85B**, **85C**, **85D**, **85E**, and **85F** (only 2 exist)..

No G, H, I or J grills are found on the 1861-1868 issue, for this series went out of production before they were introduced. The 1869 issue used only the G grill, while the 1870 issue used H and I grills. Fears of reuse had abated by the early 1870s, and grilling seems to have been quietly dropped from the production process. Some stamps of the Continental Bank Note Company, who took over production from National, are known to have been impressed with the "J" grill as late as 1875.

G Grill – points down, vertical ridges, 12 x 11-11.5 points.

H Grill – points down, vertical ridges, 11-13 x 14-16 points, **Scott #s 134-144**.

I Grill – points down, vertical ridges, 10-11 x 10-13 points, **Scott #s 134A-141A** and **143A-144A**.

J Grill – points down, vertical ridges, 9-10 x 12 points^[5] **Scott #s 156e, 157c, 158e, 159b, 160a, 161c, 162a, 163a, 165c, and 179c**.^[6]

Note: Given that intensive studies of the I grill began only recently, additional copies of this grill may well be discovered in the future ^[2].

In 1875, the grilling of stamps ended. Today, experts agree that the government's perception of the reuse problem was greatly exaggerated and that the costs involved in preventing reuse greatly exceeded the revenue protected.

References:

1. "Newly Discovered I Grill Rarities (pp. 80-81)" (pdf). siegelauctions.com. Retrieved 2014-05-04.
2. Bennett, Russell and Watson, James; *Philatelic Terms Illustrated*, Stanley Gibbons Publications, London (1978).
3. *A Sharp Eye on collecting US Classics* (Sharp Photography Publications, 2021) ASIN B091MBTGJ7 (read online, page 32).
4. Lester G. Brookman, *The United States Postage Stamps of the Nineteenth Century, Volume II, 1861-1882* (David G. Phillips Publishing Company, North Miami, 1989), a: pp. 67ff.; b: pp.128-131.

5. "Grills on U.S. Stamps". 1847us.com. Retrieved June 25, 2024.
6. Snee, Charles, ed. (2012). *Scott Specialized Catalogue of United States Stamps and Covers 2013*. Scott Publishing Co. pp. 28, 38-39, 42-43. ISBN 978-0894874758. OCLC 781677423.
- 7.

Great Britian Used Abroad “Porto Rico”

by Manuel Marti



Stanley Gibbons defines “Used Abroad” as a stamp identified as having been 'used abroad', i.e. outside its country of origin, only by its cancellation or other postal markings, whether on or off the cover. Such uses were often prior to the issue of stamps for a territory or colony, or in offices in a foreign country where there was no efficient indigenous postal service.

The British briefly held Puerto Rico in 1596 and made further attacks until 1797, and the British also governed other New World possessions with a heavy hand. However, the use of British stamps in Puerto Rico primarily relates to the postal agencies established in the mid-19th century. Cancellations used in Puerto Rico by British Consular Post Offices From 1844-1876. Great Britain

established postal agencies in Puerto Rico starting with one in San Juan around 1844. More offices were opened in Aguadilla, Arroyo, Mayaguez, and Ponce in 1872, with Naguabo joining in 1875. These agencies operated until they all closed on May 1, 1877. Identification of "used abroad" in Puerto Rico are identified by their cancellation or other postal markings, whether on or off the cover.



Markings used by the BPO in San Juan from 1844-1877.



Cancels used by the BPO in Puerto Rico from 1872-1877.



F83 used in Arroyo, F84 used in Aguadilla, F85 used in Mayaguez, F88 used in Ponce.



San Juan

Arroyo

Mayaguez

Ponce

These cancels have been described in philatelic writings as British Agencies, Consular Agencies and British Consular Postal Agencies.

On covers, based on their destinations are all very pricey. Example is this cover from Aguadilla (F84) which sold at auction for \$4,000 Est. (\$2,000-3,000)



Aguadilla Agency, 1876 cover to Genoa, folded cover franked with Great Britain 1870 ½d Rose red, Plate 10, 1864 1d Rose red, Plate 172 and 1873 1/- Pale green, Plate 12 (#58, 33, 64) tied by clear "F84" barred oval postmark, clear "Aguadilla-Porto-Rico/Paid/Au 10, 76" dispatch c.d.s., red London transit and Genoa backstamp, fresh and very fine; a rare three-color franking from the very scarce Aguadilla office

Another example, this one from Arroyo from 1875 SOLD for \$2,100.00. This was a steal as it was estimated to be between \$3,000 and 4,000.

Arroyo Agency, 1875 cover to New York, folded letter franked by horizontal pair Great Britain 1865 4d Vermilion, Plate 14 (#43) cancelled by bold "F83" barred oval postmark, with clear "Arroyo-Porto-Rico/Paid/Jy 12, 75" Ty. 1 dispatch c.d.s. alongside, British "St-Thomas/Jy 14, 75" transit backstamp and "New York/Jul 21/Due 10/U.S. Currency" some overall age staining, fine usage; covers from the Arroyo British Post Office.



Then there is the Naguabo Agency. The rarest of them all due to its short-lived status joining in 1875. These covers command prices in the \$\$, \$\$\$ if you get my meaning.



This cover from Naguabo (582) with an Est. \$15,000-20,000 sold for \$23,000. Following is the auction description:

Naguabo Agency, 1875 cover to Trinidad, folded letter franked with horizontal pair Great Britain 1865 4d Vermilion, Plate 14 (#43) tied by "582" in barred oval cancel, matching "Naguabo/Paid/De 27, 75" datestamp, blue pencil "2" to indicate double rate, "Trinidad/Ja 3, 1875" receiving datestamp, left stamp affected by vertical file crease, still very fine; *ex-Siegal, Cuesta and Gallagher*. The small Naguabo office opened 18 December 1875 and closed on 12 May, 1877. This is **one of only two known covers from the Naguabo Agency and is therefore also one of the great rarities of all the Great Britain Consular Postal Agencies.**

As for the stamp off cover and with a clear/nice cancel are also in demand by collectors and command high prices.



F8? Asking \$75



C61 On Piece £150.00

References:

- SPINKS Auction (covers),
- Wikipedia, Puerto Rico Postal History 1778-1900,
- Ebay
- HipStamps
- The British Postal Agencies in Puerto Rico (<http://www.stampnewsonline.net/StampNewsOnline-PW/SNP-2021/SNP-June-2021/PHP-0621-0614-Brits-in-PR.pdf>)
- The Grlassco Collection
- http://www.globalphilatelibrary.org/gplstatic/Auctions/RobsonLowe/RobsonLoweUK_19691125_3277-2282_Glassco.pdf

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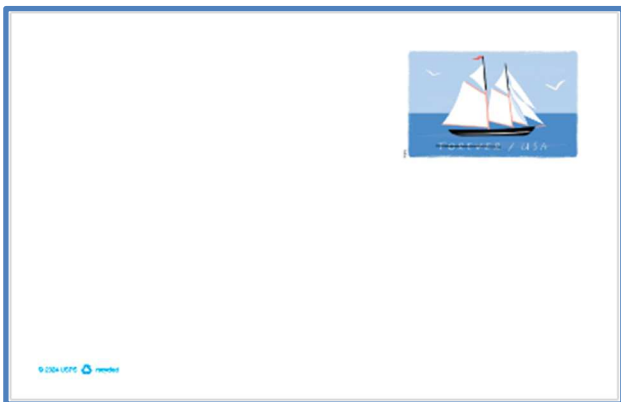
July 11th Members 6:00 - 9:00 PM
July 12th Public 9:00 - 12:00 PM
October 17th Members 6:00 - 9:00 PM
October 18th Public 9:00 - 12:00 PM

Silent Auctions

September 20th 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM
November 5th 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Stamp News 2025

New Stamps for 2025



Schooner (Stamped Card)

New stamped-card designs are issued every few years for customers who want to send postcards with postage already included. The latest features an illustration of a two-masted sea vessel based on a photo of a 2014 replica of the 1923 schooner Columbia. Libby VanderPloeg was the artist and Antonio Alcalá provided art direction. July 18, 2025 in Crystal, Minnesota

<https://stamps.org/news/c/news/cat/us-new-issues/post/usps-announces-more-stamp-subjects-for-2025>.



Customers may purchase stamps and other philatelic products through the Postal Store at usps.com/shopstamps, by calling 844-737-7826, by mail through USA Philatelic, or at Post Office locations nationwide.

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