





OVERPRINTS OF 1904

On stamps of Panama







The first issue of Canal Zone postage stamps was prepared by overprinting stamps of Panama with, "Canal Zone", using a handstamp. These same stamps had previously been overprinted, "PANAMA" on stamps of Colombia, so that each stamp actually shows two overprintings.

On stamps of the United States





Benjamin Franklin

George Washington







Martha Washington

The stamps of the second series are overprinted on United States stamps of the regular issue of 1902-1903 with the exception of the Washington 2-cent shield of 1903. They were placed on sale July 18, 1904 and removed from sale December 11, 1904.



Map

OVERPRINTS OF 1904-06



Мар

Pursuant to the Taft Agreement the Canal Zone again commenced using Panama overprints on December 12,





POSTAGE STAMPS of the



OVERPRINTS OF 1904-06

Surcharged on Colombia stamps overprinted "PANAMA"



Map





This group consisted of Colombia stamps with overprint of "PANAMA" and Bar in red, as well as an additional overprint of "CANAL ZONE" in black. There are several varieties to be found in the type faces used in the overprints.



Мар

In addition to the overprinting as mentioned for the above stamps, these stamps also bear an "8 cts" surcharge over the 50 centavos. The stamp on the right differs from the one at the left in that the surcharge "PANAMA" reads up on both sides of the stamp.





The Canal construction workers proved such good customers for the Canal Zone post offices that the administration had difficulty keeping supplies of stamps on hand. Shortages were frequent and to meet this shortage in April, 1906, Panama furnished the Canal Zone with a supply of stamps of the 1892-1896 map series. These were of the 20-centavo and 1-peso values, and were delivered without overprints. The overprinting was done in black; all in one operation at the Isthmian Canal Commission's printing plant.



















CANAL ZONE

ISSUED UNDER UNITED STATES ADMINISTRATION



OVERPRINTS OF 1906-07



Francisco Hernandez de Cordoba



Vasco Nunez de Balho



In Condob.



Iusto Arosemena



Manuel J. Hurtado



Jose de Obaldia

This is Panama's first portrait series and was engraved and printed by the Hamilton Bank Note Company of New York. The ornate frames and colors of each value differ but the portraits in the centers of all are black. The denominations now read in "Balboas" and "centesimos" replacing "pesos" and "centavos," an effect of the changeover from a silver to a gold standard. The stamps were released between October, 1906 and January, 1907. A number of overprinting errors exist.

OVERPRINTS OF 1909



Francisco Hernandez de Cordoba



Justo Arosemena



Manuel J. Hurtado



Jose de Obaldia

Released between January 1909 and May, 1909, this series continues the portraits in the last series, but the ornamental frame designs have been changed. The order for these stamps was placed with the American Bank Note Company. New York by the Panama Government.



POSTAGE STAMPS of the

CANAL ZONE

SSUED UNDER UNITED STATES ADMINISTRATION





Vasco Nunez de Balboa



de Cordoba



Justo Arosemena



Manuel J. Hurtado



Jose de Obaldia

The basic stamps of this series are the same as those described in the previous series. The one exception is the 1-cent Balboa which has been added. This series was in use between 1909 and 1924. For the first time, the overprinting of "CANAL ZONE" was done by the makers of the stamps rather than the Isthmian Canal Commission's printing plant.



Мар

OVERPRINTS OF 1911

The first of these two stamps of a 13-cent denomination was ordered by the Canal Zone postal administration for use as a combined 5-cent postage fee and 8-cent registration fee. Before a single stamp was placed in use, the denomination of the stamp was ordered changed to 10-cents. Too late to stop the 13-cent printing, the stamps were immediately surcharged. The second stamp in this series is the same as the first except for the change in denomination.



Мар

OVERPRINTS OF 1912-16



Vasco Nunez de Balboa



Francisco Hernandez de Cordoba



Justo Arosemena



Jose de Obaldia













CANAL ZONE

ISSUED LINDER LINITED STATES ADMINISTRATION



POSTAGE DUE STAMPS

1914







Prior to 1914 there were no postage due stamps in either the Panama or Canal Zone's postal systems. Postmasters or postal clerks merely ascertained the amount due, affixed ordinary stamps when the mail was claimed and paid for, cancelled the stamps and delivered the letter. This first issue was overprinted on United States postage dues of the 1910-1912 issue.

1915

Stamps of Panama overprinted







San Geronimo Castle Gate

Although Panama had no postage due stamps to this date, the use of United States Postage Due stamps overprinted "CANAL ZONE" was the cause of an exchange of letters between Canal Zone and Panama authorities. Panama claimed a contravention of the Taft Agreement. This new series of postage due stamps was the result.



Columbus Statue



San Geronimo Castle Gate



Pedro J. Sosa

Pedro J. Sosa



POSTAGE STAMPS of the

CANAL ZONE

ISSUED UNDER UNITED STATES ADMINISTRATION



Blue Overprint



Map of Panama Canal



Balboa and Pacific Ocean



Gatun Locks

In 1914, by Presidential decree, Panama issued a set of stamps marking the opening of the Panama National Exposition which was to take place in 1915. The Canal cooperated by having these stamps overprinted for use in the Canal Zone. Prepared by the American Bank Note Company, they are noted for their historical engravings and beauty of color and design.



Culebra Cut

OVERPRINTS OF 1915-20

Overprint in Black, Reading Up



Vasco Nunez de Balboa



Francisco Hernandez de Cordoba



Justo Arosemena

OVERPRINTS OF 1917

 $Blue\ Overprint$



S. S. "Panama" in Culebra Cut



S. S. "Panama" in Culebra Cut



S.S. "Cristobal" in Gatun Locks

About a year later the need arose for higher denomination stamps in the Zone and the Director of Posts requested Panama stamps in the denominations of 12c, 15c, and 24c. Official Panama Canal pictures were furnished Panama as subjects for the stamps. The stamps went on sale in all Canal Zone post offices January 1917.

















 $Carmine\ Surcharge$



Capitol, Panama City

OVERPRINTS OF 1918-20

Black Overprint



Vasco Nunez de Balboa



Francisco Hernandez de Cordoba



Justo Arosemena

OVERPRINTS OF 1920-21

Overprint in Black, Reading Up



Vasco Nunez de Balboa



Francisco Hernandez de Cordoba



Justo Arosemena



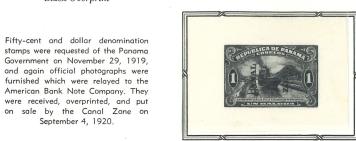
POSTAGE STAMPS of the



Black Overprint



Drydock at Balboa



Ship in Pedro Miguel Locks

OVERPRINTS OF 1921

September 4, 1920.



Jose Vallarino



Bolivar's Tribute Black or Red Overprint



The "Land Gate"



Municipal Bldg. in 1821 & 1921



Statue of Balboa



Tomas Herrera



Like all her Latin American neighbors, Panama, in 1921, celebrated the centenary of her independence from Spain by issuing a set of postal stamps. Here, again, the Canal Zone postal service joined in the celebration by over-printing these stamps for use in the CANAL ZONE. The overprinting was by the American Bank Note Company.

OVERPRINTS OF 1924

Black Overprint



There is a variation in the overprint on this stamp differing from the last one-cent stamp shown in the last series. This stamp was overprinted locally, at the Panama Canal Press, Mount Hope, Canal Zone.













OVERPRINTS OF 1924



Coat of Arms

In the later part of 1923, Panama informed the Canal Zone of a new design for her stamps showing the Panama Coat of Arms. The 1-cent and 2-cent denominations in this series were overprinted and used officially in the Canal Zone.



Coat of Arms

POSTAGE DUE STAMPS

1924

Letters "A" with Flat Tops







Benjamin Franklin

CANAL

1925

George Washington



James Monroe

Letters "A" with Sharp Pointed Tops











POSTAGE STAMPS of the









Nathan Hale

Benjamin Franklin

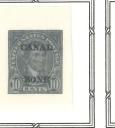
Warren G. Harding

George Washington

Letters "A" with Flat Tops









Grover Cleveland

American Indian

Statue of Liberty





CANAL ZONE

Arlington Amphitheater



Lincoln Memorial

A recommendation to Congress was made by President Warren G. Harding in September 1922, that the Taft Convention be abrogated. The date set was June 1, 1924, and President Calvin Coolidge subsequently issued an executive order proclaiming its effect as of that date. Once more, stamps of the United States were called into service and overprinted. The flat plate perforation 11 stamps of the 1922 regular issue series were used as shown above. Overprinting was in red or black with letters "A" in Canal Zone bearing flat tops.

OVERPRINTS OF 1925-26

Letters "A" with Sharp Pointed Tops







Abraham Lincoln



Theodore Roosevelt



James Monroe



Grover Cleveland













OVERPRINTS OF 1925-26







Woodrow Wilson



Statue of Liberty



Golden Gate





Arlington Amphitheater



Lincoln Memorial

A two cent stamp featuring the Liberty Bell and issued for the 150th anniver-

LIBERTY 1926



sary of American Independence celebrated at the Sesquicentennial Exposition at Philadelphia, 1926.

Liberty Bell

OVERPRINTS OF 1927

Rotary Press Printing—Perforation 10



George Washington



Abraham Lincoln



James Monroe



POSTAGE STAMPS of the



OVERPRINTS OF 1927-1931

Rotary Press Printing—Perforation 11 x $10\frac{1}{2}$



Benjamin Franklin



George Washington



Abraham Lincoln



Theodore Roosevelt



James Monroe

DEFINITIVES

1928 - 40



General Gorgas



Gaillard Cut





Harry F. Hodges



Colonel Gaillard



General Sibert



Jackson Smith



Admiral Rousseau



Colonel Williamson



J. C. S. Blackburn

The first permanent series of stamps for the Canal Zone was issued between the years 1928 and 1940. The designs feature portraits of members of the Isthmian Canal Commission appointed by President Theodore Roosevelt. The selection of this group was recommended because of the fact that they were resident on the Isthmus during their period of service and that they were the men who actually had the direction of the building of the Panama Canal.



















POSTAGE DUE ISSUES

1929









AIR MAILS

1929











General Gorgas General Gorgas

General Goethals

J. C. S. Blackburn

General Goethals

The first air mail provisional issues were released in 1929; a 2c stamp surcharged to 25c for the new air mail service Cristobal to Miami (Col. Charles A. Lindbergh flew the inaugural flight), the regular 1c stamp surcharged 15c for the inauguration of air mail service from Cristobal to Chile, and the regular 2c stamp surcharged 20c for the reduced rate which later in the year went into effect on Cristobal to Miami service. The regular 50c stamp was surcharged 10c for other rate reductions to Central and South America. There is a variation in the second printing of the 15c air mail. The flag or upper horizontal stroke of the "5" curves upwards on the first printing.

AIR MAILS

1931-49





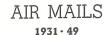


Gaillard Cut

Gaillard Cut



POSTAGE STAMPS of the





ANAL ZONE POSTAGE





Gaillard Cut



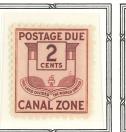


The first definitive air mail series was placed on sale November 18, 1931. The design features a freight ship passing through the Gaillard Cut between Gold Hill and Contractors' Hill heading south.

POSTAGE DUE ISSUES

1932 - 41











Canal Zone Seal

The first permanent postage due series was released in 1932 with an additional denomination (15c) added in 1941. All are printed in maroon and in one common design featuring the seal of the Canal Zone in the form of a shield.



OVERPRINTS OF 1933



American Indian















ISSUE OF 1934



General Goethals

A change in first class postage rates from 2c to 3c resulted in the addition of this stamp to the then current series. The date of issue coincided with the 20th anniversary date of the opening of the Panama Canal.

OVERPRINTS OF 1939



Benjamin Franklin



Martha Washington

Issued to cover changes in postage rates on books, the Canal Zone over-States Presidential Series of 1938.

CANAL ANNIVERSARY

1939



Balboa—Before



Balboa-After



Gaillard Cut—Before



Gaillard Cut-After



Bas Obispo-Before



Bas Obispo—After

CANAL ZONE POSTAGE



Gatun Locks—Before



Gatun Locks—After







POSTAGE STAMPS of the



CANAL ANNIVERSARY

1939



Canal Channel—Before



Canal Channel—After



Gamboa—Before



Gamboa—After



Pedro Miguel Locks—Before



Pedro Miguel Locks—After



Gatun Spillway—Before



Gatun Spillway—After

This set of commemorative and air mail stamps was released to mark the twenty-fifth anniversary of the opening of the Panama Canal. In addition, the air mail stamps also mark the tenth anniversary of air mail service in the Canal Zone. It is said that President Franklin D. Roosevelt suggested the theme for this series.

AIR MAILS



Plane over Sosa Hill



Central America Map & Planes



PA Clipper & Ft. Amador Scene















CANAL ANNIVERSARY

1939







PA Clipper

PA Clipper Over Gaillard Cut

PA Clipper Landing

AIR MAIL OFFICIAL STAMPS

1941











1946-48







Gaillard Cut







POSTAGE STAMPS of the



1946-48







Gaillard Cut





OFFICIAL STAMPS

1941



General Gorgas









Harry F. Hodges Jackson Smith

Admiral Rousseau 1947



J. C. S. Blackburn



J. C. S. Blackburn





Gaillard Cut

John Stevens









SERIES 1946-49











John Stevens



Major General Davis

Governor Magoon

Theodore Roosevelt

Iohn Wallace

During the period 1946 to 1949 five new regular issue portrait stamps were released. All featured men historically connected with the building of the Panama Canal. John F. Stevens was chief engineer of the Isthmian Canal Commission. Major General George W. Davis headed the first group to visit the Isthmus and was Governor from March 8, 1904 to May 23, 1905. Charles E. Magoon was appointed Governor of the Canal Zone on May 25, 1905. John Findlay Wallace was Chief Engineer of The Panama Canal from 1904 to June 1905.

GOLD DISCOVERY



"Forty-Niners" Arriving







Las Cruces Trail

Departure for San Francisco

The Gold Rush Centennial Stamps were issued to mark the 100th anniversary of the discovery of gold in California. During the "Gold Rush" of 1849, the Panama route was the best and quickest way to reach California

BIOLOGICAL

1948



Map of Biological Area and Coati-Mundi

Issued to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the founding of the Laboratory on Barro Colorado Island. Originally a hill rising alongside the old Chagres River, the island was formed when Gatun Lake was created in 1914 following the construction of

WEST INDIAN WORKERS

1951



. Workers in Culebra Cut

The part played by West Indian workers in the construction of the Canal is commemorated by this stamp released August 15, 1951.

RAILROAD

1955



Early Railroad Scene

This stamp commemorates the centenary of the completion of the Panama Railroad. The design, based on an old woodcut, has as its central design a locomotive, one of the railroad's earliest.



POSTAGE STAMPS of the

The second definitive air mail series was first released July 16, 1951. The design, common to all the denominations, shows a symbol of flight superimposed over a globe. Additional denominations (5c, 7c, 15c, 25c, and 35c) were released August 16, 1958





Globe and Wing



Globe and Wing



Globe and Wing



Globe and Wing



Globe and Wing



Globe and Wing

HOSPITAL

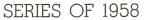
1957



Gorgas Hospital

Placed on sale November 17, 1957 this stamp commemorates the seventyfifth anniversary of the opening of the Gorgas Hospital. Formerly known as Ancon Hospital, the name was changed in recognition of distinguished services to humanity performed by Major General William C. Gorgas.

> **SCOUTING** 1960





S.S. "Ancon"

Released as an ordinary postage issue covering the new 4c first class postage rate, the design features the S. S. "ANCON" chosen because of her gallant record in World War II.



ROOSEVELT

1958

Roosevelt Medal & Map

Issued to commemorate the centenary of the birth of Theodore Roosevelt, who played an important part in the building of the Panama Canal. The design is taken from the "Roosevelt" medal which was presented to each "canal digger" with two years service in the construction of the Panama Canal.



Boy Scouts of America. Scouting was introduced to the Canal Zone in 1911.

Released February 8, 1960 to com-

memorate the 50th anniversary of the

Boy Scout Badge







20









SERIES OF 1958







Globe and Wing

Globe and Wing

Globe and Wing



Globe and Wing



Globe and Wing

REGULAR ISSUE





Rotary Press Coil Stamp

1960



General Goethals

The first coil stamp ever released in the Canal Zone was placed on sale June 20, 1960. A 3c denomination, the design was the same as the sheet form issue released in 1934 and bearing the portrait of General Goethals.



Building



Issued in both sheet and coil form this stamp features for its design the Administration Building at Balboa Heights, Canal Zone. Released November 1, 1960, the stamp replaced the Ancon design of 1958.

USARCARIB SCHOOL 1961

21



Issued on November 21, 1961, this stamp features the crest of the United States Army Carribbean School located at Fort Gulick, Canal Zone. Sometimes referred to as the "USARCARIB SCHOOL," it was founded in 1949 to provide training to U. S. troops and to Latin American officers, cadets and enlisted men.

Army School Crest





POSTAGE STAMPS of the



1962



Girl Scout Badge

Issued March 12, 1962, this stamp commemorates the 50th anniversary of the Girl Scouts of America. The design features a tropical scene de-picting camping on the shores of Gatun Lake.



1962



John F. Stevens

The 5c John F. Stevens stamp, first released in 1946, was made available in coil form on February 10, 1962.

THATCHER FERRY BRIDGE

1962



Bridge Uniting Continents

This stamp was placed in circulation to commemorate the completion of the Thatcher Ferry Bridge uniting the continents and spanning the Panama Canal. The design pictures the Thatcher Ferry Bridge superimposed on a spherical projection of the West-ern Hemisphere.

AIR MAIL 1963

Globe and Wing

leased January 7, 1963.

ALLIANCE FOR PROGRESS

To cover increases in air mail postage rates, this 8c air mail stamp was re-

1963



MALARIA

ERADICATION

1962

WHO Emblem and Mosquito

In connection with the World Health Organization's malaria eradication program, a special 7c air mail stamp was released September 24, 1962. The WHO Emblem is featured on the left with the Anopheles mosquito on the right.



Flaming Torch Symbol

Along with the United States, the Canal Zone also issued a stamp to commemorate the work of the "Alliance for Progress" which was begun at Punta del Este, Uruguay, in 1961.

















50TH ANNIVERSARY OPENING OF THE PANAMA CANAL

1964



Cristobal



Gatun Locks



Madden Dam



Gaillard Cut



Miraflores Locks



Balboa

This series of six air mail stamps marks the fiftieth anniversary of the opening of the Panama Canal. The frame and lettering are identical on each of the six stamps except for color and denomination. The central design of each stamp is a sketch of various locations in the Canal Zone, in black and white and made from aerial views.







POSTAGE STAMPS of the



AIR POST STAMPS

1965



Seal and Jet Plane



Seal and Jet Plane



Seal and Jet Plane



Seal and Jet Plane



Seal and Jet Plane

These multi-color stamps, released by the Canal Zone Postal Service, were printed on white pre-gummed paper by the United States Bureau of Printing and Engraving and first placed on sale July 15, 1965.



Seal and Jet Plane

The basic design incorporates the Seal of the Canal Zone Government on the left and a jet plane on the right of the stamp, with a slipstream to the rear of the plane. The seal is in black and white, with a fading background of the same color as the stamp.













1968



Goethals Memorial, Balboa

This regular, printed on the Giori Press, was issued on March 15, 1968 to meet increased postage rates. Major General George Washington Goethals was one of the leaders in the development of the Canal Zone.

1971



Fort San Lorenzo

Issued on July 14, 1971, this 8c definitive became necessary when United States first class postage rates were increased. The multicolored stamp was produced on the Giori Press at the Bureau of Engraving & Printing.

AIR MAILS

1968



Seal and Jet Plane

1968



Seal and Jet Plane

25

These air mail regulars, in the same design as the values of the series of 1965, were issued to meet increased air mail postage rates. The 10c and 25c denominations were released on March 15, 1968. The 11c value had its first day of issue on September 24, 1971.



1971

Seal and Jet Plane





POSTAGE STAMPS of the



COIL STAMPS



Gen. W. C. Gorgas



Gen. H. F. Hodges



Gen. J. F. Wallace

These coil stamps were issued on February 14, 1975. The 1c and 10c denominations are manufactured in coils of 500 and 3,000; the 25c value is produced in coils of 3,000. Gen. Gorgas was Chief sanitary officer of the Isthmian Canal Commission in the construction era. Gen. Hodges was chief engineer from 1907 to 1914 in charge of designing the locks. Gen. Wallace was the first chief engineer of the Panama Canal from 1904 to 1905.

CASCADAS

1976



"Cascadas" joined the digging fleet of the Panama Canal on October 31, 1915. Since then she has played an integral part in the Panama Canal Company's dredging program for maintaining required Canal depths. This regular stamp was issued on February

The Panama Canal Dipper Dredge

Dredge "Cascadas"

AIR MAIL ISSUES 1976

1974



CANAL ZONE IR MAIL POSTAGE 22

CANAL

ZONE

1976

Seal & Jet Plane

Seal & Jet Plane

Seal & Jet Plane

The 13c air mail stamp was issued on February 11, 1974. The 22c and 35c values were released on May 10, 1976. Each denomination was issued to meet new postal rates. The design common to all incorporates the Seal of the Canal Zone Government, a jet plane, and a slipstream to the rear of the plane. All three stamps are of the same size— 0.84° x 1.44"—and were issued in sheets of fifty. The 13c denomination also was made available in booklets containing five panes of four stamps.

26



