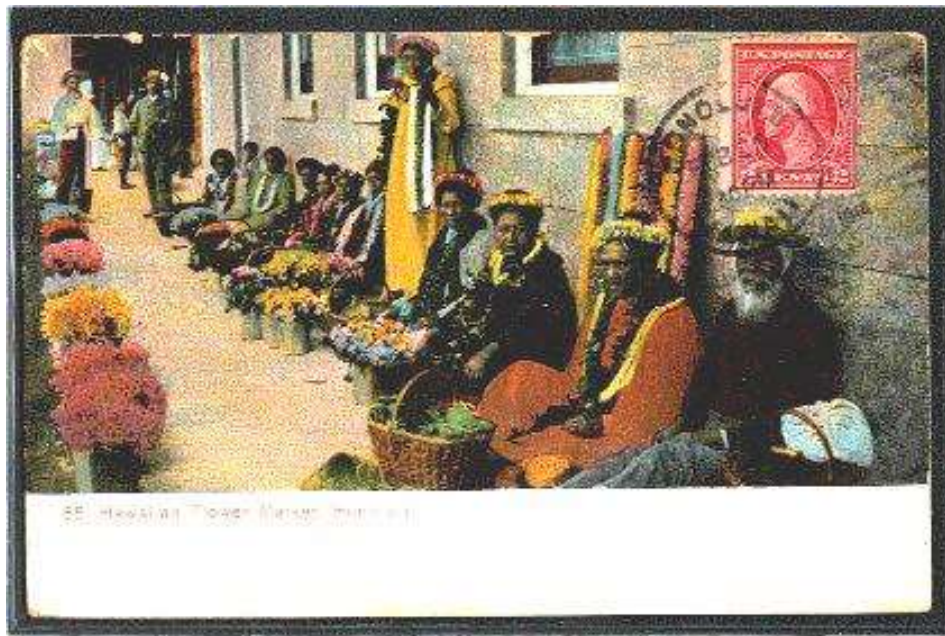


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The Semi Annual Journal of the Hawaiian Philatelic Society

Number 84

July 2017

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The Quarterly Journal of the Hawaiian Philatelic Society

Number 84

July 2017

Editor's Notes

By Greg Chang, Editor

Aloha! Well, it summertime - time for sun, fun and all sorts of outdoor activities for the most of the country. Hopefully, your stamp collection does not get too neglected.

Once again, I have put together an assortment of articles.

The first is an article by J. Lee. He writes about the 'Iolani Palace, the only royal palace in the United States. When the palace was first opened, it had the latest and greatest the modern world had to offer. Hope you all have a chance to visit the there.

Next is one of my articles on the Journey of the USS Oahu. One of the few US Navy ships to never have served on US waters.

Finally, I have included a couple of reprinted articles – first is on the story of the Guam Guard Mail and the second is on a brief story of Herman Melville.

As always, I am in need of articles or items of interest to publish. It definitely would be nice to have items contributed by our society's members.

Greg Chang
Editor



What's Inside

The 'Iolani Palace <i>By J. Lee</i>	2
The Journey of the USS Oahu <i>By Greg Chang</i>	5
Guam Guard Mail <i>By CE Osborn</i>	9
Herman Melville	13
Mailbox	16

The 'Iolani Palace

By J. Lee



Located in the heart of downtown Honolulu stands the 'Iolani Palace, the only royal palace located in the United States. It remains as a reminder of Hawaii's rich past, a time when royalty reigned over Hawaii. It was built under the rule of the last king of Hawaii, King David Kalakaua.

The name of the palace came from the name of the first palace that was then known as *Hale Ali'i* (House of the Chief). King Kamehameha V changed its name to 'Iolani Palace in honor of his later brother and predecessor. *'Io* is the name of a Hawaiian hawk, a bird that flies higher than all others. *Lani*, denotes heaven, royal or exalted. In short, this translates to "Bird of Heaven".

In December of 1879, the cornerstone was laid in place. By December of 1882, King Kalakaua and Queen Kapi'olani took up residence there. At that time, it had the latest in modern conveniences such as telephones, gas lighting, and indoor plumbing. Shortly after, electrical wiring and lighting was installed. These items were in use before the White House had them!

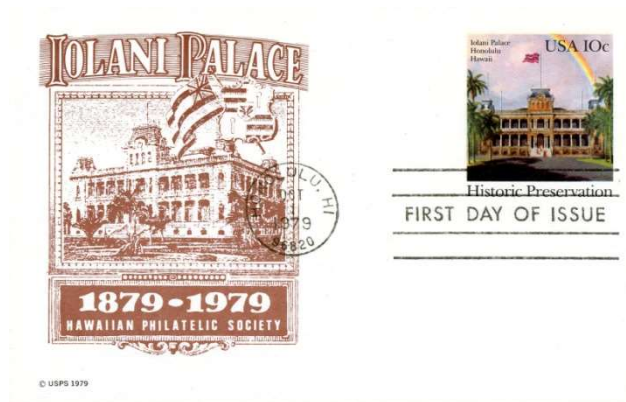
It remained the royal residence of the Hawaiian Monarchy until January 1893 when Queen Liliuokalani was deposed and the monarchy was

overturned. Since then, the palace served as the government headquarters for the Provisional Government, Republic, Territorial Government, and finally State of Hawaii until 1969. Today, it serves as a museum for all to enjoy.

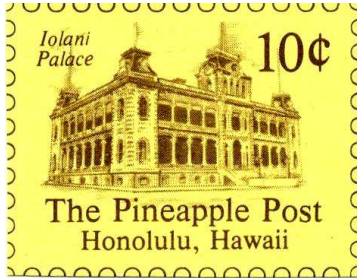
Through the years, there have been stamps and postal stationary issued in honor of the palace.



A 1-cent postal card, *Hawaii Scott UX8*, was issued between 1894 to 1897 under the Republic of Hawaii. The postal card depicts an isometric view of the front of the palace. The flag of the republic and modified version of the government's seal are located in the upper right corner of the card.



In 1979, the United States Postal Service issued a 10-cent postal card, *US Scott UX81*, as part of the Historic Preservation Postal Card series. It shows the front view of the palace with a Hawaiian State flag flying above, and a rainbow at the upper right hand corner of the design.



In 1981, the Pineapple Post issued a 10-cent stamp to commemorate the 90th anniversary of Liliuokalani being proclaimed the Queen of Hawaii.

The Hawaii Post issued a set of 2 stamps and a minisheet to commemorate the 125th anniversary of the laying of the cornerstone to the palace in 2004.



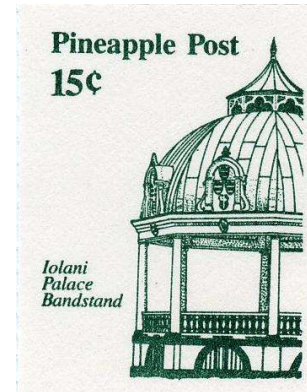
The \$5 stamp shows a view of the Royal Throne inside 'Iolani Palace and the \$8 stamp shows an exterior view of 'Iolani Palace, from a painting.



The \$10 shows a different exterior view of 'Iolani Palace, from an old postcard, which is topped by the Royal Crown with Kahilis on each side. The outside margin, the top line of

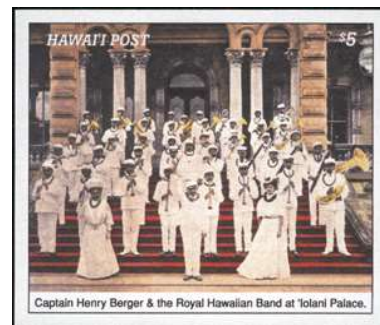
text, the Crown and side adornments are in metallic gold ink.

Also, located on the palace grounds is the 'Iolani Palace Bandstand. For more than 100 years, the Royal Hawaiian Band has held weekly concerts.



In 1986, the Pineapple Post issued a 15-cent stamp depicting the bandstand in honor of the band.

In 2002, the Hawai'i Post issued a set of stamps to mark the 130th anniversary of the arrival of Captain Heinrich (Henry) Berger who served as the bandleader for the Royal Hawaiian Band from 1872 to 1915. He was credited in keeping Hawaiian music alive in difficult times.



A \$5 minisheet shows a photograph of Captain Henry Berger and the Royal Hawaiian Band on the steps of 'Iolani Palace, Honolulu.

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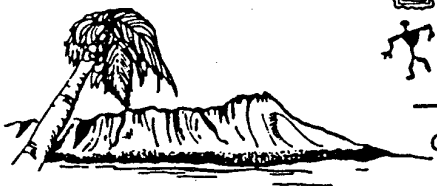
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The Journey of the USS Oahu

By Greg Chang

For nearly a century, the United States Navy patrolled China's Yangtze River to protect American interests in the region from deadly War lords and ruthless pirates. This was known as the Yangtze River Patrol Force or YangPat that operated from 1854 to 1942. YangPat cruised the waters of the Yangtze River from Chungking (Chongqing) to Shanghai (more than 1,300 miles).



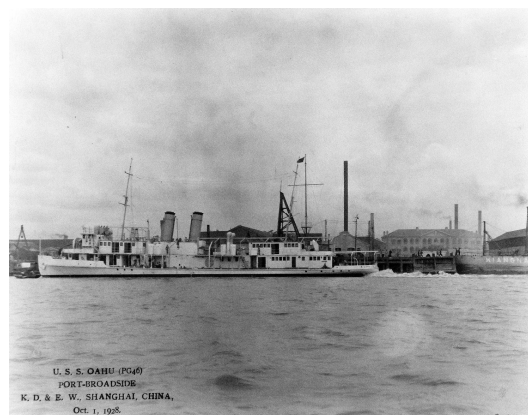
Map of the Yangtze River and Treaty Ports

During this time, the US Navy along with other foreign forces such as the United Kingdom, France, Germany, Japan, were allowed to cruise China's rivers under an unequal treaties act with Imperial China.



Treaty Port Stamps

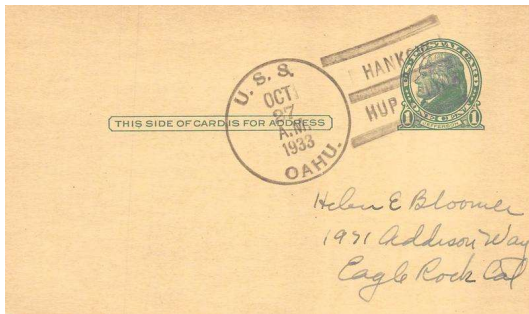
One of the US Navy vessels to patrol these waters was the **USS Oahu**, named after one of the Hawaiian Islands. Designed as a 191 foot long shallow-draft river gunboat, with two 3"/50 cal. gun mounts, eight .30 cal machine guns and a crew of 55 sailors. The **Oahu** was laid down in the Kiangoan Dockyard and Engineering Works in Shanghai on December, 18, 1926 and was classified as **PG-46**. She was later reclassified as **PR-6**, launched on November 26, 1927 and commissioned on October 1928.



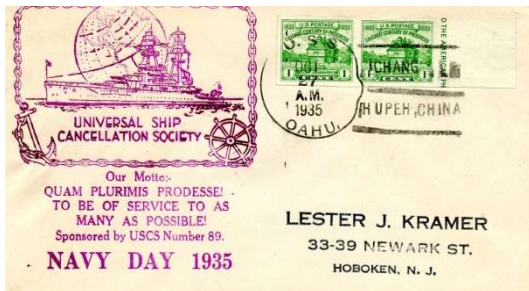
USS Oahu October 1928



1931 Official Business Envelope with Shanghai Postmark



1933 Post Card with Hangchow Postmark



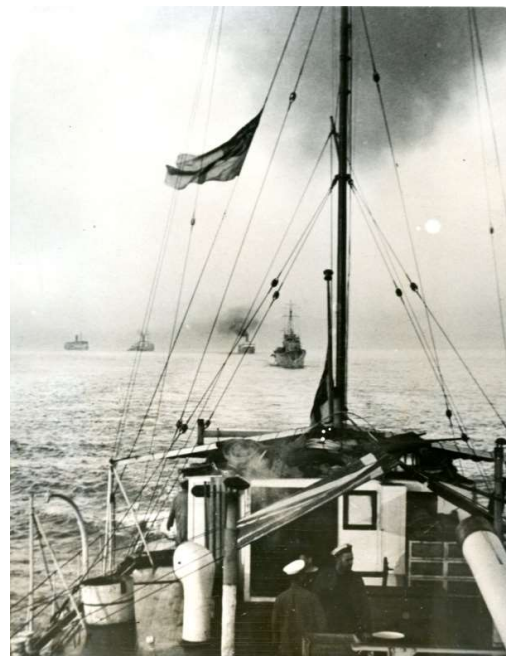
1935 Navy Day with Ichang Postmark



1936 US Navy with Honan Postmark

For the first nine years, she performed routine patrols along the Yangtze river such as escorting American vessels, transporting diplomatic personnel, and engaging in an occasional firefight.

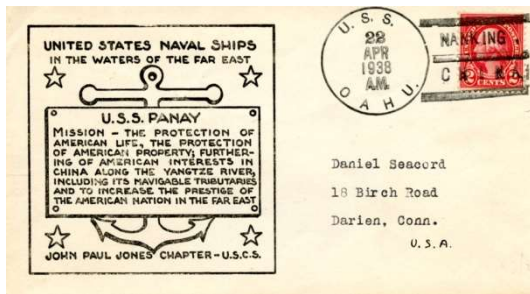
On December 12, 1937, off Nanking, the Oahu was on hand to rescue the survivors of her sister ship, USS Panay, PR-5, that was sunk by Japanese airplanes.



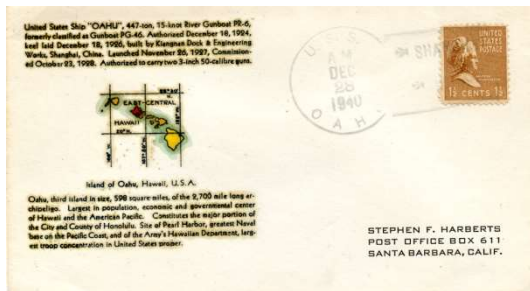
1937 ACME NEWSPICTURES press photo aboard the USS Oahu with Naval Escort with the victims of the USS Panay



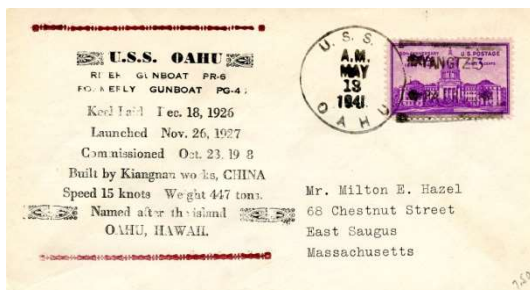
1938 On Patrol with Remember Panay postmark



1938 USS Panay Cachet with Nanking Postmark



1940 Cachet Cover with Shanghai Postmark



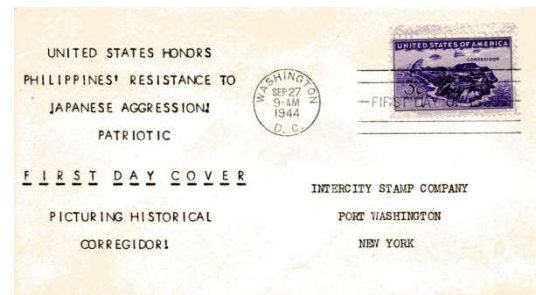
1941 Cachet Cover with Yangtze Postmark

For close to 14 years the USS Oahu patrolled the rivers and coasts of China. On December 5, 1941, two days before the Imperial Japanese attack on Pearl

Harbor, the YangPat was formally dissolved. In early May of 1942, along with the USS Luzon, Oahu was on duty off the waters of Corregidor Island in the Philippines in an effort to fight off

Japanese barges that were bringing supplies and reinforcements to Battan. She was sunk off Corregidor Island on May 5th.

In the end, the USS Oahu was one of the few United States Navy ships to never have been or served in US waters.



1944 Corregidor FDC

In 1944, a new USS Oahu, ARG-5, was commissioned as a Luzon-Class repair ship to serve in the Pacific for three years before being decommissioned. She was assigned to the mothball fleet in California Suisun Bay in 1963.

References:

George Saqqal (2004) *Short Philatelic History of The Yangtze February, March, April and May, 2004 volumes of the LOG, the monthly journal of the [Universal Ship Cancellation Society](#)*

Randy Pence (2012) *Yangtze Patrol USS Oahu (PR 6) August, 2012 volume of the LOG, the monthly journal of the [Universal Ship Cancellation Society](#)*

Wikipedia.Org *USS Oahu (PR-6)*

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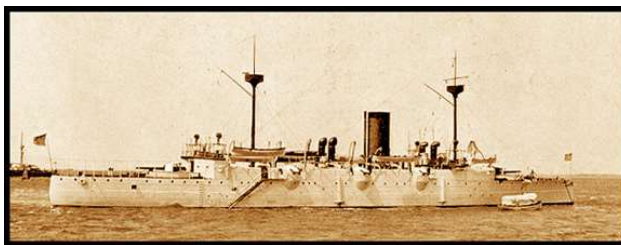


Guam Gurad Mail

By C. E. Osborne, Bremerton, WA (*Reprinted from a 1937 Article*)

The Guam Guard Mail stamps were issued under rather unusual circumstances: First; - they were issued to fill a local postal purpose without the slightest thought of stamp collectors. Second; they were issued within an American possession without the authority of the U.S. Post Office Department. The Mid-Pacific Island of Guam, known to most of us now as one of the stops on the Trans-Pacific air mail route some 5,000 miles west of San Francisco, came into U.S. possession during the Spanish-American war – also under unusual circumstances.

After the Battle of Manila, May 1, 1898, in order to successfully carry out the siege of Manila, a convoy of troop ships and supplies sailed from San Francisco under the protection of the USS Charleston, for Manila, with orders to stop off at Guam, a Spanish possession, on the way out and capture the island for the United States. Arriving off the entrance to the harbor at Guam, the Charleston opened fire on the Spanish fortifications as they proceeded into port. The Spanish guns remained silent. But the local Governor, not knowing war had been declared between the United States and Spain, put out from shore in a small



USS Chareston

boat. Boarding the Charleston he protested the salute they were firing was doing much damage to the city and fortifications. News in those days traveled very slowly to such a remote place as the Island of Guam. A naval detachment replaced the Spanish officials and the island thus came into U.S. possession.

Due to its location, Guam has long been considered an important naval station. The local government is administered under authority of the Secretary of the Navy. The governor is an active legislative and judicial power. He is appointed for a term of two years by the president on the recommendation of the secretary of the Navy.

Being somewhat south of the regular steamship lanes, the island is visited only by U.S. naval vessels and army transports, (and now, of course, by the Pan-American airmail planes). The port of entry is closed to vessels of foreign nations except by permission of the U.S. government. In addition to the powerful naval radio station, it is the crossing place of many of the Pacific cables and a large cable station is maintained there. The island covers an area of about 210 square miles, being about 30 miles in length and varying from 4 to 10 miles in width. Through the temperature



Guam Scott #4

averages 81 degrees F. the year round, the climate is healthful. The soil is fertile and yields abundant crops of copra, the chief export, and cacao, coffee, corn, rice, and tobacco.

In 1929, when Commander Willis W. Bradley, Jr., U.S. Navy became governor of Guam, the U.S. postal service did not extend beyond its capital city of Agana, with a population of 8,950. As governor, Commander Bradley felt that a need existed to facilitate correspondence between the some 10,000 inhabitants, mainly Chamorro natives living in the



Governor Bradley

rural district of settled in small samlets (hamlets) scattered throuth (throughout) the island. It was Governor Bradley's notion that if the means were provided, the natives would correspond with one another.

A recommendation addressed to the Post Office department in Washington to extend the U.S. postal service thruout (throughout) the island was rejected; as was also a solicitation, afterward, to purchase U.S. stamps at cost of printing, to be overprinted with the designation "Guam." Which would restrict their use to this particular local service. Failing in these negotiations, Governor Bradley applied to the Postmaster-General of the

Philippine Islands to purchase several thousand stamps for the service. The Philippines agreed to furnish the stamps, with the stipulation they would be overprinted and a certificate signed by the governor to that effect.

Without the sanction of the Post Office department and no encouragement from the Navy department, Governor Bradley was faced with the problem of launching his island mail service entirely on his own responsibility. He decided to call it "Guam Guard Mail."

The U.S. naval designation "Guard Mail" is applied to the method of handling local correspondences between naval vessels at anchor or between offices within the boundaries of a naval station. Whenever two or more naval vessels come to anchor in a locality a guard mail service is established by the senior naval officer present in the group. The system is purely local, and in no way entails the facilities of the U.S. postal service, and requires no postage. The guard mail system, however, had never been used for the same purpose as was inaugurated on the Island of Guam by Governor Bradley. After all Guam is a naval station, even the most of the inhabitants are native islander of Malayan origin.



**Guam Guard Overprint
Scott # M1 and M2**

The first issues of Guam guard mail stamps consisted of 2,000 2-cen-tavos and 3,000 4-centavos Philippine stamps overprinted locally with black ink, and sold at corresponding U.S. Prices – one cent and two cents. No errors occurred in the overprint. The stamps were placed on sale April 8, 1930 and the island mail service was inaugurated with appropriate ceremonies. To add local color to the opening of the service, a native ox-cart was used to take the initial sack of Guam guard mail out on the first trip.

The service began to flourish – almost immediately. News of the stamp issue spread to the U.S. mainland and back came large orders to the island for the stamps. These orders could not be filled in full from such a small issue, but were pro rated. This treatment brought down the wrath of several buyers, and in no uncertain terms Governor Gradley (Bradley) was accused of creating rarities and then withholding them from the stamp collecting public. Needless to say all this astonished the good governor very much. The sole purpose in his action was to provide enough stamps to establish a small local mail service of a more or less experimental nature – with nary a thought of that ilk known as stamp collectors. And he did not intend to wreck his island mail service by selling out the issue to stamp collectors. However, the first issue did diminish rapidly and before another supply could be dispatched by steamer from the Philippines the issue would be entirely exhausted. So, to keep the service alive without interruption an issue was hurriedly printed locally. The central design used for this second issue is the seal of Guam, and the stamps were bi-colored varieties. The stamps were

printed in sheets of 25 on white bond typewriter paper in common use in the navy at that time. The Cleveland Bond watermark in the paper appears only once in each sheet. Part of the watermark is found on some of the stamps. A sewing machine was used for perforating and the stamps were issued without gum. July 10, 1930 was the first day of sale. The total issued amounted to 1,000 1 – cent and 4,000 2 – cent stamps.



Second Issue

The seal of Guam issue was on sale only one month when a new supply of Philippine stamps reached the island. This third issue was also overprinted “Guam Guard mail” in three lines, with black ink, but a different type than the first issue. Total issued: 20,000 2 – centavos and 80,000 4 – centavos. First day of sale was August 10, 1930. The volume of mail increased as did the demand of philatelists for the stamps and in a few months another issue was forthcoming.

The fourth issue amounted to 50,000 each of the 2 and 4 – centavos, and 25,000 each of the 6, 8, and 10 – centavos. The additional denominations were added to this issue to meet the exigencies of the service. The overprint was changed to red ink, except the 4 – centavos carmine

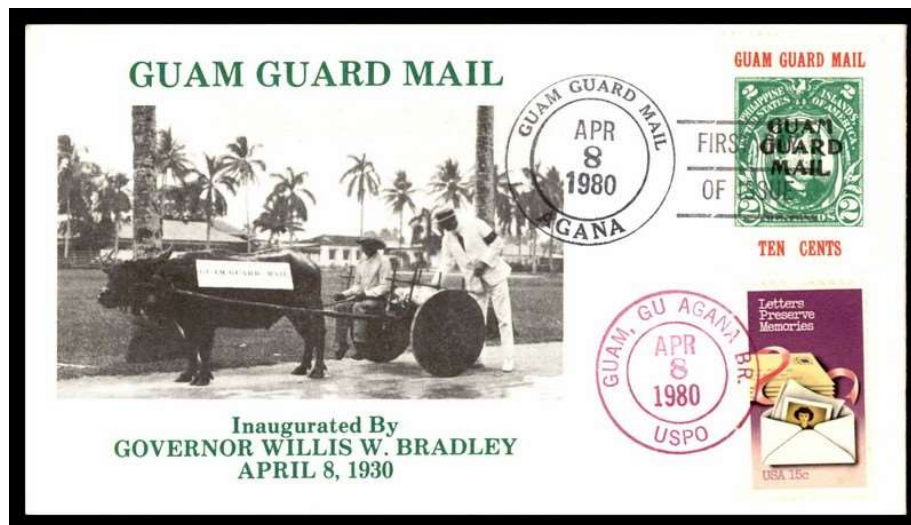
stamp was overprinted with purple ink. This issue was placed on sale December 21, 1930. The issue was produced with two errors in overprinting – both occurring in the 2 – centavos value. One, the misspelling of the word Guard, as Guard occurred once in each sheet of 100 stamps. And the other, the misspelling of the word Mail, Mial, also occurred once in each sheet. The errors were discovered before the stamps were put into service, and each one was removed from its (its) respective sheet, making the total of 500 of each. The errors were not destroyed, but were sold in pairs, one with “Guard” and one with “Mail” misspelled at 25¢ per pair.

The work of operating the Guam Guard mail system was done by naval personnel. Overhead cost was low and profits from the system were used for the amortization of indebtedness on land and buildings used as public recreational places, such as, an athletic field in Agana and an armory for the National guard. Official mail and correspondence of naval personnel was handled free by

writing their names and rank on the letters.

By this time the success of the enterprise had come to the attention of the U.S. Post Office department and they decided to take it over. A star route mail service of the U.S. postal service was started January 1, 1931 from Agana to Agat. Use of the Guam Guard Mail stamps was discontinued on April 8, 1931 after one year of satisfactory operation, when the whole system was replaced by the U.S. Post Office department. At this time all unused stamps were turned over to the naval government by the Superintendent of the Guam Guard Mail to be sold at a small premium over face value.

The stamps did not attain catalog recognition until the 1935 edition of Scott's specialized, almost five years after they were issued



1980 Cover to Commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the Inauguration of the Guam Guard Mail

Herman Melville

Reprinted from March 2005 issue of the San Jose Stamp Club Newsletter

It wasn't until the 1940 Famous Americans series that famous authors were honored on U.S. postage stamps. There were a number of famous Americans that had written books, such as Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin and Theodore Roosevelt, but no real "authors." Since the Famous Americans series there have been a number of good authors honored included Melville's friend Nathaniel Hawthorne.



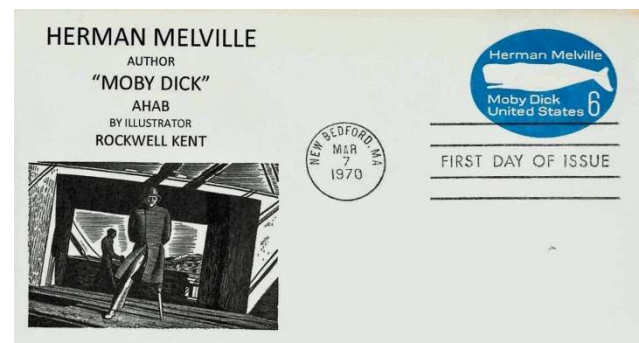
Nathaniel Hawthorne (Scott 2047)

Hawthorne was both a friend and contemporary and like Hawthorne had an added letter to the family name; Hawthorne added the "w," the Melville's the final "e." Hawthorne's *Scarlet Letter* also influenced Melville into introducing the good-versus-evil concept into his writings. The two men were not only close friends but neighbors as well. They owned adjoining farms near Pittsfield, Massachusetts. As with his neighbor, Melville's writings never completely supported him and he was

frequently forced to seek other employment to provide for his family.

Melville was born August 1, 1819 in New York City. His stamp thus marks the 165th anniversary of his birth, which suggest again that the U.S. Postal Service was guarding its own edict about commemoratives being issued "only on even anniversary dates and continuing at 50-year intervals."

The USPS had issued a prior stamped envelope that showed a whale, Moby dick and Melville's name. It was also the first stamped envelope to carry and indicium that did not bear either a "c" or "cents." The timing of the release of the Melville envelope, on March 7, 1970, had even less anniversary significance than of the new stamps.



Moby Dick Stamped Envelope (Scott U554) issued March 7, 1970

Melville's father, Allan, would have been amazed that his son ever put pen to paper. In 1826 he wrote that his boy "was very backward in speech and somewhat slow in comprehension," but of "a docile and amiable disposition." Although the family was of illustrious lineage and well-off financially, their

import business collapsed in 1830; his father went insane and died leaving the 12 year old to be raised in near poverty.

He struggled through an education, tried teaching for three months and studied surveying for a time. Failing to enjoy these, he shipped out to sea as a cabin boy in 1839. Two years later he began his global wanderings abroad the whaler *Achushnet*, sailing from New Bedford Massachusetts, to the South Seas. He later joined US Navy, and started his years long voyages on ships, sailing both the Atlantic and the south Seas.

The *Achushnet* voyage inspired his novel, *Typee*, a romanticized version of his experiences – including a four-month incarceration by the cannibalistic Typee tribe in the Marquesas Islands in what is now French Polynesia.

In 1847 Melville married Elisabeth Shaw, daughter of the chief justice of Massachusetts. After three years in New York he bought a farm, "Arrowhead," near Nathaniel Hawthorne's home at Pittsfield, where he established his long time friendship with him.

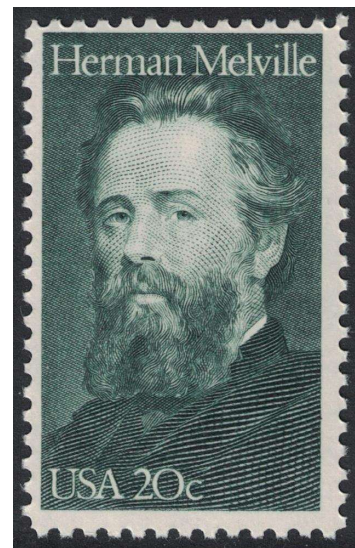
Melville's life was not a happy or materially abundant one. The suicide of one son and accidental death at sea of another in the late 1860's slowed his literary output. He died of heart failure September 28, 1891, never knowing that he would one day gain recognition as one of America's greatest writers.

That didn't come until the 1924 publication of *Billy Budd, Foretopman*, his last novel. The critics took note of this one, and suddenly discovered that *Moby Dick* was one also worthy of their acclaim. Its symbolism of Captain Ahab

fighting the Great White Whale began to be understood as Melville had intended – as the ultimate struggle of mere man against unbridled forces he could not control. Through the narrator of *Moby Dick*, Ishmael, he mediated questions about faith and the workings of God's intelligence. He returned to these meditations in his last great work, *Billy Budd, Foretopman*. A generation after his passing, Herman Melville gained the literary status life has never brought him.

Interestingly, he had a rather greater estimation in Britain than in America.

Among his works were: *Typee*, 1846; *Omoo*, 1847; *Mardi* and *A voyage Thither*, 1849; *Moby Dick*, 1851; *Billy Budd, Foretopman*, unfinished at the time of his death and posthumously published in 1924.

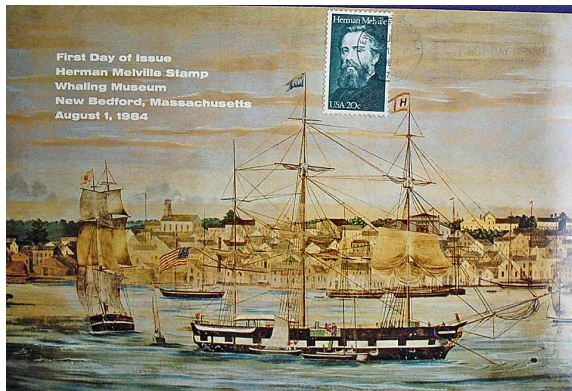


Herman Melville (Scott 2094) from a portrait by Joseph O. Eaton

Designed by Bradbury Thompson, the design is from a portrait by J.O. Eaton that now hangs in a Harvard University library. Thompson, a design coordinator

of the Citizen's Stamp Advisory Committee, also acted as his own art director and did the typography on the stamp.

First Day of issue was at the Whaling museum in New Bedford,



Melville commemorative on First Day Program cover

Massachusetts. Since the USPS speaker, Eugene C Hagburg, was assistant postmaster general for Delivery Services, it was apropos that he referred to mail deliveries in the days of Melville's whaling boats.



French Polynesia Scott 602
Commemorates the 150th anniversary of
Melville's arrival in French Polynesia

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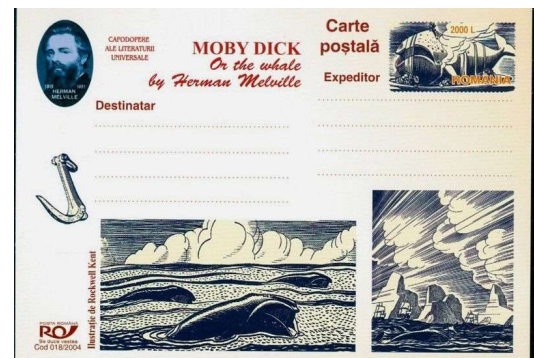
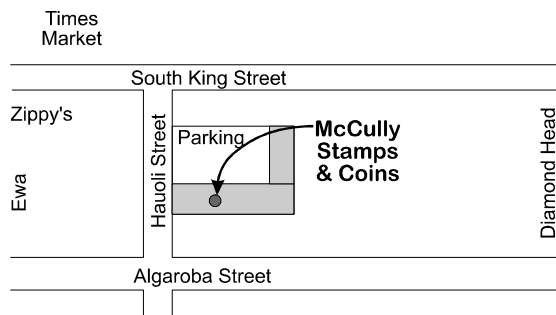
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Richard

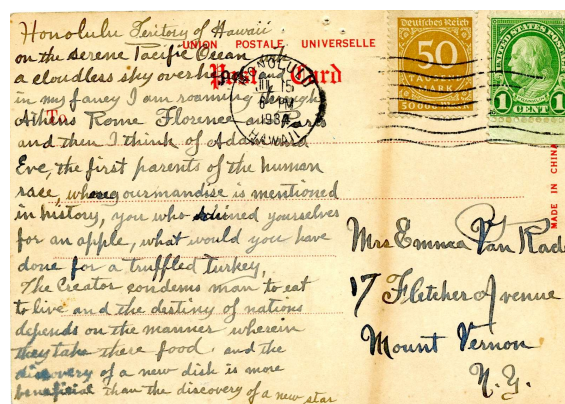
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Interesting post card:

I recently purchased a postcard featuring a Chinese Junk that is pasted with cutouts of stamps. The card has a Honolulu postmark dated July 15, 1934 and was sent to an address in Mount Vernon, New York. Another interesting thing with this item is that it is franked with not only a 1 cent Franklin definitive, but a 50,000 mark German Stamp.

What do you think? Were the cutout stamps added after Emma received her postcard?
USPO let the German Stamp pass? - editor



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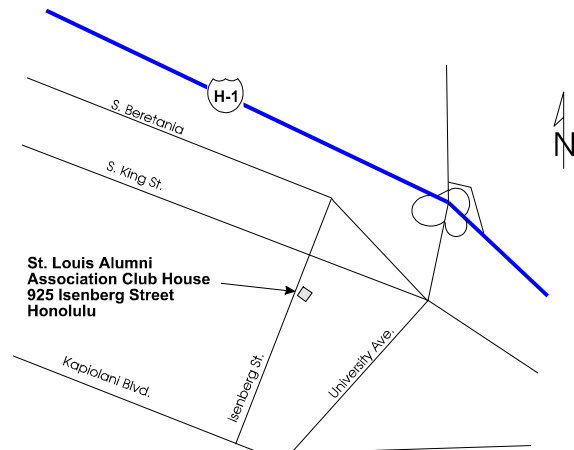
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The Hawaiian Philatelic Society meets from 7 PM to 9:30 PM on the second Monday of each month at the St. Louis Alumni Association Club House in central Honolulu. Each meeting includes a short business session, a program or slide presentation and an auction of about 125 lots. We invite you to attend, meet your fellow members, enjoy the program, and talk stamps. The public is welcome at all our meetings and we encourage you to become a member.



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Cover Illustration: 1901 Hawaiian Post Card with Duplex Cancel

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