



POSTAGE STAMPS of the CANAL ZONE



ISSUED UNDER UNITED STATES ADMINISTRATION

OVERPRINTS OF 1904

On stamps of Panama



Map 5c



Map 10c



Map 20c

The first issue of Canal Zone postage stamps was prepared by overprinting stamps of Panama with "Canal Zone", using a hand-stamp. These some 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 2c



George Washington 2c



Abraham Lincoln 4c



Martha Washington 10c



Daniel Webster 50c

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 15, 1904 and removed from sale December 11, 1904.



Map 1c

OVERPRINTS OF 1904-06



Map 4c

Pursuant to the Taft Agreement the Canal Zone again commenced using Panama overprints on December 12, 1904.





POSTAGE STAMPS of the CANAL ZONE



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OVERPRINTS OF 1904-06

Surcharged on Colombia stamps overprinted "PANAMA"



Map



Map



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.



Map

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



Map



Map

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 1852-1896 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.



Map



Map



Map



Map





POSTAGE STAMPS of the CANAL ZONE



ISSUED UNDER UNITED STATES ADMINISTRATION

OVERPRINTS OF 1906-07



Francisco Hernandez de Cordoba



Vasco Nunez de Balboa



de Cordoba



Justo Arcemena



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 Arcemena



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



ISSUED UNDER UNITED STATES ADMINISTRATION

OVERPRINTS OF 1909-10



Vasco Nunez de Balboa



de Cordoba



Justo Arsemena



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.

OVERPRINTS OF 1911



Map

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 strip 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.



Map

OVERPRINTS OF 1912-16



Vasco Nunez de Balboa



Francisco Hernandez de Cordoba



Justo Arsemena



Jose de Obaldia





POSTAGE STAMPS of the CANAL ZONE



ISSUED UNDER UNITED STATES ADMINISTRATION

OVERPRINTS OF 1915



Map of Panama Canal

Blue
Overprint



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



Juan Ariasmena

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.





POSTAGE STAMPS of the CANAL ZONE



ISSUED UNDER UNITED STATES ADMINISTRATION

OVERPRINTS OF 1920

Black Overprint



Drydock at Balboa 160

Fifty-cent and dollar denomination stamps were requested of the Panama Government on November 29, 1919, and again official photographs were furnished which were relayed to the American Bank Note Company. They were received, overprinted, and put on sale by the Canal Zone on September 4, 1920.



Ship in Pedro Miguel Locks 175

OVERPRINTS OF 1921



Jose Vallarino



Bolivar's Tribute



The "Land Gate" 26/F 1200



Municipal Bldg. in 1921 & 1921



Statue of Balboa



Tomas Herrera



Jose de Fabrega 275

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 overprinting these stamps for use in the CANAL ZONE. The overprinting was by the American Bank Note Company.

OVERPRINTS OF 1924

Black Overprint



Jose Vallarino 350 20

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.





POSTAGE STAMPS of the **CANAL ZONE**



ISSUED UNDER UNITED 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



Columbus Statue



San Geronimo Castle Gate



Pedro J. Sosa

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 Toff Agreement. This new series of postage due stamps was the result.

With additional surcharge in red



Columbus Statue



San Geronimo Castle Gate



Pedro J. Sosa





POSTAGE STAMPS of the CANAL ZONE



ISSUED UNDER UNITED STATES ADMINISTRATION

POSTAGE DUE STAMPS

1919



Columbus Statue

40

Carnegie Surchage



Capitol, Panama City

45

OVERPRINTS OF 1918-20

Black Overprint



Vasco Nunez de Balboa



Francisco Hernandez de Cordoba



Justo Arismena

OVERPRINTS OF 1920-21

Overprint in Black, Reading Up



Vasco Nunez de Balboa



Francisco Hernandez de Cordoba



Justo Arismena





POSTAGE STAMPS of the CANAL ZONE



ISSUED UNDER UNITED STATES ADMINISTRATION

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



1925



Benjamin Franklin



George Washington



James Monroe

Letters "A" with Sharp Pointed Tops





POSTAGE STAMPS of the CANAL ZONE



ISSUED UNDER UNITED STATES ADMINISTRATION

OVERPRINTS OF 1924-25



Nathan Hale



Benjamin Franklin



Warren G. Harding



George Washington

Letters "A" with Flat Tops



Theodore Roosevelt



James Monroe



Grover Cleveland



American Indian



Statue of Liberty



Bison



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



George Washington



Abraham Lincoln



Theodore Roosevelt



James Monroe



Grover Cleveland





POSTAGE STAMPS of the CANAL ZONE



ISSUED UNDER UNITED STATES ADMINISTRATION

OVERPRINTS OF 1925-26



American Indian



Woodrow Wilson



Statue of Liberty



Golden Gate



Bison



Arlington Amphitheater



Lincoln Memorial

4925

LIBERTY

1926



Liberty Bell

A two cent stamp featuring the Liberty Bell and issued for the 100th anniversary of American Independence celebrated at the Sesqui-centennial Exposition at Philadelphia, 1926.

4.37

OVERPRINTS OF 1927

Rotary Press Printing—Perforation 10



George Washington



Abraham Lincoln



James Monroe

45

7.13

7.32





POSTAGE STAMPS of the CANAL ZONE



ISSUED UNDER UNITED STATES ADMINISTRATION

AIR MAIL OFFICIAL STAMPS

1946-48



Gaillard Cut



795

OFFICIAL STAMPS

1941



General Gorgas



General Goethals



Harry F. Hodges



Jackson Smith



Admiral Rowstrom

15



J. C. S. Blackburn



J. C. S. Blackburn



Gaillard Cut



John Stevens

1947

4250

type 1A
350.00

6.10



156-7, 11



156-7

