

Martin H. Joyce, III

POSTMARKED WEST POINT

POSTMARKED WEST POINT

A U.S. Postal History
of
West Point and its Graduates

Martin H. Joyce, III

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The engraving shown on the front cover appears on each West Point graduate's diploma. The poster on the back cover quotes the motto of the USMA Department of History, *Much of the history we teach was made by people we taught*. It is used with permission.

This is dedicated to every
U.S. Postal employee
and
Cadet Plebe mail carrier
who between
July 1, 1970 and June 5, 1974
made sure that I got my mail -
especially the love letters!

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Preface

In October 1989, *Assembly*, the journal of the West Point Association of Graduates (AOG), reprinted an article from *The American Philatelist* (the journal of the American Philatelic Society) by Col. (Ret.) Frederick O. Diercks (USMA 1937), entitled *West Pointers on Stamps*. Diercks noted at that time that the percentage of West Point graduates who had appeared on postage stamps of the world was greater than any other institution of higher learning. *U.S. News & World Report* ranks about 1,400 U.S. colleges and universities, and thus this is no small feat.

Diercks detailed the thirty-two West Pointers (including two distinguished ex-cadets) who had been pictured on postage stamps from around the world up to that point. Since that time, several other graduates have appeared on postage stamps from the United States and other countries.

Diercks was not the first to highlight West Point graduates on stamps. Lt. Col. (Ret) Philip A. Farris (USMA 1946) published an article, *The Stamped Faces of West Point*, in the Spring 1971 issue of *Assembly*, while serving as Associate Editor of that journal.

An article titled similarly to this one, *Postmarked West Point: A Postal History of the United States Military Academy*, by Richard W. Helbock (USMA 1960), appeared in *La Posta: The Journal of American Postal History* in 1996. Helbock focused on the history of the Academy, and early history of the West Point Post Office. Helbock founded *La Posta* in 1969 and continued to edit the journal for more than 42 years until his death in 2011. Over the course of his lifetime, Helbock published several books about postal history, and assembled a collection of many postal items related to West Point. His article includes photos of a few of these items, and extensive details on West Point postmarks from 1815-1886. After Helbock's death, his collection was acquired by Brig. Gen. (Ret) Mitchell Zais (USMA 1969), who also specializes in West Point postal history, and who served as President of the American Philatelic Society from 2016-2018.

In this study, I have focused on U.S. postal issues. Since the United States issued its first postage stamp in 1847, over 5,500 stamps have been issued by the U.S. Post Office Department, and beginning in 1971, the U.S. Postal Service (USPS). West Pointers have appeared on about 1% of these, led by Ulysses S. Grant (USMA 1843) and Dwight D. Eisenhower (USMA 1915), who, as U.S. Presidents, have appeared on multiple issues. Several other graduates have appeared on multiple stamps; in these cases, I have usually provided only a few examples.

At latest count, twenty-eight graduates have appeared on U.S. stamps, as well as two distinguished non-graduates (Edgar Allan Poe, ex-1834, and James McNeill Whistler, ex-1855). The first such issue featured Ulysses S. Grant in 1886. The earliest class represented was 1806 (Alden Partridge), while the most recent was 1952 (astronaut Edward White). USPS regulations and tradition limit the issuance of stamps only to deceased

individuals, and with the exception of deceased U.S. presidents, it is usually several years before a stamp is even considered for someone who has died. An interesting exception to this unwritten rule involves Astronaut Buzz Aldrin (USMA 1951); see his entry for an explanation.

Diercks' objective was to provide a comprehensive listing of such stamps worldwide. I have chosen to build upon his work, but with a narrower focus on U.S. issues only, and a more in-depth look at each graduate and stamp depicted. I have also expanded my scope to include West Point postal history that goes beyond postage stamps.

The USPS issues three common types of postage: definitives (regular issues for most common use), commemoratives (typically acknowledging a significant individual, event or location) and postal stationery. I believe I have depicted every commemorative showing a West Point graduate, and a few representative definitives (mostly Grant and Eisenhower) and stationery items (all Grant). In some cases I have added illustrations of stamps related to the accomplishments of the graduate. A comprehensive listing of the stamps depicting graduates – hopefully complete – appears in Appendix A.

The stamp illustrations are near-actual size. The pages featuring stamps have been printed single-sided to allow for the mounting of stamps in the book if desired. Additional blank pages have been added at the end for mounting additional items. The entire collection of stamps (with the exception of the 19th century issues) can be assembled at a reasonable cost on eBay or from stamp dealers.

Several of the graduates on stamps were leaders of the Confederacy during the Civil War. Robert E. Lee and Stonewall Jackson appeared on the earliest stamp featuring Confederate leaders as part of the Army-Navy series in 1936-37 (Lee has appeared five more times). These stamps, along with others issued as recently as 2015 honoring the sesquicentennial of the Civil War, have not been without controversy. Nevertheless, their status as USMA graduates and their appearance on postal service issues are historical facts that are relevant to their inclusion here.

Cadet yearbook photos and class crests first appeared in the latter part of the 19th century. Where available, I have shown these for each graduate. For several individuals, I have shown the class crests as they appear on their West Point class rings. The tradition of college class rings began at West Point in 1835. Beginning around 1885, class crests began to appear in relief on the ring stone, sometimes in reverse relief for wax seal impressions. By 1902, and continuing today, class crests appear on one side of the ring shank. (For details on the history of class rings and crests, see Christopher Wright's *Warrior Icon – the Evolution of the West Point Class Ring*.)

Besides postage stamps, West Point graduates and history may be honored in other ways. A number of Post Offices across the United States have been dedicated to West Point graduates. Pictorial postmarks and cacheted envelopes are also used to mark significant events such as graduation day. Examples of these commemorations follow the section on postage stamps.

U.S. postal history concerning West Point would not be complete without discussing the West Point Post Office. West Point's postal history began in 1815 with the establishment of the first Post Office on Academy grounds. In its early years, several West Point graduates served as postmasters for the Academy's Post Office. A brief history is included on page 141.

West Point graduates, and their fellow comrades in arms from the U.S. Naval Academy (USNA) in Annapolis, Maryland, have often crossed paths throughout the history of both institutions. I have noted a number of USNA graduates throughout this book. Each of the five U.S. Service Academies is acknowledged on pages 125-127.

Where "Cullum" numbers are shown, these refer to the reference and identification number assigned to each graduate of the United States Military Academy. The system was created by Brevet Major General George W. Cullum (USMA 1833), who, in 1850, began the monumental work of chronicling the biographies of every graduate. He assigned Number 1 to the first West Point graduate, Joseph G. Swift, and then numbered all successive graduates in sequence. This practice continues today. Cullum served as Superintendent of the Academy from 1864-1866.

The "Scott" numbers shown by each postage stamp refer to the cataloging system employed by the Scott Publishing Co. to identify U.S. postage stamps (as well as those of many other countries).

This work is not intended to be a philatelic treatise – it is about storytelling. While specific stamps and postmarks tell individual stories about people, places and events, it takes another storyteller to piece these small stories together into a larger, collective history. For West Point graduates and history buffs, I hope that this leads to an appreciation for how these little pieces of paper – postage stamps – can contribute to sharing our own story. For stamp collectors, my goal is that they gain an increased appreciation for how their hobby collectively tells the story of our nation’s premier leadership institution and the *Long Gray Line*.

I began collecting stamps at about the age of ten, and remained an avid collector for many years. Many of the events and personalities I know about U.S. history I first learned from studying the stamps I added to my collection. Although interest in *philately* – stamp collecting – has waned in recent years, it remains a fascinating way to learn about a select few individuals and events whose impact on our history is profound. It’s even better when passion for the hobby intersects passion for one’s *alma mater*!

Jay Joyce
January 2021

(Note: This digital edition was created in August 2021. It includes several corrections and updates to the original print edition. Blank pages have been deleted to make it easier to read online; for that reason, page numbers may appear to be missing.)

Acknowledgments

The inspiration and background for this article are based upon the article “*West Pointers on Stamps*” by Col. (Ret.) Frederick O. Diercks (USMA 1937), which originally appeared in *The American Philatelist* in February 1989. It was reprinted in *Assembly*, the West Point alumni magazine, in October 1989.

The biographical summaries are compilations from a variety of online resources, and thus few specific citations are noted. The same is true for the background information about the postage stamps. Particularly helpful resources included:

- West Point Association of Graduates (WPAOG) “*Be Thou at Peace & Memorial Articles*” for specific graduates.
- The Smithsonian National Postal Museum (<https://postalmuseum.si.edu/>)
- Mystic Stamp Company; notes accompanying each stamp provided background information on the subject as well as facts about the stamp. (<http://mysticstamp.com>)
- History.com
- Find A Grave, a subsidiary of Ancestry.com; a “virtual” cemetery of gravesites around the world. Many of the memorials contain biographical information. (<https://www.findagrave.com/>)

Stamp Illustrations. The illustrations of postage stamps came primarily from my own collection and the Smithsonian National Postal Museum web site. Elizabeth Heydt, Collections Manager, was particularly helpful with the section on the 1937 5-cent Army Blue. Nearly all internet illustrations were low resolution and subsequently edited with photo editing software. Stamps issued prior to 1971 were not subject to copyright and are in the public domain; stamps issued by the USPS since 1971 are copyrighted by the USPS. They are used here for educational purposes only.

West Point Class Crests. These illustrations were reproduced from the West Point Association of Graduates’ *Register of Graduates* (2010 edition) and edited with photo editing software.

Photographs. Susan Lintelmann and Laura Mosher in the Archives & Special Collections department of the USMA Library were helpful in providing cadet photographs from class albums and the Library’s digital yearbook collection, and the USMA Historic Structures Inventory for the photo of Quarters 145. The photos of MacArthur’s and Eisenhower’s West Point class rings are from the West Point library digital ring collection. They were taken by Christopher Grant Wright, and are discussed in more detail in his book, *Warrior Icon: The Evolution of the West Point Class Ring* (used with permission of Karen Wright).

Dedicated Post Office Photographs. Postmasters, fellow West Point grads, parents and others were very helpful in obtaining and providing photos for the section on Post Offices dedicated to West Point graduates. I'm grateful to Erica Carmichael, Jeff Doyle, Mike Snow ('70), Bob Humphreys ('74), Tim Mahar ('74), Scott Haswell ('74), Bob Jones ('87), Dennis Sullivan ('88), Carrie Bard ('96), Dick August, Larry & Linda Bryant, and Jack Hadley.

I also wish to thank:

Pat Belanger of the West Point Parents Club of Michigan, who designed many of the graduation day postmarks, and shared details about her designs, and Michelle Hutter who provided examples of the Michigan Parents Club designs.

Cadets Ariya Bradley and Tristan McKenzie, both members of the West Point Class of 2024, for the information they provided regarding current cadet mail delivery procedures.

Marlana Cook, Curator of Art at the West Point Museum, for furnishing photos of Castaigne's *Charge of the 22nd Regiment United States Colored Troops at Petersburg, Virginia, June 16, 1864* and background on the portraits of Sylvanus Thayer and Alden Partridge.

Charles DiComo, PhD., President of the Empire State Postal History Society for his research assistance.

Bill Fletcher ('74), and Jeff Joyce ('80), who refreshed my memory about details related to Cadet Plebe mail delivery responsibilities.

Judy M. Johnson, of Skandia, MI, whose father sailed on the *USS West Point* for four years during World War II. She provided the *USS West Point* Reunion Association patch and information about her father's service.

Veteran stamp designer Phil Jordan, who has designed over 300 stamps, including the 2000 Distinguished Soldiers stamps, the 2011-2015 Civil War series, including the 2014 Petersburg stamp, and the 2015 Appomattox Court House stamp. Phil shared details about his work and interest in the Civil War.

Jana Keune at the Gen. John J. Pershing Boyhood Home State Historic Site in Laclede, Missouri for providing photographs of Pershing's West Point class ring, and the Laclede Post Office dedication plaque.

Stephen Kochersperger, USPS Senior Research Analyst in Postal History, who provided assistance in researching historical data concerning the appointment of West Point Postmasters. Steve also pointed me toward many answers in the *US Postal Service Bulletin*.

Pam Muan for providing photographs of the National Air Mail Week cover.

Joe Parker ('75), who provided key details about the 1937 5-cent Army Blue stamp.

Prolific stamp designer Dick Sheaff, responsible for the design of over 500 stamps, including the 1985 Partridge and Thayer stamps, and the 1990 Eisenhower stamp. In addition to discussing details about his work, he also took the time to educate me on the roles of the stamp designer/director, artist and the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee.

Photographer Ted Spiegel, for explaining how he photographed the 2002 Bicentennial stamp.

Denise Spielman at the Glenna-Jo Daviess County Historical Society Gallery in Galena, Illinois for providing details about Thomas Nast's painting *Peace in Union*.

Postmaster Kristina Tamer and Rick Raisch at the West Point Post Office. Both were very patient with my continued requests for more information. Rick provided numerous photos from the USMA Archives and his own collections, pointed me in the right direction for additional historical information, and offered many additional facts and perspectives on the history and operation of that unit.

Dublin, Georgia historian Scott Thompson, for providing background documents on the visit of the USAT Chateau Thierry and the West Point Class of 1936 to Georgia in June 1935.

Basil Wilder ('96), Librarian of the Smithsonian's National Postal Museum, for research assistance on several topics.

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Those who reviewed drafts and provided their feedback, including Martin Miller, President of The Image Forge and former Chief Content Officer of the American Philatelic Society, Brig. Gen. (Ret) Mick Zais ('69) former President of the American Philatelic Society, USPS Historian Steve Kochersperger, Peter Martin, Publisher of *La Posta: The Journal of American Postal History*, USMA Command Historian Lt. Col. (Ret) Sherman Fleek, Rick Raisch, Jeff Joyce, and most importantly, my wife Shirley, for her candid input and countless reviews of multiple drafts. All of them made this a better document.

The risk in trying to acknowledge every individual, is that someone will be missed. I take responsibility for any errors or omissions.

The Establishment of West Point

West Point's prominent place in American history stems from its strategic location on the west bank of a sharp bend in the Hudson River, about fifty miles north of New York City. Brig. Gen. Samuel Parsons and the Continental Army first occupied the land at West Point in the winter of 1778. Known as "Moore's Folly", it was owned by Steven Moore, who earlier had relocated to North Carolina, and as a lieutenant-colonel was raising a regiment for Major General Nathaniel Greene's army. The fort was crucial in defending New York, the Hudson River, and the lines of communication to the northeastern states.



Scott No. 689



Scott No. 708



Scott No. 734

General George Washington commissioned the Polish engineer and military hero Tadeusz Kościuszko to oversee the construction of the West Point garrison defenses in 1778. Kościuszko spent two years improving the fortifications. During that same period, in 1779, Baron Captain Friedrich Wilhelm von Steuben, the Prussian Army officer who had disciplined America's untrained Continental Army troops at Valley Forge, arrived at West Point. He began drilling and disciplining in the manner he had used the previous winter at Valley Forge. Soon after, George Washington established his headquarters in Moore's former house, calling West Point the "key to America."

The Marquis de Lafayette had arrived in America in 1777, and served with the Continental Army at the Battles of Brandywine and Monmouth. In September 1780, Lafayette served as an intermediary when George Washington met the Comte de Rochambeau, who had arrived with a French army at Newport, Rhode Island. A short time later, Lafayette returned with Washington to West Point, where they learned of Benedict Arnold's treason.



Scott No. 1010



In this detail from "*Encampment of the Revolutionary Army on the Hudson River*" 1782, by Pierre Charles L'Enfant, Fort Clinton is shown right of center; Fort Putnam overlooks West Point from the upper left.

In 1782, Major General Henry Knox, the Army's Chief of Artillery, inspected the facilities at West Point, considered a crucial defensive position. After enumerating its defects and needs to General Washington, Knox was appointed commander of West Point in August 1782. Earlier, Knox had established the Continental Army's first school for artillery and officer training in New Jersey, considered the precursor to the U.S. Military Academy.



Scott No. 1851



Scott No. 1086

In the years following the Revolutionary War, the new American government continued to lease the property from Stephen Moore. Moore petitioned Congress for compensation for damages to his property; the House of Representatives forwarded the claim to the Treasury Department. In June 1790, Secretary of the Treasury Alexander Hamilton, who had served as Washington's chief of staff, reported back to the House that a permanent military post should be established at West Point, as guarding the Hudson River was essential to the "public safety." On November 22, 1790, the government paid Moore \$11,085 for the property.

As president, Washington commissioned studies leading to recommendations (including some by von Steuben) for the establishment of a permanent military academy. After many years of debate, President Jefferson signed an academy bill into law, and the site became the home of the U.S. Military Academy on March 16, 1802.

Today, Moore's 1,617-acre tract at West Point has been expanded nearly ten-fold, and West Point remains the oldest continuously operating Army post in the United States. The Military Academy was accredited by the Commission on Higher Education of the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools in 1928. Since the first graduate in 1802, West Point has graduated over 75,000 men and women, and there are over 55,000 living graduates. West Point is also home to the U.S. Military Academy Preparatory School, and the U.S. Mint and bullion depository.



Scott No. 324

Scott No. 324, featuring Thomas Jefferson, was one of five stamps issued in 1904 recognizing the Louisiana Purchase Exposition, also known as the St. Louis World's Fair. This expo commemorated the 100th anniversary of Thomas Jefferson's Louisiana Purchase.

Scott No. 689 was issued on September 17, 1930 to honor the 200th anniversary of the birth of Baron Frederick Wilhelm von Steuben.

Scott No. 708 was one of twelve stamps issued on January 1, 1932, commemorating the 200th anniversary of George Washington's birth. It features Washington in uniform, painted by Charles Willson Peale at Valley Forge in 1777. Washington is the most frequently featured U.S. stamp subject, having appeared on more than 300 different postage stamps, including one of the first two U.S. stamp issues in 1847.

Scott No. 734 was issued on October 13, 1933 on the 150th anniversary of Kościuszko's naturalization as an American citizen. It shows the statue of Kościuszko in Lafayette Park in Washington, D.C. A similar statue stands at West Point on the site of Fort Clinton, overlooking the Hudson River.

Scott No. 1010 was issued on June 13, 1952, marking the 175th anniversary of the Marquis de Lafayette's arrival in America to offer his services in the Revolutionary War.

Scott No. 1086 commemorates the 200th anniversary of the birth of Alexander Hamilton, the first U.S. Secretary of the Treasury.

Scott No. 1851 was issued on July 30, 1985, the 235th anniversary of the birth of Henry Knox, as part of the "Great Americans" series of sixty-four stamps. Fort Knox, Kentucky is named after Henry Knox, who served as George Washington's first U.S. Secretary of War.

In 1973, the American Revolution Bicentennial Commission recommended to the USPS Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee that a stamp be designed and issued to commemorate West Point's role in the American Revolution. This recommendation was not acted upon.



Kościuszko's Monument at Fort Clinton

The pedestal base of the monument was erected in 1828 by the Corps of Cadets. In 1913, the Polish clergy and laity of the United States added the statue of Kościuszko.

The inscription on the historical marker
near the monument reads:

Fort Clinton was built in 1778 by troops of the Continental Army. It was originally named Fort Arnold after Benedict Arnold, the hero of early Revolutionary War campaigns. The fort retained its original name until Colonel Arnold deserted to the British in 1780. Carefully sited at the bend in the Hudson River where sailing ships moving upstream would have to come to a virtual stop to navigate the turns, Fort Clinton was the center of the West Point fortifications. The fort was constructed to protect the batteries along the edge of the water, to deny the British the use of Constitution Island, and to cover with fire the Great Chain that stretched across the river.

Fort Clinton was constructed of earth and logs. During the Revolution it contained a powder magazine, barricades, and bombproofs for its garrison of about 700 men. Its armament consisted of 12 cannon and 11 mortars of various calibers. Because Fort Clinton was dominated by higher ground to the south and west, several forts and redoubts were built there to defend it against overland attack. Fort Putnam, the major protective work in the system, can be seen on the treeline to your rear.

After the Revolution, Fort Clinton served as an active fort and an arsenal for the storage of arms and equipment. After the Military Academy was founded in 1802, Fort Clinton ceased to be used as a fortification.

The Long Gray Line

*We Sons of today, we salute you. You Sons of an earlier day;
We follow, close order, behind you, where you have pointed the way;
The Long Gray Line of us stretches, thro' the years of a century told
And the last man feels to his marrow, the grip of your far off hold.*

*Grip hands with us now though we see not, grip hands with us strengthen our hearts.
As the long line stiffens and straightens with the thrill that your presence imparts.
Grip hands tho' it be from the shadows. While we swear, as you did of yore.
Or living, or dying, to honor, the Corps, and the Corps, and the Corps.*

The Corps

West Point Chaplain Bishop H.S. Shipman, ~1902

UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

Class of 1806



Alden Partridge

1785 – 1854

Cullum No. 15



Scott No. 1854

Issued February 12, 1985

Northfield, Vermont

Less than a decade after graduating from West Point, Alden Partridge was appointed Superintendent of the U.S. Military Academy in 1814, following Joseph Gardner Swift, who was the first graduate of the Academy in 1802. Partridge served in that capacity until 1817.

West Point's *Long Gray Line* tradition originated during Partridge's tenure when he had gray uniforms made in New York City following the War of 1812. According to Colonel (Ret) George Pappas (USMA 1944) in his book, *To the Point: The United States Military Academy, 1802-1902*, the British blockade played havoc with American shipping, reducing supplies of the dye used to produce blue uniforms, and thus gray uniforms were considerably cheaper. Captain Partridge wore a gray "coatee," despite the regulation for Engineer officers to wear blue. The 1816 cadet uniform coat may have been patterned after Partridge's coatee. Partridge's nickname, 'Old Pewter,' may have come from his gray uniform.

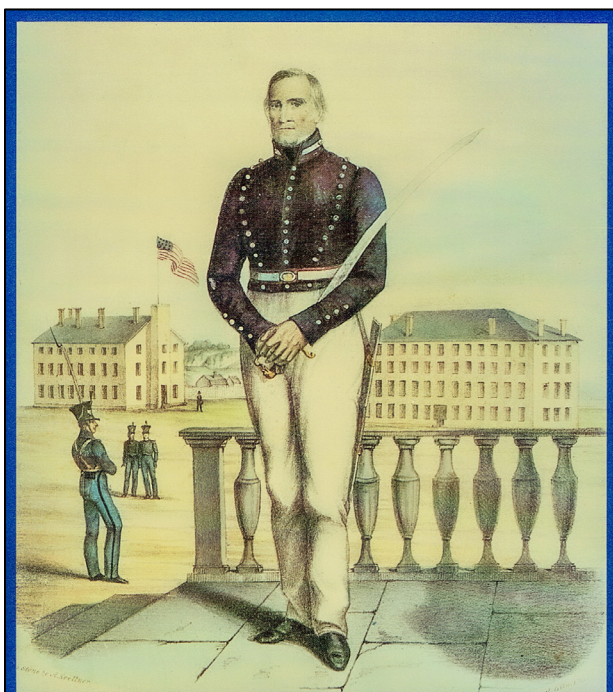
The West Point Post Office was established in 1815 during Partridge's tenure as Superintendent.

Partridge was a controversial pioneer in military education, emphasizing physical fitness training, advocating the concept of citizen soldier and establishing a series of private military academies throughout the country. In 1819, Partridge founded the American Literary, Scientific, and Military Academy in Norwich, Vermont (now known as Norwich University). Based on Partridge's model of training citizen soldiers, Norwich is the nation's oldest private military college. It became the basis for the Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC). The Patton Museum at Fort Knox, Kentucky (headquarters for the U.S. Army Cadet Command) features an extensive exhibit on Partridge and the history of ROTC.

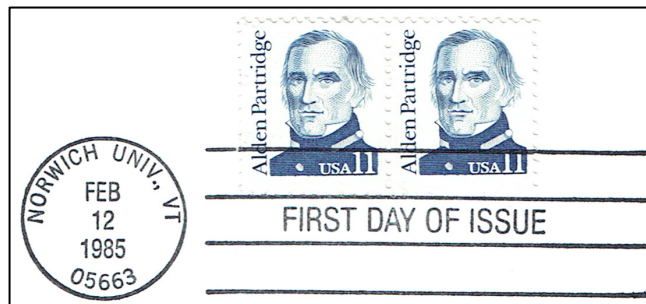
Scott No. 1854 shown above was issued to commemorate the 200th anniversary of Partridge's birth. The design is based upon an 1842 lithograph *To Capt. Alden Partridge of the military institute, Norwich, Vermont*, by Huddy & Duval Prints in Philadelphia. The lithograph was featured on the cover of the program for the First Day of Issue ceremony, based upon a copy provided by the West Point Museum.

The stamp was designed by USPS Art Director Richard Sheaff, who served in that capacity from 1983 to 2008, overseeing the design of hundreds of stamps. Additional West Point-related stamps designed by Sheaff include Scott Nos. 1852 (Thayer), 2513 (Eisenhower), 2975 (1995 Civil War) and 3420 (Stilwell).

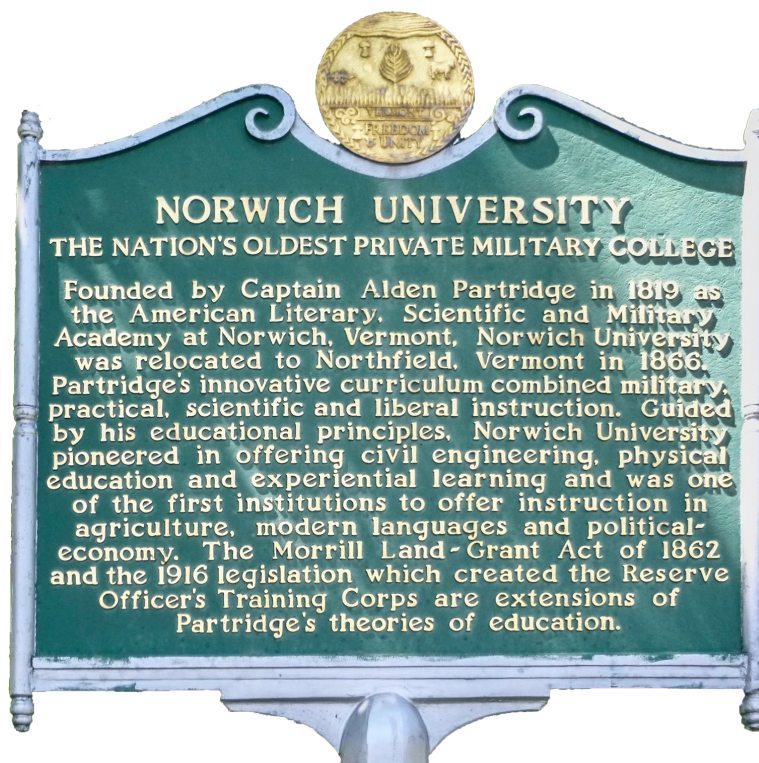
Alden Partridge is buried at Fairview Cemetery in Norwich, Vermont.



The program cover for the First Day of Issue ceremony, held at Norwich University, depicts the 1842 lithograph *To Capt. Alden Partridge of the military institute, Norwich, Vermont*, by Augustus Köllner of Huddy & Duval Prints in Philadelphia.



**First Day of Issue
Alden Partridge Stamp
February 12, 1985**



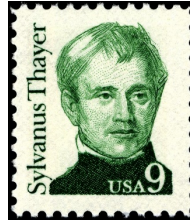
UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

CLASS of 1808

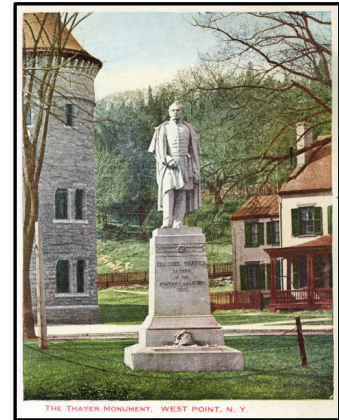
Sylvanus Thayer

1785 – 1872

Cullum No. 33



Scott No. 1852
Issued June 7, 1985
Braintree, Massachusetts



Sylvanus Thayer graduated as valedictorian of his class at Dartmouth in 1807. Following graduation, he accepted an appointment to West Point from President Thomas Jefferson and graduated after a single year. His first assignment was to supervise the construction of Fort Warren (later renamed Fort Winthrop) in Boston Harbor. During the War of 1812, Thayer directed the fortification and defense of Norfolk, Virginia, and was promoted to major.

Thayer was an admirer of Napoleon's campaigns and efforts to put the military arts on a scientific footing. In 1815, the Army sent Thayer to France, where he studied for two years at their military academy, École Polytechnique. He had orders to buy books, maps, and equipment for West Point, and to see what Americans could learn from France's renowned military schools.

In 1817, President Monroe appointed Thayer to replace Alden Partridge as West Point's superintendent. Thayer instituted a wide variety of reforms in the areas of classroom instruction, discipline, and military training, many of which continue to this day. Thayer served as superintendent until 1833 – the longest-serving superintendent in West Point's history. Due to the breadth and depth of the systems he instituted, Brevet Brigadier General Sylvanus Thayer is considered as the *Father of the Military Academy*.

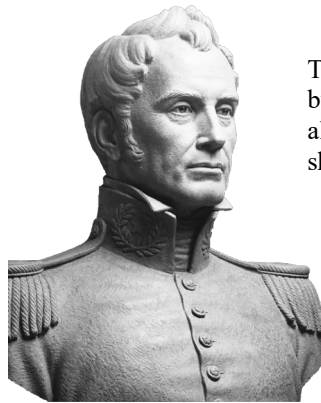
Thayer retired from the Army in June 1863, with the rank of colonel in the Corps of Engineers. In 1867, he founded and endowed the Thayer School of Engineering at Dartmouth College. Thayer was elected president of West Point's recently formed Association of Graduates in 1870, and was the oldest living graduate at the time of his death in 1872.

The *Thayer Method of Instruction*, in which cadets are expected to study class material beforehand and come to class prepared for discussion and clarification (as opposed to traditional lecture methods), is still in use today at the Military Academy.

The medal shown above is the Sylvanus Thayer Award. Instituted in 1958, it is presented annually to a citizen of the United States, other than a West Point graduate (since 1974), whose outstanding character, accomplishments, and stature in the civilian community draw wholesome comparison to the qualities for which West Point strives, in keeping with its motto: "Duty, Honor, Country."

In 1966, Sylvanus Thayer was inducted into The Hall of Fame for Great Americans, an outdoor sculpture gallery located on the former University Heights campus of New York University (now Bronx Community College). Dedicated in 1901, it was the first such hall of fame in the United States. The Hall houses 98 bronze portrait busts of prominent Americans from a variety of fields. In addition to Sylvanus Thayer, additional West Point honorees

include Robert E. Lee (USMA 1829), William Tecumseh Sherman (USMA 1840), Ulysses S. Grant (USMA 1843), Stonewall Jackson (USMA 1846), Edgar Allan Poe (ex-1834), and James Abbott McNeill Whistler (ex-1855), all of whom are featured on U.S. Postage Stamps.



The bust of Thayer in The Hall of Fame is by Joseph Kiselewski (1901-1988), who also carved the bust of Benjamin Franklin shown on the Franklin half-dollar coin.

Thayer Hall, the main academic building on West Point's campus, was constructed in 1903 as a riding hall for cadet equestrian training. By 1958 such training became unnecessary, and the building was renovated and renamed in Thayer's honor.

Scott No. 1852 commemorated the 200th anniversary of Thayer's birth. This stamp, as well as the stamp honoring Alden Partridge, were part of the USPS's "Great Americans" series, honoring special Americans from all walks of life, and recognizing them for their contributions to society. Sixty-four different stamps make up the complete set to pay tribute to important individuals who were leaders in education, the military, literature, the arts, and human and civil rights.

The design is based upon a portrait of Thayer while at the U.S. Military Academy by Robert W. Weir (1803-1889). Weir was a self-educated artist who served as Teacher of Drawing (1834-1846) and then Professor of Drawing (1846-1876) at West Point. Weir's portraits of Thayer are in the West Point Museum collection.

Sylvanus Thayer is buried at the U.S. Military Academy cemetery at West Point.



The cover of the First Day of Issue ceremony program for the Sylvanus Thayer stamp depicts *New York West Point, 1820*, an aquatint by John Hill and Henry Megarey after a painting by Irish artist William Guy Wall (1792-1864) from *The Hudson River Portfolio, 1820*.

UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

CLASS of 1828



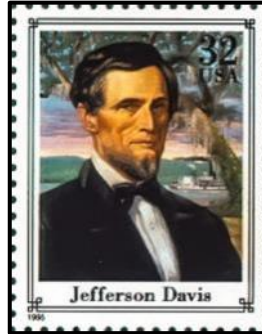
Jefferson Davis

1808 – 1889

Cullum No. 530



Scott No. 1408
Issued September 19, 1970
Stone Mountain, Georgia



Scott No. 2975f
Issued June 29, 1995
Gettysburg, Pennsylvania



Scott No. CSA1
Issued October 16, 1861
Richmond, Virginia

Jefferson Davis served as a lieutenant in the Wisconsin Territory and afterward in the Black Hawk War under future president Colonel Zachary Taylor, whose daughter Sarah Knox would become Davis's wife. After being posted in Arkansas for two years, Davis resigned his commission in 1835, married Knox, and became a planter near Vicksburg, Mississippi. His wife died soon thereafter of malaria.

In 1845, Davis was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives. He resigned his seat in Congress in 1846 to serve in the Mexican-American War as a colonel in command of the First Mississippi volunteers. He became a national hero for winning the Battle of Buena Vista (1847). After returning to Mississippi severely wounded, he entered the Senate and soon became chairman of the Military Affairs Committee. President Franklin Pierce appointed him Secretary of War in 1853.

On January 21, 1861, twelve days after Mississippi seceded, Davis made a moving farewell speech in the Senate and pleaded eloquently for peace. He was commissioned a major general to head Mississippi's armed forces and prepare its defense, but soon thereafter the Confederate Convention in Montgomery, Alabama, chose him as provisional president of the Confederacy. On November 6, 1861, Jefferson Davis was elected the first and only President of the Confederate States of America (CSA).

After the Civil War, Davis was imprisoned for two years but never tried for treason. In 1877, he retired to Biloxi, Mississippi. Though pressed to enter the U.S. Senate, he declined to ask for amnesty, for he felt he had done nothing wrong in fighting for states' rights under the Constitution, and thus he never regained his citizenship. He remained the chief spokesman and apologist for the defeated South. Davis's citizenship was restored posthumously in 1978.

Scott No. 1408 depicts Stone Mountain Memorial in Georgia. One of the largest bas-relief sculptures in the world, the memorial carving depicts three Confederate leaders of the Civil War: President Jefferson Davis and Generals Robert E. Lee and Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson (on their favorite horses, Blackjack, Traveller, and Little Sorrel, respectively).

Scott No. 2975f is one of twenty stamps in a single pane recognizing sixteen individuals and four battles of the Civil War. The entire pane is shown on page 93.

The CSA Post Office had to provide its citizens with stamps. The Confederacy issued thirteen different stamps, all imperforate (without perforations). In an era before television and the internet, the 5-cent Jefferson Davis stamp offered some people in the South a first glimpse of their new Confederate president. Other CSA issues feature prominent Southerners including Thomas Jefferson, Andrew Jackson, and John C. Calhoun.

Although these stamps technically are not considered U.S. postage, they are included here as a relevant part of U.S. and West Point postal history.

Jefferson Davis is buried in Hollywood Cemetery in Richmond, Virginia.



Jefferson Davis appeared on eight different issues. Representative examples are shown here; the remaining issues were printing plate and color variations.



Scott No. CSA4
Issued February 26, 1862



Scott No. CSA7
Issued July 25, 1862



Scott No. CSA11
Issued April 21, 1863

UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

CLASS of 1829



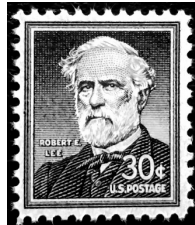
Robert E. Lee

1807 – 1870

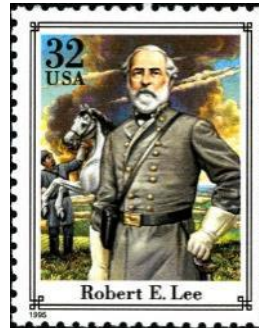
Cullum No. 542



Scott No. 982
April 12, 1949
Lexington, Virginia



Scott No. 1049
Issued September 21, 1955
Norfolk, Virginia



Scott No. 2975b
June 29, 1995
Gettysburg, Pennsylvania



Scott No. 3091
August 22, 1996
Orlando, Florida

Born in Virginia, the son of Revolutionary War hero Henry "Light-Horse Harry" Lee, Robert E. Lee seemed destined for military greatness. Lee graduated second in the class of 1829. He then served seventeen years as an officer in the Corps of Engineers, supervising the construction of the nation's coastal defenses. As a member of General Winfield Scott's staff during the 1846 war with Mexico, Lee distinguished himself, earning three brevets for gallantry, and emerging from the conflict with the rank of colonel.

From 1852-1855, Lee served as Superintendent of the U.S. Military Academy. He left the academy to take a position in the cavalry and in 1859 was called upon to put down abolitionist John Brown's raid at Harpers Ferry. As one of the finest officers in the Army, Abraham Lincoln offered Lee the command of the Federal forces in April 1861. Lee declined and tendered his resignation from the army when Virginia seceded on April 17, arguing that he could not fight against his own people. Instead, he accepted a general's commission in the newly formed Confederate Army. Though President Davis named Lee General-in-Chief of all Confederate forces in February 1865, only two months later, on April 9, 1865, Lee was forced to surrender his depleted army to Grant at Appomattox Court House, effectively ending the Civil War.

Scott No. 982 honors the 200th anniversary of Washington and Lee University, founded in 1749 as a small classical school deep in the Virginia valley. Lee served as president of then called Washington University from 1865-1870. Under Lee's direction, the university offered the first college courses in business and journalism in the United States. After Lee's death, trustees changed the name to Washington and Lee University.

Scott No. 1049 was the first U. S. definitive stamp devoted to a Confederate notable. It was part of the "Liberty" series of definitives issued to honor leaders throughout U.S. history. Other figures in the series include Washington, Jefferson, Franklin, Hamilton, Lincoln, Susan B. Anthony, Teddy Roosevelt, Woodrow Wilson, and Pershing.

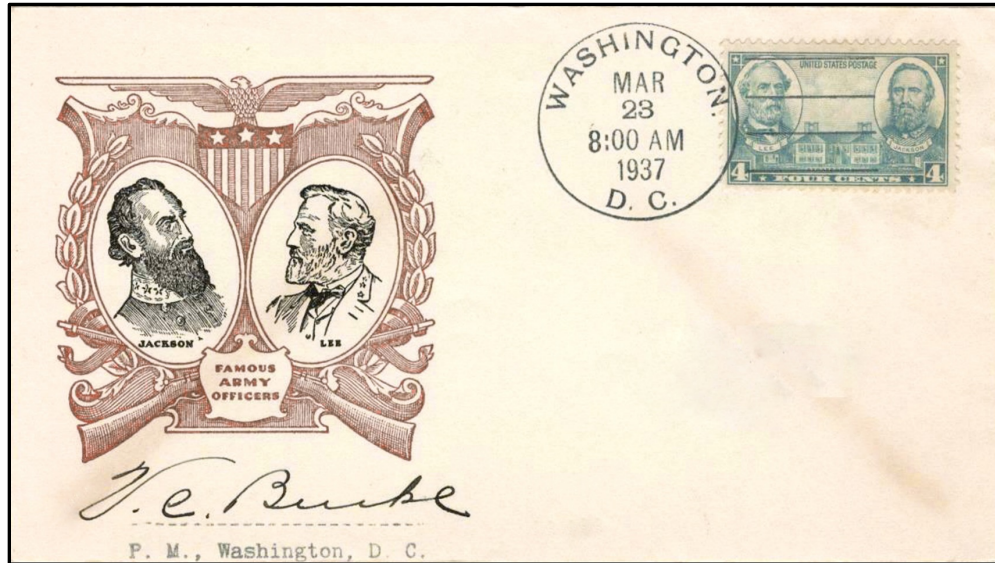
Scott No. 2975b is another of the stamps included in the 1995 Civil War pane of twenty stamps.

On a lighter note, Scott No. 3091 was one of five stamps issued to commemorate nineteenth century riverboats. The *Robert E. Lee* was the first of three boats with that name. It sailed the Mississippi River from 1866-1876, and was the fastest riverboat at that time, setting a record in 1870 from New Orleans to St. Louis, Missouri, a distance of 1,154 miles, in 3 days, 18 hours and 14 minutes. The boat was popularized in the 1912 song, *Waiting for the Robert E. Lee*, recorded by Al Jolson, Judy Garland and others.

Lee also appears on three other stamps shown elsewhere:

- Scott No. 788, with Stonewall Jackson on the 4-cent Army stamp in the Army-Navy series of 1936-37 depicting Stratford Hall, Lee's birthplace in northern Virginia (see below);
- Scott No. 1408, with Stonewall Jackson and Jefferson Davis, on the Stone Mountain Memorial stamp (see page 17); and
- Scott No. 4981, the 2015 Civil War sesquicentennial issue commemorating Lee's surrender to Grant at Appomattox (see page 101).

Robert E. Lee is buried in Lee Chapel in Lexington, Virginia.



Envelopes bearing a new postage stamp postmarked on the day and in the city that the stamp is issued are referred to as “First Day Covers” (FDC). They often have pictorial cachets on the envelope, as seen here for Scott No. 788, the 4-cent Army stamp in the Army-Navy series of 1936-37. This cover was autographed by Vincent C. Burke, who served as Postmaster of the Washington, D.C. Post Office from 1936-1948.

In July 1937, shortly after these stamps were issued, the Post Office began using the slogan “First Day of Issue” in machine cancellations on the first day that new stamps were used. Examples can be seen on pages 61 and 117.

UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

CLASS of 1829



Joseph Eggleston Johnston

1807 - 1891

Cullum No. 553



Scott No. 2975m

Issued June 29, 1995

Gettysburg, Pennsylvania

Joseph Eggleston Johnston was born in Farmville, Virginia in 1807. Following graduation from West Point, he was assigned to the 4th U.S. Artillery. After several years he resigned from the Army to study civil engineering and was a topographer for a war ship in the Second Seminole War, where action there convinced him to rejoin the army. He served with honors in the Mexican-American War, the Seminole Wars, and as a quartermaster general in California in 1860.

When Virginia seceded, Johnston was the highest-ranking U.S. Army officer to resign his commission. He was appointed brigadier general and organized the Army of the Shenandoah later that July. Johnston was the original commander of the Army of Northern Virginia, then known as Army of the Potomac, defending Richmond against Union General George McClellan (USMA 1846) in the Peninsula Campaign. Johnston was wounded at the battle, and Confederate President Jefferson Davis appointed Robert E. Lee to assume command in place of Johnston. Lee held this position for the remainder of the war.

Following the war, Johnston was involved in many business ventures, and was elected to the U.S. Congress, serving from 1879 to 1881 as a Democratic representative from Virginia.

Despite fighting on opposite sides during the Civil War, Johnston remained friends with William Tecumseh Sherman, who had commanded the resistance to Johnston's troops in Georgia and the Carolinas. When Sherman died in 1891, Johnston served as an honorary pallbearer at his funeral. He caught a cold that day, which developed into pneumonia; Johnston died ten days later in Washington, D.C.

Scott No. 2975m is another of the stamps included in the 1995 Civil War pane of twenty stamps.

Joseph Johnston is buried in Green Mount Cemetery in Baltimore, Maryland.

UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

CLASS of 1834

Edgar Allan Poe

1809 – 1849

Cullum No. 961389 (ex-1834)



Scott No. 986
Issued October 7, 1949
Richmond, Virginia



Scott No. 4377
Issued January 16, 2009
Richmond, Virginia

At age 18, Edgar Allan Poe enlisted in the Army in May 1827 as a private for a five-year term in the First Regiment of Artillery. Over the next two years, Poe served at Fort Independence in Boston, Fort Moultrie, South Carolina, and Fort Monroe at the entrance to Chesapeake Bay. It appears he excelled in these assignments, and after just two years of military service, Poe attained the rank of Sergeant Major for Artillery. He then quit the Army to pursue an appointment to the U.S. Military Academy.

The 21-year-old poet entered the Academy in March 1830. Quick-witted, and well-educated in his younger years, Poe excelled at classwork, but despite his experience in the Army, he buckled under the harsh discipline, long marches, and miserable food. In January, Poe quit his classes; On January 28, 1831, he was court-martialed on charges of gross neglect of duty and disobedience of orders. Former Sergeant Major Edgar Allan Poe was found guilty of both charges and discharged from the service of the United States only six months after he had arrived at the academy.

Poe went on to become one of America's most famous authors. His most famous poems and short stories include *The Raven*, *The Cask of Amontillado*, *The Masque of the Red Death*, *The Tell-Tale Heart* and *The Murders in the Rue Morgue*.

Scott No. 986 was issued to honor Edgar Allen Poe on the 100th anniversary of his death. Poe was orphaned as an infant in Boston, and was taken in by a family in Richmond, Virginia. Richmond hosts the Poe Museum, and was the site of the first day of issue for this stamp, as well as Scott No. 4377, issued on the 200th anniversary of Poe's birth.

Edgar Allan Poe is buried in Westminster Burial Ground in Baltimore, Maryland.

UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

CLASS of 1835



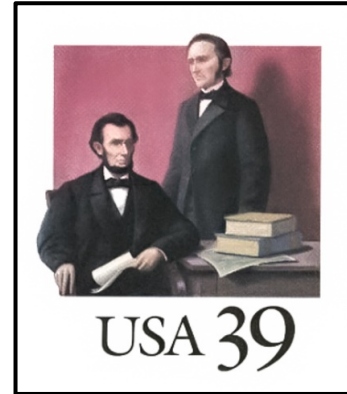
Montgomery Blair

1813 – 1883

Cullum No. 803



Scott No. C66
Issued May 3, 1963
Silver Spring, Maryland



Scott No. UC62 (cut square)
Issued November 20, 1989
Washington, D.C.

Montgomery Blair received a presidential appointment to West Point from Andrew Jackson and graduated in 1835. After a year's service in Florida's Seminole War, he left the Army, studied law, and began practicing in St. Louis, Missouri. From 1839 to 1842, Blair served as U.S. district attorney for Missouri before becoming mayor of St. Louis, a position he held until 1843.

Blair served as the defense counsel for Dred Scott when the enslaved African-American took his case to the Supreme Court in 1857. Though he lost this landmark case, Blair's work in *Dred Scott vs. Sandford* suggests a willingness to embrace more progressive viewpoints.

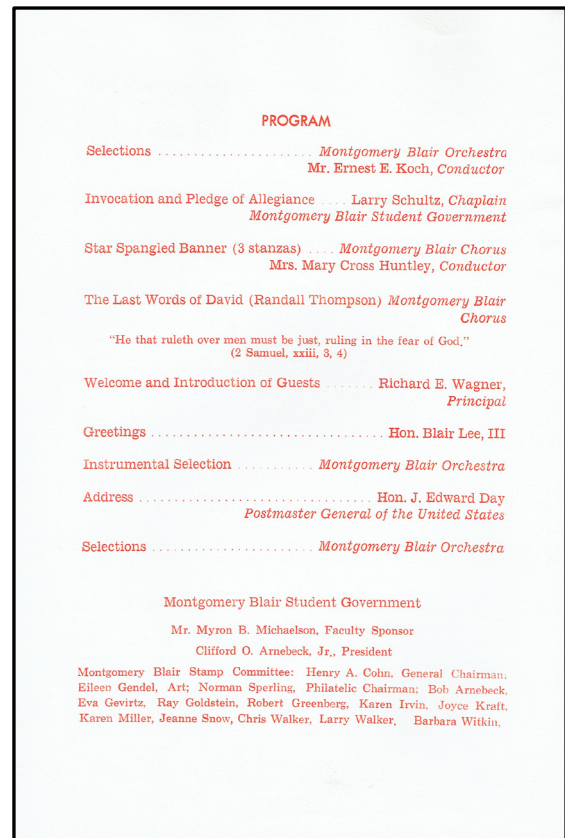
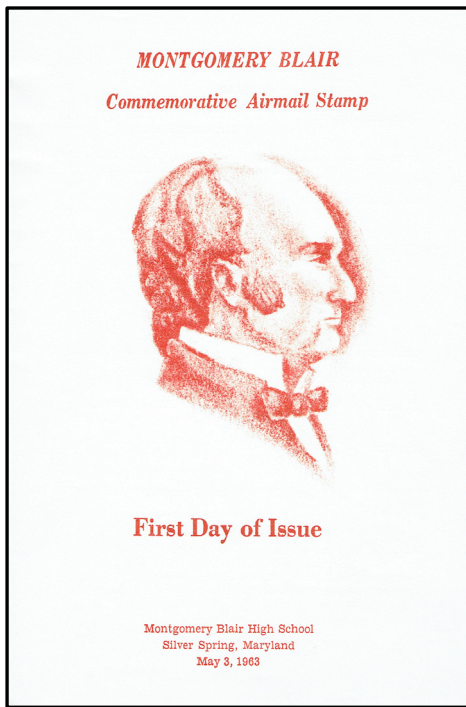
Blair's family had been among the founding leaders of the new Republican Party. In 1860, Blair took an active part in the presidential campaign on behalf of Abraham Lincoln. After his election, Lincoln appointed Blair to his cabinet as Postmaster General in 1861. He is the only West Point graduate to have served in this capacity. As Postmaster-General from 1861-1864, Blair instituted a uniform rate of postage, free delivery in cities and the sale of postal money orders to reduce the mailing of currency, thus reducing post office robberies. He also called for the First International Postal Conference, which was held in Paris in 1863, and began the process that led to the Universal Postal Union. Winifred Gallagher, author of *How the Post Office Created America*, called Blair "one of America's most gifted and effective postmasters general."

In 1882, Blair ran unsuccessfully for the U.S. Representative seat from Maryland's sixth district.

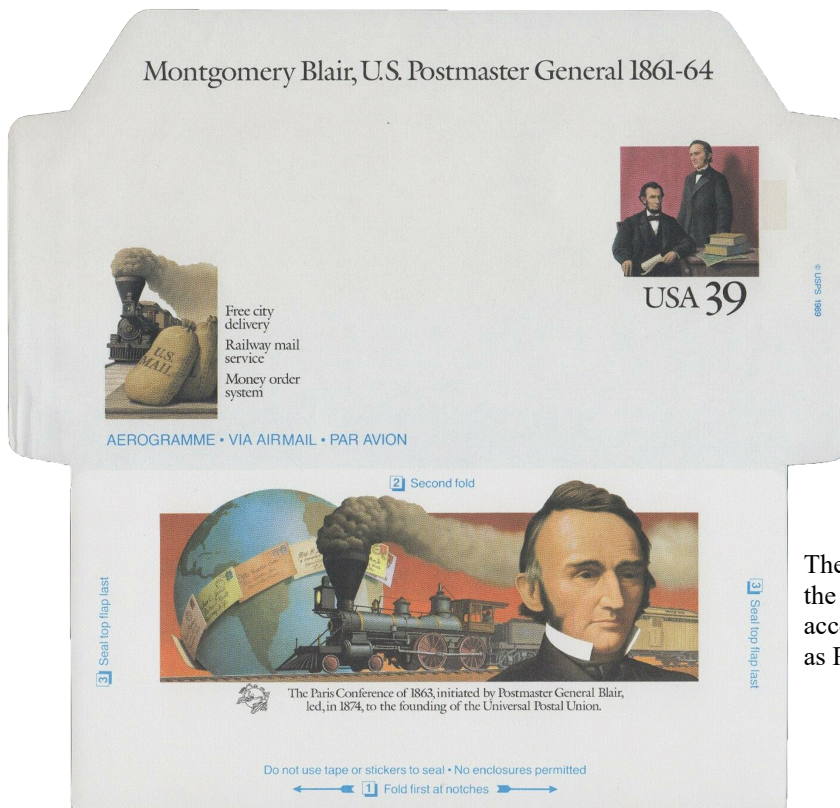
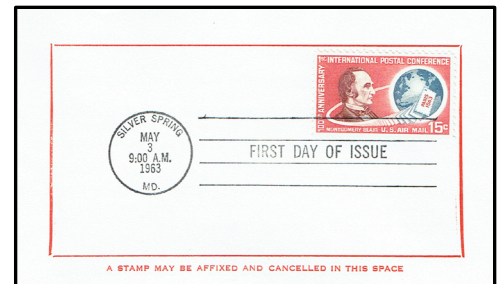
Other than Benjamin Franklin, the first U.S. Postmaster General, Blair is the only U.S. Postmaster General to appear on a U.S. postage stamp, and the only West Point graduate to appear on a U.S. airmail stamp or aerogram. Scott No. C66 commemorates the 100th anniversary of the First International Postal Conference. Blair was a long-time resident of Silver Spring, Maryland. The First Day of Issue ceremonies for Scott No. 366 were held at Montgomery Blair High School in Silver Spring.

Blair is pictured with President Lincoln on Scott No. UC62, an aerogram issued at World Stamp Expo '89, held in conjunction with the 20th Congress of the Universal Postal Union.

Montgomery Blair is buried in Rock Creek Cemetery in Washington, D.C.



Among those attending the First Day of Issue ceremonies for Scott No. C66, were U.S. Postmaster General J. Edward Day (under whose leadership the ZIP code was introduced later that year), and Blair Lee, III, future Lieutenant Governor and Acting Governor of Maryland, and a great-grandnephew of Montgomery Blair.



The illustrations and captions on the aerogram highlight Blair's accomplishments while serving as Postmaster General.

UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

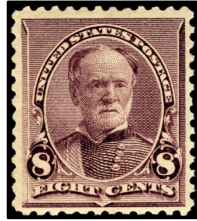
CLASS of 1840



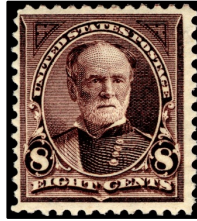
William Tecumseh Sherman

1820 - 1891

Cullum No. 1022

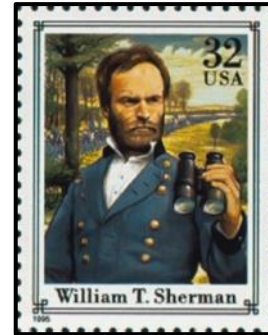


Scott No. 225
Issued March 21, 1893



Scott No. 257
Issued March 25, 1895

Scott No. 272
(no watermark)
Issued July 22, 1895



Scott No. 2975q
Issued June 29, 1995
Gettysburg, Pennsylvania

Though graduating sixth in his West Point class, William Tecumseh Sherman had a relatively undistinguished military career before resigning his commission in 1853. He worked in banking and law briefly before becoming the superintendent of the Louisiana Military Academy in 1859. At the outbreak of the Civil War, Sherman resigned from the academy and headed north, where he was made a colonel of the 13th United States Infantry.

Sherman led units at the battles of First Bull Run, Shiloh, Vicksburg and Chattanooga. After Ulysses S. Grant was promoted to commander of all the United States armies in 1864, Sherman was made commander of all troops in the Western Theatre. His subsequent “march to the sea” through Georgia and the Carolinas involved little fighting but large-scale destruction intended to undermine the ability and willingness of the Confederacy to continue fighting.

When Grant became president of the United States in March 1869, Sherman succeeded him as Commanding General of the Army. Sherman served in that capacity from 1869 until 1883 and was responsible for the U.S. Army's engagement in the Indian Wars during that period. One of Sherman's significant contributions was the establishment of the Command School (now the Command and General Staff College) at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas in 1881.

Scott No. 225, issued about two years after his death, is the first of three similar definitive stamps featuring Sherman (including Scott Nos. 257 and 272 shown above). Scott No. 257 was also overprinted for use in U.S. possessions and territories (see Appendix G).

Scott No. 2975m is another of the stamps included in the 1995 Civil War pane of twenty stamps. Sherman is also seen on Scott No. 787, along with Ulysses Grant and Phillip Sheridan (page 47).

William T. Sherman is buried in Calvary Cemetery in Saint Louis, Missouri.

UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

CLASS of 1843



Ulysses S. Grant

1822 – 1885

Cullum No. 1187



Scott No. 223
Issued June 2, 1890



Scott No. 2217i
Issued May 22, 1986
Chicago, Illinois



Scott No. 2975d
Issued June 29, 1995
Gettysburg, Pennsylvania

Upon graduation from West Point, Ulysses S. Grant was commissioned a second lieutenant in the 4th U.S. Infantry stationed at Jefferson Barracks, near St. Louis, Missouri. After seeing action in the Mexican-American War, Grant was assigned to a series of remote army posts. In 1854, he resigned from the military. Grant settled with his family in Missouri and made an unsuccessful attempt at farming, followed by a failed stint in a St. Louis real estate office. In 1860, the Grants moved to Galena, Illinois, where Ulysses worked in his father's leather goods business.

After the Civil War began in April 1861, Grant became a colonel of the 21st Illinois Volunteers. Later that summer, President Lincoln made Grant a brigadier general. In July 1863, Grant's forces captured Vicksburg, Mississippi, a Confederate stronghold. Grant was appointed lieutenant general by Lincoln on March 10, 1864 and given command of all U.S. armies. On April 9, 1865, Confederate General Robert E. Lee surrendered to Grant at Appomattox Court House in Virginia, effectively ending the Civil War.

Grant became a national hero, and in 1866 was appointed America's first four-star general at the recommendation of President Andrew Johnson, who later appointed him Secretary of War. Grant resigned that post in 1868, and the Republicans nominated him as their presidential candidate. Grant won, and at age 46 became the youngest president-elect in U.S. history up to that time.

Grant served two terms, trying to foster a peaceful reconciliation between the North and South. In addition to focusing on Reconstruction, Grant signed legislation establishing the Department of Justice, the Weather Bureau and Yellowstone National Park, America's first national park. Following his presidency, Grant toured the world for two years, eventually settling in New York City in 1881. He died of throat cancer in 1885. Grant's memoirs, published that same year by his friend Mark Twain, became a major financial success.

Grant is the first West Point graduate to appear on a U.S. postal item, and is featured on more than twenty postal issues. His first appearance occurred in 1886 on a postal stationery "letter sheet" (Scott No. U293, shown on the next page) thus marking the beginning of West Point graduates' U.S. postal history. The sheet was produced by the American Bank Note Company under the supervision of agents of the Post Office Department.

Scott No. 223 is the first instance of a USMA graduate appearing on a U.S. postage stamp. The five-cent denomination paid the foreign rate to most destinations within the Universal Postal Union.

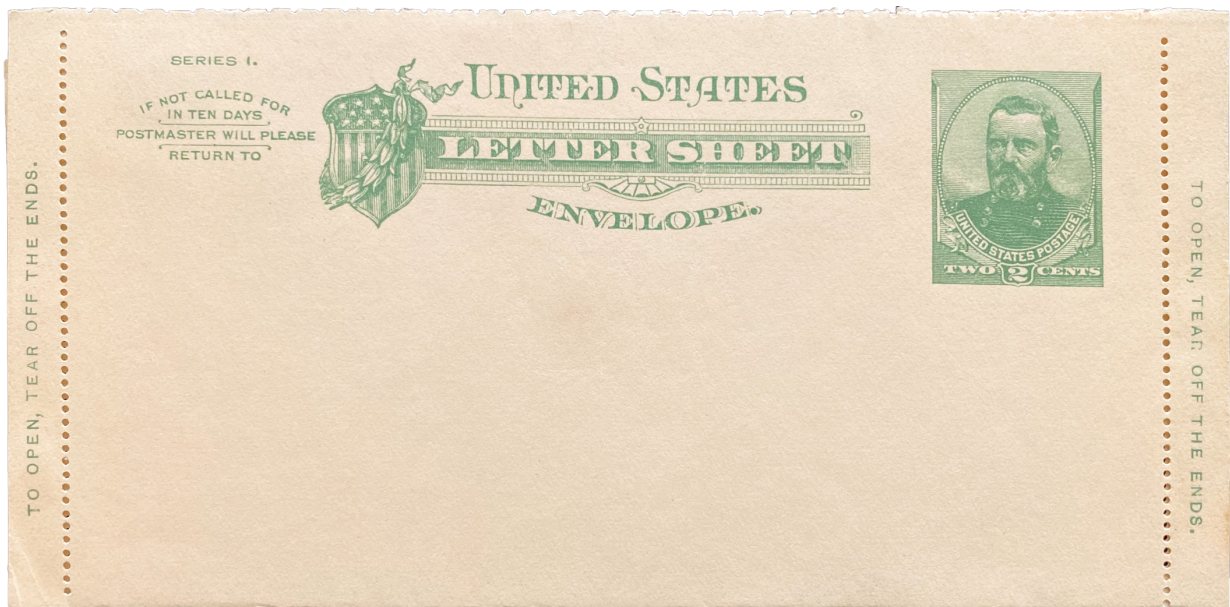
The 1986 issue, Scott No. 2217i, is one of thirty-five stamps honoring U.S. presidents (through Lyndon Johnson).

Scott No. 2975d is another of the stamps included in the 1995 Civil War pane of twenty stamps. It is based upon an 1864 photo by renowned Civil War-era photographer Mathew Brady of Grant at his headquarters in City Point, Virginia after the Battle of the Wilderness.

Grant is also seen on Scott No. 787, along with William Tecumseh Sherman and Phillip Sheridan (page 47), and Scott No. 4981, the 2015 Civil War sesquicentennial issue commemorating Lee's surrender at Appomattox (page 101).

Ulysses Grant is buried in the Grant National Memorial in Upper Manhattan in New York City.

Ulysses S. Grant - First West Point Graduate to Appear on a U.S. Postal Item



Scott No. U293
Issued August 23, 1886

Letter sheets were letter-sized stationery items that allowed for the sender to write a note on the inside, then fold and seal the letter for mailing. Upon receipt, addressees could open the letter by tearing along the perforations.

Due to limited usage, letter sheets were only produced until 1894 in the U.S., and sales were discontinued in 1902. They reappeared in 1947 as air letter sheets (or aerograms), a lightweight means for sending air mail letters. The USPS discontinued aerograms in 2006.

Additional definitive stamps featuring Grant appear below. In those cases where multiple Scott numbers are shown, the listed stamps are variations (e.g., color, perforations) of the first one listed.



Scott No. 255 (1894)
Scott No. 270 (1895)



Scott No. 560 (1923)
Scott No. 589 (1926)
Scott No. 640 (1927)



Scott No. 281 (1898)



Scott No. 303 (1903)
Scott No. 314a (imperf)

Scott No. 281 and Scott No. 303 were also overprinted for use in U.S. possessions and territories. (see Appendix G)

Scott No. 560, the 8-cent green, was first issued in 1923, and re-issued in two later varieties. It could be used to pay the postage on a four ounce letter, as well as the postage on a single zone of the transcontinental airmail route during the mid-1920s, and the basic airmail rate from July 1932, until June 1934. The design was based upon a photo of Grant by Mathew Brady.

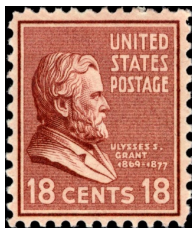


Scott No. 666 (1929)



Scott No. 677 (1929)

The Kansas and Nebraska “overprints” were an experiment by the Post Office Department in 1929 to address a series of post office robberies in the Midwest. By limiting the issuance of stamps to certain states, it was believed that the stolen overprinted state stamps would be difficult to fence in or out of state. Confusion and logistics issues regarding the use of the stamps led to discontinuance of the program within a year.



Scott No. 823 (1938)

Scott No. 823 was one of the 1938 Presidents issues, commonly known as the “Prexies.” This bust is based upon the statue of Grant by sculptor Franklin Simmons (1839-1913), which stands in the U.S. Capitol Rotunda.

In addition to the letter sheet shown earlier, Grant appeared on several more postal stationery items.

Envelopes

(Only corners, also known as “cut squares,” are shown here.)

Issued 1887-1894

Scott No. U330
Scott No. U331
Scott No. U332
Scott No. U333
Scott No. U334
Scott No. U335



Issued 1903

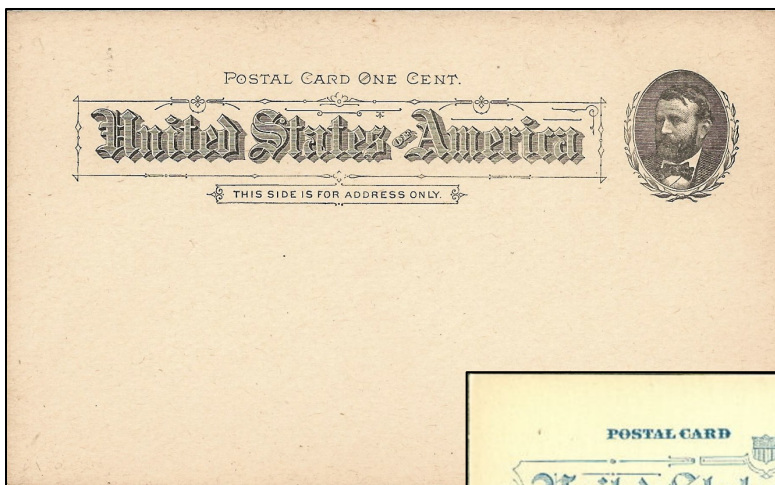
Scott No. U390
Scott No. U391
Scott No. U392

Issued 1887-1894

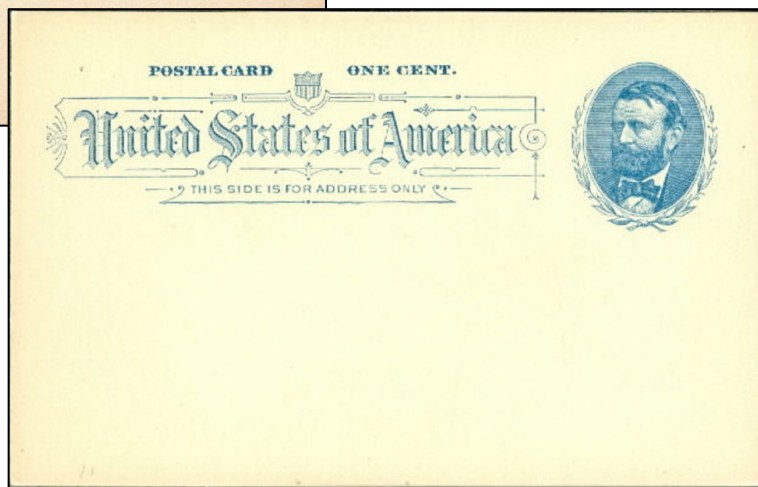
Scott No. U377
Scott No. U378

Different Scott numbers were assigned to different printings
and variations in color, and wrappers (similar to sheets)

Postal Cards



Scott No. UX10
Issued December 16, 1891



Scott No. UX11
Issued December 16, 1891

UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

CLASS of 1844



Winfield Scott Hancock

1824 - 1886

Cullum No. 1223



Scott No. 2975n

Issued June 29, 1995

Gettysburg, Pennsylvania

Born in Norristown, Pennsylvania, Winfield Scott Hancock was named after Winfield Scott, the preeminent American military commander of the time. Commissioned in the infantry upon graduation from West Point, Hancock served with distinction in the Mexican War (1846–48).

At the outbreak of the Civil War, Hancock was appointed a brigadier general and served in the Peninsular campaign of 1862. Following the Battle of Chancellorsville, Hancock assumed command of II Corps, which he led for most of the remaining two years of the war. His finest moment came in July 1863 during the Battle of Gettysburg, when he commanded the Union center on Cemetery Ridge and thus bore the brunt of Pickett's Charge. During the massive Confederate artillery bombardment that preceded the infantry assault, Hancock was prominent on horseback in reviewing and encouraging his troops.

As a major general after the war, he commanded various army departments, including the military division composed of Louisiana and Texas. He was nominated as the Democratic candidate for the presidency in 1880, narrowly losing the election to James A. Garfield.

Following his presidential loss, Hancock returned to his military post heading the Department of the Atlantic, a large military command that encompassed much of the Northeast. He later served as president of the National Rifle Association. Hancock's last public act was his oversight of the funeral of Ulysses S. Grant in 1885, including organizing and leading Grant's nine-mile funeral procession in New York City. He died at Governors Island, New York, in 1886 at the age of 61.

Scott No. 2975n is one of three stamps featuring Union Army generals in the 1995 Civil War pane of twenty stamps.

Winfield Hancock is buried in Montgomery Cemetery in Norristown, Pennsylvania.

UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

CLASS of 1846



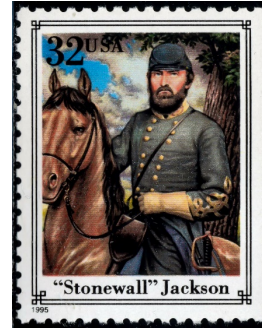
Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson

1824 - 1863

Cullum No. 1288



Scott No. 788
Issued March 23, 1937
Washington, D.C.



Scott No. 2975s
Issued June 29, 1995
Gettysburg, Pennsylvania

Like many of his West Point and Civil War peers, Thomas Jackson began his military career fighting in the Mexican War as a lieutenant with the 1st U.S. Artillery. He earned a reputation for toughness and bravery, and by the war's end in 1848 held the rank of brevet major. Jackson left the military in 1851 and accepted a professorship at the Virginia Military Institute (VMI).

When Virginia seceded from the Union in 1861, Jackson accepted a commission as a colonel in the Confederate army and went off to war. Jackson served only briefly as a colonel before receiving a promotion to brigadier general under General Joseph E. Johnston. Jackson earned his nickname at the First Battle of Bull Run (Manassas) in July 1861, when he rushed his troops forward to close a gap in the line against a determined Union attack. One of his fellow generals reportedly said, "Look, men, there is Jackson standing like a stone wall!" – leading to Jackson's nickname.

Jackson was commissioned a major general in October 1861. From August 1862 until May 1863, he and his troops played key roles at the Second Battle of Bull Run, the Battle of Antietam, the Battle of Fredericksburg and the Battle of Chancellorsville. Lee and Jackson's most famous victory took place near a crossroads at the Battle of Chancellorsville in Virginia in May 1863. Unfortunately, Jackson was hit by friendly fire when a North Carolina regiment mistook Jackson and a scouting party for enemy cavalry and opened fire, severely wounding Jackson. Although Jackson initially appeared to be healing, he died from pneumonia on May 10, 1863, at the age of thirty-nine. Jackson is one of the few general officers ever to command a regiment, brigade, division, and corps in combat.

Scott No. 788 is the earliest stamp to feature Confederate leaders. It was one of ten-stamps in the 1936-37 Army-Navy series commemorating Army and Navy heroes of the United States. Shown in the background is Stratford Hall in northern Virginia – the birthplace of Robert E. Lee.

Scott No. 2975s is the last of the 1995 Civil War Memorial stamps featuring personalities. Jackson is also seen on the Stone Mountain Memorial stamp (page 17).

Thomas Jackson is buried in the Stonewall Jackson Memorial Cemetery in Lexington, Virginia.

UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

CLASS of 1853



Philip H. Sheridan

1831 - 1888

Cullum No. 1612



Scott No. 787
Issued February 18, 1937
Washington, D.C.

Following graduation from West Point in 1853, Philip Sheridan spent the next eight years in Texas, California and the Pacific Northwest in a variety of minor roles. He saw action during combat and negotiations with various American Indian tribes and was promoted to captain after the outbreak of the Civil War in 1861. He assumed command of the 2nd Michigan Cavalry in May 1862, and distinguished himself in several minor raids and skirmishes. He was rewarded with the rank of brigadier general in June 1862, and major general in December of that same year.

Sheridan became an infantry commander in the Army of the Cumberland. After suffering a crushing defeat at the Battle of Chickamauga in September 1863, Sheridan's division played a key role in the counterattack that forced Confederate General Braxton Bragg (USMA 1837) to retreat back into Georgia. In February 1864, President Abraham Lincoln gave Grant command of all Union armies. In turn, Grant appointed Sheridan as his cavalry commander.

During September-October 1864, Sheridan's mixed force of 40,000 infantry and cavalry obeyed Grant's order to destroy the Shenandoah Valley. By controlling the Shenandoah Valley, the Union controlled much of the Confederacy's food supply. Sheridan and his cavalry rejoined the Army of the Potomac in March 1865 at Petersburg, Virginia. Grant, Sheridan and additional Union troops relentlessly pursued Lee's army at the Battle of Five Forks, eventually surrounding Lee's troops. Lee surrendered to Grant at Appomattox Court House in Virginia on April 9, 1865, effectively ending the Civil War.

Following the war, Sheridan had several territorial leadership assignments in Texas, Louisiana and Missouri. Sheridan succeeded William Sherman as Commanding General of the U.S. Army in 1883. He held the position until his death at age 57.

Scott No. 787 is another of the ten stamps in the Army-Navy series of 1936-37. In addition to Sheridan, it depicts William Tecumseh Sherman and Ulysses S. Grant.

Sheridan is also seen in the 2015 Civil War stamp commemorating Lee's surrender at Appomattox Court House (Scott No. 4981, page 103).

Philip Sheridan is buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

CLASS of 1855

James Abbott McNeill Whistler

1834 - 1903

Cullum No. 962278 (ex-1855)



Scott No. 885
Issued September 5, 1940
Lowell, Massachusetts



Arrangement in Gray and Black No. 1
Scott No. 738
Issued May 2, 1934

James Whistler's father, George Washington Whistler (USMA 1819), was a civil engineer and railroad construction engineer whose assignments took the family to various sites in the United States, Russia and England. The elder Whistler had taught drawing at West Point, and James Whistler applied to and entered the Academy in 1851 on the strength of his family name, despite extreme nearsightedness and a history of poor health.

In his three years there, Whistler earned poor grades and was known to defy authority and spout sarcastic quips. After considerable indulgence toward Whistler, Academy Superintendent Colonel Robert E. Lee eventually dismissed him. Whistler's major accomplishment at West Point was learning drawing and map-making from Professor of Drawing Robert Weir, an artist considered part of the Hudson River school of American art (see page 15).

Following his departure from West Point, Whistler went to France to study art, and then set up a studio in London. Whistler earned renown, and eventually turned to portraits. In 1871 Whistler painted his most famous piece, the nearly monochromatic, full-length figure titled *Arrangement in Grey and Black No. 1*, usually referred to as *Whistler's Mother*.

The painting gained popularity at the Chicago World's Fair in 1893, and was accepted as a universal icon of motherhood worldwide. It is on display in the collection of the Musée d'Orsay in Paris and remains one of the most well-known works of American art.

Scott No. 885 was issued in Whistler's hometown of Lowell, Massachusetts. It was one of a set of 35 stamps in the "Famous Americans" series of 1940, commemorating well-known American authors, poets, educators, scientists, composers, artists, and inventors.

Scott No. 738, formally referred to as the *Mothers in America* stamp, was issued in 1934 on Mother's Day, following a campaign by the American War Mother's group.

James Whistler died in London in 1903 and is buried in Old Chiswick Cemetery, London.

UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

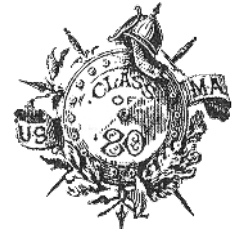
CLASS of 1880



George Washington Goethals

1858 - 1928

Cullum No. 2828



Scott No. 856

Issued August 15, 1939

USS Charleston, Canal Zone



Scott No. 3183f

Issued February 3, 1998

Washington, D.C.

After graduating second in his class in 1880, George Goethals was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Army Corps of Engineers and spent some time as an assistant instructor in practical astronomy at West Point. After attending the Engineer School of Application at Willets Point, Queens, he was made an engineer officer in Vancouver, Washington, where he oversaw the replacement of a bridge across the Spokane River. Goethals returned to West Point to teach engineering for four years and was then placed in charge of the Muscle Shoals Canal construction on the Tennessee River. He also built canals near Chattanooga, Tennessee, and at Colbert Shoals, Alabama. During the Spanish American War, he served as chief of engineers in the Volunteer Army with the rank of lieutenant colonel.

In 1907, President Theodore Roosevelt appointed Goethals chief engineer of the Panama Canal, chairman of the Isthmian Canal Commission, and president of the Panama Railroad Company and its steamship line. He was responsible only to the secretary of war and the president.

Under Goethals' leadership, the canal was completed in 1914, two years ahead of schedule. That same year, he was also appointed the first civil governor of the Panama Canal Zone. He remained in that position until he resigned in 1917. Goethals then served as the state engineer of New Jersey before being appointed acting quartermaster general. Goethals reorganized the Quartermaster Corps, took control of purchasing away from outside agencies, and transformed the corps into the War Department's most important purchasing agency.

After World War I, Goethals received the Distinguished Service Medal, was named a commander in France's Legion of Honor, and an honorary knight commander in Great Britain. Goethals went on to form his own engineering and construction firm, and became the first consulting engineer of the Port of New York Authority. The Goethals Bridge connecting Elizabeth, New Jersey, to Staten Island, New York, is named in his honor.

Scott No. 856 was issued on the 25th anniversary of the opening of the Panama Canal. It depicts a ship sailing through the Gaillard Cut, named after David Gaillard (USMA 1884), one of the lead engineers on the project. Goethals and Gaillard appear on several stamps issued by the Canal Zone (see Appendix F).

Scott No. 3183f is one of a pane of fifteen *Celebrate the Century: 1910s* stamps, which was part of a larger series commemorating significant events of each decade of the twentieth century.

George Goethals is buried at the U.S. Military Academy cemetery at West Point. His headstone is made of a boulder excavated from the Panama Canal.

UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

CLASS of 1886



John J. Pershing

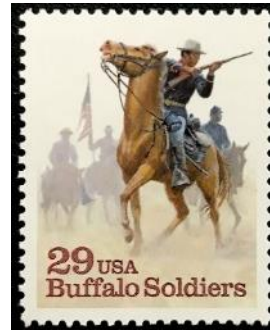
1860 - 1948

Cullum No. 3126



Scott No. 1214

Issued November 17, 1961
New York, New York



Scott No. 2818

Issued April 22, 1994
Dallas, Texas

John J. Pershing's leadership skills were evident as a West Point cadet, where he achieved the rank of First Captain. Following graduation, Pershing was assigned to the 6th Cavalry, with which he served in New Mexico, California, Arizona, and North Dakota. In 1892, Pershing took command of 10th Cavalry - one of the original Buffalo Soldier regiments. It was from this service that he earned the nickname "Black Jack." Pershing was assigned to West Point as tactics instructor from 1897-1898, and was reassigned in April 1898 to the 10th Cavalry as quartermaster, where he fought at El Carney-San Juan Hill. In 1905, Pershing was made military attaché in Tokyo; upon his return he was promoted to brigadier general, skipping three ranks.

In 1917, Pershing was selected to lead the American Expeditionary Force to France during World War I. Pershing was promoted to be the first full general since Philip Sheridan, and was responsible for organizing, training, and supplying nearly two million soldiers. Known for his iron discipline, he constantly tried to shape the American Expeditionary Force (AEF) to West Point standards.

With the full support of the president and secretary of war, America's success in the war was largely attributed to Pershing's leadership, and he was welcomed home a hero. In 1919 he became the first American promoted to General of the Armies (4-star) of the United States. (The only other person to have held this rank was George Washington, who was promoted posthumously in 1976.)

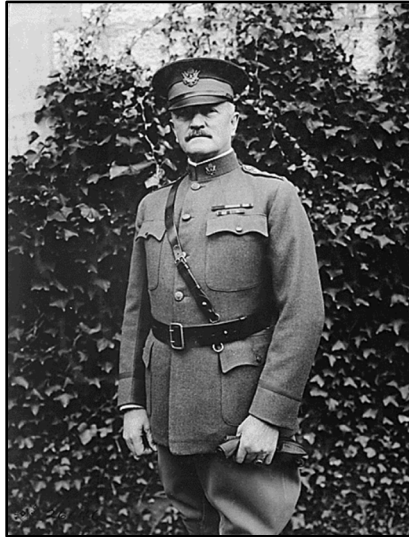
Pershing went on to serve as Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army from 1921-1924, and created the Pershing Map, a national highway system similar to the eventual Interstate Highway System. During the 1930s, Pershing largely retreated to private life, but returned to the public eye with publication of his memoir, *My Experiences in the World War*, which was awarded the 1932 Pulitzer Prize for history.

Pershing served as chairman of the West Point Association of Graduates from 1924-26.

Scott No. 1214 was a definitive stamp issued as part of the 1954-1961 Liberty Series.

Scott No. 2818 honored the formation of the 9th and 10th Cavalry units, and the 38th, 39th, 40th, and 41st Infantry units in 1866 - the Buffalo Soldiers.

In 2004, the Post Office in Pershing's boyhood home of Laclede, Missouri was dedicated in Pershing's honor – one of only ten such dedications to West Point graduates. Representative Sam Graves of Missouri's Sixth Congressional District introduced the legislation to have the Laclede Post Office dedicated to Pershing. It was signed into law by President George W. Bush on June 25, 2004. The plaque shown below, and the National Archives photo of Pershing at his headquarters in Chaumont, France in October 1918, are mounted in the Post Office.



(Additional information on Post Offices dedicated in honor of West Point graduates can be found on page 129.)

John J. Pershing is buried in Arlington National Cemetery. His West Point class ring is on display in the General John J. Pershing Boyhood Home State Historic Site in Laclede, Missouri. The 1886 class crest shown on the previous page is a photo of Pershing's West Point class ring stone.

UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

CLASS of 1891



John L. Hines

1868 - 1968

Cullum No. 3432



Scott No. 3393

Issued May 3, 2000

Washington, D.C.

John Leonard Hines was commissioned an Infantry second lieutenant following graduation from West Point. His first assignment was to the 2nd Infantry Regiment, serving with the regiment in Nebraska and Montana from 1891 to 1898. Hines served in Cuba during the Spanish-American War and in the Philippines during the Philippine-American War. He was adjutant of the Mexican Punitive Expedition in 1916-17 under General John J. Pershing.

During World War I, Hines commanded the 1st Brigade, 1st Division, from May to August 1918 and the 4th Division from August to October 1918. He received the Distinguished Service Cross for "extraordinary heroism in action near Berzy-le-Sec, France, July 21, 1918." In October 1918, he took command of III Corps, leading it during the final engagements of the war and the occupation of Germany. Hines successively commanded a regiment, brigade, division, and corps in combat. Prior to Hines, the last leader to accomplish such a feat was Lt. Gen. Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson, during the Civil War.

Hines succeeded Pershing as Army Chief of Staff from 1924-1926. He then took command of IX Corps in California. In 1930, Hines became commanding general of the Department of the Philippines. He retired in May 1932, and was promoted to the rank of 4-star general on the retired list by a Special Act of Congress on June 15, 1940.

Hines died in 1968 at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C., at age 100. He is one of only a handful of American generals to have celebrated their 100th birthdays.

Scott No. 3393 was one of four stamps honoring distinguished soldiers, including Omar Bradley, Audie Murphy and Alvin York. The stamp shows the 4th Infantry Division ivy leaf patch. The entire block of four stamps is shown on page 107.

John Hines is buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

CLASS of 1903

Douglas MacArthur

1880 - 1964

Cullum No. 4122



Scott No. 1424

Issued January 26, 1971

Norfolk, Virginia



One of the Academy's most distinguished graduates, Douglas MacArthur was First Captain and top graduate in his class at West Point. He served in the 42nd Division (Rainbow) in 1917–19, as chief of staff, brigade commander, and divisional commander during combat operations in France and in the Rhine occupation that followed.

As Superintendent at West Point 1919-22, MacArthur initiated a number of far-reaching reforms, including expanding the curriculum, setting the goal of "every cadet an athlete," and formalizing the commitment to the Cadet Honor Code, "A cadet will not lie, cheat or steal, or tolerate those who do."

MacArthur retired in 1937, but was recalled to active duty in 1941 as commander of U.S. Army Forces in the Far East. He commanded the Southwest Pacific Theatre in World War II, administered postwar Japan during the Allied occupation that followed, and led United Nations forces during the first nine months of the Korean War.

MacArthur was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor while commanding U.S. Forces on the Bataan Peninsula in the Philippines in July 1941. His citation read:

For conspicuous leadership in preparing the Philippine Islands to resist conquest, for gallantry and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty in action against invading Japanese forces, and for the heroic conduct of defensive and offensive operations on the Bataan Peninsula.

MacArthur is one of only 76 West Point graduates to be accorded this honor, and the first, and one of only two father-son duos to be awarded. (His father, Arthur MacArthur, was distinguished for his actions in November 1863 at the Battle of Missionary Ridge, Tennessee. The other duo includes President Theodore Roosevelt and his son, Theodore Roosevelt, Jr.)

MacArthur was promoted to five-star, General of the Army in December 1944.

In 1962, MacArthur was presented with West Point's highest honor, the Sylvanus Thayer Award. In his acceptance speech to the Corps of Cadets, he is remembered for the words, "...in the evening of my memory, always I come back to West Point. Always there echoes and re-echoes: Duty, Honor, Country."

Scott No. 1424 was issued on MacArthur's 91st birthday.

Douglas MacArthur is buried at the MacArthur Memorial in Norfolk, Virginia. His West Point class ring is on display in the cadet library at West Point and shown on the previous page.



First Day Cover signed by the stamp's designer, Paul Calle



Scott No. 2697d
Issued August 17, 1992
Indianapolis, Indiana



Scott No. 4823
Issued November 11, 2013
Washington, D.C.

The Corregidor stamp (Scott No. 2697d) is one of a pane of ten stamps issued to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the major World War II battles of 1942. It was following MacArthur's departure from Corregidor that he stated, "I shall return."

The 2013 Medal of Honor stamp was issued to honor World War II Medal of Honor winners. Similar stamps were issued in 2014 to honor Medal of Honor recipients during the Korean War, and in 2015 to honor Vietnam Medal of Honor recipients (see page 119).

UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

CLASS of 1904



Joseph W. Stilwell

1883 - 1946

Cullum No. 4246



Scott No. 3420

Issued August 24, 2000

Providence, Rhode Island

As a cadet, Joseph Stilwell is credited with introducing West Point to basketball. He was commissioned in the infantry and served in the Philippine Islands after graduating from West Point. During World War I, he was the U.S. Fourth Corps intelligence officer.

As an instructor at Fort Benning, Georgia, Stilwell often gave harsh performance critiques in field exercises, and one student, stung by Stilwell's caustic remarks, drew a caricature of Stilwell rising out of a vinegar bottle. This led to his nickname, "Vinegar Joe", which lasted throughout his career.

Between the wars, Stilwell served three tours in China, where he mastered both spoken and written Chinese, and was the U.S. military attaché in Beijing from 1935-1939. Stilwell was sent to Burma in 1942 to assist Chinese and British troops who were defending Burma against Japanese aggression. He commanded all American forces in the China-Burma-India theater of operations during World War II, and served as Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek's chief of staff. He was promoted to 4-star general in August 1944.

Following the war, Stilwell assumed command of the 6th Army at the Presidio of San Francisco in March 1946. In May 1946, two platoons of Marines under the direction of Stilwell and General Frank Merrill (USMA 1929) led two Marine platoons in suppressing the prison uprising known as the Battle of Alcatraz. Later that year he died after surgery for stomach cancer on October 12, 1946, at the Presidio, five months short of retirement.

Scott No. 3420 was the first of sixteen stamps in the "Distinguished Americans" series of definitives.

Joseph Stilwell was cremated, and his ashes were scattered on the Pacific Ocean. A cenotaph stands as his memorial in the U.S. Military Academy cemetery at West Point.

UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

CLASS of 1907



Henry H. Arnold

1886 - 1950

Cullum No. 4596



Scott No. 2191

Issued November 5, 1988

Gladwyne, Pennsylvania

Henry H. "Hap" Arnold was commissioned in the infantry upon graduation from West Point, and was assigned to the 29th Infantry, stationed in the Philippines. While transferring back to the U.S., he requested a transfer to the Signal Corps, and on April 21, 1911, was sent to Dayton, Ohio, for a course in flight instruction at the Wright brothers' aviation school. In September 1911, Arnold became the first U.S. pilot to carry mail, and in 1913 he was recognized as one of the first twenty-four rated military aviators.

In August 1917, Arnold became the youngest full colonel in the Army. In October, he assumed the role of executive officer of the Army's newly created Air Division. Although World War I was underway, he did not reach France until Armistice Day in 1918. He reverted to his permanent rank of captain in 1920.

Between the wars he was a rising star, eventually appointed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt as Chief of Air Corps in 1938, with the rank of major general. During World War II, Arnold was responsible for the air strategy in both Europe and the Pacific, and he was promoted to the five-star rank of General of the Army in 1944.

Arnold retired in March 1946, but he returned to service in 1949 when President Truman gave him the first-ever United States commission to the rank of permanent five-star General of the Air Force.

Arnold was also the founder of Project RAND, which evolved into one of the world's largest non-profit global policy think tanks, the RAND Corporation, and one of the founders of Pan American World Airways.

Scott No. 2191 was another stamp in the USPS's "Great Americans" series.

Henry Arnold is buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

CLASS of 1909



George S. Patton Jr.

1885 - 1945

Cullum No. 4795



Scott No. 1026
Issued November 11, 1953
Fort Knox, Kentucky



Scott No. 2838j
Issued June 6, 1994
Washington, D.C.

George S. Patton Jr. enrolled in Virginia Military Institute in 1904. A year later, he attended the U.S. Military Academy, graduating in 1909. Patton competed in the Pentathlon in the 1912 Stockholm Olympics, performing well in the fencing portion and placing fifth overall. In 1913, he was ordered to the post of Master of the Sword at the Mounted Service School in Kansas, where he taught swordsmanship while also attending as a student.

In 1915, Patton led cavalry patrols against Pancho Villa at Fort Bliss along the Mexican border. The following year he was selected as aide to General John J. Pershing, commander of the American Expeditionary Forces in Mexico. Patton was the first officer assigned to the new American Expeditionary Force tank corps in France in 1917. Patton quickly established himself as one of the leading experts in tank warfare.

Between the two world wars, Patton became a central figure in the development of the Army's armored warfare doctrine. When the U.S. entered World War II, he commanded the 2nd Armored Division.

Patton led U.S. troops into the Mediterranean theater during Operation Torch in 1942. He commanded the Seventh Army during the invasion of Sicily, where he was the first Allied commander to reach Messina. At the start of the Allied invasion of France, Patton commanded the Third Army. Under his decisive leadership, the Third Army relieved the beleaguered American troops at Bastogne during the Battle of the Bulge, after which his forces drove deep into Nazi Germany by the end of the war.

After the war, Patton was named military governor of Bavaria, and later commanded the United States Fifteenth Army for slightly more than two months. Severely injured in an auto accident, he died in Germany twelve days later, on December 21, 1945.

Nicknamed "Old Blood and Guts" due to his ruthless drive and apparent lust for battle, George Patton is considered one of the most successful combat generals in U.S. history.

The American M48 first generation main battle tank introduced in February 1952, was christened a "Patton" tank by Patton's widow, Mrs. Beatrice Ayer Patton. Nearly 12,000 M48s were built from 1952 to 1961.

Scott No. 1026 was issued on Veterans Day, 1953, at Fort Knox, Kentucky, then home of the U.S. Army Armor School. Scott No. 2838j is one of a pane of ten stamps titled, 1944 – *The Road to Victory*, issued on the 50th anniversary of D-Day.

George Patton is buried in the Luxembourg American Cemetery and Memorial in Luxembourg. His West Point class ring is on display in the Patton Museum at Fort Knox, Kentucky.

UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

CLASS of 1915

Dwight D. Eisenhower

1890 - 1969

Cullum No. 5373



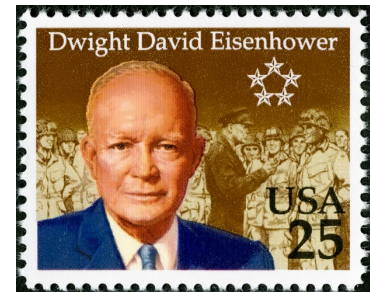
Scott No. 1393
Issued August 6, 1970
Washington, D.C.



Scott No. 1383
Issued October 14, 1969
Abilene, Kansas



Scott No. 2219g
Issued May 22, 1986
Chicago, Illinois



Scott No. 2513
Issued October 13, 1990
Abilene, Kansas

Following graduation from West Point in 1915, Dwight Eisenhower was commissioned a second lieutenant and assigned to the 19th Infantry at Fort Sam Houston, Texas. Along with many of his West Point classmates, Eisenhower's career accelerated with the Army's expansion for World War I. Although he never went to France, by 1917 he had risen to the temporary grade of lieutenant colonel and commanded Camp Colt, the Army's first tank corps training center near Gettysburg, Pennsylvania.

In his early Army career, Eisenhower excelled in staff assignments, serving under Generals John J. Pershing and Douglas MacArthur. Following the Japanese attack at Pearl Harbor, General George C. Marshall called him to Washington for a war plans assignment. He was later assigned to command the Allied landing in North Africa in November 1942 (Operation Torch). On D-Day, 1944, Eisenhower was Supreme Commander for Operation Overlord, the Allied invasion of France.

Following Germany's surrender in April 1945, Eisenhower was appointed military governor of the American occupation zone. In November 1945, President Truman named Eisenhower to replace Marshall as Chief of Staff. Eisenhower directed demobilization of the wartime army and worked to unify the armed services under a centralized command. In 1948, he became President of Columbia University, then took leave in 1951 to assume supreme command over the new NATO forces being assembled in Western Europe.

Republican emissaries to Eisenhower's headquarters near Paris persuaded him to run for President in 1952. "*I like Ike*" was an irresistible slogan - Eisenhower won a sweeping victory and served two terms as President of the United States. Foreign affairs drew much of Eisenhower's attention. He and his secretary of state, John Foster Dulles, worked hard at achieving peace and checking the spread of communism.

In September 1957, Eisenhower dispatched 1,000 federal troops to Little Rock, Arkansas, to halt an attempt by Gov. Orval Faubus to obstruct a federal court order integrating a high school. Significantly, the Civil Rights Act of 1957 was the first such law passed since 1875.

In 1961, Eisenhower was awarded West Point's highest honor, the Sylvanus Thayer Award.

Scott No. 1383 was issued on Eisenhower's birthday six months after his death, in his boyhood home of Abilene, Kansas.

Scott No. 1393 is the first of several similar definitive stamps issued in different formats (i.e., coil and booklet; see below). Scott No. 2219g was one of the stamps in the pane of Presidential stamps in 1986.

Scott No. 2513 was issued on the 100th anniversary of Eisenhower's birth. In the background, Eisenhower can be seen speaking to Allied troops on the eve of D-Day.

Dwight Eisenhower is buried in the chapel of the Eisenhower Presidential Library in Abilene, Kansas. His West Point class ring, shown on the previous page, is on display in the West Point library.

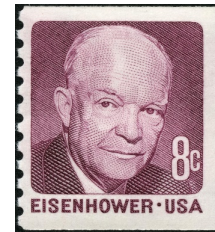
Additional definitives:



Scott No. 1401 (coil)
Issued August 6, 1970

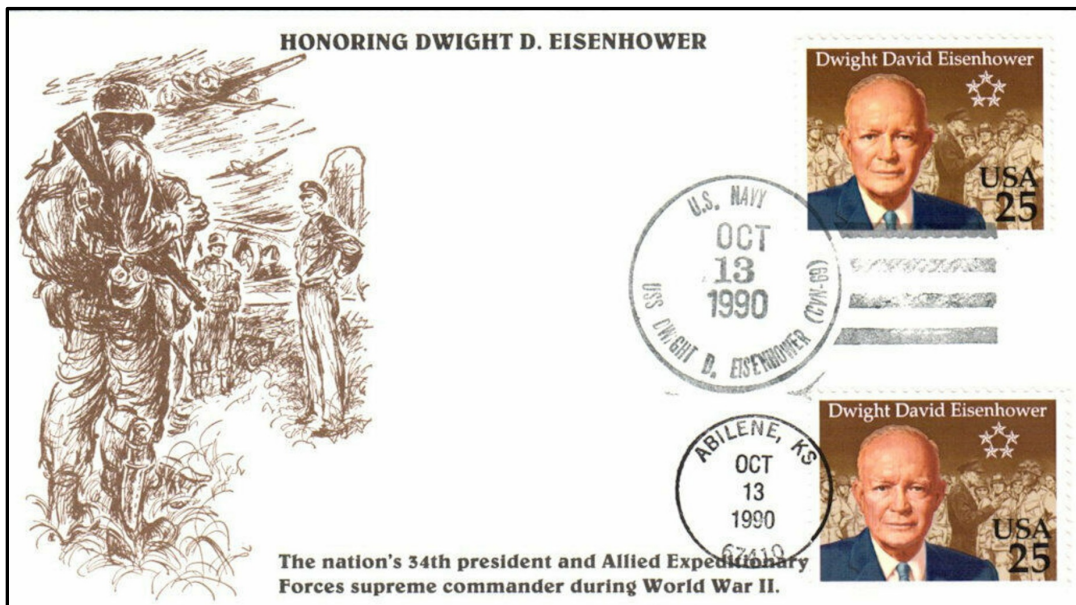


Scott No. 1394



Scott No. 1402 (coil)
Scott No. 1395 (booklet)

Issued May 10, 1971
(new denomination)



This First Day Cover featuring Scott No. 2513 was postmarked in both Abilene, Kansas, where the stamp was issued, and aboard the aircraft carrier USS Dwight D. Eisenhower.

UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

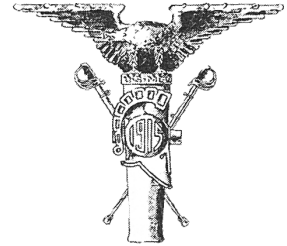
CLASS of 1915



Omar N. Bradley

1893 - 1981

Cullum No. 5356



Scott No. 3394
Issued May 3, 2000
Washington, D.C.

Omar Bradley was working as a boilermaker at the Wabash Railroad for 17-cents-an-hour when he was encouraged by his Sunday school teacher to take the entrance examination for West Point.

During World War I, Bradley was promoted to captain and sent to guard the Butte, Montana copper mines, considered of strategic importance. After the war, Bradley taught mathematics at West Point and served in other roles before taking a position at the War Department under General George C. Marshall. In 1941, Bradley became commander of the Army Infantry School. Later that year he went on to become the first of his classmates promoted to brigadier general when he was a lieutenant colonel.

In the summer of 1943, Bradley was selected to command the U.S. First Army in the Normandy Invasion. On D-Day, June 6, 1944, Bradley landed in France with his First Army to break the Atlantic Wall. In less than two months, the First Army smashed through the German lines at St. Lo and opened the way for the speedy liberation of France. After the breakout from Normandy, he took command of the Twelfth United States Army Group, which ultimately comprised forty-three divisions and 1.3 million men, the largest body of American soldiers ever to serve under a single field commander.

Following World War II, Bradley served as head of the Veterans Administration from 1945-1947. He then became Chief of Staff of the Army and served two terms as Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, from 1949-1953. He was promoted to General of the Army in 1950.

Bradley and Eisenhower were both members of the West Point Class of 1915 – the class “the stars fell on.” Of 164 graduates, 59 (36%) attained the rank of general, more than any other class in the history of the Academy.

In 1973, Bradley was awarded West Point’s highest honor, the Sylvanus Thayer Award.

Similar to the stamp honoring John L. Hines, Scott No. 3394 is part of the same block of four stamps honoring distinguished soldiers. It features the First Army patch. With the issuance of this stamp, all five of the U.S. Army’s five-star Generals of the Army have been pictured on U.S. postal issues [George Marshall, Virginia Military Institute (VMI) 1901, appeared on Scott No. 1289 in 1967 and again on Scott No. 3141 in 1997]. More information can be found on page 111.

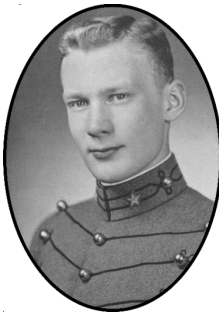
Omar Bradley is buried in Arlington National Cemetery. His West Point class ring is on display in the West Point library, along with that of his classmate Dwight Eisenhower.

UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

CLASS of 1951

Edwin E. Aldrin Jr.

b. 1930
Cullum No. 18019



Scott No. 2419
Issued July 20, 1989
Washington, D.C.



Scott No. 2841
Issued July 20, 1994
Washington, D.C.



Scott No. 2842
Issued July 20, 1994
Washington, D.C.



Scott No. 5399
Issued July 19, 2019
Cape Canaveral, FL

Edwin E. "Buzz" Aldrin Jr. graduated third in the West Point Class of 1951 and was commissioned into the U.S. Air Force. He served as a jet fighter pilot during the Korean War, flying 66 combat missions and shooting down two MiG-15 aircraft, for which he was awarded two Distinguished Flying Crosses.

After earning a doctoral degree in astronautics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Aldrin was selected as a member of NASA's Astronaut Group 3, making him the first astronaut with a doctoral degree. His first space flight was in 1966 on Gemini 12, during which he spent over five hours on extravehicular activity. Three years later, as part of the Apollo 11 crew, Aldrin set foot on the Moon on July 20, 1969 (EDT), nineteen minutes after Neil Armstrong first touched the surface. The Lunar Command Module Pilot was Michael Collins (USMA 1952). Aldrin was also a Presbyterian elder, and became the first person to hold a religious ceremony on the Moon when he privately took communion.

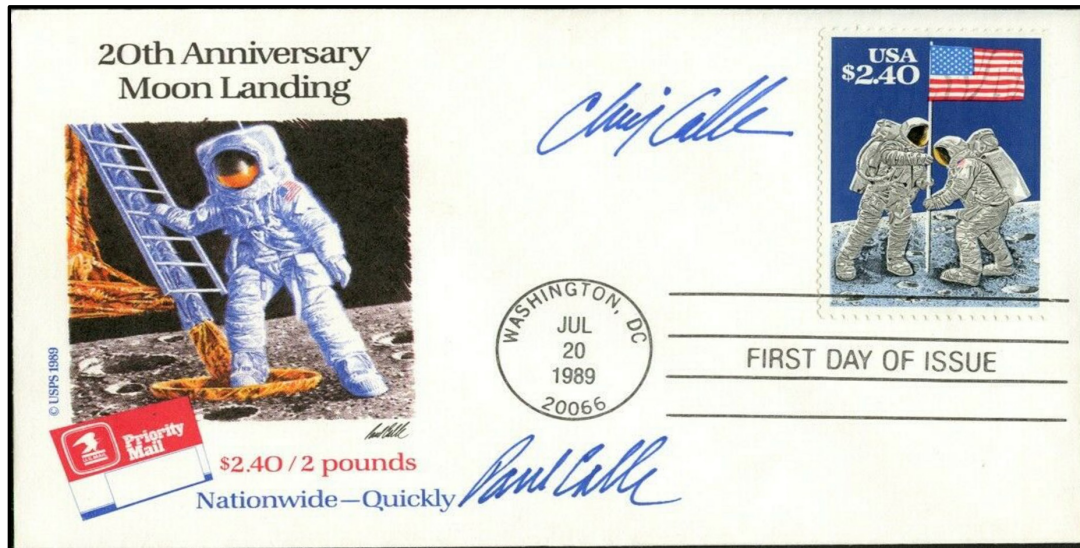
Aldrin left NASA in 1971 and became Commandant of the U.S. Air Force Test Pilot School. He retired from the Air Force in 1972, after 21 years of service. President Nixon awarded Armstrong and Aldrin the Presidential Medal of Freedom in August 1969. In 2000, Aldrin was named a West Point Distinguished Graduate.

While the artists' renderings on the first three stamps do not identify the individuals shown on the stamps, they were based upon Armstrong's photos and are universally considered to be Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin.

Scott No. 2419, issued to commemorate the twentieth anniversary of the moon landing, was the first Priority Mail stamp issued by the USPS. It was designed by Chris Calle, son of Paul Calle (1928-2010), the designer of the 1969 Moon Landing stamp, one of the most popular and recognizable stamps in U.S. postal history). Controversy arose when this stamp was announced, as it is against the law for any living person to be depicted on a U.S. postal stamp. However, as far as the USPS was concerned, the stamp commemorated the act of landing on the Moon, not the astronauts who actually landed there, and the two people depicted on the stamps were considered generic astronauts, not specific people.

Scott Nos. 2841 and 2842 were issued to commemorate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the moon landing. The high value stamp (\$9.95) was intended for use on domestic Express Mail letters. These were the first stamps jointly designed by the father-son team of Paul and Chris Calle.

Scott No. 5399 was issued to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the moon landing. Neil Armstrong's photo shows Aldrin's nametape on his life support system, and Armstrong is reflected in Aldrin's visor.



This First Day Cover of Scott No. 2419 was signed by stamp designers Chris Calle and his father, Paul Calle.

UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

CLASS of 1952



Edward H. White II

1930-1967

Cullum No. 18619



Scott Nos. 1331-1332
Issued September 29, 1967
Kennedy Space Center, Florida

Edward Higgins White II was the son of U.S. Air Force Major General Edward Higgins White Sr. (1901-1978, USMA 1924), who served in the U.S. Army Air Forces Budget Office during World War II and commanded the 1503rd Air Transport Wing in the Korean War.

Edward H. White II joined the Air Force upon graduation from West Point. (One of White's West Point classmates and fellow Air Force officers was Michael Collins, who would later serve as Command Module Pilot for the Apollo 11 mission.) White set his sights on joining the space program soon after learning about it in 1957. He earned a Master of Science in Aeronautical Engineering from the University of Michigan in 1959. Following his graduate studies, he attended the Air Force Test Pilot School at Edwards Air Force Base and was later assigned to Wright-Patterson Air Force Base as an experimental test pilot – all requirements for joining the fledgling National Air and Space Administration.

Selected as one of the second group of astronauts, LTC White was assigned as pilot of Gemini IV alongside command pilot James McDivitt. On June 3, 1965, White became the first American to walk in space. He was then assigned as senior pilot of the first crewed Apollo mission, Apollo 1. White died on January 27, 1967, alongside astronauts Virgil "Gus" Grissom and Roger B. Chaffee, in a fire during pre-launch testing for Apollo 1 at Cape Canaveral, Florida.

White was awarded the NASA Distinguished Service Medal for his flight in Gemini IV. He was awarded the Congressional Space Medal of Honor posthumously in 1997.

Postal "space artist" Paul Calle designed this pair of stamps depicting White as he performed the first American spacewalk. Although the stamps do not specifically mention or show White, they honor his courage and accomplishment specifically, and thus warrant inclusion here.

Sometimes referred to as the "Space Twins," Scott Nos. 1331–1332 were the first stamps ever issued by the United States with a single design crossing both stamps. The philatelic term "se-tenant" is used to describe two different stamps joined together in this manner. In this case, the two illustrations are connected by White's tether, which was considered befitting the "twins" aspect of the Gemini mission.

Edward H. White II is buried at the U.S. Military Academy cemetery at West Point, near the graves of his father and his brother, Major James B. White, U.S. Air Force Academy Class of 1964, who died in Laos in 1969.

The Army – Navy Series of 1936 – 1937

"By request of President Roosevelt, the Post Office Department will bring out a series of postage stamps in homage to the memory of famous soldiers and sailors. The set will be known as the Army and Navy Commemoratives, and will be issued this summer.

...it is indicated that the President desires to employ the stamps to show people the history of the military and naval establishments of the government. Patriotism, he believes, must be intelligent, and even the Post Office Department can help in the work of educating the masses to understand the traditions of the armed service."

(Washington Evening Star, March 6, 1936, p. A-2)

The entire set of ten stamps from the Army-Navy Series is reproduced here to show the extent to which both West Point and Annapolis were featured. All of the stamps were issued in Washington, D.C., with the exception of the 5-cent values. Scott No. 789 marked the first time that a stamp had been issued at West Point, and Scott No. 794 was issued in Annapolis, MD.

Volume IV of Max Johl's *The United States Postage Stamps of the Twentieth Century* devotes over thirty pages to detailed descriptions of each stamp in the series.



The ARMY Stamps

The Army stamps feature three West Point graduates and Union Army generals on the 3-cent value: William Tecumseh Sherman (USMA 1840), Ulysses S. Grant (USMA 1843) and Philip Sheridan (USMA 1853). The 4-cent value depicts West Point graduates and Confederate Army generals Robert E. Lee (USMA 1829) and Stonewall Jackson (USMA 1846).

George Washington
Nathaniel Greene

Mount Vernon
Virginia



Scott No. 785
Issued December 15, 1936

Andrew Jackson
Winfield Scott

The Hermitage
Tennessee



Scott No. 786
Issued January 15, 1937

William T. Sherman
Ulysses S. Grant
Philip Sheridan



Scott No. 787
Issued February 18, 1937

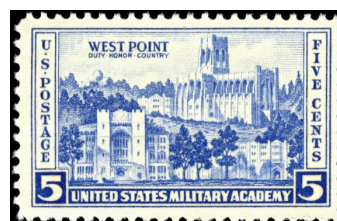
Robert E. Lee
Stonewall Jackson

Stratford Hall
Virginia

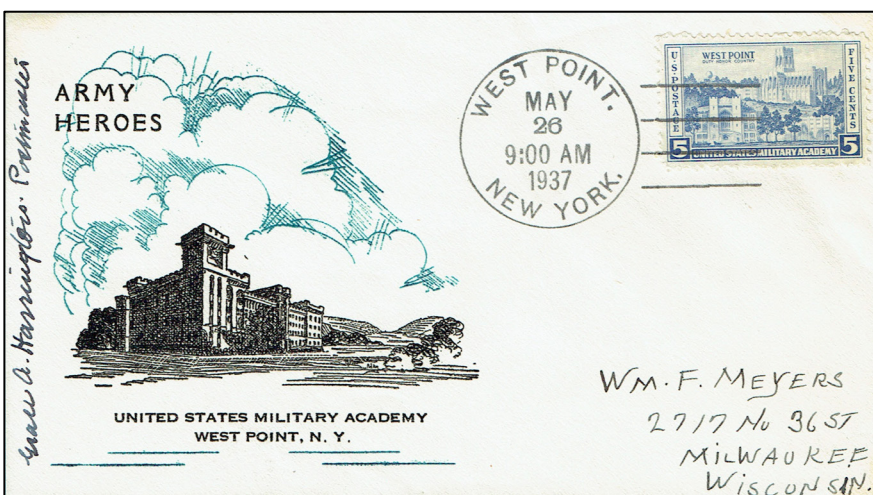


Scott No. 788
Issued March 23, 1937

U.S. Military Academy
New York



Scott No. 789
Issued May 26, 1937



First Day Cover
West Point, New York

This hand-stamped cover
is signed by
Postmaster Grace A. Harrington.

[Joseph F. Bronesky cachet; courtesy of Brig. Gen. Mitchell Zais (ret.)]

The NAVY Stamps

The stamps honoring the Navy feature three U.S. Naval Academy graduates on the 4-cent value: Admiral of the Navy George Dewey (USNA 1858), and Rear Admirals William T. Sampson (USNA 1861), and Winfield Scott Schley (USNA 1860), all of whom distinguished themselves as naval heroes of the Spanish-American War. Dewey defeated the Royal Spanish Navy's Pacific Squadron in the Battle of Manila Bay in the Philippines in May 1898; Sampson and Schley destroyed the Spanish Caribbean Squadron in the Battle of Santiago de Cuba in July 1898. These battles ensured the independence of the Philippines and Cuba from Spanish rule.

John Paul Jones
John Barry
Flagship *Bonhomme Richard*
Brig *Lexington*



Scott No. 790
Issued December 15, 1936

Stephen Decatur
Thomas MacDonough
A Warship of the period



Scott No. 791
Issued January 15, 1937

David Farragut
David Porter
A Warship of the period



Scott No. 792
Issued February 18, 1937

William T. Sampson
George Dewey
Winfield S. Schley



Scott No. 793
Issued March 23, 1937

U.S. Naval Academy Crest
Midshipmen in
early and current uniforms

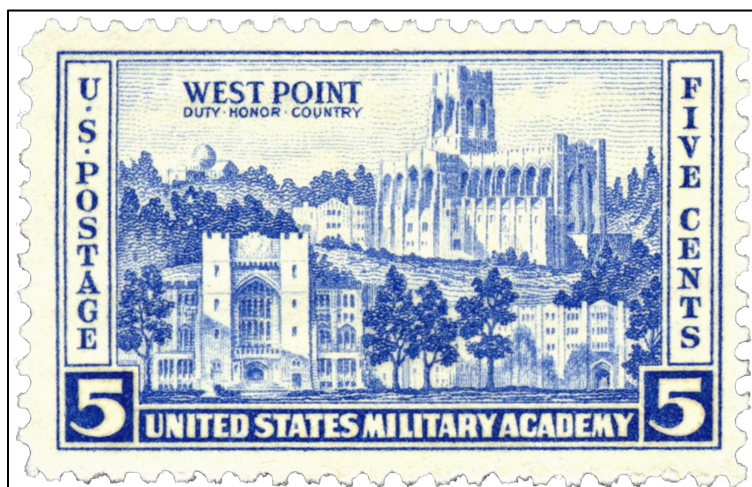


Scott No. 794
Issued May 26, 1937



This cover, cancelled on the first day of issue of the 5-cent Navy stamp, was postmarked at the Naval Academy Branch of the Annapolis City Post Office.

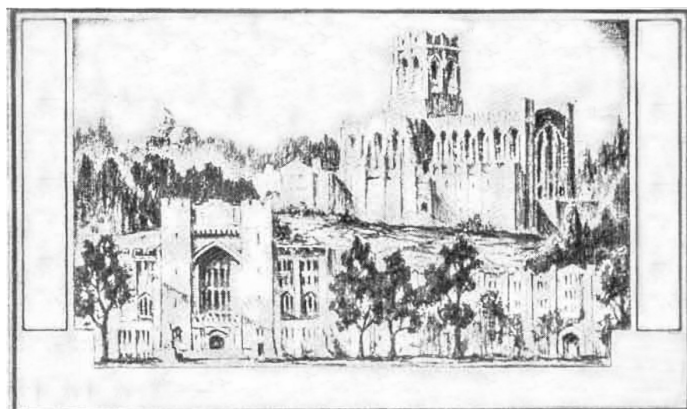
The Five-Cent Army Blue



Scott No. 789
Issued May 26, 1937
West Point, New York

The stamp shown here, and featured on the cover (Scott No. 789), is perhaps the most well-known stamp related to West Point and its postal history. It is one of two issues featuring the United States Service Academies in the 1936-37 Army-Navy series of ten stamps.

In June 1935, (prior to Roosevelt commissioning the Army-Navy series of stamps) General Douglas MacArthur, then Army Chief of Staff, directed the Academy's Professor of Drawing to propose designs for a 3-cent stamp commemorating West Point. A dozen different designs were produced by members of the staff and faculty, and sent to Washington for approval. The proposal died when MacArthur left office in October 1935. However, one of the proposed designs, based upon a collection of pencil drawings by then Captain Lawrence Schick (USMA 1920), was ultimately selected for the 5-cent stamp. At the time, Schick was Assistant Professor of Drawing, eventually becoming head of the Department of Military Topography and Graphics. He retired as a brigadier general in 1961, though he continued to be consulted on the design and architecture of new buildings at the Academy. Schick died in 1967, and is buried in the West Point Cemetery.



Photograph of Schick's original drawing

The stamp's first day of issue ceremonies took place at the West Point Post Office, marking the first time a stamp had been issued at West Point. Next morning the New York Times reported, "*PHILATELISTS 'RUSH' WEST POINT POST OFFICE,*" and that West Point Superintendent Major General William D. Connor (USMA 1897) was the first in line, buying four sheets of the new stamp. Eventually, nearly 37,000,000 were printed.

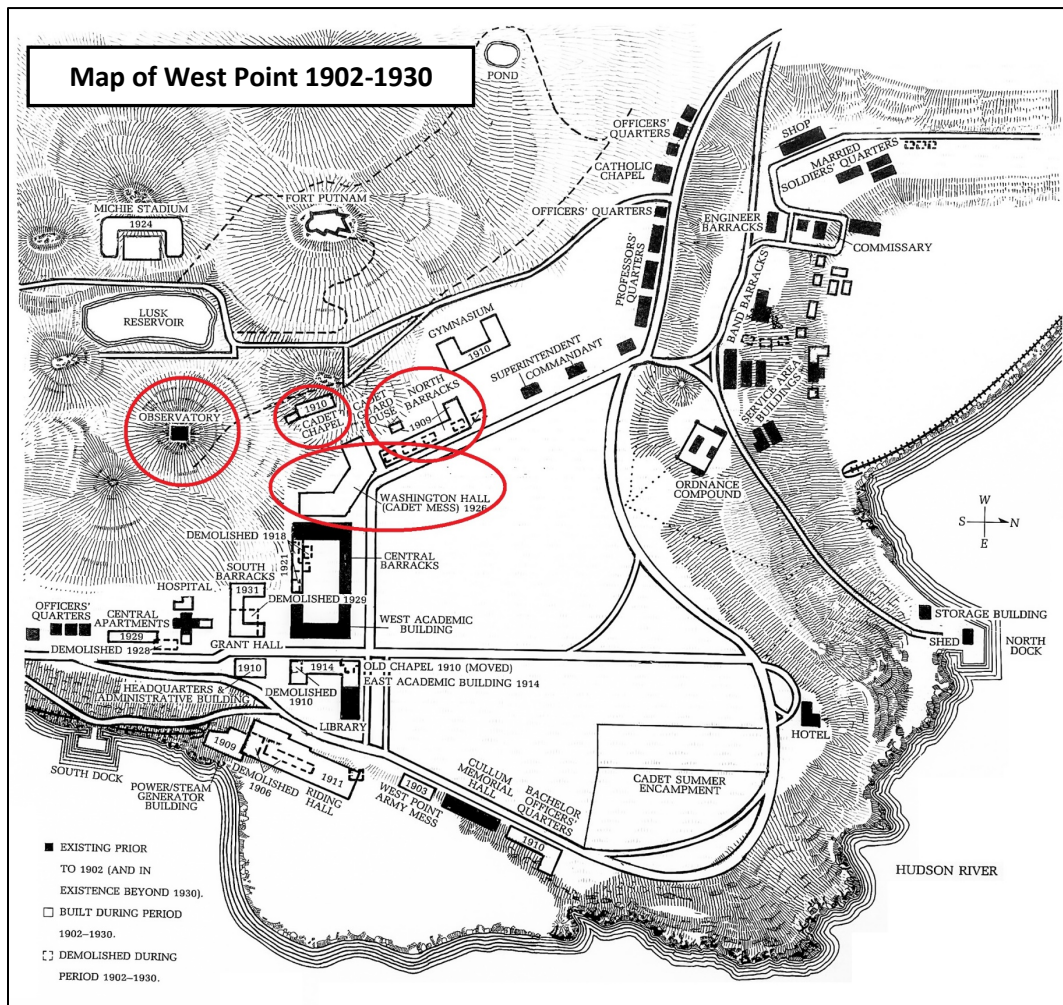
The view is looking to the southwest across The Plain (the parade ground) as shown on the map which follows. On the stamp, clockwise from the upper left, the buildings include:

The Observatory. Built in 1841, it was moved in 1880 to the location at the top of the hill as depicted on the stamp to make room for a train tunnel. This location is above and behind the recently constructed Davis Barracks. The Observatory was demolished in the 1950s.

The Cadet Chapel. Overlooking West Point, the Chapel was dedicated in 1910. The chapel's organ is the largest pipe organ in the world. The large stained-glass sanctuary window is inscribed with the Academy's motto, "Duty, Honor, Country."

North Cadet Barracks. This was demolished and replaced by the MacArthur Barracks in 1972.

Washington Hall. Built in 1929 and expanded in 1964, it contains the Cadet Mess, where the entire 4,000+ members of the Corps of Cadets eat family style. The upper floors house academic and administrative departments. The front of the building as shown in the stamp now actually sits inside the expanded Washington Hall, which allowed for additional seating in the mess hall.



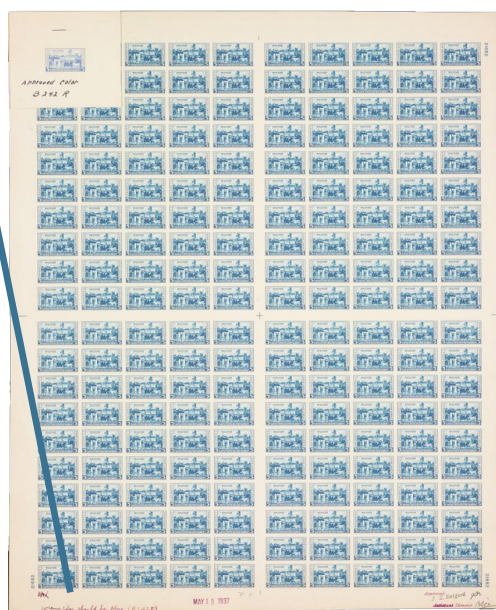
(Source: *The Illustrated History of West Point*; used with permission)

Throughout the nineteenth and most of the twentieth century, postage stamps were printed using either flat or rotary press engraving plates. The engraving process is similar to that used for U.S. paper currency, and for the Military Academy's diploma, as seen on the front cover.

Prior to printing the actual stamps, certified plate proofs are printed and examined in detail, then signed and dated once approved. Plate margin inscriptions by the inspectors may include guidelines, plate numbers, and initials of the siderographer (the person who created the plate from a transfer roll).

Examples from the Smithsonian's National Stamp Museum collection of proofs for the 5-cent West Point stamp are shown on the next page.

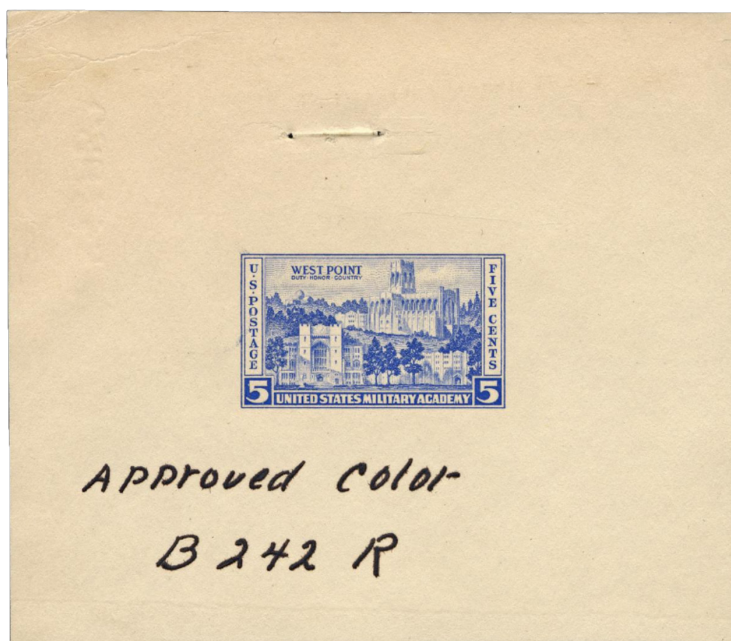
This plate proof of 200 stamps (plate no. 21682) shows approvals in the lower right corner. On the left is a notation dated May 19, 1937 indicating that the wrong color was used.



The “large die proof” clipped to the upper left corner of the plate proof above is shown here approximately actual size.

The approved color (B242R) is noted on the bottom.

The final stamps were issued on May 26, 1937.



Seen here are a number of watercolor “essays” or “models” by artist Stevan Dohanos (1907-1994), developed as preliminary designs for the stamp (in addition to those proposed by West Point). Dohanos later served as the Post Office’s Art Director, and chair of the Citizens’ Stamp Advisory Committee. He also became well known for his *Saturday Evening Post* covers.

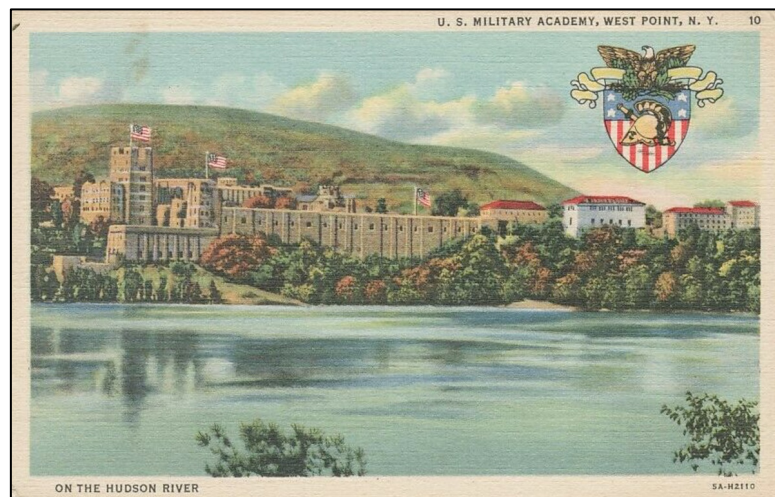
These designs are shown approximately actual size, and are on exhibit at the Smithsonian’s National Stamp Museum.



This design features West Point’s Coat of Arms. It is very similar in design to the 2002 Bicentennial stamp.



This view of West Point from the east bank of the Hudson River appeared frequently on picture postcards from the period.



George Washington

This now stands in front of Washington Hall facing The Plain.



Cadet Chapel

The Observatory is seen on the left, as in the final design.



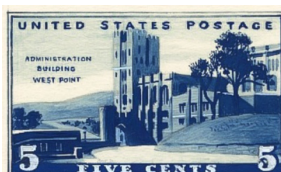
Tadeusz Kościuszko

This statue stands on Fort Clinton overlooking the Hudson River.



Battle Monument

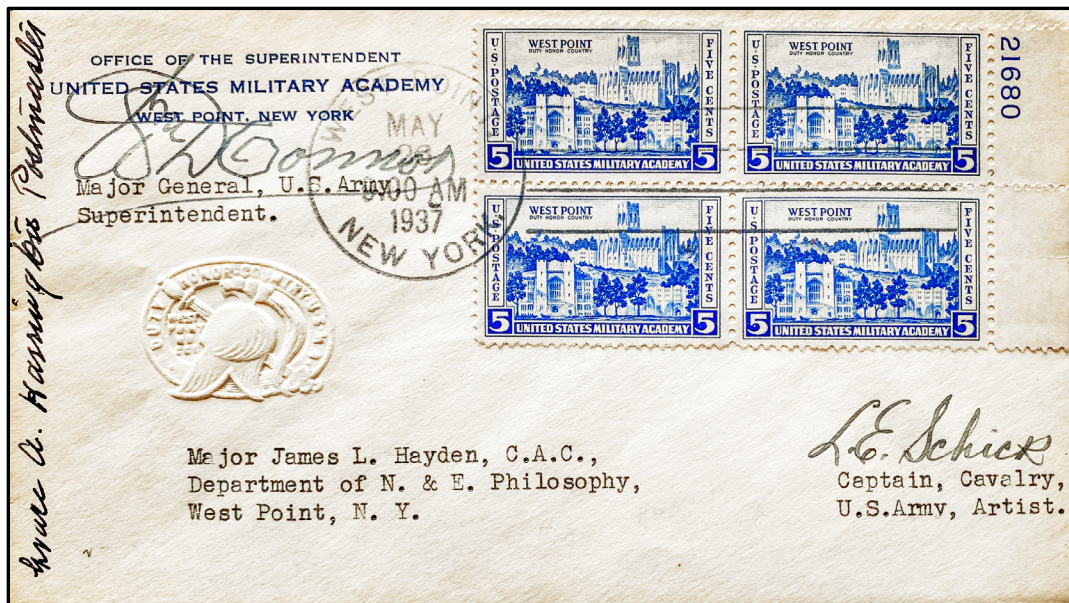
This commemorates the 2,230 Regular Army officers and soldiers who died for the Union during the Civil War.



These three designs feature the Administration Building.

A fortress-like tower opened in 1910, the Administration Building was the first imposing structure that new cadets, staff, and thousands of visitors to West Point saw as they labored up the hill from the train station or south river dock to the level of the parade ground.

This first day cover, embossed with an Athena helmet insignia, is signed by Academy Superintendent Major General William D. Connor, West Point Postmaster Grace Harrington, and the stamp's designer, Lawrence Schick.



Scott No. 789 has been commercialized on a variety of souvenir items, including t-shirts, coffee mugs and belt buckles.



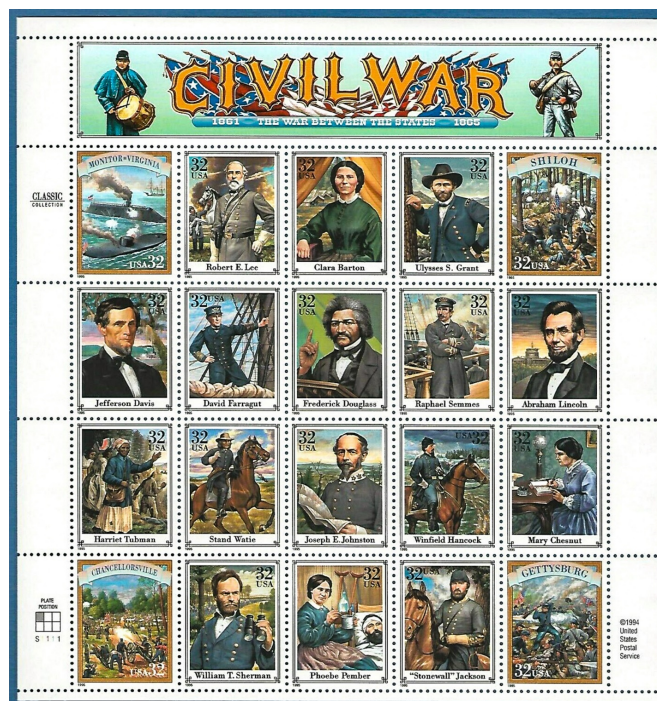
The Civil War Series of 1995

1861 - The War Between the States – 1865

To celebrate the 130th anniversary of the end of the Civil War, the Postal Service issued a pane of twenty stamps. The stamps depict a wide variety of people who participated in the Civil War, including Presidents, generals, major battles, rank-and-file soldiers, women, African and Native Americans, and abolitionists. Of the sixteen individuals depicted, West Point graduates are featured on seven of the individual stamps. Due to the large number of stamps featuring West Point graduates on one pane, the entire pane is shown here. The reverse side of each stamp has brief descriptions (see next page).

West Point produced 445 Civil War generals; 294 fought for the Union, and 151 for the Confederacy. According to Civil War historian T. Harry Williams in his essay, *The Military Leadership of the North and South*, “The Civil War was pre-eminently a West Pointers’ fight. Of the sixty biggest battles, West Point graduates commanded both armies in fifty-five, and in the remaining five a West Pointer commanded one of the opposing armies.”

Scott No. 2975
Issued June 29, 1995
Gettysburg, Pennsylvania



The seven West Point graduates featured on the 1995 Civil War pane include
CSA President Jefferson Davis, and the six generals shown here.

Union Army Generals



**Union Lt. General
Ulysses S. Grant**
1822-1885
Gained national fame with
"unconditional surrender"
victory at Fort Donelson.
Crafted brilliant wins at
Vicksburg, Chattanooga.
Forced Lee's surrender.
U.S. President 1869-77.



**Union Major General
Winfield Scott Hancock**
1824-1886
Brigade, Division, Corps
Commander at Fredericks-
burg, Chancellorsville.
Played major role in Union
victory at Gettysburg, but
was severely wounded.
Presidential candidate 1880.

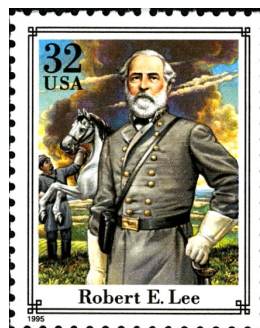


**Union Major General
William Tecumseh Sherman**
1820-1891
Blunt, grizzled strategist
distinguished himself at Shi-
loh and Vicksburg. Captured
Atlanta. Introduced total war-
fare in his March across GA
and through the Carolinas.
Negotiated lenient peace.

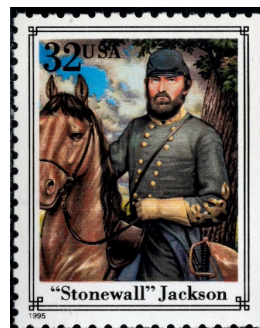
CSA President and Confederate Army Generals



**President of the Confederacy
Jefferson Finis Davis**
1808-1889
Ex-U.S. Senator from Miss-
issippi, named provisional CSA
head Feb. 1861. Quarreled with
military about war tactics and
strategy but supported Lee.
Captured May 1865 in GA,
imprisoned two years.



**Confederate General
Robert Edward Lee**
1807-1870
Army of Northern Virginia
Commander, 1862-65. Won
Seven Days' Campaign, 2nd
Manassas, Chancellorsville.
Repelled at Gettysburg.
Surrendered April 9, 1865.
Became college president.



**Confederate Lt. General
Thomas Jonathan Jackson**
1824-1863
Nicknamed "Stonewall" at
First Manassas. Brilliant
tactician in Shenandoah
Valley Campaign. Fatally
wounded by own men after
routing Union right flank
at Chancellorsville.



**Confederate General
Joseph Eggleston Johnston**
1807-1891
Commander CSA forces
Northern Virginia 1861-62.
Wounded at Seven Pines.
Master defensive strategist
bickered often with Davis.
Led Army of Tennessee,
Dalton to Atlanta.

The Civil War Sesquicentennial Stamps

2011 – 2015

To mark the 150th anniversary of the Civil War, the Postal Service issued a series of two stamps each year between 2011 and 2015. Each pair of stamps commemorated significant events during each year of the Civil War. The entire series was designed by art director and veteran stamp designer Phil Jordan, who selected historic paintings for each of the designs. The stamps included:

- 2011 (1861):
 - Fort Sumter, South Carolina, where the first shots of the War were fired by the South Carolina Militia artillery on the Union garrison
 - The Battle of First Bull Run, near Manassas, Virginia, the first major battle of the Civil War
- 2012 (1862):
 - The Battle of New Orleans, the first significant achievement of the U.S. Navy in the war
 - The Battle of Antietam, which marked the bloodiest day of the war
- 2013 (1863):
 - The Battle of Gettysburg, the largest battle of the war
 - The Battle of Vicksburg, a complex Union campaign to gain control of the Mississippi River
- 2014 (1864):
 - The Battle of Mobile Bay, commemorating Admiral David Farragut's victory
 - The Siege of Petersburg, Virginia, from June 1864 to April 1865, which set the stage for Lee's surrender in 1865
- 2015 (1865):
 - The Battle of Five Forks, which marked the end of the nine-month Siege of Petersburg
 - Lee's surrender to Ulysses S. Grant at Appomattox Court House on April 9, 1865

The 2014 Petersburg stamp, and the 2015 Appomattox stamp, have special relevance to West Point, and are described in detail on the next several pages.

The West Point Museum's Contribution to Postal Art

While many portraits of famous Americans have appeared on postage stamps over the years, hundreds of other works of American art have been featured on stamps beginning over a century ago. For his “Civil War: 1864” series commemorating the sesquicentennial of the Civil War, art director Phil Jordan chose J. André Castaigne’s 1892 oil on canvas, *Charge of the 22nd Regiment, United States Colored Troops at Petersburg, Virginia, June 16, 1864*, which is on display at the West Point Museum.

The Richmond–Petersburg campaign was a series of battles around Petersburg, Virginia, from June 1864 to April 1865. The campaign consisted of nine months of trench warfare in which Union forces assaulted Petersburg unsuccessfully, and then constructed trench lines that eventually extended over 30 miles. Lee finally abandoned both cities in April 1865, leading to his retreat and surrender at Appomattox Court House. The Siege of Petersburg foreshadowed the trench warfare that became common in World War I, earning it a prominent position in military history. It also featured the war's largest concentration of African American troops, who suffered heavy casualties.



Scott No. 4910
Issued July 30, 2014
Petersburg, Virginia

Charge of the 22nd Regiment, United States Colored Troops at Petersburg, Virginia, June 16, 1864
By André Castaigne, 1892
Oil on canvas

Patriotic black Americans in the north were eager to volunteer their services to the Union Army when the Civil War began in 1861. The federal government, however, initially feared an adverse reaction to such recruitment. It was not until the fall of 1862 that serious steps were taken to create black units for the Northern armies. By the end of the Civil War, the federal government had accepted the services of nearly 300,000 black soldiers making up 175 regiments and constituting 10 percent of the Union Army's manpower. Roughly 20 percent of United States Colored Troops (USCT) died during the Civil War. However, many fought with distinction including 15 USCT soldiers who received the Medal of Honor for their service.

In 2014, this painting was one of the featured artworks chosen by the United States Postal Service for their commemorative edition of stamps to mark the 150th anniversary of the Civil War.

Gift of Mr. Alexander McCook Craighead
15,134

(Courtesy of the West Point Museum Collection,
United States Military Academy)

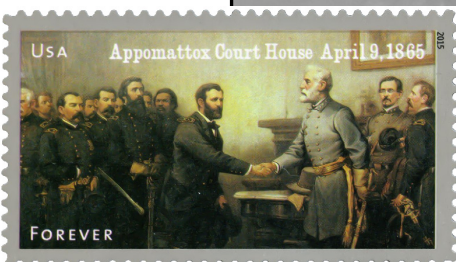


Lee's Surrender at Appomattox Court House

For the 1995 stamp commemorating the Civil War Sesquicentennial and the end of the Civil War, Jordan began with Thomas Nast's 1895 painting *Peace in Union* featuring Robert E. Lee's surrender to Ulysses S. Grant at Appomattox Court House. The 9' x 12' painting, one of the most popular depictions of this event, is on display in the Galena-Jo Daviess County Historical Society Gallery in Galena, Illinois. Nast, a political cartoonist for most of his career, is probably most well-known for his images of Uncle Sam and Santa Claus. He was commissioned to paint the scene in 1893, and after two years of research, presented his painting to the city of Galena on April 9, 1895, thirty years to the day after the end of the Civil War.

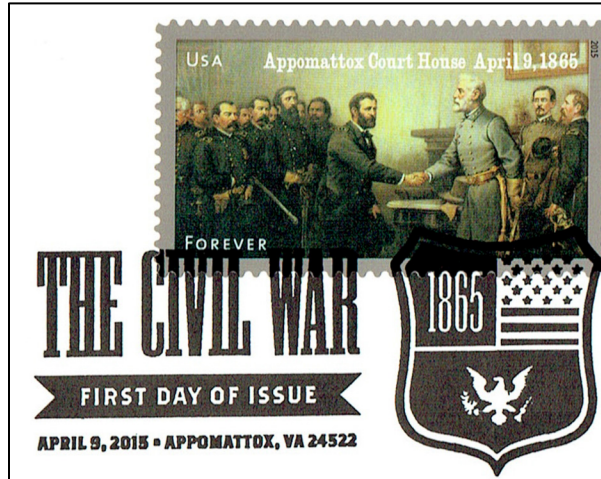
Peace in Union

Thomas Nast (1840 – 1902)



Scott No. 4981
Issued April 9, 2015
Appomattox, Virginia

Jordan's design was cropped from *Peace in Union* as shown above. Four of the figures in the painting, including Grant, had been residents of Galena at one time or another. Nine are West Point graduates.



From left to right, the stamp shows:

- **Major General Edward O. Ord** USMA 1839 1818 – 1883
 (far left, white hair) Cullum No. 1002

Edward Ord was considered a mathematical genius and was appointed to the U.S. Military Academy by President Andrew Jackson. His roommate at West Point was future general William Tecumseh Sherman. Ord commanded the Army of the James during the final days of the Civil War, and was instrumental in forcing Lee's surrender. Fort Ord, California is named Ord's honor.

Edward Ord died in 1883 and is buried in Arlington National Cemetery.
- Colonel Adam Badeau 1831 – 1895

Adam Badeau served on Grant's staff. After the Civil War, he wrote a 3-volume biography of Grant, and later assisted Grant when Grant authored his *Personal Memoirs of Ulysses S. Grant*.
- **Major General Phillip H. Sheridan** USMA 1853 1831 - 1888
 (in front of Ord; see earlier entry on page 47) Cullum No. 1612
- **Brevet Major General Rufus Ingalls** USMA 1843 1818 - 1893
 (behind Sheridan, partially obscured) Cullum No. 1198

Rufus Ingalls' West Point class included his friend Ulysses S. Grant. He became the Chief Quartermaster of the Union's Army of the Potomac in August 1862 following the Peninsula Campaign. Following the Civil War Ingalls served in a variety of Quartermaster assignments, and in February 1882, was named as the 16th Quartermaster General of the U.S. Army with the full rank of brigadier general.

Rufus Ingalls retired from the Army in 1883, and died in 1893. He is buried in Arlington National Cemetery.
- **Colonel Horace Porter** USMA 1860 1837 - 1921
 (to Sheridan's left) Cullum No. 1849

Horace Porter served as Chief of Ordnance in the Army of the Potomac. Porter received the Medal of Honor for his actions in the Battle of Chickamauga in 1863. In the last year of the war, he served on the staff of Gen. Ulysses S. Grant. From 1866-1869, Porter was aide-de-camp to Grant, and then served as President Grant's personal secretary in the White House from 1869-1872. At the same time, he held the grade of colonel as aide-de-camp to General William T. Sherman.

Porter was appointed Ambassador to France and served from 1897-1905. During that time, he paid for the recovery of the body of John Paul Jones, sending it to the United States for re-burial at the U.S. Naval Academy. Porter later served as President of the West Point Association of Graduates from 1906-1907, and again from 1909-1910. He also authored two books, *West Point Life* (1866) and *Campaigning with Grant* (1897).

Horace Porter died in 1921 and is buried in the Old First Methodist Church Cemetery in West Long Branch, New Jersey.

- **Major General Seth Williams** **USMA 1842** 1822 – 1866
(back wall, behind and partially obscured by Porter) Cullum No. 1133

Seth Williams was assistant Adjutant General of the Army of the Potomac from 1861-1864. He subsequently served as Inspector General on Grant's staff from 1864-1866. When Grant decided to recommend surrender to Lee during the Appomattox Campaign, Williams took the message to the Confederate lines. He also delivered Grant's terms to the Confederate army.

Seth Williams died in 1866, and was buried in Forrest Grove Cemetery, in his hometown of Augusta, Maine.

- **Brigadier General John Rawlins** 1831 – 1869

John Rawlins was a native of Galena, Illinois. Rawlins joined Grant's staff in 1861 and followed him through the ranks, becoming one of Grant's most influential advisors and friends. He served as Grant's Secretary of War from March 1869 until his death in September 1869.

- **Brigadier General Wesley Merritt** **USMA 1860** 1836 - 1910
(back wall behind Rawlins on Williams' left, mostly obscured) Cullum No. 1868

Merritt commanded the 1st Division, Cavalry Corps of the Army of the Shenandoah during Sheridan's Valley Campaigns of 1864. He was second-in-command to Sheridan during the Appomattox Campaign.

After the war, Merritt continued to serve in a variety of cavalry assignments along the western frontier. In 1882, he was appointed Superintendent of the U.S. Military Academy, serving in that capacity until 1887. It was during his tenure that West Point's statue of Sylvanus Thayer was dedicated.

After Commodore Dewey's victory at the Battle of Manila Bay in the Philippines in May 1898, the U.S. began to organize ground forces to attack and capture the city of Manila. Merritt was placed in command of the newly created Eighth Army Corps. When Merritt arrived in Manila, he and Dewey made preparations for the attack on the city. The city fell to the Americans in August, and Merritt became the first American military governor of the Philippines. Merritt was soon relieved to advise the U.S. delegation in the peace negotiations leading to the Treaty of Paris of 1898, which ended the Spanish-American War.

Wesley Merritt retired from the Army in 1900, and died in 1910. He is buried at the U.S. Military Academy cemetery at West Point.

- **Colonel Ely S. Parker** 1828 – 1895

Ely Parker was a Tonawanda Seneca Indian who came to Galena in the 1850s as a civil engineer, where he met Grant, who was also living in Galena at the time. Parker joined the Union Army as an engineer, and rose to become Grant's adjutant. He helped draft the surrender documents. After the War, Grant appointed Parker as Commissioner of Indian Affairs, the first Native American to hold the office.

- **Lieutenant General Ulysses S. Grant** **USMA 1843** 1822 – 1885
(see earlier entry on page 35) Cullum No. 1187

- **General Robert E. Lee** **USMA 1829** 1807 – 1870
(see earlier entry on page 21) Cullum No. 542

- Colonel Charles Marshall

1830 – 1902

Charles Marshall was a Maryland lawyer who served as aide de camp and military secretary to Robert E. Lee. Following the War, he returned to his law practice, and later delivered the dedication addresses for monuments to Lee in Richmond, Virginia and Grant in New York City.

- Brevet Brigadier General Orville E. Babcock** **USMA 1861**
(far right)

1835 – 1884
Cullum No. 1890

Babcock began serving as aide-de-camp for Grant in 1864, and is credited with presenting Lee with Grant's letter accepting Lee's surrender in 1865. Following the Civil War, he married Galena native Annie Eliza Campbell in Galena. Babcock continued on Grant's staff during Reconstruction. When Grant became President in 1869, Babcock, remaining on the Army's roster, was assigned as Secretary to the President of the United States, holding that office until 1876.

From 1877-1884, Babcock served as Inspector of Lighthouses for the fifth and sixth districts along the southeastern Atlantic coast of the U.S. He drowned in a storm while serving as Supervising Engineer for the Mosquito Inlet Lighthouse off the coast of central Florida in June 1884.

Orville Babcock is buried in Arlington National Cemetery.



Sheetlet featuring both
Scott Nos. 4980 and 4981

The Distinguished Soldiers Series of 2000

In May 2000, the USPS issued the first stamps in the Distinguished Soldiers Series. In addition to honoring General John Hines and General of the Army Omar Bradley, the set features Medal of Honor winners Sergeant Alvin C. York (1887–1964) and First Lieutenant Audie L. Murphy (1925–1971). The set was intended to honor not only these four World War I and World War II veterans, but all soldiers.



Scott No. 3393 - 3396
Issued May 3, 2000
Washington, D.C.

The four se-tenant stamps as depicted above are considered a plate block – the corner block of stamps from an entire sheet. In the selvage (or margin) portion of the sheet, a plate block includes the printing plate number of the plate or cylinder used to print the stamps.

Subsequent stamps in the series honored Distinguished Marines (2005) and Distinguished Sailors (2010).

Alvin York received the Medal of Honor for his actions during the U.S.-led portion of the Meuse-Argonne Offensive in October 1918 in France. York led an attack on a German machine gun nest, taking out at least one machine gun, killing at least 25 enemy soldiers, and capturing 132 others.

Scott No. 3395 features York's 82nd Infantry Division patch – the “All American.”

Alvin York is buried in Wolf River Cemetery in Pall Mall, Tennessee.



Scott No. 2045
Issued June 7, 1983
Washington, D.C.

Audie Murphy received the Medal of Honor for his actions near the village of Holtzwihr in eastern France in January 1945. Against an attacking force of six Panzer tanks and 250 infantrymen, Murphy, alone, mounted an abandoned, burning tank destroyer and, with a single machine gun, held the enemy's advance. Wounded during the heavy fire, Murphy remained there for nearly an hour, repelling German soldiers on three sides and single-handedly killing fifty. His courageous performance stalled the German advance and allowed him to lead his men in the counterattack, which ultimately drove the enemy from Holtzwihr.

Murphy received every U.S. military combat award for valor possible from the U.S. Army for his World War II service. His superior officers, as well as the Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, encouraged him to apply for enrollment to West Point. Murphy chose not to pursue this opportunity, in part because of limitations resulting from his war injuries.

Scott No. 3396 features Murphy's 3rd Infantry Division patch.

Audie Murphy is buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

Scott No. 2045 shown above, features the Medal of Honor designs for the Army (left), Air Force (center) and Navy (right).



The 5-Star Generals of the Army

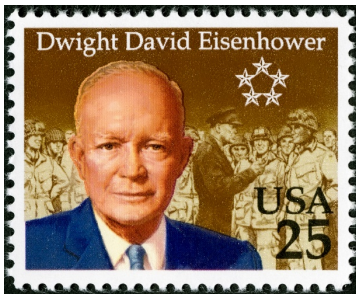
During World War II, the U.S. Congress provided for the temporary grade of "General of the Army" (five-star) on December 14, 1944. The rank became permanent by Congressional action in 1946. Five officers were promoted to that level. These five officers, listed by date of rank (DOR) and showing the highest military position they held, include:

George C. Marshall	(Virginia Military Institute 1901), DOR December 16, 1944 Army Chief of Staff 1939-1945
Douglas MacArthur	(USMA 1903), DOR December 18, 1944 Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers, 1945-1951
Dwight D. Eisenhower	(USMA 1915), DOR December 20, 1944 Supreme Allied Commander, Europe, 1943-1945 Commander in Chief, 1953-1961 (as President of the United States)
Henry "Hap" Arnold	(USMA 1907), DOR December 21, 1944 Commanding General, US Army Air Forces, 1942-1946 Arnold was redesignated "General of the Air Force" in May 1949, the only officer to hold the 5-star rank in two different branches of the service.
Omar Bradley	(USMA 1915), DOR September 20, 1950 Commanding General, 12th Army Group, 1944-1945 First Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff 1949-1953.

Similarly, the U.S. Navy appointed four, 5-star "Admirals of the Fleet". Admirals William Leahy (USNA 1897), Ernest King (USNA 1901), and Chester Nimitz (USNA 1905) were appointed in December 1944, and William Halsey Jr. (USNA 1904) in December 1945. Nimitz appears on Scott No. 1869, issued in 1985.

John J. Pershing was appointed to the grade of General of the Armies of the United States (4-star) in September 1919, the only living general to achieve that rank. No other officer held this specific title until 1976, when President Ford posthumously appointed George Washington General of the Armies of the United States, and specified that Washington would rank first among all officers of the Army, past and present.

The 5-Star Generals of the Army



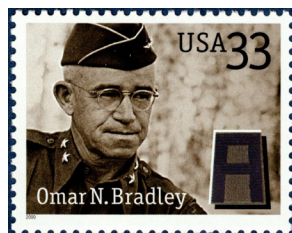
General Dwight
Eisenhower
USMA 1915
DOR: December 20, 1944



General George Marshall
VMI 1901
DOR: December 16, 1944



General Douglas MacArthur
USMA 1903
DOR: December 18, 1944



General Omar Bradley
USMA 1915
DOR: September 20, 1950



General Henry Arnold
USMA 1907
DOR: December 21, 1944



USMA Bicentennial March 16, 2002



Scott No. 3560
Issued March 16, 2002
West Point, New York

For the 200th anniversary of the founding of the United States Military Academy in 2002, the USPS issued a commemorative postage stamp. The stamp features the Academy coat of arms, adopted in October 1898. The eagle and the helmet of Pallas Athena originally faced to the right; this was changed to face left in 1923. The stamp's design used a photograph by Fishkill, New York photographer Ted Spiegel, of a large, 3-dimensional model of the coat of arms.

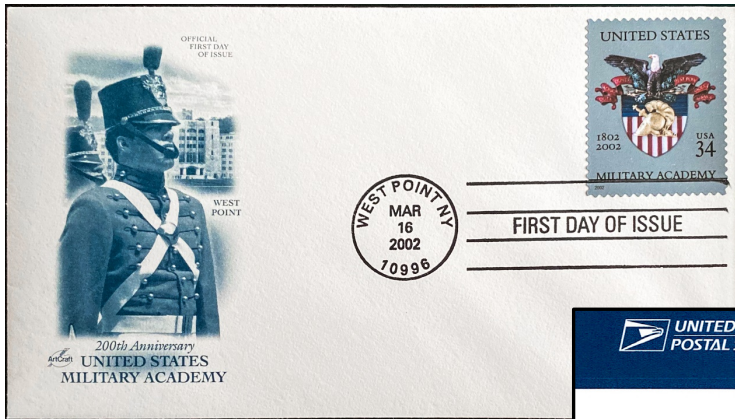
The U.S. Mint also issued a commemorative 90% silver dollar in honor of the Bicentennial. The coin is similar in design to the Academy's official Bicentennial medal (above), and was produced at the U.S. Mint's West Point facility.

In 1938, two years after the gold bullion depository opened at Fort Knox, Kentucky, the West Point Bullion Depository was established to store silver bullion. It remained a storage facility until 1973 when it started producing pennies to reduce production pressure on other Mint facilities. It also produced Bicentennial quarters in 1976, and gold medals starting in 1980. It gained official status as a Mint in 1988.

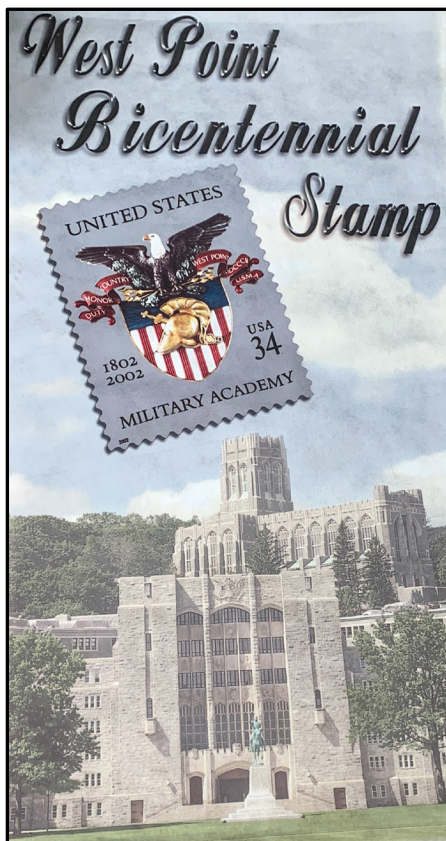


Unveiling ceremonies for both the stamp and coin were held in Eisenhower Hall, on March 16, “Founders Day,” and attended by West Point Superintendent Lt. Gen. William J. Lennox, Jr. (USMA 1971), and representatives of the U.S. Postal Service and the U.S. House of Representatives.

Only two stamps have had First Day of Issue ceremonies at West Point: the 5-cent Military Academy stamp in the Army-Navy series in 1937, and the 2002 Bicentennial stamp.



The First Day of Issue Program



One of the 10-foot banners displayed in Eisenhower Hall for the ceremonies

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

First Day of Issue

United States Military Academy
West Point, NY
March 16, 2002

OPENING

Carol Riccardi
Manager, Marketing
United States Postal Service

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

REMARKS

Thomas G. Day
Vice President, Engineering
United States Postal Service

Honorable Susan Kelly
United States House of Representatives

OFFICIAL DEDICATION

Honorable John F. Walsh
Member, Board of Governors
United States Postal Service

CLOSING

Carol Riccardi
Manager, Marketing
United States Postal Service



Scott No. 1802
Issued November 11, 1979
Washington, D.C.

Medal of Honor – Vietnam War

During the period 2013-2015, the USPS issued a series of stamps honoring Medal of Honor (MOH) recipients from World War II (2013), the Korean War (2014), and the Vietnam War (2015). The stamps were similar in design, featuring either the Army, Navy, or Air Force versions of the Medal, and the year of issue in the margin. The Vietnam stamps were printed in a special 4-page folio version, which featured two panes of twelve stamps on the front and back, surrounded by photographs of the MOH recipients still living at the time the stamps were designed. On the inside of the folio, one page identified those pictured around the stamps, while the facing page listed the names of all MOH recipients from the Vietnam War. The first pane included two West Point graduates, Robert Foley (USMA 1963) and Paul Bucha (USMA 1965).



Paul Bucha



Scott No. 4822b
Issued May 25, 2015
Vietnam Veterans Memorial
Washington, D.C.

Robert Foley

(A link to a complete list of West Point Medal of Honor recipients can be found in the Bibliography.)

UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

CLASS of 1963



Captain Robert F. Foley

Cullum No. 24913



Robert Foley was awarded the Medal of Honor for his actions on November 5, 1966, while serving as Commander of Company A, 2nd Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division, near Near Quan Dau Tieng, Vietnam.

As a Brigadier General, Foley served as Commandant of Cadets at the U.S. Military Academy from 1992-94. He later commanded the 2nd Armored Division, and in 1998 was promoted to Lieutenant General, commanding the U.S. Fifth Army at Fort Sam Houston, Texas from August 1998 until his retirement in August 2000.

Robert Foley was named a West Point Distinguished Graduate in 2009.



Captain Foley's Medal of Honor citation reads:

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty.

Capt. Foley's company was ordered to extricate another company of the battalion. Moving through the dense jungle to aid the besieged unit, Company A encountered a strong enemy force occupying well-concealed, defensive positions, and the company's leading element quickly sustained several casualties. Capt. Foley immediately ran forward to the scene of the most intense action to direct the company's efforts. Deploying one platoon on the flank, he led the other two platoons in an attack on the enemy in the face of intense fire.

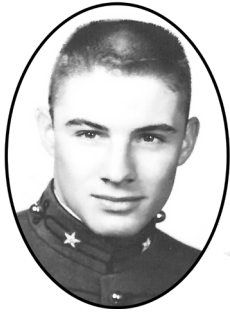
During this action both radio operators accompanying him were wounded. At grave risk to himself, he defied the enemy's murderous fire and helped the wounded operators to a position where they could receive medical care. As he moved forward again one of his machine-gun crews was wounded. Seizing the weapon, he charged forward firing the machine gun, shouting orders, and rallying his men, thus maintaining the momentum of the attack. Under increasingly heavy enemy fire he ordered his assistant to take cover and, alone, Capt. Foley continued to advance firing the machine gun until the wounded had been evacuated and the attack in this area could be resumed.

When movement on the other flank was halted by the enemy's fanatical defense, Capt. Foley moved to personally direct this critical phase of the battle. Leading the renewed effort he was blown off his feet and wounded by an enemy grenade. Despite his painful wounds he refused medical aid and persevered in the forefront of the attack on the enemy redoubt. He led the assault on several enemy gun emplacements and, singlehandedly, destroyed three such positions. His outstanding personal leadership under intense enemy fire during the fierce battle which lasted for several hours inspired his men to heroic efforts and was instrumental in the ultimate success of the operation.

Capt. Foley's magnificent courage, selfless concern for his men, and professional skill reflect the utmost credit upon himself and the U.S. Army.

UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

CLASS of 1965



Captain Paul W. Bucha

Cullum No. 25503



Paul Bucha was awarded the Medal of Honor for his actions during the period March 16-19, 1968, while serving as Commander of Company D, 3rd Battalion, 187th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade, 101st Airborne Division, near Phuoc Vinh, Binh Duong Province, Vietnam.

Upon returning to the United States, Bucha taught in the West Point Department of Social Sciences until resigning from the Army in 1972.

In 1978, while working as chief of operations in Iran for Ross Perot's company, Electronic Data Systems (EDS), Bucha helped plan the rescue of U.S. citizens illegally detained in Iran just before that nation's 1979 revolution. Later he was active in a variety of business ventures, and held numerous leadership roles, eventually serving as chairman of the board of Wheeling-Pittsburgh Steel Corporation and as president of the Congressional Medal of Honor Society.

Paul Bucha was named a West Point Distinguished Graduate in 2014.



Captain Bucha's Medal of Honor citation reads:

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty.

Capt. Bucha distinguished himself while serving as commanding officer, Company D, on a reconnaissance-in-force mission against enemy forces near Phuoc Vinh. The company was inserted by helicopter into the suspected enemy stronghold to locate and destroy the enemy. During this period Capt. Bucha aggressively and courageously led his men in the destruction of enemy fortifications and base areas and eliminated scattered resistance impeding the advance of the company. On 18 March while advancing to contact, the lead elements of the company became engaged by the heavy automatic-weapon, heavy machine-gun, rocket-propelled-grenade, claymore-mine and small-arms fire of an estimated battalion-size force.

Capt. Bucha, with complete disregard for his safety, moved to the threatened area to direct the defense and ordered reinforcements to the aid of the lead element. Seeing that his men were pinned down by heavy machine-gun fire from a concealed bunker located some 40 meters to the front of the positions, Capt. Bucha crawled through the hail of fire to singlehandedly destroy the bunker with grenades. During this heroic action Capt. Bucha received a painful shrapnel wound. Returning to the perimeter, he observed that his unit could not hold its positions and repel the human wave assaults launched by the determined enemy. Capt. Bucha ordered the withdrawal of the unit elements and covered the withdrawal to positions of a company perimeter from which he could direct fire upon the charging enemy. When one friendly element retrieving casualties was ambushed and cut off from the perimeter, Capt. Bucha ordered them to feign death and he directed artillery fire around them.

During the night Capt. Bucha moved throughout the position, distributing ammunition, providing encouragement, and insuring the integrity of the defense. He directed artillery, helicopter-gunship and Air Force-gunship fire on the enemy strong points and attacking forces, marking the positions with smoke grenades. Using flashlights in complete view of enemy snipers, he directed the medical evacuation of three air-ambulance loads of seriously wounded personnel and the helicopter supply of his company.

At daybreak Capt. Bucha led a rescue party to recover the dead and wounded members of the ambushed element. During the period of intensive combat, Capt. Bucha, by his extraordinary heroism, inspirational example, outstanding leadership, and professional competence, led his company in the decimation of a superior enemy force which left 156 dead on the battlefield.

His bravery and gallantry at the risk of his life are in the highest traditions of the military service. Capt. Bucha has reflected great credit on himself, his unit, and the U.S. Army.

The United States Service Academies

The U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, founded in 1802, is the oldest of our nation's service academies.

The U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland was founded in 1845 at Fort Severn, where the Severn River enters the Chesapeake Bay. It commissions about 1,000 officers each year, including approximately 75% U.S. Navy ensigns, and 25% U.S. Marine lieutenants. John Paul Jones, considered the *Father of the American Navy*, and who appears on Scott No. 790 in the Army-Navy series (see page 85), is interred in a sarcophagus at the Naval Academy Chapel. The dome of the chapel appears in the background of Scott No. 3001 seen on the next page.

The U.S. Coast Guard Academy was founded in 1876 at the mouth of the Thames River in New London, Connecticut. It began as a shipboard operation until 1900, when a land-based campus was established in Curtis Bay, Maryland (near Baltimore). In 1910 it relocated to Fort Trumbull, a Revolutionary War fort in New London, Connecticut. Fort Trumbull was the new location of the Academy until 1932, when the citizens of New London donated land to the Treasury Department for the present site of the Academy. The Coast Guard Academy commissions about 200 Coast Guard ensigns each year.

The U.S. Merchant Marine Academy was dedicated at Kings Point, New York (on the North Shore of Long Island) on September 30, 1943, by President Franklin D. Roosevelt, who noted "the Academy serves the Merchant Marine as West Point serves the Army and Annapolis the Navy." Kings Point commissions about 200 officers each year. Graduates are licensed Merchant Marine Officers and commissioned officers in the U.S. Military Services. They can choose to work five years in the U.S. maritime industry (with eight years of service as an officer in any reserve unit of the Military Services), or five years on active duty in any of the Military Services.

The U.S. Air Force Academy (USAFA) was established in Colorado Springs, Colorado in April 1954. Prior to that time, Air Force officers were commissioned from other sources, including West Point and Annapolis. Similar to these academies, USAFA commissions about 1,000 lieutenants each year into the U.S. Air Force and the recently created U.S. Space Force. The Academy's chapel, considered among the most beautiful examples of modern American academic architecture, appears on Scott No. 3838 seen on the next page.

The United States Service Academies

United States Military Academy

West Point, New York
Established March 16, 1802



Scott No. 789



Scott No. 3560

United States Naval Academy

Annapolis, Maryland
Established October 10, 1845



Scott No. 794



Scott No. 3001

United States Air Force Academy

Colorado Springs, Colorado
Established April 1, 1954



Scott No. 3838

United States Coast Guard Academy

New London, Connecticut
Established 1876



Scott No. 936

United States Merchant Marine Academy

Kings Point, New York
Established September 30, 1943



Scott No. 939

Neither the Coast Guard Academy nor the Merchant Marine Academy has been honored on a U.S. postage stamp. The stamps above were issued in 1945 and 1946 to honor these vital sea-based services.

Post Offices Dedicated to West Point Graduates

In addition to postage stamps, there are other ways in which the Postal Service honors West Point graduates. Since 1967, Congress has passed individual laws dedicating postal facilities in honor of individuals. In that period, over 800 Americans (or groups, such as the Tuskegee Airmen), including ten West Point graduates, have been recognized in this manner. In each case, a memorial plaque is mounted in a prominent place in the Post Office.

The Post Offices honoring graduates are in nine different states from across the country, most of them in small, hometown communities. The first Post Office to be named in honor of a West Point graduate, Henry O. Flipper (USMA 1877), was in Thomasville, Georgia in 1998. The most distinguished graduate among these dedications is General of the Armies John J. Pershing (USMA 1886), in whose honor the Post Office in Pershing's boyhood home of Laclede, Missouri was dedicated in 2004. Pershing is the only one of these graduates who is also featured on a postage stamp (see pages 53-55).

These Post Offices help to tell the West Point story, and the stories of service and sacrifice made by a select few members of the *Long Gray Line*. Seven of the ten graduates were killed in action. Each is a recipient of the Purple Heart, awarded in the name of the President to those wounded or killed while serving with the U.S. military.

The Purple Heart is the oldest military award still given to U.S. military members. The original Purple Heart, designated as the Badge of Military Merit, was established by order of George Washington on August 7, 1782 – then the commander-in-chief of the Continental Army – from his Newburgh, New York headquarters, just a short distance from West Point. Washington had established his headquarters in Newburgh earlier that year in March, due to its relatively safe location north of strategically important West Point.

Scott No. 3784
Issued May 30, 2003
Mt. Vernon, Virginia

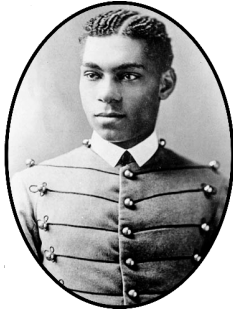


Scott No. 727
Issued April 19, 1933
Newburgh, New York

The Post Offices in this section are listed in the order of the class year of the honored graduate. A complete list of these Post Offices can be found in Appendix H.

UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

CLASS of 1877



Lieutenant Henry Ossian Flipper

1856 - 1940

Cullum No. 2690

**Thomasville, Georgia Post Office
at Tall Timbers Village Square (31757)**

Public Law 105-277, October 21, 1998



Born into slavery in Thomasville, Georgia, Henry Flipper was West Point's first African American graduate and the first African American commissioned officer in the regular U.S. Army. He graduated in 1877; it would be another ten years until the next African American cadet graduated.

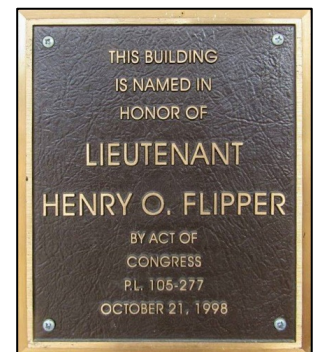
Flipper was stationed first at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, and later served at Forts Elliott, Quitman, and Davis, Texas. He served as a signal officer and quartermaster, fought Apaches, installed telegraph lines, and supervised the building of roads. At Fort Sill, Flipper directed the construction of a drainage system that helped prevent the spread of malaria. Still known as "Flipper's Ditch," the ditch is commemorated by a bronze marker at Fort Sill.

Flipper published his autobiography, *The Colored Cadet at West Point*, in 1878.

Georgia Senator Max Cleland introduced the legislation in the U.S. Senate to dedicate the Tall Timbers Village Square station in Flipper's honor. It was signed into law as part of an omnibus funding bill by President Bill Clinton on October 21, 1998.

The Lt. Henry O. Flipper Commemorative Stamp Committee of Thomasville has been working for years to have the USPS issue a stamp in Flipper's honor. This continues to be a work in progress.

Henry Flipper is buried in Flipper Cemetery, Thomasville, Georgia.



UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

CLASS of 1937



Captain Colin P. Kelly Jr.

1915 – 1941

Cullum No. 10983

Madison, Florida Post Office (32340)

Public Law 106-233, July 6, 2000



Colin Kelly was the first West Pointer to be killed in combat in World War II and the first major national war hero.

At the beginning of World War II, Kelly was a B-17 pilot stationed at Clark Field in the Phillipines. On December 10, 1941, only three days after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, following a bomber attack on a Japanese aircraft carrier, Kelly was jumped by two Japanese fighters as he approached Clark Field. His plane was critically damaged, but Kelly managed to keep it flying long enough for his crew to evacuate, after which the plane crashed with Kelly aboard. A crewman stated afterwards that “If Captain Kelly had not remained at the controls, none of the crew would have survived.”

Colin Kelly was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, the military’s second highest award for extreme gallantry and risk of life in combat. General “Hap” Arnold placed Kelly in the Air Force Hall of Fame.

U.S. Congressman Allen Boyd (2nd District) introduced the legislation to dedicate the Madison, Florida Post Office to Captain Kelly in 1999. It was approved and signed into law by President Bill Clinton on July 6, 2000.

Colin Kelly is buried in Oakridge Cemetery, Madison, Florida.



Scott No. 5065
Issued May 30, 2016
New York, New York

UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

CLASS of 1950



General Charles A. Gabriel

1928 – 2003

Cullum No. 17630

Iron Station, North Carolina Post Office (28080)

Public Law 108-053, July 14, 2003



Charles Alvin Gabriel was the 11th Chief of Staff of the U.S. Air Force, and one of the last two West Point graduates to serve in that capacity.

Gabriel flew F-86 combat missions during the Korean War, shooting down two MIG-15s before completing 100 missions. During the Vietnam War, he commanded the 432nd Tactical Reconnaissance Wing at Udon Royal Thai Air Force Base, Thailand, flying 152 combat missions in F-4 Phantom IIs. In July 1980, Gabriel assumed command of the U.S. Air Forces in Europe (USAFE) and Allied Air Forces in central Europe. He was the first USAFE commander to have combat and command experience in both the Korean and Vietnam wars.

Gabriel was appointed Air Force Chief of Staff in 1982, serving in that capacity until 1986. During his tenure he focused on modernizing Air Force strategic forces after years of neglect.

Legislation to dedicate the Iron Station Post Office building to General Gabriel was introduced by U.S. Congressman Cass Ballenger (10th District), and signed into law by President George W. Bush on July 14, 2003.

Charles Gabriel is buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

THIS BUILDING
IS NAMED IN
HONOR OF

GENERAL CHARLES
GABRIEL

BY ACT OF
CONGRESS
P.L. 108-53
JULY 14, 2003



UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

CLASS of 1991



Major William F. Hecker III

1968 – 2006

Cullum No. 48266

Vienna, Virginia Post Office (22180)

Public Law 109-408, December 18, 2006



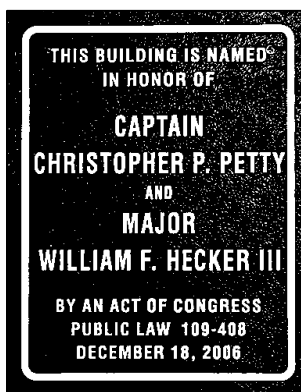
Major William Hecker was killed in action during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Hacker was among five soldiers killed on January 5, 2006 when an improvised explosive device detonated near their Humvee in Najaf, south of Baghdad during convoy operations. Also killed were Capt. Christopher Petty, Sgt. 1st Class Stephen White, Sgt. Johnny Peralez Jr., and Pvt. Robbie Mariano.

Hecker had also served as an assistant English professor at West Point for three years. In 2005, he edited and published a book about Edgar Allan Poe's time as a West Point cadet titled, *Private Perry and Mister Poe: The West Point Poems, 1831*.

Legislation to dedicate the Vienna, Virginia Post Office building to Captain Petty and Major Hecker was introduced by U.S. Congressman Tom Davis (11th District), and signed into law by President George W. Bush on December 18, 2006.

William Hecker is buried in Summerfield Cemetery, Summerfield, Illinois.



UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

CLASS of 1997



Captain Matthew J. August

1975 – 2004

Cullum No. 53873

Saunderstown, Rhode Island Post Office (02874)

Public Law 115-313, December 13, 2018

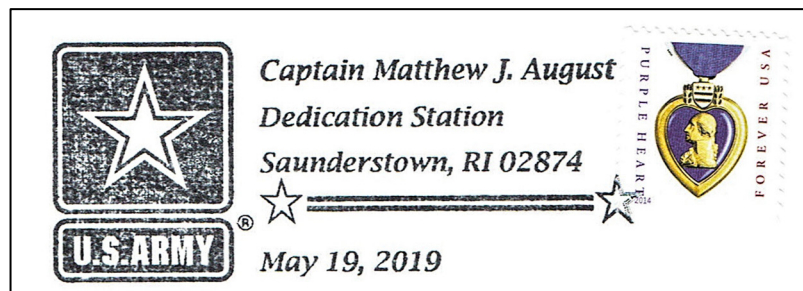


Captain Matthew August was killed in action during Operation Iraqi Freedom while on a mission outside of Baghdad, Iraq.

In September 2003, August's engineer unit was deployed and attached to the 82nd Airborne Division in the Sunni Triangle near Falluja, Iraq. On January 27, 2004, Sergeant Tom Oyster, a member of August's unit, was leading a convoy of vehicles on a mission to find and destroy a cache of munitions used by insurgents near Khalidiya. He said that Captain August stopped him, saying that something didn't look right, and then drove around him and took the lead. August's vehicle was hit by two explosive devices and pelleted by small arms fire. August was killed immediately, as was his first sergeant and the Humvee's driver. The vehicle's gunner died of his injuries two days later.

August was the first Rhode Islander to be killed in action during Operation Iraqi Freedom. U.S. Senator John F. "Jack" Reed (USMA 1971) sponsored the bill for the dedication of the Saunderstown Post Office in the Senate. President Donald Trump signed the bill on December 13, 2018.

Matthew August is buried at the U.S. Military Academy cemetery at West Point. His West Point class ring is on display in the cadet library at West Point.



UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

CLASS of 2002



First Lieutenant Todd J. Bryant

1980 – 2003

Cullum No. 58605

Jurupa Valley, California Post Office at Rubidoux Station (92509)

Public Law 110-027, May 25, 2007



Lieutenant Todd Bryant was killed in action during Operation Iraqi Freedom while on a mission in Fallujah, Iraq.

Bryant was a tank platoon leader assigned to 1st Brigade, 1st Infantry Division. He was killed while on patrol October 31, 2003 when an improvised explosive device exploded in Fallujah, Iraq. Bryant succumbed to his wounds before he could be medevaced.

Legislation to dedicate the Riverside, California Post Office building to Lieutenant Bryant was introduced by U.S. Congressman Ken Calvert (44th District), and signed into law by President Bill Clinton on May 25, 2007. Representative Calvert had appointed Bryant to the U.S. Military Academy in 1998. Bryant interned in Representative Calvert's district office before his final year at West Point.

Todd Bryant is buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

THIS BUILDING IS NAMED
IN HONOR OF

LIEUTENANT
TODD JASON BRYANT

BY AN ACT OF CONGRESS
PUBLIC LAW
110-27
MAY 25, 2007

UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

CLASS of 2003



Captain Rhett W. Schiller

1980 – 2006

Cullum No. 60143

Waterford, Wisconsin Post Office (53185)

Public Law 112-279, January 14, 2013

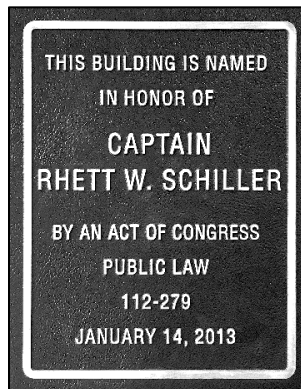


Captain Rhett W. Schiller was killed in action in Balad Ruz, Iraq, during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Schiller was assigned to the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division. On November 16, 2006, Schiller's 100th day in the country, while leading a squad of six paratroopers and six Iraqi Army soldiers, Schiller's unit came under small arms fire during a canal cleaning operation. Schiller died of injuries sustained in the attack.

Legislation to dedicate the Waterford Post Office building to Captain Schiller was introduced by Speaker of the House Paul Ryan (Wisconsin 1st District), and signed into law by President Bill Clinton on January 14, 2013. Speaker Ryan had appointed Schiller to the U.S. Military Academy in 1999.

Rhett Schiller is buried in Saint Thomas Aquinas Cemetery, Waterford, Wisconsin.



UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

CLASS of 2008



First Lieutenant Robert W. Collins

1985 – 2010

Cullum No. 64279

Tyrone, Georgia Post Office (30290)

Public Law 111-379, January 4, 2011

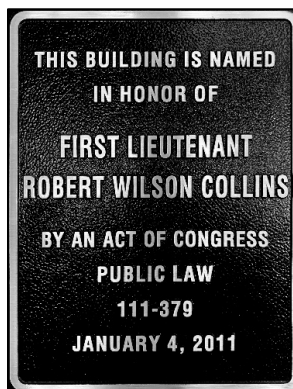


Lieutenant Robert W. Collins was killed in action in Mosul, Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

On April 7, 2010, while assigned to the 1st Battalion, 64th Armor Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, from Fort Stewart, Georgia, enemy forces attacked his vehicle with an improvised explosive device. Besides Collins, who was the platoon leader, the roadside explosion also killed the vehicle's driver and injured five others.

U.S. Senator Saxby Chambliss sponsored the bill for the dedication of the Tyrone, Georgia Post Office in the Senate. President Barack Obama signed the bill on January 4, 2011.

Robert Collins is buried in Forest Lawn Memorial Park, Newnan, Georgia.



UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

CLASS of 2008



First Lieutenant Salvatore S. Corma II

1985 – 2010

Cullum No. 64290

Deptford Township, New Jersey Post Office (08096)

Public Law 114-175, June 13, 2016

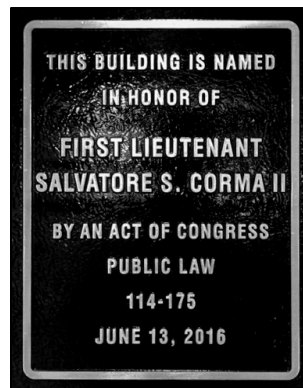


Salvatore Corma was killed in action in 2010 during the Global War on Terror while serving in Afghanistan.

Corma was assigned to 508th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division, at Forward Operating Base Bullard in Afghanistan. On April 29, 2010, his last instructions to his soldiers was for them to get behind cover while he marked an improvised explosive device (IED) for explosive ordnance disposal. The device exploded, killing Lieutenant Corma instantly.

Legislation to dedicate the Deptford Post Office building to Lieutenant Corma was introduced by U.S. Congressman Daniel Norcross (1st District) and signed into law by President Barack Obama on June 13, 2016.

Salvatore Corma is buried at the U.S. Military Academy cemetery at West Point.



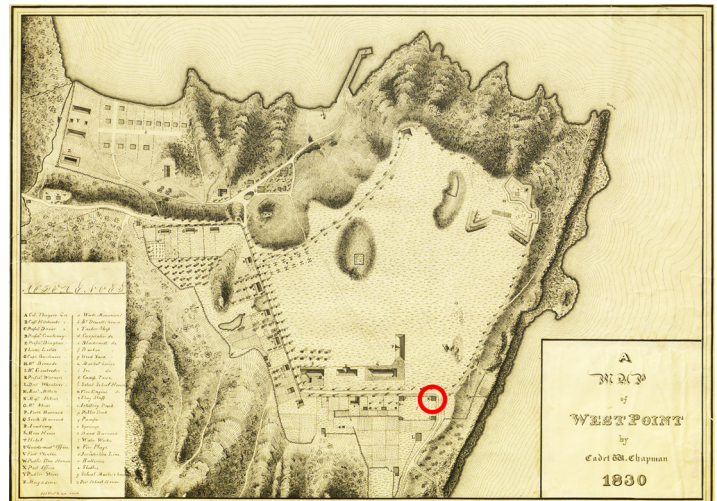


A Brief History of the West Point Post Office

In 1815, thirteen years after the founding of the United States Military Academy, the West Point Post Office was established. Mr. Andrew Ellicott was assigned as the first Postmaster, at an annual salary of \$225.46. Ellicott had joined the faculty as a professor of mathematics and was still serving in that capacity when he became postmaster. (In 1803, President Jefferson had engaged Ellicott to be a tutor and mentor for Meriwether Lewis, co-leader of the Lewis & Clark expedition.) Only forty years after the Continental Congress had appointed Benjamin Franklin as the first Postmaster General, the West Point Post Office was among the earliest post offices established in Orange County, New York. It would be another thirty-two years until the United States issued its first postage stamps in 1847.

Between 1815 and 1836, at least six individuals served as West Point Postmasters, and two of these were Academy graduates: John Wright (USMA 1814), and Oliver G. Burton (USMA 1808). It appears that the role may have been one of several responsibilities assigned during an individual's tenure at the Academy. Turnover declined with the appointment of Claudius Berard, USMA Professor of French, who served as Postmaster from 1836 until his death in 1848. Today, the selection of Postmaster is determined by the U.S. Postal Service, who operates the unit, though the facility also falls under the jurisdiction of the West Point Garrison Commander. (A complete listing of West Point Postmasters is shown in Appendix B.)

An 1830 map of West Point by Cadet William Chapman (USMA 1831) shows the Post Office (circled in red) near the site of the present day Library. At some point, it was moved to Quarters 145, which in 1848 was a wood-framed building serving as the Post Office and home of the Postmaster (near present-day Eisenhower Hall). The Post Office was located there until 1909, when it moved to the Academy's new Administration Building (which currently serves as the Office of the Dean).





Located below The Plain near present-day Eisenhower Hall, Quarters 145 served as the Post Office and Postmaster's quarters in the latter half of the 19th century.



West Point Postmaster George Ferrell (r) receiving the keys to Building 634 on December 11, 1961

In 1962, the Post Office moved to its present location in Building 634, on Swift Road opposite Buffalo Soldier Field. (Swift Road is named for Joseph Gardner Swift, the first graduate of West Point in 1802. He later served as Superintendent from 1812-1814.) The Post Office also maintains a branch in the basement of Washington Hall (Building 745) to serve the Corps of Cadets.

Just prior to World War II, there were fewer than 2,000 cadets at West Point; today there are over 4,200. As the size of the Corps of Cadets grew, so did the volume of mail. Until the end of the twentieth century, traditional written letters were the primary means for cadets to correspond with the world outside the Academy. Mobile phones, and the internet as we know it today, did not yet exist, and the number of landline phones in the cadet barracks area was limited. Each morning (except Sundays), the Cadet-in-Charge-of-Quarters (CCQ) for each cadet company would pick up a large sack of mail at the Post Office. Cadet Plebes (freshmen) were appointed “mail carriers” in each company, who then sorted the mail and delivered it to cadet rooms between morning classes and the noon meal.



Sacks of cadet mail ready for pick-up and delivery to cadet company orderly rooms, circa 1960

Cadet outgoing mail was handled similarly. Upperclassmen would stick letters to be mailed behind the nametags on the doors to their rooms. Cadet Plebes would pick up the items to be mailed and drop them in the nearest mailbox.

At some point in the early 1980s, individual cadet mail boxes were installed in Washington Hall. Cadets began sending and retrieving their own mail, and Plebe mail service became a thing of the past. Delivering mail to cadets during their summer training at nearby Camp Buckner is still a very manual process; mail boxes in Washington Hall for those cadets are blocked, and their mail is taken in sacks to Camp Buckner for distribution in classic “mail call” fashion.

ZIP Code 10996 was assigned to West Point when the Zone Improvement Plan (ZIP) system was instituted in 1963. In November 1979, ZIP Code 10997 was added specifically for cadet mail for ease of sorting.

The West Point Post Office and the Air Force Academy Post Office in Colorado Springs, Colorado are the only central full service post offices on service academy grounds; the Naval, Coast Guard and Merchant Marine Academies have USPS branch offices of the Post Office in the nearest town or city.

According to USPS statistics, first class mail delivery has dropped by nearly half since it peaked in 2001. West Point has seen similar declines, as email and social media have replaced traditional forms of correspondence. On the other hand, since 2012, the West Point Post Office has assumed responsibility for delivering all UPS and FedEx

packages to cadets. All such packages are scanned through the West Point Post Office before being delivered to the Cadet Area.



The West Point Post Office (Bldg 634) as it appears in 2020

Today the West Point Post Office has a staff of ten and serves approximately 1,140 delivery points across Academy grounds, as well as over 4,000 individual cadet mail boxes.

The Post Office also provides pictorial postmarks for Graduation Day and other special events. Examples of these are included in the next section.

Several letters and envelopes from the West Point Post Office's early period are shown below and on the next few pages to illustrate different aspects of postal history.



This January 1837 stampless letter was sent by Cadet James Soley (USMA 1837) to his father in Boston. It is a folded and sealed letter in lieu of an envelope. This was before the U.S. issued its first stamps in 1847.

The "PAID" notation indicates that the sender paid for postage.

The handstamp at the top, dated February 1946, states that this cover came from the private collection of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, an avid stamp collector.

(Worthpoint

This 1848 cover is postmarked “West Point NY Feb 29”.

It is affixed with a brown imperforate 5-cent Benjamin Franklin stamp – Scott No. 1 – one of the first two stamps issued by the U.S. on July 1, 1847. (Scott No. 2 was a black, 10-cent stamp depicting George Washington.)

Postal rates were determined by the weight and distance letters traveled. Letters traveling 300 miles or less were 5¢ per half ounce, while those mailed over 300 miles were 10¢ per half ounce. This was relatively costly, considering that first class postage one hundred years later in 1947 was 3¢ per ounce to anywhere in the continental U.S.

This cover is extremely rare. As of 2009, it was the earliest known West Point cover featuring either of the first two postal issues. It sold at auction in 2009 for \$8,365.



This letter, sent to Cadet John Adair (USMA 1861) on December 23, 1856, from Astoria, Oregon, was received on January 29, 1857 – over 5 weeks in transit!

The embossed envelope is Scott No. U18, one of the first series of such envelopes, issued in 1853.

This envelope sent to Cadet Charles Grierson (USMA 1879) from San Antonio, Texas, is addressed with beautiful Spencerian Script, popular in the late 19th century.

A bust of George Washington is featured on Scott No. 138, a common definitive stamp issued in 1873.

The “WAY” mark indicates that the letter was hand-carried for at least a portion of its journey because it could not be placed in an already-locked mail bag.

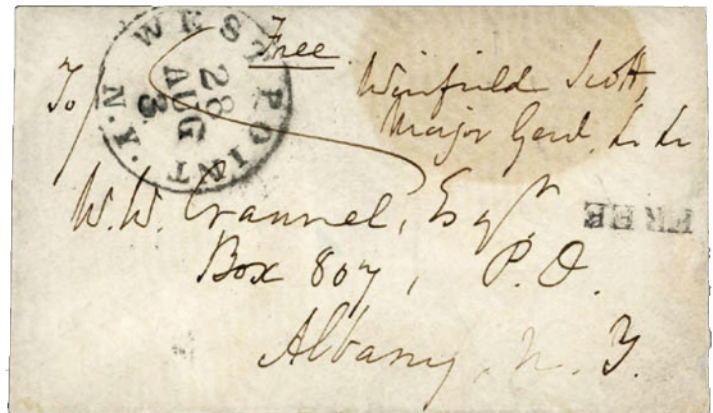


This letter was sent by Major General Winfield Scott from West Point to Albany, New York, sometime during the late 1850s or early 1860s (based upon the type of postmark).

Winfield Scott was arguably the most renowned U.S. Army general of the first half of the nineteenth century. He ran for president as a Whig in 1852, losing to Franklin Pierce. In 1855 he was promoted to brevet lieutenant general, the first U.S. Army officer to hold that rank since George Washington. He was often called the “Grand Old Man of the Army” for his many years of service.

In retirement, he lived in New York City and West Point, where he died in 1866. Though a graduate of the College of William and Mary, Scott was buried in the West Point Cemetery.

Historians often consider Winfield Scott to be one of the most accomplished generals in U.S. history.



The cover is marked and stamped “Free”. If the sender was entitled to “franking privileges”, his or her signature was sufficient to allow the letter to be sent free of charge. While this privilege was usually reserved for members of Congress, at times it was extended to active duty service members and other designated individuals.



The back of the envelope is imprinted with Jenkins' 1887 class crest.

This envelope was sent by Cadet John M. Jenkins (USMA 1887) to his mother in South Carolina in 1886. Jenkins had a distinguished military career, retiring in 1927 as a Major General. He was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross and Purple Heart for actions taken while serving with the Third Infantry Division, AEF, in France in 1918.

The postage stamp, Scott No. 210, was issued in 1883 and features a bust of George Washington. This cover is a good example of the difference between a cancellation – the marking on the stamp so that it cannot be reused – and a postmark – the handstamp showing the date and post office location.

Commemorative Pictorial Postmarks

As a community service, the Postal Service offers pictorial postmarks to commemorate local events celebrated throughout the country. Requests, along with proposed designs, are submitted to the USPS for approval. Once approved, items may be mailed or hand-delivered to the event post office for postmarking on the day of the event.

Although the terms ‘cancellation’ and ‘postmark’ are often used interchangeably, according to the USPS they are not the same thing. A cancellation is used to deface or “kill” a stamp to prevent its reuse, whereas a postmark is used to indicate the Post Office of origin, as well as the date and time of mailing. A postmark may be used as a cancellation, but a cancellation is never used as a postmark. A few examples of pictorial postmarks from the West Point Post Office are shown here. (Appendix E includes additional examples. More information about obtaining pictorial postmarks can be found in USPS Publication 186.)

Although not technically a pictorial postmark, the earliest known example of something similar at West Point is a 1952 machine slogan cancellation commemorating West Point’s 150th anniversary. West Point marked its sesquicentennial with a variety of activities throughout the first half of 1952, beginning with an inaugural ceremony on January 5, 1952. This postmark was used from January 5, 1952 through June 30, 1952, during which time over 750,000 pieces of mail were postmarked with this cancellation.

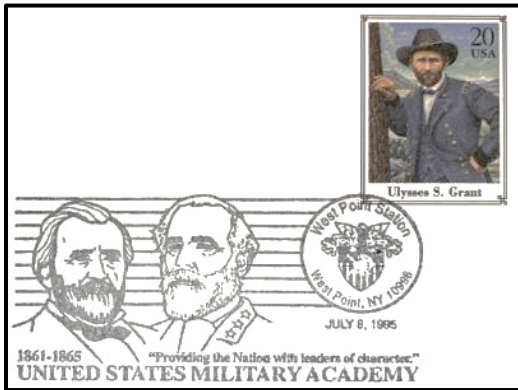
The postage stamp on the cover is a half-cent Benjamin Franklin, Scott No. 803, issued in 1938.

The cover is signed by Theresa Wielert, Acting Postmaster at the time.

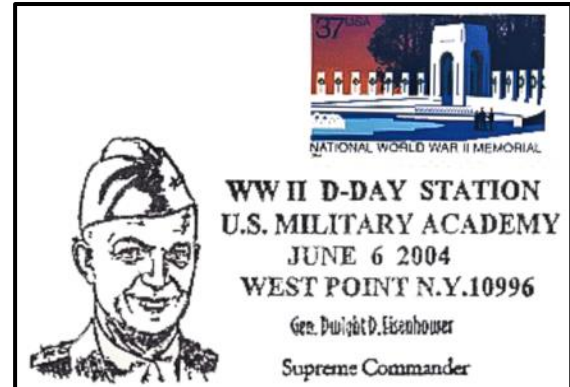


The official sesquicentennial medal was designed by Laura Gardin Fraser, who also designed the Sylvanus Thayer Medal shown on page 13.

Note the similarity between the “Torch of Leadership,” and the design of Scott No. 901, the 3-cent National Defense Issue shown on page 165.

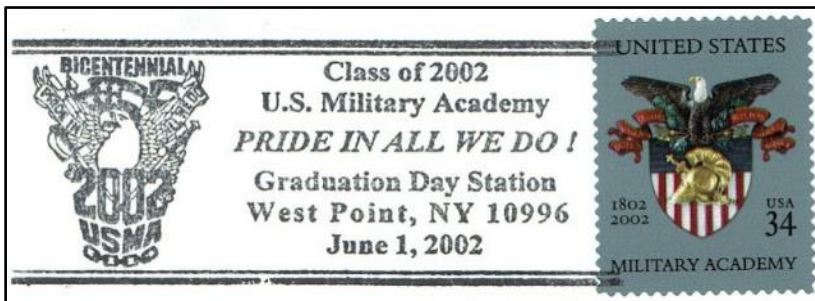


1995 West Point pictorial postmark honoring USMA graduates Robert E. Lee and Ulysses S. Grant



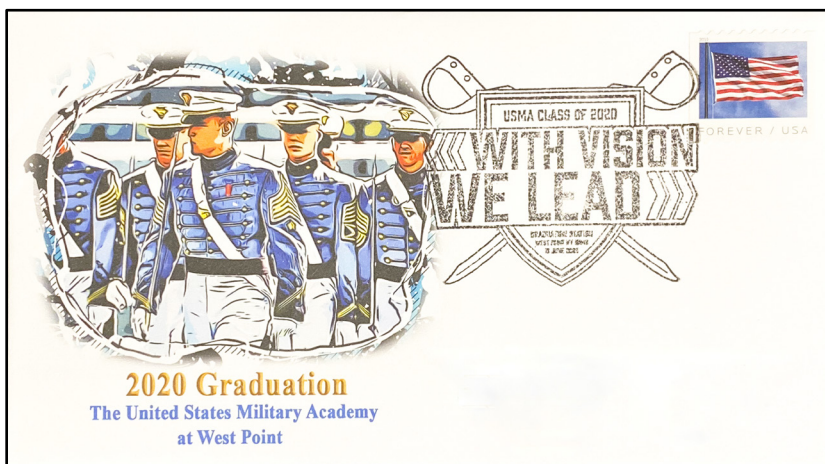
This postmark marked the 60th anniversary of D-Day, and features Scott No. 3862, issued a week earlier.

Since 2002, pictorial postmarks have been available for West Point graduation days. The designs often incorporate the class crest of the graduating class. Applications for such requests are usually made by parents of graduating cadets. Items are hand-stamped at the West Point Post Office. These have proven immensely popular with graduates and their families as a unique remembrance of this once in a lifetime event. (Appendix D includes additional graduation pictorial postmarks.)



The first graduation postmark, created for the Bicentennial Class of 2002

This 2020 graduation postmark was applied to a cacheted envelope.



The technology used for these hand-postmarked items is similar to that used over a century ago.

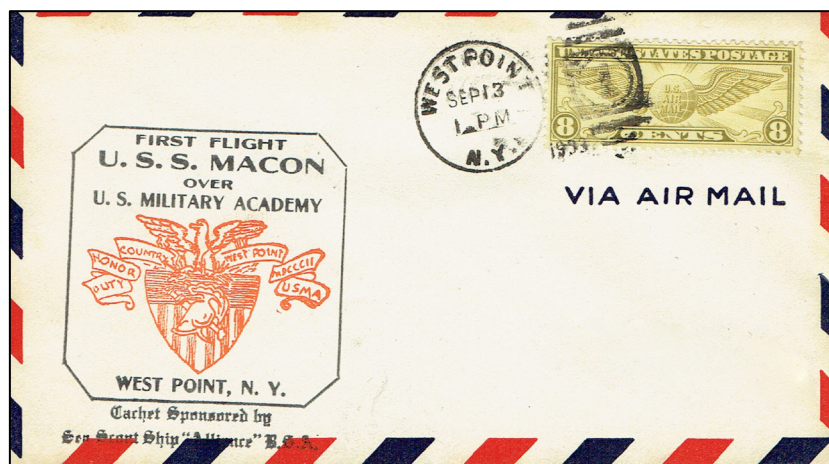


Commemorative Covers and Postcards

Commemorative “covers” – envelopes bearing cachets – are created for collectors to commemorate special events, and are usually postmarked on the occasion of the event and in the city where the event occurs. Along with commemorative pictorial postmarks (as shown in the previous section), these covers sometimes honor events or personalities unique to the local post office (e.g., the West Point Sesquicentennial or graduations), and other times link the local post office to a national event. In the latter case, covers similar to these may be found from post offices across the country. Examples of both are shown in this section.

The *USS Macon* (ZRS-5) was a dirigible built and operated by the U. S. Navy for scouting. Along with its “sister ship” the *USS Akron*, the *USS Macon* was among the largest flying objects in the world in terms of length and volume, and still holds the world record for helium-filled rigid airships.

This cover marked the flight of the *USS Macon* up the Hudson River and over West Point on September 13, 1933. Commander Alger H. Dresel (USNA 1909), piloted the aircraft. Only 100 of these cachets were produced.



Scott No. C17, shown on this cover, was a standard airmail stamp issued in 1932. It depicts a winged globe – the symbol shown on the Post Office Department’s airmail service flag.

This “duplex handstamp” from Quantico, Virginia, manufactured by Pitney Bowes, is similar to that used to make the postmark shown above. (National Postal Museum)

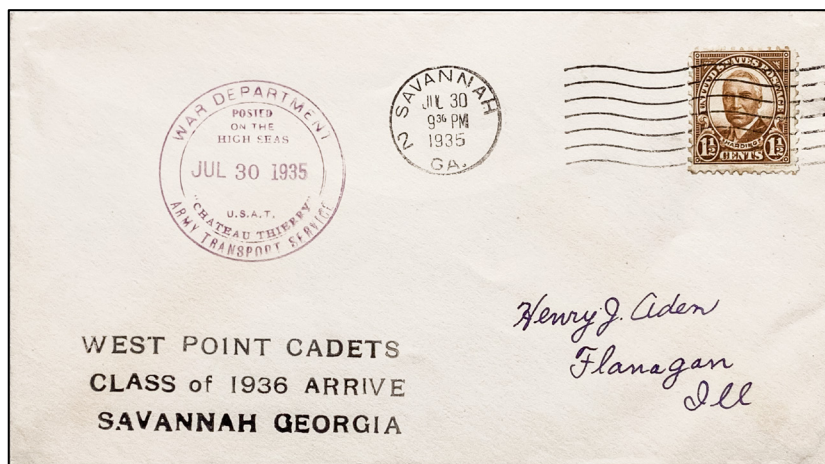


“Posted on the High Seas”

Although not postmarked at West Point, this cover tells an interesting story. In the summer of 1935, the West Point Class of 1936 traveled from New York to Georgia for ten days of infantry training at Fort Benning. They sailed from New York City to Savannah aboard the US Army transport vessel *USAT Chateau Thierry*, and then traveled by truck convoy to Fort Benning. This cover marks that event.

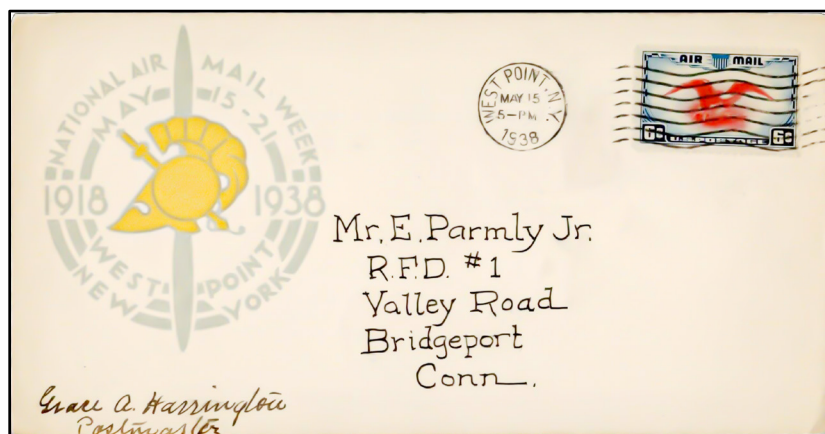
The Atlanta Constitution reported, “Savannah was in the hands of a spic and span battalion of budding young army officers tonight as 279 West Point cadets stopped here on their way to Fort Benning for summer training. The transport *Chateau Thierry* drew into dock at dusk here tonight with the cadets, resplendent in their white uniforms, ranged along the starboard rail...”

The ship was named in honor of the U.S. Army’s participation in the Battle of Chateau Thierry during World War I, one of the first actions of the American Expeditionary Forces under General John J. Pershing. First Lieutenant John Bissell (USMA 1917) was awarded the French *Croix de Guerre* with Palm and the U.S. Army Silver Star for his actions during that battle.



Scott No. 684, featuring President Warren Harding, was issued in 1930.

In 1938, to promote air mail service, a nation-wide public relations campaign was launched by President Franklin D. Roosevelt and Postmaster-General James A. Farley. *National Air Mail Week* took place during the week of May 15-21. To begin this promotion, a new air mail stamp, Scott No. C23, designed by Roosevelt, was issued on May 14th.



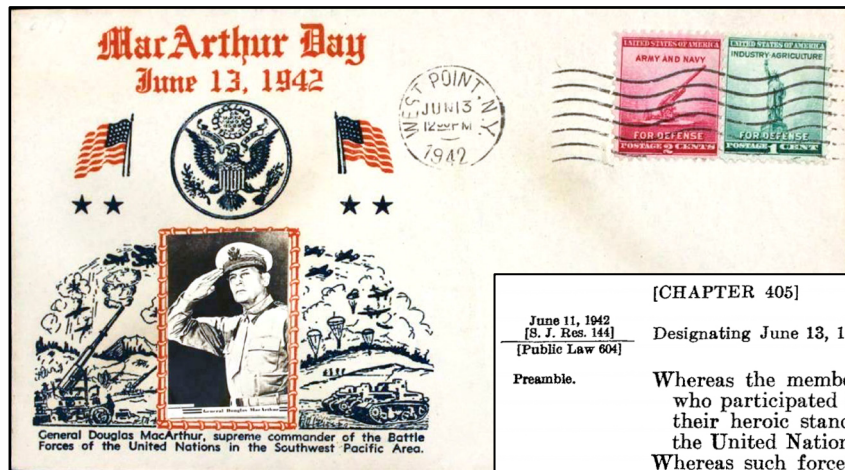
This cover was mailed by USMA Department of English instructor Capt. Eleazar Parmly III (USMA 1924) to his father. It is autographed by West Point Postmaster Grace Harrington.



Scott No. C23

Farley asked that every U.S. citizen send an airmail letter during the week. Postal officials encouraged special cachets to be applied to such letters. Twenty-four-hour airmail duty by volunteer pilots across the nation allowed many small towns to get one day of airmail service. Over sixteen million letters and nine thousand parcels were transported by air that week.

Congress declared June 13, 1942, *MacArthur Day*, on the 43rd anniversary of Douglas MacArthur's admission to West Point.



The National Defense postage stamps shown on this cover are discussed on page 165.

June 11, 1942
[S. J. Res. 144]
[Public Law 604]

Preamble.

Douglas MacArthur
Day.

[CHAPTER 405]

JOINT RESOLUTION

Designating June 13, 1942, as MacArthur Day, and authorizing its appropriate observance.

Whereas the members of the United States land and naval forces who participated in the defense of the Bataan Peninsula have, by their heroic stand, won the admiration of the peoples of all of the United Nations; and

Whereas such forces were first led by General Douglas MacArthur and then by General Jonathan Wainwright, who each exhibited sterling qualities of leadership in the defense of the Philippine Islands; and

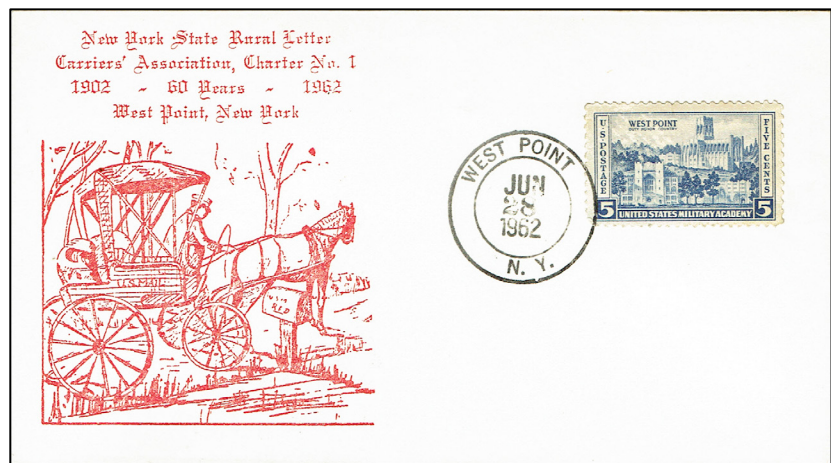
Whereas it is fitting that a day should be set aside and commemorated with suitable patriotic and public exercises as an honor to Generals MacArthur and Wainwright and to all the officers and men who took part in the defense of the Bataan Peninsula: Therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That June 13, 1942, the forty-third anniversary of the appointment of General MacArthur to the Military Academy at West Point, which marked the beginning of his brilliant career as a soldier, is hereby designated as Douglas MacArthur Day, in honor of himself and of all those in the American and Filipino armed forces who served with him and under him in heroic defense of the Philippine Islands.

Approved, June 11, 1942.

Thayer Hotel, one of the *Historic Hotels of America*, opened in 1926 on Academy grounds at West Point's south entrance, facing the Hudson River to the east, and Buffalo Soldier field diagonally across from the West Point Post Office. In addition to providing lodging for visiting dignitaries and cadets' guests, it attracts other visitors to West Point by hosting receptions, business meetings and conventions. This 1962 cover was postmarked during the annual convention of the New York State Rural Letter Carriers' Association (RLCA), held at West Point that year. The RLCA is one of the three primary postal workers unions in the U.S.

Twenty-five years after its initial appearance, the 1937 5-cent Army Blue stamp was used on this cover, linking the West Point stamp with the West Point Post Office and mail carriers.



In August 1970, President Nixon signed The Postal Reorganization Act, replacing the cabinet level Post Office Department with the newly created, independent United States Postal Service (USPS), effective July 1, 1971.

The stamp shown here, Scott No. 1396, was issued on the same day in all Post Offices across the country to mark the inauguration of the new service.

The cachet shows the horse and rider logo of the Post Office Department dating back to the 1800s, replaced by the logo of the new USPS.



On the morning of July 7, 1976, women were admitted to West Point for the first time. The future Class of 1980 included 119 women who entered on “R-Day” (Reception Day, the first day of Cadet Basic Training, commonly known as “Beast Barracks”). Of those women, sixty-two graduated on May 28, 1980, becoming second lieutenants in the Army, and making history in the process. Since that time, over 5,000 women have graduated from the Academy. Today, each class averages about 20% female enrollment.



This cover was postmarked at West Point on July 7, 1976, commemorating the first day that women entered the United States Military Academy.

Scott No. 1622, issued in 1975, features Independence Hall and the Betsy Ross flag.

In addition to West Point’s coat of arms, the cachet includes Scott No. 789, the 5-cent Army Blue, and Scott No. 1013, celebrating *Women in Our Armed Services*.



Scott No. 1013
Issued September 11, 1952

Picture postcards became popular beginning with the World Columbian Exposition in Chicago in 1893. In an era before widespread use of personal cameras, photographs in newspapers, and only shortly after publications such as the *Saturday Evening Post* began, picture postcards became a frequent and easy way to share memories of a visit with friends and family. West Point has been a destination for tourists for well over a century. Tourist postcards featuring West Point scenes first appeared around 1898. Many Americans' first glimpses of a cadet dress parade on The Plain were from postcards such as these shown here.

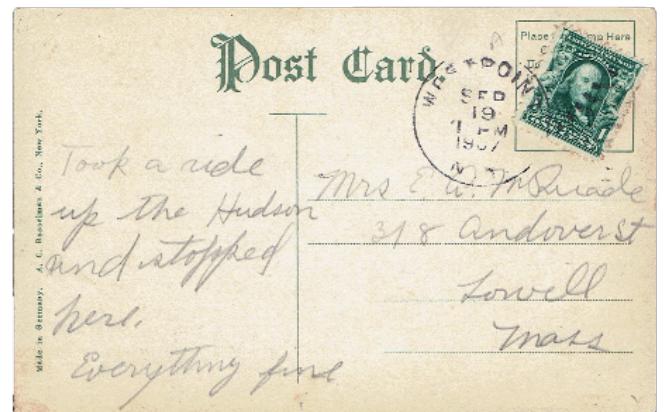
"The future American officers who will be passing in review..."

Less than ninety years after the Army had sent Sylvanus Thayer to France to study at its military academy, French visitors were writing home about what they had seen at West Point. A 2-cent stamp was sufficient to carry this card across the Atlantic in 1903.



"Took a ride up the Hudson and stopped here..."

Most early visitors to West Point arrived by train or boat, and often mailed their postcards once they arrived at their next destination or returned home. Thus, it is far less common to find scenes of West Point postmarked at the West Point Post Office.



These postcards feature two stamps issued in 1903 from the Second Bureau Issues – the first definitive stamps completely designed and produced for the Post Office Department by the craftsmen of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing (BEP). Together with the 4-cent Grant, Scott No. 303 (page 39), these are considered some of the most intricate and beautiful stamps ever produced by the BEP.

Since being featured on the first two U.S. stamps in 1847, George Washington has appeared on more than 300 U.S. stamps, and Benjamin Franklin on more than 130 U.S. stamps.



Scott No. 300



Scott No. 301



U.S.S. West Point (AP-23)

On May 28, 1941, the passenger ship *SS America*, flagship of the United States Lines, was called up to service by the United States Navy and ordered to return to Newport News, Virginia to be refitted as a U.S. Navy troop transport. Her maiden voyage had taken place barely a year earlier in August 1940. As a passenger ship, she was capable of carrying 1,200 passengers and a crew of about 600.

Within 17 hours of dry docking, the *SS America*'s hull had been completely repainted to a grey color - giving her the war time name "Grey Ghost." The ship was renamed the *USS West Point* (AP-23), the second U.S. Navy ship of the same name (the first had been during World War I). She was commissioned on June 15, 1941, under the command of Captain Frank H. Kelley, Jr. (USNA 1910). She was subsequently commanded by two more Annapolis graduates, Captain Robert A. Dyer, Jr. (USNA 1914), and Captain Webb C. Hayes (USNA 1911).



The *SS America* cruise liner, 1939

USS West Point had the largest capacity of any Navy troopship in service during World War II, carrying a total of over 350,000 troops during her naval service. On one voyage in August 1944, she carried a total of 9,305 (including ship's company). In addition to troops, she carried Red Cross workers, United Nations officials, civilians, prisoners of war, and U.S.O. entertainers. Following the war, *USS West Point* was decommissioned and entered back into commercial passenger service, sailing until 1994.



USS West Point, the "Grey Ghost" - 1941



This patch was created by the *USS West Point* Crew Reunion Association in the 1990s. The patch was worn proudly on blue caps by the Navy and Marine crew members in the Association.

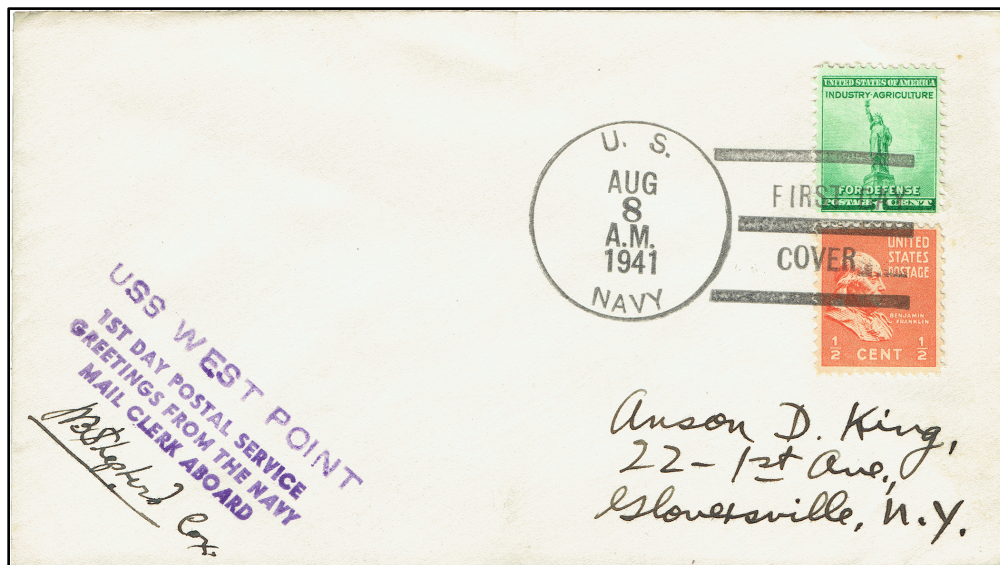
Considerable information about *SS America* and *USS West Point* is available on the internet. The definitive book on the subject is Lawrence Driscoll's *S.S. America, U.S.S. West Point, S.S. Australis, The Many Lives of a Great Ship*.

Naval Covers

Originally, a “navy cover” was just a letter or postcard from a sailor, with the postmark from the ship’s post office (Navy ships have had their own post offices since 1908). By the 1930s, collectors began sending their own envelopes (or “covers”) to ships to be hand-stamped with these postmarks and returned as collectibles. Often these marked an important event in the life of a ship such as its commissioning, shakedown cruise or special voyages (e.g., sub-surface arctic cruises).

In February 1942, Lt. Col. Thomas A. Glass (USMA 1933) activated the 816th Engineer Aviation Battalion at Fort Dix, New Jersey, and took the unit to England that August aboard the *USS West Point* to build a heavy bomber base at Gosfield in Essex. Colonel John S. Fisher (USMA 1925) was Commander of Troops aboard the *USS West Point* when she sailed to Bombay in November 1942 to take 8,000 Army Air Corps troops to the Burmese theater of operations. It is very likely that both of these men, and many other West Point graduates, mailed letters home to their loved ones with postmarks such as these.

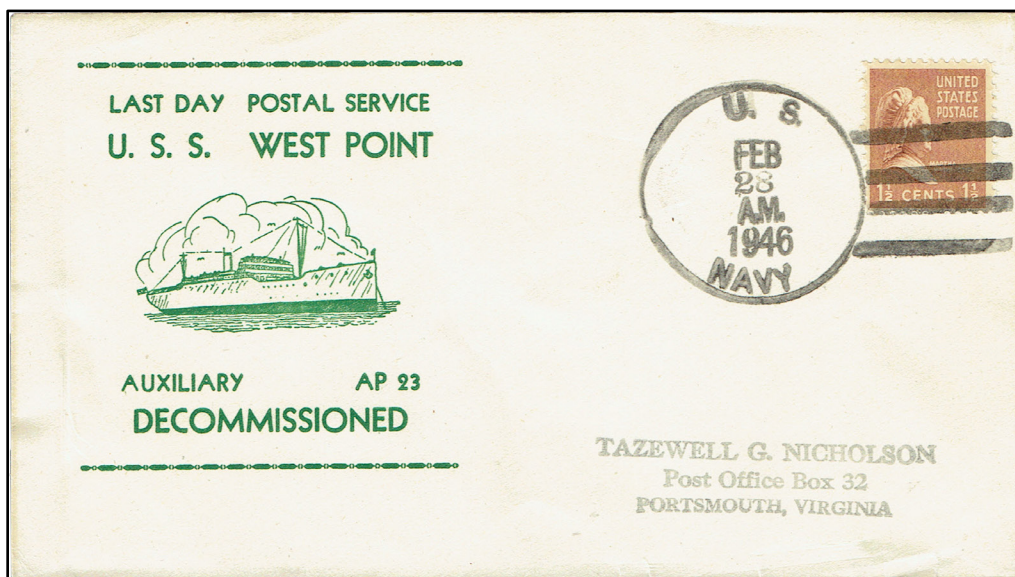
The cover below marks the first day of postal service aboard the *USS West Point* on August 8, 1941. This cover is signed by U.S. Navy Coxswain Nelson Bridwell Shepherd, who served aboard the *USS West Point* from 1941-1943 as mail clerk.



The first day postmark on the cover below includes the name of the ship. Several of these covers feature stamps from the National Defense series (see p. 165).



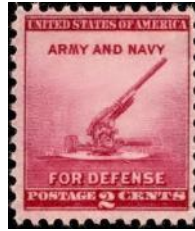
The cover below marks the end of postal service aboard the USS West Point. The ship was decommissioned on March 12, 1946. Following a multi-million dollar restoration, she was recommissioned as the SS America on November 10, 1946.



The National Defense stamps were issued in Washington, D.C. on October 16, 1940 - the first day of registration for America's first peacetime draft - and used as regular definitive stamps throughout World War II. With a total production of 19,677,985,200 stamps, the National Defense Issue was the largest printing to that date of any postage stamp series in the United States.



Scott No. 899

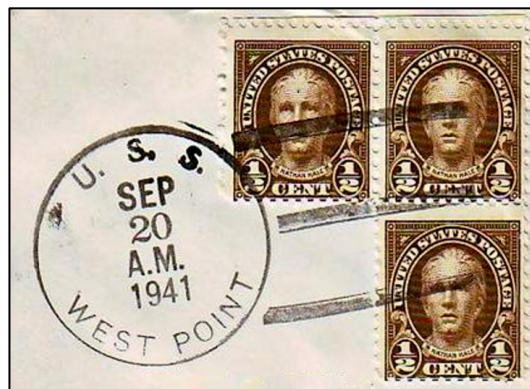


Scott No. 900



Scott No. 901

More examples of *USS West Point* postmarks are shown here. The stamps include the 3-cent National Defense issue shown above, the half-cent Franklin shown earlier, and a half-cent Nathan Hale, Scott No. 653, issued in 1929.





“Be Thou at Peace”

More than half of the deceased West Point graduates noted in this book are buried in Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, Virginia, just outside our nation’s capital.

Arlington National Cemetery is comprised of land that once belonged to George Washington Parke Custis, grandson of Martha Washington and step-grandson of George Washington. In 1857, Custis willed the 1,100-acre property to his daughter, Mary Anna Randolph Custis, who was married to Robert E. Lee. In May 1861, just weeks after Confederate troops had fired on the garrison at Fort Sumter, the Lee family vacated the estate, and federal troops occupied the property soon thereafter.

As the number of Civil War casualties outpaced the space available in cemeteries around the Washington, D.C. area, the property became a burial location. The first military burial took place on May 13, 1864. A month later, the War Department officially set aside approximately 200 acres of the property to use as a cemetery. A decade later, the Lee family sued the United States for ownership of the property. In 1882, the Supreme Court ruled in the Lee family’s favor, deciding that Arlington had been confiscated without due process. The property was returned to the Lee family, who then sold it back to the government for \$150,000, and the land remained with the War Department.

The Memorial Amphitheatre at Arlington National Cemetery, dedicated in 1920, is featured on Scott No. 570, issued on November 11, 1922, the third anniversary of Armistice Day. This also marked the first anniversary of the establishment of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, seen immediately in front of the Amphitheatre.



Scott No. 570

Today, Arlington National Cemetery covers more than 600 acres, and is the final resting place for over 400,000 active duty service members, veterans, and their families, including thousands of members of the *Long Gray Line*. Thousands of other Academy graduates, including many discussed in this book, are buried in the West Point cemetery, America’s oldest military post cemetery and a historic national landmark. Walking through these hallowed grounds is a journey through our nation’s history – commemorating the contributions and sacrifices made by West Pointers throughout the military, government, industry, education and the arts.

In Conclusion

In her book, *How the Post Office Created America: A History*, Winifred Gallagher emphasized that the United States would not be what it is today without the Post Office. For two centuries, it drove the expansion of roads and rail, strengthened connections between cities and rural communities, and fought all conditions to bring mail and packages to Americans' homes. By the mid-nineteenth century, these roads linked 28,000 post offices, where people sometimes waited in long lines to pick up their mail in an era before home delivery. It created and continues to provide a vital piece of our nation's infrastructure for relatively low-cost, rapid and efficient delivery of information and packages throughout the country.

It would be presumptuous to say that the Post Office has been as critical for the growth and success of West Point. Nevertheless, since its beginning in 1815 to support a military fort and school on the Hudson River north of New York City, the West Point Post Office has been a lifeline to the world outside the Military Academy. For most of that time it has served as the primary means for cadets, faculty, and staff to communicate with family, friends and military leadership. While the advent of widespread landline telephone use facilitated faster communications, it did not replace sending and receiving the written word. Only recently has the availability of the internet, email, and smartphones begun to replace services provided by the Postal Service. Even still, the Postal Service provides a critical function delivering packages throughout the Academy.

The motto of West Point's Department of History, shown on the poster on the back cover, is *Much of the history we teach was made by people we taught*. Even without an intentional, strategic plan to do so, the Post Office Department, and its successor, the U.S. Postal Service, have also helped to teach West Point's history and the legacy of the *Long Gray Line* to the American public. Postage stamps introduced faces and names of distinguished graduates across the country before widespread availability of newspaper photographs. As young stamp collectors added pieces to their collections, they met West Pointers and learned about their accomplishments for the first time. Pictorial postmarks have provided collectors and history buffs the chance to commemorate significant events in the Academy's long history. Post Office dedications have honored the sacrifices made by graduates and their families in fighting our nation's wars.

The Postal Service's mission states: *The Postal Service shall have as its basic function the obligation to provide postal services to bind the Nation together through the personal, educational, literary, and business correspondence of the people*. The services provided by the Post Office Department and the USPS to West Point and its graduates have reflected the Postal Service's dedication to this mission for over two hundred years. They are threads of continuity woven through generations of West Point's history, reinforcing and increasing awareness of its contributions to our nation's legacy.

Where to from here?

Even as the volume and need for letter mail declines, the importance of the USPS and the local Post Office will continue for the foreseeable future. As the USPS itself notes, it is the only organization, public or private, that can reach every address in America. It is a vital link for America's rural communities, and in the case of West Point cadets, the means by which they get packages from home and online marketplaces.

The USPS can continue to tell West Point's story. There are still heroes to be remembered and honored. Two who come readily to mind are Henry Flipper (USMA 1877), West Point's first African American graduate, and Benjamin O. Davis, Jr. (USMA 1936), commander of the World War II Tuskegee Airmen and the first African American general officer in the U.S. Air Force. There are also too many graduates to be named, who were killed in action in Viet Nam, Iraq or Afghanistan, and in whose memory local post offices could be dedicated to remind others of their sacrifices.

As a young stamp collector, I too learned much about West Point and some of its notable graduates as I pored over my own stamp album, never imagining that someday I would join the Corps of Cadets. Now, years later with the gift of hindsight, I'm grateful for the ability to see and share the threads of continuity which weave together a love for the hobby and a respect for the *Long Gray Line*.

In the words of West Point's *Alma Mater*:

May it be said... Well Done!

Appendices

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Appendix A

Comprehensive Listing of U.S. Postage Stamps and Stationery Featuring West Point Graduates

Table A-1 – Sorted by Graduate Name

Name (alphabetical)	USMA Class	Cullum No.	Scott Nos.
Edwin E. “Buzz” ALDRIN	1951	18019	2419, 2841, 2842, 5399
Henry H. “Hap” ARNOLD	1907	4596	2191
Orville E. BABCOCK	1861	1890	4981
Montgomery BLAIR	1835	803	C66, ⁽¹⁾ UC62 ⁽²⁾
Omar BRADLEY	1915	5356	3394
Jefferson DAVIS	1828	530	1408, 2975f ⁽³⁾ CSA Nos. 1, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12
Dwight D. EISENHOWER	1915	5373	1383, 1393-95, 1401-1402, 2219g, 2513
George Washington GOETHALS	1880	2828	856
Ulysses S. GRANT	1843	1187	223, 255, 270, 281, 303, 314A, 560, 589, 640, 666, 677, 787, 823, 2217i, 2975d, 4981 U293, U330-35, U377-78, U390-92, UX10-11 ⁽³⁾
Winfield Scott HANCOCK	1844	1223	2975n
John L. HINES	1891	3432	3393
Rufus INGALLS	1843	1198	4981
Thomas J. “Stonewall” JACKSON	1846	1288	788, 1408, 2975g
Joseph E. JOHNSTON	1829	553	2975m
Robert E. LEE	1829	542	788, 982, 1049, 1408, 2975b, 3091, 4981
Douglas MACARTHUR	1903	4122	1424
Wesley MERRITT	1860	1868	4981
Edward ORD	1839	1002	4981
Alden PARTRIDGE	1806	15	1854
George S. PATTON Jr.	1909	4795	1026
John J. PERSHING	1886	3126	1214 (formerly 1042A)
Edgar Allan POE	ex-1834	961389	986, 4377
Horace PORTER	1860	1849	4981
Philip H. SHERIDAN	1853	1612	787, 4981
William Tecumseh SHERMAN	1840	1022	225, 257, 272, 787, 2975q
Joseph STILWELL	1904	4246	3420
Sylvanus THAYER	1808	33	1852

Appendix A - Comprehensive listing (continued)

Name (alphabetical)	USMA Class	Cullum No.	Scott Nos.
James A. WHISTLER	ex-1855	962278	885
Edward H. WHITE II	1952	18619	1331
Seth WILLIAMS	1842	1133	4981

Table A-2 – Sorted by Scott Number (CSA issues excluded)

Scott No.	Issue Year	Denomination	Graduate(s) Depicted	Comment
223	1890	5¢	Ulysses S. Grant	
225	1893	8¢	William Tecumseh Sherman	
255	1894	5¢	Ulysses S. Grant	
257	1895	8¢	William Tecumseh Sherman	
270	1895	5¢	Ulysses S. Grant	
272	1895	8¢	William Tecumseh Sherman	No watermark
281	1898	5¢	Ulysses S. Grant	
303	1903	4¢	Ulysses S. Grant	
314A	1903	4¢	Ulysses S. Grant	imperforate
560	1923	8¢	Ulysses S. Grant	
589	1926	8¢	Ulysses S. Grant	
640	1927	8¢	Ulysses S. Grant	
666	1929	8¢	Ulysses S. Grant	Kansas overprint
677	1929	8¢	Ulysses S. Grant	Nebraska overprint
787	1937	3¢	William Tecumseh Sherman Ulysses S. Grant Phillip H. Sheridan	Army-Navy Series
788		4¢	Robert E. Lee Stonewall Jackson	
789		5¢	(West Point)	
823	1938	18¢	Ulysses S. Grant	
856	1939	3¢	George Washington Goethals	
885	1940	2¢	James A. Whistler	
982	1949	3¢	Robert E. Lee	Washington & Lee University
986	1949	3¢	Edgar Allan Poe	
1026	1953	3¢	George S. Patton Jr.	
1042A	(Renumbered 1214)		John J. Pershing	
1049	1955	30¢	Robert E. Lee	
1214	1961	8¢	John J. Pershing	
1331	1967	5¢	Edward H. White II	se-tenant pair with No. 1332
1383	1969	6¢	Dwight Eisenhower	
1393	1970	6¢	Dwight Eisenhower	

Appendix A - Comprehensive listing (continued)

Scott No.	Issue Year	Denomination	Graduate(s) Depicted	Comment
1394	1971	8¢	Dwight Eisenhower	
1395	1971	8¢	Dwight Eisenhower	booklet
1401	1970	6¢	Dwight Eisenhower	coil
1402	1971	8¢	Dwight Eisenhower	coil
1408	1970	6¢	Jefferson Davis Robert E. Lee Stonewall Jackson	Stone Mountain Memorial
1424	1971	6¢	Douglas MacArthur	
1852	1985	9¢	Sylvanus Thayer	
1854	1985	11¢	Alden Partridge	
2191	1988	65¢	Henry “Hap” Arnold	
2217i	1986	22¢	Ulysses S. Grant	President series
2219g			Dwight Eisenhower	
2419	1989	\$2.40	Edwin “Buzz” Aldrin	First Priority Mail stamp
2513	1990	25¢	Dwight Eisenhower	
2841	1994	29¢	Edwin “Buzz” Aldrin	
2842	1994	\$9.95	Edwin “Buzz” Aldrin	Express Mail
2975	1995	32¢		Civil War Pane of 20
2975b			Robert E. Lee	
2975d			Ulysses S. Grant	
2975f			Jefferson Davis	
2975g			Stonewall Jackson	
2975m			Joseph E. Johnston	
2975n			Winfield Scott Hancock	
2975q			William Tecumseh Sherman	
3091	1996	32¢	Robert E. Lee	Steamboat Robert E. Lee
3393	2000	33¢	John L. Hines	Distinguished Soldiers series
3394			Omar Bradley	
3420	2000	10¢	Joseph Stilwell	
4377	2009	42¢	Edgar Allan Poe	
4981	2015	49¢ Forever	Ulysses S. Grant Robert E. Lee (+ 7 others)	Lee’s Surrender at Appomattox
5399	2019	55¢ Forever	Edwin “Buzz” Aldrin	
Air Mail				
C66	1963	15¢	Montgomery Blair	

Appendix A - Comprehensive listing (continued)

Scott No.	Issue Year	Denomination	Graduate(s) Depicted	Comment
Postal Stationery				
U293	1886	2¢	Ulysses S. Grant	Letter sheet
U330	1887 - 1894	5¢	Ulysses S. Grant	Envelopes ⁽¹⁾ Three similar designs with minor differences, printed on envelopes of different shades and watermarks.
U331				
U332				
U333				
U334				
U335				
U377				
U378				
U390	1903	4¢	Ulysses S. Grant	Envelopes ⁽¹⁾ Similar design on envelopes of different sizes and shades
U391				
U392				
UC62	1989	39¢	Montgomery Blair	Aerogram
UX10	1891	1¢	Ulysses S. Grant	Postal card (black)
UX11	1891	1¢	Ulysses S. Grant	Postal card (blues)

⁽¹⁾ For a detailed description of the varieties, see Prescott Thorp's *Thorp-Bartels Catalogue* (see Bibliography)

Appendix B

Postmasters of the West Point Post Office

Name	Title	Date Appointed
Andrew Ellicott ⁽¹⁾	Postmaster	April 1, 1815
John Wright (USMA 1814)	Postmaster	January 29, 1817
Oliver G. Burton (USMA 1808)	Postmaster	November 29, 1817
John DeWitt	Postmaster	January 14, 1820
Thomas Ketcham	Postmaster	May 21, 1821
Roger Alden	Postmaster	December 30, 1826
Claudius Berard	Postmaster	November 1, 1836
Mary Berard	Postmaster	May 12, 1848
Augusta Blanche Berard	Postmaster	June 15, 1871
Mary R. Newlands	Postmaster	May 13, 1897
Stephen J. Maher	Acting Postmaster	July 1, 1925
Grace A. Harrington	Acting Postmaster	October 1, 1927
	Postmaster	December 19, 1927
George G. Ferrell	Acting Postmaster	March 1, 1946
	Postmaster	July 17, 1947
Theresa Wielert	Acting Postmaster ⁽²⁾	September 30, 1951
George G. Ferrell	Postmaster	August 31, 1952
William A. Rafferty	Officer in Charge ⁽³⁾	July 28, 1970
Jack Rothstein	Officer in Charge	May 7, 1971
Thomas T. Monahan	Officer in Charge	October 20, 1971
John F. Davis	Postmaster	June 10, 1972
Charles Kennedy	Officer in Charge	June 13, 1981
William J. Smith Jr.	Postmaster	January 9, 1982
Martin A. Cropsey	Officer in Charge	April 4, 1996
Robert R. Maruschak	Postmaster	August 17, 1996
Karen S. Sullivan	Officer in Charge	June 11, 2009
Michelle A. Barresi	Postmaster	August 29, 2009
Jennifer L. Silva	Officer in Charge	August 5, 2014
	Postmaster	October 4, 2014
Kristina A. Tamer	Officer in Charge	January 19, 2019

(Source: USPS online “Postmaster Finder”)

⁽¹⁾ Andrew Ellicott submitted his first financial return on April 1, 1815; his appointment date is unavailable.

⁽²⁾ Theresa Wielert served as Acting Postmaster while George Ferrell was on military leave.

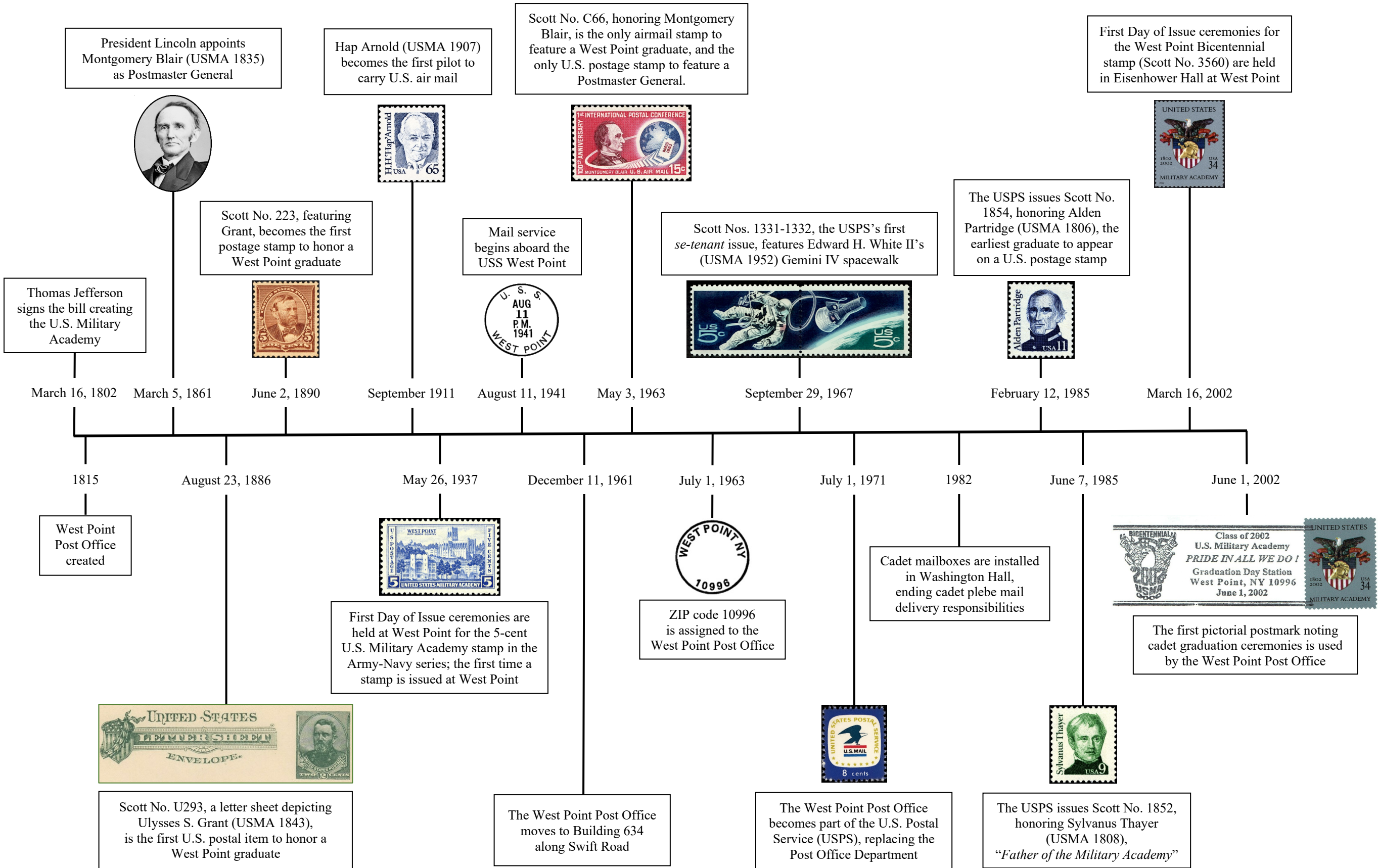
⁽³⁾ The assignment to be an *Officer in Charge* (OIC) is the temporary assignment of an employee to act as postmaster during which the accountability of postmaster is transferred to the employee. (USPS Employee and Labor Relations Manual)

Appendix C

West Point Postal History Timeline

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
1815	Post Office established at West Point, New York
March 5, 1861	President Lincoln appoints Montgomery Blair (USMA 1835) as U.S. Postmaster General
August 23, 1886	Scott No. U293, a letter sheet depicting Ulysses S. Grant (USMA 1843), is the first U.S. postal item issued featuring a West Point graduate
June 2, 1890	Scott No. 223, featuring Grant, becomes the first postage stamp to honor a West Point graduate
September 1911	Hap Arnold (USMA 1907) becomes the first pilot to carry U.S. air mail
May 26, 1937	First Day of Issue ceremonies are held at West Point for the 5-cent U.S. Military Academy stamp in the Army-Navy series; the first time a stamp is issued at West Point
August 11, 1941	Mail service begins aboard the <i>USS West Point</i>
December 11, 1961	The West Point Post Office moves to Building 634 along Swift Road
May 3, 1963	Scott No. C66, the only airmail stamp to feature a West Point graduate, is issued honoring Montgomery Blair (USMA 1835). It is also the only U.S. postage stamp to feature a U.S. Postmaster General.
July 1, 1963	ZIP code 10996 is assigned to the West Point, New York Post Office
September 29, 1967	Scott Nos. 1331-1332 are the USPS's first <i>se-tenant</i> issue (two different stamps appearing together). They feature Edward H. White II's (USMA 1952) June 1965 Gemini IV spacewalk.
July 1, 1971	The West Point Post Office becomes part of the U.S. Postal Service (USPS), which replaced the Post Office Department
~1982	Cadet mailboxes are installed in Washington Hall, ending cadet Plebe mail delivery responsibilities.
February 12, 1985	The USPS issues Scott No. 1854, honoring Alden Partridge (USMA 1806), the earliest graduate to appear on a U.S. postage stamp.
June 7, 1985	The USPS issues Scott No. 1852 honoring Sylvanus Thayer (USMA 1808), the <i>Father of the Military Academy</i> .
March 16, 2002	First Day of Issue ceremonies for the West Point Bicentennial stamp (Scott No. 3560) are held in Eisenhower Hall at West Point.
June 1, 2002	The first pictorial postmark noting cadet graduation ceremonies is used by the West Point Post Office

U.S. Postal History of West Point



Appendix D

West Point Graduation Day Postmarks

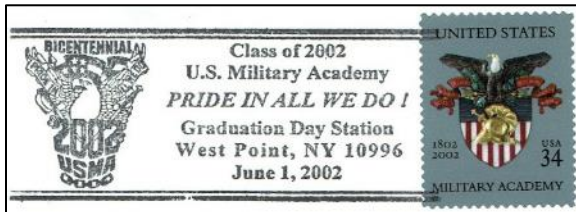
June 1, 2002 marked the first time that a special postmark was used to note a West Point graduation. With the exception of 2003 and 2004, there has been a graduation day postmark every year since 2002.

Each postmark must contain the name of the Post Office where the postmark will be applied, the date of the event, and the word “station” (per USPS requirements). When the postmark is applied, regular first class postage must be used. Some of the examples below show an actual postmark used with stamps; where illustrations such as these were not available, copies from the USPS Postal Bulletin are shown.

Most of the designs to date have incorporated the crest of the graduating class, which also appears on graduates’ class rings. The crest includes each class’s motto; in most cases where the crest is not shown in the design, the designer has included the class motto. Designers of the postmarks are listed if known.

Class of 2002

Motto: *PRIDE IN ALL WE DO*



(Designed by Martin Joyce, USMA 1974)

Class of 2005

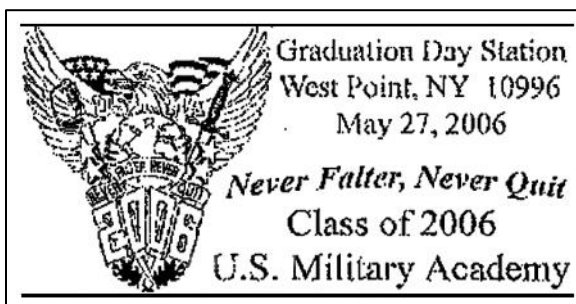
Motto: *KEEPING FREEDOM ALIVE*



(Designed by Martin Joyce, USMA 1974)

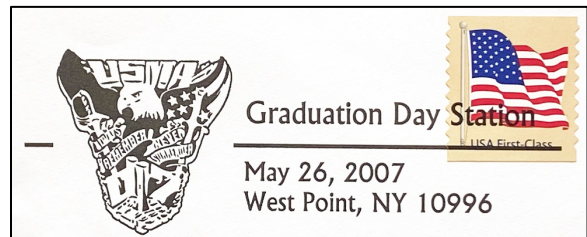
Class of 2006

Motto: *NEVER FALTER, NEVER QUIT*



Class of 2007

Motto: *ALWAYS REMEMBER
NEVER SURRENDER*



Appendix D - West Point Graduation Day Postmarks (continued)

Class of 2008

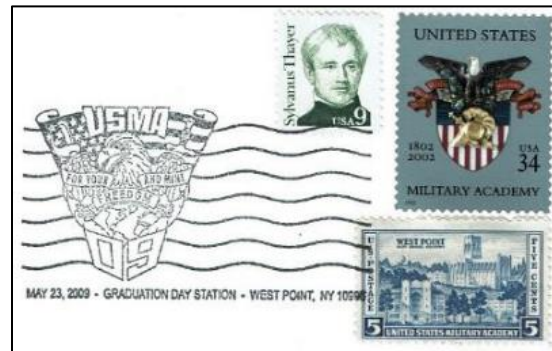
Motto: *NO MISSION TOO GREAT*



(Designed by Pat Belanger, West Point Parents Club of Michigan)

Class of 2009

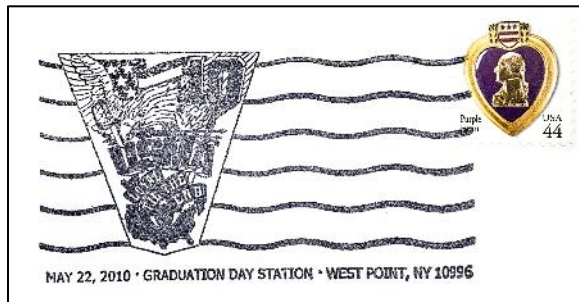
Motto: *FOR YOUR FREEDOM AND MINE*



(Designed by Pat Belanger, West Point Parents Club of Michigan)

Class of 2010

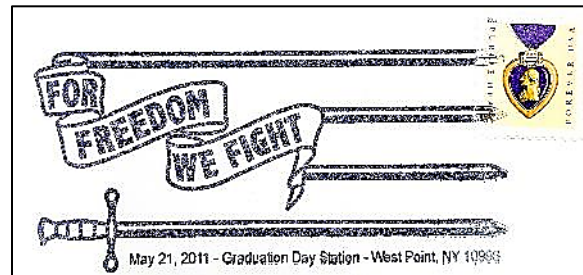
Motto: *LOYAL 'TIL THE END*



(Designed by Pat Belanger, West Point Parents Club of Michigan)

Class of 2011

Motto: *FOR FREEDOM WE FIGHT*



(Designed by Pat Belanger, West Point Parents Club of Michigan)

Class of 2012

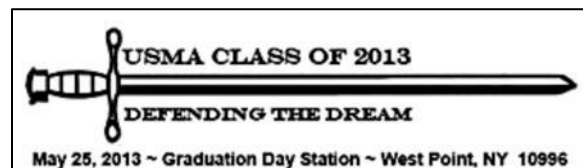
Motto: *FOR MORE THAN OURSELVES*



(Designed by Pat Belanger, West Point Parents Club of Michigan)

Class of 2013

Motto: *DEFENDING THE DREAM*

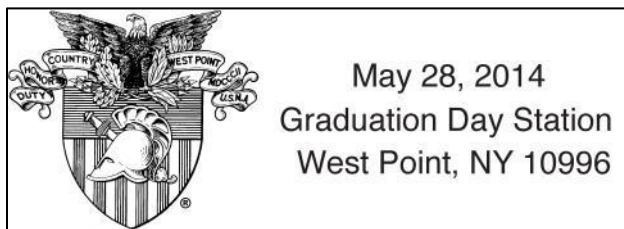


(Designed by Pat Belanger, West Point Parents Club of Michigan)

Appendix D - West Point Graduation Day Postmarks (continued)

Class of 2014

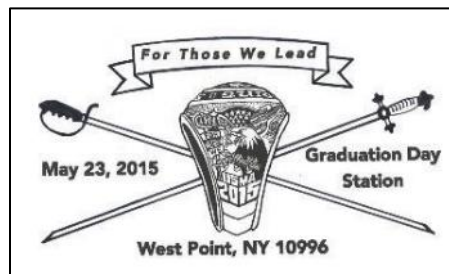
Motto: **FOREVER ONE TEAM**



(The postmark depicts the U.S. Military Academy crest.)

Class of 2015

Motto: **FOR THOSE WE LEAD**



Class of 2016

Motto: **WITH HONOR WE LEAD**



(Designed by Heather Coutteau, West Point Parents Club of Michigan)

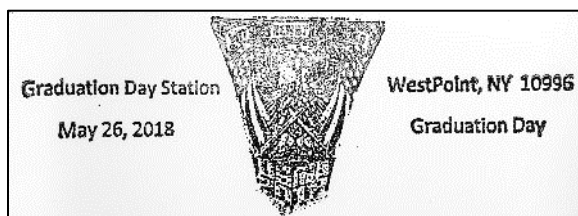
Class of 2017

Motto: **SO OTHERS MAY DREAM**



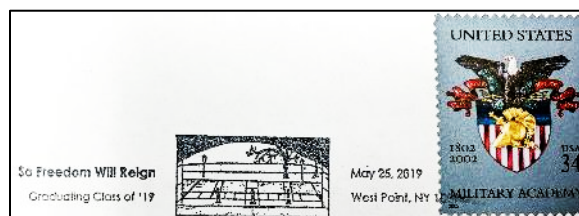
Class of 2018

Motto: **WITH STRENGTH WE LEAD**



Class of 2019

Motto: **SO FREEDOM WILL REIGN**



Class of 2020

Motto: **WITH VISION WE LEAD**



(Designed by Kevin Spielberg, Brighton, Michigan)

Class of 2021

Motto: **UNTIL THE BATTLE IS WON**

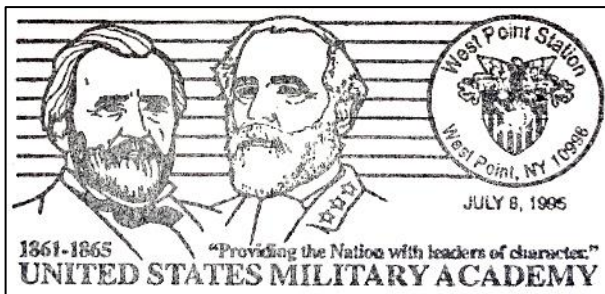


(Designed by William Scott Fischer)

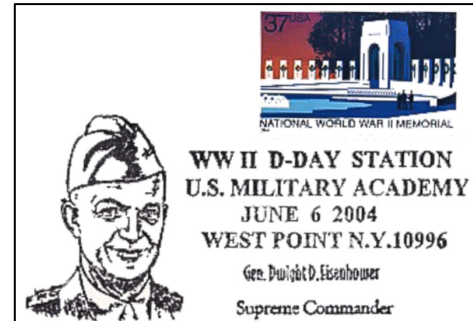
Appendix E

West Point Post Office Pictorial Postmarks

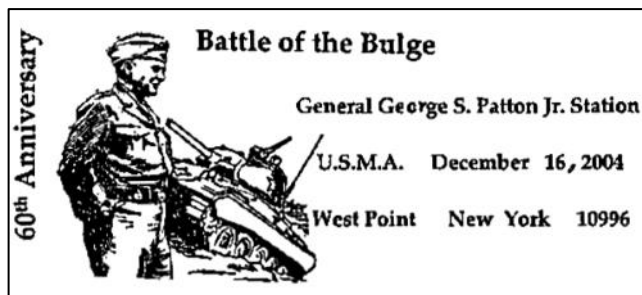
Since 1967, when the Post Office offered a pictorial postmark at the U.S. Pavilion for Expo 67 in Montreal, Canada, such postmarks have been created frequently. The West Point Post Office has provided such postmarks about once per year since at least 1995. Examples featuring West Point graduates are shown here.* (For those graduates not discussed earlier, additional biographical information is provided.)



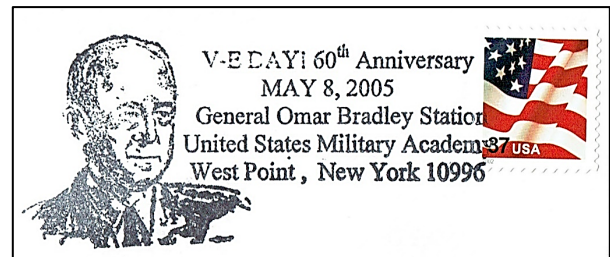
July 8, 1995



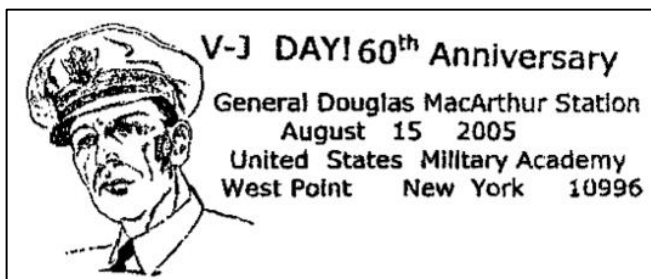
June 6, 2004



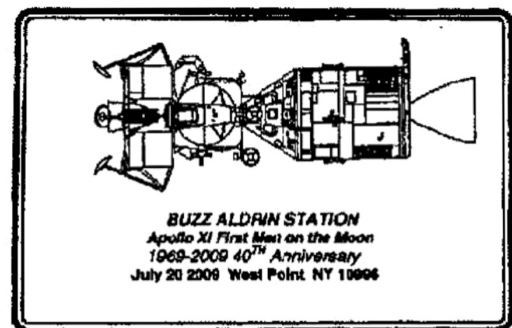
December 16, 2004



May 8, 2005



August 15, 2005



July 20, 2009

*Many Post Offices across the country have offered pictorial postmarks related to West Point graduates or events. I have chosen to limit the illustrations shown here to those postmarked at West Point.

UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

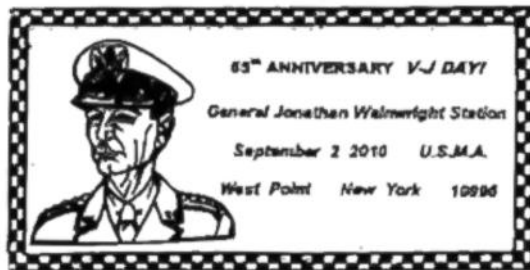
CLASS of 1906



General Jonathan M. Wainwright

1883-1953

Cullum No. 4477



September 2, 2010

Jonathan Wainwright was First Captain of the Corps of Cadets during his final year at West Point. In June 1918, he became assistant chief of staff of the U.S. 82nd Infantry Division, with which he took part in the Saint Mihiel and Meuse-Argonne Offensives.

In September 1940, Wainwright was promoted to major general and soon after went to the Philippines, as commander of the Philippine Department. As the senior field commander of Filipino and U.S. forces under General Douglas MacArthur, Wainwright was responsible for resisting the Japanese invasion of the Philippines, which began in December 1941. Following MacArthur's evacuation to Australia in March 1942, Wainwright was promoted to Lieutenant General and became Allied commander in the Philippines.

Following the Allied surrender in June, Wainwright became the highest-ranking American POW. He remained in captivity until August 1945, earning the respect of his fellow prisoners. After witnessing the Japanese surrender aboard the *USS Missouri* on September 2, he returned to the Philippines to receive the surrender of the local Japanese commander, Lieutenant-General Tomoyuki Yamashita. Upon his return to the U.S., Wainwright was promoted to the rank of 4-star general.

Wainwright was awarded the Medal of Honor for his leadership during the fall of the Philippines.

Jonathan Wainwright died on September 2, 1953, and was buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

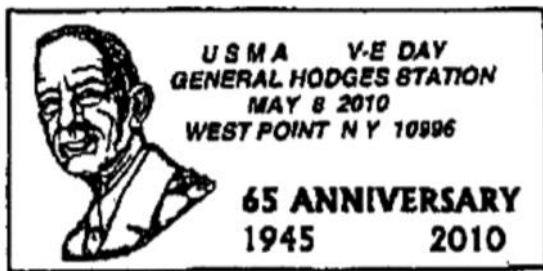
CLASS of 1908



General Courtney Hodges

1887-1966

ex-1908



May 8, 2010

Courtney Hodges entered West Point in 1904 but dropped out a year later after failing Geometry. He joined the Army in 1906 as a private, rising to become a battalion commander in France in World War I, where he was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for extraordinary heroism in action.

After World War I, when Douglas MacArthur was named West Point's Superintendent, he called on Hodges to teach military tactics. It was the first time that someone who had flunked out of West Point had been invited to come back and teach.

In 1943, Hodges was sent to England to serve under General Omar Bradley. He was Deputy Commander of the First Army during the D-Day invasion. Two months later, he was made the commander of the First Army. The First Army under Hodges had 18 divisions, the most divisions that were under the immediate command of any general in the European theater of World War II. The 1st Army liberated Paris, was first to enter Germany, and the first army to cut Nazi Germany in two by linking up with westward advancing Russian forces. Hodges was promoted to 4-star General in April 1945.

Courtney Hodges died in San Antonio, Texas, in 1966, and is buried at Arlington National Cemetery.

UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

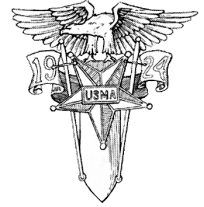
CLASS of 1924



Colonel David "Mickey" Marcus

1901-1948

Cullum No. 7368



In 1943, as an Army Reserve Judge Advocate General, Colonel Mickey Marcus was assigned to the Army's Civil Affairs Division, as chief of planning for occupation governments in territories liberated from the Axis. He accompanied U.S. delegations to the conferences at Cairo, Tehran, Yalta, and Potsdam, and helped draw up the 1943 surrender terms for Italy. He parachuted into Normandy on D-Day with the first wave of the 101st Airborne Division. During and after World War II, he was a principal architect of the U.S. military's civil affairs policies, including the organization of the war crimes trials in Germany and in Japan.



May 18, 2008

Marcus left the U.S. Army in 1947, and soon thereafter was recruited by the recently partitioned Palestine to train Jewish irregular forces. When Arab forces attacked in May 1948, Marcus was appointed supreme commander on the Jerusalem front. He was the first general of what would eventually become the Israeli Defense Forces. Marcus was killed in action by friendly fire after the cease fire.

Marcus was portrayed by Kirk Douglas in the 1966 movie, *Cast a Giant Shadow*, which focused on his role in the Israeli war.

Mickey Marcus is buried at the U.S. Military Academy cemetery at West Point. His grave is the only one in the West Point Cemetery for an American killed fighting under the flag of another country.

Appendix F

Canal Zone Stamps Featuring West Point Graduates

The Panama Canal Zone was an unincorporated territory of the United States from 1903 to 1979. It consisted of a strip of territory 50 miles long and 10 miles wide across the Isthmus of Panama, ceded to the United States for the purpose of constructing and operating the Panama Canal.

Upon the establishment of the Canal Zone in 1903, seventeen Post Offices were also established and operated by the U.S. Government, as an independent government agency under the direct authority of the President of the United States.

Between 1904 and 1978, less than 300 stamps and postal stationery items were issued by the Canal Zone Post Office. A number of these feature four West Point graduates who were instrumental in the building of the canal. The leadership and contributions made by each of these men are described in detail in historian David McCullough's book, *The Path Between the Seas: The Creation of the Panama Canal, 1870-1914*.

Though not issued by the U.S. Post Office Department, they were issued by a U.S. government agency, and thus, examples are shown here.

George Washington Goethals

1858 – 1928

USMA 1880

Cullum No. 2828

(see biography on page 51)



Scott No. CZ-106
Issued October 1, 1928



Scott No. CZ-C3
Issued January 29, 1929



Scott No. CZ-C5
Issued December 31, 1929



Scott No. CZ-117
Issued August 15, 1934

(also issued in booklet
form as CZ-117a)



Scott No. CZ-153 (coil)
Issued November 1, 1960



Scott No. CZ-O2 (official)
Issued 1941



Scott No. CZ-U11
Issued April 8, 1932

UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

CLASS of 1881



Major General Harry F. Hodges

1860 - 1929

Cullum No. 2882



Scott No. CZ-108
Issued January 11, 1932



Scott No. CZ-161 (coil)
Issued February 14, 1975

Hodges was commissioned into the Army Corps of Engineers upon graduation and served in various positions, including river and harbor duty, and teaching at USMA. He worked at the Office of the Chief of Engineers in Washington, D.C., from 1902 to 1907, following which he was appointed to the Isthmian Canal Commission and Assistant to the Chief Engineer in August 1907. From 1914 to 1915, Hodges was in charge of designing the dams, locks, and regulation works of the Panama Canal, and he served as an engineer of maintenance.

Hodges left Panama in 1915. He commanded the 76th Infantry Division at Camp Devens, MA, and in France from August 1917 to January 1919.

Harry Hodges died at Lake Forest, Illinois in September 1929, and is buried in Graceland Cemetery, Chicago, Illinois.



Scott No. CZ-O4 (official)
Issued 1941

“Official” overprints were used for Canal Zone government official correspondence.

UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

CLASS of 1884



Major General William L. Sibert

1860 – 1935

Cullum No. 3027



Scott No. CZ-110

Issued September 27, 1937

From 1907 through 1914, William Sibert was a member of the Isthmian Canal Commission, responsible for the Atlantic Division, including the building of the Gatun Locks, Gatun Dam and Spillway, and the excavation of seven miles of canal from Gatun to the Atlantic Ocean, and the channel from Gatun Lake to the Pacific Ocean.

When the U.S. entered WW I in April 1917, Sibert assumed command of the newly formed 1st Infantry Division as part of the American Expeditionary Forces. When the Chemical Warfare Service (CWS) was created in 1918, Siebert was promoted to major general, and led the CWS until February 1920. Sibert is considered the "father of the US Army Chemical Corps."

William Sibert is buried at Arlington National Cemetery.

UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

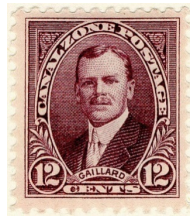
CLASS of 1884



Lieutenant Colonel David D. Gaillard

1859 – 1913

Cullum No. 3025



Scott No. CZ-109
Issued July 1, 1929

Following graduation, David Gaillard served in a variety of Army Engineer roles before being appointed to the Isthmian Canal Commission in 1907. He served as Division Engineer of the Central Division which included the excavation of Culebra Cut, later named Gaillard Cut. Construction of the cut was one of the great engineering feats of its time.

Gaillard succeeded in his mission but did not live to see the job completed. In August 1913, he returned to the United States on medical leave, suffering from what was believed to be nervous exhaustion brought on by overwork. Four months later he died of a brain tumor in Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland.

David Gaillard is buried at Arlington National Cemetery.



"Gaillard Cut – Before"
Scott No. CZ-122



"Gaillard Cut – After"
Scott No. CZ-123

The Gaillard Cut is featured on several Canal Zone stamps, two of which are shown here, issued on August 15, 1939 to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the opening of the canal.

Appendix G

The Guam, Philippines, Cuba, and Puerto Rico Overprints

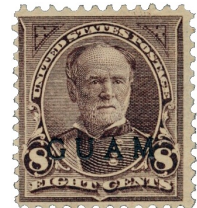
After the Spanish–American War, Spain and the United States signed the Treaty of Paris (1898), by which Spain ceded Puerto Rico, the Philippines, and Guam to the United States for the sum of US\$20 million, and Cuba became a protectorate of the United States.

GUAM. The island of Guam, including its postal system, was placed under the supervision of the U.S. Navy Department. To support postal operations, the Navy issued eleven U.S. postage stamps overprinted "GUAM". These were from the definitive series in use at the time in the United States, illustrated with portraits of U.S. presidents and other major personalities. issued between 1890 and 1899. These included the 8-cent William Tecumseh Sherman (Scott No. 257) and the 5-cent blue Ulysses S. Grant (Scott No. 281).

In March 1901, the U.S. Post Office Department took control of the post office on Guam. From that point on, regular U.S. postage was used without an overprint. Today Guam remains a U.S. territory administered by the U.S. Department of the Interior.



Scott No. G5

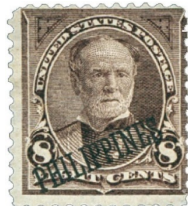


Scott No. G7

PHILIPPINES. Similarly, following the occupation of the Philippines by the United States as a result of the Spanish–American War, the Philippines became a U.S. territory until granted independence in 1946. For postal purposes, the American military government began issuing regular stamps on June 30, 1899, overprinted with the word "PHILIPPINES." These included the 8-cent Sherman and 5-cent Grant shown above, and later the 4-cent Grant (Scott No. 303). These overprinted stamps were used until August 1906, when the American civil government replaced the military government, and began to use newly-issued stamps.



Scott No. PH216



Scott No. PH222



Scott No. PH229

CUBA. On January 1, 1899, the U.S. established a Cuban Civilian Postal Administration. The new Postal Administration was to operate using the same post offices that existed during the Spanish Administration, but using its new postage stamps and canceling devices. Initially, seven U.S. stamps were overprinted, including 5 centavo on a 5-cent Grant. These were used for only a short period, as Cuba gained formal independence from the U.S. in May 1902.

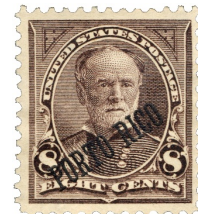


Scott No. CU225

PUERTO RICO. An independent postal service under U.S. authority was established in March 1899. Barely a year later as a result of the Foraker Act of 1900, the postal service of Puerto Rico ceased to be a separate operation of the U.S. and was assimilated into the United States postal system. During that brief period a few stamps were overprinted with the spelling "PORTO RICO".



Scott No. PT212



Scott No. PT213

Appendix H

List of Post Offices Dedicated to West Point Graduates

In 1967, Congress passed the first law dedicating a postal facility in honor of an individual. Names of West Point graduate honorees are listed below along with a brief description of why they were honored, the address of the building dedicated to each honoree, the congressional district, the date the law was enacted, and the name of the bill, with its public law number. A dedicatory plaque is displayed in a prominent secure area in the Post Office lobby.

Each of these graduates is discussed in more detail beginning on page 129.

Name	USMA Class	State	Address	Cong. District	Date of Law	Name of Bill
Lieutenant Henry O. Flipper	1877	GA	U.S. Highway 19 South (at Tall Timbers Village Square) Thomasville, GA 31757	2 nd	10/21/1998	H.R. 4328 (Public Law 105-277)
General John J. Pershing	1886	MO	607 Pershing Drive Laclede, MO 64651	6 th	6/25/2004	H.R. 3917 (Public Law 108-255)
Captain Colin P. Kelly, Jr	1937	FL	200 East Pinckney Madison, FL 32340	4 th	7/6/2000	H R 1666 (Public Law 106-233)
General Charles Gabriel	1950	NC	4832 East Highway 27 Iron Station, NC 28080	10 th	7/14/2003	H.R. 1465 (Public Law 108-053)
Major William F. Hecker, III	1991	VA	200 Lawyers Road NW Vienna, VA 22180	11 th	12/18/2006	H.R. 6102 (Public Law 109-408)
Captain Matthew J August	1997	RI	20 Ferry Road Saunderstown, RI 02874	2 nd	12/13/2018	S. 3414 (Public Law 115-313)
Lieutenant Todd Jason Bryant	2002	CA	5757 Tilton Avenue Riverside, CA 92509	44 th	5/25/2007	H.R. 988 (Public Law 110-027)
Captain Rhett W. Schiller	2003	WI	218 North Milwaukee Street Waterford, WI 53185	1 st	11/14/2013	S. 3630 (Public Law 112-279)
First Lieutenant Robert Wilson Collins	2008	GA	100 Commerce Drive Tyrone, GA 30290	3 rd	1/4/2011	S. 3592 (Public Law 111-379)
First Lieutenant Salvatore S. Corma II	2008	NJ	1265 Hurffville Road Deptford Township, NJ 08096	1 st	6/13/2016	H.R. 3866 (Public Law 114-175)

(A link to the complete list of dedicated Post Offices can be found in the Bibliography.)

Appendix I

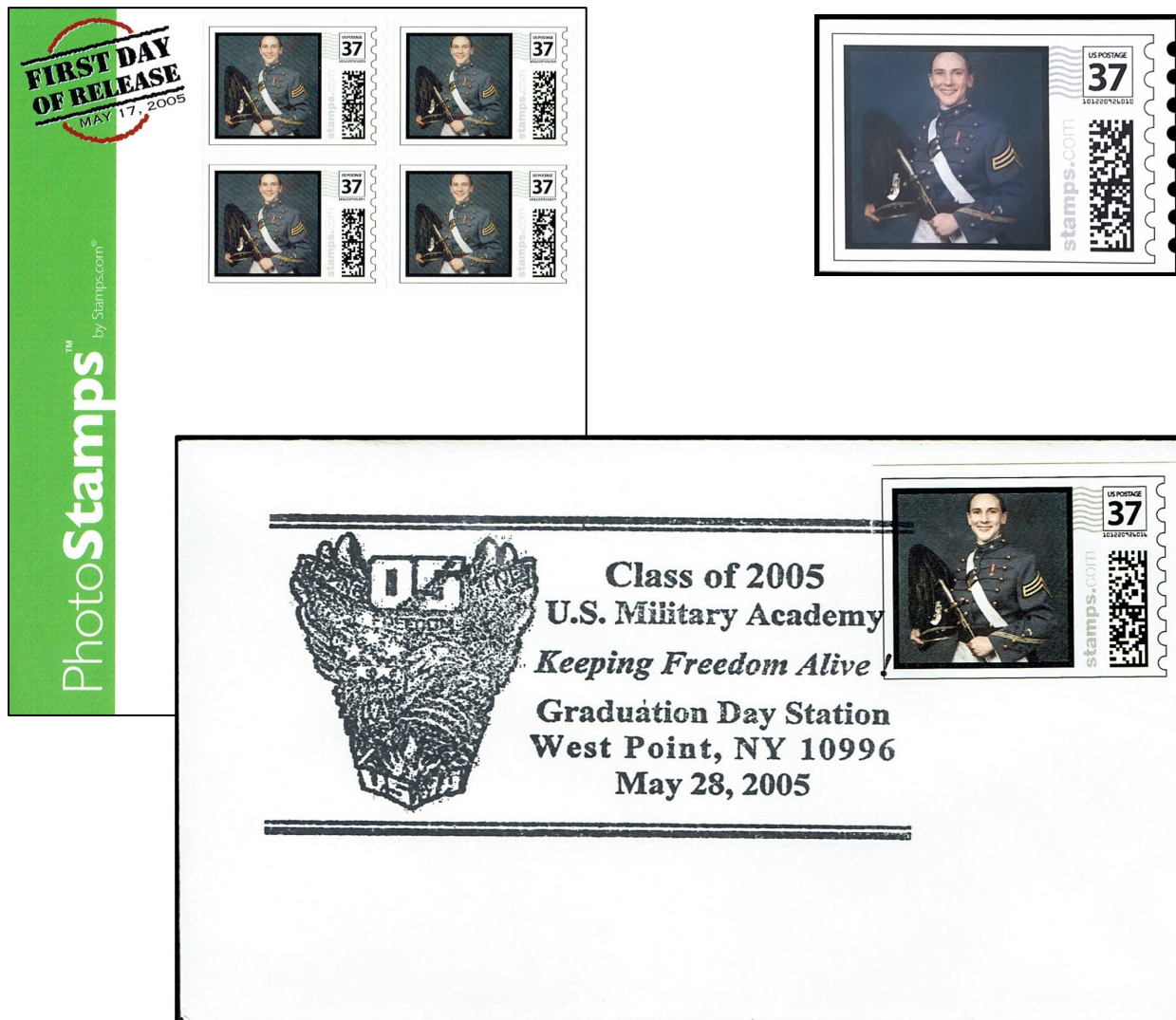
Custom PhotoStamps

Beginning in July 2004 with a market test phase, and then continuing until 2020, the USPS had a program called *PhotoStamps*, an online commercial service that allowed customers to order self-adhesive postage with their own designs, images, and photographs. The product was a variation of Stamps.com's *NetStamps* program begun a few years earlier, which allowed customers to print their own USPS-approved mailing labels. Each label had a unique data matrix code to prevent fraudulent use.

USPS was careful not to call these items "postage stamps"; the preferred terminology was "PhotoStamps labels," though they served the same purpose as postage stamps. Customers often created this postage to mark significant events, such as wedding and birth announcements, anniversaries and graduations. The cost was about 2.7x the face value of the stamps.

USPS discontinued the PhotoStamps program in June 2020, citing "an unacceptable risk to our legal brand and business interests that outweighs any countervailing benefits, given the program's declining demand, its insignificant contribution to the Postal Service's revenues and the availability of alternatives."

The example shown here was created for a graduate in the USMA Class of 2005. The "First Day of Release" is the date the stamps were printed at Stamps.com. The complete pane included twenty labels.



Appendix J

Precancels

Precanceled postage stamps, or precancels, are stamps that have been canceled before being affixed to mail. Precanceled stamps have been in use since the 19th century and are still issued today by the U.S. Postal Service.

Saving time is most often given as the reason for precanceling stamps, e.g., precanceling an entire sheet of 100 stamps requires less time than canceling individual stamps on 100 pieces of mail. Such stamps were made available to mailers of large amounts of printed matter (usually advertising materials).

To encourage such mailers to use these precanceled stamps, the Post Office Department offered them a slightly lower postage rate if they would also sort their mail for handling by the post office. Over the years, thousands of mailers have used precanceled stamps on presorted third- and fourth-class mail.

Precanceling devices usually print the name of the city and state on each of several stamps at once, and generally read straight across the stamp, either horizontally or vertically. The legend is complete on each stamp (i.e., if the stamp is still on paper, the precancellation does not continue onto the paper). If a stamp meets all of these conditions, it is considered (with few exceptions) a precancel.¹

There are several hundred different styles or “types” of precancels, based upon the formatting of the name of the city and state. These types are defined by the Precancel Stamp Society’s Specification Committee.²

Precanceled stamps were first authorized for use at West Point in December 1930.³ Two types of precancels have been identified for the West Point, New York Post Office, and are shown here:

Type 622



Scott No. 632
1927

Scott No. 632 the only
stamp on which Type 622 is
known to have been used.

Type 704



Scott No. 632
1927



Scott No. 804
1938



Scott No. 1031
1954

Type 704 is known to have been used on at least seven
different stamps including those shown here.

Types in the 600-series were produced with rubber handstamps. The name of the town appears in condensed 3 mm block caps; the state is printed in light-faced, slightly serified 2.5 mm caps.

Due to degradation of the rubber handstamps (which had become an ongoing concern for postal authorities), metal handstamps replaced rubber handstamps in the 700-series. These precancels were issued beginning in mid-1932. The town name and state are written in condensed 2.5 mm block caps, with 1 mm spacing between town and state.

¹*An A.B.C. of Precancel Collecting*, Precancel Stamp Society, 2009, <https://precancels.com/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2011/08/ABCPrecancelArticle.pdf>.

²*P.S.S. Official Style Chart of U.S. Contracted Precancel Devices*, Precancel Stamp Society Specifications Committee, January 2007, <https://precancels.com/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2011/08/PSS-Style-Chart-medium-res.pdf>.

³James G. Baird and James R. Callis, Jr., *Devices and Dates: a Consolidated Listing of Precancel Types and Authorization/Shipping/Order Dates for Precancel Devices*, June 2020.

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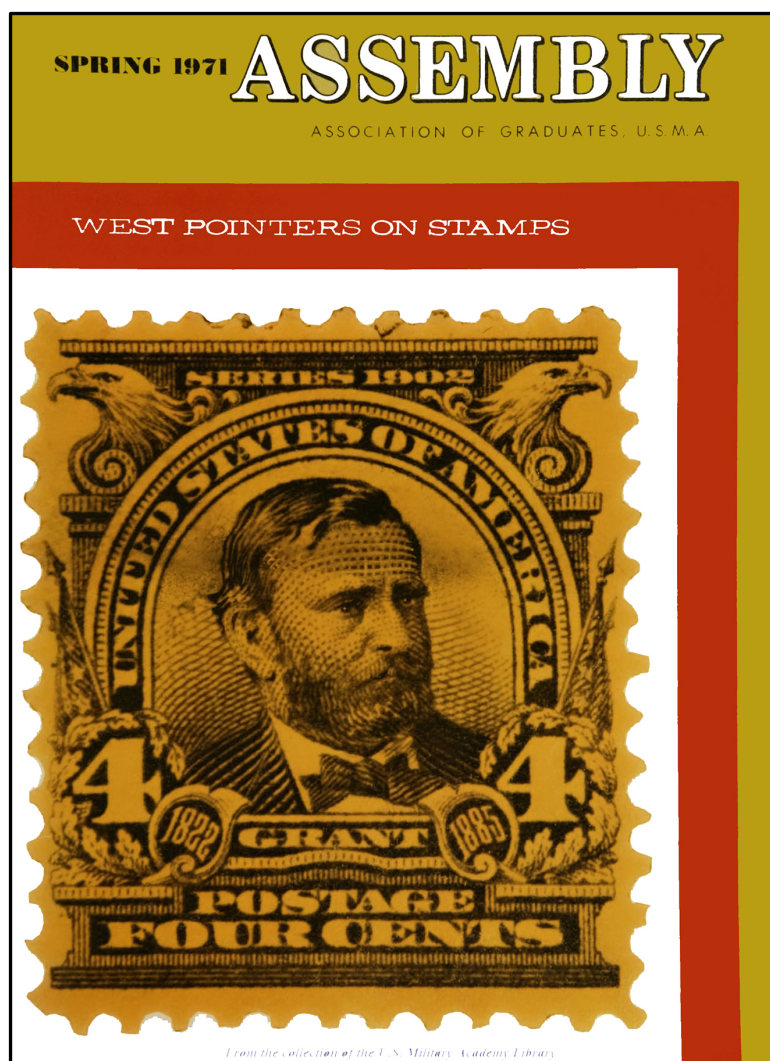
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Ulysses S. Grant is shown on Scott No. 303, issued in 1903, on the cover of the Spring 1971 issue of *Assembly*, published by the West Point Association of Graduates. This issue included Phillip Farris's article, "The Stamped Faces of West Point."

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This historical marker is located on Main Street in Highland Falls, New York, a short distance from Thayer Gate, the south entrance to West Point.

About the Author



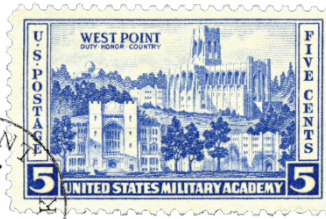
Jay (Martin H.) Joyce graduated from the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York in 1974. He was commissioned a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army and served six years in multiple infantry and military intelligence assignments in the United States and Europe. Following his military service, he had a 35-year career in manufacturing and supply chain management with a major consumer products company.

Jay has written and published a variety of journal articles on multiple subjects, including the U.S. Intelligence community, travel, managerial psychology and project management.

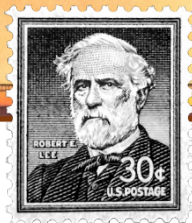
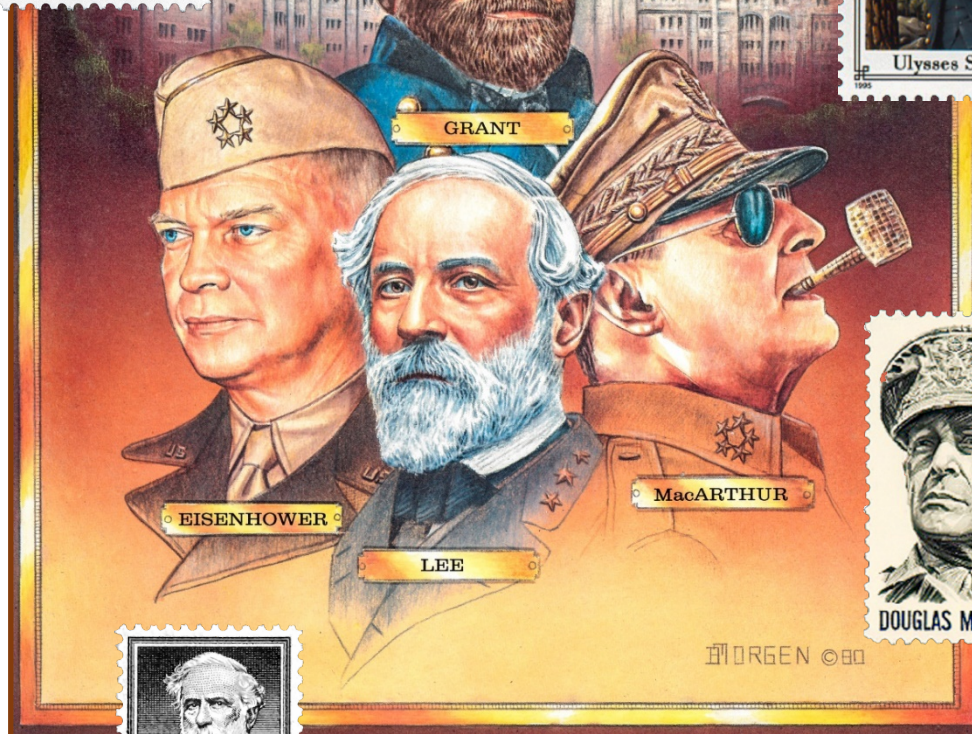
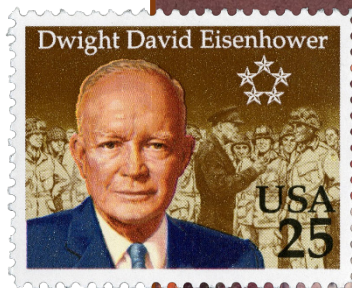
In addition to stamp collecting, Jay's hobbies in retirement include photography, writing and world travel. He has cruised around the world, and visited more than fifty countries and all seven continents. He is actively involved with his West Point class alumni, and the West Point Society of Greater Cincinnati, where he has helped lead the Society's Leadership and Ethics workshops for high school students and to conduct the West Point Middle School STEM program in Cincinnati.

Jay lives in Cincinnati, Ohio with his wife Shirley. Their two children also graduated from West Point; Rick in 2002 and Christine in 2005. Jay designed the commemorative graduation postmarks for these graduations.





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MUCH OF THE HISTORY WE TEACH
WAS MADE BY PEOPLE WE TAUGHT.**



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