

OREGON



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OREGON — FROM THE BEGINNING

Prehistoric Animals

Prehistoric Animals Woolly Mammoth 1996 • Scott 3078

During the Ice Age, the Woolly Mammoth, an elephant-like mammal, roamed the land. In 1995 the discovery of the remains of two tusks and a jaw bone on a farm southeast of Salem were identified by paleontologists as being from a Woolly Mammoth such as pictured on this Prehistoric Animals stamp.

Prehistoric Animals Mastodon 1996 • Scott 3079

Mastodons are believed to have become extinct sometime between 6,000 and 10,000 years ago. Mastodon skeletons have been excavated in Oregon, from Portland to the southcentral area of the state. This stamp is one of the Prehistoric Animals stamp.

American Indians

When the first Europeans arrived in the Oregon territory, they were met by a large population of American Indians. Those living near the shoreline harvested mollusks and crustaceans, fished, and gathered food near the waterways. Inland Indians existed mainly on deer and elk. Natives of western Oregon developed special arts. The Chinookans of the Columbia River carved handsome, high-prowed canoes, while the Tututni and Chetco of the south coast wove intricately decorated basketry with geometric designs of beargrass, maidenhair fern, and wild hazel bark. Their lifestyles echoed the strong traditions of art, ceremony, and social class distinction.

Classic Collections: Legends of the West

Chief Joseph 1994 • Scott 2869f

c. 1840–Sept. 21, 1904

Hin-mah-too-yah-lat-kekt, or Thunder Rolling Down the Mountain

When the white settlers move into the Pacific Northwest, the Indians were forced to surrender their fertile lands in exchange for placement on unattractive reservations in Iowa. In 1885 he and the remainder of the Nez Percé tribe were allowed to return to the Northwest — a reservation in Washington state.

Chief Joseph is remembered for his humane treatment of prisoners, his concern for women, children, and the aged, and for his trading with ranchers and storekeepers (rather than stealing from them.) He is recognized as a Legend on this USPS issue.

Exploration of the North Pacific Coast

Juan Cabrillo 1992 • Scott 2704

The Spanish were among the first Europeans to explore the North Pacific Coast. One of Juan Cabrillo's captains, sailed north along the coast, looking for a passage through the North American continent. This stamp was issued in honor of Cabrillo.

Captain James Cook 1978 • Scott 1732

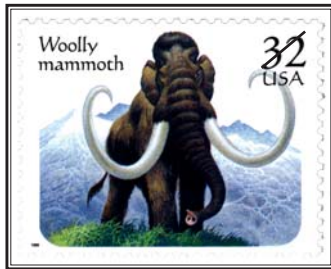
This stamp was issued in honor of 1778 Captain James Cook's 1778 landing on the Oregon coast, searching for a water passage connecting the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans. Although he did not find a water passage, he was able to chart most of the Pacific coastline, from California to the Arctic Ocean.

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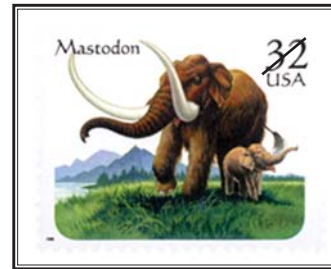
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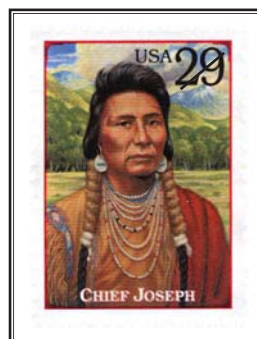
OREGON — FROM THE BEGINNING



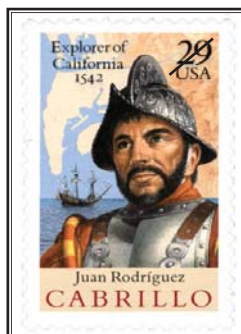
Prehistoric Animals
Woolly Mammoth
1996 • Scott 3078



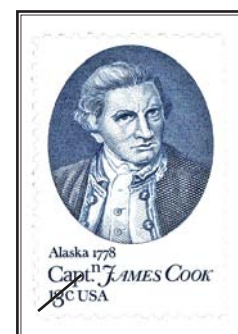
Prehistoric Animals
Mastodon
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Classic Collections: Legends of the West
Chief Joseph
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Juan Cabrillo
1992 • Scott 2704



Captain Cook
1978 • Scott 1732



OREGON — EXPLORATION

Lewis and Clark

Presidential Series

Thomas Jefferson

1938 • Scott 807

In 1938 this stamp was released as part of the Presidential Series. In 1804 President Thomas Jefferson sent a military expedition to explore the lands west of the Mississippi River. They were to record climate, geology, flora, fauna, and the Indian cultures they encountered while finding an “easy” route to the Pacific Ocean.

Lewis & Clark Expedition Bicentennial Series

William Clark

2004 • Scott 3856

William Clark was chosen as a co-commander of Jefferson’s expedition because of his military experience, his knowledge of wilderness skills, and his understanding of natural history. As they traveled, he was able to draw maps of the previously uncharted land. He is depicted on this stamp of the series.

Classic Collections: Legends of the West Sacagewea

1995 • Scott 2869s

This stamp, issued as part of the Classic Collections: Legends of the West, depicts the only woman on the Lewis & Clark Expedition. Born to the Shoshone Indians, Sacagewea was able to serve as a guide to the trails, as well as translate from Shoshone to English. She also did much of the cleaning and mending of clothing, foraging for food, cooking, and helping with medical needs along the trail.

Lewis & Clark Expedition Bicentennial Series

Lewis & Clark Bicentennial

2004 • Scott 3854

On May 14, 1804, Lewis and Clark began their expedition, charting the unknown territories of northwest United States. Seventeen months later, in October 1805 they reached the Columbia River and saw Mt. Hood, but it took another six weeks before they reached the Pacific Ocean. They camped in Oregon until March 1806 when they begin their journey back to St. Louis. This stamp celebrated the 200th anniversary of the start of the Lewis and Clark Expedition.

Lewis & Clark Expedition Bicentennial Series

Meriwether Lewis

2004 • Scott 3855

Meriwether Lewis, a boyhood friend of Thomas Jefferson, joined the militia at the age of twenty. Because of his knowledge of the western country, he was commissioned by President Jefferson to be the leader of the discovery expedition. He is shown on this stamp, which is part of the expedition’s bicentennial series.

The Oregon Trail

Oregon Trail

1993 • Scott 2747

The Oregon Trail was the only feasible way for settlers to get across the Rocky Mountains to western United States. This stamp celebrates the 150th anniversary when, in 1843 about a thousand pioneers made the journey to Oregon, setting off the massive move west on the Oregon Trail.

Classic Collections: Legends of the West

John Fremont

1994 • Scott 2869i

John Fremont was one of America’s biggest heroes because of his journeys west along the Oregon Trail. In 1842, under orders from his Senator father-in-law, he was to make the west seem attractive and worth settling. And indeed, his reports made the westward trip seem easy and enjoyable, making pioneers excited to head west. He is recognized on this stamp as one of the Legends of the West.



OREGON — EXPLORATION



Presidential Series
Thomas Jefferson
1938 • Scott 807



Lewis & Clark Expedition
Bicentennial Series
Lewis & Clark Bicentennial
2004 • Scott 3854



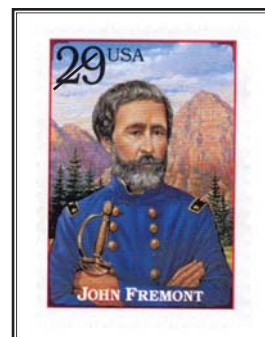
Lewis & Clark Expedition
Bicentennial Series
William Clark
2004 • Scott 3856



Lewis & Clark Expedition
Bicentennial Series
Meriwether Lewis
2004 • Scott 3855



Oregon Trail
1993 • Scott 2747



Classic Collections:
Legends of the West
John Fremont
1994 • Scott 2869i



OREGON • FROM TERRITORY TO STATE

Oregon Territory, showing Dr. John McLaughlin and Rev. Jason Lee 1948 • Scott 964

By the 1830s, thousands of people in covered wagons were traveling to the Pacific Northwest. With permanent settlements now in place, the United States Congress created the Oregon Territory on August 14, 1848. The area included what is today Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and western parts of Montana and Wyoming. This stamp celebrates the 100th anniversary of the Oregon Territory.

On the left side of this stamp is Dr. John McLaughlin, a trained physician known for promoting the economic prosperity of the Oregon Territory. In addition to helping emigrants establish commercial ventures, he owned sawmills, a gristmill, a granary, a general store, and a shipping business. From his profits he donated land for schools and churches. He has been named the “Father of Oregon.”

Shown on the right side of the stamp is Rev. Jason Lee who traveled to Oregon in 1833, after four Indians had journeyed to St. Louis, Missouri, looking for “the white man’s book of heaven.” Lee founded a mission and the Willamette University, along with the city of Salem.

James Polk 1995 • Scott 2587

This stamp honors James Polk (1795–1849) who, as the eleventh president of the United States, was determined to settle the dispute over the Oregon Territory’s northern border. His campaign slogan “Fifty-four Forty or Fight!” referred to the annexation of the entire Oregon Country north to the parallel 54°40’ north. However, a compromise was made with England and the 49th parallel became the northern border of the United States.

Special Editor’s Note: President Polk oversaw the issuance of the first postage stamps in the United States.

Wonders of America Crater Lake • Deepest Lake 2006 • Scott 4040

Included in the Wonders of America series is a stamp featuring Crater Lake, a deep, pure lake surrounded by nearly two thousand foot high cliffs. Located in Southern Oregon, the 1,943 foot deep lake is supplied with water from the average 533 inches of snow the Cascades receive annually. The lake has no inlets and no outlets but remains at a constant depth through evaporation and seepage.

Greetings from America Oregon 2002 • Scott 3597

The Greetings from America stamp series features retro designs that mimic the popular tourist postcards of the 1930s and ’40s. Oregon’s highest peak, Mount Hood in the Cascade Range is shown on this stamp. It rises behind of two windsurfers in the Columbia River Gorge between Oregon and Washington.

Oregon Statehood 1959 • Scott 1124

On February 12, 1859, the U.S. Senate passed a bill granting statehood to Oregon. The bill was signed by President James Buchanan on February 14. The news was sent by telegraph to St. Louis, then by stagecoach to San Francisco, on to Portland by steamer, and finally by horseback to Salem where the news finally reached Governor Joseph Lane almost a month later. This stamp celebrates the 100th anniversary of Oregon’s statehood.

Pacific Lighthouses Umpqua River Lighthouse 2009 • Scott 4149

The original Umpqua River Lighthouse — the first light along the Oregon coast — was lit on October 10, 1857. The 92-foot tall structure was built on sand, well below the river’s flood stage. By 1861 the tower was starting to tilt and in 1864 it came crashing down.

The location for the new lighthouse station was moved further inland and included the tower, two oil houses, two homes, and a barn. The new beacon was lit in 1894, with a signature of two white flashes followed by a red flash. This stamp shows the Umpqua River Lighthouse, whose light is still shining today.

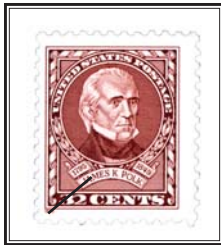
Historic Preservation Columbia River 1992 • Scott UX164

By volume, the Columbia River is the fourth-largest river in the U.S., having the greatest flow of any North American river draining into the Pacific Ocean. Since the native Americans roamed the Pacific coast, the Columbia has been used for transportation and for shipping various goods. The river system hosts numerous anadromous fish (fish that migrate between fresh and salt water.) These fish—especially the various species of salmon—provided the core subsistence for natives because traders from all over western North America would travel to the Columbia to trade for fish.

This postal card shows the Columbia River Gorge, a year-round recreational area that offers something for everyone — camping, hiking, whitewater rafting and kayaking, windsurfing and kiteboarding, boating, bird watching, and more. However, a visit to the Gorge is not complete without a drive through it to see the breathtaking waterfalls.



OREGON • FROM TERRITORY TO STATE



James Polk
1995 • Scott 2587



Oregon Territory, showing Dr. John
McLaughlin and Rev. Jason Lee
1948 • Scott 964



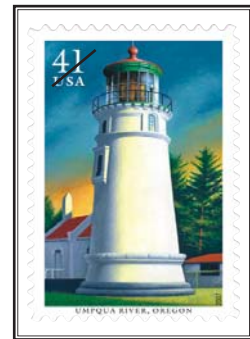
Oregon Statehood
1959 • Scott 1124



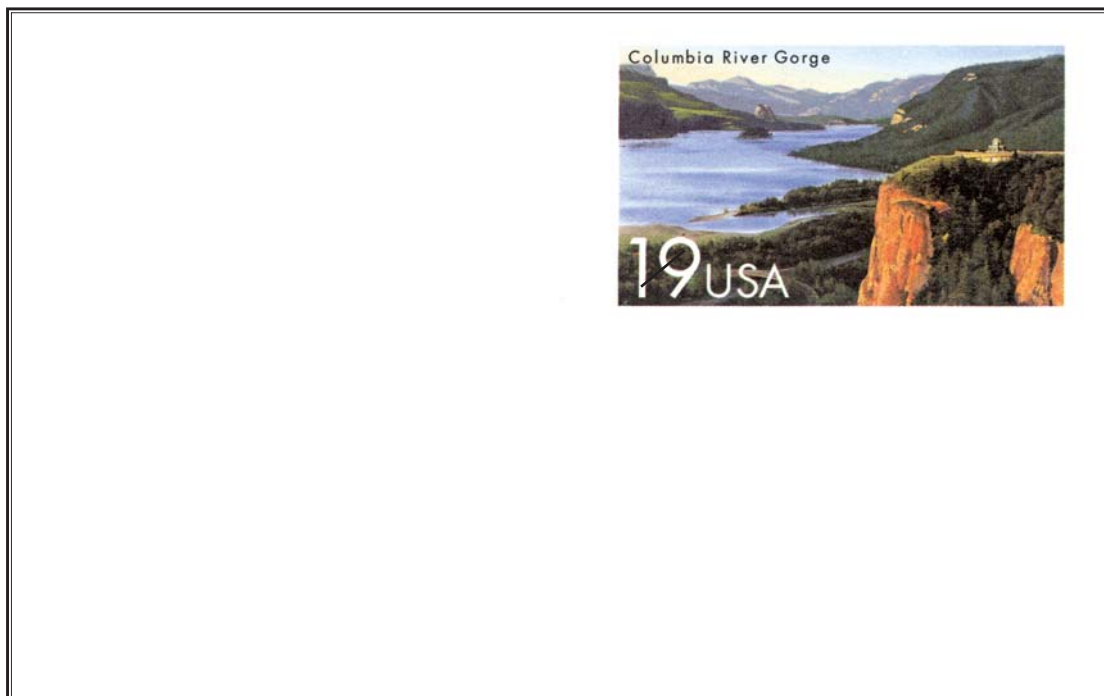
Wonders of America
Crater Lake • Deepest Lake
2006 • Scott 4040



Greetings from America
Oregon
2002 • Scott 3597



Pacific Lighthouses
Umpqua River Lighthouse
2007 • Scott 4149



Historic Preservation Columbia River • 1992 • Scott UX164



SYMBOLS, FLORA, AND FAUNA OF OREGON

American Bicentennial Issue Oregon 1976 • Scott 1665

The flag of the “Beaver State” is the only state flag with a different design on each side. On the front side of the flag is a gold shield surrounded by thirty-three stars, representing it as the thirty-third state to be admitted to the union. An American Beaver is found on the reverse side of the flag. Stamps depicting the flags of every state were issued in 1976.

Wildlife Conservation Series King Salmon 1956 • Scott 1079

This stamp of the Wildlife Conservation Series depicts Oregon’s state fish — the Chinook “King” Salmon. Eaten by the Lewis and Clark Expedition, the salmon is spiritually prized among some Native American tribes. Many still celebrate the first spring chinook caught each year with “First Salmon Ceremonies”.

State Birds & Flowers Issues Western Meadowlark, Oregon Grape 1982 • Scott 1989

This stamp shows the Western Meadowlark that chosen as Oregon’s state bird in 1927 by the state’s school children. It is known for its beautiful song. Also on this stamp is the Oregon Grape, which was chosen as the state flower in 1899. It is an evergreen plant with leaves that resemble holly, and small purple berries that are clustered, giving it the name Oregon Grape.

Botanical Congress Issues Douglas Fir 1969 • Scott 1376

Shown on this stamp is the Douglas Fir that was declared Oregon’s state tree in 1939. It is the source of most of Oregon’s softwood lumber production, used extensively in the construction industry. It is also one of the most commonly marketed Christmas trees in the United States.

Butterfly Issues Swallowtail Butterfly 1977 • Scott 1712

The Oregon Swallowtail is native to the U.S. states of Oregon, Washington, and Idaho. In 1977, it became one of the first butterflies ever shown on a U.S. stamp. It was chosen as the state insect of Oregon in 1979.

Wonders of America American Beaver • Largest Rodent 2006 • Scott 4064

The early economy of Oregon was built on beaver pelts used for coats and hats. After being on the endangered species list for many years, the beaver is now seen in most of Oregon’s waterways. The American Beaver was named Oregon’s state animal in 1969 and shown on this 2006 stamp as America’s Largest Rodent.

Creatures of the Sea Sea Otter 1990 • Scott 2510

Due to overtrapping, more than 100 years ago the sea otter became extinct along the Oregon coast. However, a sea otter sighting was confirmed in Oregon in the spring of 2009. Environmentalists are hoping a new population of sea otters, as shown on this stamp, will emerge which will help to balance the marine ecosystem.

Creatures of the Sea Killer Whale 1990 • Scott 2508

One of the main tourist attractions along the Oregon coast is whale watching. The killer whale, or orca, can be seen from late April into May as it searches to make a meal of the migrating female gray whales and their calves. The Killer Whale is depicted on this Creatures of the Sea issue.

Pear 1995 • Scott 2488

Pears are Oregon’s number one tree fruit crop ranking second in the United States. This agricultural commodity are shipped to over forty countries around the world. The pear is shown on this USPS issue.

Strawberries 1999 • Scott 3296

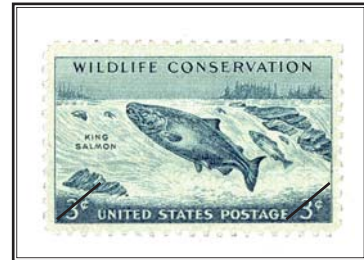
Strawberries are shown on this stamp. Oregon ranks third nationally in strawberry production. Only about 5% of the crops are sold in the fresh market, the remaining are processed and sold across the United States and around the world.



SYMBOLS, FLORA, AND FAUNA OF OREGON



American Bicentennial Issue
Oregon
1976 • Scott 1665



Wildlife Conservation Series
King Salmon
1956 • Scott 1079



State Birds & Flowers Issues
Western Meadowlark,
Oregon Grape
1982 • Scott 1989



Butterfly Issues
Swallowtail Butterfly
1977 • Scott 1712



Botanical Congress Issues
Douglas Fir
1969 • Scott 1376



Wonders of America
American Beaver • Largest Rodent
2006 • Scott 4064



Creatures of the Sea
Killer Whale
1990 • Scott 2508



Creatures of the Sea
Sea Otter
1990 • Scott 2510



Pear
1995 • Scott 2488



Strawberries
1999 • Scott 3304



OREGONIANS IN HISTORY

Herbert Hoover **1965 • Scott 1269**

Herbert Hoover, (1874–1964) was born in Iowa, but at the age of ten moved to Oregon. He remained in Oregon until he entered Stanford University's "pioneer class" when it opened in 1891. In 1929 he became the thirty-first president of the United States. He is honored on this USPS stamp.

American Scientists

Linus Pauling **2008 • Scott 4225**

This stamp shows Linus Carl Pauling (1901–1994) who was born and raised in Portland. He attended Oregon State University where he received his PhD. in chemistry and mathematical physics. He is the only person to win two unshared Nobel prizes — the Nobel Prize for Chemistry and the Nobel Peace Prize.

Celebrate The Century 1910's

A.C. Gilbert **1998 • Scott 3183n**

Although A.C. Gilbert's (1884–1961) picture has never appeared on a stamp, one of his inventions can be seen on this stamp. With more than 150 patents, his Erector set with its nuts, bolts, screws, pulleys, gears, and small electric motor, was the most popular during most of the 20th century.

The Simpsons

2009 • Scott 4399–4403

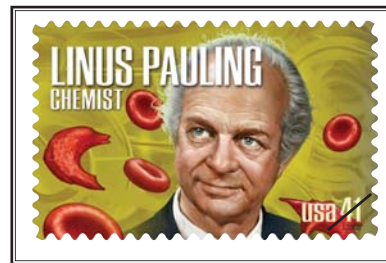
In 1990 The Simpsons debuted as Fox Network's highest-rated program and in 1997 the show surpassed the The Flintstones as the longest-running prime-time animated show in history. The designer of The Simpsons, Matt Groening, was born in Portland in 1954. The Simpsons were named for Portland streets such as Flanders, Lovejoy, Powell, Quimby, and Terwilliger. Several of The Simpsons are show on these stamps.



OREGONIANS IN HISTORY



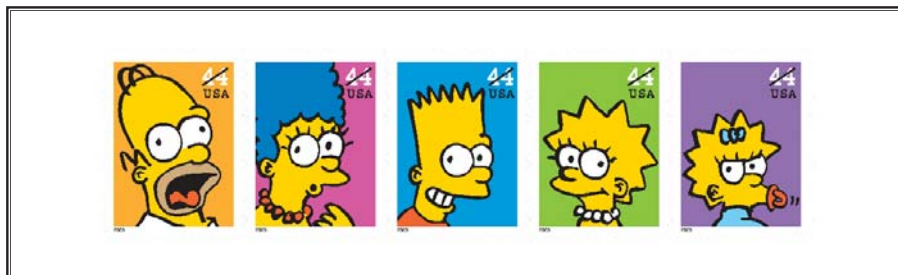
Herbert Hoover
1965 • Scott 1269



American Scientists
Linus Pauling
2008 • Scott 4225



Celebrate The Century 1910's
Erector Set
1998 • Scott 3183n



The Simpsons
2009 • Scott 4399-4403









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