Alabama • PreHistory

In 1953, evidence that people who lived nearly 10,000 years ago was found at the Russell Cave archaeological site, near Bridgeport, Alabama. Centuries later, the Indians began building houses, using bows and arrows to hunt, planting corn and squash, and making pottery.

The first European known to have visited what is now Alabama was Alonzo Alvarez de Piñeda of Spain, when he explored the Gulf of Mexico in 1519. Several other explorers traveled to this area, but it was not until 1702 that the first fort and settlement was established on the Mobile River.

Spain maintained control of Mobile until the War of 1812. In 1814, the Treaty of Fort Jackson ceded 23 million acres to the United States. On December 14, 1819, Alabama became the 22nd state in the Union.

Pteranodon
Scott 2423 • 1989

Some fragmented fossils of pterosaurs were recovered from the Mooreville Chalk Formation in west-central Alabama. They are believed to be remains of the pteranodon — a member of the family of pterosaurs — which lived more than 70 million years ago. The pteranodon was easily recognized by its cranial crest, short tail, and toothless beaks.

Tyrannosaurus
Scott 2422 • 1989

More than 66 million years ago, a tyrannosaur named the Appalochiosaurus, roamed the eastern portions of the United States. This predator had the largest arms of any tyrannosaur ever discovered in North America. Many bones from this dinosaur were found in the Demopolis Chalk Formation located in central Alabama.

The Pteranodon and Tyrannosaurus stamps were part of a block of four Prehistoric Animals stamps issued on October 1, 1989, to coincide with the beginning of National Stamp Collecting Month.

Founded in 1886, the American Philatelic Society serves more than 28,000 members. APS offers services and educational opportunities to broaden your enjoyment of the hobby and enhance your special collecting interests, whatever they may be. The APS is supported entirely by membership dues, gifts, and the sale of its publications and services.

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Alabama • PreHistory

Pteranodon
Scott 2423 • 1989

Tyrannosaurus
Scott 2422 • 1989

Russell Cave National Monument
Alabama • Early History

General Bernardo de Galvez, Battle of Mobile
Scott 1826 • 1980

General Bernardo de Galvez (1746–1786) was an ally of the colonists during the American Revolutionary War. As governor of the Spanish territory of Louisiana, he secretly allowed military supplies to be shipped via the Mississippi River to the aid of what would later become the United States. After Spain declared war on England, Galvez's army was able to push the British from the Mississippi Valley. In March 1780, he attacked Mobile, and was able to seize it after a four-day battle.

This stamp, issued July 23, 1980, recognizes General Bernardo de Galvez and the 200th anniversary of the Battle of Mobile.

Mississippi Territory
Scott 955 • 1948

Due to westward movement in the late 1700s, the U.S. Congress organized the Mississippi Territory — an area that included the southern portions of present-day Mississippi and Alabama. In 1817, the western half was admitted to the Union as the State of Mississippi, while the eastern half became the Alabama Territory. Two years later that territory was admitted into the Union as the State of Alabama.

Scott 955, issued April 6, 1948, commemorates the 150th anniversary of the establishment of the Mississippi Territory. The image on the stamp includes an outline of the territory, the seal of the Mississippi Territory, and Governor Winthrop Sargent, the territory's first governor.

Alabama Statehood
Scott 1375 • 1969

The area that is now called Alabama was first explored by Hernando de Soto of Spain in 1540 — the first permanent settlement was made in 1702. In 1795, the U.S. negotiated a treaty with Spain that fixed the U.S. border along the 31st parallel of north latitude, which meant all of Alabama, except the Mobile area, was part of the U.S.

The Mobile area was part of the Mississippi Territory until 1817, when the Alabama Territory was organized. Two years later a constitutional convention was held which produced the territory's first constitution. On December 14, 1819, Alabama became the 22nd state to enter the Union.

Scott 1375 commemorates that 150th anniversary of the State of Alabama.

Battle of Mobile Bay
Scott 4911 • 2014

For more than three years after the start of the American Civil War the Union had successfully blocked supplies to the Confederacy, except through Mobile Bay. On August 5, 1864, a naval fleet attacked and captured that last major supply link — Mobile Bay — making it one of the most important naval battles of the Civil War. An interesting note: Although Mobile Bay had been captured by the Union Army, the city of Mobile was too secure to capture. It did not surrender until April 12, 1865, three days after Confederate General Robert E. Lee had surrendered to Union General Ulysses S. Grant.

This stamp was issued, along with one depicting the Battle of Petersburg, on July 30, 2014. They were the fourth installment in a series commemorating the 150th anniversary of the Civil War. The image on the stamp shows Admiral Farragut's fleet during the Battle of Mobile Bay.

Raphael Semmes
Scott 2975i • 1995

Under the command of Raphael Semmes (1809–1877), the CSS Alabama was a terror to the Union during the Civil War. Raiding U.S. commercial ships in the Caribbean Sea, and Atlantic, Pacific, and Indian Oceans, Semmes was able to elude Union warships. The CSS Alabama was eventually sunk off the coast of France in 1864.

This stamp, one of the Classic Collections: Civil War Set, was issued on June 29, 1995.

Indian Centennial
Scott 972 • 1948

The “Five Civilized Tribes”, as described by European settlers in America, were the Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Muscogee, and Seminole — so described because they adopted many of the colonists’ customs. These tribes lived in the American southeast until tensions rose between the Indians and the white settlers. Beginning in 1831, the tribes were removed from their homeland to Indian Territory in what is now Oklahoma. Thousands of Indians died enroute, making this known as the “Trail of Tears”. Three tribes from Alabama were displaced — the Cherokee, the Chickasaw, and the Choctaw.

In 1947 an Oklahoma Senator asked the Postmaster to issue a stamp to commemorate the arrival of the “Five Civilized Tribes”. Scott 972 was issued on October 15, 1948, in Muskogee, Oklahoma. It commemorated the arrival of the “Five Civilized Tribes” in Oklahoma.
Alabama • Early History

General Bernardo de Galvez
Battle of Mobile
Scott 1826 • 1980

Mississippi Territory
Scott 955 • 1948

Alabama Statehood
Scott 1375 • 1969

Battle of Mobile Bay
Scott 4911 • 2014

Raphael Semmes
Scott 2975i • 1995

Indian Centennial
Scott 972 • 1948
Alabama • State Symbols

Alabama State Flag
Scott 1654 • 1976

In 1819, Alabama became the 22nd state in the Union; however, a state flag was not adopted at that time. It was not until February 16, 1895, that Alabama authorized a “crimson cross of St. Andrew on a field of white” as its official flag. Patterned after the Confederate Battle Flag, the “bars forming the cross must not be less than six inches broad and must extend diagonally across the flag from side to side.”

As a part of the ongoing Bicentennial celebration, a 13¢ State Flags pane became a first in U.S. history — it was the first time the U.S.P.S. issued a pane with 50 face-different stamps. Each state was represented by its official flag, with the stamps arranged on the sheet in the same order each state was admitted into the Union. Release date was February 23, 1976.

Scott 4274 • 2008

In 2008, the U.S.P.S. began a new definitive series called Flags of Our Nation. The series was issued in six sets of ten stamps each, over a period of several years. Included were designs depicting fifty state flags, five territorial flags, the flag of the District of Columbia, and 4 designs showing the Stars and Stripes flying over landscapes within the United States. The Alabama state flag was included in the first set of stamps in the series, issued June 14, 2008.

Monarch Butterfly
Scott 2287 • 1987

Monarch butterflies are native to Alabama. The caterpillar and the butterfly are brightly colored as a warning — the toxins from the milkweed plant that they eat are poisonous to predators. However, the butterflies are born to fly and do not stay in Alabama over the winter. Each fall, millions of monarchs from the U.S. and Canada journey up to 3,000 miles south to winter in Mexico and Southern California. In 1989, Alabama designated the monarch butterfly as the official state insect.

Scott 2287 is part of a pane of stamps entitled North American Wildlife. They were issued on June 13, 1987 to celebrate America's variety of wildlife.

Scott 3351k • 1999

Scott 3351k is a part of the Classic Collections: Insects & Spiders issue. The colorful sheet, featuring 16 insects and 4 spiders, was issued on October 1, 1999.

Scott 4462 • 2010

Scott 4462 was issued on May 27, 2010. It was the first in a series of square butterfly stamps intended for greeting cards that weigh less than one ounce, but are non-machineable, such as square greeting card envelopes.

Swallowtail
Scott 1712 • 1977

The Eastern tiger swallowtail is one of the most common butterflies found in the United States. With a wingspan of up to 5 ½ inches across, this beautiful yellow tiger-striped butterfly can be found visiting gardens and meadows from spring to fall. The Eastern Tiger Swallowtail became Alabama's state mascot and butterfly in 1989.

Scott 1712 is one of a set of four stamps picturing butterflies — the Swallowtail, checkerspot, dogface, and orange-tip each represent a different geographic region of the U.S. The set was issued on June 6, 1977.

Scott 2300 • 1987

Scott 2300 is part of a pane of stamps entitled North American Wildlife. They were issued on June 13, 1987 to celebrate America's variety of wildlife.

Scott 4999 • 2015

Scott 4999 is fifth in the Butterfly Series of stamps issued at the non-machineable surcharge rate. Issued on June 1, 2015, it was the first in this series to be issued as a Forever stamp; it doesn't have a denomination printed on it, but reads "non-machineable surcharge".
Alabama • State Symbols

State Flag

Scott 1654 • 1976

Scott 4274 • 2008

Monarch Butterfly

Scott 2287 • 1987

Scott 3351k • 1999

Scott 4462 • 2010

Swallowtail

Scott 1712 • 1977

Scott 2300 • 1987

Scott 4999 • 2015
Yellowhammer and Camellia
Scott 1953 • 1982

The northern flicker, also known as the yellowhammer, was designated as the official state bird of Alabama in 1927. The yellowhammer can be found throughout the state, typically eating ants, bugs, seeds, and berries lying on the ground. A type of woodpecker, this bird does not have a super-hammering ability. Instead it will look for bugs in rotten trees and fence posts, and can be seen nesting in nest boxes or even in earthen banks.

Scott 1953, issued April 14, 1982, is one of a pane of 50 stamps depicting official state birds and flowers. Each stamp is a unique masterpiece painted by a father-son team: the father painted the birds, while the son painted the flowers.

Camellia
Scott 1877 • 1981

In 1959, the Alabama legislature designated the camellia as the state flower, replacing the goldenrod which many of the state's gardeners considered a weed. Also called the "rose of winter", the camellia is in full bloom from January thru February. It is found throughout the state — in state parks, along hiking trails and highways, and even in home gardens.

Scott 1877 is one of a block of four stamps issued April 23, 1981 to pay tribute to the beauty of America's flowers.

Honeybee
Scott 2281 • 1988

The honeybee industry is important to Alabama's economy; the state is a leader in commercial queen and packaged-bee production. The bee also provides an important service — that of pollinating crops and fruit trees, helping to make agriculture the state's top industry. With more than 600 registered beekeepers in the State of Alabama, in 2015 the queen honeybee was designated as the official state agricultural insect.

This Honeybee stamp was issued on September 2, 1988, in coils of 100 and 3,000.

Peach
Scott 2487 • 1995

Nearly 50 varieties of peaches are grown throughout Alabama. Most of the fruit is harvested when fully mature and sold at local markets and roadside outlets, giving the fruit a full flavor. In 2006, the Alabama Legislature designated the peach to be the official state tree fruit of Alabama.

On July 8, 1995, peach and pear stamps were issued as se-tens. In addition to water soluble stamps, the peach and pear stamps were issued in self-adhesive pane and self-adhesive coil formats.

Blackberry
Scott 3305 • 1999

In 2004, the blackberry was designated as the official fruit of the State of Alabama. Brambling blackberry bushes can be found throughout the state — from the southern coast to the northern highlands. The berries, which are rich in vitamin C as well as other vitamins and minerals, are known for their healing properties. The young stems can be peeled and eaten raw, the leaves can be chewed to treat inflammation of the mouth, the stems can be woven into rope, the berries, leaves, and roots can be used to dye fabric, and you can even make a writing ink from the berries.

The Four Fruit Berries stamps, which included the blackberry, blueberry, raspberry, and strawberry, were issued April 10, 1999. The stamps were released in three different self-adhesive formats: coils of 100, convertible panes of 20; and folded booklets of 15.
Alabama • State Symbols

Greetings from America
Scott 3561 • 2002

Greetings from America
Scott 3696 • 2002

Yellowhammer and Camellia
Scott 1953 • 1982

Camellia
Scott 1877 • 1981

Honeybee
Scott 2281 • 1988

Peach
Scott 2487 • 1995

Blackberry
Scott 3305 • 1999
Wild turkey
Scott 1077 • 1956
In the early 1900s, wild turkeys in the United States had nearly disappeared due to habitat destruction and harvesting. However, it is now one of the most common game-birds in the nation. In the 1940s, the Alabama Game and Fish Division of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources established a wild turkey restocking program to compensate for a turkey shortage. Now, Alabama has one of the largest per acre populations of wild turkeys of any state in the country. In 1980, the eastern wild turkey was named as Alabama's State Game Bird.

On May 5, 1956, the U.S.P.S. issued 3 stamps to emphasize the importance of wildlife conservation in the United States. While Scott 1077 depicts the wild turkey, the other two stamps show a pronghorn antelope and a king salmon.

Scott 3899g • 2005
Scott 3899g is from the Northeast Deciduous Forest pane of stamps which was issued on March 3, 2005. This pane was the seventh issue of the Nature of America Series.

Black Bear
Scott 2299 • 1987
The black bear is a solitary animal (except females with cubs) that can be found across Alabama. Their diet typically consists of nuts, berries, roots, grubs, and insects, but they are also known to eat other small animals. The cubs, which are born during hibernation, will measure approximately 8 inches in length and weigh less than one pound. A full grown male bear may weigh 350 pounds or more, while females are smaller with an average weight of 220–250 pounds. In 2006 the Alabama Legislature designated the Black Bear to be the official state mammal of Alabama.

Scott 2299 is part of a pane of stamps entitled North American Wildlife. They were issued on June 13, 1987 to celebrate America's variety of wildlife.

Early Electric Streetcar
Scott 2060 • 1983
In 1886, Montgomery, Alabama, became the first city in the United States to use an electric street car system. Replacing the horse-drawn trolley system, the Capital City Street Railway, or Lightning Route, was a city-wide system that enabled people to move into suburban developments. The system operated for exactly 50 years, until April 15, 1936, when it was retired in a big ceremony and replaced by buses.

The Early Electric Streetcar stamp is part of a set of four stamps which feature America's first form of mass transportation — the streetcar. The set was issued on October 8, 1983.

Folk dance – square dance
Scott 1751 • 1978
Folk dancing, specifically square dancing, provided early settlers the opportunity to socialize, and often became a primary type of community entertainment. The dancing was usually accompanied by at least one fiddler, possibly some percussion, and almost always lots of singing. The square dance continues to be known widely throughout the United States. In 1981, Alabama designated the square dance the official state folk dance.

Scott 1751 was a part of a block of four stamps issued in 1978. The set commemorates the contribution of dance to American society. Ballet, modern dance, and theater are represented on the remaining stamps in the block.

Largemouth Bass
Scott 2207 • 1986
The largemouth bass is an aquatic predator, feeding on smaller fish, crayfish, and other marine animals. It can be found in lakes and rivers throughout the United States. Alabama designated the largemouth bass, popular in sport fishing, as the official state freshwater fish in 1975.

This stamp is part of a pane of five stamps issued on March 21, 1986, to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the National Wildlife Federation.
Wild turkey
Scott 1077 • 1956

Wild turkey
Scott 3899g • 2005

Black Bear
Scott 2299 • 1987

Early Electric Streetcar
Scott 2060 • 1983

Largemouth Bass
Scott 2207 • 1986

The Wild Turkey – Symbol of America?
The turkey was proposed by Benjamin Franklin as the national symbol of America. In a letter to his daughter, he wrote, “For my own part I wish the Eagle had not been chosen the representative of our country. He is a bird of bad moral character. He does not get his living honestly...The turkey is a much more respectable bird, and...a true original native of America...He is besides, though a little vain and silly, a bird of courage, and would not hesitate to attack a grenadier of the British Guards who should presume to invade his farm yard with a red coat on.”
Longleaf pine
Scott 3611 • 2002

The longleaf pine is distinguishable by the needles which occur in bundles of three, cones which measure up to 10 inches long, tree height which may be up to 100–150 feet tall, and trunk diameter which may be nearly 4 feet across. The longleaf pine can be found growing in well-drained sandy soil, especially in the lower 2/3 of the State of Alabama. The Legislature first designated the state tree as the Southern pine tree in 1949. Because there are so many kinds of pine trees, the Southern Longleaf Pine, was specified as the state tree in 1997.

Scott 3611, the Longleaf Pine Forest pane, was issued on April 26, 2002. It is the fourth in the Nature of America Series. The longleaf pine forest is the largest cone-bearing forest east of the Mississippi River.
LONGLEAF PINE FOREST

N A T U R E  O F  A M E R I C A

Scott 3611 • 2002

Longleaf pine

American Philatelic Society, www.stamps.org
State of Alabama – 13
Alabama • From Montgomery to Gee’s Bend

Rosa Parks
Scott 4742 • 2013

In December 1955, African-American Rosa Parks (1913–2005) refused to give up her seat to a white man on a Montgomery, Alabama, city bus. The following year the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that segregation on buses was unconstitutional. Because of her activism, Parks was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom and the Congressional Gold Medal.

The Rosa Parks stamp, a part of the Civil Rights Set, was issued on February 4, 2013 — the 100th anniversary of Parks’ birth and the National Day of Courage.

1955 Montgomery Bus Boycott
Scott 3937e • 2005

When Rosa Parks boarded a Montgomery, Alabama, city bus, she obediently moved to the “colored” section at the back of the bus. However, after a few stops, several white people got on, and one was left standing. The bus driver told Parks to give a white man her seat. When she refused, she was arrested.

The following week, the black community, who made up about 70% of the bus riders, began boycotting the city bus system. The boycott lasted until December 1956 when the U.S. Supreme Court mandated that segregated buses were unconstitutional. After more than a year of walking, carpooling, legal action, and intimidation, the boycott was over.

Scott 3937e is one of 10 stamps on the To Form a More Perfect Union pane which was issued on August 27, 2005.

Selma March
Scott 3937i • 2005

Early American laws barred blacks from many of the basic civil rights that were allowed the white population — from where they could sit in a restaurant, to voting, to being in the military, and more. In 1965, Martin Luther King, Jr. and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) went to Selma, Alabama, to fight for the black citizens’ right to vote. A march from Selma to the capital of Montgomery was planned. In their first attempt, police told them to disperse, and many of the protesters were beaten. A week later, the Selma March began with the National Guard and Army protecting the marchers. Four thousand people set off for the capital on March 21. Five days and 54 miles later, now numbering 25,000, the marchers reached Montgomery.

Scott 3937i is one of 10 stamps on the “To Form a More Perfect Union” pane which was issued on August 27, 2005.

Quilts of Gee’s Bend
Scott 4089–98 • 2006

Just southeast of Selma, Alabama, is the small, rural community of Gee’s Bend, also known as Boykin. For generations, the women of this community have pieced together brightly colored, recycled fabrics to create quilts. In 2003, the women came together and founded the Gee’s Bend Quilter’s Collective. Their quilts can now be found displayed in museums across the country, selling for as much as $35,000 each.

These stamps, the sixth in the American Treasures Series that showcases beautiful works of American fine art and crafts, were issued August 24, 2006.

“Alabama Baby” and doll by Martha Chase
Classic American Dolls
Scott 3151a • 1997

“The Alabama Indestructible Dolls,” or “Alabama Baby” dolls, were produced by the Ella Gauntn Smith Doll Company after Ms. Smith saw the need for a doll that was unbreakable. The all-cloth dolls can be identified by the stitching on the top of the head created because the dolls were stuffed through that opening. The dolls had oil painted facial features, and often had painted hair and shoes.

Black Alabama Babies, such as the one shown on this stamp, are extremely rare and valuable. Black models of dolls were occasionally produced for black children, but white children also owned and loved the dolls.

This stamp was one of a pane of 15, each picturing a different American doll. This set represented the first time photographs were used instead of painting or drawings for a large set with face-different U.S. stamps.
Alabama • From Montgomery to Gee’s Bend

Rosa Parks
Scott 4742 • 2013

1955 Montgomery Bus Boycott
Scott 3937e • 2005

Selma March
Scott 3937i • 2005

“Alabama Baby” and doll
by Martha Chase
Scott 3151a • 1997

Quilts of Gee's Bend
Scott 4089–98 • 2006
Alabama • Space Exploration

Space Achievement Decade
1434–35 • 1971
The Saturn V rocket for the Apollo missions was developed and tested in Huntsville, Alabama, as were all rockets for space travel, starting with the Redstone rocket engines for satellites through those used for the space shuttle. The Saturn V's were then shipped by barge to Cape Canaveral for assembly and launch. Redstone Arsenal in Huntsville was the U.S. Army rocket center where all the German rocket scientists from World War II were stationed. When taken over by NASA, it was renamed the Marshall Space Flight Center.

These stamps were issued as an attached pair to coincide with the flight of Apollo XV and to mark the 10th anniversary of John Glenn's Project Mercury flight, which sent the first man into orbit.

Moon Landing
C76 • 1969
On July 20, 1969, Neil Armstrong became the first man to stand on the moon. Nearly all equipment for the first moon landing, from the rocket engines to the moon buggy, was developed or modified at the Marshall Space Flight Center.

On September 9, 1969, the U.S.P.S. issued this stamp — the first jumbo-size U.S. commemorative, which celebrated “moon mail.” The engraved master die to this stamp accompanied the astronauts all the way to the moon's surface. An envelope bearing a proof of the stamp was also canceled in the space module.

Space Achievement
1912–19 • 1981
This block of eight stamps features the space shuttle and satellites. The original test model shuttle is at the Huntsville U.S. Space & Rocket Center Museum along with the popular Space Camp — week-long space-oriented camp programs designed to promote science, engineering, aviation, and technology for children as well as adults.

The stamps celebrate the great achievements made by man in the field of space exploration. Individually, each stamp represents a great accomplishment in space exploration, from walking on the moon, to probing the planets, to the development of the Columbia space shuttle and Skylab.

Space Shuttle and Space Station
Scott 3411a-b • 2000
Located in Huntsville, Alabama, is the George C. Marshall Space Flight Center, the largest NASA center in the United States. The Flight Center's first mission was to develop the Saturn launch vehicles for the Apollo moon program. It was a lead center for the International Space Station design and assembly, the Space Shuttle propulsion, and related crew training.

Several space-related postage stamps were issued in July, 2000. Scott 3411a, the stamp to the left, features a hologram of a space shuttle docking with the International Space Station. The stamp on the right is Scott 3411b which features astronauts working outside the Space Station.

C. Alfred “Chief” Anderson
Scott 4879 • 2014
Even as a child, Charles Alfred “Chief” Anderson (1907–1996) knew he wanted to be an airplane pilot. He bought his own plane, and was able to receive a private pilot's license. Three years later, he obtained his commercial license in spite of the inspector's opposition to testing “a colored boy”.

In 1940, as the United States prepared for combat in World War II, Anderson was hired to be Chief Flight Instructor at Tuskegee Institute's new Civilian Pilot Training Program. By the time peace was restored, the “Chief” had trained nearly 1,000 African-American pilots who became the famed Tuskegee Airmen. Anderson had earned the title "Father of Black Aviation."

Scott 4879 was issued on March 13, 2014, as the 15th stamp in the Distinguished Americans series, which honors politicians, authors, athletes, scientists, and others who left their mark on American history and culture.
Alabama • Space Exploration

Space Achievement Decade
1434–35 • 1971

Moon Landing
C76 • 1969

Space Achievement
1912–19 • 1981

Space Shuttle and Space Station
Scott 3411a-b • 2000

C. Alfred “Chief” Anderson
Scott 4879 • 2014
Robert Robinson Taylor  
**Scott 4958 • 2015**

Robert Robinson Taylor (1868–1942) was the first black student to attend the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and upon graduation, became the first fully accredited African-American architect in America. He spent most of his time on the campus of Tuskegee Institute where he was the drafting instructor and architect. He designed Science Hall (constructed entirely by the students) and Tuskegee Chapel (Taylor's proudest achievement).

This stamp was issued on February 12, 2015 — the 38th stamp in the Black Heritage series.

George Washington Carver  
**Scott 953 • 1948**

George Washington Carver (1864–1943) was an American scientist known for his agricultural research. While Director of Agriculture at the Tuskegee Institute, Carver ran an experimental station where he focused on soil conservation and crop production. He developed more than 300 products from peanuts, including face powder, a milk substitute, and printer's ink.

Scott 953 featuring the same format as the 1940 Famous American Scientists stamps, was issued January 5, 1948.

Percy Lavon Julian  
**Scott 2746 • 1993**

Percy Julian (1899–1975) was a research chemist — a pioneer in the development of medicinal drugs from plants. He also owned more than 100 chemical patents, many for products made from soybeans, including a soya protein used in fire extinguishers during World War II and still used in paper manufacturing today.

Julian was elected to the National Inventors Hall of Fame and became the first black chemist elected to the National Academy of Sciences.

In 1978, the U.S. Postal Service, as part of its mission "to celebrate the people, events, and cultural milestones that are unique to our great nation," created a totally new stamp series to honor black Americans and the vital role they have played in U.S. history. The Percy Lavon Julian stamp, issued on January 29, 1993, was the 16th stamp in this series.
Alabama • Famous People

Booker T. Washington
Scott 873 • 1940

Booker T. Washington Home
Scott 1074 • 1956

Robert Robinson Taylor
Scott 4958 • 2015

George Washington Carver
Scott 953 • 1948

Panama Canal
William Gorgas and William L. Sibert
Scott 856 • 1939

George Washington Carver childhood home

Percy Lavon Julian
Scott 2746 • 1993

American Philatelic Society, www.stamps.org
Alabama • Famous People

Helen Keller/Anne Sullivan
Scott 1824 • 1980
At the age of 19 months, Helen Keller (1880–1968) suffered an illness that left her blind and deaf. When she was six years old, her family hired Anne Sullivan to become her tutor. Sullivan began by teaching her the alphabet, and stayed with her until after she graduated from Radcliffe — becoming the first deaf blind person to earn a Bachelor of Arts degree.
Scott 1824 was issued in Helen Keller’s hometown of Tuscaloosa, Alabama, on June 27, 1980, marking the centennial of her birth.

Hugo Black
Scott 2172 • 1986
Born in a small, wooden farmhouse in Ashland, Alabama, Hugo Black (1886–1971) became lawyer, senator, and eventually the Senior Associate Justice of the Supreme Court. Appointed to the Court in 1937, Black’s decisions strongly supported government protection of civil rights through his retirement in 1971.
A stamp honoring Black is included in the Great Americans definitive series. It was issued on February 27, 1986, the 100th anniversary of Black’s birth.

Zora Neale Hurston
Scott 3748 • 2003
Zora Neal Hurston (1891–1960) was born in Notasulga, Alabama. She was an African-American writer of folklore, short stories, and novels portraying the racial struggles in the deep South. She is best known for her novel Their Eyes Were Watching God — a work that is regarded as being influential in both African-American literature and women’s literature.
The Hurston stamp was issued January 24, 2003 — the 19th stamp in the Literary Arts Series.

W. C. Handy
Scott 1372 • 1969
The “Father of the Blues”, William Christopher Handy, (1873–1958) was born in Florence, Alabama. Although he did not create the blues, he was responsible for popularizing it throughout the United States. He was inducted into the National Academy of Popular Music Songwriters, the Nashville Songwriters, and the Alabama Jazz Halls of Fame.
Issued on the 150th anniversary of the founding of Memphis, Tennessee, this stamp salutes the famous composer and musician, W.C. Handy.

Claude Pepper
Scott 3426 • 2000
Claude Denson Pepper (1900–1989) was born in a shack near Lafayette, in Chambers County, Alabama. Rising from poverty, he graduated from the University of Alabama and Harvard Law School. Pepper served as Chairman of the House Committee on Aging, and continually fought for the rights of the elderly. He received the Medal of Freedom, the nation’s top civilian award, just five days before his death.
Scott 3426 is part of the Distinguished Americans Series. It was issued on September 7, 2000 — one day prior to the anniversary of Pepper’s 100th birthday.

Hank Williams
Scott 2723 • 1993
Hiram “Hank” Williams (1923–1953) was born in Mount Olive, Alabama. By the age of 13 had formed his own band. Williams moved to Nashville in 1947 where he wrote and sang his own style of music, rock ‘n roll blended with country — called “rockabilly”. His many awards include The Pulitzer Prize awarded posthumously for his pivotal role in transforming country music.
This stamp, part of the Legends of American Music: Rock & Roll/Rhythm & Blues series, was issued on June 9, 1993. It was also issued, along with 3 other musicians, in a booklet format — Scott 2771, issued September 25, 1993.

Dinah Washington
Scott 2730 • 1993
Dinah Washington (1924–1963), born Ruth Lee Jones in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, began her singing career in her church choir. She later became one of the most popular female rhythm & blues singers of the 1950s. Dinah was inducted into the Big Band and Jazz Hall of Fame, as well as the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.
This stamp is one of the Legends of American Music: Rock & Roll/ Rhythm & Blues set of seven which was issued on June 16, 1993. The set was also issued in two different booklet formats — Scott 2737 a and b.
Alabama • Famous People

Helen Keller/Anne Sullivan
Scott 1824 • 1980

Hugo Black
Scott 2172 • 1986

Zora Neale Hurston
Scott 3748 • 2003

Claude Pepper
Scott 3426 • 2000

W. C. Handy
Scott 1372 • 1969

Nat King Cole
Scott 2852 • 1994

Hank Williams
Scott 2723 • 1993

Dinah Washington
Scott 2730 • 1993
Alabama • Famous People

Satchel Paige
Scott 3408p • 2000

Born in Mobile, Alabama, Leroy Robert “Satchel” Paige (1906–1982) was one of the most outstanding pitchers in the history of baseball in the United States. He began his professional career in the Negro League when blacks were not allowed in the major leagues. However, just after that barrier was broken, at the age of 42 he became the oldest rookie in Major League history. Paige once struck out 21 major leaguers in an exhibition game; however, one of his most successful years was in 1933, when he won 31 games and lost only four playing for the Pittsburgh Crawfords. In 1971 Satchel Paige was elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame.

This stamp is one of the set Classic Collections: Legends of Baseball. It was issued on July 6, 2000, one day before Paige’s 94th birthday.

Jesse Owens
Scott 3185j • 1998

Born in Oakville, Alabama, was sprinter and long jumper James Cleveland “Jesse” Owens (1913–1980). Owens specialized in the 100 meter and 200 meter sprints and the long jump and was recognized in his lifetime as the greatest and most famous athlete in track and field history. His achievement of setting three world records and tying another in less than an hour at the 1935 Big Ten track and field meet in Ann Arbor, Michigan, has been called "the greatest 45 minutes ever in sport" and has never been equaled. At the 1936 Summer Olympics in Berlin, Germany, Owens won international fame with four gold medals one each for the 100 meters, 200 meters, long jump, and 4 × 100 meter relay.

Jesse Owens is shown on Scott 3185j which was included in the Celebrate the Century – 1930s stamps. It was issued on September 10, 1998.

Bear Bryant
Scott 3143 • 1997

Paul “Bear” Bryant (1913–1983) began his college football career while attending the University of Alabama. He returned to his alma mater when he became the head coach for the Alabama Crimson Tide. During his time as their coach, he had a record of 323 regular season wins, 85 losses, and 17 ties, including 6 national championships and 13 conference championships. Bryant earned the nickname of “Bear” after agreeing to wrestle a captive bear during a carnival promotion when he was 13 years old.

The Bear Bryant stamp is one of the Legendary Football Coaches Set. The full set was dedicated on July 25, 1997, at the Pro Football Hall of Fame; however, individual stamps were issued on separate dates and at different locations. The Bryant stamp was issued on August 5, 1997 in Tuscaloosa.

Joe Louis
Scott 2766 • 1993

Joe Louis Barrow (1914–1981), aka Joe Louis, was born in a rickety shack north of Lafayette, Alabama. Against his mother’s wishes he became a boxer, winning the National Amateur Association Light Heavyweight Championship in 1934. As a professional, he tallied a score card of 68 wins and 3 losses, defending the title of heavyweight champion 25 times in a period of 12 years.

A stamp honoring Joe Louis was issued on June 22, 1993, the 55th anniversary of his first-round knockout of Germany’s Max Schmeling. It is part of the American Sports Personalities, a group of stamps issued to honor distinguished figures in American amateur and professional sports.
Alabama • Famous People

Satchel Paige
Scott 3408p • 2000

Jesse Owens
Scott 3185j • 1998

Bear Bryant
Scott 3143 • 1997

Joe Louis
Scott 2766 • 1993
Alabama • Additional Stamps

Sand Island, Alabama
Gulf Coast Lighthouses
Scott 4412 • 2009

Sand Island Lighthouse is located at Alabama's southernmost point, three miles offshore from Mobile Bay. The site was first marked in 1830 by an iron spindle visible from six miles. Over the years, new, upgraded lighthouses have replaced the old, including one that was destroyed by Civil War shellfire in 1863.

Sand Island Lighthouse now sits on less than an acre of land — all that remains of the 400 acres on which it was rebuilt in 1864, since scoured away by sea and storm. Damaged by Hurricane Ivan in 2004 and Hurricane Katrina in 2005, it is one of the most endangered lighthouses in the country.

The 44¢ Sand Island Lighthouse stamp was issued on July 23, 2009; one of five stamps celebrating Gulf Coast Lighthouses — the most recent in a popular U.S. Lighthouse booklet stamp series.

Bicentennial of
Alabama Statehood
Scott 53__ • 2019

On December 14, 1819, Alabama became the 22nd state to enter the Union, which celebrated its 200th birthday in 2019.

Attempting to capture the spirit of Alabama in one image was a daunting challenge, one that Alabama native son and photographer Joe Miller tackled at sunset on Pulpit Rock Trail in Cheaha State Park, a 1933 project of the Civilian Conservation Corps. With Pulpit Rock in the foreground, most of the valley below the overlook is part of the Talladega National Forest.

Taken in the 21st century, this timeless photo captures the state as it probably appeared when Hernando de Soto arrived in 1540.
Alabama • Additional Stamps

Sand Island, Alabama
Gulf Coast Lighthouses
Scott 4412 • 2009

Bicentennial of
Alabama Statehood
Scott 53__ • 2019
American Philatelic Society

The State of Alabama Bicentennial Stamp Album has spaces for 88 different U.S. postage stamps related to the state's rich history, from the age of the dinosaurs to the era of space exploration. Issued between 1940 and 2019, these stamps are affordable and available from stamp dealers around the nation, and make a proud keepsake of a second century of success.

The 30-page full-color stamp album includes four blank pages for first-day covers, photographs and other Alabama statehood ephemera, and the entire album can be downloaded for free.

Stamps in this album are shown courtesy of the American Philatelic Society Reference Collection, created and sustained through the generosity of APS members. A special thank you to David and Julia Crawford and to J. Robert Hamill, President of the Birmingham Philatelic Society, for their assistance in identifying stamps related to the state of Alabama.

Alabama is one of the 27 states represented among 80 downloadable free sets of stamp album pages that are available from stamps.org/Album-Pages.

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