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.

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.

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.
Oregon — From The Beginning

Prehistoric Animals
Woolly Mammoth
1996 • Scott 3078

Prehistoric Animals
Mastodon
1996 • Scott 3079

Classic Collections: Legends of the West
Chief Joseph
1994 • Scott 2869f

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 of 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
Sacagawea
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, Sacagawea 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.

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
Pacifi c Lighthouses

Umpqua River Lighthouse
2009 • Scott 4149

The original Umpqua River Lighthouse — the fi rst 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 fl ood 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 fl ashes followed by a red fl ash. This stamp shows the Umpqua River Lighthouse, whose light is still shining today.

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 Pacifi c 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 commerical ventures, he owned sawmills, a gristmill, a granary, a general store, and a shipping business. From his profi ts 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 Williamette 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 fi rst 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 fi nally 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

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Historic Preservation
Columbia River
1992 • Scott UX164

By volume, the Columbia River is the fourth-largest river in the U.S., having the greatest fl ow of any North American river draining into the Pacifi c Ocean. Since the native Americans roamed the Pacifi c coast, the Columbia has been used for transportation and for shipping various goods. The river system hosts numerous anadromous fi sh (fi sh that migrate between fresh and salt water.) These fi sh — 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 fi sh.

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.

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.

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”.

King Salmon
1977 • Scott 1712

Oregon

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.
Symbols, Flora, and Fauna of Oregon

American Bicentennial Issue
Oregon
1976 • Scott 1665

Wildlife Conservation Series
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Wonders of America
American Beaver • Largest Rodent
2006 • Scott 4064

Creatures of the Sea
Killer Whale
1990 • Scott 2508

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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