



C. S. Anderson

- ◆ A Legacy Of Cachet Art

by Andrew Boyajian



Biography

- ◆ Charles Stephen Anderson, a former resident of West Orange, NJ, was a product of the Harrisburg, PA school system. He graduated from Gettysburg College during World War One and married Pauline on Christmas Day in 1919. He was a Civil Engineer by profession. His illustration talent with pen and ink led him into 45 years of cachets for the philatelic community, mostly on first day of issue envelopes. Although he serviced the first two issues himself, H. Wallace Ilsley took over the chores when Anderson found employment in the midst of “The Depression”.



New Stamps & Stationery

- ◆ Almost always when a new postage stamp is put into service by the Postal Service, there is a specific date for the “first day” and the accompanying ceremony. An industry has developed over last eighty years whereby retail businesses solicit artwork with which to create “covers” for the philatelic market.



Covers

- ◆ In the philatelic (stamp collecting) world, the word “cover” is synonymous with envelope and, in some cases, cards. In early days when the post office first came into being, it was common to ask that an item be sent “under cover” to protect the letter from prying eyes and possible inadvertent damage, hence the term “cover”.



Introduction To Cachets

- ◆ Artwork on a First Day Cover that thematically relates to the stamp is called a cachet. Event covers and Flight covers may also bear cachets. The cachet can be applied in several different ways. It can be printed, embossed, pasted or stamped.



Servicing Envelopes

- ◆ Servicing envelopes is a general term meaning to prepare the envelope for retail. It may include printing the envelope. Or it may mean pasting the stamp and securing the cancellation. In some instances it could mean keeping a subscriber list with the accompanying accounts. Anderson serviced his first few issues and then passed the responsibilities over to H. Wallace Ilsley (1933-1941).



Servicing Envelopes, con't

- ◆ The next servicer, Athol Cliff, purchased the business from Ilsley and serviced cachets until 1965 when he sold the business to another servicer, Gladys Jackson. She continued the C S Anderson line until Anderson died in March of 1978. The relationship between Anderson and Jackson was sometimes contentious concerning the placement of identifying signatures.



Servicing Other Types of First Day Covers ie. Postal Stationery such as envelopes , postal cards & aerogrammes also needed cachets



First Day Covers Come In Many Different Sizes

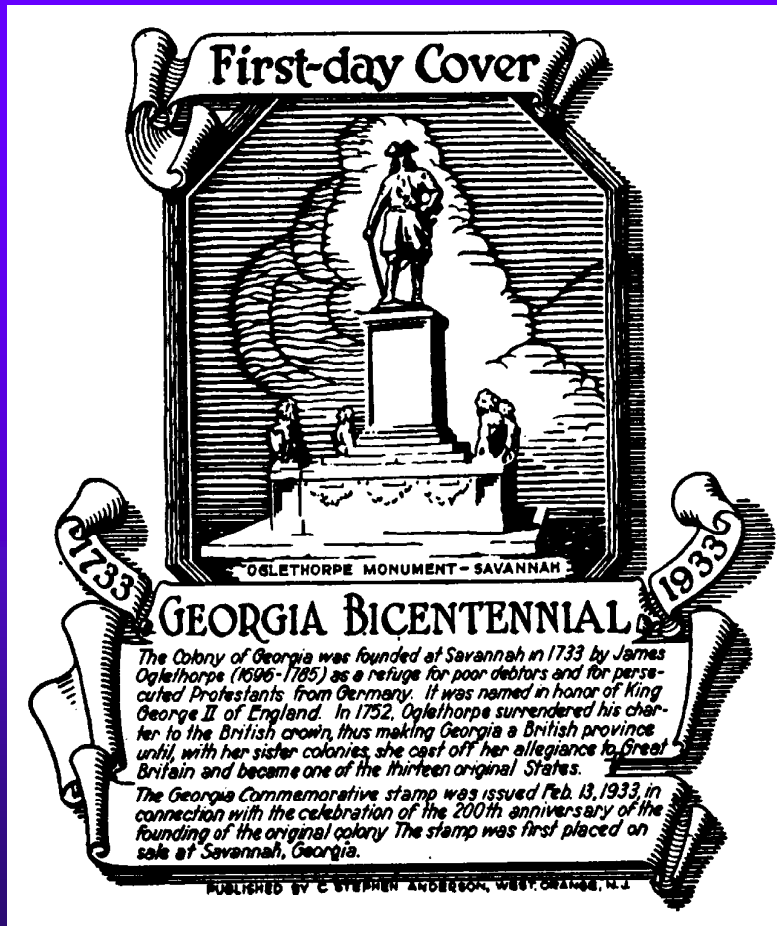
- ◆ Most first day covers are produced in the “standard” letter size envelope (#6 $\frac{3}{4}$).
- ◆ Some issues require the use of a business envelope (#10).
- ◆ In rare instances, a Monarch (#7) style envelope is used or as in one particular example, 8x10 cardboard sheets.
- ◆ In some instances the cachet was printed directly on the postal product



Color

- ◆ Almost all of Anderson's Cachets were monochromatic, black being the prevailing color. Beginning with the Michigan Statehood issue of 1935, cachets became available in more than one color. Cacheted envelopes produced for events were occasionally printed in two colors, most notably air mail related themes.

Sample Cachet



- ◆ For most of the 45 year history of the C S Anderson cachets, the format has been to have a graphic/picture above and historical information below. To the left is an example of the FIRST Anderson cachet.



Envelope Stuffers

- ◆ In order that the canceling machine make a good impression, First Day Cover envelopes were given a thin card stuffer. Initially they were blank. Later they were printed with advertising. In some instances the stuffers were newsletter-like price lists.



Stationery

- ◆ Although envelope cachets could be printed before the first day of issue, items like postal cards and aerograms could not. Since stationery had postage (an indicia) printed on them by the Post Office, servicers had to print the cachets on them after the release dates. This process complicated mailings to the subscribers.



What This Means

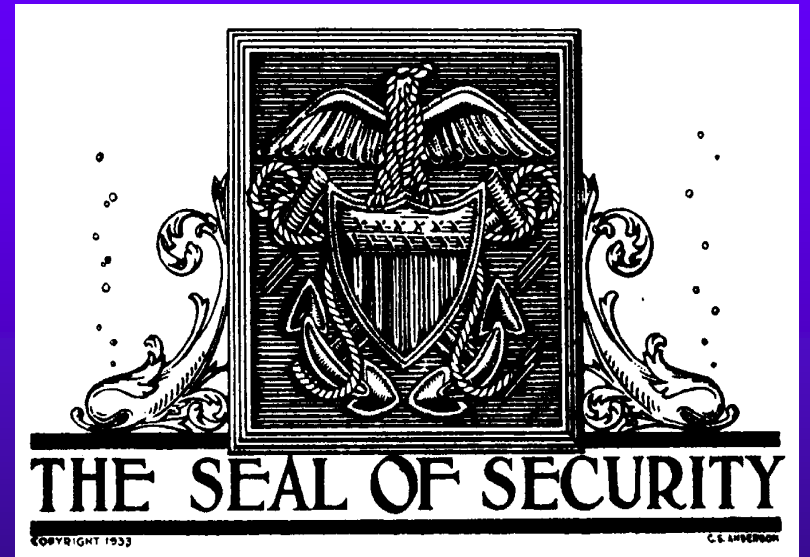
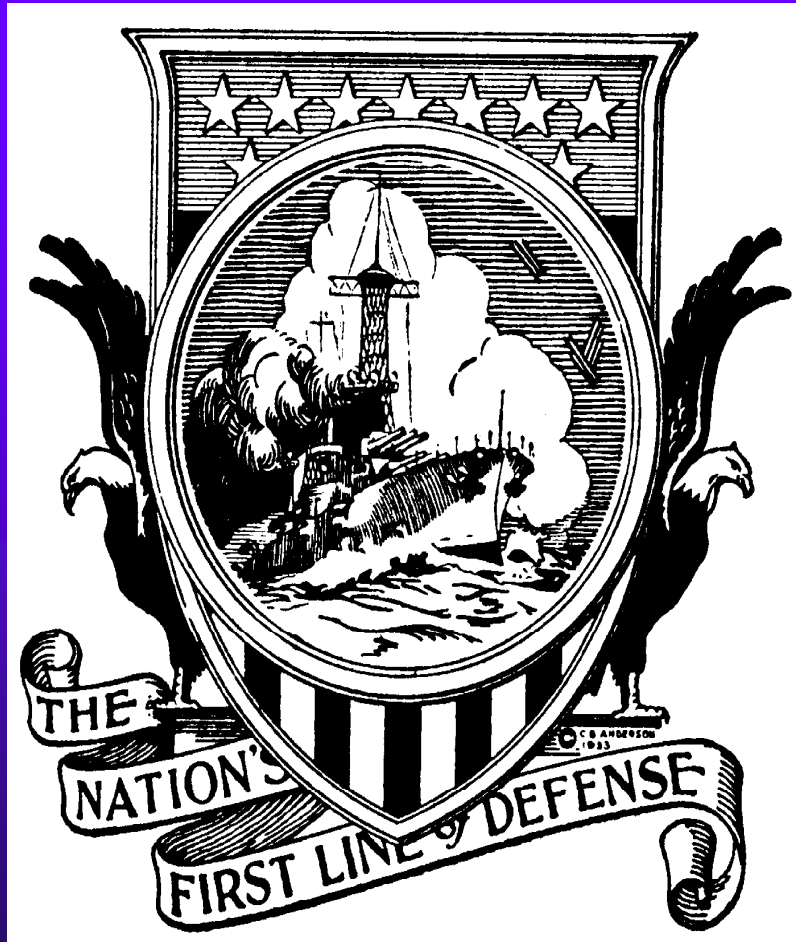
- ◆ Throughout the 45 years of cachet production, C S Anderson and his servicers were able to provide artwork for every new U.S. issue. In addition, cachets were produced for the stamps of the United Nations, Canada & other postal administrations.



Catalogue

- ◆ References to the cachets of C S Anderson can be found in many catalogs. In 2001 an extensive catalog of the cachets of C S Anderson was produced. It was a difficult task for there are over 1100 images. There are no listings of the color/city combinations. No one kept production records.

Naval Cachets

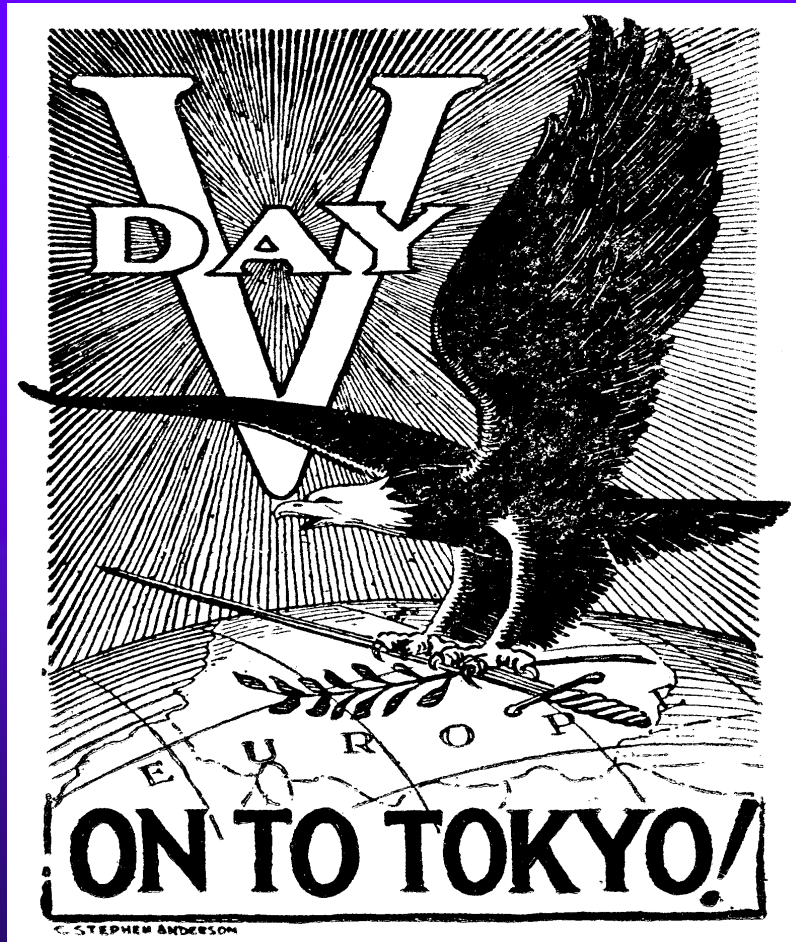




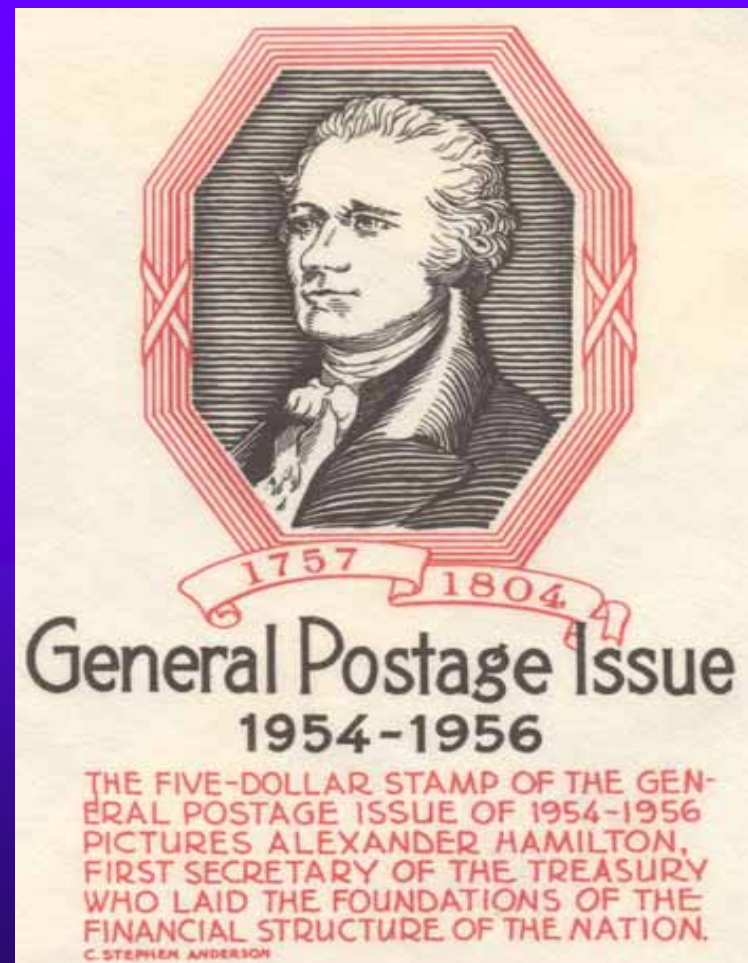
Air Mail Cachets



Patriotic Cachets



Cachet with two colors





THE END