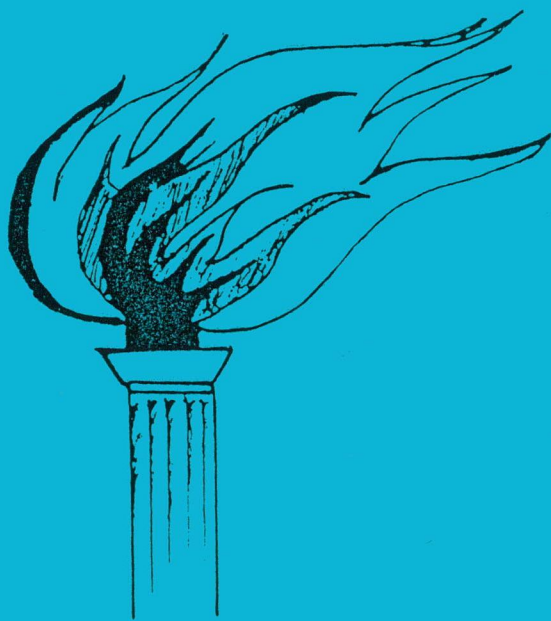


TORCH BEARER



SOCIETY of OLYMPIC COLLECTORS

YOUR COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN AND EDITOR: Mrs Franceska Rapkin, Eaglewood, Oxhey Lane, Hatch End, Middx HA5 4AL Great Britain.

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BACK ISSUES AND DISTRIBUTION: John Miller, 258 Torrisholme Road, Lancaster LA1 2TU, Great Britain.

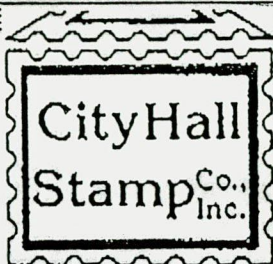
ADVERTISING: David Buxton, 88 Bucknell Road, Bicester, Oxon OX6 8DR, Great Britain.

COMMITTEE: Bob Wilcock.

BACK ISSUES: At present, back issues of TORCH BEARER are still available to Volume 1, Issue 1, (March 1984), though there are now very few complete sets of Volume 1. When these run out, they will not be reprinted. It is Society policy to ensure that new members will be able to purchase back issues for a four year period, but we do not guarantee stocks for longer than this. Back issues cost £1.25 each, or £5.00 for a year's issues, including postage by surface mail. If ordering single copies, please indicate which volume you require. Cheques should be made payable to the SOCIETY OF OLYMPIC COLLECTORS and sent with the order to John Miller at the above address. If you wish to receive back issues by airmail, please add 75 pence per issue (£3.00 per volume.)

LIBRARY: Photocopies of articles are available through the Librarian at 10 pence per sheet. Please enclose money with the order. Books may be borrowed, but postage must be paid IN BOTH DIRECTIONS. The Librarian's address is listed above.

COPY DATES: TORCH BEARER is published four times a year; in February, May, August and November. Articles or adverts for inclusion in a particular issue should be sent at least two months in advance.



SINCE WE HAVE THE MOST VARIED STOCK RELATING TO OLYMPIC AND SPORTS ISSUES, WE CAN DELIVER ALMOST EVERYTHING FROM 1896 UP TO DATE, THIS INCLUDES MANY OF THE IMPERFORATE ISSUES. OUR PRICES ARE VERY COMPETITIVE. WE DO NOT HAVE LISTS OR FDC'S AVAILABLE, BUT WE WILL GLADLY SEND YOU APPROVALS OR SERVICE YOUR WANT LIST

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FRONT PAGE

Firstly, I would like to take this opportunity of thanking all of you who sent me greetings cards and good wishes for the Festive Season. I do appreciate hearing from you, even though I am unable to respond to you all individually.

I do hope that you have paid your 1993 subscription, and that you have paid the right amount. It sometimes takes a while for it to filter through that there has been an increase, particularly when it has been possible to maintain the same subscription for a period of five years. If you have not already paid, you will get a reminder with this issue. If you intend to remain a member, PLEASE PAY PROMPTLY. If you do not intend to renew your membership, could I please ask you to drop me a line and tell me in which way we may have failed you. Unless YOU, the membership, tell us what you want, the Committee can only give you what WE think you want, which may not be the same thing.

At the end of 1993, I will have edited TORCH BEARER for ten years. I feel that it is time for a change at the helm. Is there someone out there who understands word processors and who would be prepared to take over as Editor? It is not a particularly arduous task, but it is time-consuming. It either needs someone who has very good typing speeds (which I haven't), or someone who has sufficient time to devote to the task. Do please give the matter some thought, and if you feel that you could produce a magazine that maintains, or better still, improves on the standard that we have at present, do please drop me a line. I will continue to give as much help as is needed, for as long as necessary, so whoever takes over, need not fear being dropped in at the deep end.

I am very short on original articles. You will see that in this issue, there are several articles that have already been produced elsewhere. Even my source of interesting reproduced articles is fast drying up. Please put on your thinking caps and, either let me have an original article, however short, or send me a copy of an article that you feel deserves a wider audience. In the latter case, please ensure that you let me have the source of the article and a contact address, for I will need to apply for permission to reprint it.

THEMATICA will take place at the Carisbrooke Hall at Marble Arch on the first weekend in July. Our Society will again be taking a table, and I hope that many of you will pay us a visit. The popular one frame competition which is judged by members of the public will again be on show, so if you have never entered a competition, or won a medal at Stampex or BPE, why not have a go? Alternately, we are running a two frame exhibition for those who would like an assessment of their exhibit to national standard. This will be a competition open to everyone, where the exhibits will be judged by a national team of jurors and a critique given to the entrants. The fee for this competition is £10 per exhibit. Rules and entry forms are available from Brian Sole, 3 Stockfield Avenue, Claygate, Esher, Surrey KT10 0QG.

MEMBER'S FORUM

Junior member, Rhodri Thomas, 2 Heol-y-Coed, Glyncoerwg, Port Talbot, West Glamorgan SA13 3AL, is looking for Barcelona postcards showing Cobi. He has numbers 2-5 and 7-9, but he would like to have the full set. He also urgently requires the small Cobi flags that were used in the Barcelona Games closing ceremony. Finally, Rhodri is interested in any Cobi badges, figures, posters etc. If any member is able to help, please write to Rhodri direct at the above address.



Member Keith Moulden, 2 Fullbrook Crescent, Tilehurst, Reading, Berks RG3 6RX has recently acquired a bronze medal from the 1896 Olympic Games. Keith would like to know if it was struck for third place, or given to all competitors for taking part. The medal measures 49mm in diameter and the obverse side shows a seated goddess with outstretched right arm holding a laurel wreath, supported by a trident in the left hand with a winged mythical creature in the foreground. City of Olympia? in the background. The reverse is in poor condition, but bears the following inscription surrounded by a laurel wreath design.

Alan Sabey, who writes the Auction News for TORCH BEARER, was among those who exhibited at Autumn Stampex as a part of the display put on by the Association of Friends of the National Postal Museum. Alan was showing some of the material that he has connected with the 1948 Olympic Games in London.

In the last issue of TORCH BEARER, due to an oversight, our Italian member, Uberto Stefanuti was not mentioned among the medallists of OLYMPHILEX '92. Uberto was awarded a large vermeil medal and a special prize for his exhibit on the World Skiing Championships. Many congratulations, and please accept the apologies of the Editor for this omission.

Manfred Bergman of Geneva writes that he enjoyed reading Francesca Rapkin's lecture on Britain's Olympic role, but would like to add the following observations regarding Britain's political involvement. At present, that chapter is very small, relative to the Games, and mention is only made of Britain being involved in politics since 1980. However, Britain was involved since 1906, and therefore merits a much larger space. 1906 Games attributed to London because of Italian political problems.

1918. War declared by Britain prevented the Games from taking place.

1920. Britain opposed Germany's participation.

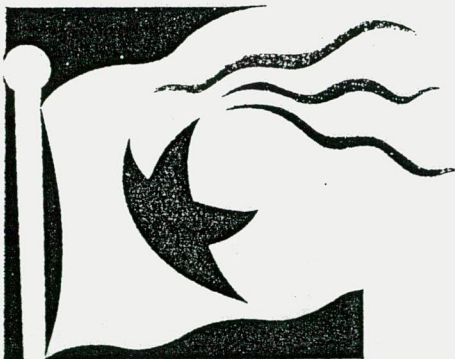
1925. Britain favoured Germany's integration in 1928.

1933-1936. Britain was very much involved with the boycott movement. Finally, it agreed to participate, dragging Canada along as well. Britain sent a large team to the Barcelona games.

1944. Britain was supposed to host the Games, which did not take place because of the war.

1948. Britain opposed Germany's participation, but accepted Italy and Austria. Furthermore, because of the tension in the Middle East, with the new-born Israel, the IOC refused to allow Israel to participate to placate Britain. And all this only until 1948!

US member, Craig Perlow, writes that, as one of the major collectors of Olympic memorabilia in the United States, he was proud and privileged to be asked by the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games - ACOG - to take part in the Olympic Flag celebration held during the middle of September. This involved a tour through nine Georgia cities, beginning with Savannah on 10 September and ending in Atlanta on 20 September. He was fortunate enough to be one of the few private contributors to this exhibition and to travel with it to its last six destinations as a guest of the ACOG. He writes that this was a truly unique and historic experience, as no previous Olympic Organising Committee had ever put together such an event.



OUR STAR BEGINS TO RISE

New member, Vittoriano Zambrini, Via Verdu 30, 21100 Varese, Italy, wishes to make contact with members all over the world to exchange Olympic and sports postmarks, and later, possibly other themes as well.

NEWS



Monaco issued a stamp in October 1992 to mark the centenary of Pierre de Coubertin's speech at the Sorbonne in Paris calling for a revival of the Olympic Games. This is the first 'centenary' stamp, but it is not the first philatelic recognition of the occasion. In October 1986, a philatelic exhibition was held in Paris, one week before the vote to decide who would host the 1992 Games. It was sponsored by


the Candidature Committee for the 1992 Olympic Games in Paris and was specifically a Franco-Bulgarian philatelic and numismatic exhibition. The inscription on the postmark reads "1982-1992 One Hundred Years of Olympism". These handstamps are now hard to find, even in France.


-Bob Wilcock-

MERCI PIERRE!



1892
Vous avez ressuscité
les Jeux Olympiques.

1992
Paris est prêt.

PARIS 1992 



Pierre de Coubertin

As major sponsors of the recent Barcelona Olympic Games, New Zealand Post undertook a mammoth campaign to involve and educate children about Olympics and New Zealand Olympians. The mission was to produce New Zealand's largest-ever postcard - made up from thousands of small postcards - and to send it to the NZ team in Barcelona.

In June 1992, every primary school in New Zealand received a special Giant Olympic Postcard package which contained a supply of standard sized postcards depicting NZ's own kiwi participating in various Olympic sports. School children were invited to use the postcards to send a message to the Olympic team, and they did, with a vengeance! Over 170,000 postcards were received - more than enough to create New Zealand's largest-ever postcard. The Giant Olympic Postcard was created by the children of Lucknow School in Havelock North following a live draw on the television programme "WHAT NOW". Around thirty five children of all ages were involved in making the giant postcard and the project was an overwhelming success. Not only did it give the children the opportunity to send their best wishes to the New Zealand Olympic team, but it also provided a sense of involvement with the Games. When finished, the giant postcard measured 6 metres by 4 metres.

Congratulations to TORCH BEARER! The Society magazine was entered into two competitions in 1992. Firstly at the International Thematic Exhibition 'GENOVA '92 held in Genoa in Italy during September. On that occasion, the magazine was awarded a Silver Bronze medal in the literature class. Later, in November, and international literature exhibition, PHILATEX was held in New York. On that occasion, our magazine was awarded a Bronze medal. It is probably true to say that it is far more difficult to maintain an award in an exhibition which is devoted to one discipline only, so therefore your Editor is far from disappointed by having gone down to a bronze at PHILATEX.

From 1993 onwards, FIPO (Federation Internationale de Philatelie Olympique), the international Olympic and sports philatelic organisation under the auspices of the IOC (International Olympic Committee), will no longer be an organisation of individual members, but will be attached to National Olympic Committees.

How this will work is not yet known. Your Chairman has written to the British Olympic Association, who have written to the IOC informing them that our Society is to be regarded as the national Olympic philatelic sports organisation. Members in other countries may want to contact their own national Olympic committees to ensure that Olympic and sports collectors are being properly represented in their country. As soon as further news is available, we will let the members know in the pages of TORCH BEARER.

SUPPORT YOUR SOCIETY BY ENROLLING A NEW MEMBER!

AUCTION NEWS

Alan Sabey

WESTERN AUCTIONS LTD
12 September 1992

Lot No: 737	London 1948. Mint and used blocks of 60 (240 stamps), of the Great Britain issue (SG 495-8)	Est: R'sd: £50 30
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HARMERS OF LONDON
15 September 1992

192	Greece 1896. 20 Lepta red-brown sheet of 10 (5x2) with internal margin between. Unmounted mint with some reinforcement, bright and fine. An important piece for the Olympic Collector.	not 1500 sold
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CHRISTIES ROBSON LOWE
16 September 1992

274	London 1948. 2+ annas on 2+d surcharge for use in Bahrain. A used example showing "double surcharge" and cancelled by a single cds	£300-not £400 sold
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NORTH WESTERN PHILATELIC AUCTIONS
23 September 1992

929	Greece 1896. 1896 Olympic issue 2L to 2Dr fine used. Cat. DM219+	£25 £20
930	Greece 1896. 1896. A similar lot.	£25 £20

BRISTOL STAMP AUCTIONS
3 October 1992

81	1960 Olympics. Bulgaria imperforate set unmounted in sheets of 25.	£25
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CAMBRIDGESHIRE PHILATELIC AUCTIONS
10 October 1992

370	Bermuda 1953-1974 Olympics, virtually complete mint.	£25 £19
714	France 1924. Olympic set mint.	£9 £11
1343	Panama 1964. Olympic Games set less +c. Also perforated and imperforate Miniature sheets, unmounted.	£10 £8.50

PHILATHENS LTD (HOUNSLOW)
17 October 1992

Lot No:		Est:	R'sd:
362	Bronze medal of 1896 Olympic Games. Some wear, but very scarce item.	£50-	not sold
363	Greece 1896. Complete set of 12 values mint.	£200	£200
364	Greece 1896. Complete set of 12 values unmounted mint.	£700	£630
365	Greece 1896. 1 Lepton block of 9 mint	£9	u/s'd
366	Greece 1896. 2 Lepta, marginal block of 20 with error of engraver's name missing on one stamp. The variety is scarce in a block.	£70	u/s'd
367	Greece 1896. 25 Lepta lower part of the great sheet of 60, block of 4 unmounted mint with control, superb and attractive.	£200	u/s'd
268	Greece 1896. 25 Lepta, marginal corner block of 4.	£140	u/s'd
369	Greece 1896. 60 lepta marginal top left corner block of 4 from the sheet of 60. Unmounted mint.	£150	u/s'd
370	Greece 1896. 60 Lepta mint marginal corner block of 4.	£130	u/s'd
371	Cover with part of the front missing, bearing on the reverse the 60 Lepta cancelled ATHENS 7 July 1896 to Madeira via London.	£45	£26
372	Registered cover from Athens 22 September 1896 to London bearing a pair of 25 Lepta some short perms, but very scarce cover.	£90	u/s'd
373	Cover bearing 5 Lepta cancelled PATRA 7 July 1896 to England. Tear, not affecting the appearance.	£25	u/s'd
378	Greece 1906. 1 Lepton used, cancelled STADION.	£12	u/s'd
379	Greece 1906. 2 Lepta proof in lilac, double print, thin paper, block of 4 mint.	£25	£25
380	Greece 1906. Lepta mint pair, no gum, final proof.	£55	u/s'd
381	Greece 1906. Lepta block of 25. V. Fine.	£50	u/s'd
382	Greece 1906. 25 lepta proof on thick paper very fine.	£45	£24
383	Greece 1906. 25 Lepta, 2 pairs, fine mint.	£12	u/s'd

BRIDGER AND KAY GUERNSEY
28-29 October 1992

94	London 1948. 2+ annas on 2+d for use in Bahrain. Double overprint, marginal.	1800	u/s'd
95	London 1948. 2+ annas on 2+d. Double overprint lightly mounted mint single.	£350	u/s'd
96	London 1948. As above with RPSL certificate	£350	£325
442	1948 London. For use in Morocco Agencies 1/- double overprint. Cat. £400.	£300	£200

NORTH WESTERN PHILATELIC AUCTIONS.
4 November 1992

915	Greece 1896. 1 Lepta to 60 Lepta mint, 5 Lepta to 2 Drachmae used and 1906 1 lepta to 50 lepta used, also 1 Drachma used with faults. Few duplicated values.	£95 u/s'd
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CHRISTIES ROBSON LOWE
5-6 November 1992

53	Berlin 1916. Block of ten designs from these aborted Games, depicting athletic figures in green colours on a black ground and gold lettering.	£250 £140
481	Greece 1896. First international Olympic Games 1 Lepta - 5 Drachmae with additional 2 Lepta pair and single (two showing engravers name omitted or partially omitted) and 60 Lepta shade. All mint with much original gum. A few hinge or paper remainders.	£175 £110
482	Greece 1896. 1 Lepta - 10 Drachmae with additional 2 Lepta block of 4 (two showing engravers' name omitted) and 60 Lepta shade All fine used.	£150 £130
489	Greece 1906. Second Olympic issue. 1 Lepta to 5 drachmae mint and used sets with additional used values and perforated vignette in pairs.	£130 £200
490	2 Lepta and 3 Lepta affixed to the view side of addressed 1906 picture postcard cancelled by rare ATHENS/ACROPOLIS commemorative cds.	£130 £160
1793	USA 1984 Summer Olympics. Airmail 40 cents, the four designs imperforate, as two vertical se-tenant pairs on thick, gummed paper.	£175 £85.

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SOCIETY OF OLYMPIC COLLECTORS AUCTION.

The Society holds a very successful quarterly auction where a high proportion of the material on offer is sold for very good prices. If you have surplus material, why not sell it through the auction, and thereby help both yourself and other members of the Society. Remember that your duplicates could well be at the top of another member's Wants List.

For further details, contact the Auction Manager, John Crowther, 3 Hill Drive, Handforth, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 3AP. Overseas members should contact John BEFORE sending material to him.

#####

DEAR FRANCESKA

In the latest SOC auction, I noticed the description attached to Lot No. 384. It stated that 2 December 1954 was an early usage of the 1956 slogan cancel used in Australia. In fact, it was the second day of usage. I am sending an extract from the February 1957 "Australian Post Office Philatelic Bulletin", which relates to this cancel and which other SOC members may be interested in. I am sorry that the photocopy is not the best, but the printing in the bulletin itself was not very clear. The bulletin, and other bulletins of the same vintage, make no mention of the usage of the, much scarcer, Olympic slogan meter cancellations. Would any members have any information on their usage?

OLYMPIC GAMES SLOGAN POSTMARK

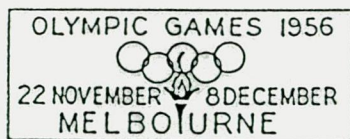
The type of slogan postmark shown in reduced form in the accompanying illustration was first brought into use of 1st December 1954, coincidentally with the issue of the 2/- "Invitation to Olympic Games" stamp. The slogan was utilised thereafter at intervals until 27 November 1956.

Points of Usage, and the allocation of the 61 dies employed was as follows:

Sydney	18	Melbourne	15	Brisbane	6
Adelaide	9	Perth	3	Hobart	4
Canberra	1	Newcastle	2	Launceston	3

Periods of usage at all points are indicated below, all dates being inclusive.

1954	1-4 December
1955	2-8 or 9-15 January (at discretion at respective points.)
	20-26 February; 3-9 April; 15-21 May; 26 June-2 July; 21-27 August, 24-30 September; 20-26 Nov.
1956	21-27 February; 4-10 April; 16-22 May; 26 June-3 July; 8-14 August; 25 Sept.-1 Oct.; 21-27 Nov.



Congratulations on a consistently good magazine.

Dave Body, Australia

Congratulations on your last issue of TORCH BEARER (November 1992). The articles were fine, interesting and challenging. However, some remarks:

GENERALE SUCRIERE

Bob Farley

Generale Sucriere were one of the earliest "partenaire officiel" of the Albertville Olympic Winter Games. Within their agreement with COJO was the right to use the official Albertville logo.

Sugar wrappers had appeared by 1989 which incorporate the logo with designs related to the Games. It appears that earlier sugar cube wrappers include the text SAINT LOUIS, in one line with a five line background, whereas later wrappers have the text SAINT LOUIS EUROSUCRE in three lines.

Catering outlets, cafes, restaurants and bars utilise wrappers that are marked "DADDY EUROSUCRE" in two lines. Early wrappers also exists marked "GENERALE SUCRIERE SOL" in two lines. SOL is against a five line background.

Attempts to establish the number of wrappers in the series, by writing to Generale Sucriere have not been answered. The listing of designs has been attempted from the many boxes purchased over a two year period. It is however clear that the layout of the wrappers within the printed sheet is complex, with a number of designs being repeated, and some occurring only once.

Printing guides appear on some wrappers and these take three forms:

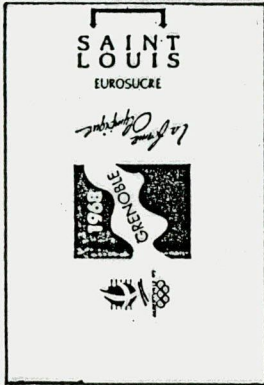
1. A black line to the top margin.
2. A black line to the bottom margin.
3. A black cross to the top in bottom margin (cutting may produce the wrappers with part of the cross at top and bottom on a single wrapper).

It is usually possible to tell from the left margin the background colour of the adjoining wrapper. This confirms the repetition of the designs within the sheet, as the design will occur with a number of different neighbouring wrappers.

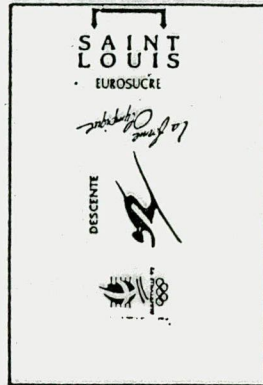
Description	Design No.	SAINT LOUIS				Printing guides				Next Background
		one line	two lines	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	none			
Red background / White text and design										
Magique flying to right.	1	***							***	edge
Magique left arm raised.	2	***							***	?
Ski de fond, pictogram.	9	***							***	edge
Hockey, pictogram.	10	***							***	edge
	10	SOL Generale Sucriere							***	white
Biathlon, pictogram.	11	***							***	?
Ou se deroulera / l'epreuve / de combine / nordique ?	22	***							***	?
	22	***				***				?
Ou se deroulera / l'epreuve / de ski / artistique ?	23	***							***	?

Red background / Black text and design							
Magique flying to right.	1		***		***	red	
Magique left arm raised.	2		***		***	white	
Magique, both arms raised.	3		***		***	red	
	3	Daddy EUROSUCRE			***	white	
Magique on right foot.	4		***		***	red	
	9		***		***	red	
Ski de fond, pictogram.	9		***		***	red	
	9	Daddy EUROSUCRE			***	red	
	10		***		***	red	
Hockey, pictogram.	10		***	***		red	
	10	Daddy EUROSUCRE			***	white	
	11		***		***	red	
Biathlon, pictogram.	11		***		***	white	
	11	Daddy EUROSUCRE			***	white	
Saut a ski, pictogram.	12		***		***	white	
Kilometre lance, pictogram.	13		***		***	blue	

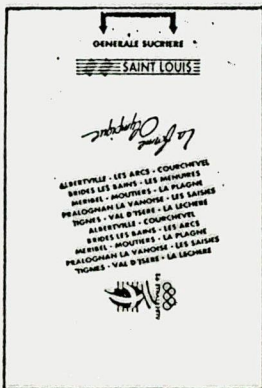
Design 49



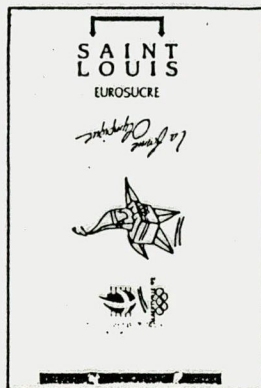
Design 21



SAINT LOUIS (one line) Design 57



SAINT LOUIS (two lines) Design 5



Description	Design No.	SAINT LOUIS		Printing guides				Next Background
		one line	two lines	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	none	
Red background / Black text and design								
Luge, pictogram.	14		***			***		white
Patinage artistique, pictogram.	15		***				***	white
	15	Daddy EUROSUCRE						red
Ou se déroulera / l'épreuve / de combine / nordique ?	22		***				***	white
	22		***		***			white
	22	Daddy EUROSUCRE					***	white
Ou se déroulera / l'épreuve / de ski / artistique ?	23		***				***	white
Ou se déroulera / l'épreuve / de biathlon ?	24		***			***		red
	24	Daddy EUROSUCRE				***		blue
Ou se déroulera / l'épreuve de / slalom special / hommes ?	25		***				***	white

Blue background / White text and design								
Magique pointing right.	5	***		***				blue
Magique flying straight up.	6	***					***	white
Slalom, pictogram.	16	***					***	white
Ou se déroulera / l'épreuve / de short track ?	26	***					***	white
Ou se déroulera / l'épreuve / de curling ?	27	***					***	white

Blue background / Black text and design								
Magique pointing right.	5		***	***				blue
	5		***			***		blue
	5	Daddy EUROSUCRE				***		white
Magique flying straight up.	6		***				***	white
	6	Daddy EUROSUCRE					***	white
Magique on left foot.	7		***				***	blue
	7	Daddy EUROSUCRE					***	white
Magique, left arm up, right down.	8		***				***	white
Slalom, pictogram.	16		***				***	white
	16	Daddy EUROSUCRE					***	red
Patinage de vitesse, pictogram.	17		***				***	white
	17	Daddy EUROSUCRE ***						red
Ski artistique, pictogram.	18		***				***	white
	18	Daddy EUROSUCRE					***	white
Bobsleigh, pictogram.	19		***		***			red
	19	Daddy EUROSUCRE					***	white
Geant, pictogram.	20		***				***	white
	20		***			***		white
Ou se déroulera / l'épreuve / de ski alpin / féminin ?	28		***		***			white
	28		***				***	white
Ou se déroulera / l'épreuve / de ski / de vitesse ?	29		***			---		white
	29	Daddy EUROSUCRE					***	red
Ou se déroulera / l'épreuve / de patinage / de vitesse ?	30		***				---	white
Ou se déroulera / l'épreuve / de hockey / sur glace ?	31		---				***	blue

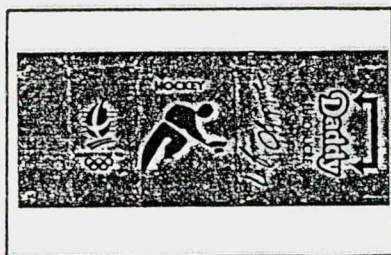
Description	Design No.	SAINT LOUIS		Printing guides				Next Background
		one line	two lines	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	none	
Blue background / Black text and design								
Ou se déroulera / l'épreuve / de short track ?	26		***	***				white
	26		***				---	white
	26	Daddy EUROSUCRE					---	white
Ou se déroulera / l'épreuve / de curling ?	27		***				---	white
White background / Multi colour design, black text.								
Ski alpin féminin, "hang man"	32		***		***			blue
	32		***				***	red
Combine nordique, "hang man"	33		***				***	white
	33	***					***	white
Ski de vitesse, "hang man"	34		***				***	blue
	34		***			***		blue
	34	***					***	blue
Hockey, "hang man"	35		***				***	red
	35	***					***	red
	35	Daddy EUROSUCRE					***	white
Patinage artistique, "hang man"	36		***				***	white
	36		***	***				white
	36	***		***				white
	36	***					***	white
Saut, "hang man"	37		***	***				white
	37	Daddy EUROSUCRE					***	white
Luge, "hang man"	38		***				***	red
	38		***			***		red
	38	***					***	red
Bobsleigh, "hang man"	39		***				***	white
Biathlon, "hang man"	40		***				***	white
	40		***			***		white
	40	Daddy EUROSUCRE					***	red
Ski de fond, "hang man"	41		***				***	white
	41	Daddy EUROSUCRE					***	white
Ski artistique, "hang man"	42		***				***	white
	42	Daddy EUROSUCRE					***	blue
Patinage de vitesse, "hang man"	43		***				---	blue
	43	Daddy EUROSUCRE					---	white
Ski acrobatique, "hang man"	44		***				---	white
Oslo 1952.	45		***				***	white
	45		***	***				white
Cortina 1956.	46		***				***	red
	46		***		***			red
	46	***			---			red
Squaw Valley 1960	47		---				---	white
	47		---				---	blue
Innsbruck 1964.	48		***				---	white
	48	Daddy EUROSUCRE					---	white
Grenoble 1968.	49		***				---	white
	49	***					---	white
	49	Daddy EUROSUCRE					---	white

Description	Design No.	SAINT LOUIS		Printing guides				Next Background
		one line	two lines	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	none	
White background / Multi colour design, black text.								
Sapporo 1972.	50		***	***				white
	50		***			---		white
Innsbruck 1976.	51		***				---	red
Lake Placid 1980.	52		***				---	white
	52	Daddy EUROSUCRE					---	white
Sarajevo 1984.	53		***				---	white
Calgary 1988.	54		***				---	white
	54	***					---	white
Albertville 1992.	55		***				---	red
	55		***				---	white
	55		***		---			white
	55	***					---	red
	55	***					---	white
	55	Daddy EUROSUCRE					---	red
	55	Daddy EUROSUCRE					---	blue
	55	SOL Generale Sucriere					---	red
Cockerel.	56		***				---	white
	56		***				---	blue
	56		***	---				white
	56	Daddy EUROSUCRE					---	blue
	56	Daddy EUROSUCRE					---	white
	56	SOL Generale Sucriere					---	blue
White background / Blue design, black text.								
Luge, pictogram.	14		***				---	white
Patinage de vitesse, pictogram.	17	***					---	white
	17		***			---		white
	17		***				---	white
	17	Daddy EUROSUCRE					---	white
Ski artistique, pictogram.	18		***				---	white
Descente, pictogram.	21		***				---	white
Resort names, twice.	57		***				---	white
	57	***					---	white
	57		***				---	blue
	57		***				---	blue
	57	Daddy EUROSUCRE					---	white
	57	Daddy EUROSUCRE					---	blue
Resort names, once.	58		***			---		white
	58		***		---			white
White background / Red design, black text.								
Ski de fond, pictogram.	9		***				---	white
	9		***				---	blue
Hockey, pictogram.	10		---				---	blue
	10	---					---	blue
Saut a ski, pictogram.	12		---				---	red
	15		---				---	blue
Patinage artistique, pictogram.	15	---					---	blue
	15	Daddy EUROSUCRE					---	white

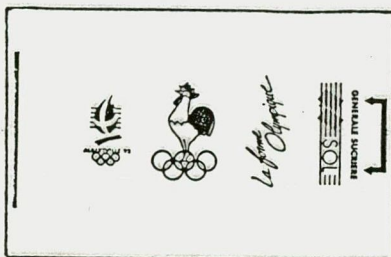
Description	Design No.	SAINT LOUIS		Printing guides				Next Background
		one line	two lines	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	none	
White background / Red design, black text.								
Resort names, twice.	57	***					***	white
	57		***				***	white
	57		***			***		white
	57		***				***	red
	57		***				***	blue
	57	Daddy EUROSUCRE					***	white
Resort names, once.	57	Daddy EUROSUCRE					***	white
	58		***				***	blue
58		***				***	blue	

White background / Magique in black, black text.								
Magique flying to right.	1		***	***				white
	1		***				***	blue
	1	Daddy EUROSUCRE					***	blue
Magique left arm raised.	2		***				***	white
Magique, both arms raised.	3		***				***	blue
Magique on right foot.	4		***			***		white
Magique pointing right.	5		***			***		blue
	5		***		***			blue
	5	Daddy EUROSUCRE					***	blue
Magique flying straight up.	6		***				***	white
Magique on left foot.	7		***				***	white
Magique, left arm up, right down.	8	***					***	white
	8		***				***	white

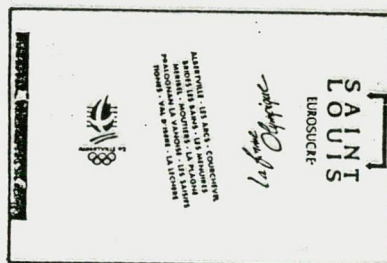
Daddy Design 10



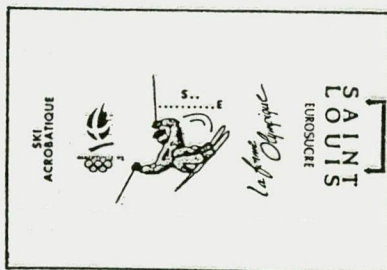
SOL Design 56



Design 58



Design 44



Cartoon of winter sports, cars, coaches and a resort, Renault logo.

Renault Partenaire Officiel / des Jeux Olympiques d'Albertville 1992

Size

150 x 105 mm.

LE PARTAGE DE L'EXPLOIT

POSTCARDS OF THE XVth
WINTER OLYMPIC GAMES

A BOOK TO BE PUBLISHED BY THE SOCIETY OF OLYMPIC COLLECTORS,
DURING MAY 1993

Compiled by Bob Farley

- Listings of over 1200 cards commemorating or promoting the Winter Games, with description of the design, details of text on face and reverse.
 - Official and unofficial cards listed under 40+ categories.
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VOIE 19
YMPIQUE

SOUVENIR DE NANTES / Reme T
en memo
I.G.V. ATLANTIQUE /
Coisiers

IGV 352
sire d'une
MATEAUCREUX
with IGT 353
Father Christmas as torch runner
lowered 1992
Father Christmas as
lowered 1992 S
Joyeux Noel

BERTV



POST AWARD

Card No.
Arlet MEDERIC, Published by Escargophiles
Four athletes, rings and IGV.
1992 No 6 "ALBERTVILLE / 92"

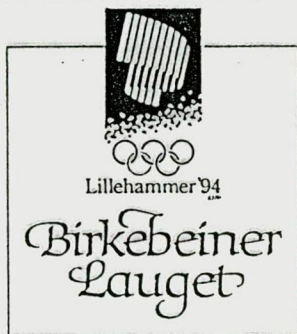
Card No. ROBIN, Published by Escargophiles, Edition of 300 examples, colour.
speed skier as "S"
Jeux Olympiques de la Savoie

LILLEHAMMER 1994

JOHN MILLER

Most of the information now being received from the organisers of the next Winter Olympics, is concerned with the sponsors and the various cultural events which will be held in the time leading up to the opening of the Games on the 12th of February 1994. However the extensive range of processed collector's items being programmed by the Norwegian Post Office, should be of particular interest to S.O.C. members. These items originate from familiar basic items such as first day covers, presentation packs and maximum cards, extending to presentation packs, books and folders. In 1994 a special Olympic Stamp Book and an Olympic Folder will be offered. These can be used to house a comprehensive programme of special postmarks linked to the Olympic cultural programme, the sports arenas and to individual sports events. The programme started officially, in Norway, with the issue of two stamps on the 9th of October 1992. Some other items have already been issued and are noted in Torch Bearer Vol.9 No.3. In this up-date, more of the issued items will be described along with details of the rest of the programme. However, at the time of writing, there are still some fourteen months to go before the opening of the Games and amendments to the programme should not be ruled out.

THE BIRKEBEINER TEAM



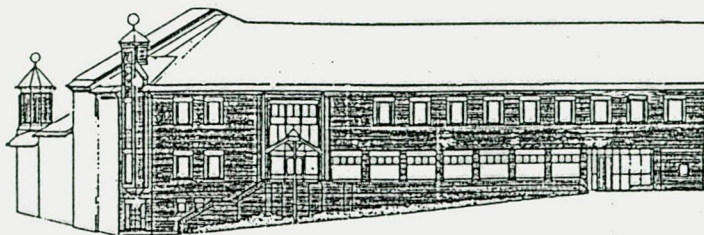
This Team is made up of the nine Norwegian and Scandinavian companies who are the main sponsors of the Lillehammer Games. Along with the IOC's world-wide sponsors in the TOP programme, the Team constitutes the most exclusive group among the sixty-odd sponsors, official suppliers, licensees and other supporters of the XVII Olympic Winter Games.

In August 1991 the Norwegian Post Office and LOOC signed an agreement by which the Norway Post became a member of the Birkebeiner Team. The Team logo is illustrated here.

POST OFFICES

Large volumes of mail will have to be handled during the Games. The Lillehammer Postal authorities anticipate dispatches of around 600,000 letters and postcards each day from the Olympic city with a similar number of incoming items which they will have to handle. The staff of 150 at the five permanent post offices will be increased by about 70 employees, recruited from all over the country. An extra five stationary offices along with three mobile offices will be set up to cover the Olympic Village, Media Village, Press Centre, Broadcasting Centre and the largest sports arenas. The larger hotels will also have extra postal facilities. Security will be severe, with special routines being implemented in close collaboration with the police, to reduce the likelihood of terrorist attacks and stop consignments of drugs. In addition to all the arrangements needed for the Games, the post office in Lillehammer will move into new premises in the

Summer of 1993. A drawing of the new premises is illustrated below. This is the style of artwork used in the borders at the top and bottom of the sheets of Olympic stamps.



1994 OLYMPIC COLLECTION

A starter pack is being offered at the price of 630 Norwegian Krone (NOK 630). This will contain all the stamps, all the first day covers, all the maximum cards along with three selected covers with special postmarks commemorating the Torch Relay, opening ceremony and closing ceremony. It will be manufactured as a standard Leuchtturm album with slip case and will have eighteen leaves. The issued leaves have a uniform Olympic design but five types of additional leaves will be available for collectors who wish to enlarge the collection.

OLYMPIC STAMPS

All ten Olympic stamps, spread over three issues, along with the 1993 miniature sheet will be available. The stamps can be purchased as singles or blocks of four. These are offered in both mint and CTO condition. The stamps can also be purchased in whole sheets.

The first of these stamps was issued on the 9th of October 1992. The designs by Bruno Oldani, one of Norway's best known designers, follow a theme representing the Olympic games, a diversity of culture in the broadest sense of the word and the venue for an international sports festival. The NOK 3.30 value stamp has a background of staggered strips of colour representing part of the Norwegian flag, the foreground shows three of the buildings from a panoramic drawing of Lillehammer's main street. Extensions of this drawing will be used on the next two issues of stamps. The NOK 4.20 value shows a larger portion of the Norwegian flag.



OLYMPIC WHOLE SHEETS

Normally Norwegian stamps are printed in sheets of one hundred or more. This is the first time a sheetlet of twentyfour stamps has been produced. The selvaige at the top and bottom of the sheet is printed with the panoramic drawing used on the NOK

3.30 value stamp, which is of the same style as the post office drawing on second page of this article. The side selvage is printed with the title and the six digit print run number of the sheet.

OLYMPIC FDCs

The first of these was available on the 9th



of October with the stamps issued on that day. Single pairs or blocks of four were applied to the covers and these were cancelled with a small square postmark. The embossed design on the cover showed part of the Lillehammer main street panorama. More FDC's will be available for the issues scheduled in 1993 and 1994.

OLYMPIC PRESENTATION PACKS

Four page folders with Olympic decorations and descriptions in four languages have been produced. The Olympic stamps are mounted in pockets as singles or in blocks of four. Offered in mint condition only. These packs will be issued as follows: one in 1992, two in 1993 and two in 1994.

OLYMPIC MAXIMUM CARDS

The two cards scheduled for 1992 have already been issued. These are in fact A6 postcard size and presumably could be used as such if additional postage was applied to the reverse of the card. Consistent with the Norway Post design programme, the subject of the cards is the same as the stamps on them, more of Lillehammer's main street architecture on the card with the NOK 3.30 value and the Norwegian flag on the card with the NOK 4.20 value. The two cards in the 1992 set are titled 'Maksimumskort 1992 - Nr.1 av 2' and 'Nr.2 av 2'. All cards are cancelled with a special Lillehammer postmark and will only be sold as sets in separate envelopes for each issue. The envelope for the 1992 set (Nr. 1-2 1992), has the Lillehammer main street panorama on it. The postmark and envelope for the 1992 set is illustrated below.



OLYMPIC TORCH RELAY

On the 27th of November 1993 the National Olympic Torch will be lit at Morgedal in the county of Telemark. For two and a half months it will be relayed round Norway and will arrive in Lillehammer in time for the opening ceremony at 4 p.m. on the 12th of February 1994. This relay is the largest single event on the 1994 Olympics programme and, as its main organiser, Norway Post is responsible for all the practical and technical details.

The relay route will pass through all the counties of Norway

and the 12 largest cities in the country. The route is about 8,000 km long (excluding the airborne parts) and 6,000 volunteer torch bearers along with 1,300 post office employees as escorts, will make sure the flame arrives safely. A third of the torch bearers will be recruited from sports organisations, a third from the general public (by open invitation) and a third from the Team Birkebeiner companies. The torch bearers and escort runners will be accompanied by a convoy consisting of the relay management personnel (Norway Post and the LOOC), police officers, medical personnel, technical personnel, guests, press and the original flame along with fuel to keep the flame alight.

Along the route and at the overnight stops, the arrival of the Torch will be a festive occasion. The seventyfour or so overnight stops will be made at places of particular historic, cultural or sports interest. Each region, town and village will display its distinctive character and in this way the Torch Relay will be a grand pageant of Norwegian culture.

The Relay troupe will reach Oslo about a week before the opening of the Games. Here it will meet the Olympic Flame itself which will have been brought from Olympia in Greece. The two flames will be fused into one and the Relay will then embark on the final leg to Lillehammer.

The torch bearers will run for the most part, but they will also use skis, horses, sleighs and other means of transport. This will show how mail has been transported throughout history in different parts of the country.

The task of organising the Relay is probably the greatest challenge Norway Post has ever faced. For two and a half months prior to the Games the Relay will be the focus of intense international attention. Naturally a great deal of prestige is attached to the smooth running of the event. Even so, under greatly varying geographical and climatic conditions, Norway Post will deliver the Flame, just like the mail, to its destination: at 4 p.m., Lillehammer, 12 February 1994, on time!

The composite logo being used by Norway Post during the Relay programme, is illustrated here and a map covering the route from Morgedal to Lillehammer is shown on the centrefold of this magazine.



SPECIAL OLYMPIC COVERS

A programme of about twentyfive special Olympic postmarks has been arranged. About ten will relate to the Olympic cultural programme while the remainder will be linked to the sports events and the individual arenas. The postmarks will be available on special covers featuring Norway Post's Olympic decor and the event in question. The covers will be franked with Olympic stamps at the domestic rate. By making an advance subscription collectors can ensure that they get the whole set. The postmark for the cultural events is the same as the one on the 1992 maxicards, already illustrated, the one for the arenas is illustrated here.

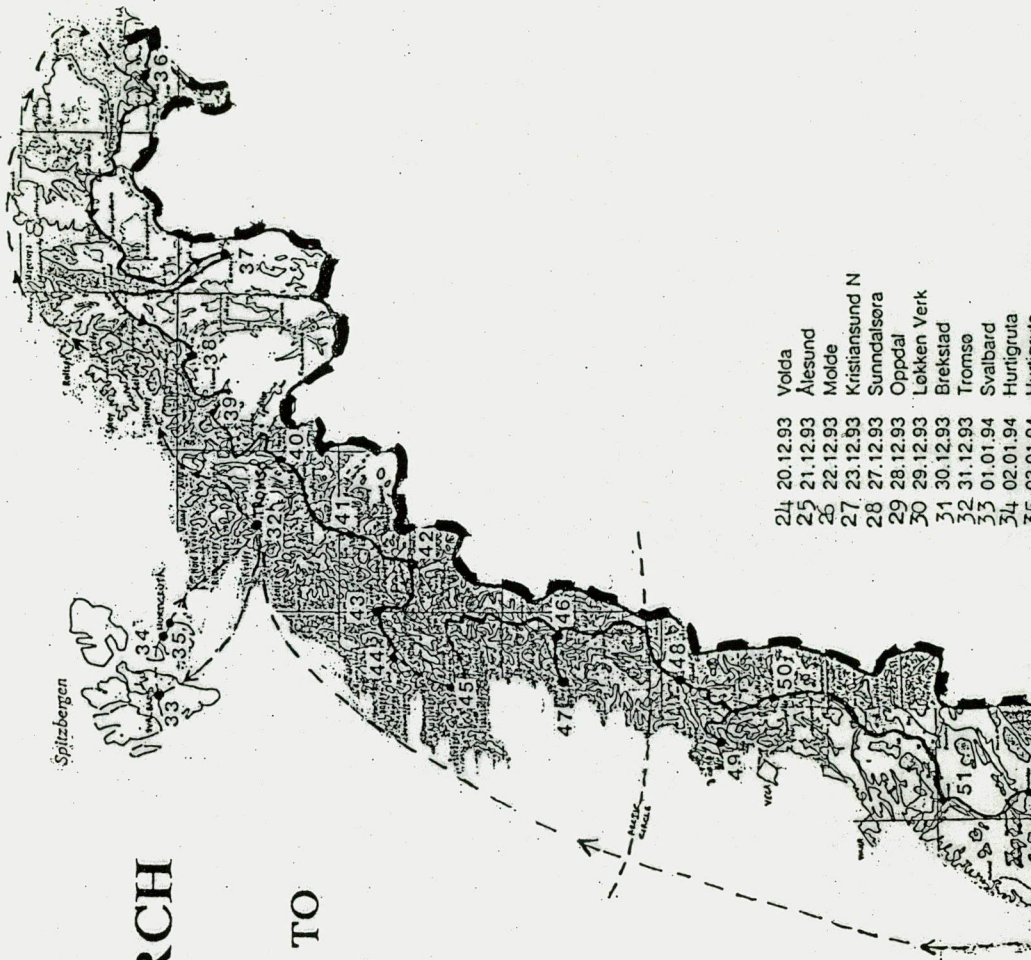


OLYMPIC TORCH RELAY

FROM MORGEDAL TO LILLEHAMMER

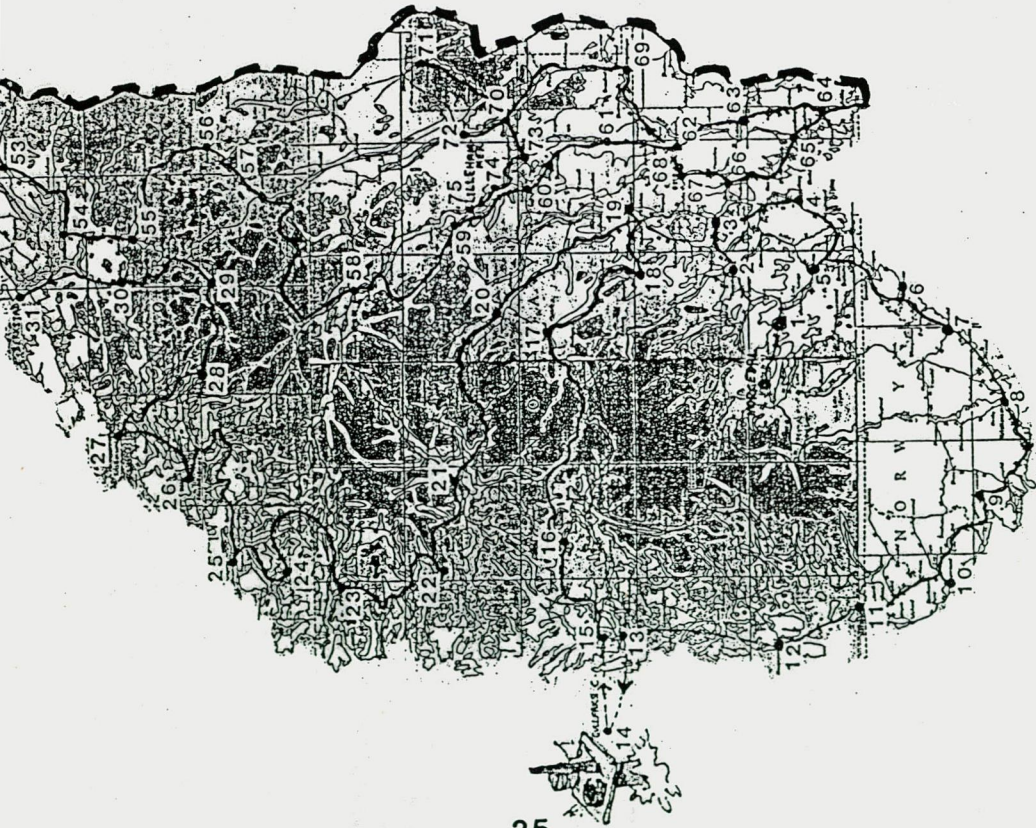
1	27.11.93	Bo
2	28.11.93	Kongsberg
3	29.11.93	Drammen
4	30.11.93	Tonsberg
5	01.12.93	Skien
6	02.12.93	Risør
7	03.12.93	Arendal
8	04.12.93	Kristiansand S
9	05.12.93	Kvinedal
10	06.12.93	Egersund
11	07.12.93	Slavanger
12	08.12.93	Haugesund
13	09.12.93	Stord
14	10.12.93	Gullfaks C
15	11.12.93	Bergen
16	12.12.93	Voss
17	13.12.93	Gol
18	14.12.93	Noresund
19	15.12.93	Jevnaker
20	16.12.93	Fagernes
21	17.12.93	Sogndal
22	18.12.93	Førde
23	19.12.93	Nordfjordeid

24	20.12.93	Volda
25	21.12.93	Ålesund
26	22.12.93	Molde
27	23.12.93	Kristiansund N
28	27.12.93	Sunnalsøra
29	28.12.93	Oppdal
30	29.12.93	Lekken Verk
31	30.12.93	Brekstad
32	31.12.93	Tromsø
33	01.01.94	Svalbard
34	02.01.94	Hurtigruta
35	03.01.94	Hurtigruta
36	04.01.94	Hurtigruta
37	05.01.94	Hurtigruta
38	06.01.94	Hurtigruta
39	07.01.94	Hurtigruta
40	08.01.94	Hurtigruta
41	09.01.94	Hurtigruta
42	10.01.94	Hurtigruta
43	11.01.94	Hurtigruta
44	12.01.94	Hurtigruta
45	13.01.94	Hurtigruta
46	14.01.94	Hurtigruta
47	15.01.94	Hurtigruta
48	16.01.94	Hurtigruta
49	17.01.94	Hurtigruta
50	18.01.94	Hurtigruta
51	19.01.94	Hurtigruta





- 38 06.01.94 Alta
- 39 07.01.94 Storslett
- 40 08.01.94 Skiboln
- 41 09.01.94 Bardufoss
- 42 10.01.94 Narvik
- 43 11.01.94 Harstad
- 44 12.01.94 Soriland
- 45 13.01.94 Svolvær
- 46 14.01.94 Fauske
- 47 15.01.94 Bodø
- 48 16.01.94 Mo
- 49 17.01.94 Sandnessjøen
- 50 18.01.94 Terråk
- 51 19.01.94 Namsos
- 52 20.01.94 Steinkjer
- 53 21.01.94 Levanger
- 54 22.01.94 Trondheim
- 55 23.01.94 Støren
- 56 24.01.94 Røros
- 57 25.01.94 Tynset
- 58 26.01.94 Otta
- 59 27.01.94 Follebu
- 60 28.01.94 Gjøvik
- 61 29.01.94 Eidsvoll
- 62 30.01.94 Lillestrøm
- 63 31.01.94 Mysen
- 64 01.02.94 Halden
- 65 02.02.94 Sarpsborg
- 66 03.02.94 Drøbak
- 67 04.02.94 Oslo
- 68 05.02.94 Oslo
- 69 06.02.94 Kongsvinger
- 70 07.02.94 Elverum
- 71 08.02.94 Trysil
- 72 09.02.94 Rena
- 73 10.02.94 Hamar
- 74 11.02.94 Sjusjøen
- 75 12.02.94 Lillehammer



OLYMPIC TORCH RELAY FOLDER

It has been stated that the two stamps, a setenant pair with a total value of NOK 6.60, due to be issued on the 27th of November 1993 will be available at local events along the route of the Torch Relay. They will be mounted in a colourful folder with a description in words and pictures of the symbolic use of the Olympic Flame. If this is the case, it seems likely that seventy-six cancellations of one type or another may be available to collectors between Morgedal on the 27th of November 1993 and Lillehammer on the 12th of February 1994. A somewhat daunting prospect, even for the keen collector. The stamps have similar artwork to those of the earlier issue with the addition of a torch bearing ski runner on the left hand stamp of the pair.



1994 OLYMPIC STAMP BOOK

On the opening day of the Winter Olympics the Post Office will release its production of an Olympic Stamp Book. This is described as 'a magnificent publication comparable to the Yearbook of Norwegian Stamps'. It will contain all ten Olympic stamps and the five miniature sheets issued during 1989 and 1993. These will be mounted in mint condition, in pockets. It will also contain detailed information with colourful illustrations about the Olympic Games and Norway. Special emphasis being made to sports and stamps. Only one hundred thousand copies will be printed.

THE FINAL STAMP ISSUE

The remaining six stamps will be issued on the 12th of February 1994. It will be made up of a composite block of four stamps depicting the opening ceremony and the festival of nations. there will also be two single stamps depicting the parade of flags and winter sports meeting. The composite block and preliminary draft of the singles are illustrated below.



COLLECT OLYMPIC ARCHITECTURE

Franceska Rapkin

(This is the transcript of a lecture given during the Olympic Games in Barcelona at Olympihlex '92.)

Until after the Second World War the general story collector was the rule, rather than the exception. Since then however, the proliferation of stamp issues has been such that it almost costs a king's ransom to keep up with the annual new releases, let alone to collect earlier issues. Much the same, unfortunately, can be said about the general Olympic collector. Even collecting only Summer or Winter Games stamps leaves one with a constant stream of new issues to buy each year, and this stream turns into a positive deluge as Olympic year approaches. With the separation of the Winter and Summer Games after this year, I suspect that there will now be a continual out pouring of Olympic stamps, which will peak in alternate years.

Just as the general collector has narrowed his field down to a few selected countries, so the Olympic collector needs to adopt a similar approach. To simply collect everything that is churned out by greedy and short-sighted postal administrations only encourages the practice to continue, and this will only stop when collectors no longer blindly buy everything that is issued. There are signs that most serious Olympic philatelists are becoming selective in their choice of material, but it is not these who are our concern. Rather, it is the new collectors, those who are just beginning to take an interest in Olympic philately, who need to be protected. If those who have been collecting for a longer period of time do not nurture and guide these new young saplings, they will surely wither and die, choked by the sheer weight of material that descends upon them.

There are many ways in which an Olympic collection can be formed which does not necessitate buying all new issues, that is individual to the collector and does not need to cost a fortune. At Olympihlex in Varna, which unfortunately I was unable to attend, I was asked to give a talk which discussed the possibility of collecting a single Olympiad. On that particular occasion, I would have placed the emphasis on the Games of 1936, which is my own collecting area. More recently, I gave a talk to Sports Philatelists International in Chicago, where I discussed ways in which the 1948 Games in London could form the basis for a one-Olympiad collection.

When I first exhibited my collection of 1936 internationally in Madrid in 1975 mine was the only single Olympiad exhibit in the exhibition. The diploma that I earned had a great deal to do with the fact that both the development of the theme and the philatelic material could have been used to better effect but, I suspect that at that time the philatelic world wasn't ready for an exhibit of a single Games. I believe that it was Franco Canepa of Italy who made the break-through a few years later with his wonderful collection of 1924. However, almost any Olympic Games collection since 1960 could be given similar treatment.

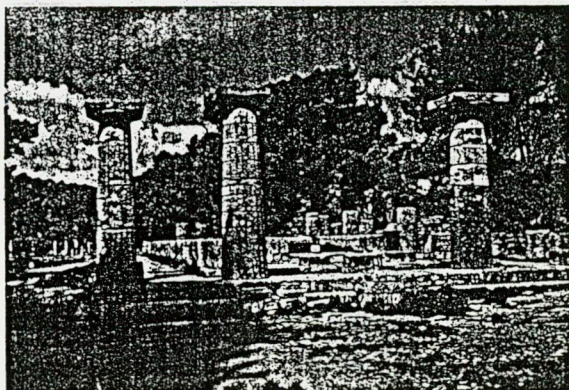
It is far more difficult to form an entire collection on a straight-forward, one-Games theme before 1960. The exceptions are 1924 and 1936, where sufficient material exists to form sizeable collections. However by giving a different slant or broadening their scope, it should still be possible to form a comprehensive collection of just one Games. For instance, by expanding the theme "The 1948 Summer Games in London" to "British Involvement in the Olympic Games", the theme would be enlarged sufficiently to minimise the lack of suitable material in 1908 and the limited material of 1948 itself. By broadening the base to include all Olympic Games where Britain was involved, and that includes them all, the theme is expanded to enable the collector to use material from all Games, without necessarily being obliged to use all material.

Another possibility would be to build a collection on one person, an organisation or a group of people, such as Pierre de Coubertin or the work of the IOC itself. Other possibilities in similar vein could be: "The Olympic Games and their Contribution to the Development of Sport", "The Influence of the IOC Presidents on the Olympic Games" or "Politics and the Olympic Games" and these are just a few of the more obvious suggestions for a collection based on the Olympic Movement.

Another alternative, and one which I would like to discuss here in some detail is "The Architecture of the Olympic Games". Of all the facets that go into making an Olympic Games, it is the only one that remains as a permanent monument, that can bring long-term benefit to the host city or, as in the case of Montreal, leave behind a crippling debt.

ΑΕΡΟΓΡΑΜΜΑ - AEROGAMME

Δεύτερη ανάδιπλωση — Second fold here — Plier ensuite ici



Ἀρχαία Ὀλυμπία — Ancienne Olympie — Ancient Olympia

Today, more than one and a half thousand years after their demise, the most tangible evidence that we have of the ancient Olympic Games are the fallen stones and statuary which were once temples and gymnasia - in other words, Olympic Architecture.

Of the main Olympic Stadium at Olympia, where the track and field events were held, nothing remains but the mound where the spectators stood, the toe and finger grooves at the ends of the track where the runners were poised at the start of the race, and the arched walkway that the priests, athletes and judges used to enter the stadium. That there are no further remains is hardly surprising since, unlike modern Olympic stadiums, that at Olympia was entirely in the open and had no surrounding walls. With the exception of the priests, for whom seating was provided, all other spectators stood to watch the events. To ensure that they had an unrestricted view, a mound was built on the long side of the track opposite the priests seats. By standing on a slope, the spectators were able to see over the heads of those in front.

However, Olympia consists of more than the Stadium. Phidias's Statue of Zeus was considered to be one of the seven Wonders of the Ancient World. Nothing exists of it today, but the foundations of the temple in which it was housed remains and as a collection of pillars and stones. The same can be said of the Temple of Hera and the priests house. Of particular interest to the sportsman perhaps is the remains of the gymnasium. It was here that the athletes began their final preparations for the contests and where they had a last opportunity to practice. The gymnasium was more than just a stadium, although it had a track of the correct length of 192.27 metres, almost exactly 200 yards. Here was also housed facilities for cleansing, honing and preparing the athletes as well as areas for rest and relaxation; almost like in a modern leisure centre. Not unnaturally, Greece has turned on several occasions to her Olympic heritage for stamp designs. Many of Olympia's temples will be found on Greek stamps, the first time in 1896 at the time of the first Olympic Games of the modern era.

Just as the ancient Olympic Games expanded and developed in the eleven centuries of their existence, so the same can be said of the Modern Games. A study of Olympic stadia through stamps and other philatelic material will show how these have altered and changed over the years to keep pace with contests not dreamt of in 1896 when the first Games were held in Athens.

The idea of a revival of the Olympic Games gathered momentum in the latter years of the nineteenth century after archeologists started a systematic excavation of the ancient site at Olympia. In spite of several attempts at revival earlier in the century these had all been national events and it was only Pierre de Coubertin's enthusiasm for an international sports meeting that at last fired the imagination and persuaded others that a revival was a possibility. When the Congress of Sourbonne met in Paris in 1894 under the Chairmanship of de Coubertin to discuss the practicality of reviving the Games in 1896, the ancient stadium was ruled out as a possible venue, since it was only accessible over primitive cart tracks and through rough and hostile territory.

It was therefore decided that the first Games of the modern era would be held in Athens, and the first modern Olympic Stadium was built on the site of another ancient stadium, that of Herodes Atticus. Its foundations date from 150 AD, and since Metaxas, the Greek architect, who was responsible for the new structure used the original ground plan, the 1896 stadium is closest in concept to its counterpart of antiquity. It had seating capacity for 80,000 spectators, and this has become the norm for Olympic stadia.

The new stadium was named after Georges Averoff the Greek industrialist, without whose donation of one million drachmae the reality of the revival of the Olympic Games would have remained a dream. Unlike the stadia of today, the first modern Olympic Stadium was U shaped. Aesthetically the open-ended stadium is pleasing, particularly when viewed against the backdrop of the Acropolis and the Patheon. However, it does cut down on the seating capacity, but in 1896 this was less important than it will be one hundred years later. Although swimming, wrestling and fencing were part of the Olympic programme, for these first Games, most of the contests were confined to track and field events, and, as in ancient times, women were excluded from all the contests. From the beginning it was realised that not all the events could take place in the stadium. However since many of the events which we take for granted today were excluded until after the First World War, the existing facilities were generally sufficient.

In Paris in 1900 and St Louis in 1904, the Olympic Games were fringe events at the World Fair and the Louisiana Purchase Exhibition. In fact, in 1900, the Games continued, on and off, for a period of five months during the summer and autumn, and strollers in the Bois de Boulogne were quite unaware that they were spectators at Olympic contests! In both Paris and St. Louis no special stadium was built, and the participants had to be satisfied with the existing installations. Neither stamps nor postcards were produced to show where these two Games were held.

The Fourth Olympic Games were to be held in Rome, but suddenly and without apparent reason, the Italian city backed out in 1907. London agreed to host the Games of 1908 as a part of the Franco-British Exhibition, so once again they were aligned with a non-sporting event. However, a stadium was specially built as a part of the exhibition complex in West London which was become known as White City because of the buildings that were erected for this exhibition. Although modest by today's standards, the White City Stadium, was the first purpose-built Olympic Stadium. It was built as a complete oval, with seating for 100,000 spectators. Directly beneath the tiers of seating was a cycle track, with the running track inside this. In the centre of the arena was a playing field for team events and a swimming pool.

Once again, no stamps were issued which show views of the stadium but there was a stadium cancellation at the Franco-British Exhibition and, until it was pulled down to make space for office buildings in the 1980's, White City Stadium was used regularly for athletic and other sporting events. It should therefore be possible to find suitable items, even though they are not contemporary with the 1908 Games.

In 1912 in Stockholm, the Olympic Games came of age. It was the first occasion that the Games stood as a sporting event in their own right, unattached to a world exhibition, and it was also the first time that the Games were the truly international gathering of the athletic youth of the world envisaged by Coubertin. The money for the building of the purpose-built stadium was raised by an Olympic lottery, and although small, it has a capacity for only 35,000 spectators, its location in a pine forest on the outskirts of Stockholm, and its red brick facade, ensured its position at the forefront of Olympic architecture. Once again, stamps were not issued to commemorate the V Olympiad, but two cards were produced for the Olympic Games which show the stadium, and there are other view cards of it of a non-Olympic nature.

The 1916 Games were scheduled to be held in Berlin. However, because of the outbreak of the First World War in 1914, the Sixth Olympiad did not take place for, unlike in ancient times, no holy truce could be declared. The new stadium at Grunewald was finished in 1912, and was officially opened by the Kaiser and Kaiserin on 8 June 1914. A special cancellation was used to mark the event, and two postal stationery cards were produced which show the couple arriving at the stadium. Other postcards show views of the stadium with, and without, spectators.

The first Olympic Games after the Great War were held in Antwerp, in a war-torn Belgium. They were held more in an effort to keep the Olympic spirit alive, than from any true sense of festivity. No new structures were built, and although stamps were issued for the first time since 1906 (when the 10th Anniversary Games were held in Athens) they did not show the stadium. There were, however, several cards which show events in the stadium.

As if to make up for a lack of hospitality in 1900, Paris built a magnificent new stadium for the VIII Olympiad in 1924. The familiar red brick-ash track was seen for the first time at the Colombe Stadium, and also for the first time, the length of the track was set at 400 metres. In fact, the 1924 Games offered several firsts. Apart from the main stadium, a separate swimming stadium was built with a fifty metre long pool and a seating capacity for ten thousand spectators; and an Olympic Village which, although primitive in comparison to later villages, was also an Olympic innovation in 1924. France issued a set of stamps to commemorate the second Paris Olympic Games, and the Olympic stadium forms a small part of the design of the 10c value

In 1928, Amsterdam was the host for the Ninth Olympiad. For the first time since 1912, the architecture prize was awarded in the Olympic Arts Festival, and the gold medal went to Jan Wils of the Netherlands for his design of the Amsterdam stadium. The privately financed stadium seated only forty thousand, and it was the last time that the cycle track was a part of the main arena. A new idea at Amsterdam was the brazier, which held a fire for the period that the Games were in progress. It was also the first time that Germany and Austria were invited to participate after the Great War. Although the Netherlands issued a set of stamps to commemorate her Olympiad, the stadium was not included in the designs. Several cards exist however, showing the stadium, including those which show views while the contests were in progress.

Los Angeles was the host for the X Olympiad in 1932. It was the last time that a U shaped format was used for an Olympic stadium, for it considerably cut down on the possible seating. Even so, the main stadium could seat 105,000 spectators. A new innovation in California was the seating arrangement at the swimming stadium, where the tiers could be quickly dismantled and rearranged, thus making it more practical for every day use after the close of the Games. In Los Angeles, as in Amsterdam, a living fire burned throughout the period of the Games, and the Olympic Village, though simple, was adequate.



The Eleventh Olympiad in Berlin was awarded at the meeting of the International Olympic Committee in the late Spring of 1931, when the Weimer Republic was still in power in Germany. It is doubtful whether the Berlin of the Nazi regime would have been invited to act as host to the youth of the world. In 1931, it was the intention to use the 1913 stadium at Grunewald built by Otto March and to add on, where necessary, new arenas for the sports that had been included on the programme in the intervening twenty years. With Hitler's rise to power in 1933, the situation changed dramatically, and the 1936 Olympic Games were to become

the showpiece of Nazi achievement. Without doubt, the sporting complex on the 132 hectare site was the most sophisticated so far built. The stadium itself was sunk into the earth so that, upon entering it at the level of the surrounding ground, many tiers of seats and the sporting arena were spread out below.

There was a separate swimming stadium with two pools, one for swimming, the other for diving, which were heated to 70 F (21 C) and had a seating capacity for seven thousand spectators. A separate hockey stadium and polo field, as well as a riding arena and an open air amphitheatre, where gymnastic events took place by day and drama productions took place at night, were also included in the vast complex. Provision had been made for ample parking, and both the underground and rail services had special stations to bring the spectators to the site with the minimum of inconvenience.

1936 offered several "firsts". A torch relay linking the ancient stadium at Olympia with the modern stadium in Berlin was an innovation at the Eleventh Olympiad. The flame was lit by the sun's rays on 20 July and carried by a human chain some three thousand miles to arrive in Berlin in time for the opening ceremonies on 1 August. It was also the first time that the media were taken into consideration when the stadia were planned by Werner March, the son of the architect of the 1913 stadium. The world's press had their own seating area, as well as post offices, telegraph services and multi-lingual stenographers. Trenches were laid at the side of the track so that Leni Riefenstahl and her crew of cameramen could film the events without disturbing the concentration of the athletes. It is hardly surprising that Werner March was awarded the gold medal for architecture at the Olympic Arts Festival for his mammoth structure. The stadium was indeed a sporting marvel in 1936, and has, in fact, stood the test of time very well. Although proofs of a stamp design were prepared for an Olympic issue in 1936, these designs were never adopted, and it was not until 1949 that the Berlin Olympic stadium was used for the design on one of the Berlin definitive issues. However, there is no shortage of material that can be used to illustrate the stadium. The German Olympic Committee issued a series of cards, both before and during the Games, which show views of the stadium from all angles.

War once again interrupted the Olympic cycle in 1940 and 1944, and London acted as host at the XIV Olympiad in 1948. There was neither the time, nor the money available to build a new stadium and the 60,000 seat stadium at Wembley was used for the track and field events. The neighbouring Empire Pool was used for the swimming sports and, with a cover over the water, for several other Olympic disciplines. As at the previous Olympic Games, the stadium was not used on a stamp design, but several cards do show views of the complex. Monaco, however, issued a stamp showing Wembley Stadium in 1963 to commemorate the centenary of the British Football Association, and Cameroun used the twin-towered Stadium as the design for one stamp in 1988 to commemorate the World Cup.

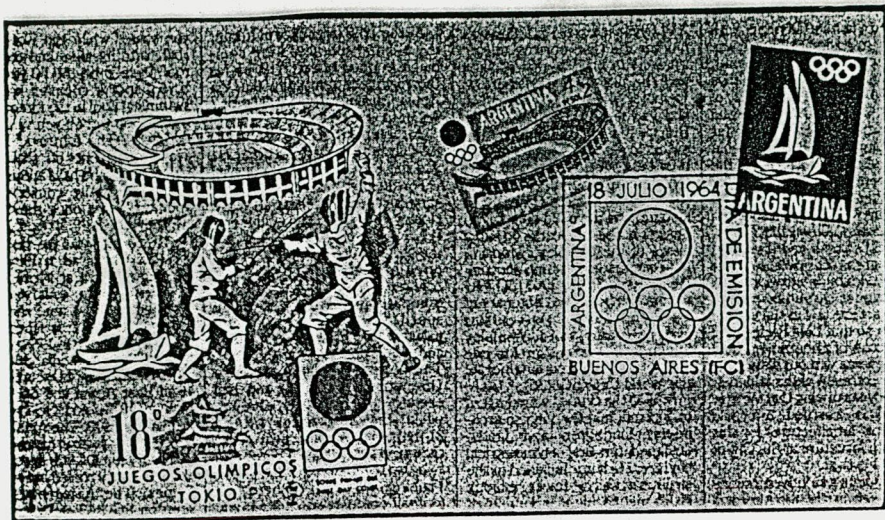
In 1952, the Games were hosted by Finland, and the Finnish architects, Lindgren and Jantti designed the first asymmetrical Olympic stadium. Included in the structure was a tower, exactly 71.22 metres high, in honour of Martti Jarvinen's record winning

javelin throw at the Olympic Games in 1932. It is seen on a stamp issued by Finland to commemorate her Olympiad. It is also seen on a stamp of Mali in 1972.

From 1956 onwards, it is easier to find Olympic stadia in the stamp catalogue. The main track and field events at the Sixteenth Games in Melbourne in Australia were held in a converted cricket stadium. This stadium is shown on a stamp of Haiti in 1960, on one of Mali in 1972 and on one of Rumania in 1979. Although Australia did not issue a stamp showing the stadium, Australia Post did include it as a part of the design of an Olympic air letter, and in recent years the stadium has been incorporated in the design of cancellations to boost the bid of Melbourne as Olympic host for 1996. Unfortunately, the beautiful, new, trapeze-shaped swimming pool has not been used for a stamp design.

At the 1960 Olympics in Rome, the old and the new were combined to good effect. The Marathon runners ran along the Via Appia, through the Constantine Arch to the finish line at the Colosseum, and other contests took place at the Caracalla and the Basilica of Maxentius. For the first time, it was necessary for the architects to liaise closely with structural engineers. P.L. Nervi, the Chief Architect, of the Rome stadia, created structures from steel and reinforced concrete, which rose from their foundations with remarkable speed. There were two sports palaces, the Palazzo della Sport and the Palazzetto dello Sport. The larger, the Palazzo, had a 115 metre cupola and had seating for 80,000 spectators, while the Palazzetto, with a 21 metre high cupola, seated five thousand spectators. There were two further new structures; the Flaminio Stadium, where the football contests were held and the cycling and hockey stadium. Three of the four buildings have been commemorated philatelically. The Palazzo dello Sport was shown by Italy for their 1960 Olympic issue, and the Palazzetto della Sport and the cycling stadium are shown as a part of the same set. The Olympic Stadium, shown on the Italian series, is also seen on a stamp of Mali in 1972, of Haiti in 1960 and on a Rumanian stamp in 1979. This is the only stadium which was not specially built, having been constructed in 1953. For those who like to extend their Olympic architecture beyond the modern, Italy issued a pre-Olympic set in 1959, which shows the baths at Caracalla, the Basilica of Maxentius and the Constantine Arch. There is no stamp showing the swimming stadium, the last time that an open-air pool was used for these events.

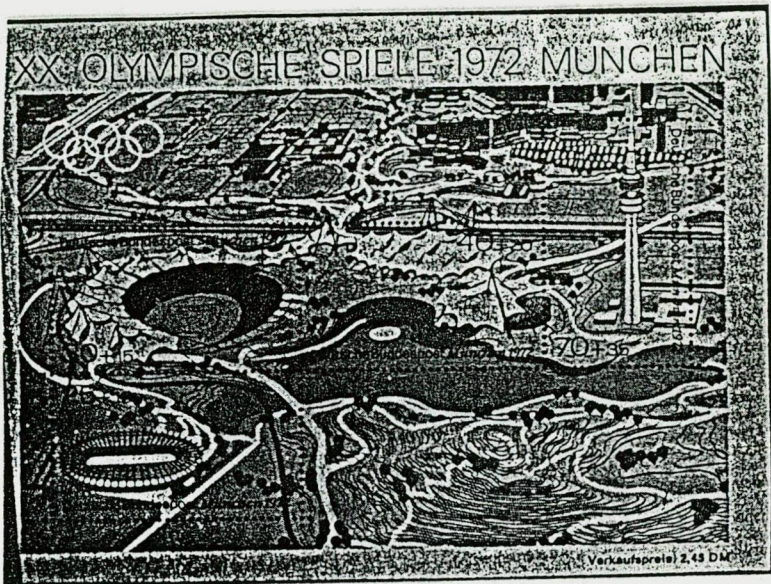
The Olympic flame travelled to Asia for the first time in 1964, when Tokyo was the host to the young athletes of the world. Kenzo Tange was the architect of the Meiji and Komazawa sports parks and the Yoyogi sports centre, where the Olympic Village was also situated. The original stadium, built in 1924, at the Meiji Park was asymmetrically enlarged to seat 71,500 spectators, and had flood lighting for evening events, a new innovation for an Olympic stadium in 1964. It was commemorated philatelically by Japan, Albania and Argentina in 1964, and later by Honduras, Mali, Panama, and Rumania in 1979. The Nippon Budokan Sports Hall is shown on the Japanese Olympic issue of 1964 on the 30 yen value, while the Komazawa Hall, with its steel and concrete roof is seen on the 50 yen stamp. The Yoyogi sports complex, with the swimming pool in the foreground is found on the 40 yen



value. The futuristic shapes are reminiscent of snails and mussels, yet the halls were practical and easily converted for alternative uses, once the Games were over.

Mexico City was the venue for the Nineteenth Olympiad in 1968. The existing stadium at Mexico City University was enlarged and widened, and became the main sports arena. It is shown on a stamp of Mexico in 1968, as well as by Cambodia, Cyprus, Dahomey, East Africa, Mali, and Rumania. The Aztec Stadium is seen on a stamp of Dahomey in 1968, and of Cameroon in 1972, to commemorate the World Cup football matches. The only new structure was the Sports Palace, seen on the 1968 Mexico Olympic issue. This impressive copper-clad stadium had a height of forty metres, and the cupola had a span of one hundred and forty metres.

For the 1972 Games in Munich, Germany embarked on an ambitious building programme. The 1972 miniature sheet of West Germany, issued to coincide with the opening of the Games, shows the entire Olympic Park. In the foreground is seen the cycling stadium, with the main stadium behind it; the multi-purpose hall and swimming stadium are pictured to the right of the sheet, flanked by the Olympic Tower and an ice-skating rink. The Olympic Village, with accommodation for ten thousand athletes, is at the top of the sheet. The steel pylons and delicate steel trellises, filled in with acrylic glass, gave 70% of the spectators protection from the elements. The futuristic and costly architecture was mainly the work of G. Behnisch, J. Joeedicke and F. Otto. Although expensive, the structures were practical, inasmuch that they could all be converted to other uses after the close of the Games, and the seating was arranged in such a way that it could be decreased or enlarged as need dictated. The Munich stadium was also used for stamp designs by Indonesia and Mali in 1972, and by Rumania, in 1979.



Even non-Olympic collectors are probably aware that the Twenty First Olympiad in Montreal was a financial disaster for that city, mainly because the building programme was over-ambitious. Montreal's architects wanted to emulate the moveable parabolic roof that had first been used at the previous Olympiad, and which gave 100% protection from the weather. However, for financial reasons, this was never finished. The stadium is seen on a Canadian stamp on their eleventh Olympic issue of 1976, as well as by Indonesia in the same year and by again Rumania in 1979.

The 1980 Olympic Games were hosted by Moscow. The stadium was not used as the design of one of the eight series of stamps released by the Soviet Union to commemorate the Games. Certainly several structures were built for the Twenty Second Olympiad, but how much these cost is not known. In 1980, the idea was mooted several times that commercialism and politics should be taken out of the Games, and the suggestion was even made that a special sporting complex should be built on a site near ancient Olympia, and that the Games should return to their original home for all time. The press, full of such suggestions in 1980 after the Russian invasion of Afghanistan, did not return to the subject after the close of the Games in Moscow.

Los Angeles agreed to act as host for the Twent Third Olympiad in 1984, on the condition that any new structures could be financed by commercial sponsorship, and the Games would not leave Los Angeles out of pocket. The Coliseum, showpiece of the 1932 Olympics, was adapted and was again used for the track and field events, while the other venues were spread over an eighty mile radius from down-town L.A. This approach appears to have encouraged the very commercialism that the pundits of 1980 were trying to avoid. Macdonalds supplied the sustenance, Coca Cola

supplied the liquid refreshment, and neither of them, nor any of the others who paid dearly for the privilege of financing the Games would have done so if their name is not prominently to the fore.

Since 1984, commercialism has gathered momentum, and we now take it for granted that international companies will act as world-wide sponsors for the Olympic Games, while large national concerns will sponsor their country's Olympic athletes. The stadia of both Seoul and Barcelona have appeared on stamps on several occasions, and surely before long, we will be seeing the Atlanta Olympic stadium on a postage stamp.

NOEL G. ALMEIDA
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AUSTRALIA



If postal stationery cards and covers, cancellations and other philatelic items such as aerogrammes and booklets are included, an interesting and varied collection can quickly be built up which, with one or two exceptions, need not cost a fortune. It is a different approach to the Olympic theme, and one, which I believe has not been done before. However, this is only one suggestion for an original and different Olympic collection. I am sure that there are many others.

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A SPORTING CHANCE

CLAUDINE SCOTT

When is a wheelchair not a chair at all, but a twisting, turning, racing machine? When it's under the skillful control of an athlete preparing for, and competing in, the Paralympic Games in Barcelona, that's when. The Games ran from the opening ceremony on 3 September through to the close on 14 September with four thousand athletes from ninety two countries taking part. Not that the Paralympics are only for wheelchair competitors. Disability comes in many guises and the Paralympics is all about the determined efforts of athletes to cross the boundary of their disability, draw on huge personal reserves of willpower and skill and compete at the highest level.

Held in the Olympic stadium, these athletes were setting out not just to win medals, but also to bring home the true spirit of Olympic excellence. Overcoming the seemingly unbeatable obstacles of their disabilities, to race faster and faster, swim, throw javelins, play volleyball or excel at judo, produces an attitude of grim tenacity mixed with unquenchable optimism with more than a dash of fierce competition. Everyone wants a gold.

Of course, any athlete hoping to get to the golden rostrum soon learns the grim reality of a routine that in the final run up to a major sporting event consists of little else other than training, work outs and yet more training. There is no future at all for the faint-hearted or lightly interested dabblers.

But for those who are disabled in any way the challenge starts long before the actual sporting events, or even before the heats that lead up to them. Simple, every day life that the fully able take for granted is anything but simple for thousands of people who cope because they are determined they will, and get the most out of life in the process.

It takes lateral thinking, a sense of humour and the tenacity of Robert the Bruce's spider to win through. Which is just the sort of endurance and stamina that brings about the startling performance at the Paralympics as the athletes set out to prove that disability does not get in the way of high quality sports but produces performances that are not just barely believable, but seemingly totally impossible.


This year there was to be a British presence at the first Paralympics for people with a mental handicap to be held in Madrid from 15 to 22 September. Sports in this section ranged from a full field and track programme to swimming, indoor five-a-side soccer, table tennis and basketball. Athletes from nearly eighty countries strove for gold, but were in any case delighted and proud to be there to represent their countries.

British Airways was one of the sponsors of the Paralympics, providing tickets for the athletes. The airline recognises the special needs of wheelchair passengers be they paralympic athletes or not. Staff are happy to help wherever they can and

to do so with a minimum of fuss. It's an attitude that fits in well with the spirit of the Paralympics: encounter a problem, solve it and go on to achieve a goal.

1992 was a great year for all sporting fans. The Paralympic athletes followed the progress of their countries' teams at the earlier Olympics in July/August with great interest, but the positions were reversed in September when the Paralympians took centre stage to demonstrate their frankly awe-inspiring skills.

The spirit of competition burns as bright as the Olympic flame throughout the Paralympics, it is an event chock-full of excitement that brings gasps of amazement, delight and above all hope to the thousands that cheer the athletes on from all over the world.

<u>OLYMPIC GAMES</u>			NIGEL SHIPLEY 31 MALABAR CRESCENT, ELTHAM. 3095 VICTORIA. AUSTRALIA.	<u>PRICES ON</u>		
<u>SALES LIST</u>				<u>APPLICATION</u>		
<u>FOR</u>	<u>SALE</u>	<u>NOW</u>		<u>WANTS</u>	<u>LIST</u>	<u>ACCEPTED</u>
1.	OLYMPIA ZEITUNG 1936 FULL SET BOUND.			9.	PINS AND BADGES 1956.	
2.	OLYMPIA 1936 BAND 1 & 11.			10.	CUP, SAUCER AND PLATE 1956.	
3.	OFFICIAL REPORT 1956.			11.	OFFICIAL NUMBER PLATE 1956.	
4.	PRESENTATION MEDALLION 1956.			12.	FULL SET OF COVERS 1956.	
5.	OFFICIAL POSTER 1956.			13.	OPENING AND CLOSING CEREMONY RECORDS 1956.	
6.	FILM POSTER 1956.			14.	SOUVENIR TINS 1956.	
7.	MELBOURNE BID BOOKS 1956 NOS. 2 & 3.			15.	PROGRAMS 1956. ATHLETICS—FULL SET SWIMMING FULL SET.	
8.	COMPETITOR AND OFFICIAL BADGES 1956.			16.	MELBOURNE BID MATERIAL FOR 1996- WIDE RANGE.	

JESSE OWENS ARCO GAMES

Jesse Owens, winner of four gold medals at the 1936 Berlin Olympic Games, was much more than a great Olympic Champion. From his birth in 1913 to his death in 1980, he made his life a model for all young people to follow.

Jesse saw life in America as a perpetual relay in which: "Each generation carries a baton. Every adult generation must train young people to carry their baton in the next generation."

In athletics, Jesse's example is unsurpassed. He began his career as a record-setting track and field star in 1928 while in junior high school in Cleveland, Ohio, establishing new junior high records of 6'0" in the high jump and 22' 11-3/4" in the long jump.

In high school, Jesse became a world-class athlete, setting a National high school interscholastic record in his senior year in the 100 yard dash, simultaneously trying the world record of 9.4 seconds, and setting world records in the 220 yard dash at 20.7 seconds and in the long jump with 24' 11-3/4" in distance.

As a college sophomore, Jesse Owens became the only athlete in history to set three world records and to tie a fourth in a single track meet. He again tied the world record time of 9.4 seconds in the 100 yard dash, and set the world records in the long jump at 26' 8", the 200 yard dash at 20.2 seconds and the 220 low hurdles at 22.6 seconds.

During the 1936 Olympics in Berlin, Jesse set new Olympic records for the 100 and 200 meter races, anchored America's victorious 400 meter relay team, and set an Olympic record in the long jump which was unbroken for 24 years.

Off the field, Jesse's record is even more outstanding. He devoted his life to serving the youth of America by emphasizing the spirit and camaraderie that can result from athletic competition. In his own words "You have to be able to compete for the rest of your life, so you might as well start learning when you are young".

In 1984, the ARCO Jesse Owens Games celebrated its twentieth anniversary, and this year, more than one million young people will have the opportunity to experience organized competition on the athletic field, many for the first time in their lives. They will learn - about themselves and about others, about how to win and how to lose - and they will have fun in the process.

When Jesse Owens lent his name to the Atlantic Richfield Company in 1964, he set the standard for the Games as "an opportunity for boys and girls to participate and to have competitive fun; above all, fun."

Jesse's life-long commitment to America's youth transcended even the programme that bears his name, however. He served over five years on the Illinois Youth Commission. He was active on the

board of directors of many institutions, including Memorial Hospital in Pheonix, the National Conference of Christians and Jews, Boys' Town, the Up With People musical organisation and many others. Also, throughout his public life, Jesse made commencement addresses at countless high schools and colleges around the country.

Such an extensive commitment does not go unrewarded. In 1955, the United States State Department named Jesse its "Ambassador of Sports". And that honour was just the beginning of a long list:

- 1960: Champion of the Century, sports press
- 1974: NCAA Theodore Roosevelt Award
- 1974: National Track and Field Hall of Fame, charter member
- 1976: Sports Father of the Year, New York's Annual FOTY Awards
- 1976: Medal of Freedom, America's highest civilian award

Jesse Owens continues to serve America's youth through the example of his life, and the ARCO Jesse Owens Games continue to honour his life's commitment in the spirit Jesse himself stated:

"If the purpose of the ARCO Jesse Owens Games can be described in a very few words, it is this: to develop champions - on and off the field.

The ARCO Jesse Owens Games is a beginning level, recreational track and field programme designed to introduce boys and girls, ages 7 to 14, to the sport of track and field. The games are held annually in late Spring and throughout the Summer in eight regions of the country.

In 1964, Jesse Owens and ARCO founded the Jesse Owens Games. The games are based upon Jesse's conviction that organised recreational competitions develop and build character in children and promote the ideals of friendship and good sportsmanship.

Competitors - Eligibility

Eligibility - Girls and boys born in the year 1979 through 1986 are eligible to participate in the 1993 programme.

District Level Meetings are conducted by ARCO and local parks and recreation departments and Regional Championships are conducted by parks and recreation departments in eight regions of the country.

The National Championships are conducted by the county of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation.

The Games are held in many towns in the U.S.A. and the final Games are held in L.A. Within Alaska a number of small towns hold the preliminary Games. Carl Lewis started his track career at the Houston "ARCO Jesse Owens Games.

Boys and girls compete in only one event at the regional and national level. They compete by gender and by age group.

The ARCO Jesse Owens Games are designed to act as an introduction to the sport of track and field for the beginning level athlete. The programme is open to all boys and girls who wish to participate and who meet the eligibility requirements. Participation by these young people, and exposure to a healthy and enjoyable recreational experience are the prime concerns of the ARCO Jesse Owens Games. Competition, although a part of the programme is always considered secondary to participation.

The ARCO Jesse Owens Games are named in honour of this country's greatest track and field competitor, Jesse Owens, who won four gold medals in the 1936 Berlin Olympic Games. Jesse Owens was personally involved in the programme each year until his death in 1980. The games stand as a lasting tribute to his spirit of sportsmanship and competition.

ARCO (Atlantic Richfield Company) is the sole sponsor of the games. ARCO conducts the programme through its community affairs department and an ongoing effort to maintain an active and participatory involvement in the communities in which it operates and serves.

The ARCO Jesse Owens Games, in cooperation with the Jesse Owens Foundation, awards eight college scholarships of \$2,000 in tuition funds each season. Finalists who qualify for the national team (24 from each region) become eligible to submit applications for these scholarships.

There are no fees to the competitors. Parks and recreation departments or other youth agencies that voluntarily elect to conduct the programme in their communities absorb staff time and related costs at the local level while ARCO provides the basic programme structure, materials, travel and housing costs at the national level for regional teams.

The ARCO Jesse Owens Games were recognised nationally by the 1984 Los Angeles Olympic Organising Committee (LAOOC) and its Youth Advisory Commission as the role model for youth sports development.

THE SOCIETY LIBRARY

The Society has built up a valuable and useful reference library during the years of its existence. Why not make use of it when writing up your collection? Contact Ken Cook, 31 Thorn Lane, Rainham, Essex RM13 9SJ for further details.

Ken will happily make photocopies of interesting articles. However, he WILL NOT undertake research on your behalf!

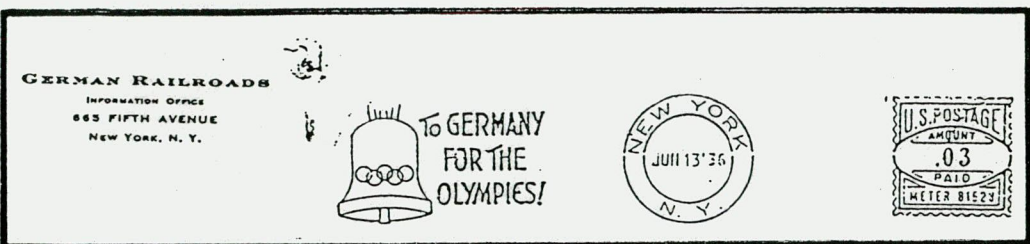
METER RUN WITH HONOURS

SHERWIN PODOLSKY

(This article first appeared in TOPICAL TIME in May/June 1987 and is reproduced with the permission of the author.)

Topical collecting and exhibiting span the range of philatelic materials besides simply stamps. Topical exhibits that include only postage stamps and write-ups are often the earmarks of novice exhibitors. The narrow range of philatelic material and write-up limited to what is found in a standard catalogue often restricts the exhibitor to a low level award.

The exhibitable range of philatelic material also includes covers, cancellations, proofs, essays, meter stamps, permits and other items. Here I would like to explore topical meters and related items, with reference to my Olympic Games specialty.



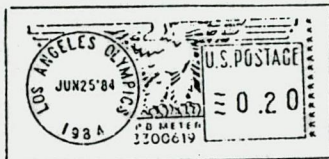
The first Olympic meter stamps appeared for the 1936 Olympic Games. About fifty eight varieties are known, most of which were used in Germany. However, publicity meters are also known used in Rio de Janeiro, New York City and Buenos Aires. Some are pictorial and include Brandenburg Gate, Olympic rings, airplane (Lufthansa), the Zeppelin, and the Olympic bell. One rare meter stamp includes the name Leni Riefenstahl, the cinematographer whose controversial film glorified the militarism of the 1936 Olympics.



An Olympic stamp exhibition and garden show at Dresden in 1936 was commemorated by an exhibition meter. There were also official

multicoloured propaganda postcards. Many of the meter impressions on these cards have no value ("00") in the indicia and are favour items which are not much appreciated by exhibition judges.

Sometimes meter stamps are found without a date, usually because the mailing was used for less than first class postage. Such meter items are considered acceptable and collectable varieties of the same meter type.



During the 1984 Olympic Games, a special meter was used at practically all Olympic venues. The discovery of the meter stamp inscribed "LOS ANGELES OLYMPICS" used at these venues was made at the first public Olympic event—the philatelic exhibition at OLYMPHILEX '84 at Pasadena on July 25, 1984. In error, the meter carried the wrong month "JUN" instead of "JUL". Because the error was not discovered until late in the day, examples with the correct month are scarcer than those with the error.

Specialists make note of meter numbers, each of which represents a different meter machine. Thus the 25 Olympic venues at the 1984 Olympic Games each had a meter distinguished by its meter number. These numbers are included in every meter impression. Also, the meters can be verified by number and date to specific Olympic events and locations by checking a reference table which was published by Sports Philatelists International.

Some meter specialists look for Pitney-Bowes meters with only six digits instead of seven. Perhaps the smaller number is an indication of a late use of an obsolescent series of older machines.

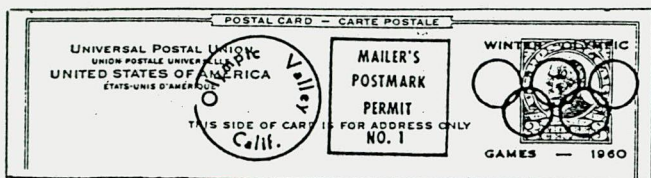
There are several manufacturers of meter postage machines, and each uses its own distinctive meter imprint design. Topicalists, however, will look primarily at the slogan or pictorial portion of the meter imprint and overlook such elements as date, city of use, manufacturer, meter number, and colour. These are aspects that could vary, sometimes in error, and provide collectable varieties. It pays to consider the entire meter stamp in all its elements.

Not to be overlooked are how meter items are collected. Traditional meter specialists are often satisfied with meter strips or cuts in order to mount them on standard pages and minimise album bulk. As meter impressions are usually found on business-size or oversize envelopes, the address corner is often missing, creating a puzzle to identify the user. My preference is to retain a strip or cover portion with sender's address. It's wise to at least save the information.

Meter stamps may be imprinted directly on the envelope or on a tape. These are two collectable varieties. Tapes are more likely to be found on packages, but I would prefer to cut around the meter stamp if removing from the wrapper. Soaking can cause the meter stamp (and sometimes wrapping paper) colour to run.

Some meter impressions are weak and not colourfast. Some commercial covers with plain meters are illustrated with a topical motif. Cachets or illustrations are ordinarily not philatelic in themselves and have yet to achieve full respectability from philatelic judges. Nevertheless, they add an interesting collecting dimension.

Another form of printed postal indicia is the mailer's postmark permit, which is still allowed by the U.S. Postal Service. For a while, however, these mailer's permits could include a pictorial commemorative design. Even if some are inspired by philatelists, they are quite uncommon and as valid as the philatelically inspired Zeppelin covers.



Our mail is loaded with "junk mail" with printed postal indicia that we often hasten to discard. There is a good deal of postal history here. Political appeals, mass mailings by all kinds of charitable organisations, even including Olympic committees and licensees, can tell the story of financing the functions of the topical organisations in which we specialise. Here is topical postal history very cheap. It may pay to retain the letter contents of such mail as a possible aid to album write-up.

Because the older items are now so scarce, I recommend topical collectors save even those items outside their personal specialties. Another collector will almost certainly appreciate them, and you may be able to augment your philatelic budget or trade for an item you need.

What should you do if your meter stamp has a cancellation overstrike? Save it. The postmark date confirms the meter date. The transit post office in the postmark provides routing interest. While the topical element in the meter may be of primary importance, a meter with overstrike should be accepted until a clean impression is found.

How are topical meter stamps found? Many organisations of topical interest may already use topical meters. A postal inquiry may provide what you are seeking. "Junk boxes" at dealer bourses can sometimes provide surprises. Joining specialist societies such as the Meter Stamp Society or Permit Imprint Collectors Society to find contacts can be very worthwhile. Even a one-year membership that provides member ads and membership lists can help. Sometimes simply a letter to a society officer may give you the few leads you seek.

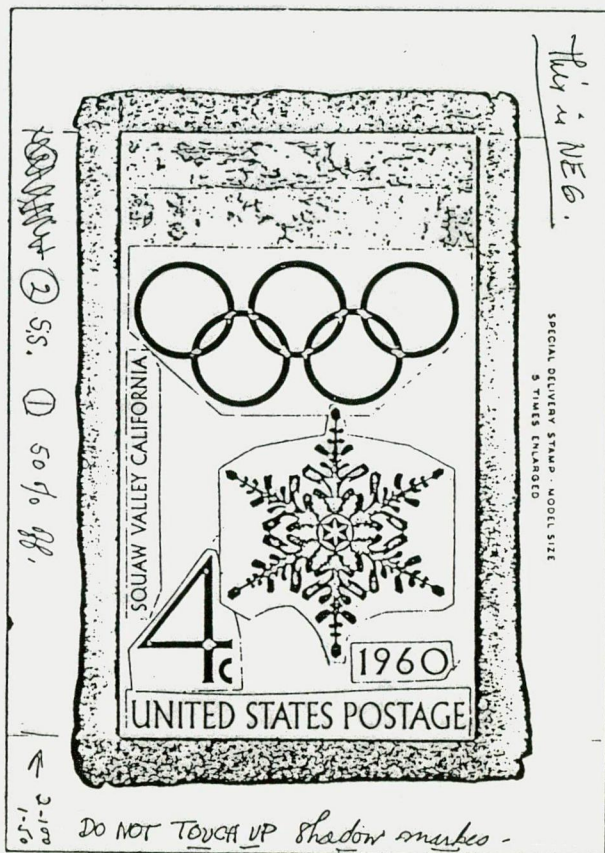
Meter stamps and other non-adhesives can add a new dimension to your thematic interest. Even if you don't collect sports, meters run with honours!

EVOLUTION OF A COMMEMORATIVE

ALAN MARDER

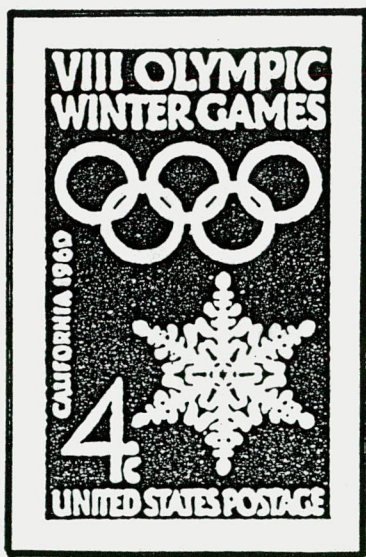
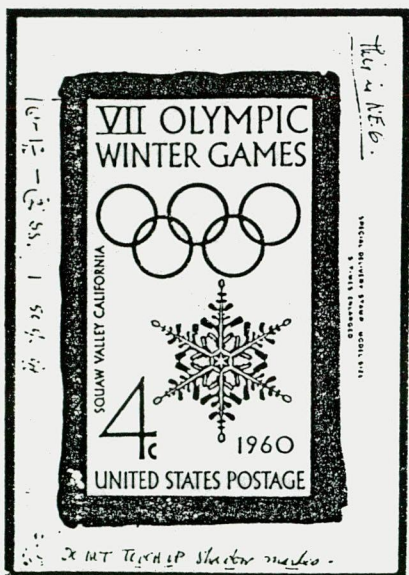
(This article first appeared in the Journal of Sports Philately in November/December 1987, and is reproduced with permission.)

When the average stamp collector examines his or her material, little thought is usually given to the development of the stamp design. How did the design evolve? What problems did the designer encounter? What errors were made? I would like to share some insight into these questions as they relate to the four cent commemorative issued by the United States on February 18, 1960, the opening day of the Olympic Winter Games at Squaw Valley.



The dull blue stamp, listed in Scott's catalogue as 1146 was designed by American artist Ervine Metz1. At a recent stamp show in the New York metropolitan area, I was fortunate to acquire a number of the artist's photo essays for this commemorative as well as his original paste up board. Figure 1 (illustrated on the previous page) is a reduced copy of a heavy white card (7" x 10") which is inscribed on the reverse: "DO NOT USE, ORIGINAL PASTE UP ONLY" along with Ervine Metz1's rubber stamp with the address of his Park Avenue, New York studio. Affixed to the board with glue, are cut-outs of the Olympic Rings, snowflake, value, date and all but the upper legends.

A side-by-side comparison of one of the photo essays (figure 2) with the final stamp as issued (figure 3) reveals four major differences:



First: The artist erroneously identified the Games in the upper legend as the "VII" Olympic Winter Games. The corrected version with the proper numeral "VIII" was incorporated into the issued stamp.

Second: The artist placed the bold date "1960" on the lower right over the word POSTAGE. The issued version shows the date greatly reduced in size and relocated to the legend at left.

Third: All of the artist's essays note the location of the Games in the left legend as SQUAW VALLEY CALIFORNIA. The issued version deletes the reference to Squaw Valley leaving only CALIFORNIA 1960. This is especially interesting.

According to the account presented in "The Olympic Games 1984" by Killanin and Rodda, Squaw Valley was little more than a tourist hostel in the Sierra Nevada Mountains when, in 1955, American entrepreneurs convinced the International Olympic Committee that the site could be developed as a specially constructed area to host the Olympic Winter Games. In fact, the headquarters of the Organising Committee was not in Squaw Valley, but in San Francisco, almost two hundred miles away.

Collectors of Olympic related philatelic material are aware that American pre-Olympic publicity cancels did not refer to Squaw Valley. Rather, they identified the site of the Games as the TAHOE NATIONAL FOREST, CALIFORNIA. An Olympic Valley post office was opened on December 1, 1959 which provided machine and hand cancels variously inscribed OLYMPIC VALLEY CALIFORNIA and TAHOE CITY CALIF./OLYMPIC VALLEY BR. As far as the U.S. Post Office Department was concerned, Squaw Valley simply didn't exist and the name SQUAW VALLEY appears to have been deleted from artist Metzl's stamp essay as a result. (It apparently was of no concern to the Post Office Department that Squaw Valley was the official host site designated by the IOC, not the state of California as the issued stamp would suggest.

Fourth. The snowflake appearing on the issued stamp is the simplest of many varieties considered for use by the artist.

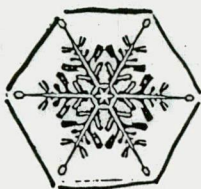
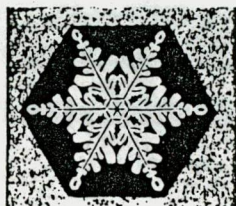


Figure 4 shows enlargements of two snowflake designs which were considered and ultimately rejected, perhaps as a result of their complexity, or possibly due to the limitations of the Rotary Press printing method used for this issue.

I do not know if the final changes to the Olympic stamp design were done by Metzl himself, as a result of comments received, or if they were incorporated by staff designers at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, in Washington, D.C. Any further information on the stamp editing process for this commemorative would be appreciated.

The designer of the stamp, Ervine Metzl, was born in Chicago, Illinois in 1899 and studied at the Art Institute of Chicago. Listed in "Who's Who in American Art", Metzl is noted as an illustrator, cartoonist, graphic artist, teacher and writer. In addition to the 1960 Olympic stamp, Metzl's philatelic credits include the designs of commemoratives noting International Geophysical Year (1958), World Refugee Year (1960) and the Echo 1 Communications for Peace issue (1960).

While it would probably be impossible to explore the "background" of every item in one's collection, I will never again take for granted even the simplest appearing stamp design -- it may have a fascinating history!

Heiko Volk Olympia-Philatelie

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