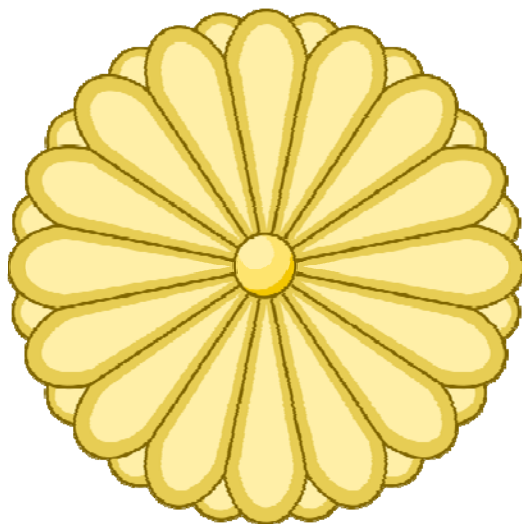


TIMBRES
DU JAPON



JAPAN

Unwatermarked

1871



200 M
VERMILION
AND BLACK
Scott 3

forgeries?

1872



1872-73



2 S
VERMILION
Scott 11



1872-74



2 S
DULL ROSE
Scott 12

4 S
ROSE
Scott 14

Same
Foreign Wove
Paper
4 S
ROSE
Scott 24

BLUE
GREEN
Scott 16



30 S
GRAY
Scott 25

JAPAN

Unwatermarked
1874



Type of 1872-73
20 S
RED VIOLET
Scott 30



2 S
YELLOW
Scott 34

4 S
ROSE
Scott 35

6 S
VIOLET BROWN
Scott 36

10 S
YELLOW GREEN
Scott 37

20 S
VIOLET
Scott 38

30 S
GRAY
Scott 39

1875-76



6 S
ORANGE
Scott 43



fake?



Same
Without
Syllabic Characters
1 S
BROWN
Scott 51

4 S
GREEN
Scott 52



2 S
YELLOW
Scott 54



JAPAN

Unwatermarked
1876-77



1879



1883-92



JAPAN

Unwatermarked

1894



1896



1899-1907



JAPAN

Unwatermarked

1900



1905



1906



3 S
CARMINE
ROSE
Scott 112

1908



1913





JAPAN

Watermarked Zigzag Lines

1914 - 1930



1915



1916



1919



JAPAN

Unwatermarked
1920



1921



10 S
DARK BLUE

Scott 166

Like 1 1/4 S
4 S
ROSE
AND RED
Scott 165



Unwatermarked
1923



Watermarked Parallel Lines
1923



JAPAN

Watermarked Zigzag Lines

1924



Unwatermarked

1925



Watermarked Zigzag Lines

1922-30



1926



Unwatermarked

1927



10 S
BLUE
Scott 201

JAPAN

Unwatermarked

1928



Unwatermarked



1930



COIL STAMPS

Watermarked Zigzag Lines

1933

Type of 1913
Perf. 13
Horizontally
1½ S
LIGHT BLUE
Scott 212



JAPAN

Unwatermarked

1934



1935



Watermarked Zigzag Lines

1936



1936



1936



JAPAN

Watermarked Zigzag Lines

1936



Watermarked Curved Wavy Lines

1937-38



JAPAN

Watermarked Curved Wavy Lines

1937



1937-40



1938-39



1937-45



261a

JAPAN

Nikko National Park

1938

日本帝國郵票切手
日 本 國 立 公 園



〒



PARC NATIONAL DE NIKKO

2598

內 附 印 刷 局 製 送

JAPAN
Unwatermarked
1938



1939



1939



JAPAN

Daisen and Inland Sea National Parks

1939

大日本帝國郵便切手

大山國立公園
瀨戶內海國立公園



〒



PARC NATIONAL DE DAISEN
PARC NATIONAL DE SETONAIKAI

2599 (1939)

Scott 288a

四 第 印 局 郵 政

JAPAN

Aso National Park

1939

大日本帝國郵便切手

阿蘇國立公園



〒



PARC NATIONAL D'ASO

2599 (1939)

Scott 293a

阿蘇國立公園切手

JAPAN

Unwatermarked

1939



1940



1940



1940



JAPAN

Daisetsuzan National Park

1940

大日本帝國郵便切手

大雪山國立公園



PARC NATIONAL
DE
DAISETSUZAN

2 6 0 0
(1 9 4 0)

Scott 306a

大日本帝國郵便切手

JAPAN

Kirishima National Park

1940

手切便郵國帝本日大

園公立國島霧



PARC NATIONAL
DE
KIRISHIMA

2600 (1940)

Scott 311a

通郵局製印關内

JAPAN

Unwatermarked

1940



1941



1941



JAPAN

Daiton and Niitaka-Arisan National Parks

1941

手切郵便國帝本日大

園公立國屯大
園公立國山里阿高新



PARC NATIONAL DE DAITON
PARC NATIONAL DE NIITAKA-ARISAN

2601
(1941)

陸軍省印刷局

JAPAN

Tsugitaka-Taroko National Park

1941



JAPAN

Watermarked Curved Wavy Lines

1942-45



Unwatermarked

1942



1942



1944



JAPAN

Unwatermarked

1944



Watermarked Curved Wavy Lines

1945-47



1946-47



JAPAN

To commemorate the 75th anniversary of Postal Service in Japan

1946



JAPAN

Unwatermarked

1946



Watermarked Curved Wavy Lines

1947



1947



JAPAN

To commemorate the Sapporo Philatelic Exhibition

1947



To commemorate the Kyoto Philatelic Exhibition

1947



JAPAN

To commemorate the inauguration of the Constitution

1947

日本國憲法施行記念

*In Commemoration of the Inauguration
of the Constitution of Japan
May 3, 1947
Ministry of Communication*



The Constitution of Japan (extract)

Government is a sacred trust of the people, the authority for which is derived from the people, the powers of which are exercised by the representatives of the people, and the benefits of which are enjoyed by the people.

We, the Japanese people, desire peace for all time and are deeply conscious of the high ideals controlling human relationship and we have determined to preserve our security and existence, trusting in the justice and faith of the peace-loving peoples of the world.

(Constitution Popularization Society)

日本國憲法一抜萃
そもそも國政は、國民の嚴肅な信託によるものであつて、その權威は國民に由來し、その權力は國民の代表者がこれを行使し、その福利は國民がこれを享受する。
日本國民は、恒久の平和を企圖し、人間相互の關係を支配する崇高な理想を深く自覺するのちあつて、平和を愛する諸國民の公正と信義に信頼して、われらの安全と生存を保持しようと決意した。

憲法普及會

昭和二十二年五月三日 遞信省 賣價叁圓

印刷局製

JAPAN

To commemorate the Philatelic Exhibition in Tokyo

1947



JAPAN

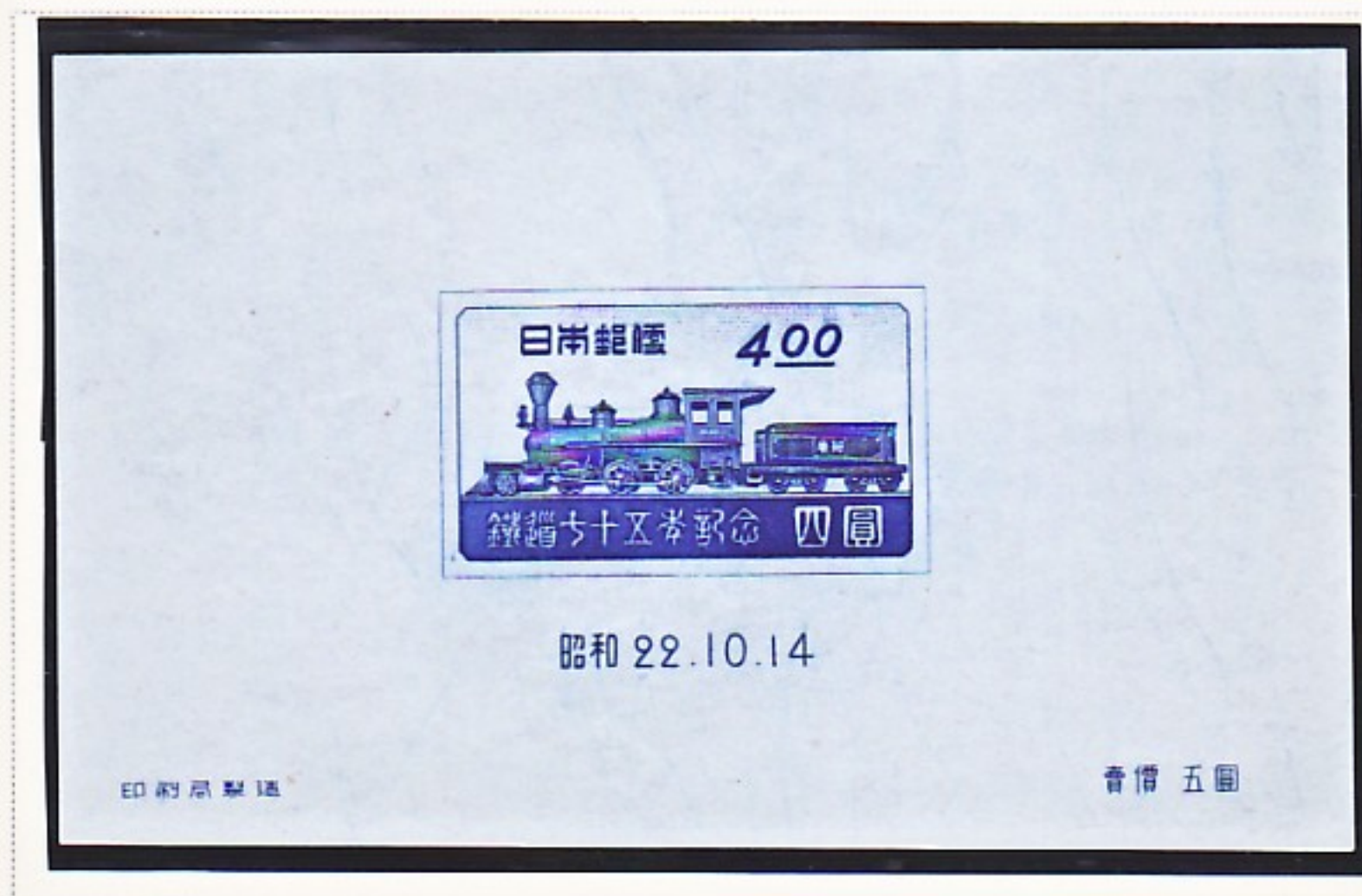
Issued in connection with Stamp Hobby Week, November 1 to 7

1947



To commemorate the 75th anniversary of Railway Service in Japan

1947



JAPAN

Watermarked Curved Wavy Lines

1947-48



1947



Unwatermarked

1947-48



1947



JAPAN

To honor Philatelic Exhibition at Osaka

1948



To honor Philatelic Exhibition at Nagoya

1948



JAPAN

Watermarked Curved Wavy Lines

1948



Unwatermarked

1948



Watermarked Curved Wavy Lines

1948



Unwatermarked

1948



JAPAN

To commemorate the Mishima Philatelic Exhibition

1948



To commemorate the centenary of the death of Hokusai

1948



JAPAN

To commemorate the Communications Exhibition at Tokyo

1948



To honor a Stamp Exhibition at Fukushima

1948



JAPAN

Unwatermarked

1948



Watermarked Curved Wavy Lines

1948-1949



1949



JAPAN

To commemorate the 60th year of publication of the newspaper
Towo Nippo, Aomori City

1948



To honor the Kumamoto Stamp Exhibition

1948

Souvenir Sheet with Stamps of 1948
and Marginal Inscriptions

Sheet of four

BLUE AND LIGHT BROWN
Scott 415

JAPAN

To publicize Philatelic Week

1948

切手趣味の週間記念



昭和二十三年
Scott 422a

印刷局印刷

JAPAN

To honor stamp exhibitions at Kanazawa
and Takaoka

1948



JAPAN

To honor the Nagano Stamp Exhibition

1948

Souvenir Sheet with Stamp of 1948
and Marginal Inscriptions

Sheet of one

BLUE AND BROWN ORANGE
Scott 437

To honor the Shikoku Traveling Stamp Exhibition

1948



JAPAN

Unwatermarked

1949



1949



Watermarked Curved Wavy Lines

1949



JAPAN

Yoshino-Kumano National Park

1949

國立公園郵便切手

吉野熊野



YOSHINO - KUMANO
NATIONAL PARK

1949

印刷局製

JAPAN

Issued to publicize Children's Day

1949

Souvenir Sheet with Stamps of 1949
and Marginal Inscriptions

Sheet of ten

ROSE BROWN AND ORANGE
Scott 456

Issued to publicize Electrical Communication Week

1949



Scott 457

JAPAN

Fuji-Hakone National Park

1949

国立公園郵便切手

富士箱根



FUJI-HAKONE
NATIONAL PARK

1949

印刷所 東京

JAPAN

Unwatermarked

1949



1949



1949



JAPAN

Unwatermarked

1949-52



JAPAN

To commemorate the 75th anniversary of the founding of the U. P. U.

1949



JAPAN

To publicize Postal Week

1949

郵便週間記念



JAPAN

National Lottery prize

1950



JAPAN

Akan National Park

1950

国立公園郵便切手

阿 寒



AKAN
NATIONAL PARK

1950

JAPAN

Unwatermarked

1950-51



Pole Vault

8 Y

ROSE BROWN

Scott 506

Soccer

8 Y

ROSE BROWN

Scott 507

Steeplechase

8 Y

ROSE BROWN

Scott 508

JAPAN

1950-51



国寺 石山寺多宝塔

山崎洋行製



国全 姫路城

山崎洋行製



国全平等院鳳凰堂

Scott 519a

山崎洋行製



国全 中宮寺如意輪観音

Scott 521c

山崎洋行製

JAPAN

To commemorate the 80th anniversary of Postal Service in Japan

1951



JAPAN

Unwatermarked

1951



JAPAN

Towada National Park

1951

国立公園郵便切手

十和田



TOWADA
NATIONAL PARK

1951

印刷局製

JAPAN

1951



JAPAN

National Lottery prizes

1951



1952



JAPAN

Unwatermarked

1951-52



1951-53



JAPAN

Chubu Sangaku (Japan Alps) National Park

1952

国立公園郵便切手

中部山岳



CHUBU SANGAKU
NATIONAL PARK

1952

Scott 564a
大蔵省印刷局製

JAPAN

Bandai-Asahi National Park

1952

国立公園郵便切手

日 本 山 景



BANDAI-ASAHI
NATIONAL PARK

1952

大蔵省印刷局製造

Scott 572a

JAPAN

To commemorate the nomination of Crown Prince Akihito as Heir Apparent

1952



JAPAN

Unwatermarked

1952



1952



1952



1952-54



JAPAN

Unwatermarked

1952



1953



1953



1953-54



1953



JAPAN

National Lottery prizes

1953



1953



Scott 594

JAPAN

Shikotsu-Toya National Park

1953

国立公園郵便切手

支笏洞爺



SHIKOTSU-TOYA-NATIONAL PARK

1953

大蔵省印刷局製造

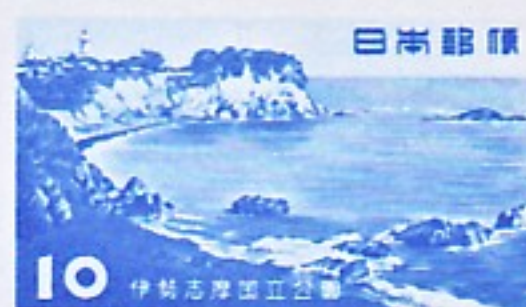
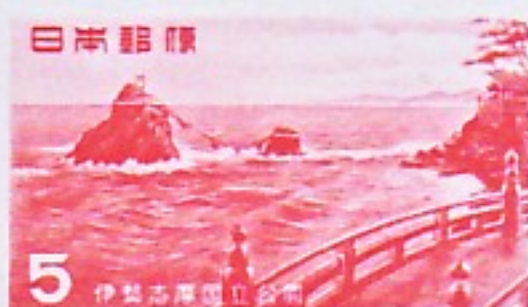
JAPAN

Ise-Shima National Park

1953

国立公園郵便切手

伊勢志摩



ISE-SHIMA NATIONAL PARK

1953

大蔵省印刷局製造

JAPAN

Unzen National Park

1953

国立公園郵便切手

五 十



UNZEN NATIONAL PARK

1953

大蔵省印刷局製

JAPAN

To publicize Philatelic Week

1954



JAPAN

Jo-shin-etsu Plateau National Park

1954

国立公園郵便切手

已信 越 高原



JO-SHIN-ETSU KOGEN NATIONAL PARK

1954

大蔵省印刷局製

JAPAN

Unwatermarked
1954



1954-55



JAPAN
National Lottery Prizes
1954-55



大蔵省印刷局製



大蔵省印刷局製

JAPAN

Chichibu-Tama National Park

1955

国立公園郵便切手

秩父多摩



CHICHIBU-TAMA NATIONAL PARK

1955

式部省印刷局製

JAPAN

Rikuchu Coast National Park

1955

国立公園郵便切手

陸 中 瀨 岸



RIKUCHU KAIGAN NATIONAL PARK

1955

大蔵省印刷局製造

JAPAN

Unwatermarked

1955



1955-56



JAPAN

Unwatermarked
1956

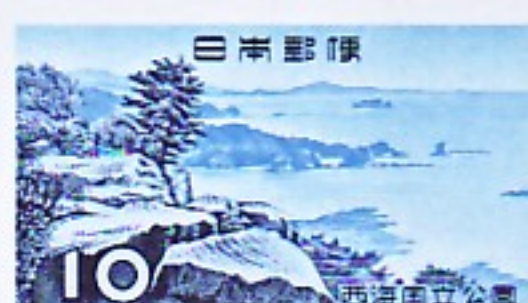
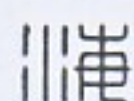
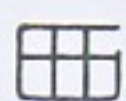


JAPAN

Saikai National Park

1956

国立公園郵便切手



SAIKAI NATIONAL PARK

1956

大蔵省印刷局製造

JAPAN

National Lottery prizes

1956



1957



JAPAN

Unwatermarked

1956-57



1957-58



JAPAN

Unwatermarked

1958



1958-59



JAPAN

National Lottery prizes

1958



大蔵省印刷局製造

1959



大蔵省印刷局製造

JAPAN

Unwatermarked

1959



JAPAN

To commemorate the Wedding of Crown Prince Akihito and Princess Michiko

1959

皇太子殿下 御成婚記念



昭和三十三年

大蔵省印刷局製造

JAPAN

Unwatermarked

1959



1959-60



1960



JAPAN

1960

To commemorate the visit of Prince Akihito
and Princess Michiko to the United States

日米修好通商百年記念



1860
1960



大蔵省印刷局製造

JAPAN

Unwatermarked

1960



JAPAN

National Lottery prizes

1960



1961



JAPAN

Unwatermarked

1961



1961



JAPAN

Unwatermarked

1961



1961



JAPAN

Unwatermarked
1962-63



1962



1962



1962-63



JAPAN

Unwatermarked
1962



1962



1962-63



JAPAN

National Lottery prizes

1962

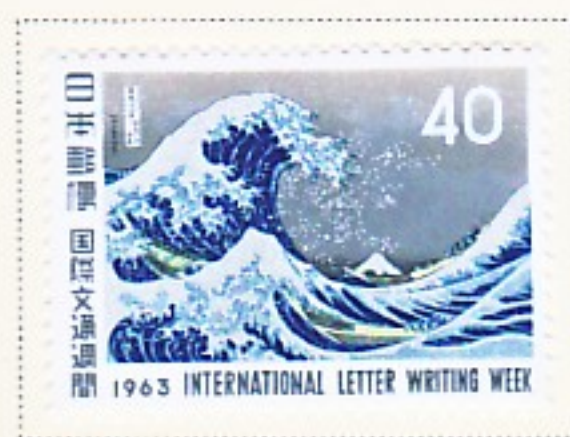


1963



JAPAN

Unwatermarked
1963



JAPAN

Unwatermarked

1963



1963



1963-64



JAPAN

Unwatermarked

1964



1964



JAPAN

1964

To commemorate the 18th Olympic Games, Tokyo,
October 10 - 25, 1964



第18回オリンピック
競技大会記念



大蔵省印刷局製

JAPAN

Unwatermarked

1964



1964



1964-65



JAPAN

National Lottery prizes

1964



1965



JAPAN

Unwatermarked

1965



1965



1965



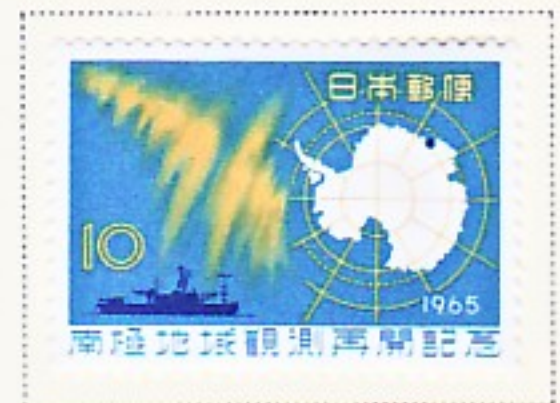
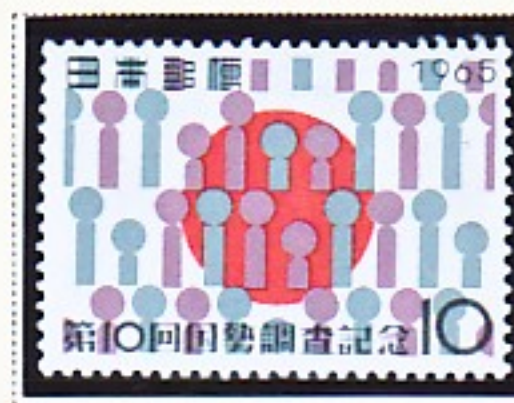
JAPAN

Unwatermarked

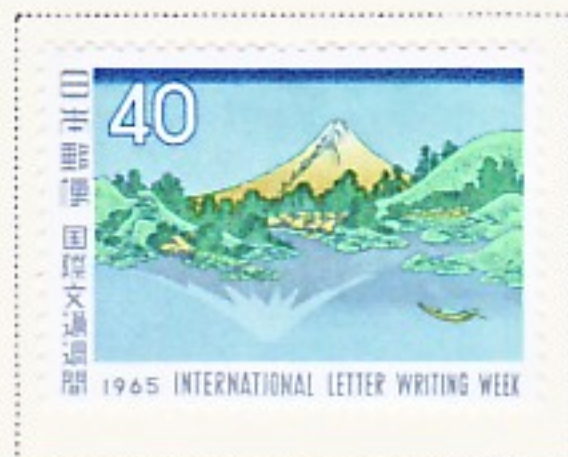
1965



1965



1965



1966



JAPAN

National Lottery Prize

1966



大蔵省印刷局製造

JAPAN

Unwatermarked
1966-67



1966-67



JAPAN

Unwatermarked

1966



1966



1966-67



1967



JAPAN

Unwatermarked

1966-69



JAPAN

Unwatermarked

1967



1967



1967



JAPAN

National Lottery prizes

1967



1968



JAPAN

Unwatermarked
1967-69



1967



1967



1968



1968



JAPAN

Unwatermarked

1968



1968



1968



JAPAN

Unwatermarked
1968



1968



1968



1968



1969



JAPAN

1968-70



1968



1968



JAPAN

Unwatermarked

1969



1969



1969



1969



JAPAN

Unwatermarked
1969



1969



1969



1969



JAPAN

1969

National Lottery Prizes



JAPAN

Unwatermarked
1969



1969



1970



JAPAN

Unwatermarked
1970



1970



1970





JAPAN

1970

To publicize EXPO '70 International Exhibition,
Senri, Osaka, March 15-September 13



日本万国博覧会記念



郵 政 省

大蔵省印刷局製造



日本万国博覧会記念



郵 政 省

大蔵省印刷局製造

JAPAN

Unwatermarked

1970



1970



1970



JAPAN

Unwatermarked

1970



1970



1970



1971

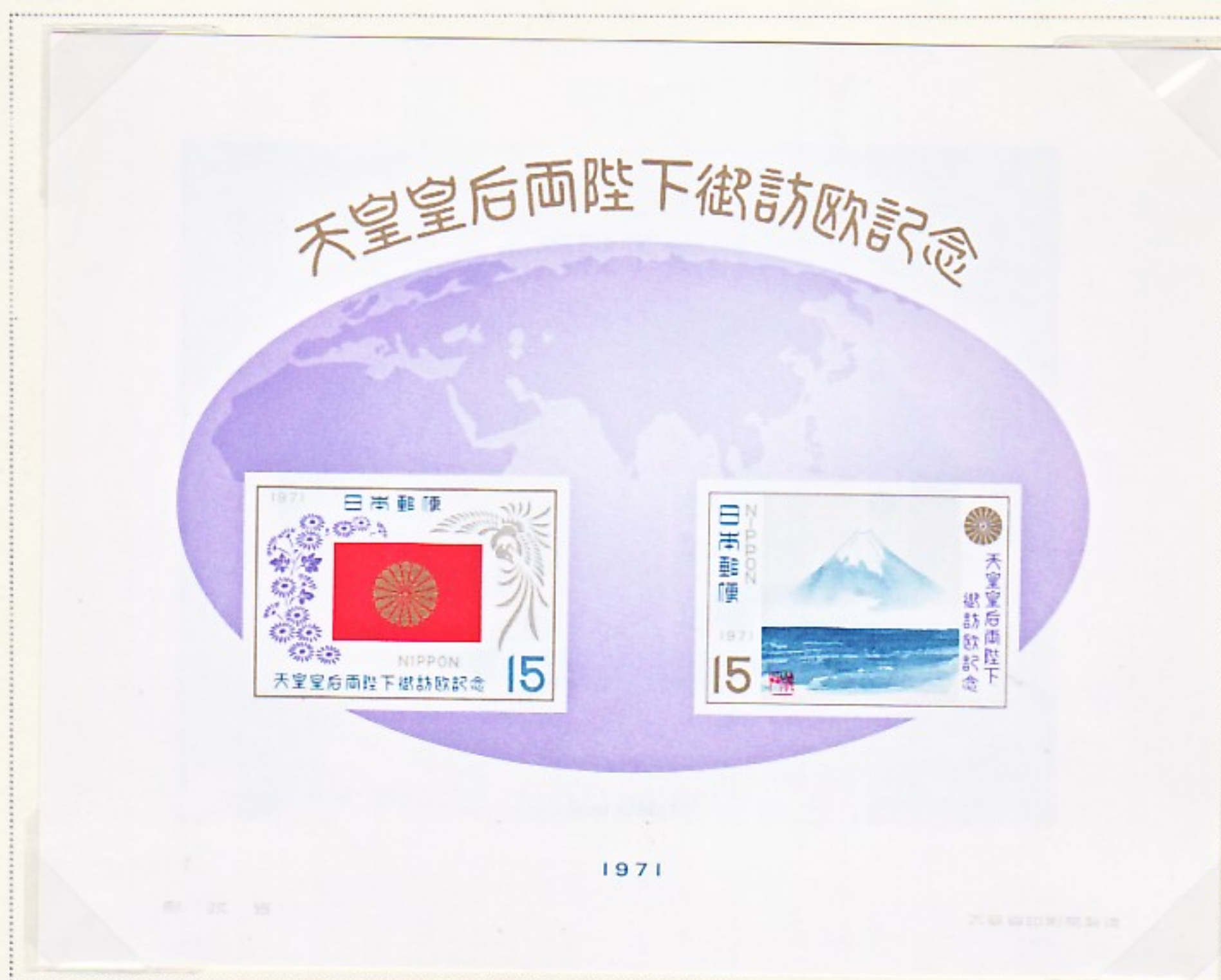


JAPAN

1970
National Lottery Prizes



1971
To commemorate Emperor Hirohito's and Empress Nagako's visit to Europe



JAPAN

Unwatermarked

1971



1971



1971



JAPAN

Unwatermarked
1971



1971-72



1972



1972



JAPAN

Unwatermarked

1971 - 75



1971



JAPAN

1972
National Lottery Prize



1972
To commemorate 11th Winter Olympic Games, Sapporo,
February 3-13



JAPAN

Unwatermarked

1972



1972



JAPAN

Unwatermarked
1972

Lottery Sheet



JAPAN

Unwatermarked

1972



1972-73



JAPAN

Unwatermarked

1972-73



1973



JAPAN

Unwatermarked

1973



JAPAN

Unwatermarked

1973

Lottery Sheets



1974



JAPAN

Unwatermarked

1974

Miniature Sheet



吉祥天立像

大蔵省印刷局製造

JAPAN

Unwatermarked

1974



JAPAN

Unwatermarked

1974

50th anniversary of the Wedding of Emperor Hirohito
and Empress Nagako



JAPAN

Unwatermarked

1974



JAPAN

Unwatermarked

1974



JAPAN

Unwatermarked

1975



JAPAN

Unwatermarked

1975



JAPAN

Unwatermarked

1975

Oceanexpo '75, First International Ocean Exposition, Okinawa



沖縄国際海洋博覧会記念



郵政省

大蔵省印刷局製造

JAPAN

Unwatermarked
1975

Visit of Emperor Hirohito and Empress Nagako to the United States

天皇皇后両陛下御訪米記念



昭和50年

郵政省

大蔵省印刷局製造

Lottery Sheet

お年玉

昭和51年



大蔵省印刷局製造

JAPAN

Unwatermarked

1975



1976



JAPAN

Unwatermarked

1975-76



JAPAN
Unwatermarked
1975



1976



JAPAN
Unwatermarked
1976



JAPAN

Unwatermarked

1976

50th Anniversary of Emperor Hirohito's Accession to the Throne

天皇陛下御在位五十年記念



昭和 51 年

郵政省

大森印刷製版所

JAPAN

Unwatermarked

1976



1976-77



JAPAN

Unwatermarked

1976-77

Lottery Sheet



Lottery Sheet



JAPAN

1976-79

Unwatermarked



JAPAN
Unwatermarked
1977



JAPAN

Unwatermarked

1977



JAPAN

Unwatermarked

1977



Scott 1318

JAPAN

Unwatermarked

1977-78



JAPAN

1977

1977

郵政省



万国郵便連合加盟100年記念

大蔵省印刷局製造

1979



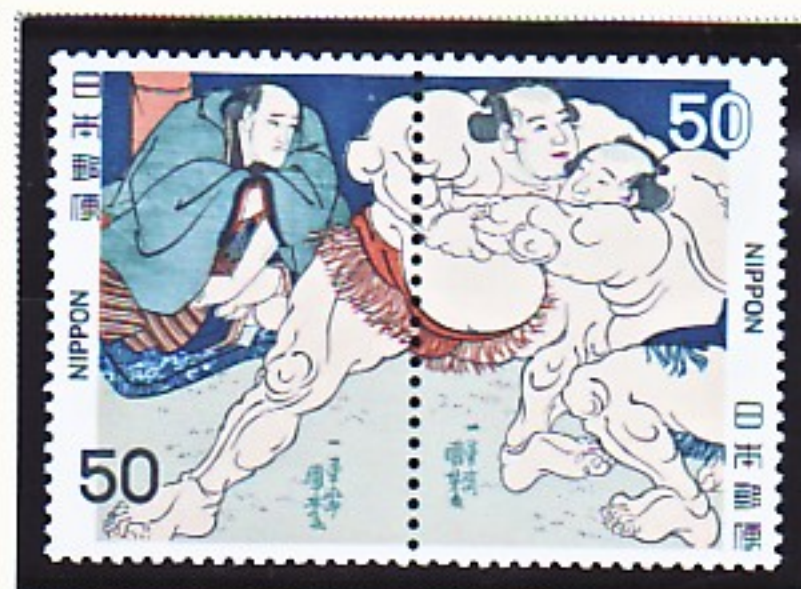
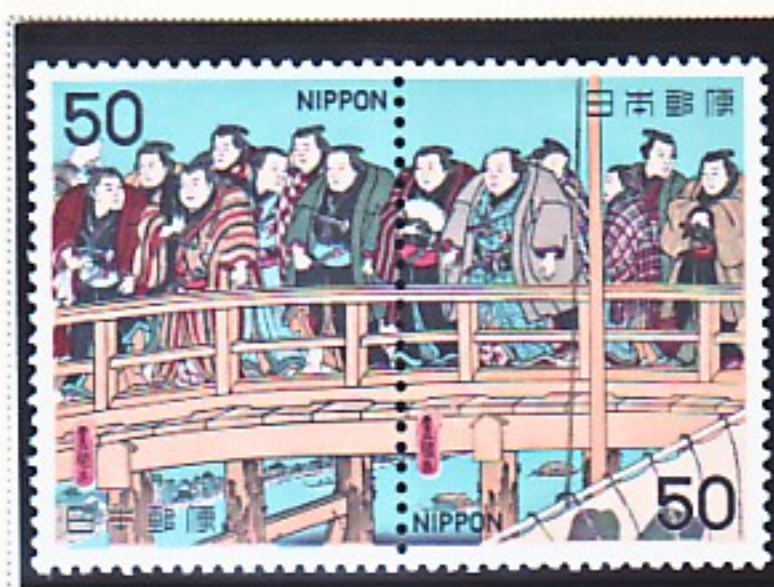
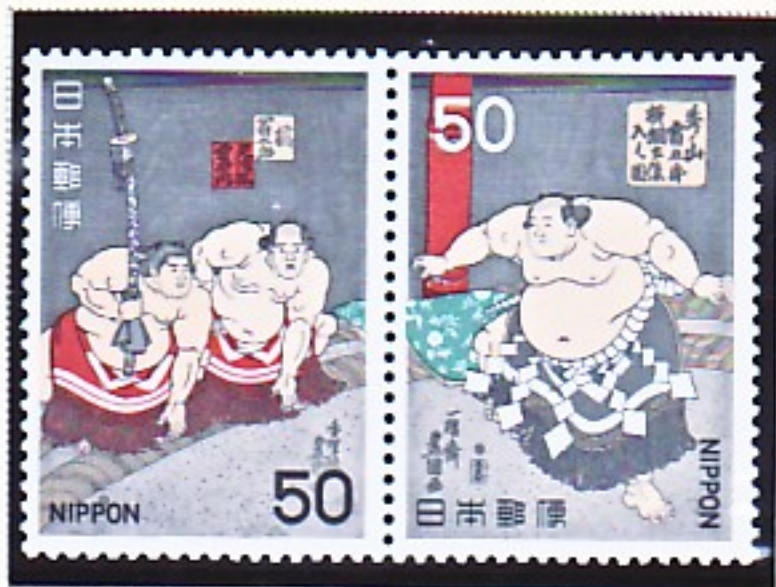
JAPAN

1978



JAPAN

1978-79



JAPAN

1978-79



JAPAN

Lottery Sheets

1978-79

昭和54年
お年玉



大日本印刷局製造

お年玉

昭和55年



大日本印刷局製造

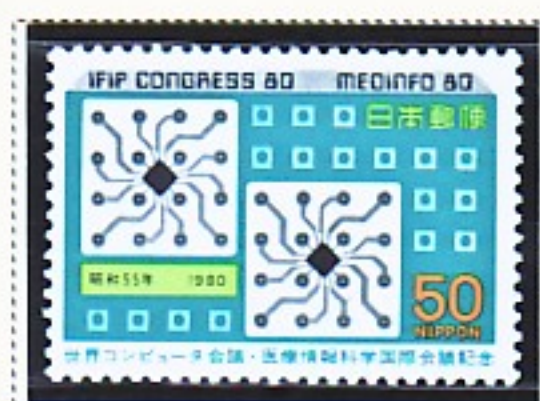
JAPAN

1979



JAPAN

1979-80



JAPAN

1979-81

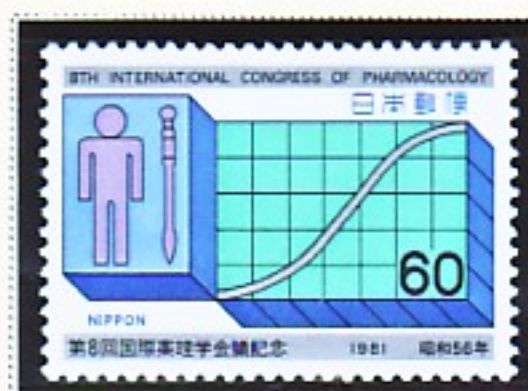
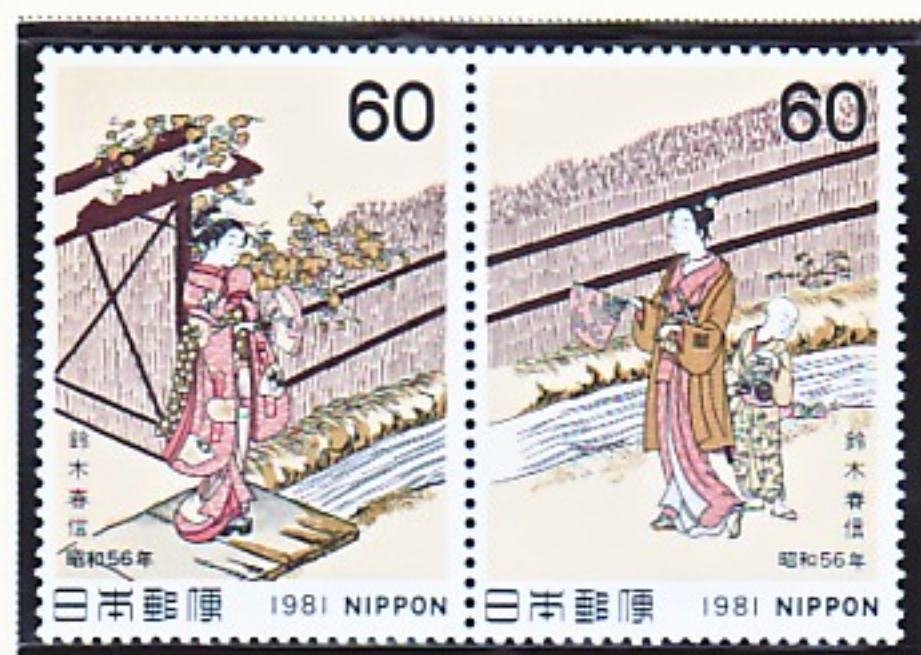


岡野貞一
作曲
高野辰之
作詞



JAPAN

1979-81



JAPAN

1980



JAPAN
LOTTERY SHEETS
1980-81

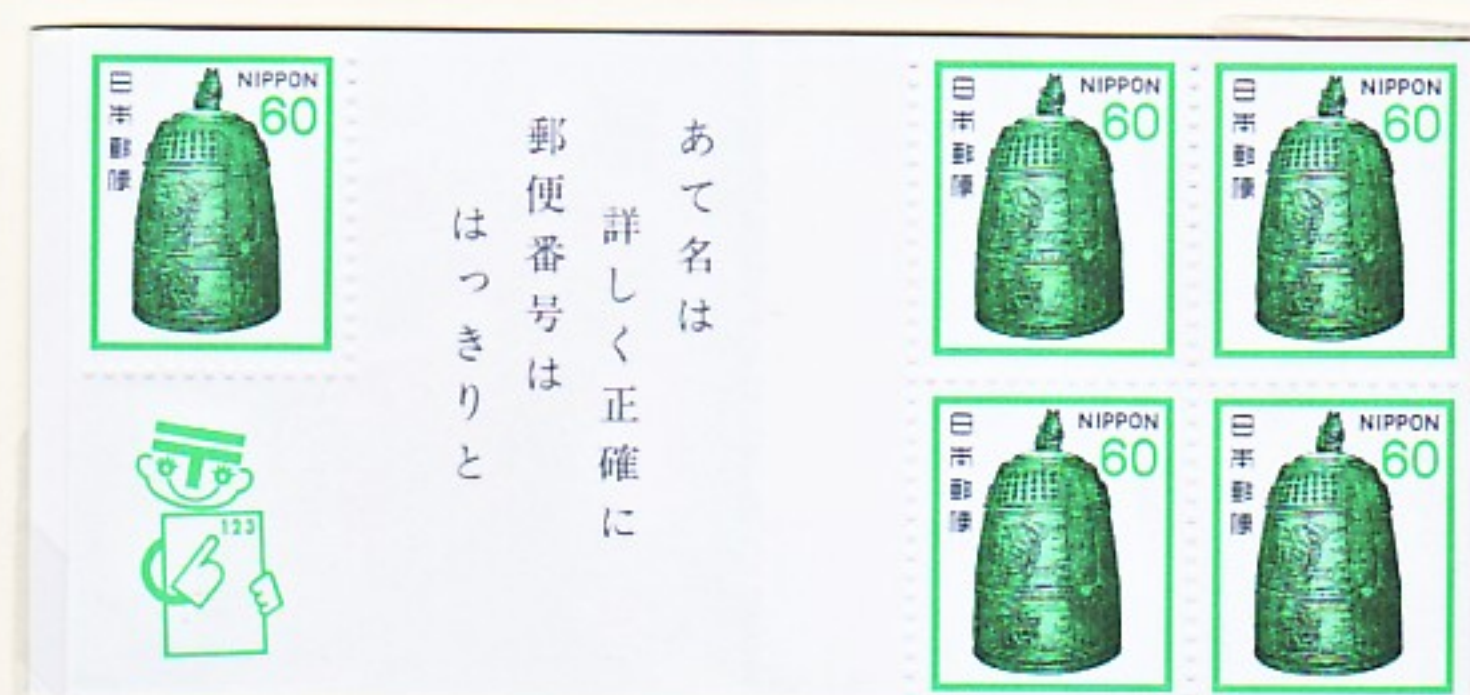


JAPAN

1980-82



COIL STAMPS



1424a

JAPAN

1981



JAPAN

1981-82



JAPAN

1981-84



JAPAN

1982



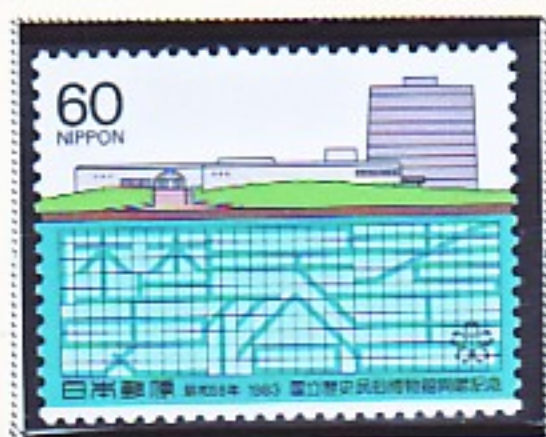
JAPAN

1982



JAPAN

1982-83



JAPAN
LOTTERY SHEETS
1982-83



JAPAN

1983



JAPAN
1983-84



JAPAN
1984

特殊鳥類



BIRDS IN DANGER OF EXTINCTION



郵政省

大蔵省印刷局製造

JAPAN

1984



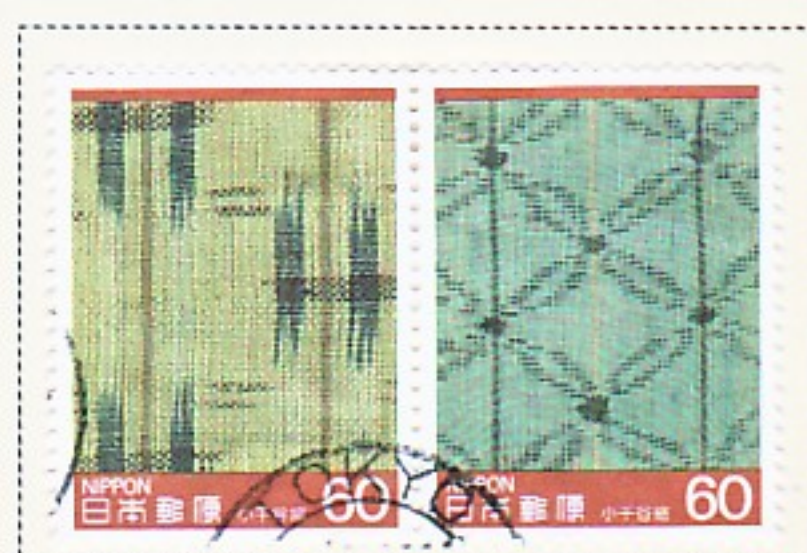
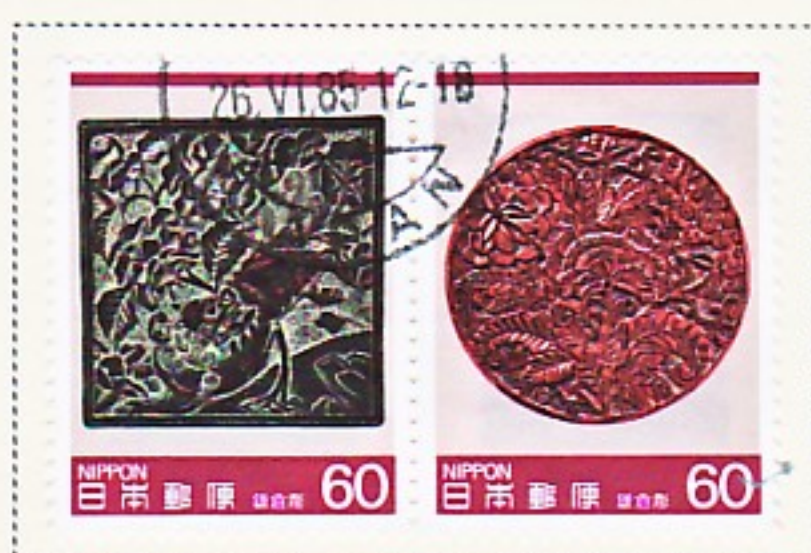
JAPAN

1984



JAPAN

1984-85



JAPAN
1984-85
LOTTERY SHEETS



JAPAN

1984-86



JAPAN

1984-89

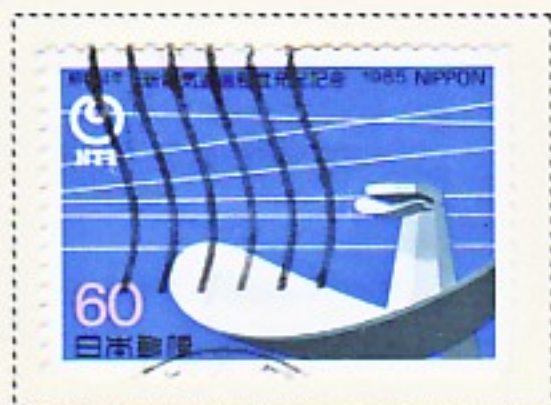
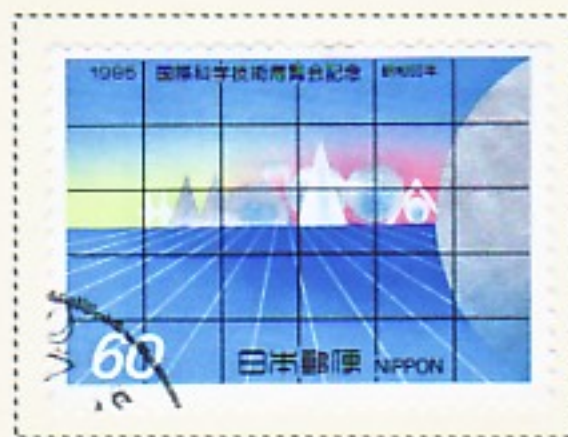


COIL STAMPS



JAPAN

1985



JAPAN

1985



JAPAN

1985-86



JAPAN

1986



JAPAN

1986



J A P A N
1 9 8 6



Scott 1672a

JAPAN

1986-87



JAPAN
1986-87
SUMMER LOTTERY SHEETS



Scott 1677, 1678



JAPAN
1986-87
LOTTERY SHEETS



Scott 1765

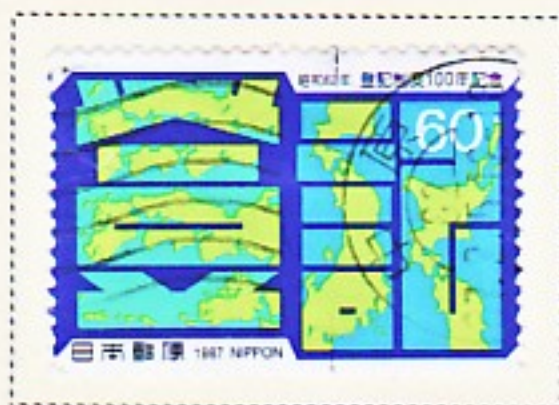
JAPAN
1987



Scott 1699A

JAPAN

1987



JAPAN

1987



JAPAN

1987-88



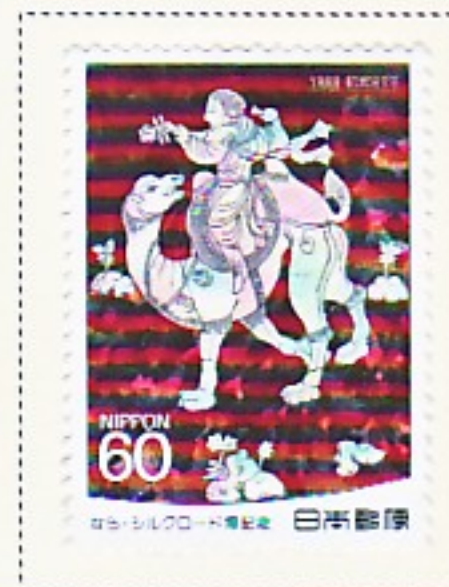
JAPAN

1987-88



JAPAN

1988



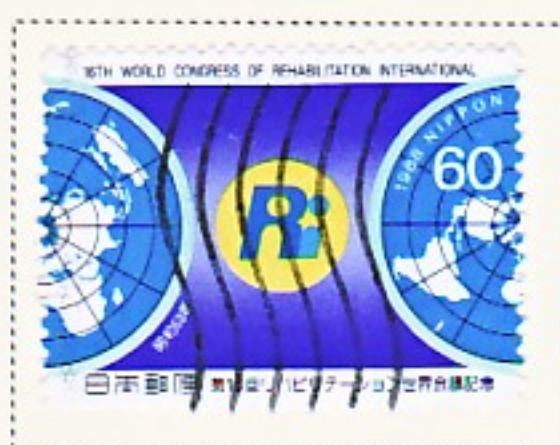
JAPAN
1988
LOTTERY SHEET



Scott 1772

JAPAN

1988



JAPAN
1988



Scott 1812

JAPAN

1988-89



Scott 1775



Scott 1776



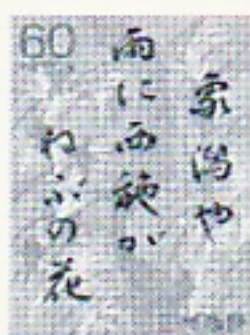
Scott 1777



Scott 1778



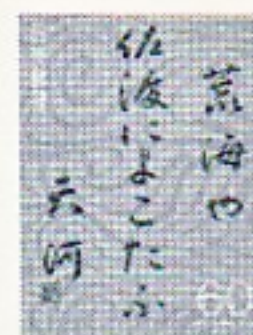
Scott 1779



Scott 1780



Scott 1781



Scott 1782



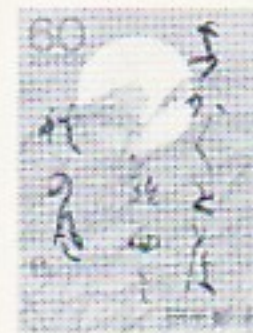
Scott 1783



Scott 1784



Scott 1785



Scott 1786



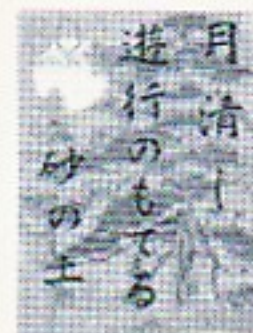
Scott 1787



Scott 1788



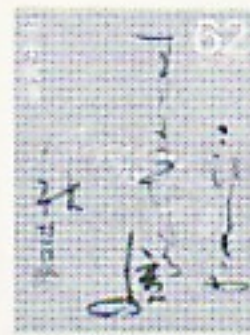
Scott 1789



Scott 1790



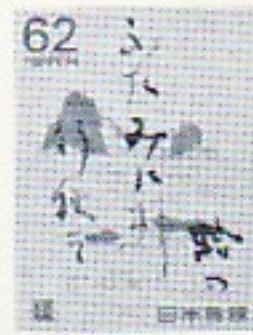
Scott 1791



Scott 1792



Scott 1793



Scott 1794

JAPAN
1988-89
LOTTERY SHEETS



Scott 1798, 1796



大蔵省印刷局製

JAPAN
1989

奥の細道シリーズ
第1集



郵政省 大蔵省印刷局製造

奥の細道シリーズ
第1集

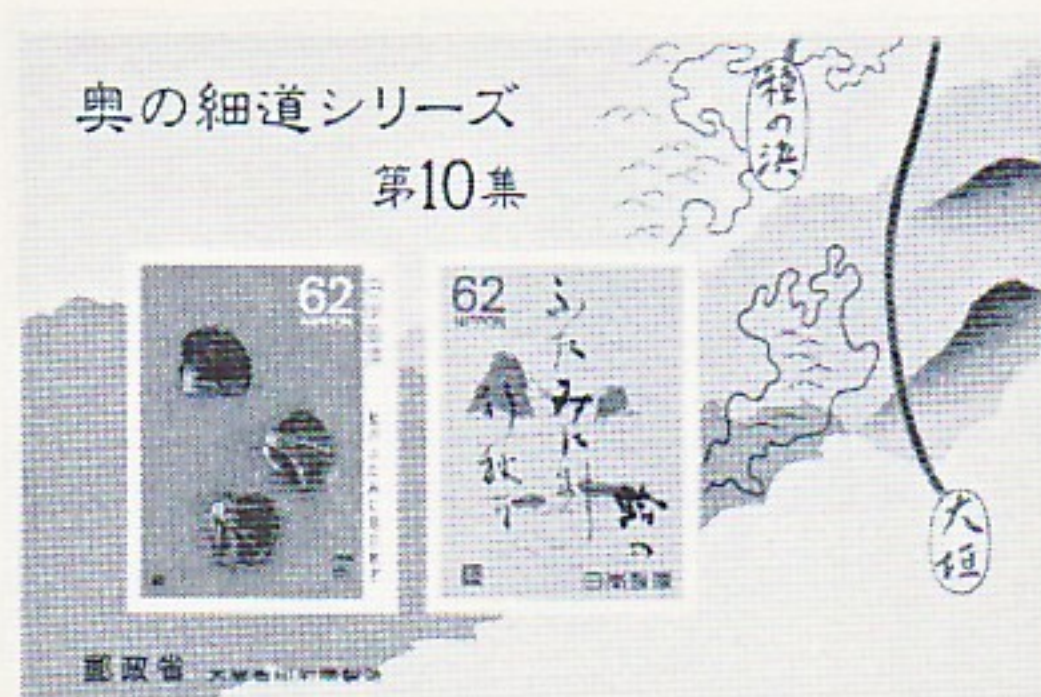


郵政省 大蔵省印刷局製造

J A P A N
1989



Scott 1792a



Scott 1794a

JAPAN

1989



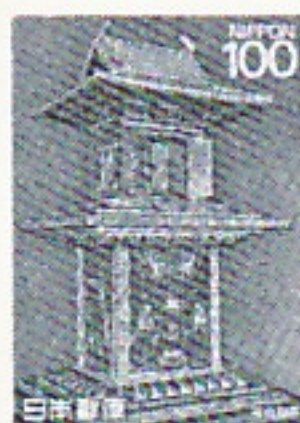
Scott 1814



Scott 1815



Scott 1816



Scott 1817



Scott 1819



Scott 1818

JAPAN

1989



Scott 1824



Scott 1824A



Scott 1824B



Scott 1825



Scott 1830



Scott 1826



Scott 1829



Scott 1832



Scott 1833



Scott 1840



Scott 1831

JAPAN
1989
LOTTERY SHEET



JAPAN

1989



Scott 1834



Scott 1836



Scott 1837



Scott 1838



Scott 1839



Scott 1991

JAPAN
1989
LOTTERY SHEET



Scott 2000

J A P A N

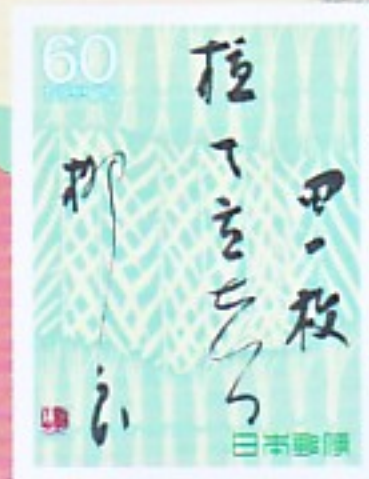
1989

奥の細道シリーズ
第2集



郵政省 大蔵省印刷局製造

奥の細道シリーズ
第2集

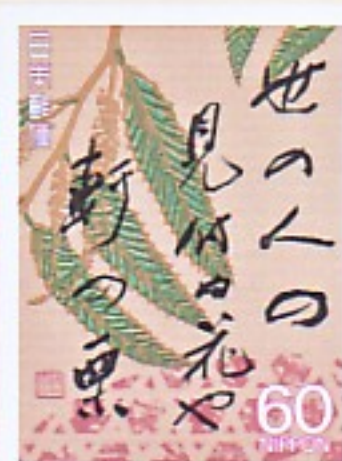


郵政省 大蔵省印刷局製造

JAPAN

1989

奥の細道シリーズ
第3集



郵政省 大蔵省印刷局製造

奥の細道シリーズ
第3集



郵政省 大蔵省印刷局製造

JAPAN
1989

奥の細道シリーズ
第4集



郵政省 大蔵省印刷局製造



奥の細道シリーズ
第4集



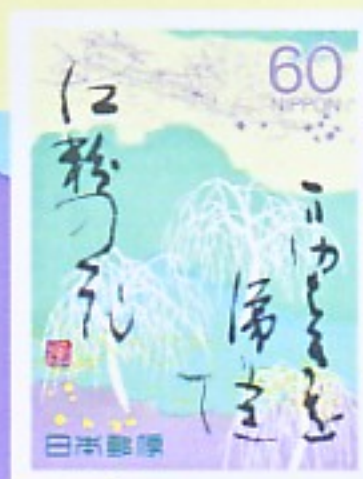
郵政省 大蔵省印刷局製造



JAPAN

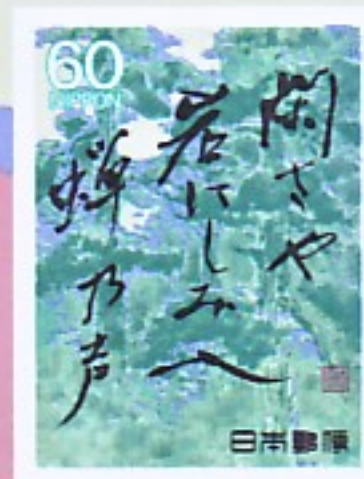
1989

奥の細道シリーズ
第5集



郵政省 大蔵省印刷局製造

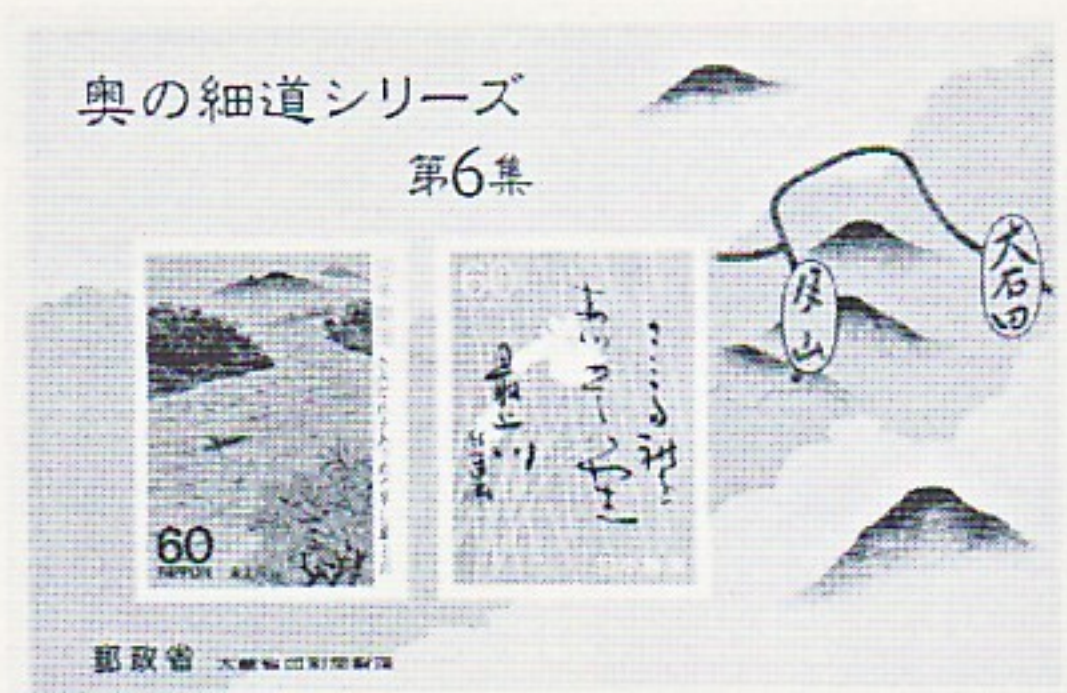
奥の細道シリーズ
第5集



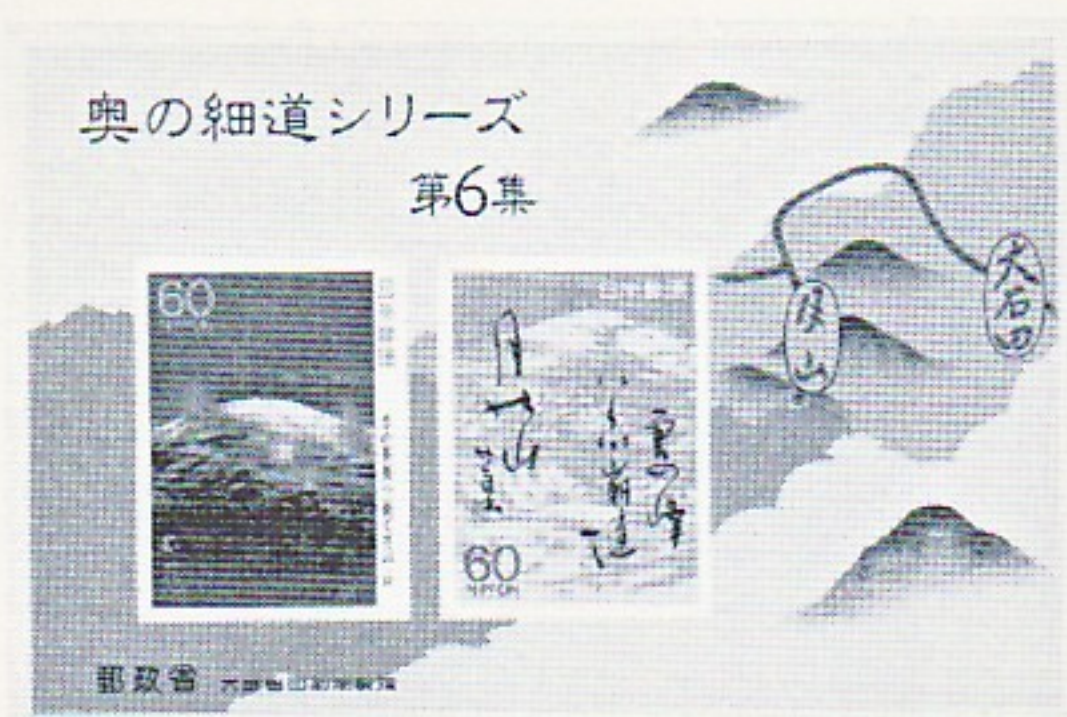
郵政省 大蔵省印刷局製造

JAPAN

1989



Scott 1776a



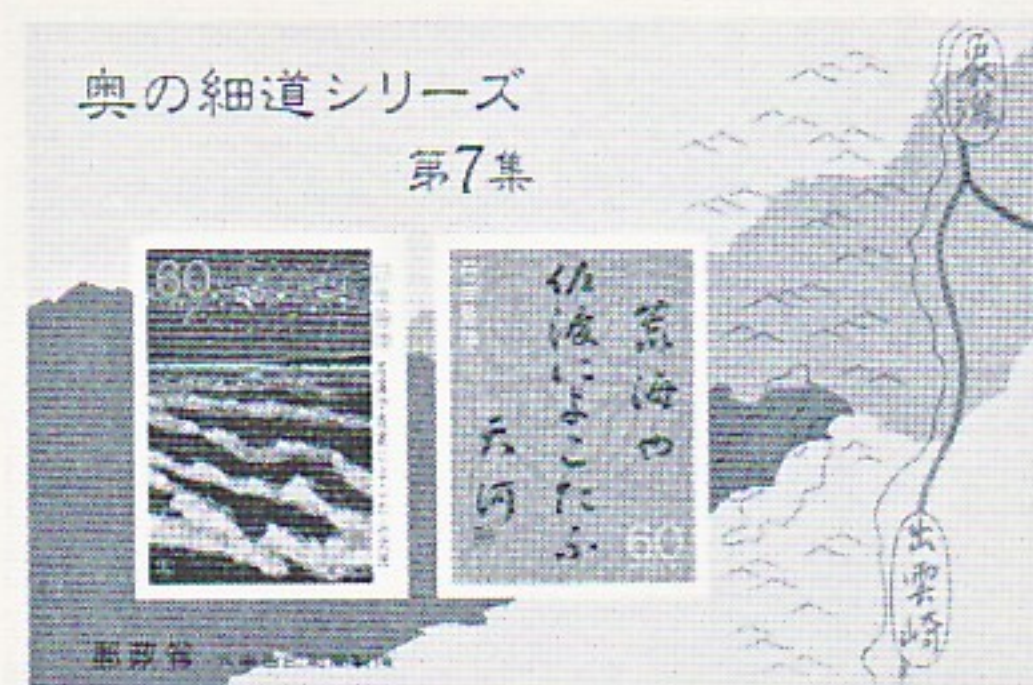
Scott 1778a

JAPAN

1989



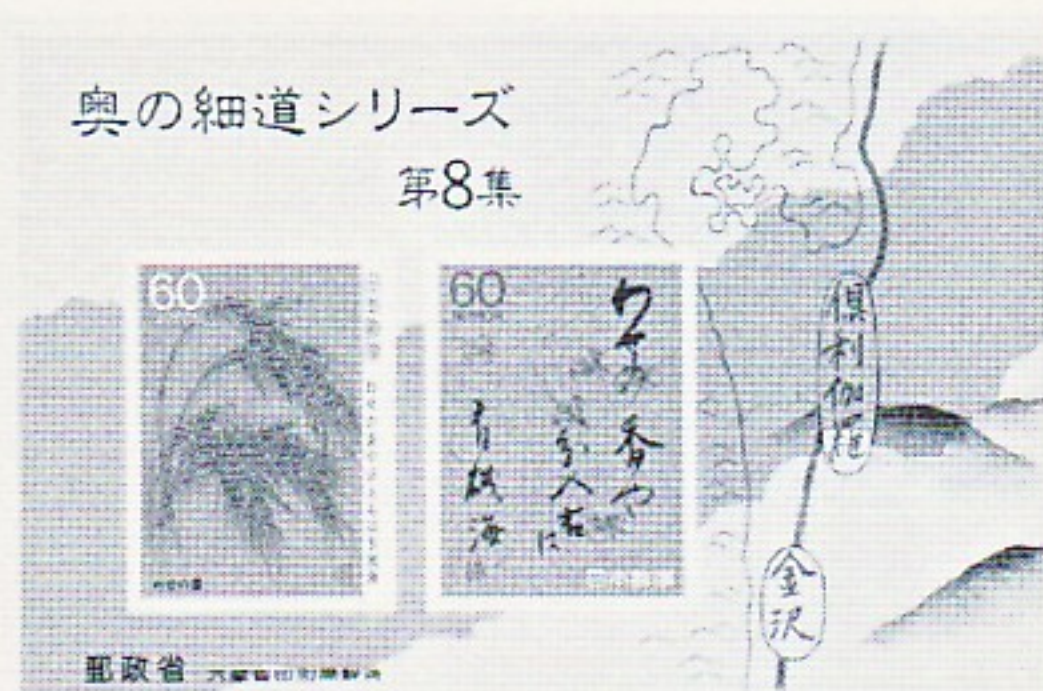
Scott 1780a



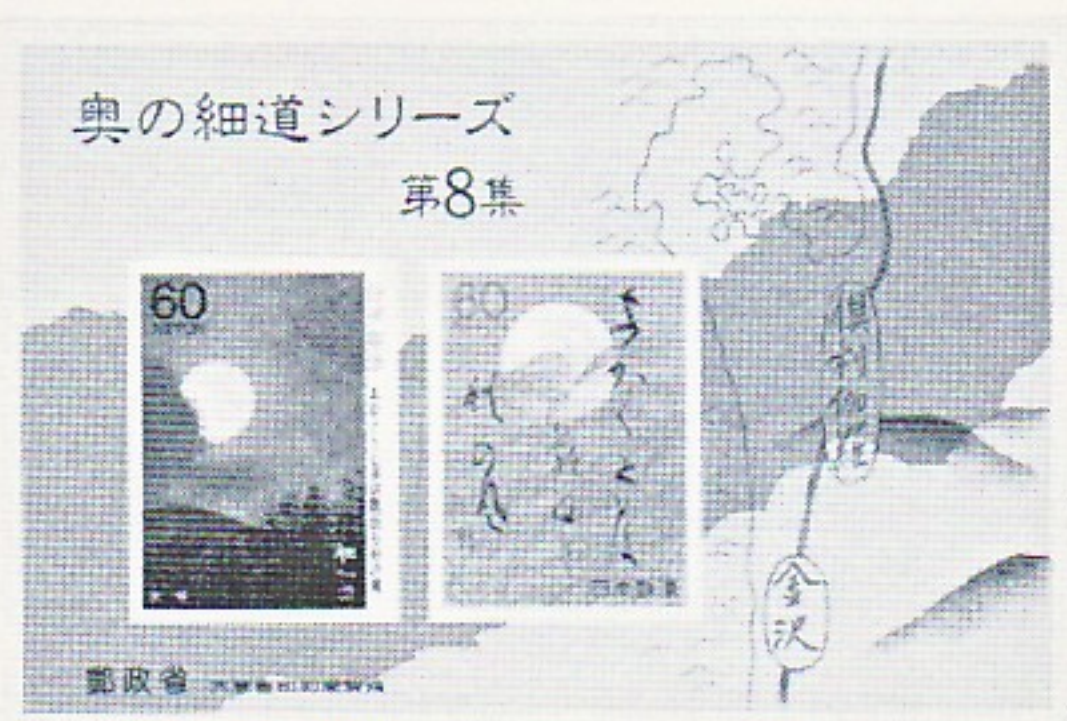
Scott 1782a

JAPAN

1989



Scott 1784a



Scott 1786a

JAPAN

1989



Scott 1788a



Scott 1790a

JAPAN

1989-90



Scott 1996



Scott 2023



Scott 1998



Scott 1997



Scott 2022



Scott 2026



Scott 1999



Scott 2021



Scott 2060

JAPAN
1989-90
LOTTERY SHEETS



JAPAN

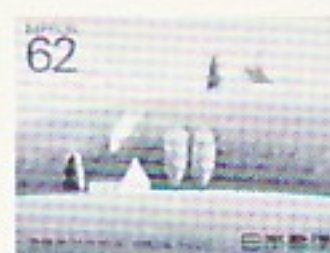
1990



Scott 2024



Scott 2025



Scott 2064



Scott 2062



Scott 2063



Scott 2073



Scott 2065



Scott 2071



Scott 2072

JAPAN

1990



JAPAN

1990



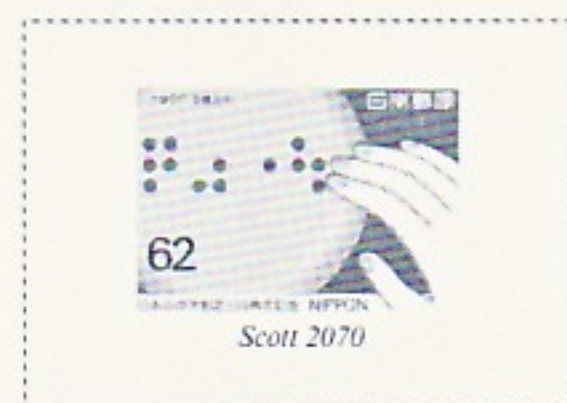
Scott 2022a



Scott 2072a

JAPAN

1990



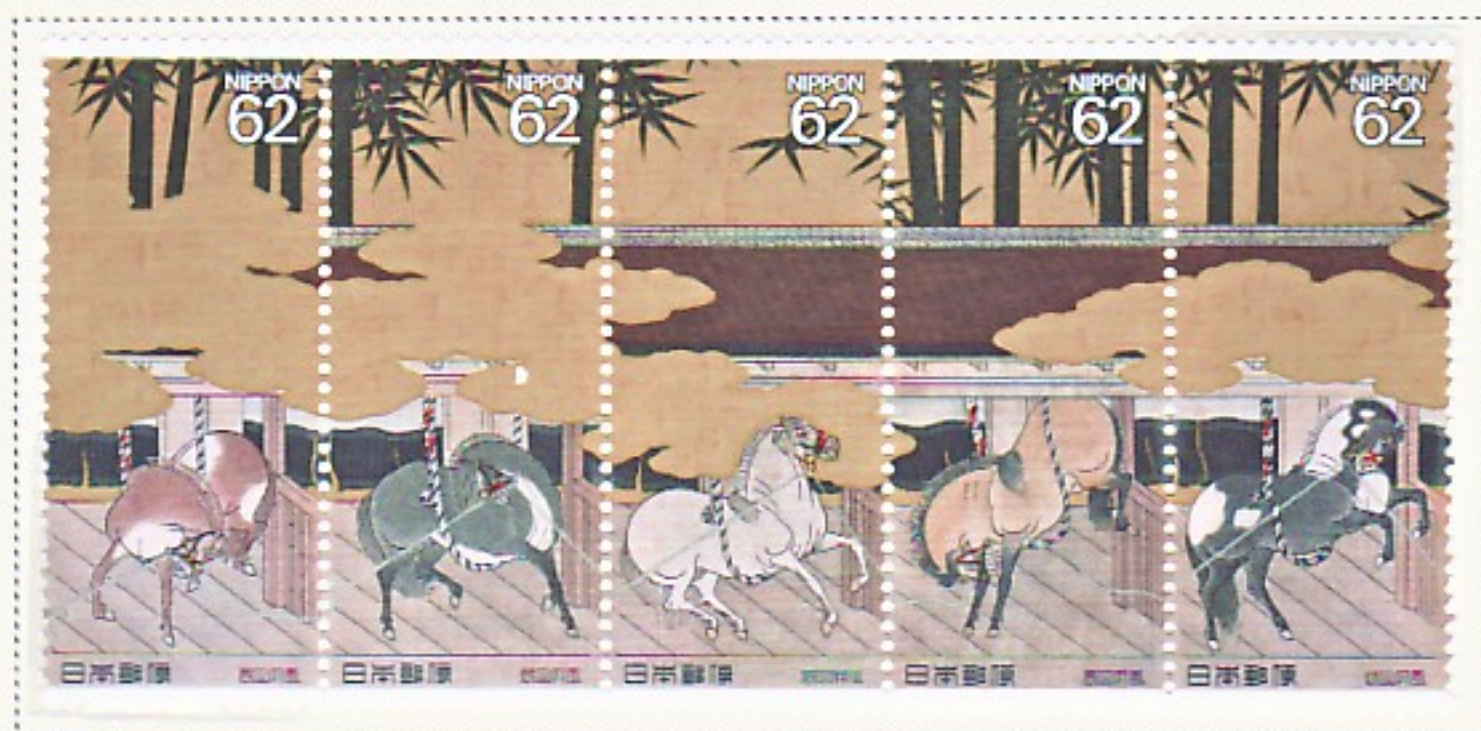
日本国際切手展'91



文遣い図(部分) 翠雲堂春信 筆 Letter bearer(part) by Harunobu
郵政省 大蔵省印刷局製造

JAPAN

1990-91



Scott 2041

Scott 2042

JAPAN

AIR POST STAMPS
Watermarked Zigzag Lines
1919



1929 - 1934



Unwatermarked
1950



JAPAN

AIR POST STAMPS

Communications Exhibition Issue, Tokio

April 20th to 27th, 1934



Scott C8

JAPAN

AIR POST STAMPS

Unwatermarked

1951



1952-62



75 Y
BROWNISH RED
Scott C20



85 Y
BLACK
Scott C22

125 Y
OLIVE BISTRE
Scott C23

160 Y
PRUSSIAN GREEN
Scott C24



75 Y
BROWNISH RED
Scott C32



1953



JAPAN

MILITARY STAMPS

Unwatermarked

1910



1913

Same
on Stamp of 1913
3 S
ROSE
Scott M2

Watermarked Wavy Lines

1914



1921

Same
on Offices in China
1914
3 S
ROSE
Scott M4

1924

Same
on Stamp of 1914
Overprint is
16 mm. high
3 S
ROSE

Scott M5





JAPAN

Offices in China

Unwatermarked

1900

<p>Japanese Stamps of 1899-1900 Overprinted</p> <p>Scott 1 那文 5 R GRAY</p>	<p>1 S LIGHT RED BROWN Scott 3</p>	<p>1½ S ULTRAMARINE Scott 4</p>	
--	--	---	---

<p>3 S VIOLET BROWN Scott 7</p>	<p>4 S ROSE Scott 9</p>	<p>5 S ORANGE YELLOW Scott 10</p>	<p>8 S OLIVE GREEN Scott 12</p>		<p>15 S PURPLE Scott 14</p>
---	---------------------------------	---	---	--	-------------------------------------

<p>20 S RED ORANGE Scott 15</p>	<p>25 S BLUE GREEN Scott 16</p>	<p>50 S RED BROWN Scott 17</p>	<p>1 Y CARMINE Scott 18</p>
---	---	--	-------------------------------------


<p>Same Overprint on Wedding Stamp of 1900</p> <p>3 S CARMINE Scott 19</p>
--

JAPAN

Offices in Korea

Unwatermarked

1900

	<p>1 S LIGHT RED BROWN <i>Scott 2</i></p>	<p>1½ S ULTRAMARINE <i>Scott 3</i></p>	<p>2 S LIGHT GREEN <i>Scott 4</i></p>
---	---	--	---

<p>3 S VIOLET BROWN <i>Scott 5</i></p>	<p>4 S ROSE <i>Scott 6</i></p>	<p>5 S ORANGE YELLOW <i>Scott 7</i></p>	<p>8 S OLIVE GREEN <i>Scott 8</i></p>	<p>10 S DEEP BLUE <i>Scott 9</i></p>	<p>15 S PURPLE <i>Scott 10</i></p>
--	--	---	---	--	--

<p>20 S RED ORANGE <i>Scott 11</i></p>	<p>25 S BLUE GREEN <i>Scott 12</i></p>	<p>50 S RED BROWN <i>Scott 13</i></p>	<p>1 Y CARMINE <i>Scott 14</i></p>
--	--	---	--

Same Overprint on
Wedding Stamp
of 1900

3 S
CARMINE
Scott 15

Formosa

Unwatermarked

1945

<p>Like next cut 3 S CARMINE <i>Scott 1</i></p>		<p>10 S PALE BLUE <i>Scott 3</i></p>
---	--	--

JAPAN

Offices in China

Unwatermarked

1901-08

			6 S MAROON Scott 11	5 Y GREEN Scott 20	10 Y DARK VIOLET Scott 21
---	---	--	---------------------------	--------------------------	------------------------------------

1913





Same Overprinted on Stamps of 1913 Scott 22 $\frac{1}{2}$ S BROWN	1 S ORANGE Scott 23	$1\frac{1}{4}$ S LIGHT BLUE Scott 24	2 S GREEN Scott 25	3 S ROSE Scott 26
--	---------------------------	--	--------------------------	-------------------------

4 S RED Scott 27	5 S VIOLET Scott 28	10 S DEEP BLUE Scott 29	20 S CLARET Scott 30	25 S OLIVE GREEN Scott 31	1 Y YELLOW GREEN AND MAROON Scott 32
------------------------	---------------------------	-------------------------------	----------------------------	---------------------------------	---

Watermarked Zigzag Lines

1914-21

		$1\frac{1}{4}$ S BLUE Scott 35		
---	---	--------------------------------------	---	---

	5 S VIOLET Scott 39		8 S GRAY Scott 41			25 S OLIVE GREEN Scott 44
---	---------------------------	---	-------------------------	---	---	------------------------------------

30 S ORANGE BROWN Scott 45	50 S DARK BROWN Scott 46	1 Y YELLOW GREEN AND MAROON Scott 47	5 Y GREEN Scott 48	10 Y VIOLET Scott 49
-------------------------------------	-----------------------------------	---	--------------------------	----------------------------

JAPAN

SEMI-POSTAL STAMPS
Watermarked Zigzag Lines
1937



Watermarked Curved Wavy Lines
1942



Unwatermarked
1942



Watermarked Curved Wavy Lines
1947



Unwatermarked
1948



JAPAN

SEMI-POSTAL STAMPS

Red Cross and Community Chest Issue

1948



JAPAN

SEMI-POSTAL STAMPS

Unwatermarked

1961



1962



1963



JAPAN

SEMI-POSTAL STAMPS

Unwatermarked

1963



1964



JAPAN

SEMI-POSTAL STAMPS

1964

オリンピック東京大会にちなむ寄附金つき郵便切手 1



大蔵省印刷局製造

オリンピック東京大会にちなむ寄附金つき郵便切手 2



大蔵省印刷局製造

オリンピック東京大会にちなむ寄附金つき郵便切手 3



大蔵省印刷局製造

JAPAN

SEMI-POSTAL STAMPS

1964

オリンピック東京大会にちなむ寄附金つき郵便切手 4



大蔵省印刷局製造

オリンピック東京大会にちなむ寄附金つき郵便切手 5



大蔵省印刷局製造

オリンピック東京大会にちなむ寄附金つき郵便切手 6



大蔵省印刷局製造

JAPAN

SEMI-POSTAL STAMPS

Unwatermarked

1966-69



1969-71



1973



1974



JAPAN
1981-84
SEMI-POSTAL STAMPS



JAPAN
1989-91
SEMI-POSTAL STAMPS



Scott B44



Scott B46



Scott B45



Ryukyu Islands

POSTAL ISSUES

FIRST REGULAR ISSUE

1948



Cycad



Lily



Cycad



Sailing Ship



Lily



Sailing Ship



Farmer

On this first regular issue of the Ryukyu Islands, the 5 sen and 20 sen values depict the native (Sotetsu) palm which provides leaves for decoration and a stalk for food in times of famine. The 10 sen and 40 sen values depict the Yuri, a lily which blooms throughout the Ryukyus during the Easter season. The 30 sen and 50 sen depict Chinese Junks which the Ryukyuans used to carry on trade with the south seas. The 1 yen shows an Okinawan farmer ready to face a new era after the sufferings of World War II.

REGULAR ISSUE

1950



Roof Tiles



Native Girl



Shuri Castle



Dragon



Women



Sea Shells

On this second regular issue, the 50 sen depicts a Shi-shi or a ceramic lion which is set on roof tops to ward off evil spirits. The 1 yen features a typical beauty from the capital city of Shuri. The 2 yen shows the former main palace of the Okinawan kings which was completely destroyed during World War II. A Ryu or the massive head of a dragon carved in stone and set in front to guard the palace appears on the 3 yen. Okinawan ladies in ancient dress are shown on the 4 yen. The final denomination, the 5 yen depicts sea shells commonly found along the beaches of Okinawa.



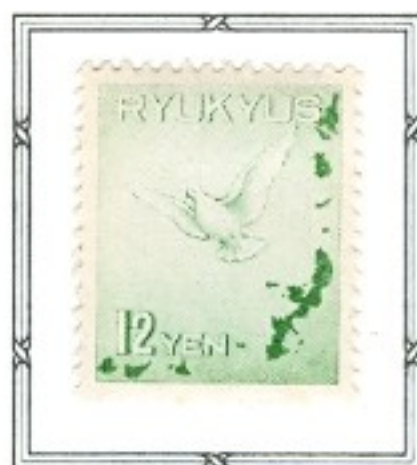
Ryukyu Islands

POSTAL ISSUES

AIR MAILS OF 1950



Dove & Islands



Dove & Islands



Dove & Islands

This identical design for all three denominations depicts the Dove of Peace hovering over the Ryukyu Islands. The beginning of air mail service in the Ryukyus was a significant trend toward return to normal peaceful times.

SPECIAL DELIVERY

1950



Map & Sea Horse

This stamp depicts a surrealistic sea horse entwined around a map of the Ryukyu Islands. It was designed by Katsugo Sakumoto of Yaeyama. This design was selected from a postage stamp design competition sponsored by the Ryukyus Post Office.

FORESTRY

1951



Tree Branch

This is the first of a series of stamps to commemorate the afforestation movement throughout the Ryukyu Islands. The design also honors Saion, an Okinawan official who took a great interest in forestry and soil management. It depicts contour planting and pine tree culture which he had introduced.

UNIVERSITY

1951



University

The dedication of the newly completed University of the Ryukyus is marked by this stamp. The central design shows a front view of the main building with an outline of Shuri Palace which formerly stood on this site and was destroyed during the war. A Ryu or dragon is depicted at the left. The legend reads "In commemoration of the Dedication of Ryukyu University."

GOVERNMENT

1952



Map, Dove, Bean Sprout

Commemorates the inauguration of the Government of the Ryukyu Islands. The dove is an omen of peace, while the rising sun and the young plant symbolize a new era for the Ryukyu Islands which are depicted at the base of the design.



Ryukyu Islands

POSTAL ISSUES

AIR MAILS OF 1951-54



Flying Goddess



Flying Goddess

The design for these five denominations depicts a Goddess in Flight which is taken from a scene in Buddhist lore known as "Heavenly Maidens Scattering Flowers." The scene is symbolic of air mail letters as glad tidings from the skies.

REGULAR ISSUE OF 1952



Madanbashi Bridge



Audience Chamber, Shuri Castle



Shureinomon Gate



Gate, Sogenji Temple



Bensaidoten



Sonohyamutake



Tamaudun



Hosho-chai Bridge

On this third regular issue, the 1 yen pictures Madan Bridge now replaced with a modern concrete structure. The 2 yen depicts the Hall of Worship of Shuri Palace which was once a National Treasure. The 3 yen shows the classic Shurei Gate which is now replaced with a facsimile structure. The 6 yen depicts Soen Temple formerly dedicated to the ancestors of Royalty, but now rebuilt as a cultural center. The 10 yen shows Besaiten Hall, an ancient structure whose remains still exist in Shuri. The 30 yen pictures Sonohyamutake Wall, a place of worship in ancient Okinawa. It is a wall with an entrance to a forest. Over the gateway is a stone carving of the "Flaming Pearl." The 50 yen features the Royal Park where Kings of Okinawa and their courts were traditionally entombed. The 100 yen depicts Ishi Bridge which still stands over Hoshochi or "Life Saving Pond." Most of the historical sites depicted in this issue were destroyed during the fighting on Okinawa.



OVERPRINTS

1952

16a



16b

16 Roof Tiles



17 Shuri Castle

The 10 yen surcharge on 50 sen was done at three different times resulting in three differences in the surcharging. Type I shows very little space between the bars, type II and type III both have wide spaced bars, but the latter has fine, thin print. In the case of the 100 yen on 2 yen, there is a small overprint (type II-A), large overprint (type II-B), and both small and large overprint on one stamp (type II-AB).





COMMODORE PERRY

1953



Perry and Fleet



Shuri Castle Reception

This set commemorates the centennial of Commodore Matthew C. Perry's first visit to Naha on May 26, 1853. The 3 yen value depicts Commodore Perry at a reception given in his honor by the regent of the Kingdom of the Ryukyu Islands. The 6 yen pictures the U. S. naval fleet in the port of Naha with a portrait of the Commodore.

THIRD NEWSPAPER WEEK

1953

This stamp was issued to commemorate the third anniversary of Newspaper Week. It depicts a newspaper matrix in the form of a pencil superimposed on a portrait of Ota Chofu, an Okinawan journalist and political leader at the turn of the century.



Chofu Ota & Matrix

FOURTH NEWSPAPER WEEK

1954

The fourth anniversary of Newspaper Week is marked by this stamp which shows a pen nib superimposed on a portrait of Toma Shiga, a leading Okinawan journalist and founder of Okinawa Asahi Shimbun.



Shiga Toma & Pen

ARTS CRAFTS

1954-55



Wine Flask



Ryukyuan Lacquerware



Ryukyuan Cloth

Issued to introduce Ryukyuan arts and crafts. The design for the 4 yen pictures an Okinawan wine flask which is made of pottery and finished with splashed glaze. It is very small and made to wear around the waist. The 15 yen depicts a Ryukyuan lacquer dish used when offering sweetmeats to guests. The 20 yen is a sampling of the designs used in weaving "bengata" cloth for which the Ryukyus are famous.



Ryukyu Islands

POSTAL ISSUES

SWEET POTATO

1955



Shrine & Sweet Potato Plant

Issued to commemorate the 350th anniversary of the introduction of the sweet potato from China by Noguni Sakan, an Okinawan official. The central design features the Noguni Sakan Shrine which still stands on Okinawa and marks the spot where the official landed after crossing the China Sea with sweet potato seedlings. Sweet potato vines are shown on the left panel.

ARBOR WEEK

1956



Trees

Issued to promote the afforestation movement throughout the Ryukyu Islands. Its modernistic design consists of rows of trees planted on the hillsides.

NEW YEAR

1956



Garland of Pine, Bamboo & Plum

Issued primarily for use on New Year greeting cards. The design shows an Okinawan floral piece made of plum blossoms and pine branches entwined around a ring of bamboo and hung up to wish everyone health, wealth and happiness for the New Year.

DANCERS

1956



Spring Dance



Summer Dance



Historical Drama

Issued to introduce Ryukyuan classical dancing and drama. The dancer pictured on the 5 yen stamp is doing a spring dance with willow branches. The dancer on the 8 yen is doing a folk dance which is often presented by open air theaters in the summer. The 14 yen shows a dancer in a classical warrior's costume who is dramatizing a heroic scene taken from the history of Okinawan wars.

DIAL PHONE

1956



Dial Phone

This stamp commemorates the inauguration of dial telephone service in Okinawa which replaced the old manual service. A desk dial telephone and the dial of the instrument represents the design. The legend on the left panel reads "In Commemoration of the Inauguration of Automatic Telephone Service."



Ryukyu Islands

POSTAL ISSUES

AIR MAILS OF 1957



Goddess Playing Flute



Goddess Playing Flute

The design for this set depicts a Buddhist goddess in flight and playing a flute which is a continuation of the theme in the earlier set. The notes from the flute are symbolic of letters carried by airplanes.

NEWSPAPER WEEK

1957



Pencil Rocket & Map

This stamp marks the 7th anniversary of Newspaper Week. A pencil-sputnik taking off from Okinawa is the theme for this stamp.

NEW YEAR

1957



Phoenix

This is the second stamp to be released for New Year greeting cards. The design shows a dragon and phoenix design in brilliant colors which are omens of good luck for the New Year. It is a design often seen on cotton prints.



Ryukyu Islands

POSTAL ISSUES

POSTAL SERVICE

1958



Ryukyu Stamps

Issued to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the issuance of the first Ryukyuan stamp in 1948. The design reproduces the Sotetsu stamp of the first set, a dancer stamp from the 1956 set and an air mail stamp from the latest 1957 set. The legend on the top and right border reads, "In Commemoration of the Tenth Anniversary of the Issuance of Postage Stamps."

GATE OF COURTESY

1958



Gate of Courtesy

This stamp was released to commemorate the restoration and dedication of Shurei-no-mon or the Gate of Courtesy which was built in honor of a Chinese diplomat in the 19th century and destroyed during the fighting on Okinawa. The design on the stamp illustrates the restored gate. It is the first commemorative to be issued in United States currency.

NEW CURRENCY

1958



Symbol of Yen & Dollar Sign

Symbol of Yen & Dollar Sign

Due to emergency conditions, only one design was used for the fourth regular issue. The United States authorities decided within a very short time to convert the legal currency of the Ryukyu Islands from United States Military B-Yen to regular United States currency. The designing, printing and distribution of this issue was completed in a few weeks. The design depicts a dollar sign superimposed on a yen sign. These are the first Ryukyu stamps to be issued in United States currency.





NEW YEAR 1958



New Year Dance

Issued to service New Year post cards. The design shows two men performing a New Year dance in a lion's skin. Under the lion's paws are strings of gaudy balls which are tossed around during the street performances.

FORESTRY 1959



Stylized Trees

Prepared to promote the arbor movement in the Ryukyus. This design features hilltops turning green and a row of stylized trees.

AIR MAIL OVERPRINTS

1959



Goddess Playing Flute



Goddess Playing Flute

This surcharged provisional set was necessitated by the changeover from yen to American currency and new air mail rates worked out as a result of the Universal Postal Union Congress meeting in Ottawa in 1959.





Ryukyu Islands

POSTAL ISSUES

BIOLOGICAL

1959



Moth

Issued for the national conference of the Japan Biological Education Society at the University of the Ryukyus in Shuri. The design shows a rare moth, the *Attacus Atlas*, which is found chiefly on Yonaguni Island, south of Okinawa.

NEW YEAR 1959

1959



New Year Decoration

This design for New Year post cards reproduces a gaudy New Year decoration which is made of a papier-mache shield surmounted with swords, spears, etc. and is the pride and joy of every Okinawan boy.

FLORA-FAUNA

1959



Hibiscus



Angel Fish



Shells



Butterfly



Jellyfish

Issued to introduce the flora and fauna of the Ryukyu Islands. The 1/2c depicts a red hibiscus known as *Hibiscus Ross Sinensis* which grows in profusion throughout the islands. The 3c illustrates an angel fish known as *Zanclus Cornutus*. The 8c pictures sea shells known as *Phalium Bandatum*. The 13c design is composed of a butterfly known as *Kallimo Inachus Eucerca*. A jellyfish appears on the 17c denomination. It is known as *Dactylometra Pacifica*.



Ryukyu Islands

POSTAL ISSUES

FLORA-FAUNA

1960



Shells



Butterfly



Jellyfish

This set was redesigned for technical reasons when it was reprinted. The characters "Rukyu Yubin" were made smaller to blend with the design. The butterflies on the 13¢ were reversed.

1960 OVERPRINTS



C19



C20



C21



C22



C23

Dollar Sign over Yen

To meet the urgent need for airmail stamps, old stamps in yen values were surcharged in U. S. currency for the five airmail zones. Several different printings of the basic stamps were used for this purpose.

UNIVERSITY

1960



University Badge

Issued to commemorate the tenth anniversary of Ryukyu University. The bronze badge is inscribed "Daigaku" or "University" and is worn by all students enrolled in the University.



Flaming Olympic Torch

SPORTS

1960



Runners

To commemorate a joint athletic meet held in Nago City, this set was issued on November 6-7, 1960, by Okinawa and the 8th Kyushu Athletic Meet of Japan.



Ryukyu Islands

POSTAL ISSUES

DANCERS

1960



Munjuru Dance



Inohabushi Dance



Hatomabushi Dance



Hanafu Dance

This group of stamps is a continuation of the Dancer Series and was issued for specific rates on different types of postal service.

NATIONAL CENSUS

1960



Sun and Crane

Issued to commemorate the second census of the Ryukyu Islands which was conducted in connection with the United Nations Demographic Program. The rising sun represents new life and the flying crane, longevity.

The design depicts an Okinawan bull which is engaged in a butting match of brute strength. The winner is the bull which stands its ground when the loser falls to its knee. Issued primarily for use on New Year greeting cards.



Okinawan Bull Fight

BULL FIGHT

1960





Ryukyu Islands

POSTAL ISSUES

SECOND PRINTING

1961

These are known as the second printing of the 25c and 50c U. S. currency provisional issue. They were printed from the same plates and in the same color, but on better paper and have been gummed.



Dollar & Cents Signs



Dollar & Cents Signs

CONSOLIDATION

1961



Old Temple

Featuring Hakugin-do or White Silver Temple, an old historic landmark in Itoman City, this stamp was issued to commemorate the consolidation of Takamine, Kanegushiku, and Miwa Villages with the town of Itoman.

FOUNDING OF NAHA

1961



Ships-Old and New

Issued to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the founding of Naha, the largest city in the Ryukyu Islands. Now the capital, it is an important seaport. Beginning with this stamp, the English legend, "Ryukyus" appears on each issue.

BOOK WEEK

1961



Open Book

Issued on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of Book Week in the Ryukyu Islands. Book week publicizes the library facilities of Ryukyuan-American Cultural Centers in Okinawa, Miyako and Yaeyama.

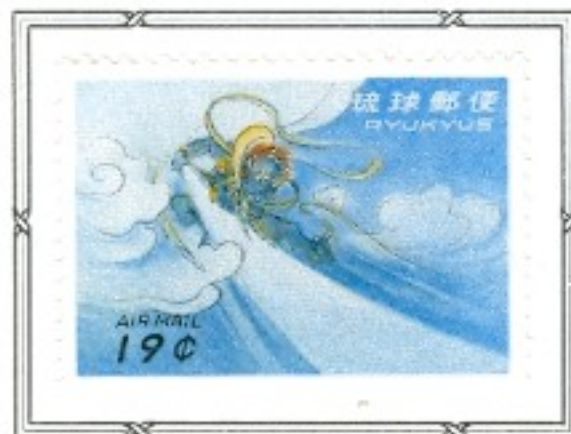
1961 AIR MAILS



Flying Goddess



Flying Goddess



Wind God



Wind God



Flying Goddess





Ryukyu Islands

POSTAL ISSUES

DANCERS

1961



Dancer



Dancer

Another Dancers Series, the 50c stamp depicts the movement of the Noburi-Kuduchi Dance and the \$1.00 the Kote-Bushi Dance.

ARBOR WEEK

1961



Pine Tree

This marks the fourth time the Ryukyus issued a stamp commemorating Arbor Week. Designed by Tamanaha, the stamp depicts an Okinawan pine tree. The stamp is inscribed, "Movement to Make the Ryukyus Green."

NEW YEAR

1961



Sun and Eagle

Issued annually, the 1961 New Year stamp features a Sun and an Eagle. It was placed on sale December 10, 1961.

RE-DESIGNED

1961



Fish

The Chinese characters are smaller on this redesigned stamp.



Dancer

The English legend, "Ryukyus" appears on this stamp.



Hibiscus

The Chinese characters are smaller on this redesigned stamp.





DANCERS

1962



Nubabushi



Hatomabushi



Hanaifu



Haodori

Continuing the addition of the English country name to the "Dancer" issues, the 2½, 5, 10 and 25c denominations were released during the year 1962. The 25c denomination was placed on sale February 1st, and the others on June 20th.



Steps & GRI Building

10th ANNIVERSARY

1962

To commemorate the tenth anniversary of the founding of the Government of the Ryukyus Islands, this set of two stamps was released on April 1st. The designs feature the Government Building.



GRI Building

FLORA

1962



Hibiscus Tiliacus



Eythra Varieta Var Orientalis



Schima Superba



Impatiens Balsamina

June 1st was the setting for a definitive series depicting flora of the Islands. The ½c denomination features the Hibiscus; the 3c, Eythra; 8c, Schima Superba; 13c, Impatiens Balsamina; and 17c, Alpina Speciosa.



Alpina Speciosa



Ryukyu Islands

POSTAL ISSUES

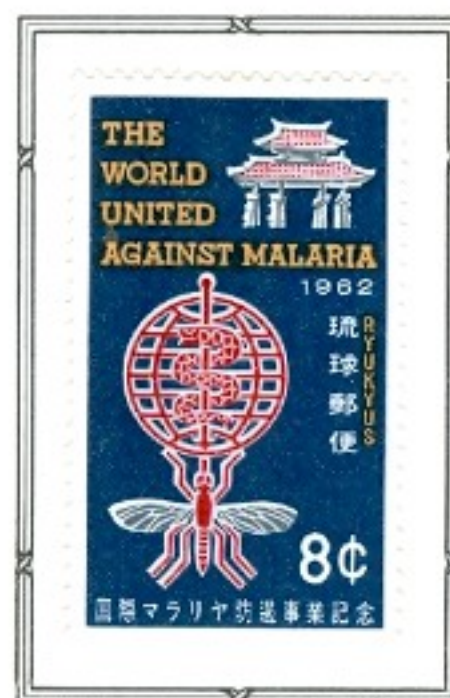


Malaria Carrying Mosquito

MALARIA

1962

In cooperation with the World Health Organization's Anti-Malaria campaign, this set of two stamps was released on April 7th.



Shurei Gate & WHO Emblem

ATHLETIC MEET

1962



Fencer

This stamp marks the Eighth All-Japan Tournament held at Naha. The design pictures a man wearing the face mask and protective tunic worn by those who compete in this vigorous style of Japanese fencing.

NEW YEAR

1962

CHILDREN'S DAY

1962



Toys & Kite

On May 5th, a 3c stamp was released marking Children's Day 1962. This was formerly celebrated as Boy's Day when kites made like corps are flown.



Dyed-Cloth

The typical dyed-cloth illustrating flowers, trees and animals is called BINGATA. This material, with design of a playing rabbit by the water, was chosen as the 1962 New Year stamp.

PHILATELIC WEEK

1962



Earthenware

On July 5th, the Philatelic Week 3c stamp was released. It depicts a fine specimen of Ryukyuan Akayi ware; a rare ceramic bowl decorated with plum blossoms which was made nearly two years ago.



Ryukyu Islands

POSTAL ISSUES

ADULT DAY

1963



Man and Woman

Issued January 15, 1963, this stamp commemorates 1963 Adult Day, a legal holiday that serves to welcome to social and political responsibility boys and girls who have reached 20. That age is the legal voting age in the Ryukyus.

1963



Etithyllum-strictum

Of the Flora Series, this stamp features the Etithyllum-strictum or Night Blooming Cereus which is known locally as the "Beautiful Lady Under the Moon." This flower belongs to the cactus family and originated in Mexico.

REFORESTATION

1963



Trees

In 1959 the government of the Ryukyu Islands embarked on a reforestation movement by planting trees on mountains and in towns with the cooperation of the natives. This stamp, issued March 25, 1963, marks the program's success.

ROUND ROAD

1963



Okinawa & Round Road

Released April 30, 1963, this commemorative marks the opening of Round Road on Okinawa Island, the construction of which took four years. This highway circles Okinawa and makes travel simpler and faster. Shin Isagawa designed the stamp.

BIRD WEEK

1963



Hawks & Islands

May 10 of every year is Bird Day in the Ryukyus; this adhesive marks 1963 Bird Week, which begins on that day. The purpose of the observance is to publicize the need for protecting the wild birds of the islands.

SHIOYA BRIDGE

1963



Shioya Inland Sea & Bridge

This stamp marks the opening of the Shioya Bridge, biggest in the Ryukyus. It connects Ogimi-Shioya village and Miyagi Island across the Shioya Bay in northern Okinawa. Seikan Omine designed the stamp; 350,000 copies were issued.

PHILATELIC WEEK

1963



Lacquer-ware

The design of this stamp depicts Ryukyuan lacquer-ware, known as "Tsukin-wan," and dates from about 200 years ago. The stamp was issued to mark 1963 Philatelic Week, which promotes public interest in philately.



Ryukyu Islands

POSTAL ISSUES



Plane & Shurei-Gate

AIRMAIL SERIES

1963

The 5 1/2c and 7c airmails were issued for use on postal cards. The 5 1/2c depicts a DC8 jetliner, while the 7c features a jet plane in flight with a piece of native textile as a backdrop.



Plane & Textile

INT. JUNIOR CHAMBER

1963



Asia & JCI Emblem

The 1963 International Meeting of the Junior Chamber International was held at Naha, Okinawa, September 16-19. It was attended by 500 JCI members, who represented 16 countries of the world. Koya Oshiro designed the stamp.

CULTURAL PROPERTY

1963



Site of Nakagusuku Castle

This stamp was issued to publicize Cultural Property Protection Week, intended to enhance public understanding of and interest in historical properties. The stamp depicts one of the government-designated sites.

HUMAN RIGHTS

1963

1963



Hamaomoto

This stamp, issued October 15, 1963, depicts a herb called Hamaomoto, and was released for ordinary postage use. Printing was done by photogravure in sheets of 50 stamps; 200,000 copies were issued.



Fist & Flame

This stamp marks the 15th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, as adopted by the third general assembly of the United Nations at Paris on December 10, 1948. The flame symbolizes human rights.

NEW YEAR

1963



Bingata Dye-Pattern

The stamp depicts a dragon dye-pattern of a local textile called "Bingata." The dragon design was chosen, according to ancient legend, to symbolize the coming holiday. Printing was by photogravure in sheets of 50.



Ryukyu Islands

POSTAL ISSUES

20¢ DANCER

1964



Shudun Dance

Issued for regular postage purposes, this stamp depicts one of the classic dances of the Ryukyus, known as "Shudun."

CENSUS

1964



Pineapple & Sugar Cane Field

This stamp pictures a field of pineapple and sugar cane . . . the principal farming products in the Ryukyus and it was issued to commemorate the second agricultural census which was begun on March 20th.

MOTHER'S DAY

1964



Red Carnation

The second Sunday in May is a legal holiday in the Ryukyus, the same as it is in many other countries . . . known as Mother's Day. This stamp was issued to express admiration and appreciation of mothers everywhere.

GIRL SCOUTING

1964



Girl Scout and Flag

This stamp marks the tenth anniversary of the establishment of the Ryukyu Islands Girl Scouts. The movement was founded on September 1, 1954.

PHILATELIC WEEK

1964



Hand-woven Sash

The annual Philatelic Week was celebrated on July 1, 1964. The Philatelic Week stamp pictures a hand-woven sash of historical value. It was woven about 350 years ago and is known as "Minser Obi."

CULTURAL PROTECTION

1964



Old Ryukyuan Residence

A week-long program for the protection of national cultural treasures was begun on November 1st. This stamp marks the opening of the program and pictures the Miyara Dunchi, a typical example of an old Ryukyuan noble residence.





Ryukyu Islands

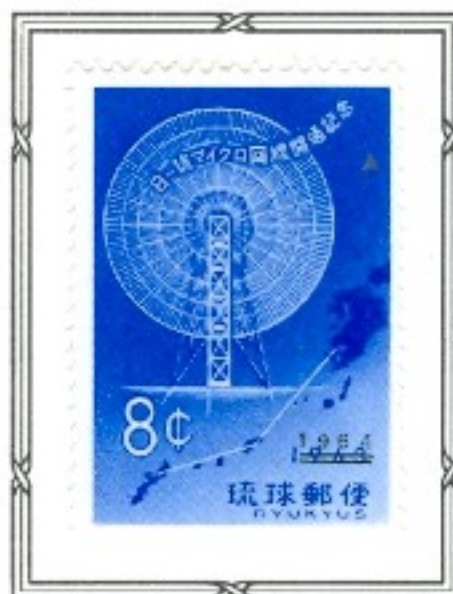
POSTAL ISSUES

MICROWAVE SYSTEM

1964



Shuri Relay Station



Antenna & Route Map

The Ryukyus-Japan Microwave System carries telephone and telegraph messages in both directions between the Ryukyus and Japan, and live TV programs from Japan to the Ryukyus. The stamps were printed by photo-gravure.

OLYMPIC TORCH

1964



Torch and Shurei-Gate

The sacred fire . . . the Olympic Torch Relay . . . stopped in the Ryukyus en-route to Tokyo for the Olympic Games. It was relayed by runners around the Island of Okinawa during the two day stopover prior to its last flight from Okinawa to Kagoshima in Japan.

KARATE

1964



Karate

This stamp features "Naihanchi", a form of Karate. Karate, a traditional self-defense art, has a long history in the Ryukyus and is considered a national sport.

NEW YEAR

1964



Snake-dye Textile Pattern

This is another of the annual New Year Stamps. The design depicts a snake dye pattern of Ryukyuan textile called BINGATA. The snake design was chosen, according to ancient legend, to symbolize the coming year.



Ryukyu Islands

POSTAL ISSUES

KARATE

1965



Training with Makiwara

Second in the Karate Stamp Series, this stamp pictures a Karate training form known as Makiwara. The Makiwara is a wooden pole that is erected on the ground with a protective straw mat around the top. It is used for development and strengthening of hands and feet.



Simulated Combat

In order to gain some knowledge of the fascinating aspects of Karate, and to learn the meaning of the actions and positions of defense and offense, "KUMITE" is practiced by simulating the combat situation. The design pictures one of the positions.

BOY SCOUTS

1965



Scouts & Shurei Gate

To mark the tenth anniversary of the Ryukyu Islands Boy Scouts, this stamp was released on February 7, 1965. More than 2,000 Ryukyuan boys form a district within the Far East Council, Boy Scouts of America. They are trained individually as well as in groups and are active in local Ryukyuan and American Communities.

PHILATELIC WEEK

1965



Musical Instrument

A national cultural property of special historic value . . . a 3-string musical instrument known as a "SHAMISEN" . . . is featured on the stamp commemorating Philatelic Week of 1965.

NAHA CITY

1965



Naha City Building

Naha, capital city of the Ryukyus, has a population of over 260,000 and is the center of politics, economy and culture. This stamp commemorates the opening of the new Naha City Building—one of many under construction.



Ryukyu Islands

POSTAL ISSUES

POWER PLANT

1965



Kin Power Plant

Featuring a panoramic view of the Kin Power Plant, this stamp commemorates the completion of the project by the Ryukyu Electric Power Corporation at a cost of \$14,720,000. It was built to meet greater demands for power by industries as well as individuals.

TURTLE

1965



Turtle

The Semaruhakogame (a turtle), *Cyclanops (cuora) flavomarginata*, is a land animal which lives on plants around forests, and is found on Ishigakijima and Iriomotejima in the Ryukyus and on Formosa.

COOPERATION

1965



ICY Emblem

The Ryukyus joined with many nations of the world in celebrating the twentieth anniversary of the establishment of the United Nations by issuing this stamp. The design features the emblem of International Cooperation Year.

ONOHAMA

1965



Main Stand & Track

This stamp commemorates the completion of the Onoyama athletic facility. The stadium and field were constructed by the government to promote public interest in athletics. The stadium accommodates 20,000 people.

The year 1966 is the year of the Horse in the oriental Zodiac calendar and to mark the New Year a Ryukyuan textile is used in this design featuring a horse. The design is that of Seikan Omine, a local artist.



Horse on Textile

NEW YEAR

1965



Ryukyu Islands

POSTAL ISSUES

TURTLES

1966



Hawk's Bill Turtle

The Taimai is the smallest of the sea turtles. Found in tropical and sub-tropical seas, its shell is used extensively in handicraft work. This was the second stamp in the Turtle Stamp Series.



Ryukyu-Yamagame (Turtle)

As the third in the Turtle Stamp Series, this stamp pictures the Ryukyu-yamagame which is found only in Okinawa. It feeds on earthworms, sprouts, seeds, etc. and can be found in a stream or in wet forests.

DEER

1966



Deer

This stamp depicts a Keramajika which was designated a Natural Monument by the Government in 1955. A Japanese Deer, the Keramajika were brought from Satsuma (Kagoshima, Japan) by Prince Kin Chotei to the Ryukyus about three hundred years ago.

MEMORIAL DAY

1966



Lily & Battle Ruins

To honor those who were killed in the Battle of Okinawa and to pray for everlasting peace, The Ryukyu Government has designated June 23rd as Memorial Day each year. This stamp commemorates the fifth Memorial Day.

JUGON

1966



Sea Mammal

The Jugon shown on this stamp is commonly called a Mermaid since it looks like a human when it is nursing its baby. A mammal of the sea, it ranges from the Indian Ocean to the home waters of the Ryukyus. Its number is rapidly decreasing.

NOGUCHIGERA

1966



Noguchigera Bird

A little smaller than a pigeon, this bird belongs to the woodpecker family. The Noguchigera is very rare and found only in the northern woods of Okinawa. Wildlife Conservationists fear the species faces extinction.



Ryukyu Islands

POSTAL ISSUES

SWALLOW

1966

The Fourth Annual Bird Week was celebrated in May and this stamp was released to publicize it. The design features a Ryukyu-tsubame (swallow).



Swallow



Lacquerware

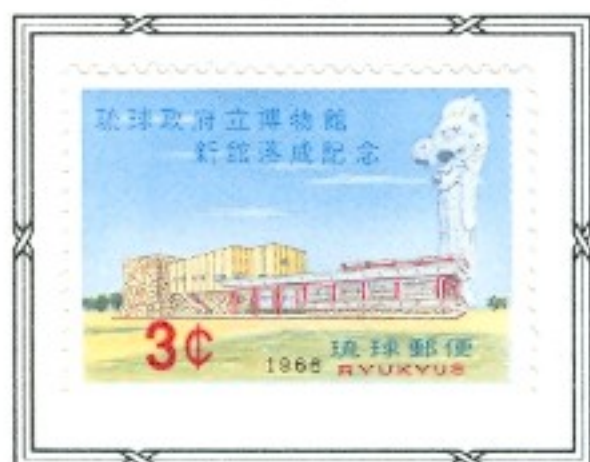
PHILATELIC WEEK

1966

This stamp commemorates the 1966 Philatelic Week and features a piece of lacquerware. Lacquerware originated in the early 18th Century and it is said that it was used as a container for rice and rice cakes offered to the Gods after the yearly harvest.

MUSEUM

1966



Dragon Statue & Museum Building

Issued to commemorate the completion of the new GRI Museum Building. The original museum was constructed before World War II, but was destroyed by bombings during the war. The design pictures the new building and Dragon Statue.

UNESCO

1966



Emblem & Tile-roofed House

Issued to commemorate the twentieth anniversary of the founding of UNESCO, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

CULTURAL PROPERTY

1966



Tomb of Nakasone-Tuimya Genga

This stamp commemorates the Fourth Cultural Property Protection Week which took place in November 1966. The stamp depicts the tomb which contains the remains of Nakasone-Tuimya Genga, who reigned over Miyako 450 years ago.

NEW YEAR

1966



Ram & Wreath on Bingata

A 1 1/2c New Year Greeting stamp for 1967 was released in December 1966. The design features a horned ram surrounded by a wreath of stylized flowers, dyed on Ryukyuan textile known as Bingata. The year 1967 is known as the year of the "Sheep" in the Oriental zodiac calendar.

UNIVERSITY

1966



University of the Ryukyus

The University of the Ryukyus was established on May 22, 1950 at the site of the old Shuri Castle. The University was administered under supervision of the U.S. Civil Administration of the Ryukyus and transferred to the Government of the Ryukyu Islands on July 1, 1966.

TROPICAL FISH

1966



Clown Fish

First of a Tropical Fish stamp series, this 3c stamp pictures a Clown Fish (Hamakumanomi) which coexists with sea-anemones on the reef around Okinawa.



Ryukyu Islands

POSTAL ISSUES

TROPICAL FISH

1967



Boxfish

This is a species of the boxfish family. They vary considerably in color and speckles.



Feyakko

The Feyakko fish runs about 13cm in length with a long tubular mouth. It lives in the Indian Ocean and tropical Pacific as far north as central Japan.



Mongara Kawahagi

Fourth in the Tropical Fish Series, this fish, known as the Mongara Kawahagi, is about 40cm in length and is found in central Japan, southern Korea, the Indian Ocean and the tropical Pacific. It has sharp teeth and is fond of meat.



Seguro Chocho Uo

The Seguro Chocho Uo is lemon color with a large spot at the rear of the body. Some are found with a red spot. It makes a beautiful appearance with its slender dorsal fin.

SEASHELL ISSUE

1967



Chosenfude

This seashell — Chosenfude — is the largest among the "Fudegai" species. The greater part of the shell is smooth, but thick and heavy with scanty engraving. It lives in the ocean bed off the Pacific coast of Japan and southward to the tropics.



Honegai

Known as the Honegai, this seashell belongs to the Akatsuki family. It is very small and delicate in nature. It has three ridges on its shell with numerous long and short spurs protruding.

PHILATELIC WEEK

1967



Decorated Urn

The 1967 Philatelic Week stamp pictures a decorated urn; the Tsuboya-ware found in the tombs of samurai. In ancient times, this type of urn was used to contain washed bones of the dead. The lid of the urn recorded the name and date of death.



Ryukyu Islands

POSTAL ISSUES

TOURIST YEAR

1967



Red Tile Roofs & Emblem

The twenty-first General Assembly of the United Nations adopted a resolution to designate the year 1967 as "International Tourist Year." The purpose of this program was to enhance mutual understanding among all people of the world.

CULTURAL PROPERTY

1967



Hojo Bridge

Cultural Property Week this year honors the Hojo Bridge of the Enkaku Temple. The Hojo Bridge crosses the Hojo Pond to reach the Temple. The Temple was constructed by King Shoshin in 1492 as a memorial to his father, King Shoen.

NEW YEAR

1967



Bingata with Monkey

In the Ryukyus, New Year 1968 was called the year of the Monkey. The stamp design shows a monkey pattern on Bingata cloth. Bingata cloth is a local material known for its beauty as the best of dyed goods.

ANTI-TB ASSOCIATION

1967



Clinic Bus

Modeled after the National Tuberculosis Association in the United States, the Ryukyu Anti-TB Association was established September 19, 1963. This stamp commemorates the fifteenth anniversary of its founding.

TELEVISION

1967



TV Tower and Map

Issued to commemorate the opening of a television network in Mayako and Yaeyama. Designed by artist Seikichi Tamanaha, the printing consisted of 1,300,000 copies.



Ryukyu Islands

POSTAL ISSUES

SEASHELL SERIES

1968



Seashell (Suizigai)

The seashell shown on this stamp belongs to the Suishogai family. Six horny shapes protrude from the flange of the shell. These six resemble the Japanese character for "water," hence the name "Suizigai."



Seashell (Yakougai)

This seashell is the largest among shells of the Ryuten family, some growing to a length of 25 centimeters. The surface of the shell is green with several dark brown stripes which become entirely green when aged.



Seashell (Benisodegai)

This Benisodegai seashell belongs to the Suishogai family of shells. This shell is distinguishable from others by its smoothness and the beautiful red inside color. It is found in nine meters of water from Japan to the tropical zone.

LIBRARY WEEK

1968



Book, Library & Patron

This stamp marks LIBRARY WEEK 1968 which was instituted as an annual event in 1959 to increase public understanding and appreciation of literature and the important role of the library in the enrichment of our daily lives.

VACCINATION

1968



Dr. Kijin Nakachi

The 120th anniversary of the first smallpox vaccination was marked by this stamp issued March 15, 1968. Dr. Kijin Nakachi, in 1848, discovered a smallpox vaccine taken from a cow which was successfully used on infants.

STAMP ANNIVERSARY

1968



Mailmen and Postage Stamp

The first Ryukyuan postage stamps were issued in 1948 and the twentieth anniversary fell in 1968. This stamp, which features a variety of mailmen's clothes, was released on July 1, 1968 ... twenty years to the day that the first stamp was released.

PHILATELIC WEEK

1968



Medicine Container

The 1968 Philatelic Week stamp depicts a small and very rare container called, "Inro" in Japanese. "Inro" means a seal case which came to be used as a medicine container.



Ryukyu Islands

POSTAL ISSUES

AGED PEOPLE'S DAY

1968



Aged People's Dance

The Ryukyuan dance depicted on the stamp is for aged people, performed to the tune of "Kagiyadefu" with the words: "To what can I compare my happiness of today; it may be comparable to a flower still in bud when blessed with dew." Festivities on Okinawa always begin with this tune.

SOFT TENNIS MATCH

1968



Tennis Player

Issued to commemorate the 35th All-Japan East vs. West Men's Softball Tennis Tournament. Softball tennis is played with a relatively soft rubber ball, resulting in a much slower tempo than in the "Wimbledon" type of tennis. This was the first time that the Japanese nationwide tennis tournament has been held in the Ryukyus.

NEW YEAR

1968



Bingata with Fowl

Under the Zodiac calendar, 1969 will be known as the year of the fowl. The New Year stamp for 1969 . . . issued in December, 1968 . . . shows a fowl surrounded by iris plants. It is a design taken from the Ryukyuan "Bingata" cloth.

ENKAKU TEMPLE

1968



Enkaku Temple

Issued to commemorate the rehabilitation of the main gate to the Enkaku Temple. Construction of the Temple was started in 1492, during the era of King Shoshin. The King Shoshin era was the most prosperous during the Ryukyuan monarchy, due to overseas trade with China and Southeast Asia.

CRAB SERIES

1968



Crab

The shell of this crab, first of a new series, averages about 11 millimeters long by 10.5 millimeters in width, with smooth surface, and is shaped almost round. Like other Kometsukigani crabs, this one is characterized by eyes capable of being extended or retracted.

CULTURAL PROPERTY

1968



Saraswati Pavilion

The 1968 Cultural Property Protection Week stamp pictures the Saraswati Pavilion which was recently reconstructed. According to legend, the Pavilion was originally built during the era of King Shoshin as a place to store the Book of Buddhism, which had been presented by Korea.



Ryukyu Islands

POSTAL ISSUES

CRAB SERIES

1969



Ryukyu Shiomaneki

This crab belongs to the sand crab family and lives at the mouths of rivers. It is distinguished from other similar crabs by the concave forward legs at the rear of its crust. It is found in Okinawa and other places.



Yakujiyama-Gani

This large crab has a fan-shaped crust and lives under rocks in swampy areas. It defends itself by spreading both pinchers wide open when its hiding place is exposed. It is found in the Philippines and Solomons too.



Gidaasa-okagani

A crab that lives in sandy places, much above the high tide level, this creature nests in a deep hole. It is noted for its agility and power. This stamp is the fourth in a continuing series of issues showing crabs.



Tsunome-Gani

This medium-sized crab is milk-white with a brown pattern on the central part of its back. It is active chiefly at night, and its swift movement, with its three pairs of legs, is suggestive of that of a swift horse.

AMATEUR BOXING

1969



Boxer

The 20th All-Japan Amateur Boxing Championships were held in the gymnasium of the University of the Ryukyus in January, 1969. About 120 boxers in 12 classes participated. They were selected through elimination matches.

PHILATELIC WEEK

1969

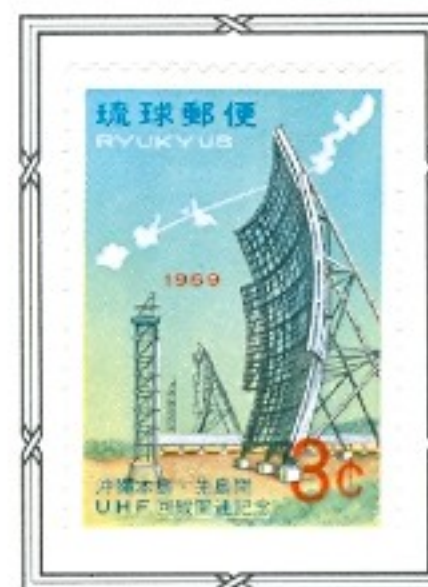


Ink Slab Screen

The screen on this stamp is lacquered and designed for a desk, to be placed behind an ink slab used for writing, so as to protect the desk from residue from the ink slab. There is a mother-of-pearl inlay in the screen.

UHF COMMUNICATIONS

1969



Antenna & Map

This stamp marks the opening of a UHF circuit system between the main island of Okinawa and Miyako-Yaeyama islands, which are separated by more than 2,000 miles of the ocean. The stamp was issued on June 2, 1969.



Ryukyu Islands

POSTAL ISSUES

HAWAII

1969



Kyuzo Toyama & Maps

On December 5, 1899, a group of 30 persons started for Hawaii as the first emigrants to leave Okinawa under the Kyuzo Toyama Emigration Plan. This stamp marks the 70th anniversary of that first emigration wave.

EDUCATION

1969



Shurei-mon & Emblems

The 22nd All-Japan Formative Education Study Conference was held in Naha during August, 1969. The theme of the Conference was "How to employ formative education in the regional conditions of Okinawa."

CULTURAL

1969



Nakamura-Ke

This building, dated between 1713-1751, is a typical old house of a rich farmer who lived in the middle region of Okinawa. Some ten generations of a family have lived in the house. The stamp was issued on November 1, 1969.

FOLK CUSTOM ISSUES

1969



Tug of War

Many agricultural villages in the Ryukyus hold a harvest festival each year; a tug of war is an event of the festival. It is held to give thanks for a fruitful year. This is the first of 5 stamps for such events.



Hari Boat

The Hari-boat races are held in many parts of Okinawa by fishermen, who pray for bountiful fish harvests in the coming year. They take place on May 4 of the Lunar Calendar. Today's races attract many spectators.



Izaiho

The Izaiho religious ceremony is held on Kudaka Island in the Year of the Horse, which comes around in 12-year cycles in the oriental zodiac. The ceremony used to take place at midnight, but now is held at twilight.

OVERPRINTS

1969

This 1/2c overprinted stamp was issued on October 15, 1969, to cover a shortage of 1/2c stamps caused by unexpected demand. The 3c original was issued in 1962.



Overprint



Bingata-Dog

NEW YEAR

1969

The year 1970, under the zodiac calendar, is known as the Year of the Dog. Hence the New Year stamp for 1970 shows a dye-pattern of Bingata with a dog. Bingata is a local product made at Shuri, Okinawa.



Ryukyu Islands

POSTAL ISSUES

FOLK CUSTOM SERIES

1970



Dancers

Motif for this stamp is the "Ushideiku". This was an ancient device used to crush or grind grain into flour or meal. It was shaped somewhat like an hour glass; concave at one end and flat at the other. The ceremonial dance revolved around the Ushideiku.



Dancers

This stamp depicts the ancient ceremonial dance "Unjyami" meaning "sea god". The ceremony was designed to offer gratitude and prayers to the gods of seas and mountains, to pray for peace and for successful fishing and hunting.

PHILATELIC WEEK

1970



Yahsi-gua (small coconut)

The sake container depicted on this stamp was commonly called a Yahsi-gua (Yahsi means coconut and "gua" means small). The container was usually suspended from the waist and was carried on such occasions as tomb visiting and festivals.

CENSUS

1970



Map and People

In commemoration of the 1970 Census, a 3c postage stamp was issued on October 1st. A major statistical survey, it requires about 5,000 enumerators to complete the job.

OBSERVATORY

1970



Observatory and Tropical Fish

Issued to commemorate the completion of the underwater observatory at Busena-Misaki, Nago (an hour and a half bus-ride from Naha). It was built to show the eye-catching tropical fish and coral of the area.

GREAT MEN

1970



Noboru Jahana

This is the first of the Ryukyuan Great Men Series. It features Mr. Noboru Jahana, who fought for equal rights in representation of the people of the Ryukyus on the Japanese Diet. He died one year before his work brought results.



Saion Gushichan Bunjaku

Saion Gushichan Bunjaku ranks as one of the great statesmen in Ryukyuan history. Born September 25, 1682, he was appointed to the post of regent and was responsible for the political and economic growth of Okinawa. He wrote many books on politics and other subjects.



Ryukyu Islands

POSTAL ISSUES

CLASSIC OPERAS

1970

*"Shushin-kaneiri" Drama**"Chu-Nusudu" Drama**"Mekarushi" Drama**"Nidotichiuchi" Drama**"Kokonomaki" Drama*

NEW YEAR

1970

*Wild Boar on Printed Cloth*

By the Zodiac calendar, the year 1971 is known as the year of the wild boar. This stamp, issued on December 10, 1970, ushers in the New Year. The design is done from BINGATA, a printed cloth pattern. This one shows cherry blossoms, bamboo, wild boar, mountain and stream.

CULTURAL

1970

*Great Cycad of Ue*

The "Great Cycad of Ue" was designed a national monument in 1959. It is featured on the Cultural Property Protection Week stamp for 1970. It is a 250 year old tree that stands six meters high.

ADMINISTRATION

1970

*Japanese Flag, Diet Building and Map*

This stamp commemorates the passing of a bill to permit the people of the Ryukyu Islands to take part in the national administration. It passed the Japanese Diet on April 24, 1970.



Ryukyu Islands

POSTAL ISSUES

CLASSIC OPERAS

1970



1970組踊郵便切手



執心鐘入

大蔵省印刷局製

"Shushin-Kaneiri" Drama

First in a series of KUMI-ODORI stamps, this one was issued April 28th. The Kumi-Odori dramatic concept was created by Chokin Tamagusuku about 250 years ago. "Shushin-Kaneiri" is known as the first of his five dramas and is depicted in the design of the stamp.



1970組踊郵便切手



人盗人

大蔵省印刷局製

"Chu-Nusudu" Drama

This is number two in the series of Kumi-Odori stamps. It depicts the musical drama, "Chu-nusudu". The story develops from a scene with a Deigo flower which is common to the Southland and which blossoms around April. A kidnapping is involved which sparks the play.



CLASSIC OPERAS

1970



1970 組踊郵便切手



銘苅子

大蔵省印刷局製

"Mekaruishi" Drama

The musical drama "Mekaruishi" is the subject for the third in a series of "Kumi-odori" stamps. This musical is dramatized on a Hagoromo (robe of feathers) legend chosen from various ones around the Okinawa area.



1970 組踊郵便切手



二童敵討

大蔵省印刷局製

"Nidotchiuchi" Drama

Fourth of the series, this stamp features the classic opera, "Vengeance by Two Little Sons" (Nidotchiuchi). It is said that this is one of the best of the Ryukyuan operas.



CLASSIC OPERAS

1970



孝行の巻

六歌吉印刷局製

"Kokonomaki" Drama

Kokonomaki is the name of the fifth classic opera in the Kumi-Odori Series. The subject matter is an old legend about a giant snake living in a pond between the hills.





Ryukyu Islands

POSTAL ISSUES

FOLK-ART

1971



Low Hand Loom



Woman Running Filature



Raincoat and Hat



Rice Huller



Wooden Case and Bailer

CHOHO GIWAN

1971

This third stamp in the Great Man Series honors Choho Giwan (1823-1876), who served as regent and political leader for many years in the Ryukyus and Japan. He also is remembered for his poems in the 31-syllable Japanese style.



Choho Giwan



TAKU (Hot Water Jug)

PHILATELIC WEEK

1971

"Interest in Postage Stamp" Week was celebrated on April 15th with the issue of this 3c stamp. The TAKU... a jug for hot water... was probably introduced into Okinawa from old China. It is an octagonal pillar of wood with a tin teapot within. Something like the thermos used commonly today.

DEFINITIVES

1971



Ornamental Garden Flower

Native to the Malay peninsula, the sandanka has an aggregate of umbrella-like tufts at the height of summer.



OHGOOCHO Flower

A shrub belonging to the pulse family is featured on this ordinary postage item released May 10, 1971. It is commonly cultivated as an ornamental garden flower with red or light-orange petals.



Ryukyuan Dance

This 4c regular, issued on November 1, 1971, has the same dancer designer as the 2½c regular issued on November 1, 1960, with a change in background color.



Ryukyu Islands

POSTAL ISSUES



Scene from Mabuni Hill

In the area shown on this stamp — now a government park — the fiercest battle on Okinawa was fought during World War II and 200,000 Americans and Japanese lost their lives.

GOVERNMENT PARK SERIES

1971



View of Haneji Inland Sea

Okinawa Seashore Government Park, so designated in 1965, is comprised of seascapes and mountains which are characterized by a rugged appearance. The coastline within the Park is rich in coral reefs, fish, and seashells.

CULTURAL PROPERTY

1971



A Deva King

The wooden image of Misshaku Rikishi on this 1971 Cultural Properties Protection Week stamp was carved in 1737 and stands at the gate to the Torinji Temple on Ishigaki-jima, Yaeyama, along with another deity, Kongoh Rikishi.

NEW YEAR GREETINGS

1971



Bingata Cloth with Rat

This stamp for New Year 1972 features Bingata material, a type native to the Ryukyus, that includes a rat in its design. 1972 is the year of the rat in the oriental calendar. Five million copies of this stamp were printed.

NURSES TRAINING

1971



Student Nurse and Light

Three Ryukyuan government nursing schools were opened in 1946 to meet the demand for nurses after World War II. This stamp — issued December 24, 1971 — marks the 25th anniversary of nursing education in the Ryukyu Islands.

NAHA 1971



Symbols of Naha City

This stamp marks the 50th anniversary of Naha City, capital of the Ryukyus, as a municipality. Completely destroyed during World War II, Naha City was rebuilt after the war and again became the Islands' political and economic center.



Ryukyu Islands

POSTAL ISSUES

OCEAN SERIES

1972



Sea and Island

To people of the Ryukyus, the Pacific Ocean is never far away. This stamp, printed by photogravure, is the first in the "Ocean Series" and was released March 21, 1972. It was designed by Teruyoshi Kinjo and Yoshinori Arakaki; 2½ million copies were printed.



Coral Reef

This second stamp in the "Ocean Series" was issued March 30, 1972; Shin Isagawa designed it, and it was printed by photogravure in an edition of 2½ million. Approximately 150 varieties of coral are to be found in the waters surrounding the Ryukyu Islands.



Sea Bird, Sea, Island

Although flocks of some sea birds are still found in uninhabited islands of the Ryukyus, many species have disappeared because of man. This stamp, third of the "Ocean Series," was issued April 14, 1972; Chosho Ashitomi designed it; 2½ million were printed.

PHILATELIC WEEK

1972

MARITIME PARK

1972



Yabuchi Island

The Yokatsu Maritime Government Park consists of the small islands of Ikei, Miyagi, Henza, Tsuken, Yabuchi, Hamahiga and South and North Ukibaru and lies in cobalt-blue waters surrounded by cays which retard the heavy Pacific Ocean Waves.

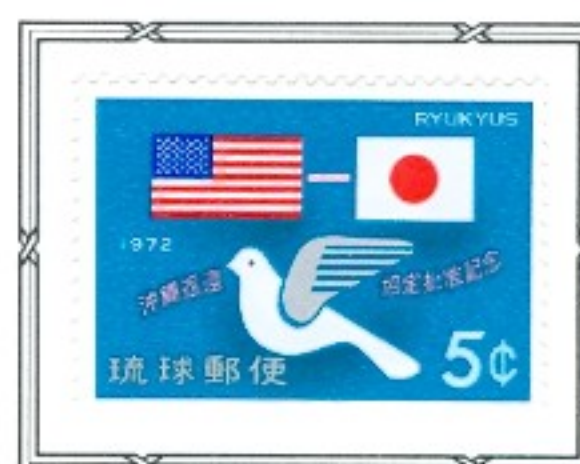


Yushibin

A Yushibin is a pottery sake container in which people in Ryukyuan high society presented Awamori (Okinawan sake) on auspicious occasions. The Yushibin on this stamp—issued April 20, 1972—was made in the early 1800's; its type is Tsuboya-ware.

REVERSION

1972



U. S. and Japan Flags

This stamp marks the reversion of the Ryukyus to Japanese control. The Islands had been part of Japan until American forces occupied them in 1945, late in World War II; since 1945 the Islands had been semi-autonomous under U. S. administration.