Second Floor
1. The Eagle and Shield by unknown artist
2. George Washington by Rembrandt Peale
3. Theodore Roosevelt by James Brooks Foster

Third Floor
4. First Reading of the Emancipation Proclamation by Francis Dickrell Carpenter
5. John Adams by Daniel Chester French
6. Chester Arthur by Augustus Saint-Gaudens
7. Andrew Johnson by William C. McVey
8. Millard Fillmore by Robert Osgood
9. Martin Van Buren by U.S.J. Durand
10. The Recall of Columbus by Augustus D. Heaton
11. Abraham Lincoln by Sarah Fisher Ames

Key to Senate Art in Stamps

Other Senate Art in Stamps

Chester Arthur
Medallion bust by Augustus Saint-Gaudens, 1991
Senate chamber gallery, 2nd floor, Senate wing
14c stamp, issued November 23, 1991

Millard Fillmore
Medallion bust by Robert Osgood, 1890
Senate chamber gallery, 2nd floor, Senate wing
14c stamp, issued September 24, 1991

Patrick Henry
Painting by George D. Bristow, ca. 1920
Main corridor, 2nd floor, Senate wing
10c stamp, issued January 29, 1950

Andrew Jackson
Painting attributed to Thomas Sully, 1824
Private Office, 2nd floor, Senate wing
14c stamp, issued February 11, 1991

Andrew Johnson
Medallion bust by William C. McGahey, 1900
Senate chamber gallery, 1st floor, Senate wing
14c stamp, issued October 27, 1991

John Paul Jones
Painting by George B. Marden, ca. 1930
Russell Senate Office Building
14c stamp, issued September 21, 1979

Abraham Lincoln
Medallion bust by Sarah Fisher Ames, 1862
East hallway, 3rd floor, Senate wing
14c stamp, issued October 20, 1991

Theodore Roosevelt
Medallion bust by Erwin Earle Frazier, 1910
West hallway, 2nd floor, Senate wing
14c stamp, issued December 8, 1931

Martin Van Buren
Medallion bust by U.S. J. Durand, 1914
Senate chamber gallery, 1st floor, Senate wing
14c stamp, issued April 14, 1934

George Washington
Painting by Gilbert Stuart, ca. 1796-97
Room 520, 2nd floor, Senate wing
10c stamp, issued May 12, 1860

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Commission on Art by the Office of Senate Ceremonies
6 Pub. 105-39
Senate Art in Stamps

Visitors to the United States Capitol may not realize that over 80 postal stamps have had paintings or sculpture located in the Senate as the basis for their design. The art in the Capitol is a fitting source for stamp covers as it commemorates many of the nation's distinguished leaders and significant events.

Postage stamps were first introduced in this country in 1845, when Senator Daniel Webster of Massachusetts proposed their use for the payment of mail. Early issues were simple in design, and gradually evolved into today's multi-colored works of art.

The Eagle and Shield

In 1847, the eagle and shield, symbols of power and protection, were adopted by the Senate. It became the central design on the seal of the Senate, which was adopted in 1859.

In 1989, the painting "The Recall of Columbus" was licensed for the 400th anniversary of Columbus' landing in America. That same year, the Postal Service released the stamp to illustrate the event. The stamp was designed by the late master engraver,itorio.

George Washington

The first stamp issued in 1938 by George Washington in the Pennington Series (1938-1971) was based on a portrait of the first president by Rembrandt Peale. Public disapproval with the "unflattering" Washington on the original stamp resulted in a redefinition of the design a year later. The Pennington Series includes 10 stamps, each in a different denomination.

The Recall of Columbus

Painting by Anton Reiche, 1947
The painting "The Recall of Columbus" was licensed for the 400th anniversary of Columbus' landing in America. That same year, the Postal Service released the stamp to illustrate the event. The stamp was designed by the late master engraver,itorio.

First Reading of the Emancipation Proclamation of President Lincoln

Painting by Frank DeCaro, 1947
The painting "First Reading of the Emancipation Proclamation of President Lincoln" was licensed for the 150th anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation. The stamp was designed by the late master engraver,itorio.

The 200th John Adams stamp was issued as part of the Presidential Series of 1988. John Adams was the vice president under Washington and president from 1797 to 1801. Adams was the first to be honored in the Senate's Vice-Presidential Bust Collection. Massachusetts sculptor Daniel Chester French executed the bust. The artist's most celebrated work is the statue of Lincoln in the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C.

The Vice Presidential Bust Collection

The design for each stamp in the Presidential Series of 1988 was determined by the first ever national stamp design competition. The series includes 11 postal issues based on marble busts of vice presidents, who were also presidents, from the U.S. Senate Collection. The busts were commissioned by the Senate for placement in niches in the Senate chamber gallery and throughout the Senate wing of the Capitol. The Vice Presidential Bust Collection forms the Senate's oldest continuing collection and honors the vice presidents of the Senate.