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# JOHN M. TAYLOR SPECIALIZED COLLECTION OF COLOMBIA

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## FINDING GUIDE

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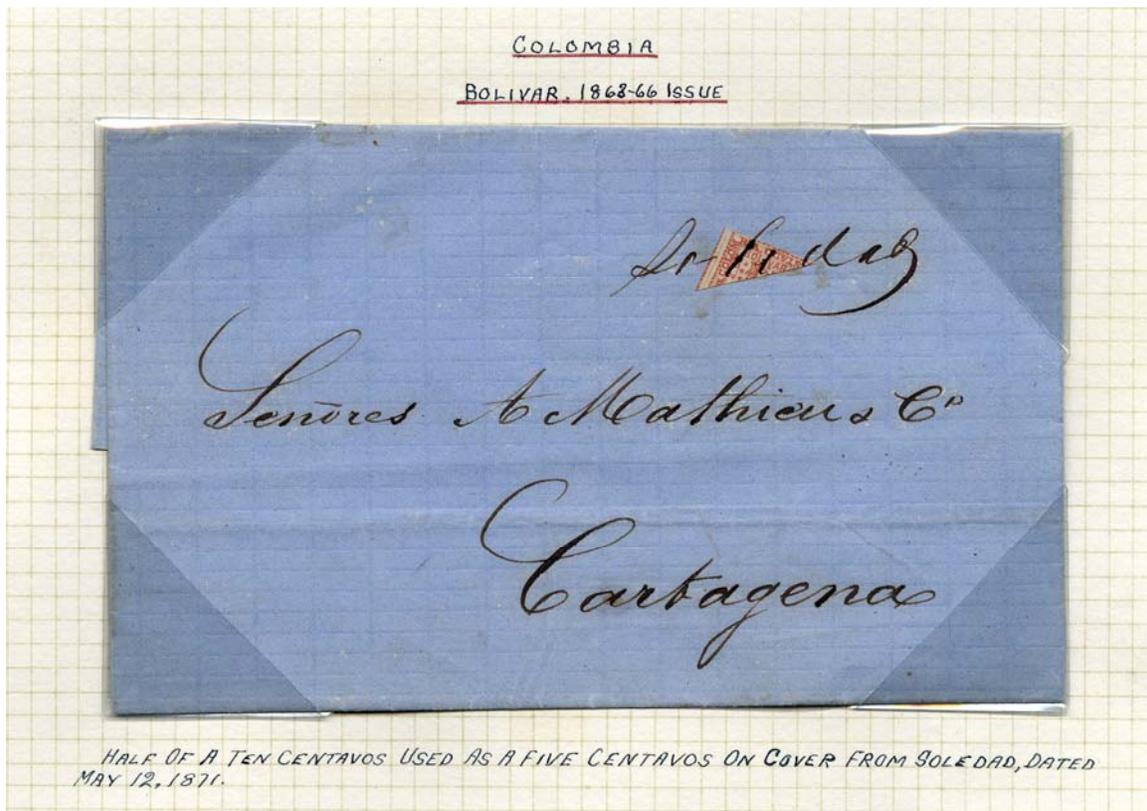


Smithsonian  
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## COLLECTION SCOPE & CONTENT

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The John M. Taylor Collection consists of 4 volumes of stamps and covers from Colombia from 1859 - 1910.

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## PROVENANCE

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The specialized collection of Colombia, Volumes 1 – 4, was donated by John M. Taylor on December 27, 1956 (Accession Number 213078).

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## NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

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In 1830, the "Department of Cundinamarca" region adopted the name "Nueva Granada (New Granada)" when it ceded from Venezuela and Ecuador. It kept this name until 1856, when it became the "Confederación Granadina" (Grenadina Confederation), and in 1859 it issued the first stamps (Colombia Scott #1). After a two year civil war ending in 1863, the "United States of Colombia" was created and issued new stamps (Scott #19). In 1886, the country finally became known as the "Republic of Colombia" and issued Scott #129 – 131 showing the Coat-of-Arms, Simón Bolívar and President Rafael Núñez.

Internal political conflicts continued, occasionally igniting very bloody civil wars, the most significant being the Thousand Days War (1899 - 1902), which, together with the United States of America's intentions to influence in the area (especially the Panama canal construction and control), led to the separation of the Department of Panama in 1903 and its establishment as a nation.

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## CONTAINER INVENTORY

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**Volume 1:** Included in this 52 page album of Colombia Stamps issued from 1859 – 1904 are:



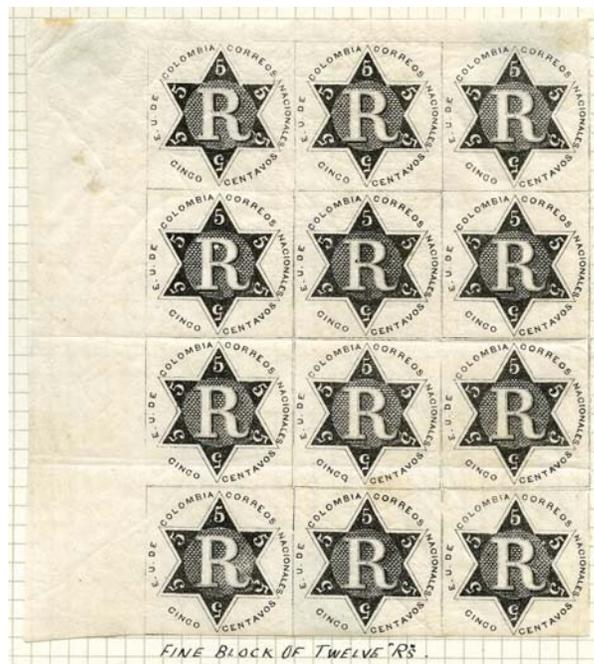
- Multiple examples of different papers (wove, laid, bluish, greenish, white, tinted, pelure), perforate and imperforate varieties, errors, color varieties and overprints;
- One cover with a bisect usage from Panama to Lima Peru; and,



- Rare mint block of the 1865 20-centavos Coat-of-Arms issue (Colombia Scott # 40).

**Volume 2:** Included in this 43 page album are:

- Colombia Stamps issued from 1904 – 1910 on 4 pages;

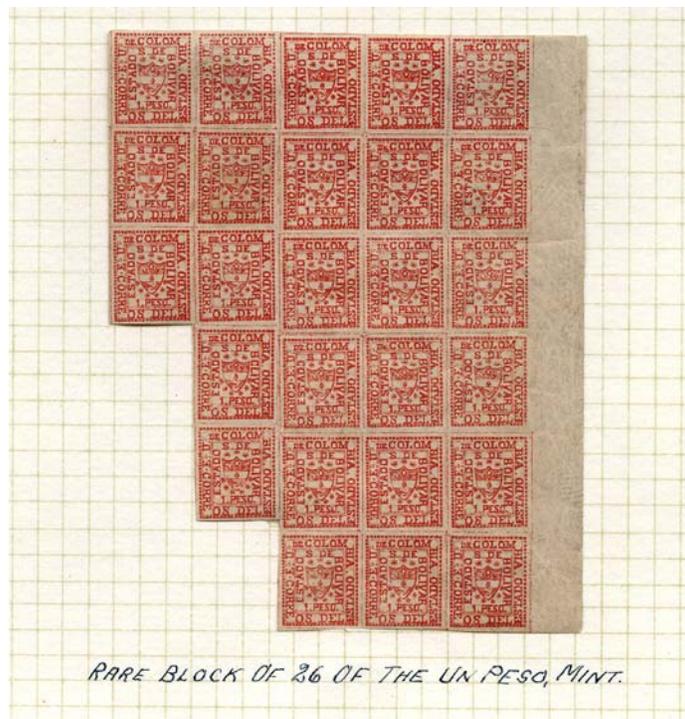


- Colombia registration stamps, acknowledgement of receipt stamps, late fee stamps and postage due stamps on 9 pages;
- Railroad and river postal service envelope stamps on 1 page;
- Local stamps for the City of Bogotá issued from 1889 – 1903 on 1 page;



- Stamps from the state of Antioquia issued from 1868 to 1904 including acknowledgement of receipt stamps and registration stamps on 27 pages; and,
- Stamps from the City of Medellin on 1 page.

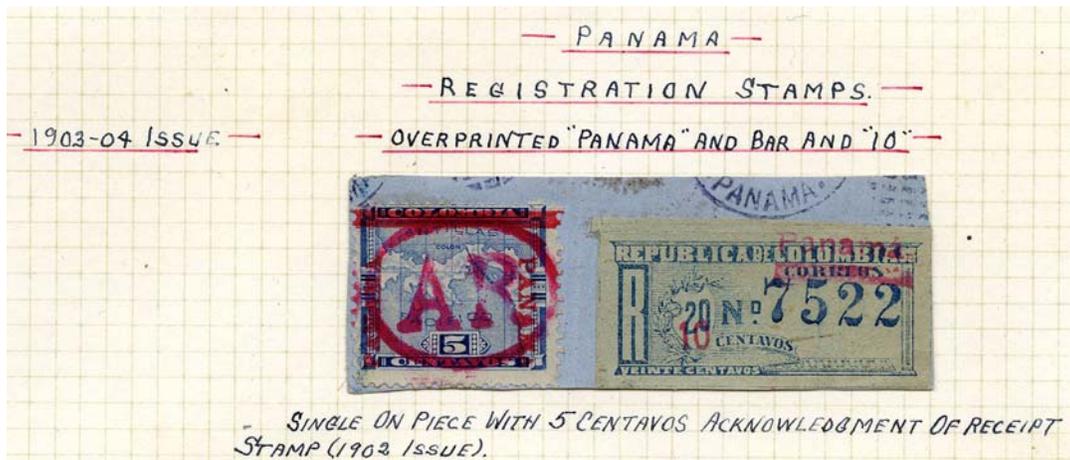
**Volume 3:** Included in this 54 page album are:



- Stamps from the state of Bolívar issued from 1863 – 1903 on 14 pages including acknowledgement of receipt stamps and late fee stamps and one cover with a bisect usage;
- Private issued stamps from Cauca and Cali on 2 pages;
- Stamps from the state of Boyacá issued from 1902 – 1903 on 3 pages;
- Stamps from the state of Cundinamarca issued from 1870 – 1904 on 5 pages; and,



- Stamps from the State of Panama from 1878 to 1909 on 30 pages including registration stamps and acknowledgement of receipt stamps. There is a detailed study of the overprints and their varieties and errors.



**Volume 4:** Included in this 50 page album are:

- Stamps from the state of Santander issued from 1884 to 1905 on 40 pages with a detailed study of the types of surcharges and their errors on full sheets with drawings showing the location of the types and errors;
- Stamps from the state of Tolima issued from 1870 to 1904 on 8 pages; and,
- “No hay estampillas” 1894 stamps from Garzon and the “Honda” issue on 2 pages.

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## BIBLIOGRAPHY

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## CREDITS & ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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This finding aid was prepared with the assistance of NPM Museum Specialist Jim O'Donnell.

Images are from the John M. Taylor Specialized Collection of Colombia at the Smithsonian National Postal Museum.