
SPECIALIZED COLLECTIONS OF EL SALVADOR FINDING GUIDE

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The 1892 cover from San Salvador paid the single letter rate to UPU countries if the item traveled via Panama. The 11c rate was in effect from 1879 till mid-1894. The break-down of the rate was 10c per 15 grams plus 1c for via Panama. The 1c was an authorized UPU surcharge. The pen cancels were a somewhat common device used to prevent postal employees or others from removing stamps from covers for their own use. (Hamilton Collection)



Smithsonian
National Postal Museum

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El Salvador: A Short History

The Republic of El Salvador, not “Salvador” as called in almost all philatelic literature and certainly neither the Brazilian city nor the Bahamian island of San Salvador where Christopher Columbus landed during his first journey, is the smallest country in continental America with an area of 21,041 km². Known in the late Pre-Columbian period by its Pipil name Cuzcatlán, El Salvador was discovered by Andres Niño in 1523 and conquered a few years later by Pedro de Alvarado, one of Hernan Cortez's principal lieutenants.

Originally the area of El Salvador belonged administratively to the Captaincy General of Guatemala, part of the province of New Spain (Mexico). In 1821 Central America declared its independence from Spain and was immediately annexed to Mexico, a situation that lasted until 1823 when the Central American provinces shed their ties to Mexico and formed their own Federal Republic. The Federation broke down between 1838 & 1841, when El Salvador became the last Central American state to declare its autonomy.

In much of Latin America, the 19th century was marked by political instability that slowed economic development. Between 1843 and the end of the century there were 12 presidents, two of whom were elected for more than one term, five of whom were ousted by coups or revolutions and two who were executed. Several attempts to revive the Central American Federation were made, but all of them failed.

The early years of the 20th century brought a period of economic progress and social improvement. However, in 1931 violent unrest, due primarily to the economic depression and the fall of coffee prices, led to the coup d'état of General Maximiliano Hernández Martínez, who ruled for 13 years and started a line of military governments that ended in 1979 with the start of the Civil War. The war lasted until 1992, and since then the country has made tremendous advances towards a fully democratic society and better economic conditions.

The earliest known postal piece for El Salvador has been dated around 1780 and bears a pre-philatelic postmark from Santa Ana. The first stamps of El Salvador were issued in 1867, printed by the American Bank Note Company. For several decades, the designs of El Salvador stamps had a clear North American influence as the majority of issues were supplied by American Bank Note Company, Hamilton Bank Note Company and Wright Bank Note Company among others. From the 1950s onwards, the country started to commission stamps in Europe and also to produce them locally. In recent years, the printing has been mostly done by the “Dirección General de Servicios Gráficos” (the government printing house in San Salvador) and the subjects depict a combination of events of world-wide importance with local personalities or commemorations.

The John M. Taylor Collection

COLLECTION SCOPE & CONTENT

The John M. Taylor Collection consists of three volumes of stamps and covers from El Salvador from 1867 - 1929.

PROVENANCE

The specialized collection of El Salvador, Volumes 1 – 3, was donated by John M. Taylor on May 15, 1956 (Accession Number 210878).

CONTAINER INVENTORY

Volume 1: Included in this 48 page album are El Salvador Stamps issued from 1867 – 1896:

1867 Issue

- Issue both mint and used with proofs
- Plate proof of the ½ Real on India on light card overprinted “PROOF” (This was not done in El Salvador but by the American Bank Note Company)



Only known sheet of the 4 Reales value (Taylor collection)

- All four values mint including both shades (printings) of the ½ Real & 4 Real (The two different printings can be distinguished by the gum. It is heavy yellow on the first printing and thin, white on the second)

- All four values shown used although the “negative star” cancel on the ½ Real was not in use during the period of validity of this issue. It first came into use with the 1874 issue. The FRANCO in box cancel is genuine with serifed letters and the box has the longer corner lines
- Proofs cut from the American Bank Note Company sheets in several of the 100 colors known. What appears to be an albino proof may just be a very faded one of a faint color
- Sheets of all four values, second printing, the 4 Reales believed to be unique
- A variety of cancels some not from the period, including counterfeit cancels

1874 Issue

- 1867 Issue overprinted “Contro Sello” with 2 types shown
- The top 4 stamps are Type II (the second most common) The other are too unclear to make a determination although one of them appears to be a Type 3
- Second page, top row are all Type 3, second row are all Type 3, third row is Type 3, and the fourth row except for the 2 Real, which is a Type 2, are all too smudged to identify

1879 Issue

- Mint and used with varieties including 1881 redrawn issues of the 1 centavo (1c) and 2c and the special 1889 printing of the 1c
- Block of 1c showing inverted “V” for “A” in two positions and 15 varieties
- Group of contemporary cancels on the 1c value. Also, a mint copy of the 1c 1889 printing
- Cover going from San Salvador to Berlin, Germany with 1c and 10c stamps. The 10c stamp has the “Para” marking
- Both varieties “with dashes” and “without dashes” on right of the 2c value
- A group of 5c values with contemporary cancels including a NYFM cancel
- Group of 10c and 20c values including a mint 20c, and telegraph stamps



1c and 10c (with “Para” marking) used on July 31, 1882 to Berlin, Germany. The 11c paid the 10c per 15 grams letter rate plus 1c for mail sent via Panama. (Taylor collection)

1887-1889 Issues



Registered, AR cover of 16 April 1889 to Guayaquil Ecuador. The AR is confirmed by the remains of the AR form on the back. (Taylor collection)

- Issues including 5c roulette on cover
- Two blocks of 12 of the rouletted issue
- Group of 3c and 10c including large block of the 3c
- Several used copies including one with the ‘donut’ cancel used in San Salvador after the fire in the Post Office
- Group of unissued American Bank Note Company issues
- Block of 9 of the issued 1c with bar and several used copies
- Block of 25 with pair showing both types of the 1c on 3c provisional

The 1889 Issues

- Examples of double surcharge and 1889 handstamps in violet & black, scarce 1c on 3c double surcharge, and a examples of genuine and counterfeit overprints

1890 Seebeck Issue

- Plate proofs as well as the issued stamps
- The cancelled copies probably show favor cancels some may be legitimate
- Several varieties such as imperforate horizontally, imperforate between, etc.

1891 Seebeck Issue

- Plate proofs as well as the issued stamps
- Provisional issues, both printed and handstamped

1892 Seebeck Issue

- Plate proofs as well as the issued stamps
- Copy of the 1892 10c postal stationery with a 1c adhesive
- Group of Provisional Issues:
 - 1c on 5c in black reading up
 - 1c on 5c in red reading up and down
 - 1c on 20c with inverted “V”
 - Block of 12 of the 1c on 25c in yellow
 - Block of four of the 1c on 25c in yellow
 - Copy of the 1c on 25c in both blue and black (rare)

1893 Seebeck Issue

- Plate proofs as well as the issued stamps including examples of trial color proofs
- “Specimen” overprint on the 2 Pesos value
- Several copies of the provisional issue

1894 Seebeck Issue

- Plate proofs as well as the issued stamps including plate proofs on india paper
- Examples of imperforate between varieties
- Block of 6 of the 1c provisional
- Two covers to Austria, a scarce destination

1895 Seebeck Issue

- Examples of the so-called First Issue including the un-overprinted reprints
- Two examples of the wrong color overprints
- Examples of the so-called Second Issue including some cancelled
- Block of 12 of the 1c on 12c provisional and a block of 12 of the 1c on 24c provisional

1896 Seebeck Issue

- Group of stamps including both the original shade (violet) and reprint shade (bright ultramarine), and a 2c reprint with watermark

Volume 2: Included in this 41 page album are El Salvador Stamps issued from 1896 – 1911:

1896 Seebeck Issue (continued)

- Group of the pictorial issue (so-called Second and Third printings) including some of the thick paper reprints, examples of imperforate, imperf between, etc. varieties
- Inverted overprint on the 15c on 24c provisional issue

1897 Seebeck Issue

- Examples of stamps including thick paper reprints
- Examples of the 13c provisional issues (These are all original printings and can be used to distinguish originals from reprints)

Greater Republic of Central America Issue

- Examples of originals and reprints

1898 Seebeck Issue

- Examples of originals and reprints (thick paper only), mint and used

1899 Transito Territorial Issue

- Examples of stamps, all with black overprint, but no varieties other than overprint reading down

1899 Provisional Issue (1898 issue with wheel overprint)

- Examples of stamps (no 20c) including cancelled copies

1899 Seebeck Issue

- Examples of stamps both without wheel overprint (never issued) and with wheel overprint (including the scarce 24c value), also, the 1c and 5c with wheel in blue, cancelled stamps including a scarce “San Francisco (de Gotera)”
- Several examples of the “1900” handstamp overprint but no copies of the printed “1900”

1900 Provisional Issue (on issue of 1898)

Without wheel

- A few examples including the 2c on 12c, double overprint, both inverted (August printing)

With wheel

- Several examples including the 5c on 12c, overprint sideways reading down (September printing), 1c on 2c (February printing), 2c on 13c (February printing), another 2c on 13c with “centavo” variety (February printing), 3c on 12c (February printing), 3c on 12c, inverted overprint (February printing)

1900 Provisional Issue (on issue of 1899)

Without wheel

- Two copies of 1c on 13c (February printing), 1c on 2c (February printing), 2c on 13c (February printing), 2c on 13c with “centavo” variety (February printing), 3c on 12c (February printing), 3c on 13c, inverted overprint (February printing)

With wheel

- 1c on 2c (February printing), 1c on 13c (February printing), 3c on 12c, inverted overprint (February printing), 5c on 24c (February printing), 5c on 26c (February printing)

1900 Lithograph Issues

- **Handstamped Small Shield**
 - Group of stamps, mint and used
 - Block of 9 of the 50c with center stamp missing overprint
- **Handstamped Large Shield**
 - Group of stamps but no 10c
- **Typographed Shield**
 - Group of stamps, mint and used
 - 13c and 26c with shield inverted
 - 1c with double shield overprint

1905-06 Provisional Issues

- Examples of stamps from the 1899 and 1903 issues all with relatively common overprints
- Copy of the “1 / 1 centavo 1” (Scott #312) with the surcharge inverted and one with the surcharge double, one inverted
- 5c on 12c in red with double surcharge
- The four “5’s” on 12c blue surcharge with additional “5” at lower left
- 1c (Scott type “m”) with double surcharge

1906 Escalon Issue

- Examples of stamps including the 1c on thin paper
- Examples of the so-called 1907 provisional issue - the Escalon postal stationery issue punched with numerals (write up says they are proofs, which they are not)
- Block of the 5c showing the double transfer on position #2 and the vignette printed upside-down on the selvedge (rare)

1907 National Palace Issue

- Examples of stamps, mint and used, 1c with shield inverted; 3c with shield inverted
- Examples of the 1906 Escalon issue with shield overprints
- 1908 provisional with double disks; inverted surcharge; and double surcharge, one inverted

1910 – 1911 Issues

- Examples of stamps, mint and used

Volume 3: Included in this 45 page album are regular issues from 1912 – 1929, postage dues, officials, parcel post, and Registration and Acknowledgement of Receipt stamps

- Regular issues 1912 – 1929 mint and used, with and without overprints
- Postage dues from 1895 to 1910, imperforates, reprints, gutter pair of J17 and J18 (1c and 2c) this appears to be from the plate containing all eight values not the plate of just the 1c and 2c values, different watermarks and overprints
- 1910 issue with honeycomb watermark and control number “+013” on back of stamp



With “+013”
Probably a sheet number control

- 1896 Officials with mint block of 9 of the first issue, which exists only as a reprint, 2c, double overprint (of which it is claimed only 100 printed), watermarked 117 (Liberty Cap), unwatermarked, handstamps and reprints examples of the bogus “De Oficio” handstamps, most of which are counterfeits
- 1897, 1898, 1899 and 1900 Officials including some punched with 12 small holes; group of the “De Oficio” handstamps, most of which are counterfeits
- 1903 - 1927 Official issues with overprints, reprints, and different color surcharges; a couple of 1911 Officials in pairs, imperforate between
- 1895 Parcel Post stamps
- 1897 Registration and Acknowledgement of Receipt stamps

The Charles S. Hamilton Collection

COLLECTION SCOPE & CONTENT

The Charles S. Hamilton Collection consists of three volumes of stamps and covers from El Salvador from 1867 - 1902.

PROVENANCE

The specialized collection of El Salvador, Volumes 1 – 3, was donated by Charles S. Hamilton on December 12, 1958 (Accession Number 222921).

CONTAINER INVENTORY

Volume 1: Included in this 44 page album are El Salvador Stamps issued from 1867 – 1895:

1867 Issue

- Stamps of this issue are similar to those found in the Taylor collection and includes a group of plate proofs from the American Bank Note sample sheets
- Several of the used stamps have contemporary cancels, including a British marking

1874 to 1889 Issues

- Stamps of this issue are similar to those found in the Taylor collection

1890 Seebeck Issue

- Stamps of this issue are similar to those found in the Taylor collection
- 2c with “Specimen” overprint, and 1c pair with imperforate between

1891 Seebeck Issue

- Stamps of this issue are similar to those found in the Taylor collection with several imperforate pairs and blocks as well as imperf between ones
- 1 Peso with light blue number “118” on reverse (reprint)

1892 Seebeck Issue

- Stamps of this issue are similar to those found in the Taylor collection with several imperforate between and imperforate vertically varieties

- Provisional issues with black overprint reading up and down, block of 12 of the 1c on 20c, one of which shows the inverted “V” in “CENTAVO”, a copy with inverted overprint, block of 4 of the 1c on 25c including a copy with the overprint inverted, and 1892 cover shown on the title page of this finding guide

1893 Seebeck Issue

- Stamps of this issue are similar to those found in the Taylor collection with examples of plate proofs on india paper
- 5c with “Specimen” overprint
- Block of 2c imperforate between vertically as well as other values in a similar state
- 1c with a “Sansonate” counterfeit cancel (genuine reads “Sonsonate”)
- Pairs of the 2 Pesos and 5 Pesos
- 10 Pesos with favor cancel

1894 Seebeck Issue

- Group of trial color proofs including the high values, most are pairs
- Provisional issue with “ccntavo” variety and a strip of 3 with a diagonal overprint

1895 Seebeck Issue

- So-called First Issue group of plate proofs
- 2c with dark green overprint (reprint); inverted overprint on the 20c
- So-called Second Issue horizontal pair, imperf between of the 5c value
- Group of provisional stamps including mink block of six of the 1c on 24c and one of the 1c on 30c,
- Several cancels including a San Francisco, CA oval and a 15 January 1895 cancel, which has been claimed to the first day of issue

Volume 2: Included in this 33 page album are El Salvador Stamps issued from 1896 – 1902:

1896 Seebeck Issue

- Examples of plate proofs including color trials of the so-called First Issue
- Copy of the 15c violet on gray-white paper (original) and a copy of the 15c in bright ultramarine on white paper (reprint)
- A 3c of the so-called Second Issue with a “Transito Panama” cancel
- Examples of the so-called Third Issue

1897 Seebeck Issue

- Stamps of this issue are similar to those found in the Taylor collection
- Both the watermarked and unwatermarked 24c are reprints (for the correct shade of an original see the pull-out frames in the museum)
- Stamps of this provisional issue are similar to those found in the Taylor collection
- Scarce cover with the 13c on 100c used from San Salvador to New York on 17 December 1897



The 1897 cover shows the single letter rate of 13c per 15g, which was a reduction from the 15c per 15g rate earlier in the year. The provisional stamp on cover is scarce. (Hamilton Collection)

Greater Republic of Central America Issue

- Stamps of this issue are similar to those found in the Taylor collection except for a copy with a March 17, 1897 cancel, the only month of validity for this issue

1898 Seebeck Issue

- Stamps of this issue are similar to those found in the Taylor collection but there are a couple of copies on the unwatermarked paper, which was issued in Nicaragua and some of these were used in El Salvador although not catalogued as such. (Care must be used not to confuse these stamps with the unwatermarked reprints. These exist because at least some of the printing plates were of 200 stamps, 100 of El Salvador and 100 of Nicaragua.)

Transito Territorial Issue

- Stamps of this issue are similar to those found in the Taylor collection

1899 Provisional Issue (wheel on 1898 issue)

- Stamps of this issue are similar to those found in the Taylor collection including a double wheel on 2c

1899 Seebeck Issue

- Stamps of this issue are similar to those found in the Taylor collection
- Counterfeit double wheel on 100c and a genuine double wheel on 1c

1900 Provisional Issue (on 1898 issue)

- Stamps of this issue are similar to those found in the Taylor collection

(on 1899 issue)

- Stamps of this issue are similar to those found in the Taylor collection but with a 1c on 2c with wheel double (February printing), a “1 centavo 1” (October printing - only value printed then); 1c on 13c, without wheel (February printing with “ ___ntavo”), 1c on 13c, without wheel, inverted overprint, (August printing), a “1 centavo 1” without wheel (October printing), 1c on 13c, without wheel but with “quod” before “1”(February printing), 1c on 13c, without wheel, with “centavo” variety and a straight line “Santa Ana” in double circle cancel (February printing), 1c on 13c without wheel, partial doubling of the overprint (August printing). 2c on 13c, without wheel, “centavo” variety (February printing), 3c on 12c, without wheel, overprint inverted (August printing), and a 3c on 12c, without wheel, double overprint (August printing)

1900 Lithograph Issues (Handstamped Small Shield)

- Stamps of this issue are similar to those found in the Taylor collection

(Handstamped Large Shield)

- Stamps of this issue are similar to those found in the Taylor collection however without the 10c

(Typographed Overprint)

- Stamps of this issue are similar to those found in the Taylor collection but with with inverted shield on 1c, double shield on 1c, missing shield on 1c, and pairs of the 13c, 24c, and 26c with one overprint normal and the other inverted
- The 2c rose with two little red “5” overprint sideways on it (status unknown)

Volume 3: Included in this 30 page album are postage dues, officials, and registration and Acknowledgement of Receipt stamps:

- Stamps of this issue are similar to those found in the Taylor collection
- Postage Dues from 1895 – 1899, mint, used (all with favor cancels) and reprints, and watermarked 117 (Liberty Cap)
- 1896 Officials with mint block of 12 with double overprint (reprint); watermarked 117, unwatermarked issues, black and violet handstamps of the bogus “De Oficio” handstamp with one genuine copy, reprints, and inverted overprints
- 1897 with original copy of the 24c, 1898, 1899 and 1900 Officials including some punched with 12 small holes, mint used and overprinted, including a 1c with Franqueo Oficial oval and the numeral “1” punched in it (status unknown)
- 1897 Registration and Acknowledgement of Receipt stamps
- 1895 parcel post stamps mint and imperforate pairs.

J & H Stolow Album of the First Airmail Issue of El Salvador

COLLECTION SCOPE & CONTENT

The J & H Stolow Collection of First Issue Airmails of the 1924 – 1925 overprints.

PROVENANCE

The specialized collection of First Issue Airmails was donated by J & H Stolow, Inc. (Accession Number 1979.0941) on May 30, 1980.

CONTAINER INVENTORY

- A collection based on the Alex Cohen booklet of the First Issue Airmails
- A collection showing the various varieties of the First Issue Airmails including numerous cover fragments showing multiple copies of these issues
- There is no copy of the 20c with red overprint

One Miscellaneous Box Marked Salvador containing

- Anonymous donation under Accession No. 245624 (five objects), Scott No. C78 - C80 vignettes in black or red on card and paper, Accession No. 264055 (ten objects), progressive proofs and die proofs of Scott No. C78 - C80, and, Accession No. 297869 (six objects) Die Proofs and die essays Scott No. C78 - C80
- Donated by Dr. Vijai Pal Singh under Accession No. 1979.0641 (35 objects), airmail imperforate mint pairs (C36 - C45) including “HABILITADO” overprints, regular mint (538 - 547) including “HABILITADO” overprints, mint pairs punched either “CHICAGO” or “SPECIMEN” (538 - 542), and mint pairs punched either “CHICAGO” or “SPECIMEN” (C36 - C40)
- Accession No. 1999.2022.1-.63 (63 objects), consisting of proofs from the Hamilton Bank Note Company and the Columbia Bank Note Co. including “CHICAGO” perfins and “Columbia Bank Note Co” perfins

Michel Postal Stationery of the World Collection

COLLECTION SCOPE & CONTENT

The Michel Postal Stationery of the World Collection of 143 volumes and several boxes of mint and used Worldwide Postal Stationery, Postal Cards, Envelopes, Letter Sheets, Newspaper Wrappers from 1845 - 1940.

PROVENANCE

The Michel Postal Stationery of the World Collection was bequeathed to the Smithsonian Institution by A. Eugene Michel and acquired in 1940 (Accession Number 152441).

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

Worldwide Postal Stationery, Postal Cards, Envelopes, Letter Sheets, Newspaper Wrappers (both used and unused) are in this outstanding collection of government issued worldwide postal stationery compiled by A. Eugene Michel. It was a bequest to the Smithsonian Institution in 1940. It fills 143 volumes and several boxes which together total over forty thousand objects representing fifty years of intensive and cumulative effort. At the time of its donation, it was ninety-seven percent complete.

Prominent European philatelists had placed the Michel Collection among the world's best five of its kind. It offers exceptional opportunities for study of cancellations, postal routings, paper textures, watermarkings, sizes and trims, and handwriting during the past one hundred and fifty years. Some of its rarities were formerly in the collection of the late Count Ferrary.

CONTAINER INVENTORY

Volume 118 – Salvador – 64 pages of stamped envelopes mint and used from 1887 – 1898, including provisional and overprinted envelopes



Unique essay of the 1892 Postal Card (Michel Collection)



1879 Formula Card (Michel collection)

- 1879 Formula card essays



A decree was published in 1881 or 1882 authorizing postal cards but no cards were issued at that time. This may be an essay for such a card. (Michel collection)

- 1881-1882 Postal Card essay
- An 1889 5c envelope with a counterfeit “1889” handstamp



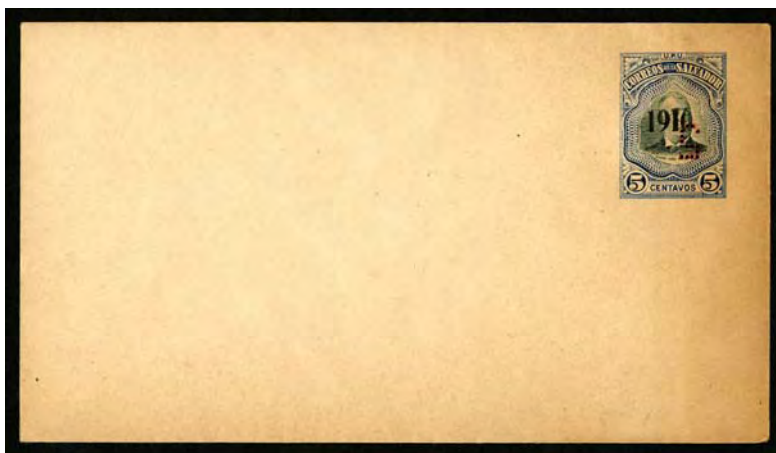
Double rate (10c per 15g), Registered (10c), AR (5c) cover of February 14, 1890 to Guayaquil, Ecuador (Michel collection)

- A rare usage - 1890 20c registered postal stationery envelope with 5c and 10c adhesives from San Salvador to Guayaquil, Ecuador
- An 1893 5c on blue envelope with a 5c adhesive marked "TARDE" going to Lemy-Kemp in New York with a NYFM "12"



December 9, 1894 "Drop Letter" rate with octagon "Servicio Urbano" marking. (Michel collection)

- An 1894 2c provisional envelope with a San Salvador "star in circle" cancel and the San Salvador "Servicio Urbano" octagon cancel of December 9, 1894 paying the local drop letter rate



Philatelic articles have always stated that the punched postal stationery items were from 1907. This obviously dated from a later period. Status unknown. (Michel collection)



Enlargement of the indicium

- An Escalon envelope from 1910 with an inverted “5” punched over red stars
- A fair number of postally used envelopes and postal cards including an 1894 card used on January 1, 1894 with a new year greeting and a philatelically inspired 1896 12c envelope used on January 1, 1896 to San Salvador from Chilamatal

Volume 119 – Salvador and Samoa – 14 pages of stamped envelopes mint and used from 1899 - 1912, 14 pages of wrappers from 1890 - 1897, 4 pages of postal reply cards, 1 page of Memorandum Postal sheets, 26 pages of postal cards from 1883 - 1904 with the only known essay of the 3c 1892 postal card, 1 page of UPU cards and 1 page of Official cards printed by the Hamilton Bank Note Company. The last 10 pages are items from Samoa.

- A supposed 5c 1907 Formula card used on December 30, 1909 to Hussman stamp company in St. Louis, MO with a message offering the 1909 Independence Issue stamps at \$50 gold per 100. (Maybe counterfeit overprints)



A Registered (10c) printed matter (3c) cover from San Salvador on August 7, 1912.
(Michel collection)

- Scarce usage of an 1897 revalued envelope (13c on 15c) revalued again in 1912 by overprinting with two large “5”s

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CREDITS & ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This finding aid was prepared with the assistance of James O'Donnell, NPM Museum Specialist, and Joe Hahn, well known collector of El Salvador and member of The El Salvador Philatelic Society – ACES.

In January 1940, the El Salvador Philatelic Society (Sociedad Filatélica de El Salvador) was founded in San Salvador, El Salvador. In 1975, the Associated Collectors of El Salvador (ACES) was founded in the United States.

In 2004, both societies joined their efforts and created an on-line Philatelic Society devoted to the study of the Stamps and Postal History of El Salvador, the El Salvador Philatelic Society – ACES. The aims of the society are to promote, improve and divulge the study of Philately in general and in particular of El Salvador and to strengthen the relations of collectors of El Salvador with members of all other countries.

The society has a quarterly on-line journal, El Salvador Filatélico On-line, at least two auctions of material for members and a new issues service as well as other benefits.

In March of 2000, a group of philatelists specializing in El Salvador joined efforts to draft the first Philatelic Handbook of El Salvador. The handbook will cover all periods from the Colonial era to the year 2000. It will include pre-philately, stamp issues and postal stationery. So far nine chapters have been drafted, which cover the period from 1780 to the end of the Seebeck issues. The society plans to publish the first section of the handbook, which will cover the Colonial period through the issues of 1889 within the next year. The following year they plan to publish the Seebeck period issues.

Additional information is available at their website <http://www.elsalvadorphilately.org>.

Images are from the Charles S. Hamilton and the John M. Taylor Specialized Collection of El Salvador, and the A. Eugene Michel Postal Stationery of the World Collection at the Smithsonian National Postal Museum.