

Private Cachet Producers—11th World Orchid Conference - Miami

In conjunction with the 11th World Orchid Conference from 5th –11th March 1984, Miami, Florida, the United States Postal Service issued a set of 4-20c stamps featuring orchids native to the United States.

While most cachets reflect the stamp designs some deviated to depicting 'exotic' orchids from other regions of the world. Details pertaining to the number of covers produced, the cachet designer's name, printing process or methods of distribution can at times remain elusive. Many were sold at the World Orchid Conference or by stamp dealers and through the AFDCS with the odd covers given away for gratis.

While the majority of covers were cancelled with 'FIRST DAY OF ISSUE Miami Florida Mar 5 1984', a few were cancelled at alternative Post Offices BR (branches) on the day of issue.

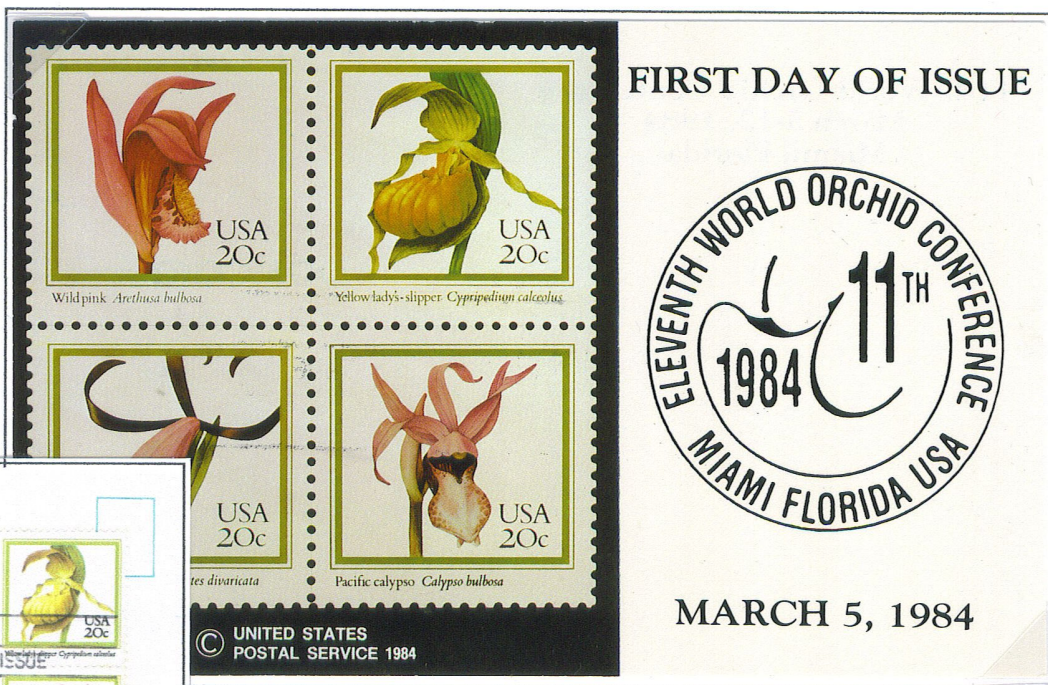
Scope:

This exhibit is restricted to cacheted covers showing four stamps (4x20c) of native American orchids. As the United States Postal Service does not issue First Day Covers (FDC's), but allows others to design cachets for First Day of Issue, the exhibit focuses on small productions, including hand drawn, coloured and painted cachets. Some producers only created cachets for this single event. Most individuals have died.

This exhibit is the result of collecting these covers over a 40 year period since their production in 1984.

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Postcard reverse



Post card printed by the United States Postal Service. On reverse, the postmarked 'FIRST DAY OF ISSUE Miami Florida Mar 5 1984'.

Stamp Dedication Ceremony Program

**First Day of Issue
Orchids Stamps
James L. Knight International Center
Miami, Florida
March 5, 1984**

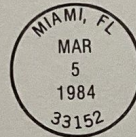
Presiding	John Murchake American Orchid Society
Presentation of Colors	U.S. Air Force ROTC University of Miami
National Anthem	The Omega Singers Miami Palmetto High School Directed by Rosann Powell-Sidener
Welcome and Remarks	Robert M. Scully, Jr. President and General Chairman Eleventh World Orchid Conference
Introduction of Distinguished Guests	Reinaldo Salgado Sectional Center Manager/Postmaster
Musical Selection "Miami, the Magic City"	The Omega Singers
Address and Presentation of Albums	Mary Ann Owens Member Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee

Honored Guests: Dr. John Popenoe
Director
Fairchild Tropical Garden

Dr. David Brown
President
American Orchid Society

Thomas A. Fennell, Jr.
President
South Florida Orchid Society

Manabu Saito
Designer of Stamps *Manabu Saito*



Manabu Saito

For centuries, men and women around the world have admired the magnificent beauty of the orchid. Representing the largest family of flowering plants with over 30,000 varieties, orchids grow nearly everywhere except in desert areas.

Because of their rich colors and diversity, florists consider orchids to be an important addition to flower arrangements. But, they also are used for less aesthetic purposes. Vanilla is extracted from one species, the leaves of another are sold as a vegetable and one variety is roasted and eaten like a potato. In some underdeveloped countries, orchids are considered to have therapeutic properties.

The U.S. Postal Service is proud to issue this block of four Orchids stamps at the Eleventh World Orchid Conference. They were designed by Manabu Saito of Stillwater, New Jersey, and feature orchids native to the United States.

The orchid depicted in the upper left corner of the block is the Wild pink orchid (*Arethusa bulbosa*), which is indigenous to Florida; the Yellow lady's-slipper (*Cypripedium calceolus*), found in the mid-West, is depicted in the upper right; the Spreading pogonia (*Cleistes divaricata*), a native of the northeast, is in the lower left, and the Pacific calypso (*Calypso bulbosa*), found along the Pacific coast, is the subject of the stamp in the lower right corner.

The Presentation Ceremony for the stamps was held on March 5, 1984 at the James L Knight International Centre, where Mary Ann Owens, of the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee, gave the address and presented albums to Honoured Guests.

The stamps were designed by Manabu Saito of Stillwater, New Jersey.

Stamps:

Four 20c stamps
printed in blocks of 4 in a pane of 48.
Stamps 27.3 x 27.3mm, perf 11.

Printer American Bank Note Company

Printing process:

Photogravure
using yellow, magenta, cyan, green and black.

Designer:

Manabu Saito, Stillwater, New Jersey

Stamp subjects:

Arethusa bulbosa

Common name 'Wild pink'.

Cypripedium calceolus

Common name 'Lady's slipper'.

Cleistes divaricata

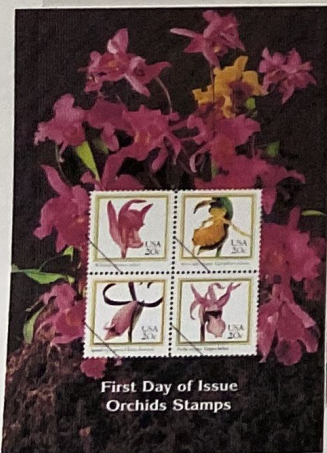
Common name 'Spreading pogonia'.

Calypso bulbosa

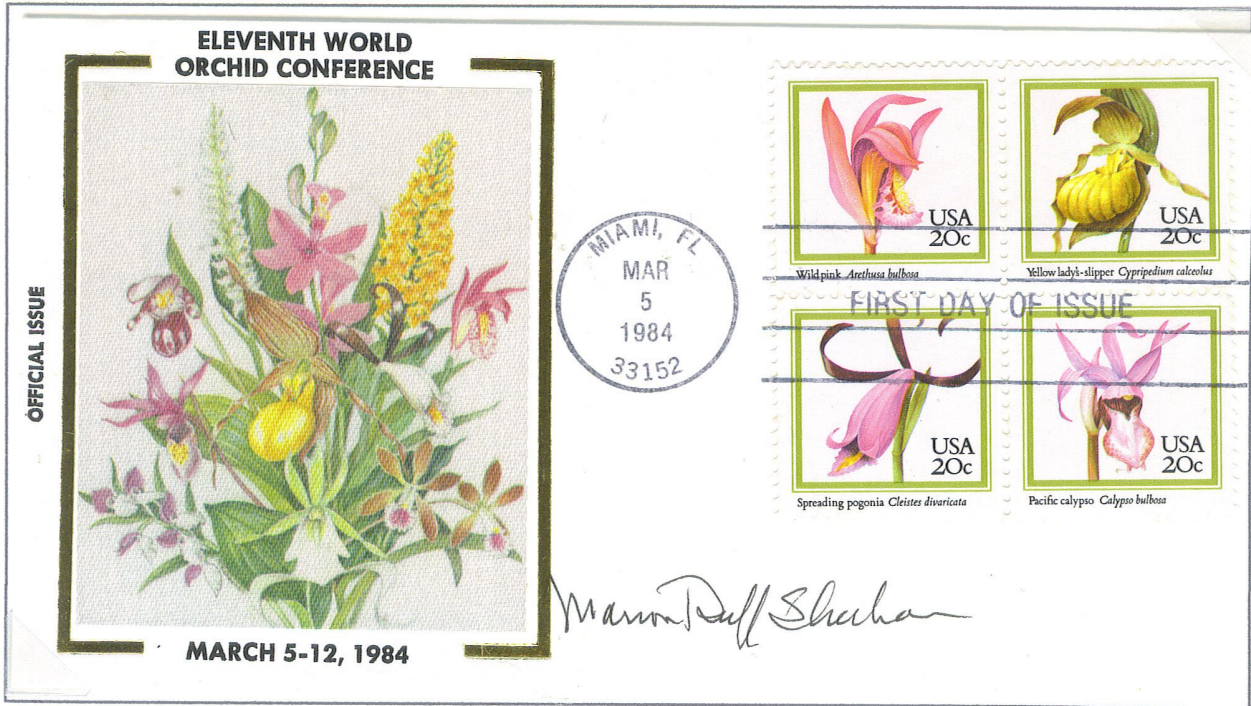
Common name 'Pacific calypso'.

Quantity : 306,912,000

Manabu Saito, the stamp set designer,
signed the program.



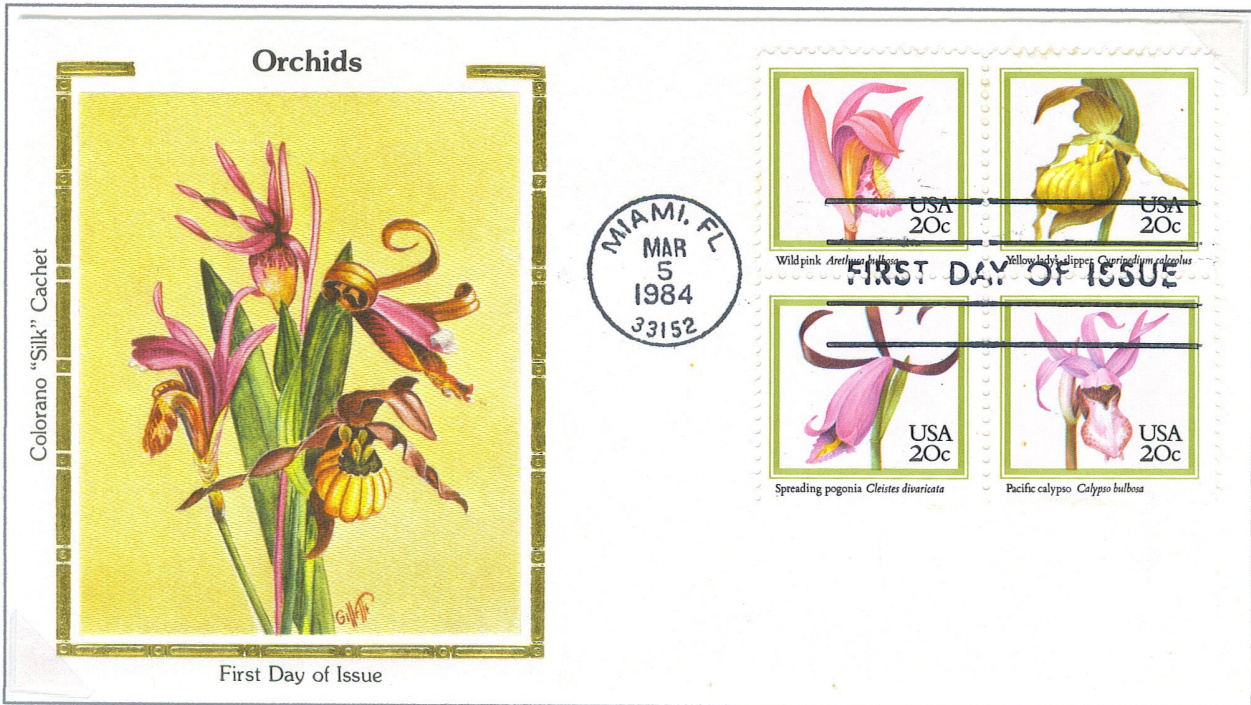
Silk Cachets - Only two styles of silk cachets were made, both in large numbers.



'OFFICIAL ISSUE' cachet, designed and signed by Marion Ruff Sheehan

The Conference organising committee issued a cachet for the stamp issue.

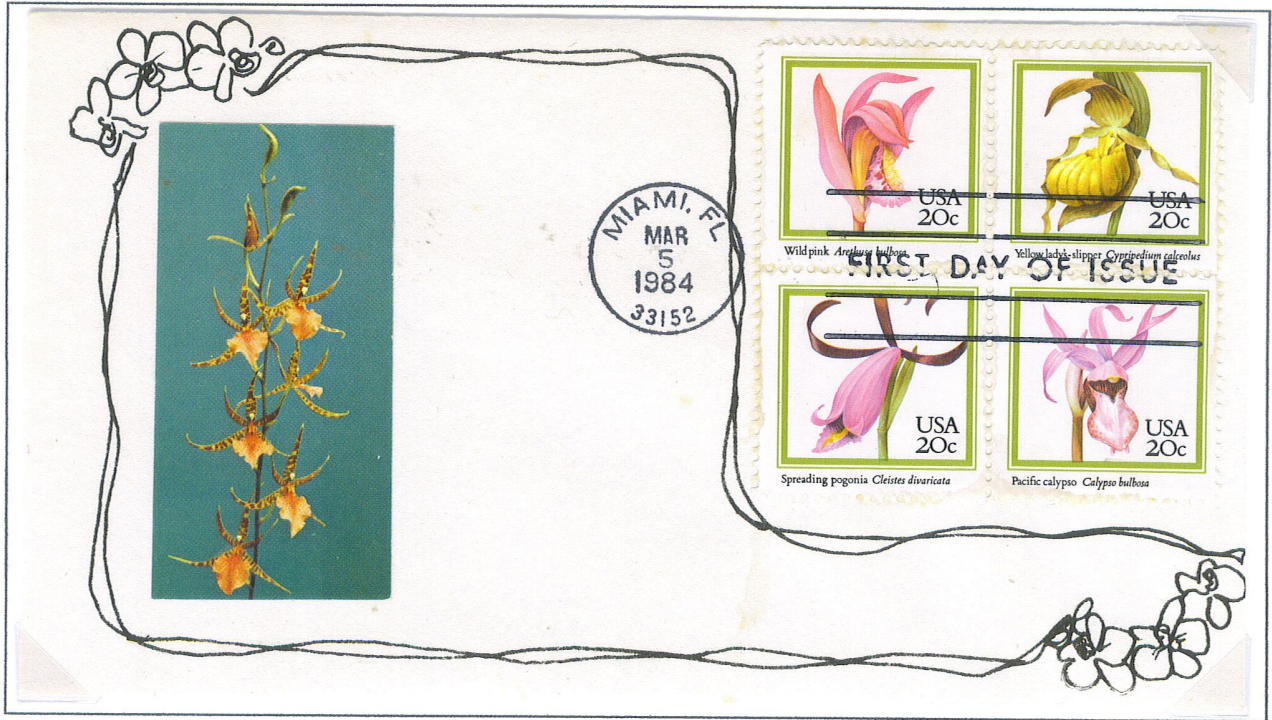
Cachet designed and signed by Marion Ruff Sheehan (1923-1998). Sheehan was a well known botanical artist whose drawings appeared regularly in the monthly 'American Orchid Society Bulletin'. The orchid species depicted on stamps have been incorporated into Sheehan's cachet design. Circular 25mm Miami, FL. 33152 cancel.



Colorano 'Silk' Cachet

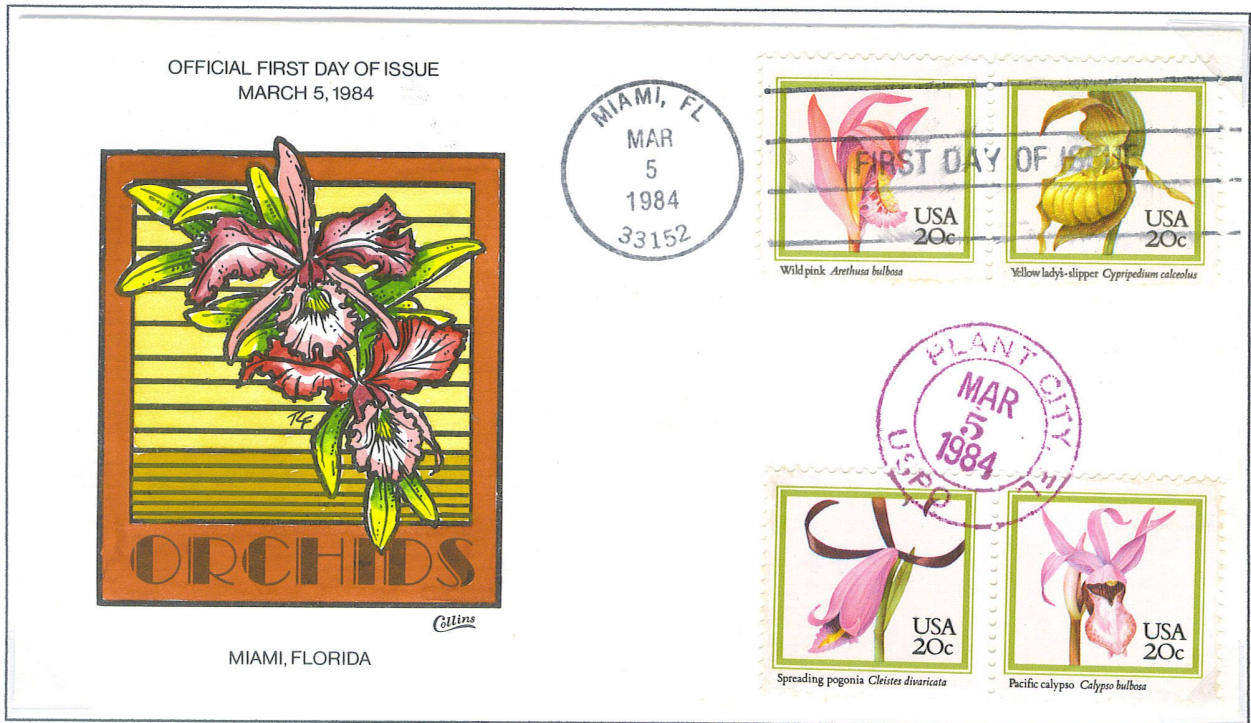
Founder of Colorano 'Silk' Cachets was Ray Novak (1928-2004) Brooklyn, NY. A friend suggested that the company be called 'Color-Ray-Novak' but he shortened it to Colorano. The first silk cover was produced on 19th Jan 1971. Cachets are printed on satin cloth and the name 'silk' came about because of their silky feel. In 1995 Novak sold the company to Paul Schmid and in 2016 Schmid sold it to Mystic Company. Circular 21mm Miami, FL.33152 cancel. (Two cancel sizes found.)

BR and Collins cachets



BR Cachets

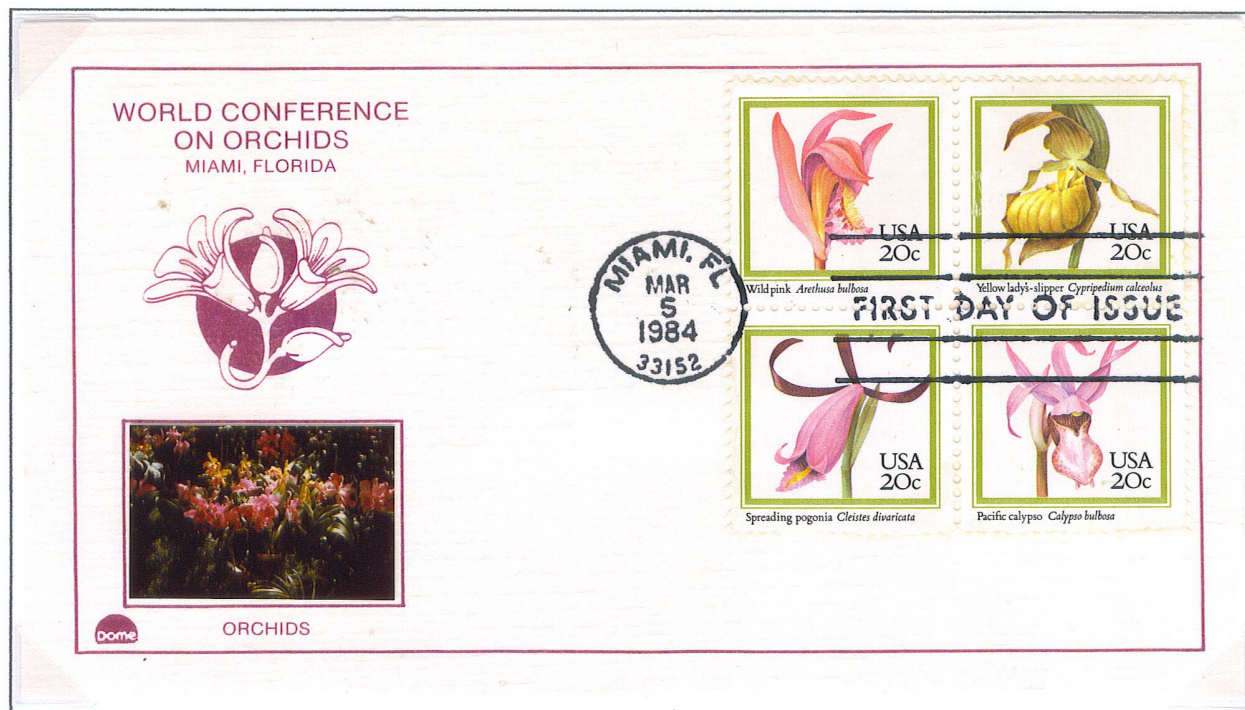
Bonny (1941-2017) and Roger Riga (1941-2018) of BR Cachets, Sun Valley, CA were the proprietors of Rigastamps. Their distinctive style was to use a photograph, in this case a *Miltassa* orchid. Commenced business in 1982 and were active members of the American Philatelic Society and the American Cinderella Stamp Club. Cover #11/50.



Collins Cachets—individually hand painted

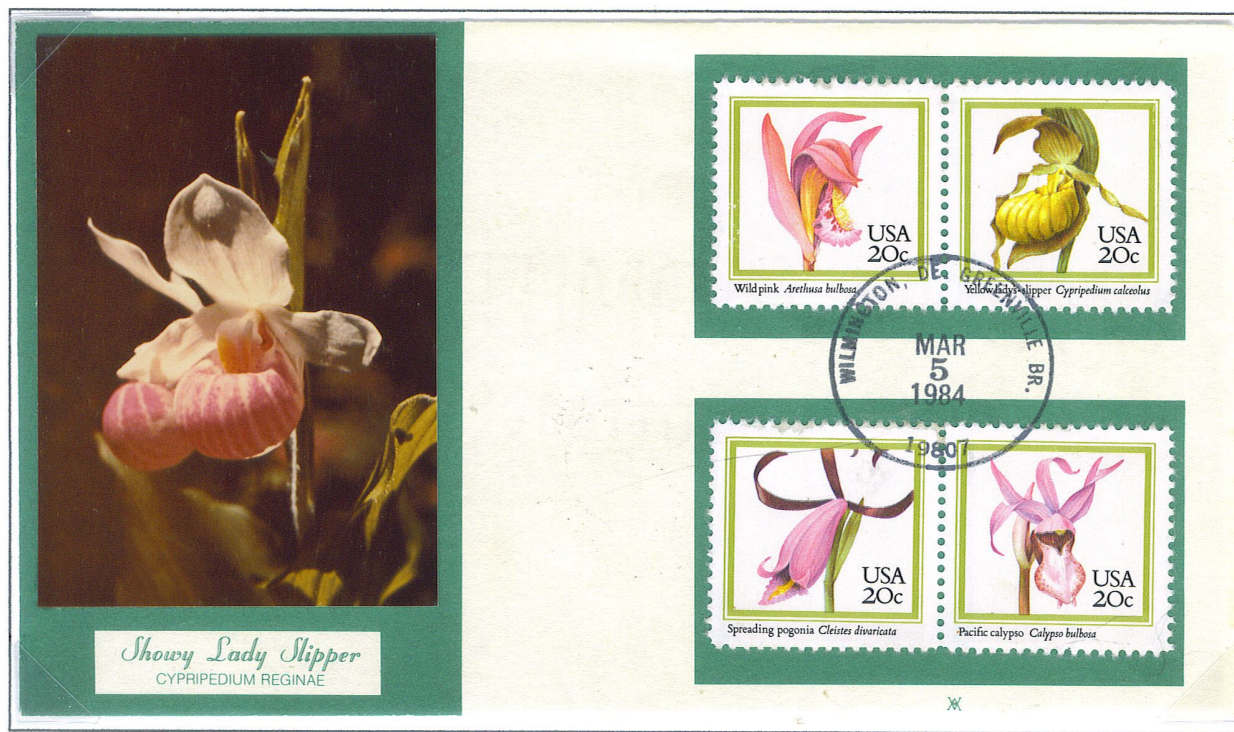
Collins Cachets were established in 1978 by Fred Collins of Allentown, N.J. Collins was co-founder and charter member of the National Cachetmakers Association. Voted 'Cachetmaker of the Half Century' (1951-2000), by members of the AFDCSD. Artist signed TLF. Cachet is of a *Cattleya*, indigenous to Central and South America. Cover is dual postmarked Miami FL and Plant City, FL. For every stamp release, Collins produced 500 cachet covers.

Dome and Double A cachets



Dome Cachets

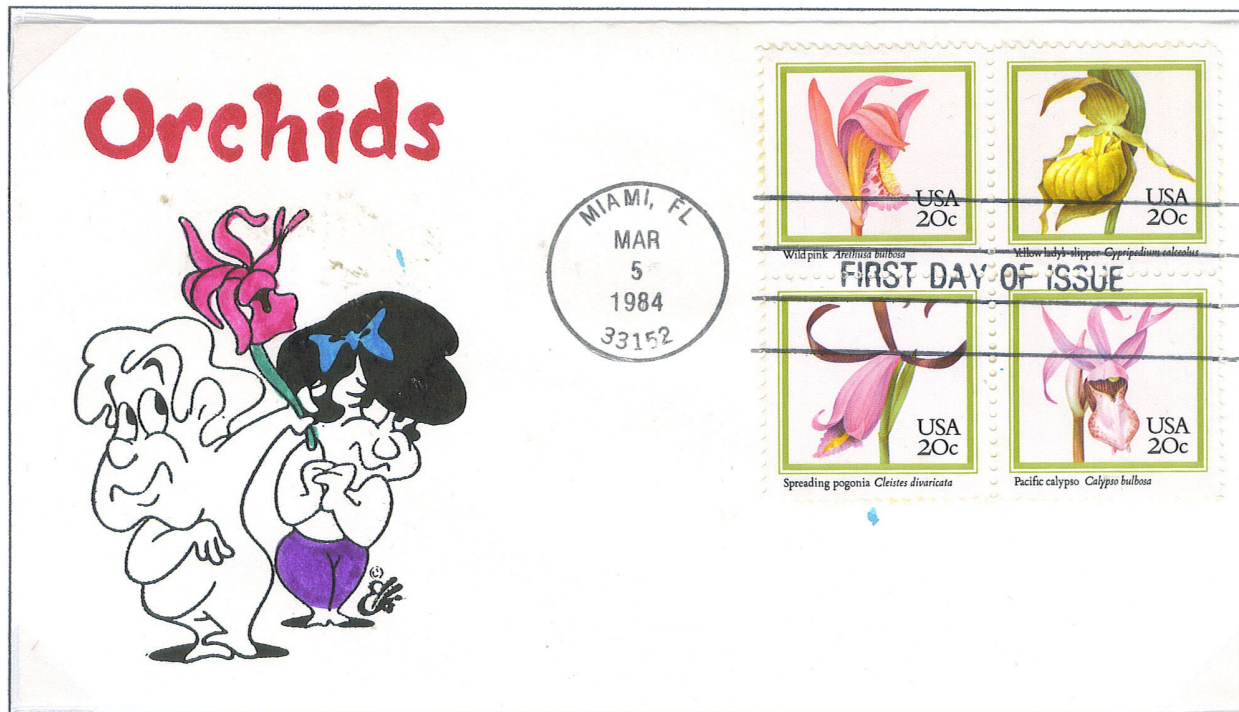
Dominic Sozio of Dome Cachet acknowledges the World Orchid Conference Miami Fl. Although Dome produced covers for several decades the style remained unchanged. A small image and above a brief note acknowledging the event. No original artwork has been discovered in our research of the many issues over the years.



Double A Cachets

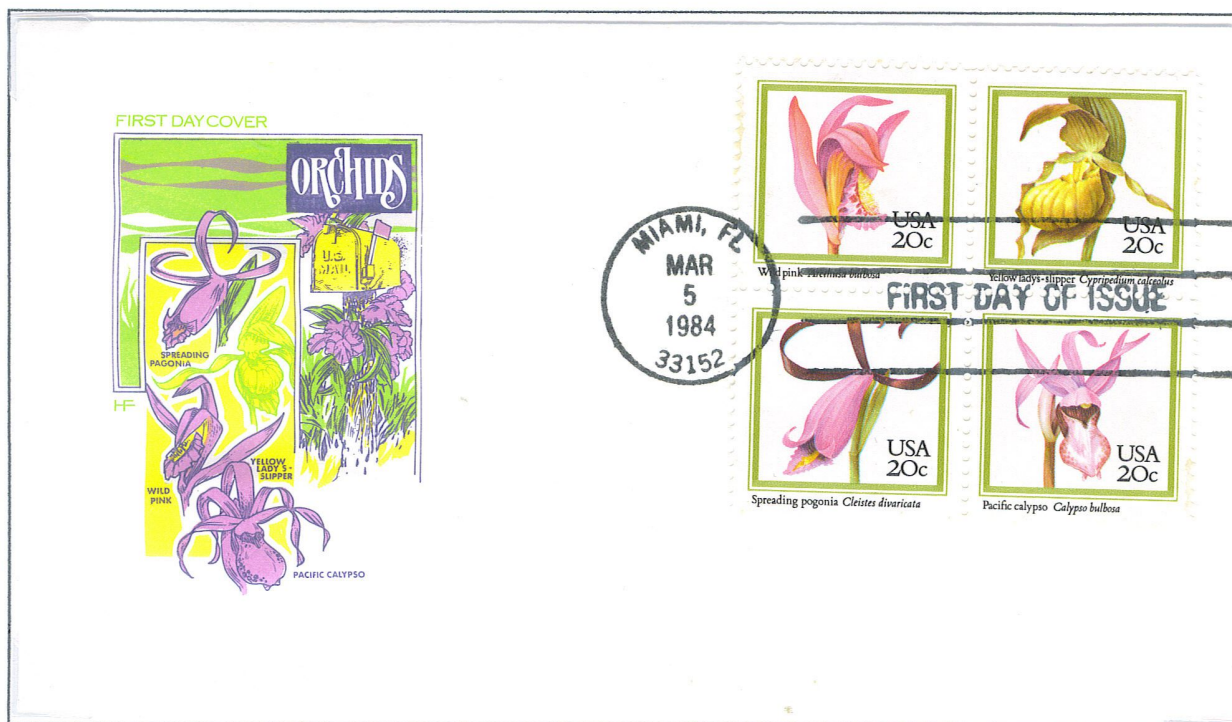
'Double A' cachets were established by Andrew (Andy) Allison (1923-1990), New York, NY. Cachet is a real photograph of *Cypripedium reginae*, found along the eastern seaboard of the U S, central and eastern Canada. This orchid is of the same genus as *Cypripedium calceolus* (top right). Postmarked Wilmington de Greenville BR. 19807. Cover #63 of 100.

Ellis and Farnam cachets



Ellis Cachets - 'Animated Covers'

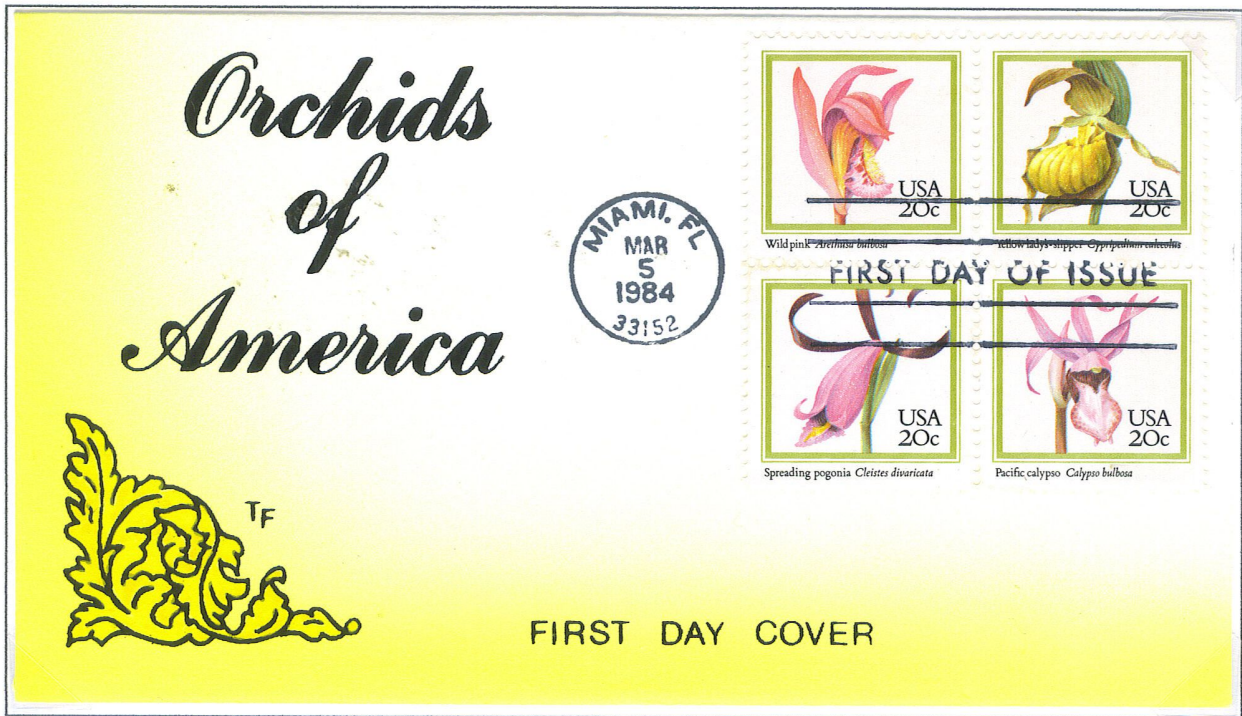
Cover created by Richard Ellis (1939-) Seattle, WA. In 1996 Ellis was the recipient of an AFDCS 'Court of Honor' award. He was known for his animated characters that are easily identifiable as an Ellis creation. Covers only had five colours each requiring a separate offset plate. For each stamp release Ellis produced 1500 cachet covers.



Farnam Apart Cachets

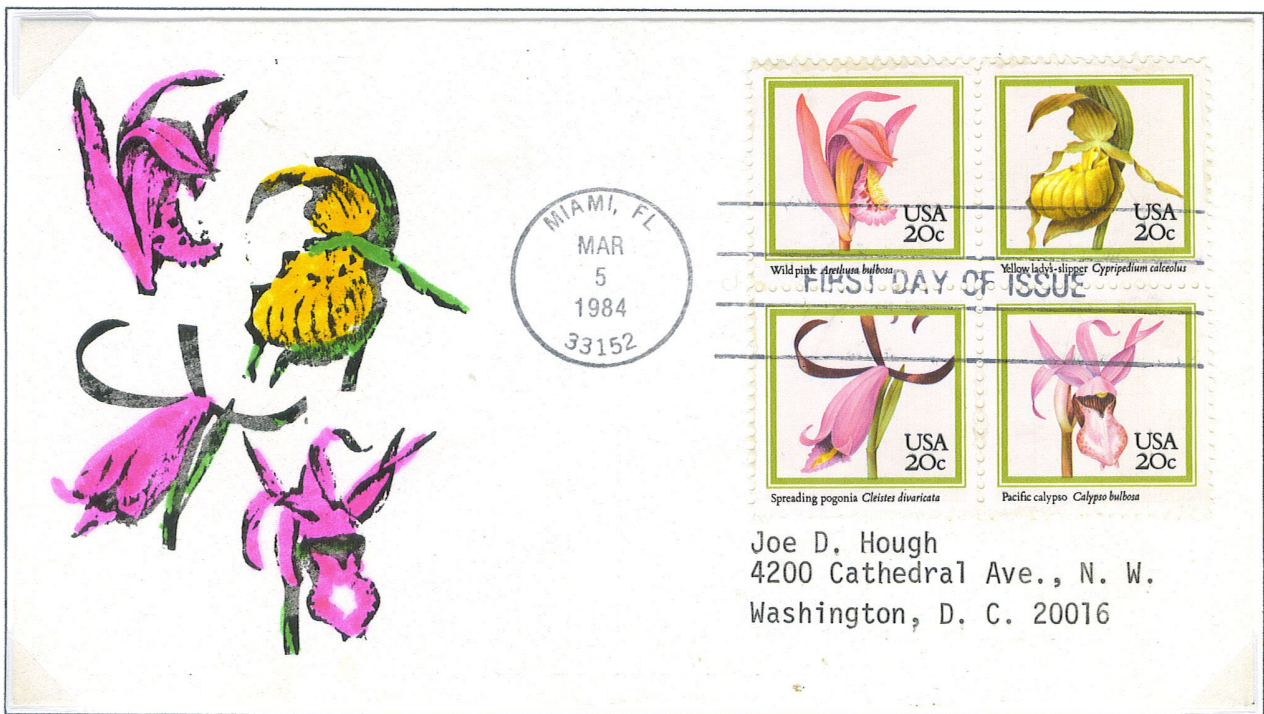
Farnam Apart Limited Edition Cachets were always initialed 'HF'. They appeared to operate for only a few years in the 1980's. Cachet is a half tone colour production. Numbers were low.

Foust and Fox cachets



Thomas (Tom) Foust Cachets

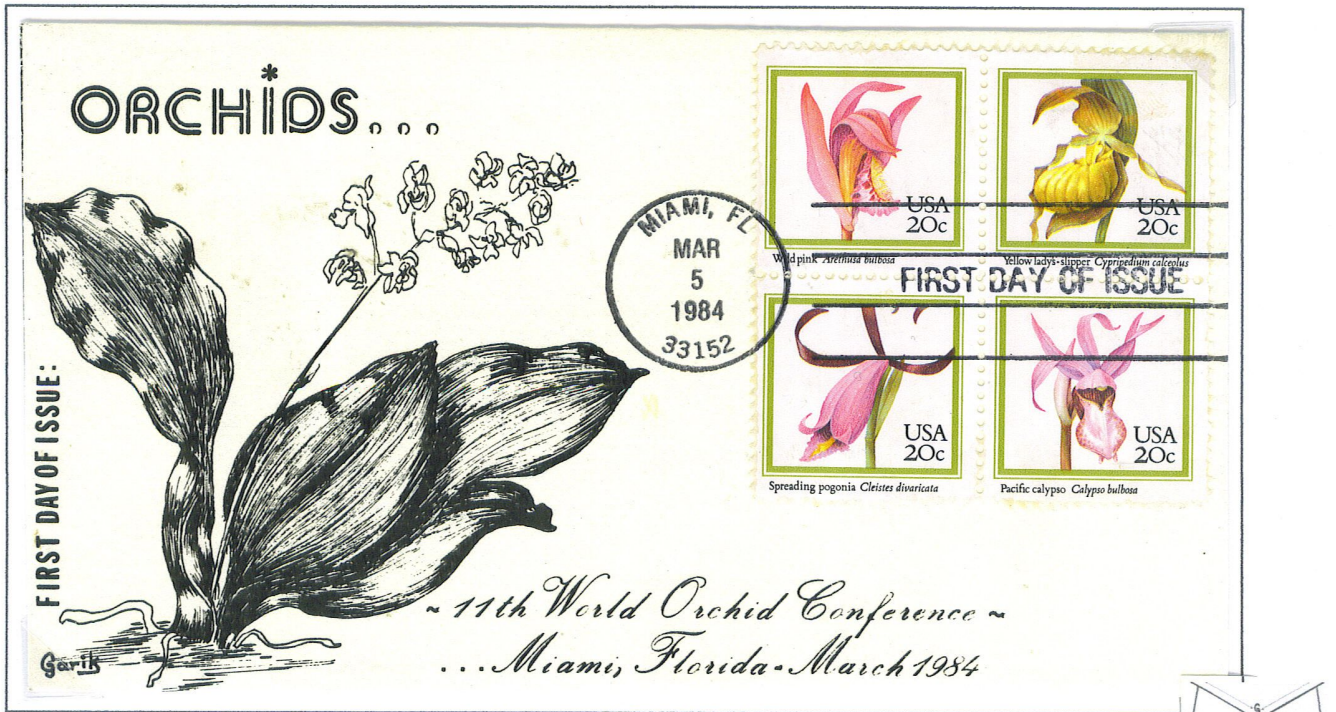
Thomas Foust (1931-2011) McComb, OH, had a distinguished association with First Day Covers. He was President of the AFDCS from 1988-2005, received the Distinguished Service Award in 2001, made an Honorary Life Member in 2002 and 'Glen C Michel Special Recognition Award' in 2001 and 2006. Reverse Signed cover #115 of 141.



Theron Fox Cachets

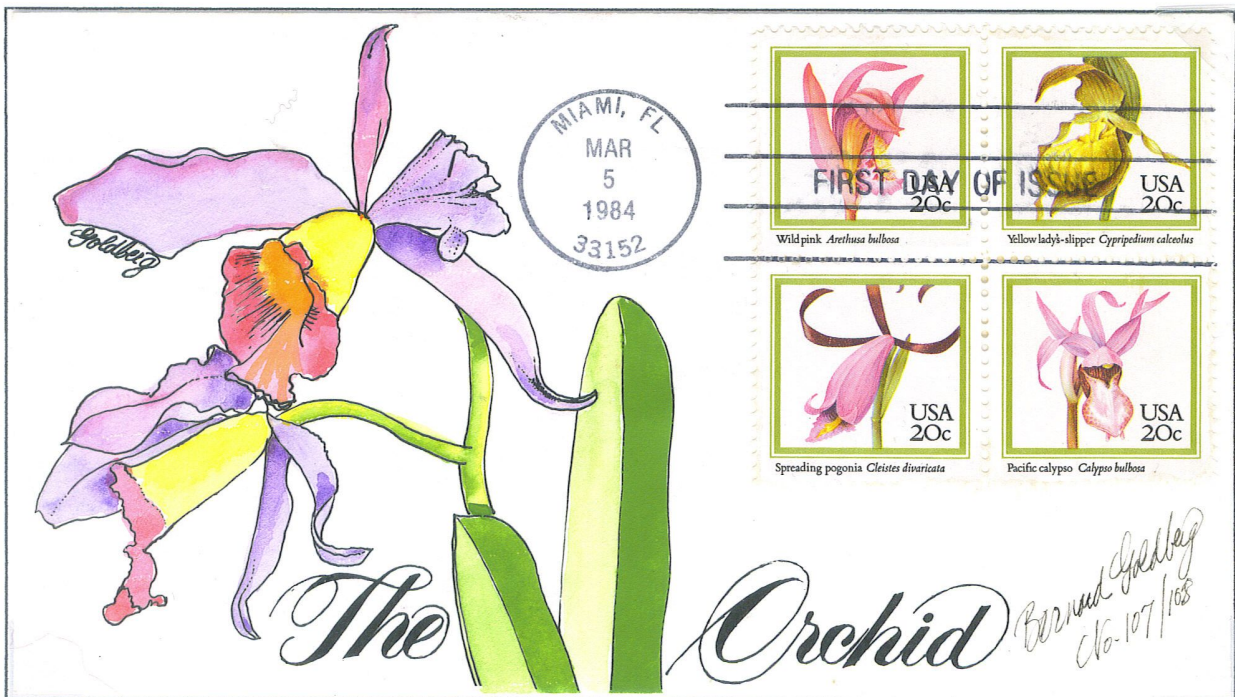
Theron Edgar Fox (1905-2000), San Jose CA. Hand made envelope with black outline images and texta colouring of native orchids as depicted on stamps. Fox did not sell his covers but in his words 'Compliments to Philatelic Friends'. He started producing covers in the late 1930's and was still producing limited runs into the mid 1980's. One of 20

Garik and Goldberg cachets



Garik Cachets

Garik Cachets was established by Garry E Dubnik (1950-2003), Lakewood, NJ. All Garik covers were black etched. Cachet is of an unidentified orchid. This envelope was handmade with a black border line on reverse and monogram GC. Envelope included a flyer to FDC collectors/orchid fanciers. Reverse. Signed cover # 98/100.



Goldberg Cachets

Bernard Goldberg (1917-2011), New York, NY specialised in hand painted cachets between 1983 and 1995. His covers are highly collectible, many of which have won awards. He was a recipient of the AFDCS, 'Court of Honour' award for 1997. Cachet shows an orchid of the genus *Laelia*, native to Central and South America. Signed cover #107 /108

Ham and Horseshoe cachets



Ham Cachet

Lois Hamilton (1922 - 2013) of Ranger, TX, produced cachets under the name of 'Ham Cachets'.

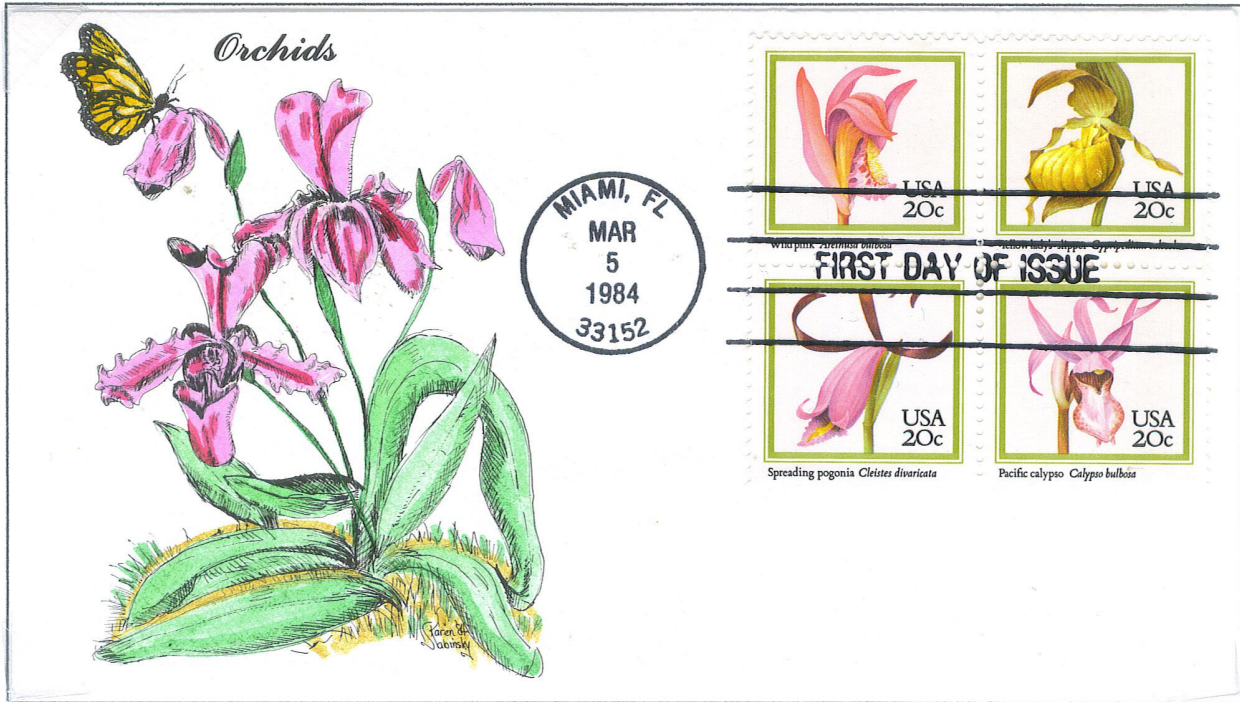
In 1992 Hamilton was presented with the 'Court of Honor' award from the AFDCS. Cachet is half tone and hand coloured. Cachet design reflects the stamp image and positioning. Signed 'Ham' (Front). Reverse #79/280.



Horseshoe Cachet

Horseshoe Cachets was operated by John Hemming. The cachets were hand coloured with text or pencils and one of the few low production number covers to have the cachets reflecting the stamp issue. This cachet maker appears to be in production only in the 1980's. Reverse-Signed John Hemming

Karen's and Marg cachets



Karen's Cachets

Logo on reverse

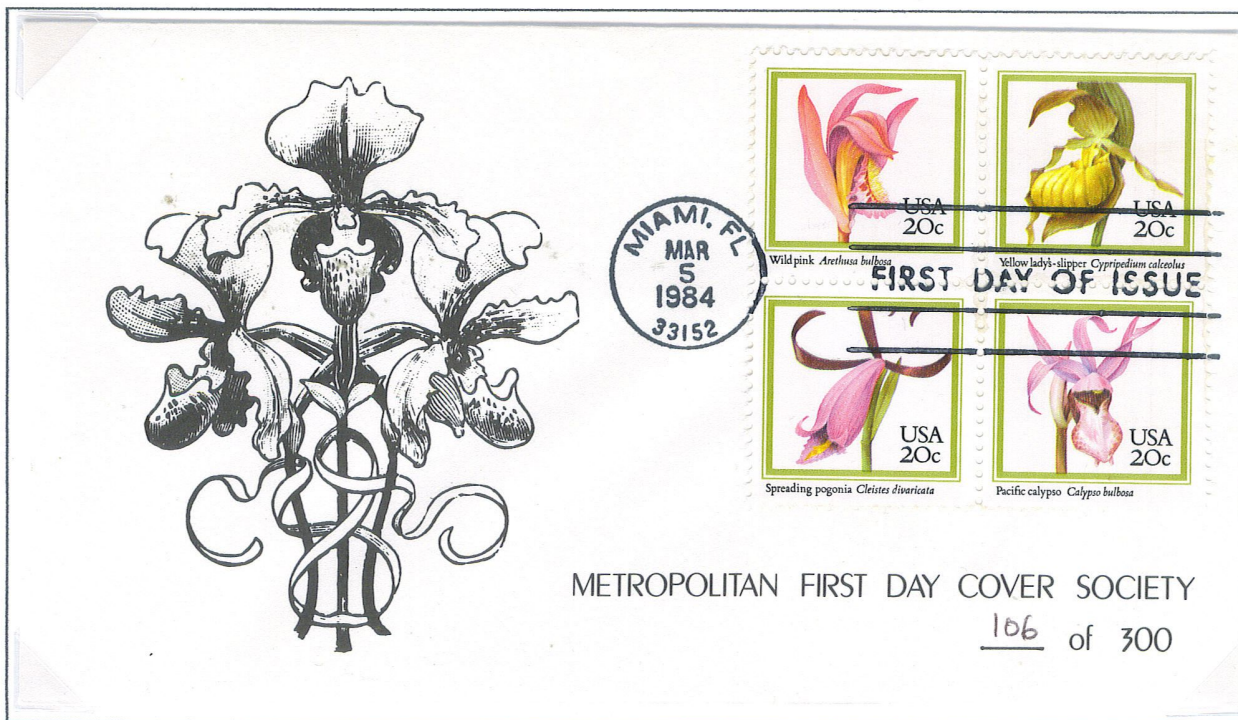
Karen Sabinsky produced cacheted FDCs from 1983-96. This is an original hand painted design. The cachet depicts an orchid species of very imaginative colours! Sabinsky is best known for her depiction of animals, people, children and plants. Distinctive ink bottle, pen and a paper scroll logo on reverse together with #47/250.



Marg Cachet -

Covers signed 'Marg' (printed) were produced by Edmond Shea Advertising. The covers usually contained an insert giving a brief message about the stamp issue, and sometimes an advertising pitch. An eye catching presentation of the four orchids printed in two colour half tone lithograph. Covers were generally not sold but given to clients.

Metropolitan and Paslay cachets



Metropolitan FDC Society

Metropolitan First Day Cover Society was founded by Harry B Scheuer, New York, NY. He was awarded the 'Philip H Ward, Jr Memorial Award for Excellence in FDC Literature' in 1977, 1978 and 2016. Cachet is a black etched *Paphiopedilum*, a genus native to the Asian region and related to *Cypripedium*. **#106/300.**



Paslay Classic Cachets

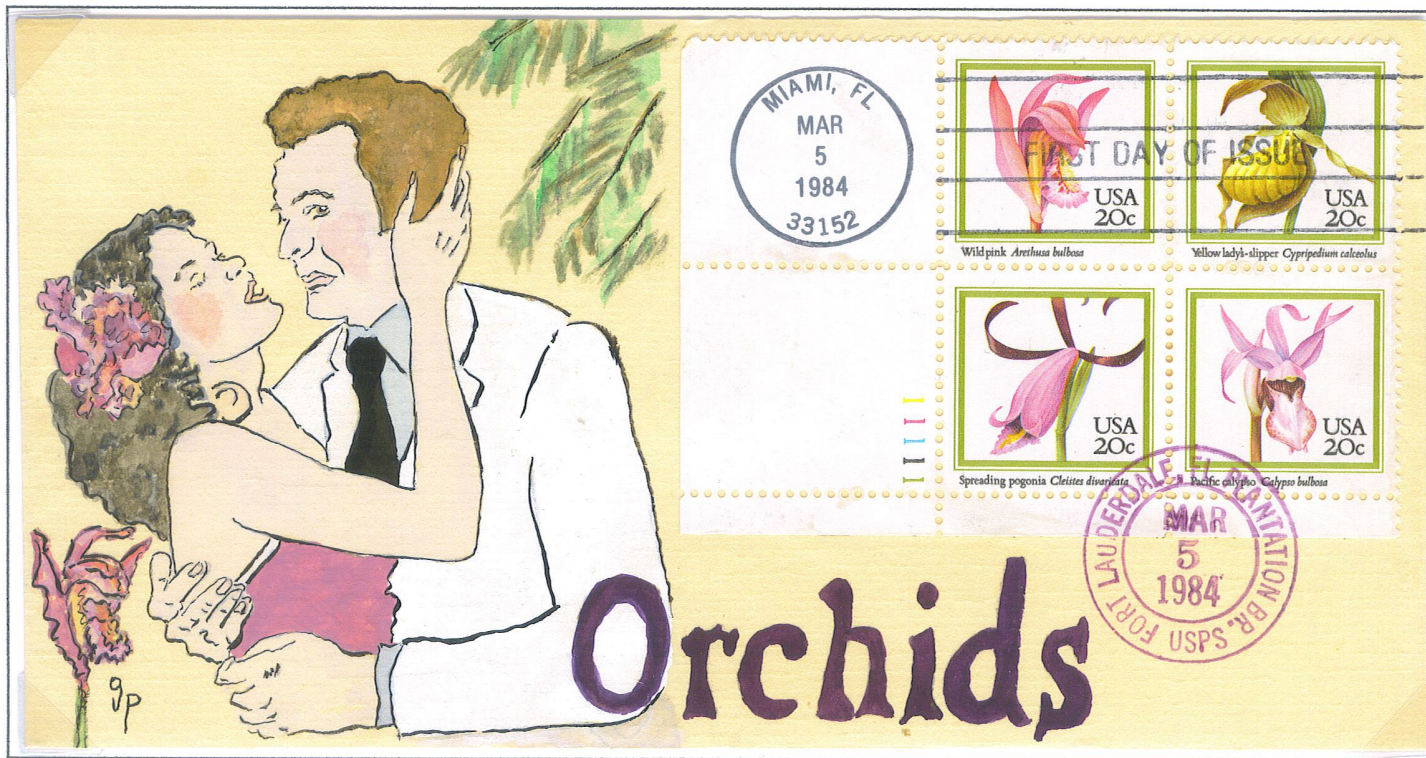
Fran B Paslay (1953-2002) of the James and Fran Paslay team at 'Paslay Classic Covers'. Indian ink outline and hand painted. Cachet depicts several species of *Cypripedium*, commonly known as 'Slipper orchids'. These orchids are indigenous to the United States and Canada. Cover number **#28/100.**

Peltin cachets



Gerri Peltin Cachet

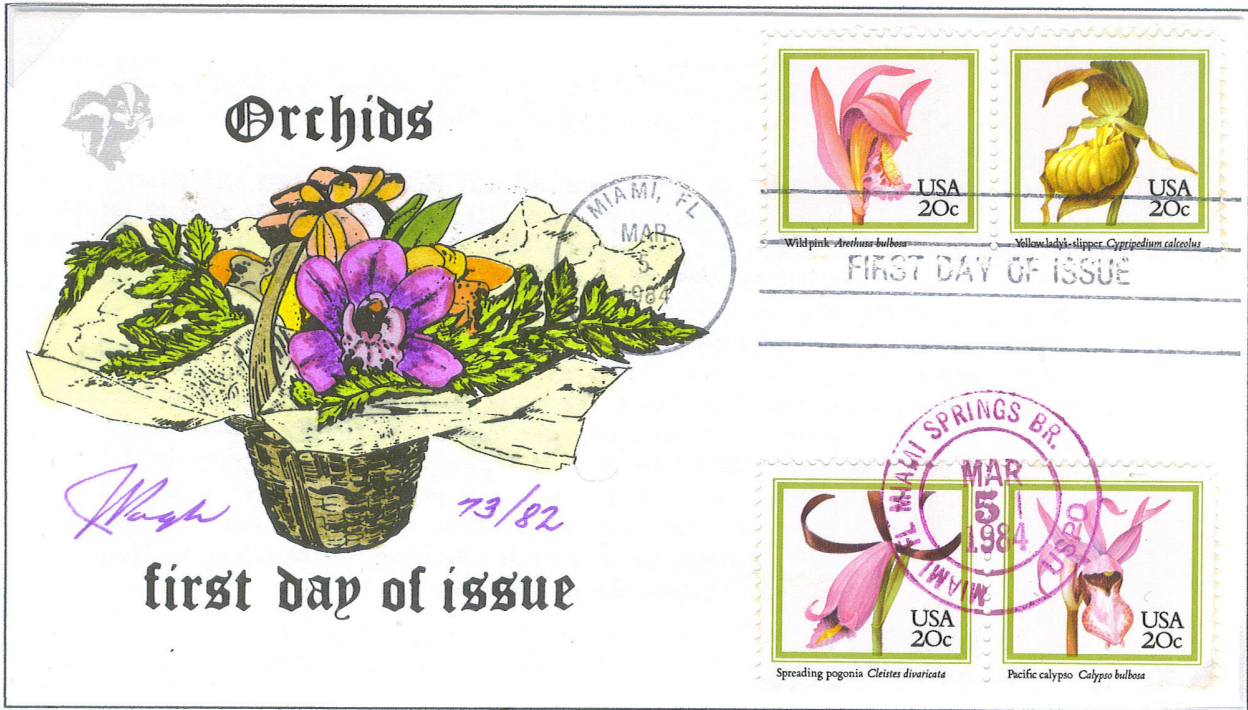
Gerri Peltin (1946—) New York, NY, is one of the very few cachet makers of the 1980's still living. The four native orchids on stamps are crudely reproduced around the girl. Covers are very sought after among cachet collectors due to their very limited number. Sometimes only one being produced for a stamp release.



Gerri Peltin Cachet

His black outline drawings and hand painted style, with the initials 'g p', has changed little over the several decades which makes them easily identifiable. The postmark 'Fort Lauderdale Florida Plantation BR' ties the stamps to the cover on the First Day of Issue. The only native orchid in the cachet is of the top left stamp. Cattleya orchid in hair!

Pugh cachets



Pugh Cachets

Julian F Pugh (1938-2015), Conro, TX, hand painted FDC. Light hearted logo of a skunk, synonymous with the family name. In 2009 Pugh was honoured with a 'Distinguished Service Award' and other awards for support to the AFDCS. Cover tied with 'Official' and 'Miami Springs BR' postmarks Signed Cover #73/82.



Pugh Cachets

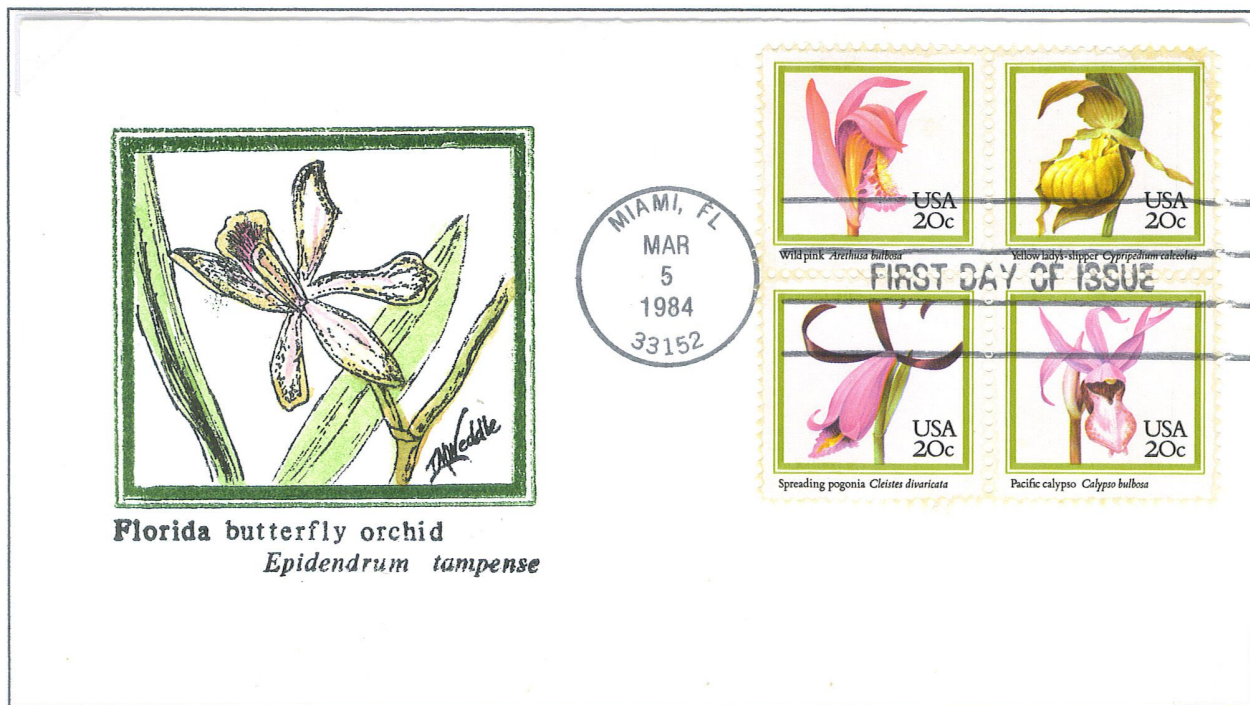
Printed and hand coloured FDC. Cachet depicts a purple cymbidium orchid in floral arrangement. 'Bountiful Earth', 1958 stamp was issued to honour the garden clubs of America, added and postmarked. Pugh was elected to the Board of Directors 1992-2009. Still operating as a family business by daughter, Shawna. Signed cover #3/5.

Slyter and TMW cachets



Slyter Cachets

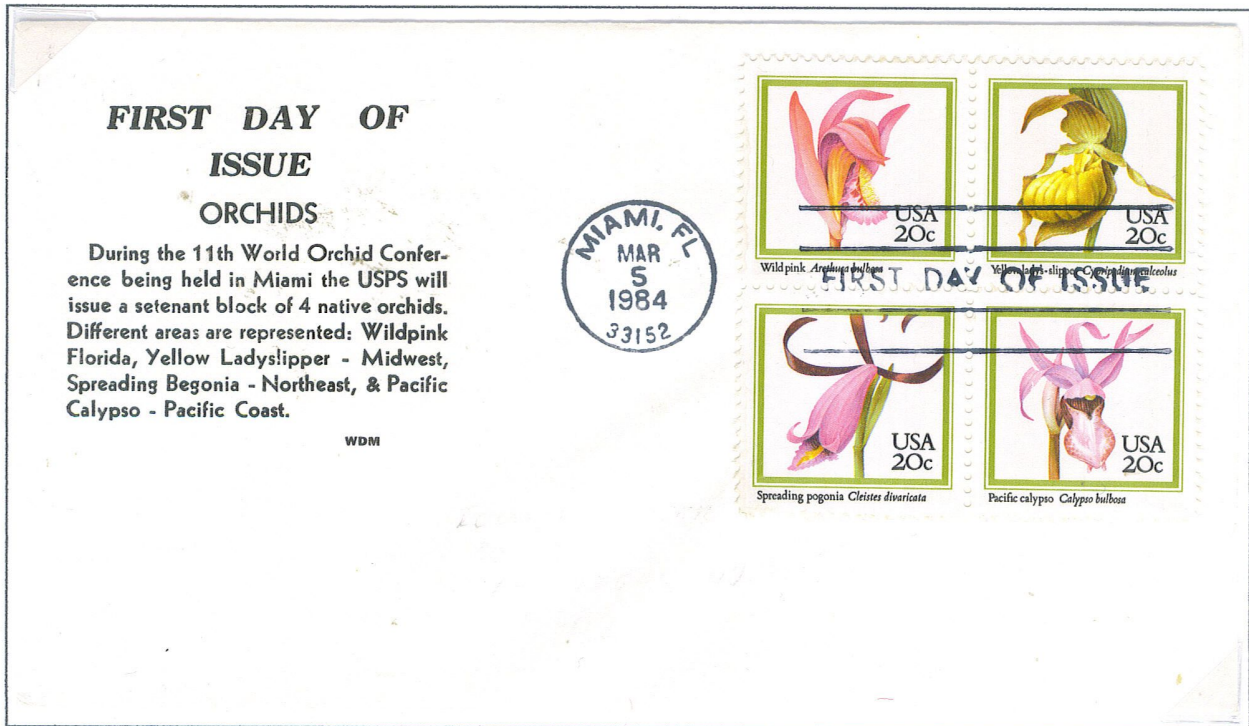
Hand drawn outline and pencil coloured by Eleanore M Slyter. Slyter does not appear to have been a prolific producer of covers. Early covers were initialled ES but later signed as E Slyter. In this instance the cachet is of the related genus *Paphiopedilum*, rather than the *Cypripedium* as shown on the stamp. Signed cover #2/50.



TMW Cachets

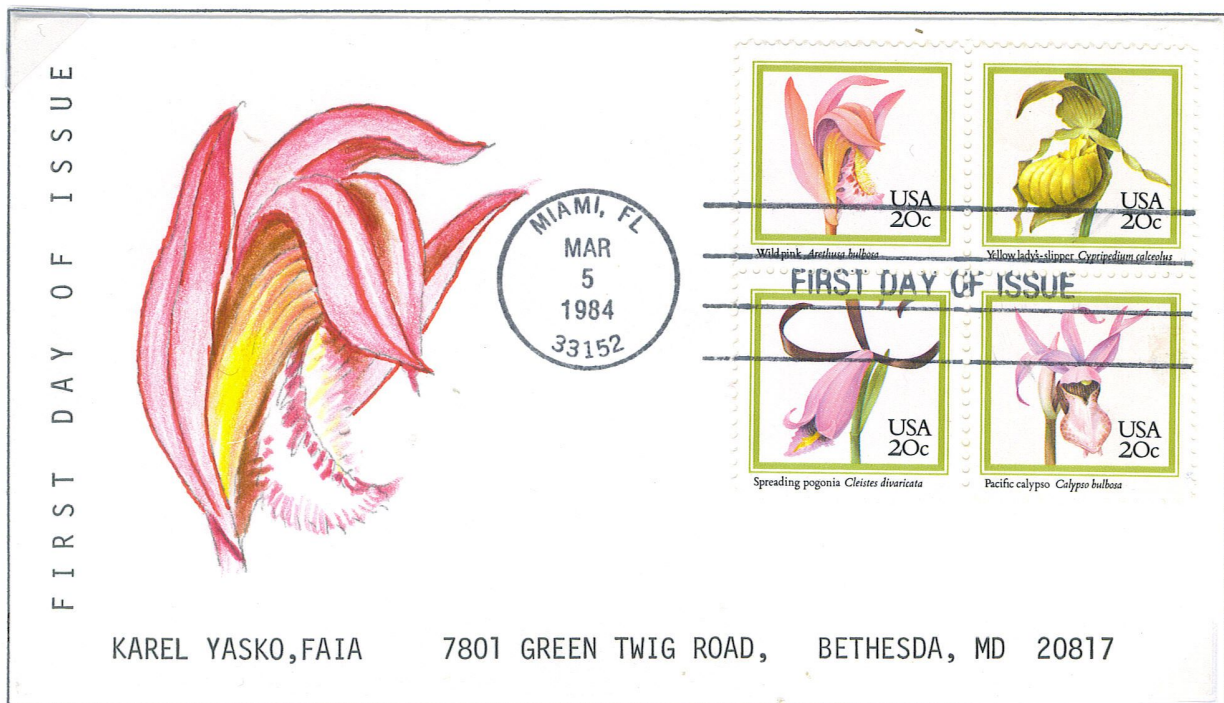
T Michael Weddle, (1944—) Columbus, OH. Cachet covers were simply embossed TMW on the reverse of the envelope. Weddle commenced in 1977 and continued until the early 1990's. The first covers were hand drawn and coloured but as demand grew they were printed and then coloured. The cachet was an orchid endemic to Florida. This cover has a printed outline. In 1999 he was a recipient of the AFDCS 'Court of Honor' award. His covers were signed. Production numbers low.

WDM and Yasko cachets



W D M Cachets

Wayne D Mehl (1934 -) Lorraine, KS. Mehl appear to have only produced this single cachet cover. One of the very few cachets that refers to the World Orchid Conference in Miami. This cover is somewhat unusual as details of the stamp's subject is the cachet. No illustration of the subject was printed on the cover. Reverse -Signed cover #5/23.



Yasko Cachet

Karel Yasko (19??- 1985), Maryland, MD was an official of General Services Administration Art and Architecture, whose job was to locate and preserve art and architecture. He passed away a little over 12 months after producing this hand drawn and coloured cachet. Suggest that the number of cachet covers is very low as this is the **only one seen**.