



Philatelic Review Bulletin

Wyong & Districts Philatelic Society

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Wyong & Districts Philatelic Society
5 Glenlake Avenue
Toukley NSW 2263

Editor
Uwe Kruger
Publicity Officer
kruger.uwe@gmail.com

Dear members,

The content of this bulletin aims at informing hobby and calendar items relevant to our hobby and club.

It is hoped that errors and omissions are kept to a minimum.

All members are invited to submit articles that they like to share with others. Articles can be short or long and the editor will decide to publish those in one or more than one bulletin.

The editor

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Meetings

All meetings can be found at

[Wyong and District Philatelic Society \(philas.net.au\)](http://Wyong and District Philatelic Society (philas.net.au))

Evening Meeting:

The **third Wednesday** of the month at
7.00 pm
(at Canton Beach Sports Club).

Daytime Meeting:

The **first Wednesday** of the month at 1.00 pm
(at Masonic Village Centre, Lakehaven).

George V Study Group

The **first Wednesday** of the month
following the daytime meeting.

2023 Meeting Dates

Evening meetings at Toukley 7.00 pm

15 November

Fair preparations

20 December

5 page display

Daytime meetings at Lakehaven 1.00 pm

4 October

Swap day, give aways, any unwanted
Philatelic Items / stamps

1 November

Recent, modern postage stamps from
anywhere

6 December

Seals, Especially Christmas Seals, Other
Additional "Labels" placed on envelopes

Monthly Display

The monthly display for October by Mark Fields
expanded on a previous display (a couple of years

ago) on his recent acquisitions 12 different envelopes / entires of 1d plate red for his collection. Thanks Mark.

50th Anniversary Sydney Opera House Introduction



1971; Opera House still with construction cranes;
picture: Margret Kruger

The Sydney Opera House is one of the most iconic buildings in the world, and a symbol of Australia's cultural and architectural heritage. It is located on Bennelong Point, a peninsula that juts out into Sydney Harbour, and is surrounded by stunning views of the city skyline, the Harbour Bridge, and the Royal Botanic Gardens. The Opera House was designed by Danish architect Jørn Utzon, who won an international competition in 1957 to create a new home for the performing arts in Sydney. His visionary design was inspired by the sails of ships, the shells of marine creatures, and the geometry of nature. The construction of the Opera House was a complex and challenging project that took 16 years to complete, from 1959 to 1973.

It involved innovative engineering solutions, such as the use of precast concrete segments to form the distinctive shells of the roof, and the creation of a massive underground support structure to withstand the weight and movement of the building. The Opera House was officially opened by Queen Elizabeth II on October 20, 1973, with a grand ceremony that featured fireworks, music, and speeches. Since then, it has become a world-renowned venue for opera, ballet, theatre, music, and other forms of art and entertainment. It hosts more than 1,500 performances and events each year, attracting over 10 million visitors annually. The Opera House is also a UNESCO World

Heritage Site, recognized for its outstanding universal value as a masterpiece of human creativity and expression.¹

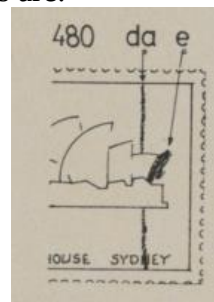
Postage Stamps 1973

To celebrate the opening of the Opera House on the 20 October 1973, Australia Post issued a single 7c commemorative stamp in a set of four stamps on the 17 October 1973. The 7c Opera House stamps was on sale for four weeks. The other values were considered as definitive stamps and were on sale for approximately six months. All Architectural Series stamps were designed by Mr. Arthur Leydin of Sydney.

The 7c and 10c stamps were printed by multicolour photogravure using the Rembrandt Press of the Note Printing Branch measuring 37.5 mm x 24.15 each and were issued in sheets of 100 stamps on unwatermarked paper containing luminescence (KP5D). Four cylinders used, a new dark-blue replacing the original after 30 % of printing.



Perforation was 14 ¼ x 14 and 14 ¾ x 14. Variations occurred on two top rows of a sheet. Noted variations are:



Light blue / mid blue/ dark blue perforated 14 ¼ x 14

c	Dark blue colour omitted
d	Vertical hairlines right side
da	Retouch variety d

¹ Generated by Bing AI

e	
	Retouch right side

Light blue / mid blue/ dark blue perforated 14 $\frac{3}{4}$ x 14

d	Vertical hairlines right side
da	Retouch to variety d
e	Retouch right side

Quantity: 41 389 000

Upper and lower panes of 50 (10 rows of 5)

Postage stamps 1979

On the 14 February 1979 the Australian Ferries & steamer set of four was issued. The 55c in this set showed the Hydrofoil Curl Curl passing the Opera House.



The stamp size is 37.5 mm x 25 mm. 100 per sheet - left & right panes of 50 (10 rows of 5) issued. Tonal wedges in central gutter. Blue tint gum.

The stamps were designed by Otto Borchert, Sydney

Printed by Note Issue Department of the Reserve Bank of Australia, Melbourne using photogravure and for the 55c Chambon was utilised.

Noted variations are:



d	Retouch in water
e	Retouch on Opera House

Postage stamps 1983

To commemorate the birthday of Queen Elizabeth II Australia Post issues either on, or as near as practicable to, 21 April 1983, which is The Queen's actual birthday, a portrait of The Queen or a subject with which Her Majesty is

associated. This issue is a view of HMY Britannia passing the Sydney Opera House.



The designer was John Richards, Sydney and the printer was Leigh Mardon Pty Limited, Melbourne and the photogravure process on APWH stamp paper was used. The actual stamp size is 37.5 mm x 26 mm perforated 14 $\frac{1}{2}$. Two panes of 50 with traffic lights in the gutter.



Postage stamps 1994

To celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Sydney to Hobart Yacht Race two joined 45c stamps were issued on the 31 October 1994.

One of the stamps shows the start of the race in Sydney with the Opera House and Harbour Bridge in the background and the second stamps shows yachts approaching Hobart.

Designed by John Spatchurst, Sydney and printed by Leigh-Mardon Pty Limited in photolithography process on CPL paper for the sheet stamps with traffic lights in the gutter. Stamp size is 37.5 mm x 26 perforated 14.4 x 14.62.

Peel and stick stamps printed by Printset Cambec on Jac-PS aper with simulated perforation.

Sheet stamps:





Peel & stick stamps:



Issued in boxes (roll of 100) the reminders are:



Postage stamps 1999

The official emblem of the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games (15 September 2000 to 1 October 2000) was made public in this stamp issue together with two of Sydney's best-known landmarks, The Opera House and the Harbour Bridge. The stamp was designed by FHA Image Design, Melbourne and printed by McPhersons on Tullis Russell paper using offset lithography. The stamp size is 26 mm x 37.5 perforated 14.6 x 13.86 issued in sheetlets of ten.



Postage stamps 2000

To comply with the tax legislation, effective 1 July 2000, Australia Post issued a new definitive range of eight stamps (50c, \$1.00, \$1.50, \$2.00, \$3.00, \$4.50, \$5.00 & \$10.00). The 50c stamp (42.63 mm x 18.75 mm), after a photo by Jean-Marc LaRogue, Auscape, showing the Opera House viewed from land. The printing process

lithography by SNP Ausprint on CPL red phosphor in modules of 50 no gutter.



Another stamp to comply with the new tax regime was issued as Australia/Greece Joint issue on 15 September 2000.



The stamp was also used for personalised stamps sporting a orange-red tap instead of dark blue.



The illustrator was Lynda Warner, Hobart and the stamps were printed lithographically by SNP Ausprint on Tullis Russell, non-phosphor paper. The stamp size was 30.55 mm x 30 mm and the tab measured 20 mm x 30 mm perforated 13.86 x 14.28 in sheets of 20 with printed tabs on right hand side but also in sheets of 20 with printed tabs on right hand side and decorated selvedge.

Postage stamps 2005

The Marking the Occasion stamps were issued to celebrate special occasions throughout the year. Six stamps to be used within Australia and three stamps dedicated for international use. The \$1.80 shows a partial view of the Sydney Opera House. It should be noted that AP Stamp Bulletin No 279 (page 8) describes this stamp as Sydney Harbour Bridge.



Issue date was the 22 March 2005 and the stamps designed by Fragile Design printed by SNP Sprint on Tullis Russel using lithography issued in booklet format

Postage stamps 2013

Road trip Australia comprises of five 60c stamps and were released on the 2 July 2013. One of the stamps a four wheel drive with the Opera House and Harbour Bridge in the background. Stamp design and Illustration by Gavin Ryan. Product design by Sharon Rodziewicz, Australia Post Design Studio and printed by McKellar Renown on Tullis Russell (B100 sq) in lithography, perforated 14.226 x 14.226 in modules of 50. Stamps were also issued as peel & stick.



Size of the miniature sheet is 120mm x 80 mm.

Postage stamps 2019

Two International stamps were issued on 23 September 2019 titled Beautiful Cites. The \$3.20 shows the Sydney Opera House as aerial view towards Sydney Centre. Stamp and product design by Jason Watts, Australia Post Design Studio. The printer was EGO on Tullis Russel

(Securpost MC90) in offset lithography perforated 14.4. x 14 in modules of 25. Sheet stamp

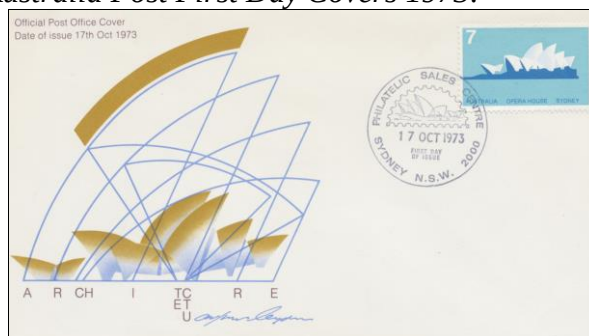


Peel & stick booklet

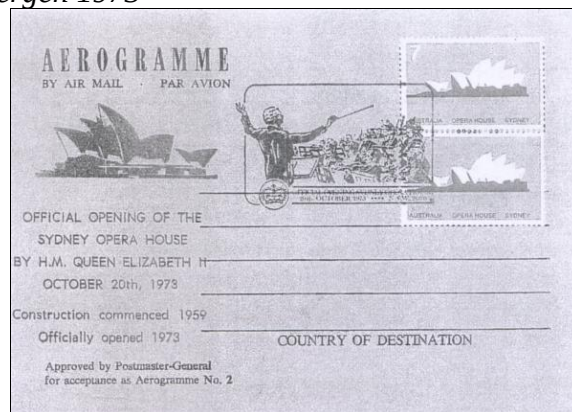


First Day Cover Cachets

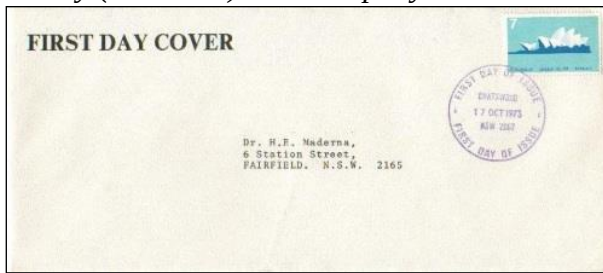
Australia Post First Day Covers 1973:



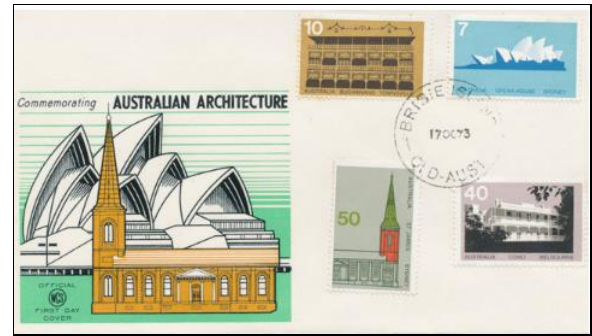
Bergen 1973



Eli Lilly (Australia) and Company 1973



Sigma First Day Cover 1973



Green



Yellow

Australia Post First Day Covers 1979

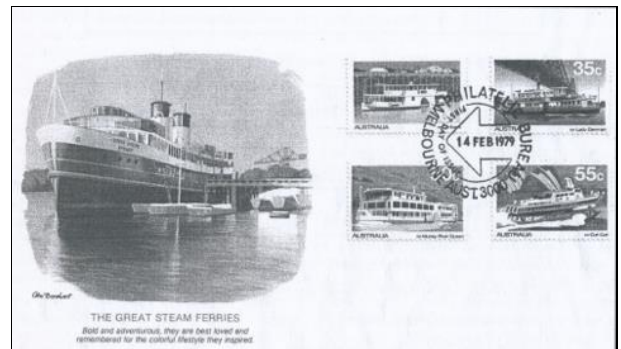


Wesley Cover Service First Day Cover 1973



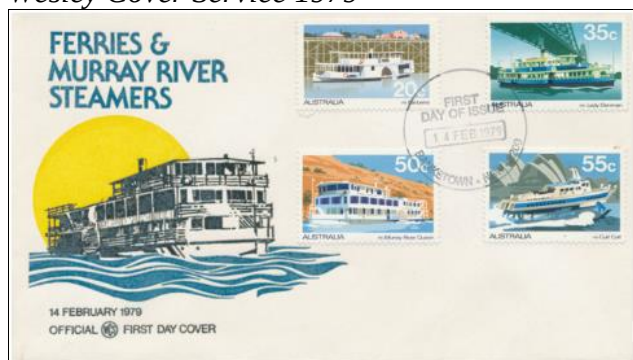
Blue

Fleetwood 1979



Brown

Wesley Cover Service 1979



Wesley Cover Service 1994



Australia Post 1983



Wesley Cover Service 1994

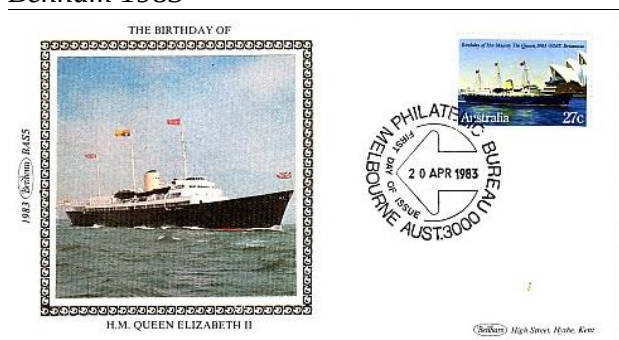
No image

Australia Post 1999



The above stamp has been used extensively during the Olympic Games period and can be found with various postmarks.

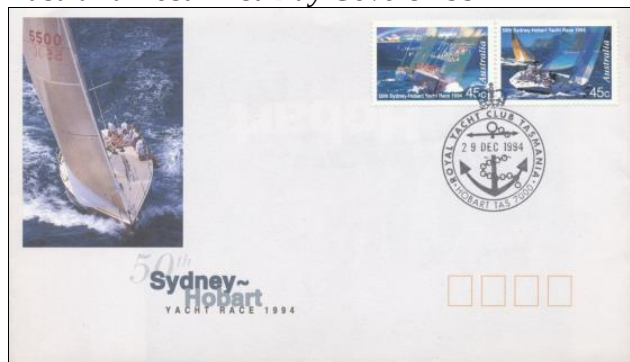
Benham 1983



Wesley Cover Service (WCS) 1983

No image

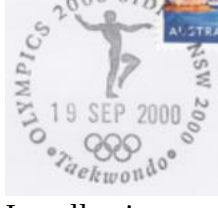
Australia Post First Day Covers 1994



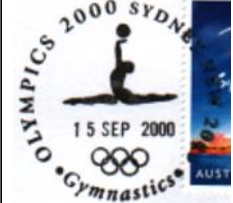
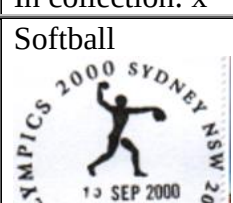
Type A: Date height 3.5 mm

19.9.2000	

Type A: Date height 3.5 mm		
		In collection: x
Baseball		Basketball
In collection: x		In collection: x
Boxing		Canoe / Kayak
In collection: x		In collection: x
Cycling		Equestrian
In collection: x		In collection: x
Fencing		Football
In collection: x		In collection: x
Gymnastics		Handball
In collection: x		In collection: x
Hockey		Judo
In collection: x		In collection: x
Modern Penthalon		Rowing

Type A: Date height 3.5 mm		
		
In collection: x		In collection: x
Sailing		Shooting
In collection: x		In collection: x
Softball		Table Tennis
In collection: x		In collection: x
Taekwondo		Tennis
In collection: x		In collection: x
Triathlon		Volleyball
In collection: x		In collection: x
Weightlifting		Wrestling
In collection: x		In collection: x
Type B: Date height 2.75 mm		

Type A: Date height 3.5 mm	
19.9.2000	 
Aquatics	Archery
In collection: x	In collection: x
Athletics	Badminton
In collection: x	In collection: x
Baseball	Basketball
In collection: x	In collection: x
Boxing	Canoe / Kayak No image available In collection:
In collection: x	
Cycling	Equestrian
In collection: x	In collection: x
Fencing	Football

Type A: Date height 3.5 mm		
		
	In collection: x	In collection: x
Gymnastics		
	In collection: x	In collection: x
Hockey		
	In collection: x	In collection: x
Modern Pentathlon		
	In collection: x	In collection: x
Sailing		
	In collection: x	In collection: x
Softball		
	In collection: x	In collection: x
Taekwondo		Tennis

Type A: Date height 3.5 mm



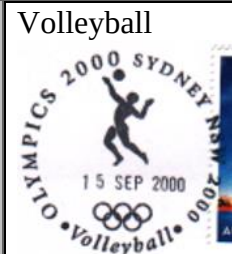
In collection:



In collection:



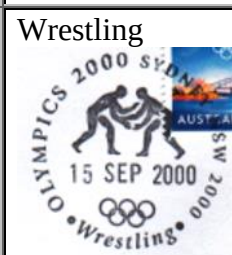
In collection:



In collection:



In collection:



In collection:

1 October 2000

Closing Day

1.10.2000



Australia Post
In collection:

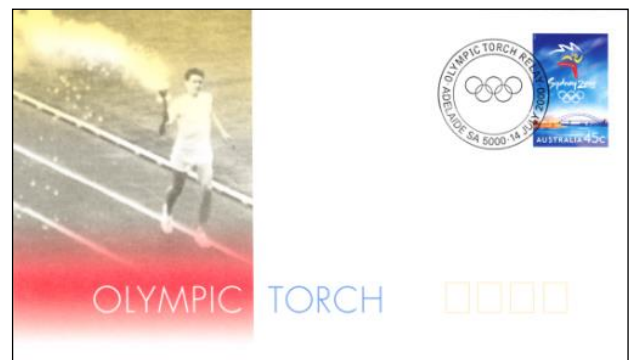
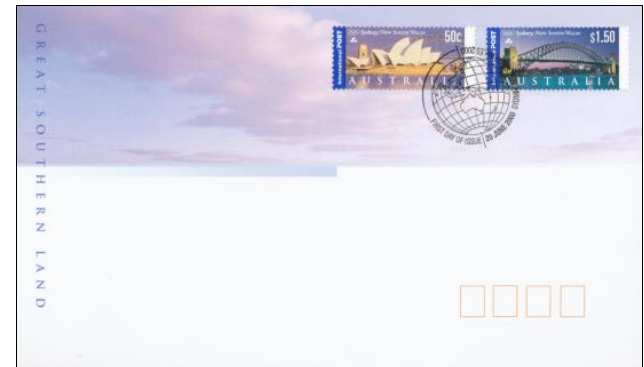
Peake 1999



Wesley Cover Service 1999

No image

Australia Post 2000



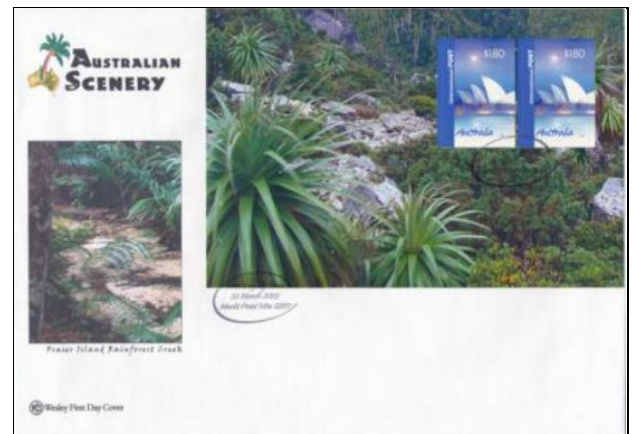
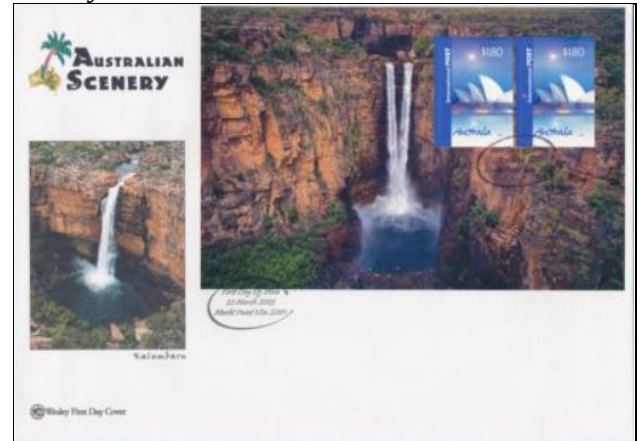
Ball, William 2000



Australia Post 2005

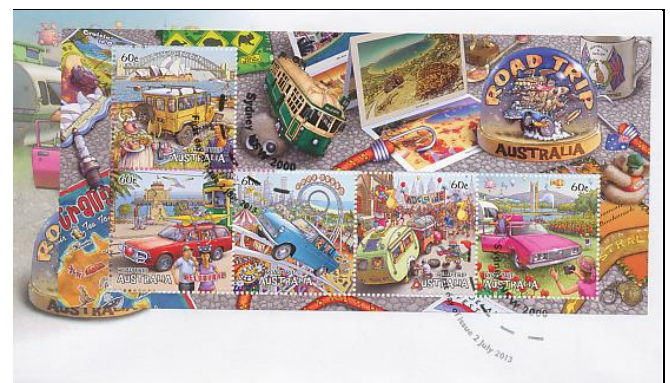


Wesley Cover Service 2005



Australia Post 2013

Sheet stamps



Peel & stick:



Australia Post 2019



Postmarks

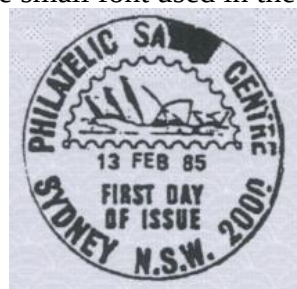
It should be noted that the first day of usage of the Opera House image in a postmark was well before construction finished or the official opening day of the Opera House.

Prices of \$40 on cover have been realised for this particular postmark.

Black ink	Purple ink
	
Diameter: 32 mm (note: 34 mm have been seen)	



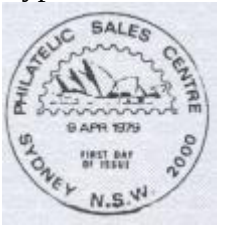
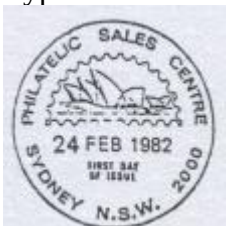
A variation to the above postmark (33 mm diameter) was noted for the 13 February 1985. There are a number of differences but the most striking is the small font used in the dateline.



The lettering appears to be bolder but could be the result of wear.

The following postmark features the Sydney Opera House and replaces the one introduced on 29 September 1971. Many variations in datelines have been noted over the years and to avoid difficult listings, some obvious differences are listed here.

The main difference is the font and height of lettering particularly in 'FIRST DAY / OF ISSUE'

Type 1  Diameter: 32.5 mm Original postmark of the day	Type 2  Diameter: 32 mm and 33 mm Heavier printing overall and seen as early as 1979
Type 3  Used on Maximum Cards only	Type 4  Different date line
Type 5  Different date line : (9, 9 or 9).	Type 6  Different date line with day (24) large

As stock is increasing other variations of this postmark will be added to this listing.

Commemorative Postmarks

The postmark (44 mm x 31 mm) featuring a ballet dancer and musical notes were used between 17 October 1973 to 13 November 1973. Used on 17 October are more difficult to find (\$75) as those used on 20 October 1973 or later dates. Full date sets for the period of usage should exist.



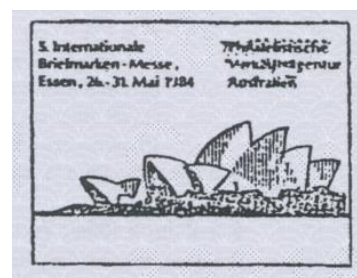
103 282 ordinary covers have been recorded.
248 registered covers are officially recorded.

The postmark (51 mm x 32 mm) featuring a conductor and orchestra was used on the 20 October 1973.



96 450 ordinary covers and 323 registered are officially recorded.

For the International Briefmarken- Messe, Essen, Germany (26 – 31 May 1984) a commemorative postmark (51 mm x 40 mm) featured the Opera House. Black and purple ink was used.



For the 47th International Convention of Zonta International, Sydney, (23 – 28 June 1984), held at Sydney Town Hall, a commemorative postmark (32 mm x 35 mm) incorporating the shape of the Opera House was issued.



The 22nd International Congress of Actuaries was held (21 – 27 October 1984) at the Wentworth Hotel Sydney, and the postmark (37 mm x 28 mm) features Sydney's Opera House.



A postmark (32 mm x 22 mm) issued (12 June 1985) for the Royal Stock Exchange features Circular Quay including a silhouette of the Opera House.



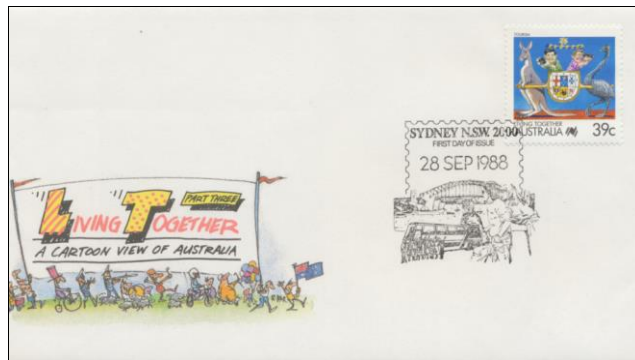
Later dates (17 July 1992) use a different dateline and the size (38 mm x 28mm) is different . However, another size (46 mm x 34 mm) has been noted for a later date.



The World EXPO '88 was opened in Brisbane on 30 April 1988. Different postmarks were used during the course of the Expo. New South Wales Day (Tent area) was held on 13 July 1988 and the postmark incorporated the sailing ship before the shape of the Opera House.



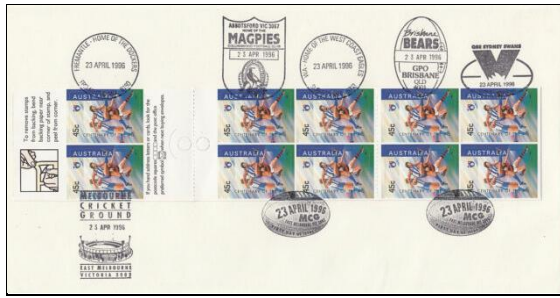
The 'Living Together' series was issued by Australia Post on the 28 September 1988 and one of the postmarkers (37 mm x 36 mm) used, incorporates a view over Sydney Harbour featuring the Opera House next to the Harbour Bridge. Specialists differentiate between machine and hand applied postmarkers.



For the Sydney bid to host the 2000 Olympic Games a postmark (34 mm x 25 mm) was used on the 24 September 1993 featuring the shape of the Opera House.



A postmark was released for use on 23 April 1996 to coincide with the issue of the AFL Centenary stamps. One of the postmarkers (38 mm x 27mm) incorporates the shape of the Opera House in front of a 'V'.



The XVth International Association of Marine Aids to Navigation & Lighthouse Authorities (IALA-AISM) conference was held in Sydney on the 12 March 2002. A postmark (machine: 47 mm x 31 mm; PO 50.5 mm x 34mm) featuring the Opera House, Harbour Bridge and a ferry was used commemorating the occasion.



Maxicards & Pre-Stamped Cards

Maxicards are postcards with a postmark over a stamp on the image site of the card and the image relates to the occasion or the event the stamp has been issued for.

Pre-Stamped Cards have an Indica printed at the place where were usually for ordinary postcards a stamp has to be attached.



1973

The cachet maker Bergen overprinted a postcard and attached the stamp issued for the opening of the Opera House.

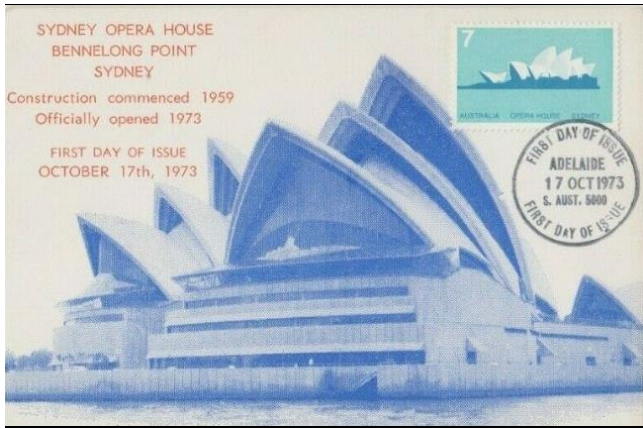


Image also in black known.

1976

Pre-Stamped Envelopes were issued 30 December 1976 as Series I by Australia Post.

Technical details:

Print: four colour offset lithography

Printer: Mercury-Walch Pty Ltd, Tasmania

Size: 149 mm x 101 mm

Paper: one-sided cast coated Astralux card 265 GSM

Luminescence: 15% Derby CPS 39R in clear varnish

Subsequent issues in similar to edition 1978 & 1981

Sold in red velvet case (sold at all official post offices on the Gold Coast and in the Australian Capital Territory and at Australia Post philatelic centres throughout Australia)

Value: 18c each (note: stamp image same as card); one complete sets of postcards, priced at \$10.80 (Australian) per set

Set: 36 cards

S1.4.76: The Sydney Opera House and Harbour Bridge



S1.5.76: Sydney Opera House on Bennelong Point



1978

Technical Details

Colour Separation: Prepress Pty. Ltd (Mitcham, Vic.)

Printer: Mercury-Walch Pty. Ltd. (Moonah, Tas.)

Printing Process: Multi-coloured offset lithography

Stock: One-sided Astralux Star Card (Cast Coated) 245 GSM laminated one side with 18 micron OPP 'plastkote'

Postcard size: 149 x 101 mm.

Stamp image: 35 x 24 mm.

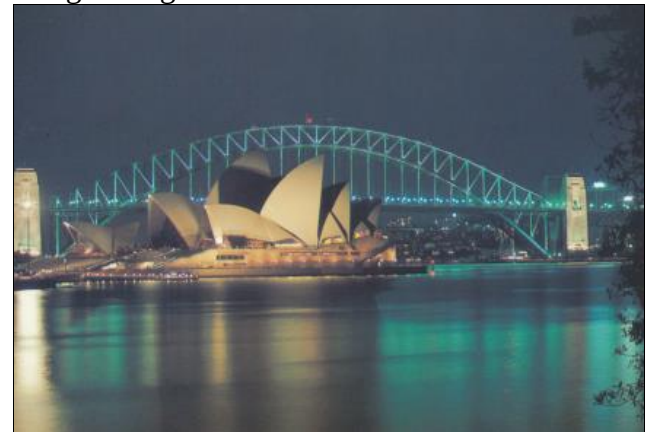
Stamp Denomination: 20c

Luminescence: 15 % Derby CPS 39 R in New Era DL Varnish

Issue Date: October 1978

Scenic postcards. Second edition; 42 different coloured views of Australian subjects, similar to edition 1976 & 1981, in view cards with miniaturised stamp imprint of each scene; Issued in complete (blue) wallet of 42 cards).

2-N1: The Sydney Opera House and Harbour Bridge at night



2-N2: Aerial View of Sydney – Australia's largest city



1981

Pre-stamped Postcards Series III

Third edition; 42 different views similar to edition 1976 & 1978; Issued in (brown) box of 42 cards

Technical Details

Colour Separation: Enticott-Polygraph (North Melbourne, Vic)

Printer: Cambec Press (Scoresby, Vic)

Printing Process: Multi-coloured offset lithography

Stock: one-sided Astralux Star Card (Cast Coated) 245 gsm laminated face side with 18 micron OPP 'Ploastakote'. Stamp area, on uncoated side, sealed with four coats of transparent white.

Size: 149 mm x 101 mm

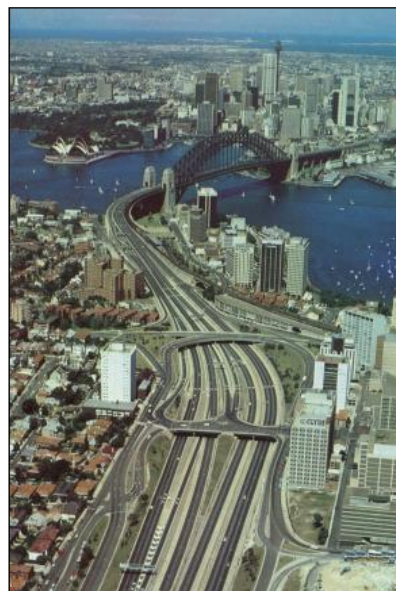
Stamp Image Size: 35 mm x 24 mm

Stamp denomination: 22c

Luminescence: 15% Derby CPS 39R in New Era DL Varnish

Issue Date: **March 1981**

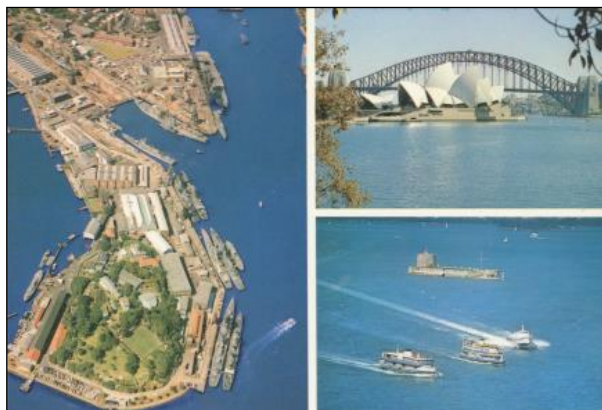
3-N1



3-N2



3-N5



3-N6



1982
Pre-stamped Postcards Series IV
Fourth edition; 42 different views similar to
edition 1976, 1978 & 1981. Issued in (black) box
of 40 cards

Technical Details

Colour Separation: Enticott-Polygraph (North
Melbourne, Victoria)
Printer: Cambec Press (Scoresby, Vic)
Printing Process: Multi-coloured offset
lithography
Stock: one-sided Kromecote 260 gsm laminated
face side with 18 micron OPP 'Plastakote'.
Stamp area, on uncoated side, sealed with four
coats of transparent white.
Size: 149 mm x 101 mm
Stamp Image Size: 36 mm x 24 mm
Stamp denomination: 27c
Luminescence: 15% Derby CPS 39R in New Era
DL Varnish
Issue Date: **September, 1982**

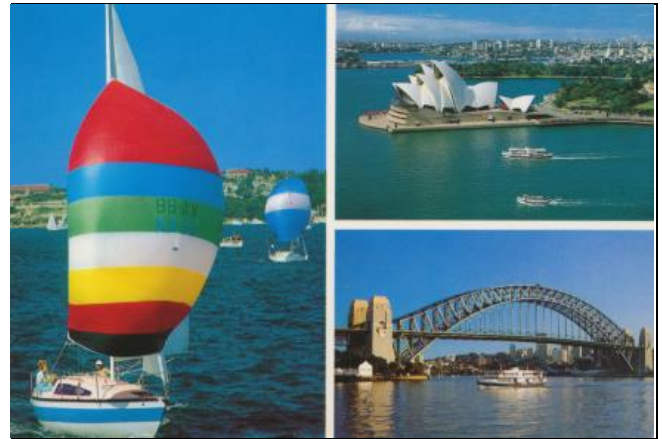
4-N1: The Sydney Opera House at night



Front

4-N3: Scenes of Sydney Harbour
Yachting – favourite pastime

Sydney Harbour Bridge
The Sydney Opera House



Front

There are more cards showing the Opera House
particularly for the 2000 Olympic Games.