

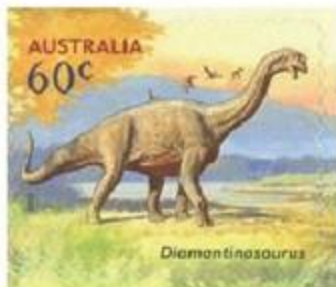
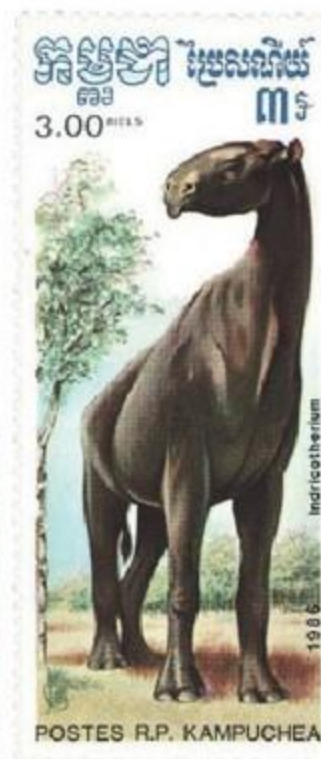


STAMPEX
INTERNATIONAL
VIRTUAL EXPERIENCE 2025

PALEOPHILATELY

THE PLACE WHERE PALEONTOLOGY MEETS PHILATELY

BY MICHAEL KOGAN
AUTHOR OF WWW.PALEOPHILATELIE.EU

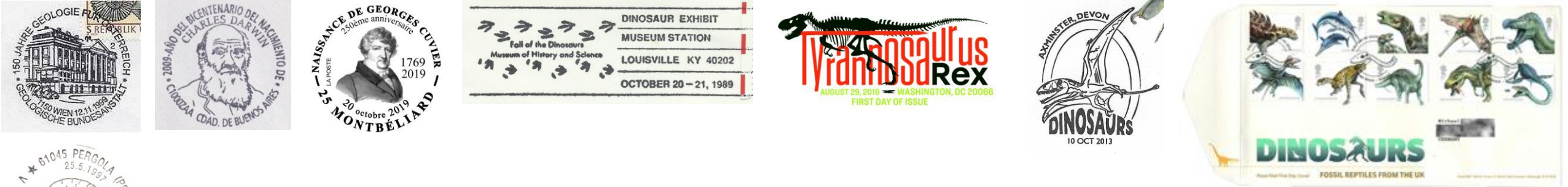


DEFINITIONS

Paleo[ntology] + Philately = Paleophilately

- **Paleontology** is the scientific study of life of the geologic past that involves the analysis of plant and animal fossils, including those of microscopic size, preserved in rocks.
- **Philately** is the study of *postage stamps*, stamped envelopes, postmarks, and other materials relating to postal delivery.
- Both terms, „*Paleontology*“ and „*Philatélie*“ were introduced in France in 1822 and in 1864 respectively.



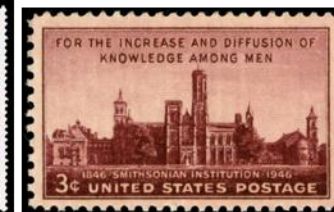


WHAT IS PALEOPHILATELY ?

- **Paleophilately** is the branch of Thematical Philately dealing with collection of philatelic items: postage stamps, postmarks, first day of issue covers, etc. showing
 - fossils and reconstructions of prehistoric animals and plants,
 - fossil locations and Natural History Museums,
 - paleontologists and contributors to Paleontological Science.
- In other words:

Paleophilately is the place where Paleontology meets Philately

Paleophilately - the place where Paleontology and Paleoanthropology meets Philately by Michael Kogan 3/8/2025



FOSSILS IN MYTHS

- Humans have collected fossils since prehistorical times
- In the middle age, fossils were assigned to the legendary creatures and commemorated in art objects.
- The Austrian stamps and the postal stationery show "*Lindwurmbrunnen von Klagenfurt*".
- Although it represents a dragon, it can be regarded as the first **palaeontological reconstruction**.
- The head of the statue is modelled on the **skull of Woolly Rhinoceros**.



PALEONTOLOGY - BEGINNING

- 1811 – 1812 – skull and torso of a strange animal was discovered by Joseph and Mary Anning at Lyme Regis
 - 1817 – "*Ichthyosaurus*" was named
 - 1821 - the first comprehensive description of "*Ichthyosaurus*" anatomy was made.



- 1820s – the first dinosaur bones were described in Great Britain:
 - 1824 - William Buckland, Professor of Geology at the University of Oxford named *Megalosaurus*
 - 1825 - Dr. Gideon Mantell named *Iguanodon*



- 1841 – Professor Richard Owen coined the word „**Dinosaur**“

DINOSAURIANS.

This group, which includes at least three well-established genera of Saurians, is characterized by a large sacrum composed of five ankylosed vertebrae of unusual construction, by the height and breadth and outward sculpturing of the neural arch of the dorsal vertebrae, by the twofold articulation of the ribs to the vertebrae, viz. at the anterior part of the spine by a head and tubercle, and along the rest of the trunk by a tubercle attached to the transverse process only; by broad and sometimes complicated coracoids and long and slender clavicles, whereby Crocodilian characters of the vertebral column are combined with a Lacertian type of the pectoral arch; the dental organs also exhibit the same transitional or annectant characters in a greater or less degree. The bones of the extremities are of large proportional size, for Saurians; they are provided with large medullary cavities, and with well developed and unusual processes, and are terminated by metacarpal, metatarsal and phalangeal bones, which, with the exception of the ungual phalanges, more or less resemble those of the heavy pachydermal Mammals, and attest, with the hollow long-bones, the terrestrial habits of the species.

The combination of such characters, some, as the sacral ones, altogether peculiar among Reptiles, others borrowed, as it were, from groups now distinct from each other, and all manifested by creatures far surpassing in size the largest of existing reptiles, will, it is presumed, be deemed sufficient ground for establishing a distinct tribe or sub-order of Saurian Reptiles, for which I would propose the name of *Dinosauria* *.

Of this tribe the principal and best established genera are the *Megalosaurus*, the *Hylaeosaurus*, and the *Iguanodon*; the gigantic Crocodile-lizards of the dry land, the peculiarities of the osteological structure of which distinguish them as clearly from the modern terrestrial and amphibious *Sauria*, as the opposite modifications for an aquatic life characterize the extinct *Enaliosauria*, or Marine Lizards.

This text is from Sir Richard Owen, 1842, Report on British Fossil Reptiles in Report of the Eleventh Meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science.

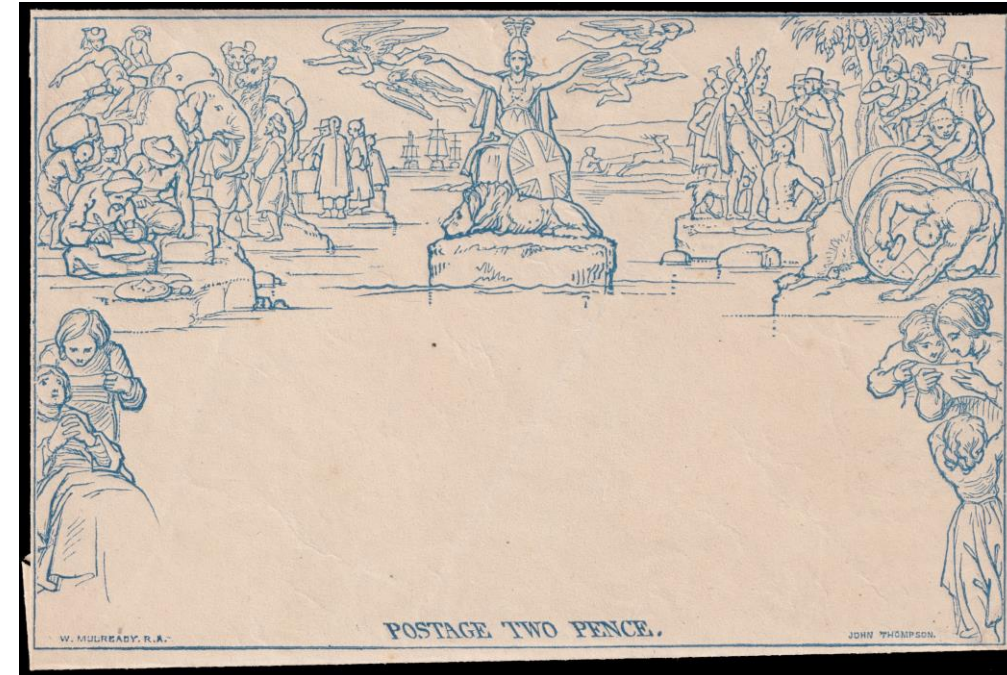


PHILATELY - BEGINNING



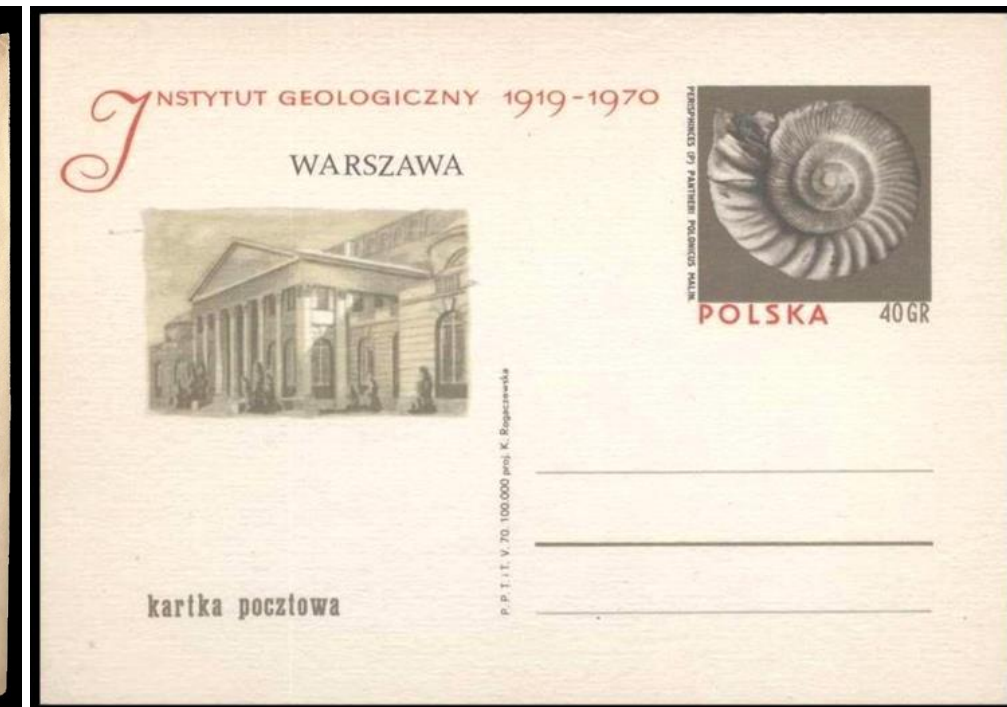
- 1833 – start of campaigning for „Cheap Postage“, as result of the British Industrial Revolution
 - 1837 – Rowland Hill proposed to reduce the cost of postage by replacing the collection of money on delivery with prepayment by sender by means of adhesive stamps or prepaid covers sold by the post office.
- 1840 – the first two adhesive postage stamps and two postal stationeries were issued in Great Britain (approx. 1.2 cm x 2.3 cm)
- 1841 – the „Penny Black“ was replaced by the „Penny Red“, to prevent reuse, as postmark ink was easy to remove from the black stamps

More details: <https://www.paleophilatelie.eu/articles/1840s.html>



PREHISTORIC ANIMALS ON POSTAL STATIONERIES

- Prehistoric animals first appeared on postal stationaries in the USA in the 1920s, when the *Torrance Lime & Fertiliser Company*, from California decorated standard 2 cent prepaid envelope with a scene from the deep past and short descriptive text to promote their products.
- The first postal stationery with prehistoric animal on the imprinted stamp was issued by Poland in 1970.



Postal stationery from Dr. Jon Noad's (Calgary, Canada) collection



PREHISTORIC ANIMALS ON POSTAL METER STAMPS

- In 1932 Sinclair oil company registered a Dinosaur (*Brontosaurus*) as their trademark.
 - The corporation's logo features the silhouette of a large green sauropod dinosaur - *Brontosaurus*, based on the then-common misconception that oil deposits beneath the earth came from the dead bodies of dinosaurs.
- From 1934 until 1968, the Sinclair Oil Company used the *Brontosaurus* on their meter stamps, as well as regular advertisements to advertise their motor oil.



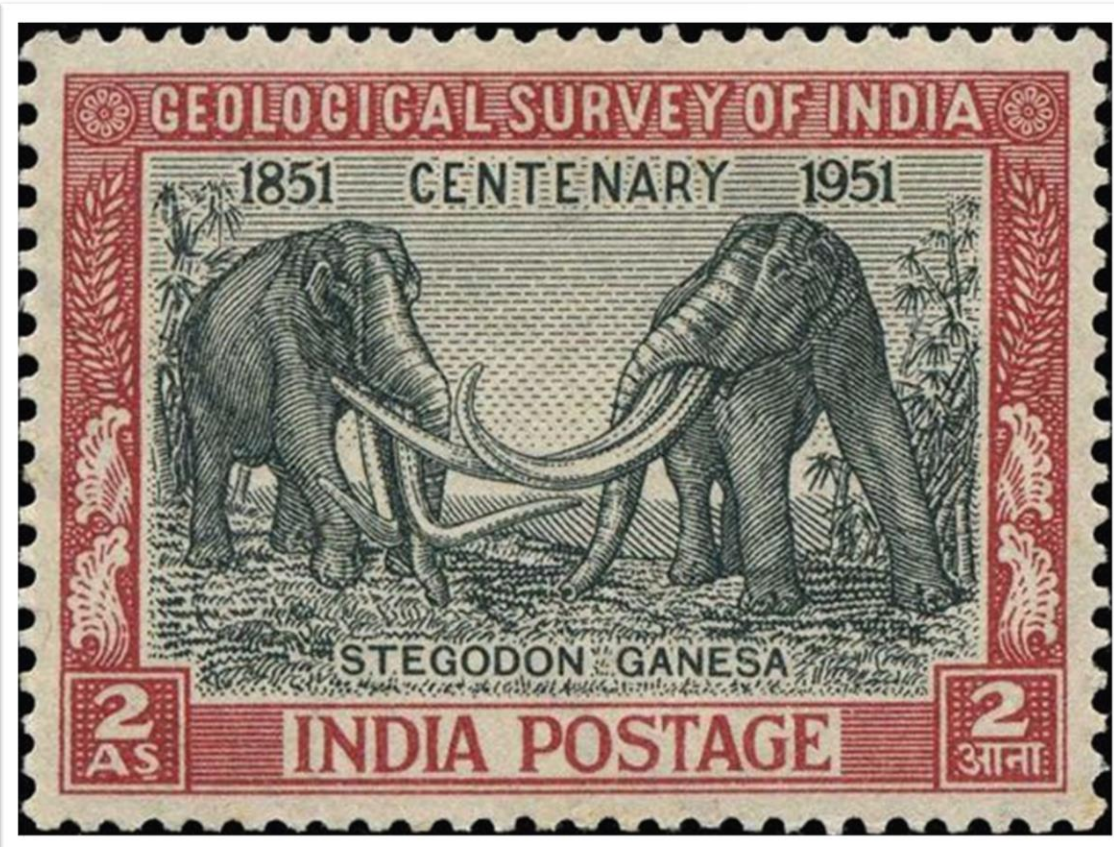
At the end of "Chicago World's Fair" in 1933-1934, the company started a promotional campaign with the "Dino" logo, implying their products were better quality than their competitor. As part of the campaign the company included the "Dino" in their meter marks, based on the then-common *mis-conception* that oil deposits beneath the earth came from the dead bodies of dinosaurs. The meter marks were in use between 1934 and 1968, until the company was taken over by Atlantic Richfield.



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FIRST RECONSTRUCTION OF A PREHISTORIC ANIMAL ON STAMPS

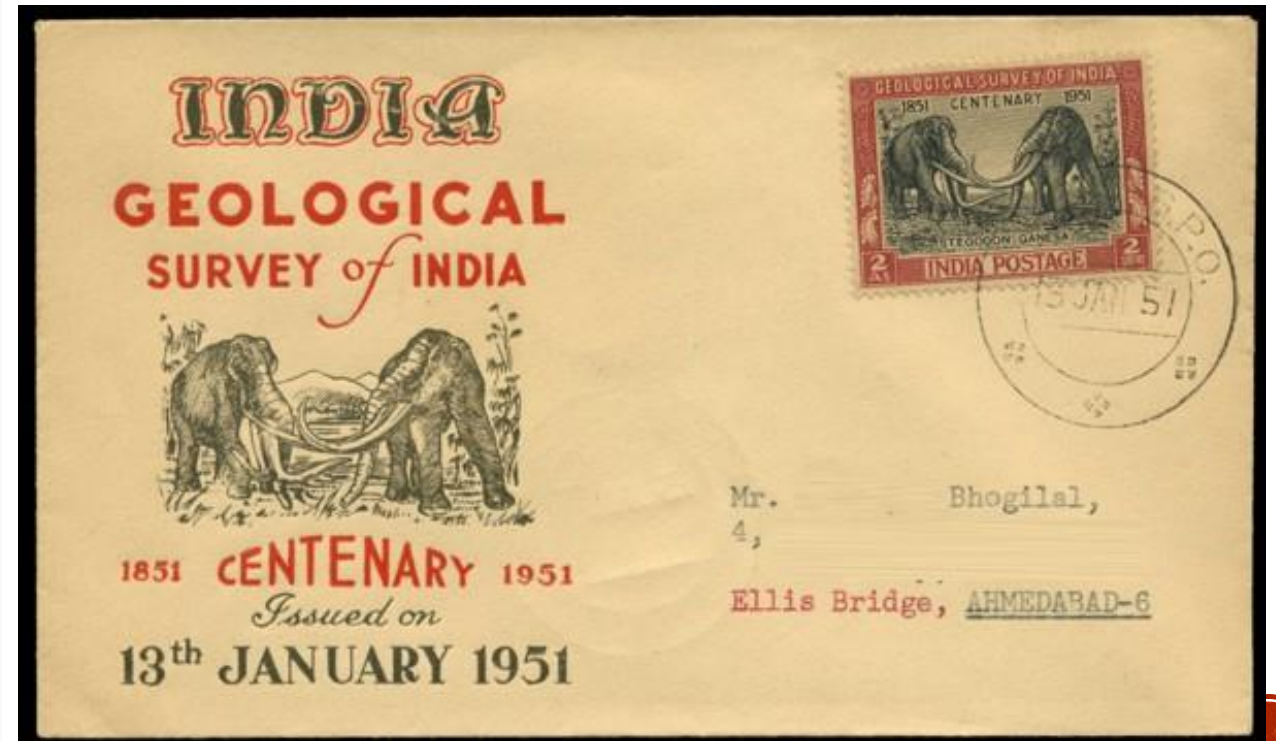
- 1951 - "Centenary of Geological Survey of India" – the first stamp showing prehistoric animals.



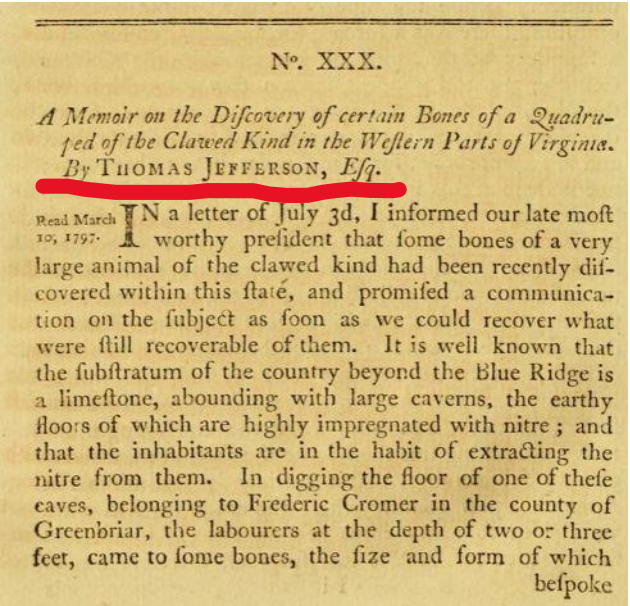
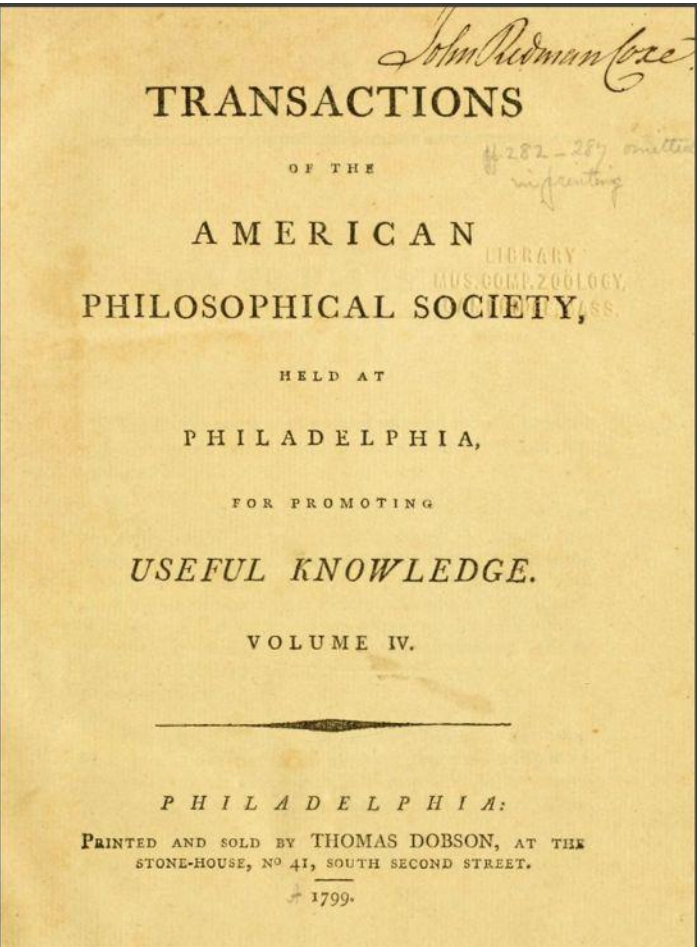
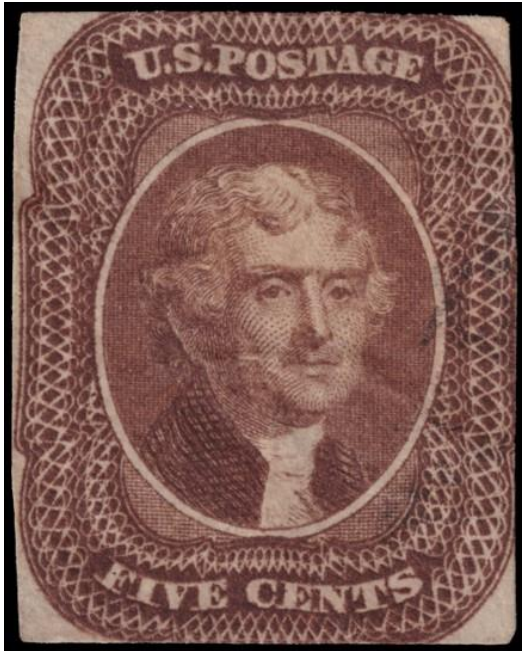
Dr. Darashaw Noshewan Wadia, India 1984



Stegodon tusk discovered by Dr. Darashaw Noshewan Wadia. Image credit: "Fossil elephants from the Indian sub-continent and their tusks: a review", by Y. C. Rai. Published in Journal of the Paleontological Society of India, vol. 49, 2004, pp. 169-188.



THE FIRST POSTAGE STAMPS RELATED TO PALEONTOLOGY: THOMAS JEFFERSON, USA 1856



From the Transactions of the American Philosophical Society, vol. 4, 1799.



THE FIRST STAMP SET SHOWING PREHISTORIC ANIMALS

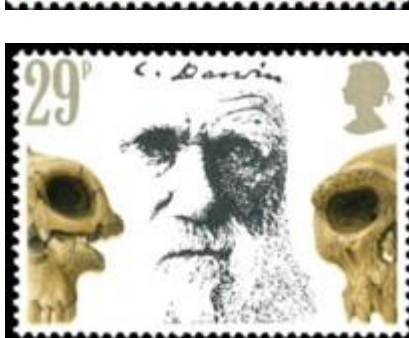
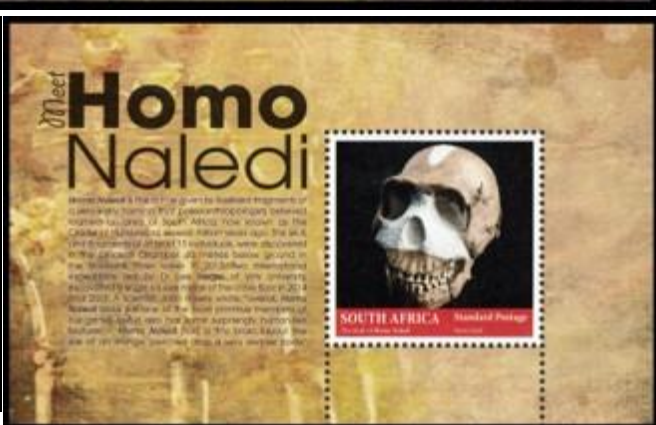
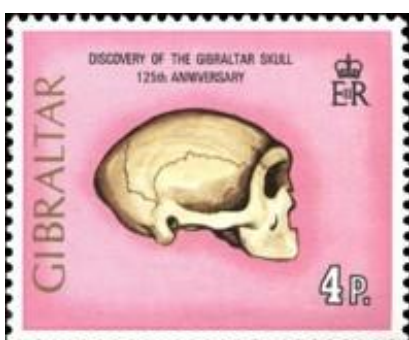
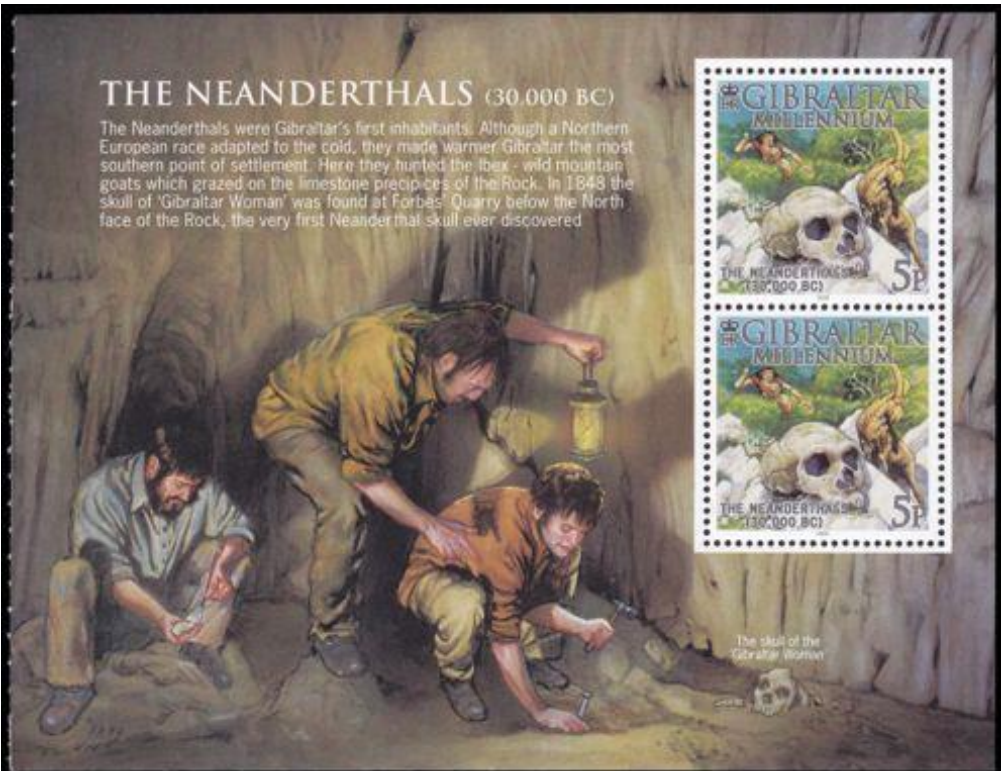
- In 1958, Post Authority of People Republic of China issued the set of three stamps “Paleontology of China”
- Each stamp showing fossil and reconstruction of a prehistoric animal from a different geological time:
 - a Trilobite (*Kaolishania pustulosa*) from the Paleozoic Era,
 - a Dinosaur (*Lufengosaurus*) from the Mesozoic Era,
 - a Giant Deer (*Sinomegaceros pachosteus*) from the Cenozoic Era



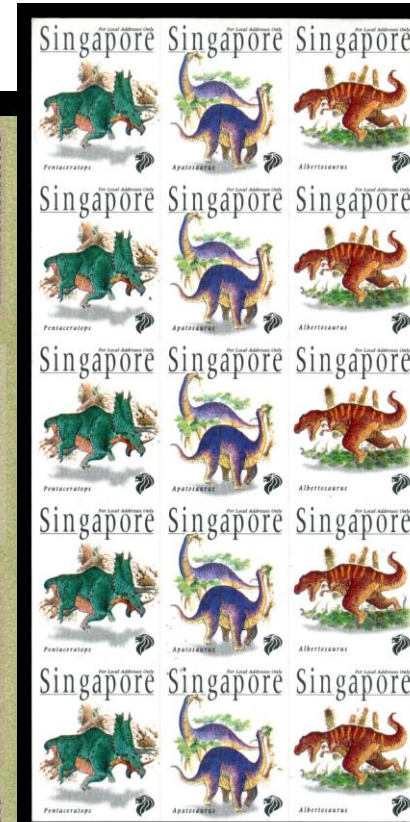
The photo is from [Wikimedia](#)



HUMAN EVOLUTION ON STAMPS

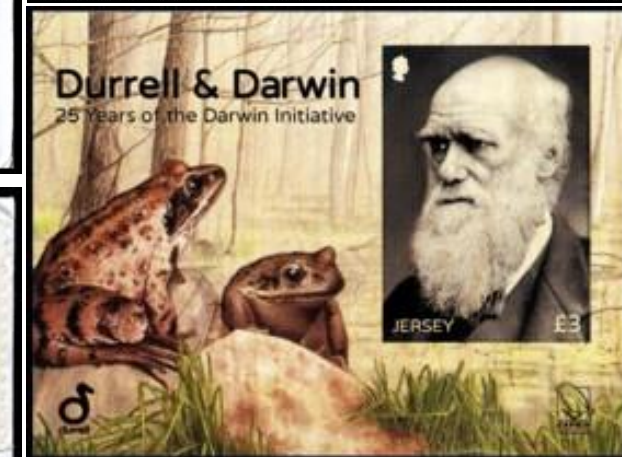


PREHISTORIC ANIMALS ON DIFFERENT TYPE OF POSTAGE STAMPS

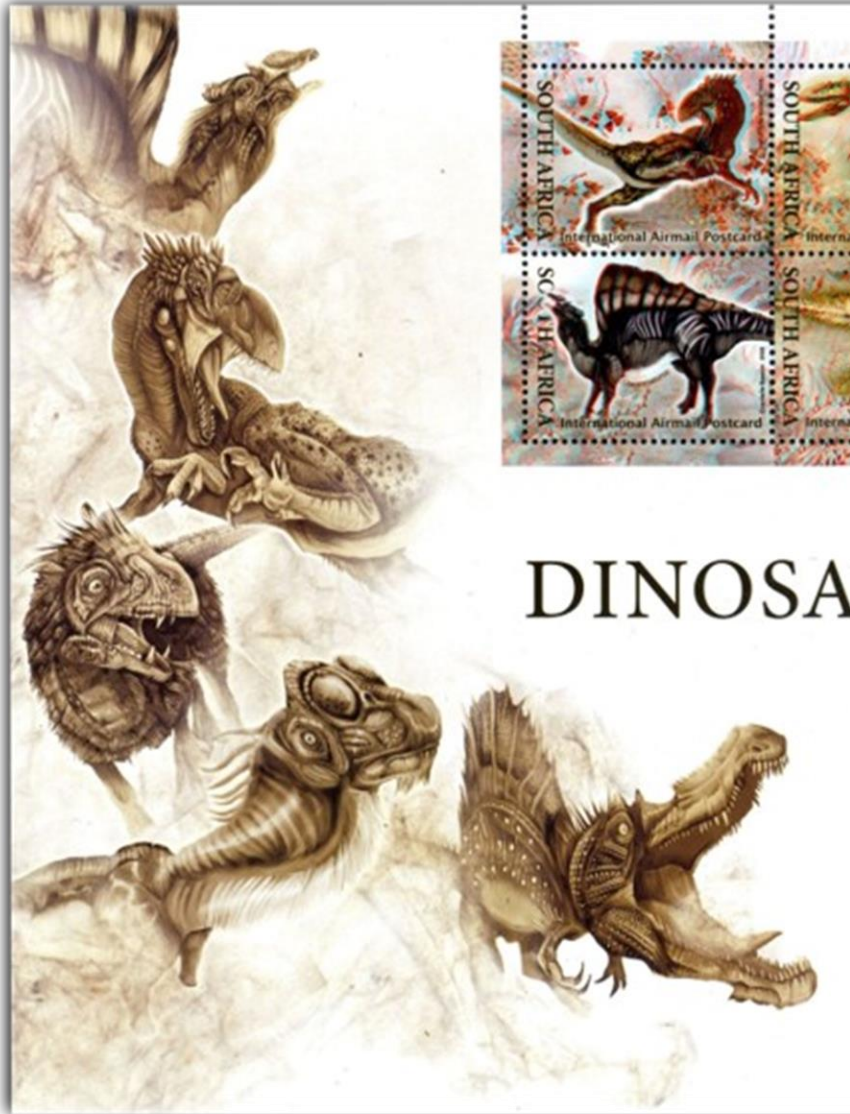


trojans stöt för to miljoner år sedan, då dinosaurierna försvinner. Dinosaurier har även funnits i Sverige. Vällakndinosaurien (Plateosaurus) är en av de vanligare formerna i Europa för 200 miljoner år sedan. Man har hittat många fotspår efter denna sex meter långa dinosaurie i stenbrotten vid Vallåkra i Skåne. Krister Brod

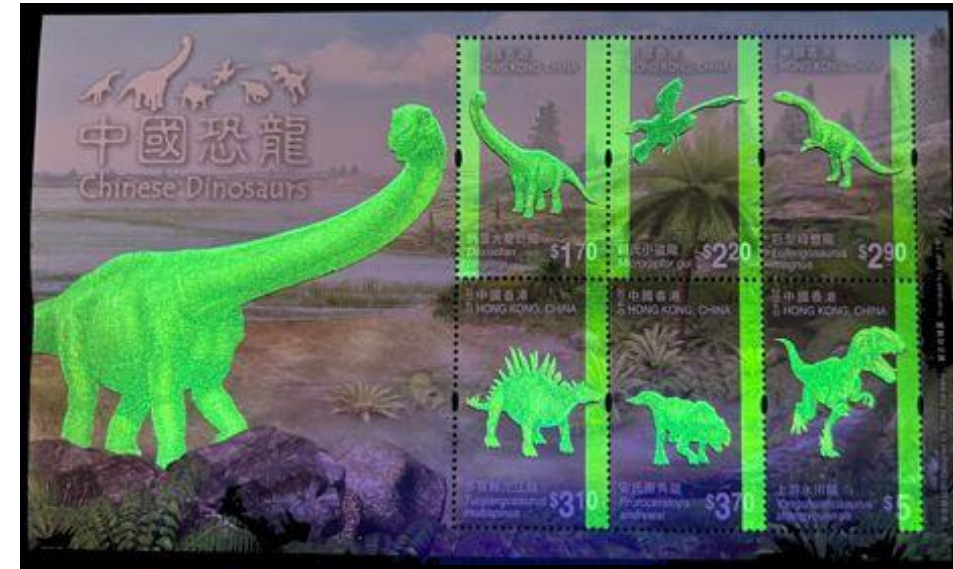
UNUSUAL STAMPS: SHAPES AND MATERIALS



UNUSUAL STAMPS: VISUAL EFFECTS



DINOSAURS

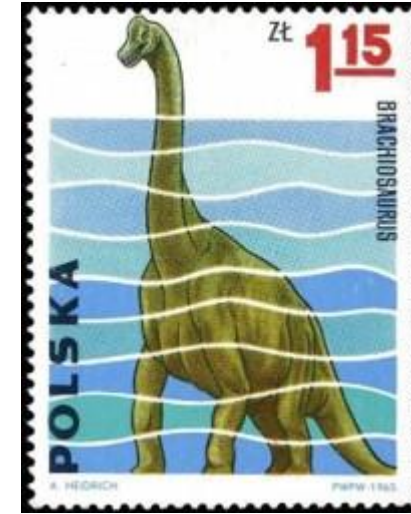


PHILATELIC COVERS WITH REAL FOSSILS



STAMPS AS WITNESSES TO THE EVOLUTION OF THE SCIENCE OF PALEONTOLOGY

- Prehistoric animals on postage stamps often reproduce reconstructions created by famous paleoartists and represents the scientific views at the time the works were created.
- Later research might change the scientific view of what the animal looked like or how it lived.



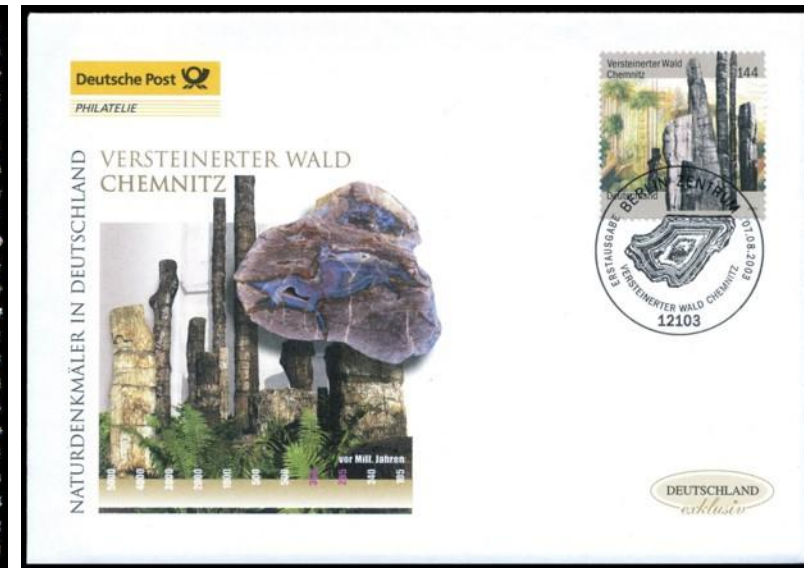
„NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM IN AN ALBUM“

Postage stamps not only document the development of Paleoart. Collection of stamps showing fossils and reconstructions of prehistoric animals and plants according to recent scientific knowledge can be considered as the „**Natural History Museum in your Album**“

Myself in the Natural History Museum of Chemnitz (2024) .



"Petrified forest of Chemnitz,, stamp and FDC with the trunks, issued in 2003 in Germany.



FIRST DAY COVERS_s

- The first FDCs used regular envelopes, while the cachets often reproduced designs of the stamps.
- Most of these FDC were privately produced, rather than being designed by the Postal Authorities.
- Modern FDC often use special design covers and might contain technical details and background information on their reverse side or in included sheets.
- Design of these covers is usually complementary to the images on the stamps.



STAMP DESIGN PROCESS

- Some Postal Authority hire serious artists to design their stamps, who work together with paleontologists to create accurate reconstruction of prehistoric animals and their living environment, then create multiple sketches before submitting final versions of their works.



Jean-Marie Poissenot working on the design of the stamps "Europa 2024 Underwater Flora and Fauna" of Luxembourg, 2024. This photo was also provided by Mr. Poissenot.



Stamp
Canada post
Final version

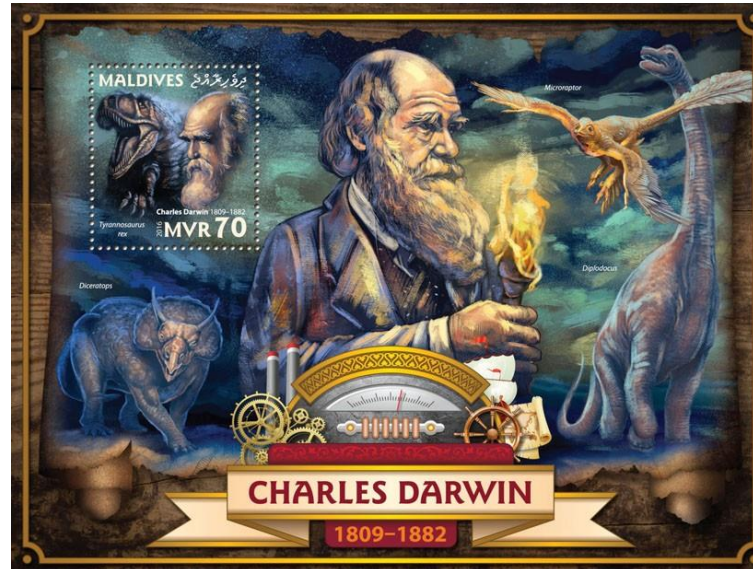


S. KRASOVSKIY



STAMP DESIGN PROCESS – „QUICK AND DIRTY“

- Some agencies produce several dozen stamps a month for their clients and don't invest much time for the details.
- Design of some stamps is based on manipulation of images from stock art without care for the details.
- Some agencies mix as many possible different themes on their stamps in order to sell the stamps to many different topical collectors.





Paleophilatelie website
<https://www.paleophilatelie.eu>
the place where Paleontology and
Paleoanthropology meets Philately



PALEOPHILATELIE DEVELOPMENT STORY

- www.Paleophilatelie.eu was registered in **October 2010**.
- The first and only page of this website, available in 2010, was a table created in MS-Word, that provided an overview about all kinds of available stamps.
- Today, in 2025, this website contains over 750 pages and over 16.000 images.
- Articles written for the website are published in international philatelic magazines
- The website awarded many medals on National and International Stamp Shows, including two **LARGE GOLD Medals**.



WHY PALEOPHILATELIE WEBSITE?

The website was designed to provide detailed information about all kinds of philatelic material related to Paleontology & Paleoanthropology.

- The website contains:
 - Catalog with **country** names and **issue dates**
 - List of **new** and **upcoming** philatelic materials
 - Very extensive **Galleries** with high resolution images
 - Collection of philatelic **exhibits**
 - Topical **Articles**
 - **Links** to Postal Authorities around the world, include links to their on-line stores, stamps issue plans, catalogs, etc.



Postmarks of Australia that related to Paleontology: dinosaurs, Charles Darwin

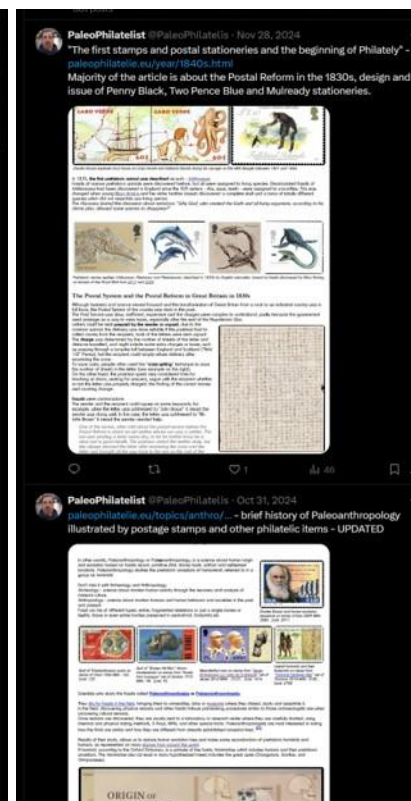
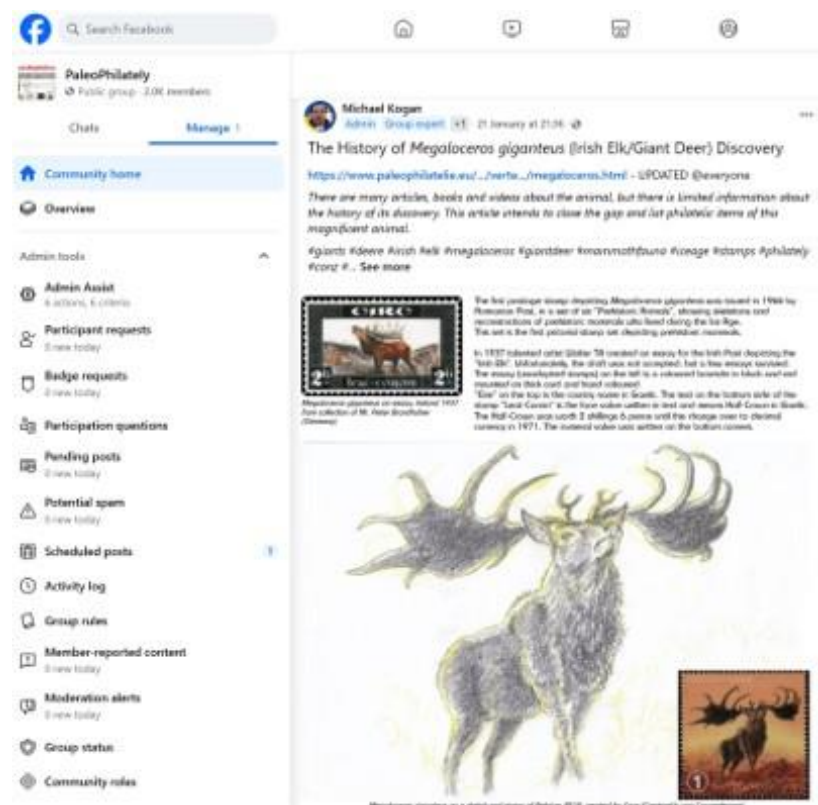


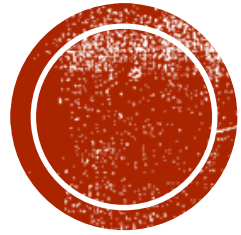
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PALEOPHILATELY ON THE SOCIALMEDIA

- „**PaleoPhilately**“ Facebook group, allows online communication between all „Paleo-Philatelists“ around the world and has over 2.000 members.
- Follow “**Paleophilatelist**” on “X” formerly “**Twitter**” to keep up with news about the website.





**THANK YOU FOR YOUR
ATTENTION & HAPPY
COLLECTING!**



Email me for any question: admin@paleophilatelie.eu