

Section 1

August 1898 - September 1, 1899

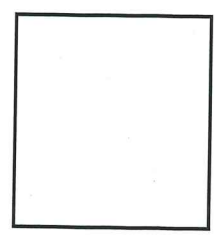
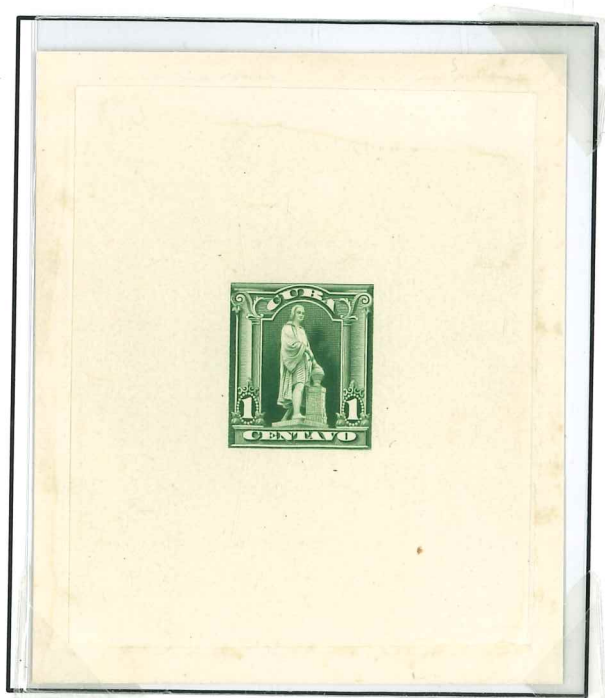
Design of the Replacement "Occupational Issues"

December 1898 - June 1899

The design criterion from the USPOD for the replacement 'Occupational' or Special Design Issues was that the stamps could not include any person or event in Cuba, but rather a symbolic or allegoric representation of Cuban culture and economy; hence the name "Alegorías Cubanas," i.e. Cuban Allegories. Various designs were submitted before those from Raymond Ostrander Smith were selected and submitted for approval to the Third Assistant Postmaster on June 9, 1899.

Cristobal Colon; One Cent issue

The design is based on a statue of Cristopher Columbus in the Patio del Ayuntamiento in Havana.



SPECIMEN overprint

Statue of Columbus at the Parque del Ayuntamiento in Havana.

Small die proof of the "1 CENTAVO", One Cent stamp.

Section 1

August 1898 - September 1, 1899

Design of the Replacement "Occupational Issues"

December 1898 - June 1899

Palmas Reales; Two Cents issue

The design was based on Cuba's Palma Real, Royal Palm (*Roystonea regia*) and is Cuba's national tree. It was the most abundant tree at the time of the Spanish American war and an allegory of Cuba. This palm tree is part of Cuba's National crest, where it represents the liberty and independence of the young republic.



SPECIMEN
overprint

Small die proof of the "2 CENTAVOS", Two Cents stamp.

Section 1

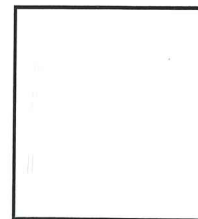
August 1898 – September 1, 1899

Design of the Replacement "Occupational Issues"

December 1898 – June 1899

La India; Three Cents issue

The design was based on the Fuente de la India or Noble Habana, in the Nuevo Prado, across the old Campo de Marte. The statue was erected in 1837 and was the work of the Italian sculptor Guiseppe Gaggini. It was a recurrent symbol of Havana, the Capital City.



SPECIMEN
overprint

Small die proof of the "3 CENTAVOS", Three Cents stamp.

Section 1

August 1898 - September 1, 1899

Design of the Replacement "Occupational Issues"

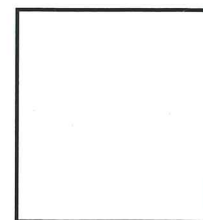
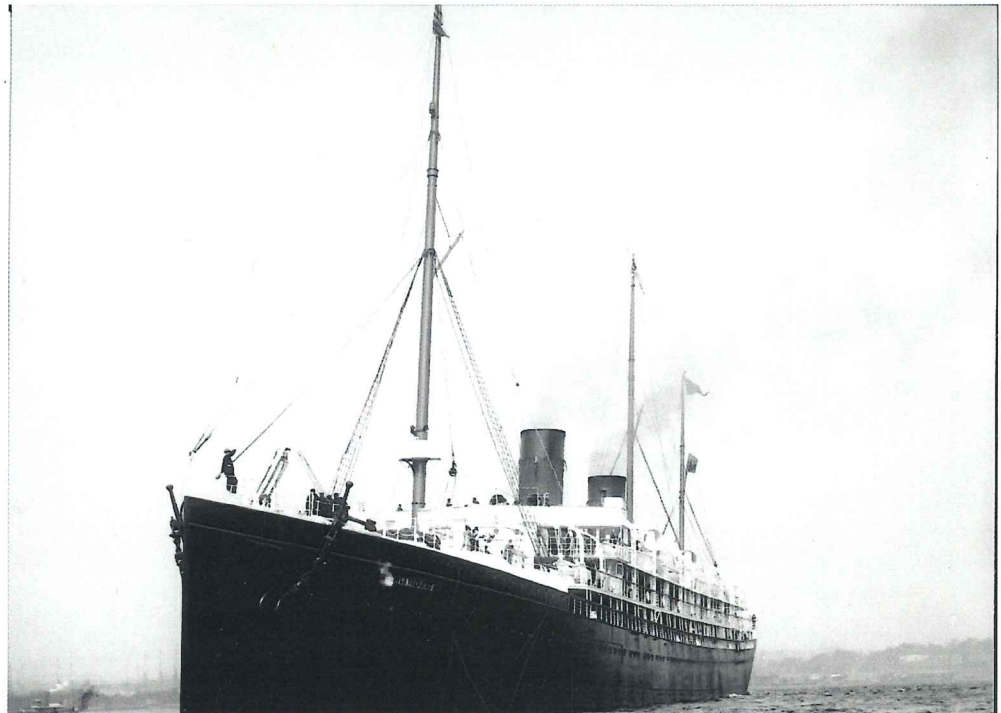
December 1898 - June 1899

SS Umbria; Five Cents issue

The design represented commerce and was based on the SS Umbria of the Cunard line. The SS Umbria was one of the last "Cunarders" that were fitted with auxiliary sails. It was built by John Elder & Co. at Glasgow, Scotland in 1884.

SS Umbria

Scan of photo in the exhibitor's collection



SPECIMEN
overprint

Small die proof of the "5 CENTAVOS", Five Cents stamp.

Section 1

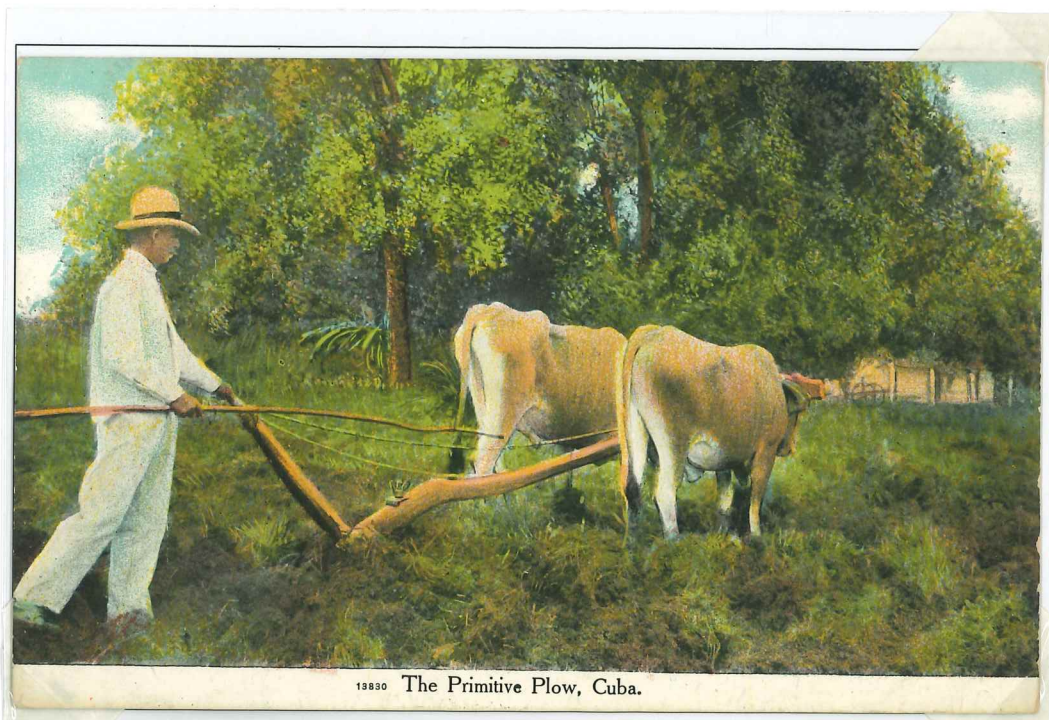
August 1898 - September 1, 1899

Design of the Replacement "Occupational Issues"

December 1898 - June 1899

Sugar Farming; Ten Cents issue

The stamp depicts a farmer plowing a sugar cane fields with a team of oxen and a sugar mill in the background. At the turn of the 19th century, plowing the land for cultivation of crops with ox was a common sight in the farms of Cuba for preparing the land for cultivation. It's an allegory for Sugar farming, Cuba's king crop.



SPECIMEN
overprint

Small die proof of the "10 CENTAVOS", ten cents stamp.