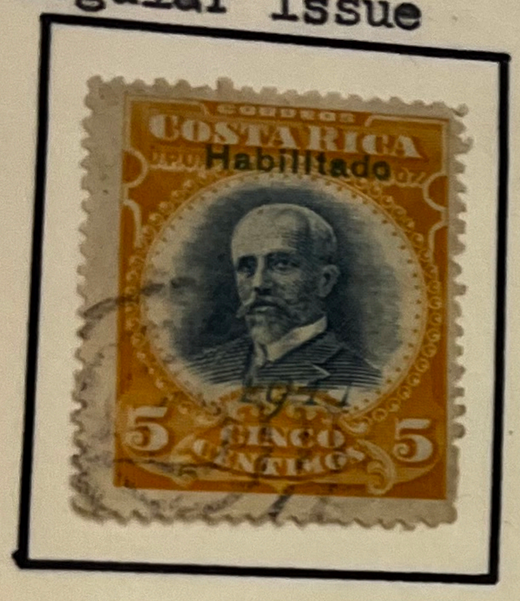
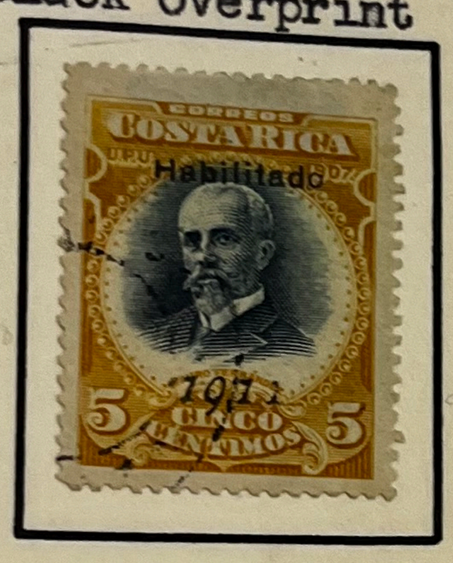
The 5¢ issue of 1910 also received the "Habilitado - 1911" overprint. While similar to the overprint on the 4¢ value, different printing plates were used. This stamp was, in fact, printed through the use of three different plates, and it is impossible on most stamps to determine which of the plates was used. The major difference between plates can be seen by examining full sheets of stamps. It has been shown that Plate 1 was free of printing errors. On plate 2, stamp No. 25 is overprinted "Habilitada". Stamps No. 6, 19, and 50 show a roman numeral I in the 1911 overprint. Plate No. 3 is unique in the year date is printed as "I9II" on Stamp 19, and "2911" on Stamp No. 35.

Circulation of this stamp was authorized on May 30, 1911. A total printing of 1,050,000 copies was produced from the three plates.

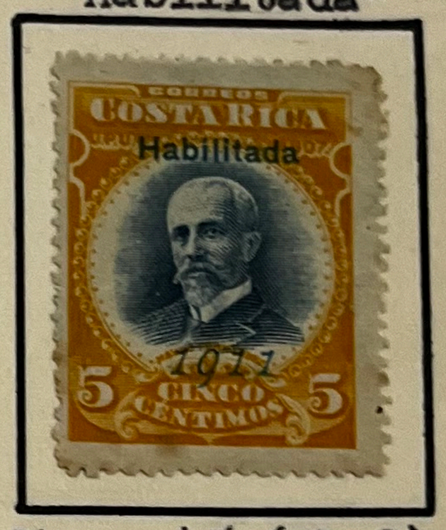
Regular Issue



Black Overprint



"Habilitada"



Stamp 45 (Pl 2)

"I911"



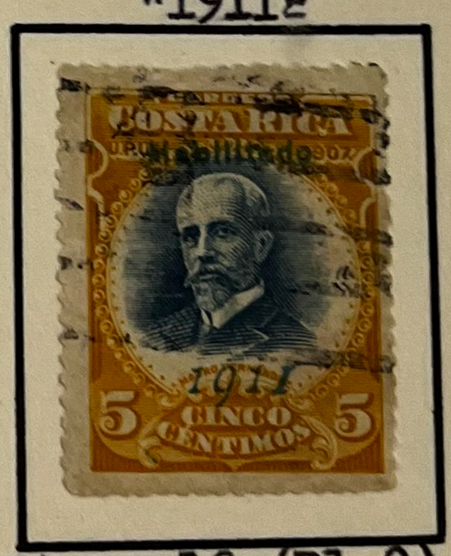
Stamp 6 (Pl 2)

"1911"



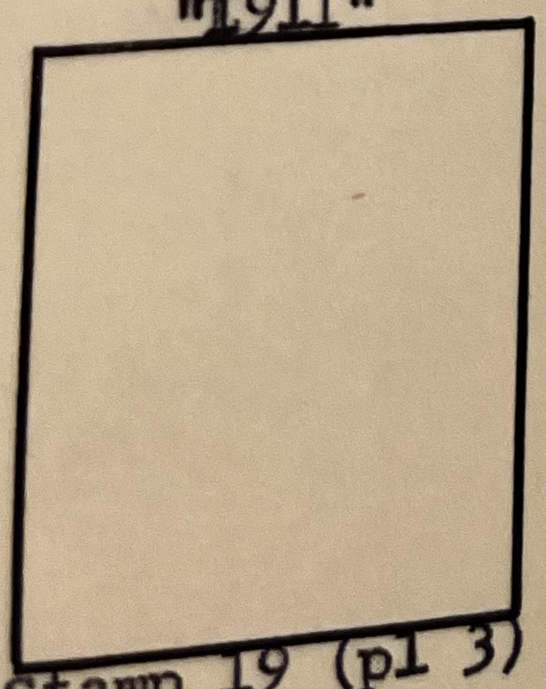
Stamp 50 (Pl 2)

"1911"



Stamp 19 (Pl 2)

"I91I"



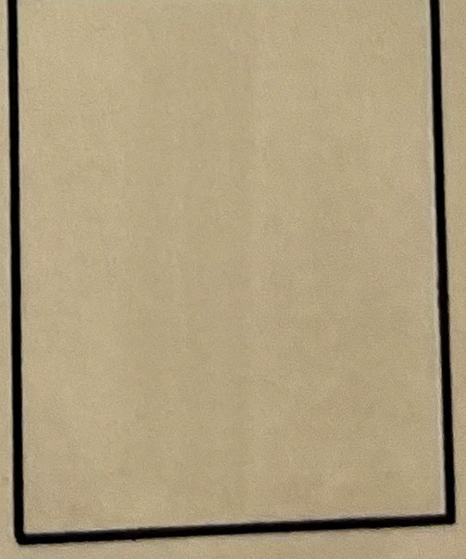
Stamp 19 (pl 3)

"2911"



Stamp 35 (pl 3)

Double Overprint



Scott Publishing Co.

The "1911" Overprint

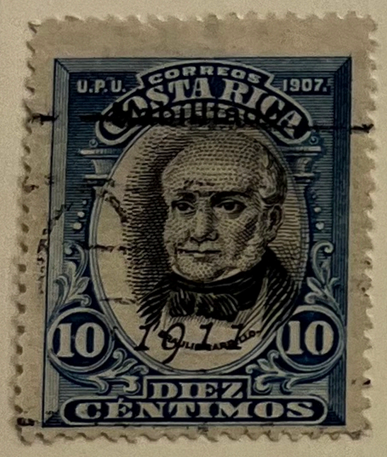
On January 6, 1912, the government authorized the overprinting of the 10¢ stamp of the 1907 series. A total of 340,424 copies were produced.

Used for the overprinting were the same plates 1 and 2 that were used in overprinting the 5¢ value. The same errors are therefore found. In the "1911" date, the roman numeral "I" exists in all three possible locations. Also, Stamp No. 45 is overprinted "Habilitada" rather than "Habilitado".

The number of possible varieties is increased by the overprint having been applied in both red and black, and on stamps of both perforation 11 x 14 and perforation 14. A double overprint is also known, but only on the perforation 11 x 14 in black.

Regular Issues

14x14 black



"I911"
14x14 black

11x14 black

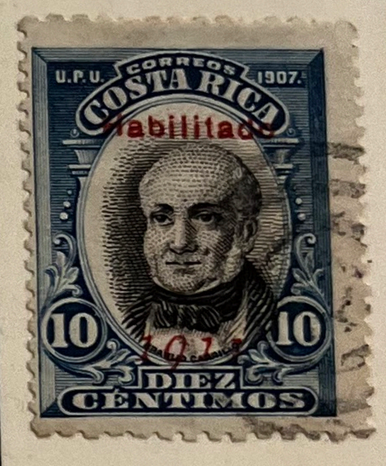


"I911"
11x14 black

14x14 red

"I911"
14x14 red

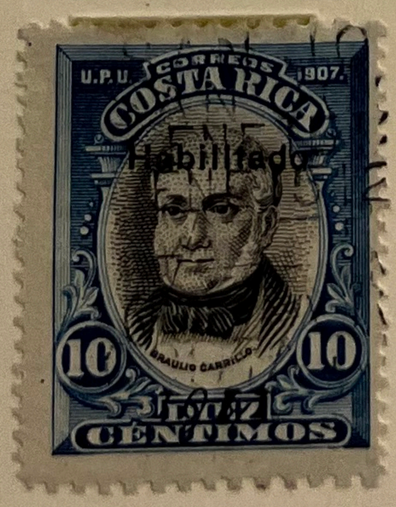
11x14 red



"I911"
11x14 red

"1911"
14x14 black

"1911"
11x14 black



"1911"
14x14 red

"1911"
11x14 red

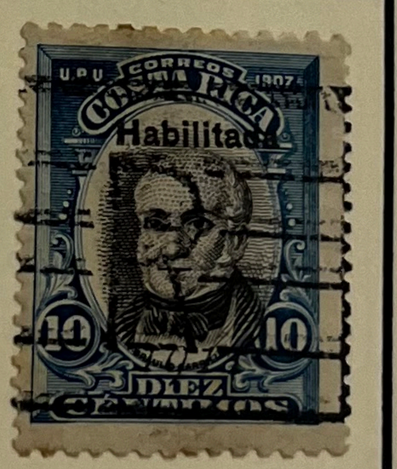
"191I"
11x14 black

"191I"
11x14 black

"191I"
11x14 red

"191I"
11x14 red

"Habilitada"
11x14 black



"Habilitada"
11x14 red

"Habilitada"
11x14 red

"Habilitada"
11x14 red

1911 Provisional Overprints
1¢ on 10¢ Telegraph

In the year 1911, quantities of 1¢, 2¢, and 5¢ stamps were prepared by overprinting the regularly used telegraph stamps of that period. The first stamps of this series were the 1¢ surcharges on the 10¢ telegraph issue, which were authorized by government directives dated November 11 and December 6, 1911.

Two major varieties of this stamp exist, one being overprinted in red, and the other in black. Also, differences exist in spacing of the two lines of the overprint, one type showing an 8 mm spacing between lines, and the other with a 9¼ mm spacing. A further constant variety occurs on stamp no. 5, which is overprinted "COEREOS" rather than "CORREOS".



Red Overprint (8 mm)

Black Overprint (9¼ mm)

Red Overprint (9¼ mm)



Black Overprint (8 mm)

"COEREOS" Overprint

Inverted Overprint

Provisional Overprints ~

The 1¢ Values

In addition to the 1¢ telegraph stamp, the 1¢ surcharge was applied to the 25¢, 50¢, $1, $5, $10 values. Total quantities printed were 806,176 of the 25¢ value and 285,000 each of the other values.

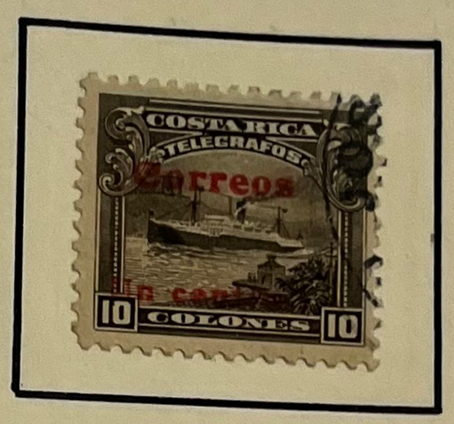
In addition to the five regular values, five major errors or varieties are known to exist. These include inverted and double overprints, as well as the "COEREOS", overprint (on stamp no. 5 of the overprinted 25¢ value).



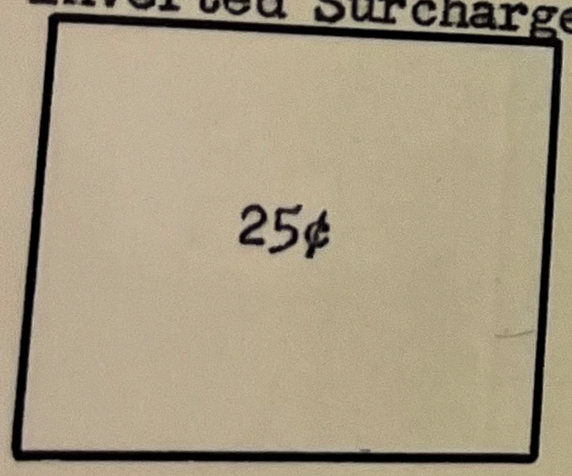




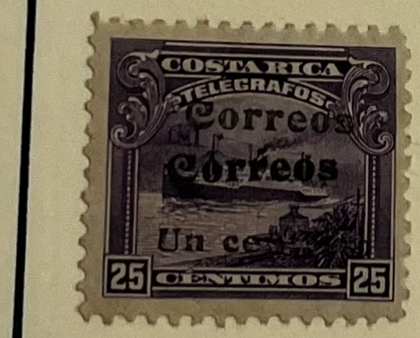




Inverted Surcharge



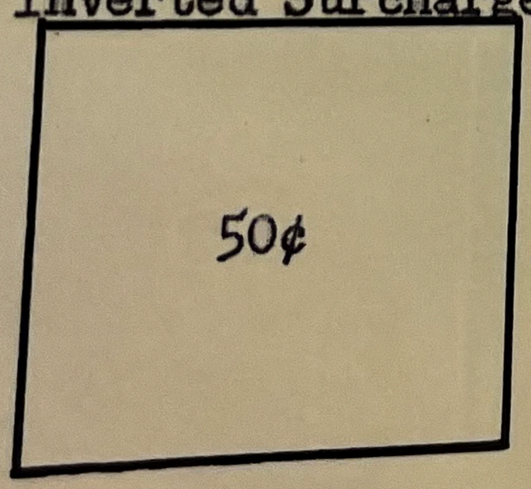
Double Surcharge



"COEREOS"



Inverted Surcharge



Double Surcharge



1911 Provisional Overprints

The 5¢ Value

A government directive of December 6, 1911 authorized circulation of 633,220 copies of a 5¢ surcharge, applied to the 5¢ telegraph stamp. A later directive of February 12, 1912 permitted preparation of an additional 649,801 copies.

Stamp number 19 in the sheets may be identified by the presence of a large dot in the center of the large numeral "5". Errors are also known, in which a double or inverted overprint is found. Substantial quantities of this stamp were later devalued by application of the characteristic barred overprint.



Regular Issue



Stamp No. 19

Inverted Overprint

Double Overprint



Barred Overprint



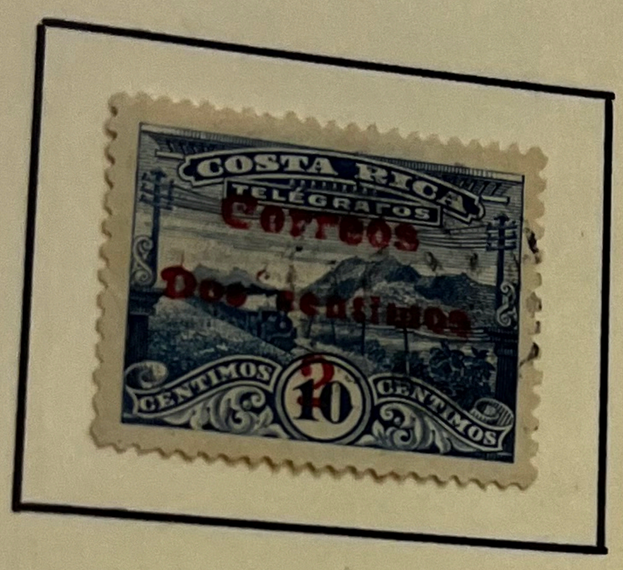
Minor Difference in
"C" of "CORREOS"

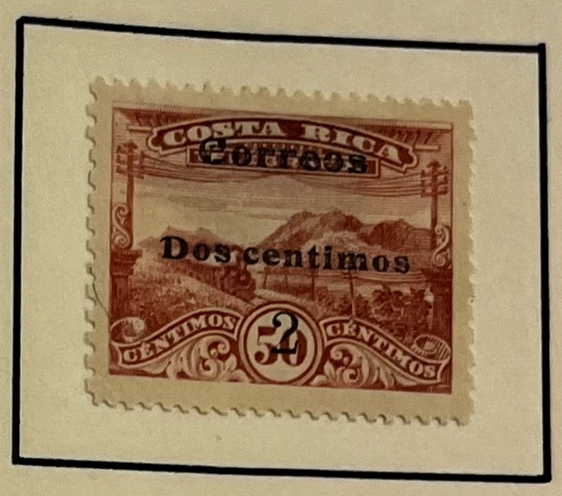
2¢ Values (Perf. 11 x 14)

The December 5, 1911 directive also authorized the printing of 2¢ values by surcharging seven different denominations of telegraph stamps. These were issued in two perforation varieties, perf. 14 and perf. 11 x 14. Total quantities printed were as follows.

5¢	-	5,000 copies
10¢	-	1,500
50¢	-	86,000
$1	-	92,000
$2	-	90,000
$5	-	42,000
$10	-	42,000

Of the seven values, all except the 5¢ are known to exist in perforation 11 x 14. These are shown below.

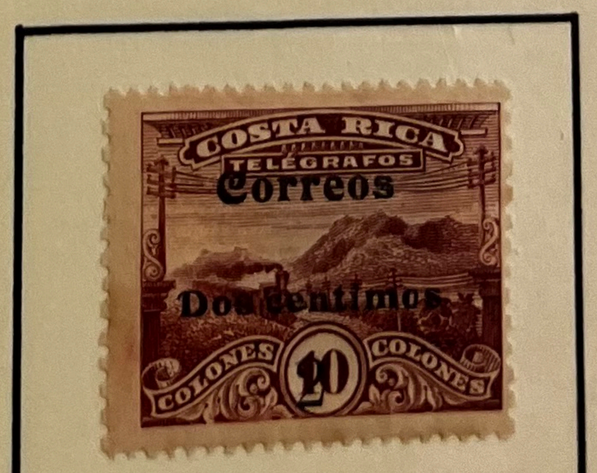












1911 Provisional Overprints

The 2¢ Values (Perforation 14)









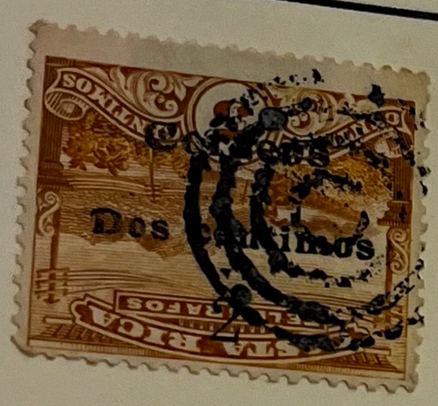


Provisional Overprints

The 2¢ Values

Two identifiable varieties exist in the 2¢ overprints. The word "CORREOS" is found inverted on stamp no. 41. On stamp no. 27, the large numeral "2" is broken. These varieties may be found on most, but not all, values, and on both perforation varieties. Inverted overprints have also been found of most of the denominations. All of the minor varieties and both perforations exist inverted.

Inverted Overprints



Stamp Number 41

Stamp Number 27

Counterfeit Overprints of



#93a 2¢ ON 5C.
INVERTED



#94b 2¢ ON 10C.
"CORREOS" INVERTED



#83b "HABILITADA"

Centenario de Central American Independence
1821 1921

On September 6, 1921 a stamp issue was authorized to commemorate the centenary of Central American independence. A total of 5000 sets were lithographed by the Litbografia Nacional. Although authorized by government decree, the stamps were never released for postal use. The Scott Catalog carries a notation that "A set of five labels .... is stated to have been printed for the Philatelic Society of Costa Rica. It was not a government issue and lacked postal value".





Centenary of Central American Independence (continued)





of the Centenary of
American Independence - 1921

In the year 182[illegible] the people of Central America revolted against Spanish rule and established t[illegible] dependent states of Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Salvador, and Nicaragua. One hundred years later, in 1921, Costa Rica issued a single stamp to commemorate this event.

Circulation of the stamp was authorized by government Decree No. 13 dated March 2, 1920 and Decree No. 26 of September 7, 1921. The issue was designed by G. Prudhomme and printed in France. It was typographed and issued in perforation 11.



The only recorded error or variety is based on the fact that a few sheets appeared with double perforations vertically. A block of 6 stamps with the double perforation is shown below.



COFFEE ANNIVERSARY IN COSTA RICA - 1921

To commemorate the centenary of the introduction of coffee raising to Costa Rica, a commemorative stamp was issued in 1921. Total printing consisted of 25,000 copies. The stamps were printed by lithography, being produced by the Litografia Nacional.

Circulation of this issue was authorized by Decree No. 17, dated June 15, 1921. June 17 was the first day of issue. These stamps were produced in a perforation 11½. Imperforate copies are quite common.











The need for a 15¢ value stamp was filled on April 24, 1921 when the government's Decree No. 18 authorized the use of a small commemorative stamp to honor the birth of Simon Bolivar. The stamp was printed by the American Bank Note Company in sheets of 100. The engraving process was used, the stamp being printed on unwatermarked paper and issued in perforation 12.



The Overprinted Central American Independence Issue of 1922

Decree No. 22, dated March 1, 1922, authorized the circulation of the previous year's Central American Independence Issue, "updated" through the application of an overprint reading "CORREOS / 1922". The overprint was applied by the Imprenta Nacional. A total of 500,000 copies were produced.

Both double and inverted overprints are known to exist. Also, one constant variety is recognized. On stamp No. 4 of the sheet, the "O" in "CORREOS" is raised.

REGULAR



INVERTED



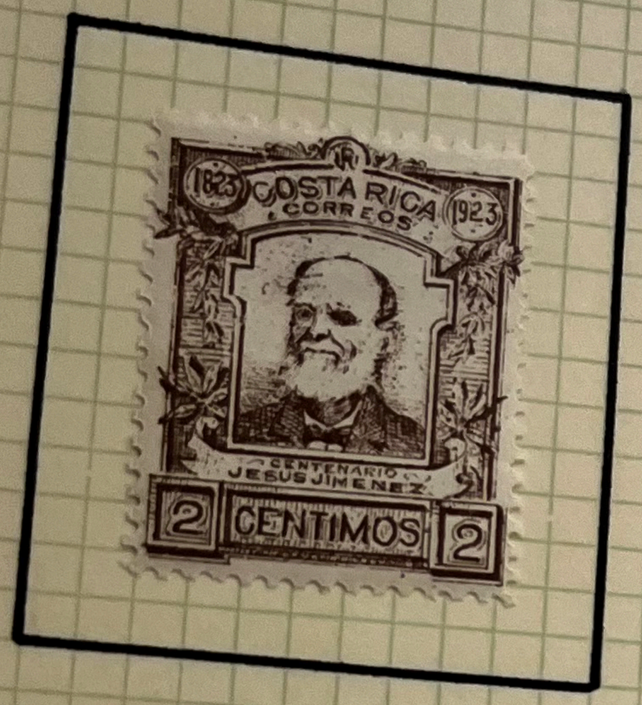
DOUBLE

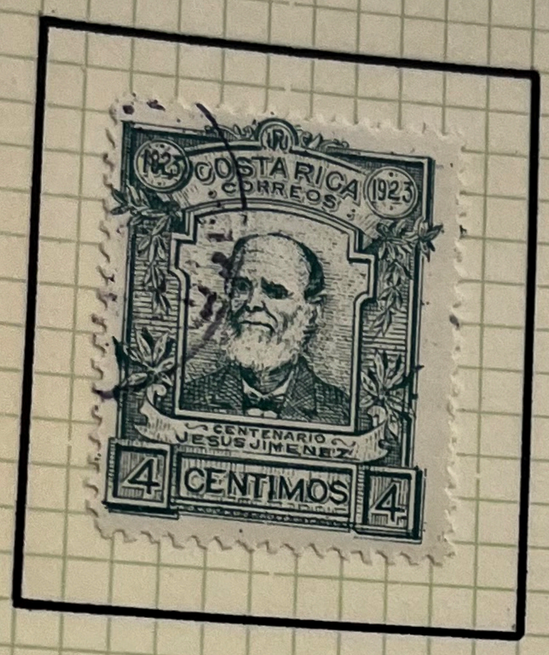
RAISED "O"

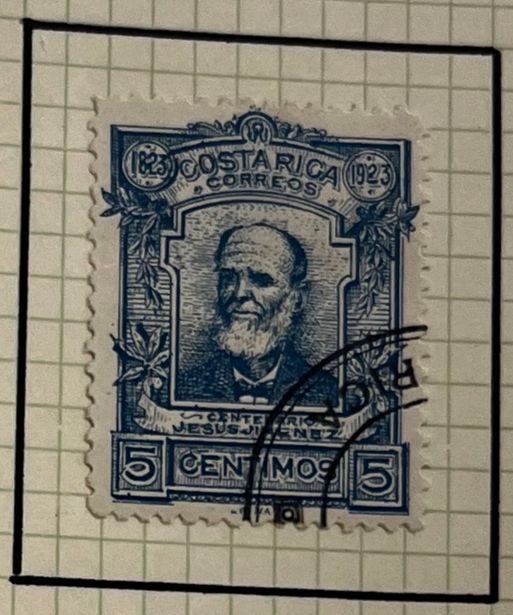
1923

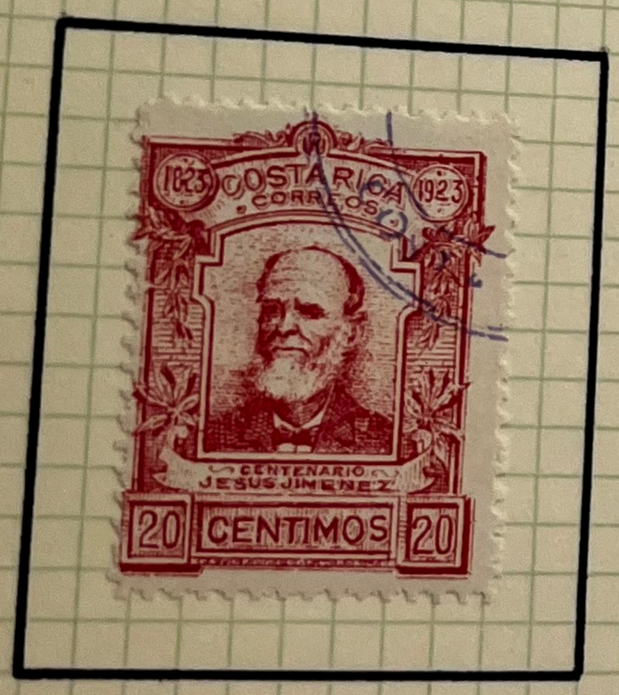
On June 18, 1923, was issued to commemorate the centenary of the ...menez, former president of Costa Rica. The stamp w... ...raphy, and printed by the Litografia Nacional. ...ssued in perforation 11½ on unwatermarked paper. Quantities issued were:

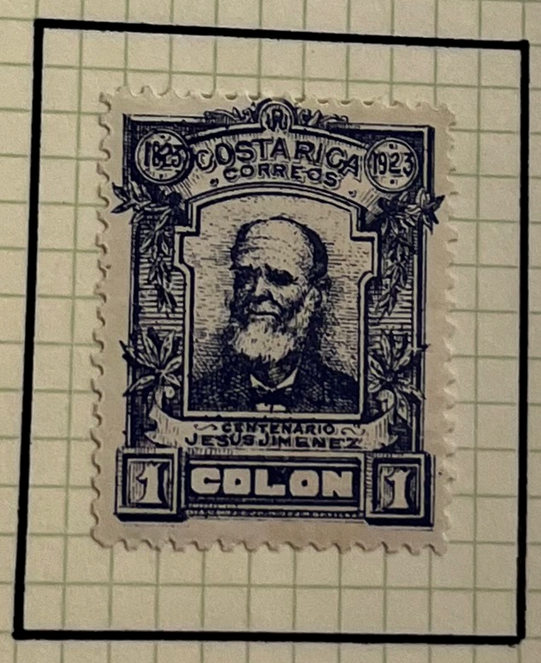
2¢ - 150,000 copies
4¢ - 50,000
5¢ - 300,000
20¢ - 50,000
1C - 25,000









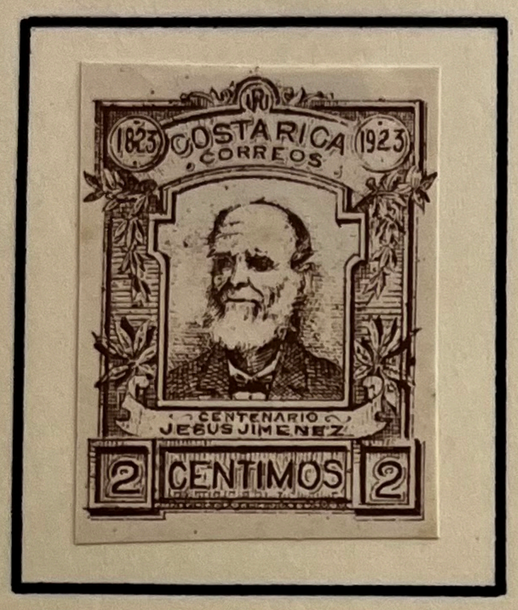


Imperforate Varieties

All values of this series also exist imperforate, and are so listed in the Saenz specialized catalog of Costa Rica. The Scott Catalog, however, states that they "were not regularly issued in that condition". Despite their supposedly never having been regularly issued as imperforates, it is not unusual to occasionally encounter a postally used copy.

The five values of this series are shown below, imperforate and in mint condition. Also shown is a postally used copy of one of the values.

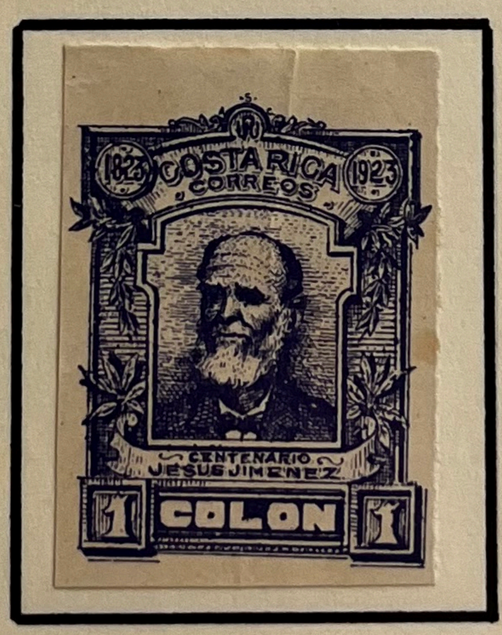
Also known to exist are two color variations of the 4-cent green. These are found only on the imperforate variety and not on the regular perforated stamps.



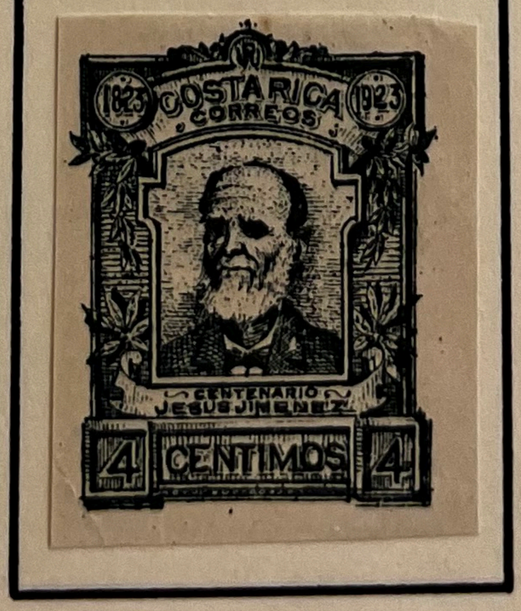




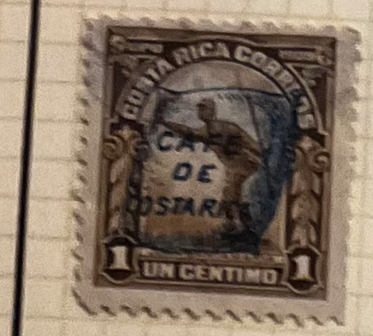


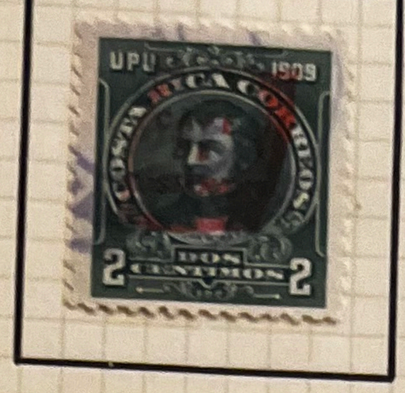






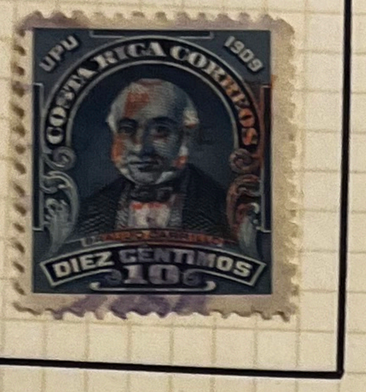
1921 OVERPRINTED "CAFE DE COSTA RICA"





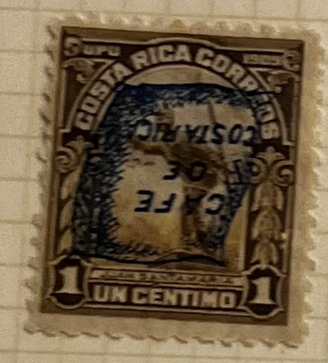


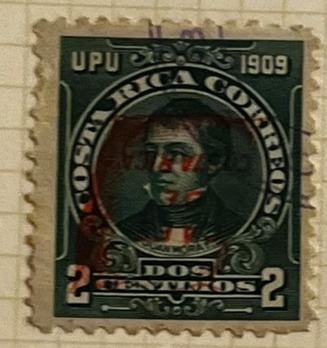




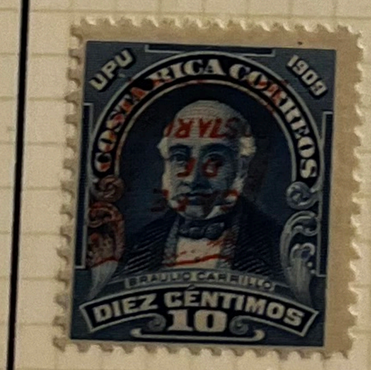


INVERTED OVERPRINT VARIETIES







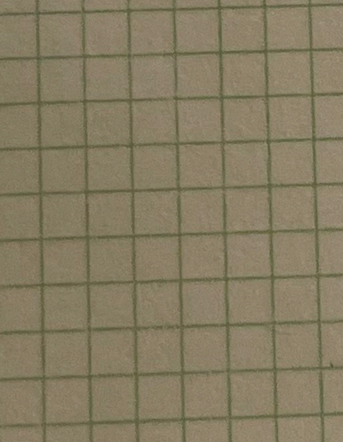




TRIAL COLOR PROOFS - "CAFE DE COSTA RICA" OVERPRINTS



1923 "COFFEE" OVERPRINTS



NORMAL OVERPRINT

"VD" FOR "UD"

COSTA RICA

Unwatermarked

1923

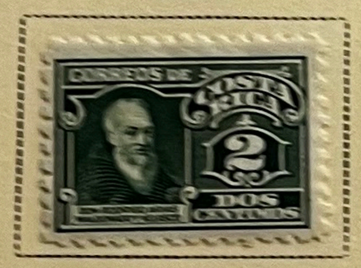


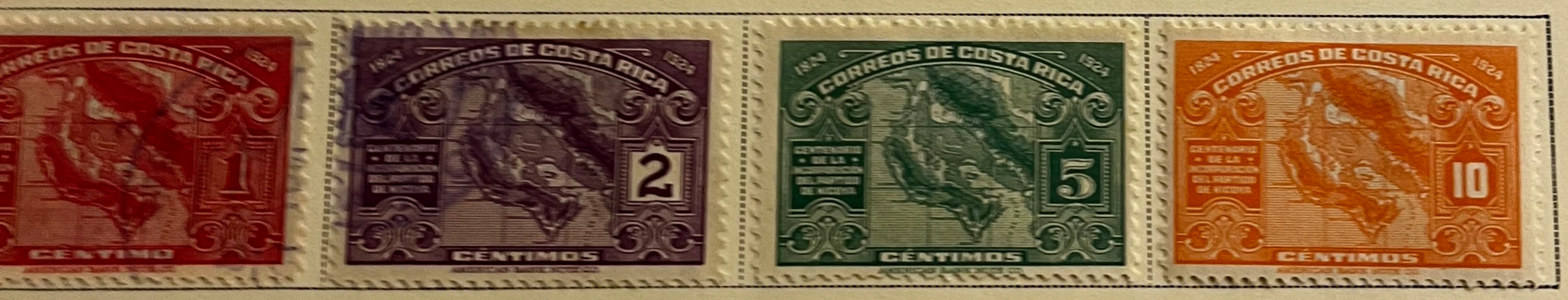
PERIOD AFTER "CONGRESSO"





1924








CORREOS DE COSTA RICA
3
5
UPU
1923
CINCO CENTIMOS
AMERICAN BANK NOTE CO
CORREOS DE COSTA RICA
1921
10
CENTIMOS
AMERICAN BANK NOTE CO
40


CORREOS DE COSTA RICA
1921
DEL PRIMER CONGRESO POSTAL PANAMERICANO
10 CENTIMOS 10
NK NOTE CO


UPU
CORREOS DE
1923
COSTA RICA
CENTIMOS


CORREOS DE COSTA RICA
1921
10 CENTIMOS 10
AMERICAN BANK NOTE CO


CORREOS DE COSTA RICA
5
UPU
CINCO CENTIMOS
1923
CORREOS Y TELÉGRAFOS
AMERICAN BANK NOTE CO


CORREOS DE COSTA RICA
1921
1921
10
EN CONMEMORACIÓN DEL PRIMER CONGRESO POSTAL PANAMERICANO
CÉNTIMOS
10


CORREOS DE COSTA RICA
1926
1926
COLEGIO SAN LUIS-CARTAGO
3
TRES CÉNTIMOS
3

1927


CORREOS DE COSTA RICA
1926
1926
ASILO CHAPUÍ - SAN JOSÉ
6
SEIS CÉNTIMOS
6
WATERLOW & SONS LTD LONDRES
30
CORREOS DE COSTA RICA
ESCUELA NORMAL-HEREDIA
1926
TREINTA CÉNTIMOS
1926
45
CORREOS DE COSTA RICA
1926
RUINAS DE UJARRAS
1926
CUARENTA Y CINCO CÉNTIMOS
WATERLOW & SONS LTD LONDRES

1928


CORREOS DE COSTA RICA
EN CONMEMORACIÓN DEL PRIMER CONGRESO POSTAL PANAMERICANO
10
CENTIMOS
10
AMERICAN BANK NOTE CO


COSTA RICA
UPU
CORREOS
1921
5
5
BOLIVAR
QUINCE CENTIMOS
AMERICAN BANK NOTE CO

COSTA RICA

Unwatermarked

1928-29



1929-30



1931



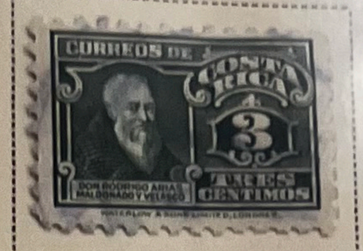
1932



COSTA RICA

Unwatermarked

1934



1935



1935











1936



8 C
DARK VIOLET

25 C
ORANGE

35 C
BROWN VIOLET

40 C
BROWN

50 C
YELLOW

2 Col
YELLOW GREEN

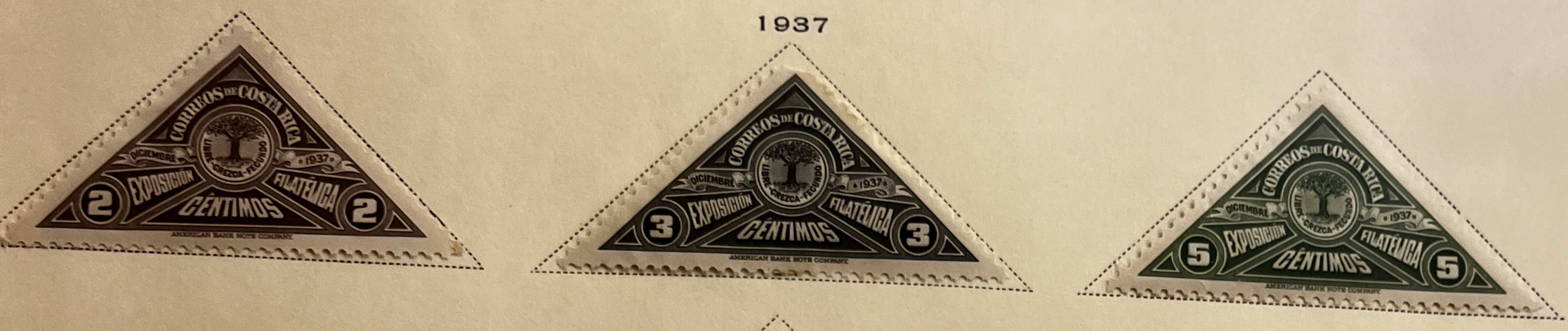
5 Col
GREEN

Unwatermarked

1936



1937

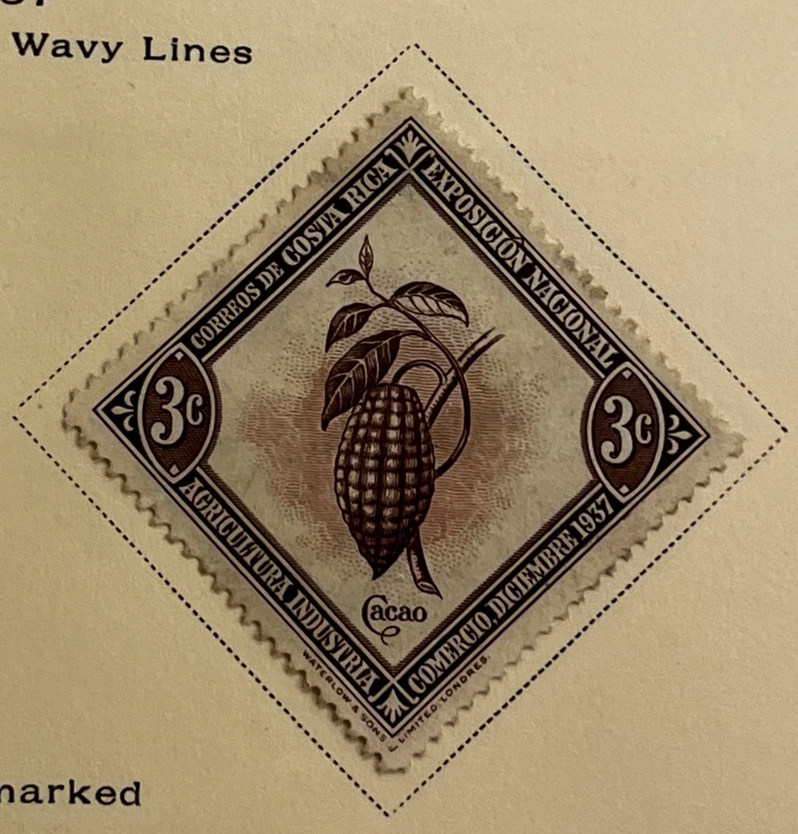




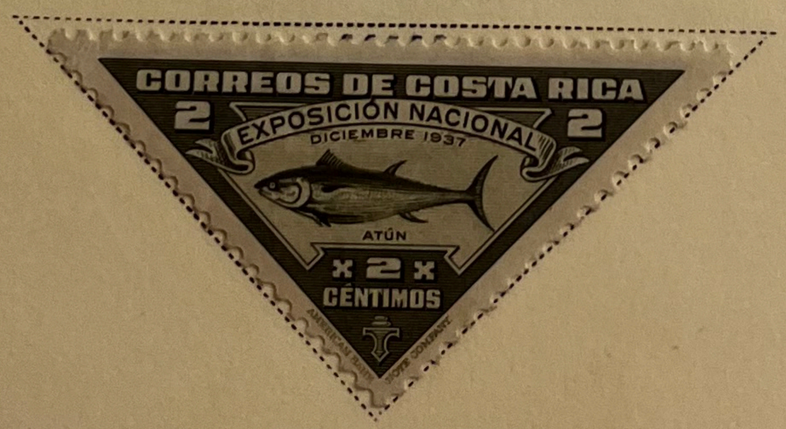
1937

Watermarked Wavy Lines





Unwatermarked





U.S. Navy Ship Cancellations
Costa Rican Ports



Keystone Inc
1927 4th ave.
San Diego
Calif.

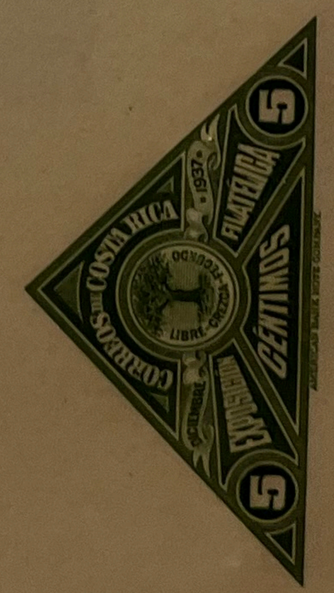
Ships of the U.S. Navy maintain their own post offices, and use the postage stamps of the United States, regardless of where in the world they happen to be. Except during times of war, the ship cancellations show the name of the ship, and the date. During the years prior to World War II, it was common for the ships to insert a slug in the cancelling device to indicate the port that the ship was visiting.

The above letter was posted on the USS Hannibal, while the ship was visiting the port of Limon, Costa Rica in March, 1937.

SEGUNDA EXPOSICIÓN FILATÉLICA
DE COSTA RICA, DICIEMBRE, 1937







REPÚBLICA DE COSTA RICA

1937

SPECIMEN OVERPRINTS - PAN AMERICAN HEALTH DAY COMMEMORATIVE -1940-







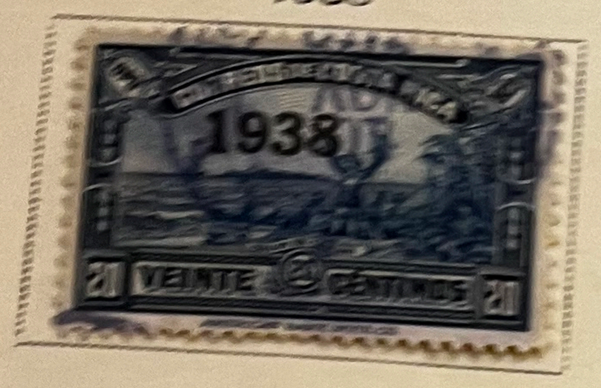




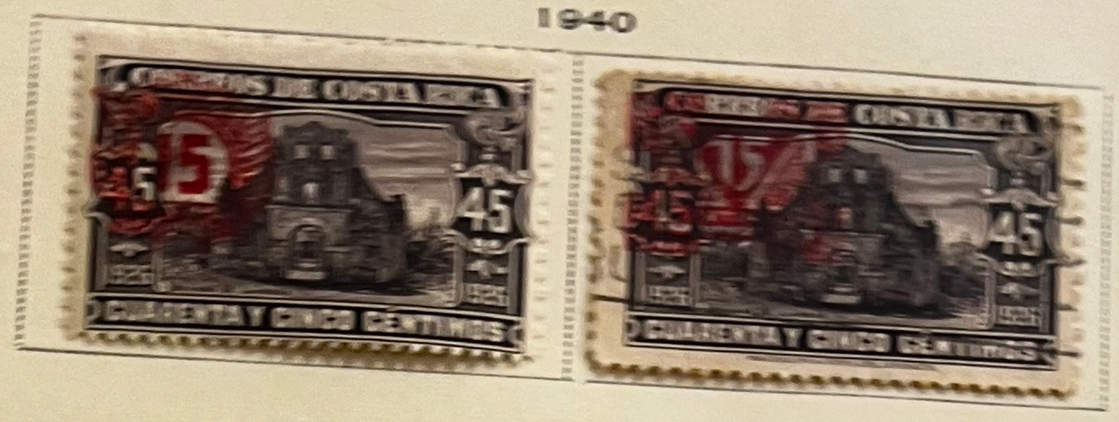
COSTA RICA

Unwatermarked

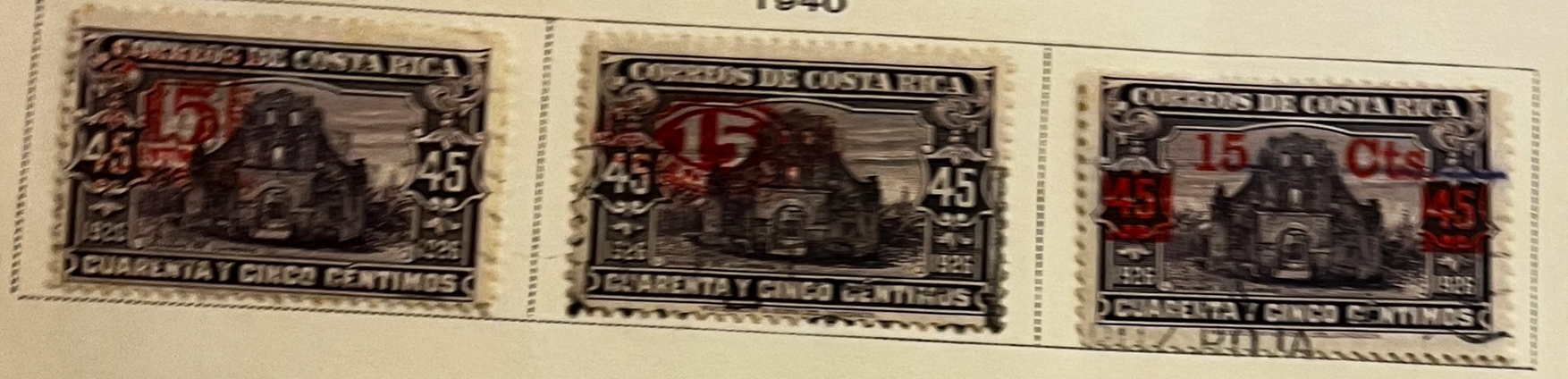
1928



1940

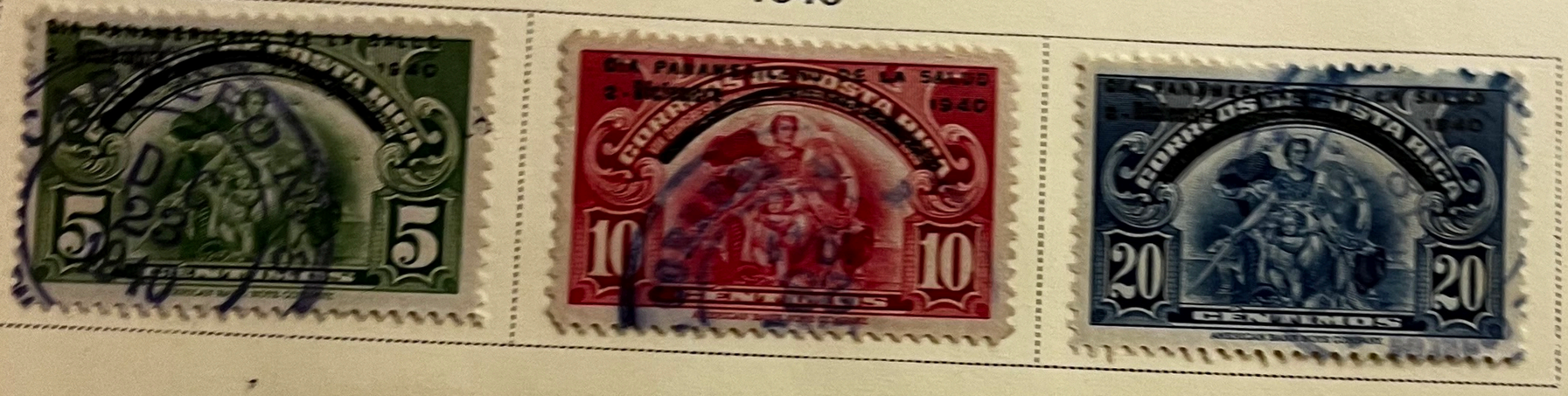


1940





1940





1941





COSTA RICA

Unwatermarked

1941

















1941

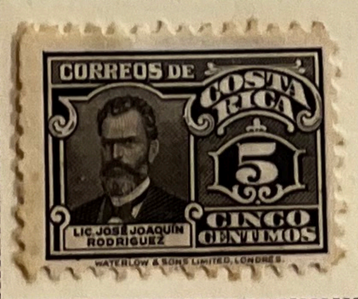


1941-45











1942









COSTA RICA

Unwatermarked

1941



1942



1943





COSTA RICA

Unwatermarked

1944











1944









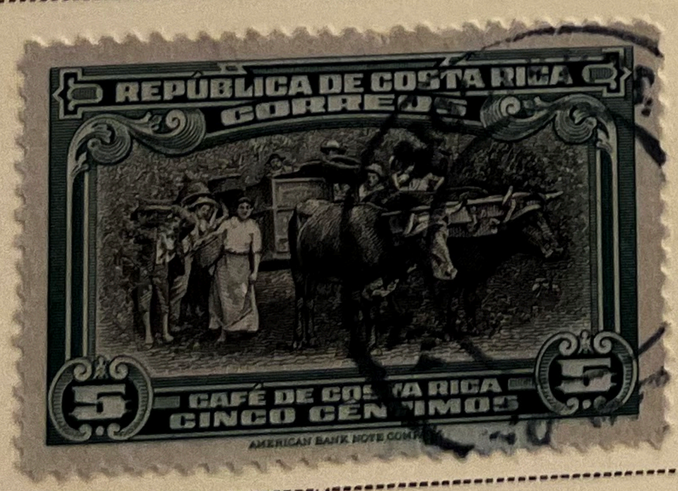
1945



1946



1945



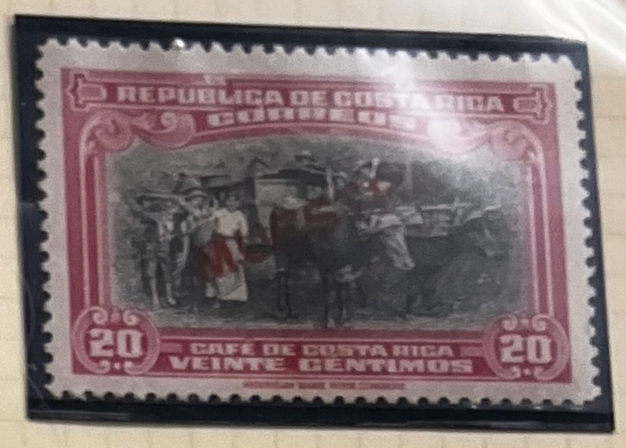




Specimen Overprints





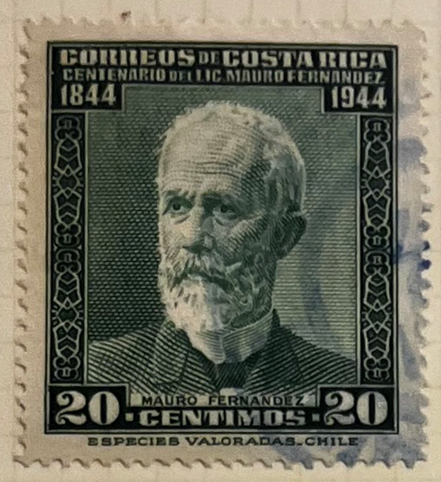


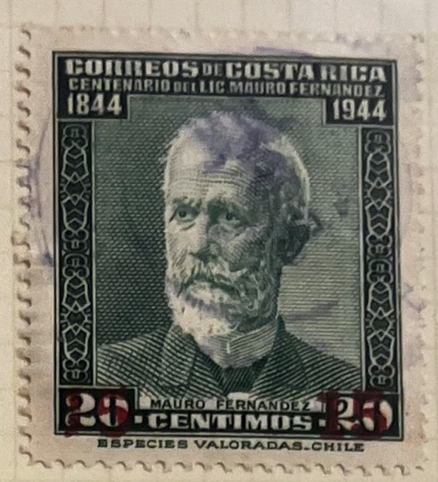




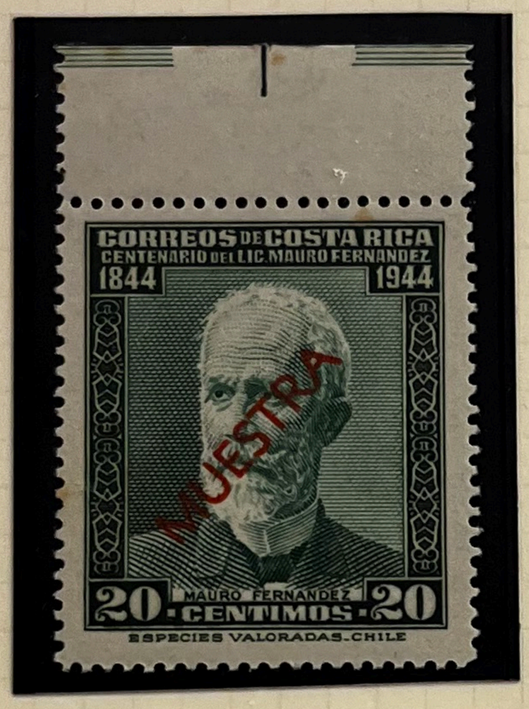
Variations of the Mauro Fernandez Centenary Commemorative Issues of 1945 and 1946

Regular Issues





"Muestra" Overprints

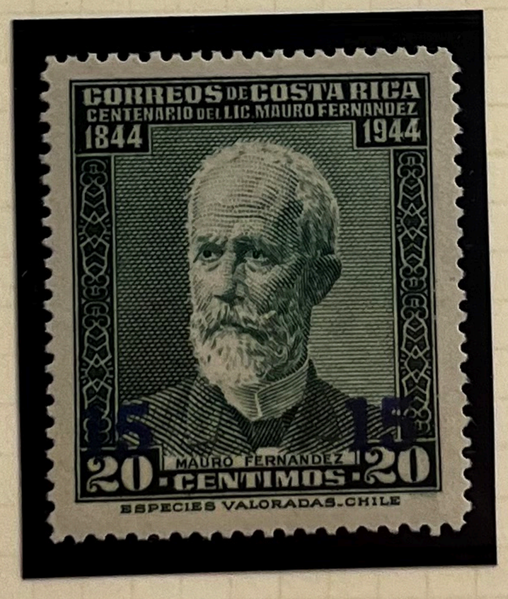




Black Overprint



Blue Overprint



Overprint at Top



VERTICAL BAR TO LEFT OF LEFT OVERPRINT



n November 10, 1947, a pair of stamps were issued to commemorate the 400th nniversary of the birth of Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra, the famous author f Don Quixote. The stamps were printed on watermarked paper. The total rinting amounted to 200,000 copies of each value.

irculation of this stamp was authorized by government decrees number 35 nd 110H, dated respectively on October 8 and November 8, 1947.

addition to the regular issues, the following are known to exist:
1). Die proofs (black)
2). Trial color proofs (in 5 different colors)
3). Specimen overprints

ere have been no reported printing errors, watermark variations, and rforation varieties.

Regular Issues





Specimen Overprints





Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra Commemorative

1947







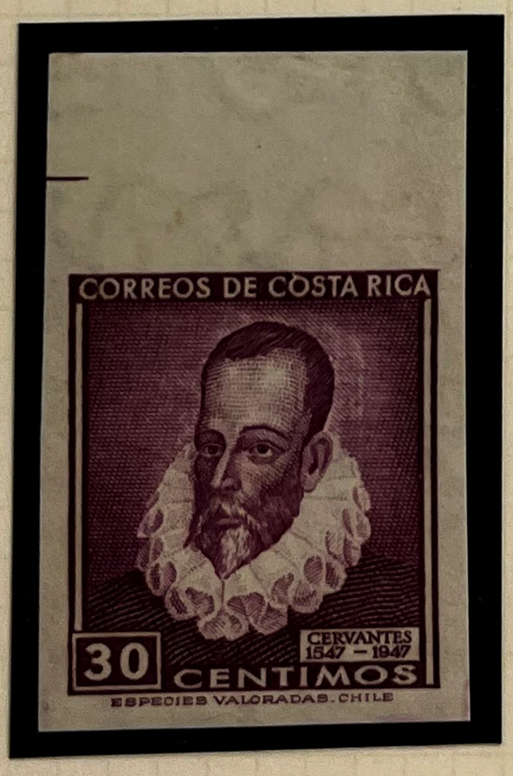


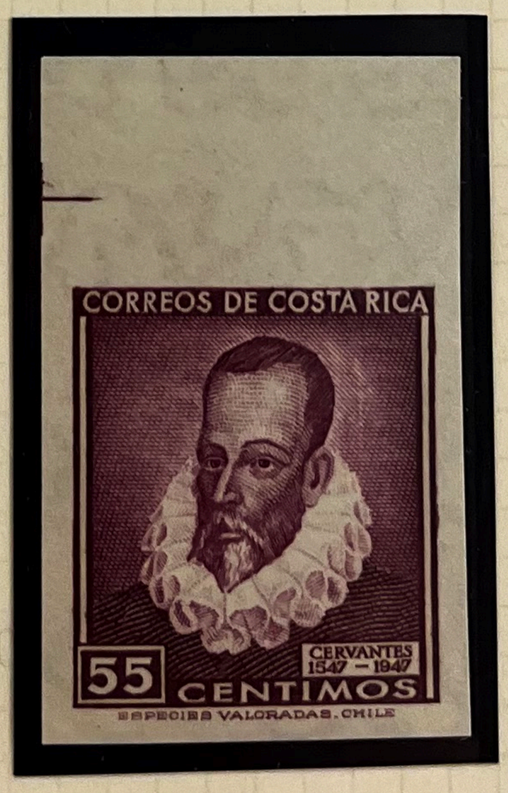






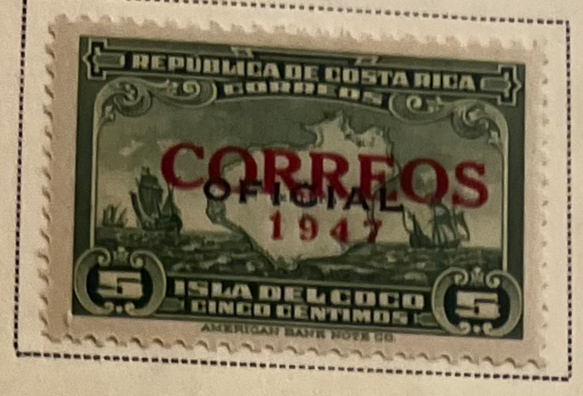






Unwatermarked

1947



1947



Watermarked Small Star in Shield Multiple

1947



Unwatermarked

1947



1948



1953



the 5¢ and 10¢ denominations of the issue of 1936 were overprinted for cial use. In 1947, the surplus stock of official stamps was again overted with the words "CORREOS 1947" in order to validate them for regular al service. The 5¢ value was officially released in this form, and is ed in the regular Scott Catalog as No. 247. A total of 390,000 copies issued.

al errors exist in this issue. Although relatively rare, both double rints and inverted overprints are known to exist.



erprinted 10¢ issue exists as an essay only. It was never officially ed.

ly enough, the same errors exist on the essay of the 10¢ issue as regularly issued 5¢ stamp. Both the double overprint and the inverted nt are known.



COSTA RICA

Unwatermarked

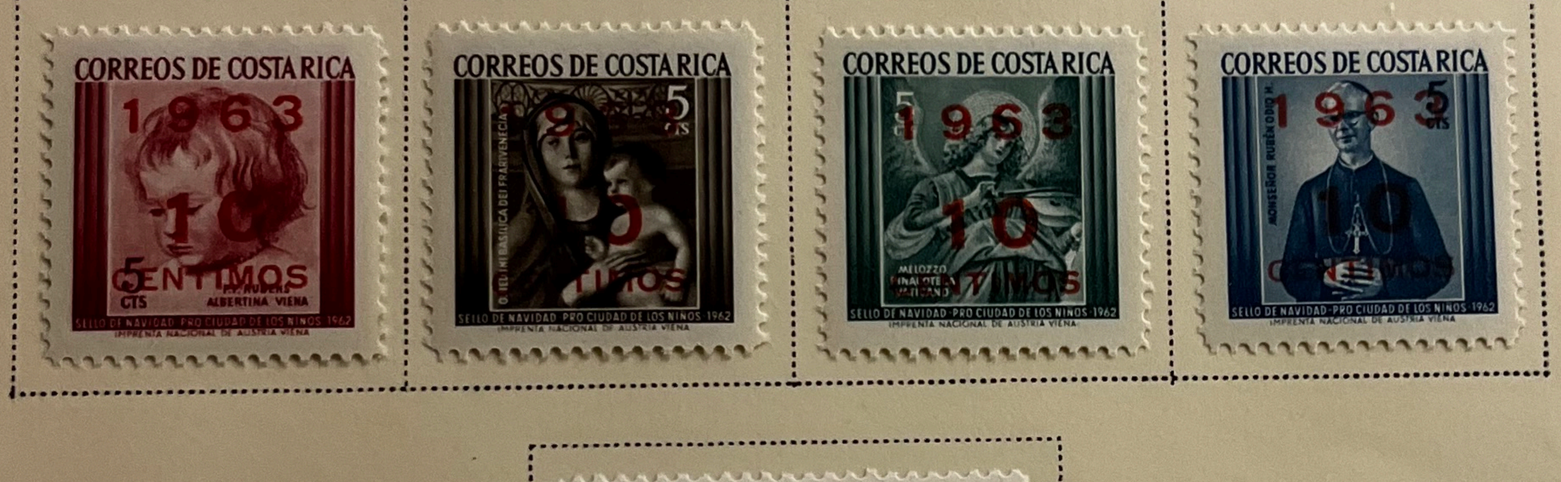
1955-56



1960



1963





COMMEMORATIVE STAMPS PROPOSED BUT NEVER OFFICIALLY RELEASED







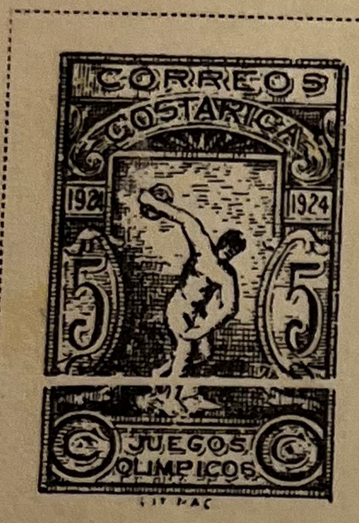
COSTA RICA

SEMI-POSTAL STAMPS
Unwatermarked

1922



1924



Same
Perforated
5 C
DARK GREEN



20 C
DARK BLUE



10 C
CARMINE

Unwatermarked

1926



1930

Regular Issue of 1923
Surcharged

CORREO AEREO

10 C

CARMINE ROSE





40 C
On 50 C
ULTRAMARINE





20 C
On 1 Col
LILAC AND
BLACK

40 C
On 1 Col
LILAC AND
BLACK

1 Col
On 1 Col
LILAC AND
BLACK

1932





1931-32



3 Col
On 5 Col
LILAC BROWN

5 Col
On 10 Col
GRAY BLACK

ERRORS AND VARIETIES -
AIR MAIL ISSUE OF 1930

Regular Issues





Inverted Overprints

Double Overprints

AIR POST STAMPS

Unwatermarked

1943-46







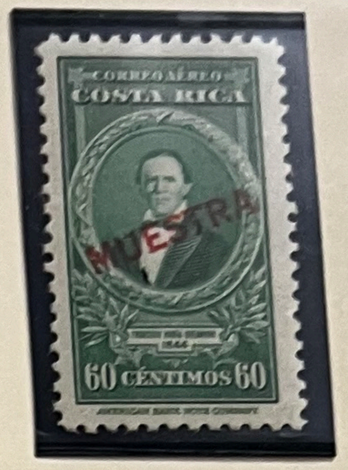




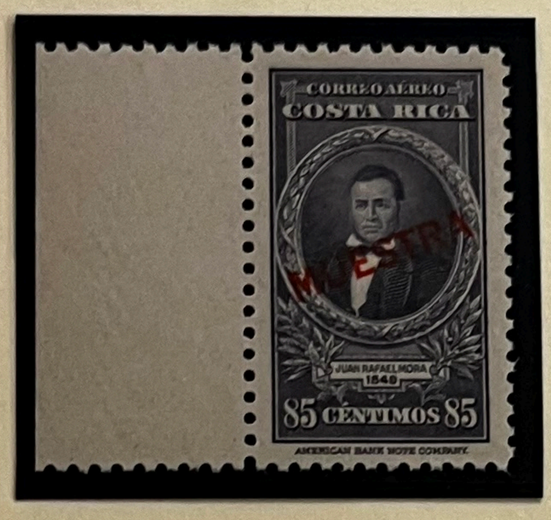

CORREO AÉREO
COSTA RICA
MANUEL ARGUELLO
1837
40 CÉNTIMOS 40
AMERICAN BANK NOTE COMPANY
MUESTRA


CORREO AÉREO
COSTA RICA
JOSÉ RAMÓN SANTAMARÍA
1853
45 CÉNTIMOS 45
AMERICAN BANK NOTE COMPANY
MUESTRA


CORREO AÉREO
COSTA RICA
50 CÉNTIMOS 50
AMERICAN BANK NOTE COMPANY
MUESTRA


CORREO AÉREO
COSTA RICA
60 CÉNTIMOS 60
AMERICAN BANK NOTE COMPANY
MUESTRA


CORREO AÉREO
COSTA RICA
JOSÉ MARÍA CASTRO
1847
65 CÉNTIMOS 65
AMERICAN BANK NOTE COMPANY
MUESTRA

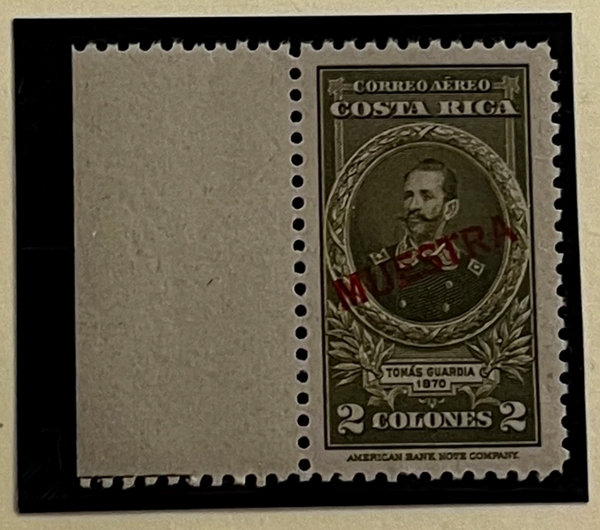

CORREO AÉREO
COSTA RICA
JUAN RAFAEL MORA
1849
85 CÉNTIMOS 85
AMERICAN BANK NOTE COMPANY
MUESTRA


CORREO AÉREO
COSTA RICA
JOSÉ MARÍA MONTEALEGRE
1859
1 COLÓN 1
AMERICAN BANK NOTE COMPANY
MUESTRA


CORREO AÉREO
COSTA RICA
BRAULIO CARRILLO
1835
1.05 COLONES 1.05
AMERICAN BANK NOTE COMPANY
MUESTRA


CORREO AÉREO
COSTA RICA
JESÚS JIMÉNEZ
1863
1.15 COLONES 1.15
AMERICAN BANK NOTE COMPANY
MUESTRA


CORREO AÉREO
COSTA RICA
BRUNO CARRANZA
1879
1.40 COLONES 1.40
AMERICAN BANK NOTE COMPANY
MUESTRA


CORREO AÉREO
COSTA RICA
TOMÁS GUARDIA
1870
2 COLONES 2
AMERICAN BANK NOTE COMPANY
MUESTRA


CORREO AÉREO
COSTA RICA
MUESTRA
ANICETO ESQUIVEL
1876
25 CENTIMOS 25
AMERICAN BANK NOTE COMPANY


CORREO AÉREO
COSTA RICA
MUESTRA
VICENTE HERRERA
1876
30 CENTIMOS 30
AMERICAN BANK NOTE COMPANY


CORREO AÉREO
COSTA RICA
MUESTRA
PRÓSPERO FERNÁNDEZ
1882
55 CENTIMOS 55
AMERICAN BANK NOTE COMPANY


CORREO AÉREO
COSTA RICA
MUESTRA
BERNARDO SOTO
1885
75 CENTIMOS 75
AMERICAN BANK NOTE COMPANY


COSTA RICA
CORREO AEREO
1945
40
CENTIMOS
CENTIMOS


CORREOS DE COSTA RICA
1897 SERVICIO AEREO 1947
CINCUENTENARIO DEL FERROCARRIL ELECTRICO AL PACIFICO
35 CENTIMOS
WRIGHT BANK NOTE CO, FILADELFIA


CORREOS DE
COSTA RICA
3
BENEMERITO LIC.
CLETO GONZALEZ VIQUEZ
TRES
CENTIMOS
WATERLOW & SONS LIMITED, LONDRES.

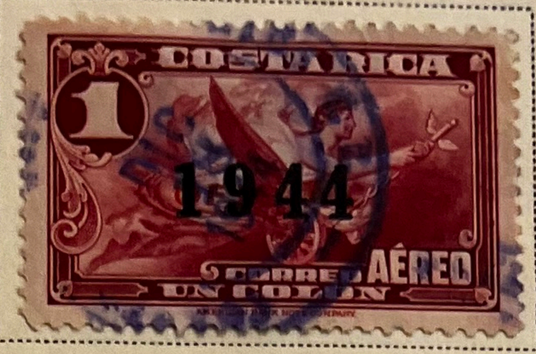

CORREOS DE
COSTA RICA
3
MONSEÑOR BERNARDO
AUGUSTO THIEL
TRES
CENTIMOS
WATERLOW & SONS LIMITED, LONDRES.

COSTA RICA

AIR POST STAMPS

Unwatermarked

1944



1945

Official Air Stamps
of 1934 Overprinted
Like cut

5 C
GREEN

1945

10 C
CARMINE ROSE

15 C
CHOCOLATE

20 C
DEEP BLUE

25 C
DEEP ORANGE

40 C
OLIVE BLACK

50 C
GRAY BLACK

60 C
ORANGE YELLOW

75 C
DULL VIOLET

1 Col
DEEP ROSE

2 Col
LIGHT BLUE

5 Col
BLACK

10 Col
RED BROWN

1945



DOUBLE
OVERPRINT

Specimen Overprints

1945 Provisional Airmail Series





















AIR POST STAMPS
Unwatermarked

1945



1946







1946



10 C
DARK BROWN
AND BLACK

15 C
CARMINE
AND BLACK

25 C
DARK BLUE
AND BLACK

30 C
DEEP ORANGE
AND BLACK

40 C
OLIVE GREEN
AND BLACK

50 C
VIOLET
AND BLACK

60 C
DARK SLATE GREEN
AND BLACK

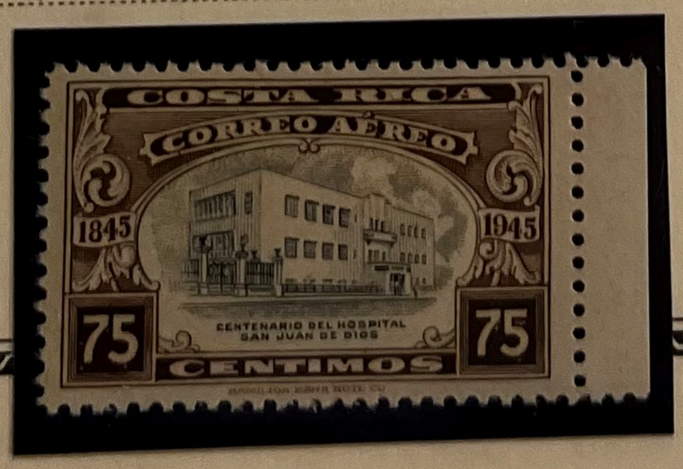
75 C
BROWN
AND BLACK

1 Col
BLUE
AND BLACK

2 Col
BROWN ORANGE
AND BLACK

3 Col
DARK VIOLET BROWN
AND BLACK

5 Col
YELLOW
AND BLACK

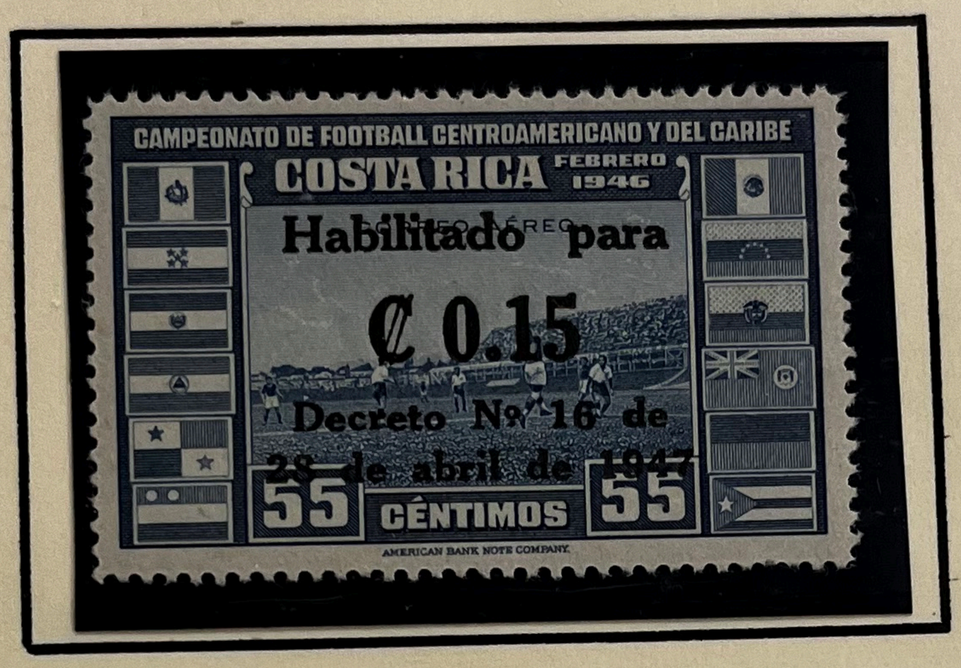


STRANGE!!
THEY LEFT THE
SCARCEST ONE!

1947 Provisional Overprints







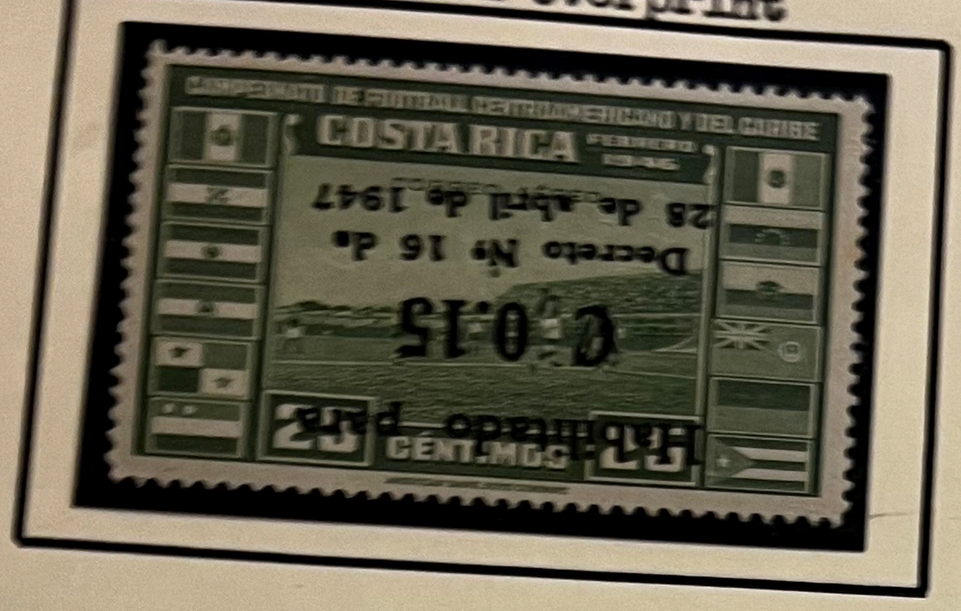
On April 28, 1947, a set of provisional overprints was authorized, the overprints being applied to the soccer issue of 1946. The stamps were prepared by la Imprenta Nacional, and were released on May 5. The total printing for the series consisted of 45,000 copies.

Known varieties of the overprint are as follows:

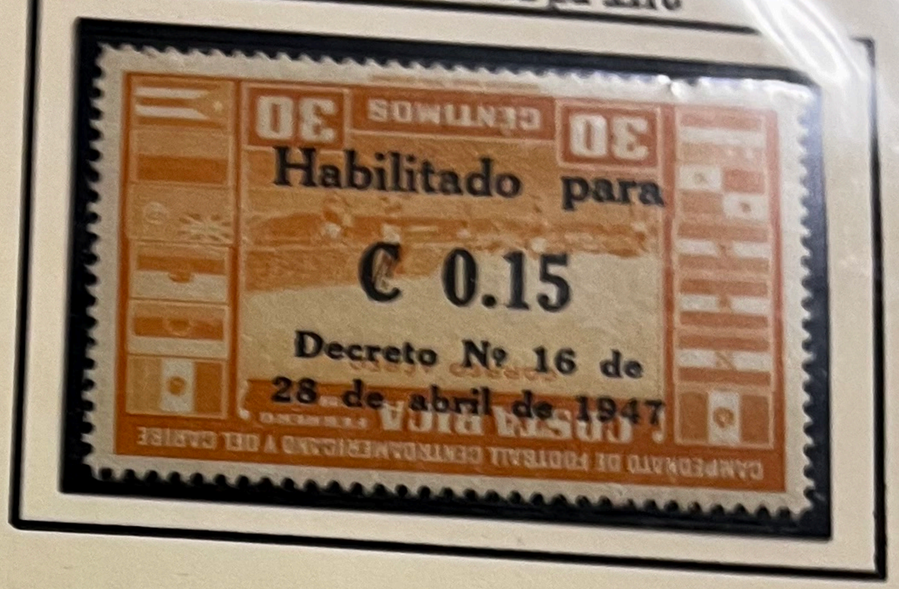
Inverted overprints exist for all three denominations.
The 15¢ on 25¢ value also exists with a double overprint, one of them inverted.

1947 Provisional Overprints

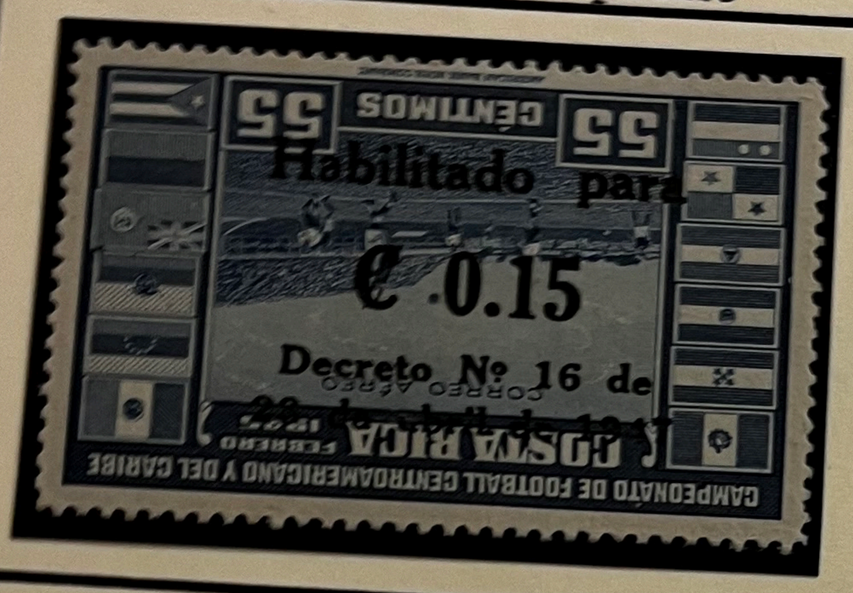
Inverted Overprint



Inverted Overprint



Inverted Overprint



Double Overprint, One Inverted

Specimen Overprints

AIR POST STAMPS

Watermarked Small Star in Shield Multiple

1947



Unwatermarked

1947

Stamps of 1946 Surcharged **Habilitado para** **₡ 0.15** **Decreto Nº 16 de** **28 de abril de 1947** On 25 C GREEN	15 C On 30 C DULL YELLOW	15 C On 55 C DEEP BLUE

1947





1947



COSTA RICA

AIR POST STAMPS

Unwatermarked

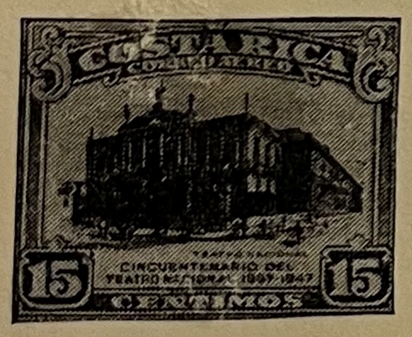
1947



1947



1948



20 C
RED
AND BLACK

4
PURPLE
AND BLACK

50 C
CARMINE
AND BLACK



5 Col
ORANGE
YELLOW
AND BLACK

10 Col
BRIGHT BLUE
AND BLACK

75 C
RED VIOLET
AND BLACK

1 Col
OLIVE
AND BLACK

2 Col
RED BROWN
AND BLACK

Specimen Overprints -
National Theater Commemorative (1948)





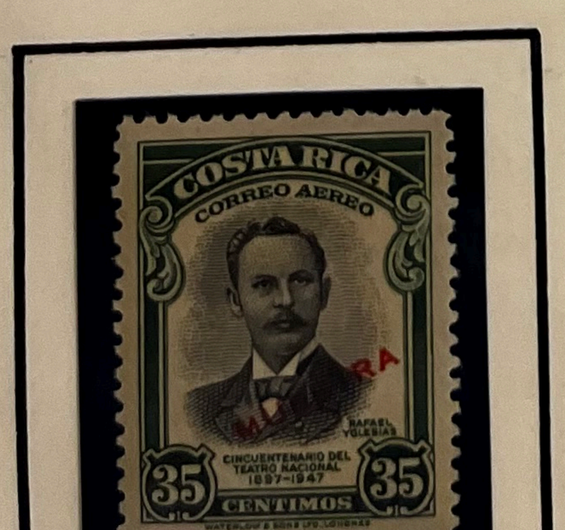




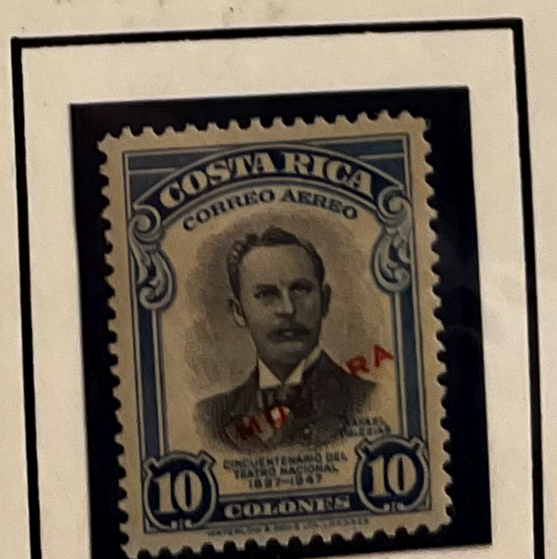












COSTA RICA

AIR POST STAMPS
Unwatermarked

1948



1948



1949





1950



COSTA RICA

AIR POST STAMPS

Unwatermarked

1950

















Unwatermarked

1952



1952-53



1953



1953



COSTA RICA

AIR POST STAMPS

Unwatermarked

1956





1956

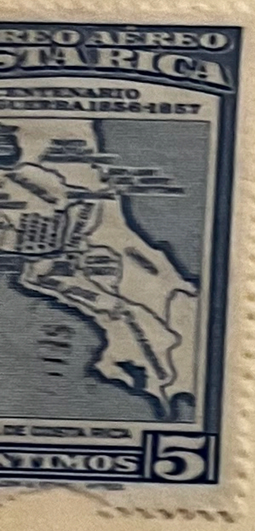


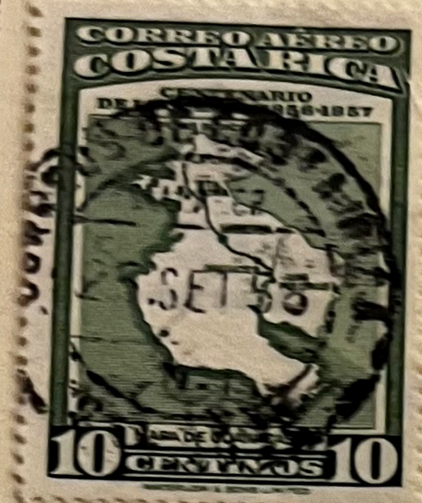
COSTA RICA

AIR POST STAMPS

Unwatermarked

1957

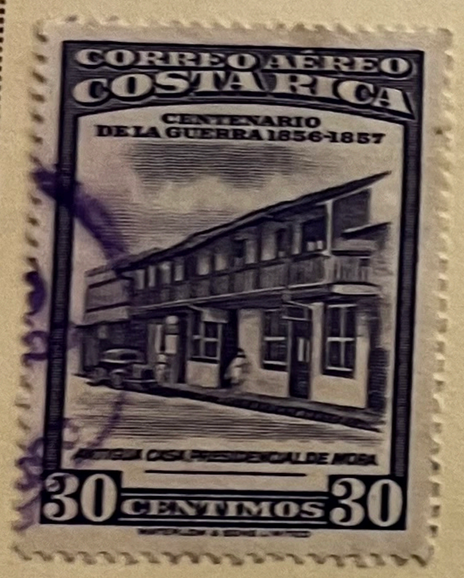






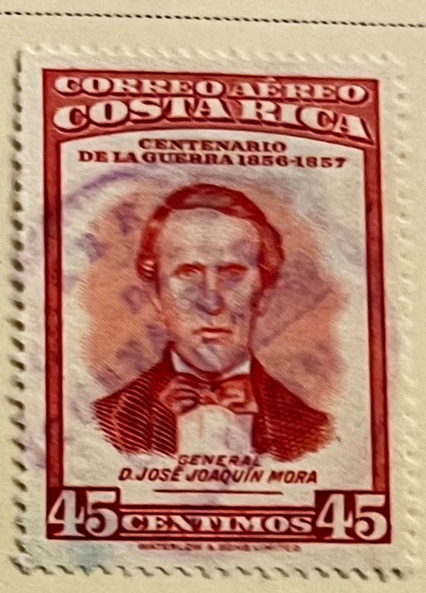










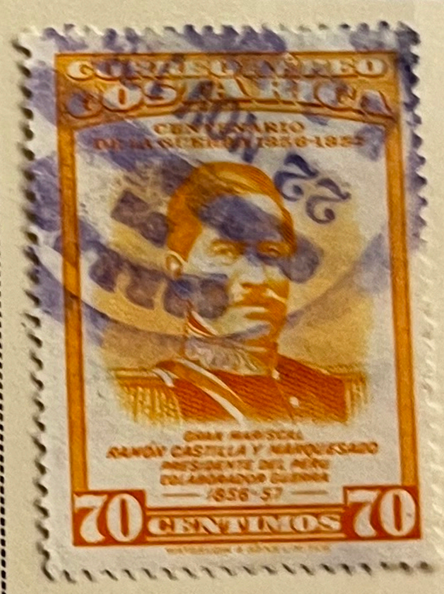


















COSTA RICA

AIR POST STAMPS

Unwatermarked

1959







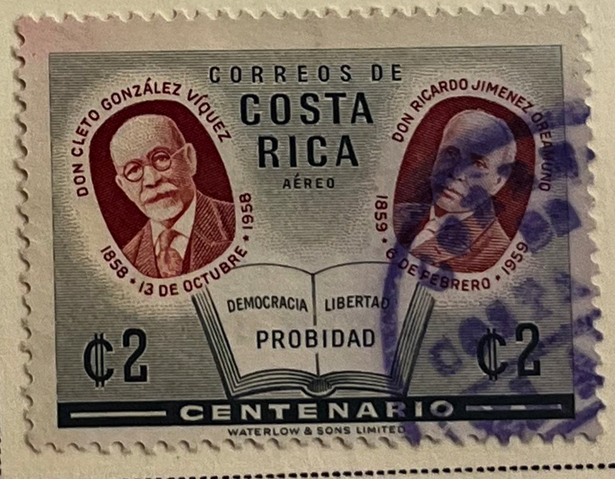












1959

