

The

PHILATELIC EXHIBITOR

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EXHIBIT SYNOPSIS

INDIANS

A Legacy of the Native American Peoples of the Continental United States

Introduction and Scope

Long before recorded history, ice-age hunters stalked game animals across the land bridge connecting Asia to North America. After thousands of years and multiple crossings, this relentless quest for nourishment and survival spread across both American continents and civilizations arose from those huddled individuals. Exposed to varied environmental settings, adaptation to specific conditions ensued.

The resulting cultural splintering gave rise to the concept of tribe, with hundreds flowering and disappearing during man's conquest of the Americas. Although indigenous "New World" peoples have common Asian origins, there is no typical Native American. Due to the subject's breadth, tribes of the continental United States are the sole cultural areas displayed. Subjects range from cultural heritage to anthropological research.

Philatelic Elements

A wide range of elements are employed to illustrate the storyline.

Frame : Page

- Essay: U.S., 1863 and 1865. I: 4, 11, IV: 5
- Fancy Cancel: Hopi Snake Dancer, 1928. I: 11
- Plate Varieties and Forgeries: Westervelt's Local Post, 1864-68. I: 12
- Sample: Pixey-Bowen Envelope with Meter Specimen, 1938. I: 12
- Plate Proof (Unauthorized!) in Park Issue, 1934. I: 14
- Provisional Cancel: Double Line — Pawnee, OK (Statehood), 1908. II: 3
- Essay (Goebel): Mexico, 1 peso Eaglemen, 1934. II: 6
- Proof, Specimen and Facsimile: U.S. Newspaper, 1875 and 1879. II: 9
- Paper Types: Private Die Proprietary, Wright's Indian Vegetable Pills, 1864-83. III: 4
- Perfor: American Tobacco Company, 1918. III: 5
- Meter: Great Britain, Moccasin shows, 1929. IV: 6
- Usage: U.S. inland rate (properly used) within Germany from an A.P.G. IV: 6
- Booklet Page: Wells Fargo Express Freight Frank, 1907. IV: 9
- Revenues: American Administration of Yum Cruz, Mexico, 1914. IV: 9
- Fancy Cancel: Indian Head on 15¢ War Department, 1983. IV: 10
- Flight Cacher: LZ 127 Zeppelin Flight — Iceland to Germany, 1931. V: 3
- Postal Stationery: Private Penny Letterhead. V: 7
- Fancy Cancel: Indian Scout, 1934 (2 examples reported). V: 8
- Specimens: U.S. Transmississippi Issue, 1898. V: 12, 16
- Post Cancel: Fort Apache on 15¢ War Department, 1882. V: 16
- Free Frank: U.S. Senator L. Baker (Committee to Investigate Trespassers on Indian Lands), 1897. V: 19
- Manuscript: Creek Agency, 1868. VI: 6
- Penalty Stationery: U.S. Offices of Indian Affairs, School Service usage, 1893 / 1900. VI: 7
- Registration Label: German temporary commemorative station, 1971. VI: 10
- Oddities: Misperforations. VI: 11, 14
- Permit: Illustrated Bulk Rate Mailing Permits. VI: 16

Thematic and Philatelic References

Atlas of the North American Indian

Carl Waldman, 1985, Facts on File Publications, N.Y., N.Y. • Oxford, England.

The Encyclopedia of North American Indian Tribes

Bill Yenne, 1986, Bison Books Corp., Greenwich, CT.

Codex Filatelia

Chris Moser, 1975 —, Mesa-American Archaeology Study Unit, Riverside, CA.

(Final Exhibit Plan and Philatelic Content are Subject to Modification before Exhibition)

ONE APPROACH TO A SYNOPSIS PAGE. See Page 13

THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF PHILATELIC EXHIBITORS
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ONE APPROACH TO A CLEAR EXHIBIT PLAN

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A common hurdle to thematic exhibitors is a clear, logical and flowing story line. How many juries have commented. "We were unable to follow the plan" during the critique of your exhibit? The story line is reflected in the plan page of any thematic exhibit. It guides the viewer by reducing the story line to a simplified outline form. That form however, often obscures the foundation of the section/chapter and confuses viewers.

In resolving this apparent paradox, plan pages are rearranged, section and point titles are renamed and layout or emphasis is modified. Such changes may or may not improve the exhibit depending upon the original story line flaws. My most recent challenge in this area resulted in a solution which may provide food for thought.

Step one: simplify through explanation. Write a short (1 or 2 sentence) summary of what each section/chapter in the plan actually presents. Review these summaries as a complete story and it becomes clear which points are 'confused', 'out of order', 'duplicated', or heaven forbid, 'missing'. Revising the plan to reflect a smoother flow at this point is easier. After the plan is satisfactorily completed, on to step two.

How may we insure the judges understand the story line? Include these summaries as a part of the synopsis -- on the plan page as shown on the cover. The jury now has a 'visual' of what the exhibit plan (in outline form) only suggests as its objective and esoteric titles are less of a problem. An exhibit plan which 'defines' (Title and Subtitle), 'outlines' (Plan) and 'explains' (Summaries) the object of the exhibit must be more successful.

Let's now take the process to its logical conclusion in step three. National level competitions do not require page quantity columns on the right side of the plan page. Condensed summary versions, providing only key thoughts, won't overpower exhibit plans and allow the white space to utilized (see below). Summaries provide an additional insight into exhibit flow and set the stage prior to viewing. Comments on this approach are solicited.

EXHIBIT PLAN

INDIANS

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| 1. QUEST FOR THE PAST | |
| 1.1 Migration, Beringia Land Bridge | Native American origins and prehistoric cultures |
| 1.2 The Native American | |
| 1.3 The Ancients and Lost Tribes | |
| 2. CULTURAL RELATIONSHIPS | |
| 2.1 Social Structure | Social relationships of individuals and groups, cultural groups by location |
| 2.2 A Multiplicity of Cultures | |
| 3. LIFEWAYS | |
| 3.1 Subsistence Patterns | Everyday life of Native Americans, their practices, ceremonies and traditions |
| 3.2 Communication | |
| 3.3 Medicine | |
| 3.4 Stimulants | |
| 3.5 Religion and Symbolism | |
| 3.6 Dance and Music | |
| 3.7 Lore and Legend | |
| 3.8 Pow Wows and Ceremonies | |
| 3.9 Pathfinding | |
| 3.10 Games and Sports | |
| 3.11 Conservation and Ecology | |

An excerpt from the author's exhibit plan page