

The MASONIC STAMP COLLECTOR

Journal of the Masonic Stamp Unit of the American Topical Association, published bi-monthly. Address all letters and submit material to the Editor, Nicholas C. Koutroubis, 4670 Sandalwood Street, New Orleans, Louisiana 70127.

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JANUARY-FEBRUARY 1970

WHOLE NO. 15

FROM THE EDITOR

Your Editor Honored

In December of last year your editor was notified that he was elected to receive the Order of Knights of Red Cross of Constantine. It was a great privilege for him to receive this unexpected honor which was conferred upon him along with two other brothers, one of whom was Bro. Thomas B. McIntosh Jr., Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana. As most of you know The Red Cross of Constantine is the highest honor given by the York Rite. It is conferred only by invitation and is never sought. This honor is bestowed for special Masonic service. So you can imagine your editor's astonishment and great pleasure when he received the invitation.

Incidentally, philatelically the Red Cross of Constantine may be beautifully illustrated by a set of stamps issued by Greece in 1912-23 in commemoration of the occupation. They are Scott Nos. N150, N154-146, N158, N160, N162, N164, N166.

News From Italy

Brother Bruno S. Guglielmi of Sanremo, Italy, reported that on November 1, 1969 the first Masonic Philatelic Exhibition was held there called "La NOSTRA FILATELICA INTERNAZIONALE DI TEMATICA MASSONICA" which was organized by Bro. Guglielmi on the occasion of the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the death of Bro. Orazio Raimondo, a great Italian barrister and member of Italian Parliament. He was a member of Bro. Guglielmi's mother Lodge "Giuseppe Mazzini No. 98". In the show there were three exhibits from the United States. Bro. Herman Lichty of the George Washington Stamp Club exhibited "Masonic Cancellations on U.S. Stamps", Bro. John Cunningham, also from Washington, exhibited "Masons in the Mercury and Apollo Projects" and your editor "Masonic covers". All three exhibits received a beautiful silver medal which is an exact facsimile of the U.S. Apollo 11 stamp, 10¢ Air Mail. Your editor, speaking for himself, is delighted and honored with this prize and glad to have been able to take a small part in the most successful Masonic Stamp Exhibit in Sanremo, Italy. Congratulations are in order to Bro. Guglielmi, not only for his successful exhibition, but for his courage in staging a Masonic stamp exhibit in a Country where Masonry is mostly oppressed. Also for the occasion

they issued a bronze medal and a Masonic cover cancelled at the date of the show portraying Bro. Orazio Raimondo.

Masonic Medals Wanted

Bro. Guglielmi writes that this year is the 100th anniversary of the capture of Rome from the Pope. He is planning to organize another Masonic stamp show, also a numismatic and medalistic Masonic show. He is interested to buy different Masonic medals issued for special Masonic occasions. If any of our members have any such items they would like to sell or donate to him please write direct to Bro. Bruno S. Guglielmi, Via San Martino 20/12, I-18038 Sanremo, Italy.

Stamp Mart Suggested

Bro. L. Charles Biehl, Norristown, Pa. suggested a stamp mart for the Masonic Stamp Unit where a member could advertise his duplicates for sale or trade. Your editor thinks this is an excellent suggestion and would, perhaps, bring members closer together with one another for the purpose of trading stamps, covers and ideas. Your editor is willing to furnish this service absolutely free to the members of our Unit but the space for this purpose will be limited. Let's say, half a page each issue could be devoted to this service. It will be worthwhile to try it for awhile and see the results. It will not only be limited to selling and trading but also to wants. Try to confine your ads to Masonic philatelic items only. Please send your requirements addressed to the editor and will start this service with next issue of the MSC if the response is great enough.

Thanks for Covers

... to Bro. L. Charles Biehl, Norristown, Pa. for annual wreath-laying ceremony on February 22 at the statue of George Washington, Freedoms Foundation, Valley Forge, Pa. ... to Bro. Guglielmi, Sanremo, Italy, for first day Masonic cover on stamp issued by Monaco to honor Napoleon. Also for Masonic cover honoring Orazio Raimondo on the occasion of 1st Masonic Exhibition in Sanremo.

CLOSED ALBUM

It is with great regret to announce the death of Bro. Jacob S. Glazer, MSU #48, Brooklyn, New York.

FOR SALE

Masonic cover, annual Wreath-Laying ceremony, cachet depicting George Washington at Prayer, Valley Forge, Pa. cancelled Feb. 22, 1970. \$1.00 each from L. Charles Biehl, 68 E. Germantown Pike, Norristown, Pa. 19401. Only 80 covers issued.

NEW ISSUES

Australia, Oct. 15, 1969, Scott No. 450 - Sir Edmund Barton, a Mason.

Mexico, Oct. 18, 1969, Scott No. 1006 - Honeycomb and bee, a symbol.

Oct. 29, 1969, Scott No. C353 - Astronaut's first footprint.

Philippines, Oct. 20, 1969, Scott Nos. 1038-1040 - Commemorates 25th anniversary of the landing of U.S. forces under Gen. Douglas MacArthur.

Australia, Nov. 12, 1969, Scott No. 470 - showing Ford truck.

Venezuela, Oct. 28, 1969, Scott Nos. 951-953 - Simon Bolivar, also Souvenir sheet of two.
 Central African Republic, Nov. 4, 1969, Scott No. C75-C77 - Napoleon.
 French Polynesia, Oct. 15, 1969, Scott No. C54 - Napoleon.
 Togo, Sept. 27, 1969, Scott Nos. 689 - Henri Dunant; 691 - Alexander Fleming, portraits. Also No. C114 depicts Henri Dunant.
 Dubai, Dec. 15, 1969, Scott Nos. 118-120 - Astronauts.
 Qatar, Jan. 1970, Scott No. 191 - Col. Edwin E. Aldrin Jr. portrait.
 Bolivia, Oct. 29, 1969, Scott No. C298 - Franklin D. Roosevelt.
 Chile, Dec. 1, 1969, Scott No. 380 - Open Book (Bible)
 Venezuela, Nov. 18, 1969, Scott No. C1019 - Col. Edwin E. Aldrin Jr.
 Cameroun, Nov. 29, 1969, Scott No. C135-C136 - Col. E. E. Aldrin Jr.
 Congo, Sept. 15, 1969, Scott No. C85 and two souvenir sheets - Aldrin.
 Hungary, 1969-70, Scott No. 2008 - St. John the Evangelist.
 Netherlands, Dec. 15, 1969, Scott No. 479 - Queen Juliana (see pg.121)

BIO-SKETCH, L. CHARLES HIEHL

Partner General Manager Gey Band & Tag Co., designer of various types identification devices for U.S. Dept. of Interior. Age 51, married, two sons. Resident East Norriton Township for 18 years. Educated in the Norristown School system and the Wharton School, University of Penna. Appeared in the Norristown Times Herald in 1961 as one of Montgomery Counties 515,000. Also appeared in the Montgomery Post profile in 1962. Hobbies, stamp collecting and Christmas seal collecting since 1932, model railroading, bowling, golf, photography, antique furniture refinishing. Member of APS, Masonic Stamp Club, Lions Unit, Masonic Unit, LISC, ATA, Americana Unit and many other national and international associations related to business and hobbies. Member First Presbyterian Church, Ushers Association, Salvation Army, Y.M.C.A, School Director Norristown Area School District since 1966. Member Norristown Lodge #190, F & A. M., Lehigh Valley Consistory, Allentown, Pa. Member at Large B.S.A. Community chairman various years for various fund raising activities. He collects Lion stamps of the world, U.S. Christmas seals, Statue of Liberty on stamps of the world, Masonic stamps and covers of Masonic interest, Lions covers, statue of liberty covers, cards and letters with Christmas seals tied by a cancel, Zip singles mint and used, socked on the nose singles, all materials related to the zip code system, model air plane first flight covers, zip code covers of national interest, automobiles on stamps, cats on stamps, trains on stamps, photography on stamps

THE THREE CARDINAL VIRTUES

In 1945, Switzerland issued two stamps, 10¢ plus 10¢ and 20¢ plus 60¢, Scott Nos. H141-142, for the benefit of a war relief fund. Each stamp bore the same design - somewhat incomprehensible at first. When it is realized that the figure is symbolical of Faith, Hope and Charity, then there are clearly discerned the Cross, the Anchor and the Heart, emblematically representing those Virtues in that order. Every philatelic Mason, seeing those stamps in his album, is reminded—if reminding he needs be—of the three Cardinal Virtues so dear to his heart: Faith in T.G.A.O. T.U., Hope in Salvation and Charity toward all mankind.

Sources: Mrt's Masonry on stamps



The above cover was forwarded to the editor by Bro. Guglielmi of Sanremo, Italy. It bears the new stamp issued by Monaco on April 26, 1969 to honor Napoleon. The Masonic cachet was prepared by Bro. Guglielmi and depicts Napoleon's apron along with his Masonic history in French.

SAINT JOHN THE EVANGELIST

One of the Patron Saints of Freemasonry, whose festival is celebrated on the 27th of December. His constant admonition, in his Epistles, to the cultivation of brotherly love, and the mystical nature of his Apocalyptic visions, have been, perhaps, the principal reasons for the veneration paid to him by the Craft. Notwithstanding a well-known tradition, all documentary evidence shows that the connection of the name of the Evangelist with the Masonic Order is to be dated long after the sixteenth century, before which time Saint John the Baptist was exclusively the patron saint of Freemasonry. The two are, however, now always united.

The portrait of Saint John The Evangelist as painted by Van Dyck is depicted on a stamp issued by Hungary as part of a series showing famous Dutch Paintings, Scott 2008.

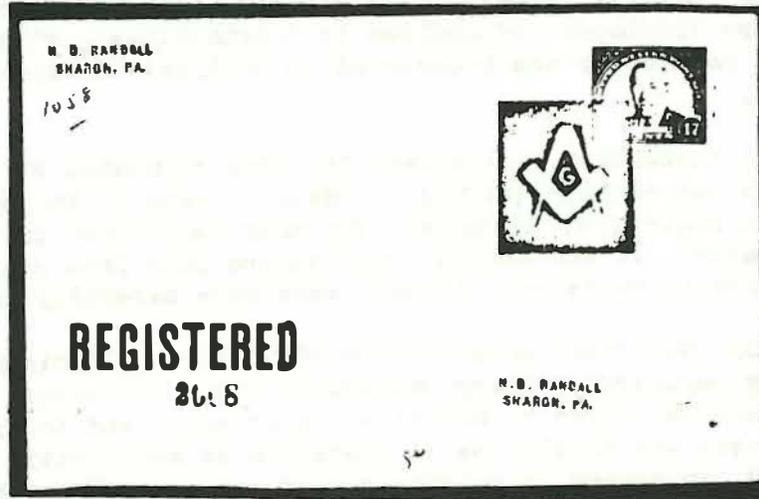
Source: Mackey's Encyclopedia of Freemasonry.

MILLARD FILLMORE, ANTI-MASON

Thirteenth President of the United States. He was an Anti-Mason. At the beginning of the Anti-Masonic period he was one of the most bitter critics of the fraternity which he characterized as "organized treason." Later in life his views seemed to mellow, for on July 4, 1851, as President, he was present at the Masonic cornerstone laying of the extension of the Capitol in Washington and took part in the exercises, examined the stone, pronounced it laid, and said, "The Most Worshipful Grand Master of the District of Columbia will now please examine the stone and see that it is well laid." In Sept. 1872, he attended another Masonic corenstone laying at the Buffalo State Asylum for the Insane. His uncle, Jesse Millard of Michigan, was a Mason.

Millard Fillmore is depicted on U.S. No. 818 of Presidential series of 1938-43.

20TH CENTURY MASONIC FANCY CANCELATIONS



This cover bearing the Masonic Cancellation in square is backstamped at Sharon, Pa., Oct. 24, 1928, the first day of use. It was in use from Oct. 24 to Nov. 3, 1928 and is know to be in black, blue, magenta, and violet. The cancellation on this cover is in violet.



The Masonic Square and Compasses on this cover was in use from Sept. 5 to Sept. 27, 1928. Backstamped on this cover at Sharon, Pa. Sept. 27, 1928, last day of its known use. It also bears a backstamp of the receiving post office at Springfield, Ill. Sept. 28. The color of the canceler is violet. Also colors in black, blue, magenta, and green are known to exist.

From a simple start in 1910 the cancelation had become highly individual for each event and community. Over a twenty year period the public saw the modern cancelation era come and run its course.

The pay of fourth-class postmasters depended, largely, upon the number of stamps canceled, therefore they were willing to cooperate on any innocent project that would improve their prestige and salary. Today, it is certain that a very large percentage of fancy cancelations were developed and applied in fourth-class post offices, usually in a small town where the postmaster was interested in philately or where there was an enthusiastic philatelist.

To guarantee careful inspection postmasters had been requested by the Post Office Department not to apply a cancelation showing the date or name of the sending post office on the face of the registered envelope. Too many registered letters were being found in ordinary mail sacks. It was thought that severe loss from pilfrage and postage sales would be lessened if registered letters were more carefully examined.

In the latter part of 1928 fancy cancelations of intriguing designs began to appear with disconcerting regularity. Many nationally known collectors with a special interest in fancy cancelations helped to motivate the interest and to create a supply of these items. The process was merely one of preparing an appropriate canceler cut out of wood, cork, rubber, an eraser, a potato, a pear, or any other firm substance of sufficient durability to last its expected use and then of encouraging a postmaster to use it under certain conditions.

Thus, the above two covers with Masonic fancy cancelations from Sharon, Pa. The efforts of the Postmaster and philatelist Paul P. Wentz, a jeweler and designer of all but possibly the last of Sharon's cancelers, introduced Sharon to the Philatelic world including several with Masonic emblems.

ONE MANS OPINION

By

James D. Hogbin
ATA LM 489 -8653

In June or July of last year the tiny sand hill Sheikdom of Fajerla "paid tribute" to our beloved President Eisenhower by issuing NINE adhesives (I wouldn't honor them with the title of postage stamps). The labels were very attractive and pictured Ike in various stages of his life.

If you did not purchase the set of nine labels consider yourself a very smart philatelist for you not only saved yourself \$5.50 to \$8.00 but you also showed your disapproval of countries bringing out this type of junk, yes I said JUNK. If collectors boycotted this type of material it would eventually bring about the demise of the sand hill sheikdom's so called postal operations.

It is not my intention nor the intention of any philatelic society to dictate what the collector should or should not collect or how much money the collector should spend on their stamp collection. This is not anyones business but the collector himself. What I am saying is that the stamp collector should be informed of all the facts concerning the issuance of certain postage stamps and let them be the sole judge of whether to purchase the stamps for their collections or to boycott them and hope that other collectors would do likewise.

The following is reprinted from the August 1969 issue of the American Philatelist, monthly journal of the American Philatelic Society, P. O. Box 800, State College, Pa.16801.

FUJERIA:

This sheikdom certainly must feel that some collectors are gullible, for it continues relentless printings of labels depicting for everything under the sun--and now the moon! Here's something for triple duty in the adhesive line: Ten Apollo "space" labels were printed in expressed "denominations" ranging from 10dh to 5R. These then received overprints, first "Apollo 10" and then another batch of the same designs with the words "Moon landing". For the gullible, the expressed prices for the Apollo "set" and two overprinted "sets" and so-called "souvenir sheets" totaled \$21.09 US!...Remember what Barman once said...But, wait a moment.

There's more from Fujeria for June! In addition to the triple "gouge" aimed at space topicalists that must have "everything", a so-called Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial "series" was issued, with nine (yes, nine) adhesives bearing an expressed value of \$3.63 US. (It's a shame that our hobby is plagued by such adhesive banditry as experienced among some of the Arabian Gulf sheikdoms. Here one sheikdom already has spoiled the pleasure for some collectors who would like to form a memorial collection in tribute to a great American. The US will issue a 6-cent stamp in Ike's memory. Fujeria found it advantageous to issue nine labels and seeks \$3.63 per set! (Retail prices vary, usually \$5.50 to \$8.00.) Let us hope few collectors will support this Fujeria enterprise and possibility in the not too distant future the hobby will be rid of another blight. All four "sets" of the above described adhesives receive "Black Blot" - condemnation. All adhesives of Fujeria are barred from entry in exhibitions receiving the patronage of the Federation Internationale de Philatelic (F.I.P.).

(Editor's note: The above article is reprinted in part here solely for the purpose to warn our members in the Masonic Stamp Unit to be very careful how to buy stamps. Many times we do not list stamps with Masonic connection issued from countries such as Fujeria. Many of those Sheikdoms are exploiting the collectors for their own pocket books. The American Philatelic Society would issue the "Black Blot" to any stamp that meets one or more of the following qualifications:

1. A limited printing, or limited "on sale" time in country of origin.
2. An excessively extended issue.
3. Unwarranted high values included.
4. No direct relationship to the issuing country.
5. Oddities intentionally included with the issue.

The American Topical Association does not have such policy yet but it is hoped that in the near future they will also take a stand to warn and protect their members from such unwarranted issues.)

WALTER M. SCHIRRA, 33°

On Thursday October 23, 1969, at the Scottish Rite Temple, Washington, D. C. the 33rd Degree of the Scottish Rite was conferred upon a class for which Astronaut walter M. Schirra served as he active candidate.

The banquet for Inspectors General Honorary and special guests on October 23rd featured Astronaut Schirra as the speaker.

Submitted by Bro. Marshall S. Loke, Rochester, New York

THE PERRY BROTHERS

In accordance with their father's wish, five sons of Captain Christopher R. Perry entered the naval service of the United States and two of them won distinction in the old American navy. Oliver, in a brief but glorious career, obtained eminent fame. Matthew did much to improve the navy by the introduction of new ideas, but is best known for his expedition which opened Japan to the outer world.

Oliver Hazard Perry, born at South Kingston, Rhode Island, August 23, 1785, entered the U. S. Navy and received his commission as Midshipman April 7, 1799 at age 13 and became lieutenant January 15, 1807. In the War of 1812 he was appointed to build and fit out a squadron on Lake Erie which he successfully accomplished at Presque Isle (now Erie), Pennsylvania. With nine small vessels he attacked and captured the British fleet near Put-in-Bay, Ohio, September 10, 1813. This action, known as the Battle of Lake Erie, brought him immense popularity and earned him the rank of captain. Later he served in the Mediterranean under Decatur and in 1819 he was in command of a squadron in the Caribbean Sea where he was sieged with yellow fever and died at Port of Spain, Trinidad, August 23, 1819 on his 34th birthday.

In 1826 his remains were removed to Newport, Rhode Island, where an imposing obelisk was erected by the State of Rhode Island; and in 1885 a fine bronze statue was unveiled at Newport. A marble statue of Commodore Perry was erected at Cleveland, Ohio, in 1860 in commemoration of the Lake Erie victory.

Oliver H. Perry was made a Mason in King David's Lodge No. 1, Newport, R.I., which flourished before the Grand Lodge of Rhode Island was formed. The Lodge is now merged with St. John's Lodge of Newport. U. S. stamps of 1870 No. 144, 1890 No. 229 and 1894 No. 261 show the likeness of Perry.

Matthew Calbraith Perry, born at Newport, Rhode Island, April 10, 1794, entered the navy in 1809 as midshipman under his brother, Oliver. In the War of 1812 he served under Commodore Rodgers in destroying British commerce. Promoted to lieutenant in July 1813, he was transferred to Commodore Decatur's new frigate "United States". In 1819 he convoyed the first company of freed negroes to Africa, assisted in establishing the Republic of Liberia and selected the site of its capital, Monrovia.

Matthew C. Perry joined the Masonic fraternity in 1819 receiving the sublime degree of Master Mason in Holland Lodge No. 8, New York City. In 1822 he served under Commodore David Porter ferreting out the pirates in the Gulf of Mexico and later in protecting American commerce in the Mediterranean. From 1833 he was in command of the Brooklyn Navy Yard and there organized the first steam service in the navy. He was made commodore in 1841 and had charge of the steam navy in the Mexican War and in the reduction of Vera Cruz.

His crowning work, the expedition to Japan, came in 1853. President Fillmore intrusted him with a letter to the ruler of Japan, its object being to establish international relations, especially with a view of protecting shipwrecked mariners. He conducted the negotiations which without force or bloodshed opened Japan to foreign commerce in 1854. On his return Commodore Perry was received with many honors. He suffered from rheumatism in later years and died March 4, 1858 at New York. He is shown on U.S. 1953 stamp No. 1021 and on Kyukyu Islands stamps No. 27-28. U.S. 1960 stamp No. 1158 commemorates the United States-Japan treaty.

Submitted by Bre. Marshall S. Loke, Rochester, New York.

KING SOLOMON'S TEMPLE

The Temple of King Solomon occupies an important position in legendary Freemasonry. The grandeur and magnificence of the structure, its faultless proportions, the splendor of its ornamentation, and the immense treasures expended in its erection, have given it a renown unparalleled in the annals of architecture.

The erection of the great structure devolved upon King Solomon, who devoted much time and labor in accumulating the materials and treasures necessary for accomplishing the work. The cedars of Lebanon, the gold of Ophir, the quarries of Palestine and priceless jewels contributed to the pious undertaking. Further aid being required, Solomon applied to his friend, King Hiram of Tyre, who not only supplied valuable material but sent many Tyrian workmen, among whom was one celebrated for his skill in architecture, whose scientific attainments and nobility of character made him the peer of kings.

Construction of the temple on Mount Moriah was started in 1012 B.C. and required $7\frac{1}{2}$ years. A Holy of Holies, or innermost chamber, was the depository of the Ark of the Covenant, a chest in which was kept the two stone tablets upon which were engraved the Ten Commandments.

The edifice, which stood for 410 years, was destroyed by fire after the capture of Jerusalem by Nebuchadnezzar, King of Babylon. Caliph Omar in 637 A.D. ordered a mosque to be erected on the site of the ancient temple. The beautiful structure, known to Christians as the Mosque of Omar but to Mohammedans as the Dome of the Rock, still stands today.

The Mosque is pictured on 10f and 20f Trans-Jordan stamps issued in 1954 (Nos. 311 and 313). It also is shown on a number of Palestine stamps issued between 1927 and 1945, and on Turkey Nos. 581 and 585 of 1919. Numerous Abyssinian (Ethiopian) stamps issued prior to 1918 carry a picture of King Solomon's elaborate throne. The Ark of the covenant is shown on Israel stamps.

Source: Mirt's Masonry on stamps

ANCIENT CITY OF TYRE

Tyre, an ancient Phoenician city, also plays an important role in legendary Freemasonry. It was the residence of King Hiram, who assisted in the construction of the Temple at Jerusalem. From Tyre, the cedars felled in the forests of Lebanon were sent on floats by sea to Joppa and thence carried by land to Jerusalem for the building of King Solomon's Temple.

The route of the lumber from the forests to the site of the Temple can be traced in postage stamps. The cedars are pictured in many Lebanese stamps. The beach of Tyre is shown on a 6pi issue of 1930 (No. 126). Tel Aviv-Jaffa, the modern site of Joppa, is shown on a 100pr Israel air mail issue of 1953 (No. C9), and the road to Jerusalem on a 200pr stamp of 1949 (No. 26). The Site of the Temple is referred to in the preceding item.

Source: Mirt's Masonry on stamps

SAINT PAUL'S CATHEDRAL

On May 28, 1969, Great Britain issued a set of stamps to commemorate British Cathedrals, one of which is that of Saint Paul's Cathedral, Scott No. 593.



As Saint Paul's, the Cathedral Church of London, was rebuilt by Sir Christopher Wren, who is called (in the Book of Constitutions, 1738) the Grand Master of Freemasonry--and some writers have advanced the theory that Freemasonry took its origin at the construction of that edifice. In the fourth Degree of Fessler's Rite--which is occupied in the critical

examination of the various theories on the origin of Freemasonry--among the seven sources that are considered, the building of Saint Paul's Church is one. Nicolai does not positively assert the theory; but he thinks it not an improbable one, and believes that a new system of symbols was at that time invented. It is said that there was, before the revival in 1717, an old Lodge of Saint Paul's; and it is reasonable to suppose that the Operative Masons engaged upon the building were united with the architects and men of other professions in the formation of a Lodge under the regulation which no longer restricted the Institution to Operative Masons. But there is no authentic historical evidence that Freemasonry first took its rise at the building of Saint Paul's Church.

Source: Mackey's Encyclopedia of Freemasonry.

SIR CHRISTOPHER WREN

Early England's most noted architect. The designer of St. Paul's Cathedral in London, he is said to have been the last grand master of the operative masons. Anderson in his Constitutions (1738) says that in 1685 "the lodges met and elected Sir Christopher Wren Grand Master." He also invented the hypodermic needle in conjunction with Boyle. After the fire of August, 1666 in London, he was made surveyor general and there was hardly an important building in which he did not have a hand. Preston states that Wren attended the Lodge of St. Paul (now Antiquity No. 2) regularly for 18 years during the building of St. Paul's Cathedral, and presented the lodge three candlesticks and a mallet with which the king leveled the foundation stone. These relics are still proudly treasured by this lodge. An old minute book of the lodge dated "Queen's Arms, June 3, 1723," which is a month or two after Sir Wren's death, states: "The three Mahogany Candlesticks presented to this Lodge by its worthy old Master, Sir Christopher Wren, ordered to be carefully deposited in a Wooden case, lined with Cloth to be immediately purchased for the purpose."

St. Paul's Cathedral is depicted on Great Britain stamp, Scott No. 593, as pictured above.