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Cultural Heritage on Postage Stamps

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Postage stamps are important means of communication and many countries have recorded important events, honored worthy individuals, and described interesting facts through this medium. Many historical facts, sometimes obscure, can be found on stamps; some of these may not be easily located in a history or a science book. Stamps have artistic value, they are created by artists. Stamps are also a means for propagating culture: music, painting, sculpture, nature, etc. Stamps depicting reproductions of paintings related to mining and metallurgy are also available. They are used every day and can be found everywhere. The role of stamps in cultural heritage of mining and metallurgy will be given. Examples:



Gold in ancient Egypt



Gold mask from Inca civilization



Copper in ancient Cyprus



Iron Pillar of Delhi ca. 400 AD



The world's first metal bridge, 1779



Austrian L-D steelmaking process, 1950s

Literature

- F. Habashi, D. Hendricker, & C. Gignac, *Mining and Metallurgy on Postage Stamps*, Métallurgie Extractive Québec, Québec City, Canada, 1999. Distributed by Laval University Bookstore, www.zone.ul.ca
- F. Habashi, *Postage Stamps:* Metallurgy, *Art, History*, Métallurgie Extractive Québec, Québec City, Canada, 2008. Distributed by Laval University Bookstore, www.zone.ul.ca