

## Chapter 55

### Plate Numbers 41000-41303

Plate number 41000 was assigned to plate code number 1A of the 20c Smokey Bear commemorative stamp in June, 1984 and plate number 41303 was assigned to the 22c Seashell booklet with plate code number 2 in April, 1985. This abbreviated section of 304 plates marks the end of the BEP's postage stamps plate number series. A postage rate increase to 22c occurred during this section and much testing was done on the new D press with the Smokey Bear stamp.

The 1975 Americana series finally made its exit during this section. Since this was the only remaining group of stamps with real plate numbers and it was complete, the BEP decided to end the postage stamp plate number series and all future postage stamp plates were assigned in the BEP's miscellaneous plate number series. You can actually get one item each year with a real miscellaneous series plate number and that is the annual hunting permit, or duck, stamp. But this also ended with the duck stamp of 2001. The \$1 Candle Holder stamp has the distinction of having the last real plate number generally available to the collector and this plate number is 41125.

More stamps appeared in the Great Americans sheet stamp series including the 7c Baldwin, the 9c Thayer, the 14c Lewis, the 22c Audubon, and the 39c Clark stamps, which were all printed on the A press which resulted in the 'floating' plate numbers in the sheet margins. Most collectors save these as plate blocks of six stamps. The 11c Partridge and the 50c Nimitz stamps were printed on the Giori press and four plates exist for each of these stamps. Two more plates were used for the 2c Stravinsky. All of these plates are common and easy to find.

The Transportation coil series was also busy with eight new stamps issued. Some of the plates on these issues are available both mint and precancelled. Twenty-one plates were put to press for these stamps and all of them are very common.

The Flags series saw the appearance of the 22c flag stamp in sheet, booklet, and coil form. The coil stamp was printed from both the B and C presses; the only difference is the interval between the plate code number which is 52 stamps on the B press and 48 stamps on the C press. There are five plates on these flag stamps (additional plates were assigned to these flag stamps after the end of the postage stamp plate number series) and all are common.

The 22c Seashells booklet was issued in 1985 and the booklet with plate code 2 is from plate number 41303, the final plate number in the postage stamp series. A \$10.75 stamp was issued in 1985 with the main intended use to be express mail. This stamp was issued in booklet panes of three stamps and five plate code numbers appear in the booklet margin tab. These booklet plates are common.

The big news in the commemoratives was the Smokey Bear stamp which was the initial offering from the new D combination offset-intaglio press. Many plates were used in experimental printings and never released. The production run was made with one intaglio plate and 26 offset plates. None of these plates individually is scarce, but some of the offset combinations are scarce to rare with offset combinations 1221 and 10111111 being the rare ones. The 22c AMERIPEX stamp produced a scarce number, intaglio plate code number 2. All of the other commemorative plates are common.

The 33c Verville and 39c Sperry air mail stamps on 1985 were produced by the gravure method and the 33c stamp was printed on the upper right and lower left panes of the cylinders and the 39c was printed from the upper left and lower right panes. As with the official stamps, this quadrant scheme was not really practical since more 39c stamps were needed and finally a new set of cylinders was made to produce only the 39c stamp. The 44c Transpacific air mail stamp was also printed by the gravure method and plate number 41225 (plate code number 2) was the last air mail plate in the BEP's plate number series.

Two aerogrammes, the 36c Lansat and the 36c Tourism, were printed from plates in this section. A production miscut resulted in the finding of plate 41270 which was used to print the Tourism aerogramme. This obviously rare or unique item is the highest real plate number known to exist. Plate 41270 along with the \$1 Candleholder plate 41125 are the only two real plate numbers in the 41000 section.

This section of 304 plates had 184 plates available to collectors and this is one section where very close to 100% completion is quite possible. The BEP's postage stamp plate number series has ended a 91year run. These plates have fascinated thousands of collectors over the years and continue to do so today. But we still should examine those sections of related stamps not yet discussed and the next chapter will look at the Great Americans series.

## Chapter 55-41000

		41000 Series Totals						
Series	Subject	Plate	Assigned	To	Available	Available	Unreported	I Have
		Type		Press	Real P#	Code P#		
	(totals)		304	210	2	182	0	
8th Bureau Series (Americana)								
1975	50c Iron Lamp offset	400L	2	2	0			
1975	\$1 Candle Holder	400R	1	1	1		0	
1975	\$1 Candle Holder offset	400L	9	9	0			
Great Americans								
1980	2c Igor Stravinsky	400R	3	2		2	0	
1980	7c Abraham Baldwin	920S	1	1		1	0	
1980	8c Henry Knox	400R	1	0		0		
1980	9c Sylvanus Thayer	920S	1	1		1	0	
1980	11c Allen Partridge	400R	13	4		4	0	
1980	14c Sinclair Lewis	920S	1	1		1	0	
1980	22c John Audubon	920S	1	1		1	0	
1980	37c Robert Millikan	400R	2	0		0		
1980	39c Grenville Clark	920S	1	1		1	0	
1980	50c Chester Nimitz	400R	11	4		4	0	
Transportation Coils								
1981	1c Omnibus	432R	1	0		0		
1981	3.4c Schoolbus	432R	8	2		2	0	
1981	4.9c Buckboard	432R	6	6		6	0	
1981	6c Tricycle	936S	1	1		1	0	
1981	10.1c Oil Wagon	936S	1	1		1	0	
1981	11c Stutz Bearcat	432R	6	4		4	0	
1981	12c Stanley Steamer	432R	6	2		2	0	
1981	12.5c Pushcart	936S	1	1		1	0	
1981	14c Iceboat	432R	6	4		4	0	
Flags Series								
1981	20c Flag	920S	1	0		0		
1981	20c Flag coil	936S	1	0		0		
1985	22c Flag	800S	3	2		2	0	
1985	22c Flag coil	936S	1	1		1	0	
1985	22c Flag coil	960S	1	1		1	0	
1985	22c Flag book	390S	1	1		1	0	
Special Definitives								
1985	22c Seashell book	960S	2	2		2	0	
1985	\$10.75 Express Mail book	78C	5	5		5	0	
Commemoratives								
1984	20c Love	230C	1	0		0		
1984	20c Smokey the Bear	200R	49	27		27	0	
1984	20c E. Roosevelt	192R	12	8		8	0	
1984	20c American Dogs	160C	1	1		1	0	
1984	20c Vietnam Vets	160R	10	8		8	0	

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1984	20c Family Unity	230C	3	3		3	0	
1984	20c Santa Claus	200C	10	10		10	0	
1984	20c Lippi Madonna	200C	10	10		10	0	
1984	20c Hispanic Americans	160C	9	9		9	0	
1984	20c Nation of Readers	200R	11	8		8	0	
1985	22c Love	200C	13	13		13	0	
1985	22c Winter S. Olympics	160C	13	8		8	0	
1985	22c Rural Electric	230C	10	6		6	0	
1985	22c Ameripex	192R	1	0		0		
1985	22c Bartholdi	200R	17	12		12	0	
	Special Purpose Issues							
1985	33c/39c Air Mail	200C	10	6		6	0	
1985	44c Air Mail	200C	5	5		5	0	
1983	14c Official Mail	400F	3	0		0		
1983	22c Official Mail coil	936S	1	1		0		
1985	36c Lansat Aerogramme	8C	9	8	0			
1985	36c Tourism Aerogramme	8C	8	7	1		0	

41001-41010  
20c Santa Claus  
plates 11111 22222



41011-41014  
20c Smokey the Bear  
offset plates 2222



41015-41018  
20c Smokey the Bear  
offset plates 3333



41019-41028  
20c Madonna  
plates 11111 22222



41029-41034  
20c Hispanic  
plates 111111



41035  
20c Vietnam Vets  
plate 1  
not used



41036  
20c Vietnam Vets  
plate 2



41037  
20c E. Roosevelt  
plate 1  
not used

41038-41039  
20c E. Roosevelt  
plates 2 3



41040  
20c Nation of Readers  
master plate  
not used

41041  
20c E. Roosevelt  
plate 4



41042  
20c E. Roosevelt  
plate 5  
not used

41043  
20c Vietnam Vets  
plate 3



41044  
20c E. Roosevelt  
plate 6



41045  
20c Vietnam Vets  
plate 4





Vietnam Veterans Memorial USA 20c

4

41046  
20c E. Roosevelt  
plate 7  
not used

41047  
20c Vietnam Vets  
plate 5  
not used

41048  
20c E. Roosevelt  
plate 8

∞



41049  
20c Vietnam Vets  
plate 6



Vietnam Veterans Memorial USA 20c

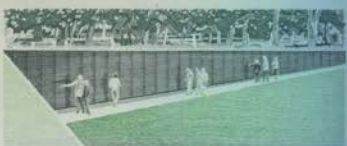
6

41050  
20c E. Roosevelt  
plate 9



∞

41051  
20c Vietnam Vets  
plate 7

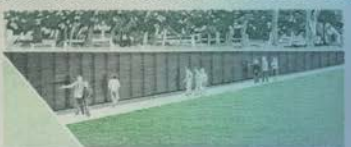


Vietnam Veterans Memorial USA 20c

7

41052  
20c E. Roosevelt  
plate 10  
not used

41053  
20c Vietnam Vets  
plate 8



Vietnam Veterans Memorial USA 20c

8

41054  
20c E. Roosevelt  
plate 11

II





41055-41056  
20c Vietnam Vets  
plates 9 10

Vietnam Veterans Memorial USA 20c

9

Vietnam Veterans Memorial USA 20c

10

41057  
20c E. Roosevelt  
plate 12

12



41058-41061  
20c Smokey the Bear  
offset plates 10101010

3



10 10 10 10



41062-41065  
20c Smokey the Bear  
offset plates 11111111

14 14 14 14



10 11 11 10



14 14 14 11



41066-41068  
20c Hispanic  
plates 222

Hispanic Americans



A Proud Heritage USA 20c

12 21 1

41069-41071  
\$1 Lamp  
offset plates  
unavailable

41072-41075  
20c Smokey the Bear  
offset plates x x1212  
x-not used





41075  
20c Smokey the Bear  
offset plate 12 black  
rare, not in collection

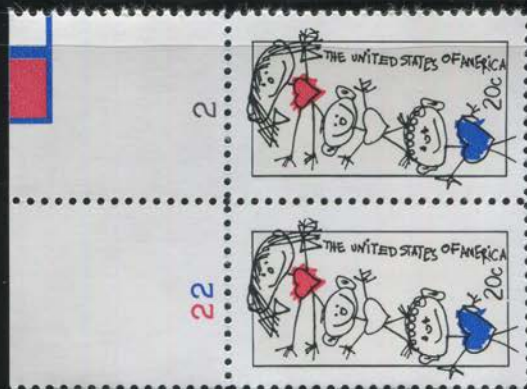
41076-41079  
20c Smokey the Bear  
offset plates 1313 x13  
x-not used



41080-41083  
20c Smokey the Bear  
offset plates 14141414

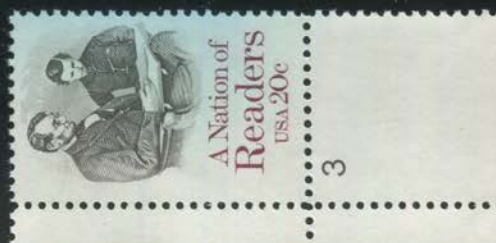


41084-41085  
20c Family Unity  
plates 22



41086-41087  
37c Millikan  
plates 5 6  
not used

41088-41090  
20c Nation of Readers  
plates 1 2 3



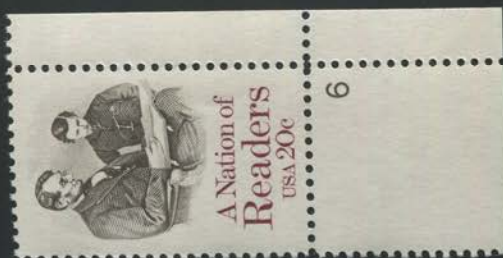


41091-41094  
20c Smokey the Bear  
offset plates x151515  
x-not used



41095-41097  
\$1 Lamp  
offset plates  
unavailable

41098-41102  
20c Nation of Readers  
plates 4 5 6 7 8



41103-41104  
20c Nation of Readers  
plates 9 10  
not used

41105-41108  
20c Smokey the Bear  
offset plates x161616  
x-not used



41109  
20c Love  
plate 4  
not used

41110  
20c Family Unity  
plate 2





41111-41114  
20c Smokey the Bear  
offset plates 17171717



41115-41118  
20c Smokey the Bear  
offset plates 18181818  
not used

41119  
1c Omnibus coil  
plate 9  
not used

41120-41123  
20c Smokey the Bear  
offset plates 18181818  
not used

41124  
20c Dogs  
plate 2



41126-41127  
50c Lamp  
offset plates  
unavailable

41128-41130  
\$1 Lamp  
offset plates  
unavailable

41131  
20c Flag coil  
plate 15  
not used

41132  
20c Flag  
plate 5  
not used

41133  
50c Nimitz  
master plate  
not used

41134-41145  
22c Love  
plates 111111 222222





41146  
22c Flag coil  
plate 1  
not used

41147  
22c Flag coil  
plate 2



41148-41149  
2c Stravinsky  
plates 5 6



41150  
22c Love  
plate 3



41151  
7c Baldwin  
plate 1



41152  
39c Clark  
plate 1



41153  
11c Partridge  
master plate  
not used



41154-41161  
36c Aerogramme  
unavailable

41162-41164  
50c Nimitz  
plates 1 2 3



41165  
22c Flag  
plate 1



41166-41169  
14c Iceboat coil  
plates 1 2 3 4

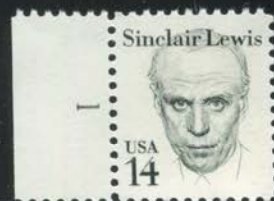


41170-41171  
12c Stanley Steam coil  
plates 1 2



41172-41173  
12c Stanley Steam coil  
plates 3 4  
not used

41174  
14c Sinclair Lewis  
plate 1





41175  
50c Nimitz  
plate 4



41176-41179  
44c Airmail  
plates 1111



41180-41185  
50c Nimitz  
plates 5 6 7 8 9 10  
not used

41186-41187  
3.4c School Bus coil  
plates 1 2



41188-41189  
3.4c School Bus coil  
plates 3 4  
not used

41190  
36c Aerogramme  
unavailable

41191  
2c Stravinsky  
plate 7  
not used

41192  
11c Partridge  
plate 1  
not used

41193  
22c Audubon  
plate 1



41194  
11c Partridge  
plate 2



41195  
11c Partridge  
master plate  
not used

41196  
11c Partridge  
plate 3





41197-41198  
4.9c Buckboard coil  
plates 1 2  
not used

41199-41200  
4.9c Buckboard coil  
plates 3 4



41201  
22c Flag book  
plate 1



41202-41203  
11c Partridge  
plates 4 5



41204  
11c Partridge  
plate 6  
not used

41205-41209  
33c 39c Airmail  
plates 11111





41210-41214  
33c 39c Airmail  
plates x2xxx  
x-not used



41215  
11c Partridge  
plate 7  
not used

41216-41220  
\$10.75 Express Mail  
plates 11111



41221-41224  
11c Partridge  
plate 8 9 10 11  
not used

41225  
44c Airmail  
plate 2



41226-41231  
22c Olympics  
111111



41232  
22c Seashell book  
plate 1





41233  
22c Flag  
plate 2  
not used

41234  
14c Official Mail  
master plate  
not used

41235-41240  
22c Olympics  
xx2x2x  
x-not used



41241-41242  
4.9c Buckboard coil  
plates 5 6



41243  
12.5c Pushcart coil  
plate 1



41244-41245  
14c Iceboat coil  
plates 5 6  
not used

41246  
22c Flag  
plate 3





41247-41250  
11c Stutz Bearcat coil  
plates 1 2 3 4



41251-41252  
11c Stutz Bearcat coil  
plates 5 6  
not used

41253-41254  
3.4c School Bus coil  
plates 5 6  
not used

41255-41256  
12c Stanley Steam coil  
plates 5 6  
not used

41257  
8c Knox  
master plate  
not used

41258  
10.1c Oil Wagon coil  
plate 1



41259  
3.4c School Bus coil  
plate 7  
not used

41260-41263  
22c Rural Electric  
plates 1111



41264-41268  
22c Rural Electric  
plates 2222  
not used  
plate 1





41269  
1c Official Mail  
master plate  
not used

41270-41277  
36c Aerogramme  
unavailable

41278  
6c Tricycle  
plate 1



41279  
22c Official coil  
no plate number



41280  
9c Thayer  
plate 1



41281  
14c Official Mail  
master plate  
not used

41282  
22c Olympics  
plate 3  
not used

41283  
22c Ameripex  
master plate  
not used

41284  
22c Bartholdi  
plate 1



41285  
3.4c School Bus coil  
plate 8  
not used

41286-41289  
22c Bartholdi  
offset plates 1111



41290-41293  
22c Bartholdi  
offset plates 2222





41294-41297  
22c Bartholdi  
offset plates 3x3x  
x-not used



41298-41301  
22c Bartholdi  
offset plates xx4x  
x-not used



41302  
22c Rural Electric  
plate 3



41303  
22c Seashell book  
plate 2



After plate 41303, the postage stamp plate number series was discontinued and the "real" plate numbers were assigned in the miscellaneous plate number series of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing.