

American Credo Series

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These six 4-cent stamps (Scott 1139 to 1144) were issued in 1960 and 1961. The U.S. Post Office Department created the American Credo Series to “re-emphasize the ideals upon which America was founded and to honor those great Americans who wrote or uttered the credos.” Each stamp was designed to resemble colonial currency and features a quote from a historically important American. Symbols that relate to the statement are used in the designs, as well as a likeness of the author’s signature.

The first stamp (Scott #1139) was issued on January 20, 1960 at Mount Vernon, Virginia. It contains a quote from George Washington - “Observe good faith and justice toward all nations” from his farewell address.



The second stamp (Scott #1140) was issued on March 31, 1960 at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. It contains a quote from Benjamin Franklin - “Fear to do ill, and you need fear Nought else.”

The third stamp (Scott #1141) was issued on May 18, 1960 at Charlottesville, Virginia. It contains a quote from Thomas Jefferson - “I have sworn... Hostility against every form of TYRANNY over the minds of men.”



The fourth stamp (Scott #1142) was issued on September 14, 1960 at Baltimore, Maryland. It contains a quote from Francis Scott Key - “And this be our Motto, in GOD is our TRUST” – from the “Star Spangled Banner.”

The fifth stamp (Scott #1143) was issued on November 19, 1960 at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. It contains a quote from Abraham Lincoln - “Those who deny freedom to others deserve it not for themselves.”



The sixth and final stamp (Scott #1144) was issued on January 11, 1961, in Richmond, Virginia. It contains a famous quote from Patrick Henry - “Give me liberty or give me death.”