The Sleepy Hollow Stamp: An American Treasure.

By James Wittenauer

The Stamp, Scott Number 1548, referred to as the Sleepy Hollow Stamp was the sixth stamp in a six-part series of American Folklore Stamps with the other figures such as Johnny Appleseed, Davy Crockett, Daniel Boone, Grandma Moses, and Tom Sawyer. The stamp was a 10-cent denomination and released in October of 1974 before Halloween with the first city of its' release being that of North Tarrytown, New York which was the setting of Washington Irving's story "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow" of which the stamp was derived from a scene in that story involving the main character Ichabod Crane and the infamous headless horseman. At the time of the release of the stamp, North Tarrytown, New York was celebrating its Centennial. The idea for the stamp came from a resident of North Tarrytown, New York who, in June of 1970, thought it would be a good idea to have a stamp commemorating the town's centennial and with it the nearby towns as well. Although the stamp that came forth from the idea did not celebrate the town's centennial itself, the stamp was released on the day of its' centennial celebration. There has never been a stamp like this before; it is the first stamp of its' kind to depict the Legend of Sleepy Hollow since.



