

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**NEW POSTAL CARD TO CELEBRATE
OHIO UNIVERSITY'S 200TH ANNIVERSARY**

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Postal Service today announced that a new stamped postal card celebrating the 200th anniversary of the founding of Ohio University will be issued Oct. 10 in Athens, Ohio.

The first day of issue ceremony for the Ohio University stamped card will take place outdoors at 10:30 a.m. on the university's College Green at Cutler Hall. The ceremony is free and open to the public.

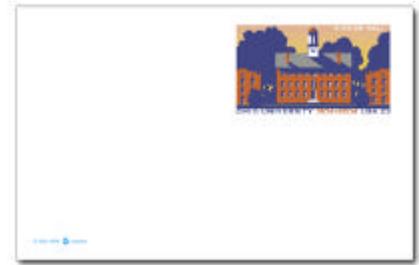
The Ohio University stamped card will be available on Oct. 10 at the ceremony and at Athens Post Offices. It will be available starting Oct. 11 at all Ohio Post Offices, at Philatelic Centers nationwide, by toll-free telephone order at 1 800 STAMP-24 and by online order at www.usps.com/shop.

"Ohio University's storied history of educational excellence is perhaps best symbolized by Cutler Hall, the landmark building depicted on the stamped card," said Roger T. Nienaber, district manager of the Postal Service's Columbus District, who will dedicate the stamped card. "The Postal Service is pleased to salute the 200th anniversary of this fine institution of higher learning."

Scheduled to join Nienaber at the first day ceremony are Dr. Robert Glidden, president of Ohio University; U.S. Rep. Ted Strickland (D-Ohio); State Rep. Jimmy Stewart (R-Ohio District 92); and Ric Abel, mayor of Athens.

The Ohio University stamped card is the 55th in the long-running Historic Preservation series, which began in 1977 with the issuance of the 9-cent Federal Court House (Galveston, Texas) stamped card.

Founded in 1804, Ohio University was the first institution of higher learning authorized by Congress in the Northwest Territory. The Northwest Territory was comprised of land ceded to the United States after the Revolutionary War and included present-day Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio and Wisconsin.



The university opened four years later with just three students, but today more than 27,000 students attend classes on the university's six campuses. An award-winning institution that has been named as one of the best values in higher education, Ohio University administers several nationally acclaimed academic programs.

Located on the University's historic Athens campus in southeastern Ohio, Cutler Hall — originally known as the College Edifice — opened in 1819, three years after its cornerstone was laid. This Federal-style building, the university's oldest structure, has served many functions, including as a dormitory and laboratory space. Renamed in 1914 in honor of Manasseh Cutler, one of the university's founders, Cutler Hall was restored to its original appearance and rededicated in 1947. Today the building houses the university's administrative offices.

The stamp art — a computer-generated design of Cutler Hall — was created by Tom Engeman of Brunswick, Md. The type across the bottom of the stamp reads, "Ohio University Cutler Hall."

To see the design, visit the Postal Service Web site and open this press release at www.usps.com/communications/news/stamps/welcome.htm.

Current U.S. stamps and stationery, as well as a free comprehensive catalog, are available by toll-free telephone order at 1 800 STAMP-24. In addition, a selection of stamps and other philatelic items are available at the online Postal Store at www.usps.com/shop.

Since 1775, the U.S. Postal Service has connected friends, families, neighbors and businesses by mail. It is an independent federal agency that visits more than 141 million homes and businesses every day and is the only service provider to deliver to every address in the nation. The Postal Service receives no taxpayer dollars for routine operations, but derives its operating revenues solely from the sale of postage, products and services. With annual revenues of more than \$68.9 billion, it is the world's leading provider of mailing and delivery services, offering some of the most affordable postage rates in the world. The U.S. Postal Service delivers more than 46 percent of the world's mail volume — some 202 billion letters, advertisements, periodicals and packages a year — and serves seven million customers each day at its 40,000 retail locations nationwide.

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TECHNICAL DETAILS

Issue:	<i>Ohio University</i>
Item Number:	221400
Denomination & Type of Issue:	23-cent Stamped Card
Format:	Stamped Card
Series:	<i>Historic Preservation</i>
Issue Date & City:	October 10, 2003, Athens, OH 45701
Illustrator:	Tom Engeman, Brunswick, MD
Designer:	Tom Engeman, Brunswick, MD
Engraver:	N/A
Art Director:	Derry Noyes, Washington, DC
Modeler:	N/A
Manufacturing Process:	Offset
Printer:	Government Printing Office (GPO)
Printed at:	GPO, Washington, DC
Press Type:	Offset
Print Quantity:	6 million stamped cards
Paper Type:	22-lb. bright white
Gum Type:	N/A
Processed at:	GPO, Washington, DC
Colors:	Yellow, Magenta, Cyan, Black
Card Orientation:	Horizontal
Image Area (w x h):	2.10 x 1.25 in./53.30 x 31.73 mm
Overall Size (w x h):	5.50 x 3.50 in./139.59 x 88.83 mm
Full Pane Size (w x h):	N/A
Plate Size:	N/A
Plate Numbers:	N/A
Marginal Markings:	© 2003 USPS [Recycled logo] recycled
Catalog Item Number(s):	221440 Ohio University Stamped Card — \$0.25 221461 Ohio University Canceled Stamped Card — \$0.35

HOW TO ORDER THE FIRST DAY POSTMARK

Customers have **90** days to obtain the first day of issue postmark by mail. They may purchase the new stamped card at their local Ohio Post Office, at philatelic centers nationwide, by telephone at 1 800 STAMP-24, and at the Postal Store Web site at www.usps.com/shop. They should address the cards (to themselves or others) and place them in an envelope addressed to:

OHIO UNIVERSITY STAMPED CARD
POSTMASTER
5 W STIMSON AVE
ATHENS OH 45701-9991

After applying the first day of issue postmark, the Postal Service will return the stamped cards through the mail. There is no charge for the postmark. All orders must be postmarked by Jan. 9, 2004.