

**A History of Panama and Its Canal in
Forty-Three Postage Stamps
(and Seven Picture Postcards)**

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March 11, 2021

The title reflects the title of two excellent books by Chris West and published by Picador:

A History of Britain in Thirty-Six Postage Stamps,
published in 2013 and \$11.95 at Amazon.com

A History of America in Thirty-Six Postage Stamps,
published in 2014 and \$29.89 at Amazon.com

This presentation is a blending of philately, deltiology, and history. The talk is focused on the years 1902–1979, when there was the highest US involvement in Panama. All of the displayed stamps and postcards are from the presenter's collection.



1513 Balboa

1671 Morgan, the pirate

1819 Bolivar founds Gran Columbia

1855 Panama Railroad opens

1881–1903 de Lesseps' attempts

1902 US decides on Panama for its canal

1903 Teddy Roosevelt and independent Panama

1904–1914 Canal construction

1977 Carter-Torrijos Treaty

1979 Canal Zone post offices close

1999 Panama controls the canal

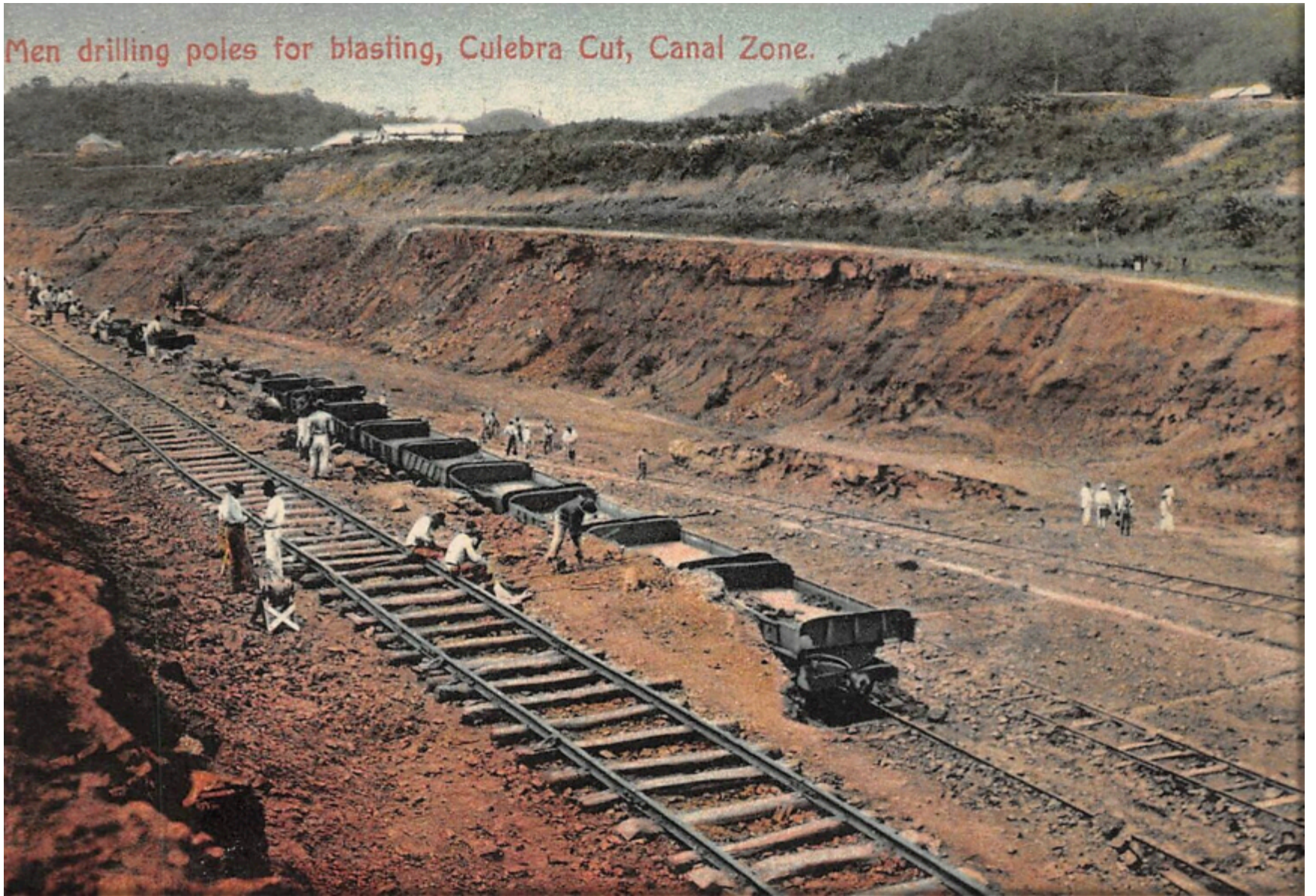
1902: Stamp distributed to persuade US Senate to select the Panama route



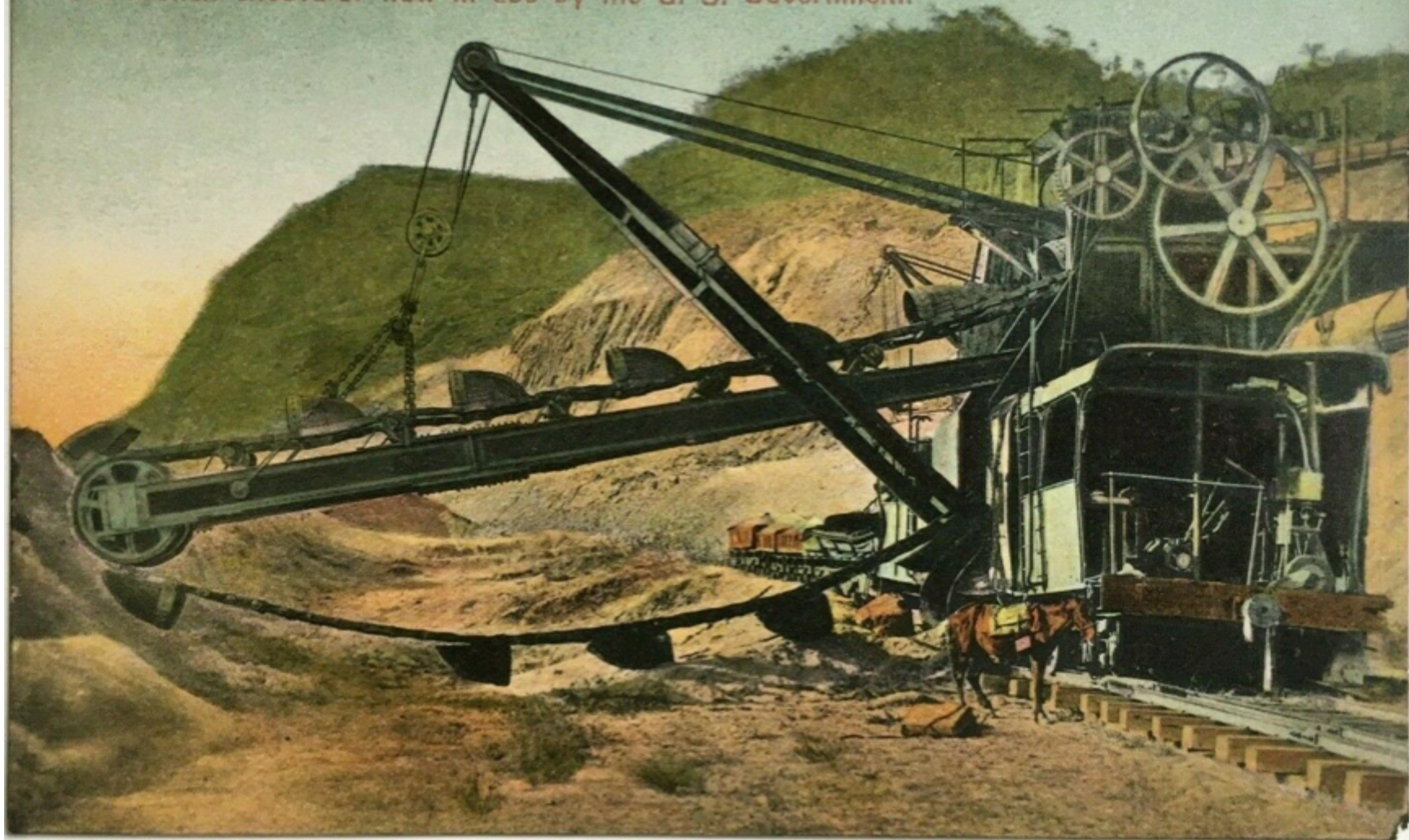
Use of Railroads

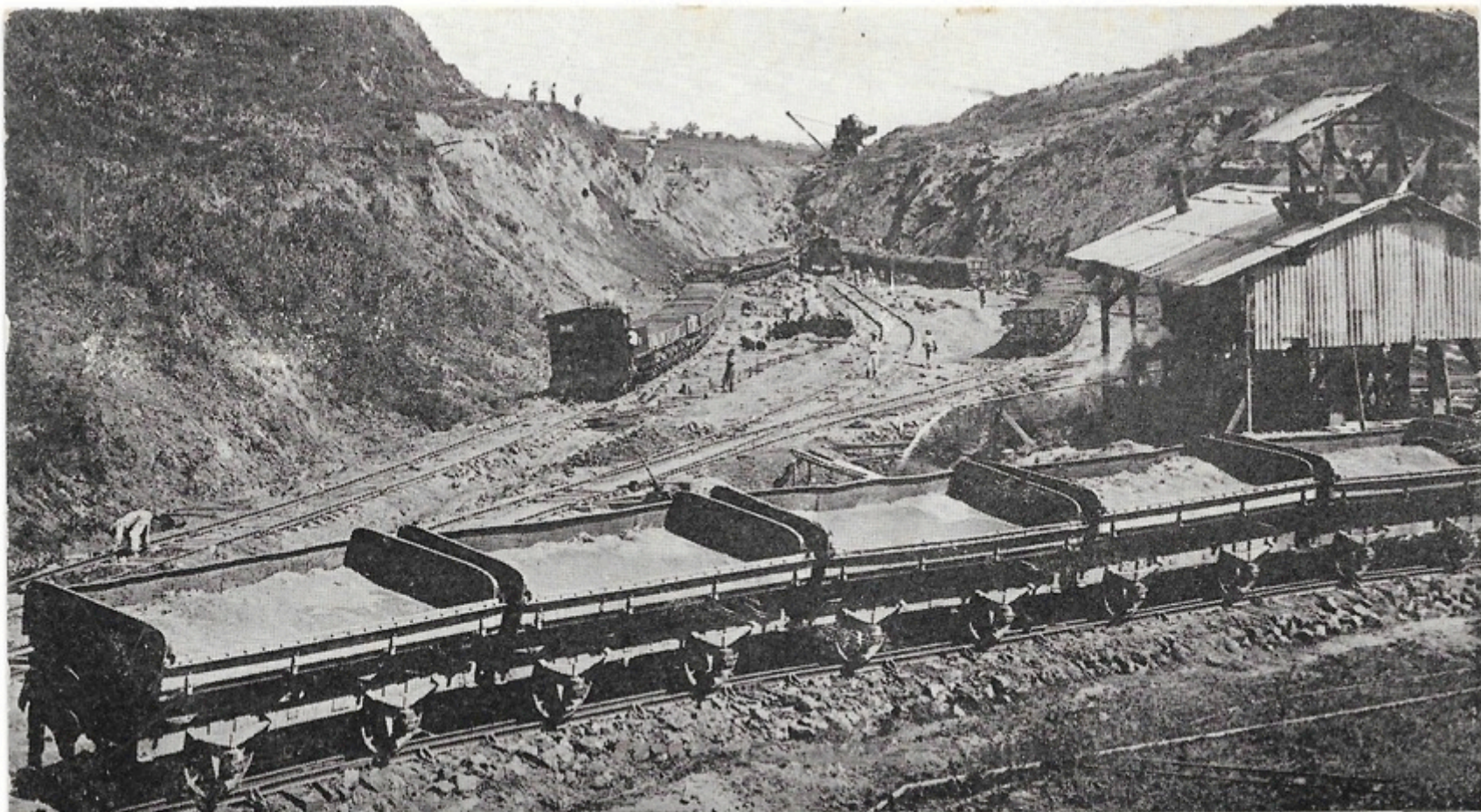


Men drilling poles for blasting, Culebra Cut, Canal Zone.



Old French excavator now in use by the U. S. Government.





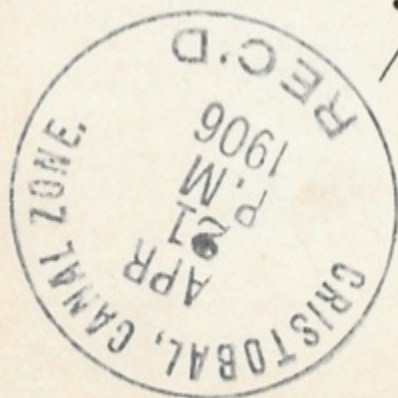
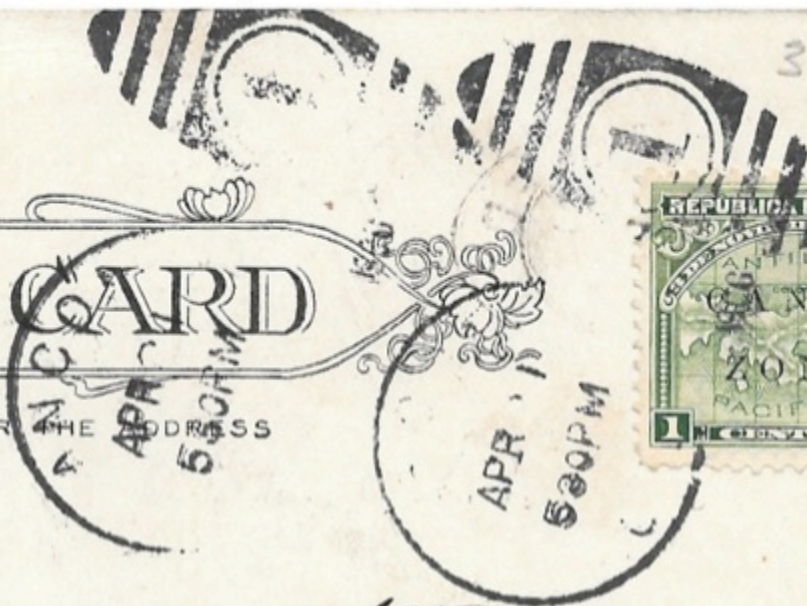
A train of dump cars on the Canal--Panama.
Isthmian American & P.R.R. News Agency & Advertising Bureau, A. Bienkowski.

April 17-06.

*A.P.M.
Ancora Hospital - C. F.
Panama*

POST CARD

THIS SIDE FOR THE ADDRESS



Miss Mollie S. Baird
738 George St.
Norristown
Pa. U. S. A.

Elimination of Diseases







REPUBLICA DE PANAMA

CORREOS

HOMENAJE A FINLAY



DR CARLOS J. FINLAY

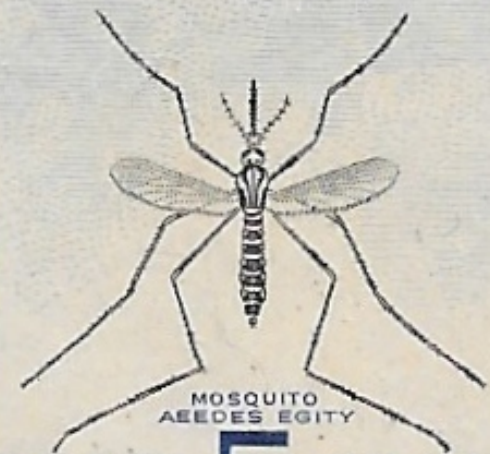
1949 2 1949
DOS CENTÉSIMOS DE BALBOA

WATERLOW & SONS LTD.

REPÚBLICA DE PANAMÁ

CORREO AEREO

HOMENAJE A FINLAY

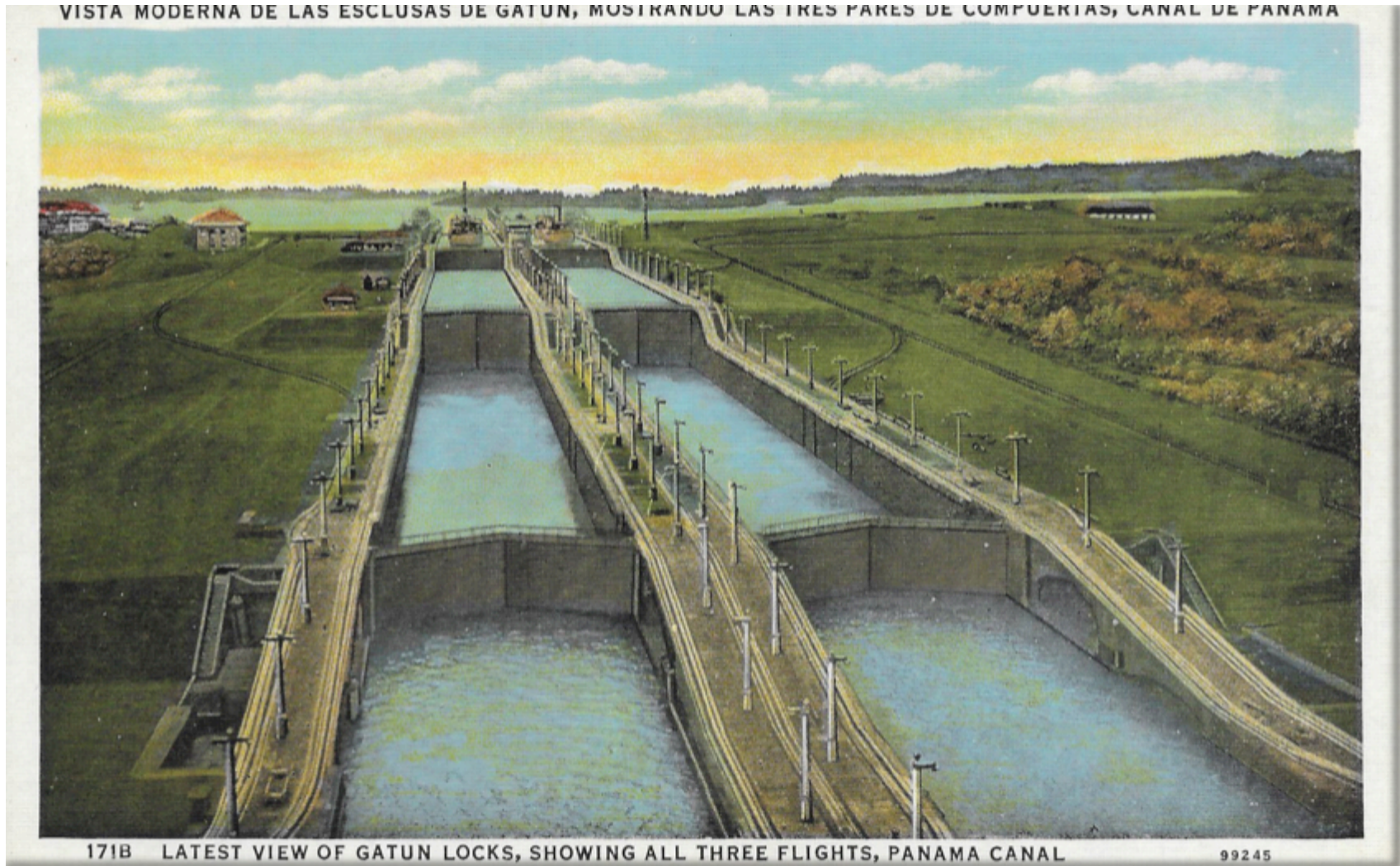


MOSQUITO
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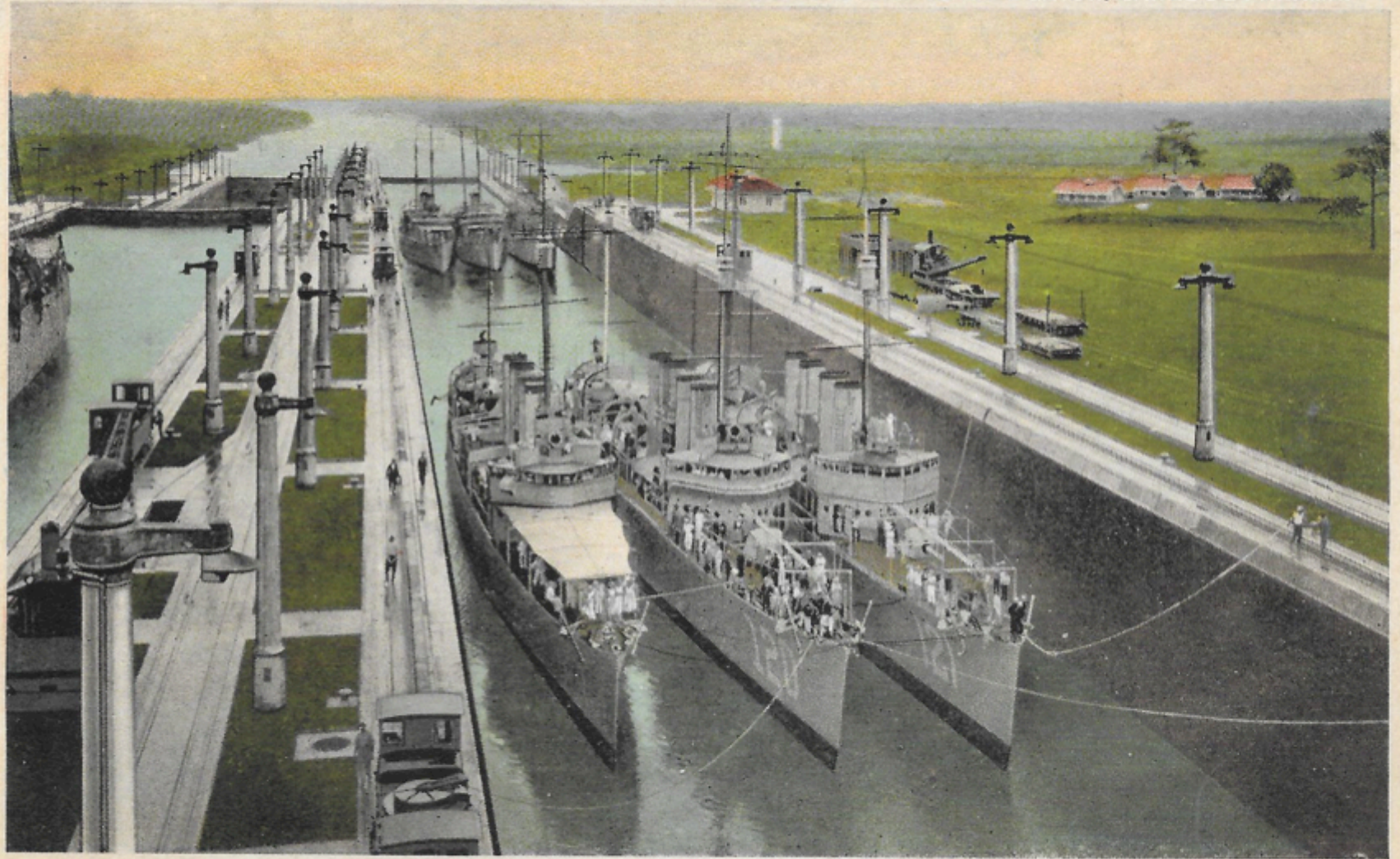
1949 5 1949
CINCO CENTÉSIMOS DE BALBOA

WATERLOW & SONS LTD.

Scale of the Canal



SEIS CAZA SUBMARINOS AMERICANOS EN LAS EXCLUSAS DE GATUN, CANAL DE PANAMA.



U. S. SUBMARINE CHASERS BEING LOCKED AT GATUN, PANAMA CANAL.

Five Eras of Postage Stamps in the Canal Zone

First Stamp Era 1904





Second Stamp Era 1904



Third Stamp Era 1904–1924



Third Stamp Era 1904–1924 continued



Third Stamp Era 1904–1924 continued



Fourth Stamp Era 1924–1939



Fourth Stamp Era 1924–1939 continued



Fifth Stamp Era 1928–1979



(the Fourth and Fifth Eras overlapped 1928–1939,
using issue dates of the stamps)

Fifth Stamp Era 1928–1979

continued



Fifth Stamp Era 1928–1979

continued



Fifth Stamp Era 1928–1979 continued

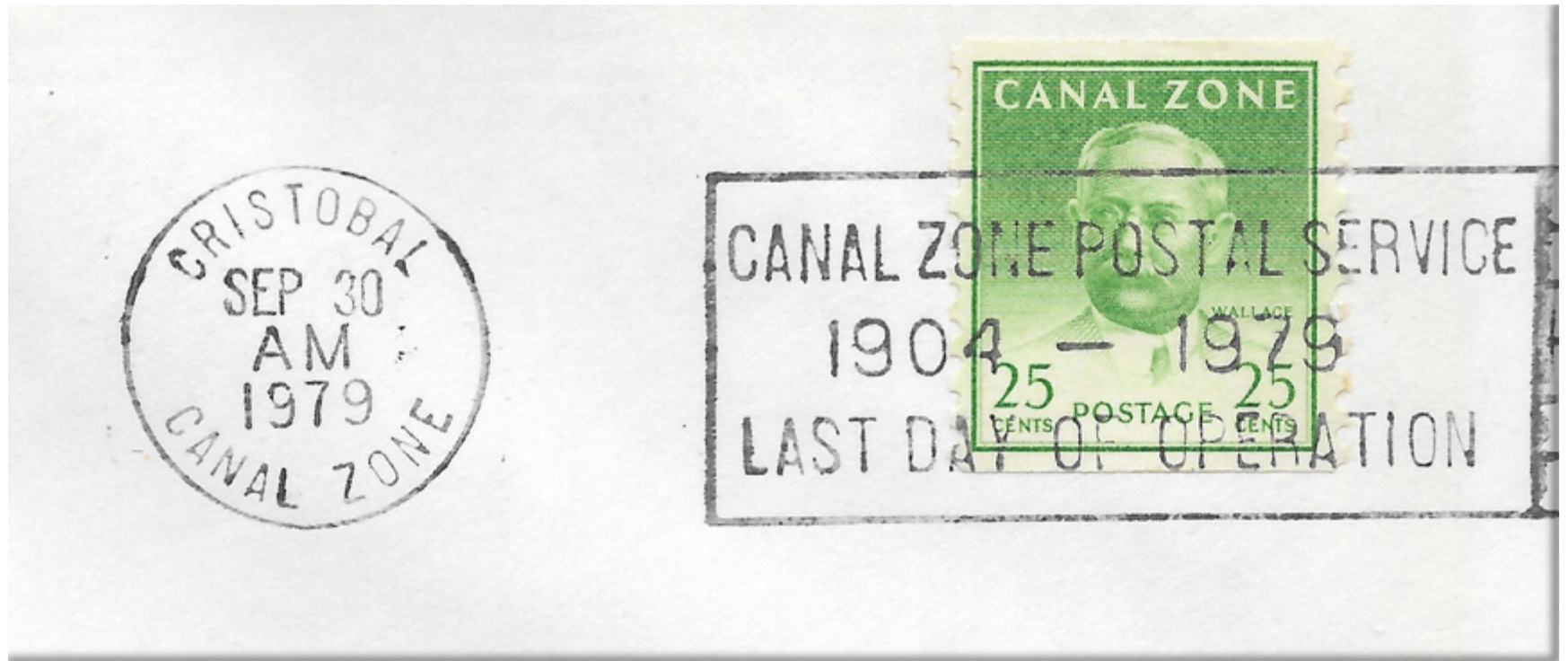


Fifth Stamp Era 1928–1979

continued



Last Day of US-Run Post Offices



Panama Stamp of 1997 Celebrating the Carter-Torrijos Treaty of 1977



Three Outstanding Sources

[en.wikipedia.org/wiki/](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Postage_stamps_and_postal_history_of_the_Canal_Zone)

[Postage_stamps_and_postal_history_of_the_Canal_Zone](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Postage_stamps_and_postal_history_of_the_Canal_Zone)

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Panama_Canal_Zone

The Path Between the Seas: The Creation of the Panama Canal 1870–1914 by David McCullough (1978), \$16.95 at Amazon

THE END

