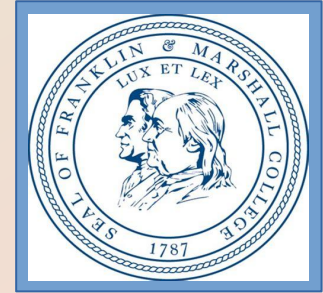


North American Earthquakes on Stamps, Postcards, and Letters

Rob Sternberg
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Environmental Science
Franklin & Marshall College
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member: APS, ATA, AFDCS, USCS, PSLC

Presentation for:
Rochester Philatelic Association
24 April 2025

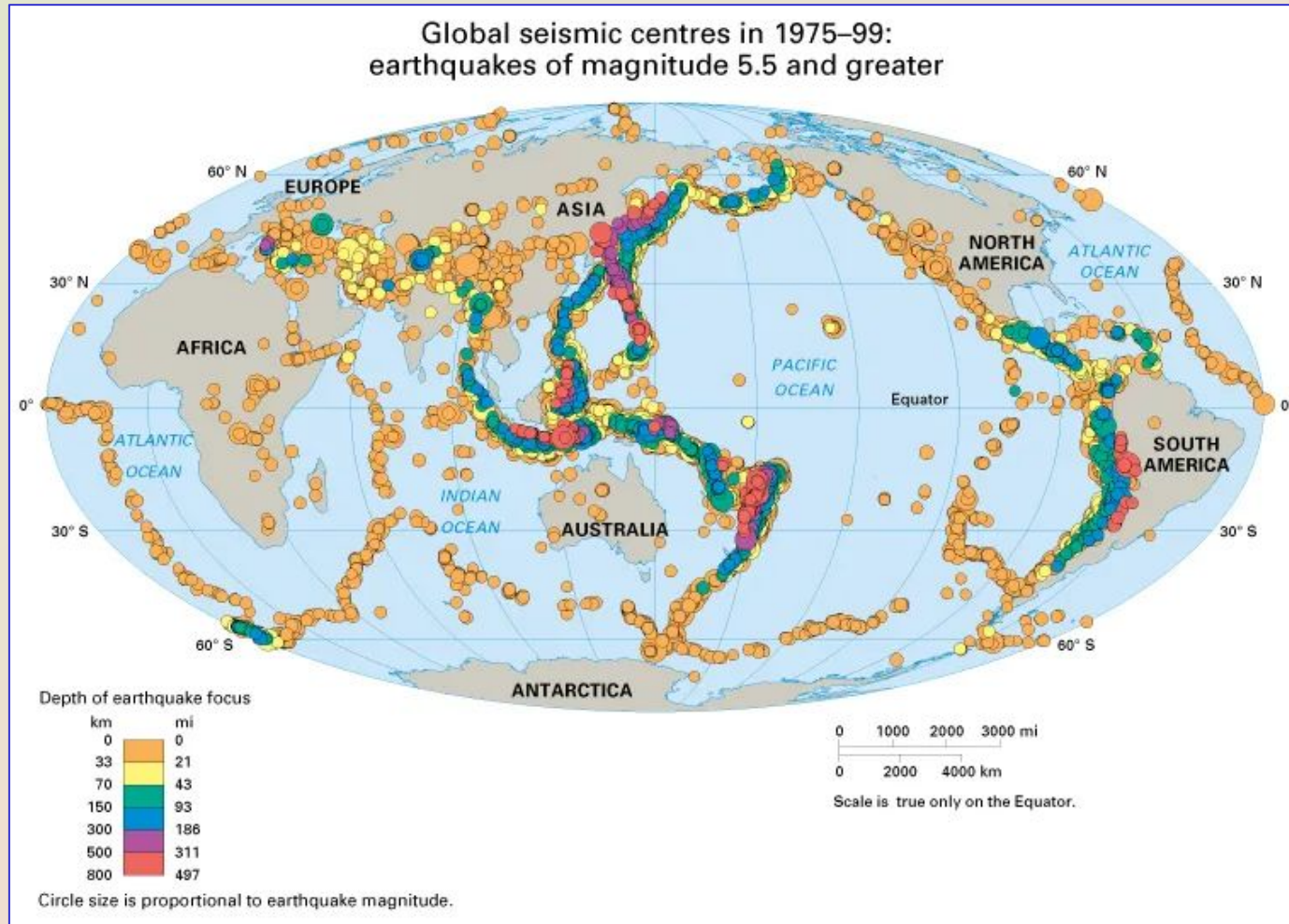
link to this presentation:
<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1gH7sTcDUCnBxJrePSK4stHU6rfMWcdxrGARNvkoh9dc/edit?usp=sharing>



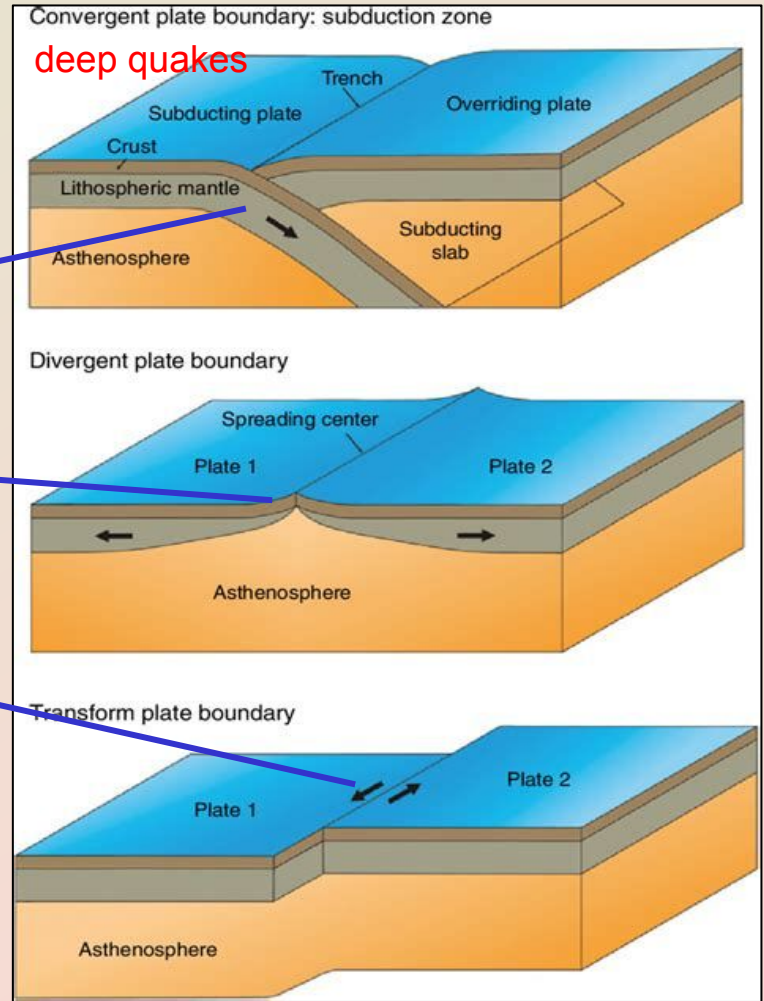
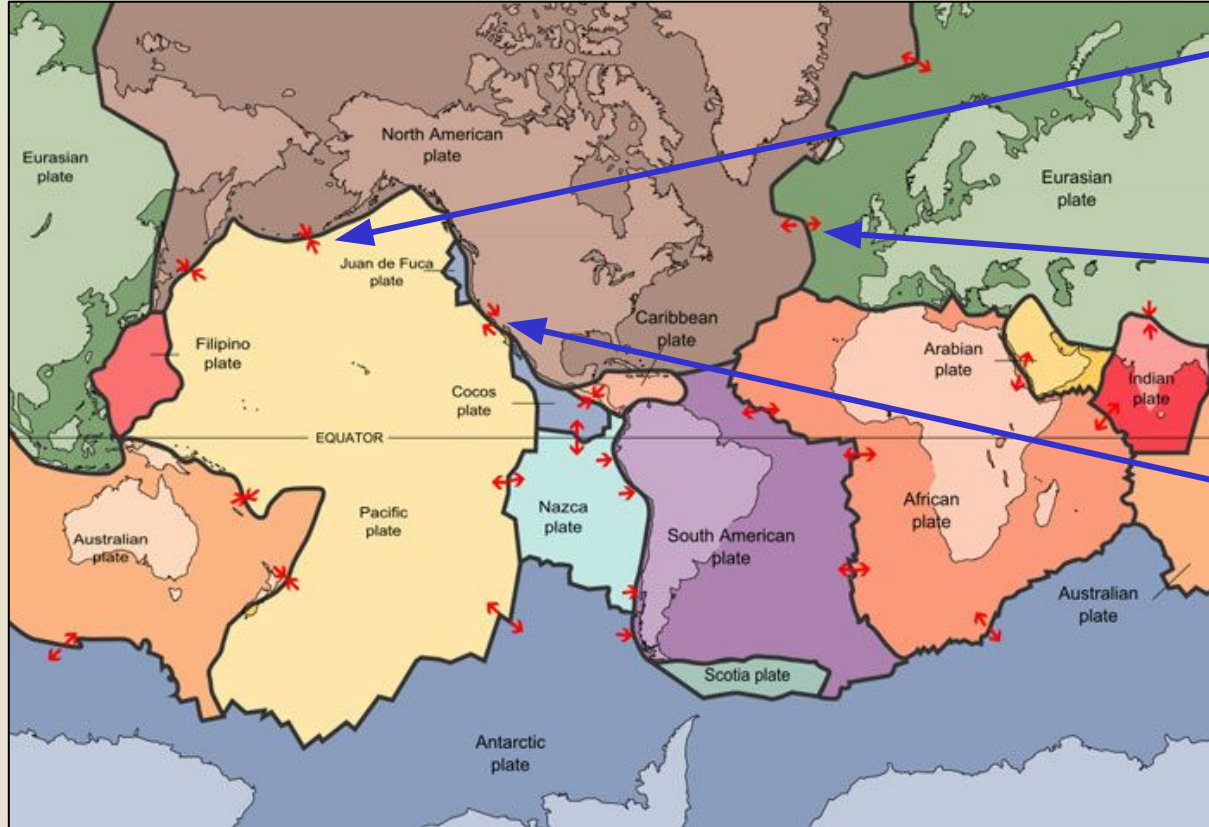
Outline of this presentation

- Earthquake geography
- Earthquakes in my collection
- Earthquake stamps
- San Francisco earthquake, 1906
- Long Beach earthquake, 1933
- Loma Prieta earthquake, 1989

Earthquake geography (1) - seismicity patterns

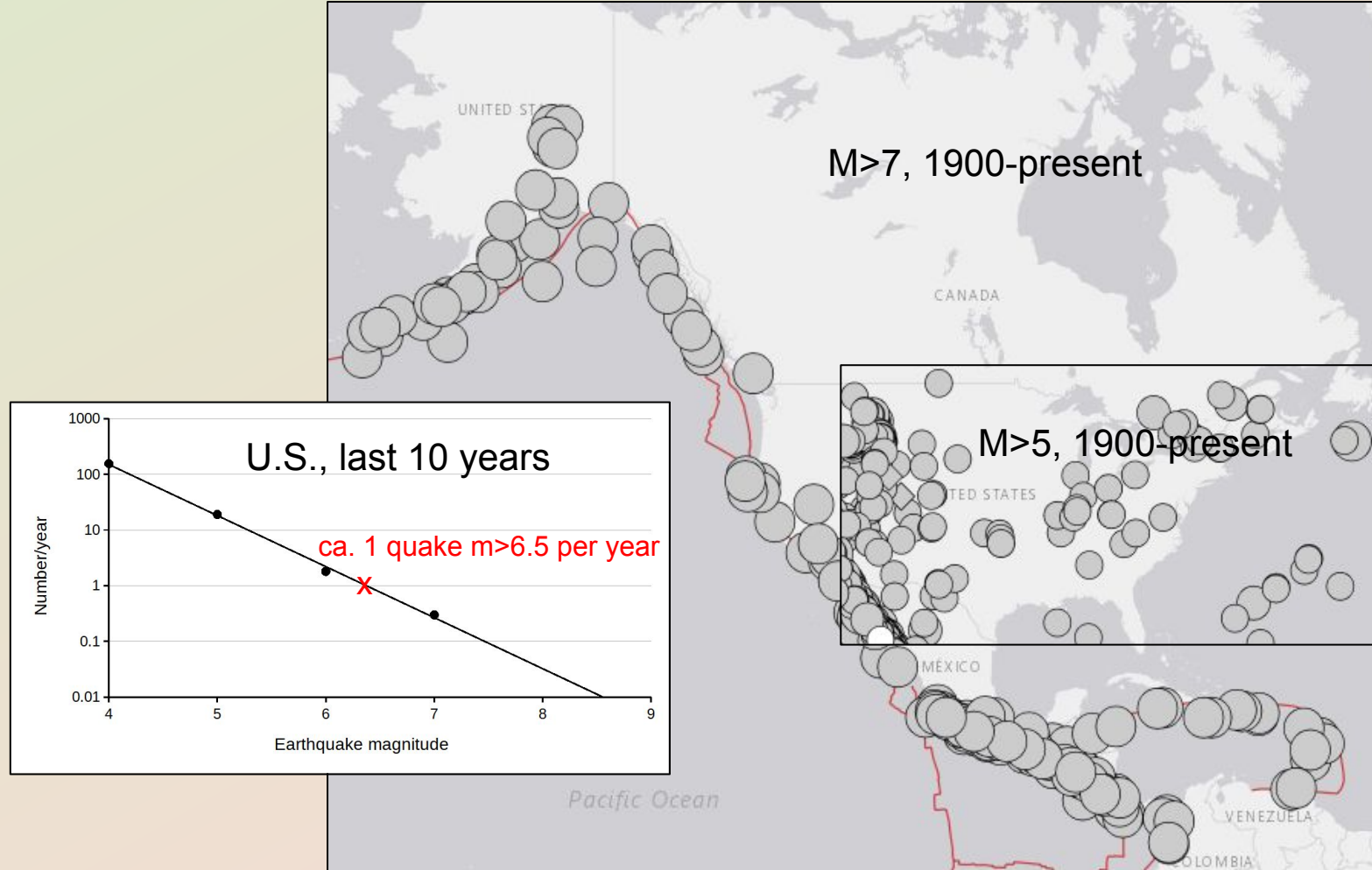


Earthquake geography (2) - plate tectonics



Most earthquakes occur near the boundaries of tectonic plates

Earthquake geography (3) - North American earthquakes



Earthquakes in my collection (1)

Spreadsheet list

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1TVzudKaRLIAihXQ28Ujs1_YhFEdWjDbuveGUsEq5v_E/edit?usp=sharing

Flickr images

covers and postcards - <https://flic.kr/s/aHsmUGrr3p>

stamps - <https://flic.kr/s/aHBqjAneq4>



| | A | B |
|----|--|---|
| 1 | Earthquake | AK |
| 2 | Number | 001 |
| 3 | Item | cover |
| 4 | Stamp 1 | 1145 |
| 5 | Type/Stamp 2 | 1209 |
| 6 | Cachet/postcard maker | U.S. Navy? |
| 7 | Cachet theme/postcard caption; bold significant | U.S. Navy |
| 8 | Slogan/cancel | "ABCD" mail for better business service |
| 9 | Date of postmark/received | 1964-03-27 |
| 10 | Day mailed | |
| 11 | Day recd | |
| 12 | Place of postmark/incoming | USS Interpreter/San Francisco |
| 13 | Addressee/from | Walter E. Atkinson, Jr., P.O. Box 68, Palo Alto, Calif. |
| 14 | Cost | |
| 15 | Scan front (address side) | https://flic.kr/p/2nBMnH2 |
| 16 | Scan back | https://flic.kr/p/2nBJYyZ |
| 17 | Link | |
| 18 | Comment | postmarked date of earthquake |
| 19 | text written | postmarked date of earthquake |

Earthquakes in my collection (2)

U.S. earthquakes with >10 Fatalities

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Location</u> | <u>Mag.</u> | <u>Fatalities</u> | | |
|----------------|-------------------|-------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| April 18, 1906 | San Francisco | 7.9 | 3,000+ | | |
| April 1, 1946 | Aleutians | 8.6 | 165 | <u>In my collection</u> | |
| March 27, 1964 | Alaska | 9.2 | 143 | | |
| March 10, 1933 | Long Beach, CA | 6.4 | 120 | 40 identified North American quakes | |
| Dec. 16, 1811 | New Madrid, MO | 7.5 | 100 | | |
| April 2, 1868 | Hawaii | 7.9 | 77 | >500 items | |
| Oct. 17, 1989 | Loma Prieta, CA | 6.9 | 63 | | |
| Aug. 31, 1886 | Charleston, SC | 7.0 | 60 | <u>items</u> | <u>event</u> |
| Feb. 9, 1971 | San Fernando, CA | 6.5 | 58 | 170 | San Francisco, 1906 |
| Jan. 17, 1994 | Northridge, CA | 6.7 | 57 | 60 | Long Beach, 1933 and Old Ironsides |
| Oct. 21, 1868 | Hayward, CA | 6.5 | 30 | | Santa Barbara, 1925 |
| Aug. 18, 1959 | Hebgen Lake, MT | 7.2 | 28+ | 45 | Hebgen Lake, 1959 |
| March 26, 1872 | Owens Valley, CA | 7.5 | 27 | 60 | Alaska, 1964 |
| July 21, 1952 | Kern County, CA | 7.3 | 14 | 35 | |
| June 29, 1925 | Santa Barbara, CA | 6.5 | 13 | | |

Red - events not represented in my collection

Blue - shown in this presentation

Earthquake stamps (1) - U.S. stamps (not)

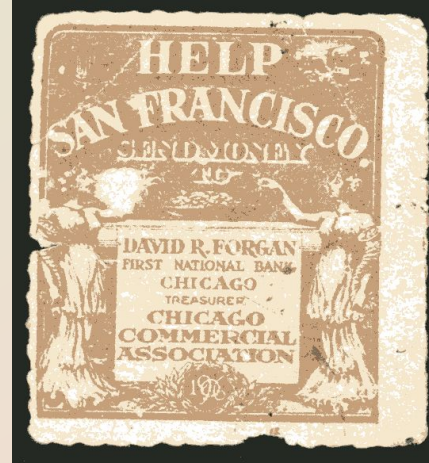
No postage stamps

Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee
2019 criteria for stamps

<https://about.usps.com/who/csac/#criteria>

“The stamp program commemorates positive contributions to American life, history, culture and environment; therefore, *negative occurrences and disasters will not be commemorated on U.S. postage stamps* or stationery.”

A few cinderellas (labels, not for postage)



“Help San Francisco; **send money**; David R. Forgan, First National Bank, Chicago, treasurer, Chicago Commercial Association” and author of The Golfer’s Creed

SF001 in my collection



The show theme for WESTPEX 2006 was commemorating the 100th anniversary of the 1906 San Francisco earthquake.

SF011 in my collection

Earthquake stamps (3) - Central America, Caribbean



Barbados B1b (1907), semi-postal (1d),
inverted overprint
Kingston (1907) relief fund



Nicaragua C447 (1960), airmail, overprinted
Red Cross aid for victims in Chile (1960)



Jamaica 772 (1992)
300th anniv. of Port Royal (1692)



Marshall Islands 627k (1997)
20th Century, 1900-1909
Mankind at the Mercy of Nature
San Francisco (1906)

Earthquake stamps can

- use surcharges to aid relief work
- honor rescue workers and rebuilding
- commemorate a historical event



Nicaragua 2247 (1998), souv. sheet
25th anniv. Managua (1972)

Earthquake stamps (3) - postcards and letters

Some of my U.S. collection consists of covers and letters

But a large number are postcards (deltiology)

Also books and ephemera like contemporary newspapers

Preferred criteria:

- mailed, stamp not removed
- postmarked soon after earthquake
- postmarked from near the epicenter
- includes a message about the event
- legible with clear markings
- good condition
- not too expensive

San Francisco earthquake, 1906 (1)

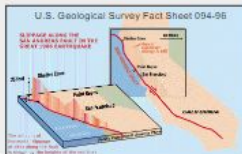
Mail Sent Soon After the 1906 San Francisco Earthquake

Rob Sternberg (rs_sternberg@yahoo.com)

My topical "stamp collection" (mostly postcards) on U.S. earthquakes consists of about 275 items from 25 earthquakes, with the largest number (115) related to the magnitude 7.8 San Francisco earthquake of April 18, 1906. (The figure to the right shows the 1906 slippage along the San Andreas Fault, as much as 25'.)

I prefer items that were posted, postmarked near the earthquake epicenter not long after the earthquake occurred, and bearing a message related to the earthquake.

Shown are four items sent within a month of the San Francisco disaster. Scans of all images in the collection can be seen [here](#). The database for the collection is [here](#).



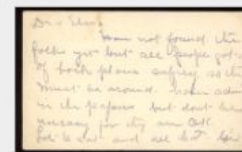
All postcards scaled at 75%.



The quake occurred at 5:12 PST. This postal card (Scott UX18) was postmarked in New York less than four hours later.



Postmarked one day after the quake, in Los Angeles, with an unrelated image on the back. Text: "San Francisco, thrown down and burned. Food supplies destroyed." Text also cites a "heavy" earthquake felt in Los Angeles on April 19, 1906, which can be identified as a magnitude 6.3 event with an epicenter in the Imperial Valley.



Another postal card, postmarked one week after the quake, from San Francisco, the earliest post-quake postmark in my collection from that city. Text: "... have not found the folks yet but all people got out of both places safely, so they must be around. Have advertised in the papers but don't be uneasy for they are ok..."

[San Francisco earthquake](#), April 18, 1906, 5:12 am

magnitude = 7.8

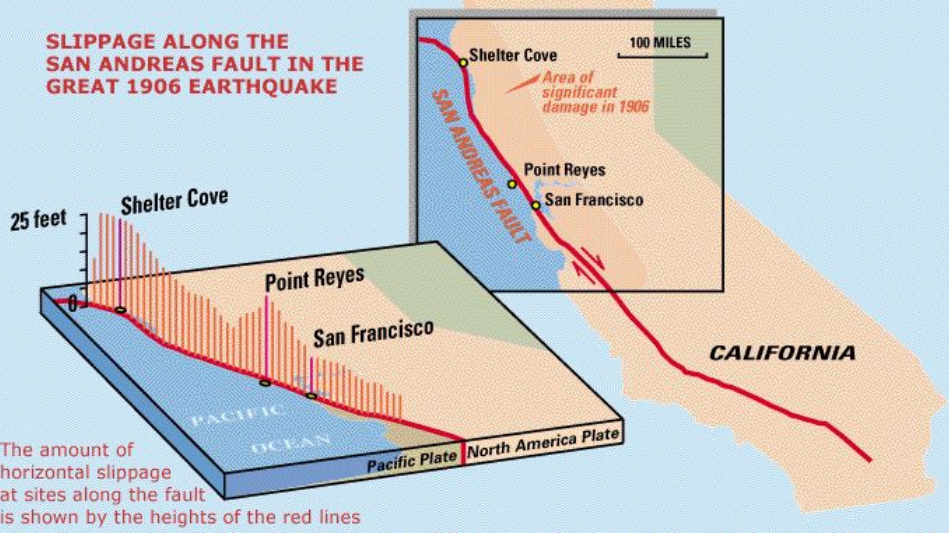
3000+ fatalities

80% of the city destroyed

Its importance comes more from the wealth of scientific knowledge derived from it than from its sheer size.

U.S. Geological Survey Fact Sheet 094-96

SLIPPAGE ALONG THE SAN ANDREAS FAULT IN THE GREAT 1906 EARTHQUAKE



San Francisco earthquake, 1906 (2)



San Francisco - 4/17/1906, 7:30 pm
stamp - Scott 303 (1903), Grant
SF002 in my collection

SF quake, 4/18/1906, 5:12 am local time
Postmarked 10 hours before the quake.

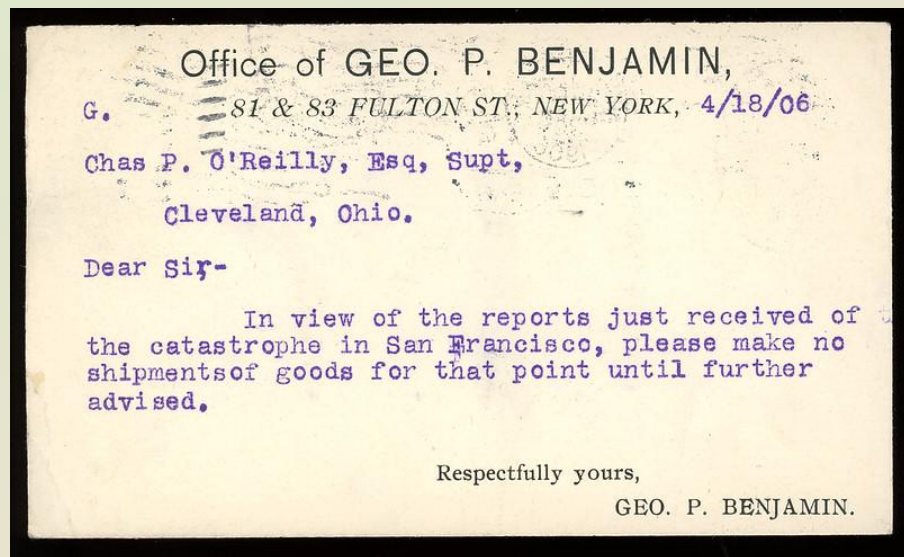
Addressee(name written by previous collector):
Clifton Pool Mayfield, born Sept. 5, 1887,
Washington, D.C.

SAN FRANCISCO EARTHQUAKE

This piece is from a cover in the last mail clearing San Francisco for the East on the night of the great earthquake which, with the subsequent fire, almost destroyed the city. The quake began at 5.13 a.m. April 18, 1906. The fragment of the cover was saved by Mr. J.R. Sykes of Philadelphia through whom it came to this collection.

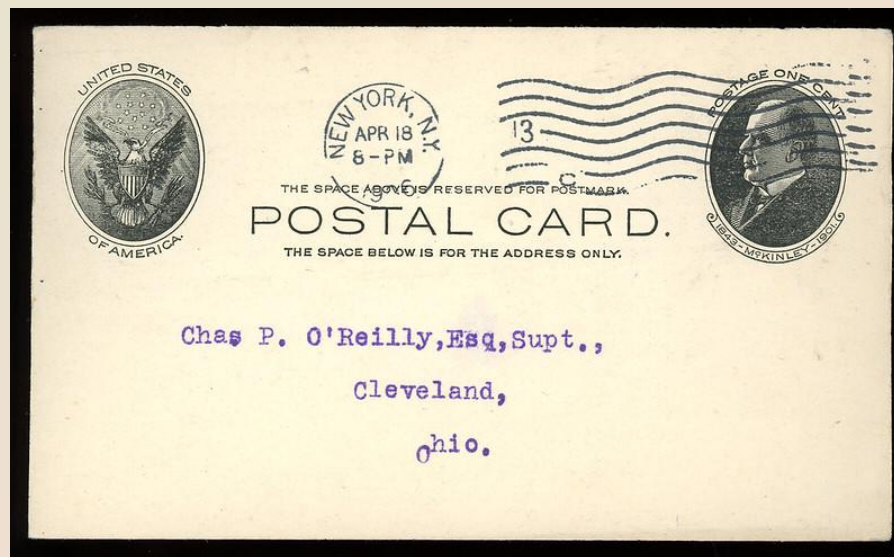


San Francisco earthquake, 1906 (3)



Postal card (imprinted stamp)
NY to Cleveland, 4/18/1906
stamp - Scott UX18 (1902), McKinley
SF050 in my collection

It's typed!
postal rate for postcard is 1¢



SF quake, 4/18/1906, 5:12 am local time
Postmarked same day, just 12 hours after the quake.

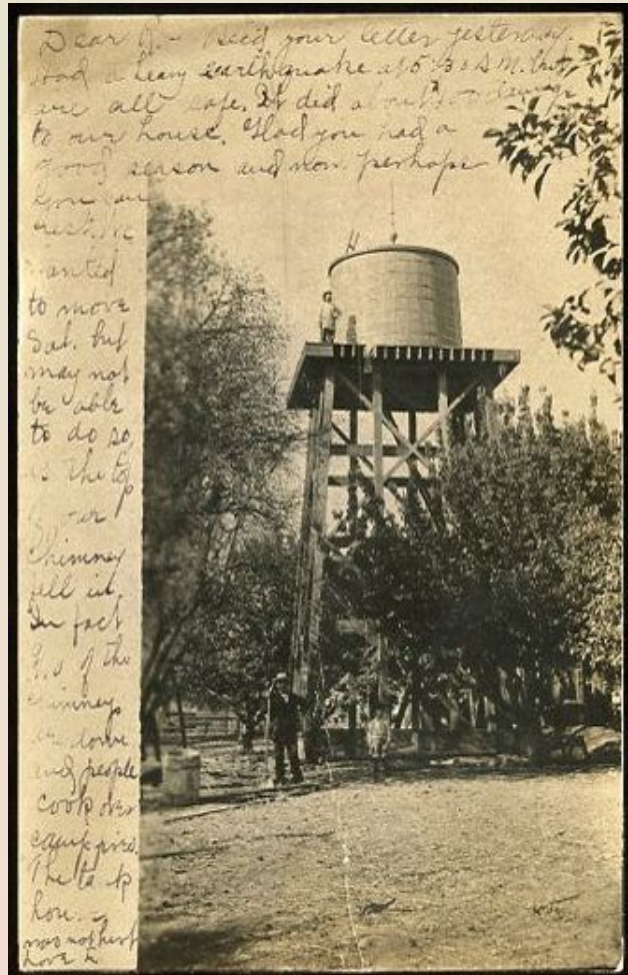
Contacted the reference staffs of The New York Public
Library and the Cleveland Public Library. Addressee
"O'Reilly might have been the superintendent of a city
prison/workhouse."

San Francisco earthquake, 1906 (4)



real photo postcard (RPPC), undivided
San Jose - Los Angeles, 4/18/1906, 6 pm
stamp - Scott 300 (1903), Franklin
SF125 in my collection

Text on front (picture) side



Earliest SF area cancel,
13 hours after quake.
About 80 miles from epicenter.

"Dear R, Recd your letter yesterday. Had a heavy earthquake at 5:30 am. but are all safe. It did about \$400 damage to our house. Had you had a good season and now perhaps you can rest. We wanted to move Sal [?] but may not be able to do so as the top of our chimney fell in. In fact [?] of the chimneys are down and people cook over camp fires. The tank house was not hurt. Love K"

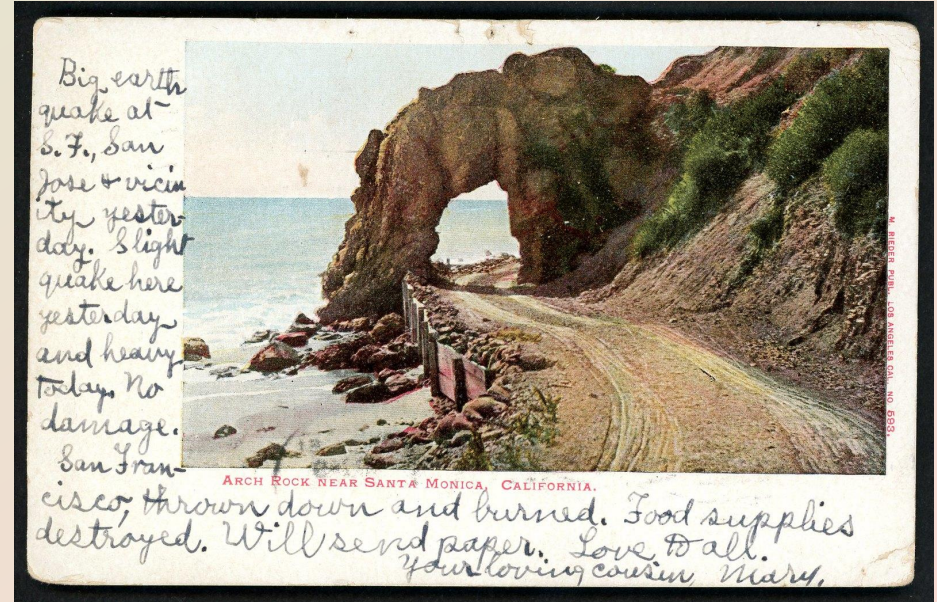
San Francisco earthquake, 1906 (5)



Postcard (undivided), color
Los Angeles - Waterville, ME, 4/19/1906
stamp - Scott 300 (1903), Franklin
SF003 in my collection

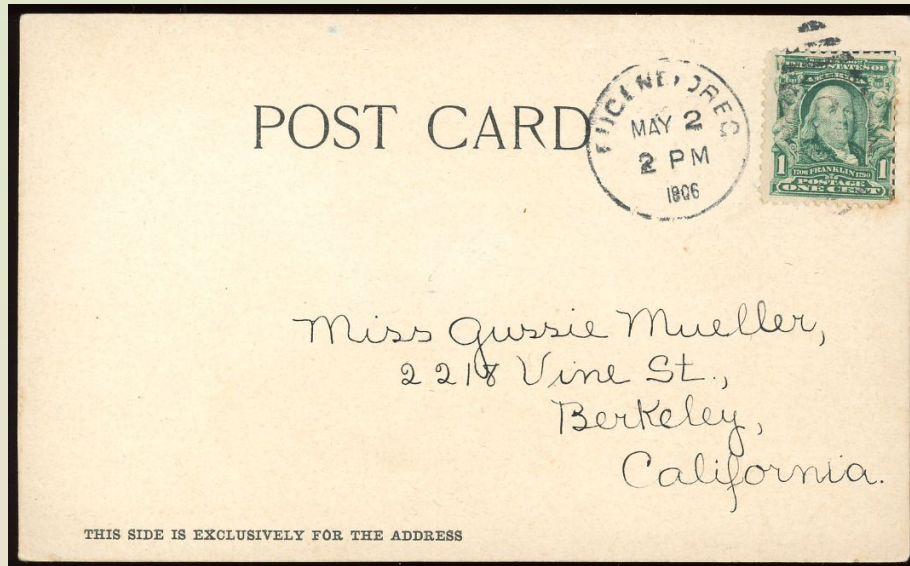
"Big earthquake at S.F., San Jose & vicinity yesterday. Slight quake here yesterday and heavy today [can be identified as a magnitude 6.3 event with an epicenter in the Imperial Valley]. No damage.

"San Francisco, thrown down and burned. Food supplies destroyed. Will send paper. Love to all. Your loving cousin, Mary."



'Arch Rock near Santa Monica, CA'
Postmarked one day after the quake, in Los Angeles,
with an unrelated image on the back.

San Francisco earthquake, 1906 (6)



Postcard (undivided), color
Eugene, OR - Berkeley, 5/2/1906
stamp - Scott 300 (1903), Franklin
SF019 in my collection



'Harvesting Oregon wheat'
Earliest card to Bay Area, two weeks after quake.

"Dear Gussie, Are you safe? Did you lose your home or any of your relatives? Let me know soon. Lovingly, Grace Davis"

San Francisco earthquake, 1906 (7)



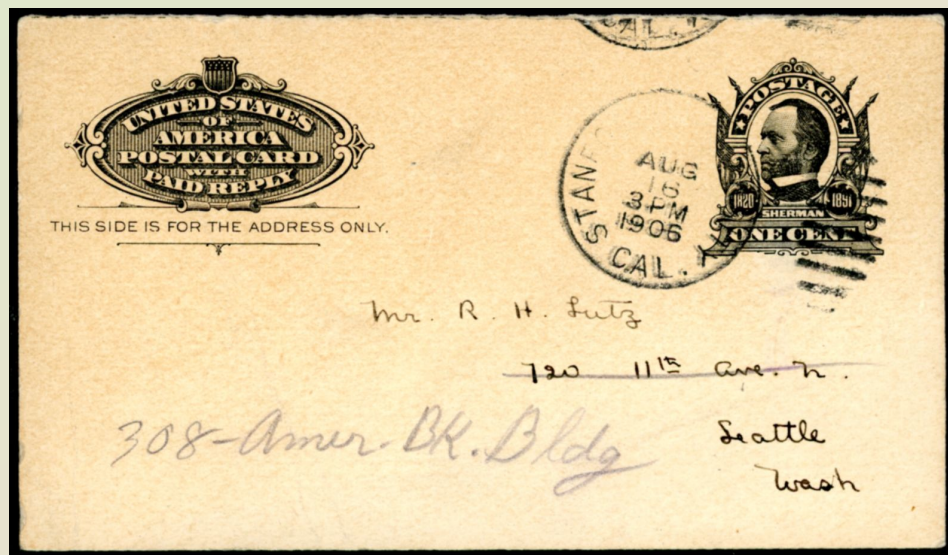
Postcard (undivided), color
San Francisco - Toledo, 5/19/1906
stamp - Scott 300 (1903), Franklin
SF135 in my collection



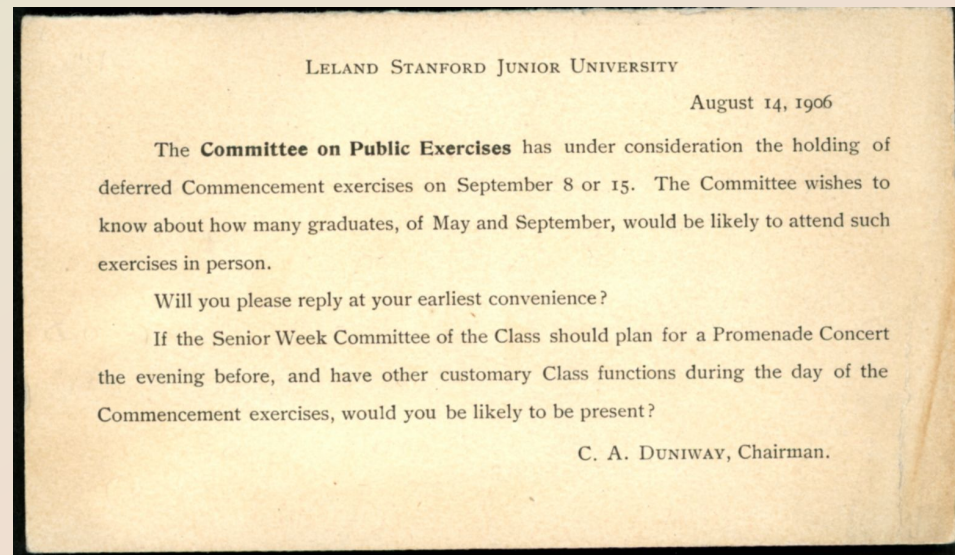
'Ruins at Stanford University, after the earthquake.
April 18, 1906.'
Two Toledo cancellation on 5/22 and 5/23

"Like everyone in San Francisco, I must begin at the bottom again, to build up. We had another shake up last night. It is terrorizing, but I expect to stay for a while, at least, there seems to be nothing else I can do at present. You ought to see S.F. now. Nothing but ruins. I believe it would make you [?]. Does this look like the university you saw in January! Will write you more soon. Lovingly, Carrie 626 Clayton St., May 18 06."

San Francisco earthquake, 1906 (8)



Postal card with reply (reply missing)
Stanford - Seattle, 8/16/1906
stamp - Scott UY4 (1904), Sherman
SF179 in my collection



Leland Stanford Junior University August 14, 1906
The Committee on Public Exercises has under consideration the holding of
deferred Commencement exercises on September 8 or 15. The Committee
wishes to know about how many graduates, of May and September, would be
likely to attend such exercises in person.

Will you please reply at your earliest convenience?

If the Senior Week Committee of the Class should plan for a Promenade Concert the evening before, and have
other customary Class function during the day of the Commencement exercises, would you be likely to be
present?

C. A. DUNIWAY, Chairman.'

Long Beach earthquake, 1933 (1)

Old Ironsides Encounters the Long Beach Earthquake

Rob Sternberg (rs_sternberg@yahoo.com; <https://internationalgeophysicalyear.blogspot.com/>)

The Long Beach, CA, earthquake of March 10, 1933 (5:54 pm PST), had a Richter magnitude of 6.4, killed 120 people, and caused about \$1 billion damage in current dollars. The USS Constitution, "Old Ironsides," had arrived at the port of Long Beach that day. Philatelic covers prepared onboard were caught up in the chaos of the earthquake.

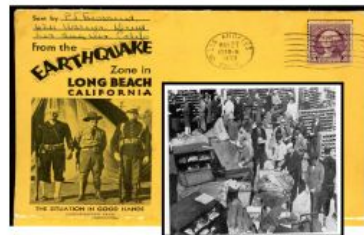
Old Ironsides, the world's oldest ship still afloat, was first launched in 1797 to fight the Barbary pirates, but is most noted for actions during the War of 1812. She was retired from active service in 1881 and designated a museum ship in 1907. From July 1931 to May 1934, she visited 90 ports on both coasts.

Right: Sesquicentennial cover with Scott #951 (1947), scale = 60%. Insets: left - embossed envelope, Scott U549 (1965); right - War of 1812 bicentennial, Scott 4703 (2012); scale = 100%.



Old Ironsides postmarked covers from the ports it visited.

Left: Ship cancellation/postmark, port of Long Beach, Mar 10 p.m. 1933; cachet image - Old Ironsides; cachet text - Long Beach welcomes U.S. Frigate Constitution March 10-20 1933. Stamp - George Washington, Scott 708 (1932). Scale = 60%.
Inset: transit marking on back of cover, applied by the separating post office in Long Beach. Scale = 75%.



Clipping from Weekly Philatelic Gossip, 4/29/33: 2,500 postmarked covers were delivered from Old Ironsides to the Long Beach post office on March 10. The sorting room of the Long Beach post office collapsed during the quake; Two clerks who handled the backstamping died.

Long Beach earthquake, March 10, 1933, 5:54 pm magnitude = 6.4 120 fatalities

Led to the passage of California's Field Act, mandating earthquake-resistant construction for public school buildings.

USS Constitution (aka Old Ironsides) - from 1931-1934, it toured 76 cities along the Atlantic, Gulf, and Pacific coasts of the United States during the National Cruise

It docked in Long Beach on the morning of March 10, 1933, and encountered the earthquake.



Fred T. Amidon,
725 Prospect Ave.,
Ridgefield, N.J.

cover
cachet - 'Boston
welcomes The
U.S. Frigate
Constitution'

4/8/1934, onboard
Scott 720 (1932)
OI004

Long Beach earthquake, 1933 (2)



cover

Long Beach - Long Beach, 3/10/1933, in the p.m.

front: ship cancellation/postmark

backstamp: Long Beach transit marking, 3/10/33, 4pm

signed by H.G. Trout

cachet image - Old Ironsides

cachet text - Long Beach welcomes U.S. frigate

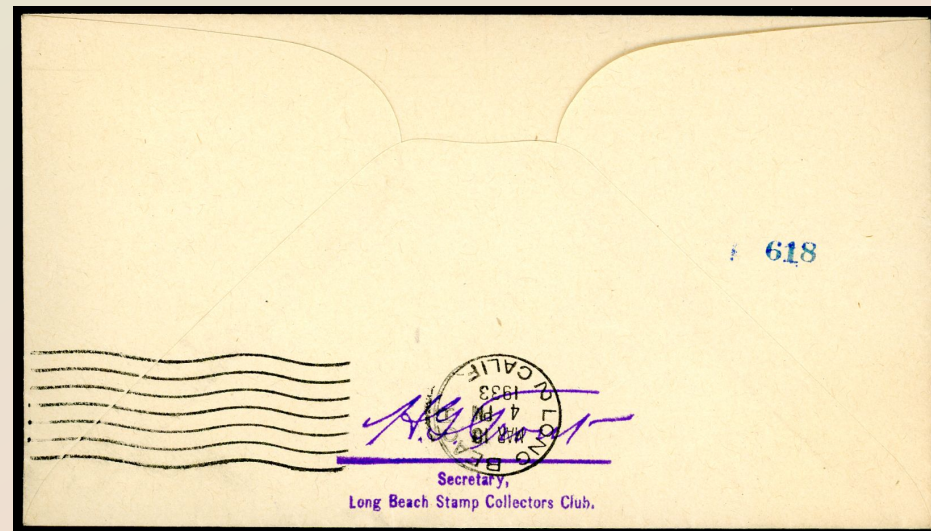
Constitution March 10-20 1933

stamp - Scott 726 (block), James Oglethorpe

postage due - Scott J5? (1910s)

markings - Fee Claimed; Special Delivery

LB026 in my collection



Long Beach, CA, m=6.4 earthquake was March 10, 1933 (5:54 pm PST).

The USS Constitution, "Old Ironsides," arrived at the port of Long Beach earlier that day as part of a three-year tour of 90 ports on both coasts.

Old Ironsides processed covers from the ports it visited.

Long Beach earthquake, 1933 (3)

April 29, 1933

EARTHQUAKE DOESN'T PRE-VENT CACHET

Even though an earthquake caused considerable trouble, 6,666 covers were mailed from Long Beach, Cal., with the cachet for the visit of "Old Ironsides."

The cachet, incidentally, was designed by Major Clarke, who drew the Olympic water sports cachet and it was applied in four colors: blue, green, purple, and red.

H. G. Trout and Byrd L. Powell did the work of applying the cachet and all covers were mailed on "Old Ironsides" to receive the regular "Constitution" cancel from Harry Moore, mail clerk, and covers were then taken to the Long Beach post office to be backstamped.

Mr. Trout writes that he mailed 2,500 covers March 10 and stayed in the post office awhile to watch the backstamping. Soon after five o'clock he went home, picked up the cachet and started to work. The earthquake struck at 5:55 o'clock and Mr. Trout says that his swivel chair bounced around so much that the casters fell out, so he decided to go away from there.

Mr. Trout remarks that covers postmarked with the hour of the first shock (5:55 p. m., March 10) are in great demand by collectors.

March 11 it was learned that two of the clerks who handled the back-

stamping of "Constitution" covers—Howard Kennedy and Cecil Adrain—were killed when the sorting room of the Long Beach post office collapsed in the 'quake.

Because of the condition of the Long Beach office it was impossible to backstamp the March 11 and 13 covers there, so all were sent to Los Angeles. The earthquake area was under martial law and this interfered with the mailing of covers for awhile, but after Mr. Trout was given a pass for carrying mail the work was greatly expedited.

Mr. Trout says that as far as he has been able to learn no covers were damaged by the earthquake with the exception of one batch from San Pedro. These covers arrived too late for the cachet there so W. G. Crosby sent them to Long Beach. The extent of the damage to these covers was not described.

Three covers have been returned to Mr. Trout without any address and he doesn't know who sent them. Also two more were returned stamped "unknown." There were the usual late covers, but they were all forwarded to San Francisco.

Weekly Philatelic Gossip

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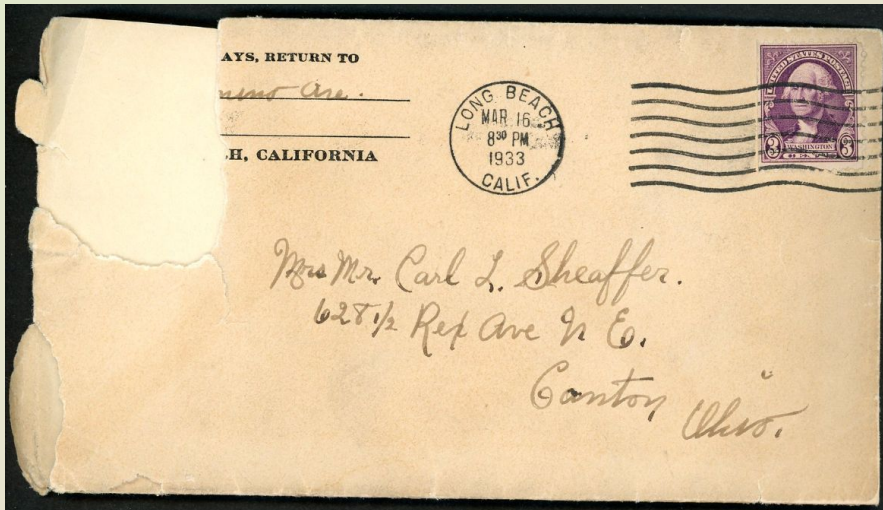
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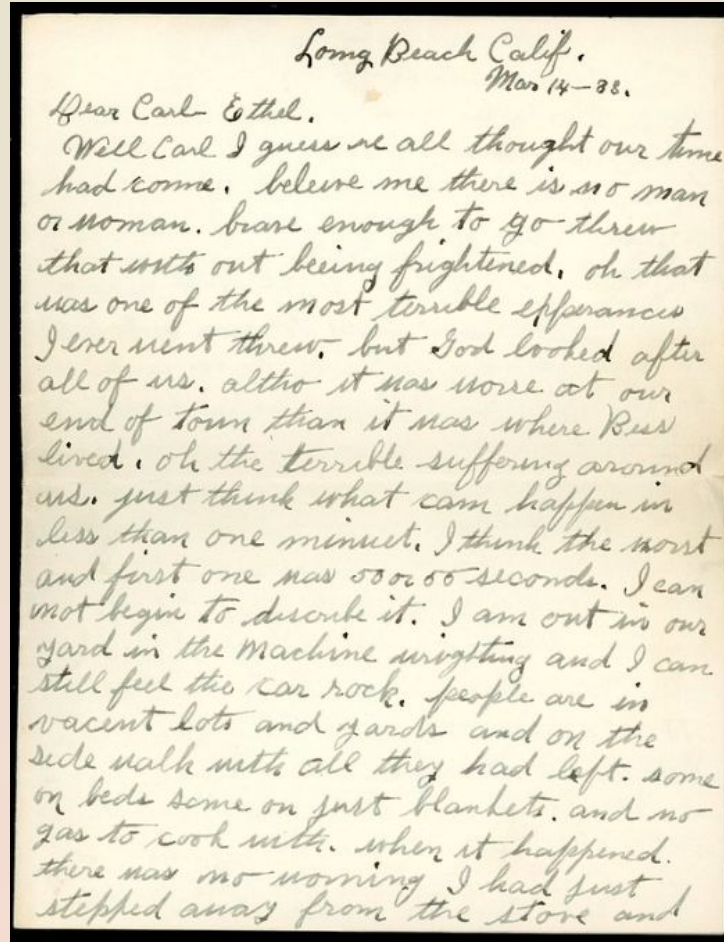
LB001 insert

Long Beach earthquake, 1933 (4)



Letter with envelope/cover
Long Beach - Canton, OH, 3/16/1933
Scott 720 (1932), Washington
LB008 in my collection

postal rate for letter is 3¢



written March 14,
four days after
quake

Long Beach earthquake, 1933 (5)

walked into the bath room. and when I started out I was in the living room across the hall. Carl I hope no one ever experiences what I did by the time I got to the door. Irvin was thrown down before he could get to me. when we got up. we both clung to each other and tried to run out but we were down a couple of times. and the house was bulging in and out and that terrible cracking and groaning of every thing. rite where I left the stove every thing piled up on the floor. all the canned goods glass ware and every thing in the cupboard from top to bottom. I had a big pan of mush on the stove but every thing left the stove and was in a pile on the floor. but we are thankful we are all saved. we stayed in our house last night but I only ran out one time. but I think every one ran out the night

p. 2

before about three or four times. Oh it was so terrible. I have a small Electric hot plate to cook on I can not get my nerves steady enough to go in the bed rooms yet we sleep or lay down in the living room near the door. which we never shut very tight or lock it. as I think we had two or three bad ones last night I am now writing this on the 15th the first night it happened as soon as Irvin could he got the car out of the garage and we went to look Bess up. and found that there Apartment house stood at very good. better than out where we are. I don't think that one family in Long Beach went back in the house that night. after we found Bess was all right we drove 20 miles to another town where Irvin's people lives and it is more open space there. so we sat in the ~~car~~ cars along the curb two nights. there was six little children all under 7 years old in the two families. they made beds in the cars for them. but the rest long

p. 3

on the ground. when they got up they were all wet from the heavy fog. most every one is cooking and eating out side the city furnished coke and they make buck stoves oh it is a pityfull sight to see. we was lucky the most damage was inside our house I have no dishes left. nothing left in the living room. and only one big black and blue mark on my chest but best of all we have our lives. I went down town yesterday and every one that are in these houses are setting at the doors wide open. with there tables as close as they can. we are all afraid to stay in any length of time. Well Carl I have not any thing else to write about and I can not say I am well for I am sick as a dog. so excuse writing and please answer as a letter helps a lot. with this ruined city all around us. so answer soon tell me how you are getting along are you getting love to all Mom. any work.

p. 4

Long Beach earthquake, 1933 (6)

Long Beach Calif. Mar 14 - 33.

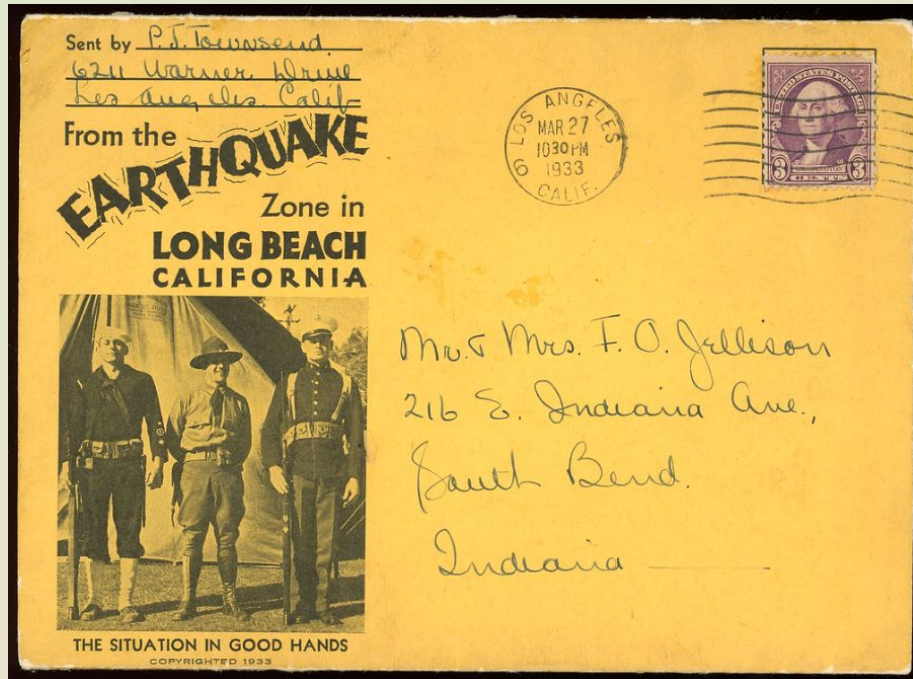
Dear Carl Ethel.

Well Carl I guess we all thought our time had come. believe me there is no man or woman brave enough to go threw [sic] that with out being frightened. oh that was one of the most terrible experiences I ever went threw. but God looked after all of us altho it was worse at our end of town than it was where Bess lived. oh the terrible suffering around us just think what can happen in less than one minuet [sic]. I think the worst and first one was 50 or 55 seconds. I can not begin to describe it. I am out in our yard in the machine (?) and I can still feel the car rock. people are in vacant lots and yards and on the side walk with all they had left. some on beds, some on just blankets. and no gas to cook with. when it happened there was no warning. I had just stepped away from the stove and walked into the bath room. and when I started out I was in the living room across the hall. Carl I hope no one ever experiences what I did. by the time I got to the door, Irvin was thrown down before he could get to me. when he got up we both clung to each other and tried to run out but we were down a cople [sic] of times. and the house was bulging in and out and that terrible cracking and groaning of every thing. rite [sic] where I left the stove every thing piled up on the floor. all the caned [sic] goods glass are and every thing in the cupboard from top to bottom. I had a big pan of mush on the Stove but every thing left the stove and was in a pile on the floor. but we are thankful we are all saved. we stayed in our house last night but I only ran out one time. but I think every one ran out the night before about three or four times. oh it was so terrible. I have a small Electric hot plate to cook on[.] I can not get my nerves steady enough to go in the bed rooms yet we sleep or lay down in the living room near the door which we never shut very tight or lock it, as i think we had two or three bad ones last night[.] I am now writing this on the 15th. the first night it happened as soon as Irwin could he got the car out of the Garage and we went to look Bess up and found that there [sic] apartment [sic] house stood it very good, better than out where we are. I don't think that one family in Long Beach went back in the house that night. after we found Bess was all right we drove 20 miles to another town where Irvins people lives and it is more open space there. so we sat in the cars along the curbing two nights. there was six little children all under 7 years old in the two familys [sic]. they made beds in the cars for them. but the rest lay on the ground. when they got up there were all wet from the heavy fog. most every one is cooking and eating out side[.] the city furnished coke and they make brick stoves. oh it is a pityfull [sic] sight to see. we was lucky the most damage was inside our house. I have no dishes left, nothing left in the living room, and only one big black and blue mark on my chest but best of all we have our lives. I went down town yesterday and every one that are in there [sic] houses are setting at the doors wide open with there [sic] tabels [sic] as close as they can. we are all afraid to stay in any length of time. Well Carl I have not any thing else to write about and I can not say I am well for I am sick as a dog. so excuse writing and please answer as a letter helps a lot with this ruined city all around us.

so answer soon tell me how you are getting along. are you getting any work.

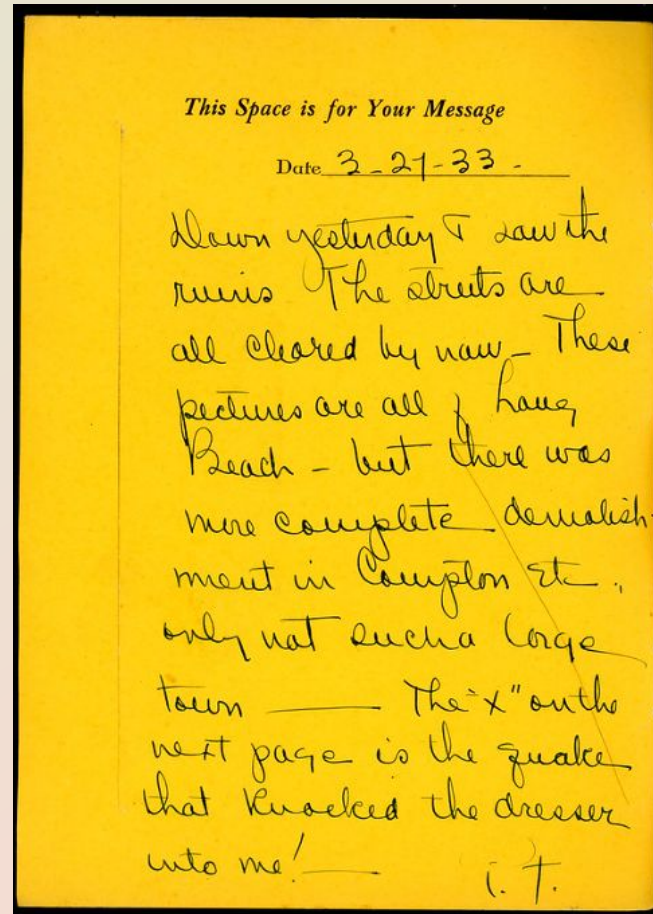
Love to all Mom

Long Beach earthquake, 1933 (7)



Postcard folder - 17 p.
Los Angeles - South Bend, IN, 3/27/1933
stamp - Scott 720 (1932), Washington
LB011 in my collection

17 folders in my collection, 7 from Long Beach

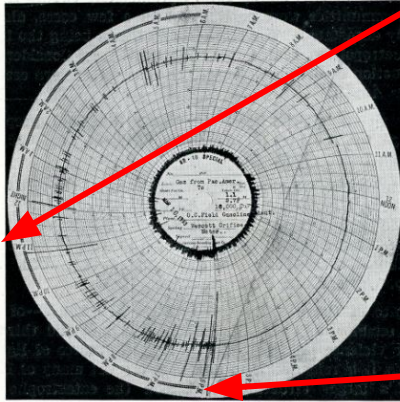


"3-27-33 Dawn
yesterday I saw the
ruins. The streets are
all cleared by now.
These pictures are all
of Long Beach - but
there was more
complete demolish-
ment in Compton etc.
only not such a large
town. The "x" on the
next page is the
quake that knocked
the dresser into me!
i. t."

Long Beach earthquake, 1933 (8)

HERE is the VISIBLE RECORD of the ORIGINAL and RECURRING SHOCKS

FRIDAY, MARCH 10, 1933



Actual photograph of Wescott Orifice Meter Dial Chart for Friday, March 10th. From the master meter of the O. C. Field Gasoline Company, Huntington Beach, California. This meter is in service measuring the gas pressure on the line from lease of the Union Oil Co., and is one of the few instruments in the affected area to accurately record the original and subsequent shocks of the 10th, even the nearest Southern California seismograph being completely disabled by the severity of the initial temblor.

x marks the spot!

Seismogram from a gas pressure meter.

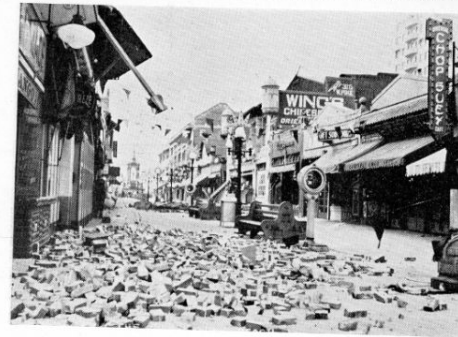
Actual seismographs were still sparse. The Richter magnitude scale not developed until 1935.

6 pm



'Operating room and surgery at Seaside Hospital laid bare.'

"Our doctor had to go on operating here."



'Famous pleasure "Pike" [historic amusement zone] in ruins.'

Above: Operating room and surgery of Seaside Hospital laid bare.

Below: Famous pleasure "Pike" in ruins.

Long Beach earthquake, 1933 (9)



Two of the seventy schools destroyed and 120 damaged.

‘Polytechnic High School destroyed showing dome collapsed through entrance.’



Above: Polytechnic High School destroyed showing dome collapsed through entrance.
Below: Ruins of the completely demolished Jefferson Junior High School.

‘Ruins of the completely demolished Jefferson Junior High School.’

Led to passage of California Field Act mandating quake-resistant schools in California.

LB011 in my collection



Above: Thirty ton tank containing water crashes through the upper two stories of Press-Telegram building.
Below: U.S. Post office carries on in the street.

‘U.S. Post Office carries on in the street.’

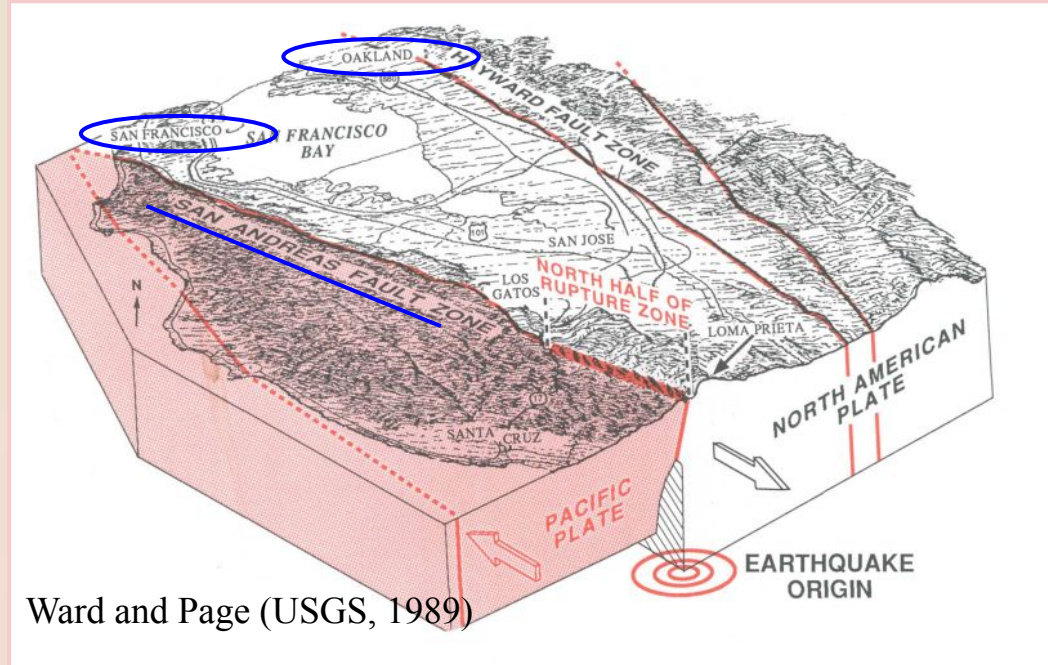
Post office destroyed.
Two clerks killed.

Loma Prieta earthquake, 1989 (1)

[PSLC 1-page exhibits, 2024](#)

Loma Prieta [earthquake](#), Oct. 17, 1989, 5:04 pm
m = 6.9

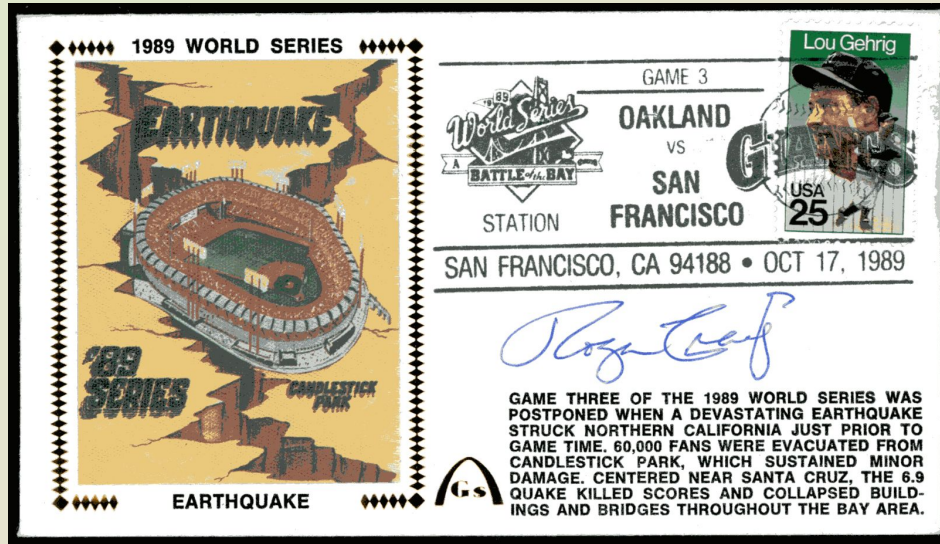
The World Series earthquake!



Ward and Page (USGS, 1989)

ephemera in my collection:
The SF Chronicle from the day
after the quake reported on the
damages.

Loma Prieta earthquake, 1989 (2)



cover

cachet - World Series quake stamp - Scott 2417 (1989),

Lou Gehrig

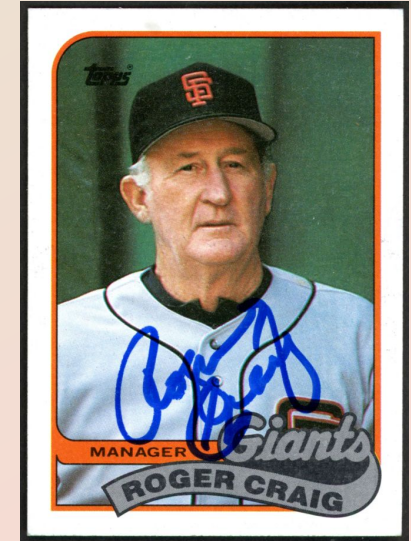
signed - Roger Craig

Giants manager

former NY Mets pitcher

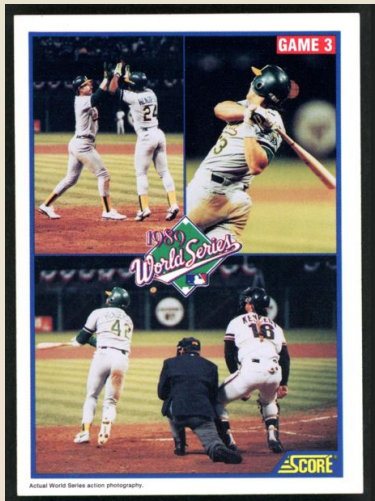
'Game three of the 1989 World Series was postponed when a devastating earthquake struck Northern California just prior to game time...'

LP003 in my collection



ephemera - Topps #744 baseball card (1989), signed - Roger Craig

LP008 in my collection



| GAME 3 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | R | H | E |
|---------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|---|
| OAKLAND | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 0 | - | 13 | 14 | 0 |
| SAN FRANCISCO | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | - | 7 | 10 | 3 |

BASHERS BLAST GIANTS

After an 11-day delay, Game 3 of the 1989 World Series resumed on October 28. The Athletics' Bay Bombers, hitting as if they had played just yesterday, responded with an awesome display of earth-shaking slugging to knock out the Giants 13-7. Dave Henderson, Jose Canseco and Carney Lansford each had three hits, and tallied four home runs and nine RBIs among them. Henderson almost had three homers, but his first-inning drive bounced off the top of the right field fence for a two-run double. With Tony Phillips also adding a home run, the A's equalled the record of five in one game set by the mighty 1928 New York Yankees. Throw in the Giants' two homers and the two teams set a mark for HRs in one game.

Dave Stewart, the Series MVP, became the first pitcher to win two playoff games and two World Series games in the same year when he held the Giants to five hits and three runs in seven innings, striking out eight. After he left, the Giants scored four runs in the ninth as Bill Bathe tied a record with a three-run pinch-hit homer in his first World Series at bat.

SCORE 702

ephemera - Score #702 baseball card (1990). 'Bashers blast Giants. After an 11-day delay, Game 3 of the 1989 World Series resumed on October 28. The Athletic' Bay Bombers, hitting as if they had played just yesterday, responded with an awesome display of earth-shaking slugging to knock out the Giants 13-7...' LP010 in my collection

Loma Prieta earthquake, 1989 (3)

Jan 5, 1990
Dear Jim,

In answer to your letter about Mrs. Lazzeri. I have no idea where she is living, as I haven't seen or heard from anybody about her. I will continue to put my "feelers" out. Should I hear I will let you know. F

My house is still being worked on and can't do any traveling until at least another week or ten days.

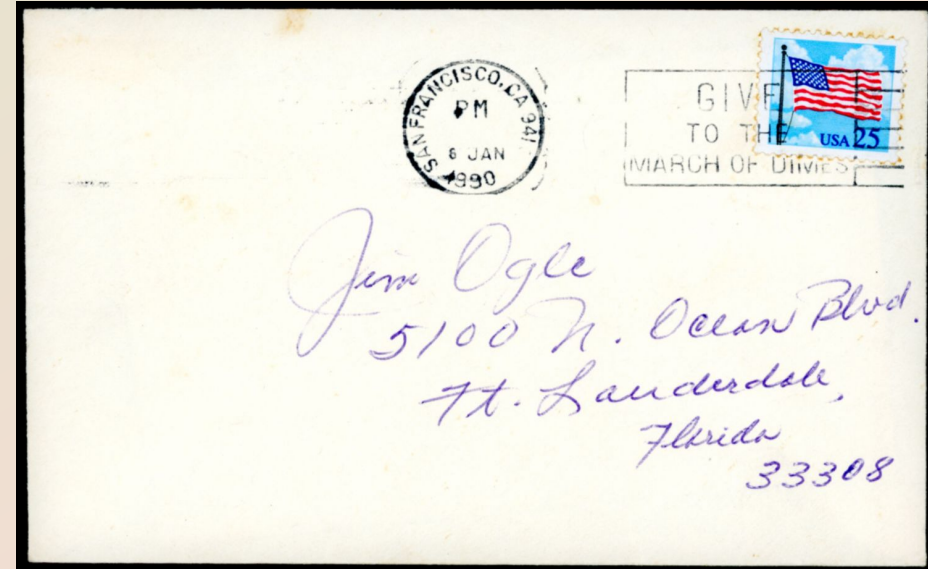
In regards to your letter to me asking if I could be interested to propose, my answer is "No."
Regards,
Jim

"Jan. 5, 1990.
Dear Jim,

In answer to your letter about Mrs. [Tony] Lazzeri, I have no idea where she is living as I haven't seen or heard from anybody about her. I will continue to put my "feelers" out. Should I hear I will let you know. J."

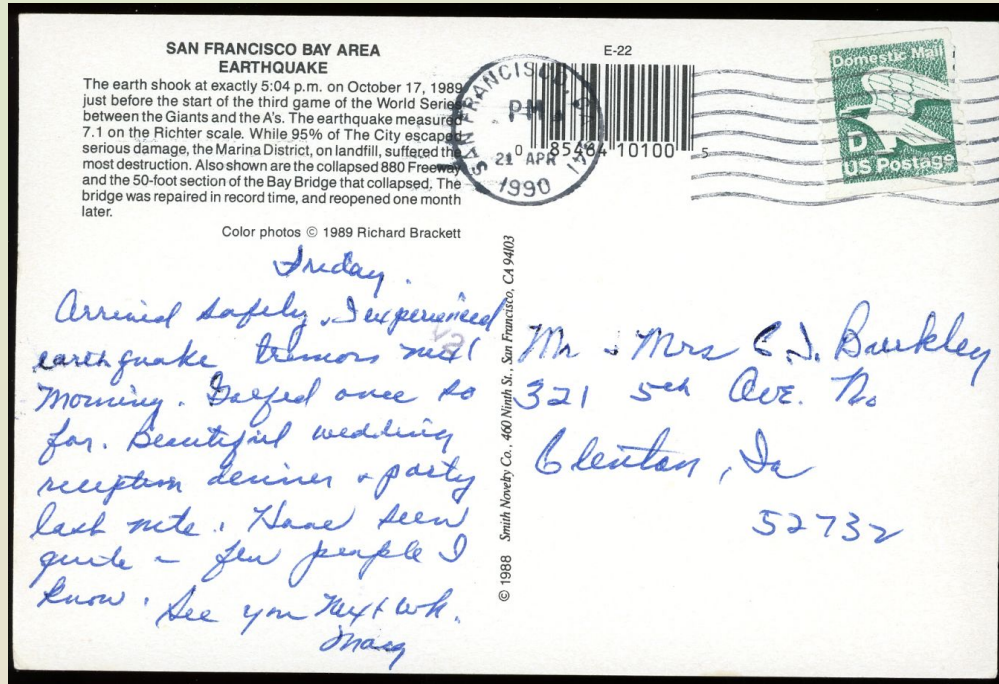
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In regards to your letter to me asking if I could be interested to proposal, my answer is 'No.' "



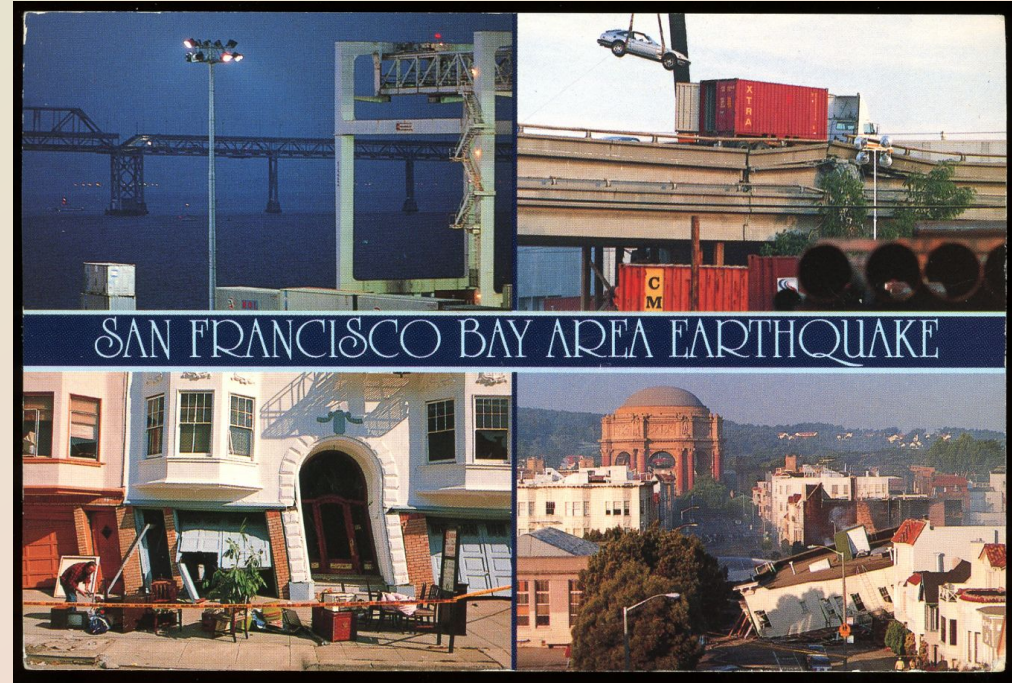
letter with envelope/cover
San Francisco - Fort Lauderdale
Jim Ogle was Yankees alumni director
1/6/90, 2½ months after quake
stamp - Scott 2278 (1988), flag
slogan - Give to the March of Dimes
LP012 in my collection

Loma Prieta earthquake, 1989 (4)



postcard, color chrome
Long Beach - Clinton, IA, 4/21/90
stamp - Scott 2111 (1985), D-rate eagle
LP003 in my collection

"Friday. Arrived safely. I experienced earthquake tremors next morning [aftershocks of main quake]. Dazed over so far. Beautiful wedding reception dinner and party last nite. Have seen quite a few people I know. See you next wk, Mary"



'...While 95% of The City escaped serious damage, the Marina District, on landfill, suffered the most destruction. Also shown are the collapsed 880 Freeway and the 50-foot section of the Bay Bridge that collapsed. The bridge was repaired in record time, and reopened one month later.'