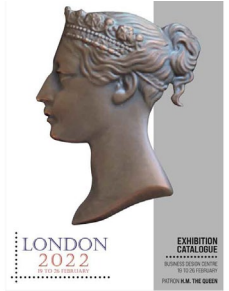




LONDON 2022

FIP Astrophilately Qualifying Seminar



- **Astrophilatelic Basics**
- **Appropriate Philatelic Material**
- **Judging Astrophilately**

Astrophilatelic Basics

Definition

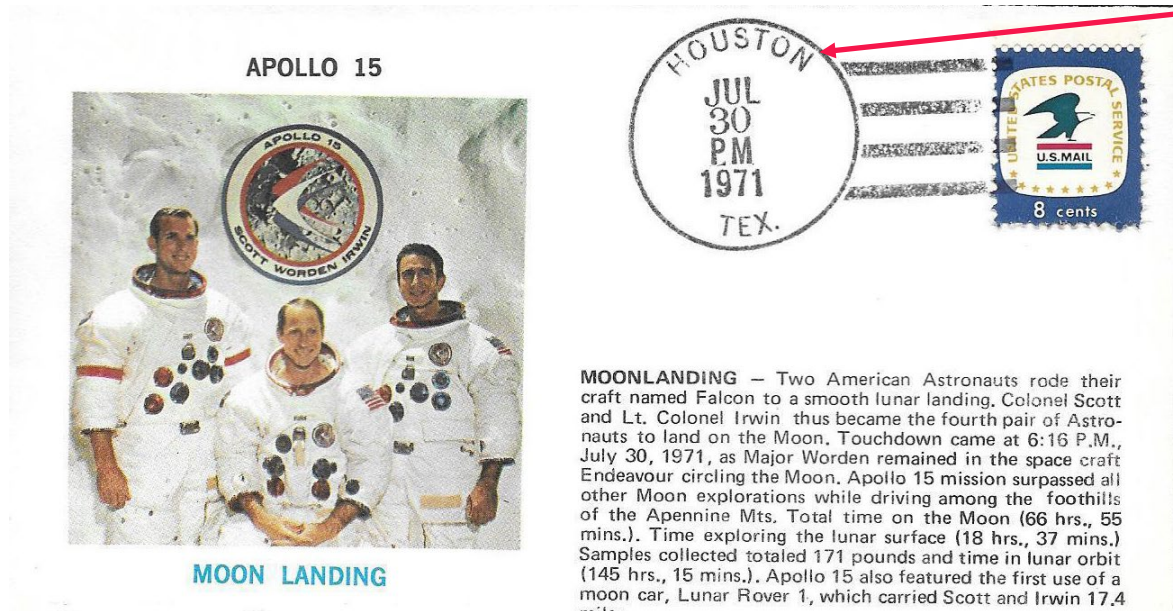
Astrophilately is a philatelic study of:

- space flights and space-related events and
- illustrates historical, scientific and technical progress achieved in the exploration of space

Postmarks are the most important element of each astrophilatelic cover

Astrophilatelic Basics

Cancellation from the Correct Location

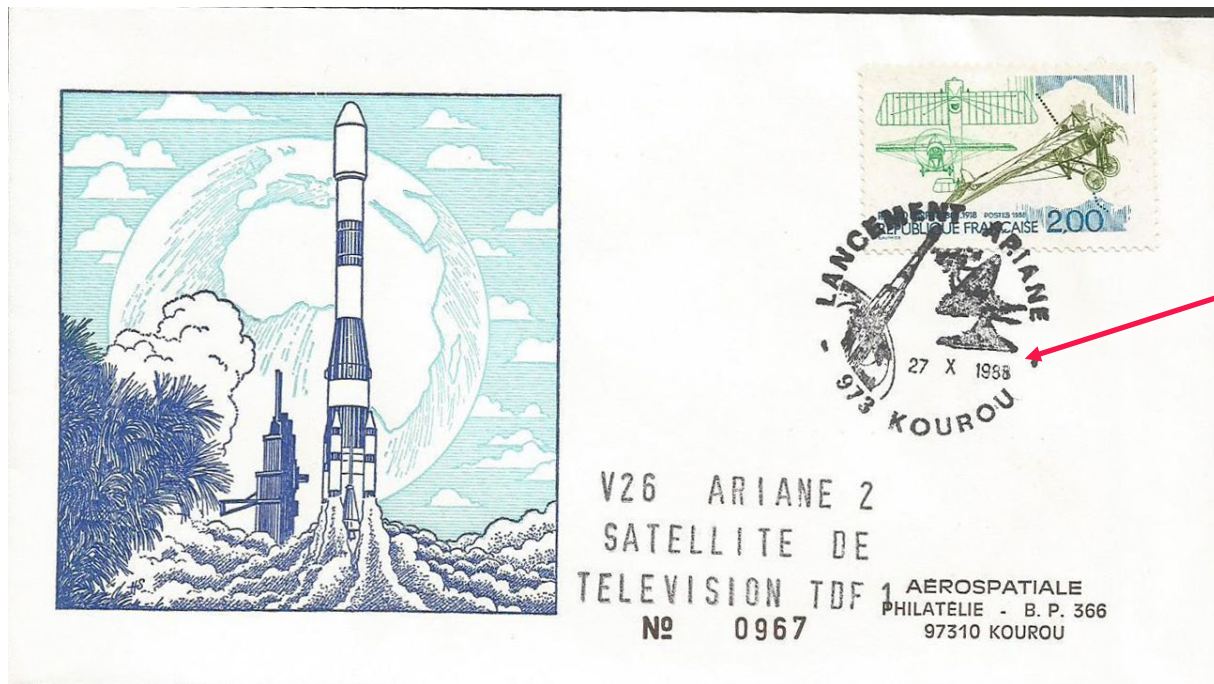


Apollo 15 Moon landing - **Houston, TX** – 30 July 1971

- Post office **nearest** to event
- Prime **recovery ship** - sea landing
- Close to Mission Control Centre or on-board for events **in space**
- **Supporting facilities** - tracking stations, support aircraft, etc
- Cancellations from other locations not suitable

Astrophilatelic Basics

Cancellation must have Correct Date



- The **exact date**
- When post office is closed the postmark of the **next working day** is acceptable

Arian V26 launch - Kourou – 27 October 1988

Astrophilatelic Basics

The **write up** should cover:

- Dates, location, purpose of event
- Key aspects of technical data
- Special activities on board
- Extra-vehicular activities (EVAs)
- Payloads, and scientific experiments



Appropriate Material

Philatelic Items in Astrophilately

Most philatelic items can be shown:

Event Covers

Space Mail

Postal Stationery

Telegrams

Military Post

Maritime Mail

Rocket Mail

Stratosphere Mail

Letters to & from Space

Propaganda Leaflets

Electronic Mail

Stamps

Appropriate Material

Postal-Astrophilatelic material

Covers must be postal with stamps, postmarks, on-board postmarks, labels and markings showing special treatment

Items such as stamps, vignettes, artist's drawings, essays, proofs, colour trials, printing errors can be used sparingly



STS -135 - Houston, TX – 12 July 2011



Piccard record -Stratosphere balloon
18 August 1932

Appropriate Material

Rocket Flown Astrophilatelic material

Philatelic items with an on-board cachets or authenticating signatures to provide evidence of being in a rocket or spacecraft



Stamp cancelled on the ISS with Energia non-postal cancel
No official postal postmark on the stamp

On-board cachet

Authenticating signatures

ISS Expedition 5 - 1 November 2002 – On-board cachet

Appropriate Material

Event Covers

Launch, docking, undocking, EVA, landing, launch aborts, test launches, launch failures

Cancellations:

- Post office nearby launch or landing with exact date of event
- Close to Mission Control Centre or on-board post office for EVAs
- Vicinity of mission control centre or crash area where spacecraft burned up or crashed

Special cancellations only if no event cancellation exists

Anniversary cancellations are not suitable

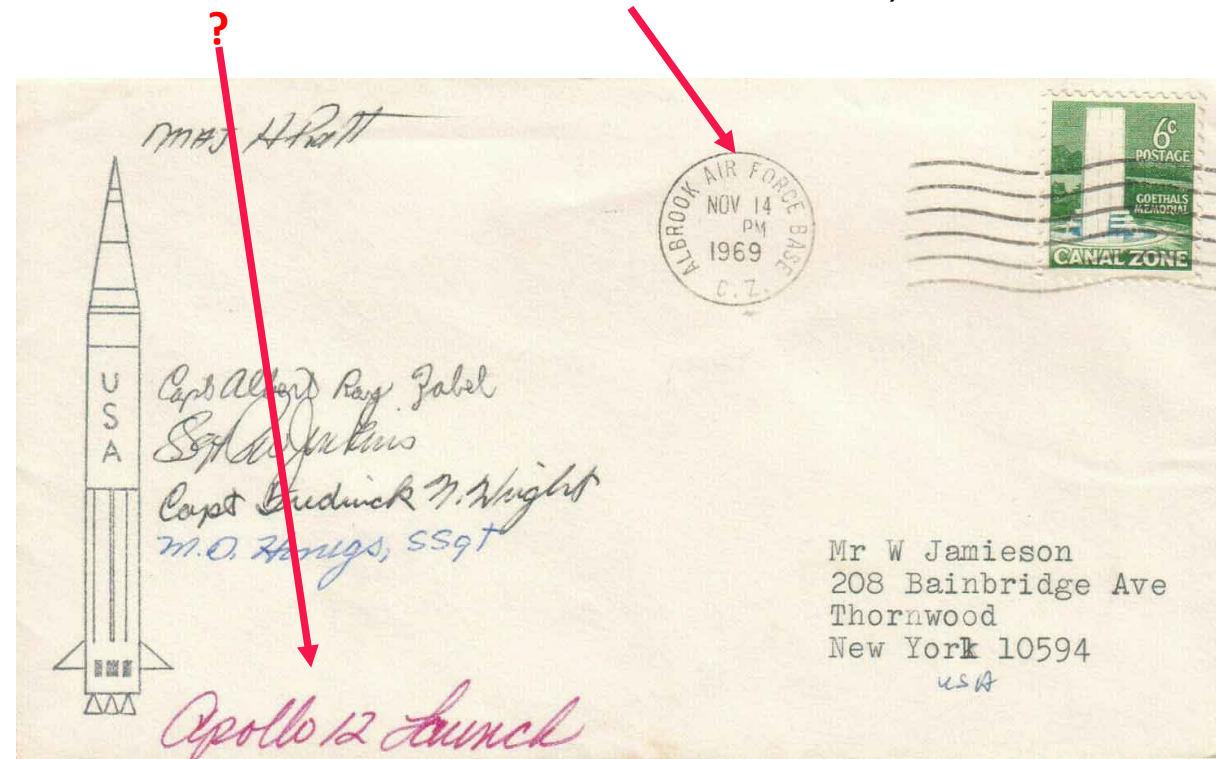
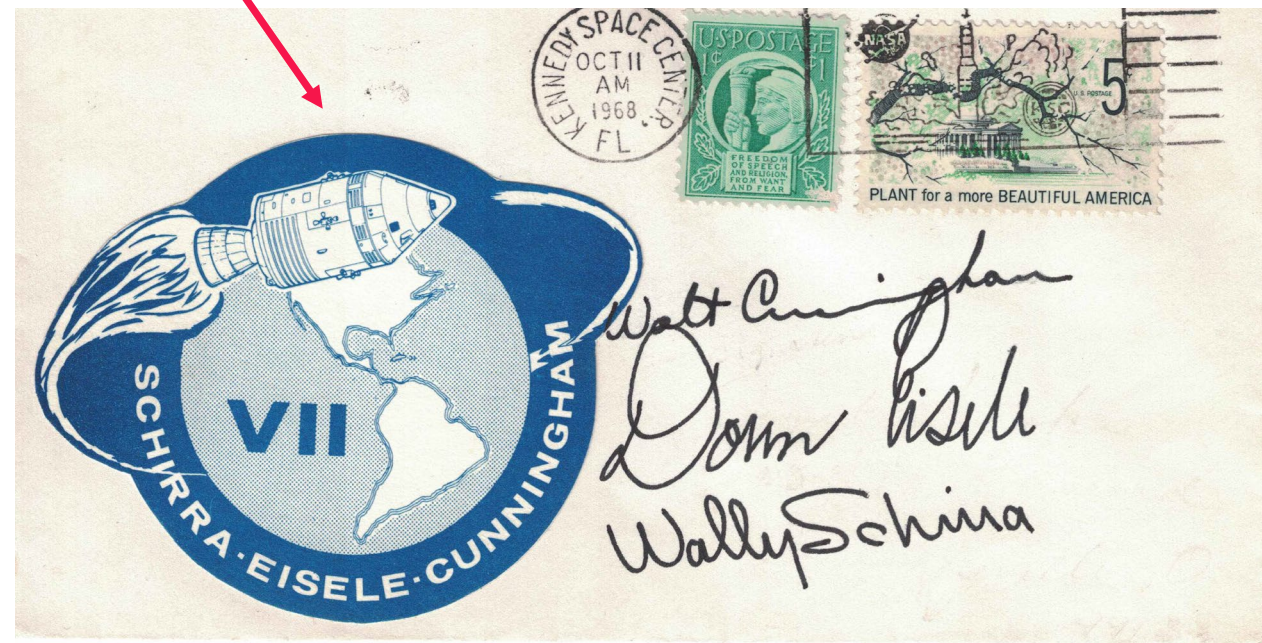
Appropriate Material

Event Covers - Launch

KSC cachet

KSC Postmark

Albrook A.F.B., Panama



Apollo VII Launch – KSC 11 Oct 1968

Apollo XII Launch – Albrook Air Force Base 14 Nov 1969



Correct location, date, KSC cachet



Wrong location & correct date

Appropriate Material

Event Covers - Launch

Khmelnytskyi



ELDO launch - Woomera - 4 August 1967

Correct location & date



15th Anniversary Gagarin Flight

Wrong location & wrong year

Appropriate Material

Event Covers - Landing

USS Lake Champlain

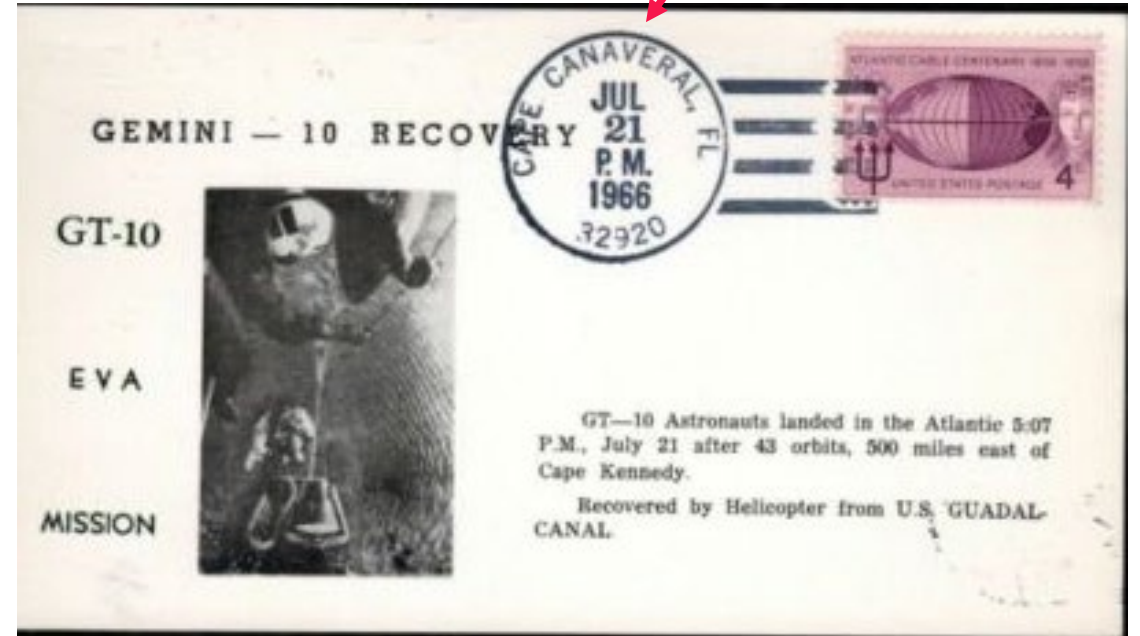


Gemini II Splash down - Lake Champlain 19 January 1965



Correct primary recovery ship & date

Cape Canaveral



GT 10 Splash down – Cape Canaveral 21 July 1966



Wrong location & correct date

Appropriate Material

Event Covers - Landing

Baikonur Cosmodrome



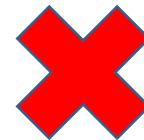
Shenzhou-5 Landing Dorbod Qi 16 October 2003



Correct location & date



Soyuz T-14 - Landing Baikonur 21 November 1985



Wrong location & correct date

Appropriate Material

Event Covers - Docking / EVA



✓ Progress M-56 docking – Korolev - 26 April 2006

✓ Skylab EVA - Houston, TX - 22 November 1973

Appropriate Material

Event Covers - Support Facilities

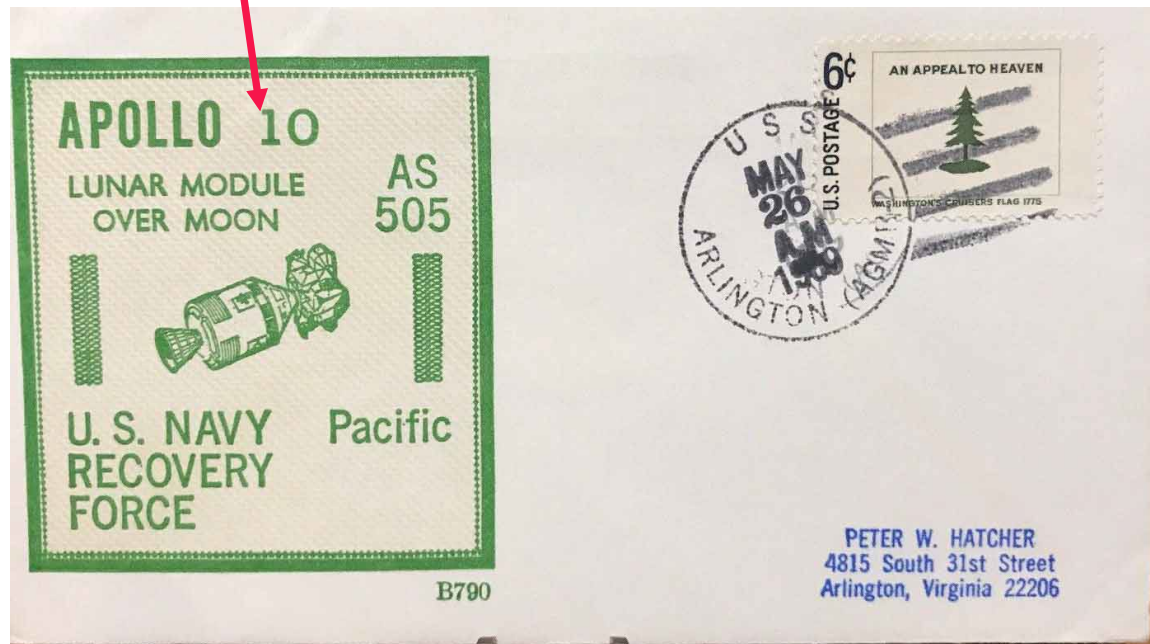
Covers from tracking stations, secondary recovery ships, aeroplanes, rescue helicopters and other supporting aircraft, if they are postmarked during the mission

Official cachets are preferred.

Appropriate Material

Event Covers - Support Facilities

Beck Cachet



Apollo 10 - Secondary Recovery Ship – USS Arlington
26 May 1969



Correct date, location



Apollo 11 - Secondary Recovery Ship – USS Arlington
1 Aug 1969



Wrong date, location

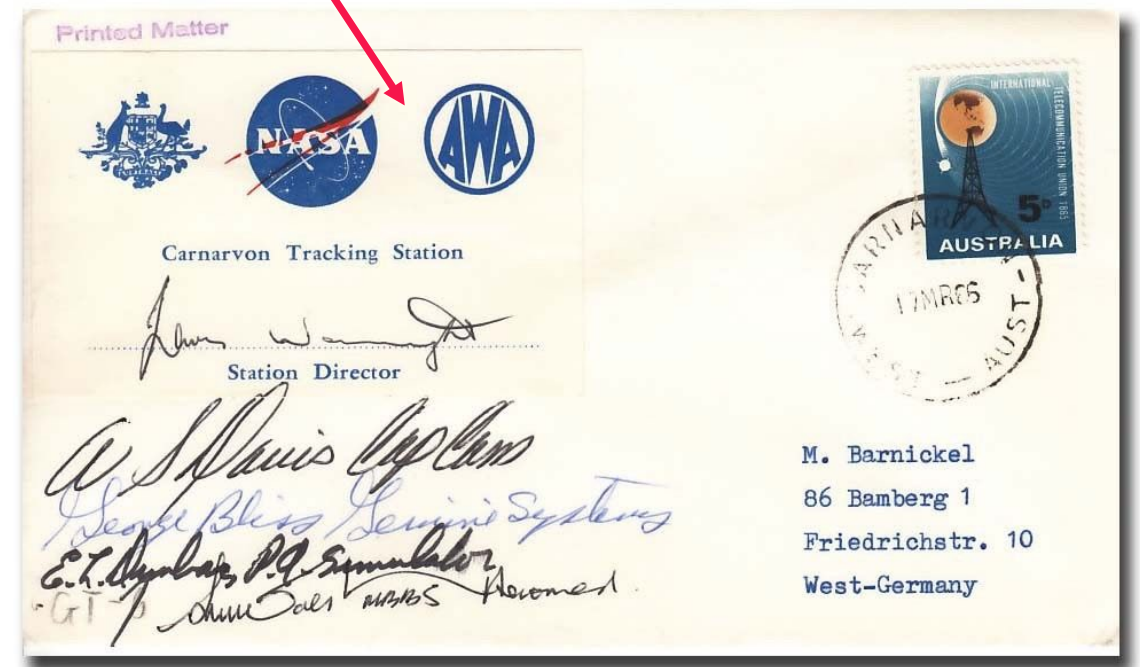
Appropriate Material

Event Covers - Support Facilities

NASA Cachet



✓ STS-4 – T-38 Chase Plane Assists Landing
Edwards Air Force Base 4 July 1982



✓ Gemini 8 tracking -Carnarvon
17 March 1966

Appropriate Material

Other Event Covers

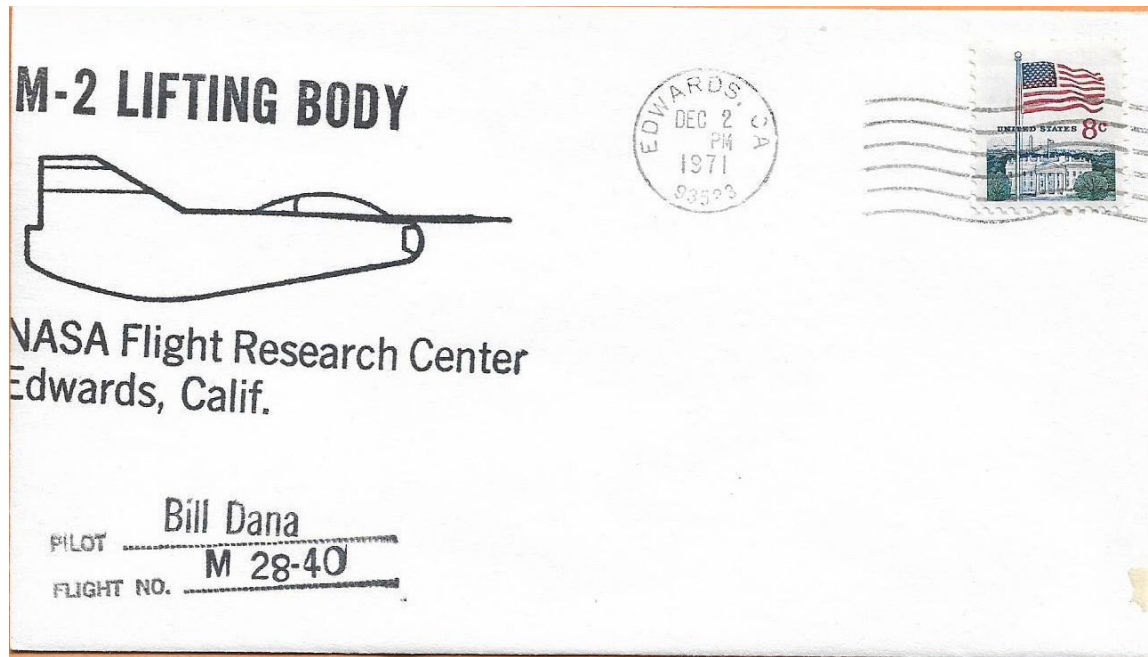
Can show testing, technical, organisational or political milestones for space flights or space programs

Includes rollouts, roll-backs, and important meetings as well as completion and delivery of key components of rockets and spacecraft

Precursors should be shown

Appropriate Material

Testing – Lifting bodies, wind tunnel test



M-2 Lifting Body Edwards Air Force Base, CA
2 December 1971



Wind Tunnel Test - Moffett Field, CA
18 November 1976

Appropriate Material

Astronaut training



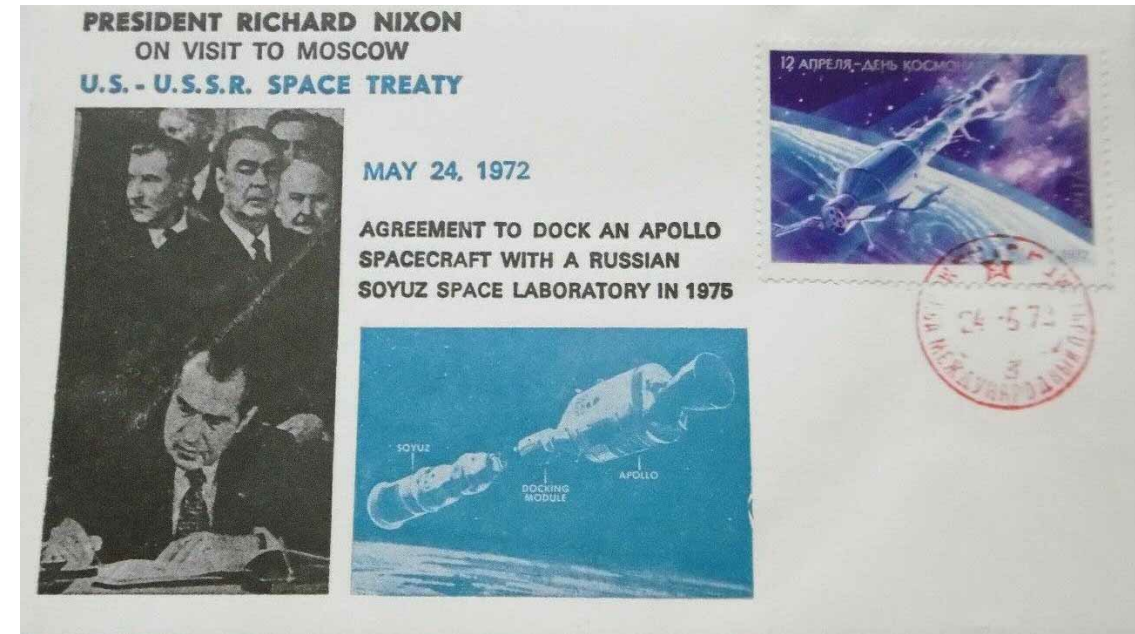
White Sands Missile Range, NM – 14 January 1977



Houston, TX – 12 August 1977

Appropriate Material

Roll Outs & Important meetings



Columbia Roll Out - Kennedy Space Center, FL
29 December 1980

ASTP Agreement signed - Moscow
24 May 1972

Appropriate Material

Guidelines recommend relevant precursors



Gerhard Zucker - Herta rocket - Stiege, Germany
31 August 1933



X-15 -Edwards Air Force Base, CA
17 September 1959

Appropriate Material Spacemail

Philatelic material flown onboard at least one spacecraft

Must be cancelled on-board showing the appropriate markings

- on-board postmarks
- on-board cachets
- authenticating signatures

Often signed by the crew in space

Appropriate Material

Spacemail



Salyut-5 – Soyuz 21 - 6 July 1986



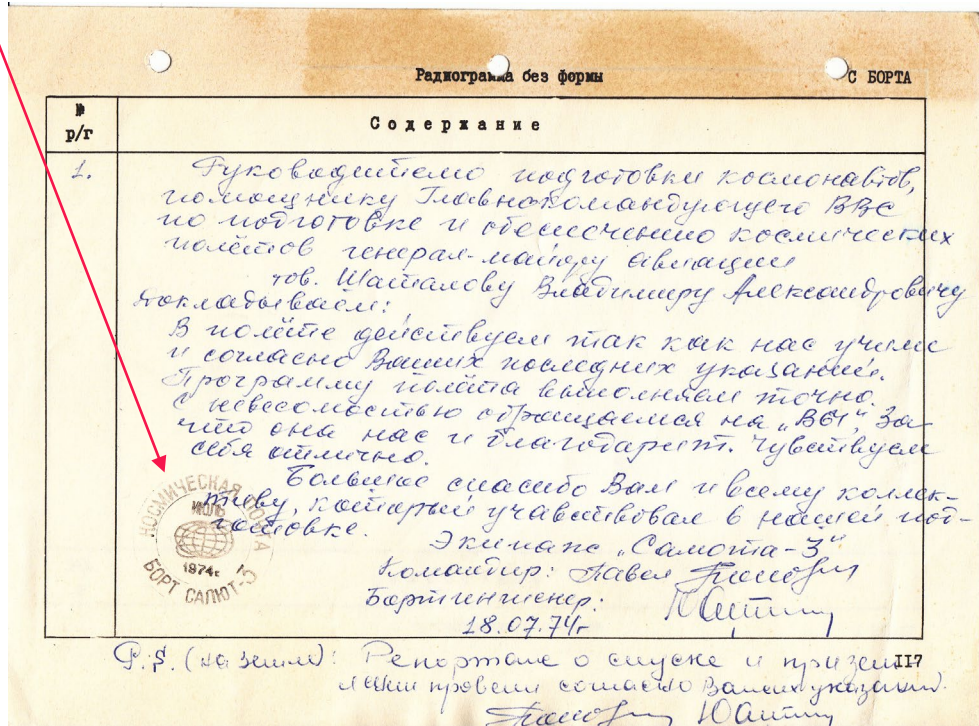
Shenzhou-5 – 6 September 2003

Appropriate Material

Spacemail

Official post marks

Board cachet



Salyut-3 -Telegram to Shatalov – 18 July 1974

Shenzhou-10 – 1-28 June 2013

Appropriate Material

Stamps, Postal Stationery & Special Cancellations

Stamps or postal stationery issued by country involved in the depicted space event, within 12 months of the event

They should **not** bear a wording highlighting an anniversary

Special cancellations only where no event covers exist

First day of issue postmarks should not be shown unless the date coincides with the event

This kind of material should not dominate.

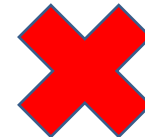
Appropriate Material Stamps



Stratosphere Balloon Disaster - 1934



Ariane 5 - Liberia



Non participating country - Anniversary

Appropriate Material Postal Stationery

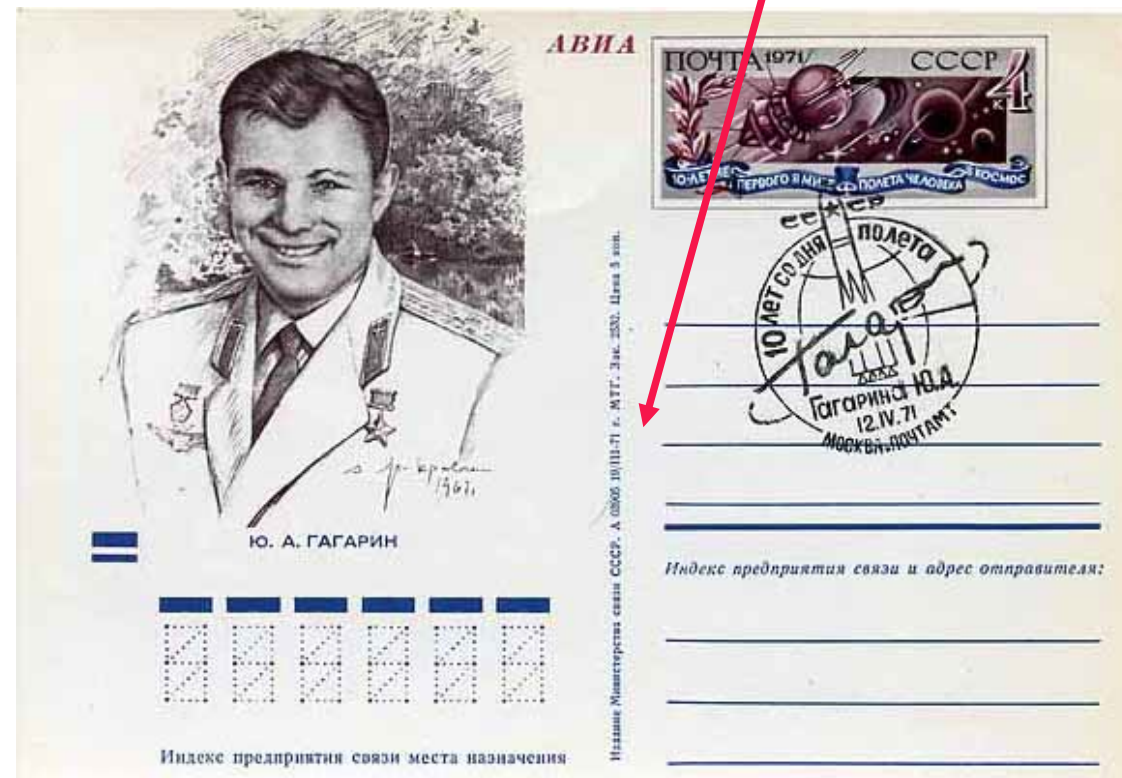
Space Mail

Soyuz rocket



Soyuz 4 launch
14 January 1969

Date 19. 3. 1971



10th Anniversary

Appropriate Material

Special Cancellations & Club Cachets

Kiev, 12 April 1961



Gagarin launch 12 April 1961- Kiev

Club cachet

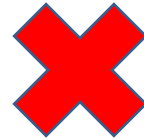
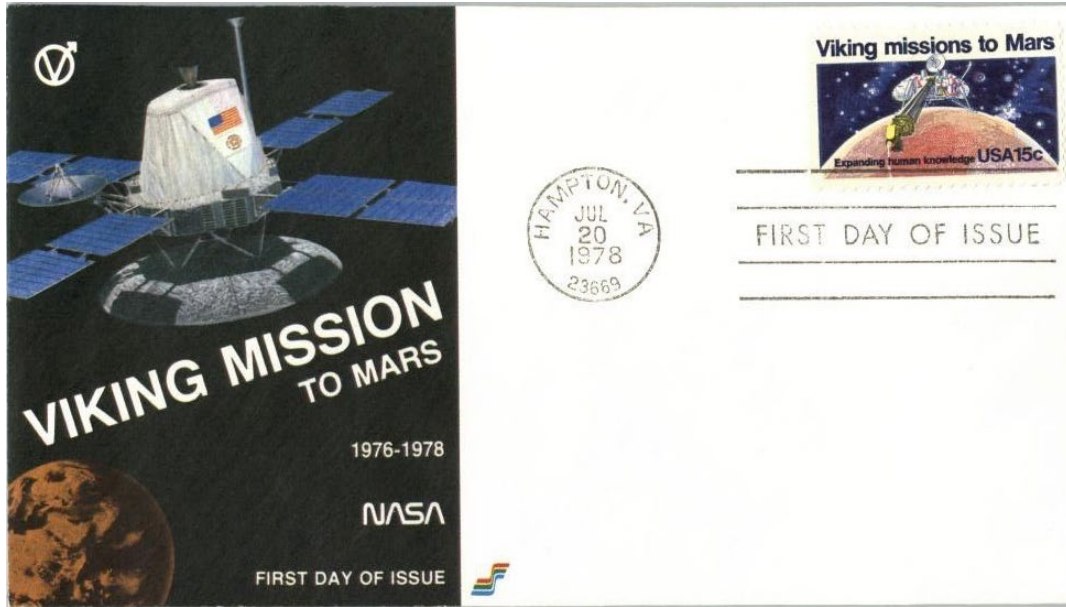
Magadan, 25 Feb 1979



Soyuz 3-32 -25 Feb 1979 - Magadan club cachet

Appropriate Material

First Day Covers



Viking Mission to Mars – Hampton, VA – 20 July 1978

Intercosmos – Moscow – 12 April 1979

Astrophilatelic Exhibiting Subjects

Precursors to rocket flight

Rocket mail, stratosphere balloons,
rocket development

Unmanned space programmes

Interplanetary probes,
Communication, Weather Satellites

Manned space programmes

One country or one programme

- USSR, USA, China, Europe
- Soyuz, Apollo, Shenzhou, Ariane

History of space exploration

Complete history of space travel
Precursors to space stations

Judging Astrophilately

Criteria

Treatment	20
Philatelic Importance	10
Philatelic & related knowledge, personal study & research	35
Condition	10
Rarity	20
Presentation	5

Judging Astrophilately

Treatment

- Title Page shows plan, purpose & defines scope
- Content reflects Title, Purpose, Scope & Plan
- Balanced, logical , easy to follow , clear, concise write-up
- Completeness of material shown in relation to the scope
- Text at each item covers key aspects of event
- Primary focus on event covers
- Precursors where applicable
- Token showing of Common material
- Better material shown in depth

Judging Astrophilately

Importance

Significance of **actual exhibit** & **overall significance of that subject**

- How difficult area is to collect
- Significance of area relative to world astrophilately
- Significance of area relative to space exploration
- Significance of material relative to selected area
- How much key material is present

Judging Astrophilately

Philatelic & related knowledge, personal study & research

- Full & accurate understanding of subject
- Items chosen & their explanations
- Accuracy & appropriateness of write-up
- Knowledge of precursors, technical evolution & chronology
- Appropriate use of literature

Judging Astrophilately

Condition

- Material is in overall good condition
- Fine & clear cancellations
- Repaired or manipulated items described as such
- Condition of common material in perfect condition
- Only unique or very rare material is not in fine condition

Judging Astrophilately

Rarity

- Difficulty of acquisition
- Most appropriate rare items present
- Common material does not dominate
- How hard would it be to duplicate

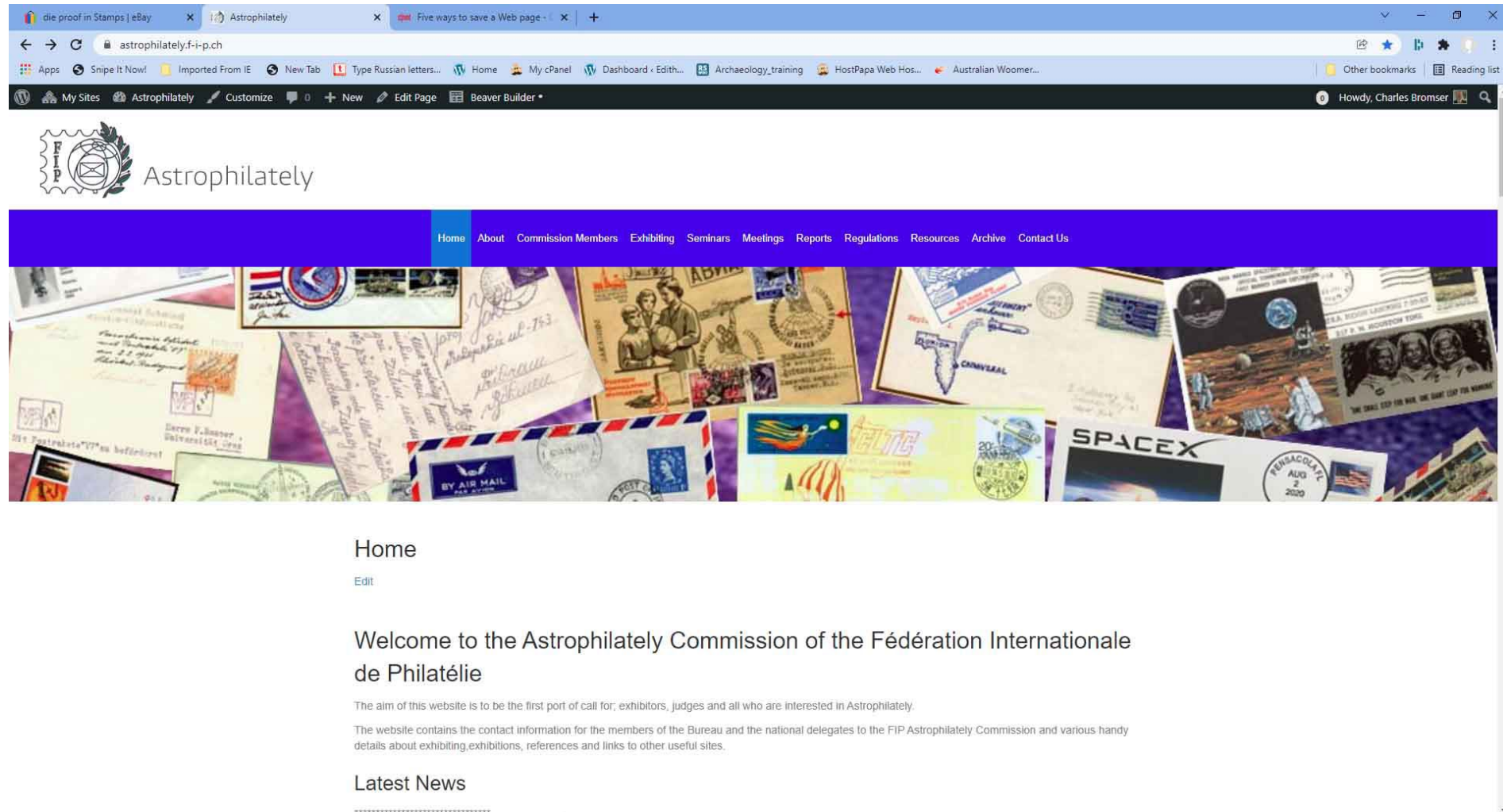
Judging Astrophilately

Presentation

- Balance in frame
- Good use of page with not too much white space
- Careful mounting
- Write-up is clear, concise & relevant

New Astrophilately Website

<https://astrophilately.f-i-p.ch/>



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address bar displaying astrophilately.f-i-p.ch. The browser's address bar and tabs are visible at the top. Below the browser window, the website's header features the FIP logo and the text "Astrophilately". A blue navigation bar contains the following menu items: Home, About, Commission Members, Exhibiting, Seminars, Meetings, Reports, Regulations, Resources, Archive, and Contact Us. The main content area is dominated by a large, colorful collage of various philatelic items, including envelopes with handwritten addresses, postage stamps, and a "SPACE X" stamp. Below the collage, the text "Home" is displayed, followed by a small "Edit" link. The main heading reads "Welcome to the Astrophilately Commission of the Fédération Internationale de Philatélie". Below this, a paragraph states: "The aim of this website is to be the first port of call for exhibitors, judges and all who are interested in Astrophilately." Another paragraph follows: "The website contains the contact information for the members of the Bureau and the national delegates to the FIP Astrophilately Commission and various handy details about exhibiting, exhibitions, references and links to other useful sites." The section is titled "Latest News" and is followed by a horizontal line.

Any questions

