The United Nations 1962 Housing Issue - A FDC Exhibit

Purpose: This is a traditional First Day Cover (FDC) exhibit of the United Nations Housing and Related Facilities issue (Scott #100-101). This issue is fascinating as it was the first UN stamp to be issued in seven colors which required multiple passes through the printing process and resulted in a great number of color varieties and errors.

Treatment: This First Day Cover exhibit includes four chapters in order to present a thorough study of the stamp production and the various cachets designed for the occasion. Included are an examination of the stamp design, production, cachet makers, first day covers, first day post marks, and domestic and international usages of the stamp issues.

Important items are highlighted by a blue border

The Plan

I. Stamp Production

I.1 Stamp Design

I.2 Announcement

I.3 The Artist I.4 Printings

I.5 Errors, Freaks, and Oddities

II. First Day Cachets - Issue Specific

II.1 First Cachets

II.2 Official Cachets

II.3 Commercial Cachets

III. First Day Cachets - Generic

III.1 Official

III.2 Commercial

III.3 Blank Cachets

III.4 Add-on Cachets

IV. Postal Usages

IV.1 First Day Domestic Usage

IV.2 First Day International UsageIV.3 Non-FD Domestic Usage

IV.4 Non-FD International Usage

V Conclusion

V.1 Last Day of Issue

VI. Epilogue

VI.1 Contemporary Usages

VI.2 ModernUsages

Approved Design

I.1 Stamp Design



Small Photo-Essay of approved design by Olav Mathiesen, Denmark. Mathiesen was a member of the UNPA Stamp Design and Graphics Department and began designing UN stamps beginning 1951 for the UN's first definitive issues.

Such essays were used to study and finalize the stamp designs prior to going to production.

Note the very faint signature (bottom right) of the designer.

I. Stamp Production



I. Stamp Production

Unadopted hand-drawn artwork for 4c UN Housing and Community Planning issue.

During this timeframe it was common for artists worldwide to submit UN stamp designs to be evaluated by the UN Stamp Design Committee prior to the selection of the final design. These artist drawings were typically retained in the United Nations philatelic archives.

Artist: unknown

One recorded.



Unadopted hand-drawn artwork for 4c UN Housing and Community Planning issue. Surrounding text English only instead of five official languages. Text was revised in final accepted design. Note partial perforated photo essay affixed lower left.

Artist: unknown

One recorded.