

The Mesozoic Times - Issue #1, Winter 2016

(Mysterious secrets in our mail 'revealed' for armchair postal ~~conspiracy theorists~~ pre-historians!)

Exhibit Scope and Goal

This magazine style exhibit (think reader's digest) presents a series of theme-related articles. The *over-arching theme is Prehistoric Life*. The goal is to present viewers with engaging subjects and encourage them to read and enjoy exhibits built with short storylines. They can read one and come back for more later.

Historical Background

Life on earth remains a wonderfully complicated subject. Discoveries in the last 200 years have surprised and amazed us all as our childlike fascination with the animals of yesterday takes control of our imaginations.

Exhibit Development

Development features *articles of varying length* with appropriate theme oriented storylines and philatelic text to enhance the material. Short articles are interspersed with longer ones to accommodate the visitor's varying attention span or interest. Articles maintain a common thread - all pertaining to prehistoric life.

Exhibit Plan

Article titles are included on the cover (title page) of the magazine (exhibit). They are purposely sensationalized to draw viewer attention and may be read at their leisure, not necessarily sequentially or even all at once.

Exposed: Paleo-Related U.S. Town Names	(Hand cancel device)	Page 2
A Fossilized Return Receipt	(Return receipt service)	Page 3
Mammoth Thigh Bone Pays Penn Academy Dues	(Postage due payment)	Page 4
O.C. Marsh, Chief Red Cloud & the 'Thunder Horses'	(Thematic / Postal History cover)	Page 5
Sinclair Dinosaurs Invade the 'Century of Progress'	(Pictorial post cards)	Page 9
Ammonite Sits on Fancy Killer	(Fancy killer/cancel device)	Page 12
Man Witnesses the Great Flood	(Multiple of used on cover)	Page 13
Thomas Jefferson Fakes It!	(Postal stationery cutout use)	Page 14
Sir Arthur Keith - Perpetrator or Victim?	(Thematic / Social History cover)	Page 15

Thematic Knowledge

The nine article storylines in this presentation are of general interest and illustrated with diverse philatelic elements to entertain and educate readers. Thematic write-up is purposely extensive to engage viewers.

Philatelic Knowledge

Care is taken to ensure proper descriptions of philatelic elements to demonstrate knowledge of philately and includes information on stamps, cancel devices, rates or other justified information as appropriate.

Philatelic Elements

The goal is to show and describe interesting and unusual items that have an intimate relationship to an article's subject. Element selection includes essays, specimens, overprints, tagging types, markings, post cards, stationery, postal history, etc. demonstrating knowledge across exhibit disciplines ie. traditional and thematic.

Condition and Rarity

Materials are selected for condition, bearing in mind older mail is seldom pristine. Folds, nicks, etc. indicate actual mail system transit. Rarity, although included, is not the major factor in selection.