

## INSTALLMENT CARDS, what I have learned about them and their producers.

by Pauline Edwards (Continued)

### The Travel Club, Chicago.

This is the most amazing set I have seen as the cards can be placed together in any order and still form a picture. I have shown them joined in four different ways to show how they appear. I feel they deserve the title of Magic Panorama cards given to them by their publishers who applied for a patent and copyright in 1908.

They are chromolithographic printing on good quality card.

The back of the cards read:-

*Place any number Magic Panorama cards together. Build a picture or panorama to suit your taste. Two or more pictures of the same subject may be used in any panorama.*

*Send a Magic Panorama card to your friends from each place you visit, and they will join them in the order you send them. Each letter of your name or other message may be placed on a different card and sent in rotation.*

*Get your friends to send you Magic Panorama cards. Put them together on the wall or in an album or frame as received from any person or group of friends. Each lot will make a complete picture, or may be added to any other Magic Panorama cards at any time.*

*Magic Panorama cards make the finest of den decorations. When used in this way a personal and sentimental value will be attached to each panorama formed.*

These four cards have cuts at the top and bottom where I assume they have been threaded on a ribbon to hang them.

The Travel Club, Chicago, comes up frequently on web searches but it is impossible to match any with the producers of the cards. I have not seen any different cards or sets from this publisher.



## ELLIS ISLAND - by Janet Ingleton

On our last trip to the U.S.A. we visited Ellis Island which is a very small island in New York Harbour near to the Statue of Liberty. I have had an interest in the island since I discovered that one of my ancestors John Henry Gurr travelled from Adelaide to England and then from Southampton to the United States of America on the ship "New York" and entered the country through Ellis Island on October 6th, 1894.



Ellis Island, New York.  
Published by Success Postal Card Co., New York.



Registry Room.  
"Phostid" card. Made only by Detroit Publishing Co.  
Trade Mark—Reg. U.S. Patent Office.

In the late 1890's there were major developments such as the telephone, the automobile, linotype, electric light, the phonograph and the cash register. At that time America was experiencing a huge growth in the iron, steel, mining and lumber industries and these industries and their offshoots required millions of labourers and provided the economic draw for people from the less prosperous European nations.

Ellis Island opened in 1892 and millions of immigrants were processed there. This was in the midst of an industrialisation boom in the United States which drew eager workers from many nations looking for a better life in a land where hard work led to prosperity.

*Continued on next page*

For many it was an "Isle of Hope" and for some others it became an "Isle of Tears" as they were rejected due to health problems.



Waiting Room. Published by Women's English Home Mission Society, 2411 Indiana Ave., Chicago.



Detention Room. Unknown publisher

A series of ELLIS ISLAND "Portraits of Immigrants" in black and white were Published by The New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations. They were printed by "Pomegranate" Box 808022 Petaluma CA 94975.



A Bavarian Peasant



Greek Woman



Swedish Children

Continued on next page

**INSTALLMENT CARDS,** what I have learned about them and their producers, by Pat He Edwards

I am continually finding websites containing images and information for these cards and will include this as I find it.

The first producer discussed in Bulletin 14 was The Wrench Series. I have since found reference to 3 other sets produced by them — Heartiest Congratulations, a 3 part set numbered 4815-4817; a Daschund, a 5 part set numbered 4791-4795; and Jockey on a Racehorse, a 4 part set numbered 4828-4831.

Also from an unknown producer of the Japanese Royal Wedding cards in Bulletin 14, I have seen a 1912 Funeral Procession set of 4 with the same trade mark.

Continued on next page

**The Rose Company, Philadelphia, Pa, 1906-1909—extra info**



The "Fish that got Away" set is possibly one of the earliest by this company as they have undivided backs and were postally used in 1906. Probably one of the most well known of the installment sets I have in my collection so I don't know why I missed mentioning it in the last Bulletin.



Also with the same undivided backs as shown above is the "Cock-A-Doodle-Dandy" set which is shown here complete with the packet it was sold in and marked "The Kathleen Mathew Postal Comedies". It shows a copyright date of 1906 and the instructions state "One day should intervene between the mailing of each card".



TREASURES FROM HOME EXHIBIT

This exhibit is a sample of the clothing immigrants brought when they came through Ellis Island.

Below: THE BAGGAGE ROOM



The millions of adventuresome immigrants who passed through these halls in the early 1900's brought all their worldly possessions in simple trunks, boxes and baskets — ready for a chance to partake of a new life in the United States.

ARA Leisure Services Inc. have produced a series of postcards from photographs by Alan Schein of N.Y.C. "Plastichrome Printed in Ireland."

Postcards can show us how places looked in former times but also provide us with excellent memories of places we have visited and enjoyed. The cards by Stephen Wilkes provide both a graphic record of the decay and ruins, but also an appreciation of the enormity of the restoration work which was undertaken and makes the Ellis Island Museum such a remarkable place to visit.

Should you ever be in New York City a visit to Ellis Island can certainly be recommended. There is so much of historical interest and the Museum is beautifully set out.

\*\*\*\*\*



Norwegian Girl



Abasco-La omeget

We thoroughly enjoyed our visit though both found the experience quite sobering. Many immigrants were so poor they could only travel steerage class and had few belongings. We were told that one family were so poor they borrowed a small suitcase so that it wasn't obvious that they had nothing to bring with them..

Many postcards have been printed, some showing the early days, and the rugged conditions experienced.

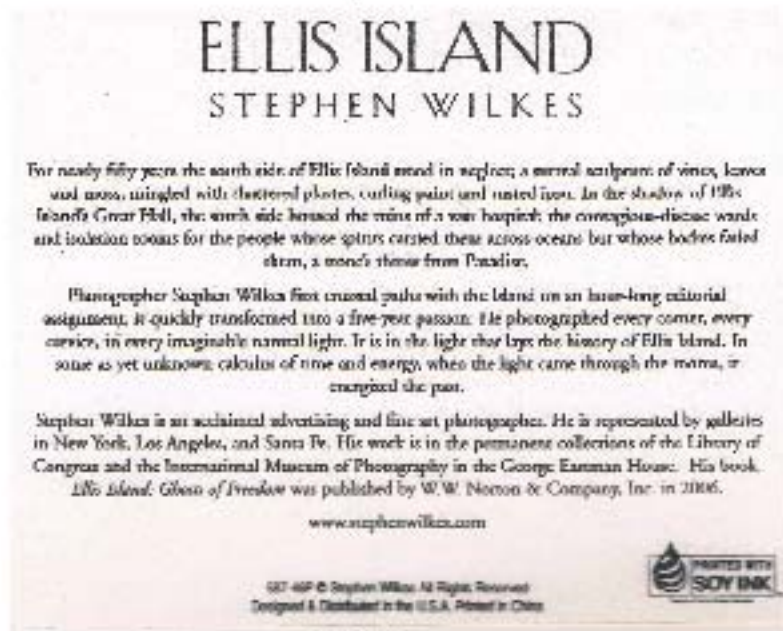
It is said that four out of every ten Americans can trace their heritage via Ellis Island and many successful people such as cosmetologist Max Factor from Russia and actress Claudette Colbert from Italy were processed there.

In 1943 the island was used as a Detention Centre for enemy aliens involved in World War II.

Immigration reached its height in 1907 and after 1924 it slowed to a trickle. Ellis Island fell into disuse and was eventually closed in 1954.

Continued on next page

A whole series of colour postcards were produced by Stephen Wilkes showing the buildings "before" restoration, printed with soy ink.  
www.stephenwilkes.com



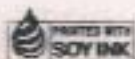
For nearly fifty years the south side of Ellis Island stood in neglect; a surreal sculpture of vines, leaves and moss, mingled with chattered plaster, curling paint and rusted iron. In the shadow of Ellis Island's Great Hall, the north side housed the ruins of a vast hospital: the contagious-disease wards and isolation rooms for the people whose spirits carried them across oceans but whose bodies failed them, a man's throne from Paradise.

Photographer Stephen Wilkes first cruised past with the island on an hour-long editorial assignment. It quickly transformed into a five-year passion. He photographed every corner, every crevice, in every imaginable natural light. It is in the light that tells the history of Ellis Island. In some as yet unknown, calculus of time and energy when the light came through the morn, it energized the past.

Stephen Wilkes is an occasional advertising and fine art photographer. He is represented by galleries in New York, Los Angeles, and Santa Fe. His work is in the permanent collections of the Library of Congress and the International Museum of Photography in the George Eastman House. His book, *Ellis Island: Ghost of Freedom* was published by W.W. Norton & Company, Inc. in 2006.

www.stephenwilkes.com

107 48P © Stephen Wilkes. All Rights Reserved. Designed & Distributed in the U.S.A. Printed in China



Cover from the postcard collection showing Corridor 2, Ward 2.



HOSPITAL EXTENSION, WOMEN'S WARD

It felt like a room unmaking itself. The pulverised plaster from the ceiling gave the room, where children with head lice and ringworm once slept, the character of a desert.

Continued on nextpage



ADMINISTRATION OFFICE, ISLAND 3  
This room never received direct sunlight except at a single moment each day, 2.15pm—the precise moment the Photographer captured the shot.



NURSES' QUARTERS, ISLAND 3  
In the nurses' sleeping quarters across doors were open at various angles, creating an almost mystical pattern in the space. It was designed to allow the chief to open a general tuberculosis and infectious diseases.



ISOLATION WARD, CORRIDOR CORRIDOR 2  
The corridor meanders from the hospital to the measles ward. An odd geometry rules the corridor. It is curved to engage the reach of backs, but what of the top and what of the bottom? There is confusion — and serenity of blue.



OAK FILE CABINET'S MEASLES WARD  
They see the records of those who passed through the hospital, a juggler of file cabinets in decay. In the foreground - see the goal - the files - and in the background, the present - a void opening endlessly into the distance.

In 1965 President Lyndon B Johnson designated Ellis Island as a part of the Statue of Liberty National Monument

In 1974 "The Restore Ellis Island Committee" was formed and the enormous task of repair and restoration commenced. On September 10th, 1990, following \$170 million of work, Ellis Island Immigration Museum opened.

Continued on nextpage