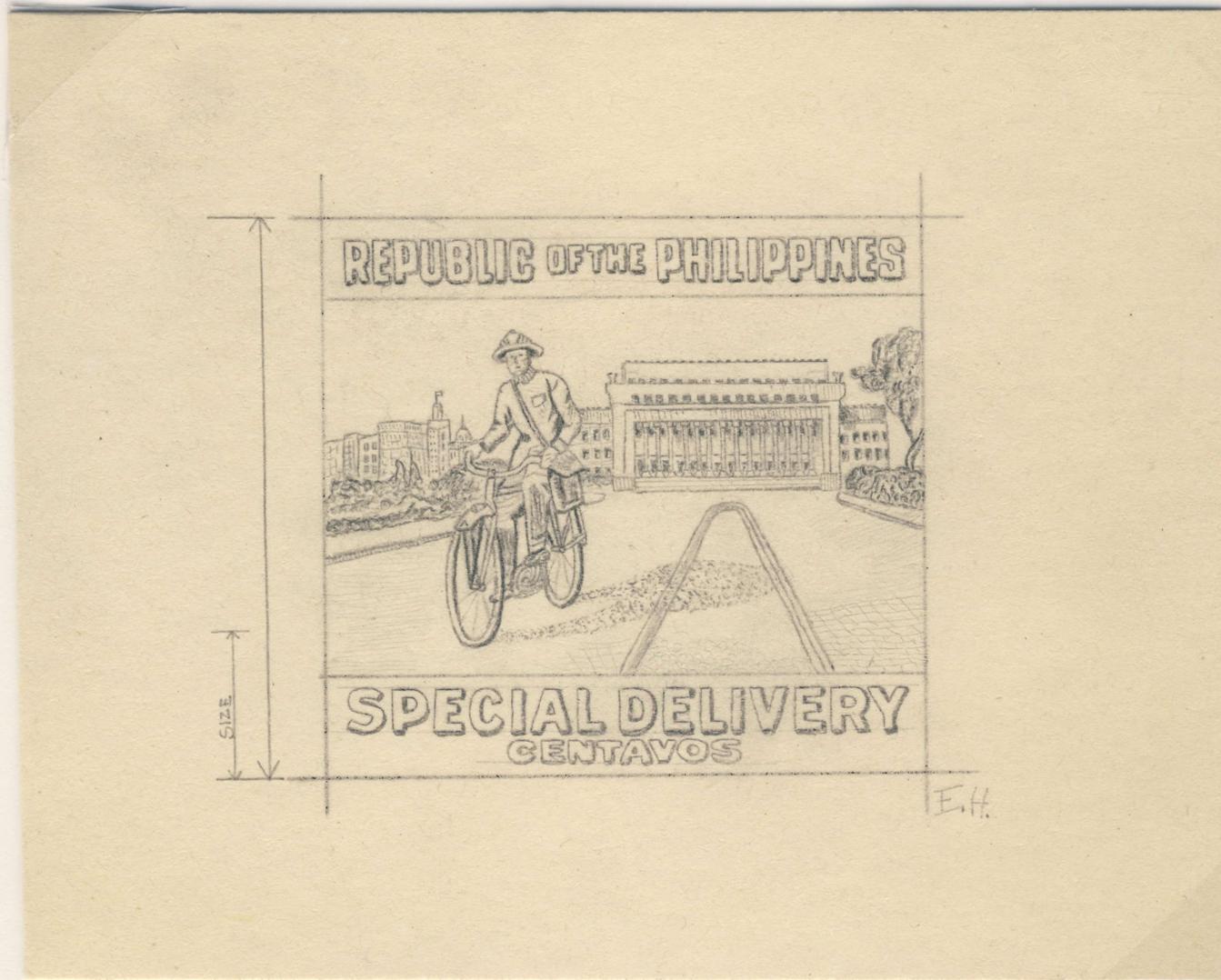


ORIGINAL PENCIL DRAWING OF ADOPTED DESIGN



ORIGINAL PENCIL DRAWING OF ADOPTED DESIGN OF THE CENTRAL VIGNETTE

By Earl Hansen, American Bank Note Co. Designer

Original Drawing (91 x 81 mm.) in pencil on heavy card stock, 178 x 141 mm. Reduction scale at left.

Hansen's initial drawing (on Title Page) was an update of the previously issued special delivery stamp design (1906-1945) which depicted the similar features of an active Mount Mayon volcano in the background, with coconut palms at left. The previous versions depicted a "running messenger" carrying mail. Hansen updated the design by placing the messenger on a bicycle, who would provide faster service than a messenger on foot.

The design was rejected by Gilbert Combs, Assistant Manager of the Foreign Department of ABNCo, because he wanted a fresh design for the newly independent country, and not a "re-imagining" of the previous design used when the Philippines was either a U.S. possession or a Commonwealth.

Combs advised Hansen that the concept of having the messenger on a bicycle was good, but suggested using the Manila Central Post Office as a main component of the design. The Central Post Office was designed by Juan M. Arellano and Tomas Mapua in a neoclassical style, and constructed in 1926. However, it was severely damaged in World War II. As a statement of Filipino resiliency, the Central Post Office was rebuilt in 1946, preserving most of its original design.

Combs opined the addition of the Central Post Office would honor that resurrection and pay tribute to the Filipinos who suffered for four years under the yoke of Japanese imperialism. Hansen provided this design, which was quickly approved by Combs and J.A. Barretto who was the Financial Attache at the Philippine Embassy in Washington, D.C. responsible for governmental input regarding stamp designs for the new Republic.

Only Example Recorded