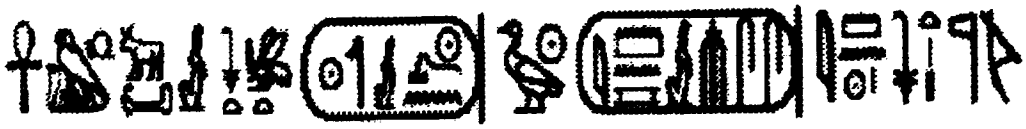
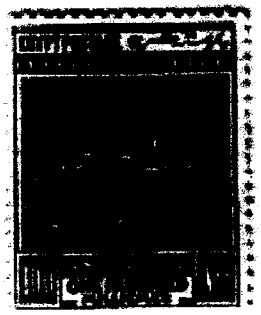
We now come to a discussion of elements on stamps showing royalty of the Ramesseide Era. As a monument builder, Ramesses II (1279-1212 B.C.) stands pre-eminent among the pharaohs of Egypt. His most well-known temple stands above Lake Nasser at Abu Simbel.

The central design of Scott Egypt 58 is superbly engraved. Ramesses' titulary, displaying his honors and attributes, can be partially made out on the temple facade with the aid of a magnifying glass. Some of the many titles of this king appear before and after his throne and birth names. The hieroglyphs to the right of center on the fascia read





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"The Uraeus-crowned Living Representative of the Heavenly Horus, the Powerful, Loving Justice, King of the South and the North, *User-maat-re Setep-en-re* ('The Justice of Re is Powerful, Chosen of Re'), Son of Re, '*Ra-messes mery-amun* ('Re has fashioned Him, Beloved of Amun'), Beloved of Amun-re, King of all the Gods"[6]

We cannot pass by Ramesses II without mentioning his favorite wife Nefertari. She was buried in a sumptuous tomb in the Valley of the Queens. On a lintel over the doorway to her burial chamber is written the statement "Words spoken by Ma'at, daughter of Re, [I] protect [my] daughter, the king's great wife, Nefertari, beloved of Mut, justified. (The line is written backwards on the stamp!)."[7] There is honorific transposition of the hieroglyph for the goddess Mut from its position at the end to the beginning of the cartouche (Note similar transpositions of gods' names on stamps previously shown).

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We have come full circle in our discussion of royal names on the stamps of Egypt (There are two additional: the Golden Horus and the Two Ladies names, but these have not appeared on any Egyptian stamp to my knowledge). We end this article with the observation that the ancients expressed foreign names with one- and two-consonant signs. The name of Cleopatra VII illustrates the point. J. F. Champollion correctly deciphered the name of this queen found on an obelisk unearthed by W. J. Bankes at Philae and transported to England. The signs correspond to letters of the Greek alphabet with the exception of the last two, a cake and an egg.[8]

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[6] Johannes Dümichen, *Der Aegyptische Felsentemple von Abu-Simbel* (Gustav Hemplen, Berlin, 1869) p. 10.

[7] John K. McDonald, *The Tomb of Nefertari* (The Getty Conservation Institute and the J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles, 1996), pp. 89, 91.

[8] Carol Andrews, *op. Cit.*, p. 15.