



La Posta Publications
POB 6074
Fredericksburg, VA 22403

PRSRT STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 811
Toledo, Ohio.

Satisfying the postal history specialist,
whether buying or selling, for over 125 years.



Urgently buying ALL collections
Especially United States &
Specialty Areas. Consignments
Also Accepted.
CALL NOW TOLL FREE
877.316.2895

Be sure to send, call
or email us for the
Auction Catalog for
our next sale.

Kelleher Auctions

Daniel F. Kelleher Auctions, LLC
America's Oldest Philatelic Auction House
Established 1885



20 Walnut Street • Suite 213
Wellesley, MA 02481
781.235.0990 • Fax: 781.235.0945

info@kelleherauctions.com
www.kelleherauctions.com

4 Finance Drive • Suite 100
Danbury, CT 06810
203.297.6056 • Fax: 203.297.6059



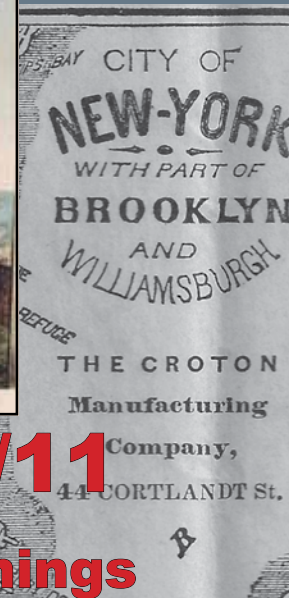
LA POSTA: THE JOURNAL OF AMERICAN POSTAL HISTORY

Vol. 44, No. 3
Whole Number 255
Third Quarter 2013

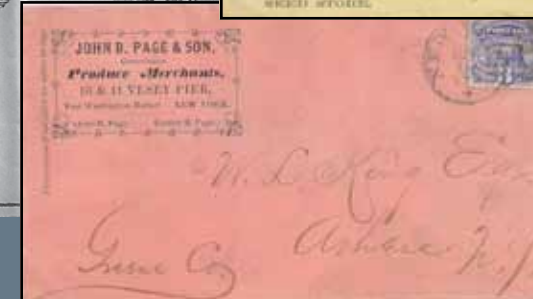
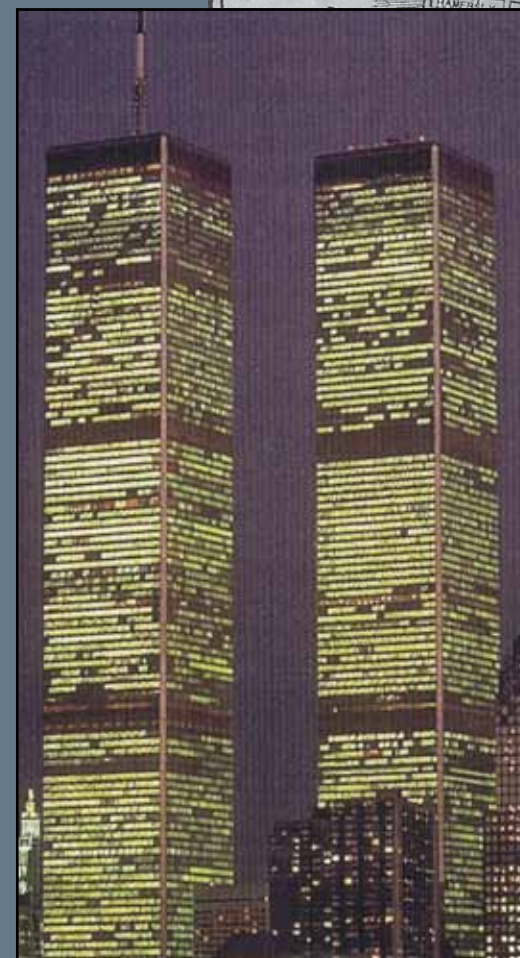
Vol. 44, No. 3

Whole Number 255

Third Quarter 2013



The 411 of 9/11
By Richard S. Hemmings



OUR 44TH YEAR OF PUBLISHING AMERICAN POSTAL HISTORY 1969-2013

Resources

@ siegelauctions.com



CATALOGUES AND PRICES REALIZED

Images and descriptions for all current sale catalogues are available from our website, as well as all sales going back to 1992, our Rarities sales from 1964 and selected name sales.

POWER SEARCH™

Search by Scott number or keyword through all of the sales at our website. The best resource in philately for research.

MY SIEGEL™

Save your Power Searches as want lists. We will automatically notify you when a match is included in an upcoming sale, whether it's as broad as any Columbian issue, or as narrow as a 241 graded 98. The most powerful want list in philately.



LOT TRACKER™

Never miss another lot because you were away from your computer. Log into My Siegel™, then set up notifications to get texts and/or emails 10-30 lots before yours comes up (live bidding is still through Stamp Auction Network).

THE SIEGEL ENCYCLOPEDIA™

This feature of our website contains a wealth of information gleaned from decades of philatelic research by the dedicated philatelists at Siegel.

RARITIES CENSUS

The up-to-date census data for 19th and 20th century U.S. rarities are a valuable resource for buyers, sellers and researchers. Every recorded example of almost 40 different rare stamps is described and, in most cases, photographed.



EXHIBITS AND MOUNTED COLLECTIONS

Downloadable PDF files of some of the top exhibits ever formed. See how others collect and benefit from their original research.

VIDEO PRESENTATIONS

Downloadable video documentaries tell the stories of stamps and covers. This is the ideal way to introduce philately to others.



SCHUYLER J. RUMSEY AUCTIONS IS IN NEED OF STAMPS AND POSTAL HISTORY!



The "Queen" of First Day Covers

Sold \$115,000



The "King" of First Day Covers

Sold \$172,500

THE TIME IS NOW TO SELL INDIVIDUAL RARITIES OR ENTIRE COLLECTIONS. TAKE ADVANTAGE OF A GROWING MARKET, A PROFESSIONAL CATALOG AND PROMPT PAYMENT. PLEASE CONTACT US SHOULD YOU HAVE ITEMS FOR CONSIGNMENT OR DIRECT SALE.

Please visit our website at:
www.rumseyauctions.com

email: srumsey@rumseyauctions.com

Schuyler
Rumsey
Philatelic
Auctions

47 Kearny Street
San Francisco
California 94108
t: 415-781-5127
f: 415-781-5128

A great source for LaPosta Readers!

Our weekly Internet auctions close every Sunday night at 11:59 pm—and feature a wide range of desirable United States postal history. Become a bidder!



Danbury Stamp Sales

A Division of Daniel F. Kelleher Auctions, LLC

Upcoming Weekly Internet Sales

Closing every Sunday at 11:59 PM

New Sale Every Week!

Feb. 17	# 4024	US Stamps, Fancy Cancels & Postal History
Feb. 24	# 4025	Worldwide/British Stamps & Postal History
March 3	# 4026	Airmail Flights with Gerhard Wolff's Zeppelin PPC's & Worldwide Stamp Dealer Corner Cards
March 10	# 4027	US Stamps, Fancy Cancels & Postal History, Including Federal & State Revenues & Plate Blocks
March 17	# 4028	Worldwide/British Stamps & Postal History
March 24	# 4029	US Stamps, Postal History & Fancy Cancels Including Federal & State Revenues & Plate Blocks

www.kelleherauctions.com

BECOME AN ONLINE BIDDER!

Get in on the action on our
Danbury Stamp Sales' fabulous Weekly Web/Internet Sale
closing at 11:59 PM EVERY SUNDAY NIGHT
Danbury Stamp Sales division's big Weekly Internet/Web Auction Sales. An overwhelming array of wonderful United States & Worldwide stamps and covers—usually well over 5,000 outstanding lots from \$25 to the \$1,000s.

View the catalog and lot images—
and bid in **ALL** of our Public
Auctions and Web/Internet sales
directly from our website:
www.kelleherauctions.com

Consignments for upcoming sales
or Outright Purchase welcomed.
Contact us today to discuss your needs!



Daniel F. Kelleher Auctions, LLC

America's Oldest Philatelic Auction House • Established 1885

info@kelleherauctions.com
www.kelleherauctions.com

4 Finance Drive • Suite 100
Danbury, CT 06810
203.297.6056 • Fax: 203.297.6059



When You Need to Know



Reperforated?



Genuine Cancel?



Grade 95?

The Philatelic Foundation Provides the Answers

These stamps were submitted to The Philatelic Foundation to answer those important questions. After carefully examining their stamps, the Foundation advised the submitters that the 5¢ Trans-Mississippi is reperforated at right, the red Paid cancellation on Scott No. 2 is genuine and the 2¢ Pan-American grades 95. We helped those people, and we can answer your questions as well.

Time and again the knowledge and experience of our experts, backed by the best reference collection in the industry, has combined to add great value to stamps submitted for opinions. We strive to not only provide the most accurate opinions available, but also the most informative ones.

Submit Your Stamps and Covers Today for a PF Certificate

Call 1-212-221-6555 or visit www.PhilatelicFoundation.org today to download a submission form. Fill out the one-page form and send it to us with your stamp or cover.

Philatelic Foundation Certificates have been the “gold standard” of philatelic certificates for 68 years.



The Philatelic Foundation

341 West 38th Street, 5th Floor
New York, NY 10018
(212) 221-6555
www.PhilatelicFoundation.org



Publisher and Editor

Peter Martin
POB 6074
Fredericksburg, VA 22403
Pmartin2525@yahoo.com

Office Manager

Advertising Manager

Joan Martin
POB 6074
Fredericksburg, VA 22403
laposta.joan@yahoo.com

Associate Editors

Jesse Spector
Alan Warren

© 2013 *La Posta: The Journal of American Postal History*.

Opinions expressed in articles appearing in this journal are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the publisher.

La Posta: The Journal of American Postal History is published four times a year with issues mailed on or about the 15th of March, June, September and December. Subscription information is available from:

La Posta Publications
POB 6074
Fredericksburg, VA 22403
laposta.joan@yahoo.com

LA POSTA

THE JOURNAL OF AMERICAN POSTAL HISTORY

Vol. 44, No. 3

Whole No. 255

Third Quarter 2013

CONTENTS

A Fond Farewell From Cath Clark	7
The 411 of 9/11	
By Richard S. Hemmings	8
Two Canadian Gems Sent to the United States	
By Peter Martin	31
U.S. Auxiliary Markings: One Strike and You're Stuck at Home: The Effects of Postal Strikes and Civil Unrest Abroad	
By John M. Hotchner.....	32
The SMS <i>Kronprinz Wilhelm</i> Revisited	
By Jesse I. Spector and Robert L. Markovits	37
Nalcrest, Fla.: A Community for Letter Carriers	
By Paul Petosky	43
The World War II Adventures of John Adams and Thomas Jefferson: A Thwarted Mission to France	
By Lawrence Sherman.....	44
A Last Day Cover Sent by the Texas Word Family?	
By Patricia A. Kaufmann.....	46
Postcard Pursuit: A 1-Cent Advertising Postal Card Unearths a 120 Year Old Book About the Post Office Department	
By Charles A. Fricke	50

COLUMNS

Publisher's Page By Peter Martin	5
The 3Q <i>La Posta</i> Challenge: Interesting or Unusual Event Covers	53
The 2Q <i>La Posta</i> Challenge Submissions: Interesting Philatelic Dealer Mail.....	53
Snapshots: Two Early United States Postal Trucks	57
Ask <i>La Posta</i>	58
Letters	59
In the News	60
Classifieds.....	65
Index of Advertisers	66

La Posta: The Journal of American Postal History

Annual Subscription Rates

USA	\$32 (4 issues)
Canada	\$38 (U.S. \$)
Foreign	\$70 via airmail

Article Deadlines

4th Quarter 2013	Oct. 20, 2013
------------------	---------------

La Posta Benefactors and Sustaining Subscribers

Benefactors

La Posta Benefactors contribute \$75 or more for their subscription. Benefactors recognize that the *La Posta* journal, along with its books and e-books, are a vital force that helps build and sustain interest in American postal history. Benefactor and Sustainer contributions go beyond just supporting the journal and help fund our research and publishing endeavors. We give our special thanks to the following individuals for contributions above and beyond:

Albert Aldham	Kenneth L. Hamlin	Alan Parsons	Robert Stoldal
Gary Anderson	William Kolodrubetz	Robert Quintero	James R. Stultz
Chip Brown	Russell Lang	Robert D. Rawlins	John Tollan
John A. Cheramy	Dennis J. Lutz, MD	Robert G. Rose	Ray Woodman
David C. Collyer	Millard Mack	Henry B. Scheuer	Kenneth C. Wukasch
Richard F. Curtin	Robert L. Markovits	Larry R. Sell	
Elwyn J. Doubleday	Bernard D. Mayer Jr.	Dr. Michael Senta	
Norman Elrod	R.J. Randy McEwen	Timothy M. Sheehan	
Edward Fisher	Eric A. Nelson	Gus Spector, M.D.	
Dave Hamilton	James K. Oliver	Jesse Spector, M.D.	

Sustaining Subscribers

The following individuals and institutions have contributed financial assistance to *La Posta* in excess of their subscriptions and we are proud to list them as our Sustaining Subscribers. We are indebted to them for their generous support. Without it *La Posta* could not continue to exist.

Joseph J. Adamski	Sidney Fingerhood	Larry McBride	W.L. Strauss
Raymond Agren	Kenton Forrest	Steven Miedziak	Bob Summerell
Bill Arata	Dale Forster	Lynn I. Minneman	Robert D. Swanson
Ted Bahry	Myron Fox	Andrew W. Mitchell	Michael Taugher
Rex J. Bates	Ray Getsug	Col. Richard Morain	Norman Tjeltveit
Robert A. Beall	Raymond S. Hadley	Steven R. Morehead	Don Tocher
William R. Beith	Dr. Edwin J. Helitzer	James Moses	Wendell L. Triplett
Dr. Steven J. Berlin	Robert R. Henak	David Mui	Thomas P. Unterberger
Henry J. Berthelot	Gary G. Hendren	James P. Myerson	Charles S. Wallis Jr.
John Bigart	Reginald Hofmaier	Burnham S. Neil	John Weigle
John H. Bloor	Don L. Hofsommer	Ray L. Newburn Jr.	David Wessely
James N. Boyden	John Hollister	William A. Nix	Louise Wile
Roger S. Brody	B. Clyde Hutchinson	John E. Panek	Robert B. Whitney
William E. Brooks	James H. Inverarity	The Philatelic Foundation	David E. Williams
Mike Brown	Stefan T. Jaronsky	John A. Pollard	Wayne Worthington
Edward H. Brown	Gordon E. Katz	Stephen Prigozy	John Wright
Maurice M. Bursey	Lucien S. Klein	Toivo Ranniko	
Arden D. Callender Jr.	Daniel M. Knowles, M.D.	Thomas S. Richardson	
Thomas E. Caton	George Kramer	Gus Savakis	
Thomas E. Chastang	Alfred F. Kugel	Paul C. Schroeder	
Walter S. Clarke	Eliot A. Landau	Robert G. Schultz	
Vince Costello	James E. Lee	Joseph Sedivy	
Joe Crosby	Rev. David C. Lingard	Edwin H. Shane	
Matt Dakin	Richard Londo	Lawrence Sherman, M.D.	
J. Leonard Diamond	Larry Dean Maddux	John A. Steele	
Robert M. Ebner	Craig Martin	Rex Stever	

Change: The Only Constant

"The only constant is change," is a refrain that has seen a lot of usage, but it is also a truism.

Today, it certainly applies to *La Posta* as, after 44 years of operation by Bill Helbock and Cath Clark, this is the first issue produced under a different publisher. But, while that is a major change, the commitment to providing subscribers with the best in everything related to postal history will not be altered.

On page 9, Cath provides her farewell. She has been a delight to work with and I wish her every success in her new endeavors.

One of the reasons for *La Posta's* success is the continued interchange between Bill and Cath and a readership, who weren't just subscribers, but were more like friends and family.

I hope to continue that approach. In that light, let me explain how this change has come about.

A Change in Direction

In late 2012, Cath informed me that she had decided to continue her former career as a city planner and to sell *La Posta Publications*. To ease in any transition, she asked that I continue as editor, and I agreed.

Because we felt that there would be operational efficiencies (existing websites, subscription and mailing handling, database management, etc.), we contacted several organizations, which we thought might be a good fit, about taking over *La Posta*.

While there was significant interest, for a variety of reasons, we were not able to find a proper match.

Fortunately, during the course of our inquiries, we found an Angel. In this context, an Angel is a supporter who provides significant financial resources for an organization or business. In our case, this individual, who prefers to remain anonymous, provided the largest donation ever received by *La Posta*.

When we finally concluded what turned out to be an unsuccessful buyer search, this meant that we could go to Plan B. With sufficient resources on hand to ensure a successful transition, I agreed to take over the operational aspects of *La Posta* in addition to continuing to handle the editorial duties.

To help in this endeavor, my wife, Joan, who has many years of administrative experience, agreed



to take over the office and advertising responsibilities. She will be the primary contact for subscription processing and problem solving and will be the point of contact for advertisers.

Joan's e-mail is laposta.joan@yahoo.com. The mailing address for subscribers and advertisers is: *La Posta Publications*, POB 6074, Fredericksburg, VA 22403.

So, while there is a major change, *La Posta* continues to be a family run operation.

That said, let me try to explain where we are and how we will move forward.

As you read this, Cath and I should be finishing the transfer of files from Australia to Fredericksburg, Va. This transfer of files and information has been going on for several months.

Subscription Renewals

Some of you have already received renewal notices from the new Virginia address. The Third Quarter *La Posta* subscription renewals were sent out by Joan and we've had the usual excellent response rate.

The Fourth Quarter renewals are now going into the mail. Note that we are asking for your e-mail address on the renewals. Beginning in 2014, we will send renewal reminders by this method whenever possible. With the continual increase in postage rates, this will allow us to use the savings on *La Posta* improvements.

You'll notice that, currently, the only payment option is via check. We are interviewing banks with the expectation of adding major credit cards as another payment option. If you have a preference, please let us know.

Producing *La Posta*

While we do have an Angel who allowed for a successful transition, *La Posta* currently only has three sources of funding and all are essential to getting each issue into your hands.

The first income source is subscriptions, currently \$32 per year. The *La Posta* Readership Survey responses indicated that about 90 per cent of you feel that this is a reasonable and appropriate price.

But while our renewal rate continues to be above 85 per cent, most of our readers are at least in their 60s and age, eyesight and health issues continue to thin the

ranks. *La Posta* has not had a campaign to increase the subscriber base in a long time and that has to change. I'll announce the details of our plan in the next issue. If you have ideas that you think might help, please contact us.

The second income source is advertising. Within our pages, we already have many of the top postal history dealers and auction houses in the country, but my goal is to get all of them to advertise in *La Posta* so that it is a "One Stop Shop" for postal historians. If you need a dealer or auction house name or address, all you'll have to do is pull out any issue of *La Posta* and you will have that information at your fingertips.

If you know of dealers or auction houses that specialize, or at least carry on a regular basis, American postal history, please encourage them to advertise or provide their contact information for us to follow-up.

The third income source is our sustaining subscribers and benefactors. These generous individuals, who are able to pay a bit more than the regular subscription price, have been absolutely essential for putting out regular issues of *La Posta*.

I know that not everyone is in a position to contribute that little bit extra little but I will be looking at ways to encourage more people to become sustaining subscriber and benefactors, including by offering some new benefits.

Right now, these are the only income streams for producing issues of *La Posta*.

We will soon begin reviewing new publications to add to the *La Posta* monograph and book series. If you have a project that you're working on, I look forward to speaking with you.

In addition, since *La Posta* is dedicated to furthering research and education about the field of postal history, we have begun investigating the possibility of grant and foundation support. If anyone is aware of potential leads in this area, we'd appreciate hearing from you.

Naturally, at the same time, we're looking at all aspects of the *La Posta* operations to find ways to reduce costs without impacting on quality or service. We've already identified several promising areas.

Book and CD Inventory

While we have purchased all rights to all *La Posta* publications, including, *La Posta: The Journal of American Postal History* and all monographs and books, we did not acquire any book inventory.

As many of you know, Jim Lee has been handling the sale of all *La Posta* publications since 1992. Jim, a well known literature dealer, announced that he was getting out of the literature business by the end of 2013 and, in May, he sold the remaining *La Posta* book inventory to The Brookman Stamp Company (See their ad on page 29).

Cath will continue to sell the *La Posta* CDs through the end of 2014 via her ads in *La Posta* (See her ads on pages 30, 56 and 58).

***La Posta* Back Issues**

Back issues will continue to be handled by Sherry Straley in California (See the ad on page 65). Watch Sherry's ads throughout 2014 as we plan is to sell all old issues by the end of that year. If you're missing any old issues, this will be your best opportunity to acquire them.

Website

As anyone who has tried to use the *La Posta* website during the past few years knows, it has not been very useful for some time. As of today, it is nonfunctional. Because of the way the website was created, it made more sense to let it die rather than to try to resurrect it.

While not every *La Postian* is an Internet user, the majority are and we have started looking for an individual or firm who can create a website that will be valuable, not just be for renewing subscriptions, but for serving as a major resource for information and research. This may take some time and your thoughts about what you would like to see on the website are encouraged.

The Future

La Posta has been a wonderful postal history journal since its inception in 1969, but I feel it has still ever greater potential.

While the current budget will allow the journal to continue on at least a break-even basis, it is insufficient to make some of the improvements that many of you suggested in the *La Posta* Readership Survey. That includes things like adding color, adding still more content pages, providing a highly functional and useful website, continuing to upgrade production quality and publishing new monographs and books.

So, while we have had a wonderful response to the changes made during the past year, I'm not satisfied with the *status quo* and want to continue to move the *La Posta* journal and *La Posta* Publications to new heights.

Some changes can be accomplished without additional resources, but others are not yet in the budget. With your help, I hope to change that in the coming year.

If you have thoughts or ideas, this is an ideal time to share them. E-mail me at: pmartin2525@yahoo.com or call me at: (540) 899-7683.

It's an exciting time at *La Posta*. Thank you for your wonderful support. I look forward to continuing to provide you with the best in American postal history.

Peter Martin

A Fond Farewell from Cath Clark

Dear Readers:

I am very pleased to announce that I have reached an agreement with our editor, Peter Martin, to assume management and operations of *La Posta* Publications as the new publisher. Pete will also continue as editor in chief.

I will continue to sell Helbock-authored books on CD for a couple of years and, as detailed in the news release from Jim Lee, Larry Weinstock and Michael Jafee will continue to stock hardcopy books of the *U.S. Post Offices* series and *Postmarks on Postcards*.

I have thoroughly enjoyed being the publisher these past two years, and Peter Martin has worked out splendidly as editor, giving the journal a fresh and more current look. He is also directly responsible for bringing in top-notch writers and columnists, and attracting more and bigger advertisers. *La Posta* has truly benefited from his business and editorial experience. I can say without reservation that with the change to glossy paper, higher quality images and more color, *La Posta* has never looked better!

Among the several changes that we made to make the journal more viable was, at Pete's urging, to change the name from *La Posta: "A" Journal of American Postal History* to "*The*" *Journal of American Postal History*. We broadened our content and enlisted new authors to embrace that idea, and I can proudly say that we are now well and truly fulfilling this role.

The catalyst that has allowed this transition of ownership is a generous private donation that was made by a long-time supporter and subscriber. Previous to this year, the journal has only ever had enough funding to continue publishing from one issue to the next. This has been enough of a concern in the past several years that I was seriously considering discontinuing publication this year. But the special, substantial donation we received has literally turned things around.

La Posta has been a vital source of postal history literature for a remarkable 44 years, 42 of which were under Richard W. "Bill" Helbock. Bill's work as editor was essentially voluntary. It was book sales and subscriber auctions that brought in enough money, in combination with my career, to support our household and the journal.

However, once the auction game changed with eBay and the Internet, we no longer had enough material for subscriber auctions. That, in combination with an aging subscriber base and downward trends in the economy, meant the journal was becoming less viable year-after-year. Without the support of our readers, especially donations of Sustainers and Benefactors, we would not have been able to continue.



La Posta founder Bill Helbock and Cath Clark in their home office in Australia, circa 2009.

When we moved to Australia, I had intended to pursue a writing career, with part-time work as ad manager for *La Posta*. I stepped in as publisher in 2011, but I am not a postal historian, and firmly believe that the journal needs to be in the hands of someone who is.

Now that this has become a reality, I will continue to supply assistance to Pete with circulation management and other administrative tasks for a few months as we complete the transition. Then, I will be pursuing a city planning certification here in Australia so that I can return to my former career.

It is often said of *La Posta* that we are more like a family, or a collectors club, rather than a commercial business. This is because so many of you have voluntarily given your time, funds and business support to *La Posta* as a way to share your enthusiasm for postal history with fellow collectors.

I would like to thank our authors, associate editors, columnists, loyal subscribers, and advertisers for the many years of support that you have given to the *La Posta* endeavor. To those of you who have come forward with advice and encouragement and special support these past two years, you will ever have my deepest gratitude.

My hope, from the time that our founding editor Bill Helbock died in 2011, has been to keep *La Posta* going to give it a chance to transition into the hands of postal historians. I am now confident that *La Posta* is indeed in good hands, and that it has a bright future ahead!

Thank you *all* for your faith and trust in me, and for helping us keep the *La Posta* legacy alive. As Bill would surely have said, "may it live long, and prosper."

Yours truly,

Catherine Clark

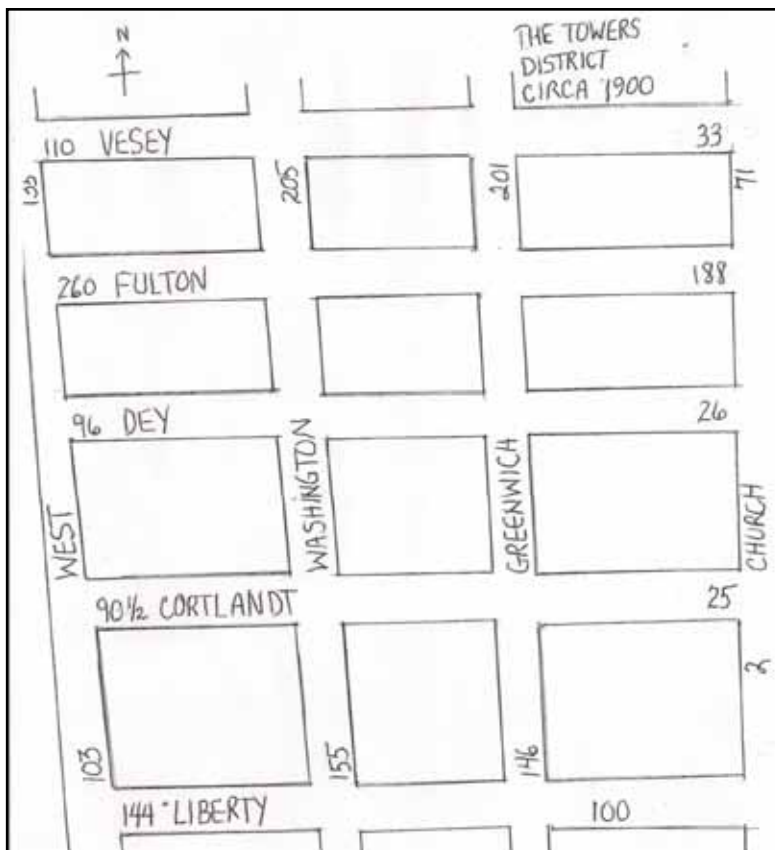


Figure 1: A hand-drawn map showing the street number of the Towers District circa 1900. I still have some questions about the exact numbering at the borders of the Towers District, but this should be 99 per cent correct. Remember that Cortlandt and Greenwich Streets have been renumbered; that the block between Liberty and Cortlandt that is labeled Church Street is sometimes referred to as “Trinity Place”; and that the rest of Church Street was “New Church Street,” beginning in 1869, for about 30 years.

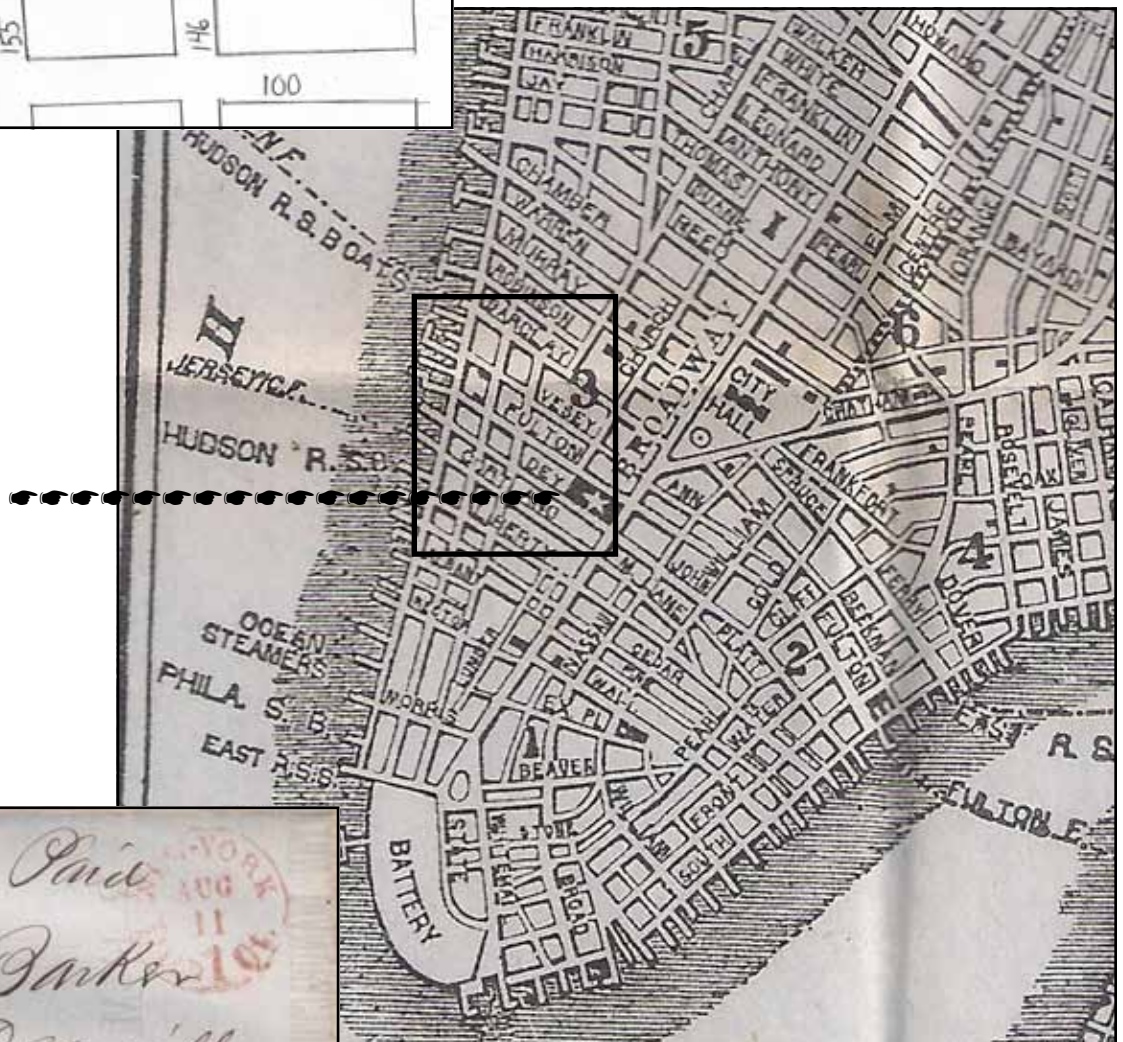


Figure 2 (above): An original 1851 Lower Manhattan map from an advertising stampless folded letter. The Croton Manufacturing Company was notifying its customers of its “new” location at 44 Cortlandt Street, as marked on the map. Left: The closed folded letter is dated August 11.

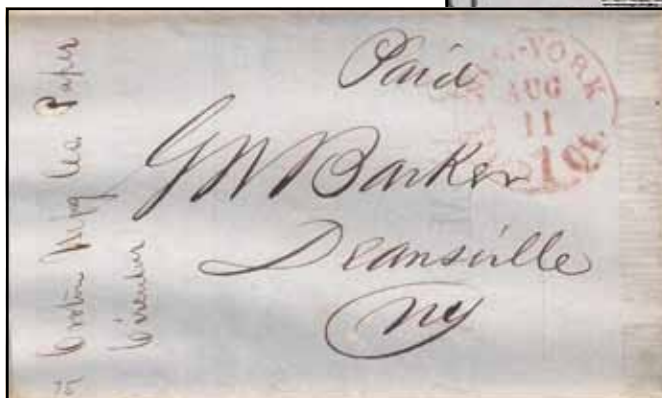




Figure 3: Could this be Cortlandt Street?

The 411 of 9/11

Misidentified, mysterious, fictitious, facsimile and forged stamps, covers and ephemera of the Towers District and the World Trade Center.

By Richard S. Hemmings

(Editor's Note: This is the third and final chapter of Hemmings' trilogy about the postal history of New York City's World Trade Center area. The first article, "New York City's Cortlandt Street: One Way to the River" appeared in the First Quarter 2012 LaPosta and won the inaugural Helbock Prize. The second article, "Intoxicated Ground Zero," appeared earlier this year in the First Quarter La Posta.)

(Editor's Note Two: 411 refers to the telephone number 411 that provides directory assistance; 9/11 refers to the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attack on the World Trade Center twin towers.)

Author's Note: For the purpose of this article, the Towers District is the area in Lower Manhattan bounded by Liberty Street to the south, Church Street to the east, portions of Barclay or Vesey Streets to the north and West Street (essentially the Hudson River, the exact area has changed due to landfill) to the west (Figure 1). If a structure falls within this area, it is said to have a Towers District Address or TDA (Figure 2).

Part 1: Misidentified Images

Any collector who forays into unknown territory for the purpose of learning more about what he or she studies is bound to encounter items that give an immediate visceral reaction: What the heck is it?

Often the answer is unpleasant. People who buy, sell or trade ephemera (or any kind of antique or collectible) are going to, sooner or later, savor the experience of finding out that what they have is not what they thought they had. Since my area of specialty (the location in Lower Manhattan where the World Trade Center complex stood) is a field with few published works, the entire collecting experience is shrouded in darkness. This article is intended to cast some light into this murky domain.

The worst thing that can happen to any collector is to have something fall into their hands that is misleading. Erroneous bits of information have a way of reproducing and becoming engraved into stone. A good example is this RPPC (real photo postcard) depicting a city street bedecked with bunting and slogans (Figure 3).

A former owner wrote on the address side



Figure 4 (Above): Jersey City postcard showing the ferry terminal. Right: The stamp side of the postcard.



“CORTLANDT STREET-RARE!” Indeed, under magnification, this card has a sign visible that reads Hudson Tunnels. But, this view resembles nothing on New York’s Cortlandt Street. Where was the photo taken?

On July 19, 1909, the lower section of the Hudson Tubes (now known as the PATH trains) was opened to the public. The celebration for these Hudson Tunnels was huge, and it was especially important for areas of New Jersey served by the new train service. This postcard shows the celebration being prepared with the banner reading “Three Minutes from Broadway” (a bastardization of George M. Cohan’s lyrics).

This is the Jersey City ferry terminal, visible in the photo celebrating this New Jersey town’s connection with Broadway and Cortlandt Street. The Hudson Tunnels mentioned on the signage (to the left) went under the Hudson River to leave passengers in the newly completed Hudson Terminal, which was part train station and part huge office building complex. Its twin buildings were in the Towers District and foreshadowed the World Trade Center. You can see by this second card (Figure 4) that my assessment of the RPPC is correct.

Images of Hudson Terminal come in many formats: photos from land, sea and air, drawings and other renderings. All depict different angles, times of day and concepts. Look at the Figure 5 postcards where

the top view is taken from a photograph and makes an appealing depiction. I have seen these cards postmarked as early as 1908, so the photo was taken right around when Hudson Terminal was opened. Its point-of-view is from the east, facing west. So, this is Church Street with much busy traffic before the twin behemoths. There’s only one problem. It didn’t look like that.

Beginning in the 1870s, the Sixth Avenue Elevated trains (or El) ran along New York’s Sixth Avenue. South of where Sixth Avenue ends in Manhattan, the trains ran on West Broadway, and below Mercer Street, Church Street. Photos of this frontage show the Elevated running before Hudson Terminal.

The Sixth Avenue Elevated was closed in 1938, but these cards predate that by decades. So, where’s the train? Apparently, the promoters of the Hudson Tube trains didn’t want their brand new building seen with some other loud, dirty railroad running outside.

So, they simply altered the image. Strangely,



Figure 5 (Left): Circa 1908 post card of Hudson Terminal depicting the Church Street frontage. Above: A rare advertising usage of the same image.

this altered image is one of the most commonly found depictions of Hudson Terminal, being used over and over in many mediums, including other postcards. Notice the cars and foot traffic in the advertising postcard are in precisely the same positions as the first card.

But, not all postcards fudged the local trains. Yet another view of this frontage (Figure 6), clearly shows the Sixth Avenue Elevated, trains and all.

The interest in Hudson Terminal at the time of its debut, was so great, postcard sellers took to every conceivable possibility, including cut-away views, and many images of the trains and their stations.

The Figure 7 card, which was printed in color, is labeled Hudson & Manhattan subway terminal, New York. It appears to be a view of the station below Hudson Terminal. The “H” on the pillars seems to confirm this.

But, if you look at the earlier black & white RPPC, from which the color view was copied (Figure 8), you realize this view of “New York” is actually the Hoboken, N.J., station!

This kind of confusion persists through the many phases of the Towers District. The next postcard view (Figure 9) states that the World Trade Center is one of its features. Actually, this is one of many such centers all over the world, this particular one located in Dallas, Texas.



Figure 6: The real Church Street frontage with a busy elevated railroad revealed.

Part 2: Image or Wording Out of Context

The most iconic images associated with New York City have always been the skyline. But which one? For the many years after the coming of the skyscraper, it was customary to show Manhattan from the southwest facing towards the great buildings of lower New York City.

Then, the World Trade Center’s size made it possible to have grand sweeping shots of the huge cluster of structures at the south of the island from any angle. Prior to that, unless the Empire State Building was to be in the view, artists and photographers usually stood in New Jersey or on Ellis or Liberty Islands to get the true sweep of the skyline. When the U.S. Post Office Department wanted to promote tourism in the United States by issuing postal cards with well-known iconic views of America, they reproduced such an image on



Figure 7 (Left): H is for Hudson Terminal. Or is it?

Figure 8 (Below): The earlier RPPC from which the previous view was taken. This one is properly identified.



the United States' first internationally rated airmail postal card. This card (Figure 10) depicted Manhattan next to other landmarks, such as Mount Rainier.

Issued in 1966, this card is Scott UXC5. The groundbreaking for the World Trade Center was that year, so this depiction was of a Trade Center-less New York.

But the other card shown, the domestic airmail card (Scott UXC12), was issued in 1972. On the surface this view was of the Statue of Liberty, but it also depicts the skyline. Several noted landmarks can be seen in the drawing. But where's the World Trade Center?

Apparently the Postal Service felt that an older view better serve their needs. The World Trade Center had not been officially opened in 1972, though it was quite nearly at full height (some tenants had moved in as early as 1970). The opening ceremonies were held April 4, 1973 (and the construction was still going on then). Even for a somewhat stylized rendering of New York City, we can see many landmarks, such as the City Finance Building. So this Scott UXC12 postal card has an inaccurate view of New York City.

One of the most difficult areas in the Towers District to understand was the Washington Market, sometimes called the West Washington Market. This was a country style venue, dealing mostly in fresh meat and produce. Wholesale and retail needs were served by different areas. But, it split and moved several times, leading to confusion, which was aided and abetted by the city of New York's refusal to give new names to the new markets.

The original Washington Market opened in 1813. It was in the block bounded by Washington, Fulton, West

and Vesey Streets. There had been a smaller edifice, the "Bear Market," at Greenwich and Vesey Streets (sometimes called the Hudson Market or Old Hudson Market), which expanded a couple of times.

Eventually, in 1812, construction of the Washington Market began. It opened the next year and completely replaced the Bear Market. It was a full city block in size and was entirely in the area that I call the Towers District.

A combination of a main building, sheds and open-air markets, this colorful group of sellers were some of earliest important businesses in the Towers District (Figure 11). As time went on, the market extended to the western side of West Street and even onto the piers extending into the Hudson River (Figure 12). These piers were all on what would be dry land today. Some historians state that the open air market went as far south as Dey Street. There is no doubt that produce suppliers and sailing vessel stores opened nearby. The open-air market was so large that it had its own street plan.

But, after the Civil War, the area began to change. Corruption in the New York City political machine,



Figure 9: The “World Trade Center.”

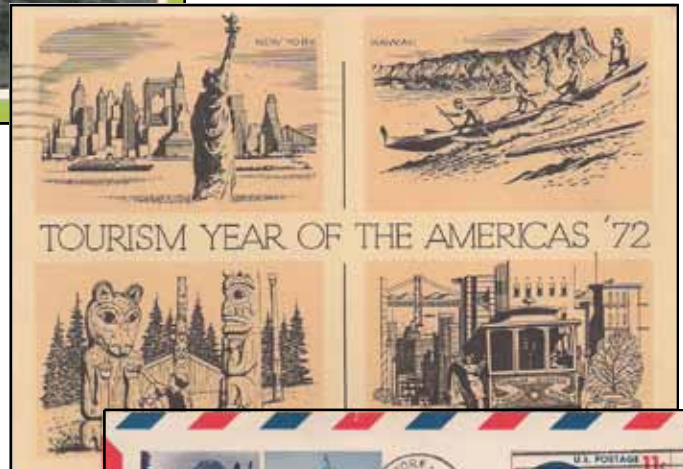


Figure 10 (Right): Despite a difference of six years, these two postal cards show nearly the same skyline.

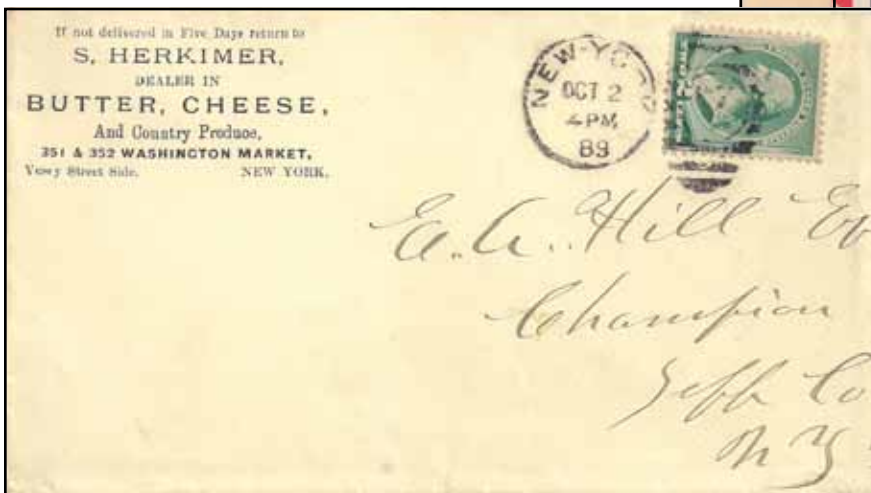


Figure 11: A Washington Market cover. Note the mention of “Vesey Street Side.”



Figure 12: The Vesey Pier cover. This produce merchant most likely received his wares directly off ships and then sold them at retail to the public.



Figure 13:
A photo of Fulton and Washington Streets taken in 1967. Although not readily apparent from this view, construction on the World Trade Center had already begun.

gangs of immigrant youths and the general decay of the buildings heralded the coming of an era of general decrepitude. The size of the rats prowling the market during off hours became a standard Manhattan joke.

Newspapers decried the foul conditions, and slowly, things began to happen. A new market had already been envisioned, uptown between Washington Street and Thirteenth Avenue, from Gansevoort Street to Little West 12th Street.

This is where the unruly streets of Lower Manhattan meet the planned grid of the rest of the city. It is sometimes today called the Meatpacking District, though it is mostly nightclubs and historic properties at present.

Included in the market was the area known as Gansevoort Peninsula, roughly one square block that stood on landfill. The history of a market here actually begins in 1854, when the city announced plans to bring vendors to this area. That year, the Hudson River Railroad built a freight depot near Gansevoort Street. During the 1860s, a few vendors drifted to this market, but it wasn't until 1874 that this area really began to take off.

Meanwhile, around 1880, the original Washington Market began to plan a completely new market building. This was envisioned as retail only, with most of the wholesale trade handled by the Gansevoort Market. While the Washington Market was reimagined, the Gansevoort Market gained steam.

Once the Towers District structure opened in 1884, the open-air portion of the Towers District Market was moved to the Gansevoort Street area. This enabled New York City to reclaim the docks here for the burgeoning

steamship trade. By 1891 this plan was completed. But this is where the real confusion begins. For when the "West Washington Market" moved uptown, a new building was built at West and the long-vanished Loew Street. This 1887 building, best known today in one of Bernice Abbott's most classic photos, had "West Washington Market" emblazoned right on the structure. It stood until 1954. A newer building, the Gansevoort Meat Center, was constructed in 1949.

The area that the 1887 building was erected on is sometimes called the Gansevoort Peninsula. Today the New York City Sanitation Department processes trash there, but in contemporaneous 19th century maps, it would not be seen as extending into the river. That's because, the city actually removed landfill north of this area for several blocks. This was done to build the Chelsea Piers, today considered a stylish destination for shoppers and sightseers. But, this area was originally built to accommodate the new ocean-going liners.

White Star, for instance, owner of the *Titanic* and *Olympic*, had a pier here. The *Titanic* would have berthed here, had she completed her maiden journey. It was felt that there would not be enough space further up the Hudson for these liners, so large piers were made where it was felt they would be most at home. Even here it was a squeeze, so the area was made more inviting by reversing the landfill trend and actually dredging out land that had already been added. It is an uncommon happenstance for a city to remove landfill, but that's what happened.

If that wasn't confusing enough, parts of the Towers District market moved to a new area between Reade and Murray Streets. This also helped replace the outdoor

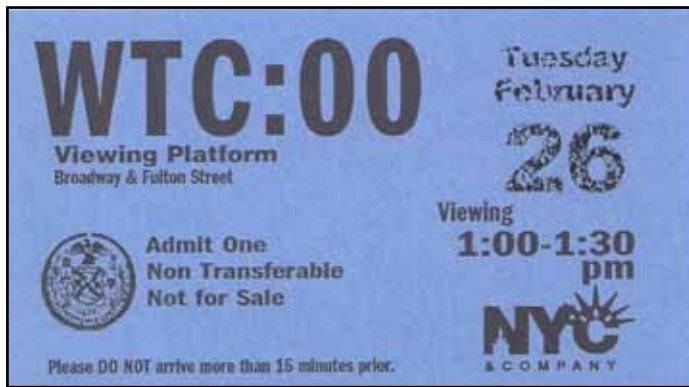


Figure 14: A Ground Zero “crowd control” ticket.

area in the Towers District, and became known as the Washington Produce Market. This also began in the 1880s. The market closed during the 1967-68 season, when it was removed to Hunt’s Point in the Bronx. Today, the New York neighborhood known as Tribeca (triangle below Canal Street), enjoys a park named for the market, which is nearby (but not on) where this third market flourished.

Meanwhile, the original Washington Market in the Towers District flourished, at least at first. In 1912, for its centennial, it was remodeled. Then, it was again renovated in 1940, but it closed in 1956. Unable to find a buyer, it was razed in 1960.

Of course, even if it had survived, it would have been removed for the coming of the World Trade Center. Still, right up until the groundbreaking of the World Trade Center, and even after, produce continued to be hawked in the original Washington Market area.

Figure 13, taken in 1967, shows the corner of Fulton and Washington Streets. The old market would have stood across the street, and the ghosts of the many vendors there would have recognized much about this store, which would very soon be closed forever.

So, if looking for paper involving only the Towers District Washington Market, it needs to be pre-1880s, or have a recognizable address or enjoy some other feature that makes it clear where it stood.

For historians and collectors this is problematic, because the original Washington Market continued to operate at the same time as these other markets. Some called the uptown market (Gansevoort) the West Washington Market, while giving the original downtown location the moniker of Washington Market. I have an official city directory from 1944 that follows this naming policy. The problem was, that both markets were in the western part of the island, so the name “West Washington” in a slang sense began to mean either market.

When the World Trade Center was built, the street plan of the area was lost. Though there is a movement afoot to restore original street names, it still remains disorienting for those who don’t remember the New

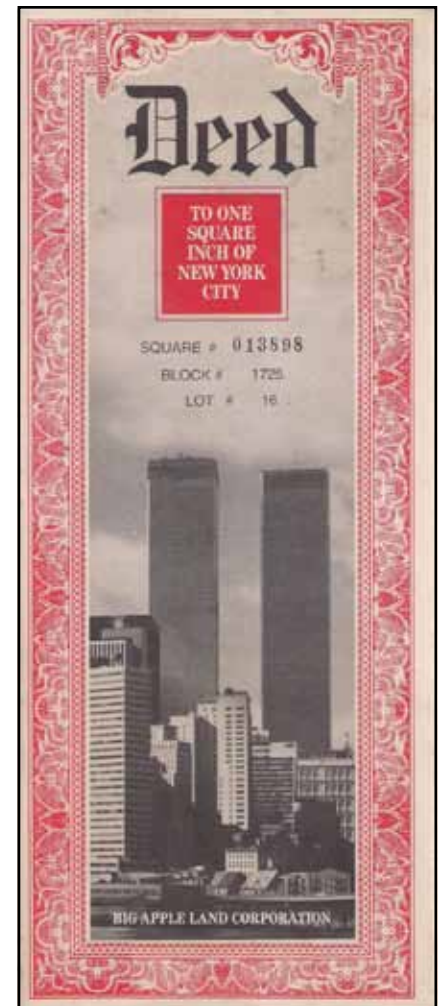


Figure 15: A deed to a square inch of New York City, but not the World Trade Center.

York City before the Towers. But, even for the time period after the World Trade Center fell, confusion reigns. We have already seen that the phrase “World Trade Center” can mean places other than New York City, but in Figure 14 we have an item where WTC can mean and not mean the World Trade Center.

When the initial period of clean up at the Trade Center site ended, Ground Zero itself became a tourist destination. These tickets were given out free, and were simply a method of crowd control. They were issued in 15-minute slots to take a simple walk around the edge of Ground Zero (so they come with 00, 15, 30 and 45 inscriptions). They also come in an array of colors. Simply put, the “WTC” lettering meant Ground Zero.

Often, the World Trade Center was used to symbolize New York City itself. Countless keychains, collector plates, and postcards used the image in many ways.

Next up is a very interesting document (Figure 15) that guarantees ownership of “a square inch of New York City.” On the face of this “deed” is an illustration of the World Trade Center. It’s only after you read the details that you realize that the actual land was uptown, and that your “ownership” was only for a year. Still, it makes for a super paper collectible item.

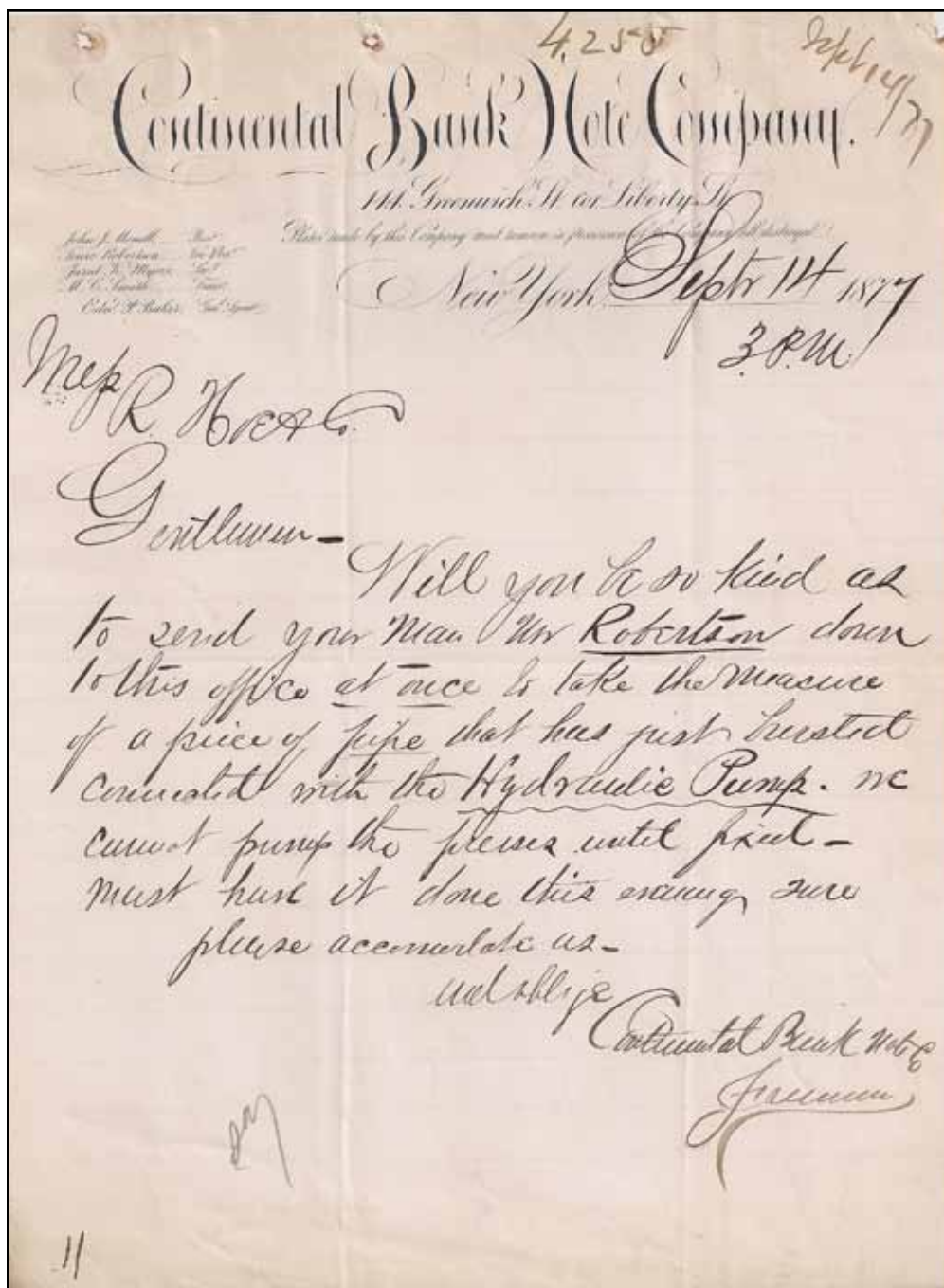


Figure 16: The Continental Bank Note Company was located just outside of the Towers District.

the machine cancellers used there and the kinds of mail processed. If their eyes haven't completely glazed over at this point, then I can go into greater detail.

This is very different from where I started in 2003. I simply wanted to define the edges of what was then called Ground Zero, so that I could sort all former Lower Manhattan addresses into either Ground Zero or non-Ground Zero. It seemed a very simple job. It isn't.

I paid several visits to the New York City Municipal Archives, thinking that this would help me. Actually, it made the task harder. Two streets in the Towers District have been renumbered.

Landfill has changed the shape of the area several times, and the opening of the new Club Quarters hotel has added an area that is now considered by me to be part of the tale.

There are also buildings nearby (like 90 West Street or St. Paul's Church) that are outside of the area, but are relevant to the story. Also, the precise eastern boundary is somewhat ephemeral due to the extension of Church

Part 3: Borderline Cases

When another collector asks me what I collect, I always have a moment of uncertainty. Should I tell them I collect stamps and ephemera pertaining to the World Trade Center? That's not exactly true. Should I say that I collect Ground Zero? Many people don't like that phrase. Do I collect covers with addresses from the streets in the Towers District? Virtually all of the streets I am interested in have portions that I don't collect. So that's not right.

So I usually launch into a description of what I am doing, mapping the streets where the World Trade Center stood, studying the addresses that were here and paying close attention to the types of products that were sold in this area. I also tell them of my attempt at doing an exhaustive study of Hudson Terminal's Post Office,

Street in 1869. Sometimes these border properties can be the most interesting. For instance, the Figure 16 letterhead shows that the well-known Continental Bank Note Company was at 144 Greenwich Street. Continental printed postage stamps, official stamps and some taxpaid revenue issues until mergers ended their dominance.

This address, on the corner of Liberty Street, would be across the street from what was originally considered Ground Zero, but now shares the land with the modern hotel additions. So, truly, if you require completeness, you would need all the rare Continental Bank Note Special Printings to show every stamp that has a Towers District tie-in. In lieu of that, I offer this humble official stamp (Figure 17), which clearly shows a captured imprint and most of the word "Continental."



Figure 17: Continental Bank Note captured imprint on Scott O18.

Another over-the-line, but still important, item is the Empire City Dispatch Company and their local stamps (Figure 18). Issued in 1881, this local post was quickly suppressed. The stamp is listed in Scott as 64L1. There is only one known cover, and it has the stamp under a 3-cent Bank Note stamp. But, mint copies are plentiful.

The stamp gives the address as 23 Dey Street, just outside of the Towers District. I consider TDAs to begin at 26 Dey Street. It is not known if the Empire City Dispatch planned to place boxes in different areas for collection. However, generally customers could drop letters at the main office of a local post, which in the case of the Empire City Dispatch was listed right on the stamp. I would say that at least a block in each direction would be the target market, so this stamp has a definite Towers District tie-in.

By the way, if you were to look at the map at the beginning of Dr. Donald Scott Patton's excellent book about local posts, you might believe that this post falls fully into the Towers District. The map is not entirely correct. It shows the pre-1869 state of Church Street, which is further confused by not being named. The cover shown is a collector's usage of the stamp as a simple decorative label. While not tied by a cancel, the toning around the stamp demonstrates that it was there for a long while, and most definitely belongs there.

I just mentioned the extension of Church Street. It was added in 1869. Instead of terminating at Fulton



Figure 18: An Empire City Dispatch Company stamp used on cover. Inset is a mint example of the stamp.

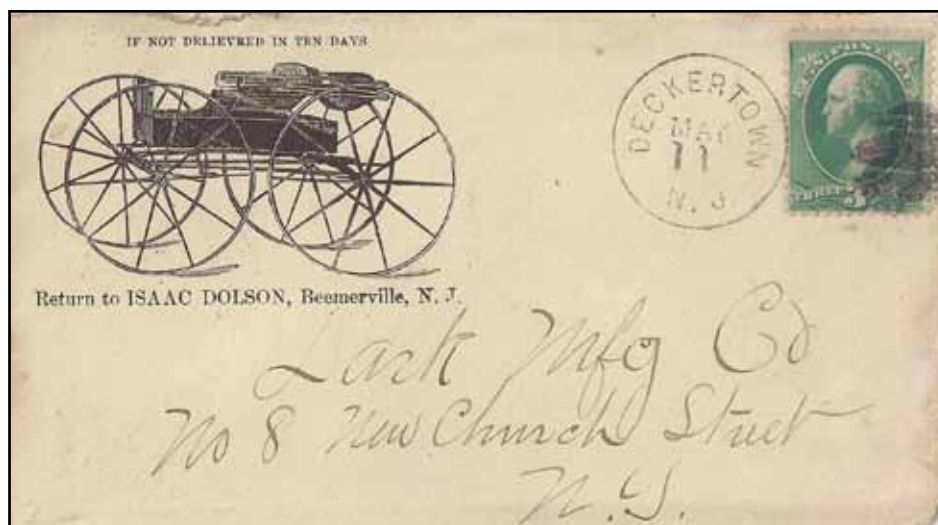


Figure 19: A cover addressed to "New Church Street."

Street, as it had for decades, it was extended three blocks south to meet up with Trinity Place at Liberty Street. The new section, along with the portion previously known as Trinity Place was renamed New Church Street. Eventually, this name reverted to Church Street north of Cortlandt, and the lower section was once again called Trinity Place. This extension of Church Street is where the elevated, mentioned in Part One, ran. It can be quite challenging to find any mention of New Church Street on a piece of ephemera or cover (Figure 19).

Another borderline case comes from medicine wholesaler Hall & Ruckel's relationship with



Figure 20: The Hall & Ruckel “X. B.” issues, plus a Hall & Ruckel cancel.



Figure 21: The handstamp missing the “X. B.”

Philadelphia perfume maker X. Bazin. One of the largest medicine companies of its day, Hall & Ruckel’s private die proprietary stamps are familiar sights to any one who collects Match and Medicine stamps. For a time, they were on Barclay Street just outside of the area of my interest. But, they bought the building to the rear (south) of their warehouse. This was 50 Vesey Street, and they obtained the building specifically to hold the perfumes of Xavier Bazin.

Amazingly, the purchase of this warehouse led to a new issue of stamps. The 1-cent and the 3-cent Hall & Ruckel issues on watermarked paper were overprinted with an obliteration (it voided the words “Hall & Ruckel”) and added letters “X.B.” for Xavier Bazin. These stamps were listed in Scott some years ago with the cumbersome numbering of RS95dh and RS96dh (Figure 20).

The problem is that collectors continue to refer to these stamps as possessing handstamp cancels. While Hall & Ruckel do have some interesting cancels, these stamps changed the usage of the stamp from medicine to perfumery. They should be listed as such in Scott, perhaps as RT2d and RT3d (all other perfumes would have to be renumbered, so I don’t see this happening any time soon). After all, if a handstamp on a stamp is for a new country (think of the Tristan da Cunha’s overprints on St. Helena issues), the stamp is listed with the new country. These overprints on Hall & Ruckel’s issues changed the essential nature of the stamps.

These stamps come in some intriguing varieties. A small quantity of them is overprinted with the obliteration, but without the “X.B.” (Figure 21). Perhaps the overprinting device broke. Some doubled and shifted impressions are known, as well. More work is needed on these interesting stamps.

Part 4: Mystery Items

So, now we are back to that moment when you face a stamp or cover for the first time, and have no clue at all.

In 1936, the RMS *Queen Mary* was christened and

celebrated her maiden voyage from Southampton to New York. This voyage was of great interest to ship cover collectors and many commemorative items were prepared for the first voyage (May 27, 1936), and the return voyage from New York City (June 5, 1936).

One of the most colorful cacheted envelopes of the day was used for both legs. A very large portion of the maiden return leg commemorative mailings was postmarked at Hudson Terminal.

The Figure 22 cover, at first glance, looks like it’s headed for the dollar box, or perhaps the waste bin. I call it “The Blob.” But, before you chuck it, you might want to take a closer look. Under the huge blot of ink is a postage due stamp. Why is the stamp there? The ink over the due stamp is the style used to ink postal handstamps, and adds another element to this odd item.

The stamp on the cover is the 6-cent National Parks stamp depicting Crater Lake (Scott 745). This stamp prepaid the letter rate to European destinations with a penny to spare. Apparently, the clerk who initially handled this cover confused the deep blue of the stamp with the deep violet of the three-cent stamp of the same series. Thinking it was not prepaid, he affixed a due.

If a two-cent stamp had been on the cover, it would have gone at the printed matter rate. I have seen such a cover, but it does not have a date, so it might not be as collectible to the average ship cancel collector. Somewhere, after the mistake, someone must have caught the error, and not wanting to destroy a treasured collectible, tried to conceal the stamp. Perhaps the postal ink spilled, or he went overboard (no pun intended), but it made for a curious item. Two other *Queen Mary* covers from Hudson Terminal without the “Blob” are shown in Figure 23.

The Hudson Terminal Post Office was one of the busiest on Earth. It certainly didn’t hurt that it was steps away from Nassau Street, that Mecca for stamp aficionados that made New York City the busiest collector locale in all the collectors’ universe (except perhaps for London’s Strand). Partly because of the nearby dealers, and partly due to its location, the Hudson



Figure 22: 'The Blob' is not science fiction, but rather a tantalizing mystery.

Terminal Post Office was pressed into an unofficial first day issue portal for several stamps. It was also used, occasionally, as a canceling station for event covers. However, some of these first days (Figure 24) do not give all the necessary information.

While, it is certainly a fact that many early first days are identifiable only by the date, these covers look nothing at all like first day covers. The top cover may have had the stamp removed from the sheet of 100 or from the souvenir sheet of 25 (Scott 629 or 630).

The bottom cover clearly shows the distinctive selvage for the sheet of 25. At least this other cover (Figure 25) had "First Day Cover" typed on it. I know of several other first day covers from the Hudson Terminal Post Office. Always check the dates!

In 1909, Hudson Terminal, as well as all of New York City, was swept up in the gala event known as the Hudson-Fulton Celebration. Stamps were issued (Scott 372-373) for this festival. Working replicas of the ships *Half Moon* and *Clermont* were created and run on the Hudson River.

This celebration had several Towers District tie-ins: for instance, sometimes the ships were run off the ferry piers in the Towers District, as well as the fact that Fulton Street was already named for Robert Fulton (who had tested his vessel off the pier at Cortlandt Street in at least one instance).

Take note of the Figure 26 cover mailed by the Hudson-Fulton Celebration Commission. You might wonder why they wouldn't use the new stamp on their mailing, but it's a mystery easily solved when you realize that they had been working on the event for quite a while before the issue of the Hudson-Fulton commemoratives (which had occurred only four days before the mailing of this cover). The desirability of the cover is enhanced by its being mailed to a TDA (and a Fulton Street one, at that).

Advertising covers from the Towers District are



Figure 23: Two other *Queen Mary* covers from Hudson Terminal.

always a nice find. The Figure 27 whimsical and colorful design with two children working as blacksmiths might be familiar to those who collect such covers. The Buffalo Forge Company used this illustration for a number of years. In this case, they created an envelope for their branch office in New York City, located at 39-41 Cortlandt Street. But, one odd thing here: the cover wasn't used from the New York City office. Apparently, they had these covers printed for the New York City office, and before they could be shipped, some must have been used in Buffalo at the main office. The



Figure 24: The White Plains stamp on some very plain first day covers.

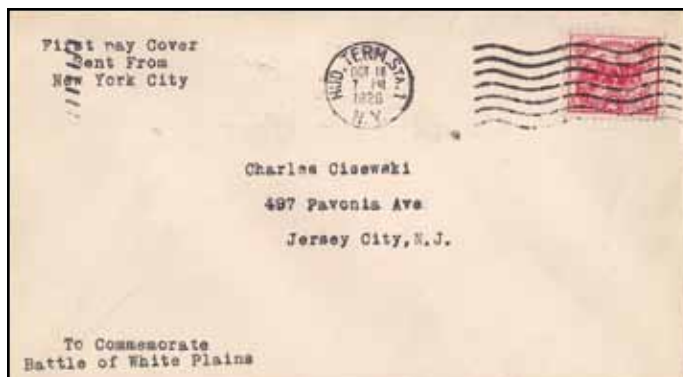


Figure 25: Another first day cover. Check the dates!



Figure 27: An advertising cover from the Buffalo Forge Company's New York City branch. This cover was never in New York City.

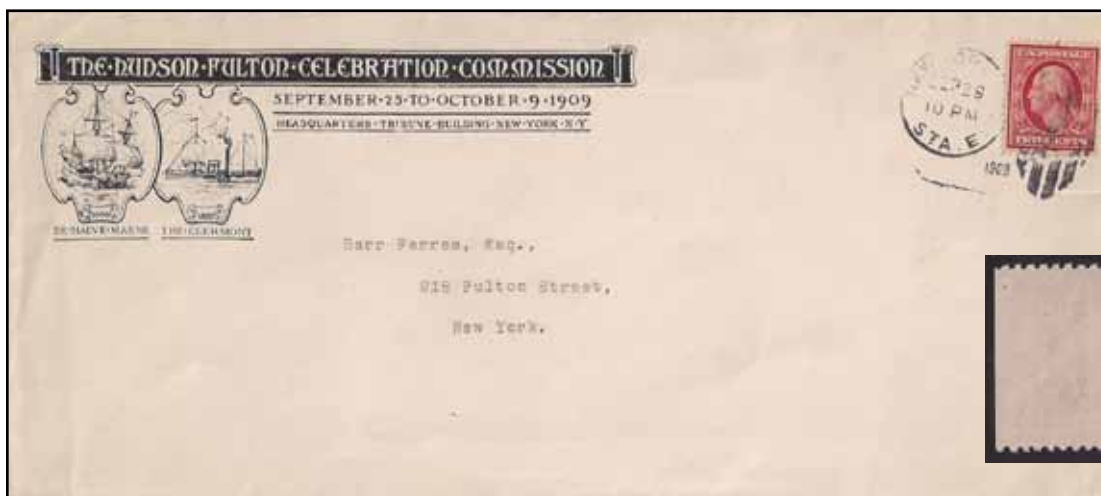


Figure 26: A Hudson-Fulton Celebration Commission cover. Inset: the Hudson-Fulton stamp.



Figure 28: The return address on this ad cover used the alternate spelling of Cortlandt (Courtlandt) Street.

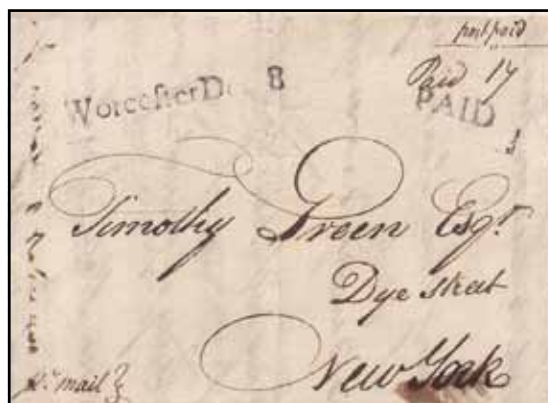


Figure 29: A 1795 stampless folded letter addressed to "Dye" Street.

machine cancel clearly demonstrates that, despite the address, the cover was never in New York City!

If you read my first article, “Cortlandt Street: One Way to the River,” you know that Cortlandt Street had several common misspellings. It is possible that Courtlandt was an intentional attempt at a name change. I have never seen any document that confirms this but many pieces of ephemera from the 1840s to about 1890 had this alternate spelling (Figure 28). The earliest I have seen is dated 1845. This spelling may have been a deliberate Anglicization of the Dutch name that was abandoned at some point. It is difficult to measure on postal history because New York City chose not to use a year date on many of its canceling devices in this period. Such alternate spellings can cause some confusion to the collector or historian.

But Cortlandt Street’s neighbor to the north, Dey Street, has an even more disorienting problem. It has a long array of names that led to its present spelling. And, apparently, no one can agree on how the current spelling was arrived upon. Dey Street is the only Towers District street that I know of where multiple origins for the street name have been suggested.

It was originally Dye Street. Figure 29 is a 1795 stampless folded letter posted in Worcester, Mass. The straightline cancel reads “Dec 8,” and it is datelined within. It is clearly addressed to this spelling. I have also seen records that this was also referred to as Dyes and Dyers Street. Street maps show these as accepted spellings. But many believe the street was named for Dirck Jansen Dey, who had a land grant from Peter Stuyvesant for a very large portion of what is today lower Manhattan. Some say Dye is merely an early form of Dey, others have stated that this was where Dyers lived (those who handle clothing dyes). I’m not sure this is ever going to be resolved.

Part 5: Fiscal Counterfeiting in the Universe of the Towers District

If you have a taste, as I do, for the bizarre and unusual in collecting, you might develop an interest in postal and revenue counterfeits. The definition of such a counterfeit is a stamp or revenue device that is created to defraud the government or postal employees. We’ll get deeper into the different types of fakery and reproduction in Part 6, but this is different than a bogus item made to pull the wool over the eyes of a collector (think Sperati). When people who are not familiar with law enforcement or stamp collecting are first confronted with such a stamp, the reaction is usually, “Why would anyone forge a stamp? There isn’t enough money in it!” But, in reality, such an enterprise can be incredibly lucrative for a forger and incredibly expensive to a government.

The most famous such counterfeit (and one of the

first) was the Stock Exchange Forgery of Great Britain. This fraud involved stamps used on telegraph forms. In England, the telegraph system was nationalized in 1870 and was used frequently at the Stock Exchange. This highly successful deception worked in the following manner: one postal employee (or perhaps more) was in possession of forged one-shilling stamps. When the sender of a telegraph sent his message, he gave a clerk a shilling. Later the crooked postal employee affixed the bogus stamp and kept the shilling (a lot of money in the 1870s). The stamps were so good that the fraud wasn’t exposed for 25 years.

Revenue stamp collectors prize such items, and the Towers District has its very own connection to such fiscal counterfeiting. It is the most intriguing case of Charles Henning and Charles Bonhack, with their relationship to the Staten Island gang of counterfeiters.

Henning and Bonhack had a partnership that most likely began as a friendship developed during the Civil War. Records reveal that a Charles Henning from New Jersey served in the War Between the States, and it is most likely Charles Bonhack was involved as well.

Many male “partnerships” were formed during the war, and it is no small wonder: nearly 20 per cent of males in the Union states served during the conflict. Possibly as high as 50 per cent of the white male population of the appropriate age served. The harsh conditions of the war, coupled with the unnerving boredom of waiting for actual battle or maneuvers, meant many men formed close relationships that often continued after the war. And, of course, many regiments were created from localized areas, so some men knew the other troops already.

However they met, Henning and Bonhack went into business together in the lucrative field of matches. The manufacture of friction matches may seem to be an unimportant career, but before electricity was commonplace, if you didn’t have a match you would have a heck of a time starting a fire to cook with or to light a lantern. Smokers also needed a ready supply of “Lucifers.” Virtually everyone bought matches and profit was tailor-made for the right manufacturer.

During the war, Congress had enacted a law creating a tax on a wide variety of transactions including deeds, wills, probates, etc. A separate and very important tax on proprietary items was also created. This taxation took effect Oct. 1, 1862, and created the need for the stamps known as the United States first issue of revenue stamps. While some taxes (like the tariff on photographs) were eliminated early on, many remained until 1883 when the tax was completely repealed.

Proprietary products taxed included matches and patent medicines. But, business owners that decided to avail themselves of a special discount were given the opportunity to create their own stamps, which gave the

advantage of free advertising. Today, we call these stamps private die proprietary stamps.

Henning and Bonhack saw the advantage of having such a stamp created for them. It is their 1-cent blue, Scott RO107a (Figure 30). This stamp may have been printed more than once for Henning and Bonhack, but it currently gets only one Scott number (once it was thought an ultramarine variety existed, but it has been delisted).



Figure 30: The Crooked matchseller: The Henning and Bonhack 1-cent Blue Private Die Proprietary stamp (Scott RO107a).

According to *The Boston Revenue Book* the 1-cent Henning and Bonhack die was approved May 18, 1868. The stamp was first issued July 1868, and last used Nov. 9, 1869. All the stamps were printed on old paper. If there was a second printing, it might have been around the halfway point, roughly late February 1869. A total of 2,582,500 were issued, which seems quite high for such a scarce stamp.

Elliott Perry (writing as Christopher West) stated that this stamp was “anything but beautiful” and “homely in the extreme.” Actually, the odd cramped text-only design certainly makes the issue stand out from the crowd, at least today. There are only about a dozen private die proprietary stamps that have no illustration; fewer if you consider a signature to be an embellishment. The center portion of the design reads: Henning and Bonhack/Manufacturers/Hudson City N.J./D.E. Gregory/Sole Agent/New York. D.E. Gregory’s office was located at 36 Dey Street, a clear TDA and just about the only fact anyone seems to know about this shadowy figure. Hudson City was a town that, in 1870, became part of Jersey City. It is now referred to as “The Heights” neighborhood.

This is yet another connection Jersey City has to the Towers District (the famous seedsman Peter Henderson also lived there). Apparently, it was a very tempting commute to take the ferry from Jersey City to concerns that were within easy walking distance from the ferry. Strangely enough, Jersey City also has a Dey Street.

The building at 36 Dey Street in the Towers District was later used by many different concerns, including one A. K. Butts, a bookseller, who published an early examination of Walt Whitman’s poetry. The edifice was sold in 1903 to provide an excavation site for the Hudson and Manhattan’s tunnels. It was razed soon after. Eventually the address would be part of the Hudson Terminal behemoth.

Henning and Bonhack apparently had an eye for bargains. They saved some money by using a frame



Figure 31: Left: The frame for the Henning and Bonhack issue was taken from the Brown and Durling stamp. Right: The upper portion of the frame was also used on the Hotchkiss stamp.

adapted from a previous match stamp (Figure 31), the 1-cent Brown and Durling issue. That firm had gone out of business late in 1867. Other companies also used portions of this frame in their designs.

It is also possible that there is a connection to the Sanitary Fair stamps for the Great Central Fair of Philadelphia. The eagle on these stamps was used on another Match & Medicine issue. But the scrollwork is very familiar to students of the Henning and Bonhack issue. It’s not a spot-on match, but there is a definite similarity between these



Figure 32: Another Butler and Carpenter engraved issue: the Philadelphia Great Central Sanitary Fair stamp. The eagle was used on a private die playing card stamp and the scrollwork resembles the Henning and Bonhack issue. (Courtesy Deb Streett)



Figure 33: Butler and Carpenter imprint copies. The Henning and Bonhack stamp was one of their last works before Butler passed away.



Figure 34: Trial color proof impression of the Henning and Bonhack stamp in black.



Figure 35: The Hart Pierce 1-cent Proprietary counterfeit.



Figure 36: Strip of five of the Hart Pierce stamp used as evidence in his trial. (Courtesy Eric Jackson)

Figure 37 (Right): Also known forged—The B. and H.D. Howard stamp.



issues engraved by Butler and Carpenter (Figure 32). Elliot Perry also stated that this was one of the last stamps engraved by Butler and Carpenter (Figure 33) before Butler passed away in 1868.

Impressions of the Henning and Bonhack issue were printed in trial colors (Figure 34), before blue, a common choice for match stamps, was selected. But, Messrs. Henning and Bonhack had another method for saving money. They got mixed up in a counterfeit stamps racket.

It is not known who in the “Staten Island Gang” of forgers first met Henning and Bonhack. When they met is also not known. But we do know most of the particular scoundrels in this scheme. They were: Col. Bob Clark (a distinguished war vet), Hart L. Pierce, John Rippon, Reuben Carpenter (a plate printer with no relation to the Carpenter of Butler and Carpenter), William Kempton, Phil Hardgrave and Volney Wright.

Col. Clark was the leader. Pierce and Carpenter were the engravers, while Kempton and Rippon were plate printers (they lived together in Staten Island, hence the name of the gang). Hardgrave and Wright did the actual selling and delivery of bogus items. These seven men, along with Henning and Bonhack, were the entire operation. By the way, Perry refers to this group of criminals as the “Snake Hill Gang.” These two monikers refer to the same group (they lived near Snake Hill on Staten Island).

Revenue stamp collectors today know of a few different forgeries engraved by Pierce and Carpenter. The 1-cent Proprietary forgery (Figure 35) is the one that concerns us. It was used by Henning and Bonhack on their matches.

One puzzle that no one has quite figured out is why they would even want a forged 1-cent Proprietary, when they were using genuine private die proprietary issues. It would seem to arouse suspicion to have two different stamps in use simultaneously. Unfortunately for the counterfeiters, their success led to an investigation

into various phony stamps. It didn’t take long for the Staten Island Gang to be locked away; along with their good customers Henning and Bonhack.

American Counterfeits, How Detected and How Avoided gives the arrest date of Hart L. Pierce as Oct. 30, 1869, so we can assume that the November 9 date given above was the time of the seizure of the Match Factory belonging to Henning and Bonhack (*American Counterfeits* implies a few days passed between arrests).

Hart Pierce’s work was so good that some say he contributed to the issue of the second series of U.S. revenue stamps (Figure 36). There certainly were other factors, like stamp reuse, but Pierce’s trial made note of the very stamps used by Henning and Bonhack. It is also known that Henning and Bonhack’s own trial involved these forged 1-cent Proprietary stamps.

At the time of their arrest, it is known that the Staten Island Gang was counterfeiting match stamps. It has sometimes been thought that this counterfeit was of the B. and H.D. Howard stamps, Scott RO111a -112a (Figure 37).

Benoni Howard is known to have had forged stamps made for him, but it is not known who did the work. His forged plate wound up being fished out of the East River in New York City and he was eventually arrested.

While the actual forger is unknown, it is a tantalizing possibility that the printers of the fake Henning and Bonhack stamps were involved in that fraud, as well.

Revenue researcher Ron Leshner recently discovered a book entitled *In It*, the 19th century memoirs of the head of the Secret Service. It makes mention of a connection between Howard and Pierce. An even more titillating possibility is that they were attempting to make forged Henning and Bonhack stamps. Perhaps they were all seized and destroyed. Of course, the possibility also

exists that the newspaper and media's "match stamps" were actually the 1-cent Proprietary fakes.

No matter how you look at it, the Henning and Bonhack stamp is, to my knowledge, the only Towers District item known to pertain directly to fiscal counterfeiting.

Part 6: Reproduction vs. Fantasy

One of the most important delineations in the field of counterfeits and fakery, is the distinction between reproductions and things that never existed at all. Such an item, a fantasy, may well be vintage and collectible, but it is in no way a reproduction, as there is no original to fake. A good example of this is the many stamps of inveterate and prolific forger S. Allan Taylor.

It's not to say that Taylor didn't make forgeries and reproductions of genuine stamps, he most certainly did, but he also created stamps for which no genuine counterpart exists, like the British American College stamps. The college is real, but the stamps are pure Taylor. Taylor was by no means the only maker of fantasy stamps (Figure 38). Many stamps of this ilk were accepted by philatelists as real stamp issuing entities. Some continue to deceive today. Such stamps can't be called forgeries or reproductions, because no original exists.

In my opinion, there are eight basic types of questionable and forged items that can be found in the philatelic world:

1. Official Reproductions: These are reprints of stamps made by the official issuing entity. Sometimes, a great deal of time has passed before the reprints are issued (like the reprints of classic 19th century U.S. postage for the centennial).

2. Unauthorized Reprints (or proof pulls): Sometimes these are made from original plates, sometimes from similar plates. Despite their status, they are in some cases listed in catalogs. Think of the Schernikow proofs of Sanitary Fair stamps and you have the idea. This category would also include backdated cancels off cover (unless authorized by the issuing entity).

3. Counterfeits: Strictly speaking, these are items intended to defraud collectors. I'd like to say that the more expensive a stamp is, the more prone to fakery it is, but, in fact, that is a cliché and quite incorrect. Many cheap stamps have been counterfeited. Some counterfeits are quite skillful. Sperati's forged stamps are often things of great detailed beauty. Covers can be counterfeits even when the stamp is genuine.

4. Fantasy Issues: The broadest category here, fantasies (what some call Cinderellas) are stamps, seals and labels that serve no postal or fiscal purpose. They cannot be called reproductions, because no original exists. Many bogus "stamp issuing entities" fall into this category. However, I would not say Christmas Seals or



Figure 38: Central American Steamship "stamp." A fantasy issue.

political labels fall into this category, because there is no intent to deceive. As stated previously, many of S. Allan Taylor's creations fall into this broad category.

5. Postal and Fiscal Counterfeits: This is a very limited field. The Hart Pierce proprietary counterfeit studied in Part 5 is a good example. However, it should be noted that some postal or fiscal counterfeits have been themselves forged. In this case they would fall into Type 3. This also includes politically inspired bogus stamps (which may or may not be used for postage) like the Operation Cornflakes stamps printed by the Allies during World War II.

6. Unreleased Stamps: Not truly fakes in any way, but worth mentioning. These are stamps printed and for one reason or another never issued. If a few leak out (like the Hat postcard stamp), they can be quite expensive. However, they often remain unlisted.

7. Altered Philatelic Items: This is the broadest of these categories in scope. Trimmed perfs, regumming, perfed stamps trimmed to look imperf; all these things are forms of altering.

I myself have been known to trim off a rough edge on a cover. Is this an altered item? Technically, yes. I always go by the rule of thumb that minor cosmetic trims are okay. However, moving a stamp or refolding a cover is out of the question. Generally, small repairs are allowed, *if you identify them when describing or exhibiting your item*. Covering them over is fakery.

Some of John Fox's creations would fall into this category. Sometimes, he took genuine covers but added markings that didn't belong to the item. The line between this kind of alteration and out-and-out fakery is thin indeed. I would say that a CTO (cancelled to order) stamp is a form of alteration (not to be confused with the Type 2 backdating mentioned above).

8. Remainders: Some philatelic entities will sometimes release stamps that are no longer used at less than face value. While these stamps are generally impossible to tell from unused items sold over the counter, some issuers have taken steps to make their

remainders obvious to the eye. A good example is the Postal Telegraph Company's 1885 issue that, when remaindered, was overprinted with a star. Reprints are not remainders, though occasionally reprints can be remaindered.

Sometimes the line between real and faked can be very nebulous. With the World Trade Center, this problem arose only days after 9/11. How do you tell a genuine World Trade Center postcard (pre-9/11) from one that was made to ride the crest of post 9/11 interest?

If your card is used, with a pre 9/11 cancel, then you have a genuine item, sold in the shops of New York City. If not, you may have a fantasy item or a card that uses a genuine photo, but was manufactured after 9/11 for reasons that are less than pure. Or it may just be a flat-out reprint.

Figure 39 is a card that illustrates this point. This card depicts the skyline of New York City, featuring the World Trade Center, as it looked just before 9/11. But, such cards were often sold after 9/11, sometimes at a hefty premium. I bought this card in 2003 in a New York City smoke shop.

Mostly, I look for canceled cards to show when they were actually used. Of course, some don't need any explanation. The evocative Figure 40 RPPC used in October 1981 doesn't actually mention the World Trade Center. However, the young lady's finger points up: it's pretty clear where she is going. It's also an interesting example of the short-lived 12-cent postcard rate. Reproduced items involving the World Trade Center don't just involve stamps and postcards.

For instance, I have seen signs for subway stations that served the World Trade Center selling at very high prices. These signs are available from the manufacturer. Large quantities exist, and they have never seen the inside of a subway station.

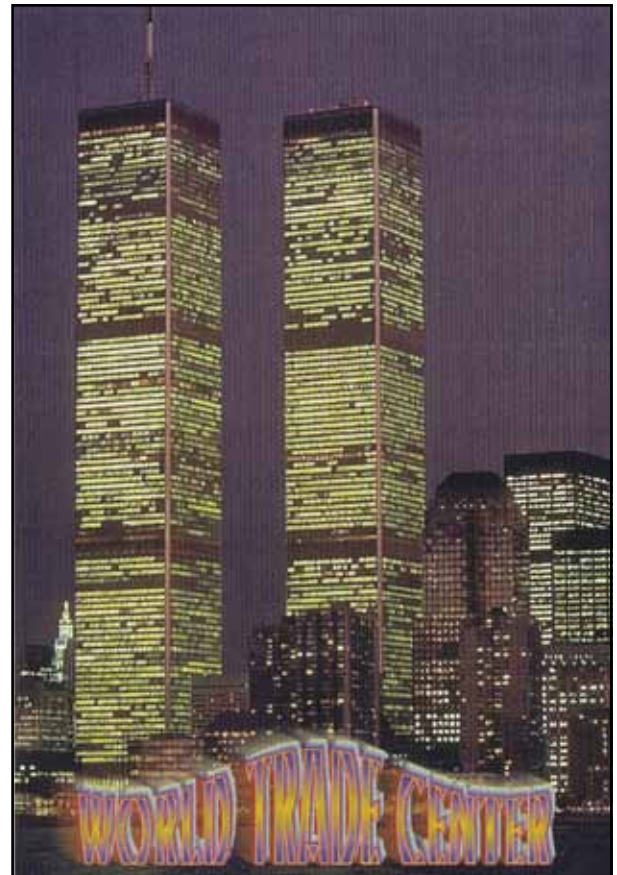


Figure 39: A World Trade Center postcard purchased in 2003.

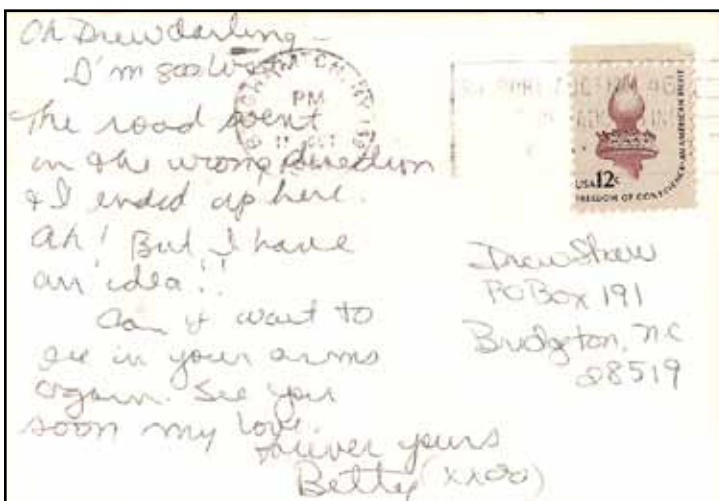


Figure 40 (Right): Wonder where she is going? (Left): The stamp side of the postcard with her message.

Part 7: Forgeries

Last, but not least, we come to out-and-out forgeries. These fakes are designed to deceive the collector and take his money from him. In the Towers District, these fakes abound, especially of World Trade Center items.

During the tragic hours of 9/11, many post offices closed nationwide. That makes any 9/11/2001 postmark collectible. They do exist. However if you go looking, you are bound to see more forgeries than genuine examples. The Figure 41 World Trade Center postcard is a contemporaneous World Trade Center card used with a 21-cent Bison coil stamp (Scott 3475). The stamp is tied by a New York “Sep 11 2001” datestamp. But this card was not canceled on 9/11.

After 9/11, several post offices in the New York area were plagued with postal handstamps being stolen from their premises by employees eager to make a

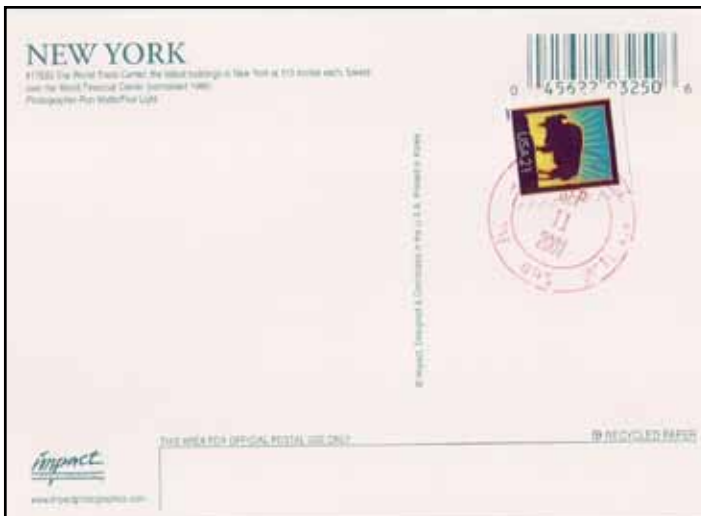


Figure 41: A completely phony 9/11 card usually comes with a long story.



Figure 42: John Denune's 9/11 covers with his own label and the 34-cent Liberty stamp.



Figure 43: Denune's Eid varieties.



Figure 44: A close-up of a meter stamp used on a piece of commercial mail sent out on 9/11.

quick buck. Postmark ink was acquired, along with some World Trade Center postcards. Then, the slug was backdated to 9/11/2001 and forged cards created.

When offered, many of these fakes are accompanied by a tear-jerking story. It usually runs like this: My father (or mother or girlfriend or sister or whatever) worked near the World Trade Center. On 9/11, he saw the first plane hit Tower One (the North Tower). He just happened to have some World Trade Center postcards in his desk. He grabbed them, and quickly ran to the post office. He bought enough stamps for the cards, had them canceled and then the clerk handed them back. Just after he left the window, the second plane hit and the clerk slammed the gate down, so no more cards were made.

It's a powerful story. But virtually everything about it is untrue. I first saw one of these cards in October 2001. At the time of this writing, there are several of them for sale on eBay. The "sob story" is so powerful that many dealers will verbally attack you if you point out to them that these are fakes.

Recently, I met a man who tried to link a deceased firefighter to these forgeries. Nice try, but those cards are also fakes. In that case the stamp used was the booklet pane version of the bison stamp, which wasn't released until after 9/11. There also exist cards with signatures of various political bigwigs from New York that had a 9/11 tie-in. These cards have certificates that guarantee that they are genuine. The signatures may be real, but the cancel is phony-baloney. I have seen some of these cards priced as high as \$25,000, but I still do not believe a single genuine card of this nature exists.

But, not everyone had to forge such items. Well-known Christmas Seal collector and dealer John Denune Sr. was in bed when a friend called to let him know that the first plane had hit the Towers. His original impression was that the towers would not collapse (I remember thinking something quite like that myself).

In a 2013 interview, Denune stated that he had always wanted a cover with a Pearl Harbor date (Dec. 7, 1941). So, in this instance, determined to produce his own covers, he convinced his son (John Denune

Jr.) into quickly manufacturing labels and cachets. This was fast thinking and fast work. By this time the towers had fallen. He hastened to his local post office in Grantville, Ohio, but found only 34-cent Liberty stamps. He wanted the 34-cent Eid, so he went on to the Lynworth, Ohio, Post Office (in Franklin County near Columbus, where a philatelic window is located).

He created the Figure 42 covers that noted this infamous event with the Liberty stamp. They also had the Eid, so he was able to create a similar set (Figure 43) with this issue. There are six varieties and roughly 100 of each exist.

Denune pointed out that he knows of another set of covers created and dedicated to remember these horrific events (cancelled 9/11 in California at the airport complex near where three of the hijacked airliners were due to land before being commandeered). And, there may be other such "commemorative" covers. I recently bought such a cover dated 9/11 that I believe to be genuine. However, I know little about it. This area remains murky, and may always be that way.

Did some commercial mail go out on 9/11? Yes. The Figure 44 close-up shows the detail of a meter mail cover I received the day after 9/11 at my place of employment. This was posted by a mailer with a meter machine in the usual manner.

As I pointed out in Part 6, some "collectible" items are fantasies, in that no original exists. While that may be benign, some dealers try to sell these as originals.

The Figure 45 King Kong (1970s version, not the original) postcard has been acknowledged as a fantasy item. The presence of the bar code makes that pretty clear. However, some dealers are offering these as vintage items. They are *not* from the 1970s.

Sometimes, they are offered with "original" tickets to the World Trade Center observation platform that come with a "Certificate of Authenticity." The tickets purport to be from unused stock that the printer had sitting around. That would make them remainders at best, but frankly, I believe them to be printed after 9/11.

Buyers beware: If a large number of items show up at once, be suspicious. After 9/11 many people read of huge amounts of recovered silver and gold from vaults below Ground Zero. While there was a reasonable amount of silver kept in one such a vault, the number of "recovery coins" and "recovered ingots" far outstrip the amount possible.

I also think it likely that many of the "hotel room card keys" that purport to be from the World Trade Center Hotel, if not all of them, are also post-9/11 rubbish. The World Trade Center and 9/11 evoke powerful emotions that nullify logic. Think twice.

This concludes my initial series of articles on the Towers District. There is more to come, and I hope I have inspired some of you to join my work in this

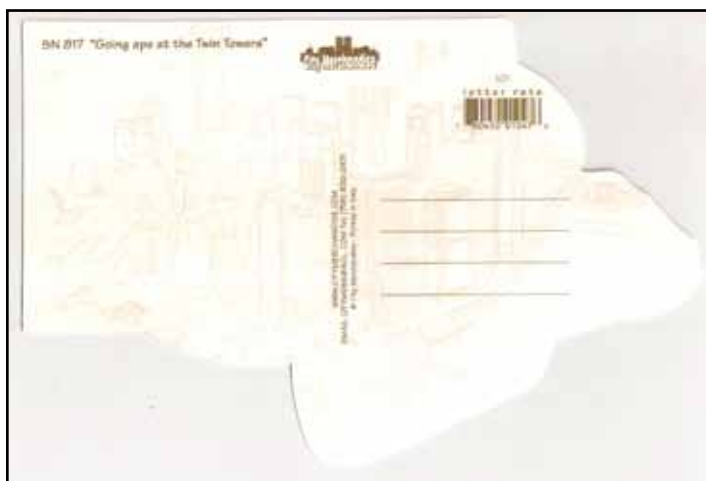
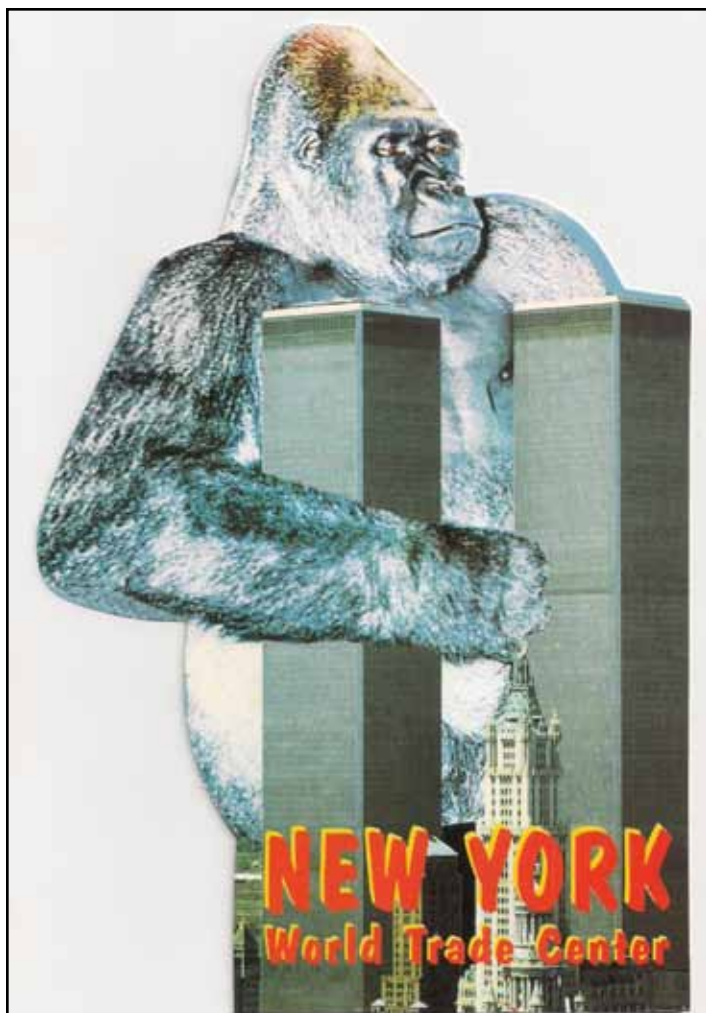


Figure 45

(Top): Buyer beware!

(Below): There are so many clues on the reverse of this card it's hard to believe that anyone can be fooled.

fascinating area. Some of you may go to New York City in the near future. If you do, as you drive around Manhattan, remember the past.

And, if you should drive by the 9/11 Memorial and the new World Trade Center, slow down a bit. With the right kind of eyes you can see the ephemeral ghosts of what was, looming over the concrete of what is.

And these are the names: Hudson, Cortlandt, the Sixth Avenue El, Singer, Peter Henderson, A&P, the Ninth Avenue El, West Washington and taller than tall, higher than the sky, the Twin Towers themselves, as close to Heaven as we can imagine, as close to yesterday as we can picture and as close to the world of tomorrow as we will ever be allowed.

Bibliography

Anonymous. *A Guide to Former Street Names in Manhattan*. New York, oldstreets.com, 2005.

Anonymous. *The City of New York Official Directory 1944*. New York: The City Record, 1944.

Burnham, George Pickering. *American Counterfeits: How Detected, and How Avoided*. Boston, Mass.: A.W. Lovering, 1879.

Denune Sr., John. Personal interview, Aug. 5, 2013.

Hacker, David J.; Hilde, Libra; and Jones, James Holland. "The Effect of the Civil War on Southern Marriage Patterns." Paper published on www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov, 2010.

Hemmings, Richard. "New York City's Cortlandt Street: One Way to the River," *La Posta: The Journal of American Postal History*, First Quarter, 2012, Whole Number 249.

Hemmings, Richard. "Intoxicated Ground Zero," *La Posta: The Journal of American Postal History*, First Quarter, 2013, Whole Number 253.

Houseman, Donna O'Keefe, ed. *Philatelic Gems II*. Sidney, Ohio: Amos Press, 1985.

Levitt, Andrew. *Andrew Levitt Sale #1: The Morton Dean Joyce Private Die Proprietary Collection*, Sept. 12-14, 1991.

Patton, Donald Scott. *The Private Local Posts of the United States of America*. London: Robson Lowe Limited, 1967.

Rizek, Barbara and Martin; and Medvecky, Joanne. *Images of America: The Financial District's Lost Neighborhood 1900-1970*. Charleston, S.C.: Arcadia Publishing.

Petschel, H.K. *Spurious Stamps: A History of U.S. Postal Counterfeits*. State College, Pa.: American Philatelic Society, 1997.

Silver, Nathan. *Lost New York*. New York: Houghton Mifflin Co, 1967.

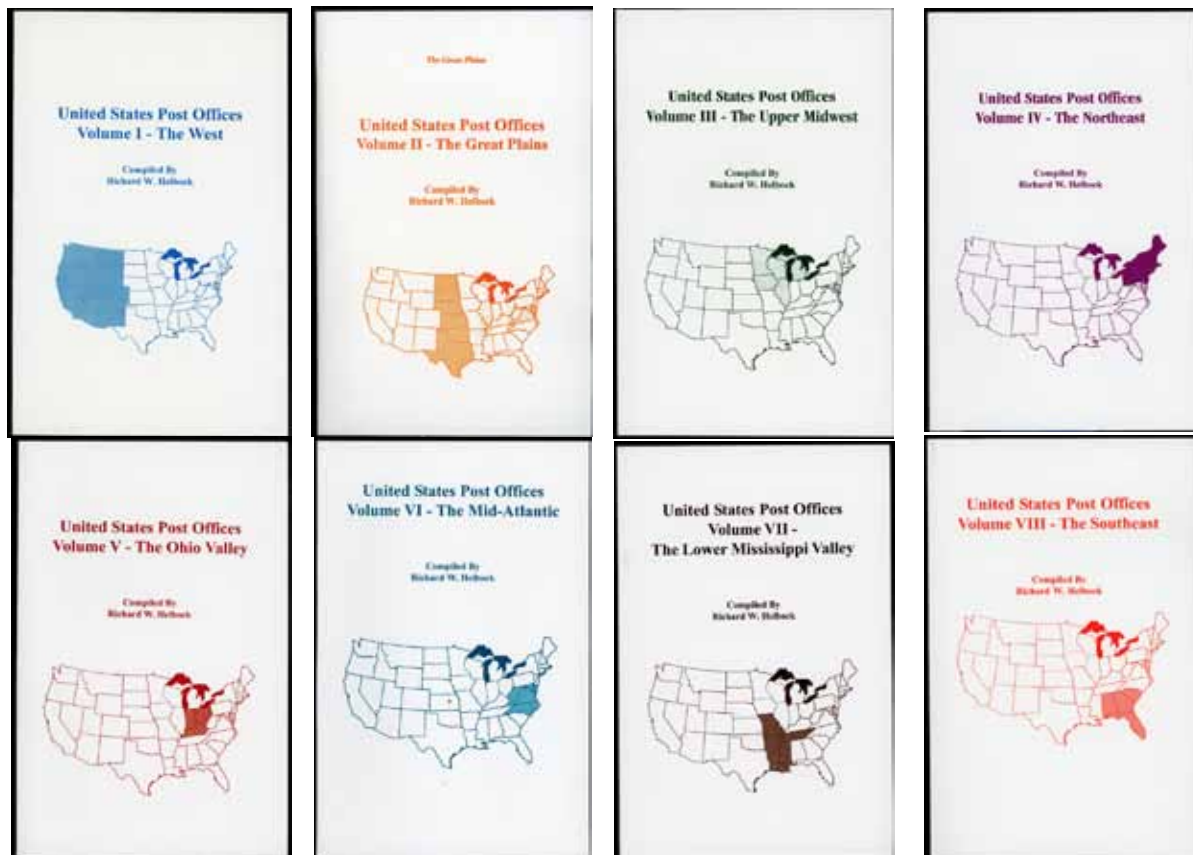
Toppan, George; Deats, Hiram; and Holland, Alexander. *The Boston Revenue Book*. Boston, Mass.: Boston Philatelic Society, 1899.

Turner, George T., compiler. *Sloane's Column*. West Somerville, Mass.: Bureau Issues Association, 1961.

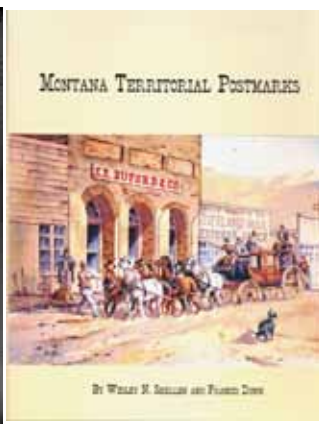
West, Christopher. *Private Die Match Stamps*. Pacific Palisades, Calif.: Castenholz and Sons, 1980.

Whitley, Hiram C. *In It*. Cambridge, Mass.: Cambridge Riverside Press, 1894.

U.S. POST OFFICES VOL 1-8 COMPLETE



Special price for the entire set of 8: \$189.00 postpaid* (US)
Individual books \$27.50 each postpaid



Postmarks on Postcards: Sale: \$15.00 ea
Montana Territorial Postmarks: \$20.00 ea
 *Mention that you saw the ad in La Posta and receive Postmarks on Postcards free with the set. Dealer inquires invited.

*The entire La Posta inventory was purchased by Larry Weinstock and Michael Jaffe in the summer of 2013. You can purchase these books through the mail for the same price you would pay at a stamp show. Finding one good postmark could easily pay for a book or possibly the entire set. This set is an invaluable resource for any dealer, not just postal history dealers. **Order today!***



Mailing address: PO Box 90 Vancouver WA 98666
(360) 695-6161 Toll Free: (800) 782-6770
Website: www.brookmanstamps.com
Email: mjaffe@brookmanstamps.com
Credit Cards welcome



2014 Brookman Price Guide.
 400+ pages Full Color. Thousands of price changes. Brookman keeps up with the market to list the most up to date retail prices.
Spiral: \$37.95
Perfect: \$32.95
 Postpaid to US

I AM STILL BUYING—JUST DON'T ASK WHY!!!

OKLAHOMA AND INDIAN TERRITORY COVERS
WEATHER FORECAST BACKSTAMPS
U.S. DESPATCH AGENT AND AGENCY MARKINGS
19th CENTURY U.S. FANCY CANCELS
PRIVATE PERFS ON COMMERCIAL COVERS
“CROSBY” POSTMARKS—Any State (Not Crosby cachets—No, we were not related)

COVERS ADDRESSED “IF NOT DELIVERABLE TO ADDRESSEE, PLEASE HAND TO _____”
(THE WEIRDER THE BETTER)

WILEY POST COVERS
A & M COLLEGE CANCELS AND
AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION FRANKS
ILLUSTRATED MAIL PHOTOGRAPHY & RELATED
MULTICOLOR GUN COVERS
OKLAHOMA CIVIC ADVERTISING
MULTICOLOR A.B. SHUBERT, FUR BUYERS COVERS

POST CARDS
CHARLES M. RUSSELL
BUSTER BROWN
YELLOW KID
OKLAHOMA STREET SCENES

JOE CROSBY
5009 BARNSTEEPLE CT., OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73142-5405
E-mail: joecrosby@cox.net

4,800 Pages of *La Posta* on Two Discs



La Posta volumes 31-40, covering the years 2000-2009—that's 4,800 pages—on two CDs priced at \$17.50 each, postage paid to anywhere on the planet.

All articles may be referenced using the PDF “bookmark” feature on each disc, and complete searches are easily conducted by way of the built-in PDF “keyword” search function.



To Order:

Send a check for \$17.50 for either CD, or \$35 for both to: Cath Clark, POB 65, Harwood, NSW 2465 Australia

Two Canadian Gems Sent to the United States



By Peter Martin

Here are two interesting Canadian postal history gems appearing in Saskatoon Stamp Centre's Sale Catalogue. Both are addressed to the United States. The top cover surely must be unique. It features 29 neatly arranged stamps of Newfoundland Scott 70/85, including two 15-cent Seals, and strips of five of the 1-cent green, 2-cent vermilion, 3-cent orange, 4-cent violet and 5-cent blue, plus two extra five centers, tied by grids on a large registered canvas cover addressed to the Bank of Montreal office in Chicago. The stamps paid the 11oz rate: $22 \times 5\text{¢} + 5\text{¢ Reg} = \1.15 .

The bottom covers bears a Newfoundland Scott 83 3-cent orange strip of five that paid the 15-cent triple weight letter rate to Syracuse, N.Y. The cover has smudged grid cancels and a "N. & W. RAILWAY T.P.O. AP 25/01" split-ring backstamp and United States receiving markings. (Courtesy John I. Jamieson, Saskatoon, SK, Canada)

One Strike and You're Stuck at Home: The Effects of Postal Strikes and Civil Unrest Abroad

Continuing with our review of problematic overseas addresses, this segment of the series will look at markings on mail addressed overseas to countries where there were postal strikes in progress, or where civil order, including postal service, had broken down.

While this may be a strange mixture of apples and oranges, the markings used to return mail are often the same, or close relatives of one another. We will not deal with World War I, World War II and Korean War suspended mail in this segment. That is a subject all of its own and will be the subject of a future column in this series.

Certainly Canada is the most often seen of postal strike return mail. If anything shows the wisdom of the U.S. government's ban on public sector strikes, it is Canada's experience with postal worker strikes. I have examples from strikes in 1968, 1974, 1975, 1978, 1981, 1987 and 1997.

The variety of markings on strike mail is significant, ranging from clear to obscure. In the latter class is the Figure 1 cover, which says "Unmailable." The sender was left to figure out why. Slightly better is "Return [with a pointing finger] Embargo on Ontario Mail," also shown in Figure 1. Again, the "why" is left to the imagination. It might have helped the mailer that Canadian postal strikes always seemed to get a mention in the newspapers of the day.

The most often seen marking is handstamped on envelopes and says some version of "Return to Sender Service Suspended" or "Service Temporarily Discontinued." The real treasures here are examples where the sender focused on the temporary nature of the strike, and when it was reported that the strike was over, the returned envelope was remailed (with no additional postage) noting that the strike was over (Figure 2).

My favorite strike return markings are the printed labels. A 1978 example is shown in Figure 3, along with a 1997 example.

The former is a photocopied label saying, "Return to Sender! Postal Service Temporarily Suspended."

The latter is a computer-printed label saying in part: "Return to Sender Canada Post Strike Postage Refund at Local Post Office Refund Upon Request."

The next most often seen destination is the British Isles. Here I have examples addressed to various

locations in the United Kingdom in 1971, 1977 and 1988, and in the Irish Republic in 1979 and 1992. Most of the markings are similar to the Canadian strike examples, but there are a couple of wrinkles.

One is "Temporary Airmail Embargo Return to Sender." I wonder whether this was because the strike length was declared and surface transportation would get the letter there after the strike was projected to be over.

Explanatory labels were used on a couple of the covers. See Figure 4 for two of these; both are sent to England. The 1971 example (with a meter) says, "RETURN TO SENDER Embargo is in effect on all surface and air mail of any class for country of address."

The other is a loose, taped-on strip of paper that says, "Due to Postal Strike in Great Britain, all mail is embargoed to England, Wales, Scotland, and Northern Ireland."

The cover in Figure 5 is a puzzle. Addressed to England in January 1969, it says, "Return to Sender – Embargo on Surface Mail to this country." A major East Coast shipping strike in 1977 resulted in surface mail to all ports in Europe and beyond being stopped and returned to sender, but I have not found a similar event in 1969. I would love to hear from anyone who can explain this 1969 cover. My address is at the end of this article.

Additional postal strike mail in my collection is addressed to France (1968, 1974), Holland (1983), India (2001) and Israel (1978).

The latter is worth illustrating (Figure 6). First mailed on Oct. 5, 1978, it was returned with the message "Return to Sender Embargo on Air Mail." The strike ended, and the letter was remailed on October 18. In all the focus on the strike aspect, U.S. Postal workers missed the fact that 30 cents of the postage was paid by "A" alphabet stamps, which were invalid for international postage!

Again, I would like to hear from anyone who can report additional instances of strike mail.

Moving on to covers that were stopped because of civil disturbance, invasion or lack of government authority (including a functional postal authority), the list of covers in my collection is long, but probably incomplete: Afghanistan (1995), Bosnia-Herzegovina



Figure 1: Two covers with auxiliary markings that are somewhat obscure as to the reason for return.

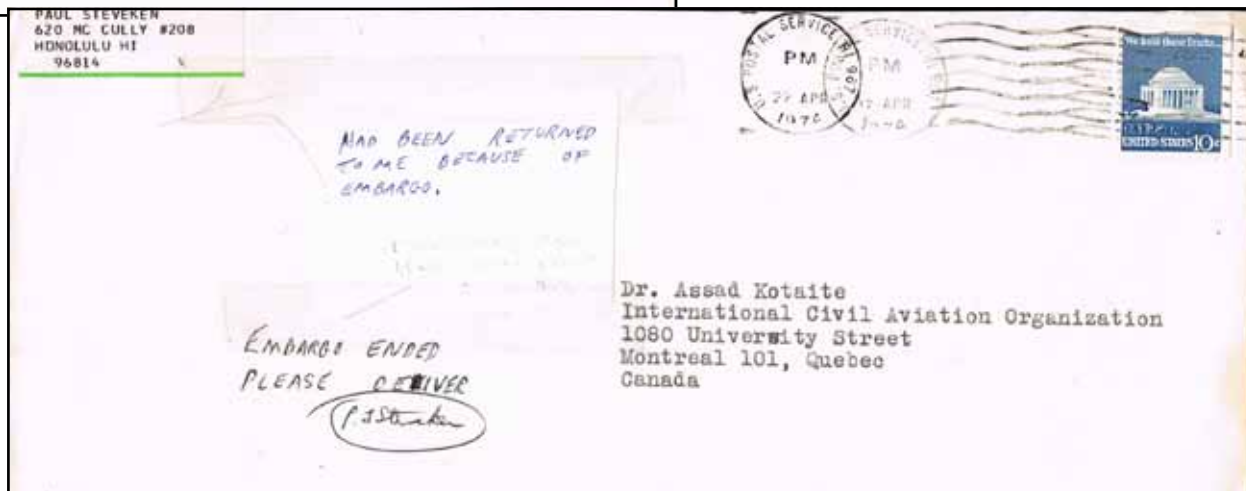


Figure 2 (Below): This letter was refused service due to a Canadian postal strike, but remailed after the strike ended.



Figure 3: Messages on labels explain the reason for return due to Canadian postal strikes.



Figure 4 (Left): Postal strikes in England resulted in these returns, with unusual, but clear forms, of explanation.

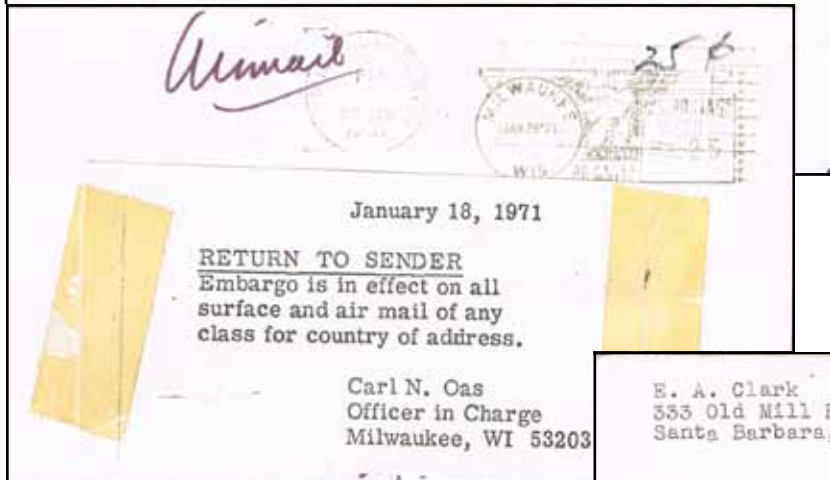


Figure 5 (Below): This January 1969, cover was returned as not able to be sent by surface mail to England. Why was airmail available, but surface mail not?



Figure 6 (Left): A postal strike in Israel was the cause of return of this cover, but it was resent when the strike was over; improperly as 30 cents of postage was paid with "A" stamps, which were not allowable in international mails.

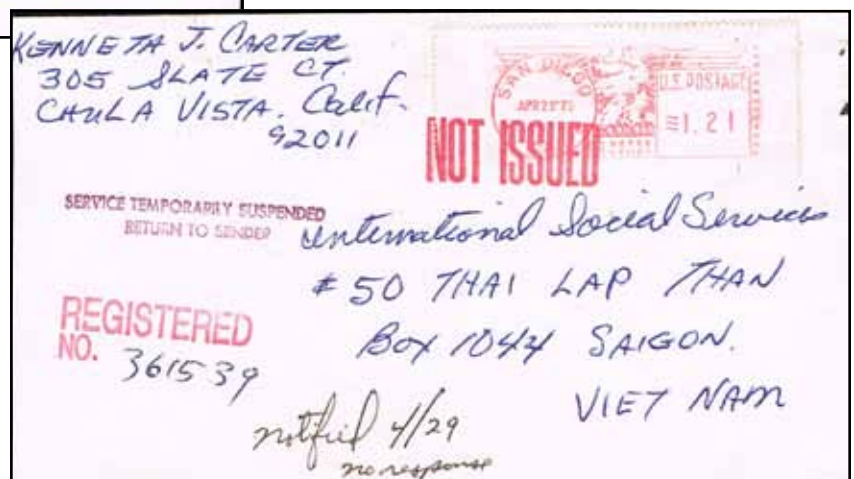


Figure (Right) 7: This metered cover was intended to go to Viet Nam, but was sent just as the Saigon regime was collapsing.

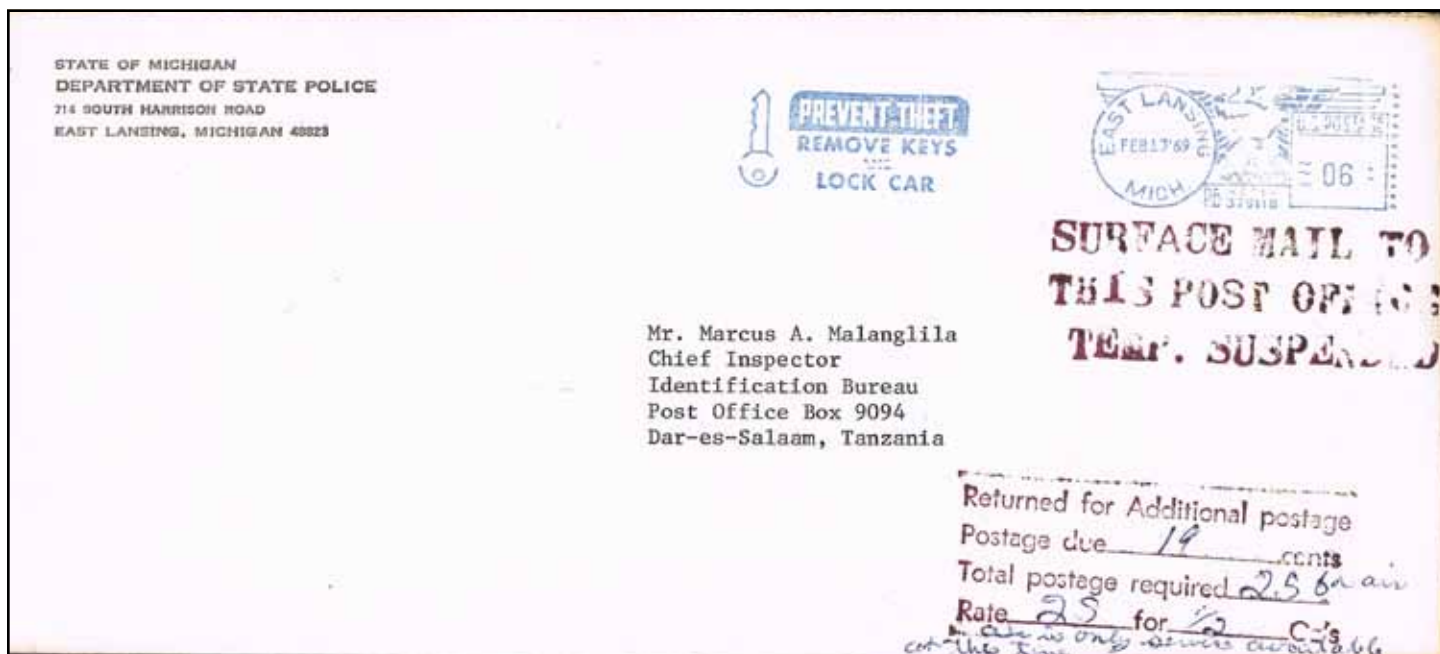


Figure 9: Perhaps connected to the cover in Figure 5, this February 1969 cover addressed to Tanzania was denied surface transport and uprated to 25 cents (19 cents due) for airmail service, which was available.



Figure 8: Intended for Somalia, this cover was the recipient of a "Reason Returned" multiple choice hand stamp, with "Service Temporarily Suspended" checked.

(1992), Burundi (1997), Cambodia (Khmer Republic) (1975), Iran (1979), Kuwait (1990), Lebanon (1976, 1989), Libya (2011), Peru (1989), Somalia (1992), Viet Nam (1975) and Yugoslavia (1999).

The markings are similar to those associated with postal strikes.

An example is the metered cover in Figure 7. Mailed in Chula Vista, Calif., on April 26, 1975 (per backstamp), the money was collected for registry, but the meter was not printed until April 28 in San Diego.

However, it was immediately noticed that Viet Nam mail had been embargoed in anticipation of the fall of the Saigon regime on April 30, so the meter was invalidated, the envelope was handstamped "Service Temporarily Suspended Return to Sender" and the mail piece was returned to Chula Vista for return to the mailer on April 29 (per backstamp).

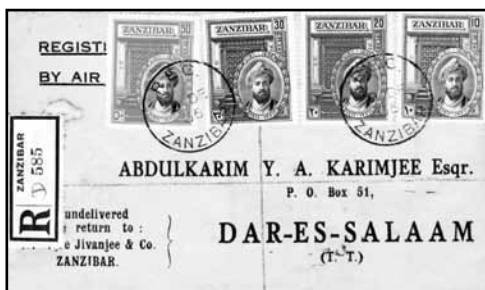
A different format for markings in this category is shown in Figure 8. It is addressed to Somalia, which had descended into civil war in 1992 with no effective governmental authority. The marking is the standard return to sender multiple-choice Reason Returned handstamp. One of the choices is "Service Temporarily Suspended," and that is what has been checked.

A puzzle: Figure 9 illustrates a February 1969 cover addressed to Tanzania, with a marking saying "Surface Mail to This Post Office Temp. Suspended," and a supplemental "Returned for Additional postage" marking asking for 19 cents more to upgrade to airmail.

The postal clerk who filled in the amount due added a handwritten note saying "Air is only service available at this time." This looks like a shipping-related strike, and may match up with the cover in Figure 5.

I would appreciate hearing from any reader who has an explanation for the lack of availability of surface mail.

Correspondence about the subjects in this article is welcomed. Contact the author by e-mail at: jmhstamp@verizon.net, or by mail at POB 1125, Falls Church, VA 22041.



Unusual, Exhibitable, Challenging Covers

We build collections for old and new topics. Wide range of areas.

Wantlists solicited.

Enjoy *usspecialdelivery.com*

Wanted: Worldwide Special Delivery stamps on cover, card, tags

Robert L. Markovits, Quality Investors

POB 178, Stockbridge, MA 01262

rlmarkovits@aol.com

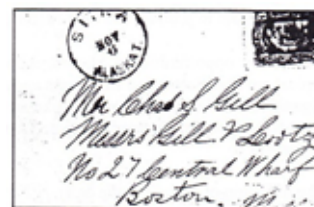
Alaska Collectors' Club

Postal History on the last frontier



Alaska Postal History,

From the earliest



To the latest

The Alaska Collectors' Club is dedicated to developing a wider interest in the study and preservation of Alaska's Postal History. We have members in all aspects of Alaska postal history from the first covers to the latest events

Dues \$15 per year.
Information available from:

Eric Knapp
Secretary/Treasurer
4201 Folker Street, Unit C102
Anchorage, AK 99508-5377
E-mail: *eknapp@gci.net*



Figure 1: A letter from Franz Ruobloch, a crew member of the SMS *Kronprinz Wilhelm*.

The SMS *Kronprinz Wilhelm* Revisited

By Jesse I. Spector and Robert L. Markovits

A recent *New York Times* book review of yet another of the hundreds of biographies about Winston Churchill questioned what could possibly be stated that had not already been beaten to death by troves of writers regarding this renowned persona. Well now, by the end of the review, the critic appeared a bit chastened in concluding that the writer of this latest treatise had indeed presented an insightful and refreshing look at good old Winston.

In presenting a World War I era cover that has come into our possession, and that had previously seen the light of day in a *War Cover Club Bulletin* years ago,¹ we similarly hope to resurrect an insightful picture into the 251 day epic of the World War I commerce raider, the converted passenger liner SS *Kronprinz Wilhelm*.

At the same time, we will peel back the mist of a full century regarding the recipient of the letter, posted by a crewmember of the *Kronprinz*, then a prisoner of war at Fort McPherson, Ga.

Let us introduce you to sailor Franz Ruobloch of Germany, Frida Schenck of Chicago, Lt. Cmdr. Count Alfred von Niezychowski of Poznan, Germany, and lastly, the magnificent commerce raider SMS *Kronprinz Wilhelm*.

The cover itself (Figure 1) is deceptively uncomplicated. The envelope is postmarked from

Atlanta with a July 3, 1917, machine cancel over two one-cent Washington, Scott 424, perf. 10 coil stamps. A large, black, diagonal, rubber, censored imprint is evident in the lower left corner. The sender's return address is: "Franz G. Ruobloch, S.M.S. *Kronprinz Wilhelm* (the last word partially obliterated by the cancel), Fort McPherson, Atlanta, G. 4-6-1."

So far, so good, even with the final grouping of numbers being an enigma. The receiver of the letter is ostensibly "Mrs. Frida Scheuck, 1645 Humboldt Buld (sic), Chicago (Ill.)."

Through trial and error it become evident that Frida Scheuck was not what she appeared to be. Being unable to discover information on this individual, we reviewed the cover yet again and noted that the scripted letter "u" was quite similar to the letter "n" in other parts of the cover. Once we changed Scheuck to Schenck, Frida came to life. We were then to meet Frida Schenck, nee Boehm, of Baden, Germany, and her husband, architect Rudolf Schenck. With that accomplished let us introduce you to the first of our several protagonists, the elegant, sleek lady of the sea, SS *Kronprinz Wilhelm*.

She was a beauty to behold (Figure 2). One of the four Norddeutscher Lloyd's rockets of the Atlantic passenger trade at the outset of the 20th century; a new breed of ship plying the oceans with speed

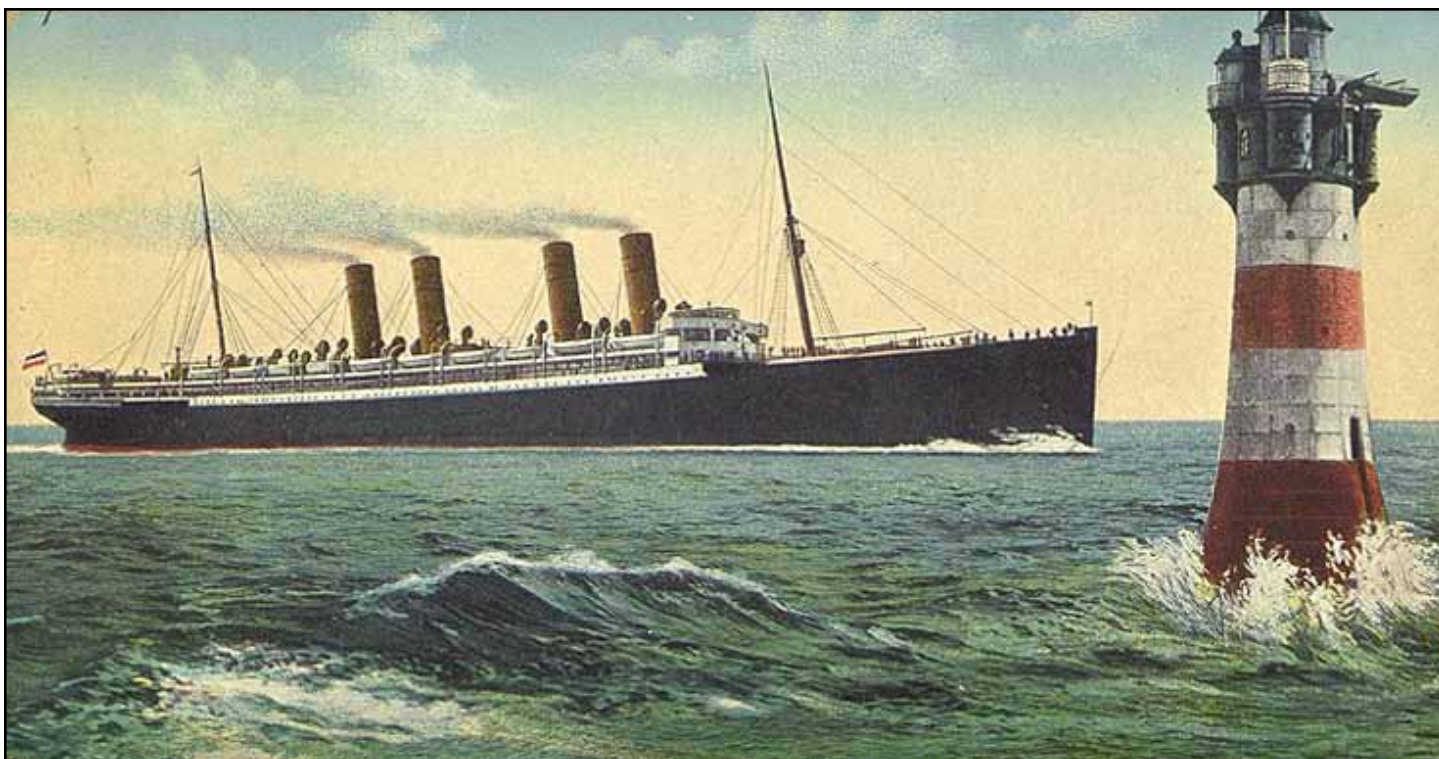


Figure 2: A photo of the SS *Kronprinz Wilhelm*.

and sophisticated artistry. In contrast to modern day passenger ships, which appear more like top-heavy, multi-level wedding cakes, these early queens of the ocean defined grace and modernity.

The *Kronprinz Wilhelm* was a product of German shipbuilding, completed at Stettin, Germany in 1901. Named for the Crown Prince Wilhelm, son of the German Emperor, Wilhelm II (the latter, better known to Americans in the war years to follow as The Kaiser), she was in every sense a true “ocean liner.”

Displacing 24,900 tons, 663 feet in length, her two, coal-driven quadruple expansion steam engines operated her two screws at 33,000 horsepower.

The *Kronprinz* was a fast ship indeed. How fast you might ask? In 1902 her captain, August Richter, brought the *Kronprinz* from Cherbourg to New York in five days and 12 hours with an average speed of 23 knots (almost 27mph), winning the Blue Riband for the fastest crossing to that time.

Capable of carrying almost 1,800 passengers, 367 in first class, 340 in second, the remainder in steerage, she boasted electric lights and heating and a Marconi telegraph. Yet, *Kronprinz Wilhelm* had an unfortunate weakness—her appetite. She was a demanding mistress indeed. With a voracious need for fuel, amounting to 500 tons of coal per day to maintain her top speed, her coal storage capacity allowed for a maximum of 10 fast-steaming days before her bunkers were depleted; certainly not a problem during peacetime sailing, but a critical issue under wartime circumstances.

Through the first decade of the 20th century and

into the second decade the *Kronprinz Wilhelm* plied the Atlantic route carrying the rich, the famous, the movers and shakers of world affairs, as well as thousands of third-class passengers; the latter on one-way trips westward in search of a better life.

On Aug. 1, 1914, Germany invaded Belgium. The world’s powers mobilized and on August 3, Germany declared war on France. On August 4, Britain declared war on Germany. Yes, the rest is history.

The onset of hostilities found the *Kronprinz* in the western Atlantic. She was immediately commissioned as a German auxiliary cruiser becoming the SMS *Kronprinz Wilhelm* under Kapitänleutnant (Lt. Cmdr.) Paul Thierfelder and ordered to rendezvous with SMS *Karlsruhe*, taking onboard light weapons and two rapid-firing 88mm (3.46 in) deck guns.

The latter were by no means particularly threatening armaments when one considers a man-of-war of that time period. For instance, a standard forward gun mount on a destroyer of the time would house a five-inch gun, let alone a dreadnought’s multiple 14-inch or greater guns.

The *Kronprinz*’s role was not to go into harms way, rather, to become the scourge of relatively defenseless commercial shipping in trade routes along the Azores.

And this role she performed superbly well. In Count Alfred von Niezychowski’s masterful 1928 retelling of the epic 251-day war voyage of the raider,² we relive the details of a most “successful,” if one was on the side of the Central Powers, encounter with Allied shipping. More regarding Count Niezychowski shortly.

Figure 3: Pages from the 1910 Federal Census.

Finally, of the 16 ships captured, one partook in what was an overall remarkable accomplishment of the *Kronprinz's* naval success. Of the thousands of personnel on the captured vessels, not a single life had been lost. With the seizure of each ship, the crews

On April 6, 1917, after two years as internees—“guests” of the United States—America declared war

We can now synthesize a probable scenario for our

Figure 4: A border crossing list of passengers on SS *Teutonic*.

She had an imposing and powerful elegance painted in camouflage pattern as a 1918 photo demonstrates (Figure 5).

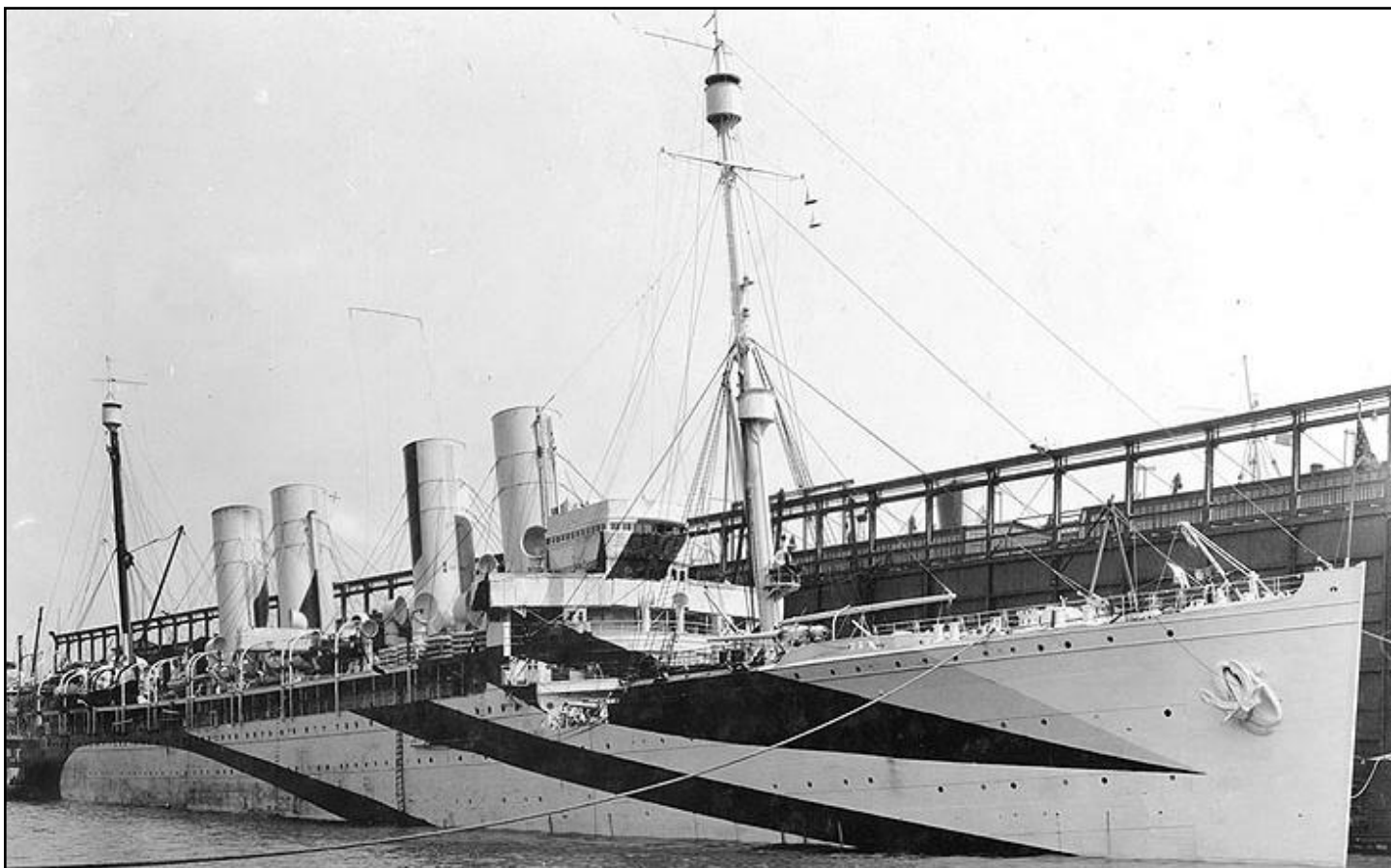


Figure 5: A photo of the USS *Von Steuben*.

Fitted out initially as an auxiliary cruiser, she took on much heavier armament than in her role as a commerce raider. Nevertheless, once it became evident that the German Imperial Fleet was no longer a sea-going threat—having been bottled up in its Kiel anchorage by the superior British Royal Naval blockade—the *Von Steuben* would serve as a troop transport, departing New York for France on Oct. 31, 1917 carrying more than 1,200 combatants.

Through the remainder of the war she would make nine wartime voyages, not without hazard and some with loss of life. Her travails included a collision with the troop ship USS *Agamemnon* in November 1917, a deck-gun explosion in February 1918, and a remarkably close-encounter with a U-boat's torpedo in June 1918. The torpedo missed the ship by several yards at most.

It should be noted that she was 40 miles offshore of Halifax, Nova Scotia, on Dec. 6, 1917, when the ammunition ship SS *Mont-Blanc* exploded in Halifax Harbor, creating the single greatest accidental man-made explosion in history with the deaths of more than 2,000 people. The *Von Steuben* was rocked by the concussion but steamed on to Halifax harbor and partook in rescue operations.

With the signing of the armistice ending the war, the *Von Steuben* then served to bring soldiers home to

America. On Oct, 13, 1919, she was decommissioned and turned over to the United States Shipping Board.

With the war ended we wish to introduce you to the final protagonist in our philatelic and historical adventure. We are indebted to the writings of Alfred von Niezychowski for his published history of the *Kronprinz Wilhelm* war cruise.²

The count was born in Posen, Germany, in 1851, educated at the German military school at Wahlstadt, Silesia, and at naval schools in Danzig and Kiel. He then entered the German merchant marine of the Hamburg-American line, eventually holding the rank of lieutenant on the SS *Kronprinz Wilhelm* (Figure 6). He held the rank of lieutenant commander in the German naval reserve and with the advent of the World War became second in command of this vessel.

The internment and subsequent seizure of the *Kronprinz* did not detract from the count's personal notoriety, his having earned the nickname "the jolly Polish count." This was apparently the result of both his winning personality and the fact that his uncle had served for decades as the Austro-Hungarian ambassador to the United States.

On his release from captivity in August 1919 Count von Niezychowski moved to Washington, D.C. He became president of the Polish American Navigation



Figure 6: Count Alfred von Niezychowski.

Company of New York, traveled in diplomatic and society circles and, in 1923, became engaged to Baltimore socialite Nanine H. Ulman, great grandniece of Thomas Jefferson.

In 1926 he renounced his European titles and became an American citizen, and in 1927 married Nanine, with Admiral Walter McLean, commander of the Norfolk Navy Yard during his internment, serving as his best man.

We end our tale of the Ruoblock to Schenck cover with a reprise of the cast. The former SMS *Kronprinz Wilhelm*, now the decommissioned *Von Steuben*, served on for an additional five years under the auspices of the United States Shipping Board; from 1919 to 1921 as the SS *Baron Von Steuben* and subsequently as simply the SS *Von Steuben*. The magnificent liner ended its career, and life, in 1923, being scrapped by the Boston Iron and Metals Co.

Rudolf Schenck died in Chicago on June 19, 1934, and was buried in Graceland Cemetery. Frida soldiered on, passing away in Los Angeles on May 11, 1949.

Her obituary states that she was a resident of Chicago, and we suspect she may have been visiting family in California at the time of her death. Funeral services were held at St. Luke's of the Mountains Episcopal Church in Los Angeles.

After his wedding, Count Alfred von Niezychowski and his bride moved to Detroit, Michigan. He entered the business world and, in 1928, wrote about the *Kronprinz Wilhelm*'s 251-day war cruise, as well as lecturing on the subject. In 1932, he ran for political office as the Democratic candidate for Michigan's first district; however, his bid for office was unsuccessful.

Alfred and Nanine had no children of their own, but with the deaths of his half-brother, Count Antoni Dunin, and his wife Zofia, killed in 1939 during the German invasion of Poland, they adopted the three orphaned children; one of whom, Count Stanley Dunin, would later participate in the NASA project that launched the world's first geosynchronous communications satellite.

Alfred died in 1964 in Michigan and was buried in Mt. Elliott Cemetery in Grosse Pointe.

We are frequently amazed at what unfolds with the discovery of a single cover that begs further study. Postal history does seem to take on a life of its own as one story blends with another in a continuum of life itself. It is with a sense of satisfaction that we now put this cover, and its story, ... to rest.

Endnotes

- 1 Roth, Steven M. "A possible unique World War I POW cover: The 'Kronprinz Wilhelm' cover." *War Cover Club Bulletin*, Vol. 29, No. 1, 1989.
- 2 Niezychowski, Alfred von. *The Cruise of the Kronprinz Wilhelm*. New York: Doubleday, Doran & Co. Inc., 1929

References

- Fort McPherson
<http://armybases.us/Georgia/fortmcpherson.html>
- Alfred von Niezychowski
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alfred_von_Niezychowski
- Kronprinz Wilhelm* (German Passenger liner, 1901-1923). Later German Auxiliary Cruiser *Kronprinz Wilhelm* and USS *Von Steuben* (ID #3017)
<http://www.history.navy.mil/photos/sh-civil/civsh-k/krpz-wil.htm>
- SS *Kronprinz Wilhelm*
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/SS_Kronprinz_Wilhelm

(Jesse I. Spector M.D., a retired hematologist-oncologist living in western Massachusetts, has published extensively on postal history. He and his wife Patty operate a 35-acre farm with about 70 animals.

Robert L. Markovits, an attorney and a world authority on United States Special Delivery mail, has also won the APS Champion of Champions competition. He resides in the Berkshire Hills of Massachusetts.)

Nalcrest, Fla.: A Community for Letter Carriers

By Paul Petosky

There are many retirement communities in the United States, including some that serve special groups, such as military veterans or religious denominations.

But in Nalcrest, a small central Florida town in Polk County, the residents all have something else in common: the retirement community is open only to retired letter carriers.

The community's name is an acronym for National Association of Letter Carriers Retirement, Education, Security and Training. It was organized, and continues to be operated, by the Nalcrest Foundation, a branch of the National Association of Letters Carriers, the union that represents the United States Postal Service city letter carriers. It was the brainchild of William Doherty, the first United States ambassador to Jamaica and the NALC president from 1941 to 1962. At the time of his death in 1987 at the age of 85, Doherty was a Nalcrest resident. Doherty was also a stamp collector.

Construction of the community began in July 1962 and the facilities opened in 1963. Initially, due to HUD regulations, residency was open to both NALC members and others, but when the mortgage was paid in 2002, the HUD restrictions were removed and residency is now limited to NALC retirees in good standing only.

The community consists of 253 acres, 153 acres of which are developed into 500 garden-style apartments. The remaining 100 acres are undeveloped and include Lake Weohyakapka, a lake of 15 acres around which the community was built.

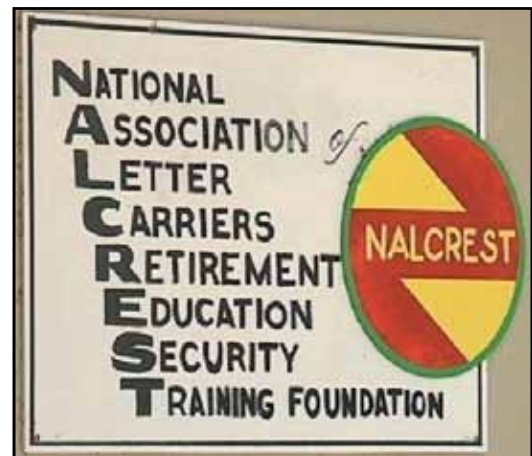
The apartments are a mix of efficiency and one-bedroom units, and all are on ground level. Units are leased on an annual basis and the rental rate includes water, sewer, trash removal, basic cable TV, interior/exterior maintenance, and use of the community's recreational facilities (but not electricity). Pets are not permitted.

In addition to being NALC retirees in good standing, tenants must also be able to care for themselves and do housekeeping chores, as the community is not an assisted living facility and does not have an on-site physician. Prospective tenants must pay the first month's rent and a security deposit. Previously, the only form of payment accepted was a Postal money order, but now checks and all types of money orders are accepted.

Among the most interesting features of the



A September 2013 photo of the Nalcrest, Fla., Post Office.
(Courtesy Pat Accetta)

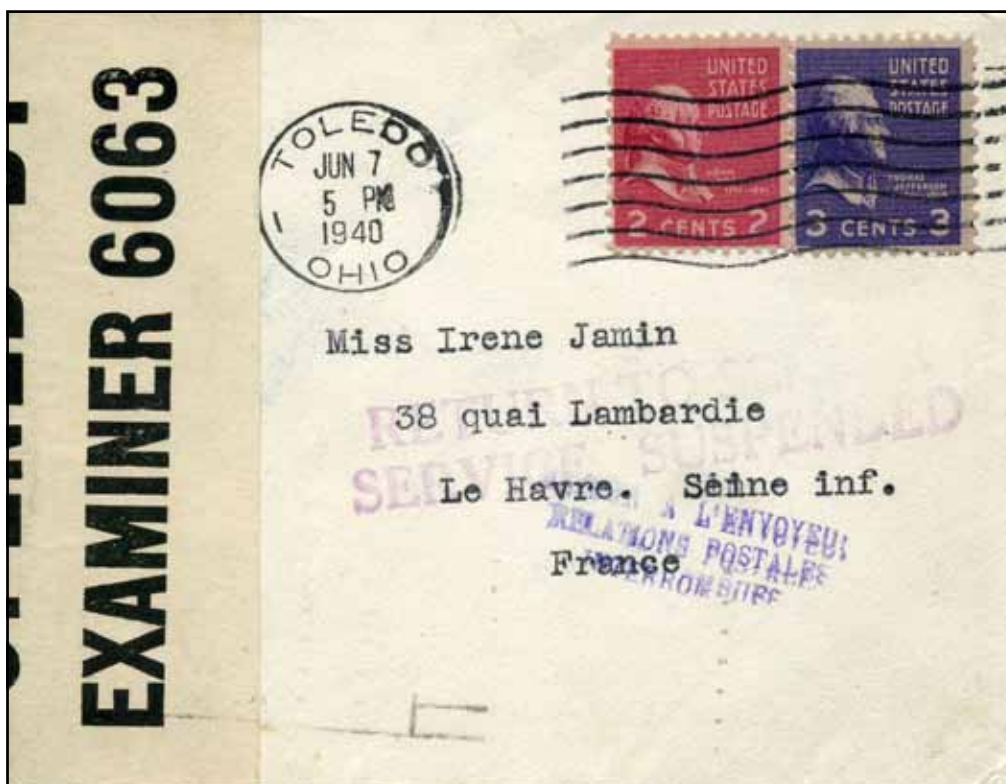


community is that, despite it being a community for retired letter carriers, there is no home mail delivery. All residents must pick up their mail at the post office in the Town Center.

The Nalcrest Post Office, which uses ZIP code 33856 is shown above and a current magenta, double-circle postmark is shown at right.



Nalcrest, Fla., postmark dated Sept. 10, 2013.



The World War II Adventures of John Adams and Thomas Jefferson: **A Thwarted Mission to France**

By Lawrence Sherman

In August 1784, Thomas Jefferson, newly appointed minister plenipotentiary to France, arrived in Le Havre and then traveled to Paris to join John Adams and Benjamin Franklin. Their mission: to negotiate treaties of amity and commerce with European nations. More than a century and a half later, as Prexies paying the 5-cent international surface mail rate from the United States, Adams and Jefferson were reunited on another mission: carrying a letter to Le Havre.

The time was not propitious. On June 7, 1940, the date of mailing, the invading German army was at Rouen, only 20 miles from the Seine River. On June 22 France signed armistice terms demanded by Germany. Early in August, France was officially divided into occupied and unoccupied zones.

As one historian noted, the meandering course of the line of demarcation between the zones “marked a frontier as absolute as any dividing foreign countries: a major barrier to the movement of people, the ordinary business of communication and the operations of commerce.... Indeed, in the early days after the armistice was signed it amounted to a virtually impenetrable barrier.”¹

For mail from the United States to Occupied France, the barrier was literally impenetrable.



By August 1940 both surface letters and airmail addressed to the occupied zone, upon reaching Marseille, were marked with a three-line cachet, “RETOUR A L'ENVOYEUR/RELATIONS POSTALES/INTERROMPUES” or similarly phrased markings, and returned to the sender. This was the first nail in the coffin of U.S. postal relations with Occupied France.

Though no mail from the United States was deliverable (except via the International Red Cross), this fact was not published by the Post Office Department in any *Postal Bulletin* until Germany officially suspended mail between the United States and Occupied France in September 1941, one year later.

Albert Goldman, postmaster of the New York City Post Office during the war, later recalled that as a result of the Sept. 9, 1941, official suspension of mail service by the occupation (German army) authorities, “This office had to return to senders approximately 180,000

letters, 250 sacks of prints, and 1,500 registered articles. They were endorsed, 'Return to Sender' — 'Service Suspended.'"²

Mail from the United States to the occupied zone had been undeliverable since June 1940; it could not cross the frontier between "zone O" and "zone Nono," as the French had facetiously labeled their disarticulated country. But now mail was officially suspended. News first appeared in *The Postal Bulletin* No. 18278, Sept. 9, 1941, under the heading, "Suspension of Mail Service to Occupied France." The entry carefully noted that the action was "by order of the occupation authorities."

Since postal relations with occupied France were now suspended, "Postmasters will decline to accept for mailing, effective immediately and until further notice, mail articles addressed for delivery in the occupied zone of France, except when addressed to civilian internees." This was the second nail in the postal relations coffin.

Postal patrons in the United States were shocked by the news. It was a page one story in at least one philatelic newspaper, *Western Stamp Collector*, which headlined the story, "Mail to Occupied France Returned to U.S. Senders:"

Letters mailed to persons in the occupied zone of France as long ago as last November, some by air mail at a cost of 30 cents, have been received back by the senders the last few days stamped "Retour a l'Envoyeur, Relations Postales Interrompues," and, in English, "Return to Sender, Postal Service Suspended."

According to New York postal officials, 100,000 letters had been returned a few days ago by the postal authorities of France. They apparently had been held there in the hope there would be lifting of the German restrictions.

Some of the letters sent by clipper had been opened by the French censor and resealed with the notation "Controle."³

The formal suspension caused the New York, City Post Office to be flooded with mail that had been addressed to the occupied zone, processed in Marseille, then held by Vichy postal authorities. Many of the approximately 100,000 [or, depending on the source, 180,000] letters returned to sender, both surface and airmail, were backstamped with machine-cancelled receiving postmarks dated between Sept. 17 and Oct. 2, 1941. Illustrated here is one example, the backstamp on the Adams-Jefferson Prexie cover.



Before September 1941, postal relations between neutral United States and Occupied France were simply impossible to implement; now they were formally suspended. Why? What had tried German patience sufficiently to cause their army to take this official step?

Perhaps issuance of the Atlantic Charter on August 12 was the precipitant. This joint declaration of President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill promulgated at sea (Placentia Bay, Newfoundland),

spoke of the "common principles" of the two countries, and offered hope for a peaceful world after "the final destruction of the Nazi tyranny."

A possible immediate precipitant was "the Greer incident." On September 4, the destroyer USS *Greer*, steaming independently toward Iceland, was involved in an unfriendly encounter with German submarine U-652. After an exchange of depth charges and torpedoes, all missing their targets, the ships broke off the encounter. The incident enabled President Roosevelt to order U.S. warships to "shoot on sight" in waters "the protection of which is necessary for American defense."

Adolf Hitler and Benito Mussolini eagerly joined Japan in its conflict with the United States, declaring war on December 11, four days after the attack on Pearl Harbor. The U.S. Post Office Department had mail suspension plans already in place.

"On the very date of our declaration of war on Germany and Italy," wrote the Postmaster General in a post-war report, "all mail service whatsoever was discontinued to those nations and places under their control, which included all of continental Europe except Gibraltar, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Russia, and unoccupied France."⁴

Now the already suspended mail service to Occupied France was "discontinued" because that unhappy land was an enemy-occupied country. Labels attached by U.S. censors to the back of returned-to-sender mail posted after Dec. 11, 1941, made that clear. This was the third nail in the coffin of deceased U.S.-Occupied France postal relations.

In 1940, the French authorities had said, your mail may not cross the border into Occupied France; in September 1941 Germany had said, your mail will not cross the border; in December 1941 the U.S. government said, your mail must not cross that border into enemy-occupied territory.

Not until September 1944, three tempestuous years after the United States entered the war, did limited mail service from the United States resume to liberated areas of once-occupied France. Mail service to Normandy began on September 4, and on September 23 service resumed to Le Havre and Paris. By then the missive carried by Prexies Adams and Jefferson had long been returned to the keep of its sender in Toledo, Ohio.

Endnotes

¹Ian Ousby, *Occupation: The Ordeal of France 1940-1944*, (London: John Murray, 1997), pp. 68-69.

²Albert Goldman, *The New York, N.Y. Post Office During the War Years 1941-1945*, (New York: Albert Goldman, 1949), p. 350.

³*Western Stamp Collector*, Oct 1, 1941 (Vol. XVI; Whole #1075), p. 1.

⁴"The Postmaster General (J.M. Donaldson)," *A Wartime History of the Post Office Department: World War II 1939-1945*, (Washington, D.C.: United States Post Office Department, 1951), p.41.

(Editor's Note: The Prexie Era, is the quarterly newsletter of the United States Stamp Society 1938 Presidential Era Study Group.)

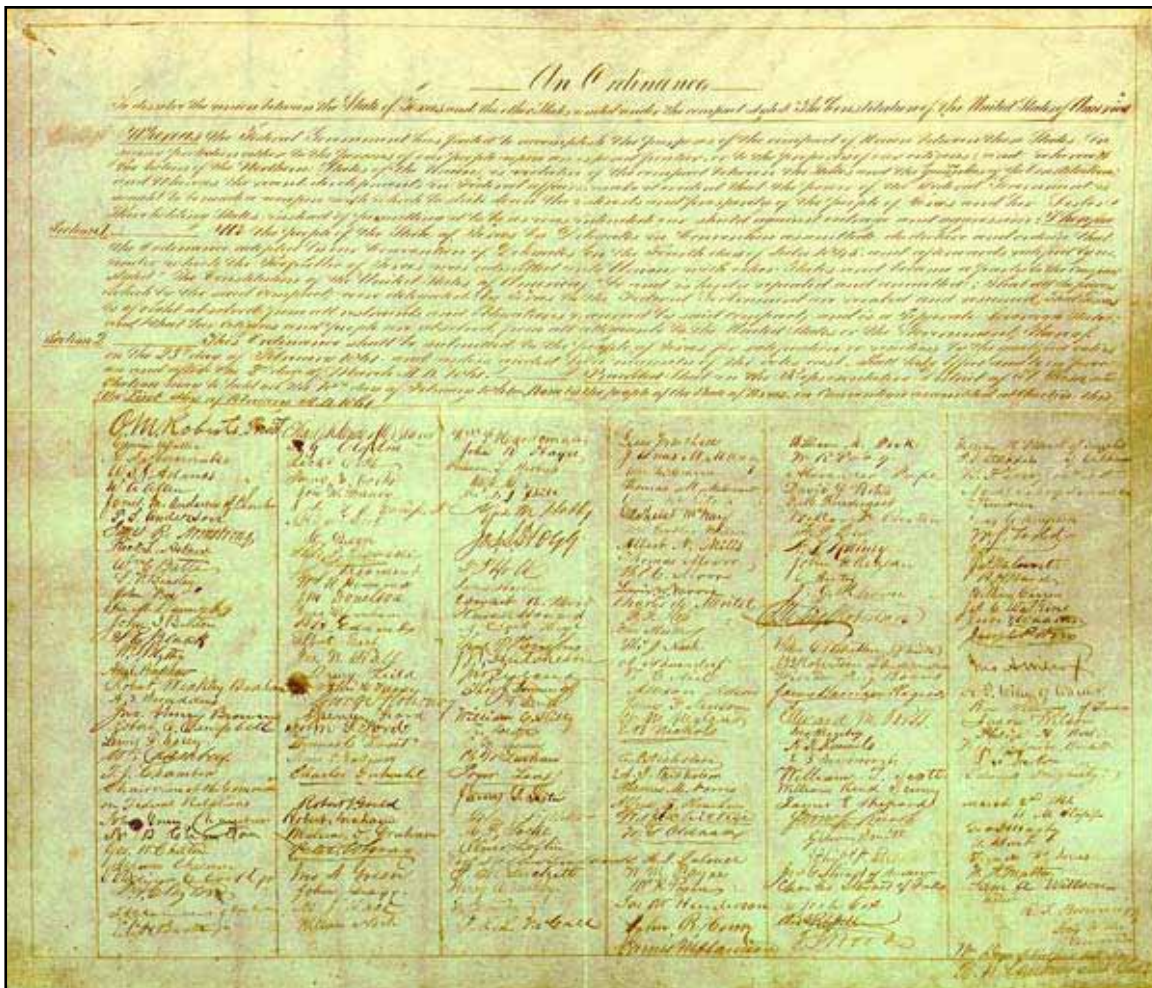


Figure 1:
The Texas Ordinance
of Secession.
(Courtesy Texas State
Library and Archives
Commission)

A Last Day Cover Sent by the Texas Word Family?

By Patricia A. Kaufmann

Texas Secedes

Like other slave-holding states, Texas left the Union early in 1861, the seventh state to secede and the last to secede before the shots fired at Fort Sumter that signaled the actual start of the war. In vitriolic language, the Texans declared the causes that impelled the state of Texas to secede from the Union. An example of two caustic paragraphs is offered here:

The controlling majority of the Federal Government, under various pretenses and disguises, has so administered the same as to exclude the citizens of the Southern States, unless under odious and unconstitutional restrictions, from all the immense territory owned in common by all the States on the Pacific Ocean, for the avowed purpose of acquiring sufficient power in the common government to use it as a means of destroying the institutions of Texas and her sister slave-holding States.

By the disloyalty of the Northern States and their citizens and the imbecility of the Federal Government, infamous combinations of incendiaries

and outlaws have been permitted in those States and the common territory of Kansas to trample upon the federal laws, to war upon the lives and property of Southern citizens in that territory, and finally, by violence and mob law to usurp the possession of the same as exclusively the property of the Northern States.

The Texas legislature drafted an ordinance to dissolve the union between Texas and the other states united under the compact styled, "The Constitution of the United States of America."

SECTION 2. *This ordinance shall be submitted to the people of Texas for their ratification or rejection by the qualified voters thereof, on the 23rd day of February, 1861, and, unless rejected by a majority of the votes cast, shall take effect and be in force on and after the 2nd day of March, A. D. 1861. Provided, that in the Representative district of El Paso, said election may be held on the 18th day of February, 1861.*

Adopted in Convention, at Austin City, the first day of February, 1861, O.M. ROBERTS, President.

In Anderson County, Texas passions were high. The county voted 1,500 to 7 in favor of secession. Anderson County was represented in Austin at the State Secession Convention by A.T. Rainey, S.G. Stewart and John H. Reagan, who was soon to become the Confederate Postmaster General.

Thomas Jefferson “T.J.” Word was among the delegates who served only at the adjourned secession session and signed the ordinance on, or after, the second day of March when the ordinance took effect. His signature is the last one in the fifth column. (Figure 1) His name is variously recorded as “Wood” or “Ward” in different documents due to incorrect handwriting interpretation, which is always a challenge for researchers and record keepers.

On March 2, 1861, the Provisional Congress of the Confederate States of America enacted a statute to admit Texas into the Confederacy (Chapter XXIV “An Act to Admit Texas as a Member of the Confederate States of America”). By its terms, this Act was effective March 2, 1861. On March 5, 1861, the Texas Convention accepted the CSA invitation to join (Section 5—An Ordinance in Relation to a Union of the State of Texas with the Confederate States of America). The secession ordinance and the admission ordinance do not specify whether formal acceptance by the Texas convention was required.

The Word Family

The correspondence of the Word family of Palestine, Anderson County, Texas is instrumental in authenticating some scarce Confederate covers.

Thomas Jefferson “T. J.” Word (1805-1890, Figure 2) was born in Mount Airy, N.C., on Feb. 6, 1805. He served as a colonel in the North Carolina Militia, as well as a state representative in 1830.

Word slowly migrated west, serving as a U.S. congressman from Mississippi in 1838, as well as a presidential elector for that state in 1840. After the Civil War, he served as a Texas state senator in 1875. He died in Palestine, Texas, on May 25, 1890.

A plaque to Word’s memory (Figure 3) was placed in St. Philip’s Episcopal Church in Palestine, Texas of which he was a founder, the first lay reader and the first senior warden (1859). The plaque was placed by his daughter, Mrs. Jeff D. Reagan. The church burned in 1989, but the plaque was saved and hangs in the office area today.

In Harmer-Schau Auction 94, held in August 2012, Lot 2045 offered three faulty, but rare, stampless covers from Texas and New Mexico sent from Capt. J.J. Word and addressed to his father, T.J. Word.

Capt. John J. Word (1843-1909) was a member of Sibley’s Brigade, Company I, Steele’s 7th Texas Mounted Infantry, which was deployed from Texas to

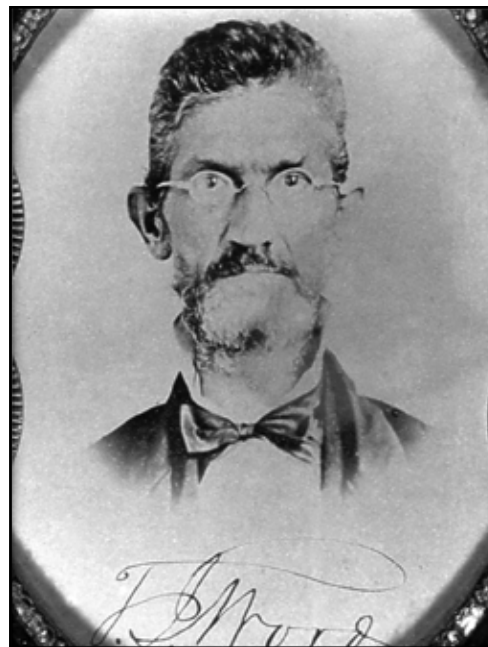


Figure 2: Col. Thomas Jefferson ‘T.J.’ Word



Figure 3: The plaque honoring T.J. Word in St. Philip’s Episcopal Church, Palestine, Texas. ‘Patriot, Lawyer and Devout Churchman—Beloved from Generation to Generation.’

New Mexico in late 1861. Capt. Ward later became a lawyer and congressman from Mississippi. He also served as mayor of Palestine, Texas, from 1889-91.

In a 2003 issue of *The Confederate Philatelist*, an article announced that a number of New Mexico campaign covers had been sold on eBay. They were all from this same Word correspondence.

“Confederate New Mexico” is an obscure, but highly desirable, collecting interest, but it is also a misnomer.

Recent research by John Birkinbine has proven

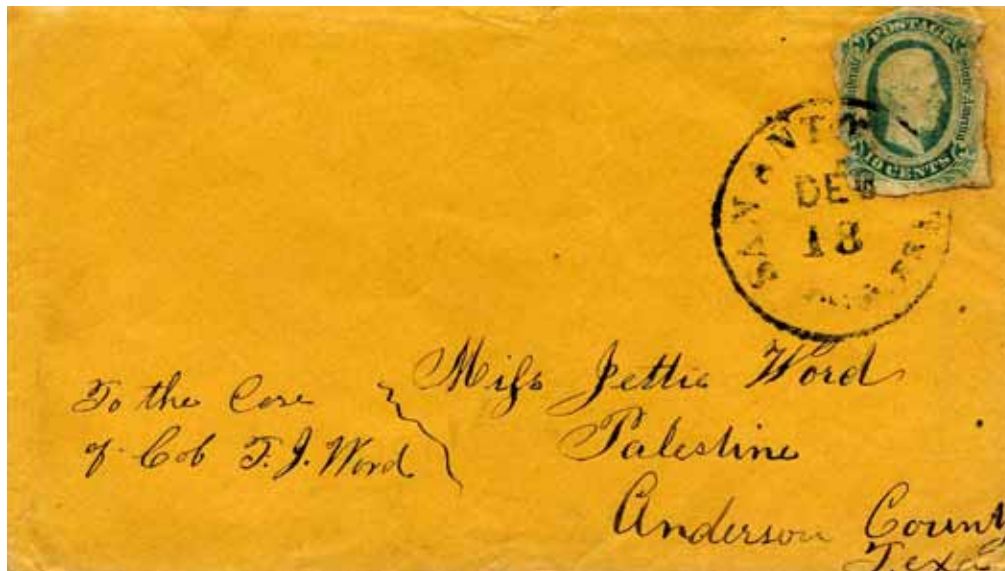


Figure 4: A cover franked with a 10-cent blue (Scott CSA 12) tied by a ‘San Antonio, Tex. Paid’ postmark addressed to Jettie Word, Palestine, Texas, in care of her father, T.J. Word.

that these are really not New Mexico covers, in spite of the “N.M.” in the canceling device. The Mesilla, New Mexico, covers that are so coveted by Confederate collectors actually bear Arizona markings, as there was no Confederate New Mexico Territory.

New Mexico Territory never seceded from the United States and never entered the Confederate States as a territory or as a state.

The only Confederate relationship for the towns in New Mexico Territory consisted of mail sent by military courier in those land areas where Confederate troops occupied Union territory. This information flies in the face of decades of writings about “Confederate New Mexico” that have gone before. It is illustrative of why researchers should strive to use primary sources and not simply quote articles from the distant past.

Figure 4 shows a 10-cent blue (Scott CSA 12) tied by a “San Antonio, Tex. Paid” postmark on a cover addressed to “Miss Jettie Word, Palestine, Anderson County, Texas” with endorsement “To the Care of Col. T.J. Word.” It is typical of the more commonly encountered covers from the Word correspondence.

Jettie was the nickname of T.J. Word’s daughter, Justiana, the eldest of five children by his first wife. Justiana was born in Mississippi in 1842 and her mother died there in 1852, after which her father remarried twice and had three more children. Jettie married Dr. Henry J. Hunter, a doctor in Palestine.

Two other covers from the Word correspondence are franked with scarce 20-cent (Scott CSA 13) green diagonal bisects. Although not authorized by the Post Office Department, bisected uses were widely accepted in order to make up the 10-cent rate when supplies of the regular 10-cent value were exhausted or postmasters’

requisitions for stamps were delayed by war.

Individual post office patrons were discouraged from bisecting a 20-cent stamp as evidenced by the following notice in the April 24, 1863, *Richmond Daily Examiner*:

“POSTAGE STAMPS. From ignorance or other causes, a number of letters have been put in the post office boxes with halves of the twenty cent stamps attached to them for postage. These letters go to the Dead Letter Office. The stamps, of course, cannot be divided to represent different denominations, and the public are requested to take notice of this, to save their mail matter from the Dead Letter Office.”

Despite this public warning, some postal patrons continued to send letters using bisects. Confederate bisects are often seen from Texas, undoubtedly because of the difficulty in getting stamps the great distance from Richmond, as well as the challenge of getting them across the Mississippi River.

Similar bisected uses are also recorded in Untied States and foreign philately.

Genuinely used bisected uses on cover are valuable and collectible. A Scott CSA 13 used on cover catalogs \$1,250 in the 2013 *Scott Specialized Catalogue*, while a diagonally bisected use catalogs \$2,000 and a horizontally bisected use catalogs \$3,500.

There are also bisects recorded on prisoner’s covers and wallpaper covers and these are extremely sought after by those with deep enough pockets. The latter listing catalogs \$11,500.

Serious Confederate students know to look for tied stamps on any cover, but there is a distinct caveat with the bisected uses. It is preferable to see the “tying” postmark across the bisected side of the

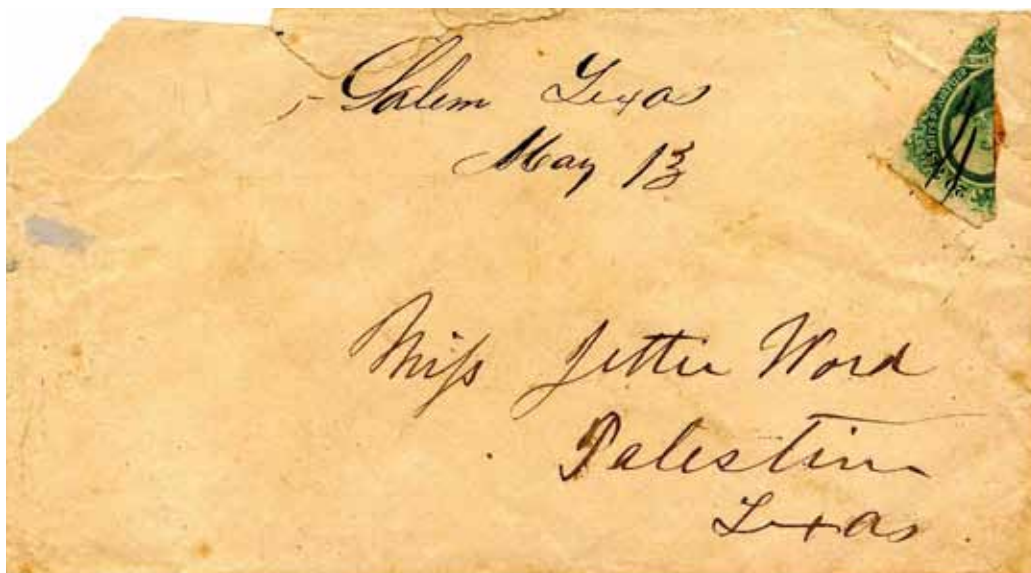


Figure 5: A Confederate 20-cent green diagonal bisect tied on cover with a matching [New] Salem, Texas, May 13 manuscript postmark, addressed to Miss Jettie Word, Palestine, Texas. This could be a last day cover!

Figure 6: A Confederate 20-cent green diagonal bisect used on cover with no postmark but addressed, in the same handwriting as Figure 5, also to Miss Jettie Word, Palestine, Texas, and likely thus also from New Salem, Texas.



stamp. This helps eliminate the likelihood of the stamp having been added to the cover. Authentication organizations are reluctant to give clean certificates to untied stamps on covers of any kind, although other indicators of genuineness, such as tying age stains and correspondence provenance, help the cause.

The damaged cover shown in Figure 5 is franked with a Confederate 20-cent green diagonal bisect barely tied on cover with a matching [New] Salem, Texas, May 13 manuscript postmark. It is addressed to Miss Jettie Word at Palestine, Texas. Texas town postmarks on cover command a 200 per cent premium in the new *CSA Catalog*. The upper left corner has unfortunately been torn away, presumably upon opening.

Another bisect cover from the same correspondence, with the identical addressee and same handwriting, is shown in Figure 6. It clearly came from the same sender. Unfortunately it is not postmarked, but it can be reasonably assumed that it also was sent from New Salem, Texas. There is pencil docketing of unknown origin under the stamp indicating "1865" use, but I have not been able to verify that year date.

The last battle fought during the Civil War was in Texas at Palmetto Ranch on May 12-13, 1865, more than two months after Lee surrendered the Army of Northern Virginia at Appomattox.

Native, African, and Hispanic Americans were all involved in the fighting. While the last battle of the war was a Confederate victory, it could not change the reality that the South had been defeated. This battle is also known as the Battle of Palmito Ranch and the Battle of Palmito Hill.

The Figure 5 cover could only have been used in 1864 or 1865, as the earliest recorded use of the 20-cent green is June 1, 1863. If this cover could absolutely be proved as a May 13, 1865 use, it would be an important last day cover. While neither bisect cover would win any beauty contests, they still pique the interest of postal history collectors.

(Patricia (Trish) Kaufmann is a fulltime dealer specializing solely in Confederate States stamps and postal history. She began collecting in the mid 1960s and has been a professional philatelist since 1973. E-mail: trishkauf@comcast.net)

Postcard Pursuit

By Charles A. Fricke

Figure 1 (Right): A 1-cent large Grant postal card postmarked Feb. 17, 1892, in Boston and addressed to Ernest E. Currier, Box #72, Ipswich, Mass.

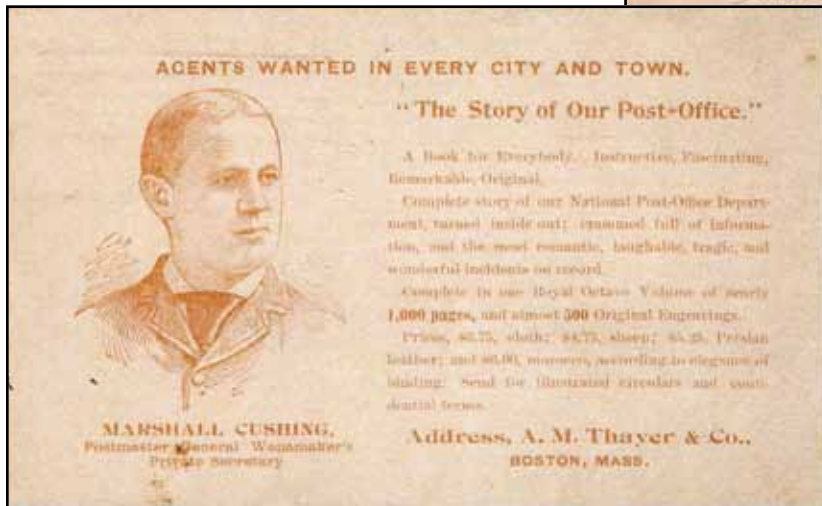
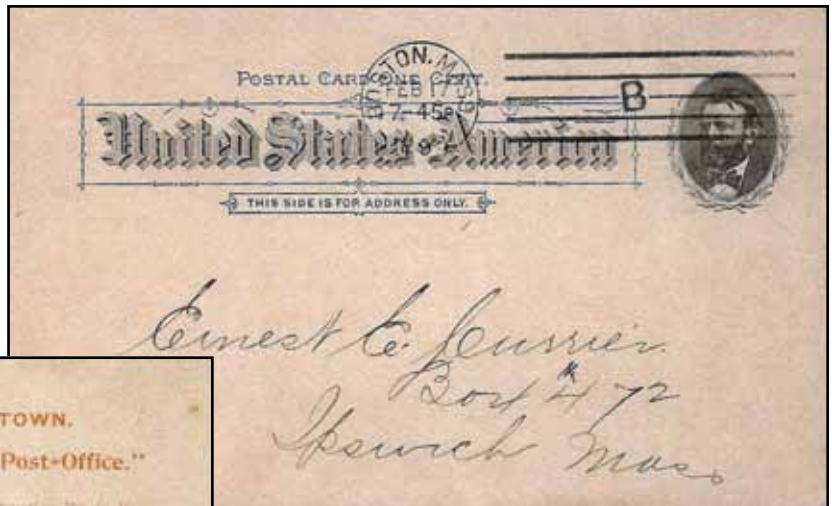


Figure 2 (Left): The advertising side of the Figure 1 Grant postal card with an image of Marshall Cushing and promotional text.

A 1-Cent Advertising Postal Card Unearths a 120 Year Old Book About the Post Office Department

The 1-cent large Grant postal card, issue of 1891, shown in Figure 1 is postmarked Boston, Mass., Feb. 17, 1892, and addressed to Ernest E. Currier, Box #72, Ipswich, Mass.

By using the oversized large Grant 1-cent postal card, A.M. Thayer & Co. had added space and they used it to full advantage by picturing Marshall Cushing, Postmaster General Wanamaker's private secretary, along with some very interesting facts about his new book, *The Story of Our Post Office* (Figure 2).

The advertising aspect is the referencing of, "Agents Wanted in Every City and Town," along with the detailed selling points of the book, written as if selling the book to a prospective customer at the prices quoted.

The second paragraph spells out, in limited form, the range of topics in a simplistic fashion. But to get more information about the book, the titles of the chapters and brief summaries offer an insight to the 1,000 pages and almost 500 original engravings.

On the page opposite the title page (Figure 3) there

is a photograph of Cushing (Figure 4) which, when compared to the line engraving shown on the 1-cent postal card, would make one surmise that the postal card portrait was taken from the photograph.

The "Note" by Cushing to A.M. Thayer, conveys a personal feeling about writing the book, especially since he presented the copy in typewritten form.

The comments by Thayer are typical of a publisher trying to present the book as the best thing next to sliced bread.

A table of contents was not included in the published version, but was part of a prospectus. Several of the descriptions in the table of contents are included under the chapter headings to show the scope of the book.

It would require a review of some length to discuss the wealth of information about the Post Office Department compiled by Cushing in 1,000 pages.

So, to make a long story short, borrow the book from American Philatelic Research Library in Bellefonte, Pa., and see for yourself what a difference 120 years

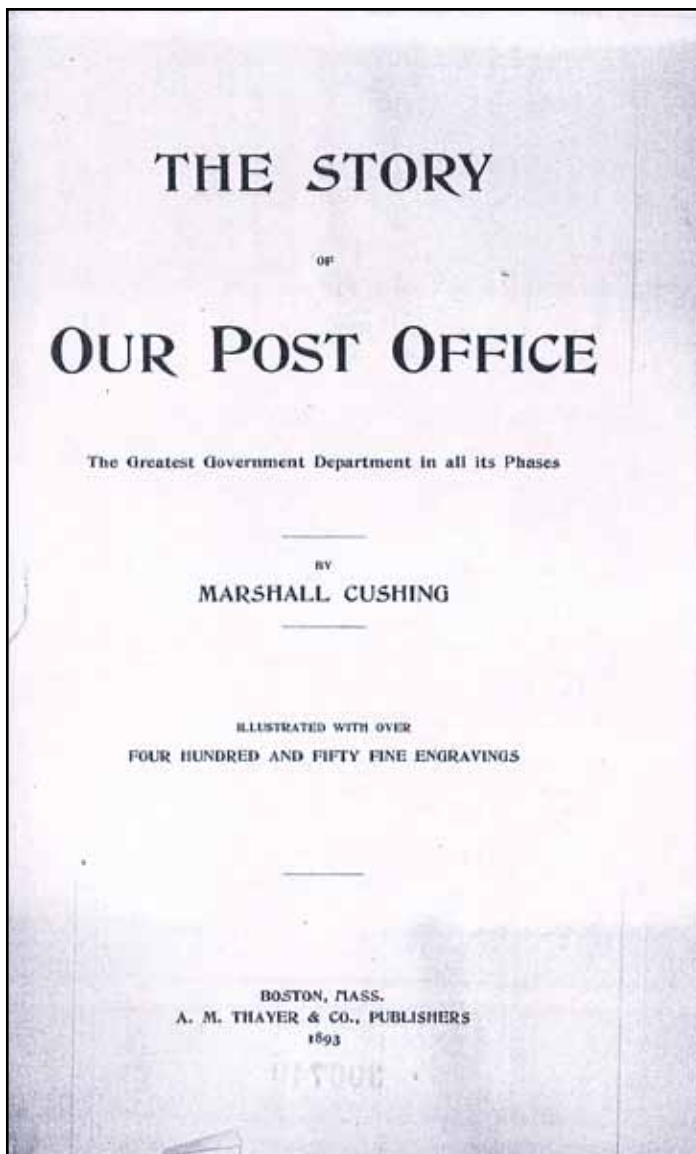


Figure 3: The title page of *The Story of Our Post Office*.



Figure 4: An image of Marshall Cushing that appeared in the book.

makes in the life of the Post Office Department and the United States Postal Service.

My thanks to Tara E. Murray, the APRL librarian, for providing the pages from the table of contents in the prospectus that offered background for the 1-cent advertising large Grant postal card.

(Charles A. Fricke, the 1981 American Philatelic Society Luffaward recipient for distinguished philatelic research and a longtime postal card specialist, lives in Jenkintown, Pa.)

Carriers and Locals Society

The Carriers and Locals Society's mission is to encourage the collecting and study of United States carriers and locals.



- U.S. official and semi-official Carrier services
- U.S. Local Posts of the 19th century
- U.S. Eastern Expresses of the 19th century
- Fakes and forgeries of U.S. Carriers and Locals
- U.S. and Canadian fantasy stamps of the 19th century

Benefits of membership include the C&LS's award winning journal, its auctions and on line access to back issues of *The Penny Post*. To join, or renew your membership, visit our website at www.pennypost.org.

The La Posta Challenge

"The *La Posta Challenge*" offers readers the opportunity to dig through their collections to see if they have items that match the subject in each issue. Readers can send scans or photocopies, along with a brief description of the item, and we'll showcase the responses received by the deadline in the next issue. Readers should submit items to The *La Posta Challenge*, POB 6074, Fredericksburg, VA 22403; E-mail, pmartin2525@yahoo.com. Be sure to include your name, address and e-mail address.

Interesting or Unusual Event Covers

The Second Quarter 2013 *La Posta Challenge* was to find the most interesting philatelic dealer mail (envelope, postcard, or any other item that went through the mails).

It seems that many people have a side collection of these covers and we received a wide variety of responses, including several that had enclosures. They are featured on the following pages.

For the Third Quarter *La Posta Challenge* we've selected another category that is held by most collectors: event covers. These are envelopes, often cacheted or with a related postmark, that commemorate a significant or popular event.

Included would be town and post office anniversaries, holidays, religious or civic celebrations, historic battles,

festivals, birthdays of significant people, thematic subjects and even the oddball and goofy. Some will have special meaning to a local audience; others will have a national appeal.

Select your favorites (maximum of three) and provide some comments about why you feel they are interesting or unusual.

Submit your entries for "Interesting or Unusual Event Covers" by Nov. 15, 2013, to the address at top of the page or via e-mail to: pmartin2525@yahoo.com. Be sure to include your name, address and e-mail address.

Submission Deadline:

Nov. 15, 2013

Interesting Philatelic Dealer Mail



My interesting dealer mail cover is this 1920 registered mail envelope sent by the Stamp and Coin Exchange on New York City's Nassau Street to Tibet. The well-traveled cover received a host of backstamps before being returned to the sender.

Douglas Gary
Campbell, Calif.





Here are my entries for the “La Post Challenge.” At top left is a folded circular, circa 1890-91, from V. Gurdji in Galveston, Texas sent to New Zealand. At top right are two of the panels in English and Spanish advertising the stamps of Mexico to 1890. There are two other panels in German and French. Interestingly, it was sent at the 4-cents per each four ounces printed matter rate under the terms of the U.S.-New Zealand postal treaty of 1870. New Zealand was not admitted to the UPU until Oct. 1, 1891, so the terms of the treaty applied until then. The second is from the Nebraska Stamp Co. of Smithfield, Neb. The late Stephen Belasco dated this cover to around 1897 based on other examples from this firm. By then, New Zealand was in the UPU, and this cover was sent at the UPU printed matter rate of 1-cent per each two ounces, a rate that lasted until April 1, 1932.

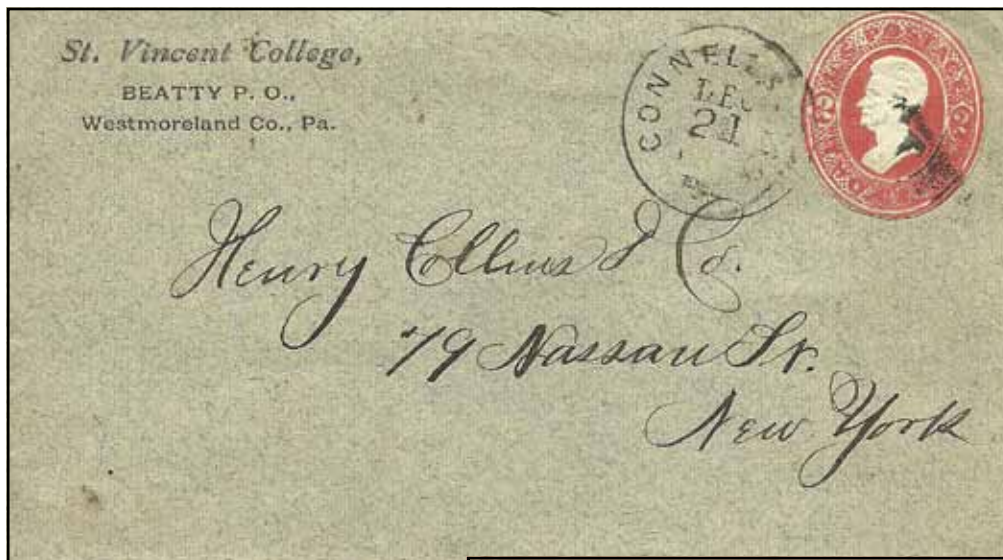
Bob Watson
Lower Hutt, New Zealand



Here’s an interesting dealer cover from a recent Regency-Superior auction. It’s an oversized, registered cover with a complete 25-stamp Battle of White Plains souvenir sheet postmarked in Washington, D.C., on the Oct. 18, 1926, first day of issue. The cover is from Edward C. Worden, the Milburn, N.J., pioneer cover servicer, and addressed to himself in Los Angeles.

David Kols
St. Louis, Mo.

Interesting Philatelic Dealer Mail

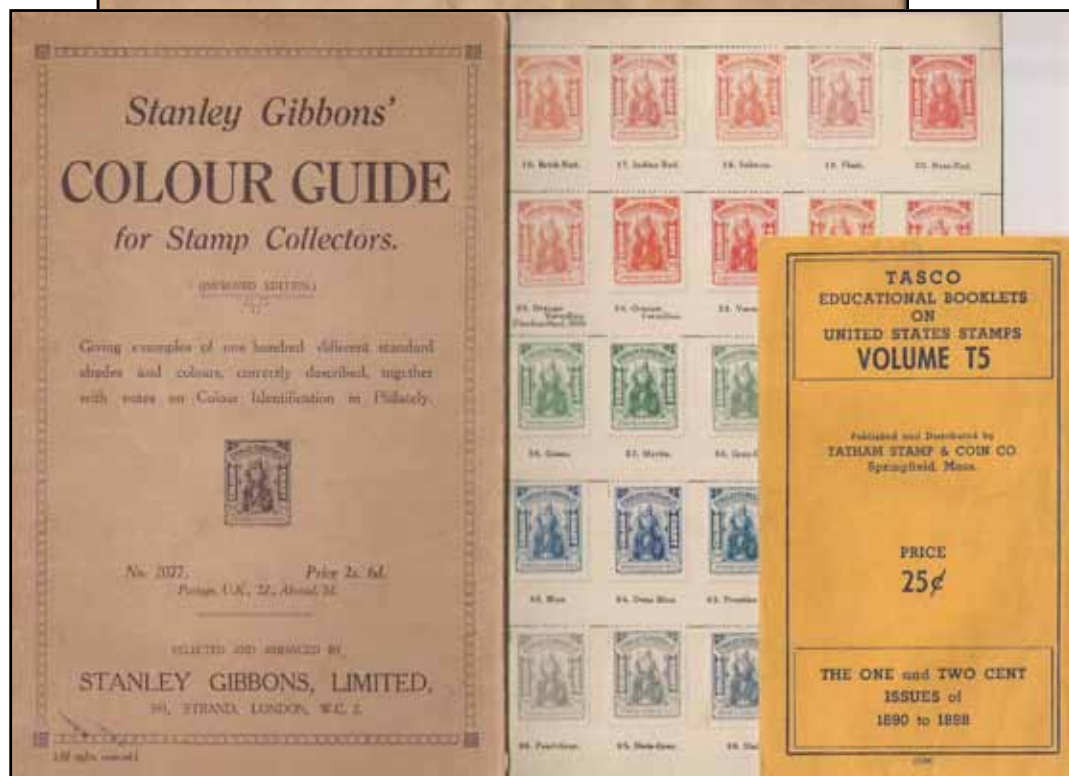
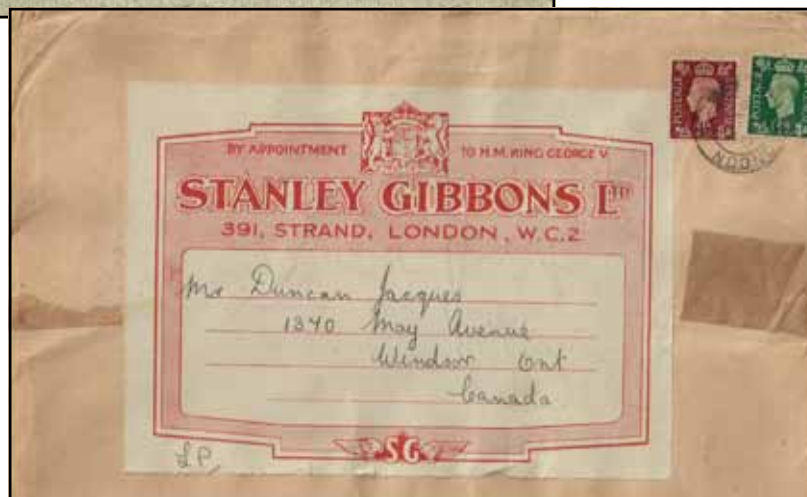


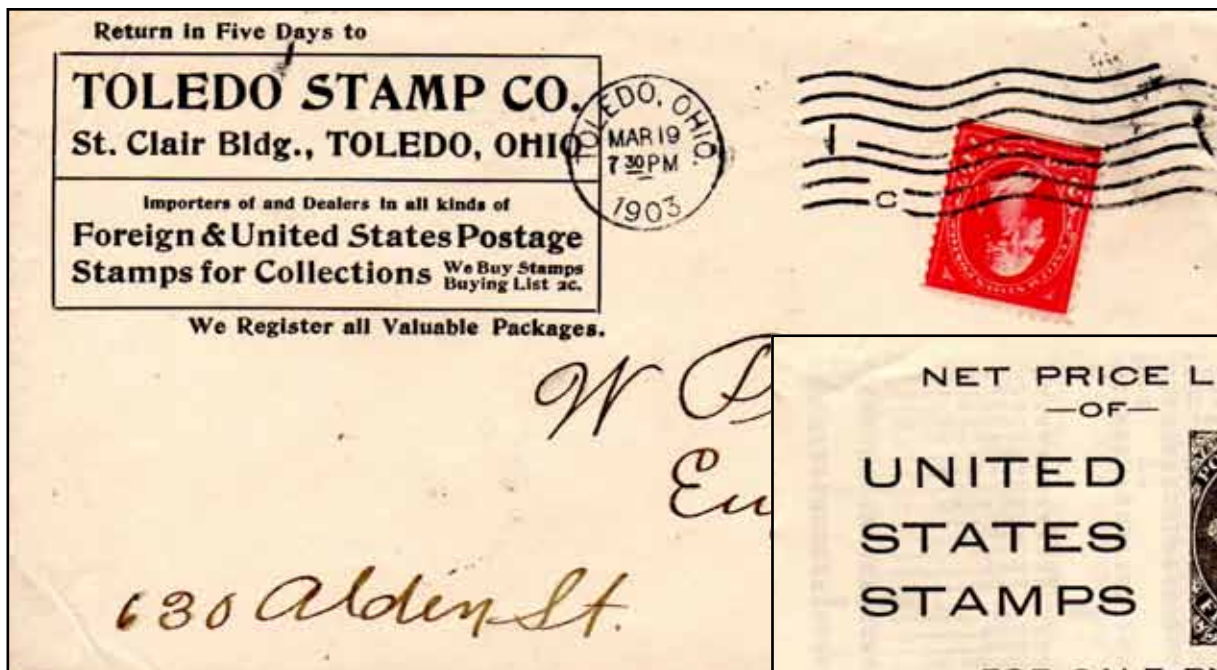
An interesting philatelic dealer cover is shown at left, but its key feature has nothing to do with the mailing address or, as far as I know, the return address and there is no advertising. What makes it interesting is the 1874-86 Plimpton issue forgery that was illegally used as a cutout in 1883 on an envelope addressed to Henry Collins & Co. Based on the information I've located, it was Henry Collins and the Calman brothers who purchased the stamp and coin business of John W. Scott in 1885. Four years later he formed J.W. Scott & Co. Ltd. a name that is still well known today.

E.J. Guerrant Jr.
Antlers, Okla.

This is my submission for "interesting stamp dealer mail." It is well known that Tatham Stamp and Coin used envelopes to hold their popular informational Tasco booklets. These envelopes were never designed to be mailed (though they do exist). However, Stanley Gibbons of London beat Tatham to the punch by issuing a similar booklet with Perkins and Bacon engraved labels showing 100 different colors. These booklets first appeared about 1930, and were used well into the 1970s. It appears that Gibbons made a "mailer" just for these booklets. Shown is an example, along with a Tasco envelope, and the Gibbons booklet's original envelope, which was posted to Canada. The envelope has some comments about color on the reverse. The booklet was within the envelope when I obtained it.

Richard Hemmings
Stewartstown, Pa.



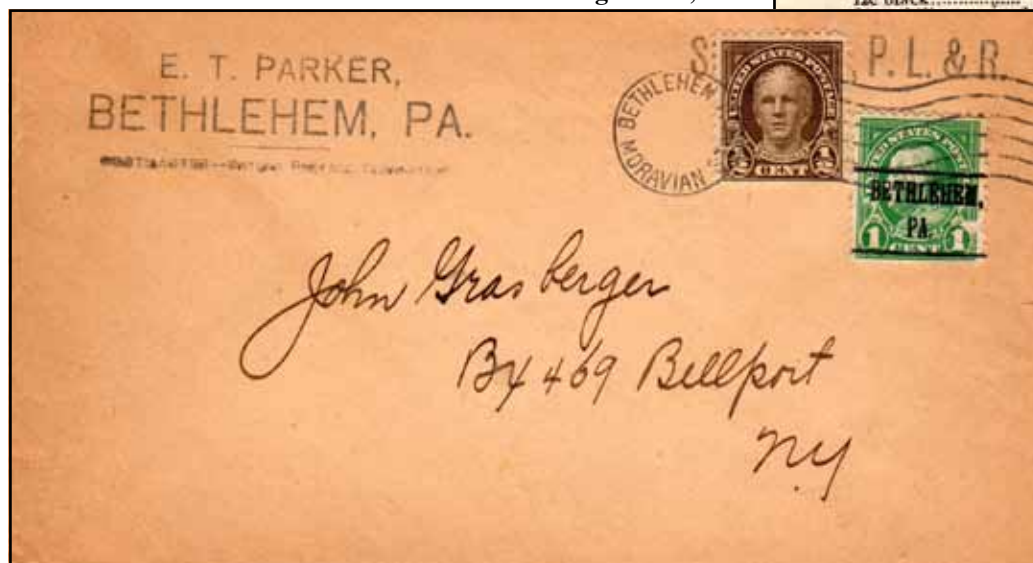


In response to the current "La Posta Challenge," I offer this example. The item is from the Toledo Stamp Company in 1903. The interesting part of this mail is the enclosure: an eight-page price list.

Gerald (Jerry) Johnson
Kennewick, Wash.

I submit the below cover as the most interesting philatelic dealer mail. This cover is from E.T. Parker, a dealer in Bethlehem, Pa., and New York City. The rate of 1.5 cents was for third class, which was paid by a 1/2-cent Nathan Hale (Scott 551) and a 1-cent Benjamin Franklin (Scott 552). "Sec. 435 1/2 P. L. & R," shown on cover and instituted May 29, 1928, concerned precancels. What makes this cover interesting is its method of canceling. The mute cancel of this class of mail was permissible. Thus, the dealer used two forms of mute cancel: a Bethlehem, Pa., precancel and the town's Moravian Station mute machine cancel. Unfortunately, these types of cancel preclude precise dating of the cover, but it must be on or after May 29, 1928. This dealer had a habit of mailing his customers on the first day of a new rate or regulation, so it is possible that this cover was mailed on May 29, 1928.

Christine Sanders
Englewood, Fla.



NET PRICE LIST
—OF—
UNITED STATES STAMPS
FOR SALE BY
TOLEDO STAMP CO.,
TOLEDO, OHIO, U. S. A.

TERMS NET CASH.

Please send supplementary order as it is almost impossible to keep every stamp listed constantly in stock.
Postage 2 cents extra on all orders.

Cat. p Our p		Cat. p Our p	
1845	5c New York.....\$7 00 \$3 50	1862-66	2c black..... 05 08
1847	5c Franklin..... 70 40		2c black, unused..... 45 25
	10c Washington.....3 50 2 00		5c red brown.....3 50 1 75
1851-56	1c blue, Imp..... 25 15		5c brown..... 35 25
	8c dull red..... 02 01		15c black..... 50 35
	10c green..... 05 35		24c lilac..... 80 25
	12c black..... 2 00 1 25	1867	1c griddled 11x13.....2 00 1 00
1857-60	1c blue, type II.....1 00 50		2c " "..... 20 10
	1c blue, type III..... 12 08		8c " "..... 04 02
	8c rose otr line unus 50 15		10c " "..... 75 25
	8c dull red..... 02 01		12c " "..... 50 25
	8c dull red, unused 10 04		15c " "..... 4 00 2 00
	5c brown, type I.....3 50 2 50	1867	1c griddled 9x13.....\$ 75 \$ 30
	5c " " II.....3 00 2 00		2c " "..... 10 08
	5c " " III.....2 00 1 50		8c " "..... 02 01
	10c green..... 30 20		5c " "..... 4 00 2 50
	12c black..... 75 50		10c " "..... 80 35
	24c lilac..... 4 00 3 00		12c " "..... 50 30
	30c orange..... 6 00 4 00		15c " "..... 1 00 50
	90c blue.....20 00 12 50		24c " "..... 5 00 2 50
1861	1c blue..... 05 03		30c " "..... 3 50 2 50
	1c " unused..... 30 15	1869	1c buff, Franklin..... 60 30
	8c pink..... 7 50 2 50		2c brn, Horseman..... 12 10
	8c rose..... 01 00 1/4		8c blu, Locomotive 02 01
	8c " unused..... 15 05		6c blu, Washington 80 40
	10c green..... 12 10		10c yellow, Arms..... 75 50
	12c black..... 40 25		12c grn, Steamship.. 50 35
	40 35		15c brown and blue..3 50 2 50
	60 2 50		15c brown and blue, framed.....1 50 1 00



United States Post Offices, Volumes 1 through 8 Compiled by Richard W. Helbock

The *United States Post Offices* series is the first complete listing of all of the United States post offices that have ever operated in the nation. The listings are based on the U.S. Post Office Department's "Records of Appointments of Postmasters," but contains data that has been refined by numerous postal historians who have published listings of the post offices that operated in individual states.

United States Post Offices is a single set of CDs that contain the name, county and state location, dates of operation, and scarcity index value for each and every independent post office to have operated in the nation. Hard-to-find historic maps show early county boundaries, and post office listings are presented both in PDF and Excel spreadsheet format, making them readily searchable and sortable.

This remarkable series was researched and written over a period of 14 years, commencing in 1993 with Volume 1- The West, and concluding in 2007 with Volume 8 – The Southeast. Originally published as books by La Posta Publications, they are available now only on CD or by direct download. The late Richard W. Helbock published *La Posta: A Journal of American Postal History*, for 42 years, and conducted nearly 100 auctions of American postal history.

	CD	Direct Download
_ US Post Offices Vol 1-8 (one CD)	\$105.00	N/A
_ US Post Offices Vol 1 – The West	\$19.50	\$14.50
_ US Post Offices Vol 2 – The Great Plains	\$19.50	\$14.50
_ US Post Offices Vol 3 – The Upper Midwest	\$19.50	\$14.50
_ US Post Offices Vol 4 – The Northeast	\$19.50	\$14.50
_ US Post Offices Vol 5 – The Ohio Valley	\$19.50	\$14.50
_ US Post Offices Vol 6 – The Mid-Atlantic	\$19.50	\$14.50
_ US Post Offices Vol 7 – The Lower Mississippi	\$19.50	\$14.50
_ US Post Offices Vol 8 – The Southeast	\$19.50	\$14.50

Name: _____ Company: _____

Mailing Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ E-mail: _____

Please allow six weeks for delivery
Prices include postage

Payments by U.S. check to: Cath Clark, POB 65, Harwood NSW 2465 AUSTRALIA

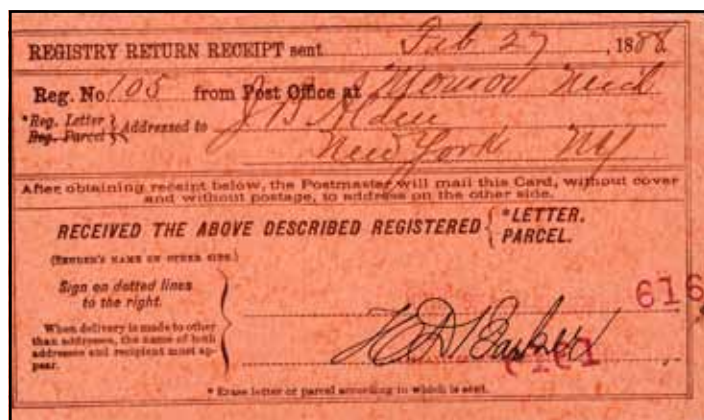
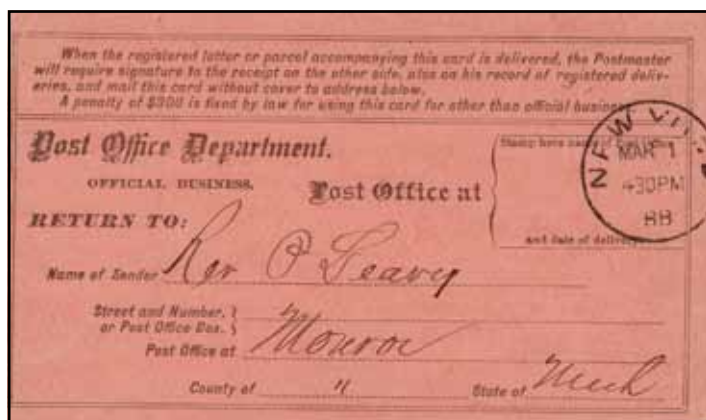
Two Early United States Postal Trucks

Shown are two early United States mail trucks. At bottom is a wooden mail truck with a wire mesh enclosure. At top is a mail truck with an early advertisement that encourages residents to speed mail delivery by obtaining a mailbox. Can anyone identify the make and model of these vehicles or identify the cities in which the photos were taken?



Ask La Posta

“Ask La Posta” is intended to help readers get answers to difficult postal history questions or to identify resources to help get those answers by using the vast and varied experience of the La Posta family. Readers can e-mail or write in with questions and answers to: Ask La Posta, POB 6074, Fredericksburg, VA 22403; E-mail, pmartin2525@yahoo.com. Be sure to include your name, address and e-mail address.



2013-3-1

A Registered Mail Card

I found this 1888 registered mail card postmarked in New York in an auction lot and wondered if it was a very early usage. I know that registered mail was introduced in 1855, but this could be an early use of this form. Can anyone provide information about this card?

Len Gellman
Kansas City, Mo.

La Posta Publications CD Clearance Sale



With **Free Shipping!** The more you order, the bigger your discount!

Choose from any of these postal history titles:

Postmarks on Postcards (2nd expanded edition 2006)

Early Airmail and Aviation in Southern California

San Francisco Postmarks 1847-1900 & Earthquake Mail 1906

U.S. Doane Postmarks

Passed by Army Censor: A Catalogue of U.S. Army Censor Markings 1941-42

Prexie Postal History

A Catalogue of Non-Standard U.S. Postmarks 1900-1971

Illustrated Price Guide to U.S. APO Cancels of the World War II (not shown)

1 CD — \$17.50; 2 CDs — \$29 (\$14.50 each); 3 or more CDs — \$12.50 each

Direct download discount available! Receive \$6 off any individual purchase if you choose a direct download from the Internet instead of a CD. All CDs are available as direct downloads. Allow 14 days shipping for mail orders.

Pay by U.S. check to: Cath Clark, POB 65, Harwood NSW 2465, Australia

La Posta welcomes reader letters about journal content or anything related to a postal history topic. Send your comments to: Peter Martin, Editor, *La Posta*, POB 6074, Fredericksburg, VA 22403, or e-mail pmartin2525@yahoo.com.

A Meter Tale

Years ago, when I was managing the San Diego compliance office of the California State Board of Equalization, I was fortunate to hire, on a promotion, a compliance representative from our San Jose office. We had met when I was teaching a course in Sacramento and he was obviously a quality employee, and, we shared a common interest: stamp collecting!

Fast forward a couple of years and he is with us in San Diego, working as a collector on delinquent accounts. Some cases were more difficult than others and some had a special status, based upon a refusal to settle the debt, and often reinforced with a little or a lot of profanity. That helped us to understand that only our initiative would settle the debt.

One person had put it in writing, unaware they were dealing with a philatelist. He noticed that the envelope containing the "refusal" was mailed using a postal meter. He went to the main post office with the envelope, asked a postal inspector for the identification of the firm using the meter and then dropped by the firm to leave a wage attachment notice with the owner (of the business and the meter).

The next day, the owner came into the office and paid the debt in full. His action was motivated by the tax debtor working for him, "off the books." That also explained why the debtor was never identified as an employee in quarterly searches of her social security number.

And, to wrap it up, he told me years later that he is certain that she likely has no idea how she was connected as an employee of that firm.

Chuck McFarlane
Union, Ky.

Tocher to Focus on U.S. Postal History

(Editor's Note: Longtime La Posta advertiser Don Tocher has had U.S. classic stamps and postal history as his business focus. He is well known for excellent customer service and is always a popular table at the many shows he attends across America. He recently announced through his website that he will be eliminating his stock of single stamps to focus on U.S. postal history.)

In the early 1990s, another dealer wanted to raise some money and offered to sell his U.S. cover stock to me. So, with no experience except in U.S. stamps, I had about 5,000 covers with a marked retail value of about \$100,000. There were dozens of categories (DPOs from all the states, foreign destinations, auxiliary markings,

fancy cancels, registry, etc.). However, if I was going to sell these, I sure needed to know what they were all about.

So, if I was going to have an "edge," I had to get knowledgeable about my own property. The organization of the stock and the pricing by the former owner was a big help, but was not enough.

So, I rapidly acquired a philatelic library so that I could have a chance to do this. I now have books on auxiliary markings, maritime mail, fancy cancels, postal rates and histories of many of the states.

Another asset was a growing cohort of fellow dealers and customers from whom I have learned a great deal. Of course, 20 years of experience with U.S. classic stamps helps when dealing with U.S. covers.

It also didn't take me long to focus on U.S. postal history. Adding even a narrow segment of worldwide material would have forced me to significantly expand my library and to have to deal with my under achievements in foreign languages.

Science uses the notion of dimensions to describe things in exact terms. I have developed a point of view about postal history that builds on the notion of "dimensions of complexity." Individual stamps can be characterized as having dimensions such as centering, freshness, gum quality, defectiveness, etc. Covers carry these same dimensions, but many more apply such as: scarcity of destination or origin, unusual postal rates, auxiliary markings, etc. Thus they are more complicated than stamps and, to me, more interesting.

I try to convince customers and collectors of this fact in the hope that they will be challenged to take up this branch of the hobby. I have developed a lecture on this that I have given at stamp clubs.

Given all of the above, it just made sense to me to eliminate inventories of single stamps so that I could be more effective as a U.S. postal history dealer.

Don Tocher
Sunapee, N.H.

Free to a Good Home

I am a recent subscriber to *La Posta* and enjoy the quarterly journals. I have been given the May, July and September 1997 *La Postas*. I enjoyed reading these three older issues but do not intend to keep them. I will mail these issues to anyone who can use them. Contact me at: havlenas@fix.net; POB 40, Fort Bragg, CA 95437.

Jim Havlena
Fort Bragg, Calif.



John Hotchner presents Patricia Kaufmann with the Stampshow 2013 Literature Grand Award for the *Confederate States of America Catalog & Handbook*.

James E. Lee Sells La Posta Literature Inventory

Larry Weinstock of Weinstock Stamps and Covers, Portland, Ore., and Michael Jaffe of the Brookman Stamp Company, Vancouver, Wash., have agreed to purchase the La Posta Publications book inventory owned and distributed by James E. Lee LLC, Cary, Ill. Three skids of inventory were received at Jaffe's location on May 6.

The inventory consisted of volumes one through eight of the United State Post Offices series written by the late Bill Helbock, *Postmarks on Postcards* by the same author and *Montana Territorial Postmarks* written by Francis Dunn and the late Wes Shellen. They also received permission from La Posta Publisher Cath Clark to reprint volumes one and four of the post office series since they are in short supply.

All retail and wholesale inquiries should be directed to Larry Weinstock at lwstampscovers@comcast.net or Weinstock Stamps and Covers, POB 92033, Portland, Oregon 97292.

Lee said that this sale constitutes part of the final phase of his six-year plan to exit the literature portion of his business. He will focus on United States essays and proofs, postal history and fancy cancels. For the past six years he has slowly sold down a book inventory that had been built over a period of 25 years.

Lee's association with La Posta goes back to 1992

when he acquired all of the in-print titles that had been produced by Helbock. When Helbock and Clark moved to Australia, Lee became the literature distribution arm. He later went on to finance the post office series, *Montana Territorial Postmarks*, a revised edition of *Prexie Postal History* and *Passed by Army Censor*.



Kramer, Groten, Nakles are 2013 Luff Honorees

George Jay Kramer, Dr. Arthur H. Groten, and Richard S. Nakles have been chosen to receive the 2013 John N. Luff Awards. The recipients were honored August 11 at the 2013 StampShow Awards Banquet in Milwaukee, Wis.

The Luff Awards are the highest awards given by the American Philatelic Society. Established in 1940 in honor of prominent American philatelist John N. Luff, the APS president from 1907 to 1909, the awards are presented each year at APS StampShow for meritorious contributions by living philatelists.

George Jay Kramer (Clifton, N.J.) received the 2013 Luff Award for Exceptional Contributions to Philately, Dr. Arthur H. Groten (Poughkeepsie, N.Y.) received the 2013 Luff Award for Distinguished Philatelic Research and Richard S. Nakles (State College, Pa.) received the 2013 Luff Award for Outstanding Service to the APS.

A list of previous honorees is available on the APS website at: www.stamps.org/Awards.

Nominations for deserving candidates may be made to the Luff Awards Committee, which submits its recommendations to the society's Board of Directors during the APS spring meeting.

All nominations must be submitted to the Luff Award Committee in writing using an official nomination form. Nominations are active for five years. Nomination forms are available online at www.stamps.org/Awards in downloadable PDF format.

Forms can also be obtained by writing to: Luff Award Committee, 100 Match Factory Place, Bellefonte, PA 16823.



The \$2 Inverted Jenny sheet released in conjunction with the September 22 opening of the National Postal Museum's William H. Gross Gallery.

William H. Gross Stamp Gallery Opens at NPM; New \$2 Inverted Jenny Stamp Released

The Smithsonian's National Postal Museum William H. Gross Stamp Gallery opened Sunday, September 22. It is the largest stamp gallery in the world and the only one to show stamps and mail in the context of American history and culture. The opening coincided with the first day release of the new \$2 Inverted Jenny stamp.

Among the gems on display: a cover postmarked on the moon in 1971; a watch worn by a sea clerk aboard Titanic; one of two 1868 1-cent Z-grill stamps in existence; a letter addressed to John Hancock postmarked July 4, 1776; stamps depicting kings of Hawaii before it became a state; and the icon of the Smithsonian's stamp collection—the Inverted Jenny.

As visitors move through seven thematic areas, regular and high-tech interactive displays reveal the stories behind the collections. Custom-made pullout frames hold more than 20,000 objects, including noteworthy stamps that have never been on public display.

A wall of windows overlooking Massachusetts Avenue, depicting 54 colorful U.S. stamps, provides a dramatic nighttime glow and is a preview of what is inside the National Postal Museum.

The National Postal Museum is located at 2 Massachusetts Ave. N.E. (next door to Union Station) in Washington, D.C.

NPM 'Design Files' Now Accessible

Baasil Wilder, the Smithsonian Libraries branch librarian for the National Postal Museum, recently announced that that he can now provide access to

more than 1,700 files in the NPM Library.

Commonly referred to as "The Design Files," these items came to the NPM from the Post Office Department and some were created internally by the Smithsonian.

"We have provided the listing of holdings in the libraries in the same interface as the NPM object collection," Wilder said. "Thus, when searching for \$2.40 Raising the Flag on Lunar Surface, July 20, 1969, design file, you will see that we have the history of that specific design in the library, as well as the stamp in the museum."

For more information go to: <http://collections.si.edu>. Wilder can be contacted at the NPM Library by calling, (202) 633 5543.



News Reporting

**Report news related to postal history or
philatelic research to the editor at:**

E-mail

pmartin2525@yahoo.com

Peter Martin

Editor, *La Posta*

POB 6074

Fredericksburg, VA 22403

DK Enterprises

APS, NSDA, USCS, MPHS, TSDA, SRS, ARA

POB 1881

Silverdale, WA 98383

(360) 692-3818 stamps@dickkeiser.com

US / World Wide stamps and Postal History

Military/Naval Covers

Censored, Internment, POW covers

US/State/Foreign Revenues, and Much More.

Always Buying Visa/Mastercard Accepted

FREE shipping on orders over \$50.00

Visit my website at www.Dickkeiser.com



Don Tocher U.S. Classics

POB 679

Sunapee, NH 03782

(617) 686-0288

Please see me at:

SESCAL, Hilton Los Angeles

Airport Hotel, Oct. 4-6

CHICAGOPEX, Itasca, Ill.

Westin Chicago NW, Nov. 22-24

See unusual U.S. Postal History items,
including military (Civil War-World War II),
on my website:

www.postalnet.com/dontocher

ASDA, APS, CSA, MPHS, USPCS

WORLDWIDE POSTAL HISTORY

Aviation, Polar, Military, Maritime and some USA items often included.

There are commercial items and postal stationery, air letters, air mails, WWI, WWII, plus other military items from different times. Maritime features mainly paquebots and some transatlantic items.

There are about 475 new covers in every sale. Catalogues have a diverse mixture of world covers and cards. Interesting items on offer in a Mail Bid sale every two months. Prices will suit all collectors. Paypal and Moneybookers can be used for payments.

Sidney Fenemore

4A Dalton Road

Wallasey CH45 1HL England, UK

Website: www.sidneyfenemore.com

E-mail: sfenemore@clara.co.uk

Established in 1975. APS Member #178349

PROFESSIONAL POSTMARK TRACING



I will execute to
your exact
specifications
accurate tracings
of plain or fancy
postmarks,

cancels and maps. My work has appeared in *La Posta* in both the Washington Territorial postmark series by Richard A. Long and the 19th Century Colorado postmark series by Richard Frajola.

If you've been thinking of a postmark catalog project, or any research which requires well-executed postmarks or maps for illustrations, but do not have the time required to accomplish the tracings, drop me a line or give me a call with the particulars, and I will give you a quote.

JANE DALLISON

PO Box 296 Langlois, OR 97450

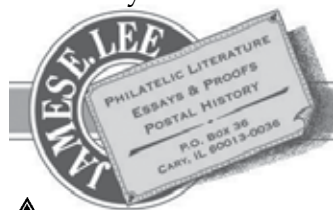
Phone 541-348-2813

We are America's key buyer of
the kind of material you see here.



Essays and Proofs
U.S. 1861 Issue Stamps
& Postal History
Fancy Cancels
Civil War Letters & Covers

When selling, always be sure to get our offer
for your collection...first. Call us.



Phone: (847) 462-9130
Email: jim@jameslee.com

www.JamesLee.com



INSTANT CASH for U.S. & Foreign Covers!!



IF YOU HAVE ANY OF THESE
COVERS, SEND THEM TO ME
FOR MY IMMEDIATE OFFER
AND INSTANT CHECK: (All countries)
Registered mail, Better Individual
Items, Zeppelins & Flights, Maritime,
World Wars I and II, all Military and
Navals, Historical Covers/Letters, Rocket
Mail, Crash Covers, Expedition Mail,
Arctic and Antarctic, Prisoner of War
Mail, Stampless, Airmails, Catapults,
Expositions, Classic Postal History of all
kinds, censored covers and much, much
more!...and please: *No First Day Covers
and no stamps!*

Ship your covers to
us today! We'll reply
quickly & repay your
postage.



FREE! Download "Postal History
Treasures," our colorful newsletter, by
going to our website.

Fred
Schmitt

Since
1953
Schmitt

Investors Ltd.

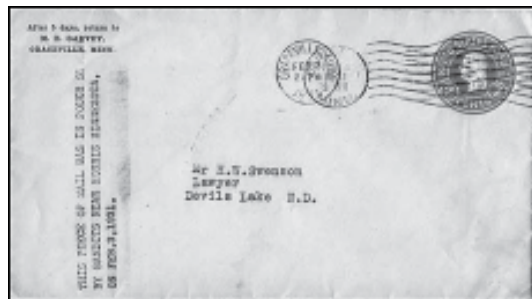
www.fredschmitt.com

Member: Manuscript Society,
ASDA, APS, USCS, PTS (London),
CSDA (Canada)

P.O. Box 387-LaP • Northport NY 11768 • Phone: (631) 261-6600 (24 hours)
Fax: (631) 261-7744 • E-Mail: fred@fredschmitt.com

WANTED

Mail Robbery, Terrorism,
Mail Bomb Postal History, Unusual
Mail Interruptions — Tornadoes,
Hurricanes, Volcanoes, etc.



Pouch Stolen by Bandits...

Contact Dr. Steven J. Berlin,
12407 Dover Rd.
Reisterstown, Maryland 21136

Phone: 443-838-1546, E-mail-
DrStevenBerlin@yahoo.com.

Sescal, Los Angeles, Oct 4-6
Chicagopex, Chicago, Nov 22-24
Florex, Orlando, Dec 6-8

U.S. Postal History & Covers
Colonial to Prexies; maritime, destinations,
DPOs, railroads, Confederate, territorial,
expos, possessions, express & military

STEPHEN T. TAYLOR

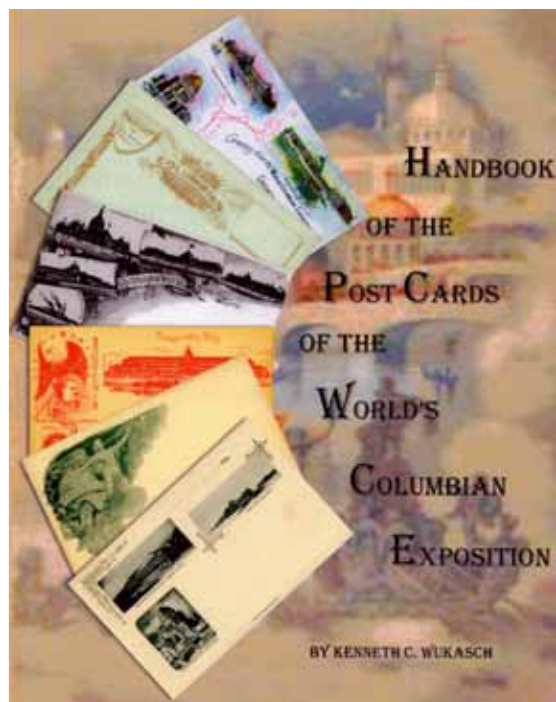
5 Glenbuck Road
Surbiton, Surrey
England KT6 6BS

Phone: 011-4420-8390-9357
Fax: 011-4420-8390-2235
info@stephentaylor.co.uk
www.stephentaylor.co.uk

Your American Dealer in Britain



Presenting the
**HANDBOOK OF THE POST CARDS OF THE WORLD'S COLUMBIAN
EXPOSITION** by Kenneth C. Wukasch



This award winning handbook provides, for the first time, a history of the souvenir post cards printed for the 1893 Chicago World's fair. Each card is illustrated in full color with listings of known designs, an assigned value and a history of the publisher.

95 pages

62 color pages

New Designs

This book should be considered as a companion to the author's 2005 **HANDBOOK OF THE POSTAL CARDS OF THE WORLD'S COLUMBIAN EXPOSITION**. These books together document the beginning of the souvenir post card in the United States.

Perfect Bound Soft Cover

Price includes shipping & handling

\$34.95 Domestic

\$52.00 International

Send orders to Kenneth C. Wukasch
300 Alpine Trail, San Marcos, TX 78666
PayPal accepted: kenwukasch@yahoo.com

SUBSCRIBE NOW! DON'T MISS AN ISSUE

We hope that you have enjoyed our journal and I wish to cordially invite you to become a subscriber.

La Posta is published four times a year and provides research, news and information regarding all aspects of American postal history. With a subscription price of just \$32 per year, most of our readers consider us to be the best bargain in postal history today.

I hope you will find *La Posta* worthy of your support. If so, please take a moment to fill out the form below and send us a check in the amount of \$32, or pay via credit card at www.la-posta.com/journal.htm to begin your subscription with our next issue.

Sincerely yours,

Peter Martin

Publisher

Yes, I'll give *La Posta* a try. Enclosed is my check in the amount of \$32.*

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, ZIP: _____

Make checks payable to: **La Posta, POB 6074, Fredericksburg, VA 22403**

*The \$32 per volume rate applies to U.S. domestic addresses only. Please consult page 3 for current foreign and Canadian rates.

La Posta Classified Ads

GET YOUR MESSAGE TO THE LARGEST AND BEST INFORMED GROUP OF POSTAL HISTORIANS IN AMERICA

Word counts do not include your name and address, which are free. Query if you have ads of more than 100 words. Send payment to: *La Posta*, POB 6074, Fredericksburg, VA 22403. E-mail Joan at laposta.joan@yahoo.com

Word Count	Per Issue
1-30	\$5
31-50	\$10
51-75	\$15
76-100	\$20

COVERS FOR SALE

POs, RPOs, SHIPS, DOANES, Expos, machines, military, advertising, auxiliaries, and more! My mail bid sales offer thousands of postal history lots. Write/ call for sample catalog. Jim Mehrer, 2405-30th St., Rock Island, IL 61201. Phone: (309) 786-6539. E-mail: mehrer@postal-history.com. Internet web site: www.postal-history.com. [44-3]

ILLUSTRATED ADVERTISING COVERS

showing various old products. Many with matching graphic enclosures. Submit collecting interests for free photocopies. John Cuddy, 2768 Willits Rd., Philadelphia, PA 19136. Phone: (215) 552-9855; E-mail: jcuddymailpouch@aol.com. [45-1]



La Posta Back Issues

La Posta back issues
may be purchased from:

Sherry Straley
1400 Rowena Way
Sacramento, CA 95864

To order back issues call Sherry at:
(916) 359-1898; FAX 916-359-1963;
E-mail sherry@4agent.org.

WORLDWIDE POSTAL

HISTORY with some USA items Aero:Polar: Military:Maritime and commerical items. Catalogues have a diverse mixture of covers/cards. Interesting items on offer in a Mail Bid sale every two months. Sidney Fenemore Wallasey CH45 1HL England UK: Website:www.sidneyfenemore.com;e-mail: sfenemore@clara.co.uk. Member APS. [44-3]

DOANE CANCELS WANTED

BUY, SELL AND TRADE Doane Cancels of all states. Send photocopies or on approval. Gary Anderson, POB 600039, St. Paul, MN 55106 [44-3]

TOWNS WANTED

ALL STATES AND CATEGORIES wanted! Better consignment material always needed for my bi-monthly Mail Bid Sales. Write/ call for consignment details. Jim Mehrer, 2405-30th Street, Rock Island, IL 61201. Phone: (309) 786-6539. Email: mehrer@postal-history.com. Website: www.postal-history.com. [44-3]

MISCELLANY WANTED

ILLUSTRATED ADVERTISING card/covers: Buffalo/Pawnee Bill, Wild West Show, P.T. Barnum, western lawmen; WWI Newfoundland. Mario, Box 342, Station Main, Saskatoon, Sask., Canada S7K 3L3 [44-3]

NOTE:

EXPIRATION DATE SHOWN AT END
OF EACH AD, i.e., [44-4], MEANS AD
WILL EXPIRE WITH THAT ISSUE.

AD DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE:

Nov. 10, 2013

Support the Advertisers That Support *La Posta*!

Alaska Collectors' Club.....	36	<i>La Posta</i> CD Clearance Sale.....	58
Dr. Stephen Berlin.....	63	<i>La Posta</i> Subscriptions.....	64
Brookman Stamp Company.....	29	<i>La Posta</i> U.S. Post Office Series.....	56
Carriers and Locals Society	51	James Lee.....	63
Classified Ads.....	65	Robert L. Markovits Quality Investors	36
Joe Crosby	30	The Philatelic Foundation	2
Jane Dallison.....	62	Regency-Superior Auctions.....	68
DK Enterprises.....	62	Schuyler Rumsey Auctions.....	C3
Doubleday Postal History.....	68	Schmitt Investors Ltd.	63
Sidney Fenemore	62	Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries	C2
Patricia A. Kaufmann	67	Stephen T. Taylor	63
Daniel F. Kelleher Auctions	1, C4	Don Tocher.....	62
<i>La Posta</i> Back Issues	65	Ken Wukasch.....	64
<i>La Posta</i> Back Issue CDs	30		

La Posta Display Advertising Rates

Display ads may be run on a contract basis for one-to-four insertions. You may change ad contents of inside pages at any time, provided advance notice is given. Contract rates are as follows:

2013 Display Ad Rates (Per issue)			
Space	Size	B&W	Color
Full Page	7-1/2 x 10 inch	\$160	\$225
1/2 Page	7-1/2 x 4-7/8 inch	\$95	\$150
1/4 Page Vert.	3-5/8 x 4-7/8 inch	\$60	\$100
1/8 Page horiz	3-5/8 x 2-3/8 inch	\$35	\$75

Special Placement

Page 1	7-1/2 x 10 inch	\$300	\$350
Inside back cover	7-1/2 x 10 inch	\$300	\$350
Inside front cover	7-1/2 x 10 inch	\$300	\$350
Back cover-3/4p.	7-1/2 x 7-1/2 inch	\$350	\$350
2pp. centerspread	16 x 10 inch	\$750	Inquire

2013 Ad Deadlines	
Fourth Quarter	November 10

Payment is due with ad submission. There is a 10 per cent discount for contracts of four or more issues if the full year is paid in advance.

Rates are for camera-ready ads submitted as a pdf or original art. No bleeds.

Additional charges may apply for special services. Ad prep is available at additional charge. Rates start at \$20 for a 1/8 page, text-only ad. Inquire for a specific quote.

E-mail your ad to Joan Martin at: *LaPosta.Joan@yahoo.com*
or send to: *La Posta*, POB 6074, Fredericksburg, VA 22403

Payment by U.S. bank check to: *La Posta* Publications.
Phone: (540) 899-7683



- 40 years as a professional in Confederate philately—collecting, researching, and writing about Confederates since the 1960s.
- Extensive online retail stock of Confederate stamps and covers. No computer? We can work it out. I will personally help you build your collection.
- “No stupid questions” policy—I’ll help educate you on Confederates.
- My website is far more than a retail outlet. I offer a “Confederate Primer Online” to help you as well as an archive of countless fascinating articles, columns and other resources.
- Let me be your specialized auction agent; I attend major Confederate sales around the country.

Patricia (Trish) Kaufmann is the Editor-in-Chief of the *Confederate States Catalog and Handbook of Stamps and Postal History* (CSA Catalog) published in November 2012. She is a past president of the Confederate Stamp Alliance, as well as a regular columnist in *The American Stamp Dealer and Collector*, *The Confederate Philatelist* and *La Posta*. A member of the Confederate Stamp Alliance Authentication Service since 1996, she is currently serving on the Council of Philatelists of the Smithsonian National Postal Museum.

Put me to work for you! Let me help build your collection or, if that time has come, give me the opportunity to maximize your return on the collection you have so lovingly built. No collection is too big or too small.

NEWS FLASH!

Confederate States Catalog and Handbook of Stamps and Postal History (CSA Catalog) available

for \$150 postpaid. **This important volume is now sold out through the publisher, the Confederate Stamp Alliance, but I still have a number available.** The lineal descendant of the Dietz Catalog, this groundbreaking work has color throughout with over 10,000 valuations and information derived from primary sources that are found nowhere else in any philatelic publication. If you specialize in Confederates or have a comprehensive U.S. philatelic library, this is a “must have.” **ORDER NOW while still available.**



PATRICIA A. KAUFMANN

10194 N. Old State Road, Lincoln DE 19960

Ph: 302-422-2656 ~ Fx: 302-424-1990

trishkauf@comcast.net

www.csadealer.com

Life member CSA, APS, APRL, USPCS ~

Member ASDA, CCNY, RPSL



YOUR SOURCE FOR BUYING & SELLING AMERICAN COVERS & POSTAL HISTORY



STAMPS • COINS • SPACE • AUTOGRAPHS

REGENCY SUPERIOR

Saint Louis, Missouri
229 N. Euclid Avenue
Saint Louis, MO 63108

Los Angeles, California
17514 Ventura Blvd, Ste 101
Encino, CA 91316

EXPERIENCED
AUCTIONEERS
**SINCE
1929**

complimentary auction catalog
for active bidders

800.782.0066
RegencySuperior.com



a.k.a. CoverCrazy2

DOUBLEDAY POSTAL HISTORY

P. O. Box 70 * Rindge, New Hampshire 03461-0070
www.doubledaypostalhistory.com * 603 899-9085