



The United States SPECIALIST

for the Collector of Postage & Revenue Stamp Issues of the United States

WHOLE NUMBER 1126



1943-44 Overrun Countries Series: Austria

— plus —



Scott 1519 Coil Line Pairs (Not)

— and —

The Decisions of 1894 - Newspaper & Periodical Stamps



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The United States SPECIALIST

the journal of the United States Stamp Society

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An association of collectors to promote the study of all postage and revenue stamps and stamped paper of the United States and US-administered areas produced by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing and other contract printers.

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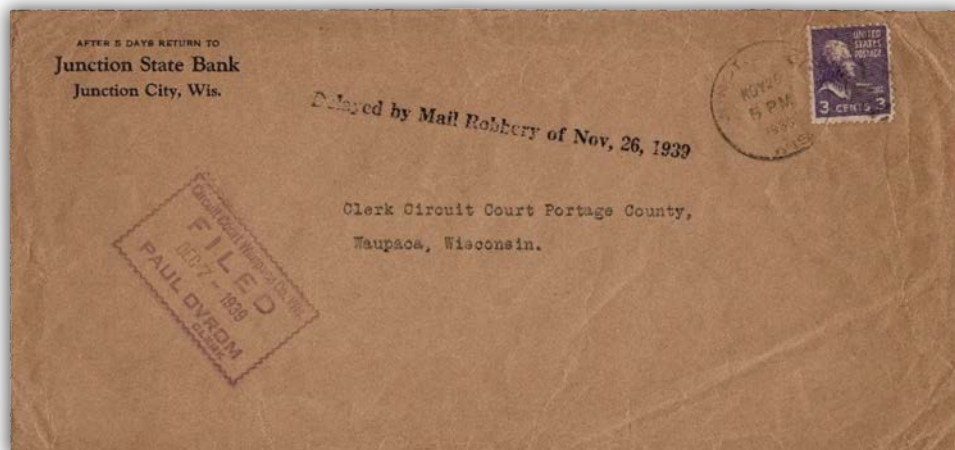


Prexie Collectors Suffers Significant Loss

USSS member and Prexie collector Albert “Chip” Briggs recently suffered a significant loss of which the membership should be aware. Chip writes:

I want to alert all of my friends and contacts in philately to a batch of missing auction purchases of Presidential Series postal history. A package containing 15 lots of individual covers I successfully bid on in the October 4-5 Harmers International Sale was taken to the Mail Box Store in Yorktown Heights, New York where the package was allegedly turned over to FedEx for shipment to Virginia. FedEx claims to have no record of receiving the package. Harmers International is filing a police report and I have notified the APS Stamp Theft Committee. While all of the covers are special and appealing to me, some of the covers are truly historic and their loss would be a loss not only for me but a loss for philately and future potential owners and caretakers of the items as well. I have included catalogue images and lot numbers in this email. If anyone sees any of these items offered for sale in the marketplace or online or has any information as to their whereabouts, please let myself or Joan Harmer at Harmers International know.

Chip’s PDF inventory of the covers is available to download from this web link: <https://qrcodes.pro/PjWSDW> or by scanning the QR code with your mobile device. The APS Stamp Theft Committee is a resource for collectors who may have been the victim of a theft. For more information, visit their page at: <https://classic.stamps.org/Stamp-Thefts>.



[illegible]


US Specialist Articles Have Extended Reach

Articles prepared by USSS Farley Era Committee Chairman Paul M. Holland have recently appeared in other philatelic journals around the world. Holland is a prolific author with significant credits in philatelic, numismatic and other scholarly journals. Not unexpectedly, Holland's article, "1943-44 Overrun Countries Series: Netherlands," (*The U.S. Specialist*, August 2023) was translated and reprinted in *Hertog Post* in the Netherlands. His work on early essays of the Overrun Countries stamps (*The U.S. Specialist*, September 2023) was also reprinted in the November edition of *U.S. Stamp News*.

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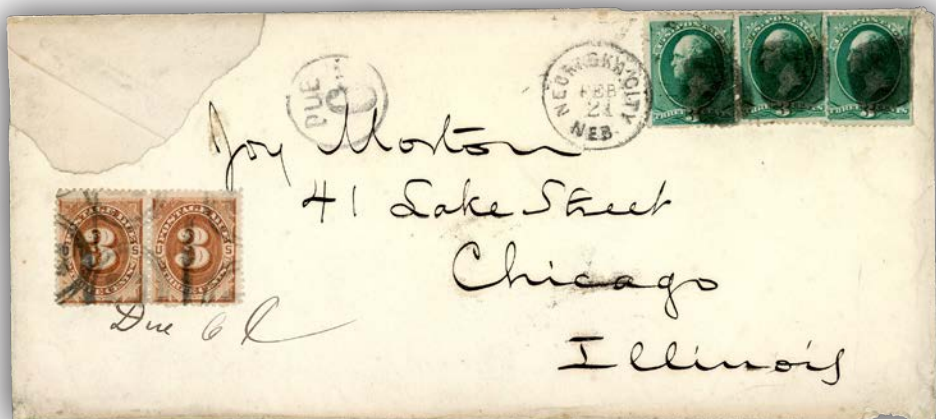
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Letters to the Editor



Regarding “Early Chicago Precancels (the C’s) on the Brown Large Numeral Postage Due Stamps”

I enjoyed Harry Charles’ article very much. I wanted to add an additional bit of information on one of the covers illustrated, that being the one addressed to Joy Morton. I would imagine that this is the same Joy Morton who founded Morton Salt Company in 1889. As a one-time employee of the old Teletype Corporation, I can tell you that Teletype (a manufacturer of teleprinters, which would often be heard chattering away in the background of network news broadcasts of the ‘50s and early ‘60s) began life as the Morkrum company, a partnership between Morton and inventor Howard Krum. It later became Morkrum-Kleinschmidt, before being purchased by AT&T in 1930 and becoming a division of Western Electric. Being on the payroll of Teletype in 1980, I still have the souvenir booklet given to all employees celebrating 50 years of being included in the Bell System.

Mr. Morton was very much involved in Chicago business and civic life. He was

the son of J. Sterling Morton, who was the originator of Arbor Day. Through the efforts of Joy Morton, there are two outstanding natural sites in existence today; Morton Arboretum in Lisle, Illinois and Arbor Lodge State Historical Park and Arboretum in Nebraska City, Nebraska.

Gary Olson

USSS #16374

Round Lake, IL

More Regarding “Early Chicago Precancels...”

Harry Charles’ article on Banknote Postage Dues with Chicago precancels in the November *Specialist* led us (LP and CG) to a conversation regarding the thus far unrecorded Chicago Pearl precancel on the 30¢ Banknote Due stamp Scott J6. For that matter, Harry Charles reported that no 30¢ early Postage Dues are known with any early Chicago precancel. In one of our collections (CG) two examples of J6 with Chicago Pearl precancels — one in magenta and another in black — were found. Both precancels are light, as is typical with these precancels (see illustration).



Adjustment of images of these stamps with Photoshop makes these precancels more apparent. The top image shows two examples, the left stamp with precancel in purple and the right stamp in black. The middle and bottom images show the top image rotated 180° and darkened to emphasize the precancels that show unequivocally that these are Chicago Pearls and not the similar New York variety.

An interesting point to note is that Charles' article indicates no 30¢ Postage Dues with early Chicago precancels. These examples show that the full range of values of the early Banknote Postage Dues were precanceled with the earliest Chicago precancel; these may have lasted into later years while lower values were precanceled with later styles of precancels.

Leonard Piskiewicz

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Santa Clara, CA

Charles Gherman

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San Francisco, CA

Regarding 1939 Trans-Atlantic Air Mail Stamp and World War II

For readers interested in learning more about the postal history of the 30-cent Globe stamp on the eve of and during World War II, I can refer them to my six-frame exhibit, entitled *U.S. Transatlantic 30-Cent Globe Airmail Stamp at Work (1939-1942)*, shown at PIPEX 2023. It may be seen online at: <https://www.pipex-stampshow.org/PIPEX2023/Exhibits2023/Exh27Fiset/exframe01.html>.



Louis Fiset

USSS # 10238
Seattle, WA

Corrections

On page 395 (*The U.S. Specialist*, October 2023), a sharp-eyed member pointed out that the article neglected to mention the 24¢ Old North Church stamp from the 1975-81 Americana series (Scott 1603) and 24¢ Common Buckeye stamps from 2006 (Scott 4000-4002). Also on page 396, the original value planned for the 24¢ Benjamin Harrison stamp was 30¢.





Overrun Countries



1943-44 Overrun Countries Series: Austria

by **Paul M. Holland**

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The envelope carrying this letter bears the commemorative postage stamp issued in honor of Austria. This is the eleventh in our series of stamps being issued as a tribute to the European countries which have been overrun and occupied by the Axis forces of aggression.

— From a signed November 23, 1943 letter sent with a Favor First Day Cover of the 5¢ Austria stamp of the 1943-44 Overrun Countries Series sent to Marvin McIntyre at the White House by Deputy Third Assistant Postmaster General Roy M. North.

It is interesting to note that in his original October 22, 1942 memo to Marvin McIntyre on overrun countries stamps, FDR lists only eight overrun European countries in the order “Norway, Holland, Belgium, Greece, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, Poland and Luxembourg.”¹ Stamps for France, Albania and Austria were then added to these in a press release of May 11, 1943 for a “series of eleven new postage stamps, commemorating the heroic and continuing resistance to the Axis powers by the peoples of over-run and occupied countries of Europe.”²

Austria presents an unusual case among these European countries since Austria had actually been part of Germany for more than five years, dating from the time of the Anschluss on March 12, 1938. The idea of Anschluss, or the union of Austria with Germany to form a “Greater Germany,” dates back to the aftermath of World War I, when it was believed that without its empire, Austria would no longer be economically

viable. However, union with Germany was forbidden under the Treaty of Versailles. Once the Nazis came to power in Germany in 1933, pressure for Anschluss reemerged, and in a failed coup attempt, Austrian chancellor Dollfuss was assassinated in 1934. His replacement, Kurt Schuschnigg, resisted Anschluss but finally announced a March 13, 1938 voter referendum on union with Germany. Schuschnigg himself was pressured into resigning on March 11, 1938, by an ultimatum and invasion threats from Hitler. He was replaced as chancellor by the Austrian Nazi Arthur Seyss-Inquart, who then invited the German army into Austria the following day. Later, a plebiscite on Anschluss was held on April 10, 1938, where 99.7% approved in a closely watched non-secret ballot.

Designed by the American Bank Note Company, the die proof for the Austria Overrun Countries stamp was first approved on September 4, 1943, as shown in Figure 1. Three colors were used in printing the Austria stamp: blue violet for the outer engraved frame, with color offset printing of the Austrian flag in red and black. Plate proofs show that a “shared” layout was employed in printing full sheets of 200 stamps, with the bottom two panes of 50 for Austria and the top two for Albania.



Figure 1. Large die proof for the Austria stamp as approved September 4, 1943 (Image courtesy of the Smithsonian National Postal Museum).

Overrun Countries stamps for Austria were issued on November 23, 1943, in Washington, DC, with the first sheet of stamps bought by Postmaster General (PMG) Frank C. Walker from Third Assistant PMG Ramsey S. Black. As in the case for other Overrun Countries stamps, Deputy Third Assistant PMG Roy North sent a favor FDC with signed letter to Marvin McIntyre at the White House. This is shown in Figure 2. McIntyre was, in fact, the original recipient of FDR's White House memo that initiated the Overrun Countries stamp series. Since there was no Austrian ambassador, Roy North had Postmaster General Walker autograph this favor FDC instead.

THE DEPUTY THIRD ASSISTANT POSTMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

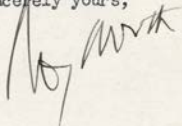
November 23, 1943.

Dear Mr. McIntyre:

The envelope carrying this letter bears the commemorative postage stamp issued in honor of Austria. This is the eleventh in our series of stamps being issued as a tribute to the European countries which have been overrun and occupied by the Axis forces of aggression.

This stamp was first placed on sale today at Washington, D. C., and it is a pleasure to send this first day cover to you with the autograph of the Postmaster General.

Sincerely yours,



Honorable Marvin McIntyre,
Secretary to the President,
The White House,
Washington 25, D. C.

THE DEPUTY
THIRD ASSISTANT POSTMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

Frank Walker
Postmaster General



Honorable Marvin McIntyre,
Secretary to the President,
The White House,
Washington 25, D. C.

First day cover

Figure 2. Deputy Third Assistant PMG favor FDC for Austria stamp signed by Postmaster General Walker, with letter from Roy North sent to Marvin McIntyre at the White House.



Figure 3. Favor FDC for the Austria stamp sent by PMG Walker to Mrs. W. W. Howes.

As Postmaster General, Frank C. Walker did not send out nearly as many favor FDCs with signed letters as his predecessor PMG James A. Farley, frequently opting instead to send unsigned favor FDCs on official PMG stationery with enclosed printed notices about the stamp. For example, I have a complete set of fourteen of these for Overrun Countries stamps sent to Mrs. W. W. Howes, wife of the former First Assistant Postmaster General William W. Howes, all with printed notices from the Post Office Department, with that for Austria shown in Figure 3.

FDCs were also created for stamps of the Overrun Countries Series using official White House stationery. I'm fortunate in having an example of one of these for the Austria

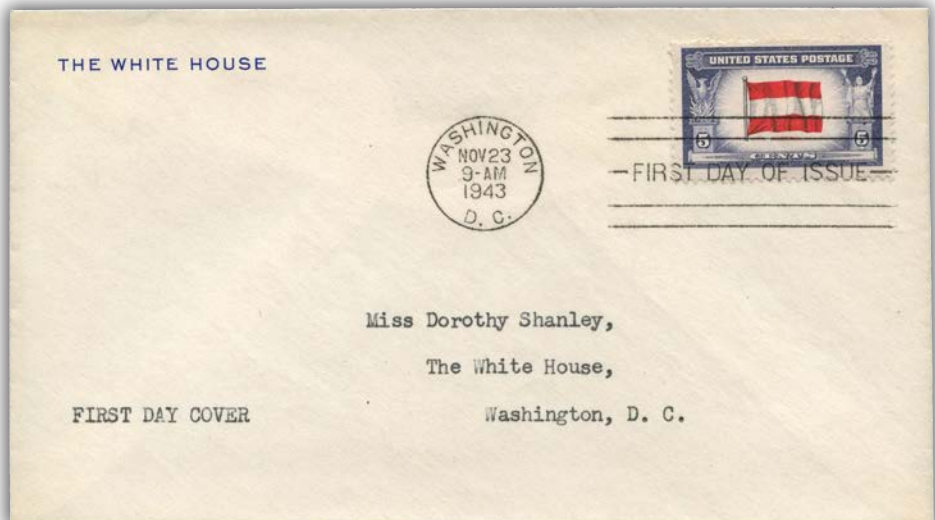


Figure 4. Overrun Countries FDC on official White House stationery for Austria.

stamp, as shown in Figure 4. This was sent to Miss Dorothy Shanley, who served in the White House during both the FDR and Truman administrations.

Shown in Figure 5 is an unaddressed FDC with Anderson cachet for the Austrian Overrun Countries stamp that includes a block of text recounting details of the Anschluss. Note that this is franked by a corner margin block of four that displays the country name in the margin, printed in black by offset printing in the upper right margin of each pane of fifty stamps.



Figure 5. FDC with Anderson cachet for the Austrian Overrun Countries stamp.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt received mail from around the world, and my worldwide postal history collection includes more than 500 covers sent to FDR from 45 countries. Shown in Figure 6 is an October 13, 1937, registered mail cover from Vienna sent to FDR five months before the Anschluss. It is franked with Scott 364, 366 and 368, depicting regional costumes of Austria. The back shows the return address to be from Vienna's district VIII, with registration backstamps showing arrival in Washington, DC (via New York) on October 22, 1937.

A second registered mail cover from my collection encapsulates much of the story of European countries overrun by Germany in World War II. Shown in Figure 7, this April 15, 1940 censored mail was sent from Vienna, Austria to Belgium only a few days after Denmark and Norway were invaded on April 9. Belgium itself was attacked several weeks later, on May 10, 1940, in a massive German Blitzkrieg invasion that led to the rapid conquest of Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg and France. This occurred about two years after the 1938 Anschluss, accounting for the use of German stamps. Unusually, this cover is franked with German semipostal stamps whose surtax was used to benefit Hitler's National Culture Fund and the Postal Employees' Fund (Scott B149, B151, B157 and B159).

Note that the printed return address of Dr. Otto Kreisby from Vienna's District XVII on this cover has been scratched out and replaced with a handwritten address in



Figure 6. October 13, 1937, registered cover sent to FDR from Vienna, Austria.



Figure 7. OKW Censored registered mail cover sent from Vienna to Belgium

Vienna’s District VIII, closer to the city center. Could this address change somehow be related to the Anschluss or the war? There may be an interesting story here, but without an enclosed letter or other information, it’s difficult to say.

At the end of World War II, the Anschluss was immediately reversed, and Austria was again separated from Germany. The eastern and most populated parts of Austria, including Vienna, were occupied by the Red Army, and the provisional government set up there under Soviet occupation included postal service. For this, stamps were urgently needed, and so overprints were applied to the large inventory of German postage stamps available. The first four of these (Scott 390-393) from early May 1945 are shown in the top row of Figure 8. They were diagonally overprinted with Österreich (Austria) across the face of Adolf Hitler on German definitive postage stamps of the 1941 “Hitler head” series. Those at the left have the Österreich overprint only; those on the right also have



Figure 8. Immediate post-war occupation stamps for Austria.

an obliterating bar over Deutsches Reich. These apparently showed too much of Hitler's portrait and were superseded at the beginning of June 1945 by the overprinted stamps in the bottom row (Scott 398-402) that added vertical bars that thoroughly obliterated the profile of Hitler. These are among the last postage stamps that show Hitler. By July 1945, altogether new designs with an Austrian Eagle holding a hammer and sickle were issued for the Soviet zone, while in the Allied zone, stamps employed a Post Horn design. In November 1945, these stamps were replaced by regular postage stamps of the Second Republic of Austria, although the occupation of Austria did not formally end until 1955.

World War II was certainly the most terrible war in human history, with an estimated 70-85 million fatalities, mostly civilians. However, I'd like to end this holiday issue with one of the war's few "feel good" stories. As General George Patton's Third Army rapidly moved into southern Germany and Austria in the closing days of the war in Europe, advanced forces of the 2nd Cavalry Regiment became involved in Operation Cowboy, an effort to rescue the famous Lipizzan horses of the Spanish Riding School of Vienna that dates back to the sixteenth century. Its director, Alois Podhajsky, a famed horseman and bronze medallist at the 1936 Olympics, had evacuated the stallions from Vienna to St. Martin's, a small town in Upper Austria, for safety. Although St. Martin's was quickly captured by the Americans, the Lipizzaner breeding stock and mares were located in the small town of Hostau, Czechoslovakia, along with some Allied prisoners-of-war (POWs) a few miles inside the agreed-upon demarcation line for future Soviet occupation. Podhajsky begged the Americans to rescue them and save the future of the Spanish Riding School. This request fell on sympathetic ears, as General Patton himself was a horseman who had competed in the 1912 Olympics, and many of the soldiers under his command were experienced cavalymen.



Figure 9. Photograph of Operation Cowboy from May 1945 (Lipizzanermuseum, Vienna).

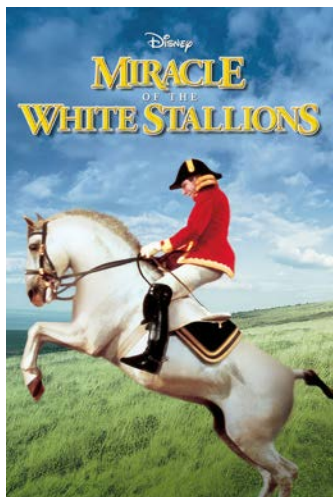


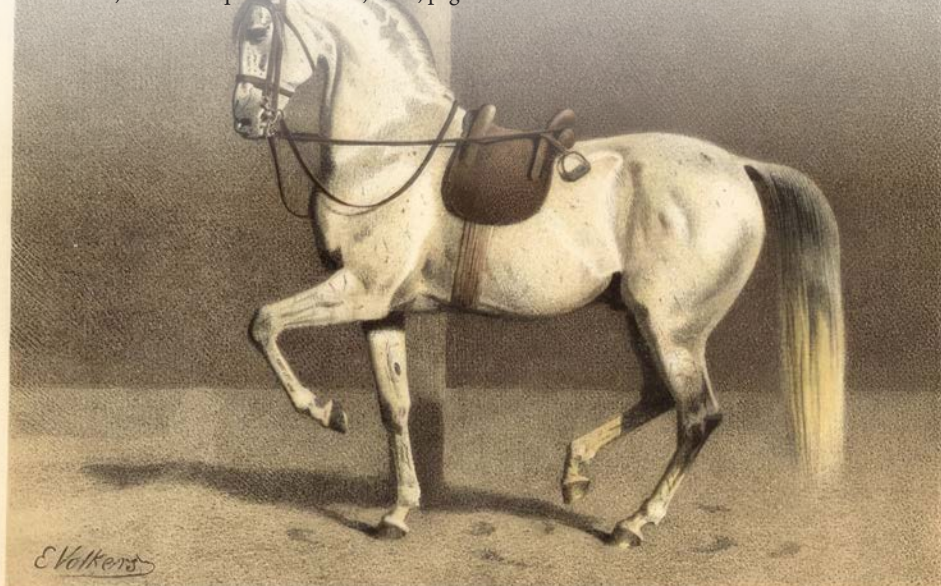
Figure 10. Cover image for Disney's *Miracle of the White Stallions*.

As a result, a daring raid by 2nd Cavalry reconnaissance troops was improvised that involved unusual cooperation among the US Army and elements of the German Wehrmacht, who much preferred to surrender to the Americans. In Operation Cowboy, Allied POWs in Hostau were liberated, Wehrmacht soldiers surrendered to the Americans, and the Lipizzaner breeding farm was secured. The problem then became evacuating the horses before the Red Army arrived since it was feared that the Russians might simply slaughter them for horse meat. Here, US cavalry troops, with help from newly freed Allied POWs, newly captive German POWs, and even some Cossack horsemen, rode and herded the horses using a convoy of vehicles to carry pregnant mares and new-born foals to safety, as shown in Figure 9.

After the war, Alois Podhajsky continued as director of the Spanish Riding School, which had temporarily relocated to Wels in Upper Austria. In 1955, the Spanish Riding School finally returned to Vienna, where it remains today. The story of Operation Cowboy and the rescue of the famed Lipizzan horses was later dramatized in a 1963 Disney movie, *Miracle of the White Stallions* (Figure 10). Putting Operation Cowboy into perspective, US Colonel Reed, one of the key participants, said, "We were so tired of death and destruction, we wanted to do something beautiful."

References

1. Brian C. Bauer, Franklin D. Roosevelt and the Stamps of the United States 1933-45, *Linn's Stamp News*: Sidney, Ohio 1993, page 293.
2. Max G. Johl, *The United States Commemorative Postage Stamps of the Twentieth Century: Volume II 1935-1947*, H. L. Lindquist: New York, 1947, pages 219-220 and 237.



LIPPIZANER.



from the Modern Postal History Committee

Pressure Sensitive Bands

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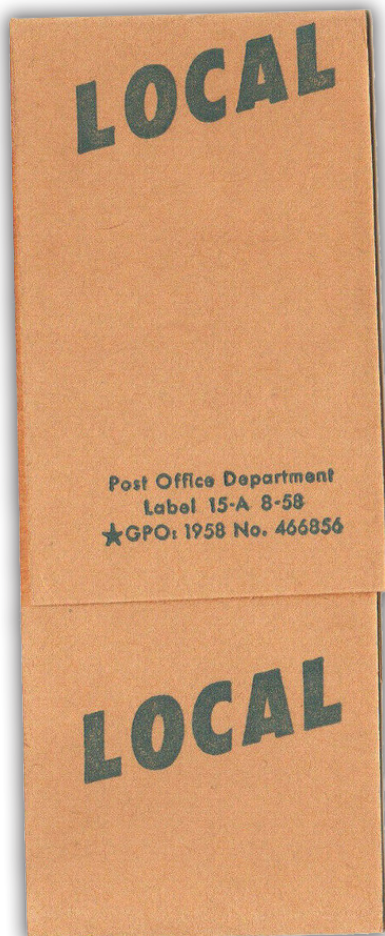


Figure 1.

and 16B, respectively. Label 19A was first announced in the 10/10/63 *Postal Bulletin* as being an airmail pressure-sensitive band.

These bands were not to be distributed to residential patrons but only to businesses with substantial outgoing volume. In fact, post offices had to jump through a few hoops to obtain them directly, either by having 200 or more employees or submitting a request citing justification to Regional Directors for authorization.

The pressure-sensitive adhesive tended to deteriorate quickly with time, so the boxes were marked to indicate the contents should be used by a point one year after the manufacturing date.

The list that follows presents those pressure-sensitive bands that have been reported

We recently described the varieties of Label 14 facing slips (*U.S. Specialist*, November 2023), which encouraged postal patrons to separate their mail for local or out-of-town delivery. From roughly 1959 until 1980, volume mailers were approached differently; instead of using facing slips, they were to use pressure-sensitive bands to presort their bundles. These pressure-sensitive bands were long strips of brown paper wrapped around a bundle of first-class mail; the ends would adhere to one another like an old self-sealing envelope, so they would not require one to strip off a backing to reveal adhesive. Although the *Postal Bulletin* indicated the bands to be packaged in boxes of 100, they came in boxes of 200 and were part of the “patron separation program.”

Local and Out-of-Town separation was accomplished using POD Labels 15A and 15B, respectively. Variations such as Within State and Out-of-State were differentiated as Labels 15L and 15H, respectively. Even New York City differentiated between Manhattan and other boroughs with Labels 16D



Figure 2.

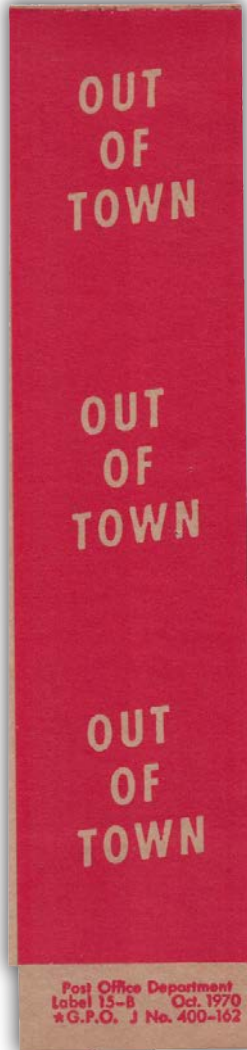


Figure 3.

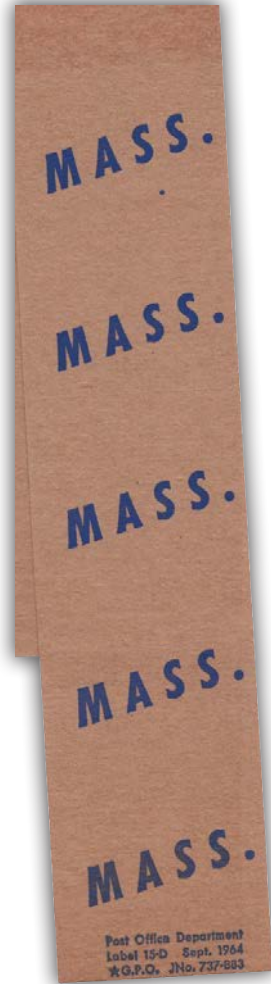


Figure 4.

over the years. Our figures illustrate the printed portion of the band, with the remainder being blank and wrapped around the bundle of mail.

1. Label 15-A 7-58
2. Label 15-A 8-58 (Local) – Figure 1
3. LABEL 15-A NOV. 1959
4. LABEL 15-A APRIL 1960
5. LABEL 15-A DEC. 1962 – Figure 2
6. Label 15-A. Dec. 1966
7. Label 15-A Nov. 1969
8. Label 15-A Oct. 1970 – Figure 3
9. Label 15-B Sept. 1964 (Out of Town)
10. Label 15-B March 1968

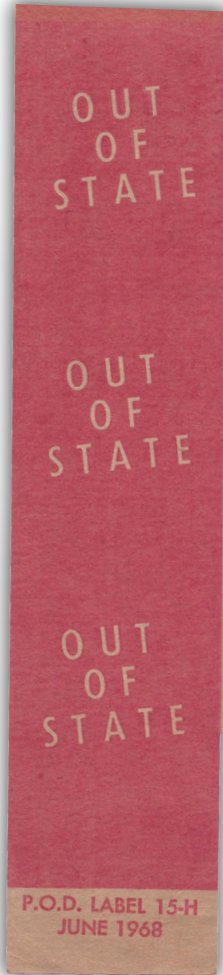


Figure 5.

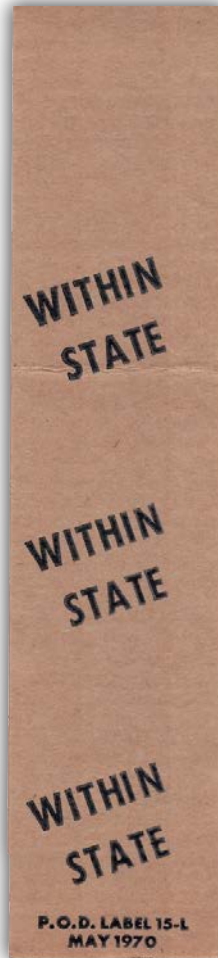


Figure 6.

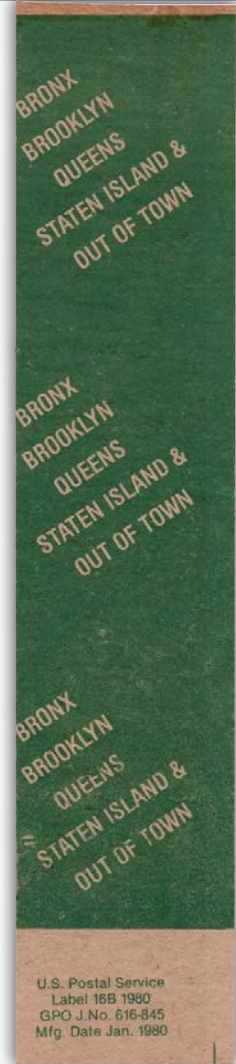


Figure 7.

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11. Label 15-B Oct. 1970
12. Label 15-D Sept. 1964 (Massachusetts) – Figure 4
13. LABEL 15-H JUNE 1968 (Out of State) – Figure 5
14. LABEL 15-L MAY 1970 (Within State) – Figure 6
15. Label 16-B July 1963 (Bronx Brooklyn Queens Staten Island & Out of Town)
 - a. Aug 1976 and Oct 1977 manufacturing dates reported
16. Label 16B 1963
 - a. May 1978 and May 1979 manufacturing dates were reported
17. Label 16B 1980, manufactured in January 1980 – Figure 7
18. Label 16-B 1980, manufactured in September 1980
19. Label 16-D Aug. 1959 (Manhattan Only) – Figure 8
 - a. August 1976 and April 1977 manufacturing date reported

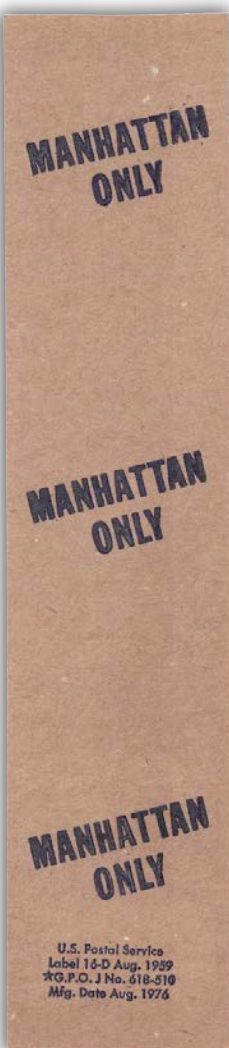
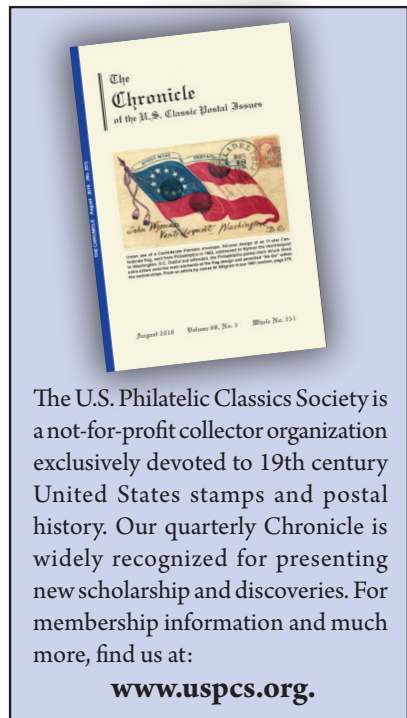


Figure 8.



Figure 9.

20. Label 16D 1959 with May 1979 manufacturing date
21. Label 16 – D May 1968
22. Label 16D 1980 with January 1980 manufacturing date
23. Label 19-A July 1967 with October 1975 manufacturing date (Airmail) – Figure 9
24. LABEL 19-B with April 1981 manufacturing date (Foreign Air-mail)



The U.S. Philatelic Classics Society is a not-for-profit collector organization exclusively devoted to 19th century United States stamps and postal history. Our quarterly Chronicle is widely recognized for presenting new scholarship and discoveries. For membership information and much more, find us at:

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Scott 1519 Coil Line Pairs (Not)

by **Greg M. Ajamian**
USSS #9506 | ✉sd40gma@aol.com



Figure 1 - Scott # 1519 Coil Pair.

The 10¢ Crossed Flags coil stamps (Scott 1519) were issued on December 14, 1973. Printed on the multicolor Huck Press, the 72-subject plates for the coil stamps were four columns wide and 18 rows tall.¹ Each of the large intaglio printing plate cylinders of the web-fed rotary press held 30 plates² to print the continuous web of paper that was later slit into individual strips that were cut into coils of 100, 500, or 3000.³

[A very detailed explanation of the Huck press, with particular references to the printing of the crossed flag stamps, can be found in part 2 of George Brett's article in *The United States Specialist*, Volume 46, No. 12, December 1975, pages 568-577⁴]

There were no guidelines engraved on the plates, so officially, there are no "coil line pairs" in the traditional sense. The lines that appear on the coil stamps are actually "joint lines;" a result of ink accumulating in the joint between adjacent printing plates that was sometimes picked up and transferred to the web of paper. There is a note in the Scott catalog under the listing for Scott 1519 that reads, "Huck press printings often show parts of a joint line, but this feature is not consistent."⁵

Some stamp dealers charge a premium over 'normal' Scott 1519 coil pairs for pairs that have a line or portion thereof, as shown in Figure 1. Sometimes, they will charge more for what they refer to as a "100% line," as shown in Figure 2. On the other hand, one dealer once told me that since they are "not really coil line pairs," he refuses to sell them at all and just uses them for postage.



Figure 2. "100% line."



Figure 3. "200% line."



Figure 4. Red line pair.



Figure 5. Red & blue lines.



Figure 6. Red & blue mixed line.

Assuming Figure 2 is an image of a so-called "100% line," I like to refer to the coil strip below in Figure 3 as having a "200% line pair" with the line across the perforations **and on all** of the blind perforation "hanging chads."

In my experience, red joint lines (Figure 4) seem to be less common than blue lines.

On rare occasions, both red and blue complete lines appear between the same two stamps (Figure 5). Even more unusual in my experience with this issue is a part red/part blue line (Figure 6).

Usually, the two printing cylinders were positioned to synchronize the positions of the plates for both colors. Since the marginal markings are not visible on the coil stamps, we can only imply this was the case from the fact that when both color lines are present, they are both usually between the same two coil stamps. However, occasionally one of the printing cylinders was shifted in relation to the other. [In the case of the sheet stamps, this resulted in the "alternative arrangement" of the marginal markings explained in the Durland listing for the Scott 1509 sheet stamps.¹] We can imply that the red and blue printing cylinders were sometimes "out of sync" during coil printing when both a red and a blue joint line appear on coils separated by one stamp (Figure 7).

As you can imagine, some Scott 1519 misperforated (Figure 8) and Scott 1519a imperforate coil stamps can also display similar joint lines, as shown in Figure 9.

At times, the amount of ink deposited between stamps was excessive and in no way could be confused with a traditional engraved line (Figure 10).



Figure 7. Red & blue lines not between the same two stamps.



Figure 8. Joint line centered between misperforated stamps.



Figure 9. Joint lines on imperforate and miscut pairs.

The "extra" ink on this issue does not always appear as a line across the perforations. There are many examples of smears or blobs of ink, with or without a joint line between stamps. For some reason, which I cannot explain, the extra blob of **red** ink **usually** appears to the **left** of the perforations, and extra blobs of **blue** ink **typically** appear to the **right** of the perforations. However, these observations are not without exceptions as shown in Figure 11.

The extra ink can appear in many ways between stamps. Figure 12 shows two more interesting examples.



Figure 10. Excessive ink “lines” between stamps.



Figure 11. Ink smears or “blobs;” with or without lines.



Figure 12. Other joint ink deposits.

10¢ Crossed Flags sheet stamp [Scott 1509]

Just for the sake of completeness, the 10¢ Crossed Flags sheet stamps (Scott 1509), issued on December 8, 1973, were also printed on the multicolor Huck Press. But in this case, they used 80-subject plates for the sheet stamps, which were four stamps wide and 20 rows tall.¹ Both large intaglio printing cylinders held 30 plates^{2,4} to print the continuous web of paper that was later slit in two and cut into panes of 100 (ten by ten stamps each).

As you might expect, because the sheet stamps were printed on the same press and using a similar arrangement of plates as the coils, ink buildup in the joints between plates resulted in similar varieties of lines, smears, and artifacts on the sheet stamps as demonstrated in the images below.



Figure 13. Joint ink deposits on Scott 1509 10¢ Crossed Flags sheet stamps.

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*Vintage Photo of the Month*

Pearl Harbor

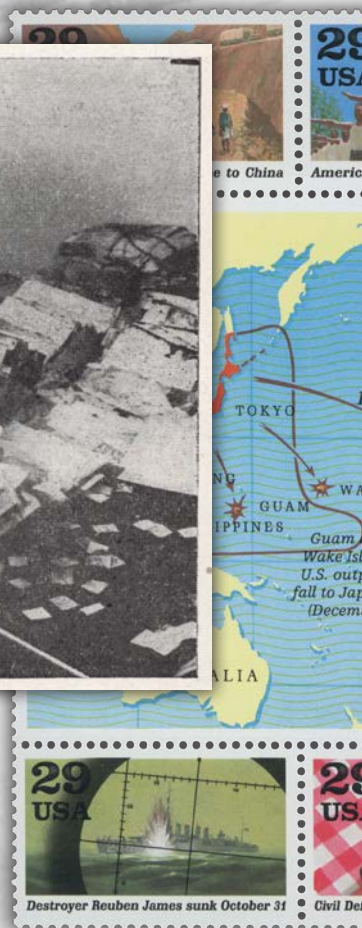
by **Rodney A. Juell**

USSS #13852 | P.O. Box 3508, Joliet, IL 60434



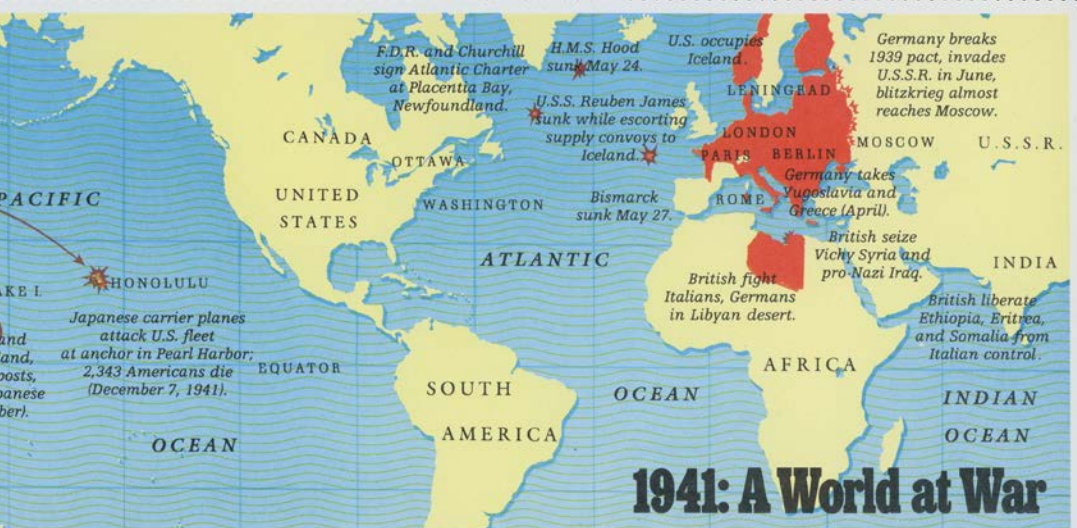
Lilian Reynolds, an employee of the Honolulu post office, is shown sorting letters and Christmas cards salvaged from a warship in Pearl Harbor following the attack of December 7, 1941. After being dried they were forwarded to the families and sweethearts of the service members who mailed them.

The attack on Pearl Harbor was remembered on one of the ten stamps in the sheet "1941: A World at War" (Scott 2559). The stamps were issued on September 3, 1991.





...a's first peacetime draft, 1940 ... supports allies with Lend-Lease Act ... Atlantic Charter sets war aims of allies ... America becomes "arsenal of democracy"



...ense mobilizes Americans at home



First Liberty ship delivered December 30



Japanese bomb Pearl Harbor, December 7



U.S. declares war on Japan, December 8



from the Revenue Issues Committee

The Decisions of 1894 Newspaper & Periodical Stamps

by **Chris Jenkins**

USSS #16951



Figure 1. *Claude M. Johnson Chief of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing (photograph courtesy Library of Congress).*

The spring of 1894 was a busy time for those in Washington D.C. responsible for postage stamp production. Claude M. Johnson, Chief of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing (Figure 1) and Thomas F. Morris, Chief of the Engraving Division, were at work on the newly won contract for postage stamp production. Prior to that time, the printing of US postage stamps had been performed for the Post Office Department by the private banknote companies.

We are fortunate that some of the correspondence between the Bureau of Engraving and Printing and the Post Office Department is preserved in the National Archives. Based on those documents, published sources, and selected philatelic items, this article explores decisions made in 1894 in the context of

the newspaper & periodical stamps. Of particular interest is the correspondence file of Kerr Craige, 3rd Assistant Postmaster General. For simplicity, I refer to the “Bureau of Engraving and Printing” as “The Bureau,” and the newspaper & periodical stamps as the “newspaper stamps.”

A Temporary Supply

On April 4, 1894, Wesley Davis, The Post Office Department’s postage stamp agent in New York City, addressed a letter to Kerr Craige. Davis’s communication confirmed that the dies and transfer rolls used for current stamps, including the newspaper stamps, were on their way from American Banknote Company in New York City to Washington by registered mail. Davis also reported that the shipment included 5 boxes containing 85 worn plates used for current stamp production. That shipment transferred the heart

of stamp production from American Banknote to the Bureau.

Although a new series of newspaper stamps was planned for issue in 1895, The Post Office Department determined that stocks of several of the existing series were in short supply and would be needed to meet demand in 1894. All but the 1 cent value of that old, existing series had been designed by Continental Banknote Company, a predecessor of the American Banknote Company, and had been in use since 1875. The 1 cent value was first used in 1885.

As a stop gap, the Post Office Department requested that the Bureau print additional copies of the old designs for the 1, 2, 4, 6, 10, 12, 24, 36, 60 and 96 cent denominations and the \$1 and \$3 denominations. The worn plates from American Banknote were used, following some reengraving, thus creating a short-term supply. Those stamps are designated in the Scott Specialized Catalog of United States Stamps and Covers as Scott PR90-PR101.

In a letter written April 11, Johnson asked Craige about colors for stamps and included a color proposal for the regular issues. With respect to the newspaper issues, Johnson wrote “...since this is an existing series, no color decision is needed.” While that was true for the colors of the newspaper stamps the Bureau would produce in 1894 from the old American Banknote plates, it was not entirely the case for what would become the new 1895 series.

The New Series

A few days earlier, on March 31, 1894, Johnson had submitted a design proposal for a new newspaper stamp design to Craige. Although the file contains no specificity as to which design this was, circumstantial evidence suggests it was the design ultimately used for the 1-10 cent issues. The design for those issues is the only design for the 1895 series using no elements of the old design. On April 2nd, Craige replied to Johnson that the design was approved and requested “... that each denomination above 10 cents be given a design of its own”.

In a second April 11th letter, Johnson wrote Craige about the newspaper stamps and said, “A reduction in the number of these stamps would secure economy in the matter of engraving and the making of plates”. It was a pragmatic request because there was a total of twenty-five denominations of newspaper stamps in the old series.

There is an unsigned note on a scrap of paper in Craige’s file, proposing that new newspaper stamps be created in the denominations of 1, 2, 5, 10, 25, and 50 cents and 2, 5, 10, 20, 50 and 100 dollars. The note recommends that the stamps be oblong, so that the newspaper stamps could be readily distinguished from other stamps. The note includes a sketch showing an elongated rectangle, more closely approximating the shape of an oblong revenue stamp, such as Scott R43, and bearing no resemblance to the two shapes ultimately used for the 1895 newspaper series. The note also proposed that only two colors be used....one color for odd number denominations and the other color for even number denominations! That would have been an unusual set, and probably not nearly as beautiful as the stamps which were ultimately produced.

Appropriately, the Post Office Department was using the blank side of soon to be

obsolete newspaper stamp record forms as a source of scrap paper for some of the notes retained in the file.

Johnson's request for a reduced number of denominations was answered almost immediately. Craige's correspondence file contains a cover sheet that summarizes the contents of a letter from Craige to Johnson on April 14th, requesting the new newspaper stamps in the denominations listed above. In that way the number of denominations was reduced from twenty-five to twelve. No mention was made of shape or color.

Color Models

For much of 1894, the question of color for some stamps in the new series remained unanswered. Craige's annual report, dated October 31, 1894, contains the following:

A new series of newspaper and periodical stamps has also been decided upon, differing in size materially from the old series, but maintaining their general characteristics. Several of the dies of the new series have been engraved, but none of the working plates. The colors are as yet undetermined, but the denominations will be 1, 2, 3, 5, 10, 25, and 50 cents, and \$2, \$5, \$10, \$20, \$50 and \$100. Further description of these stamps can not now be given.

It is noteworthy that a 3-cent value was now planned to be part of the series, which would have brought the total number of denominations up from twelve to thirteen. A 3-cent value was never produced, nor are there any known essays of that denomination.

Color selection apparently began before all the dies for the new stamps were complete, necessitating the use of color models. I will use the term "color model" to designate an item not using the design of the finished stamp. A few color models, in the form of large die proofs, were created using the old dies the Bureau had received from American Banknote. In other words, the Bureau made color models for the 1895 series using the old designs originally created for the 1875 series of newspaper stamps.



(Figure 2. Large die proof used as a color model for the 1895 series.)

Shown in Figure 2 is a large die proof I acquired in the R. A. Seigel Auction of William Mooz's collection. The proof has the handwritten notation "Color O.K. July 18/94" and the initials of Thomas F. Morris. There are also faint pencil markings on the model which may include another set of initials. A very similar color model was used by the Bureau for planning the new series of postage due stamps also underway during the summer of 1894. The collection of Thomas Morris' son, Thomas Morris II, included a large die proof of the obsolete 2 cent postage due stamp with the notation "OK for Color, July 12." Morris II noted that this die proof had been printed at the Bureau from the old American die and was a color specimen for the new series of

postage due stamps. An excellent photograph of that color model is included in the book *Postage Due* by Harry K. Charles, Jr., PH.D. and published by the Collector's Club of Chicago.

Shown in Figures 3 and 4 are color models for the \$5 newspaper value using large die proofs of the old \$6 1875 die. Figure 3 has a pencil notation which reads "Prussian Blue + 3 White December 14/94." Figure 4 is a proof from the same die, with the notation "OK for \$5 Dec 15/94" mostly written within the die sinkage. Thomas F. Morris II wrote an article published in the January and April 1957 issues of the *Essay-Proof Journal*. Morris II's article included a black and white photograph of this die proof. Morris II identified the approval notation as having been made by his father and described it as a design approval for the new \$5 issue. That photograph did not include the color notation written below the die sinkage which I have included in the uncropped photo. It probably reads "Milesi Blue + White".

A proof of the finished \$5 plate was approved by Johnson and Morris on January 12, 1895, so the dates noted on the two color models fit that time frame.

The Green Essay

Shown in Figure 5 is an essay of the 1 cent value in green. The existence of an essay in green is noteworthy because all the other Scott



Figure 3. Color model for the 1895 \$5 issue, "Prussian Blue + 3 White".



Figure 4. Color model for the \$5 issue, "Milesi Blue plus White."

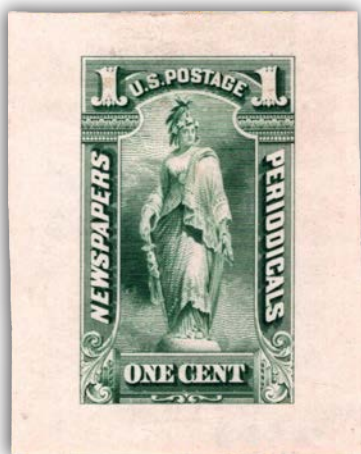


Figure 5. Scott PR102-E2.

listed essays produced for the 1895 Newspaper series are either in black or in a color reasonably close to the color finally selected for the stamp. Perhaps the green essay also served as a trial color model. It is an essay and not a trial color proof, because it is incomplete in several respects, including a lack of shading in the numerals and vertical lettering. The essay, which is listed by Scott as PR102-E2, was probably produced prior to July 21, 1894. The 1 cent die had been finalized by that date.

Thomas F. Morris II's 1957 article also mentions the existence of a one-cent essay in red brown. That essay is not cataloged and has not appeared in sales of major newspaper stamp collections of the past 30 years, so it awaits re-discovery.

The Trial Color Proofs

Several trial color proofs were produced by the Bureau, although in general the color scheme ultimately selected used many of the same colors which had been used in the 1875 series. All the trial color proofs of the 1895 newspaper series were die proofs. No trial color plate proofs of these issues are known.

The Bureau produced a large die trial color proof in scarlet of the one cent value, which is listed by Scott as PR102TC1ae. Although this would have resulted in a beautiful



Figure 6. Trial color die proof of the 50-cent value in deep carmine.

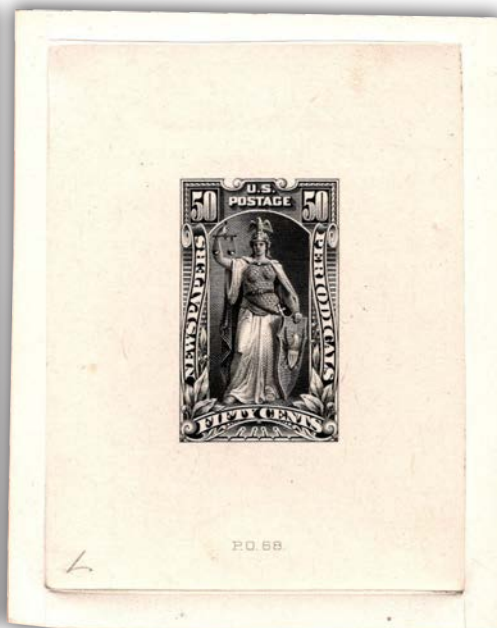


Figure 7. Trial color die proof of the 50-cent value in black.

stamp, it may have been too close in color to that ultimately selected for the 25 and 50 cent values. While the final color selected for the 1 through 10 cent values was black, the existence of the green die essay and a deep scarlet die trial color proof suggest that a range of possibilities were evaluated. Perhaps consideration was being given to the note in Craig's file recommending alternating colors. If that were the case, alternation of scarlet and black values or scarlet and green values would have been logical. It seems unlikely that alternating green and black values would have been selected because the colors are more difficult to distinguish in poor light.

Large die trial color proofs exist for all the denominations of 25-cents and above, except for the \$20 value. A few examples follow.

Shown in Figure 6 is a trial color die proof of the 50-cent value in deep carmine. Figure 7 is a trial color die proof of that denomination in black.

The trial color proofs of the 25 and 50 cent values are a subject that would benefit from further study. The wide range of pink, red and carmine colors in the issued stamps



Figure 8. Trial color die proof of the 50-cent value.

visually appear to overlap some of the trial color die proofs. Other articles have documented the degree of color variability in the 2-cent values of the first Bureau series of regular issues, and it seems likely that those variability issues were present in the newspaper issues.

As an example of the variability among the reds, I have shown in Figure 8 a large die proof, in a color probably outside the range of the regular stamps and apparently outside the range of the listed trial color proofs. The color is most closely approached by the color sample for Rosine in a Stanley Gibbons stamp color key. Whether this was intended as a trial color remains undetermined.



Figure 9. Large die proof of the \$5 issue "Cobalt + White."

Unlike the color models of the \$5 issue shown in Figures 2 and 3 which used the obsolete \$6 die, the large die trial color proof in Figure 9 was produced from the finished \$5 die. The handwritten notation below the image reads "Cobalt + White."

Illustrated in Figure 10 is a large die trial color proof in black of the \$10 issue. Shown in Figure 11 is the deep rose trial color proof of the \$50 issue. The color of this proof is quite different than the dull rose of the finished stamp.



Figure 10. Large die trial color proof of the \$10 issue in black.

Conclusion

The surviving documents and philatelic items make it possible to see traces of the decisions required in 1894 to produce a new series of newspaper stamps. Despite the many other projects taking place at both the Bureau and the Post Office Department, a range of options were considered for the newspaper issues. Denominations, color and shape were all given consideration. The result was a beautiful product enjoyed by stamp collectors to this day.



Figure 11. The deep rose large die trial color proof of the \$50 issue.

Proof Society, page 105.

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Readers interested in learning more about the newspaper stamps printed in 1894 from the old plates will enjoy an excellent article by the late William Mooz in the August 2013 issue of *The Chronicle*, published by the US Philatelic Classics Society.

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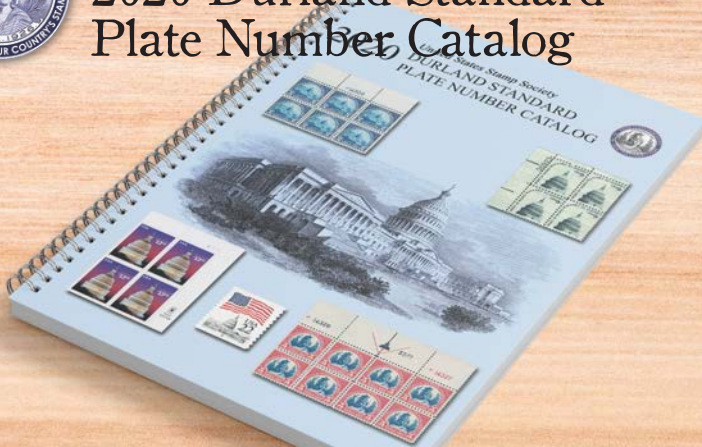
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America's Embossed Revenue Stamp Paper, Part VI: American Colonial Issues – New York Colony

by **Roger S. Brody**
USSS #11814 | ✉brody@usstamps.org
and **John C. Rowe**

The story of the Colony of New York stamps is like that of Massachusetts. The New York Stamp Act, entitled “An Act for Erecting and Establishing a Stamp Office in New York,” was passed on December 1, 1756, and was intended to take effect in one month on January 1, 1757. It was initially designed to last one year but was extended on December 24, 1757, to last for another year, and again on December 16, 1758, to last another year. It finally expired on December 31, 1759. There was no redemption of the stamped paper, and copies used after the expiration of the tax existed.

Like that of Massachusetts, this act made a provision for a stamp office. Abraham Lott and Isaac Lowe were appointed managers of the stamps. Their appointment included being charged with preparing dies and furnishing stamped paper.

The penalty for counterfeiting stamps was much more severe than in Massachusetts. It provided that convicted persons “shall be fined at the discretion of the Court; also set upon the gallows with a rope about his or her neck for the space of one hour and lose his or her ears.”

The most vocal opposition to the tax came from newspaper editors and publishers fearing that the costs could not be shifted to their subscribers. The editor of the *New York Mercury*, published at the Bible and Crown in Queen Street, inserted the following notice (Powers, 1947).

“As no reasonable person can imagine that the printer of the Mercury should pay that tax himself, ‘tis thought it advisable to give public notice to all persons concerned that, unless they incline to pay the duty, besides the former price, they need not expect to be served with the Mercury any longer. ‘Tis hoped all those in arrears for the Mercury will promptly discharge the same and consider that the sum to be raised by the Stamp Office is to be laid up in the Defense of their Country.”

The subscribers accepted the increased cost, and the newspaper continued to publish during the stamp duty requirement. The general public did not readily resent paying the taxes.

Rates

There were five values for the New York series: a ½, and I penny, II, III, and IV pence, which were applied to a broader range of documents than the Massachusetts issues.

- The ½ penny, as in the Massachusetts law, was intended for newspapers.
- The I penny pertained to legal documents such as arrest warrants, summons, and writs of execution originating from Justices of the Peace and Mayor's Courts, as well as bills of lading and receipts for goods shipped on board any vessel.
- The II pence rate applied to court declarations, pleas, replications, rejoinders, demurrers, or other pleadings filed in any court of record (i.e., Common Pleas and Superior Courts, etc.).
- The III pence rate was required on legal documents such as writs or other processes issued from the courts of judicature; rulings or orders made in any court of law; bills, answers, replications, rejoinders, interrogations, depositions, etc. taken in a court of chancery; charter parties, insurance policies, and protests; bail pieces; bonds, obligations, or other sealed instruments (except for original copies of wills); indentures, and bills of sale for servants (slaves).
- The IV pence rate was intended for all deeds and mortgages for real estate; probates of wills, copies of wills, and letters of administration; bills of sale for all or part of ships and vessels; marriage licenses; and civil licenses or military commissions; register of ships or other vessels; libels, warrants, monitions, depositions, answers, inventories, interrogatories, or decrees of the court of vice-admiralty; certificates under the seal of a Notary Public or the seal of the Colony of New York.

Like Massachusetts, the New York tax rates distinguish between documents from the Justice of the Peace courts and the inferior Common Pleas, Mayor's Courts, and Superior Courts. In parallel to the Massachusetts law, the New York law taxes documents for the lowest jurisdiction Justice of the Peace and Mayor's courts at a lower rate than those from the Common Pleas and Superior Courts and the Admiralty Court. It also does not attempt to tax financial instruments. Only bonds are taxed; bills of exchange and orders against accounts and notes of hand were ignored by the stamp duty law and not taxed.

Die Design

The New York issue had a more mundane design than the Massachusetts variations. A single design for each duty rate value comprised the colonial seal or arms (Figure 1). The format featured a borderless oval stamp surrounding a shield, having figures of four windmill sails, two beavers, and two kegs (either rum or flour, depending upon the description of the seal). Like the designs used on the Massachusetts stamps, these items were all essential to the New York colonial economy. The oval is about 26 mm in height and about 21 mm in width at its widest point on a line about 1 to 1 ½ mm below the bottoms of the kegs.

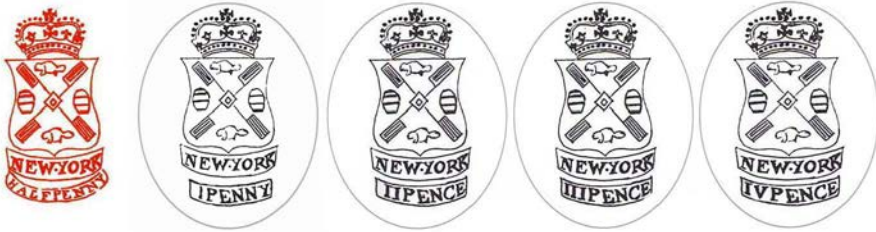


Figure 1. Half and 1 Penny and 2, 3 and 4 Pence New York stamps.

The design uses the face of a clock as a model indicator; the four arms of the windmill are oriented at 10:30, 1:30, 4:30, and 7:30; the two kegs are oriented at 9:00 and 3:00; and the two beavers are at 12:00 and 6:00; all surrounded by the outline of a shield topped by a crown. The shield is 13 mm high and 12½ mm in width, and the crown is 6½ mm high and 10 mm wide. Underneath the shield within the oval were the words “NEW YORK” and the stamp value in pence expressed in Roman numerals. All values have a period between the words of the colony’s name. The words “NEW YORK” are about 12 mm wide and 1 ½ mm high. Denominations are also in letters 1½ mm high and stretching out about 12 mm in width.

Like the Massachusetts issue, the newspaper stamps were printed in ink and found in the paper’s center (between the top and bottom), while the other four values were embossed on the documents. The ink for printing the newspaper stamps is generally presumed to be red, according to the Scott listing and on copies seen by the authors. However, Leland Powers reported the issue being printed in black ink probably because he found a black-colored stamp on the February 14, 1757, issue of the *New York Mercury* that he acquired in 1943 (Powers, 1947). This finding is possibly due to the document being some kind of proof or a red impression where the ink has undergone significant sulfuration.

Two dies are known for the 3 pence New York embossed stamp. Most documents (about 85 percent based on a sample of about a dozen and a half documents) have the standard die. On this common die (Die A), the impression of the paddle of the windmill at the 4:30 position has three ribs on this paddle, and the upper corner of the paddle is about 1 mm to the right of the lower left corner of the right keg. On the other 3 pence die (Die B), the impression of the same paddle of the windmill at the 4:30 position has four ribs, and the upper corner is just below the lower left corner of the right keg. Also, the left front foot of the beaver at the bottom of the Die B impressions is to the left of the bottom point of the shield outline, whereas the point is under the front feet of the beaver on the other, more common die.



Figure 2. Seal of the City of New York.

Only a single die has been reported for each of the other denominations. The single dye could be due to the relative scarcity of these issues, preventing adequate sampling for examination for die variations.

With an eagle replacing the crown, these symbols remain to this day part of the seal of the City of New York (Figure 2).

Types of Surviving New York Documents

Bills of Lading

As in Massachusetts, these documents were a contract given to a shipper by an authorized representative of the transporting agency that 1) lists the goods shipped, 2) acknowledges their receipt, and 3) promises delivery to the person named. Several stamped copies of this type of document survive. All known appear to be prepared on pre-printed forms (Figure 3).

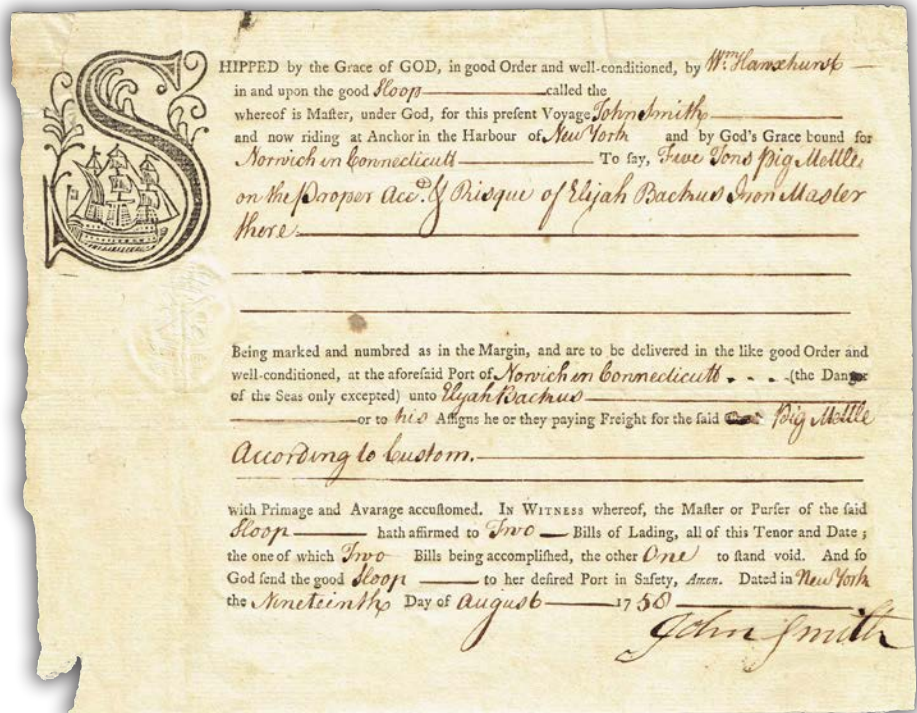


Figure 3. 1 Penny Bill of Lading: Shipment of Pig Mettles, New York to Norwich, August 19, 1756.

Bills of Sale

Bills of Sale are written statements certifying that the ownership of something has been transferred by sale. Bills of sale for slaves and indentured servants and for ships and other vessels were taxable with a stamp duty under the New York laws. Several stamped copies have survived, written in manuscript and pre-printed forms.

Bonds

Bonds are a formal obligation under seal, committing the signer(s) to pay specific sums of money or perform specified duties. Bonds are categorized as simple obligations (analogous to single bonds), penal bonds with a stated penalty for failure to pay, and performance bonds.

Commissions

These were official certificates conferring rank within a military organization, i.e., the various New York colonial militia units. Commissions for higher-ranked officers were often printed on vellum, while those of lower-ranked officers were invariably printed on paper.



Figure 4. James De Lancey, 1703-1760.

All the surviving commissions were signed by James De Lancey, Lieutenant Governor of the Colony of New York (Figure 4). De Lancey was the eldest son of Stephen De Lancey, a wealthy New York merchant and politician. Born on November 11, 1703, in New York City, he attended Cambridge in England and studied law in London. Returning to America, he was admitted to the New York bar in 1725 at the age of 22. In 1729, he was made a New York Governor's Council member. De Lancey was appointed to the Supreme Court in 1731 and made Chief Justice in 1733. He presided over the 1735 trial of John Peter Zenger, the publisher prosecuted for seditious libel. *Crown v. Zenger* is recognized as a landmark colonial

case that eventually established a free press in America. De Lancey was appointed governor of the Province of New York from 1758 until his death on July 30, 1760.

Court Declarations or Pleadings

Declarations are the initiating pleading by the plaintiff in an action at law. They are often long, detailed documents of alleged harm done to the plaintiff. These pleadings often include the statement of various attorneys being put in place for plaintiffs and defendants who attained later prominence, such as Whitehead Hicks (later the last British mayor of New York City from 1766 through 1776) and James Duane (first mayor of New York after the British occupation from 1784 through 1789) indicating the complex relationship between the legal establishment and the political elite then as now.

Court Orders

These are written statements of judgments or decrees made by the various courts of the Colony of New York. At least one is known to have survived.

Court Documents-Special Bail Bonds

This type of bail bond is not the bail bond familiar to people today in criminal proceedings. Special bail was required where the plaintiff had previously obtained a

judgment, and the defendant wished to avoid the harsh remedy of immediate incarceration by the plaintiff to enforce the collection of the judgment (literally the jailing of the defendant until he paid). The special bail gave the defendant time to raise the money to pay the sentence or was available to him should he desire to appeal. The defendant had to obtain two sureties to file a special bail, and all surviving bail documents show these. Special bail could be filed before judgment on matters of equity at the inception of the lawsuit, which was a sound precautionary measure in case of an adverse judgment. Several are known to have survived.

Court Documents-Replications

Replications are the reply made by the plaintiff in an action in response to the defendant's plea. At least one stamped example is known to have survived.

Court Documents-Recognizance

These are obligations of record entered into before a court of record, with the condition to do some particular act, such as to appear at the appeals court, to keep the peace, or to pay a debt. Generally, they have the format of bonds. Examples are known to have survived.

Deeds/Conveyances

New York deeds and conveyances were the formal documentation providing evidence of legal title to real estate. As in Massachusetts, these mortgages and conveyance deeds were recorded in registries. The originals were returned to the owners; only transcriptions were kept in the registry books. The recorded copies were not stamped, but the originals were. The New York deeds can be further classified as warranty deeds, quit claim deeds transferring existing title, simple conveyances initiating title by gifts or grants, etc., with the latter being the scarcest.

New York deeds come in a variety of formats. There are enormous manuscript indentures on vellum or paper and minuscule manuscripts and printed conveyances on paper approximately 13" long by 8" wide, similar to documents found in Massachusetts. The deeds and conveyances on paper are the most common and are more commonly seen with New York stamps than was the tendency with Massachusetts documents.

Indentures

These are defined as legal contracts between parties to adhere to an agreement, such as an individual renouncing their executor appointment in favor of another individual. Indentures so limited, as opposed to leases and deeds, also often called indentures, do not specify a financial amount within the contract. Only one indenture is known to be stamped with a New York colonial embossed stamp.

Leases

The surviving New York leases are generally seen as large contracts on vellum or paper. New York stamped leases are very scarce, with only two surviving examples being known to the authors. Both are large ornate documents, one on vellum and one on paper. One is in manuscript, and the other is printed on laid paper (Figure 5).

THE NEW-YORK MERCURY.

Containing the freshest Advices Foreign and Domestic.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 10, 1757.

To the Honourable THOMAS POWNALL, Esq; Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief of the Province of New-Jersey, &c.

WHILE A D D R E S S of the Borough of Elizabeth, the Mayor, Recorder, Aldermen, and Common-Council, of the Borough of Elizabeth, the oldest and largest Town in the Government of New-Jersey, beg Leave to congratulate your Honour upon your Arrival here, and to assure you, we esteem it no small Mark of his Majesty's kind Affection for us, that he has been graciously pleased, to early to provide for us, by bestowing the Succession to this Government, in Case of a Vacancy, in a Person of your known Integrity, and Ability; and that the State of this Province is such as requires the wisest Conduct of such a Person, we need not forget. We could wish for your Honour's constant Residence in this Province, in these difficult Times; but since that is a Favour we are not to expect, yet we may hope to enjoy the Influence of your Direction: And altho' you are charged by his Majesty with the Government of the Massachusetts, we trust you will not be forgetful of the Province of New-Jersey.

Elizabeth-Town, By Order of the Corporation, Sept. 21, 1757. ROBERT OGDEN, Recorder. His Honour's ANSWER.

I THANK you for your kind Reception, and obliging Address. I will at all Times use my best Care to maintain the Peace, secure the Properties and support the Liberties of the Subject: Upon this Principle, and in Duty to my King and this People, I did repair to you, when my first hearing of the Death of your late worthy Governor, I could at no Time attend to the Interests of the Province; and tho' I cannot continue my Residence long amongst you, yet whenever the State of the Province shall require my more immediate Services, I will immediately repair to it.

T. POWNALL.
A Memorial and offering account of the preservation of a poor patient, heretofore almost dead, in some parts, first sent by Dr. Joseph Bruni, Professor of Philosophy at Turin. From the Philosophical Transactions, published this month.

A Small cluster of houses at a place called Berge-maetto, near Demonte, in the upper valley of Stura, was on the 10th of March, 1755, entirely overwhelmed by two vast floods of snow that tumbled down from a neighbouring mountain. All the inhabitants were then within doors, except one Joseph Rochia and his son, a lad of 15, who were on the roof of their house clearing away the snow which had fallen for 3 days incessantly. A priest going by mule, advised them to come down, having just before observed a body of snow tumbling from the mountain towards them. The man descended with great precipitation, and fled with his son, he knew not whither; but scarce had he gone 50 or 60 paces, before his son, who followed him, fell down; on which looking back, he saw his own and his neighbours houses, in which were 22 persons in all, covered with a high mountain of snow. He lifted up his chin, and reflecting that his wife, his sister, two children, and all his effects were thus buried, he fainted away; his face reviving, got safe to a friend's house at some distance.

Five days after, Joseph being perfectly recovered, got upon the snow, with his son, and two of his wife's brothers, to try if he could find the exact place where his house stood; but, after many openings made in the snow, they could not discover it. The month of April proving hot, and the snow beginning to soften, he again aided his utmost endeavours to recover his effects, as he burr, as he thought, the remains of his family. He made one opening and threw in earth, to melt the snow, which on the 24th of April was greatly diminished. He broke through ice half English feet thick, with iron bars, thrust down a long pole and touched the stable, which was about 240 English feet distant, which having found he heard a cry of, 'help, my dear brother!' ther.

His wife's brother, who lived at Demonte, dreamed that night, that his sister was still alive, and begged him to help her; the man afflicted by his dream, rose early in the morning and went to Berge-maetto, where Joseph was; and after reflecting himself a little, went with him to work upon the snow, where they made another opening, which led them to the house they searched for; a bat finding no dead bodies in its coils, they fought for the stable, which was about 240 English feet distant, which having found they heard a cry of, 'help, my dear brother!' ther.

Being greatly surprized as well as encouraged

by these words, they laboured with all diligence till they had made a large opening, through which the brother who had the dream immediately went down, where the sister with an agonizing and feeble voice told him, 'I have always trusted in God and you, that you would not forsake me.' The other brother and the husband then went down and found still alive the wife, about 45, the father about 55, and a daughter about 13 years old. They first raised on their shoulders the women above, who pulled them up as it were from the grave, and carried them to a neighbouring house: they were unable to walk, and so waited, that they appeared like mere skeletons. They were immediately put to bed, and a goodly portion of the had been in. The sister, whose legs had been bathed with hot wine, could walk with some difficulty; and the daughter needed no further remedies.

On the incident's interrogating the woman, they told him, that on the Morning of the 19th of March they were in the stable, with a boy about 6 years old and a girl about 13; in the same stable were six goats, one of which having brought forth two dead kids the night before, they went to carry her a small vessel of 'rye-bread'; there were also six, and four or five. They were inclining themselves in a warm corner of the stable till the church bell should ring, intending to attend the service. The wife related, that waiting to go out of the stable to kindle a fire in the house for her husband, who was clearing away the snow from the top of it, she perceived a mass of snow breaking down towards the east, upon which she went back into the stable, but did not hear the sister of it. In less than three minutes they heard the roof break over their heads, and all part of the ceiling. The sister advised to get into the wick and manger, which they did. The air was tied to the manger, but got loose by kicking and thrashing, and then upon the little vessel, which they found, and afterwards held the melted snow, which served them for drink.

Very fortunately the manger was under the main prop of the stable, and so refused the weight of the snow. Their first care was to know what they had to eat. The sister said she had 15 chickens in her pocket, the children said they had breakfasted, and should want no more that day. They remembered there were 30 or 40 cakes in a place near the stable, and endeavoured to get at them, but were not able for the snow. They called often for help, but were heard by none. The sister gave two chickens to the wife, and eat two herself, and they drank some snow water. The air was restless and the goats kept bleating for some days; after which they heard no more of them. Two of the goats, however, being left alive, and near the manger, they felt them, and found that one of them was big, and would kid, as they recollected about the middle of April; the other gave milk, wherever they preferred their lives. During all the time they saw not one ray of light, yet for about 20 days they had some notice of night and day from the crowing of the fowls, till they died.

The second day, being very hungry they eat all the chickens, and drank what milk the goats yielded, being near two pounds a day at first, but it soon decreased. The third day they attempted again, but in vain, to get at the cakes: So resolved to take all possible care to feed the goats; for just above the manger, was a hay-loft, whence through a hole the father pulled down hay into the rack, and gave it to the goats as long as he could reach it, and then when it was beyond his reach, the sister climbed upon her shoulders, and reached it themselves.

On the sixth day the boy sickened, and six days after denied his mother, who all this time had held him in her lap, to talk with him at length in his arms; he died, and taking him by the hand, felt it was very cold; she then put her hand to his mouth, and finding that cold likewise, gave him a little milk; the boy then expired. On the eighth day the father and the sister, and then expired.

In the mean while the goats milk diminished daily, and the fowls soon after dying, they could no more distinguish night and day; but according to their reckoning, the time was near when the other goats should kid, which at length they knew was come, by its cry; the sister helped it, and they killed the kid, to save the milk for their own subsistence. So they found that the middle of April was come. Whenever they called this goat, it

would come and lick their faces and hands, and gave them every day two pounds of milk, on which account they full bear the poor creature a great affection.

They said, that during all this time, hunger gave them but little uneasiness except, for the first five or six days; that their greatest pain was from the extreme coldness of the melted snow-water, which fell on them, from the cracks of the dead air, goats, fowls, &c. and from ice; but more than all from the very insupportable heat they were confined to, the manger in which they sat fasting against the wall, being no more than three feet four inches broad.

After the first two or three days they had no evacuation by stool. The melted snow-water and milk were digested by urine. The mother said she had never slept, but the sister and daughter declared they slept as usual.

Alighted before the precedent by the said account the 10th of May, 1755.

KINGSTON (in Jamaica) August 30.
On Saturday last arrived here his Majesty's Ship Stork, of 14 Guns, who conveyed the Fleet from Cork, bound to the Windward Islands and Jamaica, who informs us, he had an Engagement off Cape Tiboron, with two French Privateers, mounting 12 Guns each, four Pounders; the Engagement lasted from 4 o'clock till Evening, when an unlucky Shot from the Stork, killing the Commodore, Monsieur theer'd off, fearing a greater Mortality would ensue; as also to repair the Damages they had sustained during the Action.

At the Oracabilla, Captain Holland, was coming round the East End of the Island, he espied a Ship, whom he supposed was a French Privateer, by her sailing with her sails a-back, &c. and imagining the first Blow to be half the Battle, gave her his Bow-Charge, which went thro' her Cabin, whereupon the French Privateers, and on sending out their Boat, found to his Disappointment, that 'twas an English Flag of Truce, commanded by Mr. Captain-Curtain, bound to Port a Prince.

The Fort-Hill, Captain Kitchen, said to be taken by a French Privateer, in the Kingston Journal, proves to be a Mistake, as the arrived late at Port Royal, Yesterday Evening.

CORRESPONDENTS (in South Carolina) September 1.
According to the last Advices from Georgia, the Town of Savannah is now regularly fortifying, under the Auspices of the new Governor, and will have eight Batteries, named as follows, Blakeney's, Ellis's, Pinckney, London's, Halifax's, King's, Lyttelton's and Oglethorpe's. And, the French Privateers that cruised upon that Coast had disappeared.

On Sunday last, the Detachment of Troops destined for the Protection of Georgia, departed hence, having embarked the preceding Day.

The same Day, a Fleet appearing upon the Southern Coast of this Province, that Part of the Country was quickly alarmed, and the People appeared under Arms with surprising Alacrity, and Ardour; even the Side went out and joined the several Corps: But it being known the next Day, that this was the Fleet from Cork, with Lieutenant Col-Montgomery's Highland Battalion on board (ordered hither for our Protection and Defence by our Most Gracious King) the Militia was then discharged.

The said Highland Battalion is since late arrived here, is quite content, and even has a great Number of Superannuated, who it was said in the Short Space of Five Weeks: But six Men died on the Passage, and there are no Sick notwithstanding their having been above 9 Weeks at Sea. They were conveyed to this Bar by his Majesty's Ship Falkland, of 20 Guns, Captain Samuel Drake, Esq; Commander, which, after Waiting here, proceeds for the Island of Barbados.

Our last Advices from Providence of the 19th ult. are much more favourable to us, than our former Accounts from thence were. A Flag of Truce just returned from Port au Paix, without any exchanged Prisoners, avers, That the Yellow Fever raged violently amongst the French on Hispaniola, and swept off Multitudes; by which Calamity, together with the Want of Provisions, and their Fears of being attacked by English Privateers (so that no Vessel could get into or dard her out of any of their Ports) they were reduced to the greatest Distress imaginable, and rendered (for the present) absolutely incapable of undertaking any Thing from that Quarter. The Blandford Man of War has lately taken two French Privateers, and carried them into Barbados:

Newspapers

There were several newspaper publications during the New York Stamp Act period. These papers include:

New York Gazette

The *New-York Gazette* was the name of the first paper in New York, published in 1725 by William Bradford until 1745. The *New York Gazette or Weekly Post Boy*, published during the New York Stamp Act period, was a continuation of the *New York Gazette* published jointly by James Parker and William Weyman from 1753 through 1759. This newspaper is occasionally found with the New York red stamp.

James Parker was born in Woodbridge, Middlesex Co., NJ, in 1714. In 1725, he was apprenticed to William Bradford. In 1742, he started his own printing shop, publishing the third paper in New York: *The New-York Weekly Post Boy*. In 1745, after the death of Bradford's *Gazette*, Parker changed the name of his paper to *The New York Gazette: Revived in the Weekly Post Boy*. From 1753 through 1759, this publication partnered with W. Weyman and J. Parker.

William Weyman was born in Philadelphia and apprenticed as a printer under William Bradford's grandson. In 1753, he formed a partnership with James Parker, where he managed Parker's New York office and paper until the dissolution of the partnership in 1759. In 1759, he began printing his paper called *Weyman's New York Gazette* and later just the *New York Gazette* until December 1767, when it ceased publication.

New York Mercury

This paper was published from 1752 through at least 1768. Most surviving New York stamped newspapers known in private hands are specimens of the *New York Mercury* (Figure 6). The *Mercury* was founded in 1752 by Hugh Gaine with a circulation of only 300 to 400 copies. Gaine, born in Belfast, Ireland, in 1726, became a printer's apprentice. He immigrated to New York, where he was employed as a printer. In 1750, he started his own business as a printer and bookseller. In 1752, when he published the *Mercury*, he was a compositor, pressman, folder, and distributor of all the paper copies. He initially established the paper with an editorial orientation toward the views of the Whig Party. Still, when British troops entered New York during the Revolutionary War, he published a newspaper supporting the royal cause. After the War, Gaine successfully petitioned to remain in New York City but was compelled to relinquish publishing the *Mercury* and confine his activities to bookselling and printing. Gaine acquired a large fortune from printing over his lifetime. He died on April 25, 1807, at 81 and is buried in Trinity Churchyard.

Notarizations

Documents such as affidavits or depositions where an official person (notary public) authorized to attest to the authenticity of a document has signed to validate the person signing the document. Only one New York colonial notarization is known to have survived.

Powers (Letters) of Attorney

As in Massachusetts, these were official or legal documents authorizing the

KNOW all Men by these Presents,
 That I *John Longley of the City New-York*
Cooper Have constituted, made, and appointed, and by these Presents do constitute,
 make and appoint my trusty and loving Friend *to Wife Lavinah*
Longley of the City New-York

my true and
 lawful Attorney, for me, and in my Name and Stead, and to my Use, to
 ask, demand, sue for, levy, recover and receive all such Sum and Sums of
 Money, Debts, Rents, Goods, Wares, Dues, Accounts, and other Demands
 whatsoever, which are or shall be due, owing, payable and belonging to
 me, or detained from me any Manner of Ways or Means whatsoever by
Sea or Land all Prize Money or Parts of Prizes belonging
to me, taken by the George Privetier Cap. Money, and all
other Parts of Prizes belonging to me in any respect
whatsoever. Also all my Wages that may or shall be
due to me in the Expedition Service under the Daniel
Wier Commissary at the rate of Nine Pounds p. Month.
 Giving and Granting to my said Attorney, by these Presents, my full and
 whole Power, Strength and Authority, in and about the Premises, to have,
 use and take all lawful Ways and Means in my Name, for the Recovery
 thereof; and upon the Receipt of any such Debts, Dues, or Sums of Money
 aforesaid, Acquittances or other sufficient Discharges, for me and in my
 Name, to make, seal and deliver; and generally all and every other Act
 and Acts, Thing and Things, Device or Devices in the Law whatsoever,
 needful and necessary to be done in and about the Premises, for me and in
 my Name to do, execute and perform, as fully, largely and amply to all
 Intents and Purposes, as I myself might or could do, if I was personally
 present, or as the Matter required more special Authority than is herein
 given; and Attornies one or more under *her* for the Purpose aforesaid
 to make and constitute, and again at Pleasure to revoke; ratifying, allow-
 ing and holding for firm and effectual all and whatsoever my said Attor-
 ney shall lawfully do in and about the Premises, by Virtue hereof.
 IN WITNESS whereof I have hereunto, set my Hand and Seal *This*
25th Day of May in the *Thirtieth* Year of his Majesty's
 Reign, Annoque Domini One Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty Seven

Sealed and delivered in
 the Presence of

Henry Fruger Jun^r
John Wilson

John Longley

Figure 7. III Pence, Power of Attorney: John Longley appointing wife Lavinah Longley as lawful attorney.

transfer of certain powers to the person named by the person signing the document. Generally, they permit the person to act as the signer in some specific task or action. One of only two known surviving examples is illustrated in Figure 7.

Probate Documents

There are several surviving types of Probate documents, including wills, letters of administration, and letters of executorship. Individual examples are scarce, with the total amount of surviving probate-related material being less than one-twentieth of the New York colonial embossed revenue stamped material.

Writs

These were formal legal documents ordering or prohibiting the performance of some action. While New York writs of arrest (arrest warrants) and writ of execution (attachment and sale of property) are known, no summonses have survived.

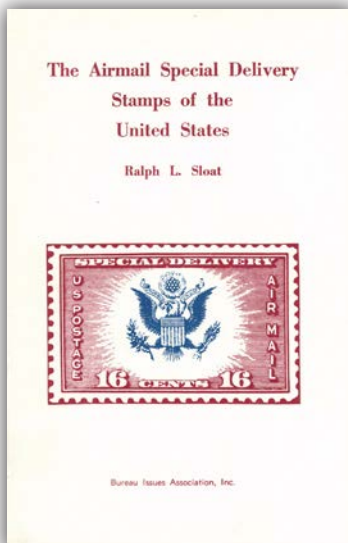
Acknowledgment

This article and the following article covering America's Colonial Stamp Taxation – New York Colony Surviving Stamps are a collaboration based on the original research and unpublished writings of John C. Rowe.

References

Powers, Leland. 1947. *Stamped Revenue Paper Issued by the Province of Massachusetts, The Colony of New York, and by Great Britain for Use in America*; The Stamp Specialist Mahogany Book; H. L. Linquist; p.78.

ONLINE EXCLUSIVE



USSS Members can log into the society's website (www.usstamps.org) and download the digital version of *The Airmail Special Delivery Stamps of The United States* by Ralph L. Sloat

This digital edition is available in the RESOURCES section of the website. Explore the publications section for this and other valuable resources.



Report of the Executive Secretary

APPLICATIONS RECEIVED FOR OCTOBER 2023	
17507	Edward Mehalick, Wayne, PA
17508	Daniel DeSoto, Rockwall, TX
17509	Bill Conway, Bethel Park, PA
17510	Michael Archer, Arvada, CO
17511	Frank Silveira, Wilmington, MA

APPLICATIONS PENDING	
17502-17506	

NEW MEMBERS	
17488-17501	

DECEASED	
12971	Richard A. Champagne
16548	Lorenz Petersen

TOTAL MEMBERSHIP	
September 30, 2023	1432
ADDITIONS:	
New members	14
Total	14
SUBTRACTIONS:	
Deceased	2
Total	2
NET CHANGE	12
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP	
October 31, 2023	1444


DONATIONS	
<i>(received outside of annual dues cycle)</i>	
Bernard Wojnowski	
Richard Zane	

Time to Renew

Annual Dues Renewal Dues notices for your 2024 membership were mailed recently. **Have you renewed your membership for 2024?** If not, be sure to do so before the deadline of December 31. If you prefer to renew online using PayPal, go to usstamps.org.

www.USStamps.org

Precancel Stamp Society



Interested in Learning More about Precancels? Request a copy of "The ABCs of Precancel Collecting" and also receive a sample copy of the PSS Forum, the Precancel Stamp Society's monthly journal. Contact: Frank Bird III, 1095 Pinellas Point Dr South, Apt 352, St. Petersburg, FL 33705-6377. Email: promo@precancels.com.

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WANTED

BUYING IMPERF FARLEYS WITH GUM. All offers welcome! Frank P Geiger Senior - APS Life since 1968 and ASDA since 1974. Phone: 787-689-6879 - FrankPGeigerSr@gmail.com - PO Box 3442 - Pinehurst, NC 28374. [1138]

WANTED - POSTAL HISTORY RELATED to R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co in Winston-Salem, NC. Only seeking materials prior to 1964. Please email details, scans and asking price to martin@philatelicpress.com. [1127]

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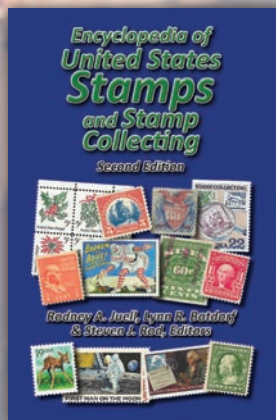
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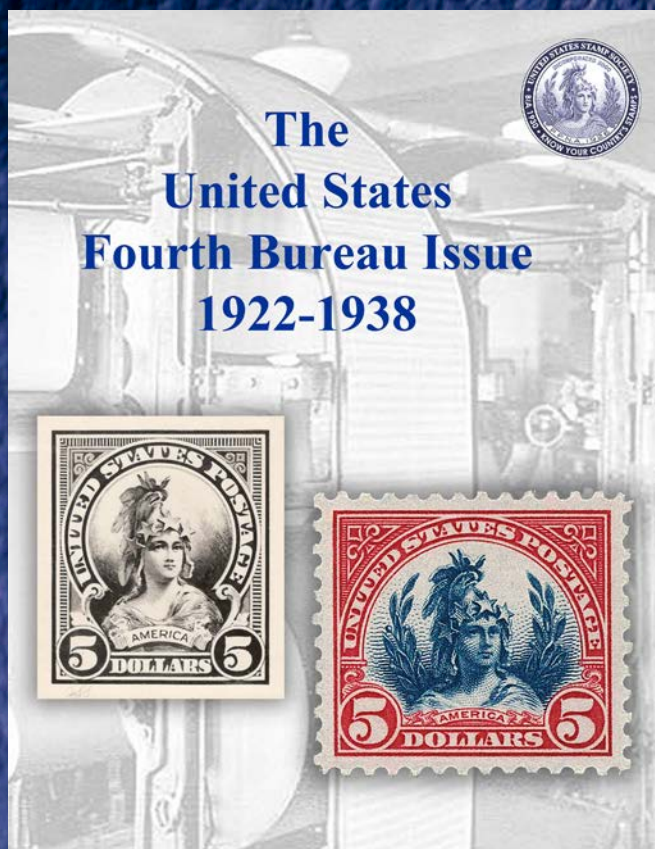
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