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

WHOLE NUMBER 1127

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Albany

**America's Embossed
Revenue Stamp Paper, Part VII:
New York Colony Surviving
Stamps & Documents**

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paid: d and
do fully, Presents
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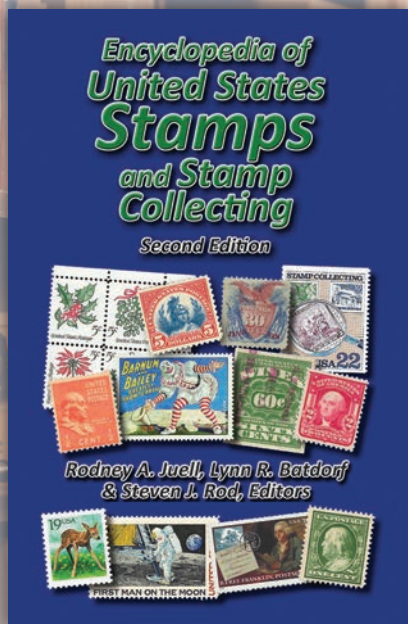
**Boston-Area
Dealer Nathan
Cobe Created
Oval Perfs
Circa 1920**

and

1943-44 Overrun Countries Series: Denmark



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JANUARY 2024

WHOLE NUMBER 1127

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Society and Philatelic News

Mike Ludeman to Chair the Registered Mail Study Group

Mike Ludeman of Denton, Texas, has volunteered to serve as chairman of the Registered Mail Study Group. Mike is a ten-year member of the USSS, a Life Member of the American Philatelic Society and the Society of Israel Philatelists, as well as a member of The Texas Philatelic Association, MEPSI, the US Philatelic Classics Society, the Auxiliary Markings Club, and several other smaller but equally interesting philatelic organizations. He served as the Life Membership Chairman and Research Director of the Society of Israel Philatelist for many years during the 1980s.

He began collecting as a boy, dropped out until after college, and began again, first collecting Israel postal history, then switching to Texas postal history in the 1980s. Texas is still one of his main interests, and he now focuses on the marcophily of some 60 counties in the Texas Panhandle, as well as all registered covers with a Texas connection. He also collects registered covers with the US Domestic Form 1549A registration label and is an administrator of a cover database for these covers, which is hosted on the Stamp Smarter Learning Center website at https://stampsmarter.org/features/NYReg_1549Home.html. He also collects the US registered covers to foreign destinations used during the exchange label period (1883-1911), again specializing in those with a Texas connection.

For the past 15 years, he has been collecting all manner of USPOD/USPS publications, forms, documents, circulars, reports, and ephemera (including registry-related materials), focusing on the materials from the 19th century and the Postmaster Commission documents from all eras. With the strong belief that original source post office publications are a significant resource for postal history research, he has worked to make older post office publications more accessible in their digital format. He collaborated with Tony Wawrukiewicz to edit and OCR the digital version of the *Official Postal Guides*, which are now hosted on the Stamp Smarter website along with a large number of other USPS publications, which can be found at https://stampsmarter.org/learning/Home_USPOD.html.

Mike also contributed information to the USPS Library for the revision of their *Publication 119: Sources of Historical Information on Post Offices, Postal Employees, Mail Routes, and Mail Contractors*, published in 2022. During the past year, Mike collaborated with the librarian at the USPS headquarters library to borrow and digitize their microfilm archive of the *Postal Manual* (1954-1969) and *Postal Service Manual* (1970-1979), which was the successor publication to the domestic volumes of the *Official Postal Guides*. These manuals are now available in their entirety and fully searchable, making all detailed incremental revisions available on the Stamp Smarter website. He plans to continue this activity with additional USPS publications during the coming year.

Mike has also written articles that have appeared in *La Posta, Mexicana*, *The Texas Postal History Journal*, and the *Auxiliary Markings Club Newsletter*, plus articles for the journals of the New Jersey, North Carolina and Dakota postal history societies.

Comments on a Request for Member Comments

In the May 2023 edition of *The U.S. Specialist*, the following request was published:

A member recently wrote and said, "I am seriously considering parting with my collection... Please give me directions on the best place I should contact for this...Thank you in advance for any way you can provide assistance in education on this issue."

The letter was detailed and contained other topics, but this is a common question among members, and others in the hobby at large. While many of us have our approach to this inquiry, I am hopeful that you will share you ideas and experiences. Please consider writing me with your approach and what you have heard from others. I will prepare the responses and present them in a future edition of The US Specialist. Please sign your message and I will withhold your name, if desired. Please send your comments to editor@usstamps.org.

While the inquiry remains open and members are encouraged to share their comments, one member took the time to comment shortly after the request was published.

I am currently 63, and have vague plans for retirement in the next 3-4 years. As long as I'm working, I plan to remain in an acquisition mode. I'm a lifelong postcard picker, seeking out needles of philatelic interest in the vast haystack of vintage postcards for sale. My collection is somewhere in the neighborhood of 8,000 cards with values that range from zero to \$1,000. My plan is to start selling duplicates as soon as I retire, via internet auction or fixed price sale. The internet sales landscape is ever changing, so I'm not sure which venue will have my business. It may be split between a few. I've been selling intermittently for several years and understand that listing is a time-consuming process. I'm sure it will take years to winnow down to the core collection. The high value items may be worth listing with a mainstream auction house. I've purchased occasionally from one dealer who conducts regular mail bid auctions and he would be my first choice, presuming that he hasn't retired himself. He is also the venue of choice for my heirs, should I drop dead before I sell it all.

Joe Skidmore
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Vintage Photo of the Month

Washington Irving

by **Rodney A. Juell**

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





This month our photo shows the first pane of the Washington Irving stamp (Scott 859, one of the Famous Americans Issue of 1940) being presented by Postmaster General James Farley to Washington Irving III, a descent of the author honored on the stamp. Next to the postmaster general is John Burke, the postmaster of Tarrytown, New York, where the stamp was issued. Shown nearby is a First Day Cover autographed by the stamp's designer, William A. Roach; the engraver of the frame, Carl T. Atlt; and the portrait engraver, Leo C. Kauffmann.



Recent Winners of USSS Medals

Here are the United States Stamp Society medal winners that have been reported from recent shows:

Statue of Freedom Awards (WSP Shows)

Show	Winner	Exhibit
GASS (OH)	Nicholas Kirke	<i>The Evolution of Outbound Foreign Mail</i>
Balpex (MD)	Vernon Morris	<i>Evolution & Impact of Blood's Local Post: 1842-1862</i>
Milcopex (WI)	Alan Moll	<i>U.S. Vended Postal Insurance (1965-1985)</i>
Indypex (IN)	John R. Becker	<i>Harvey W. Wiley – Hoosier Chemist</i>
Chicagopex (IL)	Mark Schwartz	<i>The New York Postmaster Provisionals</i>
Florex (FL)	Will Csaplar	<i>United States Military Fish and Game Licenses, Stamps and Their Usage</i>

President's Award (Local and Regional Shows)

Show	Winner	Exhibit
Gr. Houston SS (TX)	Kathy Johnson	<i>U.S. Christmas Stamped Mail, 1962-1975: Not Just for Cards</i>
Merpex (NJ)	Thomas Schilling	<i>Stamps and Covers of the Overrun Countries 1943-44</i>

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Show Awards Chairs, please note: The USSS Gold Statue of Freedom Medal is sent automatically to all APS World Series of Philately shows. The USSS Silver President's Award medal is available upon request to all local and regional shows.

For more information, to request an award or if you have won a USSS award and have not seen it listed in *The U.S. Specialist*, please write to Denise Stotts, P.O. Box 690042, Houston, TX 77269-0042, or e-mail stottsjd@swbell.net.



About The Specialist

Introducing Wilcox Printing

Since May 2019, *The U.S. Specialist* has been produced digitally using Adobe's Creative Cloud suite of design and publishing software. Adobe InDesign is the tool used for page layout, while scans and images are prepared with Adobe Photoshop. Some graphics and diagrams are created using Adobe Illustrator, and the type is set using Adobe and other foundry's fonts. But while the technology plays an essential role in the production of the journal, one of the most significant factors influencing the quality of the published magazine is the printer.

Wilcox Printing and Publishing Company, located in Madrid, Iowa, has produced *The U.S. Specialist* and numerous other philatelic journals for many years. The company is also an accomplished book producer and has the capability to provide a wide variety of printed products.



Figure 1. (above)
The entrance
to the Wilcox
Printing and
Publishing
facility in
Madrid, Iowa.



Figure 2. (left)
One of the
presses at Wilcox.
This one is a
Ryobi with five
stations.



Figure 3. Wilcox Printing owners, Jennifer and Ken Williams, treat every client as if they are the only client.



Figure 4. Although *The Specialist* is a relatively simple publication for Wilcox, the company's full-service prepress department, including Amy and Addison, offers clients a variety of support services.



Figure 5. Fingerprinting assures color accuracy and consistency.

In late September 2023, I had the opportunity to visit Wilcox Printing at their facility just north of Des Moines. Owners Ken and Jennifer Williams (Figure 3) were gracious hosts. Their reputation for high-quality work, timely production, and responsive and professional customer service have earned them an impressive portfolio of clients even though most organizations only interact with the Wilcox team through telephone and email. The Wilcox team seemed pleased to meet with a philatelic client face-to-face. Ken and Jennifer introduced me to their design/prepress department, showed off their digital printing capabilities, and gave me a tour of the press floor.

I have been involved with commercial printing for over thirty years, and I was impressed with the efficient design of their operation. It was also refreshing to meet fun and welcoming staff members in every area of the facility.

Wilcox Printing has an impressive portfolio of philatelic clients and does a wide variety of other types of projects. During my visit, they were justifiably proud of several book projects they shared. Ken was keen to talk technique when the discussion turned to quality control and closing the color loop between the design and the printed materials. While I have occasionally published statements regarding the challenges of accurate color reproduction, especially with philatelic materials, Wilcox's printing has been superb. The company frequently fingerprints their complete system so that color management and consistency is as close to an automatic process as it can be. Given that the scans used to produce *The U.S. Specialist* originate on dozens of different scanners, most of which rely on consumer-level software, Wilcox's color consistency and accuracy are remarkable.

One of the lasting side effects of COVID-19 was its impact on the supply



Figure 6. An uncut press sheet from the December 2023 edition of *The U.S. Specialist*.

chain and prices. Leading into the lockdown, it became clear that the availability of paper, ink and even printing plates was going to be an issue. Wilcox, however, had the foresight to anticipate problems. One morning, while I was hiking, Ken and Jennifer telephoned to discuss the challenges they expected. Rather than take the approach that some other printers seemed to favor, Wilcox had explored solutions before calling to discuss the problems. Ken and Jennifer had formulated a plan to secure paper ahead of time, but they warned that prices might start to rise. Throughout a demanding period, Wilcox protected the interests of the clients. *The U.S. Specialist* experienced no delays, and the quality of the printer's work and materials never suffered. While some would say it is just good business, experience has shown me that Wilcox goes above and beyond for their customers.

Having started my career setting hot lead type and learning the idiosyncracies of a Ben Franklin-era printing press, visiting a thoroughly modern print house was exciting. I am thankful to Wilcox for their hospitality, but even more so for the excellent work they do for us each month.

—The Editor



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Postal History



Figure 1. This plate block of six (Scott 498), ex-Getlan, appears on page 197 of Steven R. Belasco's 2009 book on vending and affixing machine perforations.

Boston-Area Dealer Nathan Cobe Created Oval Perfs Circa 1920

by **Kevin G. Lowther**

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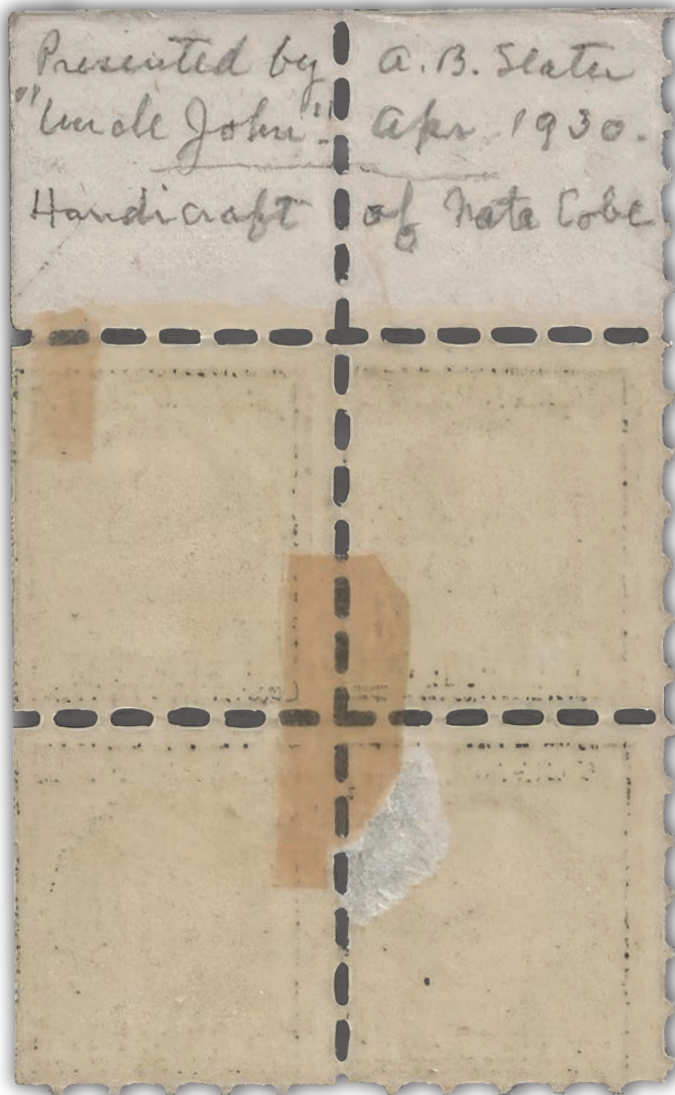
Between 1909 and 1920, four Boston-area stamp dealers indulged in creating their own private perforations. Since then, three have been known: Percy Collingwood (Attleboro), H. Wesley Legg and A. W. Dunning. Now, the fourth has been rescued from obscurity.

Nathan Cobe (1851-1939), a German-born dealer, appears to have spent the better part of 1920 carefully and tediously excising the paper between perfs on Washington-Franklin definitives. The other three had perforated imperf stamps.

The late Steven R. Belasco discussed the strange perfs, then of unknown origin, in his 2009 guide to private perfs and displayed a plate block of six 1¢ stamps as an example (Figure 1).¹

“The perforation consists of an oval-shaped hole that looks like it was applied to sheets of imperforate stamps,” Belasco wrote. “In reality, what was done was to use a punch to cut out the paper in between every other hole of a regular perforated stamp. This creates a striking illusion that the oval perforation is on an imperforate stamp.”²

Several examples of Cobe’s perfs were in a large lot of roulettes and private perfs, which I obtained in the last of three sales of the late Melvin L. Getlan’s enormous VAMP



*Figure 2. Alpheus B. Slater penciled on the back of a block of Scott 498
“Presented by A. B. Slater ‘Uncle John’ Apr 1930 Handiwork of Nate Cobe.”*



Figure 3. Nathan Cobe used a block of six 2¢ stamps (Scott 500), which bore his oval perforations on a registered cover postmarked November 3, 1920. The on-piece example of Cobe's work was certified by APEX in 2023.

collection. I discovered Cobe's identity when I examined the back of a block of four 1¢ stamps (Figure 2) and found a penciled notation: "Presented by A. B. Slater 'Uncle John' Apr 1930 Handiwork of Nate Cobe." Marc Jasmin, a philatelic friend from the Boston area, confirmed that Cobe was a long-time dealer between the late 1800s and the 1930s. Alpheus B. Slater was a well-known New England philatelist and postal historian.

Cobe used his curiosities on his business mail and possibly as a promotion among his clients. The Getlan material included two on-piece usages. The block of six 2¢ stamps (Scott 500) in Figure 3 is the most spectacular. At least one Cobe cover, mailed by one of his customers, is known. (Cobe was unaware that he was doctoring what would become a scarce variety—the 2¢ Type 1a—which was not identified until 1922.³)

Precisely how Cobe executed his "handiwork" is unknown. He may have used some sort of punch, as suggested by Belasco, or perhaps a small cutting tool. However, he accomplished the task, it required time, patience, and a steady hand. The perforating on all of the blocks examined is remarkably neat and consistent. One block (Figure 4) does show where he missed removing the paper between two holes.

Cobe operated on several definitives, including Scott 498, 499, 500 and 525. He seems to have focused on blocks and may not have produced entire sheets or panes. Volume probably was relatively small.

Another unknown is how Getlan managed to corral nearly a dozen of Cobe's blocks and the two uses on-piece. Cobe perfs have not been seen often, if at all, in the auction market. They may have been assembled by a Boston area collector—or possibly by Alpheus B. Slater, the New Englander, who knew Cobe and gave his annotated block to an acquaintance in 1930.

References

1. Steven R. Belasco, *Guide to United States Vending and Affixing Machine Perforations 1907 - 1927*, Katy, TX: United States Stamp Society, 2009.
2. Ref 1, p. 197.
3. Warren L. Babcock, "Notes on Common U. S. Stamps—XIII," *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp. News*, March 21, 1932,



Figure 4. Boston dealer Nathan Cobe excised the paper between perfs to create his oval perforations on plate number block of eight 1¢ stamps (Scott 525). He missed joining two perf 11 holes on the pair next to the bottom.



America's Embossed Revenue Stamp Paper, Part VII: New York Colony Surviving Stamps & Documents

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



Figure 1. New York Half Penny, 1 Penny and II, III and IV Pence stamps.

Surviving Stamps – New York

The five stamps of the New York colony introduced in the previous installment of this series are reprised in Figure 1. Examples are much scarcer than those of the Massachusetts issue treated in Parts II-VI. Table 1 shows the numbers recorded by Makepeace in 1941 based on a survey of when he surveyed the existing private holdings. By comparison, he recorded 143 for Massachusetts (Part IV, “Massachusetts Bay Surviving Stamps & Documents”), even though the New York tax lasted half again longer than the Massachusetts tax (three years versus two years).

Table 1. Numbers of New York Embossed Stamps Recorded Makepeace (1943)

Denomination	Number
½ p	0
I p	4
II p	15
III p	15
IV p	12
Total	49

Since that time, more examples of this issue have been found, including at least a dozen examples of the one-half penny newspaper stamp and more specimens of the one-penny stamp. It is believed that at least 100 copies survive in private hands based on examinations of recorded sales and auction catalogs.

Table 2. Profile of Colonial New York Embossed Revenue Document Usage*

Document Description	1/2p	Ip	Iip	IIip	IVp	Total	Percent
Bill of Lading		5				5	7
Bill of Sale			2			2	3
Bonds:							10
Bond (Unknown)				1	1	2	
Bond, Obligation				2		2	
Bond, Penal				3	3		
Commissions					4	4	6
Court Documents:							20
Bond, Recognizance		1	1			2	
Court Affidavit				1		1	
Court Declaration/Pleading			8			8	
Court Order			1			1	
Court Special Bail				2		2	
Court Replication		1				1	
Deed/Conveyance					6	6	8
Indenture				1		1	1
Lease					2	2	3
Newspaper	15					15	20
Notarization					1	1	1
Power of Attorney				2		2	3
Probate				2	1	3	4
Receipt of Legacy		1			1		
Writs:							10
Writ (Unknown)			1			1	
Writ of Arrest		1	1	3		5	
Writ of Execution			1			1	
Cut Squares/Partials			1		2	3	4
Total	15	8	17	17	16	73	
Percent	20	11	23	23	22		100

* Held in private hands

Table 2 illustrates the usage profile of the surviving New York colonial documents with embossed revenue stamps based on the private database mentioned in Part IV.

The number of surviving documents of both colonies is very much influenced by the types of documents saved. The discrepancy between their totals is entirely due to the large number of Essex County, Massachusetts, writs reaching the market. When these are subtracted from the totals, the surviving number of New York stamps is well in excess of the Massachusetts specimens.

The distribution of the document types found with the New York issue is broader than that of the Massachusetts colony; six types comprise roughly three-quarters of the surviving specimens. As can be seen in Table 2, the most numerous surviving documents are on court documents of various types and newspapers, each category comprising 20% of those recorded. Other significant fractions of the types found today are bonds, writs, deeds, and bills of lading, comprising 35% of the survivors.

Within the New York specimens, there is an unusually high number of documents from Albany and Albany County. This area on the Upper Hudson River had been originally established as the center of the earlier Dutch colony's fur trade. It had continued in that fashion for a century under the English. However, the population was relatively low in relation to the city of New York and related areas on the lower Hudson and Long Island. These latter areas would be expected to dominate the source of the surviving documents. No obvious explanation exists for the high survival rate in this area.

Half Penny Usage

The halfpenny newspaper stamp of New York, like that of Massachusetts, is reasonably rare due to the nature of the use of newspapers and their probability of survival. Although having a high catalog value, copies are available however and do come on the market infrequently, as exemplified by the 20% fraction of this denomination versus the total surviving population of New York colonial issues. As noted, none were reported by Makepeace in the 1941 census. However, a number of copies have surfaced since, notably the following issues of *The New York Mercury*:

- Leland Powers reported a February 14, 1757, issue of *The New York Mercury*: the one sold in the Sheldon sale in 1970 (Mercury, 1970).
- A March 6, 1758, issue of *The New York Mercury* was sold on September 28, 2000 (Bennett, 2000).
- An August 1, 1757, copy of the same paper was sold in the Joyce sale for \$2800 (Kelleher, 1991).
- A May 2, 1757, copy was sold in the Henry Tolman II sale for \$900 (Siegel, 2000).
- A September 26, 1757, copy of *The New York Mercury* that included news of the terms of neutrality for ships and cargo to be protected from privateers delivered from France to Holland was sold by a dealer in 2001.
- Kelleher sales have also auctioned copies of the same paper: Issue No. 253 of July 13, 1757 (Kelleher, 2002) and Issue No. 329 of December 4, 1758 (Kelleher, 2003).
- Recently, an October 10, 1757, issue of *The New York Mercury* was sold in the Joseph Antizzo Sale for \$2600 (Siegel, 2019).
- The front page of the December 4, 1758, Issue No. 329 of *The Mercury* (Figure 2) is replete with news about the war in Europe including reports from Paris, Dresden, Warsaw, Marseilles, and Vienna.

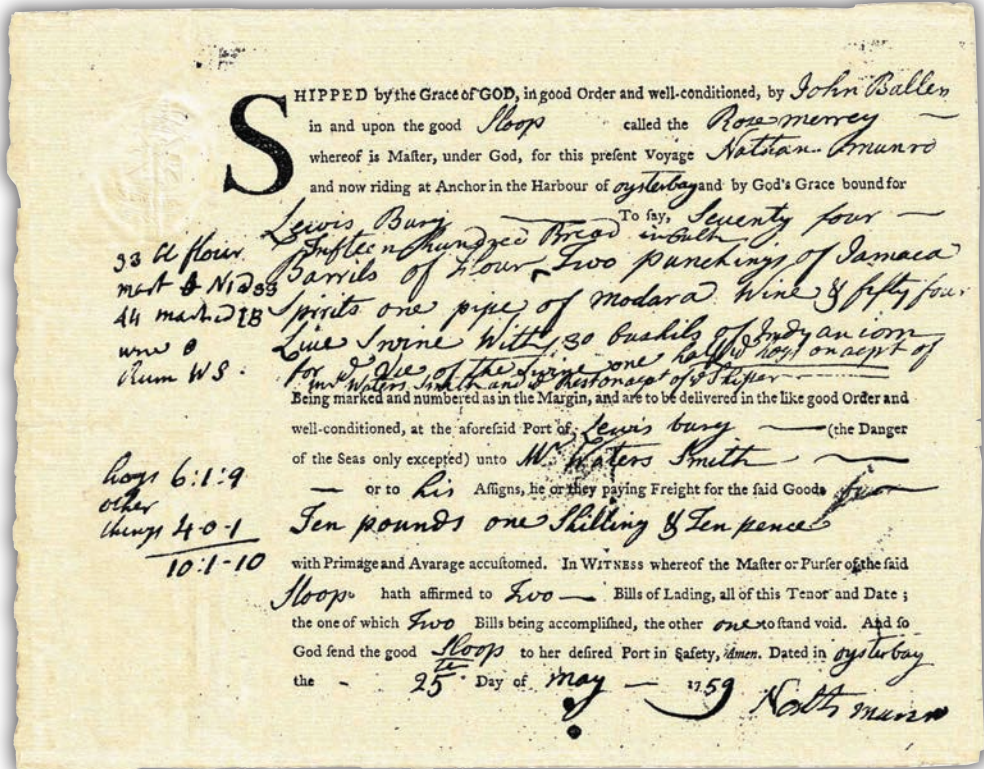


Figure 3. One Penny stamp on a bill of lading for supplies shipped to Louisburg for the siege of Montreal.

I Penny Usage

The one penny is scarce due to its usage being only on legal papers issued by justices of the peace and bills of lading. It is the rarest of the stamps of this issue. About 11% of the surviving stamps consist of this denomination. They are generally not in good condition. Further, this denomination is harder to find than the numbers would indicate, rarely appearing in the market. This is the key issue of this series of embossed stamps based on the surviving copies and their infrequent appearance, especially when gauged versus the collector demand for the newspaper denomination.

Documents other than bills of lading are exceedingly rare. The 1968 Makepeace sale listed two one-pence stamped items, one a New York City Mayor's Court replication that sold for \$57 and the second a 1757 writ of execution to seize the property of a Quaker who failed to pay a levy for exemption from the militia which was purchased by Morton Dean Joyce for \$200 (Siegel, 1968).

Two years later, the Sheldon sale listed two specimens: one was an impression on a September 1759 bill of lading, and the other contained two impressions on a May 1757 obligation for taxes (Mercury, 1970). The latter is a partial recognizance bond and is an interesting case of multiple impressions being used to make the higher duty since bonds required a three-pence duty. Here, the third strike has probably been lost with the bottom of the document.

The Joyce sale in 1991 listed two one-penny stamped documents: one was the 1757 Dutchess County bond from the Sheldon collection with two strikes and the second was the 1757 arrest warrant from the Makepeace collection for the Quaker who failed to pay the levy which brought \$525 (Kelleher, 1991), an increase of 175% after 23 years.

The New York bills of lading, which make up the majority of the limited number of surviving copies of this denomination, make an interesting study in their own right. Few examples of valid usage survive. As noted, the Sheldon sale reported a valid usage of the one penny on a September 1759 bill of lading. The Antizzo sale included a part-printed bill of lading dated January 3, 1759, with an attractive illustration of a galleon integrated into the printed text that brought \$950 (Siegel, 2019). In addition to these valid usages, several one-penny stamps on bills of lading are also known on partially printed documents dated after the expiration of the tax (on December 31, 1759). However, they display the correct duty for the document usage. A 1760 copy of a bill of lading was listed in the Tolman sale (Siegel, 2000). A 1762 stamped bill of lading from New York to Newport with "ten tierces of ship bread" is known. Both are obvious usages of previously stamped paper.

Figure 3 shows a bill of lading made on May 15, 1759, with an interesting context within the Seven Years' War. It was for a cargo shipped from Oyster Bay to the British garrison at "Lewis Burg" on the sloop "Rosemerrey," for 1500 lbs. of bread in bulk, 74 barrels of flour, a pipe of wine, two punchcons of Jamaica spirits, and 51 live hogs with 30 bushels of Indian corn to feed the swine. This shipment was for stores for troops being sent to Louisburg, Nova Scotia, for preparations for General Wolfe's siege of Montreal later that summer. It is consigned to one of the supply provisioners, Mr. Waters Smith. The fortress of Louisburg itself, which commanded the entrance to the Gulf of St. Lawrence and the river of the same name from its position on the southeastern shore of Cape Breton Island, was captured from the French the preceding year.

II Pence Usage

The two-pence New York colony embossed stamps are among those most frequently found (23% of the total), although still scarce. Both the two-pence and three-pence were used on papers of courts of record and other documents that had a reasonable chance of surviving in official files, some in good condition. Most of the two pence are on court pleadings such as declarations. Many of these pleadings were to the Dutchess County Court of Common Pleas in Poughkeepsie, although some are also known for the Orange County Court of Common Pleas and the New York City Mayor's Court.

Other usage includes three writs and a court order, possibly representing invalid usage for the denomination. A 1755 holograph two-pence bond was reported in the Tolman sale, while the Sheldon sale reported a 1757 recognizance bond and two 1759 writs. The Makepeace sale reported a 1757 replication in the New York Mayor's Court- a reply to charges made in a court pleading (Siegel, 1968).

Figure 4 shows the first of two pages of a 1759 court declaration setting forth a remarkably extensive list compiled by the attorney for a woman, Elizabeth Dodsworth, of food, lodging, and washing provided to one James Cox, noted the purchase of "checked shirt" for 12 shillings and £1.2.9 for three and one-half yards of linen as well as buttons and thread to make him a shirt. People seem to have been as gullible then as now.

New York. Mayors Court. In the thirtieth Year of the Reign
 our Sovereign Lord King George the Second
 City of New York. Elizabeth Dodsworth Complaines Against James Cox In Custody
 for this sheweth That Whereas the said James on the
 seventeenth Day of July in the Year last Indore there was
 for a hundred and fifty Nine at the City of New York sheweth
 the White end of the said City and within the Jurisdiction of
 this Court he is Indicted to the Aforesaid Elizabeth in the sum
 of pence Eight Shillings & rent money of New York for
 Meat Drink Washing and Lodging by her the said Elizabeth
 for the said James at this Special Instance and Request he
 that time he is found and provided and being so thereof Indicted
 the Aforesaid James afterwards sheweth the Day Year Aforesaid at
 the City Ward and within the Jurisdiction Aforesaid assumed upon
 himself and to the said Elizabeth then and there faithfully promised
 that he the said James the said sum of two Pounds Eight Shillings to the
 said Elizabeth When he should be therunto afterwards Required well
 and faithfully to and pay Content And whereas he the said James
 afterwards sheweth the Day and Year Aforesaid at the City Ward &
 within the Jurisdiction Aforesaid in Consideration that the said
 Elizabeth had at the like Special Instance and Request of him the
 said James before that time found and provided for him the said James
 other Sufficient Meat Drink Washing and Lodging for the Space of
 a Month then past at the City and Ward and within the Jurisdiction
 Aforesaid he the said James assumed upon himself and to the said Elizabeth
 then and there faithfully promised that he the said James so much more
 as the said Elizabeth for the last mentioned Meat Drink Washing and
 Lodging so as Aforesaid found and provided Reasonably Deserved to have
 to the said Elizabeth When he the said James should be therunto after-
 wards Required Well and faithfully to and pay Content And
 she the said Elizabeth in fact faith that she for the same last mentioned
 Meat Drink Washing and Lodging by her the said Elizabeth for him the
 said James so as Aforesaid found and provided Reasonably deserved to
 have another sum of two Pounds Eight Shillings & rent money
 Aforesaid of which he the said James afterwards sheweth the Day and
 Year Aforesaid at the City and Ward and within the Jurisdiction Aforesaid
 by her the said Elizabeth had Notice And whereas he the said James
 Also afterwards sheweth the Day and Year Aforesaid at the City Ward and
 within

Figure 4. Two Pence stamp on a 1759 court declaration stating a long list of debts.

III Pence Usage

The three-pence New York colony embossed stamps are also among those most frequently found (24% of the total) but still scarce in an absolute sense. They provide an interesting and varied series of documents.

The Makepeace sale recorded four examples (Siegel, 1968). One purchased by Joyce, was on a bill of sale for a Negro slave. Two others were related to probate: one a 1757 renunciation of executorship and the other on 1758 letters of administration. The last was on a partial bill of sale for a vessel.

The Sheldon sale two years later listed five examples of the three pence (Mercury, 1970), of which four were complete documents: a 1757 warrant and a 1757 obligation, as well as two multiple stamped documents. These latter relate to bastardy. The first is a May 8, 1757, order in bastardy with three impressions. The second is a May 18, 1757, recognizance in bastardy with two impressions.

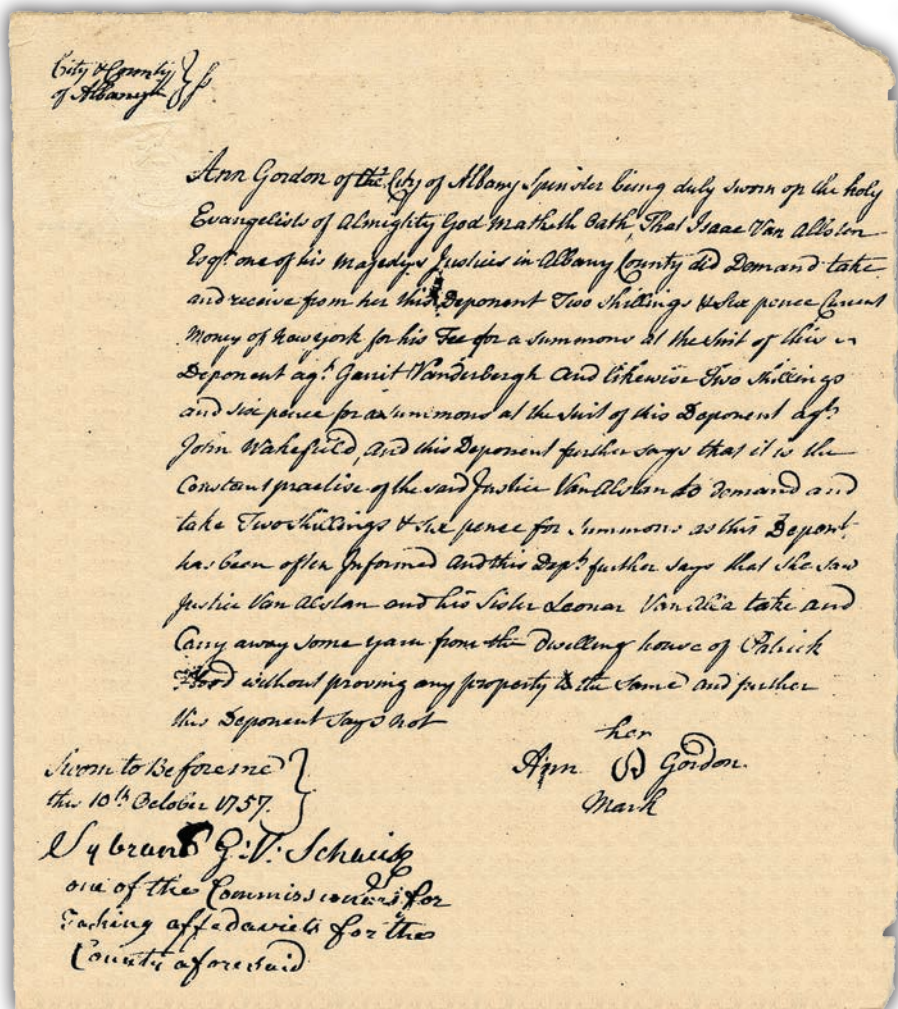


Figure 5. Three Pence stamp on declaration against a justice of the peace.

Three pence stamps listed in the Joyce sale included the bill of sale for a vessel from the Makepeace sale discussed further below, a 1757 bill of sale for a "Negro Woman named Diann" from the Makepeace collection; a 1757 indenture, and the May 8, 1757, order in bastardy with the three stamps previously listed in the Sheldon sale (Kelleher, 1991).

Also recorded is a May 27, 1758, letter of attorney from one mariner to another pertaining to rights over all the writer's affairs.

Three-pence stamped bonds are known, as noted above, from the Sheldon collection, while the Combs collection included two penal bonds (Bennett, 2000). Similarly 1757 and 1759 bonds were listed in the Tolman sale (Siegel, 2000). The catalog indicates that the first of the latter two is stamped with the scarcer second die of this New York denomination. A 1769 Albany datelined penal bond for a £ 177.11.6 sum is also known.

Declarations and depositions to a Court of Chancery were stamped at a duty of three pence. Figure 5 shows a notable affidavit, probably for such a court, from Ann Gordon, an Albany woman, about the conduct of one Jacob Van Alstan, a Justice of the Peace for Albany, regarding his practice of charging plaintiffs two shillings sixpence each for such summons. She further indicates in the document how the subject and his sister entered a house and removed some yarn. Obviously, charges of corruption of officials are not a new occurrence.

Figure 6 shows a unique three-pence stamped document, unfortunately only partial, that appeared in both the Makepeace and Joyce sales (Siegel, 1968; Kelleher 1991) the top portion of a bill of sale for a one-half interest in the sloop Morning Starr for £140 from a resident of New York City to a resident of Albany. This is the only obviously in-

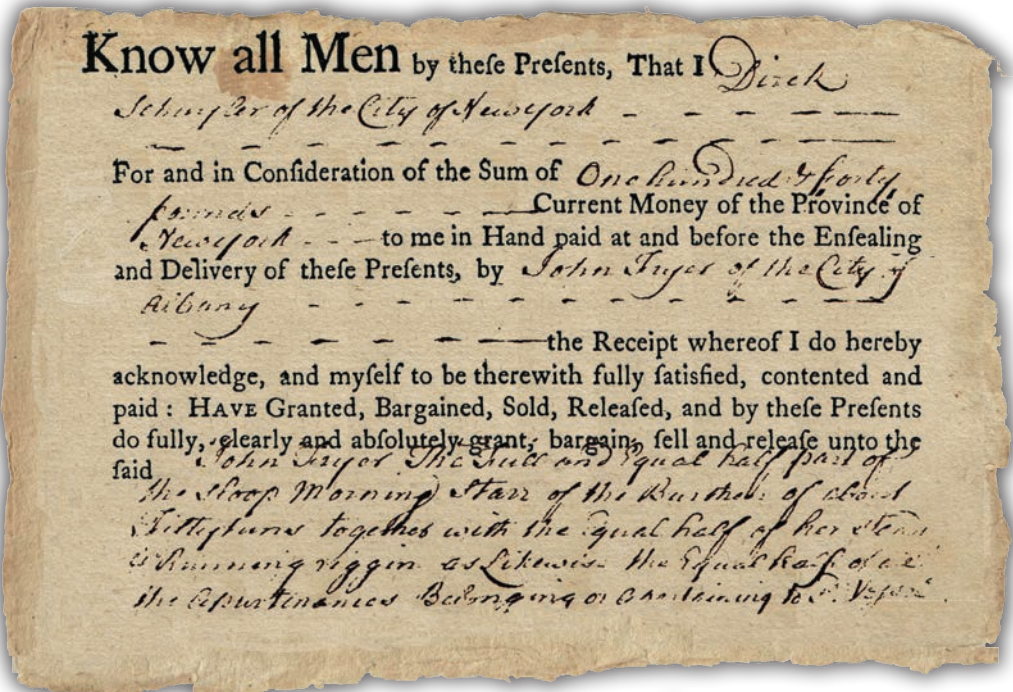


Figure 6. Three-pence stamp used improperly on a bill of sale.

valid stamp duty amount of New York embossed revenues known. It bears a three-pence stamp, but bills of sale for all or part of a vessel were subject to four-pence stamp duty. One possible explanation is that the partially printed generic bill of sale form on which it was written had been previously impressed with a three-pence stamp, as required for the sale of servants or slaves, and executed despite being under-stamped. As the surviving portion of the partial document does not include a date, another possibility is that a three-pence stamped blank was used after the expiration of the tax.

This document, although interesting, also illustrates that colonial embossed revenues do not always show ever-increasing prices over long periods of time. It sold originally for \$75 in the Makepeace sale in 1968 and for \$160 in 1991 in the Joyce sale, then again at auction in 2002 for \$113, probably due to its faulty condition as a partial document.

A part-printed Mayor's Court document dated April 5, 1758, with a three-pence stamp is known. This and similar Mayor's Court documents are for special bail. 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. A three-pence-stamped power of attorney in the Combs sale is discussed below in connection with the four-pence-stamped document to which it is attached.

IV Pence Usage

The surviving four-pence examples are also among the most frequently found (23% of the total), only slightly below the two-pence and three-pence in frequency, although they are also still scarce in an absolute sense. Most are found on deeds and mortgages. Being generally retained in private hands, they are not preserved in good condition.

The Makepeace collection included three examples of four-pence stamped documents (Siegel, 1968). One was a 1758 lieutenant's commission on vellum that brought only \$85 - the rest were on deeds. A large printed 1757 Dutchess County lease brought \$85.

The Sheldon sale also listed three examples of the four-pence stamp (Mercury, 1970), two on 1759 indentures. Four-pence-stamped examples listed in the Joyce sale included the former Makepeace 1757 Dutchess County deed that sold for \$420 (Kelleher, 1991). The much rarer example of the four-pence stamped military commission on vellum brought only \$260 in the same sale. Another commission for an ensign dated in 1758 and signed by Lt. Gov. James De Lancey was recorded in the Combs sale for \$350 (Bennett, 2000).

Figure 7 shows one of an interesting pair of attached documents sold in the Combs auction, both dated November 2, 1757, joined together with a blue ribbon. One is a three-pence-stamped partially printed power attorney relating to the appointment of a representative to deal with the affairs of a maritime prize, the *Mary*, in Philadelphia. This is attached to a four-

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(APS 150170)
P. O. Box 24222
Overland Park, KS 66283
info@USatFACE.com



City of New York }
 I John Cruger Esq: Mayor of the said City of New York, Do hereby Certifie, Declare and make known, to all to whom these shall come, or may in any wise concern, that on the day of the Date hereof, personally came and appeared before me, — Daniel Stiles of the said City of New York Merchant, and acknowledged the Letter a power of Attorney hereunto annexed, to be his free and Voluntary Act and Deed, and that he executed the same to the uses and purposes therein mentioned: —

In Testimony whereof I the said Mayor, have hereunto subscribed my Name and caused my Seal of Office of Maynalty of the said City of New York to be affixed this second day of November in the Year of our Lord 1757.

John Cruger

By order of the Mayor
 Aug: W. R. L. and others

Recorded this and the annexed Power of Attorney in the Office for Recording of Deeds for the City and County of Philadelphia in Book L. Vol. 3. Page 388y. the 12. day of November 1757 Witness my Hand and Seal of my Office C. B. R. O. D. M. R.

Figure 7. Four-pence stamp on notarization signed by John Cruger, New York City Mayor.

pence-stamped holograph authentication of the signature of the writer certified by the colonial Mayor of New York City, John Cruger. The same Combs sale also included a copy of a 1757 probated will of a Bucks County, Pennsylvania, resident.

In the Tolman sale a 1757 holograph lease was listed (Siegel, 2000). The Hiram Deats collection in 1939 reported a March 7, 1759, commission on parchment appointing George Breverton, Jr., a captain in the New York Regiment (E.S.R.N., 1939). The

Combs sale included a 1758 commission for an ensign, also known from the holdings of collector E. Dargan Smith of Owensboro, Kentucky. Other dealer sales of four pence stamped documents have all been deeds, including a unique one referencing a “moiety of commonage” (right of way) dated 1759 that sold for \$425.

The Massachusetts Bay Stamp Act expired on April 30, 1757, and the New York Stamp Act finally expired on December 31, 1759. How the colonial militias were financed until the fall of New France in 1760 was answered by the First Lord of the Treasury, William Pitt. Pitt’s approach to the war in the colonies essentially inverted England’s previous policy. The heart of Pitt’s plan was his intention to hold the line against France, where it was strongest, in Europe, while striking at its weakest point, North America. To do so, Pitt planned to take advantage of Britain’s greatest strength its navy, to achieve naval superiority on the Atlantic preventing France from resupplying its troops overseas; this would in turn enable Britain’s relatively small army to cooperate with its much more numerous American colonists to overwhelm Canada’s defenders (Anderson, 2000).

Instead of treating the colonies like subordinate jurisdictions and requiring them to finance the war effort by forced contributions to a common fund, Pitt resolved to treat them like allies, offering subsidies to encourage their assemblies to aid in the conquest of New France. Thus, when The Massachusetts Bay and New York Stamp Act expired, Parliament provided the financial resources to achieve the greatest victory in English history (Anderson, 2000).

On September 8, 1760, almost a year to the day after the French were defeated in Quebec, the British and American Colonials seized Montreal. While British action against French and Spanish colonies continued in the Caribbean, the French defeat at Montreal ended the war on the North American Continent.

Acknowledgment

This article and the previous articles (Parts I to VI) covering America’s Colonial Stamp Taxation are a collaboration based on the original research and unpublished writings of John C. Rowe. Some documents illustrated have been digitally enhanced for clarity.

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I am grateful for the materials that have been submitted and the work that many of you are continuing. If you have contributed materials, thank you! If you have submitted material and haven't heard back from me, please email again. If you haven't submitted anything for review, please consider preparing a manuscript soon. In the world of non-profits, it is often said that many people are willing to contribute if they are asked to get involved. So, with this, I am officially asking for your help.

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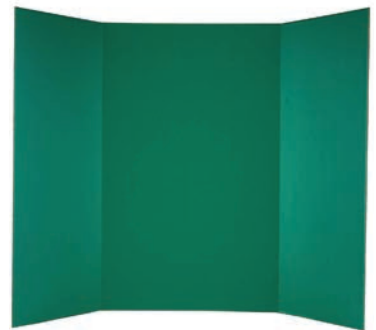


Figure 2. Possible photo background.

If possible, you will want two light sources. The diagram in Figure 3 shows a layout that produces generally good results. You do not have to have the light diffusers shown in the diagram, but you may need to move the lights back so that they do not overpower the subject being photographed. The turntable is not necessary but can be useful if you need multiple angles of the same object.

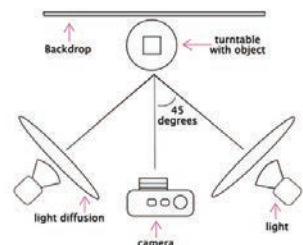


Figure 3. Ideal lighting for 3D objects.

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Overrun Countries



1943-44 Overrun Countries Series: **Denmark**

by **Paul M. Holland**

USSS #16849 | Santa Barbara, CA 93111

✉ pholland.thorleaf@gmail.com

The cover carrying this letter bears the commemorative postage stamp issued in honor of Denmark. This is the last in the series of twelve stamps issued as a tribute to the overrun and occupied Countries of Europe.

The stamp was first placed on sale today at Washington, D.C., and it is a pleasure to send you this first day cover autographed by the Minister of Denmark.

— From a signed December 7, 1943 letter sent with a Favor First Day Cover of the 5¢ Denmark 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.

Although Denmark had remained neutral during World War I and signed a 10-year non-aggression pact with Germany in 1939, it was nonetheless invaded early in the morning of April 9, 1940, as a stepping stone in Hitler's preemptive invasion of Norway. Fearing that Copenhagen would be bombed, the Danish government quickly surrendered. Unlike the case for many other overrun countries, the government did not go into exile. Under the terms of the armistice, there was economic cooperation with Germany, and the Danish government and king continued to function fairly normally until August 29, 1943, when the government resigned in protest at increasingly harsh

German demands. At this point, the Danish government refused further cooperation, the navy scuttled most of its ships, with many of its officers fleeing to neutral Sweden, and Denmark was placed under direct German military occupation.

Originally no Overrun Countries stamp had been planned for Denmark. That one was issued apparently came about due to a May 17, 1943 letter written to Postmaster General Frank Walker by A. E. Pade, a Denver stamp dealer of Danish descent who believed that “a stigma had been cast on the otherwise good name of Denmark...” and that “Americans of Danish descent would deeply resent this discrimination.”¹ On June 17, 1943, Pade received a reply from Deputy Third Assistant Postmaster General Roy M. North stating that “The Department has this matter under advisement and it may be possible to make provisions for a Denmark stamp before the series is completed, which, at best, will not be until late this year.” Finally, a Post Office Department press release on June 28 stated, “Denmark had been added to the list of (overrun) countries being honored.”

The die proof for the Denmark Overrun Countries stamp was approved on October 19, 1943, with three colors used in printing these stamps, blue violet for the outer engraved frame and color offset printing of the Danish flag in red and black. These were printed in full sheets of 200, unlike many other Overrun Countries stamps that employed a “shared” layout on the press sheet. They were then cut into four panes of 50 stamps each.

The first day ceremony for the Denmark Overrun Countries stamp was held at the office of Postmaster General Frank C. Walker on December 7, 1943, the second anniversary of the Pearl Harbor attack. Here, Hendrik de Kauffmann, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of Denmark to the United States, purchased the first sheet of stamps from Ramsey S. Black, Third Assistant Postmaster General.

Hendrik de Kauffmann was perhaps the most unusual character of all Overrun Countries ambassadors and foreign ministers, and someone who seemed to epitomize Scandinavian stubbornness. Although there was officially no Danish government-in-exile, he remained at his post and, on the first anniversary of the occupation of Denmark (April 9, 1941), on his own initiative, signed “in the Name of the King,” an agreement for the defense of Greenland. This treaty, dated June 7, 1941, authorized the United States to defend the Danish colony of Greenland from German aggression. It was signed by the US Secretary of State Cordell Hull and approved by President Roosevelt. For this, Kauffmann was nicknamed “the King of Greenland.” The Danish government in Copenhagen, struggling to maintain its uneasy relationship with the German occupiers, was not amused. Kauffmann was formally charged with high treason and stripped of his rank. Both of these actions were simply ignored by Kauffmann who carried on, continuing his occasional visits with FDR in the White House during the war.

Special favor FDCs for the Overrun Countries were sent out by Deputy Third Assistant PMG Roy M. North who had arranged for the Foreign Ministers or Ambassadors of the overrun countries to autograph these covers whenever possible. My example sent to Marvin H. McIntyre at the White House is shown in Figure 1.

Sadly, this Overrun Countries favor FDC cover for Denmark, signed by Hendrik de Kauffman, was the last favor FDC that Marvin McIntyre received before his death on December 13, 1943. Making this memento especially poignant, McIntyre had been

THE DEPUTY THIRD ASSISTANT POSTMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

December 7, 1943.

Dear Mr. McIntyre:

The cover carrying this letter bears the commemorative postage stamp issued in honor of Denmark. It is the last in the series of twelve stamps issued as a tribute to the overrun and occupied countries of Europe.

The stamp was first placed on sale today at Washington, D. C., and it is a pleasure to send you this first day cover autographed by the Minister of Denmark.

Sincerely yours,

Roy North

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

THE DEPUTY
THIRD ASSISTANT POSTMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON



FIRST DAY OF ISSUE

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

Hendrik de Kauffmann
Minister of Denmark

First day cover

Figure 1. Deputy Third Assistant PMG Roy North favor FDC for Denmark stamp signed by Hendrik de Kauffmann, Minister of Denmark, sent to Marvin McIntyre at the White House.



Figure 2. Time Magazine cover of December 17, 1934, showing FDR's "White House Secretariat," with Marvin McIntyre on the telephone at lower right.

the recipient of FDR's original White House memo that initiated the series of Overrun Countries stamps, and this cover was still sealed when I acquired it.

Marvin H. McIntyre is one of my favorites among the key figures of FDR's small inner circle. A former newspaperman, his involvement dates back to FDR's 1920 campaign for Vice President. In the White House McIntyre managed FDR's appointments calendar and correspondence, and he's shown on the cover of Time Magazine as a member of FDR's secretariat talking on the telephone at the lower right in Figure 2. Also shown are Louis Howe, Steve Early and "Missy" LeHand, FDR's "Chief of Staff," press secretary and personal secretary, respectively. McIntyre himself had a wonderful sense of humor and was intimately involved in nearly all aspects of the FDR administration from the very beginning, as shown by his wide-ranging correspondence. Upon his death, FDR remembered McIntyre's "never-failing humor, his cheerful spirit, and his ever-ready helpfulness."

Content and context are everything in autograph collecting, and I'm fortunate to have an array of original Marvin H. McIntyre correspondence in my collection. Perhaps my favorite items are from the crisis period in February 1933, just before FDR took office on Saturday, March 4, 1933. These were obtained from the famed Malcolm Forbes autograph collection of signed documents related to US Presidents. Shown in Figure 3 is McIntyre's February 26, 1933, letter on FDR's personal stationery from Hyde Park, NY, to David Stern, publisher of the Philadelphia Record. This was written in the midst of the worst banking crisis in American history and about ten days after an assassination attempt on FDR's life in Miami had nearly succeeded. Note here that insiders such as Missy LeHand and McIntyre often referred to Franklin D. Roosevelt as "F. D." as seen in this letter and the following telegram.

Reflecting on the assassination attempt in the third paragraph, McIntyre says "You sure missed out on the most exciting night of our Miami trip. Frankly, it didn't impress me much at the time, but since has had a tendency to make me a bit more serious minded." Five shots were fired from the crowd at a February 15th nighttime rally from about 25 feet away, hitting five people including Anton Cermak, the Mayor of Chicago, who later died from his wounds. Since FDR had been propped up on the backseat of a convertible to address the crowd (Figure 4), he was "a sitting duck" and lucky to have escaped death or serious injury.

Shown in Figure 5 is McIntyre's original February 27, 1933 telegram sent to David Stern that McIntyre refers to in the handwritten scrawl at the bottom of his letter that stated, "Just wired you not to take our phone conversation too seriously." The telegram goes on to say, "HAD JUST BEEN TALKING TO FRANTIC BANKERS STOP WILL BE GLAD TO TAKE THIS UP WITH WOODIN..." concluding that there will not be time for "F. D." to talk things over with Stern before the inauguration. Note the typos in this short telegram, i.e. NOR for FOR and innauguration (sic) misspelled, suggesting how frantic things must have been at the time.

It was William H. Woodin, FDR's newly designated Treasury Secretary who was to play a major role in resolving the banking crisis during the first week of the new FDR administration. At a time three years into the Great Depression and following "runs" on virtually every bank in the country that had not already failed, all of the nation's banks had

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT
HYDE PARK, DUTCHESS COUNTY
NEW YORK

February 26, 1933.

Dear Dave:

Your letter of February 22nd with its enclosure referring to Ralph W. Wescott just arrived. I am taking the liberty of showing it to F.D. with your recommendation.

I suppose, if necessary, he can get at least part of the State organization to back it up in the event that real consideration can be given to it. In the event decisions have already been reached as to the posts to which you referred, is there any other place you feel he would fit into?

You sure missed out on the most exciting night of our Miami trip. Frankly, it didn't impress me much at the time, but since has had a tendency to make me a bit more serious minded.

Have been advocating some action along the lines recommended at your dinner party by Mr. Fox. Do you think it a practical measure as one of the immediate steps? Rather, I mean some step along that line?

Hope to be seeing you soon.

Sincerely,

M.H.M.

M. H. McIntyre.

J. David Stern, Esq.,
Philadelphia Record,
Philadelphia, Pa.

*P.D. just wired you not to take
our phone conversation too
seriously - M.H.M.*

Figure 3. February 26, 1933, letter from Marvin McIntyre to David Stern, publisher of the Philadelphia Record (author's collection, ex-Malcolm Forbes).



Figure 4. FDR in Bayfront Park, Miami, shortly before the assassination attempt on February 15, 1933.

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AN ANSWER IS EXPECTED BY THE SENDER OF THIS MESSAGE. PLEASE GIVE IT TO THE MESSENGER OR TELEPHONE IT TO **WESTERN UNION** 2477-D

WESTERN UNION VCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT J. C. WILLEVER, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

so on full-rate telegrams and day letters, and the time of receipt at destination as shown on all messages, is STANDARD TIME.

Received at Western Union Building, 230 So. 11th St., Philadelphia, Pa. 1933 FEB 27 PM 10 36

NC1836 49 NL=POUGHKEEPSIE NY 27

J DAVID STERN=2

PHILADELPHIA RECORD PHA=

CONFIDENTIAL DO YOU NOT TAKE MY PHONE TALK TOO SERIOUSLY
HAD JUST BEEN TALKING TO FRANTIC BANKERS STOP WILL BE GLAD
TO TAKE THIS UP WITH WOODIN AS I DONT SEE ANY CHANCE NOR F
D TALKING IT OVER WITH YOU BEFORE INNAUGURATION WILL ADVISE
YOU A LITTLE LATER=

M H MCINTYRE.

MINUTES IN TRANSIT
FULL-RATE DAY LETTER

WESTERN UNION GIFT ORDERS SOLVE THE PERPLEXING QUESTION OF WHAT TO GIVE

Figure 5. February 27, 1933, telegram sent by McIntyre to David Stern, publisher of the Philadelphia Record (author's collection, ex-Malcolm Forbes).

been closed under an emergency “Bank Holiday” with cash being in very short supply. The Emergency Banking Bill (the first piece of FDR’s “hundred days” legislation) was rushed through Congress on Thursday, with FDR’s famous first “Fireside Chat” following on Sunday evening. In the meantime, Woodin had come up with the idea that the Treasury could simply issue Federal Reserve Bank Notes against good assets held by the banks, such as loans. The Bureau of Engraving and Printing (BEP) went to work 24 hours a day printing new currency so that it could be rushed out to major banks by the weekend.² By the time banks began reopening their doors on Monday morning, March 13, 1933, after FDR’s “Fireside Chat,” confidence in the nation’s banking system had been almost miraculously restored.

Besides the Overrun Countries favor FDCs sent out by Deputy Third Assistant PMG Roy North to Marvin McIntyre and others, Postmaster General Frank C. Walker also mailed favor FDCs on official stationery. These typically came with printed Post Office Department notices about the stamps instead of letters. An example from my collection of the Denmark Overrun Countries stamp is shown in Figure 6.

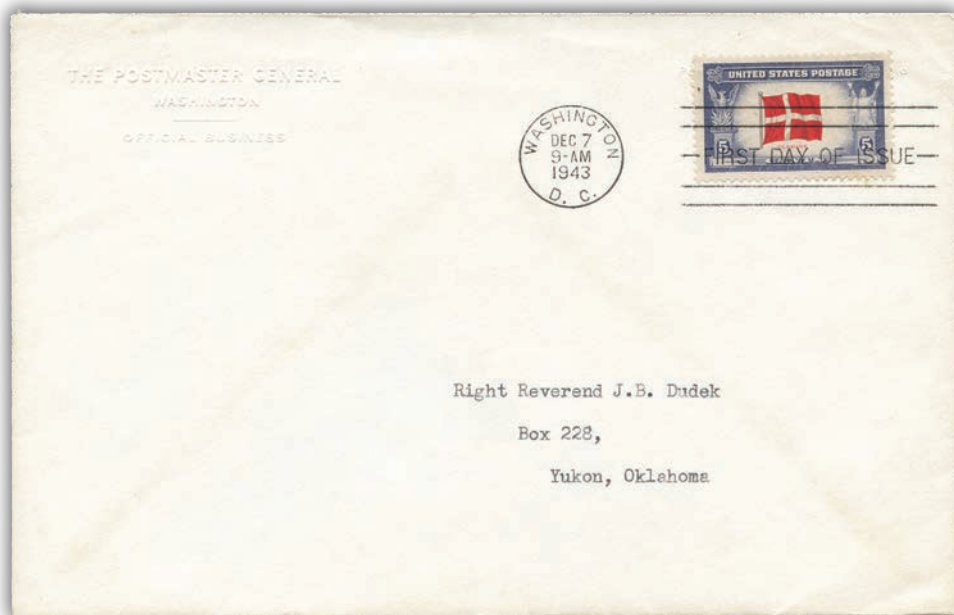


Figure 6. Favor FDC on official PMG stationery for the Denmark stamp sent to Yukon, Oklahoma.

Among the commercial cachets created for the Denmark Overrun Countries stamp is the Staehle cachet on an unaddressed first day cover franked by a corner margin block of four, shown in Figure 7. Note the close similarity of this Staehle cachet to that for the Norway stamp³ and that the block of stamps displays the offset printed country name Denmark in the upper margin.

My worldwide postal history collection includes over 500 covers sent to FDR from 45 different countries around the world. Figure 8 shows an unsealed December 15, 1933, hand-addressed cover from Copenhagen franked with Scott 210 depicting King Christian X and paying the special international surface rate for unsealed Christmas cards.

The card is addressed to The Honorable Franklin Roosevelt, Hyde Park, Dutchess Co., NY, USA. The slogan cancel states that Postgiro (money orders) save time and money.



Figure 7. FDC with Staehle cachet for the Denmark Overrun Countries stamp.

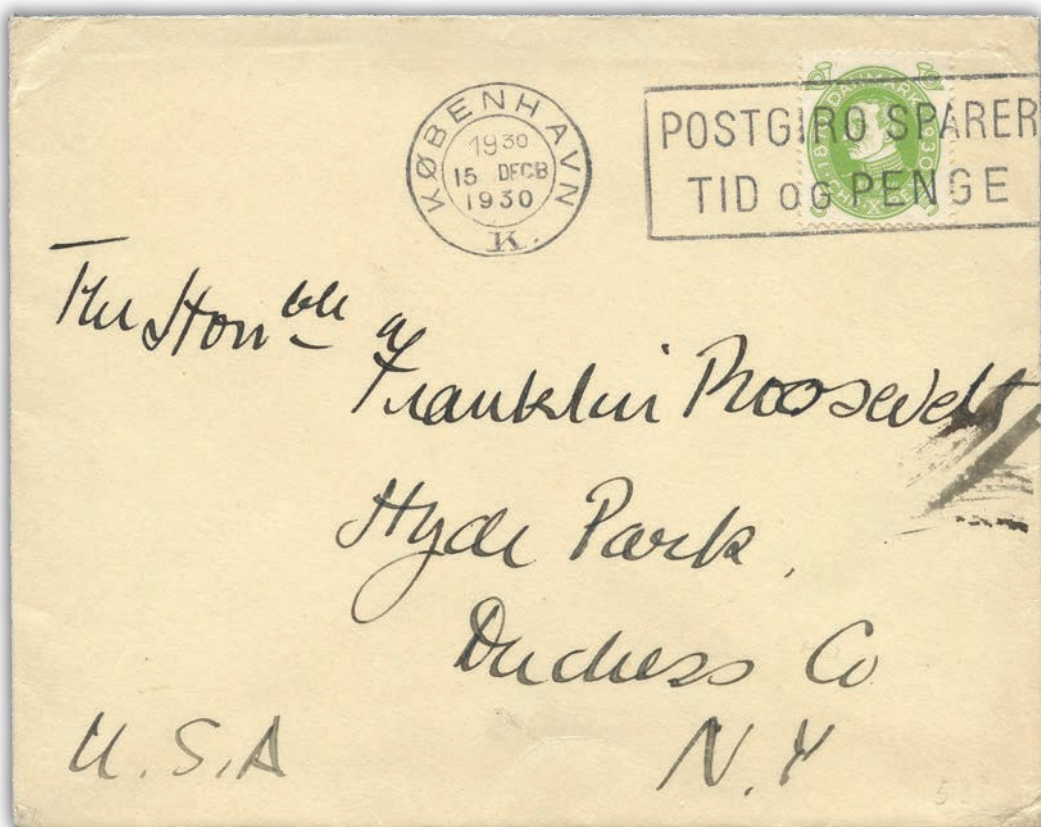


Figure 8. December 15, 1930 Christmas card cover sent to FDR at Hyde Park from Copenhagen.

King Christian X, king of Denmark from 1912 to 1947, was the older brother of King Haakon VII of Norway. Both were grandsons of Queen Victoria, and their many royal first cousins included King George V of Great Britain, Kaiser Wilhelm II of Germany, Tsar Nicholas II of Russia, and King Constantine I of Greece. Both remained on the throne during World War II, with King Haakon VII fleeing to Great Britain with the Norwegian government-in-exile and King Christian X remaining in Denmark, where he was a popular figure who took daily horseback rides through the streets of Copenhagen without a bodyguard, even during the German occupation (Figure 9). He became a steadfast symbol of Danish resistance, under which only minimal cooperation was made with the Germans under terms of the armistice. These terms were relatively light compared to those in other occupied countries, such that if Denmark offered no overt resistance, Germany would respect Danish political independence. For example, in Denmark, unlike other Nazi-controlled territories, Jews were never forced to wear the Star of David.



Figure 9. King Christian X on his daily horseback ride through the streets of Copenhagen during the German occupation.

Another Christmas greeting sent from Copenhagen to neutral Sweden twelve years later is shown in Figure 10. Mailed on December 18, 1942, to Degerfors, Sweden, it is franked with Scott 238D depicting a sailing ship. There is also a 1942 Danish Christmas seal that shows the two-year-old royal granddaughter Margrethe, who later became the Queen of Denmark. The slogan cancel translates as “send the Christmas mail in good time”. Regarding this cover, it is also interesting to note that there is censor tape and a handstamp on the back.

The Danish Government began censoring all foreign mail shortly after the outbreak of World War II in October 1939 as part of an attempt to keep Denmark neutral. Later, during the German occupation, this continued as part of a policy of measured accommodation towards the occupying power. This limited outside contact by mail to Germany, Scandinavia and other neutral countries. Curiously, the censor tape and handstamp shown resemble the German OKW type but are from Denmark’s Post og Telegrafvaesenet (post and telegraph service), where Kontrolleret translates as “controlled.”

This cover highlights the close cultural ties and Denmark's proximity to neutral Sweden, which was to play an important role in one of the most celebrated rescue operations of World War II. During the summer of 1943 it was becoming increasingly clear that Germany would lose the war, and strikes and other overt resistance to the occupation increased. The Germans then demanded that the Danish government declare a state of emergency. This was refused, and the government resigned in protest leading to the Germans declaring martial law. Soon afterward, Nazi plans for the arrest and deportation of Danish Jews were leaked on September 28, 1943, by German diplomat Georg Ferdinand Duckwitz. The Danish resistance movement then managed to hide and later evacuate nearly all of Denmark's 7,800 Jews by sea to nearby Sweden using fishing boats



Figure 10. December 18, 1942, cover from Copenhagen to Degerfors, Sweden. Note the 1942 Danish Christmas seal and censor tape (author's collection).



Figure 11. Large December 7, 1943, Postmaster General combo favor FDC featuring all twelve Overrun Countries stamps for Europe, each with printed country name (author's collection).

and other small craft. Others remained in hiding with help from Danish citizens, and as a result, 99% of Denmark's Jewish population survived the Holocaust.

The Denmark stamp closed out the original Overrun Countries series designed to honor the European nations occupied by the Axis during World War II. I'm fortunate to have a full matched set of favor FDCs with signed letters for these Overrun Countries stamps sent to Marvin McIntyre at the White House by Deputy Third Assistant PMG Roy M. North, all autographed by either Foreign Ministers or Ambassadors of the overrun countries or the Postmaster General. Sale catalogs of both the Franklin D. Roosevelt stamp collection in 1946⁴ and the Harold L. Ickes stamp collection in 1948⁵ show that both men also received nearly identical sets of these favor FDCs.

More recently, I've acquired the spectacular combo FDC on official Postmaster General stationery featuring the stamps of all twelve European Overrun Countries stamps, shown in Figure 11. This 6.5" x 10.5" cover, postmarked December 7, 1943, is franked with each of the twelve corner margin singles with the country name printed in black above each stamp. This position only occurs once on each pane of 50 stamps. I've never seen another such cover on official Postmaster General stationery, and curiously,

although I've made a careful search of the sale catalogs from both the FDR and Ickes stamp collections, no similar item appears.



Figure 12. Hendrik de Kauffmann.

Following the Liberation of Denmark in May 1945, one of the first acts by the Danish Parliament was to revoke the charge of high treason against Hendrik de Kauffmann (Figure 12 - the "King of Greenland"), and he was able to officially represent Denmark at the 1945 San Francisco Conference and sign the new United Nations Charter. King Christian X, after falling from his horse in late October 1942, had become somewhat of an invalid during the remainder of the war. He died in April 1947, and his son, Frederick IX, became king. When King Frederick IX died in 1972, his daughter Margrethe became the

first female Danish sovereign under the 1953 Act of Succession and currently reigns as Queen Margrethe II. She is presently the world's longest-serving sovereign.

References

1. Max G. Johl, *The United States Commemorative Postage Stamps of the Twentieth Century: -Volume II 1935-1947*, H. L. Lindquist: New York, 1947, pages 238-239.
2. Jonathan Alter, *The Defining Moment: FDR's Hundred Days and the Triumph of Hope*, Simon & Schuster: New York 2006, page 250.
3. Paul M. Holland, "1943-44 Overrun Countries Stamps: Norway," *The United States Specialist*, July 2023, pages 308-319 (see especially page 317).
4. *The President Franklin D. Roosevelt Collection*: H. R. Harmer, Inc., New York, Part One February 1946, lot 392.
5. *The Harold L. Ickes World Wide Stamp Collection*. Part One, New York: Edson Fifield sale 33, November 15-23, 1948, lot 752.

100 YEARS AGO

The 5¢ Ribault Monument Stamp

by **Martin Kent Miller**

USSS #17013 | Greer, SC

✉ martin@philatelicpress.com



The 1924 Ribault Monument issues stands as a testament to the rich history and cultural heritage of America, commemorating the landing of French explorer Jean Ribault in 1562. Issued on April 2, 1924, the Ribault Monument stamp was part of the USPOD's efforts to honor noteworthy events in American history. The stamp was part of a series known as the Huguenot-Walloon Tercentenary Issue, celebrating the 300th anniversary of the arrival of French Huguenots and Walloons in America.

The design of the stamp portrays the Ribault Monument, a structure erected in Jacksonville, Florida, to commemorate Jean Ribault's landing. This monument stands tall, symbolizing the early French presence in what would later become the United States. The stamp's illustration showcased the monument against a backdrop of lush greenery, capturing the essence of the historical site and evoking a sense of the era in which Ribault's expedition occurred.

The legacy of the 1924 Ribault Monument stamp endures through its representation of America's multicultural past and its role in celebrating the contributions of different ethnic groups to the nation's history. The stamp not only immortalized a significant historical event but also served as a reminder of the exploration and settlement that shaped the American landscape.

This year, the 1924 Ribault Monument stamp celebrates its 100th year. Today it continues to stand as a remarkable tribute to an important moment in American history. Its design, production, and significance reflect the meticulous craftsmanship and attention to detail that characterized that era of stamp production. This commemorative remains a cherished artifact, encapsulating the spirit of exploration and commemorating the diverse cultural tapestry that defines the United States. While Ribault's venture didn't lead to a lasting settlement, it left an indelible mark on the map of North American exploration and on the landscape of philately.



Report of the Executive Secretary

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 17513 Lorrie Jagiello, Des Moines, IA
 17514 Marcel Sliker, Den Bommel,
 The Netherlands
 17515 Steven Keig, Mead, WA
 17516 Darryl Duke, Hawarden, IA
 17517 Carolina Braghis, Veneto, Italy

APPLICATIONS PENDING

17507-17511

NEW MEMBERS

17502-17506

REINSTATED

16946 Benjamin Whiteside
 17306 Thomas Phillips

RESIGNED

15384 Stan Raugh
 16465 Edmund Bednar
 16556 Stevan Cady
 16624 Pasquale Rinaldi
 16721 Thomas Smyser
 16803 Warren Rooney
 16925 James Anniss
 17140 Steven Roth
 17174 Martin Moskowitz
 17222 John Bowman
 17410 Carol Costa
 17450 Daniel McAdam

DECEASED

17415 Michael Chambers

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Reinstated	2
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Deceased	1
Total	13

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TOTAL MEMBERSHIP

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