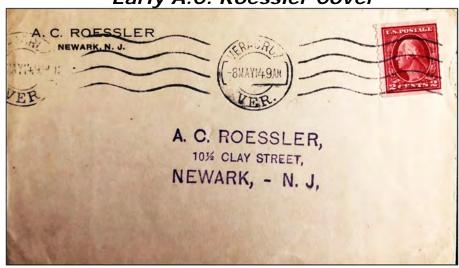


NJPH

The Journal of the NEW JERSEY POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY ISSN: 1078-1625

Vol. 46 No. 3 Whole Number 211 August 2018

Early A.C. Roessler Cover



This early Roessler cover is postmarked VERACRUZ, Mexico, May 8, 1914, 17 days after USA occupied Veracruz. It is franked with a Scott #444 issued April 25th making this an early use. See John Lupia's article on page 123.

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NEW JERSEY POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY, INC.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

One of the pleasures in publishing a state postal history journal is the learning experience occasioned by the editing of so many articles over the years with my co-editor Jean Walton. In addition, there is the recognition our journal *NJPH* has received in the world of philatelic literature competition. Last year's four editions of Volume 45 were entered in the literature competition in StampShow 2018 held in Columbus, Ohio in early August. Because so many of our members now take the option of receiving the journal via the Society's internet link, the entry was submitted in DVD format in the electronic competition, which permitted the display of so much of the journal's contents in color and with hyperlinks to the articles' sources in the end notes. I am very pleased to report that our Journal was awarded a Large Gold Medal in the name of Jean Walton, our distinguished editor. Congratulations, Jean!

This issue of *NJPH* contains a broad array of articles that touch upon New Jersey's rich postal history. John Lupia has written an in-depth article on the philatelic life of A.C. Roessler, the well-known New Jersey producer of air mail related and cacheted first day covers for almost 40 years, who is also remembered for his frequent run-ins with the Post Office Department. Articles concerning a number of towns make for interesting reading, including John Sharkey's coverage of the history of the Westfield and Mountainside Post Offices, Ed and Jean Siskin's on Hadddonfield's postmarks, and mine on Ocean City's postmarks. Don Chafetz contributes another article on his continuing series concerning Morris County foreign mail. I include a short piece on the reporting of contagious diseases by postal cards over a hundred years ago. Jean Walton has contributed a short article concerning a Newark Post Office draft, and finally, a correction to my article on New Jersey pioneer airmail flights that erroneously included a picture of the U.S.S. Pennsylvania instead of the S.S. Pennsylvania.

Be sure to attend the NOJEX/ASDA Show which will be held at the Hilton Meadowlands Hotel in East Rutherford, NJ on October 19-21. The Society will hold its annual meeting at noon on Sunday, October 21. With over 40 dealers, two auctions, and a number of public programs, this year's show will be sure to please.

ROBERT G. ROSE

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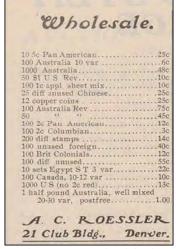
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A.C. ROESSLER, A JERSEY LEGEND





Fig. 1: Albert Charles Roessler, Jr. (1883-1952), in a photograph at age 46 published by himself in Air Plane Stamp News, Volume 114, March (1929) with the gag line that the photo is of the manager of the import department.



Advertisement in The Philatelic West, Volume 28, No. 1, September (1904) leaf 13

Fig. 2: Roessler's 1904-7 ads give his address as 21 Club Building, Denver, Colorado. Later he removed to East Orange, New Jersey.



Fig. 3: Roessler's imprint ad for his three publications: A. C. Roessler's Stamp News; Dealers' Stamp News (actual title: A. C. Roessler's Stamp News, Dealers' Edition), and Air Plane Stamp News. Eugene Klein of Philadelphia first published Air Mail in 1922, five years before Roessler's Air Plane Stamp News. Dealers' Stamp News is listed in Smith as No. 20, A. C. Roessler's Stamp News, Dealers' Edition. ²

Albert Charles Roessler, Jr. (1883-1952), 140 South Parkway, East Orange, New Jersey, coin and stamp dealer, began trading as a stamp dealer in Denver. Roessler was both a stamp and coin collector and dealer. His coin business lasted over thirty years. His stamp business was extraordinary and novel, introducing a myriad of artistic illustrations for stamps (some of which were used by the government or at least based on his drawings but without credit or acknowledgement), and also for his many cacheted covers illustrating contemporary themes that took the collecting world by force. Because he was slighted by the government for his artwork inspiring several postage stamps, Roessler became a spokesman for criticism of the U. S. Post Office, Bureau of Engraving and Printing, and the U. S. Postmaster, all of which eventually backfired on him in the 1930s.

Due to his innovative activity in philatelics, his numismatic business and dealings have become obscured by time, and little or scarcely any of his numismatic literature is known to be extant and rarely if ever is seen on the market. His weekly bargain list for coins was titled *The Coin News* which grew out of his original *Coin List*, offering coins at highly competitive bargain prices. One aspect of Roessler's coin business that will prove to be noteworthy to numismatists was his advertising and promoting medals and commemorative coins, and his illustrated cacheted covers of them that popularized them to a new generation of collectors. Commemorative coins were not exclusive to centennial, bicentennial and tricentennial celebrations since stamps were also issued, and Roessler pioneered and innovated the cacheted first day cover concept to stimulate collectors to collect both the stamps and covers, as well as coins and medals that accompanied them in their issues. For the medal and commemorative collector, scholar and dealer, Roessler played an important role in helping to establish a stronger market for this specialized niche. He evidently did business with Henry Chapman as several pieces of mail are found in the Lupia Numismatic Library, Special Collection, The Chapman Family Correspondence Archive.

For many years, Roessler owned a stamp and coin shop in the Ampere section of East Orange, New Jersey, making the address of 140 South Parkway a familiar one to cover collectors. When he retired in 1940, the shop was taken over by Frank Gerardo Spadone or his brother John Gerardo Spadone, who may have worked for Roessler at the end of his career. John Spadone (1922-2010) is famous as the creator and originator of *The Coin Press* in 1955, while Frank Spadone is the numismatist famed for his specialization in coin oddities of mis-strikes and both author and publisher of *Major Variety-Oddity Guide of United States Coins*. Under Spadone's ownership the shop was known as Ampere Coins. Stamp sales were discontinued by him, though he had what was left of Roessler's hoard, hoping someone would come and buy the lot. Some of Roessler's coin and medal inventory was still there in the late 1950s and early 1960s (a fond memory of this writer), and included ancient and U. S. Colonial coins, among them Fugio, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Connecticut, and New York Cents, as well as Washington pieces, and a variety of American and foreign medals. I remember Spadone talking about Roessler and his arrests and the Federal agents that came into the shop and seized everything.

Roessler was born in Newark New Jersey on April 7, 1883, son of Austrian-German ancestry of both parents, Albert Roessler, Sr. (1859-1890), a native of New Jersey, and Emma Katherine Erb (1858-1930+³), a native of Connecticut. The family name in German is spelled Rössler. His paternal grandfather was Johann Rössler a native of Vienna, Austria, and his wife Mathilda a native of Baden-Württemberg, Germany. According to the U.S. Census 1900 his mother remarried in 1893, after the death of his father, to John Mulcahey. They lived on Mt. Prospect Street, Newark, New Jersey.

Roessler became hooked on stamps and coins at the age of ten, and later on, specialized as a First Day Cover (FDC) cachet maker and servicer for most of his entire career. He was a talented artist, illustrator and cartoonist and published in *Cartoons Magazine*. He used his artistic skills to create many illustrations for his three main publications: *A. C. Roessler's Stamp News, Stamp Dealers News*, and *Air Plane Stamp News*, as well as a myriad of illustrated cacheted first and second day covers. Originally living with his parents at 140 South (now called the Oraton) Parkway, East Orange N. J., he moved to Colorado as a young man, first working in the mines and on a ranch. ⁴

He was trained as an artist at the Newark School of Fine and Industrial Arts. After graduation we find him first listed in the 1903 Denver City Directory as a printer's apprentice to the Rocky Mountain *News* and the *Denver Times*. While in Denver he ran a mail order stamp business, and wrote columns and advertised his bargain stamp products in *The Stamp Journal* of Denver and *Philatelic West*. He was a founding member of the Denver Stamp Club, organized on December 13, 1905. The minutes of the January 1908 Club meeting state that a photographer for the Denver Republican took a Club photo that was published in the February issue of the *Illustrated Sunday Magazine* of the *Denver Republican*.⁵ The photo certainly includes Roessler, who was present at the January 1908 Club meeting, but he had a passion for anonymity. In 1913, Roessler drew a cartoon of himself showing only the back of his head, and published it in the December 1913 A. C. Roessler's The Stamp News, with a humorous note saying it was in response to readers asking him to publish a picture of himself. Newton noted in 1977 that no one knew what Roessler looked like, sufficiently to identify him in the 1908 Denver Stamp Club photo.⁶ The 5'-11" Roessler, weighing 210 pounds, would never permit his photograph to be published and no confirmed pictures of him are known. Dan Barber in his "Via Air Mail" column in Stamp Collector (September 13, 1980), reproduced two photographs which might be those of Roessler. Originally Barry Newton reproduced the two photographs on page 108 purporting to contain Roessler in group shots. The first one he cites was published in red ink on the cover of *Philatelic West*, Vol. 20, September (1902). However, Brodstone also published Charles H. Nast's list of names of those in the Denver Stamp Club and Roessler is not in the photo since everyone is named except him.

The second is the Senior Stamp Collectors Club of Denver published in *The Denver Republican*, *Illustrated Sunday Magazine*, page 5, February 23, 1908. Roessler is believed by this writer to be the next to last man far right back row deduced by his height and age being twenty-five at the time and seems consistent with the 1929 photo in *Air Plane Stamp News*.



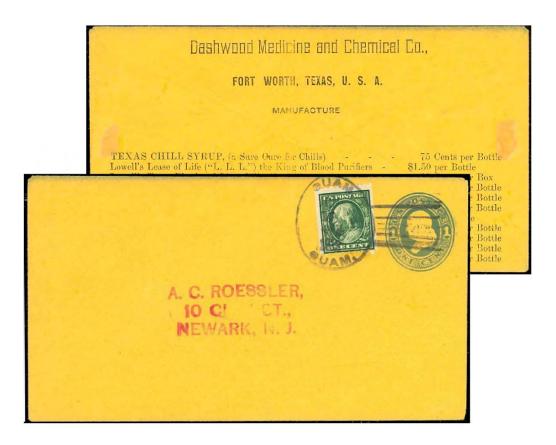
Reprinted in Newton⁷

Fig. 4: Picture published in the Denver Republican, Illustrated Sunday Magazine, page 5, February 23, 1908. Roessler is believed by this author to be the next to last man far right back row.

The May 1908 issue of *The Stamp Journal* in Denver announced that Roessler was leaving his job as President of The Stamp Journal Company, and transferring his stock in the company, to return East to full-time residence in New York City. The April and May 1909 issues of *The Stamp Journal* published humorous articles by Roessler on the stamp dealer scene on Nassau Street in New York City – about monopolistic auctions and the appearance of imperforate stamps from the First Bureau Regular Postage Series of 1902-03. On May 1, 1909, Vol. 1 No. 1 of [*A.C. Roessler's*] *Stamp News* appeared, the first of 209 issues published from 1909 to 1937. Originally titled simply *Stamp News*, Roessler changed the title in December 1909, prefixing his name to it as *A.C. Roessler's Stamp News*. In 1909 in New York, Roessler worked as Manager of the Federal Stamp Co. in the Tribune Building on Nassau St, and lived at 1958 Washington Ave., New York City.⁸

He applied to the American Numismatic Association in September and joined the ANA in November 1909 with an address at 1958 Washington Ave. This is the earliest known numismatic activity of Roessler within the mainstream of American numismatics. From here on we find Roessler involved with the coin business until he retired in 1940.

By 1910 Roessler moved across the river to his native city of Newark, New Jersey, to 10½ Clay Street, where he resided, dealt in stamps, coins and covers, and published *A.C. Roessler's Stamp News*. He became vice president of the Newark Stamp Club in 1911 and the President in 1914.



Courtesy Lupia Numismatic Library, A.C. Roessler File

Fig. 5: Roessler postal stationery cover Scott #U116-U35 = Thorp-Bartels #362 with uprated franking with a very scarce Scott #392, postmarked Guam, June 10, 1912. This is a remarkably early Roessler cover that was originally printed with an all-over advertising backside for Dashwood Medicine and Chemical Company of Fort Worth, Texas, on Plimpton postal stationery issued 1874-1876. In 1912 this was already an antique unused cover, some 36-38 years old when Roessler came upon it and self-addressed it with a rubber stamp in red ink.

Note the right handed Roessler favored the far left side when applying the rubber stamp, leaving the right side with a weaker impression, thereby causing the maladroit impression of the address 10 CLAY ST., to appear as if reading 10 CLAY CT. The C of what seems to be CT., is actually composed of the upper and lower lobes of the S of ST. Apparently, he sent this cover in a larger envelope either to a postmaster in Guam or someone he knew at a military base in Guam and requested they mail it back to him with the Guam postmark. Many dealers used to do this sort of thing to get postmarks they wished to have either for themselves or for a collector/client.



Everybody's Philatelist, Volume 4, No. 8, August 1913, page 190. Fig. 6: Roessler was in charge of the "Coin Department" for Everybody's Philatelist.

A. C. ROESSLER,

10% CLAY STREET,

NEWARK, - N. J.

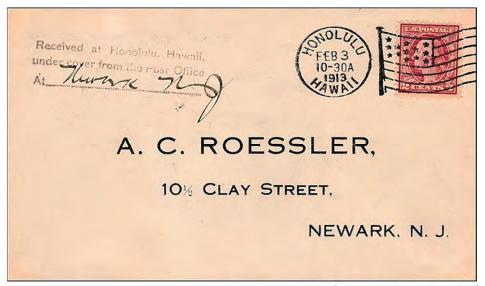


Fig. 8: A variety of Roessler corner cards, from Denver, NYC, Newark, and East Orange

Fig. 7: A May 8 1914 self-addressed Roessler cover with Newark corner franked with a Scott #444 issued April 25th making this an early use. That was just 17 days after USA occupied Veracruz. On April 9th U. S. sailors entered Tampico Bay fueling station and were arrested. President Wilson ordered the U. S. Navy to occupy Veracruz and release the sailors.

Roessler probably franked this the first day of issue placing it in a larger mailing envelope to the postmaster at Veracruz. The postmark and cancellation were made by a roller with repetitive CDS and four wavy line killers.

Clay Street in Newark is an industrial section of Newark with scattered apartment buildings and overhead apartments. Apparently Roessler owned his own shop there since he advertised print jobs in various periodicals. Owning a print shop allowed him to print his magazines and envelopes at cost.



Courtesy Lupia Numismatic Library.

Fig. 9: Self-addressed stamped business envelope of A. C. Roessler postmarked Honolulu, Hawaii, February 3, 1913, A.M., Flag Cancel - H-14. Special postal marking in violet stamped ''Received at Honolulu, Hawaii under cover from the Post Office At Newark, N. J'' at upper left.

By December 1914 he had moved his residence and stamp and coin operations into his new home at 140 South Parkway, East Orange, New Jersey.

GUMMED LABELS AS LOW AS 60c PER 1,000. Send 2c for 40-page catalog. A. C. Roessler, East Orange, N. J.

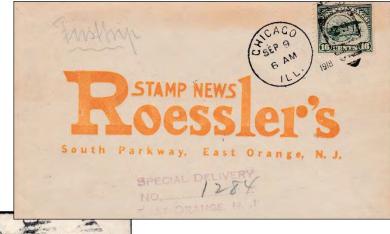
Cartoons Magazine, Vol. 7, No. 5, May 1915.

Fig. 10: Roessler's advertisement soliciting to print labels and for a mere 2 cents will send his 40-page catalogue of printing services and rates published in Cartoons Magazine in 1915.

He serviced First Flight Cachets (but not First Day Cachets) on the #C3 24¢ Airmail issued May 13, 1918 for the inauguration of the US airmail between New York and Washington. In *The Stamp News* he published an early report of the C3 Inverted Jenny. Shortly after C3 he founded *The Air Plane Stamp News*, publishing 167 issues between 1918 and 1938. He operated his postal printing business operations at 37 So. 8th Street, in the Roseville Section of Newark, and addressed his covers to this address from March 1921 until March 1924, after which he reverted to exclusive use of his home address at 140 South Parkway, East Orange.⁹

Courtesy Lupia Numismatic Library, A. C. Roessler file.

Fig. 11: A. C. Roessler's Stamp News, advertising cover, postmarked Chicago, Illinois, September 9, 1918, first flight, 60 days after issue of Scott # C2-AP1 16¢ green issued July 11, 1918. Very early Air Mail before the establishment of the Transcontinental route from Cleveland to Chicago. If this were a regular mail cover alone it would be worth from \$150 on up. Early Air Mail covers sell typically \$600-\$800.





Courtesy Lupia Numismatic Library, A. C. Roessler file.

Fig. 12 & 13: Roessler's Air Plane Stamp News and Winged Letters postmarked December 18, 1918.

The first Roessler cachets were for #620/621, the Norse-American Set issued May 28. 1925. 10



Fig. 14: A. C. Roessler's Stamp News, May 1920. In 1919 his address was East Orange, New Jersey; in 1924 his address was 37 South 8th Street, Newark, New Jersey.

There are no known Roessler FDCs, either manufactured or serviced, for the #617/619 Set (3) Lexington-Concord, issued April 4, 1925. The first pictorial Roessler cachet was the #623-1 17¢ Woodrow Wilson issued Dec. 28, 1925. As a printer, Roessler also produced and sold to other FDC cachet makers and servicers as well as the general public, many varieties of distinctive air envelopes, beginning with the Roessler double-bar envelope on March 20, 1925, two types of "barber-pole" air envelopes in 1928, and three types of "checkered" air envelopes in 1929-1930. The #620-9 and #620 ROE-2 cited above have a printed advertisement for Roessler envelopes on the back.

The #629 2¢ Battle of White Plains issue on Oct. 18, 1926 was Roessler's first "stamplike" cachet, featuring distinctive enlarged perforations framing a picture of a stamp. 15 This cachet had original artwork by Roessler inside the perforation frame that Roessler had published in *The Stamp News* as a proposed design for the new White Plains issue. The cachet picture duplicates the "U.S. Postage" words, and the face of the cachet states that "Cut shows rejected design."

During the early 1930s, Roessler continued the practice of printing FDC Cachets with artwork resembling the announced design, eliminating, however, the prohibited "U.S. Postage" words. His cachet for the #704-715 Washington Bicentennial Series featured an enlarged engraving of young Washington's portrait lifted exactly from the #703 Yorktown stamp's engraving of Washington. Bad blood between the Post Office Department and Roessler fomented with Roessler's continuing to claim prior design of U.S. stamps, publishing uncomplimentary articles about the Post Office Department, and producing cartoon-like cachets that appeared insulting because they parodied official Post Office Department designs. The Post Office Department refused to mail most of Roessler's original cachets for the #724-8 3¢ William Penn and the #725-29 Daniel Webster, both issued Oct. 24, 1932. Roessler produced censored versions that eliminated the perforated border and the phrase "Use Air Mail." ¹⁶



Courtesy Lupia Numismatic Library, A. C. Roessler file.

Fig. 15: Stamp dealer and philatelic writer and columnist Philip Ward mailer to A. C. Roessler franked with 19 cent air mail rate postmarked Philadelphia, registered mail, February 21, 1927.

A.C. ROESSLER, A JERSEY LEGEND ~ John Lupia



Fig. 16: Roessler's prankish double-sided cover. Front side a mimic air mail cover "Letter carried by Sir Bunk de Bunk / From Newark to Philadelphia / Via the Plane / The Steam Roller" franked with a nicely centered Scott #554-A157, postmarked East Orange, N.J., March 26, 1927.

Fig. 16a: Reverse, self stamped addressed to A. C. Roessler, franked with Scott #627-A188, Liberty Bell Sesquicentennial Exposition carmine rose 2¢.



Courtesy Lupia Numismatic Library, A. C. Roessler file.

Fig. 17: Roessler's "First Experimental Airplane-Motorcycle Courier Service" postmarked Westfield, Massachusetts, March 15, 1928. Franked with a strip of two 1-1/2 cent Harding, 2 cent Washington Fourth Bureau, and 5 cent Ericsson.



Courtesy Lupia Numismatic Library, A. C. Roessler file.

Fig. 18: Roessler First Day Cover - June 17, 1929 - (Barry Newton) 657 ROE-1a Binghamton - special rubber-stamped cachet. The light blue-green overprint reads First Day Cover, Binghamton (diagonally), with this additional text: Center of New York's Southern Tier / 230 Diversified Industries / Hub of Five Important Auto Trails. Very scarce.

Although dealing heavily in covers of various types, coin dealing remained a large part of Roessler's business:

LINDBERGH MEDAL. This was made by the French mint in gold for presentation to the Colonel. We have secured what we believe to be the only supply in the U.S. Our medals are in bronze. Price to those who order in advance of receipt of medal, postpaid, \$1.75. A. C. ROESSLER, 140 South Parkway, East Orange, N. J.

Fig. 19: Roessler's ad for the bronze Lindbergh Medal in The Numismatist, Vol. XL, No. 8, August (1927), No. 499. Roessler created about two dozen or so different Lindbergh cacheted covers.

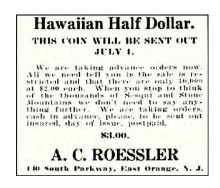


Fig. 20: Roessler's ad for the Hawaiian half dollar in The Numismatist, Vol. XLI, No. 7, July (1928), No. 439.

Roessler began calling out the post office for what he felt were unfair practices: His criticism and humor were not appreciated by the USPO, which began to retaliate in kind.

CHARGES TWO AIRMEN VIOLATED POSTAL LAWS

Hassell and Cramer Accused of Carrying Mail to Greenland

ROCKFORD, Ill., Sept. 6 (AP).—
The Rockford postmaster today received a copy of a complaint that has been filed with the Post Office Department by A. C. Roessler, a New York stamp collector, charging that Bert Hassell and Parker Cramer violated United States postal regulations in carrying mail from Rockford to Greenland on their projected flight to Stockholm, Sweden.

The postmaster, however, said so far as he knew no United States mail was carried by the Rockford fliers. He said they merely carried some personal messages from persons here to members of the University of Michigan expedition in Greenland.

Fig. 21: Roessler's complaint against the U. S. Post Office was published in the Morning News, Friday, September 7, 1928, page 1.

PHILATELIST IS HELD

Albert C. Roessler Charged With Using Mails to Defraud.

NEWARK, Jan. 30. (P)—Albert C. Roessler, internationally known authority on stamps, was arrested today on a federal bench warrant in connection with an indictment charging the use of the mails to defraud.

The federal grand jury returned the indictment Jan. 17. Roessler was released in \$100 bail after a hearing following his arrest.

The indictment against Roessler charges he had advertised that he had an exclusive agreement with Sir Hubert Wilkins, Polar explorer, whereby the later would autograph letters carried by his submarine, Nautilus, in its recent polar expedition from England.

The demand for such covers, the indictment charges, was so great that Roessler counterfeited a facsimile of a New York cancellation stamp to cancel the stamps on the Wilkins letters.

Fig. 23: Roessler's arrest and indictment published in the Asbury Park Press, Monday, January 30, 1933, page 3·The story ran in the Associated Press and was also published in the St. Louis Post Dispatch on the same day.

A. C. Roessler of New Jersey makes some comment which may astonish some readers. In this 'stamp news' he tells that the Molly Pitcher overprints on current U. S. postage, to commemorate that intrepid woman at the Revolutionary battle of Monmouth were printed at the ingation of a politician who spoke to officials at the Post Office Department in words in this effect: "You get out stamps for Republicans, but you never do anything for Democrats. You are bigotsO, come on, not a regular stamp-just an overprint like the Hawaiians for Molly and Monmouth. What say?" Roessler concludes: 'And doggone, if the department didn't say yes."

Fig. 22: Another Roessler complaint against the U.S. Post Office was published in the Democrat and Chronicle, Sunday, January 20, 1929, page 42.

Wilkins' Name Figures In Stamp Fraud Charge

The name of Sir Hubert Wilkins cropped up today in Federal Court as Albert C. Roessler, well-known stamp dealer of East Orange, pleaded not guilty to charges of using the mails to defraud.

The Government charges that Roeseler sold letters at a dollar each to stamp collectors, the envelopes to bear evidence of Sir Hubert's dash for the North Pole by submarine.

The letters were to be mailed in England, carried aboard the submarine to Nome, Alaska, and there to be shipped by airmail to the purchasers, it was alleged.

Such was "not the case, the Government contends, because all the letters were mailed in the United States and never went out of the country.

Fig. 24: Roessler's case published in the Trenton Evening News, Monday, March 20, 1933, page 1.



Courtesy Lupia Numismatic Library, A. C. Roessler file.

Fig. 25: Roessler altered use of this postal stationery mailer with return address pasted over previous use, and sent as printed matter, postmarked East Orange, New Jersey, December 19, 1931, 3:30 P.M.

On Jan 1, 1933, Roessler was indicted and arrested on two federal charges of crimes committed five-six years earlier:

- (1) using the U.S. mails for deceptive purposes in 1927; and
- (2) printing and using printed items "in similitude of obligations of the United States" in 1928.

The first charge was that, while processing event covers for a failed Arctic exploration flight on Sept. 24, 1927 by Sir Hubert Wilkins, Roessler forged a facsimile of a New York cancellation to create additional covers after the trip, when demand for the covers exceeded the supply actually taken aboard the airplane. The second charge was that Roessler overprinted "GRAF ZEPPELIN" on a 1¢ Franklin, and then advertised it for sale at 10¢ each, 17 and used it Oct. 28, 1928 in combination with other stamps when servicing Graf Zeppelin LZ-127 Flight Covers. 18 The overprinting was identical to the font style used by the Post Office Department on a 2¢ Washington stamp for the #646 2¢ Molly Pitcher and #647/648 2¢ and 5¢ Hawaii Issues, which Roessler had previously mocked publicly. On June 21, 1933 Roessler pled guilty to both charges in Federal Court in Newark. He was sentenced to two years in the Atlanta penitentiary, but the sentence was suspended and he was placed on probation for three years. 19

The timing of these events is interesting. The 1927 and 1928 crimes were committed during the Coolidge Administration (1925-1929), yet resulted in no federal prosecution until the very end of the Hoover Administration, after Hoover had lost the election and become a Lame Duck President. Roessler continued to publicly blast Third Assistant Postmaster General Frank Tilton (under lame duck President Hoover's Postmaster General Walter Brown) for censoring and withholding his #725 3¢ Daniel Webster FDCs. The federal indictment for the 1927 and 1928 crimes was handed down Jan 31, 1933, only two months before Roosevelt was inaugurated March 4, 1935, and James A. Farley was appointed Postmaster-General. Following his conviction in June of 1933, Roessler became uncharacteristically cautious in his public criticism of the Post Office Department. By the summer and fall of 1934 the philatelic press was up in arms about Farley's issuance of priceless imperforate sheets to Roosevelt and other favored cronies, one of which had been sold to a dealer in November 1934 for \$20,000. Yet it was not until the situation had been remedied by the public issuance of the Farley Reprints, #752/771, on March 15, 1935, that Roessler joined in the public criticism of Postmaster-General Farley's abuse. ²¹



Courtesy Lupia Numismatic Library, A. C. Roessler file.

Fig. 26: Roessler First Day Cover April 21, 1937 (Barry Newton) C21 ROE-1 Very Scarce.

Barry Newton suggests that Roessler began going blind about the time of the #785/794 Army-Navy Set issued 1936-1937.²² Apparently he either developed severe cataracts or glaucoma.

For the 1938 Presidential Issue, he produced defaced photographic images, i.e., sections cut out to avoid printing the entire image which would violate Federal Law, of the #803 ½¢ Franklin, #804 1¢ Washington, #805 1½c Martha Washington, #806 2c Adams and #807 3¢ Jefferson. For the #806 2¢ and denominations higher than 3¢, Roessler serviced his regular client list with rubber-stamp addressed envelopes on WSE/Clifford Cachets, some with "By Aerial Mail" added by rubber-stamp. The last and highest Prexy denomination serviced by Roessler was the WSE/Clifford #817-58 12¢ Zachary Taylor issued Sept. 14, 1938.²⁴

The last cachet that can be definitively attributed to Roessler as designer is a commemorative – a defaced photographic image for #835 3¢ Constitution Ratification issued June 21, 1938.²⁵ Roessler serviced his subscribers with two other commemoratives from nearby New Jersey cachet makers: the Clarence Reid #836-40 for the 3¢ Delaware issued June 27, 1938 (Reid had also sold this cachet to Leo August's Washington Stamp Exchange and Egon Bernet of Newark Stamp Exchange, and Roessler had often collaborated with all of them),²⁶ and John Alden's Pilgrim Cachet #837-22¢ issued July 15, 1938.²⁷

Roessler appears to have been completely out of business by 1940. However, he still kept his shop in East Orange that became revived in the mid 1950's under his former employee Frank Spadone. Barry Newton suggests that Roessler was near-blind (citing an article by Stan Fryczynski in May/June 1961 First Days) and collected unemployment compensation and welfare benefits from then until his death on January 26, 1952 in Orange, New Jersey. However, he may not have been blind but lacked vision adequate enough to draw and carry on his hobby business. According to a notice in the Asbury Park Evening Press on Friday, January 2, 1948 he was a guest at the home of Robert Coslick of Ocean Grove at a Christmas party in December 1947.

Some of these covers are available for sale. Contact John Lupia at <u>jlupia2@yahoo.com</u> or visit http://www.numismaticmall.com/numismaticmall-com/roessler-albert-charles.



Courtesy Lupia Numismatic Library, A. C. Roessler file

Fig. 27: Roessler postal stationery mailer with invoice postmarked East Orange, New Jersey, April 27, 1932.

ROESSLER WORKS

A.C. Roessler's Stamp News (1909-1937)

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Air Plane Stamp News (1927-1937)

Flash List (1927-19??) Smith reports 1977 as terminal date.

Coin List (1927-1930)

The Coin News (1930-1936/7)

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A.C. ROESSLER, A JERSEY LEGEND ~ John Lupia

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ENDNOTES:

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¹ Copyright © 2011-2017 John N. Lupia III. John N. Lupia, III is a Fellow of Rutgers, and has taught art history and archaeology for over fifteen years at Seton Hall University and Kean University and is now retired. He has published numerous articles in journals and was a leading contributor to MacMillan Publishers for the new edition of Grove, *The Dictionary of Art* (New York: Groves Dictionaries, 1996) 34 volumes, with Jane Shoaf Turner, editor. He has worked and studied as an extern at various museums in New York including the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Jewish Museum New York, Frick Museum, and the Whitney Museum of American Art. He has traveled throughout the United States and Europe and lives part time in the Middle East studying the Holy Land archaeological sites in Lebanon and Egypt and Muslim and Christian relations. His last book was *The Ancient Jewish Shroud at Turin* (Regina Caeli Press, 2010).

² Ad shows "Airplane News" instead of "Air Plane Stamp News," seen on most issues of this publication we have seen.

³ Emma Roessler Mulcahy is listed in a 1930 census as living with her son in East Orange; she would have been 71 at that time.

⁴ Barry Newton's A.C. Roessler Photo Cachet Catalogue, 1977, p. 99.

⁵ The photo is reproduced in Barry Newton's A.C. Roessler Photo Cachet Catalogue, 1977, at p. 108.

⁶ Id., p. 108.

⁷ Newton, page 108.

⁸ Id., pp. 99-102.

⁹ Id., p. 101-106.

¹⁰ #620-621 ROE-1 and #620 ROE-2 in Newton, 1977, pp.6-7; #620/21-1 and -9, in Mellone, Planty Vol. I, 1994, pp. 37-38; Monty et al., First Cachets Revealed, 2006, p. 6.

¹¹ Newton, 1977, p. 7; Mellone, Planty Vol. I, 1994, pp. 33-36.

¹² Mellone, Planty Vol. I, 1994, p. 41; Newton, 1977, pp. 8-9.

¹³ Newton, 1977, pp. 3-4

¹⁴ Mellone, Planty Vol. I, 1994, p. 38; Newton, 1977, p. 7

¹⁵ #629-9 in Mellone, Planty Vol. I, 1994, p. 55; 629 ROE-1 and ROE-2 in Newton, 1977, p. 11

¹⁶ #724-9, Mellone, Planty Vol. I, 1994, p. 98, and ROE-2 in Newton, 1977, pp. 49-50; #725-30 in Mellone, Planty Vol II, 1995, and ROE in Newton, 1977, p. 51.

¹⁷ Newton, 1977, p. 95

¹⁸ See ROE-FZ15, Newton, 1977, p. 95.

¹⁹ Linn's Stamp Review, July 15, 1933, quoted in Newton, 1977, p. 106.

²⁰ See Roessler, A. C. Roessler's Stamp News #200 Jan-Feb 1933, Airplane Stamp News #145 Jan 1933, #146 Feb 1933 and #147 Feb-Mar 1933, quoted at length in Newton, 1977, p. 52.

²¹ Roessler, "Monkey Business, "A.C. Roessler's Stamp News #203 April-Jun 1935, quoted in Newton, p. 66; See Johl, U.S. Commem. Vol. I, 1947, pp. 237-241

²² Newton, 1977, p. 106.

²³ Newton, 1977 p. 79-80. Mellone, Planty Vol. XIV, 2001, p. 14

²⁴ Newton, 1977, p. 81; Mellone, Planty Vol. XIV, 2001, p. 30.

²⁵ #835 ROE-1 in Newton, 1977, p. 81; #835-68 in Mellone, Planty Vol. XIV, 2001, p. 88.

²⁶ See Mellone, Planty Vol. XV, 2004, p. 14; #836 ROE-1 in Newton, 1977, p. 81

²⁷ Mellone, Planty Vol. XV, 2004, p. 48; #837 ROE-1 in Newton, 1977, p. 81

²⁸ Newton, 1977, pp. 106-107.

HOMETOWN POST OFFICES: Westfield, NJ and its Mountainside Branch By John B. Sharkey

HISTORY OF WESTFIELD, NJ

Wikipedia provides us a concise history of the development of Westfield:

The old village area, now the downtown district, was settled in 1720 as part of the Elizabethtown Tract. Westfield was originally formed as a township on January 27, 1794, from portions of Elizabeth Township, while the area was still part of Essex County, and was incorporated on February 21, 1798, as one of New Jersey's initial group of 104 townships by an act of the New Jersey Legislature. It became part of the newly formed Union County on March 19, 1857. Starting in 1804, portions of the township were taken to form Rahway Township (1804), Plainfield Township (1847), Cranford Township (1871), Fanwood Township, now known as Scotch Plains (1878); and Mountainside in (1895). The Town of Westfield was incorporated on March 4, 1903, replacing Westfield Township. The name of the town is derived from its location in the undeveloped western fields of the Elizabethtown tract.¹

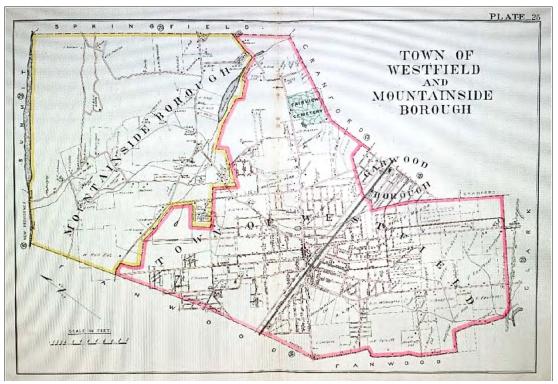


Fig. 1: Map of Westfield and Mountainside ca. 1897, from Union County New Jersey Illustrated, ed. By F. W. Ricord, East Jersey History Company, 1897.

The earliest post office records are not available, but couriers, postboys and stage-drivers carried the Westfield mail prior to 1800. As early as 1793, letters and packages were sent from Elizabeth Port to Westfield by the stagecoach "Speedwell," whose driver for more than 50 years was George Tingley of Westfield. Mail was delivered at Samuel Downer's village store, which was the only post office. Mr. Downer often took the letters to the Presbyterian Church on Sunday mornings and distributed them after the service to the addresses.²

WESTFIELD, NJ & MOUNTAINSIDE ~ John B. Sharkey

Inauguration of regular delivery began when the post office was established on April 1, 1805. The single-page letter rate in effect was 8 cents for up to 40 miles, increasing gradually to 25 cents exceeding 500 miles; quite costly for those times.³

Beginning January 1, 1832, Westfield was served by a route, No. 954, from New York City to Elizabethtown N.J. (now Elizabeth), the first capital of the Province of New Jersey, then to Westfield, Scotch Plains, Plainfield, Boundbrook, Somerville, Centreville, Mattison's Corner, Flemington, Ringoes, Lambertville, and on into Pennsylvania to Philadelphia, 106 miles, and return, three times a week.⁴ This was known as the Old York Road. On October 16, 1974, in celebration of the Bicentennial, the Union County Cultural and Heritage Commission sponsored a trip carrying mail over Union County portions of the Old York Road. One of the carried covers is

shown below.

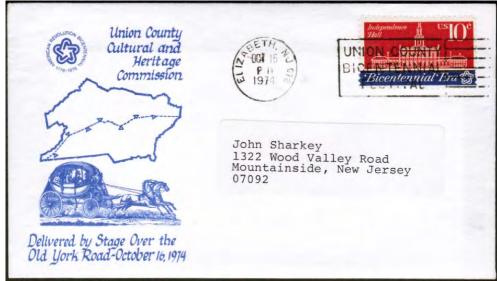


Fig. 2: Cover carried by stage through Union County on the Old York Road in celebration of the Bicentennial.



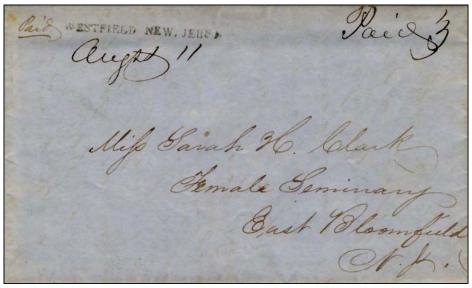
From "Westfield: from Settlement to Suburb" by James P. Johnson.

Bicentennial Committee for Westfield, 1977.

Fig. 3: Mail wagon with horse.

The coming of the railroad marked the end of the stagecoach days and, among other things, a unique system of mail delivery. In 1831 the Elizabeth Town & Somerville Railroad, predecessor to the Central Railroad of New Jersey (formed in 1849), was chartered with capital of \$200,000. The maiden trip was in May 1838.⁵

The only examples of Westfield postmarks that have been reported from 1805 through 1844 are manuscript markings, according to the Coles book.⁶ Only a single handstamp postmark has been reported during the domestic stampless period, which ended December 31, 1855, a straight line, only three of which have been reported.⁷ An example from the collection of Robert Rose, dated August 11, 1852, is shown in *Figure 4*. Table 1 is a list of postmasters when Westfield was part of Essex County.



Courtesy of Robert G. Rose

Fig. 4: Cover from 1852, during the stampless period.

Table 1. Westfield Postmasters – Essex County Established April 1805. Discontinued March 19, 18578			
Name	Position	Date Appointed	
Smith Snidder	postmaster	Feb 1, 1805	
Joseph Quinby	postmaster	May 21, 1806	
Samuel Downer	postmaster	Feb 17, 1825	
William H. Pierson	postmaster	May 24, 1833	
Aaron Coe	postmaster	Jun 11, 1833	
Isaac H. Pierson	postmaster	Oct 6, 1835	
Aaron Coe	postmaster	Apr 3, 1840	
William H. Pierson	postmaster	Mar 31, 1841	
Charles Clark	postmaster	Aug 2, 1845	
William H. Pierson	postmaster	Apr 12, 1850	
Charles Clark	postmaster	May 13, 1854	



Fig. 5: Post card of the new Westfield Post Office ca. 1940

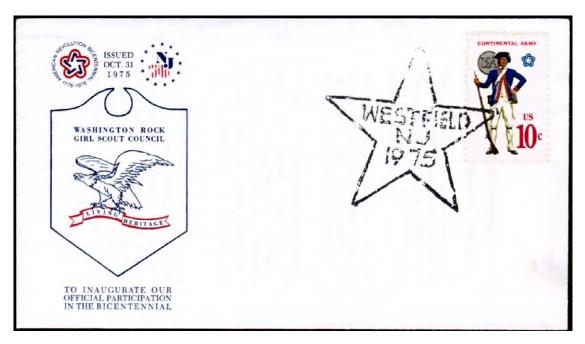


Fig. 6: Commemorative cover with large star postmark celebrating the participation of the Washington Rock Girl Scout Council in the Bicentennial. Issued Oct. 31, 1975.

Table 2 is a list of postmasters when Westfield became part of Union County, from March 19, 1857 to the present day.

Table 2. Westfield Postmasters – Union County Established March 19, 1857. Active ⁹			
Charles Clark	postmaster	1857, 1859	
Henry B. Morehouse	postmaster	May 31, 1861	
James T. Pierson	postmaster	Mar 1, 1866	
Frederick Decker	postmaster	Apr 16, 1873	
Addison S. Clark	postmaster	Feb, 10, 1886	
Luther M. Whitaker	postmaster	Feb 6, 1890	
Mulfurd M. Scudder	postmaster	Apr 17, 1894	
Luther M. Whitaker	postmaster	May 27, 1898	
August K. Gale	postmaster	Jan 10, 1911	
Robert L. DeCamp	postmaster	Jan 20, 1915	
Byron M. Prugh	postmaster	Mar 12, 1924	
		Reappt. through Apr29, 1936	
John H. Traynor	postmaster	May 16, 1936. Ret. Dec 8, 51	
John T. Sharkey	postmaster	Jan 5, 1952	
Vincent G. Noonan	postmaster	Mar 31, 1952	
William C. Nestor	postmaster	Feb 4, 1954. Dec. May 1, 54	
Edwin M. Lake	postmaster	July 21, 1954	
Elsie A. Shimonis	acting postmaster	Apr 29, 1966	
	postmaster	1969. Ret. 1974	
Dominick J. Cardillo	postmaster	1975. Ret. 1978	
George E. Howarth	postmaster	Apr 29, 1978. Ret. 1982	
Charles Fras	officer-in-charge	1982, 1983	
Michael J. Collins	postmaster	May 28, 1983	
Elaine A. Grieco	officer-in-charge	Jan 15, 1987	
Louis P. Eldridge	officer-in-charge	Jun 5, 1987	
William E. Schaefer	postmaster	Nov 7, 1987	
James Rosa Jr.	officer-in-charge	Dec 11, 1989	
James Rosa Jr.	postmaster	Mar 24, 1990	
David DeFrancesco	postmaster	Mar 20, 1993	
Kenneth A. Brown	officer-in-charge	Sept 30, 1994	
Albert Spano	officer-in-charge	Apr 25, 1995	
Kenneth A. Brown	postmaster	Oct 28, 1995	
Frank Pace	officer-in-charge	Dec 22, 2006	
Chiquita Jones-Swearingen	officer-in-charge	Mar 26, 2007	
George J. Caswell Jr.	postmaster	May 12, 2007	
Frank A. Pace Jr.	officer-in-charge	Sept. 26, 2009	
Frank A. Pace Jr.	postmaster	Aug 27, 2011	

HISTORY OF MOUNTAINSIDE

The Borough of Mountainside officially incorporated itself on October 22, 1895 following approval of a referendum to break away from Westfield on September 24, 1895. Residents of the northern or rural section of what was the Township of Westfield decided to form their own government due to a number of factors, including higher taxes but lack of improvements, lack of service from the Fire Department, the lack of street lights and a sewer system.¹⁰

MOUNTAINSIDE POST OFFICE

In her *History of the Borough Mountainside, Union County, New Jersey, 1895-1945,* ¹¹ Jean Hershey indicates that several years before Mountainside became a separate borough, there was a small post office high up on the mountain, just off Summit Road. I believe that the author (Ms. Hershey) is referring to the Baltusrol Post Office, whose postmasters are shown below.

Table 3. Baltusrol Post Office – Union Co. Established March 3, 1893. Discontinued May 26, 1897. Changed to Mountainside Established April 30, 1907. Discontinued Jul 17, 1943. Mail to Springfield ¹²			
Name	Position	Date appointed	
Joseph C. Howells Sr.	postmaster	Mar 3, 1893 – May 26, 1907	
Peter J. Shaw	postmaster	Apr 30, 1907	
Harry Gleason	postmaster	Sept 22, 1911	
Mary Cunningham	postmaster	Feb 14, 1937,	
		Resigned Jul 17, 1943	

After incorporation of the Borough, it was thought handier to have the post office closer to the center of town, and William Schoonover was made postmaster in his store. In the early days, Schoonover's store was at the present entrance to Echo Lake Park. In the 1920s, the Westfield Post office left the borough's mail at Schoonover's. Schoonover's was part living quarters, part taxi building, part hardware store and part post office substation. Mr. Schoonover had his taxi parked on the Mountain Avenue side of the building. At train time in Westfield, he would be at the station, ready to serve those who needed a ride since there were so few automobiles around.¹³

Table 4. Mountainside Post Office – Union County Established May 26, 1897. Discontinued August 31, 1911. Service from Westfield. Opened as Branch of the Westfield Post Office November 1, 1958. Active ¹⁴			
Name	Position	Date appointed	
William Schoonover	postmaster	May 25, 1897	
Theodore A. Ball	postmaster	Nov 4, 1901	
William Schoonover	postmaster	Nov 13, 1905, Sept 26, 1907, Nov 22, 1908	



Fig.7: Shown is a cover postmarked December 8, 1897 at Mountainside, the year that the post office was established. It is a registered cover with a backstamp "Registered Dec 10, 1897 Augusta, Maine." The 2-cent Washington stamp (Scott 248) covers the first class rate and the 8-cent Sherman stamp (Scott 257) covers the registry fee.



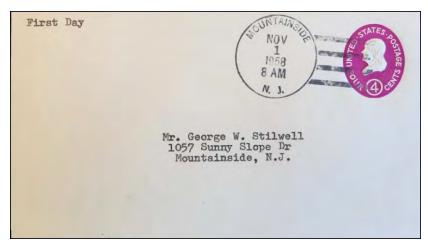
Courtesy of the Mountainside Restoration Committee

Fig. 8: A 1913 photo shows the post office and store in Mountainside. It was also the home of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Bliwise, who purchased it in 1914. This building still stands as a private residence on the south side of Rt. 22 near Mountain Avenue.

MOUNTAINSIDE BRANCH POST OFFICE

Service from the Mountainside Post Office was discontinued on August 31, 1911. The Westfield Post Office took over the service: door-to-door delivery on the south side of the highway (Route 29, now Route 22), and rural delivery north of the highway.

On December 10, 1957 the Borough Council passed a resolution requesting members of Congress to establish a borough post office. The request was granted largely through the efforts of Rep. Florence P. Dwyer and Senator Clifford Case, according to Borough Councilman Lyman J. Perrigrin. Up until 1958, Mountainside mail was processed in Westfield and delivered to most borough homes by Westfield Post office carriers. With the establishment of the classified branch, mail was sorted at the Mountainside Branch and postmen delivered it from there. The Branch opened for business Nov. 1, 1958 in rented quarters. A space for the post office was finally obtained near the business district and the post office was built at 604 Sherwood Parkway. The Mountainside Branch post office was dedicated on September 9, 1961. The Branch was under the auspices of the Westfield Postmaster Edwin A. Lake, who spoke at the dedication ceremony. The Branch Post Office is currently under the supervision of an officer-in-charge.



Courtesy Mountainside Preservation Committee.

Fig. 9: Mountainside first day of use cover dated Nov. 1, 1958, the first day of service that Mountainside took over as a branch of the Westfield Post Office.



Fig. 10: Special cancellation celebrating the 100th Birthday of the Borough of Mountainside.

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Fig. 11: Current photo of the Mountainside Post Office, 604 Sherwood Parkway.

In conclusion, Westfield and Mountainside have had many famous residents over the years. But one person had a working relationship with the United States Postal Service. Mountainside resident Harry Devlin (1918-2001) was an artist and a painter who also worked as a cartoonist for magazines such as *Collier's*. He was the artist of several USPS postal cards, including the card shown here, St. Louis Union Station, (Scott UX177). The 19-cent card was issued on Sept. 3, 1994 in St. Louis Missouri. He was also the artist of the Old Mill of the University of Vermont (UX159) in 1991, Massachusetts Hall, Bowdoin College, Brunswick ME (UX 173) in 1993, and the Lyceum at the University of Mississippi (UX 290) in 1998.

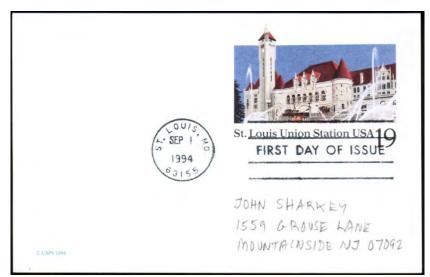


Fig. 12: Postal card Scott UX177 showing St. Louis Union Station. The artist was Harry Devlin.

WESTFIELD, NJ & MOUNTAINSIDE ~ John B. Sharkey

My sincere thanks to Jean Walton, Secretary, New Jersey Postal History Society, for providing most of the information on postmasters contained in this article, most sourced from the National Archives files for New Jersey Postmaster Appointments, 1832-1971, and available to all members.

ENDNOTES:

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¹ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Westfield, New Jersey. Accessed July 14, 2018.

² History of the Town of Westfield, Union County, New Jersey, by Charles A. Philhower, Lewis Historical Publishing Company, 1923.

³ The Westfield Leader, p. 1-2, December 23, 1937.

⁴ Ibid

⁵ Colonial Westfield Past and Present, p. 23, Westfield Tercentenary Committee, 1964.

⁶ The Postal Markings of New Jersey Stampless Covers, William C. Coles, Jr., Collectors Club of Chicago, 1983.

⁷ Personal communication from Robert G. Rose, July 15, 2018.

⁸ *New Jersey Postmasters of the Stampless Era* – *1789* – *1857*, by William C. Coles, Jr. & Stanley E. Griffith. The New Jersey Postal History Society, 2010, from the pages on *NJPH* 1986-88, and available as an online pdf at http://www.njpostalhistory.org/media/pdf/ColesNJPMs1789-1857.pdf.

⁹ The postmasters listed were found from the following sources: 1853-1966: National Archives Post Office files and provided by the NJ Postal History Society; 1967-82: various editions of *The Westfield Leader*; 1983 to present: from Postmasterfinder at https://webpmt.usps.gov/pmt003.cfm.

¹⁰ The Westfield Leader, p. 2, January 12, 1995.

¹¹ History of the Borough Mountainside, Union County, New Jersey, 1895-1945, by Jean H. Hershey, p. 114, 1945.

¹² New Jersey Postal History, by John L. Kay and Chester M. Smith, Jr., p. 129-30, Quarterman Publications, Inc., 1977.

¹³ A History of Mountainside 1945 – 2007, by Connie McNamara, p.46, The History Press, 2010.

¹⁴ Kay & Smith, op cit.

¹⁵ The Westfield Leader, Oct. 30, 1958.

¹⁶ The Westfield Leader, Sept. 14, 1961.

FOREIGN MAIL TO AND FROM MORRIS COUNTY- PART 9: IRELAND TO MORRIS COUNTY

By Donald A. Chafetz



Fig. 1: A cover sent in 1863 from Abbeyleix, Ireland to Miss Julia Cobb, Parsippany, NJ.

Julia Cobb, a resident of Parsippany, was living with her father, a well-to-do landowner (her mother was deceased) in 1862. The household included two Irish servants, and perhaps this explains the Irish connection. She married Frederick A. DeMott in 1866.¹



Fig. 2: Abbeyleix, Ireland.



Fig. 3: Route from Abbeyleix, Ireland to Boston, Massachusetts, to Parsippany, New Jersey.

Part 9: MORRIS CTY MAIL FROM IRELAND ~ Donald A. Chafetz~

When we go to a store to buy an item we never consider how much that dollar in our pocket is worth. We know a dollar is a dollar. But what if the "worth" of a dollar can fluctuate in value every day, say, worth a \$1.02 today and 98 cents tomorrow. Actually, the value of the dollar does fluctuate every day, but unless you travel to a foreign country you never notice the variation.

Now if you worked for the postal service in the 1860's, you were concerned about the unpaid postage fee on foreign mail coming to the United States. Due to the Civil War raging at the time, the United States Government was hard pressed to raise money to fight the war. The following abbreviated discussion on the value of money and calculation of equivalent postage fees is based on the discussion in George E. Hargest's book, *History of Letter Post Communications Between the United States and Europe 1845-1875.*²

In February 1862, Congress authorized the issuance of \$150 million in interest bearing United States notes. The result was to "force gold coins out of circulation. During the first quarter of 1862 the average price of United States notes (greenbacks) in equivalent gold declined to 97.5 (i.e. greenbacks lost 2.5% of the value)."

By the Acts of 11 July 1862 and 17 January 1863, Congress authorized the further issuance of \$300 million in United States notes. Thus, by the end of the first quarter of 1863 the issuance of a total of \$450 million in greenbacks had been authorized, and their average price in gold for that quarter had fallen to 65.2 (i.e. lost value of 34.8%).

As the inflation progressed, the Post Office Department realized that it was suffering a severe loss in revenue through the collection of postage on unpaid letters from foreign countries in depreciated paper, while international settlements with these same countries had to be made in specie (i.e. hard currency). It also noted that foreign correspondents were taking advantage of the situation by sending more of their letters to the United States unpaid. Postmaster General Blair called this fact to the attention of Congress and asked that measures be taken to alleviate it.

On 17 February 1863, Mr. Collamer of the Senate Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads reported to Congress a joint resolution which authorized the Post Office Department to collect the postage due on unpaid mail matter from foreign countries in coin. He stated: "It gets to be a pretty severe operation when it [the Post Office Department] has to pay forty or fifty thousand dollars a year discount on the paper it receives, with which to get gold to pay back the balance of postage."

On 1 April 1863, Postmaster General Blair issued an official circular which was distributed to all postmasters throughout the Loyal States:

In pursuance of the provisions of the resolution, you are hereby directed, from and after the first of May next, to collect in gold or silver coin all postages due on unpaid letters received from foreign countries in mails dispatched to this country from Great Britain and Ireland, France, Prussia, Hamburg, Bremen or Belgium and to hold the coin so collected subject to the special drafts or orders of the Department. Should however payment of such postage and of the premium on a corresponding amount of coin be tendered in United States notes, you are authorized to accept the same in lieu of coin....

The public was thus relieved of the absolute necessity of paying the postage due on unpaid letters from foreign countries in coin, if the equivalent (which included the premium on coin) was paid in United States notes. (The silver subsidiary coins were, at this time, the half dollar, the quarter-dollar, the dime, the half-dime, and the silver three-cent piece.)

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Example Depreciated Cancellation

Calculation Transatlantic Basic Postal Fee



The fee charged is broken down as follows:

British Inland postage 03ϕ British Transatlantic fee 16ϕ British fee 19ϕ total

Fig. 4
Calculation Exchange Office Postal Fee

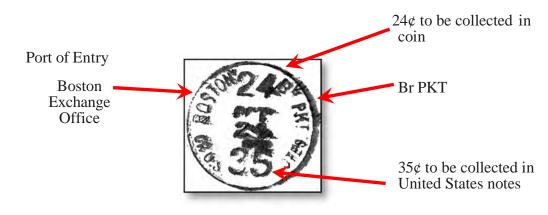


Fig. 5:

The difference of 11ϕ , between the amount to be collected in coin (24ϕ) and the amount to be collected in U.S. Notes (35ϕ) is based on either the premium price of gold or silver in greenbacks.

Theoretically, the day the ship arrived in port is the day the postage fee in US notes is calculated. Since the 35ϕ does not appear to be a removable figure, I assume the canceler was used for a period of time.

ENDNOTES:

¹ Ancestry.com public family tree "Kirkpatrick from Scotland."

² George E. Hargest, *History of Letter Post Communications Between the United States and Europe 1845-1875*. second edition, Quarterman Publications, Inc. Lawrence, MS, 1975, p. 184-192.

NJ POSTCARD REPORTING OF CONTAGIOUS DISEASES

By Robert G. Rose

In today's world of electronic communications, the incidence of communicable disease is promptly collected and then transmitted from each state to the Center of Disease Control in Atlanta. However, for many years, postcards were the primary method of collecting such information at the local level. *Figures 1* and 2 illustrate a one-cent postcard with an April 4, 1916 duplex postmark from the Upper Montclair Station of the Montclair post office addressed to that town's board of health. The card reports that a five-year-old girl was infected with measles.

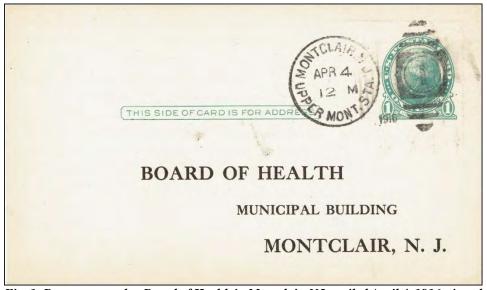


Fig. 1: Penny postcard to Board of Health in Montclair, NJ, mailed April 4, 1916, signed and mailed by the diagnosing doctor.

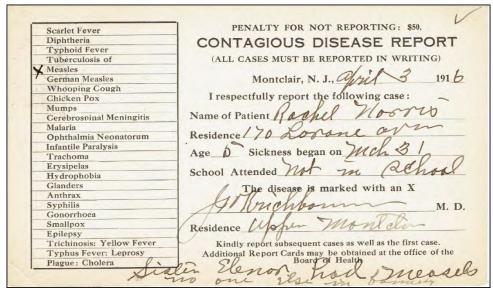


Fig. 2: Contagious Disease Report.

In 1883, Michigan was the first state to mandate the reporting of specific infectious diseases. By 1901, all states required the reporting of specific diseases. As stated on the post card above, New Jersey assessed a "PENALTY FOR NOT REPORTING: \$50," a substantial fine back in 1916. Similar reports can be found and collected from each state. Below, in Figures 3 and 4 is a post card postmarked at Bridgeport, Connecticut on May 29, 1899, reporting a five-year-old with scarlet fever.

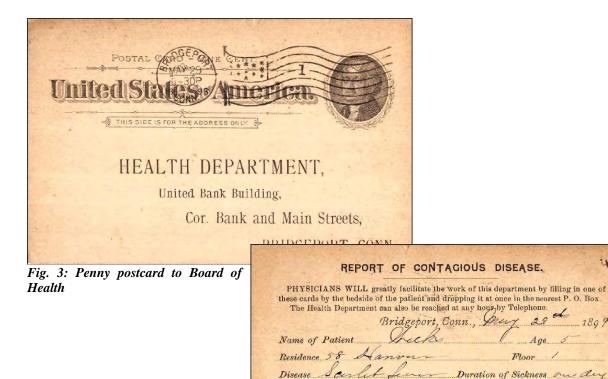


Fig. 4: Contagious Disease Report

No. of Families in House.

Location of School attended by Children in Family Towherel

Residence 278 Shali

14

ENDNOTES:

How Contracted _____/

Telephone, No. 278.__

² *Ibid*.

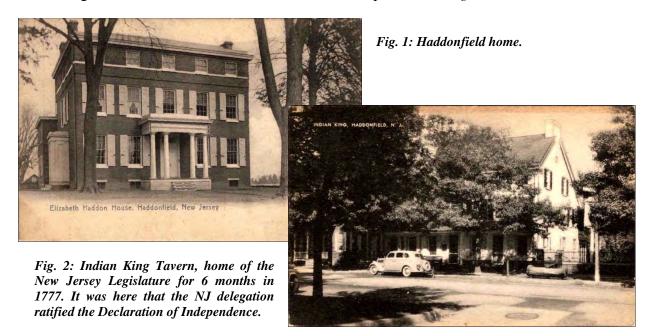
¹ "Mandatory Reporting of Infectious Diseases By Clinicians," Center for Disease Control, June 22, 1990, p. 2, at https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/00001665.htm, retrieved July 14, 2018).

HOMETOWN POST OFFICES: HADDONFIELD POSTMARKS

By Ed & Jean Siskin

Like many postal history collectors, we collect covers from places where we have lived. Overall, that includes more than 25 places nationwide and 5 different towns within New Jersey. Of all these places, we spent far more time in Haddonfield than any other. Recently, long time society member Gene Fricks asked that we put together a display of Haddonfield postmarks for MERPEX, a local stamp show. As a result, we retrieved our Haddonfield covers from every nook and cranny. We were pleasantly surprised to find we have more than a hundred examples.

Haddonfield was first settled in 1682 by Francis Collins, an English Quaker and brick layer by trade. In 1702, Elizabeth Haddon (1680-1762) married John Estaugh, a Quaker Minister, and purchased 500 acres to establish a town. They named the town after John Haddon, Elizabeth's father though he never came to America. Their home is pictured in *Figure 1*.



Haddonfield played a significant role during the Revolutionary War. It was here in the Indian King Tavern, pictured in *Figure 2*, that the New Jersey Legislature met for six months in 1777. Among their many actions was ratification of the Declaration of Independence. The town was briefly occupied by Hessian troops in 1777 on the way south where they were subsequently defeated by Continental troops at the Battle of Red Bank.

Haddonfield was home to the 2nd New Jersey regiment, commanded by Colonel Israel Shreve. *Figure 3* is a cover from Colonel Shreve in Haddonfield addressed to General Washington in Morris Town. This letter traveled by military courier. Haddonfield did not have a post office at that time. *Figure 3a* shows the docketing on this cover. Colonel Shreve was seeking a promotion, which he did not get.

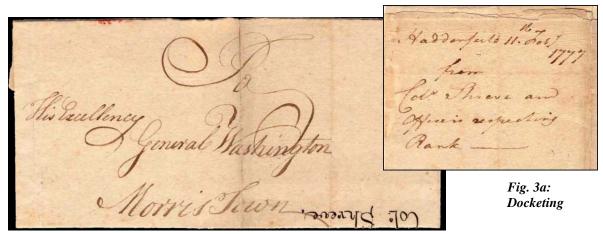
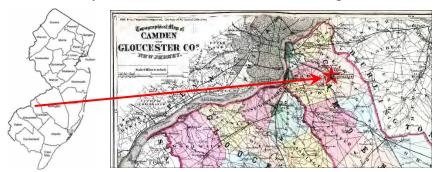


Fig. 3: Communication with General Washington at Morristown, 1777

During the 18th and the first half of the 19th century, Haddonfield was in Gloucester County. On March 13, 1844, Camden County was created and Haddonfield became part of Camden County.



1872 map of Camden & Gloucester Counties. 1

Haddonfield's first post office was opened in September 18, 1800. The first postmaster was John Branson and the office apparently was operated out of his home.²

From the founding of the post office until 1840, only manuscript postmarks are known. *Figures 4* and 5 show two examples. The earliest Haddonfield stampless cover of which we are aware is dated 1809.

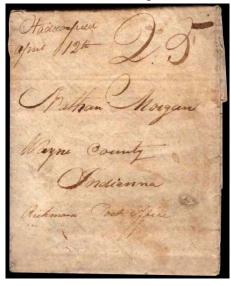


Fig. 4: from Haddonfield to Indiana in 1825.

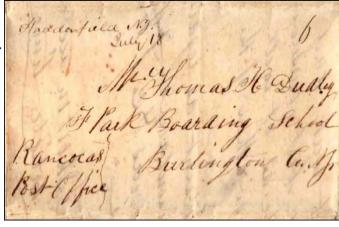


Fig. 5: Stampless cover sent to Rancocas from Haddonfield in 1840.

HOMETOWN POST OFFICES: HADDONFIELD POSTMARKS ~Ed & Jean Siskin

The first handstamp used by the Haddonfield post office was a negative Circular Date Stamp (CDS). It was apparently used sporadically between 1840 and 1853 and is considered one of New Jersey's most attractive postmarks. *Figure 6* is an early example dated in 1841. It is datelined "Haddonfield June 15, 1841." It contains a letter to a prospective bride from the intended husband with a copy of letters between him and the girl's father.



Fig. 6: Early use of the Haddonfield negative cancel, on a letter dated June 15, 1841.

Figure 7 shows a late usage of this postmark, "May 5 1848" and shows signs of significant wear. Its enclosure, shown in Figure 7a, is a partly printed form from the Morning Star Lodge No. 70 of the International Order of Odd Fellows.



Fig. 7 & 7a: Late use of the Haddonfield negative cancel, on a letter dated May 5, 1848.

For a more detailed discussion of this postmark, see Robert Rose's article in *NJPH* No. <u>194</u>.

From 1843 until 1851 Haddonfield used what must be considered its most interesting postmark, the Haddonfield Straight Line. This postmark has been studied by Robert Rose. See his article in *NJPH* No. 200. Appendix B contains his updated census.³

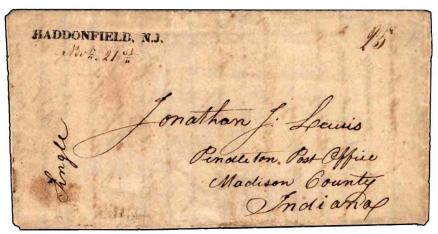


Fig. 8: Type 1 of the Haddonfield straight line cancel.

The postmark was fabricated using printers' type. Based on the variations found, it was apparently refabricated a considerable number of times. Examples of this straight line can be found in *Figures 8*, 9 and 10. There are two major types of this straight line. Type 1 are those with a space between HADDONFIELD and NJ. Type 2 are those without the space. Many minor varieties exist including the length of the postmark and the substitution or elimination of a comma for a period or visa-versa. The length of the postmark ranges from 40mm to 45mm. Based on various varieties observed in postmarks of the period, many different pieces of type must have been used. (For a more detailed discussion of this postmark, see Robert Rose's article.)



Fig. 10: Type 2 of the Haddonfield straight line cancel.

HOMETOWN POST OFFICES: HADDONFIELD POSTMARKS ~Ed & Jean Siskin

Starting about 1853, a conventional 30mm CDS, shown in *Figures 11* and *12*, was placed in use. *Figure 12* shows a variety used on the first stamped envelope issued 1853 in which the letters clearly vary and in which there is a handwritten date. These were used for at least ten years.



A new CDS, shown in *Figure 13*, appeared in 1863. The canceling device was clearly separate from the CDS postmark. In most cases it consists of concentric rings. There are a few interesting varieties such as the small black star shown in *Figure 14*.

Fig. 13: New CDS, 1863, with a concentric ring killer – not part of the cancelling device.





A slightly new variety of CDS appeared starting about 1874. This is shown in *Figure 15*. A wide variety of cancellations were used with this CDS including a large black star, Maltese Cross, cut corks, grids, smudges, negative H, and a bulls eye. Some of these are shown in *Figures 16-19*.



Figs. 16-19: Various fancy cancels used with this Haddonfield CDS – note especially the negative H cancel.

HOMETOWN POST OFFICES: HADDONFIELD POSTMARKS ~Ed & Jean Siskin

From 1883 until 1886, a double circle date stamp was used. See *Figure 20*. About half were in magenta and half in black. At least three different cancellations were used, concentric circles, a grid, and a smudge.

Fig. 20: From 1883-1886, Haddonfield used a double circle dater hub, used here with concentric circles. These were applied in both black and magenta.



Next a new variety of a circular date stamp appeared in 1886. See *Figure 21*. *Figure 21a*, the enclosure is an invitation to a wedding to be held on Cropwell Friends Meeting House. This Meeting House is still in use. A variety of cancellations are known used with this CDS, including a negative cross, circular grid, and cut corks.

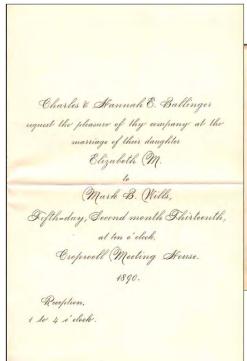




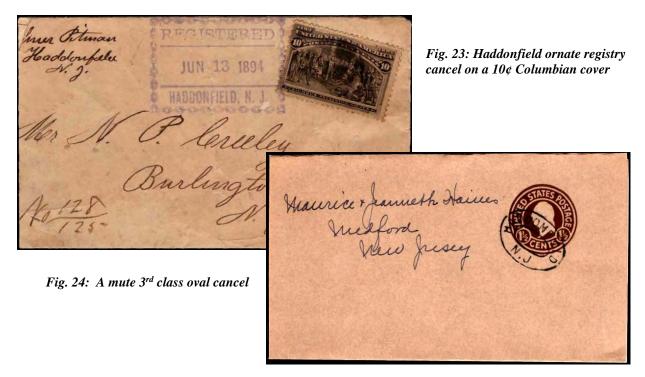
Fig. 21: In 1886, a new CDS came into use, seen here with a negative cross in 1890. It enclosed a Quaker-dated wedding invitation.

Ed & Jean Siskin ~ HOMETOWN POST OFFICES: HADDONFIELD POSTMARKS

From 1894 to 1896, a new variety of CDS is found. All of the eight known examples of this postmark use a negative D as its cancel. *Figure 22* shows a cover that traveled from Haddonfield to London, Paris and Luzerne Switzerland. *Figure 22a* shows the reverse. Note the London forwarders mark. Someone really got their five cents worth.



At this point, a few auxiliary postmarks deserve mention. *Figure 23* shows an ornate 1894 registry postmark. *Figure 24* shows a mute 3rd Class oval.



HOMETOWN POST OFFICES: HADDONFIELD POSTMARKS ~Ed & Jean Siskin

Starting in 1896, Haddonfield post office began using a duplex postmark. The attached cancel was a No. 1 oval grid. This is shown in *Figure 25*. About 1905, the design of the CDS was changed as shown in *Figure 26*.



Fig. 26: A type 2 Haddonfield duplex, with changes to the CDS and a year date added to the killer, used here in 1911.

About 1902 Haddonfield began to use machine cancels. At least from 1902 until 1918, a Doremus type E machine was used. These are shown in *Figures 27* and 28. Based on variations in the postmark, it is clear that at least two different machines were used.



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For some unknown reason we have only one cover dated during the 1920s. A registered cover to Princeton dated 1925, shown in *Figure 29*. This really does not give a clue as to what postmarking devices were normally used.

Fig. 29: A 1925 registered cover from Haddonfield to Princeton.



Starting from 1930 on, the most common postmarking device was the Universal Machine cancel, Model 1930. *Figures 30* and *31* are examples.



In 1935, Haddonfield got a new post office, shown in *Figure 32*. This is the same building that is used today. *Figure 33* is a cover commemorating the dedication of this new post office.

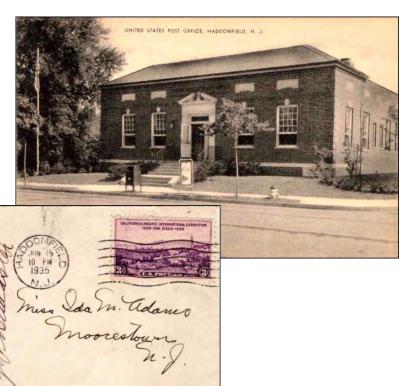


Fig. 33: Commemorative cover celebrating this event.

Fig. 32: Haddonfield's "new" post office, 1935.

Corner Stone Laying

Dedication

Public Inspection

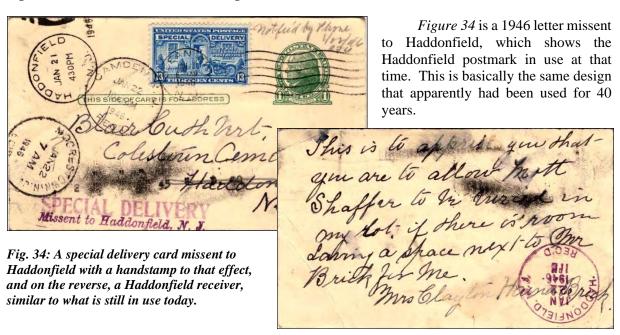
of New

Federal Post Office

Building

Haddonfield, N. J.

Saturday, June 15, 1935



Ed & Jean Siskin ~ HOMETOWN POST OFFICES: HADDONFIELD POSTMARKS

Figure 35 is a First Day Cover of Scott No. 1396. This stamp honored the inauguration of the United States Postal Service, July 1, 1971. No longer was the Post Office a Federal Government Department. This new stamp was officially issued at every US post office on its first day.



Fig. 35: Inauguration of USPS, July 1, 1971.

We are sure that many postmarks have been omitted and would appreciate learning about any additions.

Acknowledgement: Our thanks to Jean Walton, Robert Rose and Gene Fricks without whom this article would not have been possible. This was truly a NJPHS effort.

APPENDICES AND ENDNOTES:

Appendix A: Postmaster list

	Name	Title	Appt date
Originally in Gloucester County			
	John Branson	Postmaster	1800-9-18
	Samuel Brown	Postmaster	1811
	Samuel Brown	Postmaster	1813
	Samuel Brown	Postmaster	1819
	James M. Glover	Postmaster	1831
	Enoch Clements	Postmaster	1835-11-20
Changed to Ca	mden Cty Mar 13, 1844		
	Enoch Clements	Postmaster	1835-11-20
	James Jobson	Postmaster	1851-4-14
	Adrian C Paul	Postmaster	1851-7-29
	Adrian C Paul	Postmaster	1852-7-29
	James Jobson	Postmaster	1857-4-14
	Alfred W Clement	Postmaster	1861-3-25

¹ Map from Rutgers Cartography at https://mapmaker.rutgers.edu/1872Atlas/CamdenGloucesterCounties.jpg

² Appendix A of this article, prepared by Jean Walton, lists all of Haddonfield's postmasters.

³ Appendix B of this article is a census of the two varieties of the Haddonfield straight line postmark, prepared by Robert G. Rose.

HOMETOWN POST OFFICES: HADDONFIELD POSTMARKS ~Ed & Jean Siskin

Jacob P Fowler	Postmaster	1866-5-7
Alfred W Clement	Postmaster	1867-4-23
Theodore M Giffin	Postmaster	1878-5-5
Thomas Hill	Postmaster	1885-8-21
Thomas Hill	Postmaster	1886-4-28
Howard A Clement	Postmaster	1890-4-3
Hosea E Doughty	Postmaster	1894-4-7
Theodore M. Giffin	Postmaster	1898-5-5
Theodore M. Giffin	Postmaster	1902-12-09
A Henry Doughty	Postmaster	1907-02-02
A Henry Doughty	Postmaster	1911-02-16
Bayard C Stavely	Postmaster	1915-02-25
Bayard C Stavely	Postmaster	1919-09-10
Hiester Clymer	Postmaster	1923-11-17
A. Franklin Wayne	Postmaster	1928-12-13
Mrs Bertha S, Irving	Postmaster	1933-05-22
Mrs Bertha S, Irving	Postmaster	1935-08-20
Mrs Bertha S, Irving	Postmaster	1940-01-19
William J Cahill	Postmaster	1945-05-20
John Calvin Semler	Postmaster	1947-12-01
John Calvin Semler*	Postmaster	1949-06-09
Joseph Spatofore	Officer-In-Charge	1975-08-16
Thomas J. Hannigan	Postmaster	1976-01-03
Bessie H. Sharpe	Postmaster	1986-08-30
Beverly Kulikowski	Officer-In-Charge	1989-02-24
William L. Baker	Officer-In-Charge	1989-11-29
Paul A. Medici	Officer-In-Charge	1990-06-13
Dennis J. Powers	Officer-In-Charge	1990-09-24
Sandra C. Horn	Officer-In-Charge	1990-11-01
Edward B. Lee	Officer-In-Charge	1990-11-19
Gwendolyn F. Green	Postmaster	1990-12-29
Charles J. Schang	Officer-In-Charge	1992-08-27
Patricia M. Whelan	Postmaster	1993-03-20
Lawrence A. Spera	Officer-In-Charge	2005-12-13
Lawrence A. Spera	Postmaster	2006-04-15
Brian D. Marshall	Officer-In-Charge	2007-12-11
Vincent A. Risoli	Postmaster	2008-02-16
Sharon C. Rein	Officer-In-Charge	2009-03-13
Edgar E. Paulus	Officer-In-Charge	2009-10-14
Balvinder Singh-Minhas	Officer-In-Charge	2010-07-29
Tony Tropiano	Officer-In-Charge	2011-05-25
Michael J. Breslin	Postmaster	2012-06-30

^{*}Last name in the National Archives Postmaster Appointment 1832-1971 files (NARA).

Sources: The earliest (pre-1832) from *NJPH* journals, then NARA files, and USPS Postmasterfinder. (the latter at https://webpmt.usps.gov/pmt002.cfm.

NOTE: Haddonfield had three branches: Elton (Sept 1, 1949 to Ja 21, 1962), Cherry Hill (Jan 22, 1962 to May 21, 1965 when it became its own PO), and Cherry Mall (Nov 1, 1962-May 21, 1965, when it became a branch of Cherry Hill)

Ed & Jean Siskin ~ HOMETOWN POST OFFICES: HADDONFIELD POSTMARKS

Appendix B: Census of Haddonfield NJ straight line cancels, as of August 2018

	Postmark Date	Destination	Source
With spa	acer		
	Jun 5, 1843	Washington, D.C	William Fox Auction, Lot 48, 12/15/80
	Jul 14, 1843	Burlington, NJ	William C. Coles Book, Fig. 26, p. 25
	Mar 22, 1847	Trenton, NJ	Robert G. Kaufman, Private Purchase, 11/83
	Aug 29, 1849	Cinnaminson, NJ	Ed & Jean Siskin Collection
	Sept 7, 1849	Richfield, OH	Ed & Jean Siskin Collection
	Dec 3, 1849	, PA	Robert A. Siegel, Lot 540, 9/18/79
	May 6, 1850	Cinnaminson, NJ	Robert G. Kaufman Auction, William C. Coles Collection, Lot 434, 3/8/84
(new)	May 24, 1850	Mullica Hill, NJ	Parke-Bernet Galleries, Edward Knapp Collection, Lot 215, 5/05/41 (misdescribed as "Maddonfield")
	Apr 14, 1851	Cinnaminson, NJ	Ed & Jean Siskin Collection
	Jun 30, 1851	Westtown, PA	Robert G. Kaufman Auction, William C. Coles Collection, Lot 435, 3/8/84
	Dec 5, 1851	Pemberton, NJ	Robert G. Kaufman Auction, William C. Coles Collection, Lot 436, 3/8/84
	Mar 2,		
	Jun 12,	Prallsville, NJ	Al Zimmerman Auction, Lot 89, 8/17/76
	Nov 21,	Pendleton, IN	Robert G. Kaufman Auction, William C. Coles Collection, Lot 432, 3/8/84
Without	spacer		
(new)	June 4, 1845	Reading, PA	Schuyler Rumsey Auction, Lot 122, 12/6/2006
	Oct 20, 1845	Trenton, NJ	William Weiss Auction, Lot 2063, 1/27/96
	Mar 9, 1846	Landisburg, PA	Stanley Richman stock (faulty)
	Sept 14, 1846	Yardville, NJ	Robert G. Kaufman Auction, 4/79
	Oct 5, 1846	Piketown, OH	Ed & Jean Siskin Collection
	Jan 3, 1847		H.R. Harmer, Edwin Mayer Collection, Lot 3186, 2/17/67
	Sept 3, 1847	Trenton, NJ	William Fox Auction, Lot 49, 12/15/80
	Sept 15, 1847	Yardville, NJ	Richard C. Frajola Auction, Oscar Salzer Collection. Lot 215, 5/30/87
	Feb 7, 1848	Westtown, PA	Robert G. Kaufman Auction, Lot 1473, 11/22/85
	Jul 7, 1848	Yardville, NJ	Robert G. Kaufman Auction, William C. Coles Collection, Lot 433, 3/8/84
	Nov 6, 1848	Prallsville, NJ	Christie's Robson Lowe Auction, David L. Jarrett Collection. Lot 629, 10/9/90
	Dec 18, 1848	Richfield, OH	Ed & Jean Siskin Collection
(new)	April 13, 1849	Cinnaminson, NJ	Claude Duperrex Collection
(new)	April 14, 1849	Cinnaminson, NJ	Ed & Jean Siskin Collection
	Apr 23, 1849	Prallsville, NJ	Ed & Jean Siskin Collection (front only)
	July 11	Yardville, NJ	
	Jul 21,	Trenton, NJ	Ed & Jean Siskin Collection
	Aug 31,		William Fox Auction, Lot 9, 4/12/77

This listing was originally included in Vol. 43/No. 4 *NJPH* Whole No. 200, Nov 2015, now listed here with new additions 8/26/2018.

HOMETOWN POST OFFICES: OCEAN CITY, NEW JERSEY

By Robert G. Rose

The last quarter of the 19th century saw the development of a number of towns along New Jersey's seashore. Among them was Ocean City at the northeast tip of Cape May County and just to the south of Atlantic City. Located on a barrier beach island and without a direct connection to the mainland, the area had remained sparsely settled until 1879. In that year, four Methodist ministers, intent on founding a healthful summer resort community based on religious principles, formed the Ocean City Association. The Association purchased the property from the owners of what had been known as Peck's Beach, and sold individual lots with deed restrictions requiring the strict observance of temperance.¹

In 1883 a causeway was built connecting the island with Beesleys Point.² In 1884, the community was organized as a borough.³ West Jersey Railroad service from Philadelphia and Camden reached the island via ferry service across the Great Egg Harbor Bay from Somers Point that same year.⁴ Direct rail service came in 1896.⁵ In 1890, the census counted 452 full-time residents.⁶ By 1920, the count was 2,512, and 6,040 in 1950.⁷ In recent years, with easy access, the summer season boosts Ocean City's population to an estimated 115,000.⁸

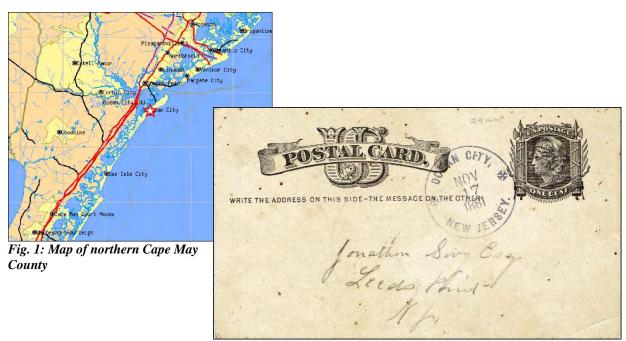


Fig. 2: Ocean City November 17, 1881 postmark.

A post office was established in Ocean City on March 2, 1881. An early usage with a November 17, 1881 postmark on a one cent postal card, Scott UX5, is illustrated in *Figure 2*. By 1888, the post office used a duplex cancel with a 24mm postmark, as seen in *Figure 3*, on a two cent green Banknote, Scott #213. In early 1895, a 27mm duplex cancel also came into use as seen in *Figure 4*, on a two cent carmine small Banknote, Scott #250. Examples of the 24mm postmark, now slightly deformed, are seen in *Figure 5* on two covers used in 1896 and 1897, with two cent carmine small Banknotes, Scott #266.

Fig. 3: September 7, 1888 duplex cancel, 24mm postmark. Mr. Joseph Hornance hovvistown THE SENTINEL. OCEAN CITY, N. J. R. CURTIS ROBINSON, Proprietor. Jonathan Hand, Sr., Cape may Court House, Cape may County, Fig. 4: February 15, 1895 duplex cancel, 27mm postmark.



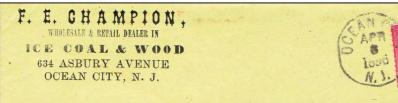


Fig. 5: April 6, 1886 and December 29, 1897, 24mm deformed postmark.



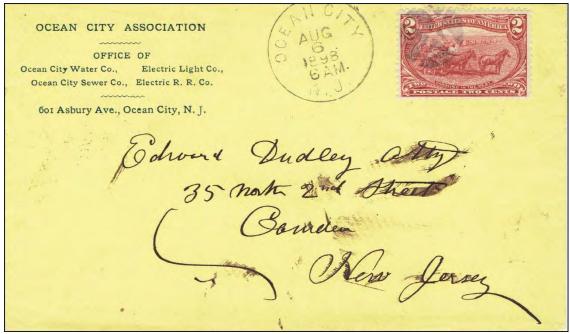


Fig. 6: August 6, 1898 duplex cancel, 28mm postmark.



Fig. 7: July 26, 1904 Doremus Type E machine cancel.

A duplex cancel with a 28mm postmark on a two cent Trans-Mississippi, Scott #286 is illustrated in *Figure 6* on an 1898 cover. A Doremus Type E machine postmark on an illustrated hotel 1904 advertising cover, with a two cent carmine stamp, Scott #319, is seen in *Figure 7*. A duplex cancel with a 25mm postmark on one cent stamps, Scott ##300 and 405, used in 1905 and 1913, and a two cent stamp Scott #554 used in 1925, is seen on postcards over a 20-year time frame, and illustrated in *Figure 8*.



Fig. 8: June 27, 1905, May 1, 1913 and August 1, 1925 duplex cancels, 25mm postmark.

An International Machine cancel tying a one cent stamp, Scott #300, dated July 28, 1908, is seen on a postcard in *Figure 9*.



Fig. 9: July 28, 1908 International Machine cancel.

HOMETOWN POST OFFICES: OCEAN CITY, NEW JERSEY ~ Robert G. Rose

By the early 1930s, the use of modern style machine cancels became the norm. Illustrated in *Figure 10*, are a 1932 cover, a WWII vintage 1943 postcard and, a 1950 postal card. As seen in this study, Ocean City, a summer resort community, used a variety of handstamp and machine cancels in its first 70 years.



Fig. 10: January 14, 1932, July 26, 1943, and August 11, 1950 machine cancels.



Fig. 11: Post Office and Elberon Hotel, on Sept. 13, 1913.

Robert G. Rose ~ HOMETOWN POST OFFICES: OCEAN CITY, NEW JERSEY



Courtesy Evan Kalish, PMCC & Ben Newman, Aug. 2016. Fig. 12 & 13: View of Ocean City PO in construction in 1937, and as it appeared in 2016.



OCEAN CITY POSTMASTERS ¹⁰			
Name	Title	Date Appointed	
William H. Burrell	Postmaster	03/02/1881	
R. Howard Thorn	Postmaster	10/15/1887	
R. Curtis Robinson	Postmaster	04/25/1889	
R. Howard Thorn	Postmaster	09/16/1893	
Edward M. Sutton	Postmaster	02/22/1901	
Benjamin F. Smith	Postmaster	03/10/1914	
Edward M. Sutton	Postmaster	03/01/1923	
Everton A. Corson	Postmaster	02/13/1929	
J. Reeves Hildreth	Postmaster	12/20/1930	
George R. Greis	Acting Postmaster	04/07/1934	
Leroy Jeffries	Postmaster	06/26/1935	
Theodore L. Adams	Postmaster	08/02/1954	
Charles Wesley Barclay	Postmaster	05/24/1962	
Michael N. Dattilo	Postmaster	03/06/1971	
Delores Sweetman	Officer-In-Charge	11/14/1980	
Basil A. Randazzo	Postmaster	04/04/1981	
Lawrence L. Montgomery	Officer-In-Charge	03/29/1988	
James W. Fusco	Postmaster	09/10/1988	
Jeffrey M. Willson	Officer-In-Charge	06/17/2008	
James F. Logan	Postmaster	03/14/2009	
Jeffrey M. Willson	Postmaster	10/06/2012	
Christopher Collins	Officer-In-Charge	08/26/2017	
Robert P. Hudson	Postmaster	02/17/2018	

ENDNOTES:

¹Jeffrey M. Dorwart, *The Making of an American Resort Community* (Rutgers University Press, New Brunswick, N.J. 1992) p. 143; William McMahon, *South Jersey Towns: History and Legend* (Rutgers University Press, New New Brunswick, N.J. 1973) p. 45. Ocean City remains a "dry" town, one of 32 in New Jersey. Kathleen O'Brien, "What it means to be one of N.J.'s 32 'dry' towns," NJ.com. (Retrieved July 17, 2018).

² Joseph P. Schwieterman, *When the Railroad Leaves Town* (Truman State University Press, Kirksville, Missouri 2001) p.194

³ John P. Snyder, *The Story of New Jersey's Civil Boundaries: 1606-1968* (Bureau of Geology and Topography, Trenton, N.J. 1969) p. 115.

⁴ Schwieterman, *op. cit.*, p. 194; Lewis Townsend Stevens, *The History of Cape May County, New Jersey* (Lewis T. Stevens Publisher, Cape May County, N.J. 1897) p. 446.

⁵ *Ibid*.

⁶ Census information is found at www.population.us/nj/ocean-city.

⁷ Ibid

⁸ Julia Lawler, Weekend/Ocean City, N.J., The New York Times, May 7, 2004.

⁹ John L. Kay and Chester M. Smith, Jr., *New Jersey Postal History* (Quarterman Publications, Inc., Lawrence, Mass. 1977) p. 52.

¹⁰ Go to Ocean City. NJ at USPS Postmasterfinder: https://webpmt.usps.gov/pmt002.cfm.

NEW JERSEY'S PIONEER AIR MAIL FLIGHTS: A CORRECTION By Robert G. Rose

The members of our New Jersey Postal History Society often demonstrate a depth of knowledge, well beyond our state's postal history. So it was that Captain Lawrence Brennan (U.S. Navy Ret.), a frequent contributor to these pages, brought to my attention an erroneous image included in my article that appeared in the May 2018 issue of *NJPH*. I thank Larry for that and take this opportunity "to correct the record."

The article (*New Jersey Pioneer Air Mail Flights*) described an aborted pioneer air mail ship-to-shore flight from a specially-built platform on the Hamburg-American Line's *S.S. Pennsylvania* off the coast of Long Island on November 12, 1910. The accompanying photo illustrated a four funnel ship with a launching platform on its stern. In fact, this ship was a naval vessel, the armored cruiser *U.S.S. Pennsylvania*. On January 18, 1911, a plane flown by stunt pilot Eugene Ely from an airfield in San Bruno, California landed on a platform constructed on the ship's afterdeck as seen in *Figure 1*. This was, notably, the first successful landing of an aircraft on a ship.²

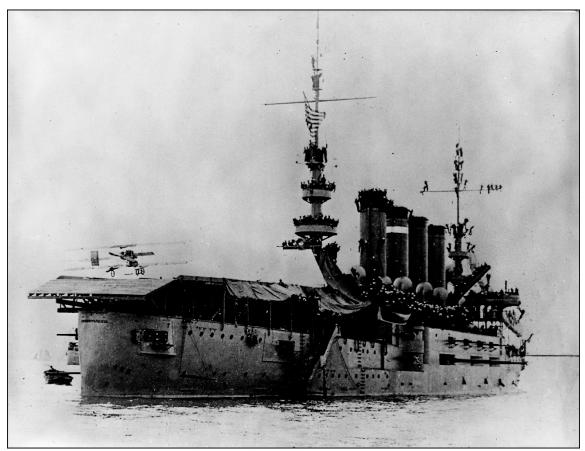


Fig. 1: First successful landing of aircraft on ship, U.S.S. Pennsylvania on January 18, 1911.

Robert G. Rose ~ NJ PIONEER AIR MAIL FLIGHTS – A CORRECTION

Illustrated below in *Figure 2*, is the Hamburg-American Line's *S.S. Pennsylvania* showing only a single funnel. Both "Pennsylvanias" played significant roles in the early days of aviation, though it was the civilian ship that is remembered in the history of pioneer airmail flights.



Fig. 2: Hamburg-American Line's S.S. Pennsylvania with single funnel.

ENDNOTES

WE NEED ARTICLES NOW!

Articles on items in your collection, studies you are doing, or other material pertinent to

New Jersey postal history are always welcome.

PLEASE submit these to your Editor:

Robert G. Rose
at 18 Balbrook Drive
Mendham, NJ 07945

or robertrose25@comcast.net

¹ Robert G. Rose, "New Jersey Pioneer Air Mail Flights," Whole No. 210, Vol. 46, No. 22, May 2018.

² Hiller B. Zebel and John H. Zobel, *Those Magnificent Men: 100 Years of Naval Aviation*, American Heritage, Volume 60, Issue 4, Winter 2011.

MEMBER NEWS:

We are glad to report that our membership remains at its current level, with all members renewing. We are glad to have you with us.

MEMBER CHANGES

Returning Member: Gianluigi Soldati, 7 Mac Arthur Blvd., Apt N906, Haddon Township NJ 08108-3612, Camden County/19th Cent, GDSoldati@comcast.net.

New Member

Peter Mosiondz, Jr., 26 Cameron Circle, Laurel Springs NJ 08021-4861, Foreign mail to & from NJ, 1847 & 1869 issues with Camden cancels, earlyusstamps@comcast.net.

REMINDER: NOJEX 2018 / NJPHS ANNUAL MEETING

Members please note that NOJEX and the ASDA show will be held jointly at the Meadowlands Hilton in East Rutherford, NJ from October 19-21, 2018, with our annual NJPHS meeting to be held there on Sunday October 21 at noon. See page 121-122 of this issue for further details. NOTE this is NOT the previous venue at the Crowne Plaza in the Meadowlands, but the Meadowlands Hilton.

A THANK YOU FROM YOUR EDITORS:

Many articles were received well in advance, and we cannot thank you enough! It made a big difference, with the many summer activities that interfere with getting things put together. Articles are always welcome, and much appreciated. Please feel free to add yours to the mix. It is fun to do, and we are here to help. The journal depends on your input!

In fact, it is not your editors but you who have contributed to this journal who should be awarded this medal – for the wonderful articles you have provided over the years. Keep them coming!



Philatelic Literature Competition ~ APS StampShow 2018, Columbus, Ohio

ADDITION to PAYMENTS FOR TRANSPORTATION OF THE MAILS: PO Draft signed by PMG Aaron Brown, to C.T. Gray of Newark

By Jean Walton

An interesting auction was held on June 7, 2018 – Postmaster General Collection & Other Estates Online Auction, Sale # IT109 of The Potomack Company in Alexandria, Virginia. Many interesting pieces were included in large lots of material pertaining to various Postmasters General. Many lots went unsold. ²

Amongst those unsold was lot # 3057, a large lot pertaining to three postmasters general,³ and including a post office draft to C.T. Gray, the same Newark postmaster as described in our February issue in an article showing Don Bowe's material,⁴ but this one was signed by Postmaster General Aaron Brown. Brown became PMG on March 6, 1857, and served until Joseph Holt succeeded him as PMG on March 8, 1859; this draft falls between the first and third items in our previous article, dated Feb. 4, 1858. It retains the same form of the first draft (1856), showing a portrait of Washington at top, and was printed by Hufty & Danforth, Philadelphia and New York, with the same TRANSPORTATION OF THE MAILS at left, and at top and bottom left, vignettes of a steamboat and a train.



Fig. 1: Post Office Department Draft to C.T. Gray, Newark postmaster, for payment of transportation of the mails, issued to L.H. Martenus, dated February 4, 1858. The Newark cancel is dated February 11 ('58) with what is likely a PAID marking at the bottom of the CDS as in those shown previously.

No information has been found on Martenus or just what the service was for which he was being paid.

It is interesting to see the evolution over time of these checks for payment of transportation of the mails. Aaron Brown's portrait was shown on the 1859 check previously illustrated, although not identified as him, and used after he was PMG.

ADDITION to PAYMENTS for TRANSPORTATION OF THE MAILS ~ Jean Walton

Perhaps if this material had been consigned to a strictly philatelic auction house, it might have received wider attention from those who would be most interested. Unsold lots can still be seen at the link below, and offers were being accepted on this material (see contact information below):⁵

ENDNOTES:

¹ The Potomack Company, contact information: 1120 N. Fairfax St., Alexandria, Virginia 22314, 703-684-4550 (tel), <u>info@potomackcompany.com</u>.

² See full catalog at <a href="http://www.potomackcompany.com/asp/searchresults.asp?sale_no=IT109++&pg=1&ps=25&st=D&cat_jumptolot="http://www.potomackcompany.com/asp/searchresults.asp?sale_no=IT109++&pg=1&ps=25&st=D&cat_jumptolot="http://www.potomackcompany.com/asp/searchresults.asp?sale_no=IT109++&pg=1&ps=25&st=D&cat_jumptolot="http://www.potomackcompany.com/asp/searchresults.asp?sale_no=IT109++&pg=1&ps=25&st=D&cat_jumptolot="http://www.potomackcompany.com/asp/searchresults.asp?sale_no=IT109++&pg=1&ps=25&st=D&cat_jumptolot="http://www.potomackcompany.com/asp/searchresults.asp?sale_no=IT109++&pg=1&ps=25&st=D&cat_jumptolot="http://www.potomackcompany.com/asp/searchresults.asp?sale_no=IT109++&pg=1&ps=25&st=D&cat_jumptolot="http://www.potomackcompany.com/asp/searchresults.asp?sale_no=IT109++&pg=1&ps=25&st=D&cat_jumptolot="http://www.potomackcompany.com/asp/searchresults.asp?sale_no=IT109++&pg=1&ps=25&st=D&cat_jumptolot="http://www.potomackcompany.com/asp/searchresults.asp?sale_no=IT109++&pg=1&ps=25&st=D&cat_jumptolot="http://www.potomackcompany.com/asp/searchresults.asp."http://www.potomackcompany.com/asp/searchresults.asp."http://www.potomackcompany.com/asp/searchresults.asp."http://www.potomackcompany.com/asp/searchresults.asp."http://www.potomackcompany.com/asp/searchresults.asp."http://www.potomackcompany.com/asp/searchresults.asp."http://www.potomackcompany.com/asp/searchresults.asp."http://www.potomackcompany.com/asp/searchresults.asp."http://www.potomackcompany.com/asp/searchresults.asp."http://www.potomackcompany.com/asp/searchresults.asp."http://www.potomackcompany.com/asp/searchresults.asp."http://www.potomackcompany.com/asp/searchresults.asp."http://www.potomackcompany.com/asp/searchresults.asp."http://www.potomackcompany.com/asp/searchresults.asp."http://www.potomackcompany.com/asp/searchresults.asp."http://www.potomackcompany.com/asp/searchresults.asp."http://www.potomackcompany.com/asp/searchresults.asp."http://www.potomackcompany.com/asp/searchresults.asp."http://www.potomackcompany.com/asp/search

³ Lot # 3057, described as follows: AARON V. BROWN, JOSEPH HOLT AND HORATIO KING, 32 DOCUMENTS, 1850'S AND 1860'S including two signatures, a note and an address leaf from Brown; an ALS regarding the Peace Congress and a patent signed by Holt; and seven ALS's from King (32), Estimate \$1,000-1,500 ⁴ "Post Office Payments for Transportation of the Mails" by Don Bowe, Feb. 2018 *NJPH*, Whole No. 209, Vol. 46, No. 1

⁵ Unsold lots can be viewed at http://www.potomackcompany.com/asp/searchresults.asp?pg=1&ps=59&archive1=V%20iew&st=u&unsoldonly=1 &archive_sale_value=IT109. Contact info@potomackco.com to submit an offer, or use the form at this address: http://www.potomackcompany.com/postsaleofferform.pdf.

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WANTED: PSYCHOLOGY, PSYCHIATRY, MENTAL HEALTH COVERS SOUGHT. Please send scan and price to DrMarionRollings@gmail.com. Dr. Marion Rollings, 101 New Amwell Rd., Hillsborough, NJ 08844.

WANTED: BATSTO Special Event Covers, Batsto postmarks, and **WHITESBOG** postmarks. Contact George Martin, 844 Anthony Road, Atco, NJ 08004, or email canoethepines@comcast.net.

ALWAYS DESIRED: FISH HOUSE COVERS, BURLINGTON COUNTY ADVERTISING covers and corner cards; Burlington County DPOs. Email Paul W. Schopp at pwschopp@comcast.net.

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PATERSON, NJ WANTED INTERESTING COVERS. Contact George Kramer, P.O. Box 2189 Clifton, NJ 07015, or email gjkk@optonline.net.

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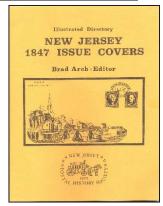
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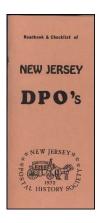
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