



Cancellation Club NEWS

VOL. 18 NO. 2

WHOLE NO. 188

SPRING 1986

PITTSBURGH FANCY CANCELS 1872-1882

by Bob McKain

One of the more fascinating decades in the history of the Pittsburgh post office is the 1872-1882 period. It is during this period that the fancy carved design, used as the "killer" portion of the duplex handstamps then in use, really came into its own. Figure 1 is an example and displays an impression of a "D" in a circle dating from June 10, 1879. Fancy cancels were not a new thing then, even in the Pittsburgh office, which during the 1860's had used a number of primarily patriotic, religious, or fraternal designs (almost a dozen of which are listed in Skinner-Eno). By 1872, however, the use of these designs had been replaced by cork killers which were either cut with very simple designs or simply smudge type cancels.

Perhaps it was then that the postmaster, by luck or design, found one or more artistically talented clerks. Whatever the reason, the Pittsburgh office began to generate an impressive array of fancy cancels. Designs ran the gamut from elaborate geometrics to initials to carved faces and animals. The author's research has uncovered over 100 different designs whose use can be documented as dating from the 1872-1882 period. This article represents a progress report on that research to date, which it is hoped, will ultimately allow a systematic presentation of what is known about the cancels and their use.

A note should be mentioned here on the dating of these fancies. As most of the

cancel appear on covers not docketed, the list at first appears much like a jigsaw puzzle. Fortunately, as the cancels of the period do not contain a datestamp, some covers are docketed by the receiving personage. This occurs frequently on a business related cover rather than on a personal cover. The greatest source of dating is gleaned from the use of Government postal cards. Although cancels on postal cards are spurned by some fancy cancel purists, most cards contain, as has been mentioned in the News recently, more postal history information than covers of the period. Another facet in period dating is that a 'dater' through 1874 measures approximately 25mm in diameter whereas daters from 1875 on measure approximately 27mm in diameter. I have been able to verify this with 25mm daters through January 5, 1875. The earliest 27mm dater I have seen personally is dated January 24, 1875. It is hoped that some observant reader will be able to close the dates between January 5 and January 24. Examples of these dater types are shown as Figures 2 and 3.



Figure 1

(Cont'd. on p. 22)

Dear Reader:

We conclude in this issue Roger Rhoads' study of New York City cancels on the first U.S. postal cards and present Bob McKain's study of fancy cancels used during the 1872-82 period. Readers are really urged to review their holdings of pertinent material and report findings of interest to Roger and Bob. There is surely more to be learned in these interesting subject areas. In that vein, Bob mentioned that he would undertake an article on Pittsburgh fancy cancels of the 1860's if the very limited data he now has could be expanded. So please also check for these and send tracings and/or photocopies to Bob.

Beginning in this issue are the first of what we hope will be two continuing columns on transatlantic mails and transit markings

by Tom Stanton. Installments will usually be in the format of presenting and discussing an individual cover. If you have covers you think would be of interest or questions about particular transatlantic covers or transit markings, Tom would be pleased to hear from you. His address is 2109 Alice Avenue, Apt. #2, Oxon Hill, MD 20745.

Roger Curran



AWARD WINNERS

LeRoy Lipman, Jr.
Vermeil and USCC award -
The U.S. Three Cent Bank
Note Series - 1870 to 1887
(ASDA National)

A. Burns Speer
Vermeil and USCC award -
Walter D. Wesson's Duplex
Hand Cancellers (AIRPEX,
Dayton, OH)

Hubert C. Skinner
Gold and Hollywood Stamp
Club Award - Mail Service
Between U.S. and Canada
(FLOREX, St. Petersburg,
FL)

William J. Bomar
Vermeil and USCC Award - A
Postal Tour of U.S.
Expositions (FLOREX)

Budd W. Dickey
Vermeil and BIA medal - The
4c Jackson Issues of 1883
and 1888 (FLOREX)

Joseph F. McDonough
Silver - The First United
States Machine Cancels
(BEPEX, Bergen Co., NJ)

(Cont'd. on p. 21)

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HANDSTAMPS WITH A DIFFERENCE

Gilbert Levere submitted two postal cards bearing handstamp impressions, each with an unusual aspect. And checks with knowledgeable club members yielded some interesting background information.

Figure 1 illustrates an 1892 Cincinnati ellipse with a combination letter and numeral in the center. Ted Bozarth reports a Cincinnati "C1" in 1888, a "C2" in 1892 and a "C3" in 1890 and comments: "The 'C' is assumed to have been used for carrier, or collected mail. I would guess that one clerk, with one marker, could keep up with a constant flow of dropped mail, but the large influx of mail returning from carriers may have required more cancellers to reduce delay. Still the 'C' here may stand for Cincinnati, since no 'D' is recorded for this city." "D" in this context would have been used for deposited or dropped mail.

Warren Tingley adds a "C3," "C4" and "C5" seen during the period of the two cent green issue of 1887. He also reports "C1" through "C5" on the two cent red (no triangles) issue of 1890 which was replaced by a triangle issue in late 1894. On triangle issues, Warren notes a "C1" and "C2." The "C" is smaller than earlier and with both shaded numerals and regular (block) numerals.

Warren also reports "C1" and "C2" 6-bar ellipses from Lafayette, Ind. in 1895 on two cent triangle issues where the "C" is

longer, shaded and with top serif.

Figure 2 is a Northfield, CT marking with the time outside the CDS where the year date is normally seen on such triplex impressions. A Northfield tracing and a more usual triplex marking are shown in Figure 3. They are reproduced from Dr. H. K. Thompson's U.S. Duplex and Triplex Handstamped Postal Markings of Oval Canceller Types, 17th American Philatelic Congress, 1951. Warren directs our attention to a similar marking from Racine, Wisconsin. We reproduce in Figure 4 a Racine tracing from Willard's The United States

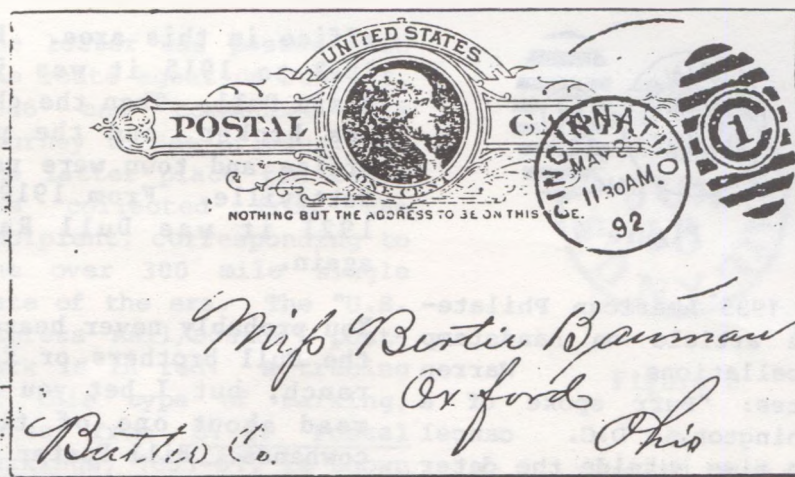


Figure 1

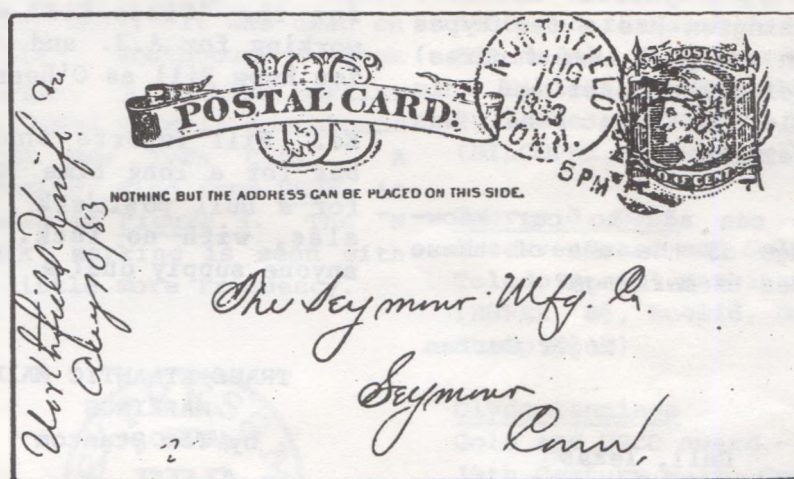


Figure 2

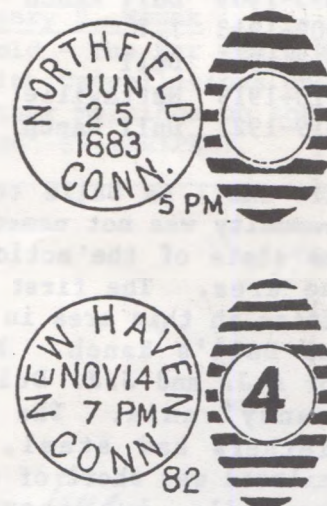


Figure 3

Two Cent Red Brown of 1883-87. Apart from this, Warren states the only other report he knows of to be that of Gilbert Burr in



Figure 4

his 1935 American Philatelist article on handstamp cancellations. Warren writes: "Burr spoke of a Washington, D.C. cancel with time outside the dater ...but it wasn't clear what he meant. Could have been a typographical error... Washington has a few types with the year (two figures) outside the dater and this could be what he was referring to."

Who can add to our knowledge of the use of these types of markings?

Roger Curran

Dull, Texas
by Bill Henderson

1889-1893	Dull's Ranch
1893-1909	Dull Ranch
1909-1913	? ?
1913-1915	Dull
1915-1919	Nettville
1919-1921	Dull Ranch

This small La Salle county community was not named for the state of the action in the area. The first post office in this area in 1889 was Dull's Ranch. Named for A.J. and J.J. Dull of Pennsylvania. The Dull brothers had steel, the railroad was short of steel for rails, but they had land. A trade was made. In 1893 the "'s" was dropped, perhaps at the request of the Post Office Dept. and the post office became Dull Ranch. It would appear between 1909 and 1913 there was no post

office in this area. From 1913 to 1915 it was just plain Dull. Then the chain was broken, and the post office and town were named Nettville. From 1919 to 1921 it was Dull Ranch again.

You probably never heard of the Dull brothers or their ranch, but I bet you have read about one of their cowhands. Bill Porter went to work on the Dull Ranch around 1912. Bill very well may have got the idea for the "Cisco Kid" while working for A.J. and J.J.. You know Bill as O'Henry.

Ed. Bill reports that he has for a long time looked for a Dull postmark but, alas, with no luck. Can anyone supply one? ●

TRANS-ATLANTIC MAIL
MARKINGS

by Tom Stanton

The first postal treaty between the U.S. and Great Britain became effective on February 15, 1849. Prior to that date it was only possible, also necessary, to prepay the postal rate in the country of origin. The cover illustrated as

Figure 1 shows such a situation. Mailed at Syracuse, N.Y. on December 26, 1843, it was postmarked with the standard 30mm orange date-stamp of the period and a matching straight line "PAID." The numeral at the upper right is 18-3/4 and represents the single rate for letters carried from 150 to 400 miles, that is, from Syracuse to Boston. This was the amount that the writer had to prepay to start the letter on its way.

In Boston, the Post Office Department placed the folded letter upon the Cunard Line steamship, Hibernia. The Hibernia had been launched the previous year and accomplished its maiden voyage in April of 1843. On this her fifth Trans-Atlantic crossing she left Boston on January 1, 1844 and arrived at Liverpool on the thirteenth. Upon reaching England the cover was rated one shilling due, this represented the English packet rate, as the Cunard Line was under contract to carry British mails. The large squiggle (1/-) in the center of the cover denotes this amount (equivalent to 24 U.S.

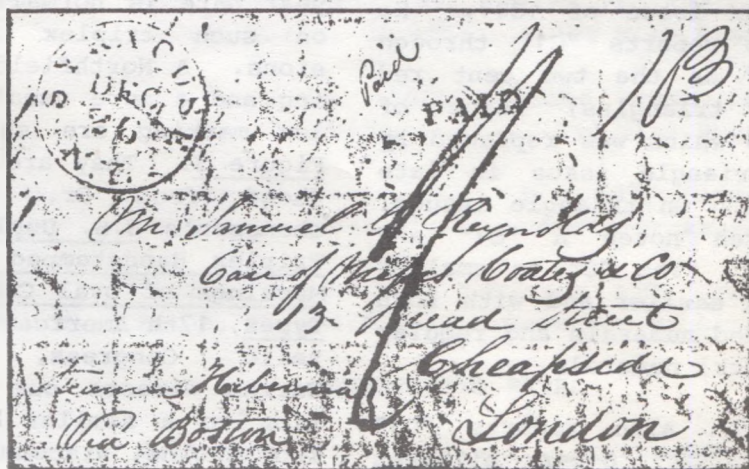


Figure 1

cents). This amount was collected from the recipient, thus the total postage collected was 42-3/4 cents.

U.S. TRANSIT MARKINGS by Tom Stanton

In 1842 the Post Office Department instituted a so called "Express Mail" between New York and Boston. The service should not be confused with the previous New York to New Orleans Express Mail, the Eastern Pony. This later service merely provided that the mail could be accepted up to the time of the sailing of the steamboat from New York or the departure of the train from Boston, thus allowing the postal patrons about an extra hour to deposit their missives after the mails were closed at the respective post offices.

The service commenced on July 8, 1842, when Edward L. Stone and James Gay were appointed mail messengers and mail agents under the supervision of Harnden & Co. The mail agency was removed from Harnden & Co. in February 1844 and by the time the letter in Figure 1 was posted, Orson V. Hollenbeck and George H. Kellenger were serving as mail agents on the line.

The route consisted of three sections. Two by railroad, from Boston, Massachusetts to Providence R.I. and from Providence to Stonington, Connecticut conducted by the Boston & Providence RR and the New York, Providence & Boston RR, respectively. The final leg to New York City traversed Long Island Sound in steamboats.

The letter was posted with the route agent on July 14, 1846 and commenced its journey to New Orleans. At the latter place ten cents was collected from the recipient, corresponding to the over 300 mile single rate of the era. The "U.S. Express Mail/Boston" postmark is in red. A tracing of this type of marking, taken from U. S. Postal Markings, 1851-61, is shown in Figure 2. It was used into the late 1850's and is known primarily in black after 1851. It was used on mails southbound from Boston. A similar marking was used on mail northbound from New York City. A tracing, also from USPM, is shown in Figure 3. The "N York" marking is seen with a little more frequency.



Figure 2



Figure 3

(Cont'd. fr. p. 18)

Randy L. Neil
Grand, MPS Gold, APS Pre-1900 and research medals, BIA medal, USCC award, Wm. J. Uihlein award - The U.S. 2c Issue of 1883-7 (MILCOPEX, Milwaukee)

George J. Ball
Reserve Grand and Gold - Toledo Postal Markings (EUPEX '86, Euclid, OH Stamp Club)

Clyde Jennings
Gold and USCC award - U.S. 19th Century Mail, Cancellations and Postal Markings (ARIPEX '86, Phoenix)

Henry S. Nowak
Gold - The War Years Use with Cancellations and Other Markings on the 1c - 1861-65 (ARIPEX)

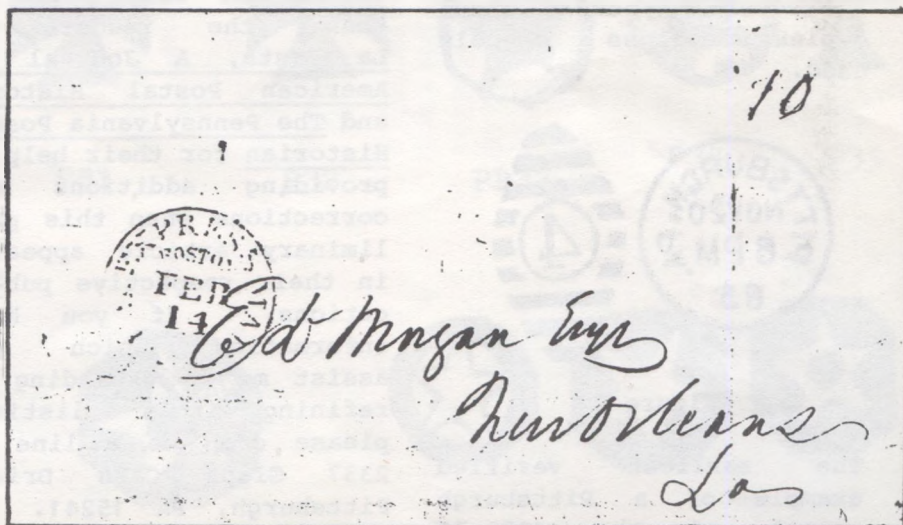


Figure 1

(cont'd from front page)



Figure 2



Figure 3

This era of Pittsburgh fancy cancels appears to have begun in the autumn of 1872, and by October of 1882 the post office had begun the use of the elliptical killer in its steel duplex hand cancel. As Willard noted in his treatise The United States Two Cent Red Brown of 1883-1887, "Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania is surely a city of oddball ellipses." They are worthy of a separate study that is currently being conducted, but are outside the scope of this project. Figure 4 illustrates one of the several types of steel duplex ellipse cancels used.

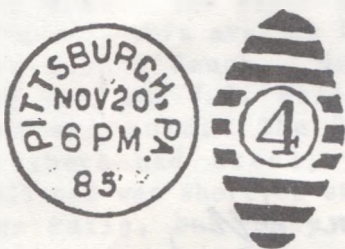


Figure 4

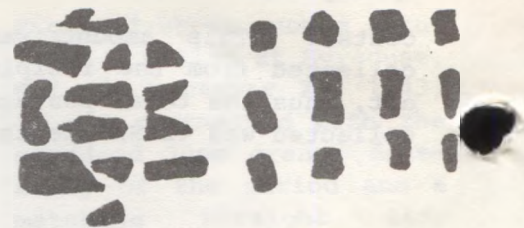
The earliest verified example of a Pittsburgh cancel of the 1872-82 period which may be considered of a 'fancy' nature

in our records dates from May 29, 1872 (Type P 1). Type PA1 may date from April 1872, but the year is unverifiable from the example known. By May of 1873, the first star cancel (Type P2) was in use.

The life of an individual fancy cancel itself appears to have been about four to six weeks in Pittsburgh. Impressions from cancels dating near the end of a lifespan tend to be indistinct or partial, and otherwise give the appearance of considerable wear.

The listing which follows must be considered preliminary. Type numbers have been assigned on the basis of examples with verified dates, but there are many types known without verified dates and still many more types expected to be discovered. In short, the type numbers are provided for ease of reference, but it is still too early to consider them chronologically valid. The X-types illustrated at the end of the list represent known examples in need of year dates.

The author would like to thank the readers of La Posta, A Journal of American Postal History, and The Pennsylvania Postal Historian for their help in providing additions and corrections when this preliminary article appeared in their respective publications. If you have information which can assist me in expanding or refining this listing, please drop me a line at 2337 Giant Oaks Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15241. I will be most grateful for any assistance.



PA1

P01



P02



P03



P04



P05



P06



P07



P08


























P09



P10



P11

	TYPE NO.	EARLIEST DATE	LATEST DATE	EXAMPLES KNOWN	REMARKS
	P12				
	P13				
	PA1	20APR72		1	
	P01	29MAY72	9SEP72	2	
	P02	30MAY73	28AUG73	3	
	P03	30JUL73	31JUL73	2	
	P04	30OCT73	12OCT73	2	
	P05	20OCT73	1NOV73	3	
	P06	5NOV73	18NOV73	3	
	P07	7NOV73		1	
	P08	19NOV73		1	
	P09	25NOV73	29NOV73	3	
	P10	6DEC73	9DEC73	2	
	P16				
	P17				
	P11	10JAN74	3FEB74	8	
	P12	7MAR74		1	
	P13	22APR74	27APR74	3	BLUE INK
	P14	8MAY74		1	BLUE INK
	P15	13MAY74	14MAY74	2	
	P16	10JUL74		1	
	P17	4AUG74	15SEP74	3	
	P18	23SEP74		1	
	P19	20NOV74		1	
	P20	16DEC74	5JAN75	3	
	P20				
	P21				
	P21	24JAN75		1	
	P22	5MAR75	28APR75	10	
	P23	6APR75		1	BLUE INK
	P24	12JUN75		1	
	P25	9JUL75	26JUL75	2	
	P26	2AUG75		1	
	P27	20OCT75		1	
	P28	10NOV75		1	
	P29	3DEC75		1	
	P30	10DEC75	17DEC75	3	
	P24				
	P25				
	P31	19FEB76		1	
	P32	3MAR76		1	
	P33	11APR76	5/20	2	
	P34	8JUN76	13JUN76	2	
	P35	6JUL76		1	
	P36	20JUL76		1	
	P37	17OCT76	31OCT76	2	
	P38	13DEC76		1	
	P39	15DEC76	3JAN77	2	
	P40	15JAN77		1	
	P41	2FEB77		1	
	P42	1MAR77	?APR77	5	
	P28				
	P29				
	P30				
	P31				
	P32				
	P33				
	P34				
	P35				
	P36				
	P37				
	P38				
	P39				
	P40				
	P41				
	P42				



P43



P44

P43

8JUN77

P44

3SEP77

P45

22JAN78

P46

22MAR78

P47

27APR78

P48

13MAY78

P49

3JUN78

P50

5SEP78

P51

3DEC78

P52

24JAN79

P53

29MAR79

P54

12MAY79

P55

10JUN79

P56

30JUL79

P57

30SEP79

P58

20NOV79

P59

3DEC79

P60

5DEC79

P61

5JAN80

P62

16JAN80

P63

31MAR80

P64

29APR80

P65

1OCT80

P66

8NOV80

P67

28MAR81

P68

9MAY81

P69

20JUN81

P70

15OCT81

P71

81

P72

27FEB82

P73

1APR82

P74

19APR82

P75

7JUN82

P76

29JUN82

P77

1JUL82



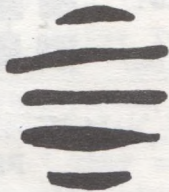
P51



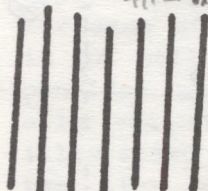
P52



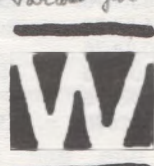
P55



P56



P57



P58



P59



P60



P61



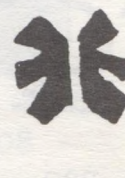
P62



P63



P64



P65



P66



P67



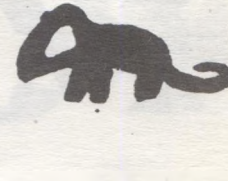
P68



P69



P70



P71

11/12-12/16

Micro Xeteca, 12/16

11/19-10/17

11/19-10/17

11/19-10/17

11/19-10/17

11/19-10/17

11/19-10/17

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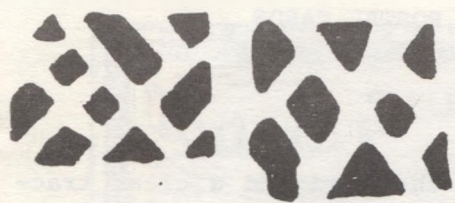
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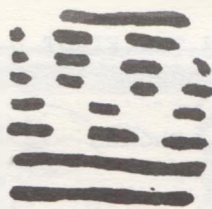
11/19-10/17

11/19-10/17



P72

P73



P74



P75



P76



P77

UNIDENTIFIED YEAR DATES

DATER SIZE

PX01
PX02
PX03
PX04
PX05
PX06
PX07
PX08
PX09

25JAN
5FEB
8FEB
15FEB
17MAR
14MAY
14MAY or 14JAN
18JUN
1JUL

26FEB
22FEB

2
2

27mm
27mm
27mm

27mm
25mm

27mm
27mm
27mm
27mm
27mm
27mm
27mm
27mm
25mm
27mm
27mm



PX01

PX02



PX03

PX04



PX05



PX06



PX07



PX08



PX09



PX10



PX11



PX12



PX13



PX14



PX15



PX16



PX17



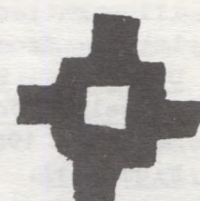
PX18



PX19



PX20



PX21

...

NEW YORK CITY CANCELLATIONS ON THE FIRST U.S. POSTAL CARDS
(Continued)

Roger R. Rhoads

Since the last edition of the News, I've found another card whose cancellation can be described as a sunburst or crysanthemum as the others on p. 6 in the Winter, 1986 issue. It is shown in Figure 36. So much for that. On to other things.



Figure 36

Other cities such as Pittsburgh, St. Louis, Washington, DC and, of course, Waterbury, CT are noted for such cancel varieties as patriotics, fraternals, human profiles, etc. These certainly are very popular in our collecting fraternity. New York City in this time period (May, 1873 to October, 1875) has almost none of these, though there are plenty of examples prior to this time. Probably the best known New York example just prior to and into the banknote era is the "devil's mask." Two examples on banknotes are illustrated in the recent William R. Weiss, Jr. net price sale #62 on p. 20 while p. 25 in Mr. Weiss' sale #69 shows another. An illustration of the cancellation from 19th Century United States Fancy Cancellations by Herst-Zareski, 1951, is shown in Figure 37. This author has not seen this mask type on the first postal card, but Figure 38 is another mask type.



Figure 37



Figure 38

Other than Figure 38 the only other similar item I found is a cancel shown in lots 730 and 731 in the June 15, 1985 Frajola auction. This cancel is the profile of a man's head facing right. Both lots are dated August 10, 1874 and the CDS has the P.O. at the bottom. Interestingly, this same cancel is shown on a three cent banknote cover in the Edward Knapp collection of November 3-8, 1941 (lot 1197). It is also dated August 10. Therefore this cancel may have been used for that one day only.

There are certainly many more NYC cancels that are not listed here. They generally do not fall into any ready classification other than "geometrics". In this study there were very few of this type which was probably due to the lack of interest by the individuals who made up these collections. If you, the reader, have other varieties on the first postal card that you would like to see listed, please send along a photocopy of

the card and a clear tracing of the cancel, if that is practical. I'll try to categorize and list them at the end of this series.

Among the most famous of the NYC cancels are certainly the New York Foreign Mail (NYFM) cancels. They are highly collectible and have been well documented in many articles and books. Figure 39 is of such a cancel on a Sc UX3 used in 1873, and it's enough to make a collector cry. Due to the very poor quality of these cards, many times the added adhesive has fallen off over the years. Thus this very attractive card to Altona, Germany (forwarded to Altenassen) would probably have had a 1 cent bank note attached to make up the postal card rate as per the convention signed with Germany, effective December 1, 1873. However it has fallen off and taken the other half of the killer with it. Now this card is just another reference piece that will never see an exhibition frame.

Since these cards are so highly collectible, they were not counted in the percentages in this study. To do so would have given the impression that they are not as scarce as they really are. These first issue postal cards were only rarely used for overseas mail. The conventions with the major countries of Great Britain, France, etc. allowing a lower than normal rate for postal cards were not signed until mid-1875. Prior to that time the rate



Figure 39

was the same for the limited space, non-private postal card as for a first class letter.

To provide some idea of their scarcity, I studied three old auction catalogs which had large numbers of NYFM cancels (G.W. Hale collection, Robert Siegel Auctions, 1954; John A. Fox, 1960; and Edward Knapp collection, Parke-Benet Galleries, 1941). Only 5 of these first postal cards were listed versus over 250 stamps and other pieces.

Though they are most unusual, I have noted the following NYFM cancels (taken from the identification system used in New York Foreign Mail Cancellations by Van Vlissingen and Waud) on the first issue card: A1, A6, A9, A10, A20, F12a, G3, G6, G10, G20, G21, S14 and W9. The sources used were the above catalogs, those of Richard Frajola for June 15 and September 7, 1985, that of Earl P. L. Apfelbaum for November 12-13, 1982 and the Van Vlissingen and Waud book. I suppose it is possible to complete an NYFM collection on these cards for those used after

May 1873. However I believe it would be a lifetime endeavor.

This finishes the subject of killers, but there are still some auxiliary markings to be noted. I won't discuss underpaid, transit or other overseas markings due to a lack of material and the fact that this area has been well covered by others in the past. However the NYC P.O. did use other markings and Figure 40 is one of them. This is a receiving mark on a card postmarked at station K on November 24, 1875 at 12 M and apparently received at station F on the same date at 12 A.

The same rounded square design was used on another card listed in Hoffer's auction as lot 2205. This one marked at station D on September 30 at 4 PM and received at station C on the same date, also at 4 PM.

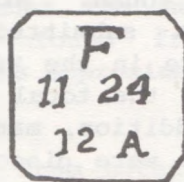


Figure 40

Since only these two marks have been noted, why were they not used more often? I suggest that one possibility is that only the front item in a box of sorted mail from another station received such a marking. Thus only a very small percentage of mail would show this mark.

The final marking noted on the backside of a card is shown in Figure 41. It has the initial appearance of being a receiving mark for station C. The card was mailed on April 15, 1875.

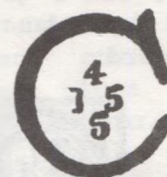


Figure 41

Thus the series of numbers inside the letter corresponds to the date as well. Lot 1845 in the Hoffers auction shows a card with this type of marking; however it's on the front side. The killer used on the Lot 1845 card and on the card noted in Figure 41 are the same Maltese cross, the former card bearing a NYC CDS dated April 5, 1875. It's interesting to note that there are two "C" marks, one inverted to the other and the numbers are 4/5/3 and 4/5/6. The message side indicates the year 1875; therefore the last number in this series should be 5, not 3 or 6. It may be that there was some confusion when inserting the slugs that day.

Only these two cards have been found with this marking. However a recent net price sale from William R. Weiss, Jr. (#62) shows a one cent banknote (Sc 156) on p. 14 that shows the

same marking with the numbers 7/6/6 corresponding to July 6, 1876. (See Figure 42.) By sheer coincidence while researching the NYFM cancels, I ran into an earlier sale of this same stamp by John A. Fox as lot 1097 in the November 14-16, 1960 auction where it was described as a "very rare registry marking." Certainly the business nature of the message on the card in my collection is so routine that it would not warrant a registration fee. Therefore I can't go along with this lot description on this card.



Figure 42

Mr. Curran was kind enough to point out to me that Willard in his book on The United States Two Cent Red Brown of 1883-87 indicates that dated capital letters normally used to back stamp registered mail were on rare occasions used as killers in those later years. Then perhaps this indeed is a registry marking misused as a receiving mark on my card.

On the other hand, could it be a carrier mark? Remember, free carrier service was still very unusual in the 1870's. In fact by 1875 only 87 U.S. cities were so staffed. Most of these post offices used a carrier strike to note that service with the blue strike of Chicago being very familiar to postal history buffs. NYC

with 379 carriers had by far the widest service of this type, but no carrier strikes have been noted by other authors for this time period. Could this marking be an experimental use of a carrier marking rather than a station C receiving mark? Do any of you have a more definitive answer?

It seems rather strange that other auxiliary markings are not listed here. Many other markings are found on first class covers during this time period. However, even though postal cards were indeed first class postage, they were evidently not accorded the delivery respect of covers. Thus such markings as FORWARDED, ADVERTISED, NO SUCH ADDRESS, etc. are rarely seen on postal cards and none in this study from NYC.

V. CIRCULAR DATE STAMP VARIETIES

This study would not be complete without a look at the CDS varieties used in the NYC cancellations during the era of the first postal card. Van Vlissingen and Waud illustrated the CDS varieties used with the NYFM killers for the years 1870-76. However the ones used for domestic mail are not the same.

In the section on number killers it was indicated that 8 general CDS types were found. With the two cards submitted by Mr. Levere in the Winter, 1986 News, the total is now 10. In addition, many subvarieties were discovered, and I will try to explain them all. The first type shown in Figure 2 in the first

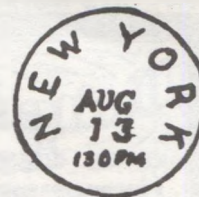


Figure 43

installment and repeated here as Figure 43 is the main type used for all of the number cancels. There are certain characteristics of this one that are common to all the rest. They seem to be of cast metal and include the words "NEW YORK," a three-letter month abbreviation in the center of the circle, the date just below it and the time of cancellation below that. Beyond these points the arrangements of the outer words, the words themselves and their positions can be quite different.

Let me first discuss the CDS varieties associated with the number cancels. To distinguish between them, I made up transparent overlays much like the one shown in Figure 44. Using different diameters and

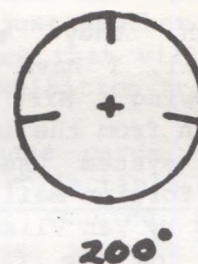


Figure 44

angles, I have been able to find 11 subvarieties denoted 1A1 through 1A11. There are at least three major differences that were noted. The first is the diameter of the outer rim. 1A1 to 1A4 and 1A7 to 1A10 are 24-1/2mm in diameter while 1A5 and 6 are 25-1/2mm and 1A11 is 23mm.

(These measurements are probably accurate to within 1/2mm.)

The second distinction is the angle between the far left edge of the N of NEW and the far right edge of the K of YORK (the N-K angle). 1A1, 2 and 5 were measured at 210° while 1A3, 4, 6, 11 were at 220°. 1A7 through 10 had larger angles at 240°. (The measurements are probably accurate to within 5°.)

The next distinction was whether the Y of YORK was in line with the center of the angle between the N and the K or slightly to the right (Figures 45 and 46). 1A1, 3, 7, 8, 10 and 11 are centered while the remaining types were to the right.

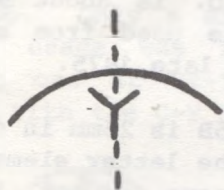


Figure 45

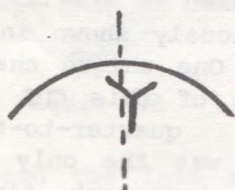


Figure 46

Beyond these points, I found another difference in the 24-1/2mm, 240° category in that the angle between the right leg of the W of NEW and the upright of the letter R of YORK (W-R angle) could be different. Finally, a few of the 24-1/2mm, 240° types had a strangely formed Y (Figure 47).

The following list gives

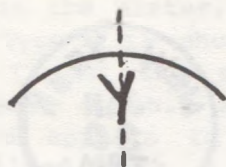


Figure 47

the individual characteristics:

Type	Degree	Y	Dia.	Notes
1A1	210°	Ctr	24-1/2	
1A2	210°	R+	24-1/2	
1A3	220°	Ctr	24-1/2	
1A4	220°	R+	24-1/2	
1A5	210°	R+	25-1/2	
1A6	220°	R+	25-1/2	
1A7	240°	Ctr	24-1/2	W-R 110°
1A8	240°	Ctr	24-1/2	W-R 105°
1A9	240°	R+	24-1/2	
1A10	240°	Ctr	24-1/2	Bent Y
1A11	220°	Ctr	23	

Types 1A1 through 6 are used throughout the use span of the card or May 1873 to early 1876. Use of types 1A7 through 10 started in mid-1874 and continued to May 1876. It appears that these designs were hand engraved in steel to make dies for soft metal castings as was done with printing type.

One of the conclusions could be that originally a master set of 6 dies was made and later 4 more added. Another conclusion is that the dies were individually cast or at the most two at a time. This later comment is added in that there were vast differences in the number of cards found canceled with each of the varieties. The fewest was 5 and the most was 24. If the dies were combined in a single pour, then the number of cancels found from each should be approximately the same.

Another item noted is that all the month abbreviations were in serif letters as

were the numbers in the date. The times were in sanserif. This was true for all the date stamp cancels in this study with one exception.

Looking more closely at the time designation, the slugs were to the nearest hour (e.g. 4PM) or the half hour (e.g. 4:30PM). No quarter hour increments were found in the date stamps for number killers. The time slugs whether full or half hour were fully interchangeable in all the CDS types.

Slightly more full hour times were counted than half hour times on the number killed cards. The earliest cancel in the working day was 6AM, while the latest was 6:30PM. Times noted were 6, 7:30, 10:30 AM, 1:30, 2, 2:30, 3, 3:30, 4, 4:30, 6 and 6:30 PM. With no middle of the night times, it appears that postal workers at the main office were on the job from 6AM to 7PM. Further, the busiest times of the day were 10:30AM, 1:30PM, 3:30 to 4:30PM and 6PM with 4 and 6PM being the most common times.

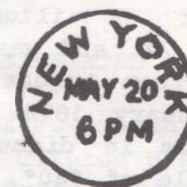


Figure 48

Figure 48 which I have called type 1A11 is the companion to the cast metal ellipse shown in Figure 8 which was used in 1876. I have chosen to list it here as it is so similar to those used with the carved numbers noted above although its diameter is

only 23mm. The measured angle is 220° and the Y is centered. The only obvious difference is that the month and date are in sanserif and occupy one line instead of two.

Figure 49 is type 1B used



Figure 49

in 1876 and is a repeated portion of Figure 34. Its similarity to the other type 1 strikes is obvious, but the killer is a geometric, not a number. It has a 24mm diameter and the N-K angle is 240° which are very close measurements to 1A10. However the W-R angle is less at 90° .

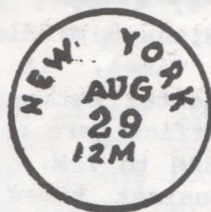


Figure 50

Figure 50 is type 1C and is the last of this type. It also is repeated from an earlier illustration, Figure 21, and was used at least from August 1873 to mid-January 1874. It is 25-1/2mm in diameter with an angle of 180° , significantly less than the others of this type.

Type 2 shown in Figure 51 differs from Type 1 in that the letters "N.Y." are added at the bottom. This CDS has a 25-1/2mm diameter with a 160° N-K angle and is the companion to the letter D killer shown in Figure 23. It was used from January to at least

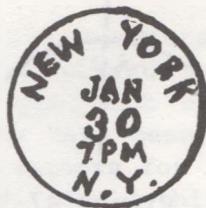


Figure 51

September 1875, always with the D killer.

(I would like to pause a moment and go back to correct an earlier mistake in reporting. Back in the second installment, I described four types of CDS and letter killer configurations (p. 4, Winter, 1986). It was my intention to show Figure 51 as a subvariety. Type 4 is shown with no letters at the bottom of the CDS while this one indeed does. It was only found along with the D killer).

Type 3A is again one of the letter station cancels with the letter at the top of the CDS. Figure 52 is borrowed from the previously shown Figure 18. This is type 1 of the letter cancels and is 23mm in diameter. Only a limited number of this type were found and all in August and September 1875. The N-K angle is 180° and the included angle of "CITY DELIVERY" is 160° .



Figure 52

Type 3B includes all the other type 1 letter cancels with usage from August 1873 to October 1874. Type 3B differs from 3A only in the measured angles: N-K is 160° and C-Y is 180° , the

reverse of 3A.

Type 4A is shown in Figure 53 and is representative of the type 3 letter station cancel with the letter at the bottom of the CDS. It is 23-1/2mm in diameter with a 200° included angle. Apparently it was used only in late 1875.

Type 4B is also the type 3 letter station cancel and was used from late 1874 to early 1875. It differs from 4A only in that the N-K angle is 220° and it is slightly smaller at 23mm.

Type 5A is shown in Figure 54 and has "P.O." at the bottom of the CDS. This one was previously seen in Figure 35 and is 23mm in diameter. The N-K angle is 240° and the overall width of P.O. is about 9-1/2mm. It was used from mid-1874 until late 1875.

Type 5B is 25mm in diameter and the letter elements are the same except the N-K angle is 210° and the width of P.O. is 6mm. The cancel was used in mid-1873 and is previously shown in Figure 31. One unique characteristic of this CDS is that the quarter-to-the-hour time was the only quarter hour increment time slug seen in the study.

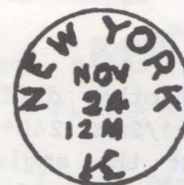


Figure 53

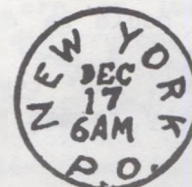


Figure 54



Figure 55

Type 6A at 23mm in diameter is noted in Figure 55 and has "CITY DELIVERY" at the top and "N-Y" at the bottom. It was previously shown in Figure 30 and the C-Y angle is 250°. A late 1874 usage was noted.

Type 6B is the same as 6A in all respects except for the N-Y. instead of N-Y. Usage appears to be limited to late 1873.

Type 7 is shown in Figure 56 with "CITY DELIVERY" now at the bottom and it is a companion to the killer in Figure 36. Only a single mid-1873 usage was found for this one at 22-1/2mm diameter with the C-Y angle at 200°.



Figure 56

Type 8 and the last noted is rimless and is shown in Figure 57 as a repeat of Figure 32 for comparison purposes. This only copy was dated in late 1874. The N-K angle is 250° and the diameter is 22mm.

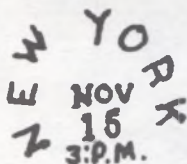


Figure 57

Types 9 and 10 are not illustrated here as they

appear in the Winter, 1986 News. Type 9 is shown in Figure 17 in the second installment of this study. The card appears to have been killed with a cast metal duplex canceler. Two uses are noted, both in September 1874. The date stamp is rimmed on the bottom part only with an encircling diameter of 22-1/2mm and an N-K angle of 220°.

Type 10, also submitted by Gilbert Levere, was shown on p. 9 of the same issue. Three copies are reported dated in May and June 1875. The CDS is apparently 24mm in diameter with an N-K angle of 220°.

Well, this last bit of tedium is over and it may help some of you to date the covers you have that are not docketed or without an intact enclosure. Some of you may find other varieties and perhaps can add to this circular date stamp listing or broaden the range of usage dates of the ones already noted. Check out your holdings and let me know. I'll summarize your findings in a later update.

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ANCHORS AWEIGH

Let's shape up things a bit with respect to the French anchor cancellation illustration in the Winter 1986 News! Thanks to Jean Smith for the illustration in Figure 1 which shows the shape to be a diamond of dots. Incidentally we noted Lot 10 in the recent Frajola sale of the Amos Eno collection consisted of five stamps bearing this cancellation.

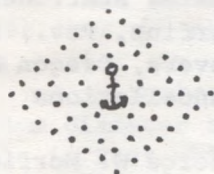


Figure 1

LIBRARY ADDITIONS

The Sol Salkind book on U.S. Cancels of the 1890-1900 period, reviewed by Tom Stanton in the last News, has been purchased by the USCC and placed in the library. Also, we are now exchanging periodicals with the Long Island Postal History Society. We now have three issues of the Long Island Postal Historian, edited by USCC club member J. Fred Rodriguez, in the library. Readers will recall that Fred has written two interesting articles in the News within the past couple of years.

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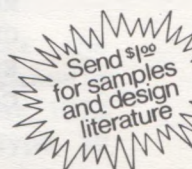
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