



Blue '1' in octagon  
Philadelphia PA



Blue '2' in circle  
Philadelphia PA



Blue '5' in circle  
Baltimore MD



Fancy blue '5'



Green '5' in box  
Princeton NJ



Red '5'



Double strike red '5'



Black '5' in box  
Alexandria VA



Red '5' in cogged  
circle Chicago IL



Four strikes of  
fancy green '5'



Blue fancy '5'



'Way 6' marking from  
Mobile AL on piece



Black '7'



Blue '10'



Red '10' in circle



Roman numeral 'X'



Two red 'X's



Two blue '10's



Blue '12'



Red '19'



Two red '19's  
Positions 77-78L



Red '20' in circle



Red '24' in circle



Red '40' in circle



Black '40' in circle



Chicago IL



September 1847 folded letter from Chicago to Joliet IL.

Red '5' in oval cogwheel and grid cancels right margin stamp.

October 1847 folded letter from Chicago IL to Buffalo NY.

Red '10' in oval cogwheel marking. Harelip variety of 10 cent stamp.



Peoria IL



Cover from Peoria IL to Albany NY. Slightly reduced at right.

Red '10' in oval cogwheel marking.

Orange brown stamps.

Only recorded 1847 cover from Peoria IL which received no 1847 issue stamps.



The 'PAID' markings were used on stampless letters to indicate that the required postage had been paid. Letters with stamps did not require a 'PAID' marking since the stamp was proof of payment.



Fancy blue scroll 'PAID' cancel from Rome NY



Red crisscrossed 'PAID' with octagon



New York City red 'PAID' in arc on piece



Blue Philadelphia 'PAID' in oval



Two strikes blue 'PAID'



Two strikes black 'PAID'





November 1847 folded letter from Baltimore to Annapolis MD.

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Three strikes of red 'PAID' in arc used to cancel stamp.

April 1850 folded address sheet from New York City to Baltimore MD.



January 1850 folded letter sheet from Boston MA to New York City.

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November 1848 folded letter from Hartford CT to New York City.  
Large '5' rate marking.



March 1849 cover from Hartford CT to Cleveland OH.



Excluding pen cancellations, about three-fourths of all letters were canceled in red because this color proved to be distinct on both the 5 and 10 cent stamps. Of the remaining, about fifteen percent of the cancels are blue and eight percent black. Significantly less common are orange, magenta, ultramarine, green and violet.

April 1850 folded letter from New Orleans LA to Philadelphia PA.

The letter was carried by steamboat on Star Route 5612 to Mobile AL where it was canceled with the Mobile red paint grid and sent to Philadelphia.



December 1847 folded address sheet from Baltimore MD to Philadelphia PA.

September 1850 folded letter from Louisville KY to Philadelphia PA.







Cover from Newark NJ to New York City.  
Orange Newark integral rate town postmark.



May 1848 folded letter from Mobile AL. 10 cent stamp paid postage to Boston. Orange town postmark. Orange grid cancels the stamp. The *Caledonia* sailed from Boston on 31 May, arriving in Liverpool on 14 June where the 1 shilling handstamp due marking was applied. The letter then traveled to Manchester, arriving on the 14th of June. Liverpool and Manchester datestamps on the back.





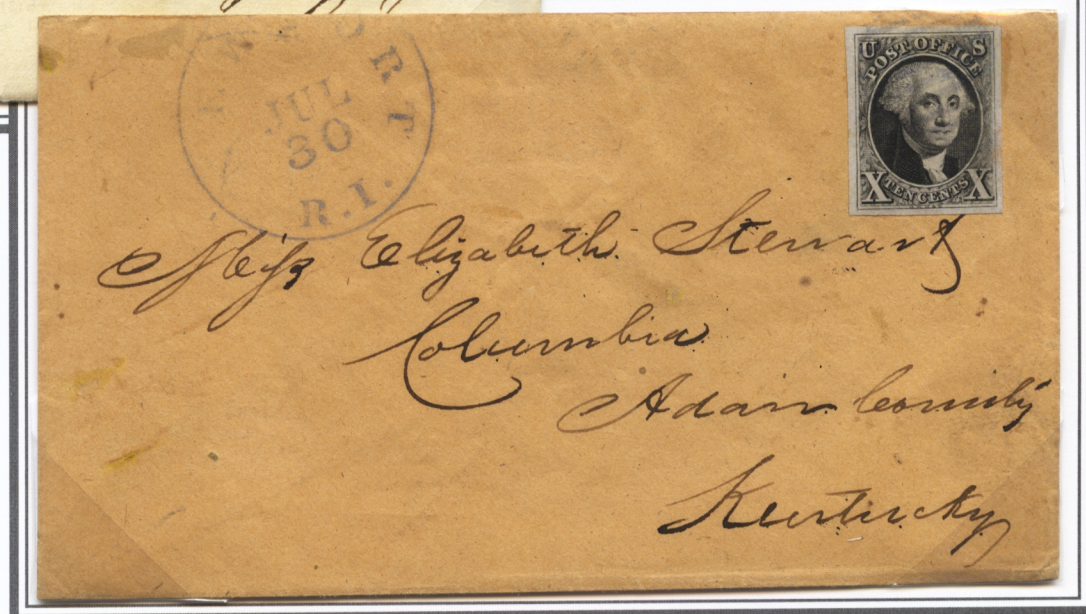
August 1850 cover  
from Newport to  
Kingston RI.

Ultramarine grid  
and town postmark  
canceling orange  
brown stamp.



Ultramarine grid

Cover from Newport  
RI to Columbia KY.  
Ultramarine grid and  
town postmark.



Folded address sheet  
from Windsor to  
Woodstock VT.

Two violet crossed  
'PAID's cancel stamp.  
Violet town postmark.



New Years Day 1851 folded  
letter from Tallahassee FL to  
New York City.

Stamp position 96L.



November 1849 folded  
letter from Bridgeport to  
Hartford CT.

Letter datelined  
Housatonic RR office  
Bridgeport.

March 1851 folded letter from  
Oxford to New York Mills NY.

Green 6 bar grid.





Post Office Regulations required that, in addition to killing the stamp, all letters needed to be marked with the town name and state as well as the month and day the letter was processed. Occasionally the postmaster did not use a killer but canceled the stamp with the town postmark.



January 1850 folded letter from Chicago IL to New York City.

Burlington VT to Malone NY.



May 1849 cover from Troy to Champlain NY.  
Orange brown stamp.



The only recorded Quaker dated cover with the 1847 issue.

Cover from Baltimore MD to Sandy Spring MD where it was forwarded to Washington City DC. Baltimore postmark canceling the 5 cent stamp.

Sandy Spring postmark and red '5' indicating 5 cents due for forwarding to Washington City.

The Baltimore postmark used standard dating but Edward Stabler, a Quaker, used Quaker dating. Quakers did not use names for days of the week or months because they were offended by the naming of months after pagan gods.



June 1849 folded letter from East Bennington to Manchester VT.

Grayish brown stamp.

In July 1849 East Bennington became the 2nd Bennington post office and 'East' was removed from the town postmark.

Early use of type I New York Ocean Mail cancel before it was used exclusively on the Panama route to California.

October 1850 cover from New York City to Philadelphia PA.

Unusual for New York City to cancel a stamp with the town postmark.







The Wheeling VA postmaster used a 7 bar grid in circle to 'mark' each stamp by applying the grid in the center of each block of four stamps before the stamps were separated with scissors. Since the stamps were also killed or canceled, it does not appear that this was a precancel although there has been much debate about the purpose of the marking.

The control mark was in use for about six months beginning in September of 1847. During this period, no other town is known to have used a control mark in this manner. It is not known why this was done, perhaps to prevent theft.



Single stamps can be identified as Wheeling control markings from the shade of red and the uniform placement of the grid.

**One of seven recorded covers with this control marking - four 10 cent and three 5 cent. Earliest recorded use of the Wheeling control marking.**



September 1847 letter from Wheeling VA to Philadelphia PA.



During this period fancy cancels were unusual. A few postmasters used non-standard devices and rate markings. In some cases pre-adhesive rate markings were used.



Huntsville AL negative '10' in circle of stars on piece. This marking is a pre-adhesive rate marking.

The 1847 stamps were usually cancelled with pen or with one of the standard devices. Some post offices used handstamps that were more often applied to stampless letters. A few post offices created non-standard "fancy" cancels from cork or wood, which were used exclusively to cancel stamps. Fancy cancels are very rare in the 1847 period, but became more common in the late 1850s and 1860s.



September 1848 folded letter from Trenton NJ to Baltimore MD. Trenton star cancel.



Blue circle of rays



Two strikes of  
quartered cork



Quartered cork  
with three dots in circle





The red scarab from St. Johnsbury VT is typically a very light strike and often is completely contained on the stamp.



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April 1849 folded letter from St. Johnsbury VT to Franklin NH.



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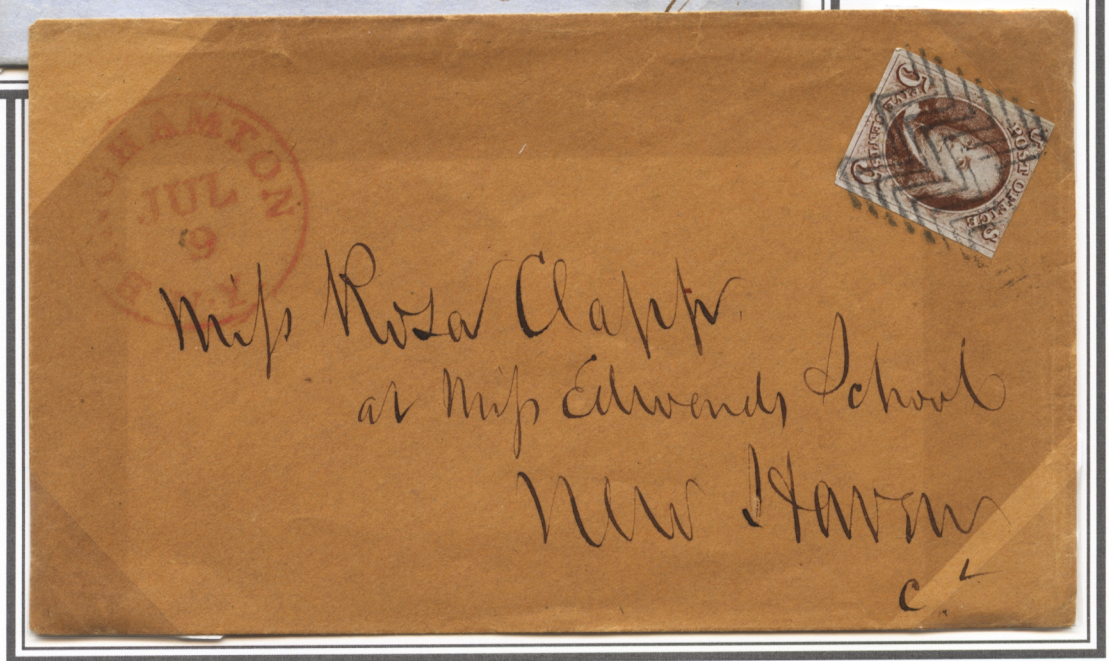
April 1849 folded letter from St. Johnsbury VT to Rochester NY.  
Strong strike for scarab.



All recorded colors shown - green, blue, red and black



Addressed to a future  
President of the U.S. in  
Albany NY.







November 1850 folded address sheet from Greenwich NY to New York City.

One of 5 recorded examples of this cancel.



October 1849 folded address sheet from Hanover NH to New Haven CT.

One of three recorded examples of this cancel.



Louisville KY to New York City.

Only recorded cover with this cancel.