

The Act of Congress of 1845 standardized postage rates for local and long-distance delivery across the United States, however it failed to authorize the issuance of a national postage stamp (see also Postmaster Provisionals). Prepaid adhesive postage stamps, invented in Great Britain in 1840, were first used in the U.S. in 1843 by a private company delivering local mail in New York, and then were adopted by a few post offices, notably in New York City. The U.S. post office finally agreed to national postage stamps, which were issued on 7/1/1847. The stamps designed by Asher B. Durand were sold in denominations of 5 and 10 cents, and featured portraits of Benjamin Franklin and George Washington. Postage stamps became compulsory on all U.S. Mail in 1856. The post office monopoly was extended to parcels in 1913. Stamp emissions have continued uninterrupted to the present day.



United States

United States Independent  
1847 – Present  
#1, expertized

The Act of Congress in 1845 standardized postage rates nationwide, but failed to authorize the issue of a national adhesive stamp. In response, the New York postmaster received permission from the U.S. Postmaster General to issue an adhesive stamp to indicate prepayment of the five cent rate valid for distances less than 300 miles. Following New York’s lead, three other postmasters also printed adhesive stamps, and at least eight other postmasters handstamped envelopes to indicate the prepayment of postage. The New York postmaster stamp can be said to be the first U.S. government stamp.

Only the four adhesive postmaster provisionals are listed here. New York and Providence stamps come up occasionally for sale. Only 52 copies of the Brattleboro (VT) Postmaster stamp are known, and the Saint Louis "bear" stamps are similarly rare. Covers bearing any of the eight handstamps typically sell for >\$5,000.



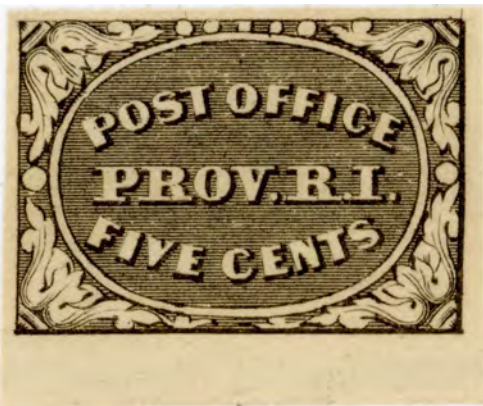
Brattleboro

United States Postmaster  
1846 –



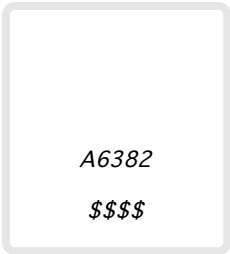
New York

United States Postmaster  
1845 – 1847  
genuine



Providence

United States Postmaster  
1846 –  
genuine



Saint Louis

United States Postmaster  
1846 –

3700

USA-H

HAWAII

4

The Kingdom of Hawaii authorized the first postage stamps in 1851. Henry Whitney, Hawaii's first postmaster, printed small quantities of stamps in four denominations for the shipment of mail by steamer to San Francisco . These, known as the “Missionaries”, are now among the rarest stamps in philately, with only 197 specimens surviving. Following the Missionaries, the Hawaiian postal service maintained a regular program of stamp issuance until the end of the monarchy in 1893.

Early stamps of the Hawaiian Kingdom (1853-1869) have different inscriptions to indicate the postal rates, those being 5 cents for local postage, and 13 cents for postage to the U.S. Beginning with the definitive issue of 1864, stamps are just inscribed Hawaii.

a. Honolulu, Hawaiian Is. (5¢ local)

b. Honolulu, Hawaiian Is. - Hawaiian United States (13¢ to U.S.)

c. Interisland Hawaiian postage

d. Hawaii

In 1893 the Kingdom of Hawaii was overthrown by a group of American businessmen, led by Hawaiian-born Sanford B. Dole, who established a provisional government while the coup organizers requested U.S. assistance. Existing stocks of stamps were overprinted with “Provisional Government 1893”. On July 4, 1894 a republic was proclaimed, and a new set of definitives were issued. Hawaii was annexed by the United States on July 17, 1898. While under U.S. administration, one final issuance of Hawaii stamps were printed in three denominations in 1899 (Sc. 80-82). Existing stocks of Hawaiian stamps remained valid for use until June 14, 1900, when the islands became a territory of the United States.



1. Hawaii, Kingdom

Hawaii Independent  
1851 – 1893  
#15, genuine



2. Hawaii, Provisional Government

Hawaii Independent  
1893 – 1894



3. Hawaii, Republic

Hawaii Independent  
1894 – 1898



4. Hawaii, U.S. Administration

United States Territory  
1899 – 1900

3700

USA-HA

HAWAII, OFFICIAL

1

A set of official stamps were issued for the Hawaii Department of Foreign Affairs in 1896. Stamps were intended for official mail between the pro-American republic and the United States, and featured a portrait of Major G.C. Potter, a fierce advocate for annexation.



Hawaii, Dept. of Foreign Affairs

Hawaii Office  
1896 – 1898

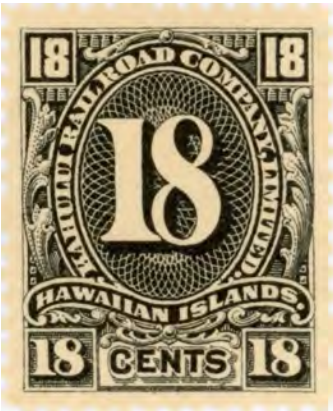
3700

USA-HB

HAWAII, LOCALS

1

The Kahului Railroad on Maui operated as a public carrier, connecting the sugar plantations in the island's interior to the port at Kahului. From 1880 mail was carried free of charge on the railroad. In 1894 the company ordered a set of denominational stamps to be printed by American Banknote Co. to pay for parcel deliveries. A second set of stamps were printed in 1898. They are not recognized in Scott as it is considered a private issue.



Kahului Railroad

Hawaii Railway  
1894 – 1898



3700

USA-J

U.S. OFFICIAL

10

Official stamps were authorized by Congress in 1873 for use on government mail, and these remained in use through 1884. A modern official stamp, valid for all official mail, was issued starting in 1983.



Agriculture Department

United States Official  
1873 – 1884



Executive Department

United States Official  
1873 – 1884  
\$\$



Interior Department

United States Official  
1873 – 1884



Justice Department

United States Official  
1873 – 1884



Navy Department

United States Official  
1873 – 1884



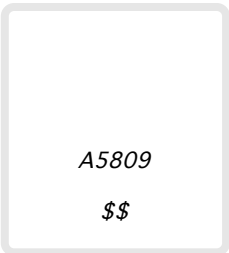
Official Mail

United States Official  
1983 – 2009



Post Office Department

United States Official  
1873 – 1884



State Department

United States Official  
1873 – 1884



Treasury Department

United States Official  
1873 – 1884



War Department

United States Official  
1873 – 1884

3700

USA-K

U.S. CONTROL MARKS

3

The Kansas and Nebraska issues of 5/1/1929: The Post Office experimented with overprinting the names of states on common definitives (the Prexies), starting with Kansas and Nebraska, as a way of limiting losses by stamp theft, the idea being to limit stamp sales within the state to preprinted ‘controlled’ stamps. The experiment was abandoned in 1930.

The R.F. (République Française) control mark was applied by the U.S. Fleet Post Office for use by French naval personnel on air mail letters to the U.S. and Canada, following the Allied invasion.



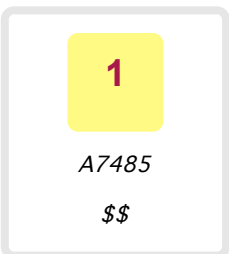
Kansas, Control Mark

United States Control Mark  
1929 –



Nebraska, Control Mark

United States Control Mark  
1929 –



R.F., Control Mark

United States Control Mark  
1944 – 1945



The carriers were local delivery contractors under bond to the postmaster for the local delivery of mail. The system of carriers dates to 1689 when private citizens were first deputized to pick up and deliver mail to the local post office for a set fee. The first semi-official carrier stamp was the United States City Despatch Post, which was created in 1842, following the U.S. Post Office purchase of the City Despatch, a private carrier who had created the first U.S. adhesive stamp a few months earlier (see USA-N below).

In 1851, an act of Congress standardized local delivery fees and the licensing of local carriers, at which point a general issue "Carrier Stamp" was printed for all local deliveries. The general issue Carrier Stamp of 1851 is not in itself a separate postal entity (it was sold by the post office to prepay carrier fees), but a variety of post offices and private individuals also produced "Penny Post" stamps during this period for delivery to the nearest post office. Carrier fees were discontinued in 1863, at which time all carriers became government employees. Stamps in my display are likely reprints, as these stamps were widely collected and copied at the time.



Baltimore, MD

United States Carrier  
1850 – 1857



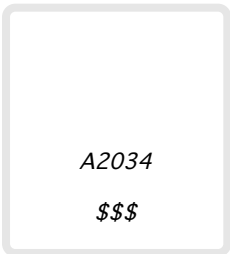
Boston, MA

United States Carrier  
1849 – 1850



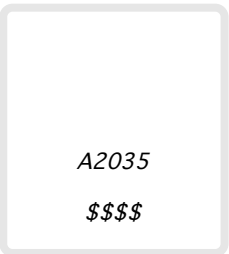
Charleston SC - Honour's City Express

United States Carrier  
1849 – 1858



Charleston SC - Kingman's City Post

United States Carrier  
1851 – 1860



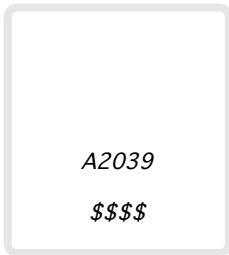
Charleston SC - Martin's City Post

United States Carrier  
1858 – 1858



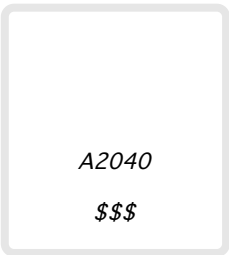
Charleston SC - Steinmeyer's City Post

United States Carrier  
1859 – 1859



Cincinnati OH - Williams' City Post

United States Carrier  
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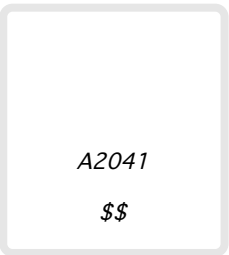
Cleveland, OH - Bishop's City Post

United States Carrier  
1854 – 1854



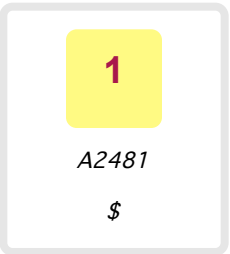
Louisville KY - Brown & McGill's U.S.P.O. Despatch

United States Carrier  
1858 – 1858



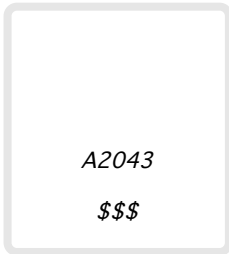
Louisville KY - Wharton's U.S.P. O. Despatch

United States Carrier  
—



New York, NY - U. S. Mail

United States Carrier  
1849 – 1850



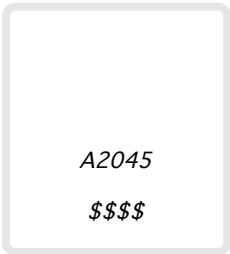
New York, NY - United States City Despatch Post

United States Carrier  
1842 –



Philadelphia, PA

United States Carrier  
1849 – 1856



St. Louis, MO - U.S. Penny Post

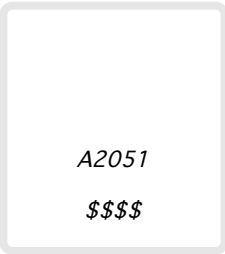
United States Carrier  
—



The development of adhesive stamps and postal reform in Great Britain was met with considerable interest in the United States. The first entity to capitalize on the trend for prepayment of postage was a private enterprise based in Hoboken NJ called the City Despatch Post, which established mailboxes around New York. Their first stamp, bearing the face of George Washington, was printed in 1842, and this is in fact the first adhesive stamp in the U.S. After just three months, the City Despatch Post was sold to the U.S. government, and the routes were taken over by the Postmaster in August 1842 as the United States City Despatch Post.

The congressional act of 1845 established uniform postage rates throughout the U.S., but national stamps were not authorized until 1847. Various local posts continued to provide delivery services,, including private mail and express services and private carriers to nearby post offices, as well as a few stamps issued by boarding schools, hotels, and institutions. Many of these delivery services would pick up mail and deliver it to the city post office, and therefore numerous covers exist with both city express and U.S. postage. With the boom in philately in the 1850s and 1860s most of these postage stamps were further reprinted for collectors, often without much regard for the original plates and colors. Some are crude forgeries and some may well have been reprinted by the owners of the original plates, but much of that specific information is lost to history. Local posts were suppressed by the early 1860s.

Numerous monographs now exist for the various classic U.S. local posts, notably through the Carriers and Locals Society (pennypost.org), which help identify originals and the various reprints. More recent editions of the Scott Specialized Catalog for the U.S. have greatly expanded selections on the classic U.S. locals. My treatment of U.S. locals in this section is largely consistent with the Scott U.S. Specialized Catalogue, 2022 edition. About half of these stamps are genuine, but I have not researched all of them. Non-recognized or "bogus" locals follow this section below.



A. W. Auner's Despatch Post (PA)

United States Private Post  
1851 –



Adams & Co's Express (CA)

United States Private Post  
1854 – 1854  
*genuine*



Adams' City Express Post (NY)

United States Private Post  
1850 – 1851  
*reprint*



Allen's City Dispatch (IL)

United States Private Post  
–  
*genuine, block of 4*



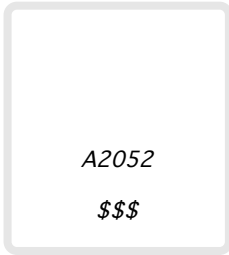
American Express Co. (NY)

United States Private Post  
1856 – 1856



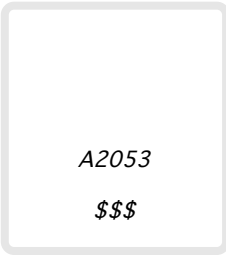
American Letter Mail Co. (NY)

United States Private Post  
1844 – 1844



Baker's City Express Post (OH)

United States Private Post  
–



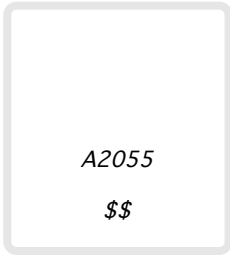
Barnard's City Letter Express (MA)

United States Private Post  
–



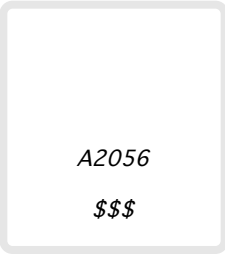
Barr's Penny Dispatch (PA)

United States Private Post  
1855 – 1855



Bayonne City Dispatch (NJ)

United States Private Post  
–



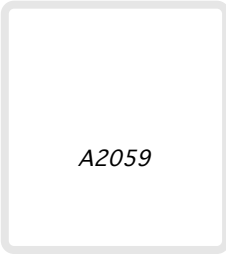
Bentley's Dispatch (NY)

United States Private Post  
–



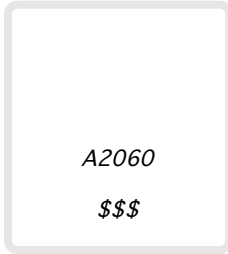
Berford & Co's Express (NY)

United States Private Post  
–  
*Taylor forgery*



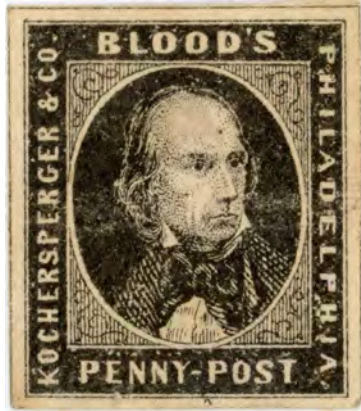
Bigelow's Express (MA)

United States Private Post  
–



Blizzard Mail (NY)

United States Private Post  
–



Blood's Penny Post (PA)

United States Private Post  
1855 – 1860



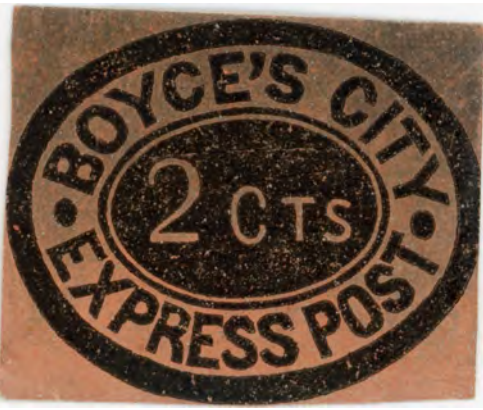
Bouton's City Dispatch Post (NY)

United States Private Post  
1848 – 1848



Bouton's Manhattan Express (NY)

United States Private Post  
–



Boyce's City Express Post (NY)

United States Private Post  
1852 – 1852



Boyd's City Dispatch (NY)

United States Private Post  
1874 – 1878



Boyd's City Express (NY)

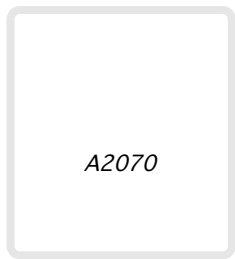
United States Private Post  
1844 – 1874





Boyd's Dispatch (NY)

United States Private Post  
–  
*genuine*



Bradway's Despatch (NJ)

United States Private Post  
–



Brady & Co. (NY)

United States Private Post  
1857 – 1857



Brady & Co's Penny Post (IL)

United States Private Post  
1860 – 1860



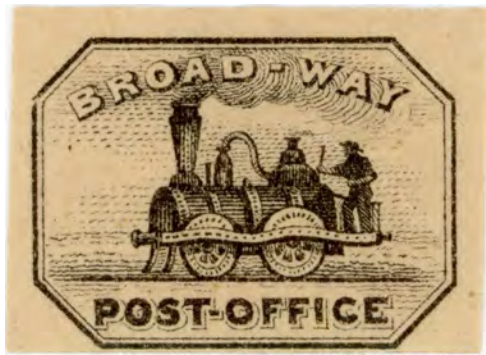
Brainard & Co. (NY)

United States Private Post  
1844 – 1844



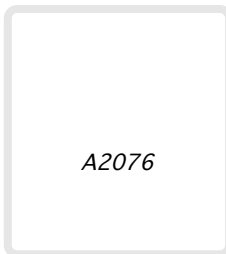
Brigg's Dispatch (PA)

United States Private Post  
1847 – 1848



Broadway Post Office (NY)

United States Private Post  
1849 – 1851



Bronson & Forbes' City Express Post (IL)

United States Private Post  
–



Brooklyn City Express Post (NY)

United States Private Post  
1855 – 1864



Brown's City Post (NY)

United States Private Post  
–



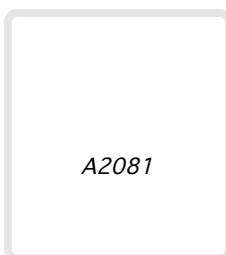
Browne & Co's City Post Office (OH)

United States Private Post  
1852 – 1855



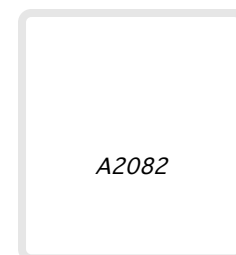
Browne's Easton Despatch (PA)

United States Private Post  
–  
*genuine*



Bury's City Post (NY)

United States Private Post  
–



Bush's Brooklyn City Express (NY)

United States Private Post  
–



California City Letter Express Co. (CA)

United States Private Post  
–



California Penny Post Co. (CA)

United States Private Post  
–  
*reprint*



Carne's City Letter Express (CA)

United States Private Post  
1864 – 1864  
*genuine*



Cheever & Towle (MA)

United States Private Post  
1849 – 1849



Chicago Penny Post (IL)

United States Private Post  
1862 – 1862



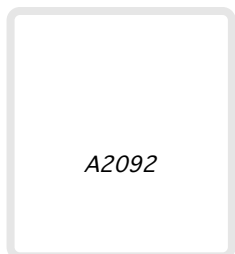
Cincinnati City Delivery (OH)

United States Private Post  
1883 – 1883



City Despatch Post (NY)

United States Private Post  
1842 – 1850



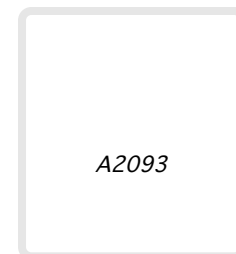
City Dispatch (MO)

United States Private Post  
–



City Dispatch (PA)

United States Private Post  
1860 – 1860



City Express Post (PA)

United States Private Post  
–



City Letter Express Mail (NJ)

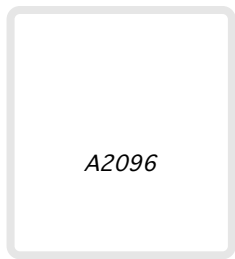
United States Private Post  
1856 – 1856





City Mail Co. (NY)

United States Private Post  
–



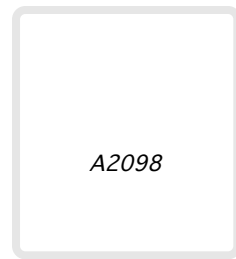
City One Cent Dispatch (MD)

United States Private Post  
–



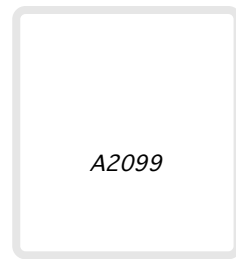
Clark & Co. (NY)

United States Private Post  
1857 – 1857



Clark & Hall (MO)

United States Private Post  
–



Clarke's Circular Express (NY)

United States Private Post  
–



Clinton's Penny Post (PA)

United States Private Post  
18?? –



Cook's Dispatch (MD)

United States Private Post  
–



Cornwell's Madison Square Post Office (NY)

United States Private Post  
1856 – 1856



Cressman & Co's Penny Post (PA)

United States Private Post  
1856 – 1856



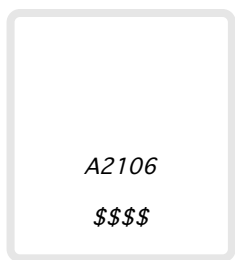
Crosby's City Post (NY)

United States Private Post  
1870 – 1870



Cumming's City Post (NY)

United States Private Post  
1844 – 1844



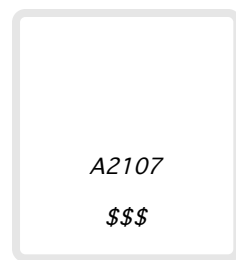
Cutting's Despatch Post (NY)

United States Private Post  
1847 –



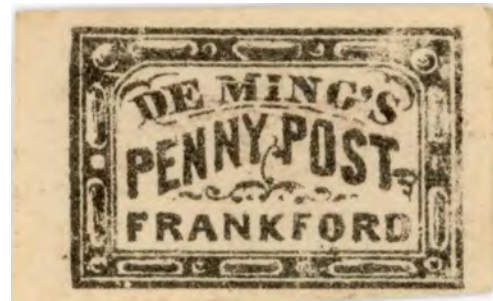
D.O. Blood & Co. (PA)

United States Private Post  
1845 – 1854



Davis's Penny Post (MD)

United States Private Post  
1856 –



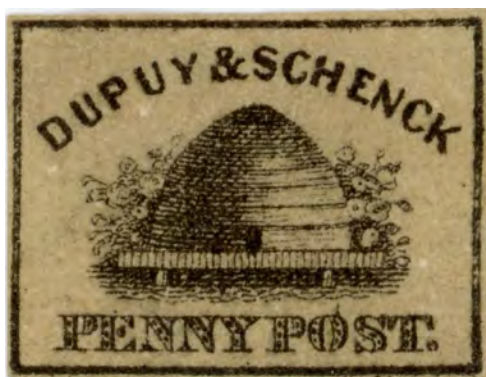
Deming's Penny Post (PA)

United States Private Post  
1854 –



Douglas' City Despatch (NY)

United States Private Post  
1879 –



Dupuy & Schenck (NY)

United States Private Post  
1846 – 1848



Eagle City Post (PA)

United States Private Post  
1847 – 1850



East River Post Office (NY)

United States Private Post  
1852 – 1855



Eighth Avenue Post Office (NY)

United States Private Post  
1852 – 1852



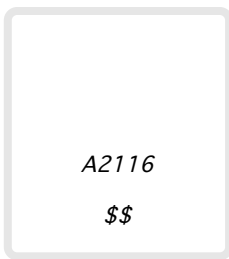
Empire City Dispatch (NY)

United States Private Post  
1881 –



Essex Letter Express (NY)

United States Private Post  
1856 – 1856



Faunce's Penny Post (NJ)

United States Private Post  
1885 –



Floyd's Penny Post (IL)

United States Private Post  
1860 – 1861



Franklin City Dispatch Post (NY)

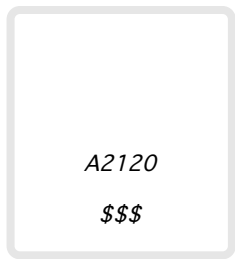
United States Private Post  
1847 – 1847





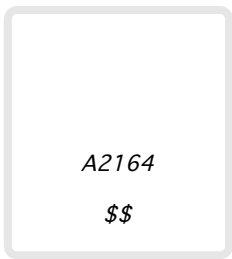
**Frazer & Co. (OH)**

United States Private Post  
1845 – 1851  
*reprint*



**Freeman & Co's Express (NY)**

United States Private Post  
1855 –



**G. A. Mills' Despatch Post (NY)**

United States Private Post  
1847 –



**G. Carter's Despatch (PA)**

United States Private Post  
1849 – 1851



**Gahagan & Howe City Express (CA)**

United States Private Post  
1849 – 1870  
*genuine*



**George S. Harris City Despatch Post**

United States Private Post  
1847 –



**Glen Haven Daily Mail (NY)**

United States Private Post  
1854 – 1858



**Gordon's City Express (NY)**

United States Private Post  
1848 – 1852



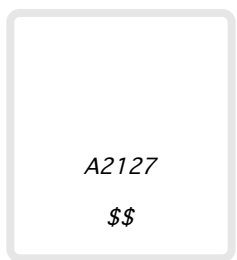
**Grafflin's Baltimore Despatch (MD)**

United States Private Post  
1856 – 1856



**Guy's City Despatch (PA)**

United States Private Post  
1879 –



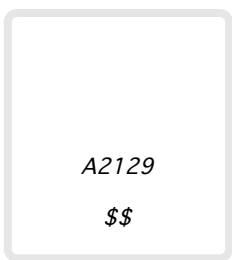
**Hackney & Bolte Penny Post (NJ)**

United States Private Post  
1886 –



**Hale & Co. (NY)**

United States Private Post  
1844 – 1844



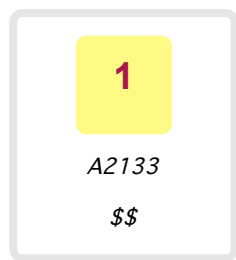
**Hall & Mill's Despatch Post (NY)**

United States Private Post  
1847 –



**Hanford's Pony Express (NY)**

United States Private Post  
1845 – 1845



**Hartford, Conn. Mail Route (CT)**

United States Private Post  
1844 –  
*genuine*



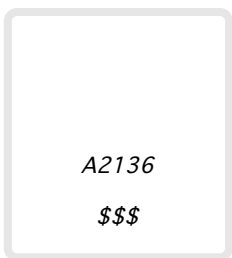
**Hill's Post (MA)**

United States Private Post  
1849 –



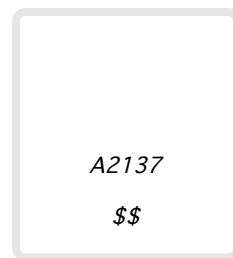
**Hinkley's Express Co. (NY)**

United States Private Post  
1855 – 1855



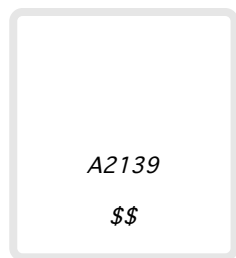
**Homan's Empire Express (NY)**

United States Private Post  
1852 –



**Hopedale Penny Post (MA)**

United States Private Post  
1849 –



**Hoyt's Letter Express (NY)**

United States Private Post  
1844 –



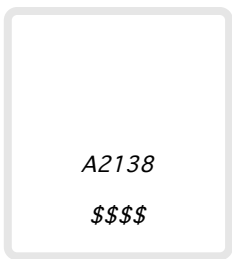
**Humboldt Express (NV)**

United States Private Post  
1863 –



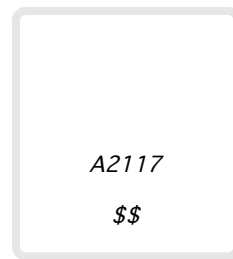
**Hussey's Post (NY)**

United States Private Post  
1854 – 1882



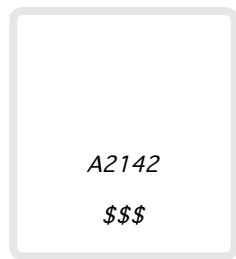
**J.A. Howell's City Despatch (PA)**

United States Private Post  
1847 –



**Jabez Fearey & Co's Mustang Express (NJ)**

United States Private Post  
1870 –



**Jefferson Market P.O. (NY)**

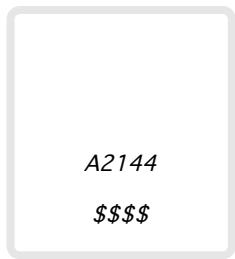
United States Private Post  
1850 –





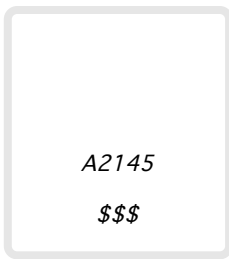
**Jenkin's Camden Dispatch (NJ)**

United States Private Post  
1853 – 1853



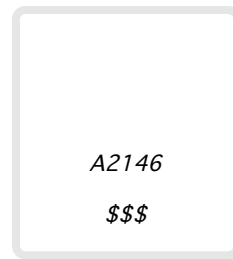
**Johnson & Co's City Despatch Post (MD)**

United States Private Post  
1848 –



**Jone's City Express (NY)**

United States Private Post  
1845 –



**Kellogg's Penny Post & City Dfespatic (OH)**

United States Private Post  
1853 –



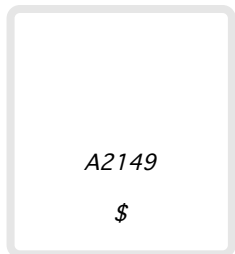
**Kidder's City Express Post (NY)**

United States Private Post  
1847 – 1853



**Kurtz Union Despatch Post (NY)**

United States Private Post  
1853 –



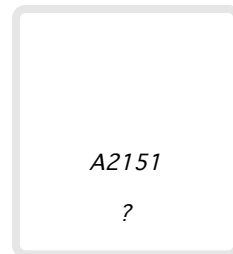
**Ledger Dispatch (NY)**

United States Private Post  
1882 –



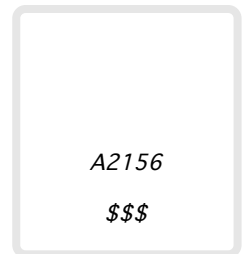
**Letter Express (NY)**

United States Private Post  
1844 – 1844



**Locomotive Express Post**

United States Private Post  
1847 –



**Magic Letter Express (VA)**

United States Private Post  
1865 –



**Mason's New Orleans City Express (LA)**

United States Private Post  
1850 – 1857



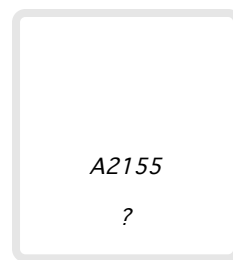
**McGreely's Express (AK)**

United States Private Post  
1898 – 1898



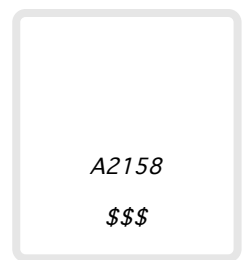
**McIntire's City Express Post (NY)**

United States Private Post  
1859 – 1859



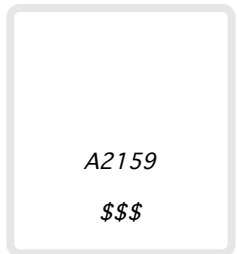
**McMillan's City Dispatch Post (IL)**

United States Private Post  
1855 –



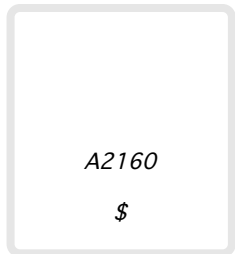
**Mearis' City Despatch Post (MD)**

United States Private Post  
1846 –



**Menant & Co.'s Express (LA)**

United States Private Post  
1856 –



**Mercantile Library Association (NY)**

United States Private Post  
1870 – 1875



**Messankope's Union Square P. O. (NY)**

United States Private Post  
1849 – 1850



**Metropolitan Errand & Carrier Express Co. (NY)**

United States Private Post  
1855 – 1855



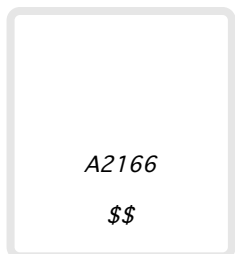
**Metropolitan Post Office (NY)**

United States Private Post  
1852 – 1853



**Moody's Penny Dispatch (IL)**

United States Private Post  
1856 – 1856



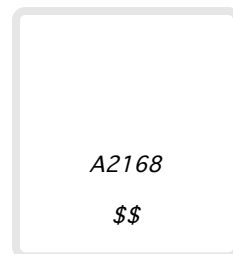
**New York City Express Post (NY)**

United States Private Post  
1847 –



**One Cent Despatch (DC)**

United States Private Post  
1856 – 1856



**Overton & Co. (NY)**

United States Private Post  
1844 –



**Penny Express Co.**

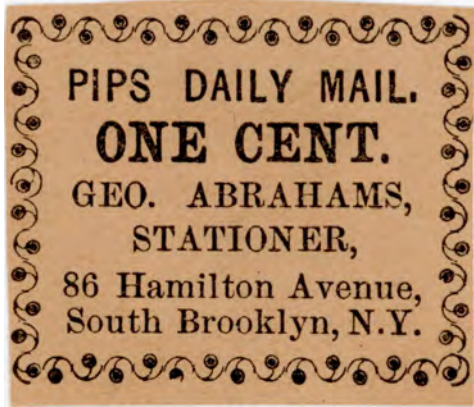
United States Private Post  
1866 –  
*genuine*





**Pinkney's Express Post (NY)**

United States Private Post  
1851 –



**Pips Daily Mail (NY)**

United States Private Post  
1862 – 1862



**Pomeroy's Letter Express (NY)**

United States Private Post  
1844 – 1844



**Price's City Express (NY)**

United States Private Post  
1857 – 1858



**Price's Eighth Avenue Post Office (NY)**

United States Private Post  
1854 –



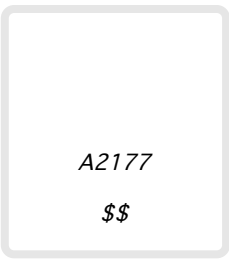
**Priest's Despatch (PA)**

United States Private Post  
1851 – 1851



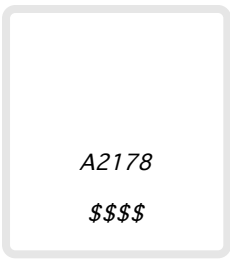
**Prince's Letter Despatch (ME)**

United States Private Post  
1861 – 1861



**Private Post Office (SF)**

United States Private Post  
1864 –



**Providence Despatch (RI)**

United States Private Post  
1849 –



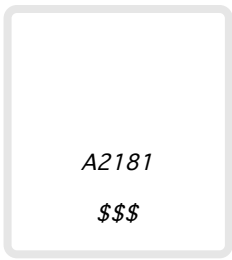
**Public Letter Office (CA)**

United States Private Post  
1864 –



**Reed's City Despatch Post (CA)**

United States Private Post  
1853 – 1854



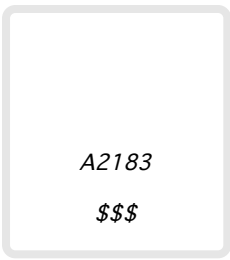
**Ricketts & Hall (MD)**

United States Private Post  
1857 –



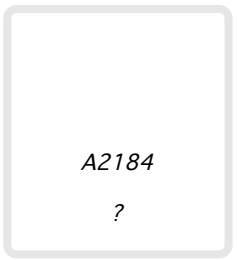
**Robison & Co. (NY)**

United States Private Post  
1855 – 1856



**Roche's City Dispatch (DE)**

United States Private Post  
1850 –



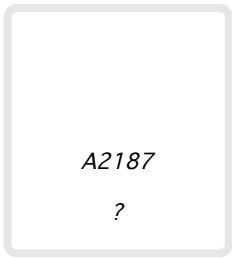
**Roger's Penny Post (NJ)**

United States Private Post  
1856 –



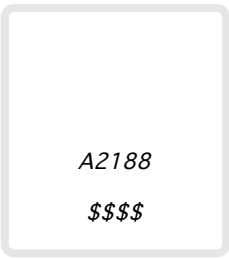
**Russell 8th Ave. Post Office (NY)**

United States Private Post  
1854 – 1858



**Smith & Stephens' City Delivery (MO)**

United States Private Post  
–



**Spaulding's Penny Post (NY)**

United States Private Post  
1848 – 1849



**Spence & Brown Express Post (PA)**

United States Private Post  
1847 – 1848  
*signed*



**Squier & Co. City Letter Dispatch (MO)**

United States Private Post  
1859 – 1860



**St. Louis City Delivery Company (MO)**

United States Private Post  
1883 –



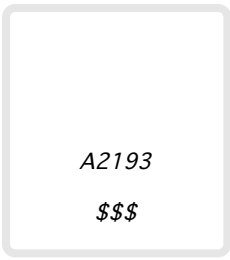
**Staten Island Express Post (NY)**

United States Private Post  
1849 – 1849



**Stringer & Morton's City Despatch (MD)**

United States Private Post  
1850 –



**Sullivan's Dispatch Post (OH)**

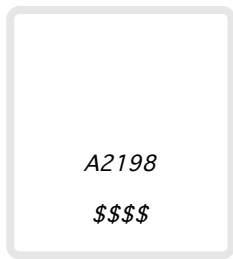
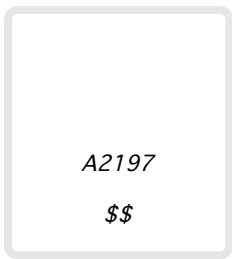
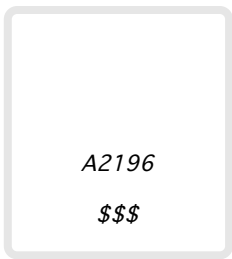
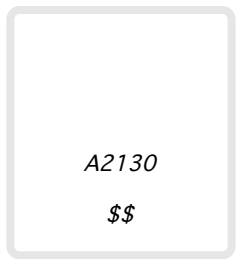
United States Private Post  
1853 –



**Swart's City Dispatch Post (NY)**

United States Private Post  
1849 – 1853





**T.A. Hampton City Despatch (PA)**  
United States Private Post  
1847 –

**Teese & Co. Penny Post (PA)**  
United States Private Post  
1852 – 1852

**Telegraph Despatch P.O. (PA)**  
United States Private Post  
1848 –

**Third Avenue Post Office (NY)**  
United States Private Post  
1855 –

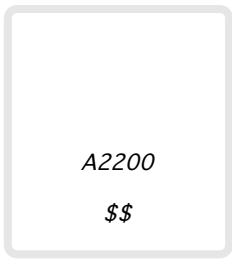
**Union Post (NY)**  
United States Private Post  
1846 –



**Union Square Post Office (NY)**  
United States Private Post  
1852 – 1852



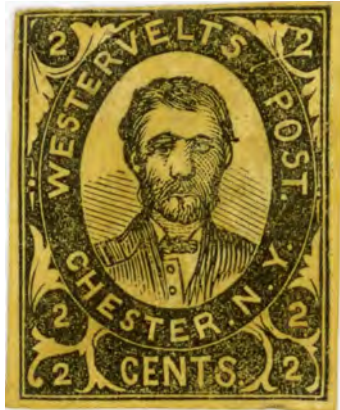
**W. Wyman (MA)**  
United States Private Post  
1844 – 1844



**Walton & Co's City Express (NY)**  
United States Private Post  
1846 –



**Wells, Fargo & Co. (CA)**  
United States Private Post  
1861 – 1883



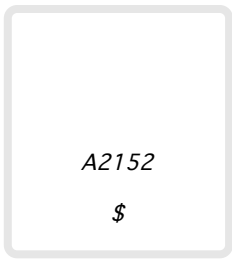
**Westervelt's Post (NY)**  
United States Private Post  
1863 – 1865



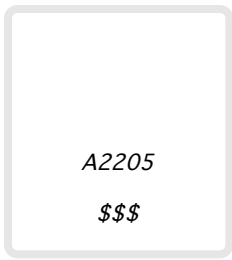
**Westtown (PA)**  
United States Private Post  
1853 – 1867



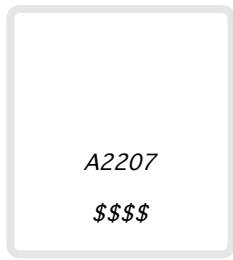
**Whittlesey's Express (IL)**  
United States Private Post  
1857 – 1857



**Wm. E. Loomis Letter Express (CA)**  
United States Private Post  
1868 –



**Wood & Co. City Despatch (MD)**  
United States Private Post  
1856 –



**Zieber's One Cent Dispatch (PA)**  
United States Private Post  
1851 –

3700

USA-NC

U.S. LOCALS - BICYCLE POSTS

1

The Fresno and San Francisco Bicycle Mail Route stamp was printed in San Francisco in 1894 for the conveyance of mail from Fresno during a railroad strike. With the American Railway Union on strike, a Fresno bicycle dealer organized a courier service to San Francisco over Pacheco Pass, a distance of about 210 miles. In total, 380 letters were carried over a period of 12 days in July 1894 before the strike was resolved.

[https://www.pennypost.org/pdf/farrell/BicycleMail\\_FarrellCollection.pdf](https://www.pennypost.org/pdf/farrell/BicycleMail_FarrellCollection.pdf)



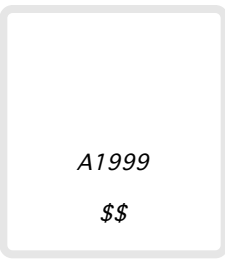
**Fresno and San Francisco Bicycle Mail Route (CA)**  
United States Private Post  
1894 –  
*genuine*



3700      USA-NH      U.S. LOCALS - HOTEL POSTS

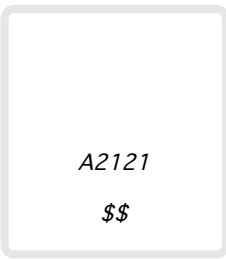
1

A hotel in Chesuncook Lake, Maine promoted the sale of local stamps for their guides to deliver mail from the hunting and fishing camps to the nearest post office in North East Carry. Stamps were sold in 1, 3, and 5 cent denominations.



Chesuncook Lake, ME

United States Private Post  
1885 – 1893



Friend's Boarding School (OH)

United States Private Post  
1877 – 1884

3700      USA-NX      U.S. LOCALS - XIX CENT BOGUS

19

Following are an incomplete list of some known fakes and some unidentified private posts from the XIX century. Further reference can be found in the Scott catalogue and through the Carriers and Locals Society.



Army Frank

Fantasy  
1898 –



Brattleboro P.O.

USA Bogus Local  
–



E.D. Prince Letter Despatch

USA Bogus Local  
–



Express Post

USA Bogus Local  
–



G.A. Mill's Despatch Post

USA Bogus Local  
–



Hackett's City Post

USA Bogus Local  
–



International Express

USA Bogus Local  
–



Jay's Dispatch

USA Bogus Local  
–



Johnson's Box

USA Bogus Local  
–



Langton's Pioneer Express

USA Bogus Local  
–



Pacific Express Co.

USA Bogus Local  
–



Richwood's Dispatch

USA Bogus Local  
–



Roadman's Penny Post

USA Bogus Local  
–



Smith's City Express Post

USA Bogus Local  
–



St. Louis P.O.

USA Bogus Local  
–





Third Ave. Post Office

USA Bogus Local  
-



Union Despatch

USA Bogus Local  
-



Walker's Penny Post

USA Bogus Local  
-



Warwick's City Dispatch Post

USA Bogus Local  
-

3700      USA-O      U.S. PRIVATE EXPRESS DELIVERY (XX CENT)      6

This is a selection of the late 20th century private enterprises that issued stamps for delivery services that were designed to compete with the USPS. Several of these businesses were suppressed quickly or fought and lost landmark court cases against the Postal Service.

React Postal Service (Utah) tried to provide bill payment services and bulk presorting through supermarket kiosks. The Independent Postal System was a private enterprise that delivered discounted third and fourth class mail, losing multiple lawsuits in the early 1970s. Other modern private local issues, those being more of a philatelic or fantasy nature, follow the main listings at the end of this catalog.



Chain Deliveries Express Inc.

United States Private Post  
-



ICBM - Intra-County Business Mail (CA)

United States Private Post  
1975 -



Independent Postal System of America (IPSA)

United States Private Post  
1968 -



Parcel Air System

United States Private Post  
-



React Postal Service (UT)

United States Private Post  
1982 -



Western AirLetter

United States Private Post  
1982 -

3700      USA-QA      U.S. TELEGRAPH STAMPS      23

Telegraph stamps in the U.S. were issued by private companies, whom often gave large blocks of stamps to their preferred customers and also sold some over the counter to the public for prepayment of telegraphs. Stamps are generally more commonly encountered in unused condition.

The following companies are those covered in the U.S. Specialized Scott catalog (2022).



American Rapid Telegraph Co.

United States Telegraph  
1881 -



Atlantic Telegraph Co.

United States Telegraph  
1888 -



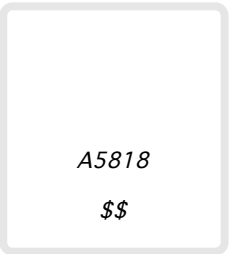
Baltimore & Ohio Telegraph Cos.

United States Telegraph  
1885 - 1887



Baltimore & Ohio-Connecticut River Telegraph Cos.

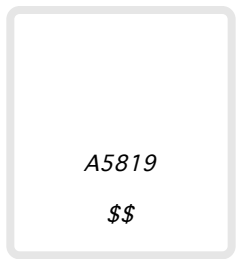
United States Telegraph  
1885 -



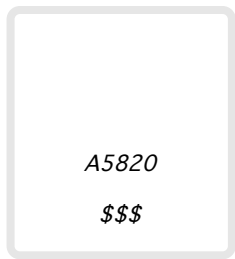
California State Telegraph Co.

United States Telegraph  
1870 - 1875

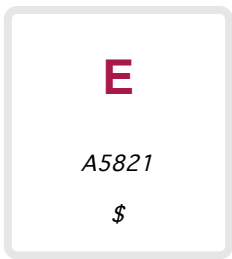




City & Suburban Printing  
Telegraph Co.  
United States Telegraph  
1885 –



Colusa, Lake & Mendocino  
Telegraph Company  
United States Telegraph  
1876 –



Commercial Union Telegraph  
Co.  
United States Telegraph  
1891 –



Mutual Union Telegraph Co.  
United States Telegraph  
1882 – 1883



North American Telegraph Co.  
United States Telegraph  
1899 – 1907



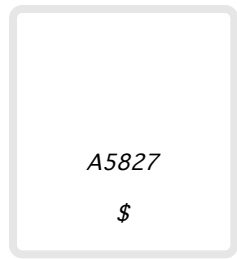
Northern Mutual Telegraph Co.  
United States Telegraph  
1883 –



Northern New York Telegraph  
Co.  
United States Telegraph  
1894 – 1895



Pacific Mutual Telegraph Co.  
United States Telegraph  
1883 –



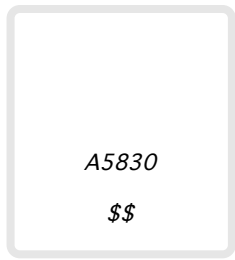
Pacific Postal Telegraph-Cable  
Co.  
United States Telegraph  
1886 –



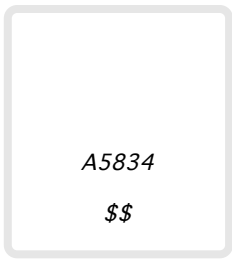
Postal Telegraph Co.  
United States Telegraph  
1885 – 1942



Postal Telegraph Co. (Chicago,  
Great Western RR)  
United States Telegraph  
1900 – 1914



Postal Telegraph Company (El  
Paso & Northeastern RR)  
United States Telegraph  
1900 – 1914



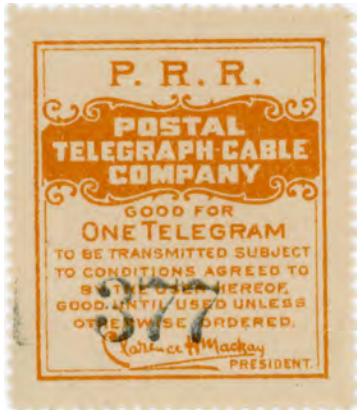
Postal Telegraph Company (El  
Paso Southwestern RR)  
United States Telegraph  
1900 – 1914



Postal Telegraph Company  
(Illinois Central RR)  
United States Telegraph  
1900 – 1914



Postal Telegraph Company  
(Old Dominion Steamship Co.)  
United States Telegraph  
1900 – 1914



Postal Telegraph Company  
(Pennsylvania RR)  
United States Telegraph  
1900 – 1914



United States Telegraph-Cable-  
Radio Carriers  
United States Telegraph  
1947 –



Western Union Telegraph Co.  
United States Telegraph  
1871 – 1946

3700

USA-R

U.S. SANITARY FAIRS

7

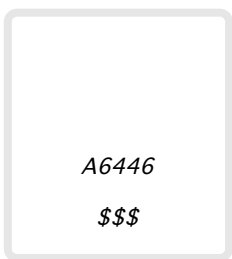
Stamps were issued by the U.S. Sanitary Commission during the American Civil War to raise money for medical aid for wounded Union troops. Stamps were sold at fairs and bazaars and were valid for postage from the fair to the nearest post office. There were eight such fairs who issued these charity stamps, which were held in seven cities, with two fairs held in Brooklyn.) The stamps are in the Scott U.S. Specialized Catalog.



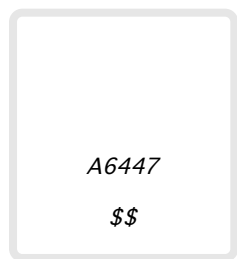
Albany NY, Sanitary Fair  
Semi-Official Civil War Locals  
1864 –



Boston MA, Sanitary Fair  
Semi-Official Civil War Locals  
1864 –  
*genuine*



Brooklyn NY, Sanitary Fair  
Semi-Official Civil War Locals  
1864 –



New York NY, Sanitary Fair  
Semi-Official Civil War Locals  
1864 –



Philadelphia PA, Sanitary Fair  
Semi-Official Civil War Locals  
1864 –  
*genuine*





Springfield MA, Sanitary Fair

Semi-Official Civil War Locals  
1864 –



Stamford CT, Sanitary Fair

Semi-Official Civil War Locals  
1864 –

3700

USA-S

U.S. SEMI-OFFICIAL AIR POSTS

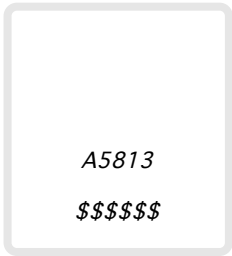
2

Souvenir franks and covers from the early days of air travel. The Buffalo Balloon Mail (1877) could be said to be the first private "air mail" stamp ever. Letters were sold with this stamp along with U.S. postage for transport via balloon on several promotional flights in Tennessee where mailbags would be dropped from the balloon. The balloon had been built in Buffalo. Rodger's Aerial post is the first (private) stamp to feature an airplane, which made a 30 day cross-country flight in 1911, 13 stamps are known.



Buffalo Balloon Mail

United States Airpost  
1877 – --



Rodger's Aerial Post

United States Airpost  
1911 – --

3700

USA-Y

CONFEDERATE STATES

1

Throughout much of 1861 as the Confederacy was being formed, mail was still carried to and from the Confederate States first by the U.S. mail service and then by private carriers. The U.S. Post Office ordered an end to all private mail services in August 1861, although Adams Express still continued to operate illegally under a subsidiary called the Southern Express Company.

The first postmaster of the CSA, John Reagan succeeded in recruiting officials from the US Post Office in Washington to form the Confederate States postal service. But in the interim period, for five months in 1861, confederate postmasters were left on their own to frank stamps using whatever means were at their disposal including locally made adhesive stamps, handstamps and rubber stamps to indicate prepayment. The first regular issue Confederate stamps were printed in Richmond and put into circulation by the end of 1861. In total, nine regular issue stamps were printed by five different printing companies over the life of the confederacy.

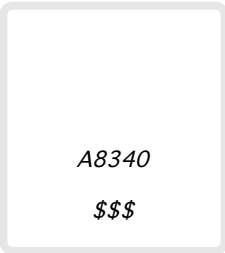


Confederate States of America

C.S.A. Independent  
1861 – 1865



115 Provisional Issues are listed in Scott catalog, mainly from the period of July through November 1861, after the cessation of U.S. postal service and prior to the availability of printed stamps for the Confederacy. Local postmasters were advised to make their own franking devices to indicate prepayment. Many of the issues described in Scott are covers franked with locally produced handstamps. In this catalog, I include only the local postmasters that produced provisional adhesive postage stamps, and have excluded the examples of handstamps.



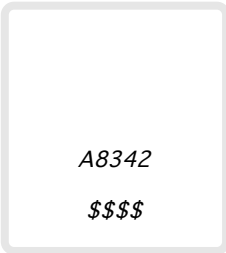
Athens, GA

Confederate States Postmaster  
1861 –



Baton Rouge, LA

Confederate States Postmaster  
1861 –  
*genuine, on cover*



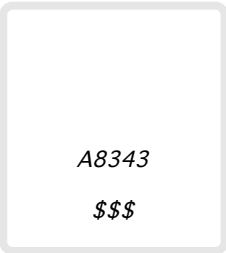
Beaumont, TX

Confederate States Postmaster  
1861 –



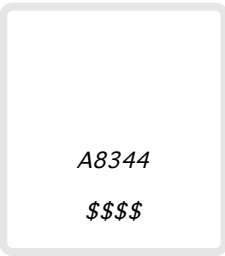
Charleston, SC

Confederate States Postmaster  
1861 –  
*genuine*



Fredericksburg, VA

Confederate States Postmaster  
1861 –



Goliad, TX

Confederate States Postmaster  
1861 –



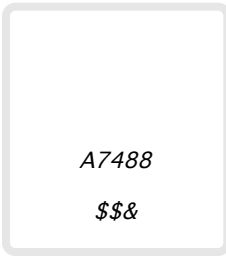
Knoxville, TN

Confederate States Postmaster  
1861 –  
*with certificate*



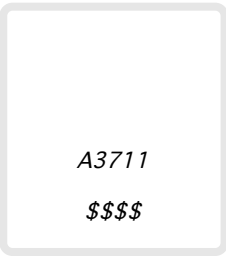
Livingston, AL

Confederate States Postmaster  
1861 –



Lynchburg, VA

Confederate States Postmaster  
1861 –



Madison Court House, FL

Confederate States Postmaster  
–



Memphis, TN

Confederate States Postmaster  
1861 –  
*genuine, on cover*



Mobile, AL

Confederate States Postmaster  
1861 –  
*with certificate*



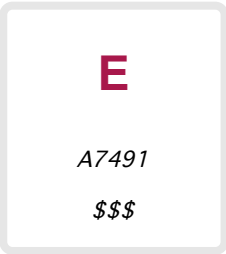
Nashville, TN

Confederate States Postmaster  
1861 –  
*with certificate*



New Orleans, LA

Confederate States Postmaster  
1861 –  
*genuine*



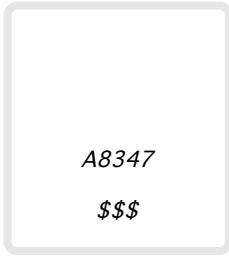
Petersburg, VA

Confederate States Postmaster  
1861 –



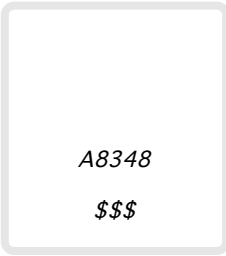
Pleasant Shade, VA

Confederate States Postmaster  
1861 –



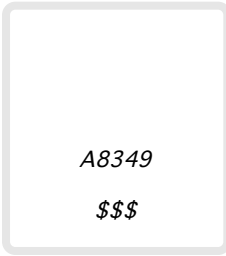
Rheatown, TN

Confederate States Postmaster  
1861 –



Tellico Plains, TN

Confederate States Postmaster  
1861 –



Uniontown, AL

Confederate States Postmaster  
1861 –



Victoria, TX

Confederate States Postmaster  
1861 –



Victoria, TX

Confederate States Postmaster  
1861 –

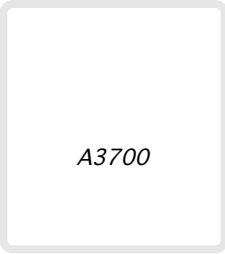


Victoria, TX

Confederate States Postmaster  
1861 –



A glut of speculative private "fantasy" stamps appeared for collectors during the life of the Confederacy. The 30 examples that I have included are those that were mentioned in Melville.



Blockade Postage

C.S.A. Fantasy  
—



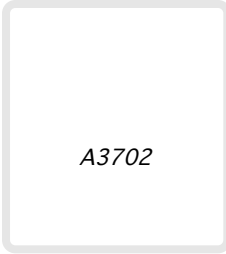
Bucks Richmond Express

C.S.A. Fantasy  
—



Carolina City (NC)

C.S.A. Fantasy  
—



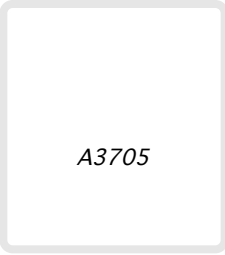
Charleston P.O.

C.S.A. Fantasy  
—



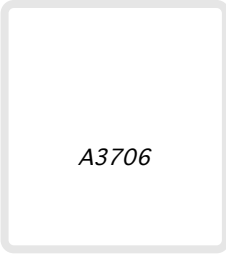
Florida Express

C.S.A. Fantasy  
—



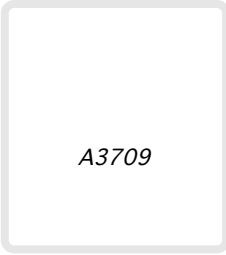
Galveston PO

C.S.A. Fantasy  
—



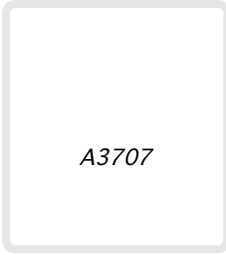
Houston

C.S.A. Fantasy  
—



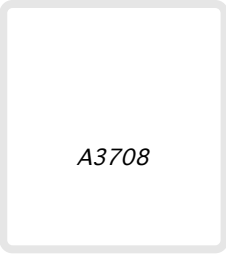
Huntsville

C.S.A. Fantasy  
—



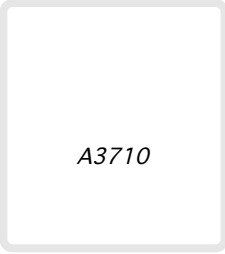
Kingston

C.S.A. Fantasy  
—



Knoxville

C.S.A. Fantasy  
—



Macon

C.S.A. Fantasy  
—



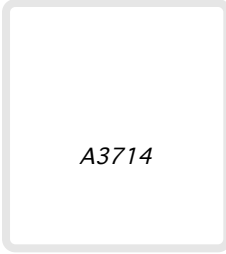
Magic Letter Express  
(Richmond)

C.S.A. Fantasy  
—



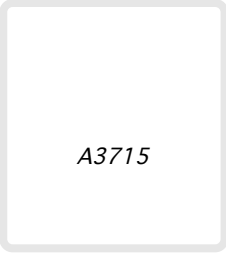
Marion

C.S.A. Fantasy  
—



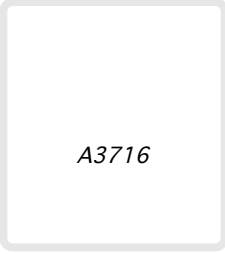
New Orleans

C.S.A. Fantasy  
—



Petersburg CSA

C.S.A. Fantasy  
—



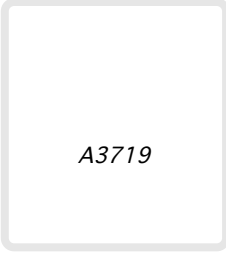
Richmond City Post

C.S.A. Fantasy  
—



Richmond Postage

C.S.A. Fantasy  
—



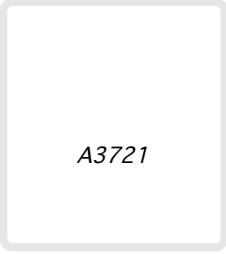
Savannah

C.S.A. Fantasy  
—



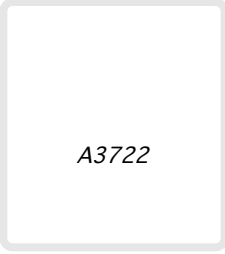
Selma

C.S.A. Fantasy  
—



Sparta

C.S.A. Fantasy  
—



Statesville

C.S.A. Fantasy  
—



Weldon

C.S.A. Fantasy  
—



Wilmington

C.S.A. Fantasy  
—



3800

UN

UNITED NATIONS, OFFICES

3

United Nations stamps are used on UN official mail sent from UN Headquarters in New York or from the UN Offices in Geneva and Vienna to points throughout the world. They may be used on private correspondence sent through United Nations post offices and are valid for mail only at the individual UN post offices. United Nations mail is carried by the United States, Swiss and Austrian postal systems by agreement. It is notable that the stamps issued in the three offices are denominated in three different currencies.



United Nations

United Nations Intl Agency  
1951 – Present  
*first issue*



United Nations, Geneva Office

United Nations Intl Agency  
1969 – Present



United Nations, Vienna Office

United Nations Intl Agency  
1979 – Present

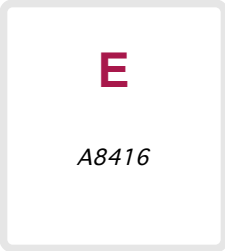
3800

UN-E

UNITED NATIONS, EXPOSITIONS

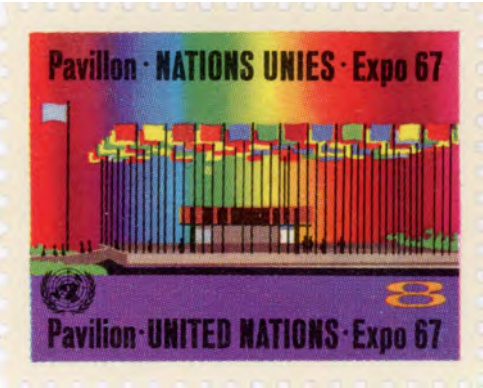
2

Special United Nations stamps (179-174) were issued for the 1967 International and Universal Exposition, held in Montreal, with the agreement of the Canadian Government, and were valid for mail sent from the U.N. booth at the Montreal Exposition. Belgium 516-525 were a set of stamps issued with the United Nations for the 1958 Brussels World's Fair and valid only for mail sent from the UN Pavilion at the exposition. The stamps were sold at the UN Pavilion and through the UN offices, and were meant to defray some of the cost of the pavilion.



United Nations, Brussels Expo

U.N. Exposition  
1958 –



United Nations, Montreal Expo

U.N. Exposition  
1967 –